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IN MEMORIAM



Feb. 28, 1958

Feb. 28, 2008

Half a century later, memories of Floyd County's darkest day continue to ripple through time

by KATHY J. PRATER
FEATURES EDITOR

It happened 50 years ago, but today the memories remain, for many, as fresh as they were that day on Feb. 28, 1958, when a Floyd County school bus, driven by 27-year-old John Alex DeRossett, plunged into the swollen waters of the Big Sandy River, near Knotley Hollow, on U.S. 23.

"You know, for many of the families, it's still like it just happened," said Jackie Branham Hall, of Spurlock, the author of a book written on the tragedy. "You don't just lose children in such a horrible way as this and then just move on ... Many of these families can't even bear to talk about it to this day."

Hall, who said she had a dream as a young child that she felt was an omen of the tragedy that was to come, has dedicated many years and much of her life to memorializing those who perished in the tragedy that is, still today, con-

sidered the nation's worst school bus disaster.

Shortly after 8 a.m., on the morning of Feb. 28, the school bus, carrying 49 passengers, struck a tow truck that was attempting to remove a vehicle from a nearby ditch, causing the driver of the bus to lose control. The bus, which was en-route from the Cow Creek and Emma areas to Prestonsburg, dropped down a declivity approximately 50 feet into the muddy waters of the Big Sandy, swollen by recent rains and snows.

According to a report that appeared in the March 6, 1958, edition of The Floyd County Times, "The bus crossed the road slowly after hitting the wrecker ... teetered on the brink of the bank, then plunged straight for the river, rolling on its wheels into the water."

Within minutes, the river had claimed the bus and its cargo. Of the 49 passengers, 22 managed to escape through the rear emergency door and either swim to safety or cling to nearby tree limbs until rescued.

Volunteer workers, composed of local residents and city, county, state and federal governmental units, swarmed the scene in a rescue attempt and recovery that would span nearly the next two months.

Members of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, from Huntington, W.Va., divers dispatched from the Ashland Oil & Refining Company, frogmen from the U.S. Navy out of Norfolk, Va., members of the U.S. Coast Guard, various Army reserve units and state and local police officers conducted a search that continued for weeks following the terrible accident.

Army helicopters, planes, trucks bearing supplies and a multitude of news reporters from around the country converged upon Floyd County in an effort to assist rescue workers and attempt to comfort grieving families as the bodies of those who perished were recovered from the muddy waters.

The local Army reserve unit building, located at Auxier, was turned into a makeshift

morgue as bodies were transferred from the angry waters to a resting place where grief-stricken families could go to identify their loved ones.

This past Oct. 10, a memorial was erected on the grounds of the old Floyd County Courthouse, dedicated to the memory of those who died in the tragedy. Hall, the author of the pictorial history of the disaster, said that seeing the monument erected was a gratifying moment for her.

"Floyd County can finally be proud," she said that day of the monument that she said was "long overdue."

Conducting the ceremonies that day was Floyd County Judge-Executive R.D. "Doc" Marshall, who himself was due to have been on the bus. Marshall said that a decision that morning to hitchhike to school saved him from being a part of the disaster. Still today, however,

(See **BUS WRECK**, page three)

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Obituaries

Molly Bryant

Molly Bryant, age 70, of Weeksbury, died Saturday, February 23, 2008, at the McDowell Appalachian Regional Hospital.

Born November 23, 1937, in Melvin, she was the daughter of the late Hatler and Edna Stanley Johnson. She was a homemaker.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Charles Bryant.

Survivors include a son, Darrel (Carol) Bryant of Weeksbury; daughters: Rhonda (Morris) Hall and Connie (Ricky) Hall, both of Weeksbury; a daughter-in-law, Doris Bryant; her grandchildren: Kayla Renee (Nick) Short, Leslie Molly Hall, Brandon Joshua Hall, Nathan Shayne Hall, Ryan Douglas Hall, Mandy Nicole Bryant, Ashley Nashea Bryant, Courtney Leigh Bryant, and Tara Ann Bryant; great-grandchildren: Kylie Paige Hall, Regan Kinley Bryant, and Gabriel Lee Little; brothers: Johnny Johnson of Michigan; Conley Johnson of Melvin; Ronnie Johnson, and Lonnie Johnson, both of Wheelwright; sisters: Sadie T.R. Hamilton of Melvin; Phyllis Newsome of Weeksbury; and Alene Howell, of Melvin.

In addition to her parents and husband, she was preceded in death by a son, Ricky Bryant; a great-grandson, Harley Lee Little; a brother, Donald Johnson; sisters: Myrtle (Bert) Tackett, Ethel Johnson, Florence (Honkey) Henderson, and Reba Johnson.

Funeral services will be held Wednesday, February 27, at 1 p.m., at Joppa Old Regular Baptist Church, in Melvin, with Old Regular Baptist ministers officiating.

Burial will be in the Henry Tackett Cemetery, in Melvin, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Visitation is at the church.

(Paid obituary)



June Gearheart

June Gearheart, age 87, of Prestonsburg, died Saturday, February 23, 2008, at Highlands Regional Medical Center.

Born July 17, 1920, in Prestonsburg, she was the daughter of the late Parmer and Laura Laferty Ellis. She was a homemaker and a member of Highland Avenue Freewill Baptist Church.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Estill Gearheart.

Survivors include a sister, Isabel Spotte of Prestonsburg; and many nieces and nephews.

In addition to her parents and husband, she was preceded in death by two daughters: Sharon Elizabeth Westfall and Clara Jo Gearheart; and several brothers and sisters.

Funeral services were held Monday, February 25, at 1:00 p.m., at Highland Avenue

Freewill Baptist Church, in Prestonsburg, with David Garrett and Clifford Austin officiating.

Burial was in the Mayo Cemetery, in Prestonsburg, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, in Martin.

Visitation was at the funeral home.

www.nelsonfrazierfuneralhome.com

(Paid obituary)



Glenda Faye Hall

Glenda Faye Hall, age 69, of Dema, passed away at her home, Friday, February 22, 2008. She was surrounded by her family and friends in her final hours.

She is survived by Lawrence Hall, her loving husband of nearly 51 years.

She leaves behind four sons: Kenny Hall, his wife Patricia Ann of Topmost; Jerry Hall, his wife Deloris of Raven; Ronnie Hall, his wife Andrea of Mt. Sterling; Byron Hall, his wife Pamela Michelle of Raven; three daughters: Tammy North, her husband Charles, Michelle Bush, her husband, Denver, and Shonna Goble, her husband Ken; six brothers: Homer Mullins and Elmer Mullins, both of Mousie; Charles Mullins and Michael Mullins, both of Dema; Larry Mullins of Raven; and Glenn Darrell Mullins of Topmost; four sisters: Willa Dean Willis of Dayton, Ohio; Versa Mae Williams and Wanda Jean Brushmere, both of Huntington, Indiana; and Maxine Cox of Topmost; five grandsons: Brandon, Seth, Brent, Justin, and Travis Hall; seven granddaughters: Cassie Johnson, Ashley Hall, Elisha Hall, Natasha North, Jill Hall, Brittany Hall, and Jodi Hall; and three great-grandchildren, Lexi, Natalie and Raegan.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Troy and Nebraska Gibson Mullins; a sister, Opal Mullins; and two brothers, Lemon and Linville Mullins.

She suffered from a chronic blood disorder for almost 20 years. Her strong will and determination to keep going is what we will remember most. She kept on going and was strong for all of us, because that's what we needed. She never wanted anyone to know how sick she really was, or how much pain she was really in. She refused to give in to her illness, and she amazed us all with her strength. Faye was a loving wife, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. Each day with her here was truly a blessing for us all. She was dedicated to her family, and we always came first, and she last. She loved to cook for her family, from everyday meals to the most hectic holiday meals. She filled our hearts and our lives with love, joy, laughter, and filled our minds with endless sweet memories.

Remember not her death, but her life and her strong will and determination to beat the odds. We will always love you and miss you.

Funeral services for Glenda Faye Hall were conducted Monday, February 25, at 10:00 a.m., in the Hall Funeral Home Chapel, in Martin, with Regular Baptist Ministers officiating.

Burial was in the Whitt Martin Cemetery, in Dema, with Hall Funeral Home caring for those arrangements.

Pallbearers: Brandon Hall, Seth Hall, Travis Hall, Justin Hall, Brent Hall, Larry Mullins, Michael Mullins, and Glenn Darrell Mullins.

(Paid obituary)



Victoria DeRossett Lafferty

Victoria DeRossett Lafferty, age 93, of Prestonsburg, died Friday, February 22, 2008, at the Putnam Community Medical Center, in Palatka, Florida.

Born February 19, 1915, in Bull Creek, she was the daughter of the late Saul (Coon) and Florence (Belle) Sizemore DeRossett. She was a homemaker, wife, mother, grandmother, and a member of Highland Avenue Freewill Baptist Church, in Prestonsburg.

She was preceded in death by her husband, G. Bud Lafferty.

Survivors include two sons and daughters-in-law: Carl Ray and Diane Lafferty of Florence; and Saul (Bucky) and Kathy Lafferty of Augusta, Georgia; a daughter and son-in-law, Judith and Shag Hall of Prestonsburg; a brother, Hillard DeRossett of Danville, Virginia; six grandchildren: Sean Lafferty, Tracie Moore, Randall Hager, Michael Hager, Bobby Lafferty, and Donny Lafferty; and nine great-grandchildren.

In addition to her parents and husband, she was preceded in death by three brothers and a sister: Ashland DeRossett, Ollie DeRossett, and Jeff DeRossett, and Willie Spears.

Funeral services were held Tuesday, February 26, at 1 p.m., at Highland Avenue Freewill Baptist Church in Prestonsburg, with David Garrett officiating.

Burial was in Richmond Cemetery, in Prestonsburg, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Visitation was Monday, at the funeral home, in Martin and Tuesday, at the church.

Active pallbearers: Sean Lafferty, Randall Hager, Michael Hager, Bobby Lafferty, Donny Lafferty, and Darren Moore

Honorary pallbearers: Mike DeRossett, Jody Hackworth, Neil Whiteleather, and Jason Garrett.

(Paid obituary)

Billy T. Meade

Billy T. Meade, age 71, of

Wheelwright, died Friday, February 22, 2008, at McDowell Appalachian Regional Hospital.

Born November 22, 1936, in Lackey, he was the son of the late James Franklin and Alma Frasure Meade. He was a retired Air Force veteran of the Vietnam War, and a member of the Zion Deliverance Church, at Wayland.

He is survived by his wife, Ann Honeycutt Meade.

Survivors, in addition to his wife, include his sons: William and (Jennia) Meade and James Franklin Meade, both of Kansas City, Missouri; a daughter, Sharon and (Virgil) Shelton of Wheelwright; two brothers: Ray Meade of Flint, Michigan; and Bobby Meade of Danville; a sister, Betty Meade of Warrond, West Virginia; 11 grandchildren: Andrew, Justin, Brett, Brad, Mark, Christopher, Marissa, Amanda, Samantha, Sara, and Christian; and one great-grandchild.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a sister, Mary Ellen Hamilton.

Funeral services were held Tuesday, February 26, at 11 a.m., at the Wheelwright Freewill Baptist Church, in Bypro, with Louis Ferrari and J.M. Sloce officiating.

Burial was in the Osborne Cemetery, in Bypro, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, in Martin.

Visitation was at the church.

(Paid obituary)



Greta Gaye Lafferty Osborne

Greta Gaye Lafferty Osborne, 70, of Circle Drive, Morehead, a native of Floyd County, passed away Thursday, February 21, 2008, at the M. D. Anderson Medical Center in Houston, Texas.

She was born April 18, 1937, in Wheelwright, the daughter of the late William and Delphia Boyd Lafferty.

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She is survived by Jim Osborne, her husband of 50 years, whom she wed September 26, 1957; a daughter, Jama Gaye Osborne Rose, and husband Dustin, of Cynthiana; and her only grandson, four-year-old Jameson Rose.

Other survivors include four sisters: Billie Ann Lee and husband Roger, of Smyrna, Tennessee; Vickie Willingham and husband Bryant, of Tusculumbia, Alabama; Gail Turner of Smyrna, Tennessee; and Carolyn Hall and husband, Sam, of Ironton, Ohio; a brother, Martin Lafferty, and wife Gwen, of Shelbyville, Tennessee; and several dear nieces and nephews.

She was a 1955 graduate of Wheelwright High School, received the bachelor's degree from Morehead State

University; and the master's degree from Ball State University. She also completed postgraduate work at Southern Mississippi University.

She was a retired professor of Health, Physical Education, and Recreation at Morehead State University and a former faculty member at Ball State University and Southern Mississippi University.

She was a founding member of the Morehead Church of Christ; past president of the American Cancer Society; a charter member of Delta Tau Chapter, Kappa Delta Sorority; past president of the Morehead State University Women's Club; and a member of PEO and Morehead Woman's Club.

(See OBITUARIES, page three)

Card of Thanks

The family of Ethel Hamilton wishes to thank all of those friends, relatives, and neighbors, for all the love and support upon the passing of our loved one. Thanks to all who sent flowers, food, prayers, or words of comfort expressed. We are especially grateful to the Regular Baptist ministers for their comforting words; to the Samaria Regular Baptist Church for all the love and support that was shown to our family, the Sheriff's Department for their assistance in traffic control; and Hall Funeral Home for their kind and trusted services. Words cannot begin to express the deep gratitude we will always feel for each of you.

THE FAMILY OF ETHEL HAMILTON

Card of Thanks

The family of Dora Dean Spencer would like to extend their appreciation to all those friends, relatives, and neighbors, who helped in any way upon the passing of their loved one. Thanks to all those who sent food, flowers, prayers, or spoke comforting words. We are especially grateful to Clergyman Elbert "Red" Lawson for his comforting words; the Sheriff's Department for their assistance in traffic control; and the staff of Hall Funeral Home for their kind and professional service. All the many acts of kindness during this time will always be a comfort to our family.

THE FAMILY OF DORA DEAN SPENCER

Card of Thanks

The family of Martin Gregory Halbert wishes to gratefully acknowledge the thoughtfulness and kindness of friends, relatives, and neighbors, in the loss of our loved one. Thanks to all those who sent food, flowers, prayers, or spoke words of comfort to our family. A special thanks to Bob Varney and Chester Ray Varney for their comforting words; the Sheriff's Department for their assistance in traffic control; and the Hall Funeral Home for their professional and compassionate service. We will always remember all the love and kindness that was shown to our family.

THE FAMILY OF MARTIN GREGORY HALBERT

Card of Thanks

The family of Rev. Dan T. Heintzelman wishes to gratefully acknowledge the thoughtfulness and kindness of friends, relatives, and neighbors, in the loss of our loved one. Thanks to all those who sent flowers, food, and prayers to our family. A special thanks to Clergyman Roy Hodson and Roy Harlow for their comforting words; the Floyd County Sheriff's Department for their assistance in traffic control; and the Hall Funeral Home for their professional and caring service. All your thoughtfulness and kindness will never be forgotten.

THE FAMILY OF REV. DAN T. HEINTZELMAN

Card of Thanks

The family of Rubel G. Wright would like to take this opportunity to thank all those friends, relatives, and neighbors who helped to comfort, and were there for our family during this difficult time. Thanks to all those who sent food, flowers, and prayers. We are especially grateful to Clergyman Rick Kelley for his comforting words; the Sheriff's Department for their assistance in traffic control; and the Hall Funeral Home for their loving care and hand of friendship to our family.

THE FAMILY OF RUBEL G. WRIGHT

Card of Thanks

The family of Pauline Johnson would like to extend their appreciation to all those friends, relatives, and neighbors who helped in any way upon the passing of their loved one. Thanks to all those who sent food, flowers, prayers, or spoke comforting words. Especially, thanks goes out to Wal Mart in Paintsville for their support, help and caring thoughts, and everything they did. We are especially grateful to Preacher Ralph Hall and singers for their comforting words and services; the sheriff's department for their assistance in traffic control; and especially all the staff at Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home for what a great job they did—for their kind and professional service. The love and compassion shown to our family will never be forgotten. May God bless everyone. Our mother will be sadly missed.

THE FAMILY OF PAULINE JOHNSON

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Plan would require dental exams for enrolling students

by JOE BIESK
ASSOCIATED PRESS

FRANKFORT — In a state known for its poor teeth, Kentucky legislators may be looking to chomp down on the state's dental health problem.

A plan sponsored by Rep. Tom Burch, and backed by the Kentucky Dental Association, would require youngsters to visit a dentist before enrolling in public school or preschool. In a state that ranks among the nation's leaders in toothless adults, the hope is to instill in children good dental health habits early on, Burch said.

"We're rock bottom as far as taking care of our children's teeth," Burch said. "We've got a serious problem with that."

Currently, Kentucky ranks second in the country behind only its eastern neighbor West Virginia for the number of adults over age 65 who have had all their teeth removed, said Gwenda Bond, a spokeswoman for the Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services.

And, Kentucky had the country's sixth worst percentage of adults who visited a dentist in 2006. While the U.S. average was 70.3 percent, only 63.3 percent of Kentucky's adults went to a dentist that year, Bond said.

A study by the Kentucky Institute of Medicine last year found that 37 percent of Kentucky adults were missing at least six teeth, which is four percentage points higher than the national average.

Burch, D-Louisville, said he's been pushing the issue for years after seeing some of the problems children in Kentucky often have with their teeth. The measure, which would require children ages 3-6 to have a dental exam before enrolling in school, is pending for a vote before the full House, which could come at any time.

"We've got some areas of the state where people are not inclined to take their children to the dentist, or they can't afford it," Burch said.

But good dental health habits may be rooted in childhood, said Mike Porter, executive director of the Kentucky Dental Association. Dentists have been pushing for the legislation for nearly a decade, Porter said.

An early trip to a dentist can teach children it's not always about pain, and it gives them first contact with a dentist they could at least turn to if a problem erupts later in life, Porter said.

"We know there's a lot of children out there as well as adults that have immediate problems that can be fixed," Porter said. "You don't have to grow up

with the thought that you grow up and lose your teeth and that's it."

Right now, Kentucky pupils entering school are required to have had seven different immunizations, a physical exam and an eye test before entering school, Lisa Gross, a Department of Education spokeswoman, said.

Gross said the department did not have a strong position either way on the proposal, but added that the cost of administering the dental exams could be a factor. Officials at the Health and Family Services Cabinet also had reservations about the bill's cost, Bond said.

Tooth decay and other dental problems can lead to serious problems and, in extreme cases, death, said Dr. Ann Greenwell, a pediatric dentist at the University of Louisville.

Greenwell pointed to the case of a 12-year-old boy who died last year in Maryland from a dental abscess that went untreated as an example of why the legislation is required. Examinations for other potential health problems, such as with vision and hearing, are already required, Greenwell noted.

"Getting cavities is not a part of growing up," Greenwell said. "The pain, discomfort, the loss of school time for something that is totally pre-

ventable is unacceptable in an affluent nation like we have here."

There are about 12,000 youngsters who don't qualify for Medicaid coverage and whose parents can't afford a dental exam, Burch said. They would be administered free exams under the proposal, Porter said. Dentists throughout the state have agreed to give them the exams free of charge, Porter said.

"We hope to get things better here," Porter said.

Rep. David Floyd, R-Bardonia, voted against the proposal when it came before a legislative panel earlier this month. Floyd agrees people — including children — should see a dentist on a regular basis, but doesn't think it's up to the state to mandate.

Some charitable groups already offer dental services to people throughout the state who can't afford it, Floyd said. And, he mentioned that dentists have already offered to provide the screenings to some children at no charge.

"Our tendency is to become the parent for every child in the state and we need to try to restrain that impulse as much as possible," Floyd said. "Even though we mean well, we should stop trying to become the parent for every child in Kentucky."

The legislation is House Bill 186

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Cinema 2—Held Over
VANTAGE POINT (PG-13), Mon.-Sun. 7:15-9:30; Fri. (4:30) 7:15-9:30; Sat.-Sun. (2:15-4:30) 7:15-9:30.
Cinema 3—Held Over
SPIDERWICK CHRONICLES (PG), Mon.-Sun. 7:05-9:20; Fri. (4:20) 7:05-9:20; Sat.-Sun. (2:05-4:20) 7:05-9:20.
Cinema 4—Held Over
STEP UP 2 (PG-13), Mon.-Sun. 7:05-9:20; Fri. (4:20) 7:05-9:20; Sat.-Sun. (2:05-4:20) 7:05-9:20.
Cinema 5—Starts Friday, Feb. 29
NO COUNTRY FOR OLD MEN (R), Mon.-Sun. 6:50-9:15; Fri. (4:15) 6:50-9:15; Sat.-Sun. (1:50-4:15) 6:50-9:15.
Cinema 6—Held Over
WITLESS PROTECTION (PG-13), Mon.-Sun. 7:15-9:30; Fri. (4:30) 7:15-9:30; Sat.-Sun. (2:15-4:30) 7:15-9:30.
Cinema 7—Starts Friday, Feb. 29
SEMI PRO (R), Mon.-Sun. 7:10-9:25; Fri. (4:25) 7:10-9:25; Sat.-Sun. (2:10-4:25) 7:10-9:25.
Cinema 8—Starts Friday, Feb. 29
DEFINITELY MAYBE (PG-13), Mon.-Sun. 7:00-9:20; Fri. (4:20) 7:00-9:20; Sat.-Sun. (2:00-4:20) 7:00-9:20.
Cinema 9—Held Over
FOOL'S GOLD (PG-13), Mon.-Sun. 7:00-9:15; Fri. (4:15) 7:00-9:15; Sat.-Sun. (2:00-4:15) 7:00-9:15.
Cinema 10—Held Over
WELCOME HOME ROSCOE JENKINS (PG-13), Mon.-Sun. 7:00; Fri. (4:15) 7:00; Sat.-Sun. (4:15) 7:00.
Cinema 10—Held Over
THE EYE (PG-13), Mon.-Sun. 7:15; Fri. 9:15; Sat.-Sun. (2:00) 9:15.

Teen pushes heart-start devices in athletic facilities

by WILLIAM CROYLE
THE KENTUCKY ENQUIRER

FRANKFORT — Mathew Spicer was swimming the 50-yard butterfly for Frankfort's Western Hills High School at a meet Nov. 18, 2006, in Elizabethtown. What should have been a fun, competitive day turned into a life-or-death situation, and Mathew is hoping state legislation keeps the same from happening to anyone else.

Then 13, he was about 0

strokes from finishing when he abruptly stopped and began to sink.

Kristy Spicer instinctively jumped into the 12-foot-deep water to rescue her unconscious son. "He was literally dead in the water," Spicer said. "His eyes were flickering. His feet were sinking."

Spicer, a registered nurse, and another parent who was a doctor performed CPR on Mathew.

Paramedics arrived 10 minutes later. They attached a

defibrillator to Mathew and shocked his heart, reviving him.

"I remember swimming," said Mathew, now 14. "Then I remember waking up in the ambulance."

Mathew's sudden cardiac arrest was caused by a genetic heart disease, unknown until then.

After that horrific day he asked a lot of questions: Why didn't the pool have an automated external defibrillator? Shouldn't one be in every ath-

letic facility? What would it take to make that happen?

An AED is a portable device that shocks a heart into rhythm and can be operated by anybody. It can sometimes be found in public buildings, businesses and athletic venues, usually in a glass case mounted to a wall.

Mathew made it his mission to get AEDs in athletic facilities across Kentucky by spearheading what is now House Bill 107.

The bill is in the education

committee and needs to be approved there before it can go to the House floor for discussion.

The bill would require all public and private K-12 schools to have AEDs in all of their athletic facilities (pools, stadiums, gymnasiums, etc.) during games and practices when an advanced life-support ambulance with a licensed paramedic is not present. It would also require that coaches be trained in using the AED and certified in CPR.

Sponsors of the bill are Derrick Graham, D-Frankfort; Larry Clark, D-Louisville;

(See DEVICES, page seven)

Obituaries

Above all things, Gaye's greatest accomplishments were being a wife, mother, and grandmother.

A funeral service was 11 a.m. Tuesday, February 26, at Northcutt & Son Home for Funerals, in Morehead, with Mike Grose and Dustin Rose officiating. Burial was in Lee Cemetery in Morehead.
Pallbearers: Jack Roe, Sam Hall, Bryant Willingham, Roger Lee, Marvin Gearhart, Earl Bentley, Doug Osborne, Homer Osborne, Jack Wilson, Keith Hatfield, Bill Hall, Gerald Osborne, Tony Osborne, Tracy Osborne, Bill Mark Osborne, Donnie Daniels, Jerry Rice, Greg Hildreth, Stephen Barnett, Martin David Lafferty, Mike Williams, Bryon Griffith, and Jim Henry.

Memorial tributes are suggested to Morehead Church of Christ, 108 West Second Street, Morehead, KY 40351, or Lymphoma Myeloma Society, Donor Services, P. O.

Box 4072, Pittsfield, MA 01202

View memorial tribute or sign guestbook at:
www.northcuttandson.com
(Paid obituary)

Oma Whitaker

Oma Whitaker, age 76, of Hueysville, died Friday, February 22, 2008, at Highlands Regional Medical Center.

Born February 17, 1932, in Magoffin County, she was the daughter of the late Linzie and Alma Howard Hale. She was a homemaker, wife, mother, and a member of the Salt Lick United Baptist Church for more than 20 years.

She was preceded in death by Edmond Whitaker, her husband, of 58 years.

Survivors include her sons: Carlos Whitaker (Audrey Warix) of Waterloo, Indiana; Joe Ed Whitaker, Jimmy Darrell Whitaker, and Ricky Whiaker, all of Hueysville;

daughters: Bernice Cole (Ralph) of Royalton; Penny McGuire (Bev) of Langley; and Anna Ruth Shepherd (Carlos Smith) of Paintsville; brothers: Sanford Hale, Seldon Hale, Henry Hale, Grover C. Hale, and John T. Hale, all of Greenwich, Ohio; a sister, Janice Marie Griffith of Martin; grandchildren: Dwayne Whitaker, Kellie Whitaker, Tamara Poe, Gregory Cole, Kevin Whitaker, Mark Whitaker, Melissa Whitaker, Rodney Whitaker, Michael Whitaker, Jason McGuire, Dana Whitaker, Alicia Whitaker,

and Vanessa Shepherd; and 18 great grandchildren.

In addition to her parents, and husband, she was preceded in death by two sons: Jerry Whitaker and Larry Whitaker; a brother and a sister: Talt Hale and Ruth Oney.

Funeral services were held Monday, February 25, at 11 a.m., at Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, in Martin, with Bethel Bolen and Jerry Manns officiating.

