



Miners beat Butte

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In brief

Crisis heating aid to begin Monday

PRESTONSBURG -- The Crisis component of the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) is set to begin on Monday.

The crisis component is designed to help poverty level families and individuals pay heating bills if they are in danger of losing their primary source of heat as a result of being unable to pay their bill.

A household is considered to be in a home heating crisis if the household is within four days of running out of bulk fuel (coal, fuel oil, propane, kerosene or wood as the primary heating source; the household has received a past due/disconnect notice if natural gas or electric is the heat source; or the household's home heating costs are included in the rent and the household has received an eviction notice for non-payment of rent.

To be eligible for the crisis assistance, households must meet federal eligibility income guidelines and verify that a heating crisis exists.

For more information, contact the Big Sandy Area Community Action Program in your county. In Pike County (606)432-2775; Martin County (606) 298-3217; Magoffin County (606) 3492217; Johnson County (606) 789-6515 and in Floyd County (606) 886-2929.

Applications will be taken on a first come/first serve basis.

2 DAY FORECAST

Today



High: 53 • Low: 46

Tomorrow



High: 64 • Low: 48

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# Republicans to pick candidate Monday

by JACK LATTA  
STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — Floyd county Republicans will meet Monday to elect their candidate for the upcoming 95th District House of Representatives special election.

The meeting will take place at 4 p.m. in the county courthouse law library at 4 p.m.

The 95th District seat was vacated when former Rep. James Brandon Spencer, of Prestonsburg, resigned in December, citing family issues. Spencer has since thrown his support behind for-

mer seat holder and Democrat, Greg Stumbo, of Prestonsburg.

"No fair minded citizen could deny that Floyd County reaped many benefits in the past from Greg's representation, especially as he served in a leadership position," Spencer said. "If it were not for his willingness to seek to

regain a leadership role in the House of Representatives, I would not make this decision."

Tommy Dingus, Floyd County's Republican chairman, would not comment on potential candidates, but did say Republicans would find a "good candidate" for the vacated House seat.

## END OF THE HOLIDAYS



Prestonsburg city workers began taking down Christmas decorations Friday, signalling the end of the holiday season.

photo by Ralph B. Davis

# Sex offender to be sent back to Indiana

by JACK LATTA  
STAFF WRITER

PIKEVILLE — A former Floyd county resident appeared in the Pikeville U.S. District Court Wednesday after a warrant was issued in the Northern District of Indiana.

David Lee Akers, of South Bend, Ind., was found guilty in July 2001 of sexual battery, a felony violation, and was sentenced to four years probation and forced to register as a sex offender for 10 years.

According to court records, Akers completed the sex offender registration form annually while he was living in Lorraine, Ohio, between 2001 and 2005.

At each registration Akers signed an "Explanation of Duties to



David Lee Akers

Register as a Sex Offender," where he acknowledged his responsibility to register with officials seven days prior to moving to another state.

Akers' last registration in Ohio was in January 2005, where he advised

(See OFFENDER, page three)

# Jenkins woman killed in head-on crash

by JACK LATTA  
STAFF WRITER

PIKEVILLE — A traffic accident ended in fatality for a Pike County woman Thursday evening.

Pamela Estep, 37, of Jenkins, was traveling north on Route 195, Marrowbone Creek Road, when she allegedly crossed the center line, striking an oncoming vehicle driven by Deborah Lawson.

Lawson, 43, of Elkhorn City, was wearing her seat belt and was uninjured as a

result of the crash.

Estep, who was not wearing her seat belt, was pronounced dead at the scene by Pike County Coroner Earnie Casebolt.

An autopsy report is still pending and the accident is still under investigation by Trooper Brad Austin. An accident report by Kentucky State Police made no mention as to whether or not snow and ice was a factor in the accident.

Kentucky State Police trooper Scott Hopkins could not be reached for comment.

# Beshear outlines plans to cut state spending

by JOE BIESK  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

FRANKFORT — Gov. Steve Beshear outlined his plan to rein in state spending Friday, including restrictions on state hiring and travel, attrition of state employees and a reduction in travel expenses.

Beshear said that without the cuts, the state would be short about \$300 million in the current budget that runs through June 30.

"There's going to be pain," Beshear declared at a crowded Capitol press conference.

Beshear's plan whittled down about \$78 million from the more than \$430 million expected shortfall in the cur-

rent budget year. The governor said he's also authorizing the state to use about \$145 million left over from the previous fiscal year and about \$42 million in unbudgeted or excess funds to cover the gap.

The remaining deficit must be dealt with by the legislature, Beshear said, because it includes new state spending for expenses such as Medicaid and corrections. The General Assembly begins its budget session next week.

Still, Beshear says the larger problem looming for lawmakers is expected money problems in the coming two years. State revenue next year is expected to fall short of the current spending levels by about \$525 million, Beshear said.

Senate President David Williams, R-Burkesville, said after a morning briefing with Beshear that he doesn't consider Kentucky's budget woes a crisis. Rather, he considers the current financial crunch an opportunity for the state to "tighten its belt," Williams said.

"There are always challenges in the budgeting process, but I don't particularly think that this is a crisis," Williams told reporters earlier outside Beshear's office. "You know, it's an opportunity for state government to tighten its belt."

Beshear announced last week the state was facing a \$434 million shortfall. With a carry-over surplus from last year, the state must make up about

\$290 million or risk not being able to pay its bills, Beshear said.

State agencies and public universities were told to suggest ways of slashing their current budgets by 3 percent, Beshear said.

The university spending cuts this year would amount to about \$34.5 million, according to the Council on Postsecondary Education. The University of Kentucky, which receives about \$335 million in state funding, is facing the largest single cut of more than \$10 million.

Universities were considering a range of options to cope, including hiring freezes, pay and benefit cuts and a reduction in travel. They're also considering tuition increases.

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# Regional Obituaries

## FLOYD COUNTY

Hubert Gene Allen, 79, of Winchester, formerly of Manchester, a native of Hueysville, died Wednesday, December 12, at the University of Kentucky Medical Center. He is survived by his wife, Cloteen Conley Allen. Funeral services were held Saturday, December 15, under the direction of the Hall Funeral Home.

Edd Bentley of Garrett, Thursday, December 26, at the St. Claire Hospital in Morehead. He is survived by her husband, Thelma Blanton Bentley. Funeral services were held Saturday, December 29, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

Edward Burchett, 81, of Lexington, has died. He is survived by his wife, Nannie. He was a farmer and coal miner in Floyd County. Arrangements, under direction of Milward Funeral Home.

Georgia Faye Hall Conn, 54, of Martin, died Wednesday, December 26, at her residence. She is survived by her husband, R.B. Conn. Funeral services were held Saturday, December 29, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Alan Wade Crum, 42, of Martin, died Wednesday, December 31, at his residence. He is survived by his wife, Joanna Hamilton Crum. Funeral services were held Thursday, January 3, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Sharon Kay Risner Damron, 63, of Ivel, died Wednesday, December 31, at the Salyersville Health Care. She is survived by her husband, Ralph Damron. Funeral services were held Thursday, January 3, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Alka Fitch, 85, of Martin, died Sunday, December 9, in Highlands Regional Medical Center, at Prestonsburg. Funeral services were held Wednesday, December 12, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

Ada Mills Hunter, 77, of East Point, died Tuesday, December 25, in the Community Hospice Care in Ashland. Funeral services were held Saturday, December 29, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

Edith M. Jones, 74, of Beaver, died Tuesday, December 4, at McDowell ARH. Funeral services were held Friday, December 7, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Eddie Dean Lowe, 52, of Betsy Layne, died Tuesday, December 30, at Highlands Regional Medical Center. He is survived by his wife, Collady Ruth Eplin Lowe. Funeral services were held Wednesday, January 2, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Irma Mae Marshall McKenzie, 91, of Auxier, died Friday, December 28, at

Pikeville Medical Center. Funeral services were held Monday, December 31, under the direction of Carter Funeral Home.

Uria Turner-Moore, 94, of Garrett, died Sunday, December 9, at King's Daughters Medical Center in Ashland. Funeral services were held Wednesday, December 12, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

Eugene "Gene" Mullins, 79, of Wayland, died Thursday, December 6, at Highlands Regional Medical Center, in Prestonsburg. Funeral services were held Sunday, December 9, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

Jerlydine Tackett Petty, 56, of Weeksbury, died Monday, December 10, at home. Funeral services were held Thursday, December 13, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Herman C. Porter, 102, of Allen, died Wednesday, January 2, at his residence. Funeral services were held Saturday, January 5, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

Belford Reitz, 91, of McDowell, died Saturday, December 22, in the McDowell Appalachian Regional Hospital. Funeral services were conducted Friday, December 28, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

Floyd J. Rinker, 65, of Prestonsburg, died Wednesday, December 5, at St. Mary's Hospital in Huntington, West Virginia. Funeral services were held Saturday, December 8, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Calvin C. "Tab" Smith, 80, of Marshall, Michigan, died Wednesday, December 26. Craig K. Kempf Funeral Home in Marshall, Michigan, was in charge of arrangements.

