

LEADER-NEWS



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Serving Muhlenberg County, Kentucky

26 PAGES + INSERTS • 50 CENTS



Ice, ice baby!
A-10



Penguin Plungers visit Chamber meeting
A-9



Lady Mustangs blast Murray
B-1

64 HIGH
46 LOW



Greenville Fire Dept. gifted 92 ft. ladder truck

By STACIE BARTON
editor@ky-leadernews.com

Greenville City Council received the city's annual audit report at their monthly meeting held on Feb. 8 at city hall. Auditor Al Klein of Amick & Company in Louisville joined the meeting remotely and talked about highlights in the audit. The report shows the city to be in good financial standing.

Greenville Fire Department has acquired a ladder truck to add to their fleet. The 55-foot long truck is a 1989 model with the ability to extend 92 feet. Fire Chief Phillip Groves told the council the vehicle was given to the department as a gift, at no cost to taxpayers.

The ladder truck was owned by the Flaherty Volunteer Fire Department in Flaherty, Kentucky. The department was gifted a new ladder truck and decided to return the favor. Groves said he went and took a look at the truck and determined it would be a good addition to the department.

City administrator Leslie Cornette said this piece of equipment would be key to fighting a fire in the downtown area. The city currently shares a ladder truck with Central City Fire Department, but having one in Greenville would cut down on response time, Groves said.

The council will look into whether or not the city currently has an or-

GREENVILLE CITY COUNCIL:
Continued on A-3



Greenville Fire Department recently received an amazing gift – a ladder truck to add to their fleet. Previously owned by the Flaherty Volunteer Fire Department in Meade County, the 55-foot long truck features a 92-foot ladder, dual nozzles to allow for two streams of water, and the ability to reach heights they were not able to reach before. Deputy Fire Chief John Gore said it will allow them to make rescues from higher levels, and elevate the water stream, especially important in the case of a fire in the downtown area. Chief Phillip Groves estimates a new ladder truck would cost more than \$1 million. The department will begin a fundraising campaign in coming months to fund an addition to the fire house, in order to create an indoor space to park the truck. (Leader-News photos/Stacie Barton)

Fiscal court begins work to expand broadband

By STACIE BARTON
editor@ky-leadernews.com

The Muhlenberg County Fiscal Court is looking for proposals to expand broadband services in the county. Using funds from the American Rescue Plan Act, the county will be able to increase the availability of high-speed broadband access to unserved and under-served areas in Muhlenberg County.

The American Rescue Plan Act was passed by the U.S. Congress in 2021 to provide relief to state and local governments during the covid-19 pandemic.

According to the request for proposals, the

FISCAL COURT:
Continued on A-3

Central City will allow new cable provider

By STACIE BARTON
editor@ky-leadernews.com

Central City City Council heard an audit report at their Feb. 9 meeting. The report was prepared locally by Pate & Company, and presented by Daniel Pate.

Pate reviewed the audit, giving council members a snapshot of the full report. He commented the city's finances are in

CENTRAL CITY COUNCIL:
Continued on A-3

Neil Simon comedy this weekend at the Palace Theatre

Growing up in Brooklyn, New York in the 1930s is the backdrop for "Brighton Beach Memoirs", on stage this week at the Palace Theatre in downtown Greenville.

The play, produced by Muhlenberg Community Theatre, Inc., is the first of three autobiographical plays by Neil Simon.

"Brighton Beach Memoirs" is a portrait of the writer as a young teen in 1937, living with his family in a crowded, lower middle-class Brooklyn walk-up. Eugene Jerome, played by Dylan Metheny, stands in for Simon and is the narrator and central character.

Dreaming of baseball and girls, Eugene must cope with the mundane existence of his family life in Brooklyn. His

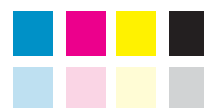
mother and father, played by Penny Charbonneau and Brad Phipps, are overworked and underpaid. His brother Stanley, played by Reese Strader, is trapped in a job he hates. His widowed aunt, played by Laura Phipps, also lives with the family with her two young daughters, played by Alex Strein and Sadie Milam.

This bittersweet memoir evocatively captures the life of a struggling Jewish household where, as Jack Jerome states, "If you didn't have a problem, you wouldn't be living here."

Catch "Brighton Beach Memoirs" Feb. 17, 18 and 19 at 7 p.m. and Feb. 20 at 2 p.m. at the Palace Theater, 119 N. Main Street in Greenville.



Family supper in 1937 Brooklyn, with the cast of "Brighton Beach Memoirs", Feb. 17-20 at the Palace Theatre in downtown Greenville. More on A-10. (Leader-News photo/Stacie Barton)



Marine Corps League members travel to Bremen to deliver donations, honor Billy Miller

The Marine Corps League, Bluegrass Detachment 1012 from Richmond, Kentucky, delivered toys, supplies and household goods to Bremen Community Center on Feb. 12.

The Marine Corps Veterans traveled to Bremen, the effort spearheaded by member and Jr. Vice Commandant, Marine Veteran James Burroughs and his wife, Associate member Michelle Burroughs. Donations came from Marine Corps Leagues as far away as Pennsylvania and Indiana.



Central City Police provide an escort for the Marine Corps League from Central City to Bremen on Feb. 12.



A flag was presented to honor Billy Miller, and received by his son, Brian. Miller was a Marine Veteran who died in the Dec. 10 tornado. Sgt. Burroughs is seen here with Bremen Mayor Allen Miller.



Batman was on the scene to talk to kids and hand out toys.



Pallets of toys, pulled together by the Marine Corps League Toys for Tots yearly Christmas drive participants, food, clothes, personal and household items, were delivered by a convoy of volunteers. These donations were gathered from Richmond fire and police departments, local stores and countless individuals.



The group also presented Bremen Mayor Allen Miller with a check for \$3,000.



Children were allowed to choose toys from two box trucks filled with goodies. (Leader-News photos/David Grant)

CENTRAL CITY PRESENTS

Saturday's ON 2ND

CENTRAL CITY, KY

MAY 22 | JUNE 25
JULY 30 | AUG 27

CENTRAL CITY KENTUCKY'S FAMOUS CRUISIN' STRIP
LIVE BANDS | CAR SHOW | CRUISE IN

LIVE ON STAGE

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CAR SHOW

CUSTOMS | CLASSICS | HOT RODS
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Leader-News

Read-in celebrates Black History Month

Muhlenberg County NAACP will host a Black History Month African American Read-in on Feb. 25 at 6 p.m. People are encouraged to read a poem or excerpt from a favorite author,

writer or artist, or just come and listen to others read. The event will be held at Sip&Spin Coffee and Records at 115 North Main Street in Greenville.

FISCAL COURT: Continued from FRONT

goal is to design and construct a fiber network system capable of delivering high speed broadband at a minimum of 100 megabits per second for both upload and download speed.

Currently, roughly 31% of households in Muhlenberg County have no internet service and of those who do, the median speed of service is 12.3/7.47 for upload and download speeds. These speeds do not support the digital technologies required for remote healthcare, education or work.

The court voted to advertise for bids in search of providers who can build and maintain the broadband network. The timeframe outlined in the request for bids is aggressive, with completion in two years.

The court approved a plan to allow Rockport/Paradise Road to return to gravel. The road was once heavily used by trucks coming and going from TVA, Magistrate Malcolm West told the court, but now has only sparse traffic. The blacktop has disintegrated over the past 15 years, and is now worn down to gravel in most places, he said.

The court approved an interlocal agreement with the City of Central City pertaining to tornado debris removal. Damage to METS Home Hardware is inside city limits, requiring the interlocal agreement. This will allow contractors

hired by the county to remove debris to include the debris around the corner of U.S. Route 62 and Kentucky Route 189.

An agreement was approved by the court with Compass Advisory Partners, of Cookeville, Tennessee, and advisor David Stites to oversee how American Rescue Plan Act funds are spent by the county. The agency will make sure those federal funds are spent properly and will provide counsel to the court on projects using those funds, for a fee of 1.5% of the cost of the project.

The court approved a budget amendment for a Community Development Block Grant for utility assistance in the amount of \$200,000.

Billy Holland was named as a commissioner to the Muhlenberg County Water District #3. The court approved his appointment to a four-year term.

The court approved a donation to Muhlenberg County Tourism of \$1,200 for the July 2022 fireworks show.

The court approved paying an architect fee of \$1,000 to provide a written assessment of the condition of Spring Ridge Schoolhouse. Built in 1935, the schoolhouse was moved to Paradise Park. It is in need of renovations, and the court is being asked to help with funding.

The next meeting of the Muhlenberg County Fiscal Court will be on March 10 at 4 p.m.

GREENVILLE COUNCIL: Continued from FRONT

dinance regarding house numbers, and may create one if there isn't something already on the books. Groves said they run into issues when responding to emergency calls when homes do not have address numbers on them. The council will revisit this at the next meeting.

