

SCHOOL TIME

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ADAIR COUNTY adairvoice.com



Thursday, July 20, 2023 Vol. 21, No. 38 12 pages

PENNYROYAL BARREL COMPANY Tourism, bourbon coming to commerce park

Adair County native Ross Hutchison remembered the words of a childhood mentor when he had the opportunity to be on the ground floor of building a unique business in Kentucky's bourbon industry.

Hutchison, who is an attorney in Nashville, is one of two partners in Pennyroyal Barrel Co., a bourbon incubator for third party brands planning to locate the project in Adair County.

The project was announced Wednesday by Gov. Andy Beshear and has been in the works for months through the efforts of the Columbia-Adair

Economic Development Authority.

Pennyroyal Barrel Co. is taking the incubator model used in other industries and communities and creating its own customized plan to help start-up bourbon companies, giving them the space and assistance they need to develop and market their business without the initial costs of buying land and structures.

Hutchison a n d co-founder Daniel Griffith plan to develop a 4-acre campus at the Green River Commerce Park that will include a state-of-the-art blending and bottling facility, single-story rickhouses for consistent aging, a storefront to purchase each brand's products and apparel, a tasting room in a repurposed grain silo, a single barrel selection room and a wooded amphitheater with walking paths.

The project will provide jobs and increase tourism in the county, but it will also provide a walking trail and entertainment venue for members of the community. During a phone interview Wednesday, Hutchison said they plan to host movie nights, ticketed events, and will

See TOURISM, page 2



Several locals took a trip to Bardstown recently to learn more about the relationship between the bourbon industry and the community . From left, County Judge Executive Larry Russell Bryant; EDA consultant Heather Spoon; Tourism Director Paige Nickel; Bank of Columbia Andrea Feese; Samantha Brady, with Bardstown Tourism; Bobby Morrison, EDA chairman; Doyle Lloyd, EDA; and Ross Hutchison and Dan Griffith, Pennyroyal Barrel Co.

The City of Columbia has recently opened a new splash

pad. Local Columbia citizens Brooke White and Toni Turner recently visited the splash pad with their children and said they think the splash pad is a good investment for the "They haven't had any-

thing to do, nothing but the playground. I think it's a very good investment, especially for the children that can't pay and afford to go to a waterpark," said Turner.

Another Columbia citizen, Darlene Baker, said that the splash pad allows children something to do while school is on summer break.

The city is holding a grand opening for the splash pad on Aug. 25 with a magician, food, and giveaways.

The splash pad is currently open for public use at the Columbia City Park located at 413 Fairgrounds St.



County property tax rate increase planned

The fiscal court has voted for a property tax rate that will generate an additional 4 percent in revenue over the previous year but most property owners should not expect much change in their

Property assessments have increased by \$38 million, fueled by increased sale prices as land ownership changes hands, PVA Landon Edwards told the fiscal court's budget committee earlier

Because of the increase in property values, the court will only need to increase the property tax rate from 14.5 cents to 14.7 cents to reach the 4 percent ceiling - the highest rate that can be set without facing a potential recall from voters.

Magistrates voted to increase the rate to 14.7 cents and scheduled a public hearing for Tuesday, Aug. 8 at 8 a.m. While a public hearing will allow property owners a chance to voice their opinion on the proposed rate, they do not have an option to petition against it should there be opposition. A final vote is expected during the regular 9 a.m.

meeting that same day. The proposed rate would mean a \$4 increase for property valued at \$200,000. It is projected to generate \$36,931 in new revenue for the county.

See **COUNTY**, page 2

EDA energized as board members plan next phase

What started as a monthly meeting of the Economic Development Authority board Tuesday turned into a two-hour conversation about the community's economic growth potential and ways the community can refine its effort to attract new jobs.

On the cusp of an announcement this week and the likelihood on another announcement in the next few weeks, EDA members appeared ready and eager for the next step as they heard a message from Brad Thomas, with Touchstone Energy Cooperatives.

Thomas is manager of economic development for Touchstone Energy, providing services for 89 Kentucky counties and 19 cooperatives, including Taylor County RECC. He

'Columbia/ **Adair County** has a story that's unique to this region.' Brad Thomas

works closely with commu-

nities interested in attracting new business and helps solve problems as companies make decisions about site selection. Thomas noticed the pos-

itive energy in the room.

"It's very telling; you all stayed here for this presen-

See EDA, page 2

'This is what I've

really worked for.'

Superintendent Jason Faulkner

On July 1, Jason Faulkner took over the position of superintendent for Adair County schools. Faulkner hails from Williamsburg and attended Williamsburg Independent High School before receiving his bachelor's degree from Cumberland College (University of the Cumberlands). He then attended Union College to receive two master's degrees in elementary education and school leadership. He later received a superintendent certification from the Universi-

ty of the Cumberlands. Before coming to Adair County, Faulkner began at Whitley County as an elementary teacher for six years where he also coached high school basketball for four years. He then transitioned into the principal at Whitley East Elementary School school, Faulkner's responsibil-

for three years. He worked for

five years at Cold Hill Elemen-



Jason Faulkner attended a meeting in June when he was appointed the Adair County school district's superintendent, effective July 1.

tary in Laurel County as a principal before taking a job as the Director of Accountability and Elementary Instruction, over-County.

seeing 11 schools in Laurel During the Covid pandemic, Faulkner helped develop a district leadership team that helped students navigate the changes with the pandemic. When the students returned to

ities changed as the students'

needs changed. He oversaw all

schools in the district as the Social and Emotional Learning Coordinator and Multi-Tier Structural Support Specialist working on student learning loss and further exploring the needs of students in the district. Faulkner describes his new position as superintendent as the pinnacle of his career.

"This is what I've really worked for," said Faulkner. Faulkner was selective when

See **FAULKNER**, page 12

EDA energized as board members plan next phase

FROM PAGE 1

tation," he said almost two hours into the meet-

While Adair County has struggled in the past to offer a viable package to prospects, major improvements have been made, and they were apparently made just in time.

