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- PAGE A3

briefs

Delays expected on Rt. 979

Part of the construction of the Minnie-to-Harold connector road involves building a bridge near the Parsons Branch County Road.

Robin Justice, PE, resident construction engineer for Highway District 12, said that delivery of the 135-foot-long bridge beams is expected on Wednesday, August 11, and Friday, August 13.

"With the number of steep curves on Route 979," Justice said, "there may be some traffic delays."

Justice said that every effort will be made to keep the delays short.

"Taking all the necessary safety precautions," Justice said, "may mean that people will have to wait a few minutes now and then. We will get through as quickly as we safely can, and we thank everyone for their understanding and their patience."

inside

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2 DAY FORECAST

Today



Tomorrow



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

Lack of support hurting flood relief effort

by MARY MUSIC
STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — The strings are getting tighter for flood victims needing assistance, with community support still lagging in Floyd County, officials said this week.

The Floyd County Long-Term Recovery Committee, formed and working under an umbrella group that oversees recovery committees in Pike, Johnson, Magoffin and Martin counties, is struggling to survive because community members aren't stepping up to bat for their neighbors.

"We're trying to lead the horse to water and if the horse doesn't want to drink, there's no point for all these people outside of the area, from places like Louisville, to come in," said Andrew Dinsmore, a Pike County Red Cross representative. "The aid is out there. Do you want it or not?"

Dinsmore was appointed to chair the

Floyd County committee this week, after former chairperson Tracy Pinson stepped down.

The lag in community support is "discouraging," Dinsmore said, particularly because it's hurting those who have

(See RELIEF, page three)



Jon Slone made good use of the question-and-answer format to address issues involved with running a high school at Tuesday's open-door meeting for potential principals at Prestonsburg High School.

photo by Tom Doty

PHS principal candidates meet public, field questions

by TOM DOTY
STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — An announcement on who will take over as principal of Prestonsburg High School has been delayed, but could come as early as today.

It was expected that a decision would be made on Wednesday but the school's site-based decision making council met for two-and-a-half hours Wednesday evening and

adjourned after 11 p.m. with no final decision.

Council member and PHS teacher Jack Pack noted, "We want to be sure to get the right candidate."

Another meeting of the council has been scheduled for 2 p.m. on Friday but will not include any more appearances by the candidates for the position.

"There will be no more interviews at this point, just discus-

sion," Pack said.

The Wednesday meeting and individual interviews followed a somewhat open discussion with the candidates Tuesday night that was held at the school. Parents and teachers were invited to the forum and allowed to submit questions to the hopefuls. The panel moderator was Dr. Blake Burchett, who injected a little humor into the pro-

(See PHS, page three)

Another roundup arrest made

by JOYAL FRAZIER
STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — Another arrest was made this week linked to the drug roundup that started July 28.

The roundup was the culmination of undercover investigations by Operation UNITE, Kentucky State Police, Prestonsburg Police Department and the Floyd County Sheriff's Office.

Susan Akers, 24, of Harold was arrested this week by Deputy Greg Clark, with the Floyd County Sheriff's Office, and charged with drug trafficking, according to Sheriff John K. Blackburn.

Law enforcement officials are still looking for individuals to serve with indictments

who were not found during the initial roundup last week. All the warrants that were served during the roundup were based on indictments the law enforcement agencies had obtained through undercover operations.

Akers' arrest now makes 31 suspected drug dealers who have been arrested and charged with drug trafficking since the July 28 roundup.

"We are still looking and we will find them," Blackburn said. "I think some of them have gone into hiding and know we are looking for them."

Several people from the roundup are due back in court today, for either arraignment, appointment of an attorney or motion hour.

Sex abuse, sodomy charges dismissed

by MARY MUSIC
STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — A Prestonsburg man facing a dozen separate counts of sexual abuse offenses will not go to trial, after a circuit court ruling this week dismissed the case against him.

Judge Danny P. Caudill issued an order Wednesday dismissing charges against Johnny Craft, 53, who was facing 11 counts of first-degree sexual abuse and one count of sodomy.

"My client is understandably relieved and has always vigorously proclaimed his

innocence," Craft's attorney, Ned Pillersdorf, said.

Craft, originally indicted on nine counts of first-degree sexual abuse, two counts of indecent exposure, and one count of first-degree sodomy, was charged with the crimes in November 2000 for allegedly abusing a child over a period of 10 years.

Special prosecutor Rick Bartley, the Pike County commonwealth's attorney, filed a motion July 30 to dismiss the case, at the request of the victim.

Craft was prepared for (See DISMISSED, page three)

Couple sues ambulance service

by MARY MUSIC
STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — A Floyd County couple filed suit this week against Transtar Ambulance Service and a driver who wrecked while transporting them to a local hospital.

Lawrence and Lucy Samons are suing the company and its former driver, William D. Henderson, of Kermit, W.Va., for an accident that occurred on Dec. 7, 2002.

According to Transtar owner

Paul Allen Lafferty, Henderson was transporting Lucy Samons from McDowell ARH to Hazard for injuries she received that day. Her husband rode as a passenger in the vehicle, which ran through a red light at the intersection of Routes 80 and 680, where it crashed into an embankment.

The suit, filed by Prestonsburg attorney Stacy Marshall, alleges that Henderson's "negligence" caused the couple to suffer bodily injuries, mental anguish, pain and suffering.

They are seeking compensation for past and future mental and physical pain and suffering, past and future medical expenses, and for the permanent impairment of their ability to earn money.

Lafferty denies negligence on behalf of the company, dismissing the suit as a "frivolous" action.

"When I got there, Mr. Samons was standing outside the ambulance smoking a cigarette," Lafferty said. "He got back inside

(See LAWSUIT, page seven)

Forum explores problem gambling

by TOM DOTY
STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — Area mental health professionals attended a seminar on compulsive gambling on Wednesday. The event was housed at the Mountain Arts Center and featured an intense and often entertaining presentation by Scott Walker, who is a certified counselor who treats the disease and works for Mountain

Comprehensive Care in Prestonsburg.

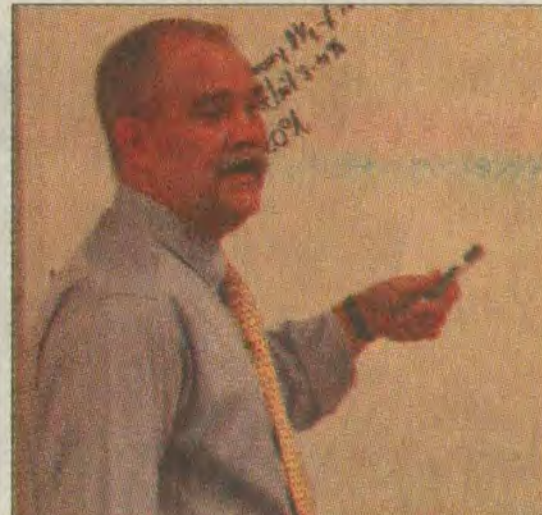
The meeting was sponsored by the Kentucky Council on Compulsive Gambling and was part of the group's week-long program focusing on gambling as being an addiction that is drawing a surprisingly high number of women.

There were plenty of handouts available spotlighting the various issues related to compulsive gambling, as well as resources

for treating the disease that covered the gamut from anonymous meetings to services for families that must struggle with a compulsive gambler in the household.

The highlight of the program was the seminars that were run by Walker. He was an engaging speaker who used a blend of important facts, great storytelling and intense passion to highlight key issues related to gambling

(See GAMBLING, page seven)



Scott Walker, a certified compulsive gambling counselor at Mountain Comprehensive Care, treated area mental health professionals to a dynamic lecture Wednesday at the Mountain Arts Center on the symptoms of the disease.

photo by Tom Doty

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Odds & Ends

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■ **YUBA CITY, Calif.** — Not only did this chicken not make it across the road, but it wound up in a motorist's windshield wipers.

Yuba City Police Lt. Bill Ollar said a man reported that he was driving along a Highway 99 frontage road Tuesday night when a chicken flew by and became entangled in the wipers.

The man said he didn't want to try to free the bird himself so he drove to the police station in this farming community, about 35 miles north of Sacramento. An officer suggested that he turn on his wipers to see if that would free the chicken, but it only set off a "wing-flapping, screeching frenzy," police said.

Finally, an officer donned rub-

ber gloves and freed the bird, which was unharmed but got away.

"After a brief failed attempt to catch the chicken, none of the officers wanted to be seen involved in a prolonged 'chicken-chasing venture' in front of the police department, so the chicken was left to hang around the front of the office to do whatever chickens do," police said in a news release.

Ollar said an animal control officer picked up the bird Wednesday.

"We'd never seen anything like that," Ollar said. "(But) we're willing to help anyone with any call they request. We felt obligated to assist."

■ **MOUNT VERNON, S.D.** — Call it a drive-thru delivery.

The birth of Elaine and Rodney Schabot's new baby gives the term full-service bank a whole new meaning.

CorTrust Bank's Mount Vernon branch became a maternity ward Tuesday when the couple couldn't make it to the hospital.

The couple was headed for a hospital about 25 miles from home, after Elaine Schabot went into labor Tuesday morning. But as they traveled east along Interstate 90, a blinding rainstorm cut visibility to near zero and Schabot told her husband she needed to stop.

They stopped at the bank, where they are regular customers. Fifteen minutes later, their 6-pound, 15-ounce daughter arrived.

"This should show that we're a full-service bank," said Diana Descombaz, the bank's assistant manager. "I'm just glad it turned out well."

Descombaz said the couple ran inside, saying they were about to have a baby. She called 911 and Paul Morris, a firefighter and paramedic who lives in town. Even though he was off-duty, Morris rushed to the bank to assist with the delivery.

"The best noise I ever heard was the sound of that baby crying," Descombaz said.

130 feet before a neighbor pulled him from the narrow pipe.

Dominick was playing with his brother and sister when he fell into a drainage ditch and disappeared from sight on Tuesday.

Neighbor Tom Huffman heard Dominick's sister call for help and he jumped into the ditch.

"I was on my knees and the water was up to my chest," the 40-year-old Huffman said Wednesday. "Once I felt the suction of the pipe, I just happened to run (back down) the alley and flipped the lid up and there he was."

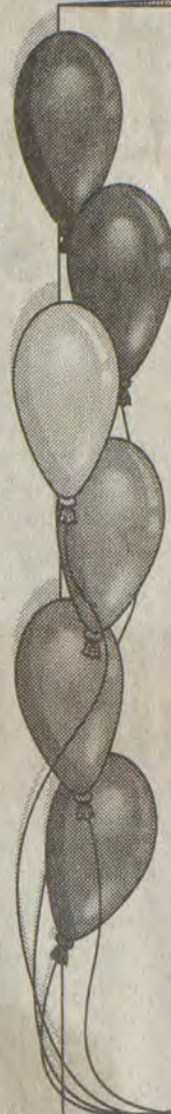
Huffman said he could only see the top of Dominick's head after he lifted the heavy metal drain cover. When he reached down to grab the boy, the manhole cover slammed down on Huffman's head. The gash required five stitches, but Huffman said he didn't notice he was hurt.

Dominick was crying when he was pulled out.

"I was tickled to death when I heard him do that," Huffman said.

The 3-foot-9, 45-pound second grader needed 25 stitches to close the cuts on his skull, but was otherwise unharmed.

Town crews on Wednesday cemented a heavy grate over the drain pipe opening.



Attention

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285-5181, Ext. 6000, or 886-2788

Today in History

Today is Friday, Aug. 6, the 219th day of 2004. There are 147 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Aug. 6, 1945, during World War II, the United States dropped an atomic bomb on Hiroshima, Japan, killing an estimated 140,000 people in the first use of a nuclear weapon in warfare.

On this date:

■ In 1787, the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia began to debate the articles contained in a draft of the United States Constitution.

■ In 1806, the Holy Roman Empire went out of existence as Emperor Francis I abdicated.

■ In 1825, Bolivia declared its independence from Peru.

■ In 1890, convicted murderer William Kemmler became the first person to be executed in the electric chair as he was put to death at Auburn State Prison in New York.

■ In 1914, Austria-Hungary declared war against Russia and Serbia declared war against Germany.

■ In 1926, Gertrude Ederle of New York became the first American woman to swim the English Channel, in about 14 and a-half hours.

■ In 1962, Jamaica became an independent dominion within the British Commonwealth.

■ In 1965, President Johnson signed the Voting Rights Act.

■ In 1978, Pope Paul VI died at Castel Gandolfo at age 80.

■ In 1986, William J. Schroeder died after living 620 days with the Jarvik Seven artificial heart.

problems that she blamed on the diet drug combination fen-phen was awarded \$23.3 million in the first such lawsuit to reach a jury. (The case was settled for less than a tenth of that amount during an appeal.) Tony Gwynn became the 22nd major leaguer to reach 3,000 hits.

One year ago:

Actor Arnold Schwarzenegger used an appearance on NBC's "The Tonight Show with Jay Leno" to announce his successful bid to replace Calif. Gov. Gray Davis. Hours later, Lt. Gov. Cruz Bustamante said he was entering the recall race as well. Israel freed 334 Palestinian prisoners in a bid to jump-start peace efforts — but the gesture fell flat among Palestinians. Record-breaking heat, already blamed for three dozen deaths, continued to torment Europe.

Today's Birthdays:

Entrepreneur Sir Freddie Laker is 82. Actress-singer Abbey Lincoln is 74. Actor-director Peter Bonerz is 66. Actor Michael Anderson Jr. is 61. Actor Dorian Harewood is 54. Actress Catherine Hicks is 53. Rock singer Pat McDonald (Timbuk 3) is 52. Country musician Mark DuFresne (Confederate Railroad) is 51. Actress Stephanie Kramer is 48. Rhythm and blues singer Randy DeBarge is 46. Country singers Patsy and Peggy Lynn are 40. Country singer Lisa Stewart is 36. Movie writer-director M. Night Shyamalan is 34. Singer Geri Halliwell is 32. Singer-actor David Campbell is 31. Actress Ever Carradine is 30. Actress Soleil Moon Frye is 28.

Thought for Today:

"The soul of a civilization is its religion, and it dies with its faith." — Will (1885-1981) and Ariel Durant (1898-1981), American historians.

■ **BATESVILLE, Ark.** — A North Carolina family was not amused when what appeared to be a battered and fried baby foot turned up in a package of chicken pieces.

The package of Banquet brand chicken pieces, which are produced only at ConAgra's Batesville plant, was purchased at a Lowes Foods supermarket in Durham, N.C., said Tania Graves, ConAgra spokeswoman.

But the foot wasn't real — it was actually made of dough that had been sculpted to include toes and toenails, then breaded and fried.

"It was very realistic-looking," Graves said.

Police sent the foot-shaped object to the state medical examiner's office, which determined that it was dough, not human tissue.

Durham police said in a news release that the object had been intentionally shaped to resemble a foot. The investigation was turned over to the Durham County Health Department and United States Department of Agriculture, and the faux foot was given to ConAgra.

"The minute we had learned about it, we knew the product came from the Batesville plant because that's where it was produced, but we did not know (the foot was a hoax) until findings came through," Graves said.

She said the company had taken action to assure nothing like this would happen again, including discharge of some employees.

■ **MONONGAH, W.Va.** — Sucked into a 10-inch storm drain, 7-year-old Dominick Fonseca was pushed downhill — and underground — more than

Ten years ago:
In Wedowee, Ala., an apparent arson fire destroyed Randolph County High School, which had been the focus of tensions over the principal's stand against interracial dating.

Five years ago:
In Canton, Texas, a 36-year-old woman facing lifelong heart

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Two seeking early release from prison

by TOM DOTY
STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — Jesse Compton, 23, of Floyd County, and John Brian Smith, of Decoy in Knott County, will be in circuit court today asking for shock probation.

Smith has been engaged with the Floyd County Circuit Court since January 2002 when an indictment was handed down by a grand jury. He was arrested that February on charges of rape and unlawful imprisonment of a minor who attended Allen Central.

Smith's first trial ended in a hung jury so he dismissed his attorney, Ned Pillersdorf, and hired Steve Owens for his second trial. The second trial ended after two days, just before the victim was set to testify, and Owens negotiated an open plea to the unlawful imprisonment charge, with the rape charge being dropped.

Smith received the maximum sentence of five years and is now asking for the early probation.

If court procedures are looked at as a chess match then this was a master stroke. If one pleads guilty to violent charges, like the rape charge, then they become ineligible for shock probation, which releases first-time offenders after a short prison stay on the premise that the experience was enough to "shock" them into not repeating their behavior.

Now Smith will seek a hearing for an early release. His reasons were stated in the motion for a hearing. They include the prospect of employment and that there is some concern that incarceration will endanger his health.

Compton, who was convicted by a Floyd County jury and given a sentence of eight years, will also appear in circuit court to ask for shock probation. Compton was the first drug trafficker to go to trial on a Floyd County Drug Task Force case.

Though this may all appear to be a violation of the intent of early probation hearings there is plenty of leeway allowed in the

vaguely written rules on shock probation. Nonviolent offenders, like drug traffickers, can opt for it and in some jurisdictions they have been known to get it due to conditions like overcrowding in prisons and lenient judges.

The main condition for applying is that the convict has served up to 30 days but no more than 180. The intent of the law, that someone has been so frightened by prison life that they have learned the error of their ways, has been overlooked by lawyers who just see it as another measure they can use to get an early release for clients who are more than willing to see they get paid for their efforts.

Commonwealth's Attorney Brent Turner noted, "The law is written so broadly that just about everyone takes a shot at it. What do they have to lose?"

Considering that the Commonwealth spent two years securing a conviction against Smith, however, it is no surprise that Turner will be in court today and ready to object to the motion.

"This happens so much that we almost object as a routine," Turner said. "The hearing will give us a chance to articulate our objections formally."

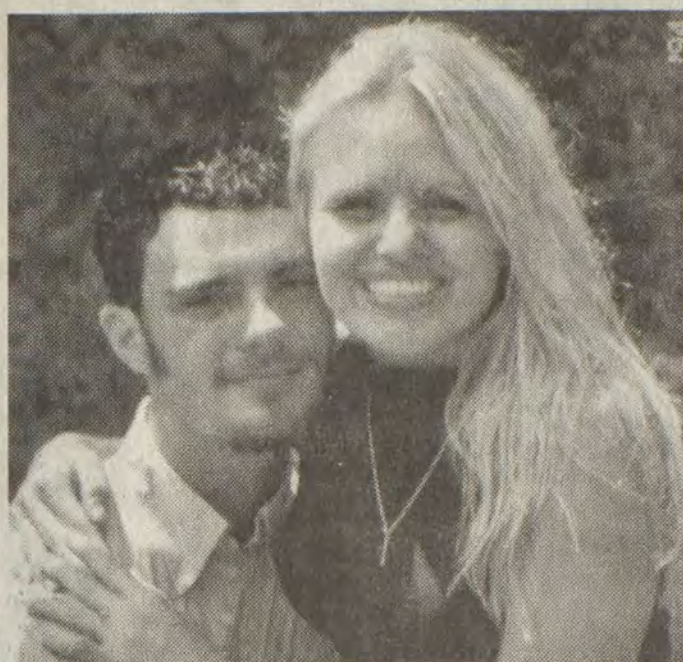
Attorney General Greg Stumbo is aware of the abuses of shock probation and helped draft House Bill 11407, which would have lessened abuses of the law.

"The bill would have limited petitioners to one motion," said Deputy Attorney General Pierce Whites.

Currently a petitioner can file motions for early probation despite denials by circuit court judges. Whites also noted that, "It's been abused over the years and we need to tighten it up. The law shouldn't be applied to persistent felony offenders. One complaint that Greg Stumbo has heard repeatedly from Commonwealth Attorneys is that these motions eat up a lot of the docket and help cause logjams."

Stumbo expects to have another whack at the issue this year and hopes to introduce a Bill that will apply more restrictions to the law.

www.americanheart.org



Stepp-Hager

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph and Ginger Stepp are pleased to announce the forthcoming marriage of their daughter, Rebecca Danielle Stepp, to Brian Nicholas Hager, the son of Brian and Cindy Hager, of Potts Branch, Abbott, and the late Jennifer Hager. The bride-elect is the granddaughter of Clifforene and the late Joe Deskins. She is a graduate of Sheldon Clark High School and is employed by Transport Services. Brian Nicholas is the grandson of Jack and Zelma McDowell, of Mays Branch, and Jewell Hager, of Prestonsburg, and the late Walter Hager. He is a graduate of Prestonsburg High School and is employed by Interstate Natural Gas. The couple will wed in a ceremony that will take place on Saturday, August 7, 2004, at six o'clock in the evening, at the Tom Moore Freewill Baptist Church, Cliff Road. The gracious custom of an open church wedding will be observed.

Relief

already lost so much in recent flooding.

Sherry Beresh, pro tem chair of the Eastern Kentucky Long-Term Recovery Coordinating Committee, said last week that an estimated 451 families in the neighboring five-county area still have \$2.8 million in unmet needs. That's more than half of the \$4 million price tag following the unmet needs of families across the state.