The issue of parking in downtown Greenville was discussed. Police Chief Darren Harvey said his officers talked to people who live in

the downtown area last summer, but those who work downtown should be parking in alternative spaces, rather than in the spots along Main Street. This would free up parking for customers who come downtown to shop or eat, Harvey said. He will speak with business owners about the matter.

The next meeting of the Greenville City Council is March 10 at 5 p.m. The council meets at the Greenville City Clerk's office, 118 Court Street.

CENTRAL CITY COUNCIL: Continued from FRONT

good shape. The council heard the first reading of an ordinance to establish a new cable television franchise in the city. The ordinance will allow Spectrum, a digital cable provider, to

bring their services to the city.

The next meeting of the Central City City Council will be on March 9 at 5 p.m. Meetings are held at City Hall, 214 N. First Street.

CORRECTIONS:

The Leader-News staff strives to be accurate. If errors occur we want to correct them promptly. If you believe a correction is warranted, please call 270-754-3000 between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.

FEMA deadline extended to March 13

Homeowners and renters with uninsured or underinsured damage to their property from the Dec. 10-11 tornadoes in Barren, Caldwell, Christian, Fulton, Graves, Hart, Hickman, Hopkins, Logan, Lyon, Marion, Marshall, Muhlenberg, Ohio, Taylor and Warren counties have another month to apply for FEMA disaster assistance.

FEMA has extended its application deadline to Sunday, March 13. Those who have already applied to FEMA for their Dec. 10-11 tornado damage need not apply again.

FEMA disaster assistance is

not a substitute for insurance and cannot compensate for all losses caused by the tornadoes. The assistance is intended to meet basic needs and supplement disaster recovery efforts.

Survivors are encouraged to file insurance claims for damage to their homes, personal property and vehicles before they apply for FEMA assistance.

To apply, visit DisasterAssistance.gov, use the FEMA mobile app or call the FEMA Helpline at 800-621-3362. If you use a relay service such as video relay service (VRS) or captioned telephone service, give FEMA the

number for that service. Helpline operators are available from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. CST daily. Press 2 for Spanish. Press 3 for an interpreter who speaks your language.

Homeowners, renters and businesses that were affected by the Dec. 10-11 tornadoes may apply for disaster loans using SBA's secure website: disasterloanassistance.sba.gov/ela/s/. For more information, applicants may also call SBA's Customer Service Center at 800-659-2955 or email DisasterCustomerService@sba.gov. Individuals who are deaf or hard-of-hearing may call 800-877-8339.

Covid-19 infections drop in county

By STACIE BARTON editor@ky-leadernews.com

Muhlenberg County Health Department has reported a swift decline in cases over the past week. This weekend, the county topped 10,000 cases of covid-19 since tracking began in March, 2020. Now, cases of the extremely contagious omicron variant seem to be subsiding.

This comes after the county was reporting one of the highest infection rates in the state for several weeks, and records were smashed for new cases in January, topping out at 2,893 new cases last month.

There have been 703 new cases reported in February so far. The health department has reported an average of 40 new cases per

day from Feb. 8 through Feb. 14, down from an average of 61 new cases per day the previous week.

While the health department is still reporting 1,032 active cases as of Feb. 14, this is down from an average of 1,459 active cases per day the previous week.

There are currently 11 people hospitalized due to the virus.

Kentucky Public Health reported an additional death in Muhlenberg County on Feb. 10, and two deaths on Feb. 12, brining the total to 112.

Data from the health department shows cases and hospitalizations are nearly the same for vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals. This data does not reflect the health or age of people who are hospitalized.

The health department does not obtain health history, such as lung and heart disease, or diabetes, which may account for those who are vaccinated and hospitalized.

"The covid-19 vaccinations are to lessen the severity of the symptoms and the potential for hospitalization," said Cathy Bethel, director of the health department. She said underlying health issues can be exacerbated by the covid-19 virus.

Muhlenberg County has an infection rate of 93.8 cases per 100,000 residents, as reported by Kentucky Public Health on Feb. 14.

In order to move from red to orange for incidence rates, the county would need to be below 25 cases per 100,000.

Gov. appoints judicial search commission

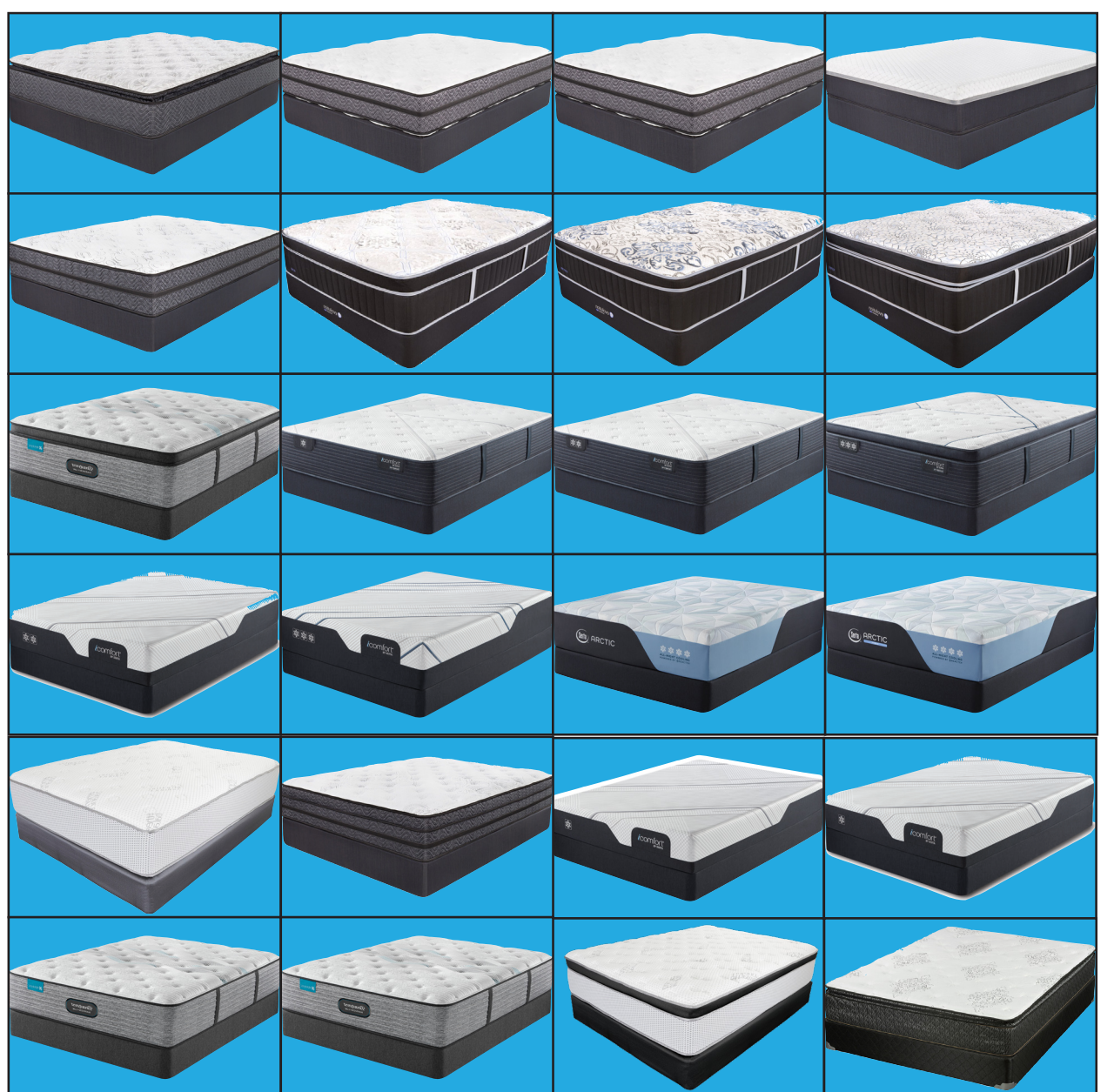
Gov. Andy Beshear's office announced last week the creation of a Judicial Nominating Commission for the 45th Judicial District of Kentucky. This commission will work to fill the vacancy left by the death of Judge Brian Crick in the Dec. 10 tornado that struck

his home in Bremen.

The commissioners appointed by the governor are Jeff Kirby, Crystal Chappell, Freda Pogue and Josh Randall. Jeff Kirby, of Greenville, is retired. Crystal Chappell, of Drakesboro, is an exceptional education teach-

er at Muhlenberg South Middle School. Freda Pogue, of Greenville, is a corporate secretary at The Pogue Group, and Josh Randall, of Central City, is president at Central Screen Printing. All commissioners shall serve for a term expiring Jan. 1, 2026.