Ruth Brown Spears, 77, of McDowell, died Friday, December 7, at the UK Medical Center in Lexington. Funeral services were held Monday, December 10, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Josephine Stephens, 85, of Albion, Michigan, a native of Dwale, died Friday, December 21, at Tendercare in Marshall. Funeral services were held Friday, December 28, under the direction of J. Kevin Tidd Funeral Home.

Eunice Stratton, 90, of Ivel, died Monday, December 24, in Highlands Regional Medical Center, Prestonsburg. Funeral services were conducted Friday, December 28, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

Ruby Mae Tackett, 74, of Prestonsburg, died Friday, December 7, at King's Daughters Medical Center in Ashland. Funeral services were held Sunday, December 9, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

Georgina Y. Tackett, 86,

of Martin, died Saturday, December 29, at the McDowell Appalachian Regional Hospital. Funeral services were held Tuesday, January 1, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Dallas (Big Larry) Taylor, 64, of Pinsonfork, died Thursday, December 27, at Williamson Memorial Hospital, Williamson, West Virginia. He is survived by his wife of 43 years, Iva Gibson Taylor. Funeral services were held Sunday, December 30, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Erma Gene Green Williams, 61, of Hippo, a native of Martin, formerly of Knott County, died Wednesday, December 12, at home. Funeral services were held Sunday, December 16, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, Hindman.

## PIKE COUNTY

Lucille Carter, 76, of Raccoon, died Friday, December 14, at the Pikeville Health Care Center. She is survived by her husband, Robert Carter. Funeral services were held Monday, December 17, under direction of the Community Funeral Home of Zebulon.

Dallas (Big Larry) Taylor, 64, of Pinsonfork, died Thursday, December 27, at Williamson Memorial Hospital, Williamson, West Virginia. He is survived by his wife of 43 years, Iva Gibson Taylor. Funeral services were held Sunday, December 30, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Herman Edward "Doodle" Williamson, 73, of Stone, died Thursday, December 13, at the V.A. Hospital in Huntington, W.Va. Arrangements were under direction of the R.E. Rogers Funeral Home.

## MARTIN COUNTY

James Roy Kilgore, 82, of Inez, died Friday, December 21, at Three Rivers Medical Center, Louisa. Funeral services were held Monday, December 24, under the direction of Richmond-Callaham Funeral Home.

Oudia Mae Mearer, 73, a native of Pilgrim, died Sunday, December 30, in Jacksonville, Florida. Funeral services were held Saturday, December 22, under the direction of Richmond Callaham Funeral Home.

Kcagan Elbie David Moore, infant son of Rachel Blackburn and Shawn David Moore, died Wednesday, December 19, at U.K. Medical Center. Graveside services were conducted Friday, December 21, under the direction of Richmond-Callaham Funeral Home.

"Snowball" Roger Lee Mullins, 55, of Adams, died Monday, December 24, at Community Hospice Center, in Ashland. He is survived by

his wife, Barbara Dhell Mullins. Funeral services were held Friday, December 28, under the direction of Wilson Funeral Home.

William Oliver Newsome, 61, of Inez, died Wednesday, December 26, at his residence. Funeral services were held Saturday, December 29, under the direction of Richmond-Callaham Funeral Home.

Juanita Pinson, 57, of Inez, died Friday, December 28, at Highlands Regional Medical Center, in Prestonsburg. Funeral services were held Monday, December 31, under the direction of Phelps and Son Funeral Home.

Dolly Simpkins, 88, of Inez, died Saturday, December 22, at Three Rivers Medical Center, in Louisa. Funeral services were held Tuesday, December 25, under the direction of Richmond-Callaham Funeral Home.

Freelom Taylor, 82, of Louisa, died Friday, December 28, at Three Rivers Medical Center. Funeral services were held Tuesday, January 1, under the direction of Young Funeral Home.

## KNOTT COUNTY

Hiram Amburgey, 66, of Pinetop, died Friday, December 14, at his home. He is survived by his wife, Judy Thomas Amburgey. Funeral services were held Monday, December 17, under the direction of Hindman Funeral Services.

Gladys Coghil, 76, of Amburgey, died Sunday, December 2, at the Hazard ARMC. Funeral services were held Thursday, December 8, under the direction of Hindman Funeral Services.

Elder Coy Combs, 90, of Mousie, died Friday, December 14, at home. Funeral services were held Tuesday, December 18, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, Hindman.

Elden Hicks, 74, of Emmalena, died Wednesday, December 12, at Hazard ARH. Funeral services were held Saturday, December 15, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, Hindman.

Tilda Higgins, 89, of Redfox, died Friday, December 14, at the Whitesburg ARH. Funeral services were held Saturday, December 22, under the direction of Hindman Funeral Services.

Smiley King, 78, of Kite, died Saturday, December 8, at the Whitesburg ARH. Funeral services were held Tuesday, December 11, at the Rebecca Old Regular Baptist Church. Burial was in Mountain Memory Gardens, at Hindman.

Daniel A. Martin, 64, of Hindman, died Tuesday, December 4, at the Hazard ARMC. Funeral services were held Sunday, December 9, under the direction of Hindman Funeral Services.

Verdis Slone, 82, of Hollybush, died Saturday, December 8, at the Knott County Nursing Home in Hindman. Funeral services were held Tuesday, December 11, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Eddis Lee Smith, 84, of Sassafras, died Tuesday, December 4, at Winchester. Funeral services were held Thursday, December 6, under the direction of Hindman Funeral Services.

Calvin C. "Tab" Smith, 80, of Marshall, Michigan, a native of Pippa Passes, died Wednesday, December 26. Craig K. Kempf Funeral Home in Marshall, Michigan, in charge of arrangements.

Amanda Brooke Worley, 16, of Dwarf, died Wednesday, December 5, at Dwarf. Funeral services were held Saturday, December 8, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

## JOHNSON COUNTY

Malvrie Blair, 74, of Sitka, died Tuesday, December 25, at King's Daughters Medical Center, in Ashland. She is survived by her husband, Arnold Ray Frank Blair. Funeral services were held Saturday, December 29, under the direction of Paintsville Funeral Home.

Joe David Fraley, 45, of Hager Hill, died Friday, December 7, at Greenrock. Funeral services were held Tuesday, December 11, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Virgil Ray Hall, 66, of Meally, died Thursday, December 27, at his residence. He is survived by his wife, Christine Wells Hall. Funeral services were held Sunday, Dec. 30, under the direction of the Preston Funeral Home.

James Bugg Jackson Jr., 35, of Riceville, died Saturday, December 22, at St. Joseph Hospital, in Lexington.

Funeral services were held Friday, December 28, under the direction of Paintsville Funeral Home.

Lavonna Jean Jude, 40, of Pilgrim, died Monday, December 31, at her residence. Funeral services were held Thursday, January 3, under the direction of the Phelps & Son Funeral Home.

Frank Osborne, 86, of Hager Hill, died Monday, December 31, at his residence. He is survived by his wife, Flora Dixon Osborne. Funeral services were held Thursday, January 3, under the direction of the Phelps & Son Funeral Home.

Mary Ellen Sears, 90, of Daytona Beach, Florida, formerly of Johnson County, died Saturday, December 22, at her residence. Funeral services were held Wednesday, January 2, under the direction of the Evergreen Funeral Home of Louisville.

Chester C. Webb, 84, of Van Lear, died Monday, December 31, at Highlands Regional Medical Center, in Prestonsburg. He is survived by his wife, Geraldine Vires Webb. Funeral services were held Friday, January 4, under the direction of Phelps & Son Funeral Home.

Ola H. Wells, 87, of Auxier, died Thursday, December 27, at her residence. Funeral services were held Sunday, December 30, under the direction of the Jones-Preston Funeral Home.

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FCT ONLINE POLL

RESULTS FOR WEEK OF DECEMBER 31 - JANUARY 6, 2008

How do you feel about UK Coach Billy Gillispie no that the Wildcats have started poorly?

He's still the man for the job. <span style="display: inline-block; width: 100px; height: 10px; background-color: black; vertical-align: middle;"></span>	(57 Votes, 17%)
Give him time. <span style="display: inline-block; width: 150px; height: 10px; background-color: black; vertical-align: middle;"></span>	(189 Votes, 55%)
Fire him now. <span style="display: inline-block; width: 100px; height: 10px; background-color: black; vertical-align: middle;"></span>	(98 Votes, 28%)

Go online today and answer this week's question!

Who do you favor as the next state representative in the 95th District?

- Charles "Chuck" Meade
- Greg Stumbo
- Other
- Don't know

## FCT ONLINE POLL



A six-pound, seven-ounce female bundle of joy arrived at Paul B. Hall Regional Medical Center at 7:14 p.m. Jan. 2, the first new born to arrive at Paul B. Hall in the New Year. Kyra Hope Spence, daughter of Rhea Cassady and Kyle Spence of Lawrence County, arrived to greetings of joy and a basket full of gifts provided by the hospital and a host of local merchants. Included among the gifts was: a \$50 savings bond; a \$25 gift card from Wal-Mart, a car seat, diaper bag and baby blankets from Paul B. Hall (gifts given year round to all newborns at the hospital); stuffed animal and bibs from Paintsville Floral; free setting fee from John Michael, photographer; stuffed toy and book from Amy's Hallmark, baby blanket and bib from Dawahare's; Precious Moments Bible from Master's Miracle Christian Bookstore; shampoo, soap, powder and other baby necessities from Med Zone Pharmacy; baby clothes, blanket, diapers, bottle and other items from the Johnson County Health Department. Other items in the basket included baby wipes, baby bath, baby lotion, bottles, baby clothes, bibs, socks, wash cloths, spoons and much more. Sharing in the excitement of Paul B. Hall's 2008 Baby were the infant's maternal grandparents, Billy and Jennifer Cassady and her paternal grandparents Chester and Sabrina Spence.