"Right now, rural Kentucky, we're looking at about \$48 billion worth of projects that are interested," Thomas said. "The world is moving away from urban areas, and it's coming to rural communities. What we are trying to do is make sure our communities are ready when the opportunities knock. In the 30-plus years I have been chasing economic development projects, I've never seen anything

Thomas noted that there are still empty spec buildings in the state from past years but they are there because "people did not choose correctly on where to locate those."

Industrial sites must have access to sewer, water, electricity and broadband, he said. Adair County has a strong attraction with its abundance of water and Thomas recommended using that information when looking at what type of companies would make a good fit for the community.

While those things are important, it's even more important that the community be able to "tell its story," he added.

To do that, members of the community must be involved and have a shared vision.

"Your economic devel-

opment team is much bigger than the people in this room," he said. "You have to reach out to the people who are truly interested in moving this community forward. It's the school board. It's the college. It's your utilities. Those people vested in a brighter future for this community."

He talked about curriculum available that helps prepare students for project-based learning and ways to prepare youth for jobs that will provide them opportunity in their hometowns. Thomas also stressed

the need for the city and county to work together. "Columbia/Adair

County has a story that's unique to this region," he said. "If we get the story and the strategy right, guess what, success fol-

While having data

available and an infrastructure in place are vital to economic development recruitment, final decisions are often made based on much more personal interests, Thomas said. For instance, he attri-

butes a lot of the success Hardin County is currently experiencing to the construction of a sports complex in Elizabethtown. The complex has attracted people from across the globe who are decision-makers for major companies. He noted that another company chose a location because the company president owned a house boat and liked the lake that was available

He told of one community that didn't have success for 20 years until they "changed the people in the room and the way

they started telling their story."

"Now they get project after project. They've got 13 million sq. ft. being built right now."

Thomas provided several suggestions on ways to market the community and said there is a unique opportunity for the community because some companies made commitments in a nearby region that cannot now meet the utility requirements, and they are looking for another "They were

over-promised and under-delivered, and they are pulling up stakes and moving on," he said. "We've got to be ready. Opportunity doesn't come around all the time. We've got about 36 months; I really think we're about 36 – 48 months, the max, that we

will see this build-out," he said. "We need to advertise our proximity to the Glendale facility."

Board members and consultant Heather Spoon expressed interest in getting Thomas' message out to community members and elected officials. County Judge Executive Larry Russell Bryant regularly attends the meetings and was the only elected official in attendance Tuesday. Spoon, several board members and Thomas are meeting with state economic development officials on Aug. 7 and local officials are invited to attend with them.

The EDA board meeting was continued until Tuesday at 8 a.m. so board members may address the remainder of the agenda.

By Sharon Burton snburton@adairvoice.com

Tourism, bourbon coming to commerce park

FROM PAGE 1

make the walking trail open to the public when paid events are not taking place.

The main focus for the project, however, will be providing service to the bourbon companies that make the facility their home. Hutchison said they hope to help grow companies to the point that they need to move on to larger facilities, and that will make room for more young companies to move it.

Hutchison said they expect their clients to house 50 to 100 barrels each, and current plans call for constructing two rickhouses, with each six-story rickhouse holding around 24,000 barrels. They hope to use a grain bin on the property as a pavilion and if it is deemed safe, a silo will be repurposed, possibly as a tasting room.

Pennyroyal Barrel Co. is a new concept for one of Kentucky's oldest industries, and its model is already gaining attention. Hutchison said they have heard from other communities with a bourbon presence that want to see the company locate with them, but he is excited to make Adair County its home.

"There's something about what we're doing that even kind of rings true to me, having Adair County be the home of this place. Adair County is a small to medium sized brand. It's wanting to grow. It's trying to find its footing, it's wonderful in its own rights, but at the same time, you know, you either grow or you don't," Hutchison said. "Then also the element of home, in a very simple way. I grew up in Adair, and the idea of being able to do this back home, it was a big

draw to me. Now creating a home on the flip side for these brands, having them have a place to call home, to have their events, to have tastings, for their customers to come to our facility. Our facility will just be a conduit, kind of their playground to showcase their people and showcase their products."

A press release announcing the \$8.52 million facility reported that 10 full-time jobs would be included, but Hutchison said they are optimistic the number could be twice that from the beginning, adding that they are being conservative with projections. They hope to break ground this fall and be at least partially operational by the fall of next year.

When the concept to develop Pennyroyal Barrel Co. began, Hutchison thought back to his

childhood and local legend Sue Stivers. Stivers, who served in Extension, tourism, economic develop, and chamber of commerce during her many years of service to her community, instilled in Hutchison the value of your hometown.

"She started that at a young age and just hammered into me and others. You are not limited by being from here. It's a good thing," Hutchison recalled. "She knew I was going to practice law, she knew what type of law I was already interested in and she knew that I wouldn't be able to do that in Columbia...She

said, 'If you ever get the opportunity, just try to pour back into this community." Hutchison thanked

the members of EDA,

the county and city for

working with his company on the project. In the press release, Breshear commented that Pennyroyal Barrel Co. adds even more momentum to the state's

signature bourbon and

spirits industry. "Expanding the bourbon sector into counties that have not previously seen growth in this area is a huge accomplishment for the commonwealth, and I want to

thank PBC's leaders for their commitment to Adair County. I want to congratulate the company on this great project and look forward to seeing their success here in Kentucky."

County Judge Larry Russell Bryant said, "Adair Countians have anxiously awaited new industry and growth for several years, and I cannot think of a better scenario than to have one of our own to kick start that growth and provide an example for others to

By Sharon Burton snburton@adairvoice.com

County property tax rate increase planned

FROM PAGE 1

That will not include revenue that would come from taxing an additional \$9 million in new building construction.

The court held a special called meeting Tuesday to discuss the property tax rate. Magistrate Daryl Flatt made a motion to set the rate at 14.7 cents and Mark Humphress seconded the motion. Chris Reeder, Billy Coffey and Tony Denton voted yes. Sammy Baker voted no and Terry Hadley was not present. Flatt and Reeder serve on the budget committee.

Baker, who is a farmer, explained his opposition to the increase: "It's going to affect me and my family and all the farmers in the community; all the people that's retired that's not getting a payroll check, it's going to hurt them, too."