These unmet needs vary with each individual case and include life necessities, such home repair, replacement of beds or other furniture, appliances, or transportation. FEMA spokesperson Bettina Hutchings said,

Caseworkers on the commit-

tees will be working confidentially with each affected family, trying to connect them with volunteer organizations that can assist them with their needs.

They are looking for individuals, businesses, schools and other organizations to donate material, money or manpower to help get people back to their pre-flood status.

But it's not happening in Floyd County.

The downside to all of it, Dinsmore said, is that without representation, the umbrella committee, in charge of distributing assistance in the most needed areas, will not know exactly what is needed, nor will they be able to determine where to obtain those resources.

"I have been extremely unimpressed with what I think is the natural role for the church to take," Dinsmore said. "We need people from the community who are interested in seeing the residents of Floyd County get the help that they need. Businesses, churches, Rotary club members, the school system, the Board of Education should be involved. There are definitely kids out there living in mold-infested houses who've basically lost everything. The school board should definitely be involved ... We need community leaders and people who can basically tell us what to do and tell us where to find the resources. Very few of us know where those resources are. People associated with vari-

ous businesses, clubs and organizations, already know where to go ... If no one helps, the aid will pass over Floyd County. If Floyd County doesn't get organized to help itself, there will be people in Floyd County left behind without help."

Each county has its own long-term recovery committee, which meets on a regular basis. The Floyd County committee meets every Wednesday at 10 a.m. at the First Presbyterian Church in Prestonsburg. Very little support has been seen at the last couple of meetings, Dinsmore said.

Anyone willing to donate manpower, money or materials can contact the Big Sandy Community Action Program in Paintsville at (606) 789-3641.

Continued from p1

PHS

ceedings and followed a format that included giving all of the candidates a chance to answer the same question as well as a second round of questions that were directed at each individual.

Candidates for the position are current assistant principal Jerry Butcher, Adams Middle School assistant principal Ted George, Charles Rowe, who teaches at Paintsville Independent, and Jonathon Slone, who is an assistant principal at a Northern Kentucky school who wishes to return to his alma mater.

All of the candidates had impressive credentials and are certified to perform the duties of a high school principal and introduced their credentials at the outset of the meeting.

Their answers to questions during the forum, however, allowed several of the candidates to show how quick they were on their feet and turned out to be an opportune showcase for observing their charisma and leadership abilities.

Slone and George came off as the better speakers and used the format well. Each was able to answer all questions posed to them and establish themes for their leadership styles.

George emphasized qualities such as inclusion and being visible. He stressed that everyone at a school needs to feel included and that he is doing his job well when his presence in classrooms is common to teachers and not a distraction.

Slone talked a lot about communication and building respect in the school environment. His main theme was that the staff and students should never fall into an adversarial relationship. He also came off as well read with a firm grasp of recent policy developments such as the "No Child Left Behind" program.

Chuck Rowe advanced the idea that a principal should be seen around the school and not in an office all of the day.

Butcher did not appear to be comfortable with the format and often kept his answers very short.

Parents were allowed to sub-

mit recommendations on index cards after the forum, which the site-based council will incorporate into its discussion today.

Continued from p1

NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATION

Floyd County School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex/gender, age, or disability in admission to its programs, services, or activities, in access to them, in treatment of individuals, or in any aspect of their operations. The Floyd County School District also does not discriminate in hiring or employment practices.

The Floyd County District offers the following career and technical education programs to all students enrolled in grades 9-12:

Prestonsburg High School: Agriculture, Business, Family and Consumer Science, Communications

Betsy Layne High School: Business, Pathways to Careers

Allen Central High School: Business, Family and Consumer Science

South Floyd High School: Technology Education, Family and Consumer Science

Floyd County Area Technology Center: Welding, Health Services, Business, Carpentry, Auto Mechanics, Industrial Technology

*Students in grades 9-12 may enroll in courses in the career areas. Students must be 15 years old to enroll in Area Technology Center Courses.

This notice is provided as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Questions, complaints, or requests for additional information regarding these laws may be forwarded to the designated compliance program coordinators: Phil Paige, Director of Human Resources, 606-886-4521; Henry Webb, Office of Instruction, 606-886-4507; Kerry Fannin, Office of Instruction, 606-886-4506; Roy Johnson, Office of Instruction, 606-886-4551; Ruth Blackburn, Director of Special Education, 606-886-4555. The address for written inquiries is the Floyd County Board of Education, 106 North Front Avenue, Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653.

Dismissed

Continued from p1

trial in May 2001 under Judge John David Caudill, but the case was declared a mistrial before it began after conflicts arose, prompting the appointment of Bartley as special prosecutor and Judge Danny P. Caudill as the presiding judge.

The case has been predominantly dormant since that time.

Bartley could not be reached for comment this week.

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Viewpoint

Worth Repeating ...

"Allow children to be happy in their own way, for what better way will they ever find?"

— Samuel Johnson

Amendment 1

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

Guest View

Editorial roundup

Chicago Tribune, on TV channel Nickelodeon encouraging kids to play outside:

... On Saturday, Oct. 2, the kid-friendly Nickelodeon cable channel will go dark for three hours. A graphic will appear on the screen urging youngsters to go outside and play.

... What a great idea. Here's what we imagine. Thousands of children, blinking, will emerge in the blinding outdoor light, staggering from their darkened television rooms into the yards and sidewalks of every town in America.

Released from television bondage, they are confused, disoriented. But soon they adjust. They realize that unlike what they've seen on television, square yellow sponges don't talk. Rabbits lack a ready store of wisecracks. Superheroes from Superman to Spider-Man do not — alas — save humankind from daily disasters.

Instead, they rediscover the wonders of a Saturday in autumn, in a world unfiltered by the television camera, unsullied by the flash and glare of cartoons. With any luck, the imagination cranks to life. There are piles of leaves to crunch satisfyingly underfoot, or a football to toss. There's time to find a face in the clouds.

There are no commercial breaks.

Any parent who has grappled with a child to turn off the television and go outside to play will utter a small but fervent thank-you to Nickelodeon for its noble gesture, even if it turns out to be little more than a clever publicity stunt. With more and more kids tethered to the tube and more and more growing sedentary and overweight, it's a valiant effort.

The parents also may be reminded that televisions do have off buttons. You don't have to wait for Nickelodeon to do it for you. It could be revolutionary — kids and parents realizing that they can survive for hours at a time without television. Or maybe they'll just change the channel.

The Hays (Kan.) Daily News, on an intelligence czar:

Reforming the federal bureaucracy is not done easily nor swiftly, even after a tragedy of 9-11 proportions.

Almost immediately after the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, one problem was clear: The nation's different intelligence agencies did not communicate well. In fact, they operated almost as adversaries sometimes. So, they did not share information that might have set off more alarm about the threat of a domestic attack.

Last week, almost three years later, the Sept. 11 commission warned that the United States remains vulnerable to terrorist attack for the same reason. ...

That was not much different from ... the ideas that surfaced in the days and weeks immediately after the attacks.

So, now can we do something? Can we knock down the walls of bureaucracy that threaten our very existence?

Some Washington lawmakers and the Bush administration are wary of any sweeping restructuring. Critics fear that the creation of a new job would just add another layer to the bureaucracy. At the same time, they say that one person cannot do it all. ...

... What the government needs to do is complete and refine the concept of homeland security and consolidate the 15-some intelligence agencies under the position Bush already has tried to create to try to fix the stratification that left the country vulnerable to terrorism.

A vulnerability, we are told, that still remains.



Guest Column

Should we have faith in government?

by SHELDON RICHMAN

Ever since the attacks of 9/11, unsanctioned alternative explanations of what happened and why have been in ample supply. What are the American people to make of these explanations? That depends on the alternative offered. My purpose here is not to lend credence to any of them, but rather to examine the attitude that officialdom expects of us. According to the opinion molders inside and outside the government, we regular people are supposed to scoff, with melodramatic flourish if possible, at any suggestion that the Official Version of events is, shall we say, incomplete. The implied principle is that the government and the mainstream media couldn't possibly have gotten things wrong, either intentionally or inadvertently.

That's the principle I wish to question. Governments regularly get things wrong, either because their knowledge is imperfect or because they have an interest in getting them wrong.

I certainly accept the maxim that the burden of proof rests on the one offering an assertion. Without that maxim, we are at the mercy of any arbitrary claim that comes down the pike. Until you get an answer to the question "What's your evidence?" you have no obligation to consider the assertion at all.

Most people who proffer conspiracy theories are eager to offer what in their eyes constitutes evidence. It may turn out to be bad evidence, but at least they see their responsibilities. They give the rest of us something to grab hold of, scrutinize, chew over, and accept or discard as we see fit.

That's more than we can say for the Loyal Order of Defenders of the Official Version of Things. They rarely deign to rebut the evidence provided by the devotees of alternative versions, for to do so would be to give those versions attention; and to do that would be to suggest they are worthy of attention. That, the Loyal Defenders cannot afford to do. Better to portray anyone who entertains a nonstandard, unsanctioned theory as a lunatic.

What do the Loyal Defenders offer in behalf of the Official Version? Not very much. Yes, bipartisan blue-ribbon commissions are often impaneled, comprising prominent members of the power establishment. Yet the last thing anyone expects of such commissions is a bombshell implicating high officeholders in gross negligence or malfeasance. Instead there is the obligatory boilerplate about the pointlessness of recrimination. The 9/11 commission is a good example. I've never understood why recrimination is considered pointless.

This arrangement looks suspiciously like a rigged game, and it should concern anyone who worries about the threat to liberty from power. As things are now set up, government is in a fine position to get away with murder and assorted lesser crimes. All it need do is hand down its exculpatory account, which will be dutifully conveyed by the news media, and have its agents impugn the motives or sanity of dissenters. That will be enough to keep most respectable people away.

We are asked, in other words, to put our trust in the state. But no collection of men is less deserving of trust than the

(See GUEST, page seven)

Letters

Butcher shouldn't have been singled out

After reading the Wednesday edition of The Floyd County Times (August 4, 2004), particularly the sports section, I was truly dismayed at the article pertaining to Jerry Butcher.

I was confused as to why this article was published in the sports section. The article held very little pertinent sports-related content. It was a bio of Mr. Butcher and in my opinion a ploy to help get him appointed principal at Prestonsburg High School.

Why weren't all four candidates' bios and accomplishments published and placed on the front page of the paper? After all, the principal vacancy at Prestonsburg High School is very newsworthy and I am sure the public would like to read about them as well. All can-

didates should have been recognized equally in the paper, as they are people who have worn many hats, too.

I know for a fact that Mr. Ted George, a candidate, is a very capable person. His resume is as impressive and I am sure the other candidates are as well. Mr. George has done a wonderful job as assistant principal at Adams Middle School and I think that Prestonsburg High School would gain a tremendous asset by having him as principal.

Ample time has been given to the past school administration to make the necessary changes and nothing has been done. The school has gone nowhere but down. The school is composed of more than one group of people and their opinions, or is supposed to be. The time has come and changes need to be made.

I feel sure that all parents want what is best for their children at Prestonsburg High School.

Barbara Hatfield
Prestonsburg

(See LETTERS, page seven)

Homosexuality is a choice

I am writing in response to the letter "Homosexuality is normal" and the letter by Frederick Plappert.

First, John Burgess's letter is just another of the many lies told about homosexuality. Burgess referenced many scientific studies but did not tell all the facts of those studies.

But the truth is, there is absolutely no scientific evidence that homosexuality is grounded in biology. And even gay researchers don't dispute this.

Dr. Simon LeVay, the neuroscientist who studied the brain structure called the hypothalamus in gay men in the 1990s, now says this: "I did not prove that homosexuality is genetic, or find a genetic cause for being gay. I didn't show that gay men are born that way —

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.

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At the Movies: 'Collateral'

by **CHRISTY LEMIRE**
AP ENTERTAINMENT WRITER

When Tom Cruise is good, he's very, very good. But when he's bad, he's better.

"Collateral" gives him his first chance to be truly, deeply evil. Not just cocky and flawed, as he was so stunningly in "Magnolia." Not just broken and lost, as he was in "Minority Report."

As a hit man assigned to take out five federal witnesses over the course of a night, Cruise's Vincent is the devil in a gray tailored suit.

Gone are the self-satisfied smile, the complacent ties of extraordinary stardom. He has dropped his voice to a totally different register, and with his silver-streaked hair and facial scruff, he sometimes looks like a totally different person — namely William Petersen in 1986's "Manhunter," an early film by Michael Mann, the

director of "Collateral."

Casting Cruise as the villain may sound like a gimmick, but it's the essential part of a film that — for its first two-thirds, at least — pulsates with unpredictability and suspense.

Like Mann's "Heat," which was also set in Los Angeles, "Collateral" viscerally captures a certain urban dichotomy: the veneer of gauzy glamour covering the city's dangerous underbelly. The sun is going down, smothering everything in a smoggy, orange haze. Cars lazily navigate the streets of downtown L.A. as The Roots' "The Seed 2.0" plays in the background. But something darker is going on underneath, and Mann understands and conveys those discordant rhythms.

Vincent arrives in town and trolls this terrain with the help of a conscientious, slightly nerdy taxi driver named Max (Jamie Foxx, the "Any Given Sunday" star, also playing against type).

He asks Max to drive him around all night to visit friends and business associates before his 6 a.m. flight the next day — but really, he hijacks the cab through a combination of charm and implied threat. Max is reluctant but says yes when Vincent fans a handful of cash before his eyes.

During their first stop, when a dead body falls on top of the cab from a fourth-floor window — the messy victim of Vincent's normally methodical handiwork — the stunned Max realizes the true nature of his passenger and gets dragged along for the ride.

Max can't predict where they're going, and neither can we. Their conversations in the cab between don't seem to be about much, but notice the way each of them changes subtly as the night goes on. The abrupt Vincent listens a bit more, the respectful Max gets more assertive — though he can't get away, and barely tries. The cam-

era frames them as if they were sitting in each other's laps, giving the film a claustrophobic tenseness.

All the while, they're being chased by LAPD detective Fanning, played by the always-solid Mark Ruffalo, who doesn't get nearly enough screen time. Jada Pinkett Smith is typically lovely as a lawyer who rides in Max's cab at the movie's start and Javier Bardem makes a too-brief cameo as a drug cartel leader.

Then "Collateral" changes, too: It becomes laughably ridiculous. Starting with a shoot-out during a hit at a crowded Asian nightclub, the script from Stuart Beattie (co-writer of "Pirates of the Caribbean: The Curse of the Black Pearl") spirals frustratingly out of control.

Vincent somehow acquires the invincibility of the T-1000 in "Terminator 2." He's involved in a car crash but he crawls from the upside-down wreckage and, without the slightest hesitation, runs through the deserted downtown L.A. streets, gun in hand, hunting down his next victim. Shooting him in the head also does little to deter him. And the film's final moments, which presumably were intended to be poignant, are instead unintentionally funny.

Everything that came beforehand, though, was so arresting that you'll want to forgive the film its final flaws.

"Collateral," a DreamWorks Pictures and Paramount Pictures release, is rated R for violence and language. Running time: minutes. Three stars out of four.

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<p>Cinema Two • PG-13</p> <p>HELD OVER</p> <p>HAROLD AND KUMAR Mon.-Sun. 7:15-9:25; Fri. (4:25), 7:15-9:25; Sat.-Sun. (2:15-4:25), 7:15-9:25</p>	<p>Cinema Seven • R</p> <p>OPENS FRI. 8/6</p> <p>COLLATERAL Mon.-Sun. 6:45-9:15; Fri. (4:15), 6:45-9:15; Sat.-Sun. (1:45-4:15), 6:45-9:15</p>
<p>Cinema Three • PG-13</p> <p>HELD OVER</p> <p>THE BOURNE SUPREMACY Mon.-Sun. 7:10-9:30; Fri. (4:30), 7:10-9:30; Sat.-Sun. (2:10-4:30), 7:10-9:30</p>	<p>Cinema Eight • PG-13</p> <p>HELD OVER</p> <p>THE VILLAGE Mon.-Sun. 7:00-9:20; Fri. (4:20), 7:00-9:20; Sat.-Sun. (2:00-4:20), 7:00-9:20</p>
<p>Cinema Four</p> <p>HELD OVER</p> <p>CINDERELLA STORY PG-13 Mon.-Sun. 7:15 only; Fri. 4:25, 7:15; Sat.-Sun. (2:15-4:25), 7:15</p>	<p>Cinema Nine • PG-13</p> <p>OPENS FRI. 8/6</p> <p>LITTLE BLACK BOOK Mon.-Sun. 7:00-9:20; Fri. (4:20), 7:00-9:20; Sat.-Sun. (2:00-4:20), 7:00-9:20</p>
<p>Cinema Five</p> <p>HELD OVER</p> <p>THE NOTEBOOK PG-13 Mon.-Sun. 7:00-9:20;</p> <p>HELD OVER</p> <p>THUNDERBIRDS PG Fri. 4:15; Sat.-Sun. (2:00-4:15)</p>	<p>Cinema Ten • PG-13</p> <p>HELD OVER</p> <p>I, ROBOT Mon.-Sun. 6:45-9:15; Fri. (4:10), 6:45-9:15; Sat.-Sun. (1:30-4:10), 6:45-9:15</p>

Rental Central

by **TOM DOTY**
STAFF WRITER

On July 5, 1954, Elvis Presley recorded his first 45 with "That's All Right," the B side was "Blue Moon of Kentucky," and history was made.

August continues the celebration with six Elvis movies making their DVD debuts. This week saw the release of "It Happened at the World's Fair," "Speedway," "Harum Scarum," "Spinout," "Double Trouble" and "The Trouble with Girls." These are light entertainment but each packs at least eight musical numbers and are prime showcases for the King. Check out "Speedway" for a rare on-screen pairing with Nancy

(See RENTAL, page seven)

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For the Record

Marriage Licenses

Lisa Leann Hagans, 26, to Eric Ron Shepherd, 32, both of Martin.
 Shirlana Kayla Newsome, 21, of Pikeville, to Jeffrey Bryan Adams, 29, of Paintsville.
 Tina Lynn West, 28, of Pikeville, to Gregory Allen Shepherd, 33, of McDowell.
 Courtney Elizabeth Page, 20, of Pikeville, to Ed Steven Reynolds, 20, of Martin.
 Leslie Jean Steele, 20, to Jody Michael Hamilton, 22, both of Pikeville.
 Julie Lynn Campbell, 23, of Prestonsburg to Martin Brooks Stumbo, 24, of Lexington.
 Tesia Marie Ewing, 37, of Sandusky, Ohio, to Gary Ray

Lafferty, 41, of Prestonsburg. Tiffany D. Johnson, 17, of Langley, to Elmer Ray Lewis, 20, of West Liberty.

Civil Suits Filed

Hazel Sadler vs. Jenny Wiley Drama Association; verified complaint.
 Benjamin Manhan vs. Devon Reynolds; complaint.
 Aggie Pack vs. Dwayne Pack; divorce.
 Anita Ratliff vs. Betty Goble; complaint.
 Chase Manhattan Mortgage Company vs. Thomas Meade and his unknown spouse; complaint.
 Larry Hall vs. Theodore W. Conley; complaint.
 Mary A. Howard vs. Liberty Mutual Insurance Company; complaint.
 Lawrence Samons and Lucy Samons vs. William D. Henderson and Lafferty Enterprises, doing business as Transtar Ambulance; complaint.
 JP Morgan Chase Bank vs. John Wellman and Abigail Wellman; complaint.
 Allstate Insurance Company vs. Burnette Burge, Patricia McNeil, Alfred Music, Universal Well Service, Nationwide Insurance, and

Travelers Insurance Company; complaint.

Small Claims Filings

A & B Auto Glass vs. Dennis Crager, monetary damages
 James E. Allen vs. David Glass, monetary damage for rent
 Lavail Sue Rose vs. Dewayne Bevins, monetary damage
 Maryland Jervis vs. Michelle Maynard, monetary damages for rent
 Ethel Curry vs. Madeline Click, monetary damage

Charges Filed

Billy Joe Hunter, 26, Prestonsburg; two counts of wanton endangerment.
 Chad Manuel, 19, Langley, theft.
 Jerry Lee Amburgy, 27, East Point; escape.
 Jerry Lee Amburgy, 27, East Point; DUI, driving on a DUI-suspended license.
 Johnny Hunter, Jr., 55, Dwale; trafficking.
 John Paul Miller, 24, Langley; trafficking in a controlled substance, trafficking.
 Maria L. Campbell, 37, Langley; trafficking in a con-

trolled substance, trafficking.
 Jack Perry, 44, Prestonsburg; cultivation of marijuana.

Samuel C. Williams, 23, Betsy Layne; DUI, driving on suspended license, possession of open alcoholic beverage container in a motor vehicle, failure to produce insurance card, possession of a controlled substance.

Christine Jones, 45, Melvin; DUI, driving on a suspended license, leaving scene of accident/failure to render aid or assistance, no insurance.