## Man pleads guilty to election fraud in governor's race

by ROGER ALFORD  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

FRANKFORT — A Kentucky man has pleaded guilty to making illegal campaign contributions to a number of candidates in last year's governor's race, including former Gov. Ernie Fletcher who was defeated in his re-election bid.

The case against Phillip Dufour, an employee of state road contractor Elmo Greer & Sons of London, was resolved Friday by an agreement that required him to pay a \$10,000 fine. In addition, Elmo Greer and Sons agreed to pay \$250,000 to cover the cost of the investigation.

The agreement also requires the company to cooperate in further investigations by providing names of others who may have been involved, Attorney General Greg Stumbo said.

"Protecting our political process is essential to freedom," Stumbo said in a statement. "With this criminal plea and significant fine, we have fired a shot across the bow of all who seek to taint elections with illegal contributions."

Dufour entered his guilty plea to the felony charge in Frankfort County Circuit Court. Dufour and his attorney didn't immediately return calls seeking comment.

Prosecutors alleged that between Sept. 18, 2006 and Aug. 27, 2007, Dufour made improper payments to eight people who in turn made contributions to the gubernatorial campaigns of Fletcher, former Lt. Gov. Steve Henry of Louisville, and former U.S. Rep. Anne Northup of Louisville.

The investigation was sparked by a story last year in The (Louisville) Courier-Journal, which identified suspicious donations of up to \$1,000 to gubernatorial candidates from people working in low-paying hourly jobs.

Kentucky has a long-history of election fraud. In other cases in recent years, people have been accused of paying cash, even trading whiskey, for votes.

In late November, four eastern Kentucky officials were arrested on election fraud charges for allegedly trading government-owned gravel, asphalt and bridge-building

materials for votes in a local election last year.

Knott County Judge-Executive Randall Clinton Thompson, Deputy Judge-Executives John Mac Combs and Phillip G. Champion and former county Magistrate Ronnie Adams were accused in a federal indictment of misappropriating public funds to influence the outcome of the general election on Nov. 7, 2006. They entered not guilty pleas.

The previous Knott County judge-executive, Donnie Newsome, served 16 months in federal prison after being convicted of election fraud in 2003.

Federal prosecutors have also pursued cases in a number of other Appalachian communities, the latest of which was Bath County.

More than a dozen people were charged in an alleged scheme there to pay impoverished residents to vote for particular candidates. Among those charged were candidates for judge-executive, county attorney and sheriff, all of whom were either convicted or pleaded guilty.

## Two county workers file suit against indicted Knott judge-executive

The Associated Press

HINDMAN — An Eastern Kentucky judge-executive, who was indicted on vote fraud charges, is facing new allegations in a lawsuit.

Knott County Judge-Executive Randy Thompson is accused of firing two former county workers because they did not support him in the

2006 election. Thompson became the first Republican to head the Knott County government.

The workers filed suit claiming that after Thompson's victory, they had to endure discriminatory work terms and conditions, harassment, humiliation and, ultimately, termination.

Thompson did not immedi-

ately return a phone call to his office on Friday.

In November, Thompson, deputy Judge-Executives John Mac Combs and Phillip G. Champion and former county Magistrate Ronnie Adams were accused in a federal indictment of misappropriating public funds to influence the outcome of the Nov. 7, 2006, general election.

Continued from p1

sheriffs that he would be moving to Floyd County, Kentucky.

In an affidavit by Laura McKesson, Deputy United States Marshal, it was stated that Akers registered with the Kentucky State Police through the Floyd County Probation and Parole office on August 3, 2005. Akers had no further contact with either Probation and Parole or KSP after that date. According to probation officials Akers was under the supervision of Pike County Probation and Parole.

According to McKesson, Akers resurfaced in South Bend in August, living with his

mother and siblings, who believed he had registered as required, said he had been living there since 2006.

Commonwealth's Attorney Arnold Brent Turner said Akers was indicted in Kentucky in October and pleaded guilty to a charge of failure to maintain registration, which carries with it a sentence of two years.

According to Turner, aside from the state sentence, Akers also broke federal laws when he crossed state lines and moved into Indiana without registering.

"He may be facing a more severe charge from the federal

government," said Turner.

On July 27, 2006, President George W. Bush signed into law the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act, which created the National Sex Offender Registry and made it a felony not to register or maintain registry as a sex offender.

The National Sex Offender Registry can be viewed at [www.familywatchdog.us](http://www.familywatchdog.us).



## Obituaries

### Marcedia Faye Stumbo Clatworthy

Marcedia Faye Stumbo Clatworthy, of Nashville, Tennessee, passed away Friday, December 21, 2007, in Nashville, following a brief illness.

She was born on April 11, 1935, the daughter of the late Ernest and Gertrude Stumbo of McDowell. She had been living in Nashville, for many years.

She is survived by her children: Marcedia (Larry) Burns of Mt. Olivet; Ernest Terah Clatworthy of Ypsilanti, Michigan; and Goldie (Troy) Williams of Maysville; and a sister, Sylvia (Lloyd) Reinhardt of Indianapolis, Indiana; four grandchildren: Nicole Burns Browning, Natasha Burns, Darren Williams, and Calch Williams; several aunts and an uncle; many nieces, nephews, and cousins; and many friends.

Direct cremation occurred after death at the request of Ms. Clatworthy. She also requested no service be held.

(Paid obituary)

□□□

### Sharon Kay Risner Damron

Sharon Kay Risner Damron, 63, of Ivel, died Monday, December 31, 2007, at Salyersville Health Care.

Born December 5, 1944, in Floyd County, she was the daughter of the late James and Melba Prater Risner. She was a homemaker.

She is survived by her husband, Ralph Damron.

Survivors include a son and daughter-in-law; Darren Douglas and Sue Damron of Ivel; a daughter and son-in-law, Latta Jo and Jeff Knapp of Concord, North Carolina; three brothers: Curtis Risner and James Lee Risner, both of Prestonsburg; and Gary Risner of Galion, Ohio; four sisters: Geneva Bates and Betty Lou Olmstead, both of Galion, Ohio; Karen Howard of Salyersville; and Kimberly Renee Goble of Ivel; her

grandchildren: Jeremy Lewellen, Dustin Damron, Bobby Blevins, Kaleigh Jo Knapp, and Wesley Theodore Knapp; great-grandchildren: Jerrid Charles, Allison Paige Lewellen and Madison Lewellen.

Funeral services were held Thursday, January 3, at 2 p.m., at Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, in Martin, with Rev. T. J. McNew officiating.

Burial was in Davidson Memorial Gardens, in Ivel, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Visitation was at the funeral home.

[www.nelsonfrazierfuneralhome.com](http://www.nelsonfrazierfuneralhome.com)  
(Paid obituary)

□□□



### Myrtle Alberta Skeans

Myrtle Alberta Skeans, age 92, of Martin, widow of Darbin C. Skeans, passed away Thursday, January 3, 2008, at Our Lady of The Way Hospital, Martin.

She was born August 13, 1915, in Martin, the daughter

of the late John Lee Hunter and Linda Alice Barnett Hunter. She was a retired salesperson, a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, and she was active with the Martin Senior Citizens group, where she attended trip functions and worked in parades.

Survivors include a son, LeRoy Skeans of Sylvania Township, Ohio; three daughters, Janice Anita (Arthur) Wright of Leslie, Michigan; Linda Gail (Elmo) Neilsen of Leamington, Utah; and Glenna Fay (Tom) Anderton of Martin; 22 grandchildren, 40 great-grandchildren, and one great-great grandchild.

In addition to her husband and parents, she was preceded in death by a son, William Paul Skeans; two daughters, Darbia Jean Skeans and Alice Sue Ousley; four brothers, Ed Hunter, Newl Hunter, Clyman Hunter and Heber Ray Hunter; and a sister, Minnie Bell Shelton.

Funeral services for Myrtle Alberta Skeans will be conducted Monday, January 7, at 11:00 a.m., at the Hall Funeral Home Chapel, in Martin, with Bishop Ken Carriere officiating.

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

Visitation is from 6-9:00 p.m., Saturday, and from 2-8:00 p.m., Sunday, at the funeral home.

(Paid obituary)

### ATTENTION, FLOYD COUNTY REPUBLICANS: 95th HOUSE DISTRICT

A nomination convention will be held Monday, January 7, at 4 p.m. in the County Courthouse Law Library to elect a candidate to fill the seat vacated by Democratic Representative James Brandon Spencer.

Paid for by Floyd County Republican Party.