Coffey, who is a property owner and is self-employed, said he

IT'S MOWING

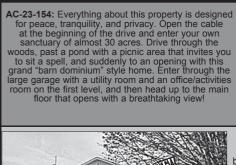
COME CHECK OUT THESE BRANDS

doesn't like to vote for any tax but understands it is something that needs to be done.

"I don't feel it's right for me to vote to put a tax on somebody that does not affect me," he said.

The court is expected to take up setting an occupational tax at a future meeting. The property tax rate must be set in time for them to be published on tax bills

By Sharon Burton snburton@adairvoice.com





AC-23-118: Home, huge garage and 4 lots! Here's a property with thousands of possibilities. A 1996 model mobile home and a great 30'X54' garage/workshop sit on .74 acres at the end of the road. The home is currently rented, and would make a good home, or it could be a solid, rental income producer. The large netal garage building would be perfect for many uses, as it features 30'X54' of mostly concrete floorspace. If his alone wasn't enough, there's also three additional lots: .87-acre, .87 acre, and .70 acre.

building that has limitless possibilities. The home has a welcoming covered front porch, living room, great kitchen space with an abundance of cabinets and counter space, large dining room that could be used as a family room as well with a corner wood burning fireplace. a master suite with large sitting area, walk-in closet, and large master bath with his and hers vanities. a full bath and 3 more spacious bedrooms are on the opposite end of the home.

AC-23-145B: This could be the perfect little getaway place. Just minutes from the City Limits of Columbia, and right on a quiet, blacktop road, this approximate 1.8 acres is mostly wooded with some huge hardwoods included. There's a nice place to put a cabin overlooking beautiful Russe Creek, and with some excavation more lots could be developed with great views of the water.

AC-23-156: Hunter's Paradise! Approximately 140 acres +/- with a deeded right of way. Private and secluded, great for hunting, off grid living and more. Mostly wooded property with wo creeks bordering each side. Approximately 10 acres open with the option of more being cleared. No county water available but the option of drilling a water well is a possibility.





AC-23-152: Need plenty of space on a budget? This is it! Just over 1800 square feet, 3-4 bedrooms, 1 bath, and room to spread your wings. Conveniently located to just about everything Columbia, KY has to offer. A nice corner lot with mature shade welcomes you, and a 2-car unattached garage with an additional storage room will protect your toys and your stuff.

AC-23-148 & 149: Build on the front, hunt on the back, farm in the middle. A perfect farm for all these things and more. There's plenty of acres for livestock or the farming of your choice. Property fronts on a quiet, well-maintained country road with power, water, and high-speed fiber optic internet (installed, to be tested and connected





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VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Cane Valley Christian Church, 2250 Cane Valley Rd., Columbia, will have vacation Bible school on Saturday, July 22 from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. The theme is 'Twists and Turns' and there will be classes for all age groups, including adults. There will be classes, crafts and lunch will be provided. There will be a water slide, but they request no bikinis. Bro. Godfrey Jackson and congregation invite everyone to attend.

GENEALOGY CLASS

A Beginning Genealogy Class will be held from noon until 2 p.m. on Saturday, July 22 at the Adair Genealogy & History Research Center of the Adair County Public Library, 307 Greensburg St. This session is geared toward the beginning researcher and will touch upon the basics of fact collecting and organization. However, anyone of any age may attend to refresh their skills. It does not matter how much or how little you know about family research, this session is designed to orient the researcher and assist in locating information on family. No tools will be needed except a pen or pencil and something on which to make notes. Attendees may bring your own laptop or digital device to access wifi, but this is not mandatory. Handouts will guide you through much of the session. Use of the existing genealogical-historical collection of the Research Center and the Adair Genealogical Society will also be highlighted. For more information email adairgenealogy@gmail.com or call 270-380-1024 or check out FaceBook pages for Adair Genealogical Society; Adair, Cumberland, and Metcalfe County KY Genealogy and History; or Adair County Public Library.

HOMECOMING

Charity Baptist Church, 4072 Holmes Bend Rd., will have homecoming on Sunday, July 23. The Sullivans from Scottsville will be singing and a meal will follow. Services will start at 10:30 a.m. and there will be no Sunday School. Everyone is welcome to come and worship.

VETERANS AND FIRST RESPONDERS DIN-**NER**

Columbia Lodge #96 welcomes all veterans and first responders to an annual appreciation dinner. The dinner will be held at VFW Hall #6097 on Saturday, July 29 at 6 p.m. Everyone is welcome. Bring friends and family to help honor our heroes. Plates will include pork loin or chicken quarters, baked beans, and potato salad for \$10 - veterans and first responders eat free. For more information call Curtis Grant at 270-385-1747.

COLLECTING DONATIONS

The Bliss Club and Adair County Homemakers are collecting donations for their most recent project, Man's Best Friend. This project will serve the Green River Animal Shelter and donations needed include cleaning supplies (Odo Ban, bleach and bleach tabs), laundry supplies (detergent and fabric softener sheets), household supplies (air fresheners, candles, baking soda, toilet paper and paper towels), dog food (No Ashland Farms or For Health brands), dog treats and 10 x 10 tarps and zip ties (for the winter). Donations can be dropped off at the Adair County Extension office between through Aug. 4. If you have any questions call Shannon at 270-250-9093.

ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

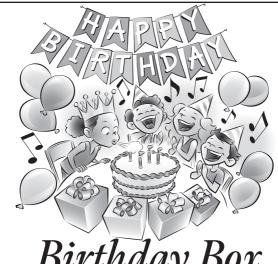
Casey Creek Lodge # 536, 14730 Knifley Rd., Knifley, will host its 150th anniversary celebration Saturday, Aug. 26 starting at 11 a.m., with a meal at noon. All Masons and their families are invited. Activities provided.

FLY FISHING CLINIC

Wolf Creek National Fish Hatchery will have fly fishing clinics on Saturday, Aug. 12 at 10 a.m. CT. The clinic is held free of charge for ages 8 and up. Must sign up through Marsha Hart at 270-343-3797 or email marsha_hart@fws.org. Classes will be limited to six people per class.