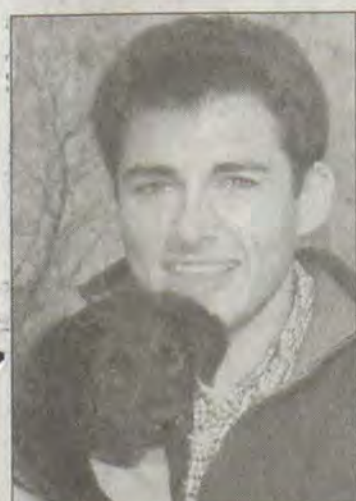
Burial was in the Whitaker Cemetery, in Hueysville.

Visitation was at the funeral home.
(Paid obituary)

Continued from p3

Kentucky Cover Miss & Cover Boy USA
Preliminary Beauty Pageant
Monday, March 3rd
Prestonsburg Mountain Arts Center
Registration 5pm, Pageant 6pm
Girls 0-25 yrs. & Boys 0-3 yrs.
Call and ask how you can enter for FREE!!!!
Call DeAnn @ 931-879-1754 or Candy @ 270-597-9296 for more info.
www.kycovermisusa.com • No experience necessary

The Floyd County Animal Shelter PET OF THE WEEK



Name: Beckley
Gender: Female
Age: 3 months
Breed: Lab Mix

The man pictured is our Celebrity of the Week, John Absher. John is a recent Harvard University graduate. John is currently a paralegal at Pillersdorf, DeRossitt and Lane Law Offices.

The Floyd County Animal Shelter is located at Sally Stephens Branch in West Prestonsburg Phone 886-3189

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New Spring Colors and Styles Arriving Daily
Choose from a great selection of name brand clothing, designer purses, shoes, and name brand designer fragrances.
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New Bronzing Twister Bulbs.
Tan 30 days for \$30.00 thru the month of March
377-6090
Located behind Citizens National Bank at McDowell
Extended hours Mon.-Fri., beginning March 17.
MENTION THIS AD AND RECEIVE ONE FREE TANNING SESSION.

Happy First Birthday
Heather Brooke Hyden
Daughter of Debby and Tim L. Hyden, who celebrates her birthday on Feb. 26th, just before her Daddy returns to Iraq.

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Viewpoint

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.

Worth Repeating ...

"Speak out in acts; the time for words has passed, and only deeds will suffice."

— John Greenleaf Whittier

Guest View

Economic insanity

The focus in recent months on the horse-race aspect of the presidential campaign is understandable enough. But now that one nominating race appears to be over and the other seems bound for a lengthy battle between two finalists, perhaps voters can find some time to actually think about the issues.

Here's a big one: how much control the government should have over the economy. Few people know that two of the three remaining Americans with a good chance of ending up as the next president are pushing for laws that would require the federal government to bully companies into changing what they pay workers who hold certain jobs - in the name of social justice.

Sen. Hillary Clinton, D-N.Y., is the principal sponsor of the Paycheck Fairness Act. Sen. Barack Obama, D-Ill., is a co-sponsor of the Fair Pay Act. Both bills build off the premise that society's inherent sexism has led to its undervaluation of certain women-dominated professions relative to some male-dominated professions. The examples offered in a recent Wall Street Journal analysis of the two bills were mostly female paralegals versus mostly male truck drivers.

Clinton and Obama think federal bureaucrats, perhaps the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, should be tasked with evaluating which jobs should pay what and given the tools to end the sexist inequities they discover.

No, we are not making this up. It's 2008, not 1931, but a lot of people still have inexplicable faith in government central planning.

Too bad. The notion that the government should be given such power is both scary and ludicrous. Such direct government intervention in the free market is an invitation to disaster. Beyond that, the claim that the free market is somehow inherently sexist is easily refuted.

The last time the theory of "pay equity" was popular was in the late 1970s and early 1980s, and a primary example offered back then of an undervalued female-dominated profession was nursing. Why aren't nurses front and center this time? Because their pay has gone up considerably over the past quarter-century, thanks to much higher demand.

Clinton and Obama need to explain their thinking here. Yes, women earn on average less than men, sometimes even within the same professions. But the gap almost always disappears when the gender comparisons are of people with the same experience. It is a career-slowng fact that far more women take family raising breaks or work part time.

Finally, one doesn't have to look very far in the writings of "pay equity's" biggest academic popularizers to find an ugly element of elitism. The jobs described as being overvalued compared with some women-dominated white-collar professions are always blue-collar - construction workers, plumbers and, yes, truck drivers. Surely Clinton and Obama can find a better way than this of pandering to women who feel they are underpaid.

— The San Diego Union-Tribune

EMBARRASSING AT ANY SPEED



Guest Column

Senate week in review

by JOHNNY RAY TURNER

This year's legislative session reached the halfway mark this week, a milestone marked by the first bill to pass both chambers being sent to the governor for his signature.

House Bill 168, if signed into law, will give returning military service members a 90-day grace period to renew their expired driver's licenses. We have heard stories of soldiers coming home only to be ticketed for driving on an expired license. The transition to civilian life is difficult enough already and we hope this eases the burden.

It is appropriate that the first bill to reach Governor Beshear's desk will make life less stressful for our returning military. The last few years have produced a groundswell of legislative support for our military and veterans.

We hope the House will concur with several other bills we have passed for our military men and women, including income tax relief for military families.

Also during the week's work, we had two bills directed at members of the military and their families pass out of Senate committees. Senate Bill 150 would permit the surviving spouse of a former Kentucky National Guard member or a retired veteran to keep special license plates assigned to that member or veteran. Senate Bill 163 authorizes the military family assistance trust fund to be used for educational expenses by Kentucky members or veterans who lost a limb while on military duty.

We also took a significant step toward saving tax payer dollars with Senate Bill 100. More state contracts are being written each year that spell out specific items to be used in construction — a particular type of door-knob or light bulb, for instance, even down to the brand or product number. But listing exact items makes it far too

easy for costs to rise way above what they should or could be. SB 100 would allow the state to use equivalent products — much like generic drugs — if they are essentially the same but cheaper, saving taxpayer money.

As I mentioned, this year's session has reached its mid-point. Traditionally, the first half of each session is spent with the Senate focusing on Senate bills and the House considering its own legislation. As the days march on, we will start considering more House bills and focusing on the state budget.

The pace will be increasing as we head toward the last few weeks of this session, so your voice and opinion are more important than ever. Be sure to call our Legislative Message Line at 1-800-372-7181 or e-mail me at johnnyray.turner@lrc.ky.gov.

Senator Johnny Ray Turner represents Breathitt, Floyd, Knott and Letcher counties.

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 objection-

able. 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.

The Times

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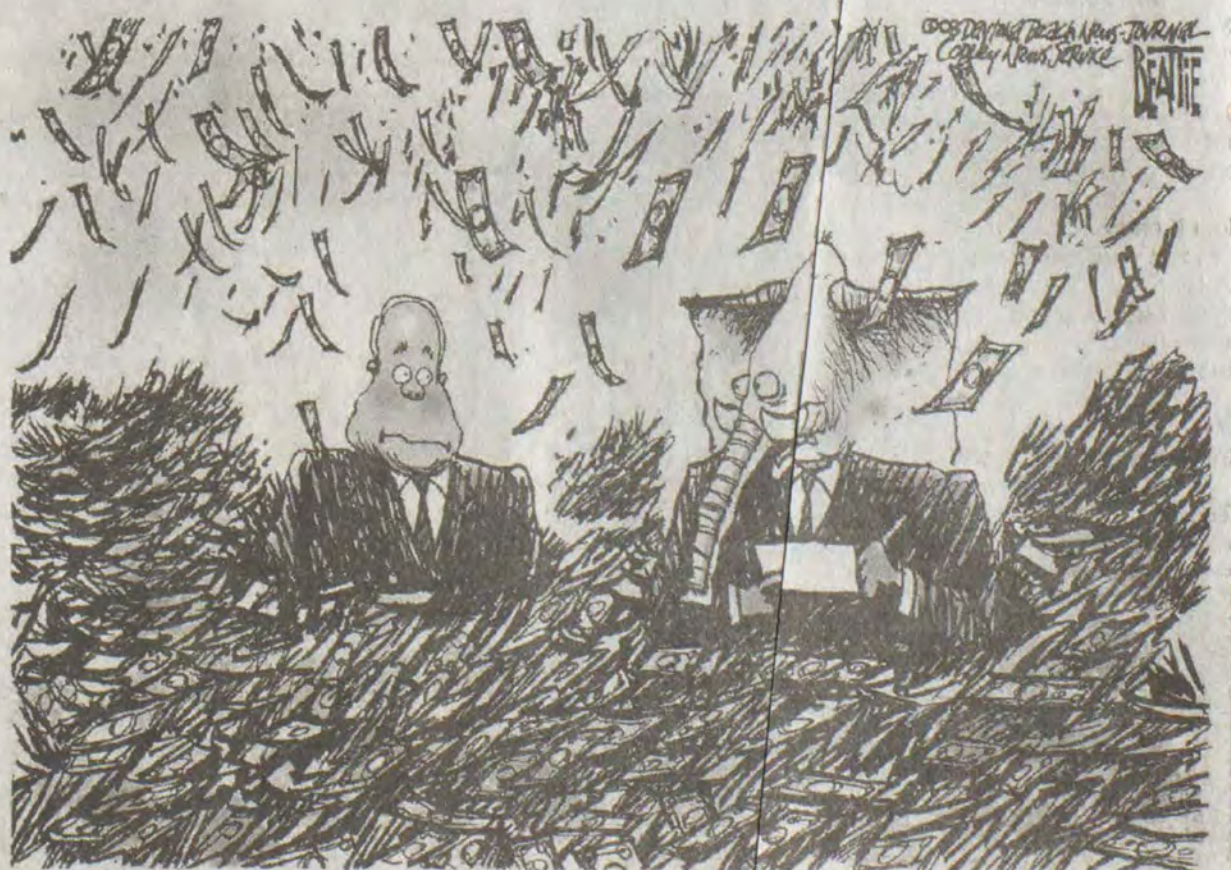
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"Who should I make the check out to, 'John McCain: Presidential Candidate' or 'John McCain: Former Champion of Campaign Finance Reform?'"

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@floydcounty-times.com. Information will not be taken over the telephone. All items will be placed on a first-come, first-serve basis as space permits.

Auxier Lifetime Learning Center Spring Classes

Classes begin Mon., March 10.
Basic Computer
 Tuesday: 10 a.m.-Noon
 Thursday: 5 p.m.-7 p.m.
Sewing Class
 Monday, 6 p.m.-8 p.m.
 Wednesday, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
Quilting Class
 Tuesday, 5 p.m.-7 p.m.
Free GED Classes
 Offered 3 days a week
 Cost: \$30 for 8 weeks. Pre-register; class space is limited. For more information, call 606-886-0709.

Need Help With Home Repairs?

The Auxier Lifetime Learning Center can help! We are now taking applications for home repairs. If you or someone you know are low income and need help with repairs on your home, please call 606-886-0709 for your application, or stop by our office at 21 South River Street, Auxier. Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 8-4.
 We also offer free GED classes!

HRMC February Calendar

Feb. 23 - Kentucky Mountain Dental Society; meeting place A & B; 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
 Feb. 28 - Living Well with Diabetes Support Group; meeting place A & B; 5-6 p.m.
 For more information, contact Highlands Educational Services Department at 1-606-886-7424.

Floyd County's Health Dept. Invitation to orientation meet

The Floyd County Health Department invites you to the first orientation meeting of K HELPS, a program to register and train volunteers to serve during public health emergencies. Floyd County needs volunteers of all backgrounds to be available to help during emergencies. The meeting will be March 6, 2008 from 6-8 p.m., at the Floyd County Health Department. Please call 606-886-2780 or 606-478-5455 for more information.

Christ United Methodist Church "Joy Service"

Sunday night "Joy Service," has been scheduled for February 24, at 6 p.m., with special singing by: "New Hearts," Southern Gospel Group from Pike County.

Allen Elementary's School report card available

Allen Elementary's expanded school report card is now available to be viewed. Please ask at the front desk.

4th Annual Home and Garden Expo to be held Sat., March 29

The 4th Annual Home and Garden Expo will be held

Saturday, March 29, at the Jenny Wiley Convention Center from 9 a.m.-12 p.m. The Home and Garden Expo features various sections with on-going home and garden presentations and demonstrations. There is an area showcasing products and services of area businesses and questions and answer booth with free literature on many topics. You and your family can also have fun with "hands-on" youth and family activities. There are free herb, vegetable, and flower seeds available to all participants. Come enjoy, have fun, and learn!

Italian Night at the Camp Nathanael Cafe

Join us at Camp Nathanael for an adult get-together on Friday, Feb. 29, at 6:30 p.m. There will be an Italian buffet dinner followed by a high energy show featuring Keith Matheny, a unique entertainer who has amazed audiences worldwide with his abilities. He can describe, while blindfolded, objects held and selected by others, call out the serial number on an audience member's dollar bill and perform many other mind boggling stunts.

This event is free to the public, but we do ask that you register in advance. To register or for more information, please contact Camp Nathanael at the following:
 Phone: 251-3231
 website: campnathanael.org
 e-mail: smmmky@tgel.com

Big Sandy Idol contest

The 2008 Big Sandy Idol regional competition will be held at the Mountain Arts Center, February 29 and March 1. Winners from the Big Sandy area high school Big Sandy Idol competitions will compete for BSCTC scholarships, cash awards, and recording contracts with Big Sandy Productions. Tickets \$5/students; \$7/adults. Call 1-888-MAC-ARTS.

Family reunion

The descendants of Bud and Tannie Johnson, Ab and Lendie Bryant, and Green and Mary Johnson will have a family reunion Saturday, May 24, at the Weeksbury Community Park, starting at 10:00 a.m. Please bring a covered dish. For more information, contact Paul W. Johnson, 1274 Alexandersville Road, Miamisburg, Ohio 45342. Phone: 937-866-7937.

Democratic Woman's Club meets at May Lodge

The Floyd County Democratic Woman's Club meets the second Monday of each month at 6:00 p.m., at the May Lodge, Jenny Wiley State Park.

Grocery bill high?

Receive help through Angel Food Ministries via Prater Creek Baptist Church Hands of Hope Ministries, located at Banner. Prater Creek Baptist is the official host site for Angel Food Ministries in this area. For \$30, you can purchase top quality groceries valued at approximately \$70. There are no income qualifications to meet and no applications to complete. For current menu/additional information, log on to www.pcbaptist.org and click the link "Food Distribution." You may also contact Roger at 606-285-9447 or e-mail to prbar-

nette@bellsouth.net.

Need help with addiction?

Lifeline of Floyd County "Conquer Chemical Dependency" is a Christ-centered 12-step program offering support to those who are coping with addiction and learning to live drug-free lives. The support group meets on the following schedule:

Mondays, at Minnie (beside pharmacy), from 7-8 p.m.
 Mondays, at Little Mud, Spruce Pine School, from 7-8 p.m.
 Tuesdays, in Prestonsburg, in the Van Ark Building, from 2-3 p.m.
 Tuesdays, at David, The David School, from 3:30-4:30 p.m.
 Wednesdays, at Allen Baptist Church, from 7-8 p.m.
 Thursdays, at Allen Baptist Church, from 7-8 p.m.

For more information, call Shirley Combs at (606) 434-8400, or Tom Nelson at (606) 478-2836.

Hope in the Mountains

Hope in the Mountains will host public meetings on Mondays, at 9 a.m., at the junction of U.S. 23 and Rt. 80, on Watergap Rd., behind the Trimble Chapel Church.

Meetings focus will be to offer information in regard to community resources available to women seeking freedom from drug abuse. Family members are also welcome to attend. The Hope initiative proposes to help women break free from addictive lifestyles to become self-respecting contributing members of society.

Call 874-2008 or 788-1006 for more information.

Prestonsburg Rotary Club

Prestonsburg Rotary Club meets, 12 noon to 1 p.m., at Made From Scratch Restaurant, 1566 North Lake Drive. For additional information, contact Chris Daniel, 886-7354, or Tommie Layne, 886-2321, ext. 1297.

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recovery. There is no fee to attend. For more info., contact Shirley Combs at 874-3388 or 434-8400.

"Earn While You Learn"

The Big Sandy Area C.A.P. office is taking applications for its "Senior Training Program." You must be 55 or older to apply. In Floyd, call 886-2929; Johnson, call 789-6515; Magoffin, call 349-2217; Pike, call 432-2775; and in Lawrence, call 638-4067.

Senior employment program

Are you a senior citizen on a fixed income struggling with soaring medical bills and living expenses? Could you use some extra spending money but don't know how to get back into the workforce?

If you are at least age 55, (See CALENDAR, page six)

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 Toyota Rav4 V: Auto., Alloys, Loaded, 2 To Choose From!	 '07 Dodge Charger: Auto., AC, Spoiler, Sharp, 3 To Choose From!	 '07 Corvette: Auto., Paddle Shift, Power Convertible Top, Heads Up Display!	 '07 Volvo S-40: Auto., Power Sunroof, 15,000 Miles, 2 To Choose From!
 '05 Jeep Wrangler: 6 Cyl., Alloys, 4x4, Sharp, Low Miles, AC!	 '06 Jeep Liberty: 4x4, Trail Rated, Loaded, Sharp!	 '06 Hummer H3: 2 To Choose From, Luxury Pkg., Leather, Sunroof, Alloys, Loaded!	 '04 Jeep Wrangler: Auto., AC, Alloys, 6 Cyl., 4x4, 7,000 Miles, Loaded!
 '07 Toyota Camry LE: Loaded, Factory Warranty!	 '07 Toyota Avalon XLS: Leather, Sunroof, Alloys, Factory Warranty, Loaded!	 '07 Ford Mustang: V6, Auto., Spoiler, Alloys, Factory Warranty, Sharp!	 '07 Mitsubishi Eclipse: Auto., Alloys, Rear Spoiler, 3 To Choose From!
 '04 Chevy 2500 HD: 4x4, Auto., Loaded, Sharp!	 '06 Chevy Colorado: Auto., Alloys, Ext. Cab, 2WD, Only 8,600 Miles!	 '07 Chevy Z71: X-Cab, 4x4, 3.5 V6, 100,000 Miles Warranty!	 '06 Lincoln Navigation: Pearl White, Leather, 4x4, Sunroof, 3rd Seat, Fact. Warr., Loaded!
 '05 Harley 1200 Sportster Now \$15,995	 '04 Big Dog Pit Bull: Loaded with Chrome, Custom Alloys, Fast Bike!	 '05 Harley 1200 Sportster Sharp, Only 5,000 Miles, Two-Tone Color, Stop By To See This Steal! \$5,995	 '06 Detroit Chopper Custom: Sharp, Loaded with Chrome, Only 3,000 Miles!

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Calendar

the Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP) may be able to help. Earn extra money, learn new skills, and help your community at the same time! To find out more, call: 886-2929

External Diploma Program
Kentucky residents age 25 and older can earn a high school diploma by demonstrating skills learned on the job or in raising a family. Flexible scheduling is provided and confidentiality maintained. Classes are held at the Carl D. Perkins Rehabilitation Center, in Thelma, Mon. thru Fri., with evening classes on Thursday. EDP classes are also held at the Mullins Learning Center, in Pikeville, on Tuesdays, from 4:30-8:30 p.m. Contact Andy Jones at 606-788-7080, or 800-443-2187, ext. 186, or Linda Bell, at ext. 160 to make an appointment.
GED classes are also available.

Floyd County Extension Homemaker Club Meetings
Allen: 1st Monday, 11 a.m., at Christ United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall.
Dixie: 3rd Thursday, 12:30 p.m., Dixie Community Room.
David: 1st Monday, 1 p.m., at St. Vincent's Mission.
Martin: 1st Tuesday, 6 p.m., Martin Church of Christ.
Maytown: 3rd Thursday, 6 p.m., Maytown Learning Center.
Cliff: 3rd Tuesday, 12 p.m., Community Center.
Prestonsburg: 2nd Tuesday, 10:30 a.m., Extension Office.
South Prestonsburg: 3rd Tuesday, 7 p.m., Home of members (call 886-2668 for info.)
Left Beaver: 2nd Tuesday, 10:30 a.m., Osborne Elem. School Library.

Special interest groups:

Nimble Thimble Quilt Guild: 1st/3rd Wednesdays, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Extension Office.
Newbees Quilt Group: 4th Thursday, 6 p.m., Extension Office. (The Newbees do not meet during the months of January and February.)
Looking for a Support Group?
•Floyd County Alzheimer's Support Group meets regularly at Riverview Manor Healthcare Center. Call the center for meeting times.
•Domestic Violence Support Group - The Big Sandy Family Abuse Center holds meetings each Wednesday from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. The meetings are free of charge. Call Jessica Slone at 886-6025 for more information.
•Overeater's Anonymous - Meetings held each Wednesday at 6:30 p.m., at the old Allen Baptist Church, located in Allen, just past red

light. Call 889-9620 for more info.
•US TOO! Prostate Cancer Survivors Support Group - For all men with prostate cancer and their families. Group meets the 3rd Thursday of each month, at 6 p.m., at the Ramada Inn, Paintsville.
•Community Weight Loss Support Group - Meets Thursday's at 6:30 p.m., at the Martin Community Center. For more info., call 377-6658. Those who have had gastric bypass surgery most especially welcome to attend. Meetings being offered as support to anyone needing extra support in dealing with weight loss.
•Domestic Violence Hotline - 24-hour Crisis Line manned by Certified Domestic Violence counselors. Call 886-6025, or 1-800-649-6605. Remember, "Love Doesn't Have to Hurt."
•Disabled? - You may be eligible for grant money to assist in your daily living. For an application or more infor-

mation, call 886-4326.
•A.S.K. (Adoption Support for Kentucky) - Support group for all adoptive parents (public, private, international, and kinship care), foster parents and all others interested in adoption. To be held the first Monday of each month, at the Department for Community Based Services office, 1009 North Lake Drive, Prestonsburg, from 6-8 p.m. Childcare will not be provided. For more information, contact Dedra Slone, adoptive parent liaison, at 432-4110 or 422-7927, or email to: doslone@eastky.net.
•PARENTS! - Contact the Big Sandy Area Community Action Program, Inc. to find out about child care services in your area, the STARS for KIDS NOW licensing standards program, and how you can earn an income by staying home with your own children while caring for the children of others. Find out more by calling Cheryl Endicott at 886-

1280, or 888-872-7227 (toll free).
•East Kentucky S.T.A.R.S. Homeschoolers - Will hold monthly meetings at the Paintsville Recreation Center. For more information, call Trudy at 889-9333, or 297-5147. Everyone welcome.
•Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Each Wednesday, from 7-8 p.m., in the Atrium Conference Room, 2nd floor, May Tower, Pikeville Methodist Hospital. For more info., contact Chris Cook at 606-433-1119 or christophercook@hotmail.com.

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Casinos voted down in legislative committee

by ROGER ALFORD
ASSOCIATED PRESS

FRANKFORT — A proposal to legalize casinos in Kentucky has been voted down by a sharply divided House committee, putting the future of Gov. Steve Beshear's plan to boost state revenues with gambling taxes in serious doubt.
State Rep. Darryl Owens, chairman of the House Committee on Elections, Constitutional Amendments and Intergovernmental Affairs, said the casino proposal faces long odds in the General Assembly.
"I wouldn't bet the house or the outhouse on it, I'll tell you that," said Owens, D-Louisville.
Two separate proposals were up for consideration on Tuesday, but the House committee couldn't agree on either, despite the best efforts of Beshear who summoned House leaders to his office Monday night to try to jumpstart the move.
Gambling opponents were emboldened by the turn of events.

Beshear said taxes on casinos, if they were permitted to open in the state, could generate as much as \$600 million a year for government programs. The first step requires lawmakers to approve the proposal. Kentucky voters would then have the chance to reject or ratify it.
The governor unveiled a much-anticipated proposal earlier this month to change the constitution to allow 12 casinos to open across the state, seven of which could be built at horse tracks. A separate proposal introduced last week would guarantee no casinos at horse tracks. Another would allow up to five at horse tracks.
In a Bible-belt state that already allows gambling in other forms — such as on horse racing, the lottery and in bingo halls — it's been a tough election-year sell to some members of the General Assembly.
Owens said time could be running out for the proposal. Lawmakers have only 27 days remaining in the legislature session.

"I don't know where we go from here," Owens said. "There's going to have to be some giving by someone."
"It's a very significant and positive step for us," said John Mark Hack, head of the antigambling group Say No To Casinos. "But it's not over until it's over. There's no question that they will be back to make another run."
Discord among House lawmakers had already slowed Beshear's proposal to legalize casinos as a way to boost sagging state revenues to help erase a projected \$900 million budget shortfall over the next two years.

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2008 Great Easter Egg Hunt

CLUE #1
By now it should come as no surprise, that to see me you must first see the skies.

Visit floydcountytimes.com for a clue leading to a **SECOND EGG** worth \$200!

Bus wreck

Continued from p1

Marshall finds it difficult to maintain his composure when speaking of the disaster. "I can place a face to every name on that monument," he said.

"You never forget something like this," said Alvie Ousley, who along with husband Orville, lost a son, James, in the tragic accident. The Ousleys say that they hope no family ever has to endure the suffering that they, and the other Floyd County families who lost loved ones, have had to stand against.

Others, such as Janice Blackburn Allen, a survivor of the tragedy who was only 14 years old at the time, question why some perished while still others were spared. "Today, I still find myself wondering, 'Have I really made enough of a contribution to society to warrant my still being alive,'" she said.

"Through the years," Allen said with wavering voice, "I just think people have had a difficult time dealing with the scope of it all."

Those who perished in the accident, and whose memories

are held in the newly erected monument, include: James L. Meade Jr., Joyce Ann Matney, James Thomas Ousley, Doris Faye Burchett, Glenda May Cesco, Paulette Cline, Linda Darby, James Edward Goble, Anna Laura Goble, Margaret Louise Hunt, Bucky Ray Jarrell, Marcella Jervis, Thomas Roosevelt Jervis, John Harlan Hughes, Katie Carol Jarrell, Montaine Jervis, Kathryn Justice, Rita Cheryl Matney, Nanny Joyce McPeck, Randy Wallen, James Edison Carey, Kenneth Forrest Cesco, Sandra Faye Cline, Emogene Darby, John Spencer Goble, Jane Carol Harris, and bus driver, John Alex DeRossett.

COMING FRIDAY
The survivors remember.

A monument to the memory of those who perished was also erected earlier by the Living Memorial Scholarship Committee in October, 1984.

Hall, along with many other families and residents, still hopes to see yet another memorial, a historical marker, placed at the site near Knotley Hollow where the ill-fated bus plunged into the Big Sandy.



Times file photo

The scene to the bus crash brought hundreds of volunteers who sought to do anything they could help.

Council looks ahead to variety of events, grants

by JACK LATTA
STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — Several grant proposals to help spur economic development and a host of upcoming city events were voted on and examined Monday night during the Prestonsburg City Council meeting.