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# expression

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

— Felix Frankfurter

## Guest view

### Banks, consumers share responsibility

In hardly the time it took to tear through the packages under the tree, Americans' holiday financial concerns shifted from retailers worrying consumers weren't buying enough to consumers wondering how they'll pay for all they bought.

Sobering up from holiday credit-card benders is nothing new for Americans, but this year's economic hangover may last longer than ever and have more serious side effects.

According to an Associated Press report, Americans went into this shopping season behind on credit-card payments like never before. The number of families at least 30 days behind jumped by 26 percent last year, with the greatest increase coming in those more than three months overdue.

Overall, Americans owe more than \$920 billion in credit card debt. The average family carries more than \$8,000 in such debt.

But more troubling than how much Americans owe is what they're flashing that plastic for. A growing number of families use credit cards just to make ends meet. The AP report suggests that growing mortgage problems, shrinking home values and a weakening job market are forcing families to charge necessities, like food and tuition.

With credit card interest rates as high as 36 percent and a host of surcharges, it's easy for families to dig themselves into a hole they can't climb out of. Last year, Americans defaulted on \$961 million in credit card debt, an 18 percent increase from the previous year.

Money problems lead to increased stress and family conflict. They truncate career aspirations. They exacerbate mental health problems. They rob families of vacations and leisure activities that bonds and memories are made of.

The credit card industry is a lucrative one, last year generating profits of more than \$30 billion before taxes. It also serves Americans' predilection for financial flexibility — and impulse buying. For both reasons, credit cards are not going away. The question is how to limit their potential for harm.

One step is reform in the credit card industry. Like the mortgage industry, it's flush with deceptive tactics, including terms that can change at any time for any reason, and penalties sometimes triggered by a payment even a few hours late.

The second is for consumers to exert a new measure of self-discipline — always hard to do but never more so than while they struggle with shifting mortgage rates and job uncertainties.

Young people need to grow up with good financial instruction. Colleges need to help young adults manage, rather than jump into, early credit-card debt. And adults need access to financial counseling before they've spent themselves into a corner.

Credit cards, we should all remember, make useful servants but terrible masters.

— The Kentucky Enquirer, Fort Mitchell



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## Rich Lowry Column

### Huck's daft tax plan

Mike Huckabee is not running a substance-free campaign based on biography and applause lines. No, the former Arkansas governor has the distinction of advocating the most radical — and politically unsalable and substantively daft — proposal of any major presidential candidate of either party.

It is the so-called FairTax. It would eliminate the income and payroll taxes and replace them with a (supposedly) 23 percent national sales tax. Not given to rhetorical understatement, Huckabee says, "When the FairTax becomes law, it will be like waving a magic wand releasing us from pain and unfairness." Waving a magic wand is about right — since the FairTax is a bedtime story for IRS-hating conservatives.

Huckabee adopted the plan when he, unknown and languishing far back in the polls, was a Not Ready for Prime Time Player. It probably seemed a cheap way to inoculate Huckabee from his tax-raising history as Arkansas governor. Huckabee both raised and cut taxes during his 10 years as governor, but his tax hikes outweighed his tax cuts by half a billion dollars.

Tactically, the FairTax offered Huckabee a built-in cadre of activists

in the crucial state of Iowa. Tapping in to the busloads of FairTax supporters there, he finished second in the Iowa Straw Poll in August and beat fellow social conservative Sen. Sam Brownback — who was never heard from again — by less than 400 votes.

So the FairTax has given Huckabee a convenient talking point, and it boosted him in a key test of Iowa strength five months before anyone actually votes. Never mind that it is unworkable and would be politically deadly in a general election.

To avoid the risk of getting both a national sales tax and an income tax, FairTaxers would have to repeal the 16th Amendment. Good luck. Huckabee's magic wand will come in handy.

Then, there's the rate of the sales tax. FairTaxers say that a 23 percent rate would be enough to replace current revenues. What they really are talking about is a tax of 30 cents on every dollar — what most people would consider a 30 percent rate. The government would pay the tax on all its purchases, a gimmick "done solely to make revenues under the FairTax seem larger than they really

are," writes economist Bruce Bartlett. The congressional Joint Committee on Taxation has estimated that the rate would have to go as high as 57 percent.

The tax would apply to everything, even medical expenses, so it would amount to an incredibly regressive tax on even the most necessary purchases of low- and middle-income taxpayers. The home mortgage deduction would be gone, and instead buyers would pay a 30

percent (at least) tax on their homes. To make up for this burden, the government would send monthly "prebate" checks to all Americans based on income. (And you thought our current tax scheme was complex?)

Any of these points makes the FairTax so vulnerable to attack that it would kick away the tax issue as a Republican strength. This is why no serious candidate would ever endorse it. And why, despite his stupefying rise in Iowa and other states, Huckabee seems likable and talented — but still something less than a serious candidate.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.



## — guest Column

### From the school yard to the prison yard

by MARIAN WRIGHT EDELMAN  
MINUTEMAN MEDIA

In a number of America's upper-income communities parents, like generations before them, preregister their children at birth for blue-chip nursery schools in hopes of placing them on the path to Ivy League and other top-tier universities. By contrast, millions of Black and Latino children from poor families with no or few stimulating kindergarten opportunities never make it onto the college track. With multiple strikes against them — low birthweight, poor single parents, absent fathers, perhaps substance abuse — many begin life already on the prison track.

A good education in America is a major determinant of what kind of life a child will have when s/he grows up. A bad education is often a sentence to social and economic death. Education determines future income and social status as well as a child's range of future options and quality of life. Sadly, too many children in economically depressed minority communities are stuck in failing schools, greatly increasing their chances of ending up in a prison cell.

A child's experiences in the dawn of life establish the foundation that will prepare him or her to learn at school. Children in America's poorest communities who lack stable parenting, quality child care and who

receive little stimulation in their early years will lag behind when they start kindergarten. When they enter first grade, it's likely to be at a poorly funded, overcrowded, understaffed and low-achieving school. Inner-city schools have the highest numbers of teachers who are inexperienced or don't have degrees in the subjects they teach. Consequently, too many schools are likely to be staffed by teachers and administrators who have low expectations for children from marginalized families whom they may label as "dumb" or "bad."

Currently, 88 percent of Black children and 85 percent of Latino children in fourth grade can't read at grade level. This is when minority children with poor preschool preparation begin to be sorted out.

The lack of health and mental health care among low-income children is also an important factor in a child's educational development. A child's misbehavior may be a reflection of an unaddressed learning disability or mental or emotional disorder. Regrettably, too few schools have the staff capable of recognizing the behavior of a disturbed or disabled child for what it is, and if they do, are unable to provide treatment. More often, these children are seen as "disruptive," and instead of offering them counseling or psychological therapy, too many educators dispense "zero tolerance" discipline — usually in the form of suspensions or expulsions.

Once children drop out, or are pushed out of school, the prison pipeline is only one wrong move away. With most churches and mosques closed during the week and too many community centers boarded

up, children with few positive alternatives to the streets often head for the "corner," a different type of educational institution that teaches antisocial values like violence and criminal behavior, also glamorized on many of the TV programs they watch.

High school dropouts are almost three times as likely to be incarcerated as youths who have graduated. But dropouts are not the only ones who encounter entryways into the prison pipeline. Many middle and high schools have full-time police officers who can independently arrest children on school grounds for any number of infractions like disorderly conduct, malicious mischief and fighting that just a few years ago would have been handled by families, the schools or community institutions. And now, children as young as five and six are being hauled down to police stations in handcuffs. I think we adults have lost our common sense and sense of plain decency.

There are things we can do. Congress and states must fully fund quality Head Start, Early Head Start, child care and preschool programs that target the neediest children between the ages of three and five to provide comprehensive education, health, nutrition and social services. And we can all encourage the children in our lives and celebrate their academic achievements. Finally, educators who do not love and respect the children they are entrusted with preparing for the future should go do something else.

Marian Wright Edelman is President of the Children's Defense Fund.

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## CAR TALK:

### Reader isn't being snowed by tire salesman

see pg. B6

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## This Town, That World

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

Now that the Day has come and gone, I have decided Christmas is a time for thinking—of past, future and presents.

### THOUGHTS ON THE MOON-TRIP

While we were taking what we stoutly asserted was a well-earned rest last week from publishing a newspaper, look what happened—nothing but one of the great events of all time. Man has blasted himself clear of his natural element: Into orbit around the moon, and has returned to tell the tale...In fact, told part of the tale while we earthlings, some 230,000 miles away, listened...Man flew up from the earth, then reached a point from which he began flying down to the moon...Makes the old noggin swim trying to conceive such an "impossibility"...Many have seen moonshine, but these three aboard, are the first known to have beheld earthshine...One skeptic referred to the three who dared to make this historic trip as "the astronauts"...Some of these self-same skeptics now boldly predict that within a matter of years regular excursions will be taken to the moon...Even if it comes in my time, I'll not be a passenger. The only way I'd ever bound such a craft, outward bound, would be bound, head and foot, and screaming (unless they gagged me). And, if they did get me aboard, I'd hijack the thing and head for Cuba...What does it all mean, now that man has orbited the moon and may soon land there? Don't ask me. Remember, I'm the guy when, reading of the atom being smashed, gave with the erudite comment: "So what?"