Anthony Scott Hall, 30, Bevinville; two counts of theft.
 Marty B. Mullins, 33, Mollie; four counts of criminal abuse.

Billie Elswick, no age listed, Paris; theft.

Loretta Dotson, 40, McDowell; receiving stolen property.

Andrea Fleming, 21, Prestonsburg; theft.
 Drusella Shepherd, 45, Dana; harassment.

Fred Hall, 38, Galveston; trafficking in marijuana.

Brian Q. Morison, no age listed, West Van Lear; alcohol intoxication.

Joe Hall, 43, Galveston; two counts of trafficking in marijuana.

French V. Hensley, 65, Langley; cultivation of marijuana.

James Poston, 55, Maytown; possession of marijuana, use/possession of drug paraphernalia.

Roger Gamble, 33, Dana; assault.

Larry T. Hayden, 27, Prestonsburg; fourth-degree assault.

Jeff Turner, 41, Martin; alcohol intoxication, possession of an open alcoholic beverage in a motor vehicle.

Michael J. Akers, 24, Beaver; alcohol intoxication.

Russell M. Meade, 34, Prestonsburg; public intoxication.

Misty Dawn Mollette, 32, Prestonsburg; theft, possession of marijuana, controlled substance prescription not in original container, possession of a controlled substance.

James C. Salyer, 46, Sitka; selling alcoholic beverages to a minor.

Hannah N. Goble, 18, Auxier; selling alcoholic beverages to a minor.

Joyce M. Idle, 52, Prestonsburg; selling alcoholic beverages to a minor.

Eric Fitzer, 29, Prestonsburg, two counts of wanton endangerment.

Ricky a. Stratton, Jr., 22, Harold; fourth-degree assault.

Barbara J. Carroll, 29, Tram; terroristic threatening.

David G. Hall, 34, Allen; theft.

Chad Slone, 27, Bevinville; harassing communications.

Floyd D. Spears, 19, Allen; harassing communications.

Brian Lee Cook, 32, Chapel Hill, N.C.; alcohol intoxication.

Edgar Tackett, 78, Prestonsburg; alcohol intoxication.

Tabitha Akers, no age listed, Drift; terroristic threatening.

Jeffery Spears, no age listed, Drift; terroristic threatening.

John Bartrum, 29, Langley; criminal trespassing.

Charles Wright, 55, Prestonsburg; criminal trespassing, criminal mischief.

Wendell Salyer, 38, Prestonsburg; menacing.

Steven Shane Stephens, 27, Martin; possession of marijuana.

Shanean L. Spencer, 23, Paintsville; criminal trespassing.

Inspections

Grethel Double Kwik, follow-up inspection. Violations noted: Hot foods holding display unit still not functioning properly, will follow up on installation of replacement part in 10 days, noncritical items from previous inspection have not been corrected. Another follow-up scheduled in 60 days.

Osborne's Pizza, McDowell, regular inspection. Violations noted: Thermometers not present in all refrigeration units, proper hair restraints not in use, one light in food prep area not operable. Score: 97.

Prestonsburg, regular inspection. Violations noted: Pizza sauce needs to be covered while stored, waste container in back storage area needs to be covered, towel on floor in food prep area. Score: 92.

Compton's Quick Stop, Weeksbury, regular inspection. Violations noted: Thermometers not present in all refrigeration units, food items observed stored on floor, restroom door not self-closing, floors in disrepair. Score: 94.

Giovanni's Pizza, Prestonsburg, regular inspection. Violations noted: Unable to locate thermometers in some

refrigeration units, hair restraints not in use, single-service items not stored properly, floor in back storage area in need of cleaning, countertop in some disrepair. Score: 91.

Red Light Diner, Prestonsburg, regular inspection. Violations noted: Thermometer missing from reach in refrigerator, seal on reach in needs repair, waste container not present in food prep, walls and ceiling in poor repair. Score: 87.

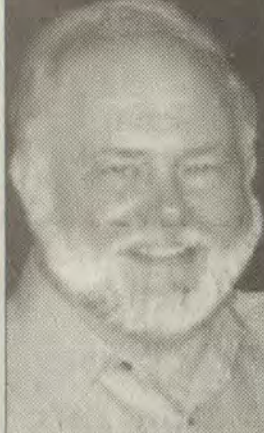
Hillbilly Market, Prestonsburg, regular inspection.

(See RECORD, page seven)

LOST DOG

Two-year-old male tan and white Boxer last seen in the Garth Hollow area of Left Beaver, July 27th. Answers to the name of Max. His collar was found, so he will not have any ID.
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The chiropractor's adjustments at the truck stops usually do not take long, especially if the driver regularly gets adjustments. Within an hour, the trucker can be back on the road again. If you drive a lot, you could also have subluxations or misalignments of the spine. Have your Doctor of Chiropractic check as soon as possible for spinal damage that can lead to other bodily problems.

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985003	COLLATERAL	985003	STARTS FRIDAY Mon.-Fri., 6:50, 9:00; Sat.-Sun., 4:30, 6:50, 9:00 Rated R
985003	CINDERELLA STORY	985003	STARTS FRIDAY Mon.-Fri., 7:00; Sat.-Sun., 5:00, 7:00 Rated PG
985003	THE VILLAGE	985003	HELD OVER Mon.-Fri., 7:15, 9:15; Sat.-Sun., 3:15, 5:15, 7:15, 9:15 Rated PG-13
985003	MANCHURIAN CANDIDATE	985003	HELD OVER Mon.-Fri., 6:45, 9:10; Sat.-Sun., 4:15, 6:45, 9:10 Rated R
985003	SPIDER-MAN 2	985003	HELD OVER Mon.-Fri., 6:30, 9:05; Sat.-Sun., 4:00, 6:30, 9:05 Rated PG-13
985003	CAT WOMAN	985003	HELD OVER Mon.-Fri., 9:00; Sat.-Sun., 9:00 Rated PG-13

789-4500

Lawsuit

the ambulance and began complaining with neck pain ... Basically, this is a frivolous, malicious lawsuit and we are looking at filing a lawsuit for malicious and frivolous claims against them. We feel this is an attempt to damage local emergency services and we intend to fight the case at all costs."

Kentucky Vehicle Enforcement officer Tommy

Gearheart, who investigated the accident, said the ambulance was moderately damaged in the accident. Workers drove it off the scene, he said.

Henderson, who had no previous accidents during his one year employment at Transtar, is no longer employed by the company. He left approximately three months after the accident, Lafferty said.

Marshall declined to comment on the specifics of the case yesterday.

"As far as I'm concerned this is an automobile accident claim and we'll litigate it in court," he said. "I will represent my clients zealously in this action."

Marshall said he will file an amended complaint in the case to correct a "typographical" error alleging that the ambulance

overtaken in the accident.

The lawsuit against Transtar comes approximately seven months after another negligence suit was dismissed against the company.

That suit, dismissed for lack of prosecution in January, alleged that Transtar was responsible for the death of Dennis Meadows, who was being transported from

Highlands Regional Medical Center to the Veterans Hospital in Nashville.

The handwritten complaint, filed by North Carolina native Dennis F. Meadows, alleges that there was only enough oxygen on board the ambulance to treat the man during the first two-thirds of the trip.

"When Transtar arrived in

Continued from p1

Nashville, they dropped Dennis Meadows off and did not tell anyone who he was, why he was there or what was wrong with him," the suit alleges. "He never regained consciousness. He died shortly later."

Meadows failed to appear or respond to court proceedings for nearly three years, the dismissal order says.

Gambling

addictions.

Walker highlighted the warning signs of compulsive gambling, which include:

- Constantly dealing with bill collectors
- A partner who stays away from home often
- Gambling in order to solve financial problems

Consistently promising to stop gambling but never delivering on that promise.

Michael R. Stone, executive director of the council, was present for the forum and thanked local groups for supporting the program. He noted that in attendance were representatives from the University of Kentucky

Woman's Institute, Mountain Comprehensive Care counselors and criminal justice workers.

Stone had praise for the drug court program which is being spearheaded by Judge Eric Hall for residents of Floyd County who want to stop doing drugs and need the help of the courts to combat their addiction. Stone

mentioned that drug court had sent representatives to the meeting and said, "What we need here is a gambling court. A pilot program was started by a judge in Amherst New York."

The purpose of a gambling court would be to prevent crime by chronic gamblers by helping to remove the addiction.

Continued from p1

Rental

Sinatra.

The big studio releases this week feature two films which should have done better at the box office but will probably clean up as rentals. "Hidalgo" features Viggo Mortenson in his first role since "The Lord of the Rings" trilogy and delivers a few laughs as well as thrills as an ex-soldier who, embittered after witnessing the slaughter of Native Americans, joins in a grueling race across 3,000 miles of Arabian desert. One part fact and three parts fiction here, but it all adds up to a good return for your entertainment dollar.

The other big release this week was "13 Going on 30." A 13-year old-girl gets her wish here to skip adolescence and wakes up as Jennifer Garner (star of TV's "Alias"). The goofy charm of Garner saves the day in this female version of the

Tom Hanks hit "Big."

Kids will enjoy a panoply of releases from the folks at public television. This week saw releases of "Caillou," "Arthur" and "Sesame Street." Some new shows joined the ranks, too. HBO's "I-Spy" is based on the popular series of books and challenges children to find distinct objects in crowded landscapes. "Hi-5" is an American version of a popular children's show from Australia, which also brought us "The Wiggles," and features five friends who sing bouncy upbeat songs and perform skits. The performers all have stage backgrounds and one, Curtis Creegan, was featured in Broadway's monster hit "Rent."

The unearthed classic of the week is the 1983 film "Something Wicked this Way Comes." The film captures small town life and the combination of

glee and dread which accompanies a carnival coming to town. Turns out that this carnival also collects souls as two boys try to convince the adults in town that they are all in danger. A great script by Ray Bradbury, who adapted his novel, and a good cast (Jonathon Pryce, Jason Robards and Pam Grier) help put this PG scarefest on the map as one of the better efforts to come from Disney in the 1980s.

Record

Violations noted: Unable to locate thermometer in deep freeze unit, food prep items not covered while stored, stove and fryer in need of cleaning, some surfaces in need of cleaning in food prep area. Score: Food service 94, retail 95.

Pizza Palace Fun Center, Prestonsburg, regular inspection. Violations noted: Cooling unit not maintaining proper temperature, unable to locate cooking thermometers, items for cooking not covered while stored, hair restraints not in use, no paper towels in restroom, waste containers in food prep not covered, outside dumpster area in need of cleaning, found some food on floor of walk in. Score: 86.

Hyden's Mobile Home Park, regular inspection. Violations noted: Homes don't meet the 15-foot setback from other homes. Score: 98.

Wesley School, Allen, regular inspection. No violations noted. Score: 100.

Betsy Layne High School, Stanville, regular inspection. Violations noted: Food containers in walk-in freezer not properly labeled, paint peeling on walk-in refrigerator. Score: 91.

Property Transfers

Ernest Ray Jr. and Crystal Ray to Landa Stewart and Mabel Ray, property located at Mud Creek.

Ricky D. Ferrell and Barbara Ferrell to Randy D. Ferrell and Carolyn M. Ferrell, property

Guest

state. A casual look at its history is all that is necessary to substantiate that claim. States have been committing horrendous crimes on a mass scale for ages. "Democratic" states are not exempt from that judgment. The U.S. government has much to answer for, from the Trail of Tears in 1838 to Atlanta in 1864 to the Japanese internment in 1942 to Ruby Ridge in 1992 to Waco in 1993. And that's only some of its domestic offenses. We could bring up the Philippines, Dresden, Tokyo, Hiroshima, Nagasaki, Beirut, and others.

I am not saying that any particular conspiracy theory is accurate. All I am saying is that governments ought to be held to the same standard of proof as everyone else.

Sheldon Richman is senior fellow at The Future of Freedom Foundation, author of Tethered Citizens: Time to Repeal the Welfare State, and editor of The Freeman magazine.

Continued from p5

Next week look for Uma Thurman to finally "Kill Bill" in Volume 2 of Quentin Tarantino's love letter to kung-fu films of the 1970s. The other big release will give renters a chance to decide if "The Passion of the Christ" is a faithful portrayal of the last days of Jesus or an exploitative attempt to milk theology for your hard-earned dollars.

Continued from p6

located at Ferguson Subdivision. Eunice Fraley to Judy Fraley Slone, Anna Lee Rice and Sundra Fraley Branham, property location undisclosed.

Lynn R. Partington and Debbie L. Hopkins to Freddie Crockett and Sheila Crockett, property location undisclosed. The Prestonsburg Industrial Corporation to P.I.C. Real Estate, LLC, property located in Cliff.

Terry Thornsberry to G & B Rentals, property located at Creekside Development.

Richard Auxier and Lydia Belle Auxier to Wanda Lee Tackett and Wade Douglas Tackett, property located at Bear Hollow.

Jimmy Slone and Nancy Slone to Pina Williams and Earl Tackett, property located in Wheelwright.

Larry D. Prater and Deborah Lynn Prater to Kristy Holbrook, property location undisclosed.

Dinah Stratton, Danny Stratton, Barbara June Burchett and James H. Trimble to Ernest Smith and Jeanne Smith, property located at Ivel.

Irene Hale to Knott-Floyd Land Company, property located at Right Beaver.

Martin Keith Darby and Sandra Kay Darby to Paul Clark Combs and Shirley W. Combs, property location undisclosed.

Judith Dotson and Terry L. Dotson to Terry G. Kinzer and Elizabeth Lee Kinzer, property location undisclosed.

Richard Wells to Ricky John Wells and Lisa Marie Wells, property location undisclosed.

Timothy Howard and Pauline Howard to Billie Joe Howard, property located at Middle Creek.

Attorney General's Office meets with Public Service Commission

by JOE BIESK ASSOCIATED PRESS

FRANKFORT — The attorney general's office proposed Wednesday to provide the Public Service Commission with a status report on its investigation into whether the agency had improper communications during a recent rate case.

The offer came after a request by the PSC for information on the investigation.

Attorney General Greg Stumbo is looking into whether the PSC communicated improperly with Louisville Gas & Electric Co. and Kentucky Utilities officials during the utilities' recent rate hike case.

While that investigation is ongoing, the PSC has reopened the rate hearing, to which Stumbo's office was a party.

Meanwhile, Stumbo's office asked the PSC to postpone making a decision on the case until its investigation is complete.

"The Public Service Commission's duty is to protect the public interest. It cannot pro-

tect the public interest by short circuiting a process which involves an investigation of ex parte contacts by the commission itself," Assistant Deputy Attorney General Pierce Whites wrote in papers filed Wednesday with the PSC.

In June, the PSC approved a \$101.4 million rate increase for

(See PUBLIC, page nine)

Masonic Outdoor Meeting

CANCELLED

Due to unforeseen circumstances, it has been necessary to CANCEL the outdoor Masonic meeting of John W. Hall Lodge No. 950, F&AM, and James W. Alley Lodge No. 657, F&AM, scheduled to be held Saturday, August 7, at the Tom Flanery farm at Warco.

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606-672-3450

Community Calendar

Calendar items will be printed as space permits

Editor's note: To announce your community event, you may hand-deliver your item to The Floyd County Times office, located at 263 S. Central Avenue, Prestonsburg; or mail to: The Floyd County Times, P.O. Box 390, Prestonsburg, KY 41653; or fax to 606-886-3603; or email to: features@floyd-countytimes.com. Information will not be taken over the telephone. All items will be placed on a first-come, first-serve basis as space permits

MASONIC OUTDOOR MEETING CANCELLED

Due to unforeseen circumstances, it has been necessary to CANCEL the outdoor Masonic meeting of John W. Hall Lodge No. 950, F&AM, and James W. Alley Lodge No. 657, F&AM,

scheduled to be held Saturday, August 7, at the Tom Flannery farm at Warco.

"CARING FOR THE CAREGIVER" TRAINING IS SCHEDULED

The Big Sandy Area Agency on Aging Family Caregiver program is offering a free professional training "Caring for the Caregiver" on August 20, from 9 a.m. to 12 noon at the Big Sandy ADD, 110 Resource Court, Prestonsburg. This training will provide new and different resources along with information that can be applied to help caregivers and their loved ones. For more information, or to register, contact Melissa King, at 1-800-737-2723.

SOCIAL SECURITY MANAGER TO SPEAK AT AARP MEET

Jim Kelly, District Manager for Social Security, will be the guest of Jenny Wiley Chapter 3528, AARP, at the meeting to be held Friday, August 20, in the Presbyterian Church,

Prestonsburg. He will discuss the prescription discount card to be offered by Medicare.

The meeting will begin at 6 p.m., and all members and friends of AARP are encouraged to attend.

DWALE HOMECOMING

Pie Supper and Cake Walk fundraiser, August 6, 7 p.m., at community shelter.

WILLIAM JEFFERSON CHAFFINS FAMILY REUNION

To be held Saturday, August 7, beginning at 12 p.m., at the Woodmen of the World Lodge, located on US 23 South, between Allen and Prestonsburg. Please bring a covered dish and craft. For more info., call Jennifer Halbert

at 358-2334 or email: jennifer_halfert@yahoo.com.

HAYES FAMILY REUNION

For all descendants of Bazeal Hayes - to be held Saturday, August 7, beginning at 12 p.m., at the Paintsville Community Center, Preston Street, Paintsville. This will be a covered dish luncheon with all paper products to be supplied. For more info., call 423-349-6176, or e-mail to: bazealhays1806@yahoo.com.

LITTLE MUD COMM. CENTER

Aug. 7 - Community yard sale, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. To make donations, call Lois Adkins at 478-2479.

Aug. 12 - Little Mud Community Development

Program, Inc. will hold its monthly board meeting, 6 p.m., in the Comm. Ctr. Bldg.

Sept. 4 - School class reunion for all Spruce Pine Elementary students and teachers, in conjunction with formal dedication ceremony for Little Mud Comm. Ctr. Bldg., 5-10 p.m. For more info., contact Lois at 478-2479 or Lynette at P.O. Box 330, Betsy Layne, KY 41605. Please contact if you have names, addresses, or old photos of school, students, or teachers.

The Little Mud Comm. Dev. Program, Inc. would like to thank all who have helped in recent fundraising events!

FREEDOM BIBLE CHURCH

Revival - August 4-7, 7 p.m., August 8, Sunday morning service. Bros. Brad and Donnie

Williamson will preach.

B.L.H.S. CLASS OF 1954

IT'S BEEN 50 YEARS
We all can meet again August 28, at Jenny Wiley State Park, at 2 p.m., for more details. Call Peggy A. Branham, at 304-475-3858.

MHS CLASS OF '74

The McDowell High School Class of 1974 will hold their 30-year class reunion on September 3 and September 4, (Labor Day weekend), at McDowell Elementary School cafeteria and gymnasium. Call 377-0899, 377-6022 or 785-9121 for more

(See CALENDAR, page ten)

Public

Continued from p7

the utilities. Stumbo subsequently launched an investigation into whether there were illegal communications between employees of the utilities and the commission.

The PSC lost a motion in Franklin County Circuit Court to quash the investigation and decided to reopen the case.

PSC officials and the utilities have denied any wrongdoing.

Wednesday was billed as a staff meeting for the parties involved in the rate case and was aimed at setting procedures for the reopened hearing, PSC spokesman Andrew Melnykovich said.

Initially, PSC officials wanted the meeting closed to the

public and would not allow reporters to sit in. However, reporters were let in after attorneys in the case reconsidered.

Speaking on Stumbo's behalf, Whites said he would provide the commission with a status report on the attorney general's investigation by the end of next month.

"What we have offered to give them is the results of our investigation as it may relate to these rate cases," Whites said. "But what we've also asked is an assurance from the PSC that they will use this information solely for law enforcement purposes in the public interest."

State law requires the PSC to have LG&E rate case finished by October, Melnykovich said.