According to Brent Graden, Prestonsburg's Economic Development Director, a "State of the County" address will be made on March 18 at the Mountain Arts Center. The address will be made jointly by Mayor Jerry Pannin, and Floyd County Judge Executive R.D. "Doc" Marshall.

"We want to give the good

leaders of Floyd County a platform to let all citizens know of how government is working for them. What projects are currently being worked on, what ideas do they have for the future, what obstacles need to be overcome," said Judge Marshall. "These are questions that will be addressed openly and honestly, and the feedback that we get from this annual event is very valuable to Floyd County."

Also in March, Graden hopes to officially unveil the city's wireless network at the MAC on March 20 at 5 p.m.

"In just a short time, we have had over 2,500 unique users, over 210 gigabytes downloaded, and fielded phone calls from over 20

states," said Graden.

On April 10, two events will focus on the environment with an Arbor Day Festival as well as the PRIDE Spring Roadside Cleanup.

David Crisp, landscape manager for the city, said in regards to the Arbor Day Festival, "We plan to plant thousands of tree seedlings, a tree planting demonstration, and a nightly celebration with food and a live band."

"We're making Prestonsburg a very green place to live," Crisp added.

Graden says the PRIDE cleanup is in its second year and thus far the program has disposed of 255 tons of trash and debris.

"When people come to visit

us, they now comment on how clean the area is," Graden said.

Graden said each event would be free and open to the public, and food and drinks will be provided.

During Monday's meeting, the council also voted to approve the purchase of several new scoreboards after Barry Rice, president of Little League, showed members some samples and explained how the boards will sell advertising.

After the scoreboards were approved, Rice took some time to ask city officials if the parks would still be ready to go by April 12. Officials said that, weather provided, the plumbing and block work would be completed on time.

Graden also presented the council with a report on the grants he will be applying for this year.

In all, Graden presented nine grants worth millions to fund city projects for the council to vote on, including a grant from Major League Baseball's Baseball Tomorrow Fund Grant, 2008 Farmers Market Competitive Grants program, Transportation Cabinet Enhancement Program for improving pedestrian facilities, GOLD Land and Water Conservation Grant Program, Federal Preserve America Grant Program, PRIDE Community Grant, Urban Forestry Grant Program, Transportation Cabinet Safe Routes to School

Program, and the Hamburger Helper Hometown Heroes Grants program.

Graden also presented the council with a list of upcoming events planned in and around the city in the coming months.

The city council also passed a motion Monday night to have a professional landscaping service improve the "Welcome to Prestonsburg" sign area, after councilman B.D. Nunnery said the area was looking pretty bad.

Middle Creek Battlefield planning Park Day cleanup

by JACK LATTA
STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — Almost 150 years after Union and Confederate forces met in battle at Middle Creek, another force, this time of volunteers, is planning to descend on the Civil War site this spring as part of preservation effort.

"Park day is a wonderful annual project," said Mary Koik, deputy director of communication for the Civil War

Preservation Trust. "We look for volunteers, in the spirit of camaraderie, to work this one day to help get these sites ready for tourist season."

According to CWPT, on Saturday, April 5, history buffs and preservationist volunteers from around the country will team up to help clean and restore many of America's priceless historic landmarks.

In partnership with "Take Pride in America," a division of the U.S. Department of the Interior, Park Day is a nation-

wide effort funded by a grant from The History Channel.

Participants gather at the sites to help with activities that range from trash removal to trail building. All volunteers will receive a t-shirt as well have an opportunity to discuss the history and significance of the site with a local historian.

According to Koik, 109 sites are participating around the country, in 24 states. Eleven of those participating are in Kentucky.

"Tourism is what keeps

these sites going, but they also take their toll on the grounds," said Koik adding that most of the sites have very limited staff, if any at all, and rely on volunteers to help maintain the grounds.

According to officials, CWPT has over 75,000 members and is the largest nonprofit battlefield preservation in the United States. CWPT works to preserve civil war sites and promote the locations through education and tourism.

For more information about Park Day at Middle Creek Battlefield, contact Frank Fitzpatrick at (606) 886-1312 or by email at fdfitz@mail.com.

For more information about CWPT visit their website at www.civilwar.org.

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Blood drive planned for ACHS next week

by JACK LATTA
STAFF WRITER

EASTERN — Kentucky Blood Center officials are encouraging donors to schedule an appointment for next week's blood drive in Floyd county.

This most recent blood drive will take place at Allen Central High School on Tuesday, March 4 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

"Donating blood is healthy thing to do. It not only makes donors feel good about saving a life, but they get a free mini-

physical every time, too," said David Whitt, donor recruitment specialist.

The KBC is encouraging eligible donors to give at the upcoming drive and hoping they will bring new donors with them.

According to KBC, every time a person donates blood, he or she is given a health questionnaire to fill out, and each donor also receives a free anemia exam as well as a pulse and blood pressure check.

Recent research has indicated that donating blood may have some positive

health affects, such as reducing the risk of heart disease for men.

Prospective donors can set an appointment by calling (800) 775-2522 or visiting www.kybloodcenter.org to receive details about future blood drives or donor center details.

The KBC, a nonprofit organization, supplies 67 Kentucky hospitals by maintaining a safe and adequate supply of blood, with the help of donors across the state.

Devices

C.B. Embry, R-Morgantown; and Charles Miller, D-Leitchfield.

Matthew met with a legislative attorney last fall to craft the wording.

"You hear more and more about players dying on the football field or basketball court," Matthew said. "Just having an AED there increases your chances of survival."

Ruth Saccone knows that's the truth.

She's the grandmother of Justin Saccone, who was 15 when he died on a Campbell County baseball field Sept. 21,

2003.

Justin was hit in the chest with a baseball and died of cardiac arrest.

Saccone is glad to see what Matthew is doing.

"I think (this bill) is something that should have happened a long time ago," she said.

Saccone is president of the Justin Saccone Foundation, which has provided nearly two dozen AEDs to local schools. The main reason more schools don't have them is cost. AEDs can run more than \$1,000 and, with state money being scarce,

that could be what derails House Bill 107.

Kristy Spicer said the money needs to be found.

"Everybody is concerned about money," Spicer said. "That's completely offensive to us. What's \$1,200 for a life?"

The education committee

meets each Tuesday. The bill, so far, has not been put on a meeting agenda.

Matthew is hoping the committee will listen to his story.

"I just want to go there and speak my mind and give them my personal account," he said. "I'm going to try to keep getting it passed."

Continued from p3

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Take it to heart

Make smart, tasty choices for healthy eating

It's important to understand what to look for when making choices for a heart-healthy eating plan. Learning about fat and cholesterol can help you make smart choices and let you enjoy a diet abundant in flavorful foods while reducing your fat and cholesterol intake.

Fat and Cholesterol Facts From the American Heart Association

- There are four major fats in the foods we eat: saturated fats, *trans* fats, monounsaturated fats and polyunsaturated fats.
- The "bad fats" are saturated and *trans*. They raise bad cholesterol (LDL) in your blood.
- The "better fats" are monounsaturated and polyunsaturated. They may help raise good cholesterol (HDL) when consumed in moderation.
- We definitely need some fat in our diets — for energy, cell growth, making important hormones and absorbing some nutrients — but not as much as most of us eat. The fats in the foods you eat should not total more than 25 to 35 percent of the calories you eat in a given day. For good health, the majority of those fats should be monounsaturated or polyunsaturated.
- Cholesterol comes from two sources: your body and food. Your liver and other cells in your body make about 75 percent of blood cholesterol. The other 25 percent comes from the foods you eat.
- Dietary cholesterol is found in some foods — foods of animal origin, particularly meat, egg yolks and high-fat dairy products. Limit your intake of cholesterol from food to less than 300 mg per day.



Products displaying the heart-check mark meet American Heart Association food criteria for saturated fat and cholesterol for healthy people over age 2.

www.heartcheckmark.org

It's the overall pattern of choices you make that count when building a heart-healthy diet. It's easy to select heart-healthy foods — look for vegetables, fruits, whole-grain, high-fiber foods, fat-free or low-fat dairy products, lean meat, poultry and fish to include in your sensible eating plan.

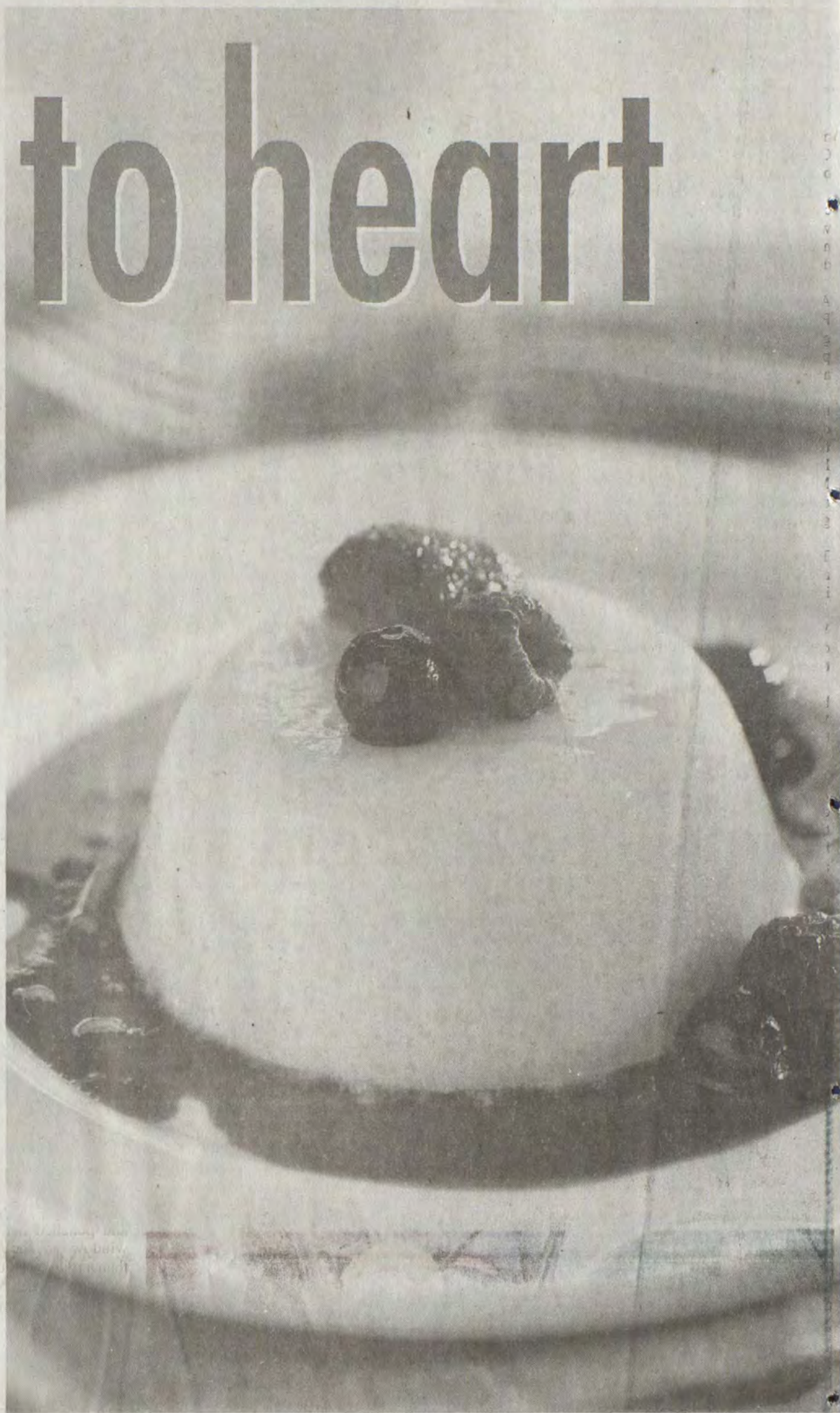
To quickly locate foods in the grocery store that can help you reduce your intake of saturated and *trans* fat as well as cholesterol, look for the American Heart Association heart-check mark. Foods that carry the mark are low in total fat, saturated fat, cholesterol and are limited in *trans* fat. Build your free, heart-healthy grocery shopping list at heartcheckmark.org.

Heart-healthy grocery shopping just got easier

It's now easier than ever to shop for heart-healthy foods. The American Heart Association's online grocery list builder has advanced. No more worrying about forgetting your list at home or work. Now you can save your grocery list and access it from your Web-enabled mobile phone or PDA.

Start by building your free, heart-healthy grocery list at heartcheckmark.org. Click "My Grocery List" to choose from hundreds of foods certified by the American Heart Association. Add household necessities in the "My Items" category, and enter your e-mail address to save your list for future use. The result is an organized, easy-to-use grocery list sorted by category, such as breads, dairy case, meats, snacks and more.

Visit mylist.heartcheckmark.org from your Web-enabled mobile phone or PDA, and enter your e-mail address to access your saved grocery list any time you need it. It's sure to make your next trip to the grocery store quick and efficient.



Vanilla Flans With Berry Coulis

Serves 4; 1 flan and 3 tablespoons coulis per serving

- Vegetable oil spray
- 2 cups water
- 1 cup fat-free evaporated milk
- 1/2 cup egg substitute
- 1 large egg
- 1/4 cup sugar
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 8 ounces frozen unsweetened mixed berries, thawed and juice reserved
- 1 tablespoon sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1/2 cup frozen unsweetened mixed berries (optional)

Put oven rack in center of oven. Pre-heat oven to 325°F. Lightly spray four 6-ounce ramekins or custard cups with vegetable oil spray.

Pour water into small saucepan. Bring to a rolling boil over high heat. Turn off heat, cover pan and leave on burner.

In food processor or blender, process evaporated milk, egg substitute, egg, 1/4 cup sugar and 1 teaspoon vanilla until smooth. Pour equal amounts (about 1/2 cup) of mixture into each ramekin.

Place 13- by 9- by 2-inch glass baking dish in oven. Pour boiling water into dish, then carefully place ramekins in dish. Bake 40 minutes, or until knife inserted in center of flan comes out clean. Carefully remove baking dish from oven and place it, with ramekins still in water, on cooling rack. Let cool slightly, about 10 minutes.

Meanwhile, in small bowl, gently stir together 8 ounces mixed berries, 1 tablespoon sugar and 1/2 teaspoon vanilla. Pour into fine sieve over medium bowl. Using back of a spoon, press berries firmly until all liquid is strained into bowl and only a thin coating of berry skins remains in sieve. Set coulis aside.

About 30 minutes before serving flans, set remaining frozen berries out to thaw slightly.

When flans are slightly cooled, remove ramekins from baking dish. Run knife around edge of each ramekin to release flans. Place dessert plate over each ramekin and invert. Serve warm or refrigerate and serve chilled, covering with plastic wrap once flans are cooled.

To serve, spoon coulis around each flan. Top with 1/2 cup mixed berries, if desired.

Nutrient information per serving: 186 calories, 10 g protein, 32 g carbohydrates (29 g sugars), 55 mg cholesterol, 1.5 g total fat (0.5 g saturated, 0.0 polyunsaturated, 0.5 g monounsaturated), 2 g fiber, 156 mg sodium
Dietary Exchanges: 1/2 fruit, 1/2 skim milk, 1 other carbohydrate, 1 very lean meat

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Shop smart! Live well! Look for the heart-check mark!

All products bearing the heart-check mark meet the American Heart Association's nutrition criteria per standard serving size to be:

- Low in fat (3 grams or less)
- Low in saturated fat (1 gram or less)
- Limited in *trans* fat (less than 5 grams)
- Low in cholesterol (20 milligrams or less)
- Moderate in sodium, with 480 milligrams or less for individual foods and
- Contain at least 10 percent of the Daily Value of one or more of these naturally occurring nutrients: protein, vitamin A, vitamin C, calcium, iron or dietary fiber

Additionally:

- Seafood, game meat, meat and poultry, as well as whole-grain products, main dishes and meals must meet additional nutritional requirements.

Odds & Ends

■ **LEXINGTON** — It might not even really be George Washington's hair — but it still sold for \$17,000.

Four strands reportedly clipped from the first president were sold at auction Friday night to a Richmond man who declined to give his name.

Colorado resident Christa Allen said her father, a Philadelphia attorney, had given her the hair, which was pressed under glass in a locket and accompanied by a watch.

Allen told potential buyers that the hair had been handed down since it was clipped from Washington's head. The Historical Society of Montgomery County, Pa., inspected Allen's evidence and gave her its backing.

Jamie Bates, owner of Thompson & Riley, which auctioned the hair, had hoped it would bring at least \$75,000.

"I've never sold George Washington's hair before; I don't know," Bates said before the auction.

The hair is believed to have been snipped from Washington when he was briefly disinterred in 1837.

■ **SOUTHGATE, Mich.** — A Detroit-area restaurant owner believes he has broken the world record for "largest hamburger commercially available."

After 12 hours of preparation and baking, the 134-pound burger emerged Saturday at Mallie's Sports Bar and Grill.

The "Absolutely Ridiculous Burger," made with beef, bacon and cheese, was delivered on a 50-pound bun, The Detroit News and the Detroit Free Press reported. It sells for \$350, and orders require 24 hours' notice.

Flipping the burger required three men using two steel sheets.

Owner Steve Mallie told The News he wanted to show that he has the biggest and best burgers.

Authenticating Mallie's claim could take a few weeks. His burger would outweigh the 123-pound burger made last year by Denny's Beer Barrel Pub, of Clearfield, Pa.

■ **GASSVILLE, Ark.** — Every day since a tornado damaged the Harrises' home and their dog's pen, the family has checked to see whether Pongo made it back.

On Friday, nearly three weeks after the storm, he was — hungry but healthy.

"He poked his head out of the dog house," said Tim Harris, husband of Pongo's owner, Katresa Harris. "He was running; he was so excited to see her."

The 9-year-old basset hound and blue heeler mix had been missing since the Feb. 5 tornado devastated the Gassville area. He apparently ran off after the tornado broke open a fence.

The family has been returning to the home, which they are not living in during repairs,

to see whether Pongo returned and to put out food. The family also made posters with a picture of Pongo and checked animal shelters.

"I knew he made it," Tim Harris said. "We never gave up on him, that's for sure."

The Gassville tornado was one of a swarm that killed more than 50 people across the South. And Pongo was one of at least 30 animals in Baxter County reported missing afterward, according to the Humane Society of North Central Arkansas.

Some pets had to fend for themselves for a few days because residents in the storm-ravaged areas weren't allowed to return home immediately, said Rick Day, the society's president.

"As officials straightened things out and made the homes accessible, folks were able to find their pets," Day said. "If anything came out of this, it's that there's a higher awareness of homeless pets and adoptions."

■ **SECAUCUS, N.J.** — Modern technology is leading some drivers in Secaucus, N.J. straight into a dead end.

Truck drivers relying on GPS devices and online map to show them the route to an industrial area are instead running into a road block.

The electronic maps don't show a gate that separates residential and industrial areas. It's only opened for a couple hours on weekdays in the

northern New Jersey city.

Mayor Dennis Elwell says residents on Fifth Street started complaining about trucks clogging their street about a year ago as GPS devices increased in popularity. Some drivers have to call police to open the gate because their trucks are too big to turn around.

Garmin International spokesman Jake Jacobson says the GPS maker has to receive a request or complaint and go through a thorough process before maps can be changed.

■ **BANGOR TOWNSHIP, Mich.** — The determination of an angry snowmobile owner — plus miles and miles of tracks in the snow — have led police to a suspected chop shop for stolen snowmobiles.

Police say the man discovered Saturday that his snowmobile was missing from his home in Van Buren County's Arlington Township in southwest Michigan.

The man, whose name was not released, called police and set out on a borrowed snowmobile following tracks in the snow for about 10 miles through fields and along roads.

Relatives and friends followed by car as he trailed the tracks to a home in Bangor Township.

"The tracks that they had followed led right up to a garage door," Michigan State Police said in a news release.

Inside the garage, police found the man's snowmobile, already disassembled, plus three others and many snowmobile parts.

Police said they had numerous suspects and expected to file charges.

Bangor Township is about 25 miles west of Kalamazoo and some 155 miles west of Detroit.

■ **HAVERSTRAW, N.Y.** — A man fighting with his girlfriend clung to a car roof and punched her through the window as she drove more than a mile on a busy road, hitting several other cars, police said.

Both were hurt in the brawl Saturday and were arrested, police Sgt. Manfredo Figueroa said.

The man, William Kremer, apparently jumped onto the car and held on as girlfriend Stacey Sperrazza wove along Route 202 with the car's air bag inflated, police said. She eventually stopped the car and hit him with it, police said.

Sperrazza, 37, of Stony Point, was arrested on a felony charge of reckless endangerment. Kremer, 42, of Haverstraw, was arrested on a misdemeanor assault charge. No telephone numbers could be found for the two. Police had no immediate information early Sunday on whether they had lawyers.

He was treated for a foot injury, she for eye and head wounds, police said.

■ **BERKELEY SPRINGS, W.Va.** — Drink up, Los Angeles.

The city's residents have the tastiest tap water, according to the judges of the world's largest and longest-running water tasting contest.

The 18th Annual Berkeley Springs International Water Tasting was held Saturday, with more than 120 waters competing for top honors.

Sparkling, tap and bottled water from 19 states and 9 foreign countries, including New Zealand, Romania, Macedonia and the Philippines, were judged by 10 journalists and food critics.

Judges based their rankings on taste, odor, mouth feel, aftertaste — and checked to make sure nothing was floating in the water.

The title for Best Municipal Water in 2008 is shared by Clearbrook, British Columbia, and the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, which serves Los Angeles.

"It's not the first time Los Angeles has won, they've won a number of times over the

years," said event producer Jill Klein Rone. "It means they give special care and attention to their water and how it is processed."

■ **ANCHORAGE, Alaska** — From sausages to stews, reindeer are usually a main dish in Alaska.

But the antlered animals were the main event at Anchorage's first annual running of the reindeer.

A cheering crowd of hundreds lined snow-packed Fourth Avenue Sunday to watch what was touted as Alaska's version of Spain's famed running of the bulls.

"Normally we just eat them," said Mark Berg, a spectator who has lived in Alaska since 1967. "I just made some jambalaya the other day out of reindeer sausage. I've eaten more of their cousins than they want to know."

Seven little reindeer, looking a bit bewildered, stood next to their handlers as a crowd of roughly 1,000 costumed runners chatted excitedly at the start.

The reindeer were lined up behind the first heat of runners — several hundred women in costume. One had taped a paper bulls-eye to her back. Others masqueraded as carrots and lichen, both favorite foods of reindeer.

At the signal to go, the reindeer stamped into the crowd. Passing tourist shops, the downtown federal building and a stand selling reindeer hotdogs, the animals were well out in front by the halfway point.

"We thought, 'Ok, they're just going to mosey along,' but they took off running," said Amanda Pelkola, who dressed as a carrot with a friend. "We got smoked by the reindeer."



A two-car head-on collision Monday morning on Route 404 stalled traffic while rescue workers hurried to extract one victim from her car. According to police officials, the driver of the car was treated and released, while the driver of the minivan had to be airlifted to Huntington.

W.Va. governor protests film using negative stereotypes

by JOHN RABY
ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHARLESTON, W.Va. — Gov. Joe Manchin and a miners' union took offense Tuesday to a planned scene from an upcoming film starring Julianne Moore that stereotypes West Virginians as inbreeds.

The horror thriller "Shelter" is recruiting extras with unusual physical features for a scene in a West Virginia "holler," according to the statement from Donna Belajac Casting of Pittsburgh.

The casting call said the film is looking for extras who are extraordinarily tall or short, those with unusual body shapes and unusual facial features, especially eyes, and even people with physical abnormalities as long as they have normal mobility.

"It's clear that they have no real understanding of who the people of West Virginia are," Manchin said. "And that's not only unfortunate, but in this case offensive. Certainly it doesn't sound like a movie worth watching."

The casting call also advertises for a 9- to 12-year-old white girl with an "otherworldly look ... could be an albino or something along

those lines — she's someone who is visually different and therefore has a closer contact to the gods and to magic. 'Regular-looking' children should not attend this open call."

Shooting for those scenes is scheduled to start Sunday in the Pittsburgh area.

Casting agency director Donna Belajac didn't immediately return a telephone message Tuesday.

The casting call prompted a seething response from Cecil E. Roberts, president of the United Mine Workers union.

"Why must it be automatically assumed by the surgically enhanced 'beautiful people' who populate Hollywood that those who live in the hills and hollows of places like West Virginia are all afflicted with physical abnormalities?" Roberts said.

"For the producers of this movie to issue such a blatantly insulting and demeaning casting call is not just a slap in the face to tens of thousands of West Virginians, but to millions of Americans who may not fit the 'norm' of Hollywood beauty," Roberts said.

The entertainment industry has long used negative Appalachian stereotypes, including 1972's

"Deliverance," a story about a group of men whose river-rafting trip goes horribly wrong.

Hollywood attempts at stereotypes haven't always been successful, though.

CBS hoped to remake the 1960s "Beverly Hillbillies" into a reality show in 2002, but tabled the idea after negative public reaction, including a protest by mine workers from West Virginia and Kentucky at CBS' parent company, Viacom.

In 2004, after an outcry from Appalachian residents, NBC scuttled a proposed rural-to-riches reality show "The High Life" that would have followed an Appalachian family's adjustments to a ritzy lifestyle in Beyerly Hills. NBC cited "creative reasons," not the protests, as the reason the show wasn't pursued.

"It harkens back to a dark time in our nation's history when flimflam artists roamed the country making a quick buck with traveling 'freak' shows, displaying human beings who may have different bodily characteristics, in darkened cages," Roberts said. "I believe our society has progressed past that point — maybe not in Hollywood, but it has in other, more enlightened parts of America."

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<p style="font-weight: bold; color: red;">2002 Jeep Grand Cherokee 4x4</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">Leather, Heated Seats, Sunroof.</p>	<p style="font-weight: bold; color: red;">2002 GMC Sonoma</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">Local Trade, Very Sharp! Only 62,000 Miles.</p>	<p style="font-weight: bold; color: red;">2002 Toyota 4Runner SR5, 4x4</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">Sports Pkg., Sunroof, Local Trade.</p>
<h2 style="font-size: 3em; margin: 0;">TAX TIME SPECIALS</h2>		
<p style="font-weight: bold; color: red;">2000 Chevy Cavalier</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">Local Trade, Sharp. 100,000-Mile Warranty!</p>	<p style="font-weight: bold; color: red;">2000 Chrysler Cirrus</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">LXI, Leather, Sunroof, Gas Saver. 100,000-Mile Warranty!</p>	<p style="font-weight: bold; color: red;">1999 Ford Explorer</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">4x4, Looks Great. Great Tax Time Ride!</p>
<p style="font-weight: bold; color: red;">Call Kenny Smiley or Scott Reed and ask them how to spend your Income Tax Refunds.</p> <h1 style="font-size: 3em; margin: 0;">AUTO TRADERS Inc.</h1> <p style="font-size: 0.9em;">Beside U.S. Bank, Downtown Prestonsburg, KY 41653</p> <p style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold; color: red;">606-889-8942</p>		

Early Times | Doral Cigarettes
\$18.99 1/2-gal. | Carton \$21.99 + tax

J & J Liquors

Betsy Layne • 478-2477

SURGEON GENERAL'S WARNING: Cigarette smoking causes carbon monoxide.