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This Week at the State Capitol

FRANKFORT — The sounds of a legislative session have a flair all their own — the rollcall vote, the crack of the gavel, the chatter on the chamber floor. During the sixth week of the 2022 legislative session, it was the voice of a Louisville fourth grader that brought all ears to attention.

Nine-year-old D'Corey Johnson kicked off the annual Black History Celebration on Tuesday with a rendition of "Lift Every Voice and Sing" that climbed all 212 feet of the Capitol dome. When he belted out the national anthem for the Senate, the normally reserved chamber couldn't help but hoot in applause.

The performance was a perfect fit for a busy week in the General Assembly, which included a visit from Kentucky Men's Basketball Coach John Calipari, a spirited debate on unemployment benefits, and action on a host of other measures related to education, children, health and taxes.

Education was a key theme at Tuesday's Black History Celebration, where legislators highlighted the importance of historically Black colleges and universities — particularly Kentucky State University. The event culminated with

the 2022 Legacy Award, which posthumously honored state Rep. Darryl Owens.

On Wednesday, the focus turned to Calipari and University of Kentucky Athletics Director Mitch Barnhart, who testified in the Senate Education Committee on behalf of Senate Bill 6.

The bipartisan legislation would provide a framework in state law for college athletes to generate personal income off their name, image and likeness, known as NIL. Calipari and Barnhart told lawmakers that the proposal would create both parameters and opportunities while also protecting the interests of athletes.

SB 6 cleared the full Senate on Thursday and now heads to the House, where lawmakers spent much of Thursday afternoon in deliberations on unemployment.

House Bill 4 seeks to change the duration of unemployment insurance based on the average rate of unemployment across the Commonwealth. The bill would also require participants to engage in at least five verifiable work search activities each week to obtain benefits.

Proponents said the measure is sorely needed to address workforce



Senate President Robert Stivers, R-Manchester, listening to 9-year-old D'Corey Johnson sing the national anthem on the Senate floor. (Photo/Legislative Research Commission)

shortages and attract more jobs to the state. Critics, however, argued that the legislation would disproportionately impact rural areas of Kentucky where unemployment is highest.

The bill passed off the floor after several hours of debate and now heads to the Senate.

Lawmakers maintained a quick pace throughout the week, both in committee and on the House and Senate floors. The General Assembly advanced measures related to:

The Read to Succeed Act - House Bill 226 seeks to invest in improving early literacy education through

evidence based learning techniques and intensive interventions that can help struggling students catch up. It won approval in the House on Monday and serves as a companion bill to a measure in the Senate.

Child abuse - Senate Bill 97, which aims to strengthen investigations of suspicious child deaths and serious injuries, received approval in the Senate on Monday. Among many goals, it would require police to request a blood, breath or urine test from the child's custodian if that person is suspected of being under the influence at the time of the child's death.

Another measure, House Bill 263, would increase the penalty for first-degree criminal abuse to a Class B felony if the victim is under 12 years old. It cleared the House Judiciary Committee on Wednesday with unanimous support.

Vehicle taxes - House Bill 6 would require property valuation administrators to tax vehicle owners in 2022 the same as they did 2021. Beginning next year, the bill would also require them to use the average trade-in value rather than the "rough" trade-in value or "clean" trade-in value when assessing taxes. HB 6 cleared the House with a unanimous

vote on Wednesday.

First responders - Senate Bill 101 would prohibit first responders from taking photos of people who have died at the scene of an accident or crime unless the photos are for official purposes. Any unauthorized photos could result in a Class A misdemeanor, with fines ranging between \$500 to \$2,500. The Senate approved the bill Wednesday.

School sports - Senate Bill 83, known as the "Save Women's Sports Act," calls for administrative regulations that would prohibit biologically male students from participating in athletic activities designated for girls. It moved out of the Senate Education Committee on Thursday.

Kentuckians have many ways to keep in touch with the legislative process. That includes the Legislative Record webpage, which allows users to review and track a bill's progression through the chambers.

Citizens can also share their views on issues with lawmakers by calling the General Assembly's toll-free message line at 1-800-372-7181.

This Week at the State Capitol is provided by the non-partisan Legislative Research Commission.

House approves unemployment insurance reform bill

FRANKFORT— A bill aimed at changing the length of unemployment insurance benefits and the job search requirements for recipients cleared the Kentucky House of Representatives on Thursday.

After several hours of debate, House Bill 4 was approved by a 57-37 vote.

The bill's primary sponsor, Rep. Russell Webber, R-Shepherdsville, said the bill is not intended to solve all of the unemployment and workforce participation issues facing the Commonwealth, but it is an "important first step."

"Right now, 47% of

the working age population in Kentucky is not working, so we have 53% of our working age population that is actively working," Russell said. "... We cannot be known as a state without workers or a state that is short on workers."

Under HB 4, the duration of unemployment insurance benefits will be based upon the state average unemployment rate. One provision of the bill says if the state average unemployment rate is less than 4.5%, benefits may last for up to 12 weeks. Under current statute, unemployment insurance

benefits may last up to 26 weeks.

The bill would also require recipients to engage in at least five verifiable work search activities a week with at least three of those activities being applying for a job, interviewing for employment or job shadowing.

Another provision of HB 4 would give recipients an additional five weeks of eligibility if he or she is enrolled in an approved job training or certification program.

"This is a great opportunity, and it helps Kentuckians," Webber said.

Webber also assured his colleagues that this bill would not hurt seasonal workers or those impacted by the Western Kentucky tornadoes.

Several lawmakers, however, expressed fears that HB 4 would hurt rural communities.

Rep. John Blanton, R-Salyersville, said he believes HB 4 would be "devastating" to the people in his district, where jobs are hard to find and many people commute up to two hours away from home in order to work.

Blanton attempted to pass a floor amendment that would change several things about Webber's original bill, such as keeping the maximum length of benefits at 26 weeks; however the amendment failed.

"You see, people drawing unemployment insurance are people who want to work and have been

working, but now we're going to go after them?" Blanton said. "... I would think if we want to solve our workforce participation problem, we would go after that 53,000 that's not working rather than those 18,000 that are out of work but are willing to work."

Rep. Norma Kirk-McCormick, R-Inez, agreed with Blanton, saying the bill is "super bad" for her district.

Rep. Al Gentry, D-Louisville, also agreed that the bill would hurt rural communities. Gentry made a motion to postpone voting on HB 4, but his motion failed.

Several other lawmakers joined their colleagues in speaking against HB 4. Minority Floor Leader

Joni L. Jenkins, D-Shively, said she worries about the burden the bill would place on the state unemployment office, which is currently understaffed.

Rep. Josh Bray, R-Mount Vernon, however, said he believes HB 4 is a "step in the right direction."

"If you want to bring jobs to Eastern Kentucky, we have to improve our workforce participation rate," Bray said.

Rep. Phillip Pratt, R-Georgetown, a small business owner, joined in supporting HB 4. Rep. Jason Nemes, R-Louisville, also spoke in support of HB 4, calling it a "good bill."

HB 4 will now go before the Senate for consideration.

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Letters to the Editor

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Meetings

- The board of trustees for Muhlenberg County **PUBLIC LIBRARIES** will meet at 4:30 p.m. Feb. 17 at Harbin Memorial Library, 117 S. Main Street, Greenville.
- Muhlenberg County **BOARD OF EDUCATION** will meet at 5:30 p.m. Feb. 17 at the board office, 510 W. Main Street in Powderly.
- The **FRIENDS OF LAKE MALONE STATE PARK** will have its regular meeting on Feb. 17 at 6 p.m. at Rosewood United Methodist Church. Come and enjoy the fun of helping build a better Lake Malone State Park. This will be our first meeting of 2022, and new officers will be elected.
- The Muhlenberg County Phase I **AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL** will be meeting at 6 p.m. on Feb. 17 at the Muhlenberg County Extension Service, 3690 State Route 1380 in Central City. For more information contact Darrell Simpson, Extension Agent for Agriculture and Natural Resources at 270-338-3124 or at roger.simpson@uky.edu.
- Muhlenberg **COUNTY TOURISM COMMISSION** will meet at noon on Feb. 21 at the Career Advancement Center, 50 Career Way in Central City. Masks required.
- **BREMEN ELEMENTARY SBDM** Council will meet on Feb. 21 at 2:45p.m. in the school's library.
- Muhlenberg County **AIRPORT BOARD** will meet at 6 p.m. on Feb. 21 at the airport, 399 Airport Rd. in Greenville.
- Muhlenberg County **FISCAL COURT** will meet at 4 p.m. Feb. 24 at the Muhlenberg County Courthouse in Greenville. Meetings are held in the second floor court room.
- Muhlenberg County **WATER DISTRICT #1** will meet on Feb. 28 at 4 p.m. at the Muhlenberg County Water Office, 301 Dean Road in Greenville.