### DYING IN VAIN

This gal who objected to the reading of the Bible by the three astronauts as they circled the moon, is dying the vainest of deaths—she's just dying to get her name in the papers.

### UNSYNCHRONIZED

Either the time was off in Times Square, Tuesday night, or a lot of clocks were fast, around here. The guns began blasting away here, announcing the birth of a new year, fully five minutes before the Times Square clock reached midnight. When the witching hour came, all was silent here. Then, five or ten minutes later, some householder, apparently awakened from a nap, hauled down the family blunderbuss and blasted three holes in the night.

□ □ □

January, we are told, was named for the Roman goddess Janus, who was depicted as hav-

(See ALLEN, page six)



### Climbing Mountains, Chasing Stars

## Spotlight on Success: The Gina Goodman Story

by JUDITH VALADE  
BSCTC FACULTY

"I want to be like her," Gina Goodman said as she watched the Director of the Respiratory Care Program, Missy Skeens, walk across the campus of Big Sandy Community and Technical College. Little did she know that she had already met Ms. Skeens and that their lives would be intricately connected in the future.

Gina went to college right out of high school; however, her academic career was cut short due to her grandfather's health problems. He had broken his hip, and Gina was asked to move from Lexington to Martin in order to help her grandmother with his care. While he was in the hospital, her grandfather would do little for anyone other than Gina. One day a respiratory therapist came in to give Gina's grandfather a breathing treatment. Gina worked with her grandfather so that he would follow the therapist's instructions. The therapist noticed how Gina cared for her grandfather during the treatment and told Gina she should think about going into Respiratory Care. Gina didn't really give it much thought.

It wasn't long until her grandfather died. By this time, Gina was working at a daycare center along with helping her grandmother at home. She really wanted to go back to school. She thought about moving and getting a degree elsewhere but didn't want to leave her grandmother alone. Gina started to take a couple of courses at BSCTC; however, Psychology and Social Work couldn't hold her interest. She couldn't decide what she wanted to do with her life. What came next seemed to set her in a new direction.

One day, while she was working at the daycare center, she fell and

severely tore some tendons and ligaments in one of her ankles. She went through surgery, boots, and therapy. Throughout, she continued to work on and off. During this time, the owner of the daycare center found that she was going to have to downsize. It was agreed that Gina would be the most likely person to get laid off, perhaps a blessing in disguise because now she could go back to school full time.

However, going back to school was not easy. Gina had to get back into the study mode and rekindle note-taking and test-taking skills. At this point, though, Gina knew that she wanted to do something in the medical field. She was encouraged to attend an informational meeting for the Respiratory Care Program on campus. There she met Missy Skeens, director of the program, and recognized her as the therapist who had suggested earlier, when Gina was attending to her grandfather in the hospital, that she go into the field. It seemed now, finally, like everything was going to fall into place. She was nervous about the possibility that she wouldn't make it through the selection process. However, not only did she get selected, but she soon found herself excelling in all aspects of the program. She now knew, without a doubt, that she had found her career. And Missy, the therapist who had cared for her grandfather, soon became Gina's mentor.

After graduation from Big Sandy, Gina found part-time jobs, but nothing consistent. She graduated at the top of her class and had passed her boards within a month of graduation, which is almost unheard of in the profession. In the midst of completing the program, however, tragedy struck when her grandmother, who had been her biggest supporter, died of pancreatic cancer.

Now Gina was on her own with her son.

Gina cares for a young boy that she has raised since he was two weeks old. She became involved with him when she worked at the day care center. She has no legal rights to the boy, but he is her son and she is his mom. It was now very important to her to find a full-time job with benefits. She had two per diem jobs, working weekends and long hours, but she desperately needed something she could depend on for her future stability. Gina wondered what could possibly be in store.

In October of 2004, a teaching position was about to open in the Respiratory Care Program for the fall of 2005 at Big Sandy Community and Technical College, and Gina's clinical instructor encouraged her to apply. She went through the interview process and was unanimously selected by the committee. The job is everything Gina thought it would be and then some. She loves her work and has become a mentor to her students. She understands their struggles and encourages them to do their best. She is dedicated to her profession and has brought many new ideas to the program.

Gina often wondered over the years what could ever become of her situation in life. With perseverance, patience, and dedication, she was able to climb her mountain. Missy Skeens has once again become an integral part of Gina's life and couldn't be more proud of her colleague and friend: "Gina is becoming an outstanding educator, a reflection of the respiratory therapist she was in the hospital, and the student she was during her time in this program."

Gina has become the person she wanted to be.

### MOVIES FROM THE BLACK LAGOON

## 'Vacancy'

by TOM DOTY  
TIMES COLUMNIST

As promised, we kick off the new year with a crackerjack thriller that should please any fan of the genre.

The best suspense yarns have to be plausible to connect with audiences and this one easily fits into that category. Most of us have had at least one road trip where we were forced to stay over at a hotel.

In my case it turned out to be a pleasant experience. We were headed to New York from Paintsville and were unable to get out of West Virginia before midnight, owing to an accident on Route 79 and some of the most relentless rain this side of Noah's Ark. Lucky for us we found the Maple Leaf Motel (in Bruceton Mills, W.Va., your last stop before Route 68 enters Maryland), which turned out to be a cozy overnight oasis offering handwoven quilts on the beds and a devoted staff.



Tom Doty  
Times Columnist

The couple in this film aren't so fortunate and wind up in a no-name hotel where they are made to feel about as welcome as an Idaho senator in an airport restroom.

The story begins with Amy and David Fox driving home after a visit with Amy's parents. David has taken the car off the interstate, to avoid a delay caused by a wreck, and regrets that decision when Amy awakens and gives him three kinds of hell for getting them lost. Turns out they are headed for divorce court, so their nerves are frazzled anyway.

A stop at a remote gas station offers some hope when they get directions, but their vehicle conks out a mile later and they are forced to hoof it back to the station, which is now closed. They spot a rundown hotel and decide to spend the night there until their vehicle can be serviced.

The hotel is no bargain and comes complete with filthy rooms, a swarm of freecroaking cockroaches and a manager named Mason who sports a prison haircut and all of the charm of a graduate from the Norman Bates School of Hotel Management.

It's no surprise that the TV doesn't get any reception, which prompts David to pop in one of the grimy videotapes splayed across the top of the television. What comes on when he presses the play button looks like a serial killer's home movies, but there is something odd going on here and David tumbles to it quickly when he observes that the grainy images of murder and mayhem were captured for posterity in the same room that they have rented. It's a frightening realization which is bolstered by the presence of video cameras in several spots in the room affording the same angles as the murder tapes they just saw — and those cameras are now running.

The third act is where most thrillers blow it, but this one actually gets bet-

(See LAGOON, page six)

## Ready ... set ... go!

by CHEF ANTONIO FORTERA  
"CHICKEN SOUP FOR THE SOUL: KIDS  
IN THE KITCHEN"

You can't go too far when you are out of gas. You need fuel! Power! Nutrients!

If an empty car sleeps all night long, how far can it go in the morning? If it doesn't fill up, it will be slow and sluggish, and it will finally shut down. If you sleep all night and don't fill up in the morning, you'll be slow and sluggish, too!

People are always telling me that I should eat a good breakfast!

They're right! Eat something, but don't eat just sugar and fat, because sugar and fat won't help you get through your day. You will still run out of gas.

Breakfast is about new beginnings, new hope and the promise of a new day. No two days are ever the same, so enjoy and explore. Get fueled and get powered. Be a believer in breakfast, because it does make a difference.

That's the root of the expression "Breakfast of Champions." And everyone can be a champion! Breakfast is the first meal you eat when you wake up after a night of

sleeping and fasting. In fact, "breakfast" is a compound word: break-fast. You are breaking your fast and giving nourishment to an empty stomach so you can energize yourself.

Worldwide, eating breakfast is considered the healthy way to begin a new day. It's a gift to your body. There are many kinds of breakfast you can try because breakfasts are different throughout the world in many families, regions and countries. Learning about the breakfasts of different cultures might make you curious about other people and their traditions.

Did you have cereal for breakfast today? Was it hot or cold? Did you know that it is called "porridge" in some places in the world? Do you sometimes like peanut butter on toast?

In Australia, some love Vegemite, not peanut butter.

You can learn all about foreign foods. You might even try them one day! I will share breakfast foods that I know about, and you can find others to add to the list: rice, soup, fish, noodles, peas, chutney, cheese, bagels, croissants, yogurt, sandwiches and more.

Lots of people eat eggs for breakfast. Eggs can be made in many differ-

ent ways, such as poached, scrambled, fried, over easy, over hard or as an omelet.

There are many breakfast alternatives: hot breakfast, cold breakfast or something freshly made, from a package or put together the night before to save time in the morning. You can eat breakfast in a chair or on the run, on a plate, in a cup or in a bag. Count the number of foods you can eat for breakfast. There are so many possibilities. You can be creative, and you can look forward to breakfast.

Now think about this: Next time





# Sports

Inside

- Reds, spring • B2
- UofL Football • B2

## June Buchanan holds off Letcher Central

TIMES STAFF REPORT

PIPPA PASSES – Defending 14th Region champion June Buchanan defeated Letcher County Central 73-66 Thursday night after a sub-par first half performance.