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"For Sale Special"
3 lines/
3 days only



5 Easy ways to place your ad:

1. **Call:** (606) 886-8506, LeighAnn Williams
2. **Fax:** (606) 886-3603
3. **E-mail:** classifieds@floydcountytimes.com
4. **Stop by:** 263 S. Central Avenue, Prestonsburg
5. **Mail:** P.O. 390, Prestonsburg, KY 41653

Our hours: 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

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Wednesday's paper @ Mon., noon
Friday's paper @ Wed., 5 p.m.
Sunday's paper @ Thurs., 5 p.m.

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The Best Way To Write An Ad:

- Begin with a key word (item for sale, etc.)
- Use descriptive words to identify your items
- State your price or terms
- Include a phone number and/or e-mail address

NAME _____
ADDRESS: _____
PHONE #: _____

Write your ad here:

(approximately 18 letters per line) _____

CREDIT CARD: _____

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The **FLOYD COUNTY TIMES** does not knowingly accept false or misleading advertisements. Ads which request or require advance payment of fees for services or products should be scrutinized carefully.

For sale: 2000 Dodge neon. 4 cyl. 35 miles per gallon. Call today for more information. Call 226-1198.

For Sale 2002 Pontiac Sunfire. 2-door, white automatic with sunroof. \$6,200 Call 874-2745 or 874-9703.

2006 Harley Sporster Custom 1200cc, 1400 miles - \$7,200.00 and a **2006 Harley Dyna Lowrider** 1600 miles - \$10,400.00. Both excellent condition. (606) 377-2028 or (606) 377-6229.

FOR SALE Submergible deep well Meyer pumps. Half 3 quarter and 1 horse power. Call 358-2000.

Cost Cutters Family Hair Salon. Located in Pikeville Walmart. Is seeking full or part time hair stylist. Good pay. Paid vacation & other benefits. Anthem ins ava. Call Kay 606-432-6629.

AUTOMOTIVE

Wheels/Misc

HICKS AUTO SALES DAVID ROAD Chevy c60 Dump truck 14 foot bed \$3800.
2002 Ford F-150 extra cab 4x4 (5.4) 8,995
1995 GMC Conversion VAN \$3800
886-2842
886-3451.

Real nice 89 Chevy long bed. 2 wheel drive. Good shape. \$2,500 Must see. Call 886-2842 or 886-3451.

For sale: 1992 Ford F250 Utility truck, good tool bed, lots of new parts just put on. 4x4 works great. A 1990 Chevrolet K-1500 4x4 pick-up with lots of new parts runs good. A 1993, Ford Ranger with new parts, runs and drives great, 4-cylinder, good gas mileage. Call call 339-5019. 8:00 am-5pm daily

2003 Jeep wrangler **Benchmark**

"Bring us a copy of your 2007 W-2's and receive a month's free rent"
*deposit may be paid in 3 installments
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RESTAURANT
Prestonsburg

HELP WANTED: Waitresses, dish-washers/busboys, cooks. Paid vacation, health insurance available. Uniforms furnished.

No phone calls, please!
Apply in person.

EMPLOYMENT

Housekeepers needed. Must have experience. Must work weekends. Come by and apply. Microtel Inn-Prestonsburg.

Health care center has an opening for full time or part time LPN's or RN's. We offer competitive wages and excellent benefits. If interested please stop by or send a resume to 147 N Highland Ave. Prestonsburg Ky 41653 (beside Prestonsburg elementary) or call 886-2378.

Family Services is seeking a Case Manager for local office. Requirements: Bachelor of Social Work, or closely related field, with two years experience working with families and children. To apply, please send resume to Spencer Wahl, Benchmark Family Services. 199 North Lake Drive, Prestonsburg, Ky 41653.

Sandy Valley Transportation Services, Inc. is seeking qualified applicants for the positions of a transit driver. Must be at least 21 years old, pass drug test, D.O.T physical examination, driving history and conviction record and other qualifications listed with the Application for Employment. Benefits for eligible employees include; health, dental, life, vision insurance, retirement plan, credit union, holiday, sick and vacation days. Phone 1-800-444-ride / 7433, or write to SVTS at 81 resource court, Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653-7850 for an Application for Employment and more information.

Underground mining equipment mechanic needed with extensive mechanical & hydraulic experience & machinist needed with experience in portable line boring equipment. Competitive salary and excellent benefit package offered, including 401k company match with immediate vesting. Send resumes to: Appalachian Fuels, Office Manager: 1033 Port Rd., Wurtland, Ky 41144.

Mountain Manor of Paintsville is now taking applications for a RN or LPN position. Excellent wages and benefits. Apply in person at 1025 Euclid Avenue, Paintsville, Ky from

Abbott Engineering, Inc

APARTMENTS FOR RENT

1, 2, 3, 4 Bedrooms
available for extremely low-income people at Highland Heights Apts., in Goble-Roberts Addn., and Cliffside Apts. on Cliff Road, Prestonsburg. Computerized learning centers offer social/educational programs for children and adults. All utilities included at Highland Hgts., utility allowance at Cliffside. Call (606) 886-0608, 886-1927, or 886-1819. TDD: 1-800-648-6056. Highland Heights and Cliffside Apartments do not discriminate in admission or employment in subsidized housing on account of race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, religion and familial status.

APPLICANTS BEING ACCEPTED FOR 1-BEDROOM APARTMENTS FOR PERSONS 55 AND OLDER
Located behind Wendy's and Pizza Hut in Prestonsburg. All utilities are included and the rent is based upon gross monthly income. Several activities, such as line dancing, crafts, bingo, movies, hair salon and church services. The apartments are furnished with a refrigerator, stove, emergency alarm system, and air conditioner. For more information, please call Highland Terrace at 606-886-1925, TDD: 1-800-648-6056 or 711, or come by the office for an application. Highland Terrace does not discriminate in admission or employment in subsidized housing on account of race, color, creed, religion, sex, national ori-

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15'.....	\$1189	4 MONTHS SAME AS CASH
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24'.....	\$1514	
15x30 oval.....	\$1999	

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www.holidaypools.info

DRIVER

We are seeking a full-time Driver at our Martin, KY, location, to operate company vehicles to transport products to and from specified destinations. This position is responsible for operating company equipment at the job-site under the direction of the Location Manager. Must possess a current Class A CDL with Hazmat and Tanker endorsements, high school diploma or GED, and 2+ years driving experience.

Please forward your response information to Austin Powder Company, Fax: (606) 285-5171, Call: (606) 285-5166, or email: humanresources@austinpowder.com.

Big Sandy Area Development District has two positions available as follows:

Homecare Case Manager
The position involves the collection of in-depth information about a person's situation and functioning, a process generally referred to as "assessment"; as well as periodic formal re-evaluation of this information, referred to as "reassessment"; and a systematic process for insuring that clients receive appropriate, comprehensive, and timely services to meet their needs as identified in the assessment process, generally referred to as "case management."

Required Education and Experience
The applicant for this position must be:

- A trained social worker, possessing a bachelor's degree with two years of professional experience in working with the elderly; or a masters of Social Work degree, with six months appropriate work experience; or
- A licensed nurse with two years experience in direct care of the elderly, while an employee of a home health agency, long-term care facility, public health agency, or a social services agency; or
- A Registered Nurse

Send letter of interest and résumé with references to:
Ms. Terry Trimble
110 Resource Court, Prestonsburg, KY 41653
by Friday, February 29, 2008.
EOE

health care experience and be certified as a PHR or SPHR or whose combination of education and experience will give them the best opportunity for success. Interested candidates should send their resume to: Pikeville Healthcare Center David R. Baumgartner, S P H R "mailto:dbaumgartner@hqmmail.com" dbaumgartner@hqmmail.com (859) 806-1517 Fax (859) 523-5564 PO Box 910844 Lexington, KY 40591-0844

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Human Resource Director - We are looking for the right person to be a part of the management team who has a track record of building a culture of team work. The successful candidate will have human resource experience preferably in

KY Homecare / Big Sandy ADD

Certified Nurse Aide
Elkhorn City and Virgie areas

- Full-Time Position, 37.5 Hrs./Wk.
- \$6.00 per hour with Benefits
- \$7.00 per hour after 2 months Probationary Period
- Health and Dental Benefits
- Vacation and Sick Leave
- Paid Holidays
- Mileage Reimbursement, \$0.37 mi.
- Criminal Records Check and Drug Screen Required before employment

Call for application or apply in person at Big Sandy Area Development Office in Prestonsburg.
Contact Darlene Walker
606-886-2374 or 1-800-737-2723
Equal Opportunity Employer

Big Sandy

Community & Technical College

Mine Rescue Station Coordinator
(Contract position—Pikeville campus)

Example of duties: Serve as primary contact for federal agencies, state agencies, coal companies, operators and KCA Office for mine rescue related issues, coordinate on-site training activities of the mine rescue teams assigned to the rescue station, train mine rescue teams for mine rescue events, maintain mine rescue station equipment and documentation, prepare and schedule mine rescue teams for "Mine Rescue Competitions," provide consulting/counseling services to coal mine companies and operators in mine rescue operations, promote public relations and attend training/seminars as needed and maintain mine rescue certifications as required by federal and state regulations.

Minimum Requirements: Associate degree (Mining Technology or related field) and a minimum of seven years experience in mine rescue within the past 15 years. Mine Rescue Instructor certification will substitute for associate degree. Instructors must have been employed in an underground mine for a minimum of one year within the past five years and received Mine Safety and Health Administrator (MSHA) Certified Mine Instructor certification (required).

Salary: Commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Procedure: Formal applications are available at Big Sandy Community & Technical College, Office of Human Resources, Johnson Administration Building, Room 110, or via email request: jackie.cecil@kctcs.edu or by phone: (606) 886-3863 Ext. 67370. Review of applications will begin March 7, 2008. Applications accepted until position is filled. Applicants must submit a résumé, completed application, college transcripts and copies of all certifications to: **Jackie B. Cecil, Director of Human Resources, Big Sandy Community & Technical College, One Bert T. Combs Drive, Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653.**

Big Sandy Community and Technical College is an equal opportunity employer and education institution.
Women and minorities are encouraged to apply.

2-6 ft glass display cases for sale! Also **2-5 ft wood cabinets** for sale. Call 886-3142. 9am-5pm

Beautiful Maggie SoHero wedding gown size 12 original cost \$1600, selling \$500. Call 606-886-9626. If interested please leave message and number.

Beautiful purple prom dress. Size 26W. Originally paid \$400 for dress asking \$100. Call 424-3794.

3 Carat diamond bracelet for sale. \$250. Call 791-0107

Furniture

Sofa & Chair for sale. Newly upholstered. \$450 Must see to believe! Beautiful!! Call 1-859-6283 or 1-422-5597

ALLEN FURNITURE

U.S. 127 South, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601, by April 9, 2008.

A public hearing on the application has been scheduled for Thursday, April 10, 2008 at 9:00 a.m. or as soon thereafter as may be heard at the Department for Mine Reclamation and Enforcement's Prestonsburg Regional Office, 3140 South Lake Drive, Suite 6, Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653. This hearing will be canceled if no request for a hearing or informal conference is received by April 9, 2008. All comments, objections, or requests for a permit conference must be received within 30 days of today's date.

November 2005. Written comments, objections, and requests for a public hearing or informal conference must be filed with the Director, Division of Field Services, #2 Hudson Hollow, U.S. 127 South, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601, by April 9, 2008.

A public hearing on the application has been scheduled for Thursday, April 10, 2008 at 9:00 a.m. or as soon thereafter as may be heard at the Department for Mine Reclamation and Enforcement's Prestonsburg Regional Office, 3140 South Lake Drive, Suite 6, Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653. This hearing will be canceled if no request for a hearing or informal conference is received by April 9, 2008. All comments, objections, or requests for a permit conference must be received within 30 days of today's date.

NOTICE OF BOND RELEASE

In accordance with the provisions of KRS 350.093, notice is hereby given that Matt/Co, Inc., 439 Meadows Branch, Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653 has applied for Phase I bond release on Permit Number 836-0304 which was last issued on August 24, 2006. This permit 3 covers an area of approximately 42.97 acres located 2.6 miles north of Emma in Floyd County.

The proposed operation is approximately 0.70 miles northeast from Sugarloaf Branch Road 979's junction with KY 1428 and is located on Dials Branch of Sugarloaf Branch of the Levisa Fork.

The bond now in effect for this permit is a certificate of deposit and a Kentucky Bond Pool bond in the amount of one hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000.00). Approximately sixty percent (60%) of the original bond amount of \$150,000 is included in this application for release.

Reclamation work performed includes: backfilling, grading, seeding and mulching completed in

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

A public hearing will be held on March 18, 2008 at 9:00 a.m., Eastern Daylight Time, at the office of the Kentucky Public Service Commission, 211 Sower Boulevard in Frankfort, KY, for the purpose of Cross Examination of witnesses of Kentucky Power and Interveners in an Examination of the Application of the Fuel Adjustment Clause of Kentucky Power Company From May 1, 2007 through October 31, 2007.

Errol K. Wagner, Director of Regulatory Services Kentucky Power Company

area of approximately 23.32 acres and Increment No. 7 covers an area of approximately 25.96 acres located at Craynor in Floyd County.

The permit area is approximately 0.5 miles southwest from KY 680's junction with KY 979 and located on Hamilton Branch of Mud Creek.

The bond now in effect for Increment No. 2 is a surety bond in the amount of three hundred seventy thousand three hundred dollars (\$377,300.00). Approximately sixty percent (60%) of the original bond amount of \$377,300 is included in this application for release.

The bond now in effect for Increment No. 6 is a surety bond in the amount of seventy thousand one hundred dollars (\$70,100.00). Approximately sixty percent (60%) of the original bond amount of \$70,100 is included in this application for release.

Reclamation work performed for Increment Nos. 2, 6 and 7 includes: backfilling, grading, seeding and mulching completed in April 2006.

Written comments, objections, and requests for a public hearing or informal conference must be filed with the Director,

Division of Field Services, #2 Hudson Hollow, U.S. 127 South, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601, by April 9, 2008.

A public hearing on the application has been scheduled for Thursday, April 10, 2008 at 9:00 a.m. or as soon thereafter as may be heard at the Department for Mine Reclamation and Enforcement's Prestonsburg Regional Office, 3140 South Lake Drive, Suite 6, Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653. This hearing will be canceled if no request for a hearing or informal conference is received by April 9, 2008. All comments, objections, or requests for a permit conference must be received within 30 days of today's date.

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO MINE Pursuant to Application Number 836-0343 NW

In accordance with KRS 350.055, notice is hereby given that Frasure Creek Mining, LLC, 4978 Teays Valley Road, Scott Depot, WV 25560, (304) 204-1455 has applied for a permit for a surface coal mining and reclamation operation located 1.7 miles northeast of Hippo, Kentucky in Floyd County. The proposed operation will disturb 192.08 surface acres and will underlie 336.74 acres, and the total area within the permit boundary will be 528.82 acres. The proposed operation is approximately 0.8 miles south from KY 1210 junction with Alum Lick

Road and located 0.2 miles southwest of Caney Creek. The proposed operation is located on the Martin USGS 7 1/2 minute quadrangle map. The operation will use the contour and auger methods of surface mining. The surface area to be disturbed is owned by George Thornsby, et. al., Evie Thornsby, et. al., Shade and Patricia K. Pitts, Lou Ellen Pitts, et. al., Big Branch Holding Company, LLC, Chris Damron, Danny Ousley, Rosie Reffitt, Craig Ousley, et. al., Betty Litsey, Charles Litsey, Gordon Ousley, Brenda Ousley, Sally R. Kessie, Charles E. Bradley, Amy Bradley, Abby Bradley, Adam Bradley, Johanna L. Silveus, Kenneth Silveus, Earl and Peggy Stephens and Sianna Risner, Mont Ousley Heirs, Edward L. and Sadie Shepherd, J.T. and Anna Lea Thornsby, Phyllis Reffett, Dovie Thornsby, Glen Hurd-Estate, Jeff Slone, and Curt and Anna Howard. The operation will underlie land owned by Shade and Patricia K. Pitts, Lou Ellen Pitts, et. al., Big Branch Holding Company, LLC and Mont Ousley Heirs. The application has been filed for public inspection at the Department for Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement's Prestonsburg Regional Office, 3140 South Lake Drive, Suite 6, Prestonsburg, KY 41653. Written comments, objections, or requests for a permit confer-

ence must be filed with the Director of the Division of Permits, #2 Hudson Hollow Complex, U.S. 127 South, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601. All comments, objections, or requests for a permit conference must be received within 30 days of today's date.

NOTICE

I, Jennifer Burke Elliott, a duly licensed attorney practicing in Floyd County, Kentucky, have been appointed by the Floyd Circuit Court as Warning Order Attorney for the unknown spouse of Verline Janke Newsome. The Order is to notify the unknown spouse of Verline Janke Newsome that a legal action has been brought against him, the same being Floyd Circuit Court Civil Action No. 08-CI-00208. The legal action is in the nature of a debt collection against the unknown spouse of Verline Janke Newsome by the Plaintiff, Community Trust Bank, Inc., Successor in Interest to Community Trust Bank, N.A., and to secure a mortgage upon property located in Beaver, Kentucky, and being more particularly described in the Deed of Record in Deed Book 224, Page 588, in the Floyd County Clerk's Office.

unknown spouse of Verline Janke Newsome that his failure to respond to the Plaintiff's Complaint could result in a loss of his interest in the property that was stated herein. As Warning Order attorney, a response must be filed within 50 (fifty) days of February 14, 2008.

Jennifer Burke Elliott
Attorney at Law
181 E. Court Street
Prestonsburg, KY 41653
(606) 886-9937

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY FLOYD CIRCUIT COURT DIVISION II CASE NO. 06-CR-00093-001 and 002 COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY PLAINTIFF VS. GORA K. WICK-ORAH WALLEN DEFENDANTS NOTICE OF COMMISSIONER'S SALE *** BY VIRTUE OF ORDER of the**

Floyd Circuit Court entered on the 1st of March, 2007 in the Floyd Circuit Court, in the above styled action, I shall offer for sale, various lots in container boxes of goods and items of personal property now stored in (1) 12' box trailer and (1) 8' box trailer situated in the parking lot of the municipal building in Prestonsburg, Kentucky, which shall be sold at public auction to the highest bidder on the 15 day of th March, 2008 at 10:21 a.m. The

The Complaint of Community Trust Bank, Inc., alleges that Verline Janke Newsome executed and delivered a Promissory Note and has failed or refused to repay the same. Notice is hereby given to the

contents of the various lots of merchandise shall be sold by Jim Gamble, Auctioneer, of Century 21 American Way Realty & Auction Service, of Paintsville, Kentucky. TERMS OF SALE: 1. All sales are final with cash payment due in full on the date of sale; 2. The goods and items to be sold are sold "as is, where is", with no warranty or representations as to the condition of the goods or the fitness of same for any purpose. Neither the Master Commissioner nor the Auctioneer makes any warranties of title with respect to the goods and items sold. 3. Same are being sold pursuant to an Order of Forfeiture of the goods and items in the above styled action. 4. All proceeds shall be paid to the victims in the case, pursuant to further orders of the court.

By virtue of the Order of the Floyd Circuit Court, dated February 2, 2008, the undersigned was appointed to serve as Warning Order to notify the Unknown Spouses of Unknown Spouses of the Unknown Heirs of Thelma Bentley, et al. of the pendency of a In Rem Complaint for Foreclosure of Real Estate of the following described property.

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY FLOYD CIRCUIT COURT DIVISION No. 1

C.A. No. 08-CI-00175
Kentucky Housing Corporation Plaintiff Vs. Unknown Spouses of Unknown Heirs of Thelma Bentley, et al. Defendants
NOTICE OF PENDING

NOTICE (OF FINAL SETTLEMENT)

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY COUNTY OF FLOYD...SCT

I, Douglas Ray Hall, Clerk of the Floyd District Court, do hereby certify that the following settlements of estates have been filed in my office. Anyone desiring to take exceptions to said settlements must do so on or before March 27th, 2008, at 10:00 a.m.

Settlement Case Number	Estate Of:	Fiduciary	Date Filed
Final 05-P-375	Rose Akers	Nedford Akers	1-10-08
Final 06-P-202	Freel Tackett	Donald Ray Tackett	1-10-08
Final 07-P-159	Lloyd H. Allen	Paulene Hicks Allen	1-28-08
Final 07-P-89	Albert Ratliff	Janet Ratliff	1-29-08
Final 07-P-178	Denny Hoover	Mary Patton Allen	1-30-08
Final 07-P-230	Shirley Newsom	Christopher Newsom	1-30-08
Final 07-P-252	Jack B. Reynolds	Emma S. Reynolds	1-31-08
Final 06-P-134	Eunice Allen	Bobby Allen	1-28-08
Final 06-P-15	Chester Lee Fields	Linda Fields	2-04-08
Final 06-P-13	Noralene Hamilton	Deborah A. Johnson	2-4-08
Final 06-P-18	Sherry Gwen Lytle	Roger Gayheart	2-7-08
Final 07-P-280	Rosa McGuire	Linda Cox	2-11-08
Final 07-P-258	Hobert Spurlock	Dana Spurlock & Lamar Spurlock	2-07-08
Final 07-P-209	John P. Wells	Donna Wells	2-07-08
Final 06-P-22	Cecil L. Kendrick	Gene Kendrick	2-07-08
Final 06-P-16	William P. Wells	Liza Jane Wells	2-08-08
Final 07-P-275	Margaret G. Tackett	Carolyn Tackett Layne	2-14-08
Final 06-P-32	Rubestene Akers	Rita Frasure	2-12-08
Final 06-P-223	Woodrow Dye	Glenda Johnson	2-13-08
Final 06-P-42	Nova Newsome	Leroy Newsome & Cecil Newsome Jr.	2-13-08
Final 06-P-323	Mildred Fannin	Bobbie Lynn Artrip	2-15-08
Final 06-P-409	James D. Burchett	Maxznea Burchett	2-01-08
Final 06-P-28	Arnold B. Sturgill	Donna Sue Sturgill	2-04-08
Final 05-P-421	Melvin Shepherd	Thelma J. Joseph	2-18-08
Final 06-P-354	Helen I. McKenzie	Elvenia Combs & Suva Music	2-19-08

LEGAL NOTICE: NOTICE OF APPOINTMENTS

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY COUNTY OF FLOYD

I, Douglas Ray Hall, Clerk of the Floyd District Court, do hereby certify that the following persons have been appointed fiduciaries by the District Court. All persons indebted to an estate should settle with the fiduciary within six (6) months from the date of appointment.

Date of Appointment	Case Number	Estate Of:	Fiduciary	Attorney
01-28-08	08-P-33	Carla J. Meade	Thomas Tay Meade	
02-01-08	08-P-39	Calvin Johnson	Cynthia Rackey	Ned Pillersdorf
02-04-08	08-P-40	Willie H. Hamilton	Vanessa Hamilton	
02-05-08	08-P-42	Margie Tackett Kiser	Angela Brown	
02-07-08	08-P-45	Shadery Watson	Sheila Jarrell	B.D. Nunery
02-07-08	08-P-46	Rubel Gertrude Wright	Virginia Moore	B.D. Nunery
02-11-08	08-P-50	Dillard Shepherd	Judith Shepherd	
02-11-08	08-P-53	Ethel Hamilton	Gregory Keith Hamilton	Anthony Craig Davis
02-11-08	08-P-54	George H. Cooley	Teresa Cooley	
02-12-08	08-P-55	Roger Samons	Randall Keith Samons	
02-15-08	08-P-57	Lillian Sizemore	Harvey Sizemore	William G. Francis
02-15-08	08-P-58	Jake Bates Jr.	William Bates	Clyde F. Johnson
			Kimberly Cross	
02-19-08	08-P-60	Linda Rae Weathers	Eugene C. Earthers, II	
02-19-08	08-P-64	William L. Baldrige	Betsy A. Baldrige	
02-19-08	08-P-65	Carlos Rogers	Deborah Rogers	
02-19-08	08-P-62	Gwendolyn Samons	Alex Samons	

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Described As:

Beginning on a willow corner to Rebecca Salisbury line and with her line to a spotted oak, same course to P.M. Dingus line and with P.M. Dingus line down the point to the C&O Railway, thence up the C&O Railway right-of-way to the beginning.

Being the same property conveyed to Mencie Bentley and Thelma Bentley, his wife, by virtue of a deed from Anne Stephens and Edgar Stephens, her husband, dated February 11, 1961, filed February 25, 1961, recorded in Deed Book 176, Page 410, County Clerk's Office, Floyd County, Kentucky. Mencie Bentley died on February 20, 1986, and pursuant to the Last Will and Testament of Mencie Bentley and Thelma Bentley of record in Book G, Page 239, all her rights, title and interest pass to Thelma Bentley.

And further conveyed to Thelma Bentley, no status given, by virtue of a deed from Robin Hale, no status given, dated October 29, 2003, filed October 29, 2003, recorded in Deed Book D492, Page 253, County Clerk's Office, Floyd County, Kentucky. Thelma Bentley died on October 22, 2005, and pursuant to the Last Will and Testament of Mencie Bentley and Thelma Bentley of record in Book G, Page 239, all her rights, title and interest pass equally to her children, Dianna G. Hale, Mary B. England, Terry D. Bentley, and Mencie D. Bentley,

Dianna G. Hale died on July 7, 2007.

Notice is given that any Unknown Spouses of Unknown Heirs of Thelma Bentley are directed to come forward and present any interest in the above-described real property they claim or be forever barred.

Signed, Mitchell D. Kinner Warning Order Attorney Kinner & Patton Law Offices 328 East Court Street Prestonsburg, KY 41653 (606) 886-1343

COMMON-WEALTH OF KENTUCKY FLOYD CIRCUIT COURT DIVISION No. 1 CIVIL ACTION No. 08-CI-00175 Kentucky Housing Corporation Plaintiff Vs. NOTICE OF PENDING ACTION

Mary B. England, executor and known heir of the Estate of Thelma Bentley, et al.

Defendants By virtue of the Order of the Floyd District Court, dated February 6, 2008, the undersigned was appointed to serve as Warning Order Attorney to notify the Defendant, Unknown Spouses of Unknown Heirs of Dianna G. Hale, of a In-Rem Complaint for Foreclosure of Real Estate of the following described property.