Raven Rock Estates

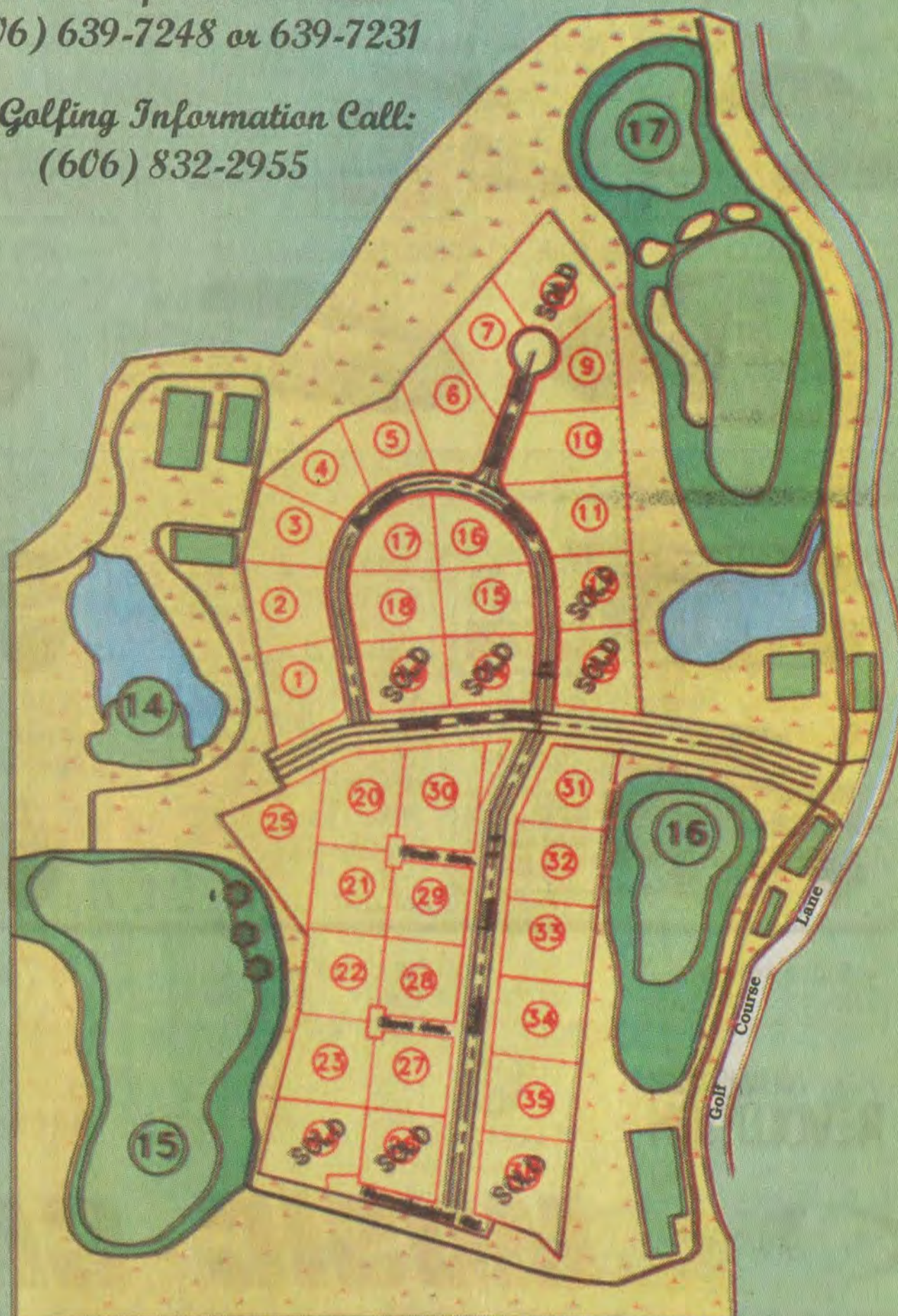
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Talk of The Town - 1 Free Eyebrow Wax - Value \$6.00

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT TODAY'S FREEBIE, CALL PATTY AT 886-8506

Calendar

Continued from p10

information.

PHS FOOTBALL CHEER CLINIC

To be conducted by the PHS Varsity Cheerleaders on Saturday, August 14, in the PHS gym. Pre-school thru 5th grade: 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. (registration at 8:30 a.m.); 6th thru 8th grades: 1-4 p.m. (registration at 12:30 p.m.) Preregistration and payment required on, or before, Monday, August 9, in order to

guarantee a t-shirt on the day of the clinic. Contact Leslie Ousley at 874-0317; Susan Boyd at 874-9301; Janice Hamilton at 478-2139; Pam Meyer at 886-1434; or Emma Lackey at 886-1015 for more info.

PRATER FAMILY REUNION

To be held on August 21, at 12 p.m., at the Prater Fork Home Place. Please bring covered dish and chair. For more

info., contact Cleance Prater at 285-9833.

PARSONS FAMILY REUNION

For the descendants of Isaac and Louisa Parsons, will be held Sept. 5, at the Isaac Parsons Cemetery, located on Parsons Branch, off Rt. 979, in Floyd County, from 11 a.m. until 5 p.m. Bring covered dish for meal to be served at 1 p.m. More info., call E.J. Parsons at 865-426-7585.

CAR SHOW

The 2nd Annual Van Lear Historical Society Car Show will be held on Sat., August 7, at 9 a.m., at the Van Lear FWB Church. Trophies for: Best of Show, Best Pre-1960's, Best '60s, '70s, '80s, '90s, Post-2000, and Best Original Restoration. Also Best Motorcycle and Best Truck. Free prize drawings for entrants only. Call 789-8540 for more information.

1973 AND 1974 ACHS CLASS REUNION

The 1973 and 1974 graduating classes of Allen Central High School will hold a class reunion on Saturday, September 18, at the Prestonsburg Holiday Inn. Social Hour: 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. Dance—8 p.m. until midnight. For more information, please contact Beth Conn Mullins at 606-285-0074 or Rita Duff Osborne at 606-358-9874.

19TH ANNUAL VAN LEAR CELEBRATION EVENT

To be held Friday, August 6 and Saturday, August 7. Free tours of the Coal Miner's Museum; catfish or soup bean dinners served at Icky's 1950s Snack Shop, or by delivery; opening ceremonies at 5 p.m.; car stereo "Crank it Up" competition at 6 p.m.; free live music at Herman Webb's store at 6:30 p.m. On Saturday, more tours, catfish and soup beans, in addition to a Car Show to be held at 9 a.m., in the Van Lear FWB Church parking lot. Also, basketball, horseshoes, kids' games and contests at Rucker Park. Special visit by Ky Opry's "Munroe" from 10 a.m. until noon. Parade with Adam Joseph of WSAZ-TV. More info., call 789-9725.

Obituaries

James Monroe Keathley

James Monroe Keathley, 66, of Harold, died Tuesday, August 3, 2004, at the Pikeville Medical Center.

Born January 22, 1938, in Floyd County, he was the son of the late Tom and Louise Rogers Keathley. He was a retired coal miner.

He is survived by his wife, Arzella Hamilton Keathley.

Other survivors include two sons: Scottie Keathley of Galveston, and Larry Keathley of Pikeville; five brothers; Jay Keathley, Burley Keathley, Aster Keathley and Margin Keathley, all of Columbus, Ohio, and Robert Keathley of Galveston; two sisters: Lexie Hall of Clay, and Rita Englands of Lorain, Ohio; nine grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a son, James Rodney Keathley, and a sister, Edie Helembright.

Funeral services will be conducted Friday, August 6, at 11 a.m., at the Pilgrims Home Old Regular Baptist Church at Grethel, with Old Regular Baptist ministers officiating.

Burial will be in the family cemetery, on Neck Branch, at Galveston, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, at Martin.

Visitation is at the church where nightly services were conducted at 7 p.m. (Paid obituary)

Rosie Mae (Carroll) Owens

Rosie Mae (Carroll) Owens, age 86, of New London, Ohio, died Monday evening, August 2, 2004, at her home, following an extended illness.

She was born December 25, 1917, in Honaker, a daughter of the late Nathaniel and Mary Frances (Kidd) Carroll. She moved to New London around 1954. She was a homemaker, and a member of the Old Regular Baptist Little Pilgrim Home Church in Ruggles Twp.

She is survived by five daughters: Juanita Boyd of Betsy Layne, Hazel Lee of Greenwich, and Fanny Perkins, Elvie Case and Joyce Hardy, all of New London; five sons: Nathan Owens of Wellington, Ralph Owens, I. Jean Owens, Pelmer Owens and Larry Owens, all of New London; 38 grandchildren; many great-grandchildren, and several great-great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Melvin "Lee" Owens in 1995; three daughters: Nanny Mae Owens, Helen Keathley, and Mary Owens; one son, Virgil Owens; several brothers; and one sister.

Funeral services will be conducted Saturday, August 7, 11 a.m., at the Old Regular Baptist Little Pilgrim Home Church, U.S. Rte. 224, Ruggles Twp., with elders officiating.

Burial will follow in the Huntington Cemetery, Huntington Twp.

Visitation is 2-4 and 7-9 Friday, at Eastman Funeral Home, 200 West Main Street, New London, Ohio. (Paid obituary)

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Stock # 419066



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GM Rebate \$3,500
GMAC Savings \$1,000
Total Savings \$7,500!
**Excludes Diesel

2004 Chevy RegCab 2X2
Stock # 351282
**Excludes Diesel



M/C Discount \$2,000
GM Rebate \$3,500
GMAC Savings \$1,000
Total Savings \$6,500!

2004 Chevy S-10 CrewCab 4X4
Stock # 136187



M/C Discount \$2,000
GM Rebate \$3,500
GMAC Savings \$1,500
Total Savings \$7,000!

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FLOYD COUNTY Sports

SECTION

B

INSIDESPORTS

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- NASCAR • page 4B

Football preview on its way

The Times' annual high school football preview will be included in the Wednesday, Aug. 18 edition.

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MADDUX, Then and Now

by RICK BENTLEY
TIMES COLUMNIST

Tomorrow afternoon in baseball's most beautiful new stadium, the best pitcher to ever take the mound at the W.C. Hambley Athletics Complex will try to win for the 300th time in his Major League career.

It's a mind-boggling number.

But if you consider Greg Maddux has won 15 games in 17 consecutive seasons - his streak seems to date back to the William Henry Harrison administration - it figures he'd be closing in



Rick Bentley

on the Magic Number to Cooperstown.

Let's face it. Maddux was the best pitcher for 10 years in Atlanta when they won all those pennants and the 1995 World Series. Personally, I was a Tom Glavine man - given one game to win, I wanted him on the bump, especially if the foe was the Cincinnati Reds - but Maddux was the star of stars.

Maddux is the best pitcher in Cubs history too. All due respect to Fergie Jenkins, had the Cubs stepped up and kept their best pitcher the winter after his first Cy Young Award - does anything say "coming into his own" like the phrase "first Cy Young Award"? - he may not be on the doorstep of 300, but he'd have a solid 270, 280 for them and this argument would be totally mute instead of just "at least debatable."

Maddux is the best control pitcher of all time. You can argue that he's the best of his generation, or the best right-hander or whatever, but it's hard to win the debate when Roger Clemens is in the mix. But insert the adjective "control" and the argument ends. Nobody could spot a baseball like Greg Maddux. Nobody.

So when you consider all that - the best pitcher to ever play for two different franchises and the best at his style to

(See BENTLEY, page three)

Media Day Tuesday at Pikeville College

TIMES STAFF REPORT

PIKEVILLE - Media Day for the football and volleyball teams will be held Tuesday at the Pikeville College Gym.

The Pikeville College volleyball team will begin its second season under Coach Robert Staggs, and will be available for interviews and photographs beginning at 2 p.m. Staggs, who also coaches the school's softball team, served as an assistant in the women's basketball program before getting his first college head coaching job.



Robert Staggs

Meanwhile, Coach Jerry Mynatt's second season as Bears football coach will begin at 3 p.m. Tuesday when he and his squad meet the media. Mynatt came to Pikeville College from East Tennessee State University where he was an assistant coach. Mynatt took over at Pikeville College, replacing Floyd County native John Gilliam, who after accepting the job as head coach of the Bears, after a stay at Morehead State University as the football team's defensive coordinator, stepped down before coaching his first game.



Jerry Mynatt

Floyd County native Rice to work Olympics

TIMES STAFF REPORT

Floyd County native Kenny Rice is set to work his first Olympics in Athens as the boxing reporter. Rice has contributed reports and interviews to NBC Sports' Eclipse Award-winning coverage of the Visa Triple Crown (since 2002) and the Breeders' Cup World Thoroughbred Championships (since 1999).

The Floyd County native has spent his time studying up on the sport of boxing.

Rice's duties each year at the Kentucky Derby include reporting from the raucous Churchill Downs infield. Rice, who was part of the Eclipse Award-winning 2002 Preakness Stakes broadcast team, also contributes to NBC's "Road to the Breeders' Cup" series. In May of 2004 he served as a reporter on NBC's

broadcast of the Rolex Equestrian Championships. Rice is also currently the play-by-play announcer for HDNet's college football and basketball broadcasts.

Rice also has worked on a variety of horse racing shows on ESPN, including hosting "2Day at the Races," since 1996. For the past two years, he has served in both host and reporter roles for their "Racing to the Breeders' Cup" and "Road to the Triple Crown" series. Additionally, Rice has hosted a CNBC racing series called "The Bessemer Trust Two-Year Old Challenge" for the past two years.

Rice has been honored with several citations for excellence in his career. In 1988, the State Horsemen



Kenny Rice

(See RICE, page two)

SUMMER BASKETBALL



file photo by Jamie Howell

No stranger to success, the Betsy Layne High girls' basketball team is no stranger to success. Another summer of basketball is over and Betsy Layne has several games behind it.

(See BUSH, page two)

Defending 58th District girls' champ completes busy summer

BY STEVE LEMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

BETSY LAYNE - The Betsy Layne High girls' basketball program ranks as one of the top programs in Eastern Kentucky. For a while now, head coach Cassandra Akers and her staff have put on the floor a team that is capable of taking a 15th Region championship year-in and year-out. With another school year set to begin, Akers and her team just finished up another busy competitive summer.

"The summer actually went by pretty fast,"

Akers admitted. "We finished with summer ball on June 24 at the end of the UK Team camp. We also played in Johnson Central's and Pike County Central's team camps. We have an excellent group of core returning players including Kim Clark, Kristal Daniels, Kristen Smith and Breann Akers. Our season will be dependent on our bench and if we can find three or four people to step up their play and contribute consistently to our team. I can't say enough good things about my four seniors."

(See CHAMP, page two)

NARA ready for lights, camera and action

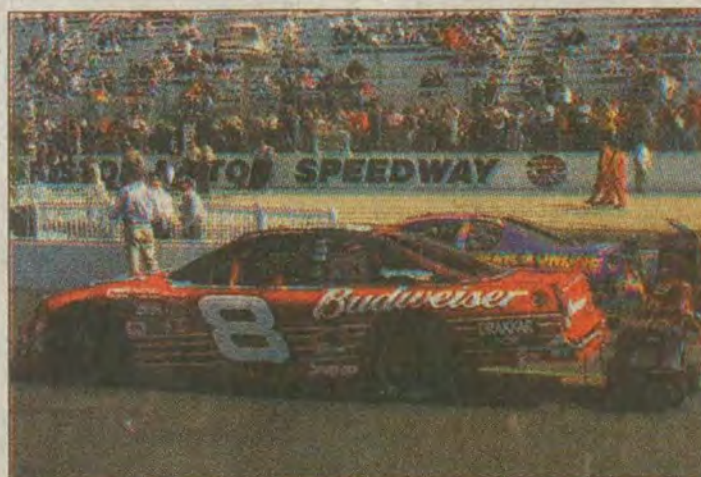
TIMES STAFF REPORT

LEXINGTON - The newest venture into the world of dirt track racing is back in action Saturday night as the North American Racing Association (NARA) DirtCar Series visits the Bluegrass Speedway in Bardstown for the 4th Annual Bluegrass Classic, paying \$10,000 to win and \$700 to start. A large crowd of spectators and racers should be on hand as the cameras of ESPN2 will be at Bardstown for the very first time. The event will be taped for broadcast on ESPN2 at a date to be

(See NARA, page four)

file photo by Steve LeMaster

Bristol Motor Speedway will present its annual fall races later in the month. The Sharpie 500 is scheduled for Saturday, Aug. 28.



Lawrence County course unveils new golf packages

by JAMIE HOWELL
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

LOUISA - The Yatesville Lake State Park has announced a new series of golf packages that will enhance golf enthusiasts pleasures while playing at a brand new golf course. The Eagle Ridge Golf Course, located in Lawrence County, is a brand new 18-hole, PGA championship course. It was designed by Arthur Hills to be

(See GOLF, page four)

Appalachian Rocky show successful



photo submitted

Trojan's Fancy was one of the most successful horses.

TIMES STAFF REPORT

PRESTONSBURG — The Appalachian Regional Rocky Mountain Horse Club held its rescheduled horse show over the weekend at the Archer Park facilities.

Their original date was canceled due to the devastation of the park facilities by the recent flash flooding.

The city and park management did an excellent job in restoring the park to its present condition. Recent flooding destroyed some of the outlying shelters, fencing as well as depositing several inches of mud in the park.

However, when it came time for the presentation of the stars and stripes the parking lot was filled with Rocky Mountain Horse owners eager to display and compete for the night honors.

The show drew horses and owners from as far away as Wisconsin and all the surrounding states. Many local owners and riders attended as well.

Prince Albert Stables, Windy Noll Farms, Circle C Farms, Graceful Meadows Farms and numerous other local training and showing barns were present.

Over 30 classes were up for grabs as the show started with Allison Adams aboard All Is On and Courtney Callis aboard Lady of Night; both World Champion horses riding the American and Kentucky flags to center ring for the presentation of the colors.

The ARRMC is a recently

formed club dedicated to the preservation and promotion of the Rocky Mountain Horse in Eastern Kentucky, Southwest Virginia and East Tennessee.

This is a major fundraiser for the club as well as a way for the members to display and promote the breed.

The honorable Andy Roberts

of Somerset, was charged with the judging responsibilities; Dick Baker entertained the crowd with his music.

The show started with the in-hand conformation classes. The Monroe, Ga. entry After the Storm claimed the Stallion Conformation Championship with Josh Murdock of Prince Albert Stables handling.

The Youth Championship was won by Miranda Elliott, aboard the talented three-year-old

It was Filly Hershey Marylyn Monroe, with reserve taken by Allison Adams aboard the young but talented All Is On.

The evening concluded with the Oil Springs entry Trojan's Fancy claiming the Grand Championship with Josh Murdock aboard, after winning the Amateur Championship with owner Don Bryson earlier in the afternoon.

The show concluded late Saturday night as fog drifted into the Archer Park arena.

Over 100 horses showed up for the Class A Rocky Mountain Horse show, a testament to the popularity of the little horse from the Mountains of Eastern Kentucky.



photo submitted

The annual Appalachian Rocky Mountain Horse Show was held over the weekend at Archer Park.

C-USA begins last season with current makeup

by WOODY BAIRD
ASSOCIATED PRESS

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — Conference USA will look a lot different next year, but that doesn't mean much for this football season, league coaches said Tuesday.

"We'll worry about that next year," said Randy Butler, assistant head coach for Southern Mississippi. "The league's going to change, but until Dec. 31, it's going to be like it's been."

Five of C-USA's 11 members are leaving for other leagues, including Louisville, the coaches' pick to take the conference championship this season.

The coaches' poll put Memphis second and Southern Mississippi third.

But the Golden Eagles, the league's defending champions, aren't worried about those predictions. They've been league champs four times in C-USA's eight-year history.

"We go into every season believing that, and more importantly, our kids believe that," Butler said at the league's pre-season media day.

Butler, represented the Southern Mississippi because

Coach Jeff Bower was unable to attend. Bower's father died late last week and the coach was home with his family.

Joining Louisville in a move to the Big East next year will be Cincinnati and South Florida. TCU is headed to the Mountain West and Army is going independent.

But C-USA coaches said league play will be particularly competitive this year, nevertheless.

"From top to bottom, it's going to be as balanced as it's ever been," Butler said.

While Memphis coach Tommy West agreed that the league is at its strongest, he was not worried about the coming changes.

"I like this league, but if you don't like it here, then move on," West said. "We wish you the best of luck, but I'm excited about the teams that'll be coming into this league."

West has built the strongest offense Memphis fans have seen in a long time, and he led Memphis to postseason play for the first time in 32 years. The Tigers beat North Texas 27-17 in the New Orleans bowl.

Like Butler, West, too, expects his team to reach for the conference championship.

"Five years ago, the goal was to beat Tennessee or beat Ole Miss, beat Mississippi State. That was what turned everybody on," West said. "Now, I want to win this league."

East Carolina was selected next to last in the preseason poll, and coach John Thompson said his focus will be winning respect from the rest of the conference.

Thompson said he made a mistake common to college coaching in letting off-field duties take up too much of his time.

"Every guy sitting in here realizes we don't coach as much

as we used to coach," Thompson said. "I'm definitely going to coach more. I'm going to be hands on."

As for conference champion, Thompson said, Southern Mississippi is still the team to beat.

"Until somebody knocks them off, they're the reigning champion, and I look at it that way," he said.

Louisville coach Bobby Petrino said his team wants to win the championship, too, and not just because it's the last year in the league.

"If this was not our last year, that would still be one of our goals," Petrino said. "I think what you're going to see is there might be some hostility in some of the crowds we go into, give them something to yell and cheer about, which to me is good. I think the players feed off of that, get energy and excitement from it."

ATHLETES OF THE WEEK

Myranda Elliott

Josh Murdock

Appalachian Rocky Mountain Horse Show

Appalachian Rocky Mountain Horse Show

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Marshall picked to win MAC East

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

DETROIT — The Marshall University football team has been selected by the Mid-American Conference News Media Association to win the MAC East Division in the association's pre-season poll that was released Tuesday.

Marshall, which returns a group of 44 letterwinners and 13 starters from last season's 8-4 team, received 258 points to edge defending MAC Champion Miami by one point in the voting. The Herd grabbed 21 first place votes to Miami's 18.