ADDICTION RECOVERY MEETINGS

Lake Cumberland District Health Department will offer SMART Recovery every Wednesday at noon in the Adair County Health Department Basement, 801 Westlake Dr. "A Fresh Approach to Addiction Recovery." Contact Steffani Miller, 859-667-2292 or the Adair County Health Department at 270-384-2286.



Birthday Box

Sarah Beth Streeval

<u>July 22</u> Keysha Tucker

<u>July 23</u> Joe Smith

Kristy Foster

<u>July 24</u> Laura Willis Coffey

<u>July 25</u> Connie Wheeler

<u>July 26</u> Jessica Conover Shanna Darnell Alicia Garmon LaGene Sexton

<u>July 27</u> Billy Neat Chris Quinn Wanda Vonfumetti

<u>July 28</u>

<u>July 29</u> McKenzie Humphress Lee Ann Roy

Jason Hatcher

Hannah Arnold

<u>July 30</u> Hannah Young Amy Morgan

Community Calendar and Birthday Box items are due by 10 a.m. on Mondays. **Email** newsroom

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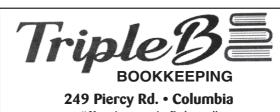
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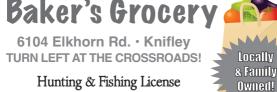


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LDITORIAL AND COMMENTS

Truth will prevail.

"For there is nothing covered that shall not be revealed; neither hid that shall not be known." Luke 12:2

Sharon Burton Publisher and Owner

Adair County Community Voice P.O. Box 159 316 Public Square Columbia, KY 42728 270-384-9454

NEWSROOM newsroom@adairvoice.com

VOICE STAFF Sharon Burton Publisher, Editor snburton@adairvoice.com

Toni Humphress General Manager Graphic Design toni@farmlandpub.com

Jaidyn Lee Reporter newsroom2@adairvoice.com

JaCinda Warner Sales and Marketing Director Digital Sales Rep. voicemarketing@farmlandpub.com

Aaron Darnell Sales and Marketing Rep. aaron@adairvoice.com

Accounting office@farmlandpub.com

FREE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Free birthday listings and community events can be recorded by calling 270-634-4164 after business hours or verbally given to a customer service representative during business hours at 270-384-9454. Trader items are free to paid subscribers.

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The Adair County Community Voice encourages local readers to submit letters to the editor.

They will be published on a first-received, first-published basis. All letters must contain the signature, address and telephone number of the writer (for confirmation purposes). We reserve the right to edit and reject any letter. Letters must not contain material that is deemed offensive or libelous by the Voice. We reserve the right to limit the frequency of published letters by any individual. Letters of endorsement for candidates will be published up until two issues prior to any election. Any letter making allegations against someone will be held until the other party has the opportunity to respond within the same publication. Letters should be clearly identified as letters to the editor and mailed to Editor, The Adair County Community Voice, P.O. Box 159, Columbia, KY 42728 or emailed to snburton@adairvoice.com.

NEWSROOM CORRECTION POLICY

The Adair County Community Voice strives for accuracy when reporting the news. If you see an error, please contact the newsroom at 270-384-9454, and the error will be corrected as soon as possible.

...That we may glorify the Father John 15:7-8 and John 14:12-14.

MEMBER OF:







One Voice

Sharon Burton

Look at today, not the past

Tuesday's meeting of the Economic Development Authority board of directors was by far the best two-hour meeting I've ever attended in Adair County.

I encourage everyone reading this to put away your old notions of what economic development initiatives looked like in the past and take a real look at what is going on today. We have people at the table who are dedicated to and highly capable of taking Adair County to every level of success we as a community want to

Remember the days when we wasted money on consultants? Forget about it; those days are

Remember the days when spec buildings sat empty around the state yet we couldn't even get our act together to know whether we should be building one? Erase that memory; that is not who we are any longer.

Remember when a potential industry would come to Columbia and some EDA board members couldn't even take the time to show up and promote our community? Those folks are no longer at the table.

If you have not had a complete shift in your attitude about economic development efforts in Adair County in recent years, you have not been paying attention. And you really, really need to

I encourage everyone reading this to put away your old notions of what economic development initiatives looked like in the past and take a real look at what is going on today.

pay attention. Why?

First, a community provides information about its assets when recruiting new jobs, but more than anything else you are marketing your town, not just your commerce park. If we provide a unified, positive picture of our community, we will have success.

Obviously, success is already on its way, with Wednesday's announcement of Pennyroyal Barrel Co. coming to Adair

The \$8.52 million facility will bring with it 10 jobs, but that is just the beginning. There will be more, and we as a

community can be part of deciding what that "more" should look like.

We've never been at a place in recent decades where we could decide what companies we would accept because they are a good fit for us. Today, it's not a matter of if, it's a matter of when.

It's more important than ever that we show a unified front as a community. We have a positive message and a great community and that's what our visitors need to see. Whether it's someone who represents EDA, or even utilities, education - everyone plays a role in the success story.

And let's just get it out there, our mayor, judge executive, council members and magisrates can bicker or act unprofessional and we will put up with it (apparently), but when it comes to economic development, they need to act like mature adults with a shared vision for their community. Internal scuffles are part of life, but just like family, we need to look out for one another. The communities that succeed do so by working together when it's important to do so, and right now it is critical.

Just remember to put the past in the past. Please, do not respond to today's economic development news with the reminders of past failures. We are not who we were. We can do this!