A parcel of land located on Left Beaver Creek, Northwest of Hannah Branch, near Hite, Floyd

County, Kentucky, and being more particularly described as follows:

Beginning on a stake, 11.9 feet from the center-line of the existing road and being S 75 deg. 13' W 50.49 feet from the East corner of house, and S 63 deg. 02' W 73.00 feet from South corner of the house; thence parallel and 30 feet from Said house S 39 deg. 00' W 144 feet to East right-of-way of the C&O Railroad; thence following the right-of-way in a Northwesterly direction 210 feet; thence leaving the right-of-way N 39 deg. 00' E 83 feet to the existing road; thence with the road in a Southeasterly direction 200 feet; thence leaving the road S 39 deg. 00' W 11.9 feet to the beginning, and containing 0.52 acres, more or less; the same according to a new survey dated December 27, 1979, by John A. Reed, Land Surveyor.

Formerly Described As:

Beginning on a willow corner to Rebecca Salisbury line and with her line to a spotted oak, same course to P.M. Dingus line and with P.M. Dingus line down the point to the C&O Railway, thence up the C&O Railway right-of-way to the beginning.

Being the same property conveyed to Mencie Bentley Thelma Bentley, his wife, by virtue of a deed from Anne Stephens and Edgar Stephens, her husband, dated February 11, 1961, filed February 25, 1961, recorded in Deed Book 176,

Page 410, County Clerk's Office, Floyd County, Kentucky. Mencie Bentley died on February 20, 1986, and pursuant to the Last Will and Testament of Mencie Bentley and Thelma Bentley of record in Book G, Page 289, all his rights, title and interest pass to Thelma Bentley.

And further conveyed to Thelma Bentley, no status given, by virtue of a deed from Robin Hale, no status given, dated October 29, 2003, filed October 29, 2003, recorded in Deed Book D492, Page 253, County Clerk's Office, Floyd County, Kentucky. Thelma Bentley died on October 22, 2005, and pursuant to the Last Will and Testament of Mencie Bentley and Thelma Bentley of record in Book G, Page 239, all her rights, title and interest pass equally to her children, Dianna G. Hale, Mary B. England, Terry D. Bentley, and Mencie D. Bentley, Dianna G. Hale died on July 7, 2007.

Notice is given that the Defendant, Unknown Spouses of Unknown Heirs of Dianna G. Hale, is directed to come forward and advise the undersigned of their name and/or address and come forward and present any defense they may have to the current complaint or be forever barred.

Signed, Robert J. Patton Warning Order Attorney Kinner & Patton Law Offices 328 East Court Street Prestonsburg, KY 41653 (606) 886-1343



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UPSET: Bobcats turn back Pikeville

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

BETSY LAYNE – The Betsy Layne High School boys' basketball program has been known to pull off a late-season upset. Such was the case on Friday night when the Bobcats defeated Pikeville, last season's 15th Region runner-up. Betsy Layne outscored the Panthers in three of four quarters, winning 73-66.

Jerrod Newman and Josh Head carried Betsy Layne offensively, finishing with 16 points apiece. Sam Keathley and Brennan Case aided the Bobcat offensive effort, scoring nine and

eight points, respectively. James Michael Lafferty added six points in the Betsy Layne triumph.

The Bobcats opened the game on a strong note, outscoring Pikeville 20-16 in the opening quarter. Betsy Layne owned a 35-32 halftime lead. The Bobcats remained out in front heading into the final quarter after outscoring longtime rival Pikeville 15-12 in the third period.

Betsy Layne, under the tutelage of first-year head coach Brian Hall, improved to 8-17 after posting the win.

Matt Cleverger paced

Pikeville with a game-high 18 points. Three different Pikeville players reached double figures in the final game of the regular-season. Pikeville ended the regular-season 16-11.

BETSY LAYNE 73,
PIKEVILLE 66

PIKEVILLE (16-11) – Bell 9, Cleverger 18, Adams 13, Honaker 3, Baker 6, Burchett 11, Branham 2, Ramey 4.

BETSY LAYNE (8-17) – Case 8, Keathley 9, Head 16, Tibbs 4, Tackett 4, Newman 16, Lafferty 6.

Pikeville.....16 16 12 22-66
BL.....20 15 15 23-73



photos courtesy of Dusty Layne Photography/East Kentucky Miners
EAST KENTUCKY MINERS guards Mike Crain (left) and Bryant Northern (right) signed autographs for young Prestonsburg basketball fans prior to the start of a recent CBA game at the Expo Center.

Rebels roll over Red Bird

TIMES STAFF REPORT

EASTERN – Eight different players provided scoring Friday night as Allen Central defeated Red Bird 90-74 in a game that served as a regular-season finale for both teams. Allen Central, one of the 15th Region's top teams, got 21 points from Aaron Crum. Alex Hammonds, Crum's runningmate in an all-senior backcourt, added 19 points for the Rebels.

Josh Prater pushed in 13 points, Robbie Cole collected 12 and Hunter Crowder added 10 for host Allen Central.

Logan Crowder narrowly missed double figures for Allen Central, finishing with nine points.

Clint Turner tossed in four points and Chris Stumbo scored two as Allen Central posted the win.

The Rebels overcame an early deficit. Red Bird outscored Allen Central 25-22 in the opening period. Allen Central, however, battled back. The Rebels outscored Red Bird 28-9 in the second quarter en route to a 50-34 halftime lead.

Derek Davis dumped in a game-high 35 points for Red Bird (13-11).

AC 90, RED BIRD 74
RED BIRD (13-11) – Davis 35, Sizemore 3, Fogleman 13, Roberts 9, Hacker 12, Nance 2.

AC (19-8) – Hammonds 19, Crum 21, Prater 13, L. Crowder 9, H. Crowder 10, Turner 4, Cole 12, Stumbo 2.

Red Bird.....25 9 22 18-74
AC.....22 28 20 22-90

Pirates slip past P'burg, 69-66

TIMES STAFF REPORT

BELFRY – Senior Dustin May scored a game-high 25 points Friday night as Belfry successfully defended its home hardwood in a regular-season finale versus Prestonsburg. The Pirates ended the regular-season 14-13, defeating Prestonsburg 69-66.

Belfry outscored Prestonsburg 14-10 in the opening quarter before falling behind in the second period. The Blackcats packed a 29-27 lead into halftime.

Three other players reached double figures in the scoring column as Belfry enjoyed a balanced offensive effort.

Belfry scored 21 points in each of the last two quarters. The Pirates went back out in front in the third quarter, outscoring Prestonsburg 21-17.

Sophomore Michael Burchett claimed team-high scoring honors for Prestonsburg. Burchett scored 18 points for the Blackcats. Senior Taylor Clark was Prestonsburg's second-leading scorer, finishing with 17 points. Nathaniel Stephens netted 12 points and Jody Tackett added 10 for visiting Prestonsburg (8-17).

BELFRY 69, P'BURG 66
P'BURG (8-17) – Burchett 18, Hall 7, Stephens 12, Tackett 10, Clark 17, Gearheart 2.

BELFRY (14-13) – Farley 13, Hairston 4, May 25, Elkins 12, Coleman 14, Dotson 1.

P'burg.....10 19 17 20-66
Belfry.....14 13 21 21-69



photos courtesy of Dusty Layne Photography/East Kentucky Miners
DANCE ETC. dance teams performed during the Feb. 10 East Kentucky Miners home game versus American Conference leader Minot.

Miners to kick off merchandise sales at Wal-Mart

TIMES STAFF REPORT

PIKEVILLE – Members of the East Kentucky Miners professional basketball organization – including Coach Kevin Keathley, players and Diamond Girls dancers – will be present at the Pikeville Wal-Mart on Wednesday from 4-7 p.m. for a meet-and-greet session with customers and fans. The meet-and-greet will serve as a kickoff for East Kentucky Miners merchandise sales at the Pikeville Wal-Mart. The Pikeville store and additional area Wal-Marts will now offer the Miners merchandise. Wal-Mart will ultimately carry various East Kentucky Miners merchandise, including hats and T-shirts.

The East Kentucky Miners logo has become popular among basketball fans and miners young and old alike.

During the meet-and-greet, Miners fans will have the opportunity to inter-

act with Keathley, players and the Diamond Girls dance team. During the gathering, autograph seekers will have the chance to have items signed.

The world's largest retailer, Wal-Mart has partnered with the Miners in the past. Wal-Mart helped to sponsor the Miners Charity Golf Outing in 2007 prior to the start of the team's inaugural season. The golf outing benefitted WestCare.

East Kentucky is gearing up for a two-game home series versus fellow CBA expansion franchise Oklahoma on Thursday, Feb. 28 and Friday, Feb. 29.



Slow start dooms Miners in Pittsburgh

TIMES STAFF REPORT

PITTSBURGH – John DeGroat scored a game-high 28 points Saturday night as host Pittsburgh successfully defended its home hardwood in an American Conference contest versus East Kentucky. The Xplosion held off the Miners 115-111 at the Petersen Events Center.

Pittsburgh (23-18), which owns the second-place spot in the American Conference behind fron-

trunner Minot, won the quarter points 5-2.

With Pittsburgh leading 113-111, Chaz McCrommon stripped East Kentucky's Josh Pace with five seconds remaining and hit two free throws to ice the game. McCrommon finished with 22 points.

Point guard Lincoln Glass added 12 points and 12 assists for the Xplosion.

East Kentucky, currently third in the American Conference, won both of the last two quarters. The

Miners outscored Pittsburgh 38-33 in the third quarter.

East Kentucky (21-21) never owned a lead in the conference matchup. The Miners, however, managed to pull within one point of the Xplosion late in the fourth quarter.

Mike Dean ranked as East Kentucky's leading scorer, finishing with a team-best 24 points as part of a balanced Miner offensive effort. Boo Jackson (23 points, 10 rebounds) and

Steve Thomas (22 points, 11 rebounds) had nearly identical double-double efforts for the East Kentucky pro basketball team.

Pace added 22 points and seven rebounds for the Miners. Jason McLeish scored 16 points and dished off eight assists as all five of East Kentucky's starters reached double figures in the scoring column.

Pittsburgh edged East Kentucky 39-37 in the rebounding department.

Expo Center to host Mid-South Conference Tournament

TIMES STAFF REPORT

PIKEVILLE – Several of the top teams in the nation will be in Pikeville for the Community Trust Bank Mid-South Conference Basketball Tournaments at the Eastern Kentucky Exposition Center, March 8-10.

The Mid-South Conference is traditionally one of the strongest National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) conferences in men's and women's basketball. Three of the MSC men's teams and one of the women's teams have been ranked in the top 10 of the NAIA Div. I poll this season. Included in that are the men from Georgetown College, who are currently ranked No. 1 in the country. Additionally, two men's teams and three women's teams have gotten votes this season as well.

Community Trust Bank is the major sponsor of the tournaments. "We are pleased to be a partner with

the Mid-South Conference in promoting the 2008 basketball tournaments," said Mark Gooch, president of Community Trust Bank. "We are proud of the accomplishments of the student-athletes in the classroom and on the basketball court. These young men and women are the leaders of tomorrow for our region. We look forward to seeing them compete at the Eastern Kentucky Exposition Center."

Schools in the Mid-South Conference (MSC) include Pikeville College, Georgetown College, Campbellsville University, the University of the Cumberlands, Lindsey Wilson College and West Virginia University Tech.

"The Mid-South Conference is excited about coming to Pikeville for our 2008 basketball tournaments," said MSC Commissioner Mike Pollio. "It is a first-class town with a first-class facility and first-class people. We appreciate the community and

Community Trust Bank for their hard work to help make this tournament an enjoyable and rewarding experience for the teams and their fans."

The event will begin on Friday, March 7 with a banquet for MSC student-athletes, coaches and administrators at the Mark V. After the banquet, the MSC cheerleading competition will be held at the Pikeville College Gymnasium. The cheerleading competition will begin at 8 p.m. Tickets will be available at the door. Admission is \$5 for adults and \$3 for students.

The basketball tournaments begin on Saturday and conclude on Monday afternoon, with a total of 10 games. There will be four games (two men's and two women's) on Saturday beginning at 10 a.m. and four games (two men's and two women's) on Sunday beginning at 1 p.m. The championship games will be played on Monday, March 4, at 11:30 a.m. and 2 p.m.

"This is a great opportunity to showcase our community, not to mention the significant economic impact the tournament will have on the city, county and region," said Pikeville College President Hal Smith. "We will be hosting 10 teams (five men's teams and five women's teams), as well as their respective cheerleading squads, faculty, staff, students, fans and media. We have received outstanding support from community leaders in our efforts to bring the tournament to Pikeville and our local host committee plans to make this tournament the best tournament in the history of the conference."

Tickets are only \$10 per day for adults, while students tickets are \$6 per day. Tickets may be purchased online through www.ticketmaster.com, at the Eastern Kentucky Exposition Center box office in person, or by calling the Expo Center box office at 606/433-1793.

Kentucky beats Arkansas in Pelphrey's return to Rupp as Razorback

by JEFFREY McMURRAY
ASSOCIATED PRESS

LEXINGTON — It was a forgettable return to Rupp Arena for an "Unforgettable" Kentucky alumnus.

John Pelphrey wore a Razorback red tie as he led his Arkansas team into the gym where he donned Kentucky blue as a college standout, but Kentucky spoiled the homecoming with a 63-58 victory Saturday.

"I knew there was going to be a flood of memories and emotions go through me when I got back in the building," Pelphrey said. "I found it really weird, holding my daughter's hand coming in. There's a lot of memories, but it doesn't get in the way of the job we're trying to get done."

Pelphrey's return aside, it was a critical conference game for both programs hoping to sneak into the NCAA tournament.

Kentucky (15-10, 9-3) remained a perfect six-for-six in Southeastern

Conference home games and sits two games behind No. 2 Tennessee for the top record in the East. Arkansas (18-8, 7-5) failed to make up ground on West-leading Mississippi State.

Pelphrey, a Kentucky native who was a fan favorite as a member of Rick Pitino's "Unforgettables" team that lost to Christian Laettner and Duke in the 1992 NCAA regional final, received a standing ovation from the crowd as he made his entrance through the tunnel.

During introductions, the reception was even more boisterous, as Pelphrey's retired No. 34 from his college days was shown on the video screen.

And the Arkansas players nearly pulled this one out for their first-year coach.

Midway through the second half, Kentucky had trailed by as many as 7 points, but the Wildcats clawed back to regain the lead down the stretch.

First, a fade jumper by Joe Crawford tied the game at 55-55 with just over two minutes left. Then, an almost identical

fade by Ramel Bradley a minute later gave the Wildcats the lead for good.

"We don't work on those shots," Bradley said with a grin. "Those are those shots you work on in the backyard or when nobody's in the gym. Those are the lucky shots."

And luck certainly seemed to shine on the Wildcats, who shot just 40 percent from the floor — a number that could have been much uglier if not for some fortunate bounces around the rim.

Kentucky coach Billy Gillispie acknowledged his team can shoot that way and still win, but he'd prefer it not happen much.

"I think our team has become well equipped enough to do that," Gillispie said. "But I would like to shoot 56 percent some time and play the same level of defense."

Bradley and Crawford led Kentucky with 18 points apiece.

"It came down to making one-on-one plays," Crawford said. "That's what I did, and it's what Ramel did."

During long stretches, it seemed the Razorbacks' only hope was SEC player of the year candidate Sonny Weems, who had 26 points — two shy of his career high. Arkansas' other big-name star, Patrick Beverley, was limited to just 6 points.

Down 29-28 early in the second half, Arkansas regained the lead with a 3-pointer by Weems, and he wasn't finished there. He chased down a loose ball just before it bounced out of bounds, then tiptoed the sideline and sprinted to the basket for a fastbreak dunk.

The Wildcats dominated the rebounding battle 37-24 behind freshman Patrick Patterson, who had 11 rebounds to go along with his 14 points for his sixth double-double of the season.

"We just wanted to put our man on our back and go straight for the ball," Patterson said of the team's rebounding success. "We wanted them more than they did."

At several points in the game, the

Wildcats found momentum — and crowd support — when they needed it most.

Kentucky trailed the first 13 minutes of the game and was behind 20-16 when Crawford nailed a 3 to cut the deficit to 1.

An Arkansas turnover on the ensuing inbound pass gave Kentucky the ball right back. That's when Derrick Jasper gave Kentucky its first lead with one of several ugly Kentucky shots on the afternoon that went in.

Jasper's first jumper was blocked, but he caught the deflection and heaved a prayer toward the basket while falling to the floor. Not only did the shot go in, putting the Wildcats ahead 21-20, but Jasper drew a foul from Vincent Hunter.

The free throw was no good, but the Rupp Arena crowd was awakened and didn't seem to slumber again for the rest of the game.

"Tonight if we don't have the home crowd like we did, we don't win," Gillispie said.

Tyler Hansbrough helps No. 3 Carolina handle Wake Forest

by AARON BEARD
ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHAPEL HILL, N.C. — North Carolina handled young Wake Forest with a steady showing that put the third-ranked Tar Heels atop the Atlantic Coast Conference. Now they get to rest.

Tyler Hansbrough had 29 points to continue his late-season surge while Wayne Ellington added 17 in the Tar Heels' 89-73 win over Wake Forest on Sunday night, helping them pull a half-game ahead of Duke.

Danny Green had 15 points for the Tar Heels (26-2, 11-2), who shot 56 percent to win their

fourth straight in the series. It was a good, though unflashy, way to head into a nearly week-long break before Saturday's trip to Boston College.

"It'll give us time to work on a lot of things that Coach is really stressing," Hansbrough said, "and also it'll help a lot of guys get healthy."

Most notably, point guard Ty Lawson, who has been out since spraining his left ankle Feb. 3 early in an overtime win at Florida State. Also, forward Deon Thompson (left knee) and swingman Marcus Ginyard (left big toe, right ankle) are playing through nagging injuries.

In other Top 25 games Sunday, it was No. 9 Stanford

79, California 69; No. 10 Xavier 57, Dayton 51; No. 11 Wisconsin 58, Ohio State 53; No. 18 Louisville 75, Pittsburgh 73; and No. 21 Notre Dame 94, Syracuse 87.

Tar Heels coach Roy Williams said he doesn't know whether Lawson will play against BC. Thompson was limited to 14 ineffective minutes against the Demon Deacons (16-9, 6-6).

At least North Carolina had Hansbrough, who went 9-for-13 from the field and 11-for-14 from the line. It was his seventh straight game with at least 22 points, a streak that began when the Tar Heels lost Lawson. Hansbrough is averaging 28

points and 12.1 rebounds during that stretch.

Ellington hit three 3-pointers, the biggest just before half-time when he took a high inbound pass from Green and knocked down a contested 3 from the far left corner in front of the Wake Forest bench. That gave North Carolina a 50-41 lead at the break.

The Tar Heels kept attacking the Demon Deacons to get them in foul trouble. Wake Forest was whistled for six fouls in the first 4 minutes, while 7-foot center Chas McFarland — matched up with Hansbrough early — picked up his fourth foul 48 seconds into the second half.

North Carolina took advantage, hitting 26 of 34 free throws.

"It's not just the guys in the striped shirts because we're going to throw the ball inside, we're going to attack the basket, we're going to get fouled and we're going to put the other team in position to be in foul trouble," Williams said. "We have with every team I've ever coached and every team I ever will."

James Johnson scored 22 for the Demon Deacons, who were within two points late in the first half before the Tar Heels steadily pulled away.

"When you're preparing for these guys there's so much to

Padgett's 21 points, foul shooting lift Cards past Pitt

by ALAN ROBINSON
ASSOCIATED PRESS

PITTSBURGH — Louisville couldn't be playing much better in February. The Cardinals can only hope it leads to a great March — and maybe, April, too.

David Padgett bounced back from a rare poor game to make three of four free throws in the final 32.1 seconds and No. 18 Louisville moved back into a first-place tie in the Big East, holding on to beat Pittsburgh 75-73 Sunday for its seventh consecutive victory.

Padgett finished with 21 points and reserve Edgar Sosa had 15 of his 18 points in the first half as Louisville (22-6, 12-3) tied No. 12 Georgetown (22-4, 12-3) for the conference lead and became the first visiting team to win twice at Pitt since the Petersen Events Center opened in 2002. Pitt is 94-10 there.

Sam Young and DeJuan Blair scored 20 points each for Pitt

(19-8, 7-7), which once was 15-2 but has since skidded into an eighth-place tie in the Big East by losing three in a row and six of 10. Pitt had lost three straight only once previously in coach Jamie Dixon's six seasons, to Villanova, West Virginia and Connecticut in February 2005.

Louisville, positioning itself for a high seed in the Big East tournament, won its ninth in 10 games and improved to 8-2 on the road. The Cardinals have won their last 12 games in February, seven this month.

"I do," Louisville coach Rick Pitino said when asked if he thinks these Cardinals have a deep tournament run in them. "I think we have depth and we execute well, and that's the key. Padgett just helped everything offensive and defensively. He's like having a coach on the floor. Generally you don't see 7-footers do that, show that much leadership ability."

Last season, Louisville's 66-53 upset win over then-No. 7 Pitt

propelled the Cardinals to a six-game winning streak to end the regular season and an NCAA tournament berth. The NCAA looks to be a lock for the Cardinals this season, but Padgett likes how they're playing well again when the games really count, especially on the road.

"This is a tough place to play and their crowd really seemed to be going today," Padgett said.

Padgett came back with a strong game — 9-of-13 shooting with six rebounds in 28 minutes — after being limited by foul problems to one shot and one point in 17 minutes during a 61-50 win over Syracuse on Monday. He averaged 16.3 points in the Cardinals' previous three games, after missing 10 games early in the season with a broken kneecap.

Pitt never led in the second half — the Cardinals led by as many as eight — but Blair got the Panthers back to within a point at 71-70 by making two

free throws with 21.6 seconds remaining. After Padgett responded by making both ends of a 1-and-1, Blair tried to score inside and missed with 7 seconds left when Pitt needed a 3-pointer to force overtime.

"We didn't want to give up the 3 there," Pitino said, recalling Ronald Ramon's buzzer-beating 3 to beat West Virginia 55-54 on Feb. 7. "They were taking what they could get there."

Ramon did hit a long but meaningless 3 for Pitt just ahead of the buzzer, after Andre McGee rebounded a missed free throw, was fouled and sank both foul shots with 5 seconds remaining to make it 75-70.

Point guard LeVance Fields scored eight points in his first start since breaking a foot Dec. 30, but Pitt lost for only the second time in its last 18 home games.

Still, Pitino thinks the Panthers are an NCAA team because of their strong RPI rat-

ing and quality wins over Duke and Georgetown.

"This conference fries everybody," he said.

Fields is certain Pitt will make it to the tournament despite its slide, especially now that he is back.

"We've got to find a way," he said. "We're right there. This is a resilient bunch and I think this is going to turn, and I think we deserve it. If we keep pushing, something good is going to happen."

Pitt has four games remaining, at home against Cincinnati on Wednesday and DePaul on March 9 and on the road against Syracuse on March 1 and West Virginia two days later.

"I think we're going to take off as a team," Young said. "That motivates me more than these losses. These losses are going to be a stepping stone for us."

Louisville, which shot 57.7 percent (30-of-52), fell behind 16-12 after Pitt went on a 9-0 run, but the Cardinals came back

Marshall outlasts UCF, 71-66

TIMES STAFF REPORT

HUNTINGTON, W.Va. — Tyler Wilkerson (Lexington) registered his fourth double-double with 22 points and a career-high 15 rebounds to lead the Marshall University men's basketball team to a 71-66 victory over visiting UCF at the Cam Henderson Center on Saturday.

Wilkerson, a sophomore, and senior guard Mark Dorris (Cincinnati, Ohio) each scored 13 points in the second half as the Thundering Herd offense came to life after halftime. Marshall (15-11, 7-6 Conference USA) led 25-24 at intermission and nearly doubled its point output in the second half.

Dorris finished with 18 points. He made a career-high 15 trips to the free-throw line, sinking a career-best 12 tosses, and added four rebounds, three assists and three steals. Dorris' efforts helped the Herd get to the free-throw line 32 times for the second straight game, yet this time Marshall sank 27 free throws (84.4 percent) as opposed to only 19 last game versus UTEP.

UCF's Mike O'Donnell opened the game with a 3-pointer, but Marshall responded with the first of its 15 second-chance points. Markel Humphrey (Atlanta, Ga.), the recipient of a Wilkerson pass after an offensive rebound, dunked home the Herd's first points of the game.

Jermaine Taylor, who torched the Herd for 34 points

in the season's first matchup on Feb. 6, scored his only first-half field goal via an alley-oop dunk off a feed from Chip Cartwright to give the Knights (14-12, 7-5) a 9-8 edge.

Neither team pulled ahead by more than four points in a tight first half before Marshall entered the break up one. The teams combined to shoot 14-of-46 (30.4 percent) in the first half, with MU hitting 31.6 percent (6-for-19) of its attempts and 29.6 percent (8-for-27) for UCF.

Both teams shot 50 percent or better in an up-and-down second half. The 6-foot-8 Wilkerson opened the second stanza with his third 3-pointer of the season, sparking the Herd to a 13-4 half-opening run. A tip-in by Humphrey was quickly followed by a Dorris steal and fast break dunk by Wilkerson that electrified the 5,150 in attendance.

Taurean Marshall (Fort Washington, Md.) capped the run and pushed the Herd's lead to double-digits, 38-28 at 14:58, with his runner from the base line. T. Marshall played 12 minutes, his longest playing time since returning from a knee injury on Feb. 6 at UCF. The senior scored six points (4-4 FT) with three assists and a steal.

A Darryl Merthie (Lake Mary, Fla.) jumper gave Marshall its biggest lead, 44-33, with 11:38 remaining.

Taylor, after a 1-for-7 first half, awoke with back-to-back 3-pointers to slice the Knight deficit to five points with nine

minutes to go.

Marshall held a seven-point lead with just over three minutes left when UCF coach Kirk Speraw was charged with a technical foul. Dorris' two free throws turned out to be a pair of important insurance points as it kept UCF from closing to within one possession of tying the game with under a minute to go.

The Herd led 62-54 with 1:25 remaining but UCF closed to within four points, 65-61, with 22 seconds left after a Mike Battle trey. T. Marshall and Dorris nailed all four Herd free throw attempts down the stretch to seal the win.

Marshall held Taylor, C-USA's leading scorer in league play with 24.1 ppg, to only 10 points on 4-for-13 shooting. Herd senior Pierre-Marie Altidor Cespedes (Montreal, Quebec) got the defensive assignment on Taylor for much of the game.

O'Donnell launched a career-high 16 three-point attempts (4-for-16) for a team-high 20 points as the Knights finished 10-for-29 from distance. Marshall sank a season-low two 3-pointers (2-for-13).

MU freshman Tirrell Baines (Laurens, S.C.) netted 10 points while Humphrey scored eight points with eight rebounds and four assists.

The Herd shot 55.6 percent after halftime and outrebounded UCF 35-31.