Toledo was the overwhelming pick to win the MAC West Division with 34 first place votes and 278 total points. Northern Illinois was selected second with three first place votes and 225 points.

The Rockets are also MACNMA's pick to win the MAC Championship game. Toledo garnered 22 votes to win the league title game, while Marshall was second with nine votes.

The Thundering Herd will open the 2004 season at home against Troy State on Sept. 4. Season tickets are available for as little as \$65 and can be purchased by calling 1-800-THE-HERD or going online to www.herdzone.com

Rice

Continued from p1

Association named him Kentucky Broadcaster-of-the-Year. In 1996, Rice was presented with the Englehard Award by the Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Association for lifetime achievement in reporting on thoroughbred racing and breeding.

In 1996, Rice won an Eclipse Award for outstanding local TV

coverage of thoroughbred racing. From 1980-99 Rice was the sports director at WTVQ-TV in Lexington. He and former University of Kentucky basketball standout Kenny "Sky" Walker host a syndicated weekly radio sports show, entitled the Kenny and Kenny Sports Show Plus. It can be heard locally on WQHY FM.

Champ

Continued from p1

As a junior, Kim Clark, now a senior, averaged 16.7 points and 4.8 rebounds per outing. She ranks as one of the top players in Eastern Kentucky.

"Kim is quite simply the most talented player I have ever coached and that is saying a lot," said Akers. "She, alone, can take over games! If we can get her to consistently give that effort we will be hard to stop. I may be biased, but I feel she is by far the best player in the region."

Seniors Kristal Daniels, Kristen Smith and Breann Akers combine with Clark to form a formidable final-year foursome.

"Kristal continues to improve," added Akers. "She has excellent range on her shot, she runs the floor and is an excellent shot blocker. I look for her to step in and become the team leader in Tabetha (Witt's) absence. It will be a big job, but she has the ability to do it. "Kristen is the quickest point guard in the region and when she is pressuring the ball and running it up and down the floor-there is no one better. We will look for her to lead the team from point, distribute the ball and score. Breann was hindered at UK by an ankle injury. She is still in physical therapy but has begun practicing volleyball so hopefully she will be ready for

basketball this fall. Breann is the best pure shooter we have from the perimeter. She is also one we look to to lead this team. Along with Kristal, I expect big things in the leadership roles from her." Betsy Layne will enter the 2004-05 campaign again a leading contender in the 15th Region. The Ladycats captured the 15th Region championship in 2002. Betsy Layne is the three-time defending 15th Region All "A" champion.

Bush

Continued from p1

Derek SESCO, an all-state honorable-mention selection last season at defensive end, returns to start on defense, and offense, where he is a wide receiver. Brandon Vanover and Kyle Fletcher will also be looked to as pass-catchers.

On offense, East Ridge (2-8) welcomes back plenty of talent in the backfield.

Senior tailback Josh Sanders and fullback Willie Collins, who has moved from tailback, join senior quarterback Paul Deese back in the Warrior backfield.

Bush was unavailable for comment.

Carter released by Cowboys, Brown cut by Raiders

by BARRY WILNER
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tim Brown spent his entire career setting team records with the Oakland Raiders. The next pass he catches will be for someone else.

And the next pass Quincy Carter throws won't be with the Dallas Cowboys.

Brown's 16-year stay with the Raiders ended Wednesday when the team said it would release him. Cutting the 38-year-old receiver was hardly a shock, because his playing time was being reduced.

"It's emotionally difficult. It's a part of your life," Raiders owner Al Davis said of releasing the last member of the Los Angeles Raiders. "Other than your family, this is your family. We've had many great players, but there are certain players you fall for. It's tough to lose him."

It was tough on Brown, too. He was to be officially released Thursday after 240 games in Silver and Black, a franchise record. He ranks second in NFL history with 14,734 yards receiving and third with 1,070 catches. His 99 touchdown

receptions are tied with Don Hutson for fourth, and his 19,434 all-purpose yards are fifth.

"I have fought the battle as much as I possibly could and tried to restore the image as much as possible to the Raiders," Brown said. "This won't be the end of Tim Brown. I'll surface somewhere else, probably."

So should Carter, although things are murkier in his situation. The Cowboys' No. 1 quarterback shockingly was released and several media outlets report-

ed Carter failed a drug test.

The Cowboys weren't saying much of anything about the decision to ax Carter, who led them to a 10-6 record and a playoff berth in 2003.

"I just couldn't keep him in the plans," coach Bill Parcells said. "I'm saddened by this because I've got 18 months invested in it ... two offseason programs and a regular season and a playoff game."

Asked why the decision wasn't made earlier, Parcells said, "We only make decisions based on the information we have."

Vinny Testaverde signed as a free agent after the Jets released him, now is the starter. Parcells should be comfortable with that, because Testaverde had the best year of his 17-year career under Parcells in 1998. But Testaverde is 40.

Eagles - Free safety Brian Dawkins will miss the next week with a left knee injury. Dawkins, taking part in his first practice at camp after being out with groin spasms, sustained a bone bruise to his left knee and a hyperextension.

Vikings - Pro Bowl center Matt Birk had minor surgery to determine the cause of a pelvic injury that has kept him out of three consecutive practices.

Doctors looked for a sports hernia, trainer Chuck Barta said. The team expected to learn the results Thursday.

Bills - Offensive tackle Mike Williams, fined by the team this week for missing a practice Tuesday, returned, but with the second team. Neither coach Mike Mularkey nor team president Tom Donahoe would say why Williams was absent Tuesday.

Williams missed several voluntary minicamp sessions in June because of a death in his family. Mularkey then demoted Williams and said expected Williams to win back his starting job. Williams has been the Bills' starting right tackle since the first game of his rookie season of 2002.

Jets - Wide receiver Wayne Chrebet strained his groin during the morning practice Wednesday and missed the afternoon session. Coach Herman Edwards said Chrebet is day to day.

Chrebet, going into his 10th season, missed the final eight games of last season with post-concussion syndrome. Chrebet is fully recovered and is working as the No. 3 receiver.

Buccaneers - Pro Bowl defensive end Simeon Rice

rejoined the Buccaneers, practicing for the first time since an irregular heart beat caused him to miss four days of training camp. The 30-year-old Rice said he was not alarmed when he began feeling heart palpitations and was unable to complete a workout in Arizona two weeks ago because he's occasionally experienced the same thing ever since he was 19.

"I think I'm as good as I ever was," the ninth-year pro said. "I had a little setback, but I think once I get back in rhythm I'll be where I'm supposed to be."

Browns - Starting linebacker Chaun Thompson will undergo surgery after breaking a bone in his left wrist. Browns coach Butch Davis said Thompson injured his wrist a few days ago but continued to play with a soft cast.

The second-year linebacker is expected to miss at least the club's first two preseason games.

Cardinals - Linebacker Karlos Dansby, the first draft pick in this year's second round, agreed to a four-year contract with Arizona. Dansby had 84 tackles and 5 1/2 sacks for Auburn last season, earning all-Southeastern Conference honors for the second straight year.

Elway, King of Combacks, headed to Hall

by JOHN MARSHALL
ASSOCIATED PRESS

DENVER - Whether he was tossing the ball underhand, diving for a first down or driving the length of the field in the closing seconds, John Elway was going to find a way to win.

No matter the score, if there was time on the clock and Elway had the ball, the outcome was still in question.

So when it came to getting into the Pro Football Hall of Fame, there was no doubt: Elway was a first-ballot entry all the way. The King of Comebacks will be inducted Sunday in Canton, Ohio, along with Barry Sanders, Carl Eller and Bob Brown.

"I think the bottom line is I'd just like to be remembered as someone who was competitive, never gave up, that as long as there was time on the clock you're going to get 100 percent of what he had," Elway said.

"It wasn't always pretty, but we were able to get the job done."

The first pick of the great quarterback draft of 1983 - Dan Marino, Jim Kelly, Todd Blackledge, Ken O'Brien, Tony Eason also went in the opening round that year - Elway lived up to the hype.

He ranks second to Marino on the NFL's career list in yards passing, attempts, completions and total yards. Elway has the best winning percentage in league history at 148-82-1 and was a nine-time Pro Bowl pick, tied for the most among quarterbacks.

He also was the 1987 league MVP and is the only quarterback to start in five Super Bowls, winning consecutive titles in 1998-99 before calling it a career.

"He is the greatest quarterback ever to play the game," Broncos coach Mike Shanahan said.

But there was much more to Elway than just his numbers.

First, there was that right arm. Elway threw passes into places other quarterbacks wouldn't even see, much less

consider, and he often had his coaches yelling into their headsets: "No! No! No! ... Uh, great pass!"

Then there was Elway's aura.

With his gimp gait, Elway strutted onto the field with a you-can't-beat-me attitude. His piercing blue eyes always seemed to be wide as baseballs, especially with the game on the line.

And it didn't seem to matter what teams did to him. Elway always bounced back.

His injuries ranged from a broken rib to rotator-cuff tears to five knee operations to a swollen elbow bursa sac that was the size of a softball when he finally had it removed. Through it all, he rarely missed a game.

But of all the traits that made Elway stand out, it was the ability to pull out victories from the grasp of defeat that made him a true superstar.

In his 16 seasons, Elway led the Broncos to game-winning or game-saving drives 47 times, including six in the postseason. Most famously, he engineered "The Drive" in the 1987 AFC Championship game, taking the Broncos 98 yards in 15 plays in the closing seconds of the fourth quarter for the tying score of a 23-20 overtime victory over the Cleveland Browns.

"We never felt like we were out of game as long as John was there," receiver Rod Smith said.

And that do-whatever-it-takes attitude led to what Elway considers his favorite moment.

Late in the third quarter of a tie game in the 1999 Super Bowl, he dropped back to pass at Green Bay's 12-yard line on a third-and-6. Unable to find a receiver, Elway ran up the middle and dived for the first down.

But as he took off, Elway was met in the air by Packers safety LeRoy Butler, who spun him around like a helicopter. Elway landed with a thud, leading to some anxious moments on Denver's sideline, but he bounced back up. The Broncos had the first down and the momentum they needed to finish off their first Super Bowl

title.

"That's probably the one that sticks out the most," Elway said. "I remember after how important it was to get that first down and it was the biggest game, a game we finally got over the hump."

Denver has had plenty of players deserving of Hall of Fame consideration through the years, from Randy Gradishar to Karl Mecklenburg to Gary Zimmerman. None made it, though, almost as if Hall voters were waiting for the perfect time to break the ice.

If that's the case, they couldn't have done much better than Elway, the embodiment of the Broncos and a hero for an entire city.

"There have been a lot of guys in this organization that deserve to be there and it feels like kind of a conspiracy that they waited," Smith said. "But I guess our first one is our best one by far."

Part of a series on this year's Hall of Fame inductees. Next: Barry Sanders.

Louisville football team to report Sunday

TIMES STAFF REPORT

LOUISVILLE - The second season of the Bobby Petrino era will be on Sunday when the University of Louisville football team reports to campus to begin preparations for the 2004 campaign.

The incoming freshmen report to campus on Sunday

morning at 11 a.m. with the veterans scheduled to arrive at 5:45.

The first practice is slated for Monday afternoon. The freshmen will begin practice at 4:30 with the veterans joining the rookies at 5:30.

Practices are open to the media and public from Aug. 9-16, and will be completely

closed from Aug. 17 until after the Kentucky game.

Following the season opener, only the first half hour of practice will be open to the general public.

For other practice dates and times, contact the Sports Information Office at 502/852-6581.

XGames at 10: Gnarly stunts from an older crowd

by RYAN PEARSON
ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES - They are ancient by their sports' standards, flipping and swooping and surviving bone-crunching falls in a world that worships the young.

Look at Jeff Ward, a SuperMoto rider at 43. Then there's Dave Mirra, a 30-year-old BMX biker who simply wants to pack his gear and go home at the end of a long day. Bob Burnquist has a 4-year-old daughter who was on a skateboard before she could walk.

Sure, the X Games are marking their 10th year with the usual reckless mix of breathtaking speed and bravura-testing midair stunts. But now some of the event's biggest names are well outside the youth culture that

defines action sports.

They've become elder statesmen in pursuits that deliver harsh bodily punishment for not-quite-complete twists and awkward landings.

Burnquist, Mirra and a handful of other stars have video games named for them, appear in TV milk ads and have written autobiographies. They are the mainstream, maturing faces of alternative sports.

"It's awesome," said longtime dirt bike rider Mike Metzger, who appeared in Mountain Dew commercials and lands a backflip in the movie "Charlie's Angels: Full Throttle." "And it's totally ridiculous that I'm a well-known celebrity now because of all the coverage."

Organizers of the X Games, which begin Thursday in the Los Angeles area, are banking on the star power of the sports' established athletes. (The games will be broadcast live on ESPN and ABC.)

For the first time, qualifying rounds have been eliminated. Instead, industry experts selected up to 10 people to compete in each of 17 finals-only events.

The oldest athlete is Ward. The youngest is a returning champion, 14-year-old skateboarder Ryan Sheckler, who is on his way to ninth grade in Orange County. Sheckler said "it's been a little weird" going

head-to-head against competitors nearly twice his age.

"This is what it's been like forever. I've always skated against older people," he said.

Media exposure of aging stars like Tony Hawk - who is working as an announcer this year - has helped legitimize action sports for parents and allowed children to develop skills more quickly, X Games general manager Chris Stiepeak said.

"Now you've got less of a stigma" attached to alternative sports, he said. "The youngsters are coming up."

Pro skateboarder Andy MacDonald, 31, finds himself swooping past kids as young as 5 when he shows up to skate for fun at parks around the country.

"I'd be lying if I didn't say it makes me feel old," he said. "I wish I started that young because it seems like you're made out of rubber and the learning curve goes up faster."

Falls are frequent in action sports, at any age.

"The younger the body, the easier it is when you slam," said Burnquist, who has recovered from 25 broken bones. "When I get hurt, it's time to heal. It's just heal, heal, heal, and then it's time to get back on the board."

Skateboarder Danny Way, 30, returns to competition this year on a gigantic new ramp he helped develop after getting

bored with conventional half-pipes.

"I'm feeling mentally 18, but my body feels 60," he said. "I'm not going to lie."

Mirra, who has hosted shows on MTV, feels distanced at times from the young bike riders at skate parks.

"My wants and needs have changed a little bit in terms of living to ride a bike every day," he said. "It's more put your bike in the car, go to the skate park, ride and go home."

Action sports stars make most of their money from sponsorships, appearance fees and videos. Several have launched businesses, ranging from Burnquist's organic fruit and vegetable farm to Way's DC Shoes. Surfer Kelly Slater is starting a weekly satellite radio show.

"Thank God for the business thing," Way said. "Right now it's taking a lot of pressure off my skate career."

MacDonald lends his name to mass-marketed skateboards and gear, eyeing the time when he'll no longer be admired by the young.

"Pretty soon you won't be marketable any more," he said. "Because kids don't want to see their fathers skating."

On the Net:
<http://expn.go.com/expn/summerx/2004/index>

Last

ever play period - it makes it even more amazing that the first time he plied his craft as a professional he did so at our little Hambley Complex.

And here, he was the man too.

He won six and lost only two and was the best player in Pikeville's three-year run in the Appalachian League.

Greg Maddux is the reason a town like Pikeville should have professional baseball. Period. End of sentence, end of paragraph, end of discussion.

Think about it: Nobody knew who Maddux was when he rolled into Wickham Hall on the Pikeville College campus in the Summer of 1984. Who could have anticipated one of those kids would be stalking 300 wins 20 years later?

Nobody. But at the same time, nobody could have ruled it out, either.

Think about this: Some town somewhere can lay claim to Clemens pitching his first season, and somebody saw Sammy Sosa struggle his first summer in America and Barry Bonds flex his considerable muscle and someone wondered if the short-

stop who would become A-Rod would ever see a big-league field.

But they happened.

And we saw it right here, 20 summers ago.

Five Labor Days later, I sat in the dugout at the old Atlanta-Fulton County Stadium and talked with the right-hander with the baby face. My first question set the tone for a memorable interview with the Cub who was still coming into his own.

What do you remember about Pikeville, Ky.?

He flashed what is now a familiar smile, and the eyes danced that recognizable jig.

"Those 99 steps," he said, referring to the town's most visible landmark, the ones that lead to Pikeville College's main campus and the dorm room he called home in his first summer outside of Las Vegas. "I walked those things every day."

And now, the legs are still benefiting from the workout they got in the days prior to the Record Memorial Building elevator.

Tomorrow, they'll walk him out to the mound in San

Francisco's SBC Park, where he'll try to negotiate Bonds and Co., to out-toil Jason Schmidt and add his name to the annals of baseball lore one more time.

Greg Maddux, the former Pikeville Cub, will try to win his 300th Major League game.

Somewhere in somebody's small town that resembles a Norman Rockwell painting, some kid is playing Rookie League baseball. Somewhere in America, the kid struggling to live on the piddly stipend paid first-year players will watch Maddux and dream the dream.

"Someday," he'll say. "One of these days ..."

Twenty summers ago, that kid was Greg Maddux, and that small town was Pikeville, Ky.

Tomorrow, every spotlight in baseball will shine on him. And someone in Pikeville will have a lump in his throat, knowing his town played a small part in baseball history.

Greg Maddux. Pikeville Cubs.

The team has died. The memories live.

And thanks to No. 31, the legacy will be baseball immortality.

Visit www.floydcountytimes.com

Former high school basketball player sues KHSAA, Lexington Catholic

by MURRAY EVANS
ASSOCIATED PRESS

LEXINGTON — The son of a former University of Kentucky basketball star has sued the state's governing body for high schools and Lexington Catholic High School, claiming that officials from the two organizations conspired to defraud him of a year of high school athletic eligibility.

Joseph Harden Jr. claims in the lawsuit, filed Wednesday in Fayette County Circuit Court, that the Kentucky High School Athletic Association; its former commissioner, Louis Stout; its assistant commissioner, Julian Tackett; former Lexington Catholic High School boys basketball coach and athletics

director Danny Haney; and the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Lexington, which operates Lexington Catholic, conspired against Harden after he transferred from Lexington Catholic to Henry Clay High School in Lexington in January 2001.

The suit claims the parties engaged in fraud against Harden and conspired to defraud Harden, whose father, Roger Harden, played for Kentucky from 1983 to 1986. Harden Jr. is seeking unspecified punitive damages and "compensation for lost opportunities for collegiate basketball."

Ted Martin, a Lexington attorney representing the KHSAA, said he didn't see a copy of the lawsuit until late Wednesday afternoon but

believed the issues raised in the lawsuit were resolved in a similar suit that the Hardens filed in 2001 in Fayette County Circuit Court.

In that case, the court denied the Hardens' request to reverse a KHSAA decision that forced Harden Jr. to sit out a year after transferring.

Martin said he is examining the current lawsuit and is "evaluating how we'll respond."

Tom Shaughnessy, a spokesman for the archdiocese, said he had not seen the suit and declined comment, as did Stout, who retired from the KHSAA in June 2002.

Haney now is the athletics director at North Broward Preparatory School in Florida.

Then a student at Lexington Catholic, Harden Jr. was diagnosed in January 2001 with attention deficit disorder, according to court documents. According to the lawsuit filed Wednesday, Harden Jr. was told then the school didn't have programs designed for students with that disorder. The lawsuit alleges that Roger Harden met with Stout, who said Harden Jr. would be eligible to play at Henry Clay and would not have to sit out a year after transferring.

The KHSAA ruled Harden Jr. did have to sit out the year, which he did. After that, he helped Henry Clay reach the 2003 Sweet 16 basketball tournament as a senior.



file photo by Jamie Howell
Joseph Harden Jr., pictured two seasons ago during a game in the Sweet Sixteen State Tournament, has filed a lawsuit that includes both the KHSAA and Lexington Catholic.

BRIEFS: Former Wildcats traded

ATLANTA — The Mavericks traded Antoine Walker and Tony Delk to the Hawks for Jason Terry, Alan Henderson and a first-round draft pick.

Terry, Atlanta's first-round pick in the 1999 NBA draft, averaged 16.8 points and 5.4 assists last season but is more of a combo guard than a pure point guard. Dallas needed a point guard after losing Steve Nash to free agency.

The 6-foot-9 Walker can play either forward position. Walker has averaged 19.9 points in his career, including 14 points with 8.3 rebounds last season.

DETROIT — The Detroit Pistons acquired Derrick Coleman and Amal McCaskill from the Philadelphia 76ers in a trade for Corliss Williamson.

The 76ers made it clear they wanted to deal Coleman, who has two years and \$9.5 million on his contract. If the Pistons want to release him after one season, they will owe him \$2 million.

By moving Williamson, with \$18 million and three guaranteed years left on his deal, the Pistons will have more money to make moves in a year or two.

The 37-year-old Coleman played in just 34 games last season while he struggled to stay healthy.

Williamson was the NBA Sixth Man of the Year two seasons ago.

MINNEAPOLIS — The Timberwolves matched the Portland Trail Blazers' offer for restricted free agent Trenton Hassell, meaning Minnesota will keep one of its top defenders.