19 20 18 23 28 30 32 33 39 38 42 46 49 52 56 58 59 60 61 63

CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Commoner
- 5. Tea leaf 11. They save you a table
- 14. Submissions
- 15. Secretly revealed
- 18. Personification of the sea (Norse)
- 19. Unreal
- 21. No seats available 23. Bangladeshi currency
- 24. Leaders
- 28. Famed garden

- 29. Denotes past
- 30. Not living
- 32. Midway between south and
- 33. Small island (British) 35. Woman (French)
- 36. Wife 39. Two-toed sloth

southeast

- 41. Blood group
- 42. Soaks 44. Biu-Mandara language of
- 46. Japanese prefecture

- 47. Place to be during a rock
- 49. Fully grown humans
- 52. Emaciation 56. Sparkling
- 58. Fruits you peel
- 60. Derived from a noun
- 62. Popular items to grill
- 63. Port in Yemen

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Before
- 2. Actress Dunham
- 3. This (Spanish)
- 4. Director Peter
- 5. Dominant
- 6. English artists' society (abbr.)
- 7. NY Giants legend 8. It's in the ground
- 9. No No No 10. Pesky insect
- 12. Danish-American muckraking journalist 13. Kids love to do it

- 16. Good Gosh! 17. Fakes
- 20. A citizen of Denmark
- 22. Mystic syllable
- 25. Commercial 26. Letter of the Hebrew
- alphabet 27. Helpers
- 29. Water (French) 31. Young woman
- 34. Red-brown sea bream
- 36. Messenger ribonucleic acid 37. Comprehends
- 38. Walk with confidence
- 40. Home of the Flyers
- 43. Appetizer 45. News organization
- 48. Source of the Nile
- 50. A way to march 51. Soluble ribonucleic acid
- 53. Egyptian bull-god 54. Children's author Blyton
- 55. Baseball pitching stat 57. Rude young person
- 58. Table napkin 59. Monetary unit in Asia
- 61. One-time AL MVP Vaughn

How to contact local officials

Sen. Rand Paul: 202-224-4343 Bowling Green office: 270-782-8303 Website: paul.senate.gov

Sen. Mitch McConnell: 202-224-2541 Email: senator@mcconnell.senate.gov Website: mcconnell.senate.gov

Rep. James Comer: 202-225-3115 Tompkinsville Office Phone: 270-487-9509 Toll Free Number: 1-800-328-5629

Kentucky General Assembly

Sen. Max Wise Capitol: 502-564-8100 Email: max.wise@lrc.ky.gov

State Rep. Amy Neighbors Capitol: 502-564-8100 Email: amy.neighbors@lrc.ky.gov

Gov. Andy Beshear 502-564-2611

Adair County Fiscal Court

Judge Executive Larry Russell Bryant 270-384-4703 Email: cje@adaircountyky.com

District 1-Tony Denton: 270-634-3474 District 2-Daryl Flatt: 270-634-1033 District 3-Sammy Baker: 270-378-1536 District 4-Chris Reeder: 270-634-0485 District 5-Billy Coffey: 270-250-4449

District 6-Mark Humphress: 270-789-8591

District 7-Terry Hadley: 270-384-4083

- **Adair County Constables** District 1 – William Troutwine: 385-9597 District 2 - Brandon Willis: 270-634-3813
- District 3 Ken Hill: 270-378-1108
- District 4 Jeff Dickson: 270-250-3038 District 5 - Tim Bottoms: 270-378-2339 District 6 – Jason Rector: 270-634-2171

District 7 – Joe Collins: 270-378-1597

City of Columbia Mayor Pam Hoots: 384-2501 Email: mayor@cityofcolumbiaky.com

City Council

Robert Flowers: 270-634-1820 Mark Harris: 270-634-2542 Rhonda Loy: 270-634-1846 Sharon Payne: 270-378-0597 Hannah Peck: 270-634-2374

Adair County Board of Education Superintendent Jason Faulkner: 270-384-2476

Ronald P. Rogers: 270-384-5069

munity Voice.

Board Members District 1-Terry Harvey: 270-378-6477 District 2-Dana King: 270-634-2608 District 3-Destiny Greer: 270-634-2673 District 4-David Karnes, chair: 270-250-2991

District 5-Troy Grider: 270-250-3523

Send Letters to the Editor: **Adair County Community Voice** Attn: Sharon Burton P.O. Box 159 Columbia, KY 42728 or snburton@adairvoice.com

Letters to the editor are encouraged. They must be original and include the name, address and daytime telephone number of the writer. The editor reserves the right to condense and/or reject any letter and to limit frequent writers. The opinions expressed in the letters to the editor and other editorials are those of the writers and do not reflect the views of the Adair County Com-

Businesses and individuals will not be listed in "thank you" letters. Discounted "happy ads" are available by calling 270-384-9454 or visiting our office at 316 Public Sq.

First Amendment of the Bill of Rights, U.S. Constitution

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

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Cynthía Lynn Stapleton Bradshaw



Cynthia Lynn Stapleton Bradshaw, 56, of Columbia, passed away Sunday, July 16, 2023 at her home in Columbia. She was born in Aurora, Ill. on November 27, 1966 to the late Raymond Joseph Stapleton and Cleo Denton Corbin.

Cynthia attended Mt. Olive Baptist Church and enjoyed crocheting, working puzzles and spending time with her family and

Survivors include four children, Anthony Curry (April), Joseph Curry (Kristi), Adam Curry and Adriane Curry (Brian Held) all of Columbia; eleven grand-

children; eight siblings, Joetta Fletcher (Daryl), Barbara McGaha (Russ), Wilma Handy (Greg), Erik Stapleton and Greg Stapleton all of Columbia, Sheila Hodges (Jerry) of Princeton, Michael Stapleton of El Paso, Texas and Jack Stapleton (Joyce) of Cave City; and several other friends and relatives.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her fiancé, Norman Dean Bell, on May 13, 2023; a sister, Sandra Jean Stapleton; and one brother, Raymond Alan Stapleton.

Funeral services will be at 1 p.m. Friday, July 21, 2023 at Stotts-Phelps-McQueary Funeral Home with Bro. Greg Wade officiating and burial in the Bearwallow Cemetery. Pallbearers will be Tanner Curry, Trevor Curry, Jakub Curry, Bryson Helm, Bentley Moore and Hunter Held.

Visitation will be held on Friday, July 21, 2023 from 10 a.m. until time for the service at Stotts-Phelps-McQueary Funeral Home.

Kerry D. Brown



Kerry D. Brown, 76, of Breeding, died Tuesday, July 11, 2023 at 9:36 a.m. at TJ Health Columbia emergency room.