Happenings

- Muhlenberg County **4-H PENGUIN PLUNGE** is Feb. 19 at 10 a.m. at the Central City Convention Center outdoor pool. This is a fundraiser for the Backpack Program which sends a backpack of food home with students each weekend. For more information call 270-338-3124.
- Open the door to a new career at the Muhlenberg County **JOB FAIR**, Feb. 22 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Central City Convention Center. Employers wishing to participate contact Molly Deahl at molly.deahl@ky.gov
- **EMPTY BOWLS FULL HEARTS** is a fundraiser for the 4-H Backpack Program. Come for a meal to help fight hunger in Muhlenberg County on March 19 from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Central City Convention Center. Ticket price includes a meal of soup, bread and a drink and a hand-painted or handmade bowl. Tickets are available at the UK Extension Office, 3690 State Route 1380 or at The Studio, 128 W. Morehead Street, Central City.
- **OPEN RIDING** at the Muhlenberg County Ag Center is available from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. every Wednesday. Bring your horse and get some riding time in. \$10 per horse.
- Do you have **QUESTIONS ABOUT YOUR MEDICARE?** Cheryl Spain at the PACS Muhlenberg County Senior Citizens Center can assist with Medicare questions. She offers one-on-one counseling (by appointment) referrals to correct agencies, help understanding Medicare and/or Medicaid coverage and supplemental insurance, help understanding and comparing supplemental policies and plans, help filling out prescription drug discount program applications and help applying for public benefits. Contact your PACS SHIP counselor today at 270-338-6222.

OBITUARIES

Edna Lucille Merrick

GREENVILLE - Edna Lucille Merrick, 81, of Greenville, died Wednesday, January 5, 2022 at Maple Nursing and Rehab in Greenville. She was a member of East Union Missionary Baptist Church in Graham. Edna was preceded in death by her parents William Coleman Cardin and Elsie Mae Markam Cardin.

Survivors include a daughter Lucinda Baggett of Greenville, and one granddaughter.

Funeral services were held Saturday, January 8, 2022 at 2:00 p.m. at Dunn's Funeral Home in Eddyville with Rev. Joe Chambers officiating. Burial followed in Macedonia Cemetery in Kuttawa.

Pauline Stanley

DEPOY - Pauline Stanley, 80, of Depoy died Wednesday February 9, 2022 in the Owensboro Health Muhlenberg Community Hospital after a lengthy illness.

Born February, 14 1941, in Union County, Ky. to the late Kathryn and Woodrow Blackburn. She loved her family and all her grandchildren, nieces, nephews, and she loved music. She loved Chubby Checker music, such as the twist. She collected Betty Boop items, she liked to fish, sew, sing, crochet, and was even known to dance to the twist at times. She loved flowers of all types, especially roses. She loved to cook for her family and along with her late husband raised four of her grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband of 49 years, James McCoy Stanley Sr.; son Wesley Eli Stanley; parents, Kathryn and Woodrow



Blackburn; four brothers and two sisters.

Survivors include her children, James McCoy Stanley Jr., Tina Pauline (Jack) Wood., Daphne Elaine (Neal) Glover and Anthony Woodrow Stanley; eight grandchildren; six great-grandchildren, plus one on the way, as well as several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held Saturday, February 12, 2022 at 11:00 a.m. at Gary's Funeral Home in Greenville. Burial followed in Oak Grove Cemetery. Online condolences to the family may be made at www.garysfuneralhome.net

Jack Cadle Evitts

GREENVILLE - Jack Cadle Evitts, 82, of Greenville died Friday, February 11, 2022, at his residence. Born in Muhlenberg County. He was a paint color matcher at Paint Factory. He was preceded in death by his parents George and Anna Brown Evitts; brothers, Brennon, Bernard, George Thomas, William, Donald, and Walter; sis-

ters Edna Vincent, Anna Jo Chappell, and Imogene.

Survivors include his wife of 62 years Bobbie Rager Evitts; son Timothy Evitts; daughter, Tammy Whitehouse; one grandson; sister, Mildred Cox.

Funeral services were private. Online condolences may be made at www.tuckerfuneralhomes.com

Sarah Pryor Jenkins

WINDERMERE, Fla.—Sarah Pryor Jenkins, 51, died Monday, February 7, 2022. Born March 15, 1970 in Muhlenberg County, she graduated from Muhlenberg Central High School, earned her BS degree from Murray State University, and completed her MBA from Webster University of St. Louis. Sarah worked at various jobs in the healthcare field in Owensboro and Louisville and managed her husband's medical practice in Florida for several years. Sarah

was preceded in death by her maternal grandparents, Robert and Eleanor Hall, and her paternal grandparents, Leland and Esther Pryor.

Survivors include her husband, Dr. John A. Jenkins of Windermere, Fla.; parents, Donald and Eleanor Pryor of Central City; and brother, Jon Pryor of Bowling Green.

A reception in honor of Sarah will be held at 4 p.m., Saturday, February 19, at Dr. Jenkins' residence in Windermere, Florida.

Dorothy Dean Miller

GREENVILLE - Dorothy Dean Miller, 90, of Greenville died Friday, February 11, 2022, at Maple Health and Rehabilitation in Greenville. Born June 11, 1924, in Bates County Mo. She was a homemaker and a member of 2nd Baptist Church in Greenville. She was preceded in death by her husband

Mike Miller, son Phil O'Neal, and parents John and Frances Vaughn.

Survivors include her daughter Rebecca Baugh; five grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren.

Funeral Services will be private. Online condolences may be made at www.tuckerfuneralhomes.com

Thomas Wendell Saddler

GREENVILLE - Thomas Wendell Saddler, 89, of Greenville, died Monday, February 7, 2022, at his residence. Born December 26, 1932, in Muhlenberg County. He was a general operator for Ford Motor Company, and attended Leigh's Chapel General Baptist Church. He enjoyed fishing, being outdoors, going to the lake, riding his tractor, and bush hogging. He was also an avid UK basketball fan. He was preceded in death by his son, Stephen Saddler; parents, Charles and Ida Belle Saddler; and six brothers and sisters.

Survivors include his wife, Margaret Krieger Saddler; children, Jane (Steve) Ryan of Aroma Park, Ill. and James (Michelle) Saddler of Greenville; grandchildren, Stacy (Marvin) Kirk, Nicole



Ruebensam, Kayla Saddler, and Andrew Saddler; great-grandchildren, Preston Kirk, Jocelyn Kirk, and Braidon Neal; great-great-grandchild, Kygn Neal; and sister, Betty (Gene) Sapp.

Graveside funeral services were held Saturday, February 12, 2022, at 11:00 a.m. at Old Jackson Cemetery in Greenville, with Fr. Will Thompson officiating. Online condolences may be made at www.tuckerfuneralhomes.com

Lou Ella Jones

Lou Ella Jones, 82, passed away on February 11, 2022 Born February 17, 1939 to George Jernigan and LB (Hall) Jernigan in Kentucky. She enjoyed playing cards with her neighborhood friends. She loved watching movies and soap operas. She cherished time with her grandchildren more than anything. She loved her family so much and will be missed dearly. She was preceded in death by her loving husband, Jerry Jones; parents George and LB Jernigan; siblings Lonnie Ray Jernigan, Roger Jernigan, Glenn Jernigan, Russell

Jernigan, George Jr. Jernigan, Judy Jarvis; and granddaughter Emily Jones.

Survivors include her children Donald Dwayne (Tracy) Jones, Keith (Jenny) Jones and Lou Don Bittner; grandchildren Isaak Jones, Jerry Allen Jones, Byran Mason; many nieces, nephews, and extended family.

Visitation will be Wednesday, February 16, 2022 from 10 a.m. until the time of service at 12 p.m. at Sunset Funeral Home in Evansville with a burial to directly follow at Sunset Memorial Park.

Jerry Hicks Young

CENTRAL CITY - Jerry Hicks Young, 76, of Central City, passed away Sunday, February 13, 2022, at his residence after a brief illness. Born August 4, 1945, to Emmitt and Hilda Bud Young in Muhlenberg County. After graduating high school from Muhlenberg Central in 1963, Jerry attended Western Kentucky University. While attending college, he chose to join the United States Navy and served his country from 1967 - 1971. He then returned to WKU and graduated in 1973 with a degree in Education. After graduating college, he began his career in the Muhlenberg County School System where he was a teacher, coach, and principal. He then became the assistant superintendent for the McLean County School System until his retirement in 2002. After his retirement, he, his wife Mary, and son Kelly opened Young's Packaging Mail and Parcel in 2004 and ran that business until it was sold in 2021.

Jerry was an avid sports and WKU fan. He was a devoted member of Mt. Zion Presbyterian Church. His most favorite thing to do was attend the ball games and activities of his grandchildren,



whom he described as special and perfect. He was preceded in death by his parents and his brother, Phillip Young.