The two teams were deadlocked at 18-18 when the first quarter concluded. Visiting Letcher County Central carried a 36-30 lead into halftime.

June Buchanan went out in front in the second half, outscoring Letcher Central in each of the last two quarters.

Senior Clark Stepp, a Mr. Basketball candidate, paced June Buchanan with a game-high 25 points. Clint Stepp followed the game's leading scorer in the Crusader scoring column, finishing with

18 points. One of the state's top sophomores, Clint Stepp hit four three-point field goals as June Buchanan outlasted Letcher County Central for the win.

Tate Cox added 12 points as June Buchanan prevailed in the 14th Region matchup.

Seven different Crusaders provided scoring in the regular-season game. The June Buchanan School is looking to win a second straight 14th Region championship. The Crusaders rank as one of the state's best prep basketball teams.

Josh Proffitt paced Letcher County Central with a team-best 18 points. Deyin Blair scored 15 points, Charlie Banks netted 13 and Jordan Reynolds pushed in 12 as Letcher Central enjoyed a balanced scoring effort.

June Buchanan (8-3) and Letcher Central (6-6) were deadlocked at 53-53 at end of the third quarter.

Letcher County Central was formed after Whitesburg, Fleming-Neon and Letcher high schools consolidated.

**JUNE BUCHANAN 73,**  
**LETCHER CO. CENTRAL 66**  
LETCHER CO. CENTRAL (6-6) – Longworth 4, Banks 13, Reynolds 12, Blair 15, Proffitt 18, Ison 4.  
JUNE BUCHANAN (8-3) – Clark Stepp 25, Cox 12, Clint Stepp 18, Short 8, Collins 4, B. Hall 4, S. Hall 2.  
LCCL.....18 18 17 13-66  
JBS.....18 12 23 20-73



FAMILY ACADEMY OF MARTIAL ARTS STUDENTS gathered for the school's annual Christmas party during the month of December. FAMA students hail from Floyd and numerous surrounding Eastern Kentucky counties.

## Letting Billy G. go right now isn't the answer

by RICK BENTLEY  
TIMES COLUMNIST

MANSFIELD, Ohio – Notes and tidbits to get the year off to a good start:

– I think I need to begin with a bit of clarification.

Nobody, with the possible exception of John Clay or my dad, has been more critical of our boy Billy Clyde Gillispie than me. I admit that and I accept the responsibility that comes with it.

That said, I want to make it clear that I think the worst thing that could happen to University of Kentucky basketball would be to dismiss him at this early stage. It's not the right time, and poor play isn't the right reason.

I doubt anyone who regularly reads this has to ask themselves what I'm talking about. The coach and his players haven't been on the same page - not to mean the coach and his medical staff - and in my estimation, it's his responsibility to get everybody there.

Still, I think it's too early to fire him, and don't want to give that indication.

– Unless, of course, it has something to do with that sticky morality clause he and the university can't agree on. Those offenses are fireable, in my estimation, and in the best interest of everyone involved.

– As long as we're on the subject of UK and clarifications, may as well get this one out of the way too.

While I still think my good friend Bob Watkins was off base in suggesting naming the stadium after Rich Brooks - I present, as my first piece of evidence, Hal Mumme Blvd. - I was pretty impressed with the Cats and their New Year's Eve performance against Florida State.

I thought the offense was particularly impressive. His two fumbles notwithstanding, tailback Rafael Little is terrific and will make some money playing this sport. The receiving corps, from top to bottom, is outstanding.

But the whole machine ran as smoothly as it did because of Andre Woodson. It seemed that every time he dropped back for a pass on Monday he established some sort of record. And while watching him move The Hefty Lefty and The Deuce down the

(See ANSWER, page two)



Belfry High School graduate David Jones (7) batted away a Florida State pass late in the game to help preserve Kentucky's Music City Bowl win over the Seminoles. Jones is set to return to Kentucky for his senior season.

## Tamme a finalist for Bowden award

TIMES STAFF REPORT

LEXINGTON – University of Kentucky senior tight end Jacob Tamme is a finalist for the fifth annual Bobby Bowden Award given by the Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

The honor recognizes a Division I football player who epitomizes a student-athlete and conducts himself as a faith model in the community, in the classroom, and on the field. Nominees must have at least a 3.0 career grade-point average and be endorsed by the school's head coach and director of athletics. The award is named after Florida State University coach Bobby Bowden.

The winner will be announced Friday, Jan. 4, in New Orleans, La., at the FCA Banquet held in con-

junction with the national championship game. The additional finalists are Dionte Johnson of Ohio State and Jeremy Leman of Illinois.

Tamme (Danville) coordinates the team's weekly Bible study and road-trip devotionals. He has been named to the National Good Works Team for community service by the American Football Coaches Association.

In the classroom, Tamme completed his bachelor's degree in

Integrated Strategic Communications with a 3.82 GPA. He is now in his second year of study for his

Southeastern Conference Scholar-Athlete of the Year by the SEC coaches.

On the field, Tamme has been a first-team All-SEC pick each of the last two seasons and is Kentucky's all-time top pass-catching tight end. He had 56 receptions for 619 yards and six touchdowns in the 2007 season. He was a clutch receiver for the Wildcats, with key TD catches in the wins over Louisville, LSU, and Florida State. He also set up the game-winning touchdown at Vanderbilt with a 34-yard pass reception.



Danville native Jacob Tamme left a lasting impression on the UK football program.

## Kinzer in Alabama for Ice Bowl XVII

TIMES STAFF REPORT

ALLEN – Brandon Kinzer and his No. 18 Late Model team did not take much of an offseason off as they are kicking off their 2008 campaign this week at the Talladega Short Track in Eastaboga, Alabama. Ice Bowl XVII is taking place

at the track deemed as the Hornets Nest with a \$6,000 top prize being up for grabs for the Super Late Models. The weekend will be highlighted by a 50-

lap feature event today.

During the 2007 season, Kinzer claimed a Carolina Clash Late Model Series win at the Wythe (Va.) Raceway. He finished third in the O'Reilly Southern

Nationals Series point standings. Kinzer also made the \$41,000-to-win Show-Me 100 starting field.

A lifelong Floyd County native, Kinzer ranks as one of the state's top dirt Late Model drivers. His team's raceshop is located at Allen.



## Miners go up early, beat Butte

TIMES STAFF REPORT

BUTTE, MT. – Six different players reached double figures in the scoring column Thursday night as East Kentucky beat Butte 103-95 at the Butte Civic Center and pulled ahead 2-1 in the Mining City Challenge.

The Miners, playing in their first game of the new year, won the quarter points 5-2. After posting the win, East Kentucky evened its overall record to 11-11.

Boo Jackson, a recent CBA American Conference Player of the Week honoree, hauled in a game-high 20 rebounds and scored 15 points for the Miners.

Ed Horton, playing in the East Kentucky backcourt out of a reserve role, also scored 15 points for the visiting team.

Josh Pace led East Kentucky in scoring with 20 points. Pace pulled down nine rebounds in a near double-double effort.

Jason McLeish and Lawrence Barnes scored 14 points apiece while Mike Crain

tossed in 10 as part of an extremely balanced East Kentucky offensive effort.

East Kentucky was 22-for-28 from the free throw line.

The Miners outscored Butte 26-16 in a dominant first quarter. East Kentucky owned a commanding 58-41 halftime lead.

The Miners outrebounded Butte 51-40.

Odell Bradley led Butte (12-8) with a game-high 31 points. Bradley, notching a double-double, pulled down 12 rebounds for the Daredevils.

Jibril Hodges scored 20 points and Martane Freeman added 16 for host Butte. Benson Callier also reached double figures scoring for the Daredevils, ending the non-conference matchup with 14 points.

Butte fell short after outscoring East Kentucky in each of the last two quarters.

East Kentucky will host CBA frontrunner Yakama today at 4:05 p.m. Yakama ranks as the CBA's top team and features some of the league's leading veteran players.



Ed Horton came in off of the bench and scored 15 points for the Miners in Thursday's win over host Butte.

## Warriors edge Rebels in OT

by STEVE LeMASTER  
SPORTS EDITOR

BUCKLEYS CREEK – Mike Rowe scored a game-high 37 points Thursday night to lift East Ridge to a 76-75 overtime win over Allen Central in the Coca-Cola Hoops Classic at Pike County Central. East Ridge won after trailing at the end of both of the first two quarters.

Rowe was one of three East Ridge players to achieve double figures scoring. The Warriors improved to 7-2 after posting the win.

Senior guard Alex Hammonds led Allen Central with a team-best 32 points.

East Ridge limited Allen Central senior Aaron Crum to just 13 points. Josh Prater added 10 points for Allen Central in the loss.

Hunter Crowder scored six points and Logan Crowder tossed in five as Allen Central suffered its third straight loss.

Allen Central slipped to 7-5 following the setback.

The Rebels enjoyed a successful start, outscoring East Ridge 15-12 in the opening quarter. Allen Central toted a 35-30 lead into halftime.

East Ridge swung the momentum in its favor in the second half, outscoring Allen Central 18-13 in the third period.