Marshall will return to action on Saturday on the road in Tulsa versus the Golden Wave.



photo by Dusty Layne
Photography/East Kentucky Miners
JAMES "BOO" JACKSON (34) threw down a dunk for the East Kentucky Miners during the team's most recent home game at the Expo Center versus Minot. Jackson ranks as one of minor league basketball's top players along with teammate Josh Pace (25).

James Madison clips Eagles

TIMES STAFF REPORT

Morehead State, now 14-13, was led by Leon Buchanan who scored 13 points and Les Simmons who scored 11 points.

JMU hit 11-of-21 from the field (52.4 percent) in the first half, including seven-of-12 from three-point range. Swanston was six-of-seven in the first half, all from behind the arc, and scored 18 of his game-high 19 points.

The Dukes led by as many 17 points in the first half. James Madison led 39-29 at halftime. They stretched their lead to as many as 34 points in the second half.

"We obviously ran into a buzz saw this afternoon," said MSU Coach Donnie Tyndall. "James Madison played with a great deal of emotion. Their coach announced his resignation, yesterday, effective at the

end of the season.

"Swanston and some of their other players made some big shots early, they got in rhythm. We had too many turnovers, and you're not going to win too many road games when you allow the opposition to shoot that well."

For the game, JMU hit 57.1 percent, including 12-of-21 shots from behind the arc. MSU hit 43.4 percent. The Eagles won the rebound battle, 29-to-27. MSU had 18 turnovers to only nine for the Dukes.

Morehead State will return to Ohio Valley Conference play on Thursday when Tennessee State visits Johnson Arena for a 7:30 p.m. EST contest. That game is a part of a league doubleheader. The women's game will tip off at 5:15 p.m.

Morehead State falls in ESPNU BracketBusters game

HARRISONBURG, Va. — Kyle Swanston scored 19 points to lead James Madison University to an 89-57 win over Morehead State University in an ESPNU BracketBusters men's basketball game on Saturday afternoon.

The Dukes, now 12-15, also got 17 points from Abdulai Jalloh, 13 points from Pierre Curtis and 11 points from Terrance Carter.

end of the season.

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Even though snow still flies, fishing season is here

by LEE McCLELLAN
KENTUCKY AFIELD

FRANKFORT — February is the pits. Mother Nature punctuates dreary weather with a pounding cold rain, snow or damaging ice storm. But, it is not necessary to sit around the house and mope about the seemingly endless days of highs in the low 40s with low gray clouds and no sunlight. This bleak time is also the beginning of fishing season.

For many of us, fishing in mid-winter isn't any fun. It is cold. You spend an entire day in the biting winter wind with numb hands and burning face for maybe a couple of bites. This style of fishing appeals mainly to the diehard.

However, you don't have to wait until it is 75 degrees outside to start fishing. A three-day warm front from late February to mid-March that pushes air temperatures into the 60s kick starts the fishing season. Farm ponds offer productive fishing for largemouth bass. Stream smallmouth bite heartily and sauger make their spawning runs.

If you wear a layer of old-

themselves to provide nutrients for the eggs developing in their abdomens and recharge after a long, hard winter.

In addition to jig-fishing, running a square-billed shallow-running crankbait parallel to the shore triggers strikes from shallow bass, as does a spinnerbait fished in the same manner. A jig slowly crawled in and near shoreline cover also works well for these fish.

Stream smallmouth bass also wake up from their winter slumber in late February and early March. In late fall, stream smallmouth migrate, sometimes up to several miles, to find their wintering holes. They seek pools with a deep, current-free middle section with flowing riffles and shoals on each end.

Concentrate your efforts on the flowing shoals and riffles. A 1/8th-ounce black, olive, olive and chartreuse or brown bucktail or rabbit hair jig is deadly at this time of year. Fish them neat with no trailer slowly along the bottom or swim them just above bottom. A sleeper lure at this time of year is a 4-inch pumpkinseed lizard with green flakes fished in

Fish the flowing chutes that form miniature creeks below McAlpine Lock and Dam in low water conditions. Fish further downstream near the Falls of the Ohio State Park if the river is up. The park is on the Indiana side of the river, but Kentuckians may fish there from the bank with a valid

Kentucky fishing license. At Meldahl Lock and Dam, cast your lures as close to the lock wall as you can. Sauger stack up along these walls. The L-shaped structure formed by the dam wall and the wall for the release gates is a particularly hot spot. It is well known and well fished, but still pro-

duces lots of sauger. Toss a lime-green, white, chartreuse, black or orange grub rigged on a 1/8- to 3/8-ounce leadhead for these fish. Use enough weight to get the lure down to the waiting sauger below. Small spoons, in-line spinners and shad-shaped soft plastic baits rigged on a lead-

head also work for these fish. Bring plenty of leadheads and plastic bodies because you'll need them. Tailraces are full of snags and you'll lose lures, but also catch lots of sauger.

Don't lie around the house and pout as Kentucky shakes off the last of winter. Get out and fish.

War Pass leads Run to the Roses' Top 10 list

school thermals or thin polypropylene with wicking properties under a layer or two of outer garments, you'll stay comfortable while you fish in late winter and early spring. Packable rain gear is great for this time of year because you can wear it in the morning when it is cold, shed it in the mid-afternoon warmth, and put it on again at dusk when it gets cold again. They will usually fit in the back of a fishing vest, a pocket or tackle box.

Farm ponds offer impressive late winter and early spring fishing because they warm up much quicker than a large reservoir like Lake Cumberland or Barren River Lake. If the sun shines for a couple of days after a warm rain muddies the water, big female largemouth bass move up into surprisingly shallow water.

Old-timers impaled a gob of nightcrawlers on a large hook and probed shoreline stumps, downed trees and cuts in the bank to catch huge female bass in late February and early March. They used fiberglass rods up to 12 feet long with a limber tip and a beefy butt section to haul big bass out of the heavy cover. This method came to be known as jig-fishing and still works extremely well.

Large bass move shallow to take advantage of the great feeding opportunities provided by warm, cloudy water. The shallows draw small bluegill and other prey and the murky water shields lurking bass. They gorge

the same manner as the hair jig.

In smaller streams across the Bluegrass, these holes may only be waist to chest deep. Smallmouth bass spend the winter in these holes in a semi-dormant state and feed only under conditions advantageous to them. A three-day warm front in late winter is one of those optimal conditions.

Stream smallmouth bass thrive in a harsh environment. Surviving winter taxes their biological resources and mature female smallmouth must eat in late winter to nourish the eggs they'll deposit six weeks from now. Get out and use this to your fishing advantage.

Sauger also bite willingly in late February and early March. The best places to fish for them are tailraces on the Ohio River and directly downstream of Kentucky Lake and Lake Barkley in the Tennessee and Cumberland Rivers. You can also catch them congregating in creek mouths in the Ohio River and along irregular channel bends in the northern ends of Kentucky Lake and Lake Barkley, but the tailraces are much higher percentage spots.

Some of the finest sauger fishing in Kentucky is below McAlpine Lock and Dam in Louisville and Meldahl Lock and Dam near Foster, Kentucky in Bracken County. Both of these areas are easily fished from the shore or waded.

by RICHARD ROSENBLATT
ASSOCIATED PRESS

That Nick Zito is at it again.

Three years ago, the Hall of Fame trainer sent a record-equating five horses to the Kentucky Derby. This year, he could top the mark after his unbeaten War Pass made a smashing 3-year-old debut at Gulfstream Park on Sunday about 30 minutes after Cool Coal Play won the Fountain of Youth Stakes over a formidable field.

The double victories give Zito at least a half dozen solid Derby contenders from the pool of 19 3-year-olds he nominated to the Triple Crown races. Among his other hopefuls are Sam F. Davis winner Fierce Wind, Aquarian, Coal Play and even Anak Nakal, who ran a dull eighth in the Fountain of Youth.

War Pass, the undefeated 2-year-old champion, upped his record to 5-for-5 with his 7 1/2-length romp and takes over the No. 1 spot in this week's Associated Press' Run to the Roses Top 10 list. Pyro, the leader based on his Risen Star victory on Feb. 9, drops to No.

Next stop for War Pass, the 2-year-old champion owned by Robert LaPenta, is the Tampa Bay Derby on March 15, followed by a final Derby prep — the Wood Memorial (April 5) or the Blue Grass Stakes (April 12) before the May 3 Derby.

The mile \$60,000 allowance race was put together by track officials, who wanted to help Zito find an easy spot for War Pass' debut. The colt, ridden by Cornelio Velasquez, merely galloped around the track in what turned into a public workout.

"I'm grateful to Gulfstream Park for putting the race on," Zito said. "He broke like a rocket. It would have been nice if he sat back, but as long as he keeps winning, I'm happy. He's a special horse. He really is."

Cool Coal Man, also owned by LaPenta, stepped up big time in the 1 1/8-mile Fountain of Youth, sweeping to the front around the final turn and beating Elysium Fields by a half-length. Cool Coal Play, with four wins in his last five starts, moves into the Top 10 at No. 5.

Of his 1-2 punch, LaPenta said, "There are no words to describe what happened. Really amazing. To have two hopefully on the trail ... if you get there with one, it's unbelievable"

Zito has won the Derby two times, with Strike the Gold in 1991 and Go for Gin in 1994. In 2005, the best of his five Derby starters was Bellamy Road, who ran seventh.

Court Vision and Z Humor — both trained by Bill Mott — finished third and fourth, respectively, in the Fountain of Youth and likely will remain on the Derby trail. Court Vision was making his first start since winning the Remsen on Nov. 24; Z Humor ran just eight days after finishing fifth in the Sam F. Davis.

Elysium Fields, one of several Derby prospects trained by Barclay Tagg, surrendered the lead to Cool Coal Man but made a late challenge to finish strong. Monba, one of trainer Todd Pletcher's most promising Derby prospects finished last in the 12-horse field.

Denis of Cork, winner of the Southwest Stakes at Oaklawn Park on Feb. 18, moves in at No. 7.

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Generations Prepared CPR for Everyone

BY PLATONIS

Approximately 310,000 Americans die every year due to coronary heart disease, most often attributed to a sudden cardiac arrest suffered outside the hospital setting or in the emergency department. Nearly 80 percent of these arrests occur at home, so after you call 911, you can provide life-saving care to a family member or friend while waiting for help. This critical, life-saving skill — cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) — is one that the American Heart Association wants many more Americans to be ready to perform when necessary.

Although it may not be something we want to think about, sobering statistics compel us to act.

- Effective bystander CPR provided immediately after sudden cardiac arrest can double a victim's chance of survival.

- Infant CPR can be effective for infants who suffer cardiac arrest or whose airways become blocked by food or other objects.

- Approximately 91 percent of sudden cardiac arrest victims die before reaching the hospital.

- Death from sudden cardiac arrest is not inevitable. If more people knew CPR, more lives could be saved.



Special Care for Infants

Grandparents, parents and others who care for children need to know how to perform the relatively simple skills of infant CPR and relief from choking, which can make a life or death difference for infants.

The risk of choking for infants, whose airways can become blocked by food or other objects, is a critical concern for caregivers like grandparents and others. According to the Home Safety Council:

- Unintentional choking and suffocation are the leading cause of all injury deaths for infants under one and the eighth leading cause of injury deaths for all ages.
- More than 36,000 obstructed airway injuries result in emergency room visits.
- Sixty percent of nonfatal choking episodes treated in emergency departments are associated with food items; 31 percent with nonfood objects including coins.
- Candy is associated with 19 percent of choking-related emergency room visits by children under age 15; 65 percent are from hard candy; and 12.5 percent are from other specified types such as chocolates and gummy candies.

"Because the home is the most likely place for an infant to choke or to suffer cardiac arrest, parents and caretakers are among the most important people to be trained in infant CPR and the relief of choking," said Monica Kleinman, MD, Children's Hospital Boston.



Help Yourself Help Loved Ones

Recognizing that far too many Americans are not prepared to do CPR when needed, the American Heart Association created a simple, accessible way for people to learn CPR at home in less than 25 minutes.

- The Family & Friends CPR Anytime kit includes everything needed for self-directed CPR training — a manikin, DVD and resource booklet.

- The CPR home training can be used in the convenience of the living room or family room.

- A single kit allows the whole family — parents, grandparents, siblings and other relatives or friends — to learn life-saving CPR.

There are many excuses for not taking a life-saving CPR course. People don't have enough time, they're afraid of embarrassing themselves in the classroom, or they don't think they'll ever have to provide CPR," said Robert E. D. Connor, MD, chairman, Emergency Cardiovascular Care committee for the American Heart Association. "Family & Friends CPR Anytime removes traditional training obstacles by providing a brief and convenient way to learn CPR. With CPR Anytime, millions more people trained can result in thousands more lives saved."

Being prepared to act quickly when a family member — adult, child or infant — suffers from sudden cardiac arrest can make the difference between life and death.

Infant CPR Anytime: Precious Life-Saving at Home

New parents, expectant parents, grandparents and siblings now have a simple, convenient way to learn to perform infant CPR and to relieve choking in less than 25 minutes — the Infant CPR Anytime Personal Learning Program.

- The American Heart Association developed guidelines that were used as the basis of the infant kit.
- This new training program can be used to learn skills that could help save the life of an infant (newborn to 12 months).
- The kit includes a one-of-a-kind infant CPR manikin, a training DVD and two quick-reference skills reminders.
- The Mim Baby manikin is an inflatable version of a traditional infant CPR manikin. An instructional DVD walks users through each step of the training, from inflating the manikin, doing chest compressions and rescue breathing, to how to relieve choking in an infant.

Because the training materials are contained in an in-home kit, Infant CPR Anytime allows all family members to learn and brush up on skills periodically. "Although it's a skill no one wants to use, the more family members that know infant CPR the better," said Monica Kleinman, MD, Children's Hospital Boston. "This enables people to learn infant CPR who otherwise would not have that opportunity."

CPR: All in the Family

Making CPR training a whole family affair just makes good sense. With so many grandparents actively involved in the care of their infant grandchildren, it's important for them to be current on infant CPR training. Maintaining adult CPR skills are just as critical to help each other or other family members or friends who experience sudden cardiac arrest.

"Infant CPR Anytime is an important and convenient way for all caretakers like grandparents to gain the peace of mind of knowing they're prepared to help the infants who are part of their lives," said Kleinman.

CPR training should be at the top of every family's "must do" list. Performing effective CPR immediately after someone suffers cardiac arrest or choking saves lives.

Infant CPR Anytime and the Family & Friends CPR Anytime kits can be purchased by visiting www.shopcpranytime.org or calling 1-877-AHA-4CPR.

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POISON OAK

A 'porkin' beans' sandwich

When I was growing up the son of an eastern Kentucky coal miner, I ate an awful lot of beans:



Clyde Pack

Mostly soup beans. One local author, who also grew up much like I did, even went so far as to write that had it not been for soup beans, he would have likely starved.

So if there is one food that was a staple in those days, it was beans. That undoubtedly is why I still enjoy them today, with a big pone of cornbread, of course.

Actually, when I was seven or eight years old, I was aware of four kinds of beans, soup beans, green beans, navy beans, and porkin beans.

I was well into adolescence, before I realized the latter was pork AND beans. I actually thought that 'porkin' was the name of a special bean, probably one that didn't grow around here. It never ever occurred to me that what I was eating was really navy beans, and that tiny piece of fat meat about the size of a dime that was usually floating on top when Mom opened the can, was actually a piece of pork.

Even though, I was ignorant as to what they really were, and even though I didn't eat them as much as I did the other three, I dearly loved them. When Mom would open up a can, and put out four of five slices of light bread. I was pretty much in hog heaven. I always ate them cold, right out of the can.

I recently read somewhere that pork and beans (I still prefer "porkin beans") have been around for a long time, and was even a staple for the Union Army during the Civil War.

Anyway, what brought this one-time little culinary dish to mind in the first place, was a recipe I ran across the other day in one of Wilma Jean's magazines. It was for a pork and bean sandwich. As many beans as I ate when I was a kid, I found it hard to

(See OAK, page seven)

KIM'S KORNER

Look for me in Faith & Family

Beginning next Friday, this column will appear in our new added edition of Faith and Family.

No more Wednesday Kim's Korners. As stated before, I am so excited for this new addition to the Times, but, though excited, can't help but feel a little sad to leave the Wednesday edition.

Been here in this little spot for quite awhile now, try since December of 1989. But, all is well and I truly am looking forward to seeing and reading about all the miracles and blessings God has bestowed upon people right here in good ol' Floyd County from all our various denominations and churches.

Please keep reading and be sure to start looking for Faith and Family next Friday, March 7, 2008.

God's Blessings to each of you,
Til Next Week.



Kim Little Frasure



4-H Project Day is an exciting time for 4-H students and their families, as well as the community. During 4-H Project Day, 4-H students from across the county come together to learn about one another and their respective projects/interests. Participation in 4-H programs helps students learn leadership skills that can draw upon later in their lives.

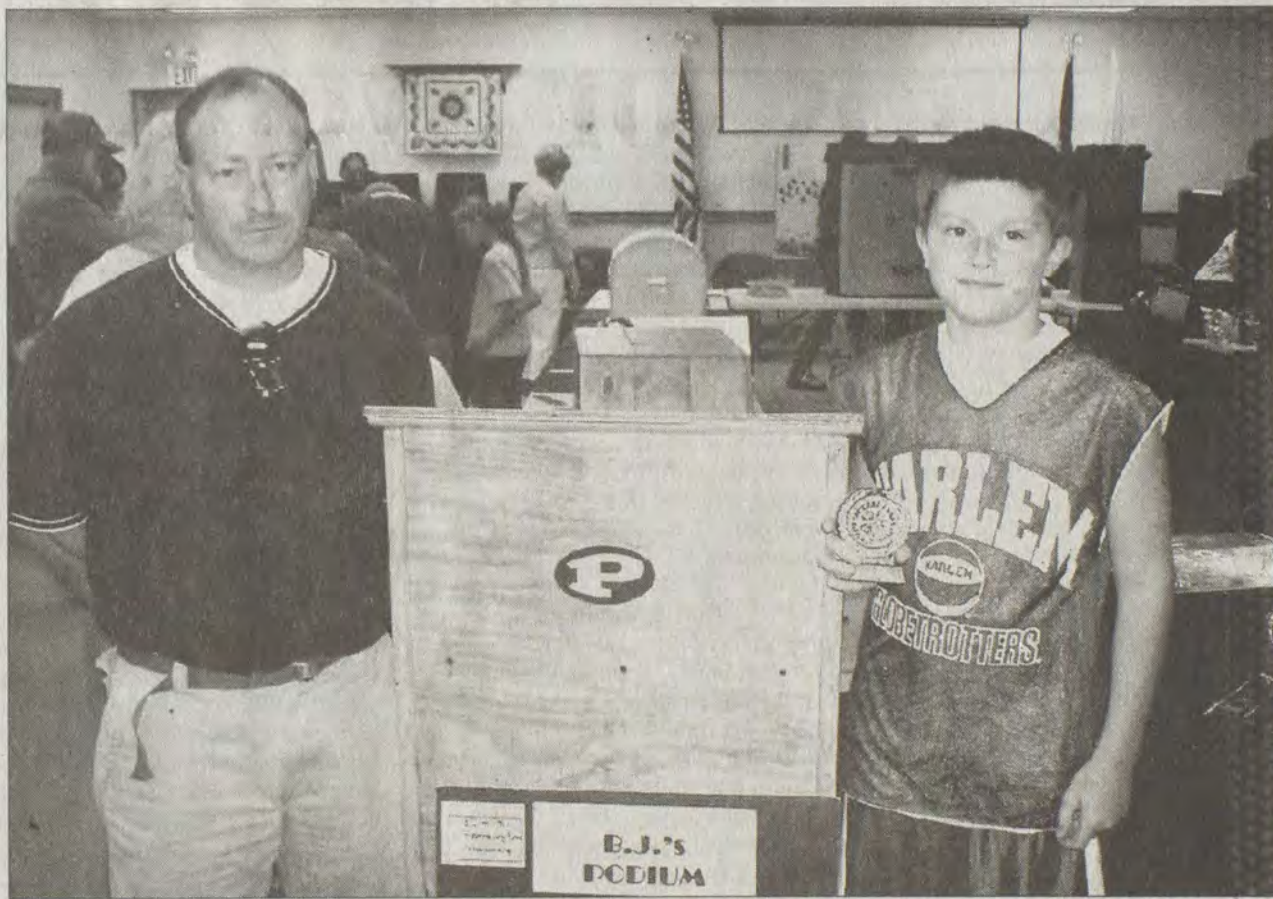
National study proves 4-H strengthens communities

by HEATHER NELSON
FLOYD COUNTY EXTENSION
AGENT FOR 4-H

PRESTONSBURG — A new study confirms that youth involved in 4-H programs are leaders, contribute to their communities and are civically engaged, which strengthens communities. The 4-H Study of Positive Youth Development (PYD) is finding that youth involved in high-quality, structured programs during out-of-school time, such as those offered by Floyd County Cooperative Extension Service, are more likely to experience positive youth development.

Findings of The 4-H Study of PYD — a first-of-its-kind, longitudinal study measuring the impact personal and social factors have on youth as they develop — reveal that all youth have the capacity to thrive, regardless of where they live, their family situations, their socioeconomic status, their race or gender. Study findings also show that the quality and quantity of structured, out-of-school-time programs that youth are involved with matters. The more often youth are involved in high-quality youth development programs, the more they and their communities benefit.

"We're excited about this research and will be applying what we learn to Floyd County," said Heather Nelson, Floyd County 4-H Youth Development Agent. "We want to ensure that our 4-H program continues to provide opportunities that will help our youth become successful, contributing members of Floyd County."



Pictured is 4-H'er B.J. Holliday, a student from Prestonsburg Elementary School. B.J. received a "County Champion" trophy for his 2007 4-H project. This photo was taken at the Floyd County Extension Office during 4-H County Project Day last spring. Pictured with B.J. is his father.

The 4-H Study of PYD sponsored by National 4-H Council shows that in addition to sustained adult interaction and mentoring, communities, families and schools need to provide access to youth development programs such as 4-H in order for youth to experience success. Floyd County currently has 2

Community Clubs, 1 Teen Council, 1 4-H Adult Council, 14 3rd Grade Clover Bud Clubs, 1 Kindergarten Clover Bud Club, 1 Head Start Clover Bud Club, 2 Energy Clubs, 49 In-school Clubs, 1 Project Club for a grand total of 72 Councils and Clubs for the 2007-2008 school year.

With The 4-H Study of PYD, the characteristics of a successful youth development program are being defined and measured for the first time. The study's key findings show that:

- Community youth develop-

(See 4-H, page eight)

CRITTER CORNER

Rainbow Bridge

Last week, we focused on pet loss and grief. This week, we are sharing a special writing to help those who are grieving to cope with their loss:

Rainbow Bridge

Just this side of Heaven is a place called Rainbow Bridge. When an animal dies that has been especially close to someone here, that pet goes to Rainbow Bridge.

There are meadows and hills for all of our special friends so they can run and play together. There is plenty of good food, fresh, clean water and lots of warm sunshine. Our friends are warm, comfortable and content on Rainbow Bridge.

All the animals who had been ill and old are restored to health and vigor; those who were hurt or maimed are made whole and strong again, just as we remember them in our dreams of days and times gone by.

Yes, the animals are happy and content,

except for one thing; they each miss someone very special to them, who had to be left behind.

They all run and play together, but the day comes when one suddenly stops and looks into the distance. His bright eyes are intent; his eager body quivers.

Suddenly, he begins to run from the group, flying over the green grass, his legs carrying him faster and faster.

"You" have been spotted. And when you and your special friend finally meet, you cling together in joyous reunion, never to be parted again. The happy kisses rain upon your face; your hands again caress the beloved head, and you look once more into the trusting eyes of your pet, so long gone from your life but never absent from your heart.

Then...you cross Rainbow Bridge together...

-Author Unknown



This is "Pudgie," the now dear departed pet of Maxine Goble and the late Don Goble. Pudgie brought many happy days to Maxine and Don throughout his long life and often traveled with them on vacation get-aways. Here, he was photographed on a visit to Bar Harbor, Maine. "Pudgie meant the world to us," Maxine said. "He brought us so much happiness." Pudgie's likeness is engraved upon his master's tombstone at Davidson Memorial Gardens where he lies alongside his longtime companion.

HCTC Floyd County students named to fall 2007 full-time Dean's List

The following Hazard Community and Technical College Floyd County students have been named to the Full-time Students Dean List during the fall 2007 semester. The Full-time Students Dean's List is for full-time students who earn at least a 3.5 grade point average and successfully complete 12 HCTC semester credits or more of course work numbered 100 or above. To be named to the

List during the fall 2007 semester. The Part-Time Students Dean's List is for part-time students who earn at least a cumulative 3.5 grade point average and successfully complete a cumulative total of at least 15 HCTC semester credits of course work numbered 100 or above, and who complete 3 to 11 HCTC semester credits for the academic term.

List during the fall 2007 semester. The Part-Time Students Dean's List is for part-time students who earn at least a cumulative 3.5 grade point average and successfully complete a cumulative total of at least 15 HCTC semester credits of course work numbered 100 or above, and who complete 3 to 11 HCTC semester credits for the academic term.

Oak

believe that I'd never heard of a pork and bean sandwich. Now I'll admit I've not tried it yet, and we've had two or three discussions as to whether I should. But according to that recipe, here's how you make a pork and bean sandwich: Take about a teacup full of pork and beans right out of the can and

mash them up. Then spread them on a piece of light bread. Slap another piece of bread on top of that, then fry both sides in melted butter, sort of like you would, if you were making grill cheese, or like Elvis reportedly did when he made a fried banana sandwich. When both sides are golden brown, you've got yourself a pork and

bean sandwich. Actually, by the time this sees print, I may have tried it already. In the meantime, however, if any of you might try it also, or maybe have eaten one when you were a kid, I'd appreciate it if you'd let me know. Just curious.

Continued from p5

Yesterdays

officer and a county official in a \$750,000 damage suit, alleging that they assaulted him during and after his arrest, five days earlier...There died: Farris Burton, 79, of Ligon, Saturday, at McDowell Appalachian Regional Hospital; Junior Cooper, 54, formerly of Drift, Saturday, at Ireland Army Hospital in Ft. Knox; Mrs. Kessie Tuttle, 61, of Topmost, February 22, at McDowell Appalachian Regional Hospital; Mrs. Annie Salyers, 90, of Hueysville, Saturday, at Mountain Manor Nursing Home; W. T. Collins, 55, a former resident of this county, January 17, at his home in Pulaski, Virginia; Henry (Hob) Lawson, 67, of Hi Hat, Saturday, at McDowell Appalachian Regional Hospital; Mrs. Alva Mullins, 77, of Topmost, February 8, at her home; Mrs. Edith Johnson Clifton, 57, of Prestonsburg, February 21, at Highlands Regional Medical Center; Gooden Clark, 67, of Auxier, found dead at his home, Tuesday; Mrs. Rosa Jarrell Boyd, 59, of Dana, Wednesday, at Highlands Regional Medical Center; Mrs. Goldia Ousley Hughes, 51, of Risner, February 14, at Highlands Regional Medical Center; Johnny Harris, 75, of Topmost, February 20, at McDowell Appalachian Regional Hospital; Susie Vanderpool Webb, 70, formerly of this county, Wednesday, in Wabash County Hospital, Indiana; Talmadge Conley, 66, of Vest, January 24, at his home; Henry Goble, 70, of Auxier, Saturday, at Highlands Regional Medical Center.