Survivors include his devoted and loving wife, Mary; daughter, Jenny (Scott) Bunch; son, Kelly Young; grandchildren, Kennedy Bunch, Kamden Bunch, Jackson Young, and Jillian Young.

Funeral services will be Friday, February 18, 2022, at 11:00 a.m. at Mt. Zion Presbyterian Church, with Pastor Jim Brown officiating. Burial will follow in Mt. Zion Cemetery. Visitation will be Thursday after 5:00 p.m. at Tucker Funeral Home in Central City and Friday after 9:00 a.m. at Mt. Zion Presbyterian Church. Expressions of sympathy may take the form of contributions to Mt. Zion Cemetery Fund or Hicks and Hilda Fund. Envelopes will be available at the funeral home and church. Online condolences may be made at www.tuckerfuneralhomes.com

Louis Emuell Kirby, Jr.

GREENVILLE - Louis Emuell Kirby, Jr., 69, of Greenville, died Sunday, February 13, 2022 at his residence. Born May, 28, 1952, in Nashville, Tenn., the son of the late Louis Emuell Kirby, Sr. and Ramer Neeley Ford Kirby. He was a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints in Greenville. He retired in August, 1991 as a Staff Sergeant in the Army after twenty years, and later retired from the Green River Correctional Facility in Central City.

Survivors include his wife of 41 1/2 years, Karen Sue Gill Kirby of Greenville; sons, Coby Luther of Tenn., Shad Kirby of Greenville, Seth Kirby of Greenville, and Zachary Kirby of Newburgh, Ind.; daughters, Kaitlen Tuliloo of Greenville and Megan Kirby-Winsett of

Greenville; nine grandchildren; sisters, Linda Kirby, Betty Woodham, Cathy Rigtrup and Syble Gentry all of Tenn.

Funeral services will be Wednesday, February 16 at 1:00 p.m. at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints on Dean Road in Greenville, with Bishop Kenny McCarragher officiating. Burial will be at the Western Kentucky Veterans' Cemetery in Hopkinsville, at 12:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 17 with military honors. Gary's Funeral Home in Greenville is in charge of arrangements. Visitation will be Wednesday, February 16 from 11:00 a.m. until time of funeral at 1:00 p.m. at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints in Greenville. Online condolences to the family may be made at www.garysfuneralhome.net

LEGAL NOTICES

The following Estates have been Probated and Fiduciary appointments made in the Muhlenberg District Court. Creditors are notified that all claims against said estates must be filed within six (6) months from the date of appointment.

On February 9, 2022, the estate of Zane Beverly, 12704 U.S. Highway 62 East, Central City, Kentucky 42330, to Dinah Beverly, Co-Administratrix, 12704 U.S. Highway 62 East, Central City, Kentucky 42330 and Louise McDonald, Co-Administratrix, 11696 U.S. Highway 62 East, Central City, Kentucky 42330. Attorney representing estate: Steve Lamb, 200 North 2nd Street, Central City, Kentucky 42330.

On February 7, 2022, the estate of Robert A. Chance, 1087 Kennedy Road, Greenville, Kentucky 42345 to Harvey VanHook, Executor, 1087 Kennedy Road, Greenville, Kentucky 42345. Attorney representing estate: Beau Sparks, P.O. Box 569, Greenville, Kentucky 424345. 2-15c

LEGAL NOTICES

The Muhlenberg County Water District #1 does hereby give notice that it will be accepting bids until 4 p.m. on February 28, 2022, for the purchase of a 2022 Chevrolet 1500 Silverado 4x4, Double Cab, 1 LT Standard Bed Pickup Truck. Specifications may be obtained at the Muhlenberg County Water District Office located at 301 Dean Road, Greenville. The District reserves the right to reject any and all bids. Please turn your bid in on the spec sheet that you can obtain from the water office. 2-22c

LEGAL NOTICES

Notice of sale of 2009 GMC Denali, Vin #1GK-FK0309R168221. Owner of record is West Side Auto & Truck Parts. The vehicle is located at Country Roy Truck Sales & Parts, 3721 State Route 176, Greenville, Kentucky 42345, 270-338-6368. Vehicle is being sold to satisfy debt for repairs to the vehicle. Vehicle will be sold March 19, 2022 at 3721 State Route 176, Greenville, Kentucky 42345. 3-1c

LEGAL NOTICES

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY MUHLENBERG CIRCUIT COURT

LEGAL NOTICES

CIVIL ACTION NO. 21-CI-00391

KENTUCKY HOUSING CORPORATION, PLAINTIFF Vs.

NOTICE OF SALE PATRICIA A. RUSS ESTATE, et al., DEFENDANTS

Judgment \$43,616.63

Pursuant to the Judgment of the Muhlenberg Circuit Court, the Master Commissioner will sell at the **Veteran's Mall between the Judicial Building and the Muhlenberg County Courthouse (if rain-Courthouse front porch)**, Greenville, to the highest bidder on **FRIDAY the 18th day of February, 2022, at 9:00 a.m., C.T.**

Property Address: **620 US Highway 431 North, Drakesboro, KY 42337**

PVA Number: **178-03-06-017-000**

Deed Book **542, Page 786**

All property is sold in accordance with the legal description in the Judgment.

The Sale shall be for cash or ten percent (10%) down with thirty (30) days to pay the balance, and the purchaser shall give a bond, with good surety, for the purchase price, payable to the Master Commissioner bearing interest at the rate stated in the Judgment. The purchaser shall pay the real estate taxes for the 2022 tax year and following years.

Al Miller, Master Commissioner 428 North Second Street Central City, Kentucky 42330

P: (270) 754-5502/ F: (270) 754-5249, 2-15c

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LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE:
Pennyryle Allied Community Services, Inc. (PACS), will hold a public meeting to discuss and determine the strengths and needs of the county, Residents with low-income and community members are encouraged to attend and voice their concerns. The meeting will be held on 2/16/22 at 3:00 p.m. at 30 Big John Drive, Greenville, Kentucky 42345, PACS CSBG Office. "This project is funded, in part, under a contract with the Cabinet for Health and Family Services with funds from the Community Service Block Grant Act of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services." 2-15c

LEGAL NOTICES

Muhlenberg County Rural Broadband Project Muhlenberg County Fiscal Court, Muhlenberg County, Kentucky

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Provider(s) to Deploy, Operate, and Maintain an Infrastructure Network to Provide Fiber Internet Services to Households in the County

Acceptance Date: March 10, 2022 by 2:00 p.m. CST (local time)

Acceptance Location: Muhlenberg County Fiscal Court, Muhlenberg County Courthouse, c/o Judge Executive Curtis McGehee, P.O. Box 137, 100 South Main Street, Greenville, Kentucky 42345

Proposals may also be submitted via email to all C.mcgehee@muhlenberg-countyky.org L.montgomery@muhlenberg-countyky.org h.walters@muhlenberg-countyky.org

Requests for information or questions related to this RFP should be directed to all:

Judge Executive Curtis McGehee, Muhlenberg County: c.mcgehee@muhlenbergcountyky.org

Laura Montgomery, Muhlenberg County: l.montgomery@muhlenbergcountyky.org

Holli Walters, Muhlenberg County Finance Officer: h.walters@muhlenbergcountyky.org

Information will be answered within 48 hours of receipt. 2-22c

LEGAL NOTICES

Notice is hereby given that the Muhlenberg County Water District #1 will be flushing hydrants in all areas of the District during the month of March. This flushing is for the benefit of the system in cleaning out the water lines, but it may cause a temporary discoloration of water and people should act accordingly. The District apologizes for any inconvenience, but does this in order to provide the best possible distribution system for water it can and also to be in compliance with the rules and regulations of various agencies having jurisdiction over the District. 2-22c

LEGAL NOTICES

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY MUHLENBERG CIRCUIT COURT CIVIL ACTION NO. 21-CI-00130

FARMERS BANK & TRUST COMPANY,, Successor in interest to First Security Bank of Kentucky, Inc., and First State Bank, Inc., PLAINTIFF Vs.

NOTICE OF SALE
AARON BRADLEY STEPP, et al., DEFENDANTS

Judgment Count I \$ 39,507.97
Judgment Count II \$ 28,966.51

LEGAL NOTICES

Judgment Count III \$ 178,409.08
Pursuant to the Judgment of the Muhlenberg Circuit Court, the Master Commissioner will sell at the **Veteran's Mall between the Judicial Building and the Muhlenberg County Courthouse (if rain-Courthouse front porch)**, Greenville, to the highest bidder on **FRIDAY 2022, at 9:00 a.m., C.T.**

Property #1 Address: 2272 US Highway 431 S., Beechmont, KY 42323

PVA Number: 194-02-02-016.000

Deed Book 569, page 132

Property #2 Address: 340 North Main Street, Greenville, KY 42345

PVA Number: 109-02-11-007.000

Deed Book 565, page 748

Property #3 Address: 173 Carroll Street, Central City, KY 42330

PVA Number: 121-04-02-025.000

Deed Book 591, page 531

Property #4 Address: 10703 US Highway 431 N, Central City, KY 42330

PVA Number: 121-04-02-037.000

Deed Book 591, page 531

Property #5 Address: 324 North 4th Street, Central City, KY 42330

PVA Number: 141-02-15-032.000

Deed Book 591, page 531

Property #6 Address: 210 North 2nd Street, Central City, KY 42330

PVA Number: 141-02-23-027.000

Deed Book 591, page 531

All property is sold in accordance with the legal description in the Judgment.