In the nightcap Thursday night, Waggener defeated Belfry 67-56.

Senior Dustin May scored a team-high 26 points as Belfry fell to 3-7.

**EAST RIDGE 76,**  
**ALLEN CENTRAL 75 (OT)**  
EAST RIDGE (7-2) – Webb 6, Rowe 37, Fields 5, Thacker 10, Meade 6, Looney 12.  
ALLEN CENTRAL (7-5) – Hammonds 32, Crum 13, L. Crowder 5, H. Crowder 6, Prater 10, Turner 3, Cole 2, Stumbo 4.  
ER.....12 18 18 20-76  
AC.....15 20 13 20-66

## Hunter survey helps small game management

by LEE McCLELLAN

FRANKFORT – Hunters and other outdoors enthusiasts often want to lend a hand to the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources in the management of wildlife. Anyone who hunts rabbit, quail, grouse or squirrels can help manage these small game species just by filling out a hunting log. Hunter success is a good way to gauge population trends of small game, and those who participate in Kentucky's hunter cooperator survey receive a free hat in return.

"It is extremely difficult to ascertain wildlife populations statewide without the hunter cooperator survey and other volunteer efforts," said John Morgan, Kentucky Fish and Wildlife's small game program coordinator. "We need help to keep track of wildlife trends across Kentucky. The information provided in the hunter cooperator survey helps raise red flags when species such as bobwhite quail become imperiled."

Information gleaned from hunter cooperator surveys helps increase awareness by biologists and the public. Awareness of species in distress makes it easier to obtain funding for studies and

(See SURVEY, page two)









acres of flat land with house, space for garden or two more residences. The home place of the late Cecil and Edna "Sweetie" Meade. Appraised value \$65,000. Price non-negotiable. Contact Mike Mullins at 606-785-5475 (8:00a.m.-5:00p.m. weekdays) or 606-251-3414.

**HOUSE FOR SALE**  
Newly constructed house for sale located at Abbott Creek. Vaulted living room ceiling, 3 BR, bonus room, fireplace, with cherry hardwood floors and cabinets with spacious attached garage. Located 4 miles from us 23. Panoramic view located in new subdivisions. \$210,00 asking price Seller willing to help with closing costs! Call 606-285-0054 606-791-0719, evenings 606-377-6042

**Sale or Lease**

**Restaurant for sale** A++ location. In McDowell across from the hospital. Land, building, & contents sold together as is \$150,000. Viewing by appointment. serious inquires call Doug @ (606) 776-0201.

**Prestonsburg business for lease.** Great location on the main road, close to downtown and the courthouse. lease as is or change, many possibilities, ie restaurant, sports bar, office complex-ample parking. May consider selling. Call 791-3663.

**Beauty shop for rent.** Equipped with 3 stations and tanning bed. Would consider renting for commercial use other than beauty

shop. Rt. 122 1 mile South of Martin across from Garth Technical School. Must have references. 285-9112.

**Commercial property 12 acres next to Walmart & McDonald's** in Prestonsburg. 886-3023 after 5pm.

**FOR SALE**  
Property for sale between Prestonsburg and Painstville. Also, double wide for rent. \$500 plus deposit. Call 606-789-6721 or 792-792-6721. No pets.

**FARM FOR SALE**  
Floyd county 75 acres more or less, rt. 1100 off US 23 East Point Upper Little Paint. Lum Derossett Branch. Call 606-325-4430 or 606-325-2809. Level- Sloping and timber. HUNTERS PARADISE!! Could be made into a subdivision.

**RENTALS**

**2br 1 bath house for rent** at Martin. Lg yard \$350.mth. \$350 deposit. Call 789-3724 or 791 9331.

**APARTMENT**

**Town house apt for rent.** 2 br 1 bath. Stove and refrigerator. City limits at 23 & 80. \$525 mth plus utilities with \$300 deposit. 1yr lease. NO PETS. Call 237-4758

**Apartment for rent** on US 23 at lvel. 2bd, 1 bath \$350 mth \$350 security deposit. 1 yr lease. NO PETS. Call 478-8100.

**Large Unicourt Apt** for rent located at Stanville on US 23. 2br, 2 bath walk in closet. 1yr Lease.

No pets. Please call 606-478-8100.

**2br duplex for rent.** Central heat and air. In excellent condition. 3 miles north of prestonsburg. Call 886-9007 or 889-9747.

**1, 2, and 3 bedroom apartments for rent.** Call 886-8366.

**3br apt for rent.** 2 baths, parking for trucks. Will rent to contractors. Mt Parkway 6 miles from Prestonsburg. Call 886-8366

**Townhouse 2 BR 1 Bath** w/d hookup 2 car garage \$575 per month plus utilities plus deposit. Call : 606-477-2783

**1Br furnished apartment** located 3 miles from Prestonsburg. Call 358-9483 after 6:00 pm or 794-9484.

**Apt. For rent: 1 and 2 BR apartments** on Rt. 321 near Porter school. Central heat and air, washer and dryer hookup. \$375 per month plus references and deposit. Seniors welcomed! Call 789-5973.

**Houses & town houses for rent.** Also one bedroom. NO PETS. Located in Prestonsburg. Call 886-8991.

**Houses**

**House For Rent - 3 BR,** at Allen, Ky. \$800.00 per month + security deposit. Call 794-0249

**2 Br house for rent on Cracker bottom at Martin.** Call 886-9246.tfn

**Located in town. 2 br house for rent,** one floor. Hardwood floors and all amenities. \$750 mth plus

utilities and deposit. Call 358-4541if no answer leave message. Or call 226-1925 or 285-9639.

**Mobile Homes**

**16x60 mobile home for rent.** Nice lot with storage building. 1 mile from walmart. \$500. mth plus utilities. Call 886-0226 after 5:00pm

**Rent to own 1999 3 br 16x80 Mobile home.** Married couples preferred. 6 miles from Prestonsburg. Call 886-2842.

**Nice 2 br mobile home for rent.** Call 874-0875 or 226-3207.12/281wk

**3 BR 2 bath MH for rent with large deck..** Located at 315 Adams Cemetery Road. Call 791-8617, or 791-4471. \$450 per month.

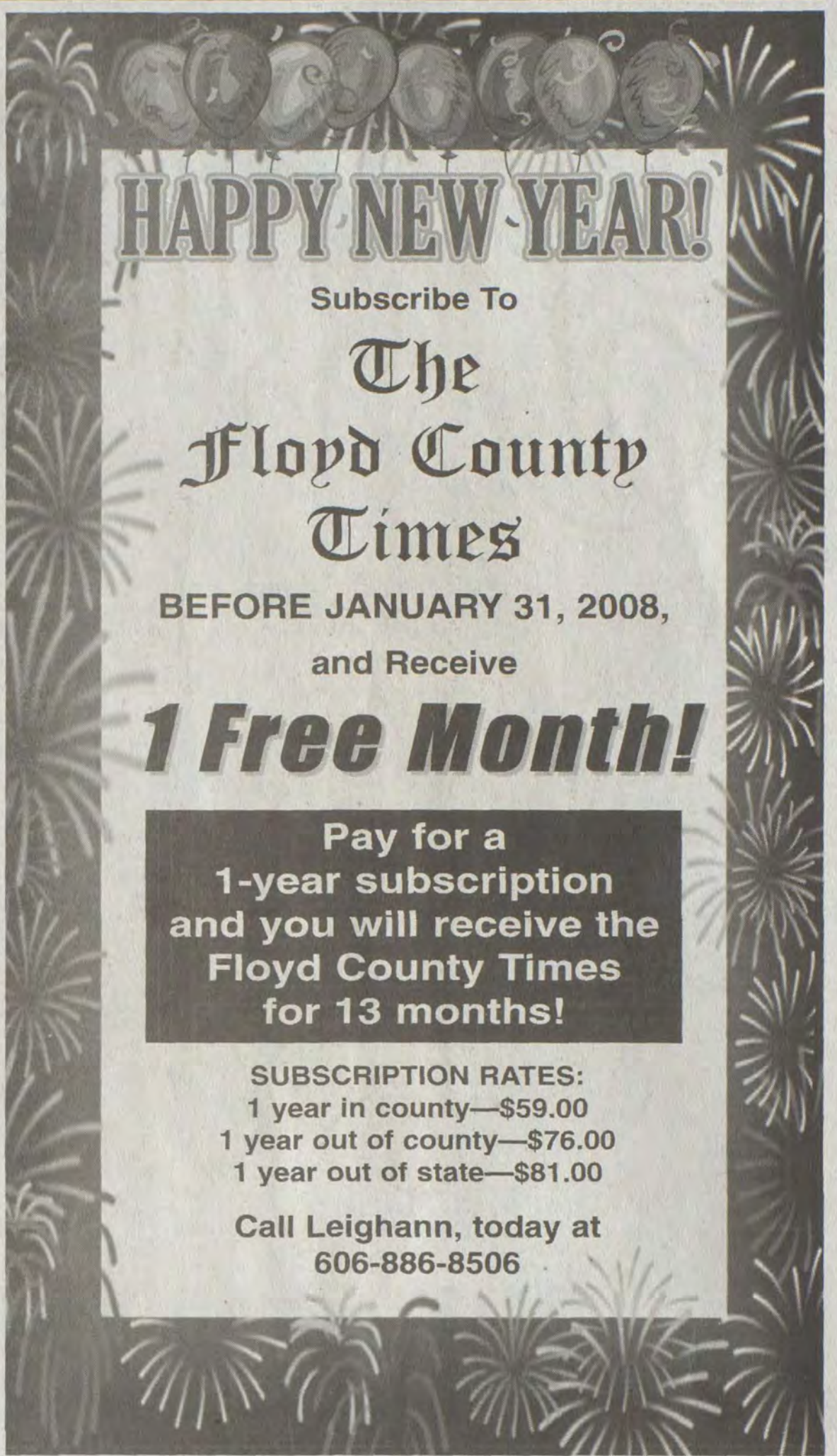
**Mobile Home for rent: NO HUD.** 1/2 mile north of Prestonsburg Spradlin Branch. Call 889-0363.