He was born February 2, 1947 in Adair County and was preceded in death by his father, John Benjamin Brown. Kerry retired from Ford Motor Company in Louisville, being a member of United Auto Workers Local 862 and after retirement moved back to Breeding where he enjoyed his farm life. He was a member of Breeding Church and the Adair County Cattleman's Association.

Survivors include his wife, Peggy England Brown of Breeding; his mother, Maxine Branham Brown of Louisville; one son and daughter-in-law, Michael and Becky Brown of Mt. Washington; one daughter and son-in-law, Sandy and Anthony Jacobs of Louisville; one sister, Brenda Sanders of Louisville; two grandchildren, Benjamin and Trinity Jacobs; and several other relatives and A funeral service was

held Friday, July 14, 2023 at Grissom-Martin Funeral Home with Bro. Larry Lemmon officiating and burial in Fudge Cemetery. Casket bearers were Lukas Lemmon, Lakota Lemmon, Justin Brown, Joey Burris, Grant Frazier and Patrick

In lieu of flowers, donations to Fudge Cemetery would be appreciated and can be left at the funeral

Grissom-Martin Funeral Home in charge of arrange-

Leshia Lovale Fair



Leshia Lovale Fair, 59, of Columbia, died Monday, July 10, 2023 at 11:48 p.m. at Hosparus Inpatient Care Center in Louisville.

She was born September 13, 1963 in Adair County. Leshia was a Registered Nurse working at Taylor Regional Hospital before her illness. She was preceded in

death by her father, Lewis Janes and a son, Jeremy

Survivors include her

mother, Maggie Curry Janes of Columbia; two sons, Dallas Fair and his significant other, Brittany Combs, and Brandon Joseph, all of Columbia; one daughter, Sonya Cooper of Columbia; one step-daughter, Amy Gray and her husband Reuben of Burkesville; one brother, Todd Janes and his wife Teresa of Greensburg; 10 grandchildren, Alyssa, Bradley, Carson, Landynn, Micah, Jenson, Ashton, Gsxer, Sophia and Emmitt; and several other relatives and friends.

At Leshia's request, cremation was scheduled and a funeral service was held Thursday, July 13, 2023 at Grissom-Martin Funeral Home with Bro. Jacob Davis and Bro. Larry Wisdom officiating.

Grissom-Martin Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Renea Kerns



Renea Kerns, age 90, of Lebanon Junction, returned to her Heavenly Father on Friday, July 14, 2023. She was born on Friday, November 8, 1932 in Adair County to the late Freemon and Rachel Coomer. She was a loving and dedicated wife, mother, and friend. She will be greatly missed by all those for whom she

loved and cared. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Rev. Lee Roy Kerns; and her siblings, Leon Coomer, Forbes Coomer, Landon Coomer, and Matra Stargel.

Survivors include her children, Diann Elliott (Jimmy), Patsy Young (Paul), Roy David Kerns (Nancy), June Moore (Roy) and Rebecca Ashbaugh (Terry); a sister, Estelene Hayes; her grandchildren, Angie Etherton, Stephanie Lewis, Paula Peoples, Matthew Kerns, Andrew Kile, Daniel Moore, Haley Keeling and Emily Moore; 13 great-grandchildren; five great, great-grandchildren and a host of family and

A funeral service was held on Tuesday, July 18, 2023 at Stotts-Phelps-Mc-Queary Funeral Home with burial in the Haven Hill Cemetery.

Ruthie Jean Cross



Ruthie Jean Cross, 88, of Stone Bluff, Indiana, passed away unexpectedly in the emergency room of TJ Health Columbia in Columbia on Sunday, July 9, 2023 at 1:02 p.m.

Jean, as she was known to family and friends, was born in Barren County on April 12, 1935. She was the daughter of the late Rex Huskisson and Mavis (Pare) Johnson and was raised by her grandparents, Herbert and Nora pare of Flippin. Jean attended school in Gamaliel and later moved to Indiana and settled in Stone Bluff in 1964. Jean was a homemaker.

She was a member of Community Bible Baptist Church in Veedersburg, Indiana. She enjoyed quilting, cooking, baking, collecting cookbooks and

flower gardening. On January 12, 1952 Jean married Lewie Benton Cross in Tompkinsville. Lewie preceded her in death on June 9, 1997.

Jean leaves behind two sons, Bobby Eugene (companion-Lisa Tincher) Cross of Orleans, Indiana and Gary Benton (fiancée-Marty Lyons) Cross of Stone Bluff, Indiana; two daughters, Melinda Gail (Daniel) Lawson of Danville, and Melissa Darline (Danny) Fudge of Breeding; seven grandchildren, Nicole (partner-Alan Bremer) Cross, Nathan (Traci) Cross, Leif Lawson, Devin (Amy) Lawson, Tarl (Samantha) Lawson, Benton (Ashton) Fudge and Carley (Rachel) Fudge; 15 great-grandchildren; her life-long friends, Rick and Cheri Roden; and her niece, Pat Stewart and nephews, Ronnie Veach and Darrell

Funeral services were held on Wednesday, July 19, 2023 at Indian Creek Baptist Church in Flippin with her son-in-law, Danny Fudge, officiating. Burial followed in the Neal Cemetery in Flippin.

Memorial contributions may be made to Community Bible Baptist Church or the American Cancer

Grissom-Martin Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

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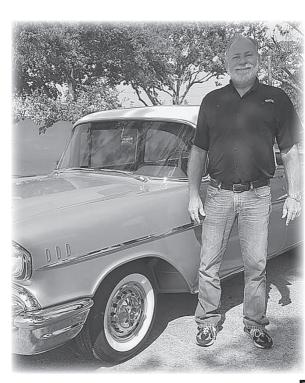
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Discover Adair! Send in your summer fun photos for a chance to be featured in the 2023 Discover **Adair Magazine!** Photos can be texted to 270-634-4164 or emailed to communityvoicephotos@ gmail.com

Celebration of Life Larry Joe Hamlett

Larry Joe Hamlett of Immokalee/LaBelle, Florida formerly of Columbia, Ky. passed away June 16, 2023 after a long battle with health issues. He always treasured our family reunions so he requested a celebration of life service/meal. This service will be held on July 21, 2023 at the VFW Post 6097 in Columbia beginning at 10 a.m. We invite friends and loved ones to join us in celebrating Larry's life. Come share some favorite memories and stories with us. Please dress casually and bring a dish if you wish.