The Sale shall be for cash or ten percent (10%) down with forty-five (45) days to pay the balance, and the purchaser shall give a bond, with good surety, for the purchase price, payable to the Master Commissioner bearing interest at the rate stated in the Judgment. The purchaser shall pay the real estate taxes for the 2021 tax year and following years.

Al Miller,

Master Commissioner
428 North Second Street
Central City, Kentucky
42330

P: (270) 754-5502/
F: (270) 754-5249

2-22c

LEGAL NOTICES

Public Notice:
In accordance with KRS 91A.040 the Muhlenberg County Sheriff announces:

The Commonwealth of Kentucky-Auditor of Public Accounts (APA) has completed the Muhlenberg County Sheriff's 2020 Tax Audit. The APA will be publishing the Auditor's Letter. A copy of the complete audit report, including financial statements and supplemental information is on file at the Muhlenberg County Sheriff's Office and available for public inspection during normal business hours. Any citizen may obtain from the Sheriff's Office a copy of the complete audit report including financial Statements and supplemental information, for his personal use. Citizen's requesting a personal copy of the audit report will be charged for duplication costs of a rate that shall not exceed twenty-five cents per page. Copies of the financial statements prepared in accordance with KRS 424.220 are available to the public at no cost at the business address of the Muhlenberg County Sheriff, Courthouse, 100 South Main Street, Greenville, Kentucky. 2-15c

PROPERTY TRANSFERS

The following property transfers were recently recorded in Muhlenberg County:

- Linda Simpkins and William Michael Simpkins property to Jenni Ruth Shadowen
- Mason Schnadinger and Madison Schnadinger property to Jamie Payne
- Larry Shemwell, Jr. and Teresa Shemwell property to Alan Douglas White
- Randal Mark Peterson and Rita Steele Peterson property to James & Kelsey Alexander Investments LLC
- Adarsh Properties LLC property to MHD Central City LLC
- Jordan L. Hamby and Vanessa A. Hamby property to Larry L. Hamby and Vicky Hamby
- Jane M. Palajac, Rosemarie Lazoff and Lisa Loraine Wilber property to Joshua Beatty and Christina Beatty
- Pamela Sue Adams, Joan Wells and Estate of Marcus Fred Eaves property to Barry Ray Bivins
- Cheryl Mathis Stacy, Cheryl Mathis and Elmer Carlton Stacy property to Darren Lynn Mathis and Michelle Jane Mathis
- Willow Creek Community MHP LLC property to AMH Rentals LLC
- Willow Creek MHP LLC and Jared Falconer property to Veronica Bustos Lopez
- June McRoy property to Scott Wayne Garrett
- Jerry D. Mayhugh and Carol Ann Mayhugh property to Edward D. Risner and Michele Risner
- Brent Hardison and Jennifer Hardison property to Keith R. Wininger

- Roger D. Wright and Daphinne Bernice Wright property to Richard D. Wilson and Shae M. Wilson
- Mark A. Thompson and Pamela Thompson property to Bennett R. Thompson and Sara E. Thompson
- Bennett R. Thompson and Sara E. Thompson property to Ed Hodskins, Trustee, Bennett R. Thompson and Sara E. Thompson
- Chandler Blaine Johnson and Addison Lane Johnson property to Mary Kendall and Thomas Kendall
- Donald Myers and Jennifer Myers property to Raymond McGee and Lena Southerland
- Capt and Dana Inc. property to Laura O'Neal
- Michael L. Wren, Donna Gail Wren and Syreeta Wren property to Joel Wayne Shelton and Cynthia Elizabeth Shelton
- Ronald Jones and Laura Jones property to Ronald Jones
- David Theodore Jessup, Sonja Gale Jessup, Alexis Paige Jessup and Alexis P. Jessup property to Alexis Paige Jessup
- Nannie G. Arnold property to Nannie G. Arnold and Veronica Stellas
- Thomas Mendle Day and Carol Lynn Day property to Kirk D. Lear and Brenda Faye Lear
- Jeremy Daniel Brown property to Timothy S. Cottrell
- Jamie Vincent, Jamie Braem and Archie Vincent property to Alexandria Curtis
- Christine Rolley and Anthony Tyler Rolley property to Christine Rolley

CIRCUIT COURT

The following sentences were recently handed down in Muhlenberg Circuit Court:

- Jessie R. Sears, 4 years in prison for two counts of flagrant non support, credited with 179 days served
- Jeremy Gidcumb, \$590 fine, 4 years in prison, 4 years suspended and 5 years state supervised probation for operating

motor vehicle under the influence of substance; buy/possess drug paraphernalia; operating on suspended/revoked operators license; failure to maintain required insurance/security; possession of marijuana; 90 days in jail for third degree possession of controlled substance (drug unspecified), credited with 6 days served. Charges to be served concurrently.

DIVORCES

The following divorce decrees were recently handed down in Muhlenberg County Circuit Court:

- Bonita Diane Cottrell and Noble Lynn Cottrell
- Holly N. Kirtley and Jonathan Kyle Kirtley

DISTRICT COURT

The following fines were recently handed down in Muhlenberg County District Court:

- Mateo Perez, no operators/moped license; careless driving, \$348
- Derek Gunn, violation of Kentucky E.P.O./D.V.O., \$393, 30 days in jail
- Travis Ray Nelson, operating motor vehicle under the influence of substance, \$775, drivers license suspended for 18 months, 7 days in jail
- Steven B. Matheny, theft by unlawful taking or disp. shoplifting; third degree criminal trespassing; second degree possession of controlled substance (methamphetamine), \$543, 30 days in jail
- Christopher Lewis Steele, criminal littering, \$293
- John Lee Steele, criminal littering, \$293
- Pamela Hobgood, harboring a vicious animal, \$995.09
- Nancy J. Knight, receiving stolen property under \$1,000, \$413
- Ronald J. McPherson, criminal trespassing, \$783
- Ronald McPherson, theft by unlawful taking or disp. all others; third degree criminal trespassing; possession of marijuana; operating on suspended/revoked operators license, \$663
- Stephanie Joy Capoccia, operating motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol/substance, \$833, drivers license suspended for 6 months
- Kelly Nicole Cartwright, theft by unlawful taking or disp. shoplifting, \$447.17

- Howard Thomas Eaves, no/expired registration plates; license to be in possession; failure to register transfer of motor vehicle; failure of owner to maintain required insurance/security, \$833
- Wesley Glen Travis, DUI 2nd with aggravator, \$983, 28 days home incarceration, drivers license suspended for 18 months
- Ryan M. Fuller, failure to produce insurance card, \$193
- Lisa Faye Jones, possession of marijuana, \$263
- Jason Scott Vick, possession of marijuana; buy/possess drug paraphernalia, \$363
- James E. Boyd, speeding; operating on suspended/revoked operators license; possess open alcohol beverage container in a motor vehicle; operating motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol, \$970, drivers license suspended for 6 months
- Amanda F. Lopez, theft by unlawful taking or disp. shoplifting, \$241.50
- Shelby Patton, theft by deception including cold checks, \$483.41
- Michael W. Raley, illegal take/pursue deer/wild turkey, \$362.50, no hunting rights for 3 years
- Michael W. Raley, entry on land to shoot/hunt/fish/trap without consent; regulations necessary to implement KRS 150 purpose, \$313
- Timothy Carroll, failure to or improper signal, \$25
- Joshua Martin, no/expired registration plates; obstructed vision and/or windshield; failure of owner to maintain required insurance/security, 15 days in jail

Kentucky Retired Teachers donate to tornado relief fund

FRAKFORT – The Kentucky Retired Teachers Association (KRTA) and its members have donated \$53,000 to the people and communities impacted by the devastating tornadoes that cut a destructive path through Western Kentucky on Dec. 10.

A \$36,000 check to the Team Western Kentucky Tornado Relief Fund was recently presented to Lt. Gov. Jacqueline Coleman by KRTA Executive Director Tim Abrams and other members of KRTA leadership.

"The only thing that matched the destruction brought by the tornadoes was Team Kentucky's response," Lt. Gov. Coleman said. "We are thankful for the KRTA and its members and this generous donation."

"The KRTA and its members were shocked and heartbroken by the devastating loss of life and property from the deadly tornadoes that struck our state in early December," Abrams said. "We are an organization that is committed to serving our communities and retired educators, and we want to do our part to support the tornado relief efforts."