Pikeville...A rockfall described as "big as a house" took the life of Snowden Keathley, 53-year-old Teaberry miner, early Tuesday, in the Lily Mae Coal Company mine operated at Tinker Fork, by Irvin Hamilton...Gene David Lawson, 42, of Minnie, was electrocuted in the Guaranty mine at Hite, at 10:45 Monday night...Born: to Mr. and Mrs. Garnet Hall, of Alpharetta, a son recently; to Mr. and Mrs. Gene Mathis, of David, a daughter, Sarah Katherine, recently at the Prestonsburg General Hospital; to Mr. and Mrs. Bud Alexander, a daughter, Kimberley Joy, recently, at the Prestonsburg General Hospital...There died: James S. Layne, 92, of Tram, Saturday, at Pikeville; Mrs. Mary Flannery, 67, of Wheelwright, last Wednesday, en route to the McDowell Memorial Hospital; Mrs. Dora Hackworth, 85, last Thursday, at her home at Cliff; Willia B. Newberry, 51, of Auxier, Friday, at the McDowell Memorial Hospital; Clay Thornsberry, 63, formerly of Mousie, recently, at Willard, O.; Mrs. Anna May Blackburn, 33, Sunday, at her home at Endicott.

Continued from p5

Sixty Years Ago (March 4, 1948)

A delegation from Floyd and Knott counties was in Frankfort, this week, seeking to forestall a judicial redistricting plan which would, among other district changes, cut Knott away from Floyd, and create new districts with Floyd and Martin counties composing the 31st judicial district, and Knott and Magoffin the 36th...An amended petition designed to revive the claim of G. D. Ryan to the police judgeship of the town of Martin, was filed in the Floyd Circuit Court, Saturday, by Ryan's attorney, Joe Hobson...Area coal producers are wondering whether the United Mine Workers' President John L. Lewis means to turn his pension dispute into a full-blown contract shutdown around April 1...Body of Smith Webb, 51-year-old miner, was found, Tuesday morning, alongside the railway tracks at McDowell, where he was believed to have been killed by a train during the preceding night...Among the Martin Theatre's offerings for the coming week are Sunset Carson, in person, Saturday night, and on the following Thursday night, Preston, magician and hypnotist...Born: to Mr. and Mrs. Willard Kinzer, of Allen, a son, Willard Jr., Thursday; to Sgt. and Mrs. Willie Ramey, formerly of Prestonsburg, a son, Roy, February 6, in Germany...There died: Miss Ella Preston, 60, of Warco, Wednesday, at the Beaver Valley Hospital, Martin; Mrs. Sarah Allen, 74, formerly of this county, recently in California; Thomas Micys, 62, native of Poland, Wednesday, at his home at Bypro; Garfield Wright, 86, veteran peace officer, last Thursday, at his home, at Allen; John Prater, 62, native of Mud Creek, Saturday, at the Prestonsburg General Hospital.

Seventy Years Ago (March 3, 1938)

Floyd County's second automobile fatality within a week, and its third during the year, was recorded, Tuesday, when Ritchard Brewer, 54-year-old Wayland miner, died at the Gearheart Hospital, Martin, of injuries sustained, Tuesday, as he was struck at the Allen "Y" by a grocery truck...The Valley Chevrolet Sales opened in the new Carter building on the Mayo Trail here, Tuesday...One man was jailed here, Monday night, charged with shooting and wounding Roland Branch, 36, at Garrett, in a cafe brawl...An attempt to secure Floyd's part, \$22,396, of the state rural road fund for use on the county's farm-to-market roads was made by the fiscal court at a special meeting, Tuesday...Born: to Mr. and Mrs. Dan Throgmorton, February 21, a son, at their home at Young's Creek, Ky.; to Mr. and Mrs. Robert Taylor, of Drift, a daughter, Betty Jean, Sunday, at home...There died: John B. Nalle, 68, of Warfield, Sunday, at the Stumbo Memorial Hospital, Lackey; Sarah Cummings Blanton, 78, of Martin, Friday, at the Beaver Valley Hospital, Martin.

Forty Years Ago (February 29, 1968)

The fear that rabies may be so widespread among wild animals in this county, that an imminent danger to the public health has developed, was expressed this week by Russell L. Hall, county health doctor...The Prestonsburg Shoe Company has announced the appointment of Gerald Pease to the position of plant manager...The building which formerly housed the Clark Branch School on Buffalo Creek was destroyed by fire, last Wednesday night...Celebration of its designation as an All-Kentucky City will be held at a town hall meeting, planned for March 19, at the new Prestonsburg grade school auditorium...Married: Miss Benay Elizabeth Browne, of New York, N.Y., and Jack Allen Tackett, November 22, in New York...Born: to Mr. and Mrs. Mack R. Keaton, of Estill, a son, February 21; to Mr. and Mrs. Fred Alfito, of Hite, a daughter, February 22; to Mr. and Mrs. Roger L. Collins, of Hall, a son, February 22; to Mr. and Mrs. Ricky Hamilton, of Halo, a son, February 23; to Mr. and Mrs. John W. Picklesimer, of Lexington, a son, David Ernest, February 12, at Lexington...There died: Lee Wallen, 77, of Garrett, last Thursday, at Our Lady of the Way Hospital, Martin; Rev. Newton Daniels, 72, of Minnie, Monday, at Paintsville; Mrs. Edith Marie Dotson, 56, native of Floyd County, Monday, at her home at Majestic (Pike County); Adrine Leon Collins, 43, formerly of Martin, January 28, at New Lebanon, O.; Mrs. Anna Dalton, 78, last Thursday, in Delaware; Mrs. Ella Mellon, 83, formerly of Prestonsburg, Sunday, at Ashland.

Fifty Years Ago (February 27, 1958)

Work on the Prestonsburg flood control project, on which bids were opened last Thursday, will probably begin within a month. The Times was told, Tuesday, by the U.S. Corps of Engineers' district office in Huntington, W. Va...Organization of the Allen-Dwale Citizens' Improvement Association has been affected, with the immediate aim of either procuring a reduction of gas rates in the two towns, or of turning to a new source of fuel supply...Prestonsburg residents are consuming electricity in their homes at a rate that is 13 per cent higher than it was in 1950...A resolution to change the name of Dewey State Park, to Jenny Wiley State Park, was offered, Monday night, by Representative Ann B. Hall and Sam Hale, of this county, and Jack Sowards, of



Blackburn - Hinchman

Miranda Jean Blackburn and Kevin Joseph Hinchman were united in marriage on the evening of Saturday, September 1, 2007, on the grounds of Keeneland, in Lexington. Keith Mitchum, of Unity of Louisville Church, presided over the ceremony. The bride is the daughter of Kelly and Steve Marshall of Shelbyville. The groom is the son of Mary and Joe Hinchman formerly of Allen. The bride was escorted by her mother and carried a handkerchief once belonging to her great grandmother. The groom was presented by his mother and father. Matron of honor was the bride's best friend, Rachel Johnson. Bridesmaids were Cheri Widzowski and Paula Willis, sisters of the groom; Nicole Freels, cousin of the bride; Bridgette Friddle, friend of the bride; Andrea Counts, friend of the bride; and bridesman, Joey Young, best friend of the bride since high school. Best man was the groom's best friend, Shawn Caudill. Groomsmen were Steve Hinchman, brother or the groom; Rob Freels and Alan Derossett, cousins of the groom; Kevin Farthing, friend of the groom; Roger Akers, friend of the groom; and Jason Branham, friend of the groom. A reception followed at the Keeneland Entertainment Center. The couple honeymooned in Punta Cana, Dominican Republic. The bride is a graduate of Anderson County High School and obtained her BA and MA from the University of Kentucky. She is currently employed as a realtor at ERA Woods Group in Lexington. The groom is a graduate of Prestonsburg High School. He obtained Associates from the University of Kentucky and is a Microsoft Certified Systems Engineer. He is currently employed as Network Administrator at Keeneland in Lexington. The happy couple now resides in Lexington, Ky.

Local bands have chance to open July Jam concert

PIKEVILLE— For local Christian bands, this is their chance. At the Open at the Jam competition, local Christian bands will compete for the chance to open the July Jam concert at the Eastern Kentucky Expo Center on July 19.

July Jam features Christian recording artists StorySide B, Sanctus Real and Pillar. The Open at the Jam event sponsored by Sound House Music, is open to bands living in the Operation UNITE counties in Kentucky. Those counties include: Lawrence, Martin, Pike, Floyd, Letcher, Harlan, Bell, Leslie, Perry, Knott, Johnson, Morgan, Rowan, Bath, Menifee, Wolfe, Breathitt, Magoffin, Lee, Owsley, Clay, Knox, Whitley, Laurel, Jackson, Rockcastle, Estill, Pulaski, Wayne and McCreary.

Counties in states that border Operation UNITE counties are also eligible. These include Buchanan, Dickenson, Wise and Lee counties in Virginia, Mingo and Wayne counties in West Virginia and Pickett, Scott, Campbell and Claiborne counties in Tennessee.

To enter, bands must submit a sample of their music, as well as a reference letter from their pastor, to Open at the Jam, July Jam, P. O. Box 363, Pikeville, KY 41502. They can also e-mail entries to info@julyjam.com. Only Christian bands will be considered.

Finalists will be notified by March 16th if they have been selected. A \$25 entry fee is due the day of the competition. Open at the Jam will take place April 26th at Grace Fellowship (old Weddington Theater on Second Street) in Pikeville and is open to the public.



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Floyd County Cooperative Extension Service District Board Members. From left to right, back row: Floyd County Judge Executive, Robert D. Marshall, Tyrone Martin, and Joe Ryan; front row: Rhonda Burchett, Suzanne Stumbo, Joyce Allen, Melissa Perry, and Kermit Howard.

4-H

ment programs, like 4-H, are proven to affect youth success. ■ All youth can succeed — involvement in 4-H increases their potential of doing well. ■ All youth need positive

Drug Court participants reach out to help others

The Floyd County Drug Court Program members voted to give back to the community this holiday season by donating canned food to a facility within the community. The members wanted to help a non-profit program that assists others and found that organization at Dove House Ministries. Dove House Ministries provides shelter and assistance to those people who find themselves in need. Drug Court Program participants brought in canned goods to donate to Dove House and then they, along with Drug Court staff, transported the donated items to Dove House Ministries this past December 14.

One program helping another program to reach citizens in our community in need of help and a supportive network.

The Drug Court staff is very proud of all the program participants that were willing to donate to help others.

Sue Blackburn is supervisor of the Floyd County Drug Court Program.

youth development. No young person is immune to the risks and challenges present in today's society.

■ Involvement in youth development programs reduces the likelihood that young people will engage in risk behaviors, such as underage drinking, smoking, bullying, etc.

Visit fourhcouncil.edu/newsroom.aspx to learn more about The 4-H Study of PYD.

The 4-H Study of Positive Youth Development

The 4-H Study of Positive Youth Development is the first-ever longitudinal study to measure the characteristics of

positive youth development (PYD). Led by Richard M. Lerner, Ph.D., professor at Tufts University, the study was sponsored by National 4-H Council. It involves more than 4,000 youth and 2,000 parents from 25 states and measures the impact personal and social factors have on a young person's development.

4-H is the Nation's largest youth development organization, serving more than 6.5 million young people across America who are learning leadership, citizenship and life skills. For more information, contact Heather J. Nelson, Floyd County 4-H Agent at 606-886-2668.

Chamber recognizes Big Sandy CTC faculty

Mandy Stumbo, executive director, along with members of the Floyd County Chamber Of Commerce, recently recognized Big Sandy Community & Technical College faculty members, Christine Conley

and Mazola Salmons at a recent Chamber Membership Meeting. Conley and Salmons were recognized for their time and support of the Chamber's Leadership Floyd County Program.

"These ladies have been instrumental each year in helping members of the Leadership Floyd County Program with the SWOT Analysis in the opening session each year," Stumbo said.



Russ Barker, center, Floyd County Chamber of Commerce Treasurer, welcomed Big Sandy Community and Technical College faculty members Christine Conley, left, and Mazola Salmons, right, to a recent Chamber meeting.

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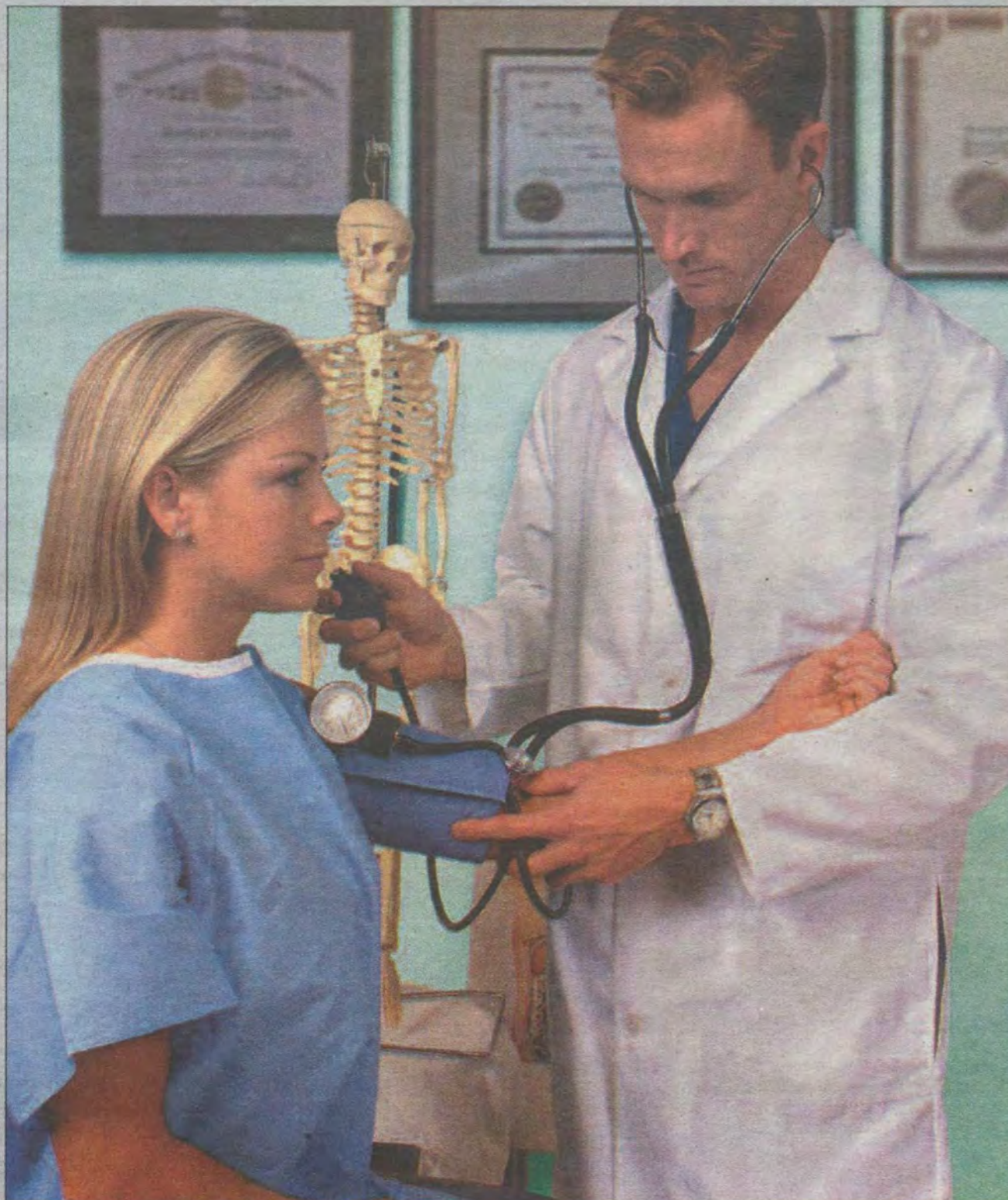
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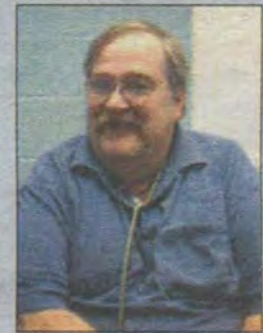
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- dedicated physician

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**Keep 'Pink Eye' From
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Dr. Blake Burchett

Hometown Doctor attends to families he has known his entire life

by Kathy J. Prater
Features Editor

Residing today on the same street he played on as a youngster, Dr. Blake Burchett is a hometown doctor that now attends to many families he has known his entire life. Deciding to return to his hometown to practice medicine, Burchett says that he made that decision because he felt that his services were needed in the eastern Kentucky area. "I didn't want to be a part of the 'brain drain' where our educated young people go elsewhere to live," he said.

A 1975 graduate of Prestonsburg High School, Blake knew early on that he wanted to be a doctor. Growing up on Prestonsburg's Arnold Avenue, Dr. Burchett said that the neighborhood was, during the days of his youth, home to many physicians with whom he had the opportunity to interact, thereby influencing his decision to make a career of medicine. "Dr. Archer, Dr. Holbrook, the Leslie's, all affected me," he said. "But Dr. James Adams was a very positive influence for me in choosing medicine as a career."

Leaving Prestonsburg to attend college at Lexington's Transylvania University, it was at Transy that he met, in his freshman year, his future wife, Rebecca, or "Becky" as most in the city know her. "I've been very fortunate to have Becky's support," Dr. Burchett said. "She has embraced Prestonsburg and Prestonsburg has embraced her." Working alongside her husband in his private practice since its opening, Becky says that working closely with her husband's hometown community has been a very rewarding experience. "We've been fortunate to have very dedicated and loyal employees. We have a wonderful office staff and we think the world of each and every one of them," she said.

Following graduation from Transylvania, Burchett went on to attend medical school at the University of Kentucky. He and Becky married his third year, moving shortly thereafter to Spartanburg, South Carolina where he did his residency training while Becky worked as a tax accountant in a local firm.

While in South Carolina, the couple's first child, son, Andrew, was born in 1985. Today, Andrew is following in his father's footsteps, currently being a first year medical student at his father's Lexington alma mater. He, too, plans on coming back to eastern Kentucky to practice following



Dr. Burchett, right, with son Andrew, left, a current medical school student. Dr. Burchett was pleased to be granted the honor of being allowed to present his son with his formal medical attire during recent white coat ceremonies held on the UK campus.

completion of his medical training, though his father says that he won't exert any undue parental pressure in regard to such a decision. "I am very proud of all of my children," Dr. Burchett said. "But I don't want to pressure them to live here or to go into family medicine."

When not actively engaged in attending to and consulting with patients, Dr. Burchett can often be found working with young athletes in the local schools. A former high school player for PHS, Burchett began coaching youngsters when Andrew was in kindergarten and was among those in the community who rallied together to organize a Pop Warner Football League in the area.

Along the way, he has also coached T-ball, minor league, and Little League baseball as each of his children grew and participated in various athletic activities, including basketball. Daughter Molly was, at one time, the only female player on a junior basketball league that Burchett helped coach. Although he shares that he enjoyed coaching his children's teams, Burchett said, "the majority of the time I coached, I tried not to coach my own children as they grew older, which I recommend for any parent."

Dr. Burchett has served as team doctor for the Prestonsburg High School football team since 1986 and accompanies the team on every away game and athletic outing. "I

believe athletics is the best way to develop youth," he said. "It teaches them discipline, dedication and hard work, which will serve them all their lives. In football, especially, everyone can contribute to a team with time and hard work."

He and Becky each work tirelessly as volunteer members of the PHS Touchdown Club and Fast Break Club, as well as serving on various fundraisers to purchase needed athletic equipment for the various school sports teams.

"Blake has always loved being involved with our kids as much as possible and the kids always loved to be on his team," said Becky. "He enjoys coaching and he enjoys being involved with his community." In addition to coaching, Burchett has also managed to find time to serve on the Prestonsburg High School site-based council, the board of directors of Mountain Christian Academy, the local tourism council, and other area civic organizations.

In addition to oldest son, Andrew, the Burchett's also have two more children: daughter Molly, an undergraduate college student, and son, Michael, a student at Prestonsburg High School.

In response to his busy life as doctor, athletic coach, and committed community member, Dr. Burchett said, "Living in a community you care about often puts more pressure on you, but the rewards are, also, much greater."

Dr. Burchett maintains a private practice on North Lake Drive, in Prestonsburg. In addition to being on staff at Highlands Regional Medical Center, he is also a volunteer professor for both the University of Kentucky and University of Louisville medical schools. Students from both UK and U of L perform rotations with him throughout their third and fourth years of medical study. Recently, physician assistant students and students from the Pikeville College of Osteopathic Medicine have also begun to take advantage of his experience and vast

(See BURCHETT, page seven)



Dr. Burchett, pictured here with son Michael, enjoys coaching and serving as team doctor to the PHS Blackcats.

photo by Paula Goble

Are Contacts OK for Kids?



• Adults use them all the time, but contact lenses may not be the best idea for children.

Contact lenses offer a relatively safe method of correcting vision problems, apart from wearing glasses. It is estimated that approximately 29 million people wear contact lenses in the United States, according to WebMD.com, and the numbers worldwide are even higher.

Contact lenses are either of the hard or soft variety (soft being the preferred) and are worn directly on the eye. They float in front of the cornea on a thin film of tears. Correct design and fitting of the contacts are essential to comfort and effectiveness.

Thanks to the popularity of contact lenses among adults, many wonder if contacts are a safe option for children as well. While there aren't obvious medical reasons why contacts shouldn't be used by children, there are concerns regarding hygiene, maintenance and insertion of the contacts, and whether a child is mature enough for this responsibility.

Contact lenses, particularly the soft type commonly used, can collect dirt and microorganisms on their surface. As such, daily cleaning and proper storage of the lenses is imperative for eye health. Irritation and disease could spread in the eye if contacts aren't properly maintained. In most cases, children simply do not have the discipline required to use contacts. By age 13 or 14, however, some eye doctors feel there is an increased ability to use contacts - but every child is different.

Caregivers should use caution when making the decision of contacts over glasses. Most professionals agree, however, that LASIK surgery, where a flap is cut into the cornea with a laser to permanently treat vision problems, should not be used on children. Minor vision infractions may clear up over time with more traditional methods, such as wearing glasses. These should be explored prior to any

talk about surgery.

Experts also feel that the use of cosmetic contacts, which are typically tinted lenses that can change eye color or feature designs, should be highly discouraged. Children often share and swap these lenses, creating a breeding ground of bacteria. This can lead to potential eye-health problems, including blindness, and is unsanitary.

Should you allow children to use contact lenses, instill these important lessons:

- Wash hands before touching contact lenses as not to transfer dirt and germs to the lenses and eye.

- Handle one lens at a time. Clean it with the appropriate solution. Cleaning removes eye-produced buildup, cosmetics and other debris that impair lens comfort. Some products require you to rub the lens in the palm of your hand with a few drops of solution, while others just require rinsing.

- Rinse each lens to remove the loosened debris - an important step.

- Place the clean lenses in your eye or in the lens storage container, depending upon whether you are using them or retiring for the evening. If storing, fill the storage receptacle with the appropriate cleaning/disinfecting solution and twist caps into place.

Regardless of the type of products and contact lenses you use, here are some general care

(See **CONTACTS**, page four)

Did You Know?

When it comes to needing corrective lenses, most people fall into one of two categories: nearsighted or farsighted. Oftentimes, people without glasses are confused as to which one is which. Nearsightedness, also called myopia, occurs when a person can see objects that are close by clearly, but cannot see distant objects clearly, if at all. Someone has farsightedness (hyperopia) if they can see far away objects clearly, but nearby objects are blurry. When vision is blurred at all distances, that's astigmatism, which results when light entering the eyes is unable to be brought into a single focus.

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Scientists unraveling why some aging brains stay so sharp

By LAURAN NEERGAARD
AP Medical Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — When aging hampers memory, some people's brains compensate to stay sharp. Now scientists want to know how those brains make do. In hopes of developing treatments to help everyone else keep up.

This is not Alzheimer's disease, but the wear-and-tear of so-called normal aging. New research is making clear that memory and other brain functions decline to varying degrees even in otherwise healthy people as they age, as anyone who habitually loses car keys probably

suspected.

The question is how to gird our brains against time's ravages, a question becoming critical as the population grays. If you're 65 today, odds are you'll live to 83. But improving health care means people in their 50s today may live another 40 years.

"I don't think we've recognized, as scientists or a society, (that) this is the front-and-center public health issue we face as a nation," Dr. Denise Park, director of the University of Illinois' Center for Healthy Minds, told fellow brain specialists assembled by the government last week.

"We need to understand how to

defer normal cognitive aging ... the way we've invested in fighting heart disease and cancer."

There are intriguing clues, gleaned from discoveries that some seniors' brains literally work around aging's damage, forging new pathways when old ones disintegrate.

"It's not just fanciful or pie-in-the-sky" to try harnessing that ability, said Dr. Richard Hodes, director of the National Institute on Aging, which organized last week's meeting to seek advice on the most promising research.

High on the list: Simple physical exercise. It seems to do the brain as much good as the body.

Other options aren't as well-studied, but range from brain-training games to medications that may keep brain networks better connected. In fact, an old blood-pressure pill named guanfacine improves memory in old rats and monkeys by doing just that, but it hasn't yet been tested in older people with memory problems.

What's normal aging and what signals impending Alzheimer's? That is a big question for elders worried about periodic memory lapses. Science can't yet tell for sure, but there seem to be distinct differences.

Consider: A healthy brain is a bushy one. Branch-like tentacles

extend from the ends of the brain's cells, enabling them to communicate with each other. The more you learn, the more those connections form.

Alzheimer's kills neurons, so the cells disappear along with connections their neighbors need.

With normal aging, the cells don't die but their bushes can shrivel to skinny twigs, explained Dr. Carol Barnes of the University of Arizona. Cells that are less connected have a harder time sending messages. You may know someone's name, but not be able to recall it. Moreover, Alzheimer's seems to first target a

(See BRAINS, page nine)

Vision Development Timeline

One of the more complex sensory systems in the body, vision is something that is one of the last things to develop fully in young children. When infants are born, they do not have mature visual abilities. In fact, in the early days, their hearing ability is much more pronounced than their visual ability. Muscle coordination is also very immature at this time. That is why many parents notice their infant's eyes turning inward or crossing.