The Blazers signed Hassell to an offer sheet July 26, and his agent, Mark Bartelstein, said then the contract was worth \$27 million over six years.

BASEBALL

MINNEAPOLIS — The Anaheim Angels signed Andres Galarraga to a minor league contract, and the 43-year-old first baseman will report to Triple-A Salt Lake on Thursday.

Galarraga recently beat cancer for a second time and wants to return to the major leagues so he can reach 400 home runs. He has 398, tied with Dale Murphy for 40th on the career list.

Galarraga missed the 1999 season after being diagnosed with non-Hodgkins lymphoma. In November, he had a recurrence, underwent surgery and had a transplant in February that eliminated the disease.

— The Associated Press

Golf

Continued from p1

his mountaintop masterpiece. Eagle Ridge is becoming well known for its challenging play and dramatic views.

Eagle Ridge has been named as one of Kentucky State Parks' "Signature Series" golf courses. Through the Tee's & Zee's program, the park is making it even easier and more convenient to play the course. With packages starting out as low as \$109, golfers may enjoy an overnight

stay at one of the State Resort Lodges (Jenny Wiley, Carter Caves, Greenbo Lake) complimentary breakfast and dinner, 18-hole green fees with cart, and a variety of signature series welcoming gifts. For more information about the signature series golf courses and the Tee's and Zee's program, call 606/673-4300 or 1-800-325-0142 or e-mail Mark.Reeder@ky.gov

NARA

Continued from p1

announced in the future. It will be the second of four races to be shown on ESPN2 this year. ESPN2 currently is seen in 87.1 million homes. There will be a complete racing program for the NARA DirtCar Series with Racing Optics/Russell Baker Racing Engines Time Trials, Crown Spray Power Heat Race, O'Reilly Auto Parts B-Mains and 60 Lap Lucas Oil Bluegrass Classic A-Main paying \$10,000 to win.

R.J. Conley of Wheelersburg, Ohio currently leads the inaugural NARA season points standings with races completed at Florence Speedway and Brownstown (Ind.) Speedway. National Dirt Late Model Hall of Famer and owner of 783 career wins, Freddy Smith of Seymour, Tenn. is second in points followed by John Gill of Mitchell, Ind., Greg Johnson of Burgin, and Mike Marlar of Winfield, Tenn.

In the two previous NARA events held so far in 2004 Scott Bloomquist of Mooresburg, Tenn., captured the Spring 50 on ESPN2 at the Florence Speedway in Union, and Mike Jewell of Scottsburg, Ind. scored the biggest win of his racing

career by capturing the Hoosier Dirt Classic at the Brownstown Speedway.

The rest of the top-10 in NARA points heading to Bardstown include Kevin Weaver of Gibson City, Ill., Shannon Babb of Moweaqua, Ill., Steve Barnett of Franklin, Ind., Scott Bloomquist of Mooresburg, Tenn., and Jesse James Lay of Walton.

Activities will get underway at Bluegrass Speedway this Saturday with pit gates opening an hour earlier than normal at 3 PM (EDT), main grandstand gates will also open an hour earlier at 4 p.m., there will be a drivers meeting at 6 p.m., with hot laps at 6:30 p.m., followed by time trials at 7 p.m. The track phone on race day is 502/349-1241. Bluegrass Speedway is located just off of the Martha Layne Collins Bluegrass Parkway at Highway 31E off of exit 21. For more information or directions, go online to the tracks website at www.bluegrass-speedway.com.

LOCAL NOTE: Allen Late Model driver Brandon Kinzer has made plans to race in the Bardstown NARA race.

NASCAR getting bulky new car ready for racing

by MIKE HARRIS
ASSOCIATED PRESS

CONCORD, N.C. — If all goes according to NASCAR's plan, sometime late next season Nextel Cup drivers will begin racing "a brick."

Not one made of clay, of course, but a big, bulky, aerodynamically challenged car. NASCAR wants something slower, safer for the drivers and less costly for team owners while still producing close, competitive racing.

"Some people do call it a brick," said Gary Nelson, who runs NASCAR's Research and Development Center. "We call it 'The Car of Tomorrow.'"

Nelson said the car probably will be worked into competition over two or three years, beginning at Daytona and Talladega, the longest and fastest tracks, where horsepower-sapping carburetor restrictor plates slow the cars.

He said road courses and short tracks would probably be next, followed by 1 1/2- and 2-mile ovals that comprise the majority of the venues.

"The trick is you can't run this car on the track with the current car," Nelson said. "They won't mix in competition. It's not as aerodynamic, so it would be disadvantaged as far as running against the current car."

So far, the project that began shortly after Dale Earnhardt was killed three years ago in the Daytona 500 is right on schedule.

The death of stock car rac-

ing's biggest star has put many innovations on the fast track. There are mandatory head and neck restraints, energy-absorbing walls, escape hatches and an improved system to fight in-car fires.

But the Car of Tomorrow is perhaps the most far-reaching project.

It began with a push from then senior vice president Brian France, grandson of NASCAR founder Bill France Sr. and now the organization's chairman.

"Brian's idea was to find out exactly where we are and determine where we wanted to go with the cars," Nelson said. "That's really where the R&D Center idea took hold, too."

"When you look at safety, competition and cost, if you say, 'Well, if we had a clean sheet of paper, we would do this and this differently.' Well, in doing that, you can't take the current car and raise up the rollage or widen out the roof or straighten up the windshield angle without actually replacing the cage and the frame."

So, there's a prototype that already has been to the wind tunnel three times and was scheduled for its first on-track test this week.

It has a roof two inches higher and four inches wider than the current car, with window openings also increased by the same dimensions. The driver's seat has been moved about 4 1/2 inches toward the middle of car and energy-absorbing materials have been added as "crush zones" to the front, rear and

sides of the car.

"The biggest difference is the attention we've paid to occupant safety," said Nelson, a longtime Cup crew chief before he went to work for NASCAR. "When you make the cage bigger, the aerodynamics obviously change."

Also, the rear bumper is closer to the ground than the current one to prevent one car from driving under the back of another. Nelson said every part of the car has been scrutinized.

"The criteria we use is: if it's working, don't change it — unless we've tested something and found it is better," he explained. "Most of the things on the car have evolved over 40 or 50 years of racing and are pretty well refined."

Among the strong supporters of the project is team owner Cal Wells III, who brought his PPI Motorsports team to NASCAR from open-wheel racing, which has been more aggressive about safety in the past.

"I'm sure there will be evolution to it," Wells said. "One thing it does do is bring the car back a little bit more to what we drive on the street."

He sees no problem if NASCAR sticks to a three-year plan.

Don Miller, co-owner of Penske Racing South with Roger Penske and driver Rusty Wallace, also preaches patience.

"I think some of the stuff that they've come up with is good and some of it needs a lot more work," said Miller, who has seen the car. "The good thing about it

is when they ask you to do something, they're serious about it and they're listening to what we say, and that is light years from the way it used to be."

Nelson agrees there is still much work to do, but the closer the project comes to fruition the more advantages he sees for everyone in the sport.

"Safety is the No. 1 goal," he said. "The other goal is eliminating the ability for money to buy speed."

Still, Nelson knows the teams will continue the quest to go faster.

"They're not going to stop working," he said. "We'd just like them work in areas that aren't so expensive for the car owner. We don't want to eliminate innovation. It's one of the core values of the sport. That's how this sport has gotten where it is."

Locals fare well at Kentucky Open

by JAMIE HOWELL
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

NICHOLASVILLE

Heading into the final round of the Kentucky Open, Grover Justice was attempting to add to his recent collection of hardware. Justice just recently captured the professional division of the Paintsville Invitational Tournament and was tied for the lead in the state event heading into Thursday's final round. The Pikeville native defeated Matthew Gade last weekend at Paintsville and was even with University of Kentucky golfer John Holmes as the final round began. Wet weather was a factor in the tournament and final round results were unavailable at press time. Greg McDonald of Lexington (formerly of Paintsville) was 10 shots back at the start of the final round.

Details of the final round will appear Sunday's edition of The Times.

Reds broadcaster Nuxhall says team is forcing him out

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CINCINNATI — Cincinnati Reds radio broadcaster Joe Nuxhall, who has spent 60 years with the team, says the Reds are forcing him out of the broadcasting booth.

"I had to get it off my chest ... It's been on my mind ever since it started," Nuxhall, 76, said Wednesday at a signing for his new book.

Nuxhall was only 15 when he pitched in relief for the Reds on June 10, 1944. He still holds the distinction as the youngest player ever to appear in the majors.

The left-hander has been a Reds broadcaster since 1967, spending almost the last 31 years in the booth with Marty Brennaman. The two of them signed two-year extensions on Nov. 1, 2002.

Nuxhall said the Reds made it clear after the 2002 season that they didn't want him to do the 2004 season. His representative, Reuven Katz, worked out a deal with John Allen, the Reds' chief

operating officer, to have Nuxhall do 80 games in 2004.

Nuxhall said Wednesday that Allen wasn't the executive forcing his departure.

"It wasn't John Allen, is all I'll say," Nuxhall said. "I don't know who it was. I'm not going to comment until I find out."

Telephone messages requesting comment were left Thursday with Allen's office, a spokeswoman for Reds chief executive officer Carl Lindner and Reds spokesman Rob Butcher.

"The last month or so have been really hard on him," said Nuxhall's son, Kim. "He had a really hard time holding it in. You're talking about a 60-year career here. Everyone wants to go out on their own terms. It's unfortunate."

Nuxhall's replacement, Steve Stewart, is working with Brennaman this season to handle the games that Nuxhall does not work. The plan is for Stewart to take over full time in 2005.

Race mishap leads to 19th-place finish for Kinzer

TIMES STAFF REPORT

BULLS GAP, Tenn. — The rescheduled O'Reilly Southern All Star Racing Series Fairway Ford 100, which had been rained out back on July 10, ran Saturday night, July 31. The race, held at Volunteer Speedway, saw the No. 18 Kinzer Drilling, Barry Wright Racecars, Ranger Contracting, Eastco Supply Dodge Intrepid Late Model dirt car in the pack and in contention of a quality finish, racing in the feature race. Twenty of the original 25 car-and-driver tandems returned to race for \$10,000. The Brandon Kinzer Motorsports Dodge Intrepid was involved in a two-car mishap on lap 12, with driver Rodney Martin, and as a result, was never the same.

The Brandon Kinzer Motorsports team raced to a 19th-place finish in the makeup event.

The Bulls Gap make-up race was the final racing action in

the month of July for Brandon Kinzer and race team. July was a month that included a Late Model win in Gaffney, S.C., one of the highlights of the 2004 season.

MSU football season tickets available

MOREHEAD — Season tickets for Morehead State University's six-game 2004 home football schedule are available at the Eagle Athletics Ticket Office.

The ticket office is open weekdays from 8 a.m. to noon and 1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. in Room 195 of the Academic-Athletic Center.

The Eagles will play host to Coastal Carolina (7 p.m. EDT, Sept. 4), Butler (7 p.m. EDT, Sept. 18, Family Weekend), Valparaiso (1 p.m. EDT, Oct. 2), Jacksonville (1 p.m. EDT, Oct. 23, Homecoming), St. Francis (1 p.m. EDT, Oct. 30) and Charleston (1 p.m. Est, Nov. 6).

For additional information, call 606/783-2088.

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Floyd County Devotional Page

ASSEMBLY OF GOD

First Assembly of God, Martin; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Lorie Vannoo, Minister.
 New Bethel Assembly of God, Burning Fork Rd., Salyersville; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m. Arthur (Sam) Smith, Minister.
 Praise Assembly, 1 mile S. of Prestonsburg, intersection of Rt. 80 and U.S. 23; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.; Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.; J.M. Sloce, Minister.

BAPTIST

Allen First Baptist, Allen; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Arnold Turner, Minister.
 Auxier Freewill Baptist, Auxier; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Thursday, 7 p.m.; Bobby Spencer, Pastor.
 Benedict Baptist, Slick Rock Branch, Cow Creek; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Gordon Fitch, Minister.
 Betsy Layne Free Will Baptist, Betsy Layne; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Tracy Patton, Minister.
 Bonanza Freewill Baptist, Abbott Creek Road, Bonanza; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Jimmy D. Brown, Minister.
 Brandy Keg Freewill Baptist, Com Fork; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Roger Music, Minister.
 Calvary Southern Baptist, Betsy Layne; Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Doug Lawie, Minister.
 Community Freewill Baptist, Goble Roberts Addition; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Paul D. Coleman, Minister.
 Cow Creek Freewill Baptist, Cow Creek; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Nathan Lafferty, Minister.
 Daniels Creek Baptist Fellowship Church of God, Banner; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m.; Tuesday, 6:30 p.m.;
 Drift Freewill Baptist, Drift; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 6:30 p.m.; Thursday, 6:30 p.m. Jim Fields, Minister.
 Endicot Freewill Baptist, Buffalo; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Nathan Lafferty, Minister.
 Faith Freewill Baptist, 1/4 mile above Worldwide Expt. on Rt. 1428; Sunday Service, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m. Buddy Jones, Minister.
 First Baptist, Garrett; Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Randy Osborne, Minister.
 First Baptist, Martin; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. Sunday Evening Service 7 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Greydon Howard, Minister.
 First Baptist, 54 S. Front St. (Irene Cole Memorial); Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Dr. Floyd Ptoe, minister.
 Fitzpatrick First Baptist, 2656 West Mt. Parkway, Prestonsburg; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Jennings West, Minister.
 Free United Baptist, West Prestonsburg; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.
 Free United Baptist, West Prestonsburg; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.; Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.
 Greshel Baptist, State Rt. 3379, (Branchman's Creek Rd.); Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.; Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.

Facts About The BIBLE BY JOHN LEHTI

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PROVERBS: THE MOTTOES THE ISRAELITES LIVED BY!

THE WESTMINSTER DICTIONARY OF THE BIBLE DESCRIBES THE BOOK OF PROVERBS AS A POSTAL WORK ON PRACTICAL PIETY! IT ALSO INCLUDES THE FABLE, THE RIDDLE, THE SATIRE, AND THE PARABLE. TRADITIONALLY THE PROVERBS ARE ASCRIBED TO KING SOLOMON. ALTHOUGH MANY EXPERTS HAVE RECOGNIZED THAT SOME OF THE CHAPTERS, PARTICULARLY TWENTY TWO AND TWENTY THREE, ARE BASED UPON THE WISDOM OF THE EGYPTIAN PHARAOH AMEN-EM-OPES! NOT WITHSTANDING, THE PROVERBS HAD A CONTINUING INFLUENCE UPON THE LIVES OF DEVOUT ISRAELITES.

***PROUD AND HAUGHTY SCORNER IS HIS NAME, WHO DEALETH IN PROUD WRATH.* (PROV. 21:24)**

BUT... *CAST OUT THE SCORNER, AND CONTENTION SHALL GO OUT; YEA, STRIFE AND REPROACH SHALL CEASE.* (PROV. 22:10)

...IN SUCH A WAY AS THIS, DID THE ANCIENT ISRAELITES PUT INTO PRACTICE, IN THEIR DAILY LIVES, THE SAGE ADVICE GARNERED FROM THE BOOK OF PROVERBS!

SAVE THIS FOR YOUR SUNDAY SCHOOL SCRAPBOOK

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

Highland Avenue Freewill Baptist; Sunday School, 9:50 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; David Garrett, Minister.
 Jacobs Creek Baptist, Bevinville; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Jeff Barrett, Minister.
 Katy Friend Freewill Baptist, 2 miles up Abbott; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Jim Price, Minister.
 Lackey Freewill Baptist, Lackey; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Johnny J. Collins, Minister.
 Lancoer Baptist Church; 71 Cooley St., Prestonsburg, Sunday School, 10:00 a.m. Morning Worship, 11:00 a.m., Evening Worship, 6:00 p.m., Wednesday Prayer Meeting and Bible Study, 7:00 p.m.; Pastor Bobby Carpenter
 Liberty Baptist, Denver; Sunday Service, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 6 p.m.; Merle Little, Minister.
 Ligon Community Freewill Baptist, Ligon Worship Service, Sunday, 11:00 a.m. Thursday, 7 p.m.
 Martin Branch Freewill Baptist, Estill; Sunday Service, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11:15 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; James (Red) Morris, Minister.
 Martin Freewill Baptist, Martin; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; John L. Blair, Minister.
 Maytown First Baptist, Main St., Maytown; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 6 p.m.; Bob Varney, Minister.
 McDowell First Baptist, McDowell; Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 6 p.m.; Gene Bracken, Minister.
 Middle Creek Baptist, Blue River; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Eugene Cook, Minister.
 Lighthouse Baptist, 2194 KY Rt. 1428, Prestonsburg; Sunday Service, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Donald Crisp, Minister. home phone 285-3385
 Pleasant Home Baptist, Water Gap Road, Lancoer; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Mark Tackett, Pastor.
 Prater Creek Baptist, Banner; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; J.B. Hall, Pastor. Phone: (606) 874-3222.
 Prestonsburg Community College Baptist Student Union, J 102; Wednesday, 11:30 a.m.; French B. Harmon, Director; Ella C. Goble, President; 874-9468/478-2978.
 Rock Fork Freewill Baptist; Garrett Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Wendell Crager, Minister.
 Rock Fork Regular Baptist, Garrett; Worship Service, 9:30 a.m.; Earl Stone, Minister; Jerry Manns, Assistant Minister.
 Salt Lick United Baptist, Salt Lick, Hueysville; Worship Service, 10:30 a.m.; 4th Sunday, Thursday, 6:30 p.m.; Pastor, Chester Lucas.
 Sammy Clark Branch Freewill Baptist, Dana; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.; Pastor, Robert Shane Powers.
 Stephens Branch Missionary Baptist, Stephens Branch; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m.; Wednesday, 6 p.m.
 The Third Avenue Freewill Baptist; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.
 Tom's Creek Freewill Baptist, U.S. 23 (north of Layne Brothers); Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Chuck Ferguson, Minister.
 Tom Moore Memorial Freewill Baptist; Cliff Road; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m.; Youth Service, 5:00 p.m.; Evening Service, 6:00 p.m.; No Service the 1st Sunday of each month; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Jody Spencer, Minister.
 Trimble Chapel Freewill Baptist; Intersection of U.S. 23 and KY 80, Water Gap; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Morning Worship Service, 11 a.m. and Evening Worship Service 6 p.m.; Wednesday Bible Study, 7 p.m., Youth Services 7 p.m.; Everyone Welcome.
 United Community Baptist, Hwy. 7, Hueysville; Worship Service, 2 p.m.; Friday, 7 p.m.; Carlos Beverly, Minister.
 Wheelwright Freewill Baptist, Wheelwright Junction; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Louis Ferrari, Minister.

CATHOLIC
 St. Martha, Water Gap; Mass: Sunday, 11:15 a.m.; Saturday, 5 p.m.; Sunday; Father Robert Damron, pastor.

CHRISTIAN
 First Christian, 560 North Arnold Avenue; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m.; Jim Sherman, Minister.
 Garrett Community Christian, Route 550, Garrett; Worship Service, 10:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.; Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.; Donnie Hackworth, Minister.
 Victory Christian Ministries, 1428 E., Sunday School, 11:30 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Sherrill Williams, Minister.

CHURCH OF CHRIST
 Betsy Layne Church of Christ, Betsy Layne; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Tommy J. Speers, Minister.
 Church of Christ, South Lake Drive; Worship Service, 10 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Benny Blankenship, Minister.
 Harold Church of Christ, Harold; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; James H. Harmon, Minister.
 Highland Church of Christ, Rt. 23, Hager Hill; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.
 Hueysville Church of Christ; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Chester Varney, Minister.
 Lower Toler Church of Christ, Harold; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.; Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.; Lonnie Meade, Minister.
 Mare Creek Church of Christ, Stanville; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.
 Martin Church of Christ, Martin; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m. Gary Mitchell, Minister.

Upper Toler Church of Christ, 3.5 miles up Toler Creek on right; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Tommy Dale Bush, Minister.
 Weebury Church of Christ; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 10:45 a.m. and 6 p.m. Mike Hall, Minister.

CHURCH OF GOD
 Betsy Layne Church of God, Old U.S. 23; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Judith Caudill, Minister.
 Community Church of God, Arkansas Creek, Martin; Worship Service, 11 a.m.; Friday, 7 p.m.; Bud Crum, Minister.
 First Church of God; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 10:45 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Steven V. Williams, Pastor.
 Garrett Church of God, Garrett; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Donald Bragg, Minister.
 Landmark Church of God, Goble Roberts Addition; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11:10 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Kenneth E. Prater, Jr., Minister.
 Little Paint First Church of God, 671 Little Paint Road, East Point; Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Charles Heister Jr., Minister.
 The Church of God of Prophecy, Hi Hat; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Don Fraley, Jr., Minister.

EPISCOPAL
 St. James Episcopal; Sunday Service, 9:45 a.m.; Holy Eucharist 11:00 a.m. Wednesday Study Group 6:00p.m., Holy Eucharist & Healing 7:30 p.m. Father Johnnie E. Ross, Rector.