Another \$18,000 was contributed from the KRTA Foundation. KRTA leaders recently traveled to Western Ken-

tucky to present \$1,000 to retired teachers who lost their homes during the storm.

"The KRTA Foundation's mission is to give financial assistance to KRTA members in an effort to uplift their quality of life when a need or emergency impedes them," Abrams said. "Our prayers will continue for the people of Western Kentucky as they continue to recover from the devastation."

Jeff Hill, president of the local retired teacher's association in Mayfield and Graves County – among the communities hardest hit by the storm – said the KRTA Foundation's contributions to individual teachers provided tremendous assistance to those who needed help.

"We have so many people misplaced, and to have such a genuine concern for our retired teachers and their families is truly inspiring and greatly appreciated," said Hill, who retired from the Mayfield Independent School District.

Executive Director Abrams was joined by KRTA's Deputy Executive Director Greg Roush, President William Kelley, President Elect Golden Hale and Vice President Steve Gillespie in presenting the contributions to Lt. Gov. Coleman.

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50th anniversary



Kirby and Carolyn Tapp of Central City were united in marriage 50 years ago on February 19, 1972. Even though their last six years have been spent apart, they are still married at heart. Their children, Anissa, Heather and Tanya, along with their families, honor them and celebrate with Carolyn this Golden Anniversary with Kirby in Heaven.

Around Muhlenberg County



Annie L. Bard
270-754-5805

Psalms 63

O God, thou art my God; early will I seek thee: my soul thirsteth for thee, my flesh longeth for thee in a dry and thirsty land, where no water is;
2 To see thy power and thy glory, so as I have seen thee in the sanctuary.
3 Because thy loving-kindness is better than life, my lips shall praise thee.
4 Thus will I bless thee

while I live: I will lift up my hands in thy name.
5 My soul shall be satisfied as with marrow and fatness; and my mouth shall praise thee with joyful lips:
6 When I remember thee upon my bed, and meditate on thee in the night watches.
7 Because thou hast been my help, therefore in the shadow of thy wings will I rejoice.
8 My soul followeth hard after thee: thy right hand upholdeth me.
9 But those that seek my soul, to destroy it, shall go into the lower parts of the earth.
10 They shall fall by the sword: they shall be a portion for foxes.
11 But the king shall rejoice in God; every one that sweareth by him shall glory: but the mouth of them that speak lies shall be stopped.
Prayers and get well wishes for all essential workers, Pastor Michael

Cunningham, Rita Conrad, Cassie Reynolds, Zach Talbtt, Mildred Cox, Mr. & Mrs. Jack Evans, Casey Cheatham, Beverly Hocker, Roy Taylor, James R. Gregory, John (Pee Wee) Saulsberry, Brenda and Claude Gregory, Pride Johnson, Elijah Whitaker, Barbara Bishop, Garlord Shelton, Diana Gregory, Tonya Gregory, Minister Janet Cunningham, Homer Stevenson, Arlene Hightower, Charles Burden, Leola Johnson, Annie L. Bard, Grace Sweeney, Jr., Etta Hocker, Mrs. Dorothy Martin, Hunter Gamble, Tonya Gregory, Nancy G. Walker, Marjorie Harper, Janice Hines, Mark Mayhugh, Mack Arthur Dykes, Jr., Johnnie Day, Eura Dell Johnson, Patricia Moppins, Sister Lois Evans, Martha Stevenson, Linda Johnson, Gwen Perry, Ronald (Nick) Dunn, Andrew Hawkins, Mil-

dred Cox, Nancy Cunningham, Pastor Otis Cunningham Sr., Hannah Wells, Barbara and Hayes Shelton, Oneida and Curtis Shelton, Micky Mayfield, Tammy Hawkins, Angie Hinton, Jimmy Talbott, Ada Wimbley, Jean White, Terry Talbott, pastor Michael Cunningham, Connie Talbott, Sonja Smith, Roger Bard Jr., Aaron Lindsey, Sharon Bard, Sonya Connors, Daphne Mayfield, Vickie Hampton, Bryan Hawkins, Blanche Hawkins, Earlene Williams, Rose Talbott and the elderly, tragedies all over the world, United States of America, President Joe Biden and his cabinet, the Veterans and their families, earthquake survivors, the Haitians, tornado victims and their families, the world, all of our leaders and their families, my prayers are for all of the sick and shut-ins.

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Proposed CDC guidelines for treating pain encourage use of non-opioid therapies first

By MELISSA PATRICK
Kentucky Health News

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has proposed new guidelines that would move away from a one-size-fits-all approach to managing pain, to one that encourages doctors to use their best judgment when prescribing opioid painkillers and encourage them to use “non-opioid therapies” first.

The guidelines are especially important in Kentucky, a smaller-than-average state that ranks fifth in the nation for opioid prescriptions and saw an increase of 49% in overdose deaths in 2020, the last year reported.

In addition to prioritizing non-opioid therapies such as ibuprofen and other non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs, the proposed guidance drops previous recommended limits for dosing and encourages the use of immediate-release opioids, as opposed to long-acting ones, when possible.

It also offers extensive guidance for how to treat acute and chronic pain and how doctors should address patients who test

positive for illicit substances.

“This clinical-practice guideline provides recommendations only,” the proposal says. “It does not replace clinical judgment and individualized, patient-centered decision-making.”

The guidelines, which are still in draft form, would update the 2016 CDC Guideline for Prescribing Opioids for Chronic Pain, which were designed to slow the prescribing of opioids like OxyContin, which fueled the opioid epidemic.

Synthetic opioids like the rarely prescribed fentanyl and its analogues in the illegal drug supply now fuel most of the drug-overdose deaths in Kentucky, but the state ranks high in opioid prescriptions.

Stroudwater Associates reported that Kentucky had the fifth highest opioid prescribing rate in the nation in 2020, with Perry, McCracken, Clark, Owsley, Whitley, Bell, Floyd, Pike, Clay and Fayette counties making up the top 10. Stroudwater is a health-care consultancy that says it focuses on rural and community hospitals, health-care systems and large physician

groups.

The new CDC guidance was prompted by unintended consequences of the 2016 recommendations, which created barriers for care of people with chronic or severe pain, many of whom relied on opioid doses far higher than the recommended amount. The 2016 guidance also resulted in some people who no longer had access to these painkillers switching to heroin, and some physicians stopped caring for pain patients for fear of criminal and civil penalties.

The report on the guidelines adds that other misapplications of the 2016 rules included extension of them to patients not covered in the guidelines, like those with cancer or palliative care; the abrupt discontinuation of the drugs in some patients; duration limits by insurers and pharmacies; and patient dismissal and abandonment.

“These actions are not consistent with the 2016 CDC Guideline and have contributed to patient harm, including untreated and undertreated pain, serious withdrawal symptoms, worsening pain outcomes, psychological

distress, overdose, and suicidal ideation and behavior,” the report says. It notes that many states have passed laws based on the 2016 guidance, even though the rules were meant to “support, not supplant, individualized, patient-centered care.”

The Kentucky General Assembly has passed several opioid-control laws in recent years, including one to limit opioid prescriptions for acute pain to a three-day supply, with exemptions. The new guidelines recognize the dangers associated with opioids, but also recognize their value in treating pain. It offers 12 recommendations for clinicians who are prescribing opioids for adult outpatients with pain. They do not apply to patients suffering pain from cancer or sickle-cell disease, or those in end-of-life or palliative care.

The report says the recommendations are “based on a systematic review of the available scientific evidence while considering benefits and harms; patients’, caregivers’, and clinicians’ values and preferences; and resource allocation.”

The first guideline rec-

ommends that providers use non-opioid alternatives whenever possible, stating, “Clinicians should only consider opioid therapy for acute pain if benefits are anticipated to outweigh risks to the patient.”

Non-opioid treatments include things like over-the-counter medications like ibuprofen and acetaminophen; prescription medications like gabapentin; physical therapy; massage, and acupuncture.

After weighing the benefits and the risk of using an opioid to treat pain, the draft guidance says the provider is encouraged to start with the lowest effective dose and to prescribe them for only as long as the patient is experiencing “pain severe enough to require opioids.”

The report says, “It is imperative that people with pain receive the most appropriate and effective pain treatment with careful consideration of the benefits and risks of all treatment options.”

It also discourages clinicians from abruptly discontinuing opioids in patients already receiving high doses of the drugs, or dismissing such patients from their care;

and urges them to ensure appropriate care if the patients has an opioid-use disorder.

The CDC is seeking public comment on these changes through April 11. “This comment period provides another critical opportunity for diverse audiences to offer their perspective on the draft clinical practice guideline. We want to hear many voices from the public, including people living with pain and the health care providers who help their patients manage pain,” Christopher M. Jones, director for the National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, said in a news release.