0-3 months: Infants cannot focus very well, but may gradually learn to focus in on faces that will become recognizable. They also cannot see at extreme distances, so they respond to objects placed within a few inches of their faces, no more than a foot away. This is fine for nursing or cuddling with their parents. Brightly contrasting colors and patterns can be discerned.

4-6 months: Babies can now see a full range of colors. They will be able to track movement of objects with their eyes. They may also begin reaching for or batting at objects within reach. By this time, the retina is very well developed and babies should be able to visualize small objects.

7 months to 2 years: As every month goes by, a child's vision improves and sharpens. By the time of his or her second birthday, the child will have near-perfect vision, at 20/60 (20/20 is perfect).

Vision Checkups

There is debate as to who should monitor a child's visual development. Many people feel that the examination done by a pediatrician at a child's well visit checkups is adequate. A pediatrician will be able to spot minor vision problems, if present.

and treat certain ailments. He or she may refer a child to a specialist if there is something wrong beyond the scope of his or her expertise.

On the other hand, many optometrists and ophthalmologists believe that it is in the child's best interest to have vision exams by an eye doctor as early as 6 months of age. Checkups should also occur at age 3 and before the child enters school.

Some eye doctors offer free exams to babies 6 months and younger.

Optometrist or Ophthalmologist?

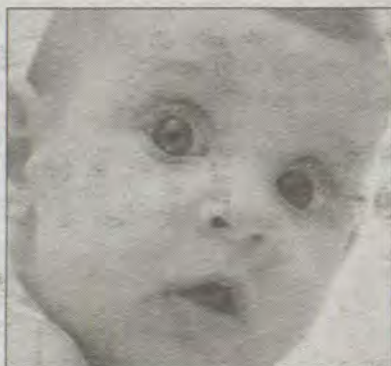
When making plans to take a child to an eye doctor for an examination you may not be sure about the differences between an optometrist and an ophthalmologist. It's a common question.

Optometrists have a minimum of four years training at a school of optometry in eye and vision care, diseases

of the eye, and larger health problems that affect the eyes, such as diabetes. Some may be able to prescribe certain medications, depending upon state.

Ophthalmologists have a minimum of eight years of medical training and are medical doctors who specialize in eyes. They may have to spend three or more years in a hospital eye-residency program. Because they are doctors, they can prescribe any and all medication. Ophthalmologists also perform eye surgery of all sorts, and handle any care of the eyes, as would an optometrist.

Opticians are not trained to diagnose or treat eye problems. They are skilled in making and dispensing lenses and glasses. They serve in the same capacity as a pharmacist - filling the "prescription" of the doctor.



• It takes a few months for a baby's vision to develop to the point that he or she can focus on Mom or Dad's face.

Contacts

Continued from p3

tips, courtesy of AllAboutVision.com:

- Never touch solution bottle tips to any surface, including your body; the solution can become contaminated.

- Avoid getting tap water on your contact lenses and accessories, as it can carry a microorganism called Acanthamoeba that causes serious eye infections. While regular contact lens disinfection procedures do kill Acanthamoeba, they typically don't kill its cysts.

- Remember to clean your contact lens accessories (lens case, cleaning/disinfecting devices, enzy-

matic cleaner vials and so on) as directed.

- Lens cases can be rinsed with hot tap water and dried when not in use.

- Throw out your contact lens case once a month or as directed to reduce your risk of infection.

- Most important, clean and disinfect your contact lenses once a day (those with extended-wear contacts should clean and disinfect them when they take them out, unless the lenses are scheduled to be discarded). Not only will your eyes be safer and healthier, but your contact lenses will be more comfortable to wear, too.

How to deal with breast cancer

By CHELSEA J. CARTER

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Richard Lippin didn't have a handbook on how to handle his wife's cancer diagnosis, her subsequent treatments and finally her death.

Now Lippin has partnered with the Tower Cancer Research Foundation to develop an outreach program for cancer patients and their family and friends.

But already there are a handful of things that he says he learned.

- Don't be afraid to ask questions of the medical professionals.

"I don't think they gave me a grand insight into how torturous the process, the treatments can be," Lipp-

pin said. "One of the biggest things I learned was to ask questions."

- Know it's an emotional experience.

"You're going to have peaks and valleys. High-highs, where you think she's beating it, and low-lows," he said.

- Know you will not have all the answers.

Lippin said he knew it was important to be optimistic and loving but beyond that, he says, he didn't know what else to do for his wife.

"I didn't understand as a man going through this with my wife what I really could do," he said. "I had to ask her sometimes."

Treating Back Pain a Difficult, Evolving Task

"The best way to approach potential back surgery might be a return to the days when spinal surgeries were condition-specific and not a uniform answer for everyone."

No one likes shoveling snow. While the eyes of children light up at the sight of snowfall, for men and women with driveways and sidewalks, that snowfall just means it's time to dust off the snow shovel and get to work. Unfortunately, such a reality can often lead to aches and pains, as many a veteran snow shoveller can willingly attest. What's important for back pain sufferers to know is they are certainly not alone. According to the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons, treating back pain costs nearly \$100 billion annually.

Such a figure is likely significantly higher than most people might expect. However, that figure is indicative of the prevalence of back pain, whether it's afflicting people on an interim basis thanks to a driveway full of snow or if the situation is chronic. The good thing about so many people suffering from back pain is that much is being done to combat it, offering those suffering from mild to more advanced stages a variety of options for relieving their pain.

For those suffering from mild back pain as a result of too much shovelling or lifting something too heavy, over-the-counter pain relievers have proven to help many times. Ibuprophen, aspirin and acetaminophin are all available and have proven helpful for those with just minor back pain. Minor back pain sufferers can also use a heating pad or a cold bag, alone or in combination with over-the-counter drugs, to help relieve most, if not all, of the pain.

For those suffering from more intense and lasting back pain, however, a couple of tablets of aspirin and a heating pad will likely not do the trick. This is not to say your cause is helpless, but it will just take more effort, and money, to treat your condition. Unfortunately, back pain is chiefly characterized by variability, making a doctor's diagnosis with respect to the effects of treatment and length of symptoms nowhere near as concrete as diagnoses for other ailments might be. It's important to keep in mind for any back pain sufferers that studies released by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) within the last 10 years have shown that even a month after treatment, 33 percent of sufferers have reported continuing pain while about a quarter of

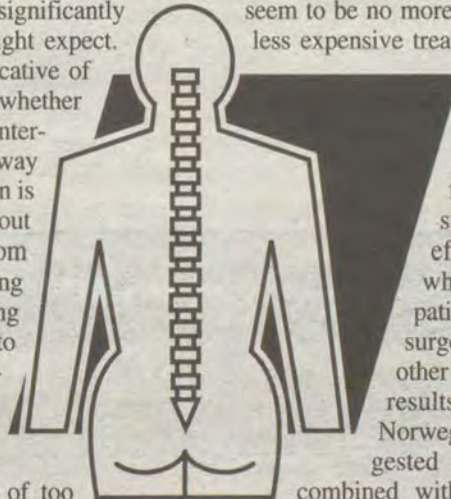
those surveyed reported substantial limitations on their activities. This suggests that even the most effective treatments will not eradicate pain entirely.

Perhaps the one treatment to be most wary of is spinal fusion surgery. Historically, surgery was largely a condition-specific option not even considered for the majority of back pain sufferers. However, in recent years spinal surgeries have increased greatly, which is not necessarily a good thing, as many have pointed out that longterm effects of surgery seem to be no more beneficial than other, less expensive treatments. This was first

pointed out in a 2001 Swedish study that showed tremendous benefits in the first two years after surgery, but no lasting effects or differences when compared to patients who did not have surgery. Soon thereafter, other studies offered similar results, including a 2003 Norwegian study that suggested aggressive regimens combined with cognitive behavior therapy proved equally as effective at reducing pain as did fusion surgeries. Again, this is important to note due to the escalating costs of spinal fusion surgeries and their apparently minimal longterm effectiveness.

While American surgeons might scoff at the results of these studies, it's important to consider these same surgeons do not make money by suggesting alternatives to surgery. The best way to approach potential back surgery might be a return to the days when spinal surgeries were condition-specific and not a uniform answer for everyone. Sufferers of sciatica, for instance, where intense pain shoots down the leg as a result of a spinal injury, will often find surgery to be their most viable option. Still, while the surgery-first mentality shifted greatly in favor of surgeries over the last several years, other options have now come into play that should decrease the prevalence of spinal surgeries.

One evolving branch of treating back pain is known as Spinal Arthroplasty, an option that offers non-fusion techniques to treating back pain. The goal of spinal arthroplasty is to



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Church pastor encourages congregation to visit physicians

By **ANDREW WELSH-HUG-GINS**
Associated Press Writer

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — After the fourth death in a week, Keith Troy decided enough was enough.

Midway through Sunday services, he looked out at his congregation and asked all the men to rise. Then he asked: Would the deacons and associate ministers please assemble in the aisles with paper and pencil? Would every man write down his name and a phone number where he could be reached?

Too many church men were dying of preventable illnesses related to poor health, Troy told the congregation at New Salem Missionary Baptist Church, a predominantly black church of about 4,500 members, including about 900 adult men.

Their pastor of 24 years issued a simple order: Every man in the congregation will see a doctor in the next three months. If they can't afford it, the church will help pay. If transportation is a problem, someone from the church will drive them.

"But one way or another,"

Troy said that Sunday in late November, "every man in this church will be checked out."

"Amen," parishioners responded. "Amen."

The last straw had come three days earlier when Roland Burks, 58, died of complications from diabetes and high blood pressure, the day after he delivered Thanksgiving meals to the homeless.

"I plead guilty to being a pragmatist," Troy said in an interview. "What we do on Sunday has got to impact Monday through Saturday, and if not, what are we doing?"

He said he stood in the pulpit that Sunday and happened to see two doctors, members of the church, in the congregation.

"It just kind of came to me," Troy said. "We didn't have 900 meetings about it — it was just one of those moments of inspiration."

Statistics show black men are among the least likely people to see a doctor regularly.

Three in 10 non-Hispanic black did visit a doctor or other health professional in the past 12 months, according to the national Centers for Disease Control

and Prevention 2005 summary of national health statistics. Only Hispanic men (37 percent) were higher as a group.

Black men also have higher rates of high blood pressure than white or Hispanic men and a higher risk of dying from strokes than men and women from any other group. Black men also have higher obesity rates than white men or women.

Last year, the Baptist Educational and Missionary Convention of South Carolina, a predominantly black denomination, announced a partnership with the state to educate people about disease prevention and healthy living.

In Colorado, Denver's Center for African-American Health works with about 80 black churches to increase awareness among parishioners about preventing diabetes, heart problems and other chronic diseases.

"When the message comes from the church and the pastor, it comes with a very important push behind it and people do tend to trust that message," said Dr. Michelle Gourdine, a member of Union Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church and

the deputy secretary of health for Maryland. The 1,300-member church in Randallstown, Md., offers annual programs on reducing cholesterol and high-blood pressure and runs a 10-week exercise class for just \$10.

Fear of being perceived as weak keeps some black men from seeing doctors, as does historical distrust of the profession. Concerns about the cost of medical care also play a part. A 2004 survey by the Ohio Department of Health found that more than one in four black men in Ohio were uninsured, compared with fewer than one in five white men.

"We don't generally seek out health care unless we become incapacitated," said Dr. Augustus Parker, a black physician and a member of New Salem. "I got a bum knee? — you wait until it's bone on bone and you can't walk. 'That chest pain I have? I just drink a bottle of Maalox and I feel better.'"

Troy's order made Jimmy Logan, a church volunteer who helps handle parking on Sundays and a friend of Burks, realize that if he wants to continue serving others, he'd better look out

for himself first.

He went to the doctor and had an arthritic knee drained but otherwise got a clean bill of health.

"It's one thing to preach the gospel, it's another thing to also have a sincere heart of caring while you're doing that," said Logan, 46, an adviser at a bank. "The combination of the two has left many of us just speechless."

Troy's call to medical action was not the first time he's departed from his Sunday script. In June, he asked all teenagers to stand up and talk about what they wanted to do with their lives after a boy in the congregation was murdered two weeks before graduation.

Since word got out about what he said that day from the pulpit, other churches have called for information, and local hospitals have asked if they can help.

Troy gets weekly updates on how many men have seen a doctor so far. He doesn't have a count yet, but says many of the church's men have participated.

As for himself? The 54-year-old pastor sees a physician annually and considers himself in good health.

Pain

Continued from p5

restore or replace degenerative spinal joints through the use of minimally invasive technology. While this branch is still in its infant stages, for those suffering from chronic back pain it should come as some solace, as spinal arthroplasty is being geared toward reducing pain via avenues other than costly spinal fusion surgeries.

Still, as the Norwegian study suggested in 2003, exercise might be the best option. At first glance, the concept of exercise when suffering lower back pain might seem incomprehensible. But too much rest only worsens back pain. Such is the reason most exercise regi-

mens for back pain sufferers are combined with cognitive behavioral therapy aimed at re-programming one's brain into being less sensitive to pain. This theory suggests back pain is not only physical, but neurological as well, essentially saying acute back pain causes a person's central nervous system to become hyperactive as a means to combatting pain. This, as supporters of the exercise and behavior therapy suggest, can be treated through reprogramming that will gradually allow sufferers to feel less pain as they exercise more and become less sensitive to pain. All the while, treatments such

as acupuncture, physical therapy and even chiropractic treatments can be incorporated into the regimen.

It is important to keep in mind if you come inside this winter with an aching back thanks to a driveway full of snow that treating your back pain does not have to be as expensive as you might think. Thanks to a handful of recent studies and an apparent paradigm shift in the field of spinal medicine, numerous other options that offer equal, if not exceeding, benefits and minimal costs are now available for back pain sufferers.

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"We want you to hear the melodies of life"

O'Bryan finds a way to help others by starting the Share Program

During Jeanie O'Bryan's darkest moment and faced with one of the worst possible tragedies you can imagine, she found a way to help others. After having no problems during her first pregnancy, with the now 10-year-old Matthew, O'Bryan and her husband Greg had a stillborn child. Levi would be seven today.

"It's lonely. It's something nobody's prepared for," she says. "When you get pregnant you create a life for that baby; that created life that you've got doesn't go away, that love doesn't go away ..."

O'Bryan grew up in an Air Force family and has lived everywhere from Greece to Alaska with Texas in between. She is currently the Medical Staff Coordinator at Highlands Regional Medical Center, and does the credentialing and privileging for new physicians. O'Bryan has been at HRMC for 18 years, working a number of positions. She's been in her current role for 4 years.

O'Bryan said Highlands is not only a good hospital but one that is willing to let its employees get involved in areas they have personal experience. When she lost Levi, she was looking for ways to deal with the grief she was feeling. Through much research she found the program "Share," and she went to the administration and they let her start up a chapter at the hospital.

"It helps the nurses, because they can work on the physical ailments and I can help on the emotional side," she explained. "Everybody needs to feel that their feelings are validated. They need to be sure

"I make them realize that they're not alone," she said. "They're not losing their mind; they have to be gentle to themselves. They have a real reason to grieve."

that they're OK."

Highlands Share, a counseling program for parents who lose babies during birth, started in 2001. It's a pregnancy and infant loss support group that provides bereavement support for parents.

"When the babies die, that's when I'm called. It's a volunteer thing, that's what I do," she said. "Because I've been there and I know what it's like. That's where my other son comes in because I know what it's like. It's a different kind of loss than losing someone you've know for a while."

O'Bryan said society has a tendency to measure grief by the size of the coffin.

"People tend to think that you'll get over it in two weeks," O'Bryan said, noting that is anything but the case. "That emotion that you have doesn't go away. You leave the hospital with nothing. A lot of people need to know that the feelings they have they're not going crazy."

"I make them realize that they're not alone," she said. "They're not losing their mind; they have to be gentle to themselves. They have a real reason to grieve."

"Dealing with something like this is not something they want to talk about. They feel like it's a private time; people have realized when I've helped them, you need

to let people know than hide it," she said.

O'Bryan said many times the extended family tries to protect the parents who just lost a child because they feel if they can protect them from the pain, they can help them get over it. That's not the way to deal with it. She said the parents need to find closure by acknowledging their loss.

"There's nothing wrong with wanting to see the baby or wanting to hold it. It doesn't make the grief worse," O'Bryan said. "I've never had anybody regret seeing their baby, but I've had a lot of people regret not seeing their baby."

"I've had it happen to me, they think that it brings up the loss of my own son again, but it helps me knowing that those people aren't alone," she said.

O'Bryan has also taken her work beyond the local level with the Share program, serving as the Kentucky state representative for the group. In 2001, they petitioned governor's across the country to declare Oct. 15 a national remembrance day for people who have lost infant children. Nationally, on that day at 7 O'clock there are candle lighting ceremonies to remember those lost.

This year, O'Bryan is trying to organize a local candle lighting ceremony so people can come and light candles in remembrance of their babies.

"I love this hospital it's a really good place to be and everybody cares about the community here and not just physically but emotionally," she said.

There were no Share programs in Kentucky when O'Bryan started the program at Highlands.



Jeanie O'Bryan
HRMC Share Program

"It's not just the physical things, we deal with people physically, but emotionally too we want to be sure they're OK," she said. "We care about the community as a whole. You can heal here and this is an area you can heal in."

O'Bryan also said Highlands is more than just a place to work for her.

"It's my family. I've been here so long I can't imagine being anywhere else," she said. "I've practically grown up with these people, they're a part of my life."

If there is anyone who knows a friend or family member who is grieving the loss of a child during birth, O'Bryan said to call her at 606-886-8511 and she will be available to help. For more information on the national Share program, you can visit their website at www.nationalshareoffice.com.

Brains

different spot in the hippocampus, the brain's memory center, than aging does.

There are two capacities for fighting back:

• Some brains withstand a lot of assault before showing symptoms, something called "cognitive reserve." Indeed, striking autopsy studies have found between 20 percent and 40 percent of elders who displayed no confusion actually had brains riddled with Alzheimer's trademark plaques. Presumably, they had such bushy brains that even

when some neurons died, enough were left to function.

• Compensation is how the brain adapts when old pathways quit functioning, to reroute itself and use alternates. Brain scans show younger people tend to use different neural networks than older people when performing the same task.

What's the advice for now?

Physical exercise is the best-proven prescription so far, the scientists agreed. Memory improved when 72-year-olds started a walking program three days a week, and

sophisticated scans showed their brains' activity patterns started resembling those of younger people.

Then there's the "use-it-or-lose-it" theory, that people with higher education, more challenging occupations and enriched social lives build more cognitive reserve than couch potatoes.

It's never too late to start building up that reserve, said Columbia University neuroscientist Yaakov Stern. But, "the question is how. What is the recipe?"

Everything from doing crossword

puzzles to various computer-based brain-training programs has been touted, but nothing is yet proven to work. Johns Hopkins University has a major government-funded study under way called the "Experience Corps," where older adults volunteer to tutor school students 15 hours a week, to see if such long-term stimulation maintains the elders' brains.

What about medication? Companies have been reluctant to test side effect-prone drugs in an otherwise healthy aging brain, but scientists cited animal studies suggesting low-

dose estrogen and drugs that might mimic or ramp up brain signaling are promising possibilities.

And recall that old blood pressure drug guanfacine? It is now being studied as a potential treatment for children with attention-deficit disorder, and it works in the same brain region, the prefrontal cortex, where elderly brains forge new networks.

"If it works in a 6-year-old, we hope it will work in the elderly," said Yale University neurobiologist Amy Arnsten.

Continued from p4

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Dr. Burchett with wife, Becky, and (front, left to right) children, Michael, Molly and Andrew.

Burchett

Continued from p2

knowledge of the medical field as they perform internships under his guidance.

Dr. Burchett and his wife wish to acknowledge the excellent service of their valued office staff, Mary Thompson, medical assistant, who has been with Dr. Burchett's office since its opening in September, 1986; Kim Clifton, nurse; and Sharon May, receptionist.

Proud to call him one of their own, Highlands Regional Medical Center is pleased to offer their patients the very best in hometown care from local son, Dr. Blake Burchett.

Dr. Burchett is the youngest son of former Prestonsburg business proprietors, Clyde and Eileen Burchett, who still reside today on Arnold Avenue.



Keep 'Pink Eye' From Coming Back

• Children who repeatedly battle bouts of conjunctivitis might be due for an eye examination.

Most parents are familiar with conjunctivitis. While the official name likely won't ring a bell, its more common name, "pink eye," surely will.

An inflammation of the membrane that covers the whites of the eyes as well as the inner eyelid, pink eye seems to affect every kid at least once. But some parents might not know that conjunctivitis comes in different forms, each with different symptoms and signs.

• Bacterial conjunctivitis: this will be in both eyes and result in a heavy, greenish discharge.

• Viral conjunctivitis: this typically affects just one eye, resulting in slight watering and a light discharge.

• Giant papillary conjunctivitis (GPC): arguably the most severe form of conjunctivitis, this affects both eyes and can hinder a person's ability to wear contact lenses. It's also characterized by itching, red bumps on the inside of the

eyelids, and heavy discharge and tearing.

• Allergic conjunctivitis: this will also affect both eyes and result in an itching sensation and redness. In some instances, the nose will experience those symptoms as well. Excessive tearing is also common.

Because there are different types of conjunctivitis, the causes vary. GPC sufferers often find their contact lenses cause and aggravate the symptoms, while people with allergic conjunctivitis will find that allergens, such as dust or pollen, trigger the problem.

The best thing a parent can do to help their child is have them avoid anything that has caused or can cause conjunctivitis. Because conjunctivitis is so contagious, keeping it under wraps is essential for both your child and the people your child spends time with. Some good tips for keeping the condition from worsening or spreading include:

• Wash your hands. Anyone who's had conjunctivitis, even a mild case, knows how hard it is to avoid touching or rubbing your eye. If your child does either of those things, wash their hands immediately and remind them to do their best to keep their hands away from the infected areas.

• Don't share. While every parent wants to teach their children to share, in this instance, not sharing should earn a child brownie points. Wash cloths, towels and pillowcases should not be shared. Once a wash cloth or towel has been used, launder immediately. After your child wakes up in the morning, change the pillowcases and wash those immediately as well.

Not sharing extends beyond the linen closet as well. Eye care products, such as drops or lens cleaners, should not be shared, nor should mascara or other cosmetic items.

• Avoid close contact with others. While parents will want to kiss their kids goodnight, do so with caution while not alienating your child.

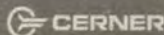
• Seek a doctor's advice. If your child wears contact lenses but conjunctivitis keeps coming back, it might be time to revert to regular eyeglasses. If a child doesn't wear glasses but has a history of conjunctivitis, bring that up with their eye doctor, especially if the doctor feels it's time for glasses or contact lenses.

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Breast cancer doesn't discriminate:

The husband of Hollywood powerhouse fights for her memory

By CHELSEA J. CARTER
Associated Press Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Richard Lippin reeled at the news: His wife, his partner in life and business, and one of Hollywood's power women, had just been diagnosed with a rare form of breast cancer.

He could barely register what he was hearing. He didn't know how to behave, what should he say to his wife, his family, their doctor.

For 15 months, he watched his wife take tests, medications and treatments. He felt helpless. He knew little about the disease, and even less about what, if anything, he needed to do to help.

And then it was over: His wife was dead, and all he had left was her memory.

"This can't have happened for nothing. We can't have gone through this and not have it mean something," Lippin said recently.

So Lippin is working to keep alive his wife's memory by working to educate other husbands and loved ones about breast cancer.

It was the helplessness that Lippin felt that was hardest to handle, that feeling of being powerless. It was something he had never really experienced.

For decades he and his wife, Ronnie, 59, had built The Lippin Group, one of the leading independent entertainment and media public relations and marketing firms in the country. If they encountered a problem, an obstacle, they figured out how to navigate it.

She represented some of the music industry's biggest stars, from Eric Clapton to Prince. He, as he likes to joke, was "into everything else" — from representing "Law & Order" creator Dick Wolf to handling press and publicity for the Emmy Awards.

Brian Wilson once described Ronnie as one of the "most thoughtful people" he had ever met. Her easy-going demeanor

put people at ease, and her soft touch with people made her more than just a manager to some of her clients. Rock icons, from Wilson to Elton John, called her friend.

Then in September 2005, two weeks after having a mammogram, Ronnie Lippin wife found a lump in her breast during a self-examination.

"We sat on the bed, and she showed me where it was," he says.

Days later, they received the news: abnormal squamous cells were discovered in the lump in her breast, which would later spread to her organs and then throughout her body.

They went to see specialists and she began a series of surgeries and drug therapies, including chemotherapy and radiation, to battle the disease.

They had questions, so many questions: How could you have had a clean mammogram and then be diagnosed weeks later with a rare form of breast cancer? Was there another test that she could have taken that might have alerted doctors earlier to her cancer? What was the proper form of treatment?

And perhaps the most nagging question of all: Are we doing the right things?

There were few immediate answers, and no guidelines for them to follow. The Lippins went everywhere, flying across the country to talk to doctors.

"I was always aware of breast cancer in the generic sense. But it wasn't anything you ever concern yourself with until you're in the middle of it," Lippin said. "I knew I had to be strong for her. If I lost strength and hope, then I wouldn't be doing anybody any good, especially her."

In the first months after her diagnosis, Lippin said it was hard to believe his wife had a terminal disease. She looked like she had always looked: brown hair, brown eyes and a bright, wide smile. She

also continued to work — taking care of her clients and her family.

But slowly the breast cancer and the sometimes debilitating treatments started to take their toll on her physically. By late October 2006, more than a year after her diagnosis, the disease was winning.

"That's when we both knew it was going to be tough," he said.

Sitting in his office in a high rise on the edge of Beverly Hills, surrounded by photos of his wife and daughter Alexandra, tears spilled down his cheeks as he relived their final days together: Sitting, talking, holding hands.

She died Dec. 4, 2006, at Cedars Sinai Medical Center.

"I went through this period of mourning, and then I think it was followed by this period of introspection: How do I best recognize a woman I spent 35 years with?"

He wanted her death to have meaning. He wanted to share their experience, their journey through this "strange world" of cancer.

It began as a germ of an idea: "There have to be an awful lot of people out there going through this, and they have to be experiencing the same things I am."

Over the next few months, he created the Ronnie Lippin Research Fellowship, grants for research on the early detection of breast cancer. He also established a partnership with the Tower Cancer Research Foundation to create an outreach program to educate those coping with cancer and their families and friends to help navigate the journey through cancer diagnosis and treatment.

The first results of the foundation's work, survey results about what people fear most about cancer, were released this month.

The experience, he says, has helped him cope with the loss. It also, perhaps, has given him a way to take back that loss of control, that helplessness he felt with his wife's battle with cancer.

These days, he says he still

shares the efforts with his wife.

"Sometimes one of the most comforting things is when I go to the cemetery, and I sit and tell her

everything that's happening," he said. "There's a part of it that allows me to feel a continued relationship."

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