> VFW Post 6097 500 Green Hills Rd July 21, 2023 10 a.m.



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Adair County Community Voice July 20, 2023 Page 7



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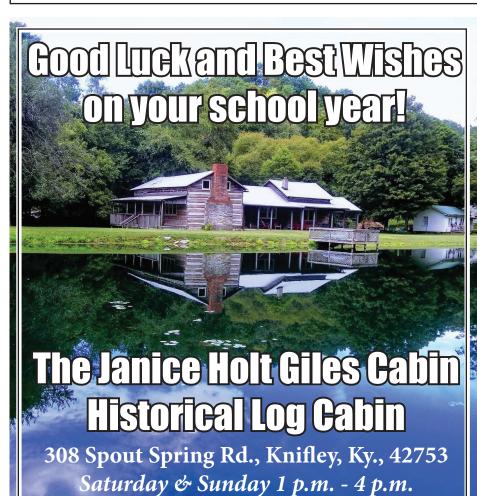
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Students, Faculty & Staff!



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OPEN HOUSE DATES AND TIMES:

Adair County Primary Center: Open House — August 24, 5 p.m. — 7 p.m.

Adair County Elementary School:

3rd Graders — August 15, 5 p.m.-7 p.m. 4th & 5th Graders — August 17, 5 p.m. — 7 p.m.

Adair County Middle School: Open House August 22, 5 p.m. - 7 p.m.

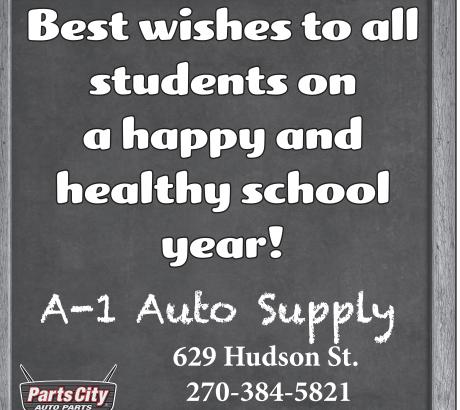
Adair County High School: Freshman Orientation August 22, 5 p.m. - 7 p.m.

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2023-2024 SCHOOL CALENDAR

August 28 - First Day for Students September 4 - No School-Labor Day Holiday

September 22 - No School for Students — Mandatory Data Day #1 for Staff October 2-6 - - No School-Fall Break

November 10-No School- Veteran's Day

November 22-24-No School Thanksgiving Holiday November 27- No School for Students-Mandatory Data Day #2 for Staff

December 18 - Jan. 1 - No School Christmas Break Holiday January 15 - No School-Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Holiday

February 19-No School- President's Day February 20 - No School for Students-Mandatory Data Day #3 for Staff

March 15 - No School for Students-Mandatory Data Day #4 for Staff April 1-5 - No School-Spring Break

> May 23 - Last Day for Students May 24 - Closing Day for Staff

ALL STUDENTS K-12 NEED TO REGISTER ONLINE EVERY YEAR. STUDENTS WILL NOT BE PLACED ON A CLASS LIST IF THEY HAVE MISSING HEALTH DOCUMENTS. **REGISTER AT ADAIR.KYSCHOOLS.US**

LINDSEY WILSON COLLEGE

It is the policy of the Community Voice to publish public records as they are recorded by various public offices. All names are published to preserve fairness and impartiality

DISTRICT COURT

July 17 Judge Michael Loy

Michael R. Miniard, 47, operating a motor vehicle under the influence of a substance, first offense; operating on suspended/ revoked operators license; no/expired Kentucky registration receipt; no/expired registration plates; failure to wear seat belts; buy/possess drug paraphernalia. Pretrial conference set for July 26

Nathan P. Harden, 35, fleeing or evading police on foot, 1st degree. Plea of not guilty, preliminary hearing set for July 26 (2023)

Michael R. Miniard, 47, possession of a controlled substance, 1st degree, first offense, methamphetamine; buy/possess drug paraphernalia; controlled substance prescription not in original container, first offense; possession of a controlled substance, 3rd degree, drug unspecified. Plea of not guilty, preliminary hearing set for July 26 (2023)

William Phelps, 41, speeding 25 mph over limit; failure to comply with helmet law over 21 years; wanton endangerment of a police officer, 1st degree; fleeing or evading police in a motor vehicle, 1st degree; failure of non-owner operator to maintain required insurance, first offense; operating on suspended/ revoked operators license; no/expired registration plates; reckless driving; criminal mischief, 3rd degree; fleeing or evading police on foot, 2nd degree.

Plea of not guilty, preliminary hearing set for July 26

Nathan P. Harden, 35, public intoxication of a controlled substance (excludes alcohol). Pretrial conference set for July 26 Jayla R. Harmon, 20,

injury. Plea of not guilty, pretrial conference set for Aug. 9 (2023) Charles E. Crawhorn, 32, assault 4th degree domestic

assault 4th degree, minor

violence, no visible injury. Plea of guilty, written order entered (2023) Christie L. Ferguson, 45, six counts of harboring a

vicious animal. Plea of not guilty, pretrial conference set for Aug. 7 (2023) Michael Bryant, 39, possession of a controlled substance, 3rd degree, drug unspecified; public intoxi-

cation of a controlled sub-

stance (excludes alcohol);

possession of a controlled substance, 1st degree, first offense, methamphetamine; buy/possess drug paraphernalia. Continued to Aug. 16 (2023) Arron M. Bernard, 27, strangulation, 1st degree; criminal mischief, 3rd degree; assault 4th degree dating violence, minor

July 24 (2023) Reginald B. Newman, 36, possession of a controlled substance, 1st degree, first offense, methamphetamine; buy/possess drug paraphernalia. Bench war-

injury. Plea of not guilty,

preliminary hearing set for

rant issued (2023) Cameron Scott Thomas, 23, no/expired registration plates; possession of marijuana. Dismiss registration charge, plea of guilty to possession, 30 days probated for one year (2023)