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

METHODIST
 Auxier United Methodist, Auxier; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m.; Wednesday, 6 p.m.; Doug Lawson, Minister.
 Betsy Layne United Methodist, next to B.L. Gymnasium; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Randy Blackburn, Minister.
 Christ United Methodist, Allen; Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Kenneth Lemaster, Minister.
 Community United Methodist, 141 Burke Avenue (off University Drive and Neeley St.); Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Steve Pescosolido, Minister.
 Elliott's Chapel Free Methodist, Rt. 979, Beaver; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Philip T. Smith, Minister.
 Emma United Methodist, Emma; Sunday Worship Service, 2 p.m.; Jack Howard, Minister.
 First United Methodist, 256 South Arnold Avenue; 9 a.m. Contemporary Service; Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.; Worship Service, 10:55 a.m. and 5 p.m. UMYS Service; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Mark D. Walz, Pastor.
 Horn Chapel Methodist, Auxier Road, Auxier; Sunday Morning Service, 9 a.m.; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Mid-week Service, 7 p.m.; Sunday Evening Service held on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month at 6 p.m.; Garfield Potter, Minister.
 Martin Methodist; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Roy Harlow, Minister.
 Maytown United Methodist, Langley; Sunday Service, 11 a.m.; Worship Service, 9:30 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 6 p.m.; Roy Harlow, Minister.
 Salisbury United Methodist, Printer; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Bobby G. Lawson, Minister.
 Wayland United Methodist, Rt. 7, Wayland; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m.; Wednesday, 6 p.m.; Brad Tackett, Minister.
 Wheelwright United Methodist, Wheelwright; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Bobby Isaac, Minister.
 Vogle Day United Methodist Church, Harold; Sunday School, 10:00 a.m.; Sunday Worship Service, 11:00 a.m.; Wed. Bible Study, 7:00 p.m.; Dennis C. Love, Pastor.
 Drift Pentecostal, Drift; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, Saturday/Sunday, 7 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Ted Shannon, Minister.
 Free Pentecostal Church of God, Rt. 1428, East Point; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.; Thursday, 6:30 p.m.; Buster Hayton, Minister.
 Free Pentecostal Church of God, Weebury; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 7 p.m.; Wednesday/Saturday, 7 p.m.; John "Jay" Patton, Minister.
 Free Pentecostal Deliverance, Ext. 46 off Mt. Parkway at Campton; Worship Service, Saturday and Sunday, 7 p.m.; Patricia Crider, Minister.
 Free Pentecostal Holiness, Rt. 122, Upper Burton; Sunday School, 11 a.m.; Worship Service, 6 p.m.; Friday, 7 p.m.; Louis Sarlan, Minister; David Pike, Associate Minister.
 Goodloe Pentecostal, Rt. 850, David; Worship Service, 6 p.m.; Malcolm Stone, Minister.
 Parkway First Calvary Pentecostal, Floyd and Magoffin County Line; ; Worship Service, 6:30 p.m.; Mike D. Caldwell, Minister, 297-6282.
 Trinity Chapel Pentecostal Holiness, Main St., Martin; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 7 p.m.; 2nd Saturday, 7 p.m.; Thursday, 7 p.m.; Ellis J. Stevens, Minister.

PRESBYTERIAN
 Drift Presbyterian, Route 1101, Drift; Worship Service, 11 a.m.
 First Presbyterian, North Lake Drive; Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m.; George C. Love, Minister.

SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST
 Seventh-Day Adventist, 5 miles West on Mountain Parkway; Sunday School, 9:15 a.m.; Worship Service, 10:30 a.m.; Gary Sheph. Minister.

THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS
 The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints; Relief Society/Priesthood/Primary, 9:30 a.m.; Sunday School, 10:30 a.m.; Sacrament Mtg., 11:20 a.m.; Wednesday, 6 p.m. Church Meeting House address, Hwy. 80, Martin, KY 41649; Meeting House telephone number: 285-3133; Ken Carriere, Bishop.

OTHER
 Pastor Altha Johnson welcomes everyone to attend services at the CHURCH OF GOD OF PROPHECY TRAM KENTUCKY, Sunday school 10 a.m., Worship service 11 a.m.
 Drift Independent, Drift; Sunday, 11 a.m.; Thursday, 6:30 p.m.
 Dwale House of Prayer, Dwale; Worship Service, 7 p.m.; Sunday, 6 p.m.; William Jarrell, Minister.
 Grace Fellowship Prestonsburg, (next to old flea market), Sunday School, 10 a.m. Worship, 11 a.m. Bill Stukenberg, Pastor 889-0905.
 Faith Bible, Martin; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 6 p.m.
 Faith Deliverance Tabernacle, West Prestonsburg; Sunday School, 10:30 a.m., Thursday, 7 p.m.; Don Shepherd, Minister.
 Faith Revelation Ministry, 1/4 mile above Worldwide Equipment; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Pastor Bobby Hagens, Minister.
 Faith Worship Center, US 460, Paintsville; Worship Service, 11 a.m.; Thursday, 6 p.m.; Buddy and Maude Frye, Minister.
 Full Gospel Community, (formerly of Martin) moved to Old Allen; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m.; Sunday evening, 6:30 p.m.; Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.; Lavonne Lafferty, Minister.
 Lighthouse Temple, Main St. and Hall St.; Worship Service, 12 p.m. and 7 p.m.; Wednesday/Friday, 7 p.m.; Roy Cooby, Minister.
 Martin House of Worship, Old Post Office St.; Worship Service, 7 p.m., Saturday/Sunday.
 Old Time Holiness, 2 miles up Arkansas Creek, Martin; Sunday School, 11 a.m.; Worship Service, 7 p.m.; Friday, 7 p.m.; John W. Patton, Minister.
 Spurlock Bible (Baptist), 6227 Spurlock Creek Rd., Prestonsburg; Sunday School 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Dan Heintzelman, Minister.
 Town Branch Church; Sunday School 10 a.m. except for first Sunday in each month; Worship Service, Sun. morning 10:00 a.m.; Evening 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 6 p.m.; No Sunday night services on first Sunday of each month. Tom Nelson, Minister.
 The Father House, Big Branch, Abbott Creek; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 6 p.m.; J.J. Wright, Minister.
 Youth Fellowship Center, Wheelwright; Monday-Tuesday, 6 p.m.; Thursday, 7 p.m.
 Zion Deliverance, Wayland; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday/Saturday, 7 p.m. Prayer Line: 358-2001; Darlene Arnett, Pastor
 Taylor Chapel Community Church, formerly the old Price Food Service building, located 1 quarter mile above Worldwide Equipment, Rt. 1428, Sun. Bible Study, 10 a.m.; Sun. Morning Service, 11 a.m.; Sun. Evening, 6:30 p.m. Kenny Vanderpool, Pastor.
 International Pentecostal Holiness Church, 10974 N. Main St., Martin; Rev. Ellis J. Stevens, Senior Pastor.
 Rising Sun Ministries, 78 Court Street, Allen, Ky; Sunday, 10:30 a.m.; Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. Pastor: D.P. Cury.
 Church of God of Prophecy, Sun. School 10 a.m., worship Service 11 a.m., Sun. Night - 6 p.m., Wed. Night - 6 p.m. Pastor Glenn Hayes. West Prestonsburg.

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THROUGH MY EYES

Boys and their toys

Teenage boys are such an enigma. One minute, they're still "mama's little boy," the next, they're furiously attempting to assert their independence. At this writing, I think I can lay claim to at least about eight teenage boys living in these parts, with only



Kathy Prater
 Lifestyles editor

one actually having been born to me. No matter, the rest of them still share a great big part of my heart, as we alternately go about being the "best of buddies" one minute

with the very next finding us once again at odds and going head-to-head on this issue or that.

This summer, "the boys" all seem to be turning 16 and so each month or so, one or the other of them is visiting the courthouse to obtain their driver's learning permits. So now, each time I pick one of them up to "run them home" or drop them by the movies or the paintball course, I

(See EYES, page seven)

POSTSCRIPT

In Mammaw's garden

I was pulling weeds – the incessant weeds – from around my jungle of flowers the other day and the thought occurred to me, I have become my grandmother.

Well, I'm on the way, but maybe not quite there yet.

More by accident than by design, my yard is a rainbow of color now – much like hers was.

In one section is a plethora of black-eyed susans, three to four feet high, blossoms galore, so thick they leave no room for weeds. They started as just a couple of plants year before last and now they've filled an eight-foot long bed.

In the front, next to the side

(See POSTSCRIPT, page seven)



photo by Kathy J. Prater
 Area students performed for the public last week at the Mountain Arts Center. The kids all participated in the Kentucky Opry Performing Arts School; held this summer at the entertainment center. This season's performance had a "Say No to Drugs" theme.

Say 'no' to drugs, 'yes' to music Ky Opry Performing Arts School

by Kathy J. Prater
 FEATURES EDITOR

Saying "no" to drugs is not always easy, but kids participating in the Kentucky Opry Performing Arts School this summer learned that it can be done, especially when you have friends you can "lean on," family members who "stand by" you, and Ms. Billie Jean Osborne to encourage you to trade your troubles for a song.

Giving old classics like "Lean On Me," and "Stand By Me" new meaning, the students of the performing arts school sent out a message, via song and dance, that "music can be your doctor" when you find yourself being buffeted about by peer pressure and adolescent angst.

"I've always said, 'Give me a child and let me put a song in that child's heart, and I'll give you a child with new purpose,'" said Osborne, founder of the Mountain Arts Center. Osborne, through the aid of funding secured by Congressman Hal Rogers, has created a summer arts program that is now in its fourth year at the center, and has seen great success, growing from an initial number of around 30 participating students to this season's 65 students.

The students represent nine surrounding eastern Kentucky counties, coming together to make new friends and to learn about the world of music and stage choreography. Teachers

Kathi Caudill, Prestonsburg High School Music Department, Clayton Case, Kentucky Opry member, Sandy Tackett, Allen Elementary Music Department, and, of course, Ms. Billie, all collaborate to teach the kids the basics of song, dance and the performance arts.

For four weeks, the students attend classes at the center, from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Lunch is provided and transportation is provided by area school systems. The culmination of the summer sessions is a public performance, on the Mountain Arts Center stage, for family, friends and the community. "People are just amazed when they come see these kids perform," said Osborne. "They're amazed to see how much these kids can learn in just a few short weeks. This is a truly wonderful program that showcases the talents of our region's children."

Seth Jones, age 12, a student from McDowell Elementary said that attending the summer arts school was "a great opportunity to learn new things about singing" and "a wonderful learning experience."

Darcy Jo Porter, age 14, a student from Paintsville High School, said that she has participated in the arts program for each of the four years that it has been offered. "I have yet to see any downside," she said. "It has provided great opportunities and last-

(See ARTS, page eight)



photo by Kathy J. Prater
 Students sent out the message that "the sky's the limit" when you choose to lead a drug-free life.

PROMOTING MENTAL HEALTH

Things to ponder: Who am I?

Who am I? Am I really happy with what I am doing, saying, believing ...? Do I need or want to change anything? Am I different from the people that I know? If I am, is it OK with me? Do I care about how others perceive me? Am I truly satisfied with "me"? After thinking about these questions, do you have concerns about yourself; if so, what are they?

It is not unusual for a person to stop at

various points over a lifetime and consider how she would answer these questions. This "me in review" typically happens as we go from one stage of life to another, such as becoming a teenager, graduating high school and leaving home for college or "or after a "life changing" event, such as a divorce or death of a spouse. A guess would be that adolescents spend a great deal of time on these deep and important questions. Often there may be

an examination by the adolescents of parents' behaviors and beliefs. Examples could be: "Will I be like my mother and make the same mistakes she did?" and "Will I drink too much and not work like my daddy did?"

For the adolescent, the big question is, "What makes me different from everyone around me?" There could be a great variety of answers. Sometimes it is as simple as speech – an accent or way of saying

things that is different from others. For a while, it was having a body piercing, but now the difference seems to occur when a young person does not have a hole at all in her body. Since we live in a rural environment that was isolated, until most recently, a different ethnic, racial, or religious background might get some negative attention. Occasionally, a person has a chronic significant medical problem,



Mable Rowe Lineberger,
 Ph.D.

(See PONDER, page seven)

School Happenings

ADAMS MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH SERVICES CENTER

■ The AMS Youth Services Center is open all year to assist students and families in need. Please drop by or call the center at 886-9812 for more information or to request assistance with a family need. Center is open from 8 a.m. - 4 p.m., and later by appointment. Center coordinator, Michelle Keathley, Assistant coordinator, Sheila Allen. Center offers services to all students regardless of income.

ALLEN CENTRAL MIDDLE SCHOOL

■ The ACMS Youth Service Center is open each day from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., or later by appointment. For more information about the center, call LaDonna Patton, coordinator, or Marilyn Bailey, assistant, at 358-0134.

ALLEN ELEMENTARY AND FAMILY RESOURCE YOUTH SERVICE CENTER

■ Call Allen Elementary Youth Service Center at 874-0621 to schedule your child's Hepatitis B vaccination, immunizations, and WIC appointments.

BETSY LAYNE ELEMENTARY

■ The Family Resource Youth Service Center provides services and referral services to all families regardless of income. The center is located in the middle building of the Betsy Layne Elementary School. Office hours are Mon. - Fri., 8 a.m. until 3 p.m.

■ Open enrollment for After School Child Care is available through the Family Resource Center. Service hours are 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

■ Contact the center at 478-5550. Contact persons are Brian Akers and Charlotte Rogers.

CLARK ELEMENTARY

■ We are currently scheduling Hep B immunizations and physicals for 5th grade students. Also scheduling appointments for WIC services. These services are available to anyone in the community.

■ The FCHD nurse is in the center weekly. Please call to schedule an appointment.

■ The Clark Elementary Family Resource Center provides services for all families regardless of income. We are located in the Clark Elementary School building and can be reached by calling 886-0815.

DUFF ELEMENTARY

■ Floyd County Health Dept. is at the school each Tuesday. Services include 6th grade school entry physical; kindergarten, Head Start and well-child physicals; T.B. skin test; T.D. boosters; and WIC services. Please call 358-9878 for appointment if you are in need of any of these services.

■ The J.A. Duff Elementary Family Resource Center provides services for all families regardless of income. We are located in the tan metal building at the rear of the school. Contact persons are Judy Handshoe, coordinator, and Ruby Bailey, assistant.

MAY VALLEY ELEMENTARY

■ Parent Lending Library is available to parents for video check-outs. A variety of topics are available.

■ Floyd County Health Dept. nurse at school every Wednesday. Services include Head Start physicals, kindergarten physicals, 6th grade physicals, well-child physicals, immunizations, TB skin test, WIC program, blood pressure checks, and more. Must call the FRC at 285-0321 for an appointment.

MCDOWELL ELEMENTARY AND FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER

■ Floyd County Health Department Nurse Joy Moore, is at the center each Monday to administer immunizations, T.B. skin tests, well-child exams, WIC, prenatal and post-partum services, and school physicals. Call 377-2678 for an appointment.

MOUNTAIN CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

■ Now accepting registration for the 2004-2005 school year. Limited openings are currently available for Preschool thru 8th grade. Call 285-5141 or 285-5142 for more information.

PRESTONSBURG ELEMENTARY AND FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER

■ The Family Resource 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.

PRESTONSBURG HIGH

SCHOOL

■ NOTICE - PHS will begin holding their regular SBDM Council meetings on the first Tuesday of each month.

SOUTH FLOYD YOUTH SERVICES CENTER

■ Walking track open to public.

■ The center has a one-stop career station satellite that is available to the community as well as students.

■ Anyone interested in Adult Ed may contact the center for information.

■ All new students and visitors, stop by the Center, located on the South Floyd campus, Room 232, and see Mable Hall.

■ For more information call 452-9600 or 9607 and ask for Mable Hall, ext. 243, or Keith Smallwood, ext. 242.

STUMBO ELEMENTARY/MUD CREEK FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER

■ Resource Center hours are 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Parents and community members are welcome to visit. For questions, call 587-2233 - ask for Tristan Parsons, Center Coordinator, or Anita Tackett, Assistant.

"RAINBOW JUNCTION" FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER

■ Rainbow Junction Family Resource Center is located in the W. D. Osborne Elementary School. Hours of operation - 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday, or later by appointment. Call 452-4553 and ask for Cissy or Karen. Parents/community members free to visit any time.

WESLEY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

■ August 9 - First day of school.

■ Currently accepting enrollment for 2004/2005 Kindergarten, and grades 4-8 (some classes already filled).

■ Wesley Christian Daycare now accepting infants and toddlers up to 4 years old. Daycare hours: 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Monday thru Friday.

■ For additional information, call 874-8328. Summer office hours: 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

FLOYD COUNTY ADULT CLASS SCHEDULE

■ For information about Adult Education class schedules, contact the David School at 886-8374. All classes and materials free of charge.

Ponder

such as diabetes or asthma that sets her apart from peers. Then there are those that dress differently. An example would be the teens that wear black most of the time.

In addition to physical ways of being different, you might be different from others, because of what you support or stand up for. Do you stay with what you believe, no matter what others think, and stay with your values and morals? In contrast, there are characteristics about a person that are different, but cannot be controlled or changed in any way, such as being tall or short. The young person often has a lot of pressure to conform to the idea of being a "normal" adolescent. The message for what is expected of the typical teen "to fit in" comes from a variety

of direct and indirect sources, television, family, and friends. Of course, that is one of those extremely large ideas that can be abused. "Just being a teenager" is often overused to explain away inappropriate behaviors, lack of adequate control, and/or parents not wanting to take responsibility for setting consistent limits.

The value of knowing who you are has a big impact on your mental health - whether you feel comfortable or uncomfortable about the aspects making you different from others about you. If you feel OK about yourself and others give positive messages about who you are and what you stand for, then you are more likely to have positive mental health.

Another big question is, "How do you cope with differ-

ences?" Do you expect, accept, or tolerate people's differences? Do you feel confronted, scared, angry, or nervous being around people who are different from you? It is not unusual for folks to feel so ill at ease around others who are different that they will not stay, but walk away, ignore, be rude, or treat the "different" one badly. This certainly makes it very difficult for the "different" person that wants to make friends and be accepted. There are also instances where those people, wanting to be different, use their preferences to intimidate or interfere with the rights of others, so that the bottom line is not being different, but having power and control.

Some times we allow forces outside ourselves to stop us from expressing or accepting our differences. One is preju-

dice that occurs when people judge others in a negative way without any real facts or understanding. A second is stereotyping that happens when people expect you to act and be a certain way just because you look a certain way - where you live, your religion, culture, gender, or sexuality. These things are really stirred with conflict when people refuse to accept or understand others and keep a totally closed mind to contrasting ideas, ways of living and appearances. It gets even worse when the difference between people is viewed as "wrong" and there is only one way to be. However, the bottom line is that, whether or not we are similar or different to others, we still want to be accepted, supported, and feel related to those about us.

When you are proud of who you are and accept your differences, you are more likely to feel confident about yourself, positive and comfortable. In this state, you are prone to feel willing to do new things that help to expand your possibilities and social life. Besides, you might feel like you are receiving much more out of life. In contrast, it is not helpful to change yourselves without thinking about why you want to change and whom are you doing it for. It has been found that, when you change in an effort to please others, you are more likely to feel anxious, confused, and upset, especially that you cannot be yourself. If you perceive your differences as not acceptable to others, you might feel insecure, embarrassed, defensive, or frustrated about how you should act. There is the possibility that you will feel that you are being judged constantly and thus have a hard time relaxing and being yourself. Boy, all of this will be a damper on your mental health, with you ending up feeling really down and without confidence. As a result, you will probably have a difficult time making friends, due to basically not being whom you really are.

Now, that you realize that you are different from others, how are you going to live with it? Try to be with people that help you to feel accepted and comfortable and not where you feel judged and unhappy. Be a part of a group that has things in common with you, even though it might be hard to find one at first. Be involved with activities that help you feel good about whom you are and your differences are OK. There is nothing wrong with telling those folks that want to pick on you to stop and lay off; that is, do not ignore harassment. Ask family and friends for support when it is needed. Also, remember that, if you want to be accepted for who you are and your differences, then you need to do the same for others - understand, accept, and tolerate without judging.

Postscript

walk, the Virginia waterleaf (so the plant book says) have just about taken over. When they're small, the leaves resemble marijuana. More than one person has done a doubletake. But grown, each stalk holds a big blossom of white, pink and lilac petals.

Last year I brought two little seedlings from my cousin's house, where they mysteriously cropped up under a dying apple tree a few years ago. My cousin's neighbor remembers those flowers being in that yard 50 or more years ago, but they had disappeared. How they happened to come back is anyone's guess.

In my yard this year are dozens of these flowers, stretching eastward toward the sun, coming up through sidewalk cracks or anywhere there's a hint of dirt and space.

See what I mean about accident versus design?