**2 Br Mobile home for rent or sale.** Couples preferred. NO PETS. Call 874-2000.

**Mobile home for rent.** 14x60 2 br all appliances total electric, private lot & garage on Arkansas Creek, Martin. \$425 month plus utilities. Serious inquires only please. NO HUD. CALL 886-6665.

**Lost & Found**

Set of keys found close to Social Security office. Two sets of vehicle keys on the key chain GMC, and Dodge. Call 606-886-8474.



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STEVEN L. BESHEAR  
GOVERNOR

**EXECUTIVE ORDER**

2007-064  
December 28, 2007

Secretary of State  
Frankfort  
Kentucky

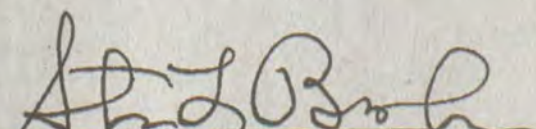
**WRIT OF ELECTION**

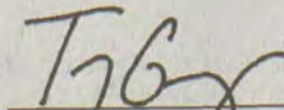
Ninety Fifth District – House of Representatives

WHEREAS, the Honorable James Brandon Spencer resigned from the General Assembly, by letter dated December 18, 2007, and, as a result, a vacancy now exists in the House of Representatives, Ninety Fifth District; and

WHEREAS, KRS 118.730 requires the Governor to issue a writ of election to fill a vacancy occurring in the House of Representatives when the General Assembly is not in session:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Steven L. Beshear, Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, pursuant to the authority vested in me by KRS 118.730, do hereby issue a writ of election to fill the vacancy in the Ninety Fifth District, to be held on Tuesday, February 5, 2008, and hereby direct that this writ be forwarded to the Sheriff of Floyd County as required by KRS 118.730 and 118.740.

  
 STEVEN L. BESHEAR, Governor  
 Commonwealth of Kentucky

  
 TREY GRAYSON  
 Secretary of State

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# Dazzling Flavor

## Nourish your heart with fresh fruit and healthy oil

FAMILY FEATURES

**B**eat the cold-weather doldrums with sweet, wholesome fresh fruit. It's easy to bring back the light, juicy flavors you enjoyed a few months ago by selecting from the wealth of fruit from Chile — where it's fun in the summer sun right now.

Do your family and guests a favor by adding fresh fruit to entrees, sauces, salads and dressings, and desserts to make up for the lower amount of fruit most of us consume in the colder months. Chile comes to the winter rescue with more than 70 varieties of tasty, healthy fruit.

For another light and healthy boost, combine your favorite fruit with heart-healthy canola oil. It's the oil lowest in saturated fat with no trans fat. By using canola oil in your baking, you can bake more with less fat. When a baking recipe calls for a solid fat, you can substitute canola oil, using 20 to 25 percent less than what the recipe calls for. It lowers the calories, eliminates trans fats and reduces saturated fats. Canola oil's clarity allows marinades and vinaigrettes to remain clear and liquid when refrigerated, and its mild essence allows the delicious flavor of your food to shine through.

### Chilean fruit facts

- Fruit picked in Chile is on its way to the U.S. within 24 hours of harvest.
- Apricots, peaches, plums, nectarines, pears and kiwifruit are ripe and ready to eat when they give to gentle pressure.
- Although you can refrigerate fully ripened fruit, for best flavor, serve it at room temperature.
- Refrigerate grapes and berries immediately and wait to wash them until just before serving.
- The Chilean fruit industry follows strict safety and quality procedures, often surpassing U.S. government standards.

Visit [www.chileanfreshfruit.com](http://www.chileanfreshfruit.com) for more information.

### Canola oil facts

- Canola oil is high in vitamin E and heart-healthy monounsaturated fat, is cholesterol free and is one of the best plant sources of Omega-3 fats.
- Canola oil is trans fat free.
- The American Heart Association recognizes canola oil as a heart-healthy oil.
- Canola oil's high smoke point (468°F) makes it ideal for sautés and stir-fry, two nutritious cooking methods.

Visit [www.canola.info](http://www.canola.info) for more information.

### Winter Fresh Fruit Salad With Warm Vinaigrette

- 6 cups mixed greens
- 2-1/2 cups mixed fresh Chilean fruit (such as grapes, nectarines, peaches and plums) in bite-sized pieces
- 1/4 cup walnuts, toasted
- 1/4 cup canola oil
- 1/4 cup sliced shallots or chopped onion
- 3 tablespoons cider vinegar
- 2 teaspoons sugar
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/8 teaspoon ground black pepper

In large bowl, toss greens with fruit and walnuts. In small skillet, heat canola oil over medium heat. Add shallots; cook and stir just until tender, 2 to 3 minutes. Remove from heat, stir in vinegar, sugar, salt and pepper; cool slightly. Spoon mixture over fruit and greens; toss gently. Serve immediately.

YIELD: 4 portions

Per portion: 267 calories, 25 g carbohydrate, 3 g protein, 19 g total fat (1.5 g saturated fat)

### Fresh Fruit Tarts

- 1/2 cup sliced almonds
- 2-1/4 cups all-purpose flour
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon baking powder
- 2/3 cup canola oil, chilled in freezer 2 hours\*
- 1 egg, beaten slightly
- 1/4 cup ice water
- 1/4 cup 1 percent milk
- 1 tablespoon vinegar
- Sugar
- 2 cups mixed fresh Chilean raspberries, blueberries, and halved strawberries and grapes
- 2 tablespoons apricot preserves, melted in microwave

Preheat oven to 400°F. In food processor, pulse almonds to coarsely ground consistency. Add flour, salt and baking powder; pulse once or twice to combine ingredients. Add chilled canola oil. Pulse again once or twice. In small bowl, combine egg, water, milk and vinegar. With food processor running, pour liquid ingredients through food tube; turn off processor as soon as ingredients are mixed, about 10 seconds. Divide dough in half. Securely wrap one of the halves; freeze or refrigerate for another use.

On floured surface, roll out remaining dough into an 8-inch square. Cut into four 4-inch squares. Place pastry squares on parchment lined baking sheet. Lightly sprinkle each square with sugar. Bake until golden, 10 to 12 minutes; cool on rack. In bowl, toss fruit with apricot preserves. Spoon an equal amount of fruit on each of the pastry squares.

YIELD: 4 portions

\*Canola oil can be frozen in measured amounts and used immediately in the pastry recipe. This recipe will make two 9-inch pie crusts, eight 4-inch pastry squares or twenty four 3-inch pastry rounds.

Per portion: 410 calories, 47 g carbohydrate, 7 g protein, 23 g total fat (2 g saturated fat)

### Southwestern Pork and Fresh Chilean Fruit With Spicy Sauce

- 1/2 cup canola oil
- 2 tablespoons chili powder
- 2 teaspoons chipotle chili pepper
- 1/4 cup lime juice
- 2 tablespoons sugar
- 2 tablespoons Dijon mustard
- 1-1/2 pounds pork tenderloin
- 2 pounds fresh Chilean fruit including peaches, nectarines and plums, peeled if desired\*

To prepare Spicy Sauce: In small skillet, combine canola oil, chili powder and chipotle chili pepper. Heat over high heat, just until hot, about 30 seconds; transfer to small bowl. With wire whisk, stir in lime juice, sugar and mustard; cool. In plastic bag, coat tenderloin with 1/4 cup Spicy Sauce; close bag and set aside 30 minutes. Pat and quarter fruit; place in bowl. Brush fruit on all sides with about 3 tablespoons Spicy Sauce; reserve remaining sauce for later use.

To cook: Preheat broiler to high. Place tenderloin on rack in broiler pan; broil 8 minutes. Turn and broil until still slightly pink in center (160°F), 8 to 10 minutes longer. Remove to cutting board; cover loosely with aluminum foil. Place fruit on broiler rack; broil 4 minutes; turn and broil until barely tender, 2 to 4 minutes longer. Cut tenderloin into 1/2-inch-thick slices; serve with fruit and remaining Spicy Sauce. Garnish with greens, if desired.

YIELD: 4 portions

\*To peel: Plunge fruit in boiling water just until skin loosens slightly; remove skin with a knife.

Per portion: 545 calories, 32 g carbohydrate, 47 g protein, 28 g total fat (3.5 g saturated fat)