He added, “The ultimate goal of this clinical practice guideline is to help people set and achieve their personal goals to reduce their pain and improve their function and quality of life. Getting feedback from the public is essential to achieving this goal.”

Kentucky Health News is an independent news service of the Institute for Rural Journalism and Community Issues, based in the School of Journalism and Media at the University of Kentucky, with support from the Foundation for a Healthy Kentucky.



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HB4 a step toward unemployment insurance reform

By REP. MELINDA
GIBBONS-PRUNTY

Legislative day 27 was completed on Friday. This was a great week for seeing folks from home in Frankfort. There were Zoom meetings with constituents, visits from city and county officials from various counties, individuals representing their professional and business organizations as well as pages on the House floor. It felt the closest to “normal” in Frankfort than it has in approximately two years due to the pandemic.

While I plan to continue to be the voice of those from southeast Hopkins County, on Wednesday, I had the privilege of meeting with a delegation from Butler County, along with Rep. Steve Sheldon. Rep. Sheldon has been their representative for the past three years but due to re-districting, I am now their new representative.

They shared with us about an issue they have been facing for years. I gladly filed HB 477 on their behalf to mirror Senator Embry’s SB 157 to try and address it. Oftentimes the exact same bill is filed in both chambers to increase its chances of passing into law.

One of the greatest privileges this week was the opportunity to participate in the Kentucky Partners in Policymaking (KPIP) conference that was held for parents and self-advocates. It is a class sponsored by the Commonwealth Council on Developmental Disabilities (CCDD) that strives to empower individuals and their families to become proactive for changes in public policy.

Being a former physical therapist who worked closely with this population, they hold a special place in my heart. I shared with them a script on how to present to a committee when giving testimony

as well as walked them through the process of “How a Bill Becomes a Law”.

Significant pieces of legislation that passed through the House last week include:

HB 4 is the result of the work of the Unemployment Insurance (UI) Reform Task Force. It would be a step toward UI reform moving forward for routine UI cases. Special circumstances, such as the pandemic, could still be altered for an emergency situation with specific time frames.

The duration of UI benefits would be indexed according to the average state unemployment rate and would fluctuate with the current economy. It would require an increased number of verifiable work searches per week, including job shadowing as an option, and would give individuals an additional five weeks if they are enrolled in an approved job training or certificate program.

Included is a provision specifically for seasonal employees, such as construction workers or highway contractors. If they have a return-to-work date or recall-to-work prospects, indexing would not apply.

HB 6 would address the issue I have heard the most about since coming into session, increased motor vehicle taxes. HB 6 would require motor vehicle tax assessments to be based on the average trade-in value, not a rough or clean trade-in value. It would allow flexibility for PVA’s in determining assessments based on factors such as proof of a vehicle’s condition, options, and mileage.

It would also eliminate increases assessed for January 1, 2022 assessments and would require a refund of any overpayment. The Cabinet is required to develop a system to process refunds. Once that process is set up, I will communi-

cate that to you.

These increases were due in part to an executive order made in 2009 as well as the increased value of used vehicles due to the pandemic.

HB 226 would establish the “Read to Succeed Act” to systematically impact comprehensive reading training for K-3 teachers. The goal is for every student to be reading at grade level by the end of third grade. Funding sources are identified for these enhancements for moving students toward proficient performance in reading.

HB 259 would codify into statute the raise for our Kentucky State Police that was a part of HB 1, the House budget. They are down approximately 450 troopers presently and have already heard good things the impact of this bill would have in getting individuals to consider joining the force.

HB 269 would prohibit the death penalty for those with severe mental illness (SMI). They would be considered guilty but would serve “life without parole”. In order to be excluded from the death penalty, a requirement of a well-documented history of mental illness prior to performing the crime would be necessary for application of this bill. If enacted into law, not guilty by reason of insanity could not be used as a defense.

HB 351 would assist local governments dealing with disasters by allowing local entities the ability to submit affidavits in place of records lost due to a disaster such as our recent tornadoes.

All House bills now go to the Senate for their input and review.

I welcome your comments and can be reached through the toll-free message line in Frankfort at 1-800-372-7181, at 502-564-8100, Ext. 59010, or via email at melindagibbons.prunty@lrc.ky.gov

Greater Muhlenberg Chamber of Commerce



ABOVE: New officers of the Greater Muhlenberg Chamber of Commerce were sworn in at their monthly meeting on Feb. 10 at the Merle Travis Center in Powderly. They are, from left to right: Josh Coldwell, Mackenzie Pogue, Brittney Hernandez-Stevenson, Nathan Brothers, Ty Dillingham, Joel Huff, John Gentry, Tammy Piper, Terri Rice, Keisha Brigance and Shelby Cotton with Judge Brian Wiggins swearing them in.

AT LEFT: Dr. Nicolas Brake will facilitate the new Muhlenberg Civic Leadership Institute, a partnership between the Chamber and the Felix E. Martin Jr Foundation. Applications are being accepted until Feb. 17 for the eight-session course, which will run from March through November, 2022.

BOTTOM LEFT: Shelby Cotton, newly sworn in as president of the Chamber, presented a new business certificate to Amanda and Robert Jones, owners of Faith & Grace, located at 126 E. Broad Street in Central City. The shop features Christian gifts.

BOTTOM RIGHT: Kendra Walker, Susan Newbury and Trace Harper informed Chamber members about the upcoming Penguin Plunge, a fundraiser for the 4-H Teen Club's backpack program. The program sends food home on the weekends with many children in Muhlenberg County Public Schools. The plunge is Feb. 19 at the Central City Convention Center. (Leader-News photos/Stacie Barton)



Official Kentucky Derby Festival 2022 poster rolls off the presses

By PAT MCDONOGH
Louisville
Courier Journal

Louisville artist Kacy Jackson watched with anticipation as the first copies of his 2022 Official Kentucky Derby Festival Poster rolled off the presses Monday at Welch Printing in south Louisville.

"I wanted this year's poster design to represent the unity that stems from Derby Festival events," Jackson said. "The geometrical shapes and multicolored scheme overlaying the city of Louisville represent the diversity of people brought together by the Festival and the harmony it creates in our community."

Founder of The Art of Kacy, the Louisville native has made creative contributions to charitable organizations and public art. From small-scale paintings to large-scale murals, his many styles can be found in nearly every community throughout Louisville, as well as around the country.

"The vibrancy and spirit of Kacy's image reflect what the Derby Festival

hopes to bring back to the community this spring," Matt Gibson, KDF President & CEO, said at the event. "This will be a special year as we look forward to celebrating our favorite traditions together again."

Kentucky Derby Festival fans can pre-order the 2022 Limited Edition or Official Poster beginning Feb. 7 and receive free shipping on their order.

The Limited Edition of 500 signed and numbered posters are \$50 and the official poster is \$30. Both versions can be pre-ordered and will be shipped after the public release on March 16.

The public will be able to see all the pieces of this year's poster and merchandise line at "Festival Unveiled" presented by Four Roses Bourbon and German American Bank on March 16, at the Mellwood Arts Center, 1860 Mellwood Ave.

General admission tickets to the event are \$45 and VIP tickets are \$65 and can be purchased at KDF.org.

Reach photographer Pat McDonogh at pmc-donogh@courier-journal.com.



Artist Kacy Jackson's 2022 Kentucky Derby Festival poster. 2,500 copies will be printed at Welch Printing in Louisville. Feb. 7, 2022 Pat McDonogh/Courier Journal

Jackson, left, and John Walsh, right, inspect copies of the 2022 Derby Festival poster he designed at Welch Printing in Louisville. Walsh is a lead pressman at the printer. (Photo/Pat McDonogh/Courier Journal)



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Ice, ice, baby!

Central City Tourism Commission recently purchased a synthetic ice rink from Union County. The rink, that has been rented in the past, will now be used by the city in the fall and winter. The rink was set up for the Valentine's Day weekend, and according to tourism director Dr. Freddie Mayes, more than 300 people visited.



Eli Colburn, 11, son of David and Alicia Colburn, of Beech Creek, skated effortlessly Saturday afternoon, in downtown Central City.

Jacob Wester, of Rochester, brought his son Dennie, age 4, to try skating.



Allie, age 2, is helped by her mother, Amanda Foster, from Depoy. (Photos/Greg Lamb)



“Brighton Beach Memoirs” is a tale of growing up in the 1930s in Brooklyn, New York. It includes touching and funny moments between siblings. FAR LEFT: Dylan Metheny as 15-year-old Eugene listens to his 18-year-old brother, Stanley, played by Reese Strader. LEFT: Older sister Nora, 16, tells younger sister Laurie, played by Sadie Milam, about their deceased father. The play is at Palace Theatre this weekend. (Leader-News photos/Stacie Barton)



VACCINES OFFER HOPE FOR A HEALTHIER TOMORROW



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