There is some design, though. My flowers seem to be taking up more yard space - which is actually my aim. I

appreciate people with lush green lawns, but somehow that urge has eluded me. I absolutely hate mowing. I'd rather plant flowers, pull weeds and lay mulch any day.

Which takes me back to the statement about my grandmother.

When I was little, we lived in an unpainted, three-room shack in the Greentown section of Paintsville. Mammaw couldn't do a lot about the looks of the rented house, but she had dominion over the earth around it.

The backyard was taken up completely by her vegetable garden, about a quarter acre that fed us through the year, fresh and canned.

Every inch of the front and side yards was in flowers, except for a pathway that was swept clear daily.

I can't begin to remember everything Mammaw grew in her Eden, but I do remember asparagus, let grow after spring harvest into huge diaphanous

shrubs.

I remember hollyhocks, profuse and colorful; magnificent irises that, unlike mine, were rife with blossoms for a month or more; purple four o'clocks that sought the sun during the day and shut themselves in the late afternoon; daylilies that wanted to take over the world; multi-colored zinnias, or old maids, as she called them; giant marigolds that entertained the eyes well into the fall.

There were many more that I can see when I close my eyes and look back. I remember lots of reds - her favorite color, yellow, purple, white and blue.

She couldn't help herself. She got her love of growing things from her ancestors.

I'm nowhere as good. I lack the same kind of experience and patience, and I lost valuable time in years of denial.

But the genes run through me. Finally, I think I share her joy.

Eyes

have to hear, "Kathy, will you let me drive? Please? My mom lets me drive everywhere we go now. My uncle (aunt, cousin, brother, and whomever) let me drive their car. I did good. I did real good. Will you let me drive? Please? Please? Please, come on, please."

I swear, I haven't heard such beggin' since the 1975 high school prom (and no, we won't go back there today, so feel free to read on).

What is it about boys and cars, anyway? The teenage girls in my life seem "interested" in the whole driving process, but they don't seem to be consumed by it all like these boys are. I think the boys, in some strange way, all feel that once they get a valid driver's license and get themselves out there on those

roadways all by themselves, then somehow, magically, they will finally become "men." Little do they know, eh?

But, in the meantime, I have about two and a half months to go, then my own son will be turning 16 and instead of listening to all the begging now and then, I'll be tortured every single day.

Elliott's already gotten busy at attempting to stack the odds in his favor when the time rolls around this golden autumn that he can begin begging for the car keys. This past Sunday, he mowed the lawn without first being asked and made a great point of explaining to me that he ran the weed eater further down the edge of the bank than he "really had to." He also has been spotted doing a few loads

of laundry entirely on his own. But, the clincher, the "seal the deal" event of a lifetime was when I returned home this past Monday evening to find that he had located our vacuum's shampooer attachments and had, believe it or not, shampooed the carpets in (almost) the entire house! The only rooms missed were his sister's bedrooms (can't expect miracles, now).

I could have fallen over when I walked through the door and smelled the fresh scent of newly shampooed rugs. He had even cleaned the shampooer attachments and put my vacuum back in regular running order.

Oh, my, if this keeps up, I'll be the one walking in a few more months.

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Weddings



Preston-Yates

Mr. Kerry Preston and Mrs. Peggy Hayslett, of Paintsville, and Mr. Estill and Mrs. Nannetta Yates, of Honaker, are pleased to announce the recent marriage of their children, Kellie Ann Preston and Jeremy Todd Yates. The bride is the granddaughter of Audrey Faye Ward, of Offutt, and the late Bob Ward and the late Dick and Mary Ann Preston. The groom is the grandson of Eula Hall, of Craynor, and Bascomb Hall, of Honaker and the late McKinley Hall, formerly of Craynor, and Okie and Elisabeth Yates, of Honaker. The couple were joined in marriage in an outdoor ceremony performed at the Jenny Wiley State Resort Park, on the afternoon of Saturday, June 26, 2004. The couple reside in Prestonsburg.



Family Medicine

By Martha A. Simpson, D.O., M.B.A.



Boils that are large, painful or cause fever need doctor's care

Q: What is a boil and what causes them? Sometimes I get a boil on the inside of my thigh in the crease of my leg. It becomes red and swollen and very sore. Is there a home remedy or over-the-counter medicine to get rid of a boil? Also, are there any changes in diet that will prevent boils from returning?

A: A boil — a furuncle in medical terms — usually starts as an infected hair follicle, and as it progresses, the infection spreads to deeper tissues. The infection

site becomes a walled-off area that is filled with pus. A carbuncle is a cluster of boils in the same area that are connected together under the skin. These usually are deeper in the tissues and more difficult to treat.

Sometimes you may hear boils referred to as skin abscesses. By whatever name, they are caused by bacteria, usually staphylococcus aureus.

Boils occur most commonly in areas of skin friction, like the crease of the leg that you describe. A boil starts off as a red area that's sore to the touch. As it increases in size, it becomes even more tender. Often a boil will sponta-

neously burst, letting the pus out and allowing the infection to heal on its own. Aggressively using warm compresses in the early stages of an abscess can promote complete, prompt resolution of the infection.

As you can see, not every boil needs to be seen by a physician. But if you are a diabetic or have underlying systemic illnesses that decrease the immune system, you should seek medical attention early. You should also see a physician any time a boil is associated with fever, is extremely painful or is larger than a nickel. If such a boil is not treated, it can lead to cellulitis — infection in the surrounding tissues — or systemic infection, especially if you are immune deficient.

When you seek medical intervention, your doctor may decide that the

boil needs to be opened and drained, or he or she may opt for not opening it and rely instead on hot packs and antibiotic therapy. Either approach should lead to complete healing of the abscess.

Obesity, diabetes mellitus, long-term use of steroids, and diseases that suppress the immune system, like cancer or HIV, can increase the likelihood of getting a furuncle. Most people who get boils have good personal hygiene. That being said, some people seem to have a high bacterial skin count that makes them prone to boils.

Several things can be done to prevent boils. Using antibacterial soaps, especially in the groin and arm pit regions, can help with long-term prevention. Gentle scrubbing with a loufa sponge can help keep hair follicles from plugging up. If you are over-

weight, weight loss can decrease skin friction and prevent abscesses.

Family Medicine® is a weekly column. To submit questions, write to Martha A. Simpson, D.O., M.B.A., Ohio University College of Osteopathic Medicine, P.O. Box 110, Athens, Ohio 45701, or via e-mail to readerquestions@familymedicine.org. Medical information in this column is provided as an educational service only. It does not replace the judgment of your personal physician, who should be relied on to diagnose and recommend treatment for any medical conditions. Past columns are available online at www.familymedicine.org.

Tackett receives national achievement award

Anthony Ray Tackett was recognized on Tuesday, July 13, 2004, by the National Association of County Agricultural Agents at its 89th Annual Meeting and Professional Improvement Conference, in Orlando, Florida, by receiving the Association's Achievement Award. The award is presented to the top one percent of the county agents from each state, that have less than ten years service in the nation's Cooperative Extension Service. The selection is made by county agent peers in that state and endorsed by the State Extension Director. This year, fifty-six individuals from

throughout the United States were presented the Achievement Award.

The Floyd County Cooperative Extension Office has striven to meet the specific needs of local residents through diverse Agriculture and Natural Resource and Community Development programming. During the past few months, Tackett, the county agent for agriculture and natural resources has worked with individuals and organizations on a wide variety of topics covering everything from technology skills development to controlling invasive weed and plant species.



Anthony Ray Tackett

CO-OP NEWS

Trees already preparing for winter

When temperatures outdoors remain near 90 degrees, it's hard to believe that trees already are starting to prepare for winter. During August, many trees begin to shut down by gradually reducing active growth and preparing to go dormant during the winter.

As trees prepare to shut down, they begin to produce less chlorophyll, a green pigment that combines with sunlight to make food for growth.

Since trees begin using chlorophyll more rapidly than it is produced, its green mask slowly disappears to reveal the brilliant show of fall colors. Kentucky's diverse climate makes it home to many tree species common to northern and southern states, providing a variety of fall colors for us to enjoy.

Trees in the shut-down mode frequently are more susceptible to insect and disease attacks.

Brown leaves on black locust

and other trees is a common indication of an insect problem. This discoloration is caused by immature locust leafminers eating leaves on black locust as well as birch, apple, beech, cherry, elm and oak. Larvae "mine" the inner parts of leaves, removing the chlorophyll and leaving a brown-colored skeleton.

Leafminer attacks usually will not cause death unless trees were in a stressful situation

early in the growing season, such as extremely wet or dry conditions.

Another indication of winter preparation is that trees drop leaves to reduce evaporation and enable trees to better cope with dry conditions.

The yellow-poplar, one of the first trees to leaf out in the spring, is among the first trees to begin losing leaves in the fall.

As trees begin preparing for winter, they do more than put on

Arts

Continued from pg 6

ing friendships. We've worked extremely hard, but in the process, we put together a show with great meaning."

Ashley Hall, age 13, a student from Johnson County Middle School, said that participating in the summer program "was an awesome experience that helped me fulfill my dream of being on stage."

The Kentucky Opry Performing Arts School is offered to area students, grades 6-8. It is brought to the area through grant money provided for arts education in the region.

The performing arts students presented a show, free of charge, for the public on Thursday evening, July 29.

Please, keep 'em coming!

Our pet photos file needs replenishing, and we know that you have lots of precious pics to share with us, so, please, send them along! And while you're at it, help Dr. Carol get her creative thoughts jumpstarted by sending along a few questions about "pet things you've always wanted to know but have been afraid to ask"! You can send both pictures and questions to: Kathy Prater at the Floyd County Times, P.O. Box 390, Prestonsburg, KY 41653, or you may e-mail to: features@floydcountytimes.com

You may also send questions only to Dr. Carol at: 1768 KY Rt. 7, Estill, KY 41666, or e-mail to: carolcac@tusa.net. We'll be waiting to hear from you!

Banish boredom with water sports

(NUE) - Been there, done that. Even the most ambitious hobbyists may find it hard to put a new spin on their favorite sport. Why not check out something new - like learning your way around a personal watercraft?

Personal watercraft (like the popular Kawasaki Jet Ski brand) have become hotter than ever and, compared to most boats, are less expensive to own and easier to operate. While the idea of motoring around the water on one of these machines may seem a little daunting at first, it's easy to learn with proper instruction.

Once you're on the water, there are plenty of ways to mix up your time so that you'll always look forward to the next outing. Try these simple suggestions for making the most of your machine:

* Many towns have local personal watercraft clubs that offer tons of activities. These organizations host family oriented events and provide groups with which to go exploring.

* Get friends and family in on the act by towing them around on water skis, wakeboards or inner tubes at nearby lakes.

* Renting a houseboat? Take along your personal watercraft for exploring coves, cooling off during the hot noontime hours or making quick trips dockside to stores

and snack shops. Your personal watercraft can provide just the transportation you need when it's necessary to make contact with the rest of the world.

* Feeling adventurous? Put on your explorer cap and check out that slightly remote river that you have always wanted to hit. Take a day-long run - there are mysteries and memories to be found on hundreds of rivers

nationwide.

* Whether you're on the East or West Coast, there are endless marinas and bays to explore on your personal watercraft. Keep things interesting by visiting a new spot each time you ride.

* For the environmentally minded, the good news is that these machines are also safer for the planet. The Kawasaki Jet Ski STX-15F, for example, is powered by a

high-performance four-stroke engine and has earned the highest "Three-Star Ultra-Low Emission" rating, abiding by the Environmental Protection Agency's strictest standards, as well as the California Air Resources Board standards for 2008.

For more information on personal watercraft, visit www.kawasaki.com.

a spectacular show of colors; trees also make an important contribution to an on-going ecological system. Minerals previously taken into trees are recycled as leaves drop to the ground to announce winter's approach. The leaves decompose and return nutrients to growing trees and plants and add organic materials to the soil. Even as these leaves fall, next spring's leaves are tightly wrapped in buds. When these buds unfurl, they will replenish the air by giving off oxygen and absorbing carbon dioxide.

For more information, contact Ray Tackett the Floyd County Cooperative Extension Service at 886-2668.

Educational programs of the University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service serve all people regardless of race, color, age, sex, religion, disability or national origin.

Source: Doug McLaren

Ginseng can play a key role in health

(NUE) - For more than 5,000 years, the Chinese have promoted ginseng as an herbal energy booster and overall tonic.

Authentic ginseng grows wild in only two areas of the world, North America and parts of China. So-called Siberian ginseng is not a ginseng, but a cheap substitute. Authentic ginseng requires four years to reach maturity. The roots contain the highly prized active ingredient.

American ginseng, primarily grown in Wisconsin, is less warming and stimulating than Chinese ginseng. American ginseng contains several saponins that are believed to contribute to adaptogenic properties. Adaptogen is a term coined to define certain herbs that help improve energy, vitality, mood and well-being.

Saponins have potential in the prevention and treatment of diseases of the heart and circulatory system. They also stimulate the immune system, and some may even have anti-tumor properties. Most people who take ginseng notice an improvement in energy, vitality and mental clarity.

So how do you add ginseng to your diet? Try drinking a healthy ginseng beverage such as Rush Cola from V-Net Beverages Inc. (VNTB.PK). This new cola, marketed in the United States and Canada, contains American ginseng and other herbal extracts known to enhance stamina, endurance and vitality. One of them is Rhodiola rosea, used by Russian athletes and cosmonauts to improve physical and mental capabilities under stress.

Rhodiola rosea increases

physical endurance, work productivity, longevity and resistance to high altitude sickness. It is also used to treat fatigue, depression, anemia, impotence, gastrointestinal ailments, infections and nervous system disorders.

Rush Cola's unique blend of pure, Wisconsin-grown American ginseng, Rhodiola rosea and White Peony root (an effective tonic herb used to purify the blood, lower blood pressure, and reduce pain) makes it a naturally refreshing and energizing beverage that will revitalize you without unnecessary chemicals and caffeine.

For more information on Rush Cola and V-Net's other beverages, Ginseng Rush and the new Ginseng Rush XXX, visit www.enjoytherush.com.

Wildfire

Beware & Prepare

Prepare your home, family & community for survival.

- Keep flammable vegetation and leaves at least 30 feet away from your house.
- Keep dry grass and brush cut short.
- Clean roof and gutters of flammable materials and leaves.
- Have an evacuation plan ready.
- Remember backfiring is illegal.

In a wildland fire emergency, call 9-1-1, your local Fire Department, or your local Division of Forestry district office.



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Ground Beef Winners ... **NEW** **30-MINUTE** **FAVORITES**



Greek-Style Beef & Cheese Ravioli

Ground beef really is a winner!

It's perfect for family meals, beloved both by kids and adults alike. What's not to love? Ground beef tastes great, it's convenient, versatile, easy to prepare and quick cooking!

We'll always enjoy the time-honored classics — burgers and chili, meatloaf and meatballs — but these recipes from the National Beef Cook-Off® take ground beef to the next level. They showcase just a hint of the variety of innovative dishes that make ground beef a winner time and time again.

Contemporary pizza, pasta, wraps and nuggets accented with favorite ethnic ingredients are ready in 30 minutes — just waiting to become your new family favorites.

Great Ground Beef — Purchase to Plate

■ **Label Logic** — Check the label to determine the lean-to-fat ratio. Choices can range from 70% lean (30% fat) to 95% lean (5% fat), so there's one for every budget, every recipe. Labels might also indicate the primal cut of beef that was ground — chuck, round or sirloin.

■ **Visually Inspect** — Look for ground beef with a bright, cherry-red color. Vacuum-packaged ground beef or the interior of packaged ground beef can appear purplish, but when exposed to air, it will turn bright red. Purchase by the "sell by" date on the package.

■ **Safe Storage** — Refrigerate or freeze ground beef as soon as possible after purchase. Refrigerate it in its original transparent packaging and use within 1 or 2 days or freeze in its original packaging up to 2 weeks. For longer storage, up to 4 months, wrap in heavy-duty aluminum foil or place in a food-safe plastic freezer bag. Always defrost in the refrigerator.

■ **Cook Properly** — Always cook ground beef thoroughly to 160°F (medium doneness) as determined by an instant-read thermometer or until it is no longer pink and the juices show no pink color. Do not eat undercooked ground beef.

■ **Store Promptly** — Refrigerate leftovers, covered, immediately after eating, up to 4 days.

Greek-Style Beef & Cheese Ravioli

Total preparation and cooking time: 30 minutes

- 1-1/4 pounds ground beef
- 1 package (9 ounces) refrigerated cheese ravioli
- 2 cans (14-1/2 ounces each) diced tomatoes with basil, garlic and oregano, undrained
- 2 cups lightly packed fresh baby spinach
- 1 cup pitted ripe olives
- 1/2 to 3/4 cup crumbled feta cheese

1. Cook ravioli according to package directions; drain.
2. Meanwhile brown ground beef in deep 12-inch nonstick skillet over medium heat 6 minutes or until beef is no longer pink, breaking up into 3/4-inch crumbles. Pour off drippings.
3. Stir in tomatoes; bring to a boil. Reduce heat; simmer 10 minutes, stirring occasionally. Stir in ravioli; simmer 3 minutes. Stir in spinach and olives; cook just until spinach is wilted. Sprinkle with cheese before serving.

Makes 4 servings

Southwest Beef & Chile Pizza

Total preparation and cooking time: 30 minutes

- 1 pound ground beef
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1 package (16 ounces) thick prebaked pizza crust (12-inch diameter)
- 1 cup prepared mild thick and chunky salsa
- 2 cups (8 ounces) shredded Mexican cheese blend or Monterey Jack cheese
- 1 can (4 ounces) diced green chilies, drained well
- 2 small plum tomatoes, seeded, coarsely chopped
- 1/3 cup thin red onion slivers
- 2 tablespoons chopped fresh cilantro

1. Heat oven to 450°F. Brown ground beef in large nonstick skillet over medium heat 6 minutes or until beef is no longer pink, breaking up into 3/4-inch crumbles. Remove from skillet with slotted spoon; season with salt.
2. Place pizza crust on ungreased pizza pan or large baking sheet. Spread salsa evenly on crust; sprinkle with half of cheese. Top evenly with beef, chilies, tomatoes and onion. Sprinkle with remaining cheese.
3. Bake in 450°F oven 11 to 13 minutes, or until topping is hot and cheese is bubbly. Sprinkle with cilantro; cut into 8 wedges. Serve immediately.

Makes 4 servings

Taco Beef Nuggets & Tejano Sauce

Total preparation and cooking time: 30 minutes

- 1 pound ground beef
- 2 tablespoons taco seasoning mix
- 1 can (4 ounces) diced mild green chilies, drained
- 16 cubes Co-Jack cheese (1/2-inch)
- 1 egg white
- 1 tablespoon water
- 2 cups crushed nacho cheese-flavored tortilla chips

Sauce:

- 6 tablespoons prepared thick taco sauce
- 3 tablespoons honey

1. Heat oven to 400°F. Combine ground beef, taco seasoning and green chilies in large bowl, mixing lightly but thoroughly. Divide beef mixture into 16 portions; shape each portion around a cheese cube, completely covering cheese.
2. Beat egg white with water in shallow dish until blended. Place chips in second shallow dish. Dip each meatball into egg white mixture, then into chips to coat completely. Press each meatball with palm into a flattened nugget shape, generously coating both sides of nugget with chips.
3. Spray large baking pan with nonstick cooking spray. Place nuggets in baking pan; spray tops generously with nonstick cooking spray. Bake in 400°F oven 15 to 20 minutes to medium (160°F) doneness, until no longer pink and juices show no pink color.
4. Meanwhile combine sauce ingredients in small microwave-safe dish. Microwave on HIGH 30 seconds or until warm. Serve nuggets with sauce.

Makes 4 servings

Asian Express Beef Lettuce Wraps

Total preparation and cooking time: 30 minutes

- 1-1/2 pounds ground beef
- 1/2 cup hoisin sauce
- 1/2 cup Asian peanut sauce
- 1 medium cucumber, seeded, chopped
- 1/4 cup torn fresh mint leaves
- Salt and pepper
- 12 large Boston lettuce leaves (about 2 heads) or iceberg or romaine lettuce
- Fresh mint leaves

1. Brown ground beef in large nonstick skillet over medium heat 8 to 10 minutes or until beef is no longer pink, breaking up into small crumbles. Pour off drippings. Stir in hoisin sauce and peanut sauce; heat through.
2. Just before serving, add cucumber and torn mint to beef mixture; toss gently. Season with salt and pepper. Serve in lettuce leaves. Garnish with mint.

Makes 4 servings

Taco Beef Nuggets & Tejano Sauce



For more beef recipes and information:

- For Beef Cook-Off information, visit www.beefcookoff.org.
- For additional Beef Cook-Off winning recipes, call 1-800-848-9088 or send a self-addressed, stamped #10 envelope to Prize-Winning Recipes, P.O. Box 3881, Englewood, CO 80155. (One per envelope.)
- To receive additional ground beef recipes, send a self-addressed, stamped #10 envelope to NCBA, Dept. FC-FFGB, P.O. Box 670, Bloomingdale, IL 60108-0670. (One per envelope.)