Avery Lee Denton, 59, alcohol intoxication in a public place, first or second offense. Review 30 days

Antonio Lopez Santiz, 38, no operators/moped license; failure to produce insurance card; operating a motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol .08, first offense. Continued to July 26 (2023)

William Lee Stark Hall, 38, speeding 26 mph or over (limited access); reckless driving; no/expired registration plates; no/ expired Kentucky registration receipt; failure of non-owner operator to maintain required insurance, first offense; operating a motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol .08, first offense, aggravating circumstance; failure to wear seat belts. Plea of not guilty, pretrial conference set for July 24 (2023)

Jamie E. Biggs, 20, rear license not illuminated; reckless driving; excessive windshield/window tinting; operating a motor vehicle under the influence of a controlled substance, first offense. Plea of guilty, order entered (2023)

Joshua G. Arnold, 40, public intoxication of a controlled substance (excludes alcohol); resisting arrest; possession of marijuana; possession of a controlled substance, 2nd degree, drug unspecified. Plea of guilty, written order entered (2022)

Miriam Hoots, 55, public intoxication of a controlled substance (excludes alcohol). Plea of guilty, order entered (2022)

Joshua A. Burton, 26, buy/possess drug paraphernalia. Continued to Aug. 7

Jason Lloyd Thrasher, 50, promoting contraband, 1st degree; possession of a controlled substance, 1st degree, second offense, methamphetamine. Hearing conducted, testimony heard, the court finds probable cause, bind over to the grand jury (2023)

Ethan Daniel Atwood, 24, tampering with physical evidence. Waived to the grand jury (2023)

Josh D. Foley, 33, assault 4th degree minor injury. Continued to Aug. 30

Elizabeth Gail Fudge, 48, assault 4th degree domestic violence, minor injury. Continued to Aug. 7 (2023)

Ronnie Dial, 47, failure to wear seat belts; operating on suspended/revoked operators license; failure to produce insurance card; failure of non-owner operator to maintain required insurance, first offense; buy/possess drug paraphernalia; possession of open alcohol beverage container in a motor vehicle. Dismiss failure to wear seat belts and failure to produce insurance card, plea of guilty to others, order entered (2023)

Faye P. Warren, 87, theft by deception, including cold checks under \$500. Continued to July 19 (2023)

Audie Gene Beard, 55, reckless driving; operating a motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol, first offense. Amend DUI charge to second offense, plea of guilty, sentenced to 14 days with credit for four days, weekends approved

LAND TRANSFERS

Brooke Walker aka Julia Brooke Walker, Columbia to Christopher Lewis and Bonita Carol Perkins, Campbellsville. Property located in Adair County described as being Tract no. 28, containing 1.77 acres more or less. That for valuable consideration. Chris and Tracey Pike,

Russell Springs, and Gina Pike, Russell Springs, and Anthony Alley, Columbia, and Jason and Ryan Harris, Jamestown, and Dustin and Eryn Harris, Crawfordsville, Indiana to Ethan Pike, Russell Springs, and Kacey Pike, Russell Springs. Property located in Adair County described as being the same property conveyed to Audrey Pike. That for and in consideration of love and affection.

Thomas L. Wilbur, Harrington Washington to Tessa Skaggs, Louisville. Property located in Adair County described as being located on Shelton Rd., containing 13.30 acres more or less. \$52,000.

William and Mary Davis, Columbia to Charles Childers, Columbia. Property located in Adair County described as being Lot no. C-16 of the Russell Heights Addition. \$17,000.

Erik Richard and Elizabeth Brooke Owan, Milwaukee, Wisconsin to Benny Truman Bray, Eubank. Property located in Adair County described as being located on Hwy. 206, containing 21.16 acres more or less. \$125,000.

Estate of Wendell Burton, by and through its executors, Rodney Burton, Columbia, and Kayla Hagedorn, Columbia to Spa Builders of Kentucky, LLC., Bloomfield. Property located in Adair County described as being Tracts no. 4, 5, and 6 of the Wendell Burton Estate, containing 4.16 acres more or less. \$67,410.

Travis and Nadine Coomer, Columbia, and Joe Collins, Columbia to Burton Investments Group, LLC., by and through Greg Burton, member, Columbia. Property located in Adair County described as being located on Joe R. Barbee Rd., containing 14.52 acres more or less. \$275,000.

Geneva Antle, by and through Jack Antle, Power of Attorney, Columbia to Bishop Rental Properties, LLC., by and through Sharon Stacey Bishop, Member, Columbia. Property located in Adair County described as being located on Montgomery St., containing 0.37 acres more or less. \$30,000.

Public Record Notice

The Adair County Community Voice publishes all grand jury indictments, drug and alcohol related traffic, misdemeanors, felonies, circuit-criminal cases and shock

The year on each charge listed in Circuit and District Court is listed in parenthesis after all of the charges have been listed.

Also, all land transfers and restaurant and food service/ retail inspections are published.

The Voice makes every effort to publish court records accurately. However, if you feel an error has been made, contact our office at 270-384-9454.

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Floral hall exhibits accepted beginning July 25

4-H **ADAIR COUNTY EXTENSION AGENT** Tony Rose



Adair County 4-H & Cloverbud Floral Hall **Exhibits**

Floral Hall exhibits will be entered on Tuesday, July 25 from 10 a.m. Entries will be taken

at the Adair County Cooperative Extension Service located at 409 Fairground St.

Adair County youth ages 9-18 are encouraged to enter their 4-H projects in the Adair County

Age is based on the youth's age as of Jan. 1 of the calendar year of the

Cloverbud youth (ages 5-8) may display their exhibits also during the County Fair. There will also be a Cloverbud category for youth ages 1-4

For non-animal based projects, the Adair County Fair is the qualifying event for a youth to advance to the Kentucky State Fair.

Entries must be picked up on Wednesday, July 26 from 8 a.m. to noon. Information about the categories and their requirement can be found on the Adair County Cooperative Extension Service webpage at http://adair. ca.uky.edu/ or the office

Facebook page. Just type in Adair County Cooperative Extension Service in Facebook and we should

This is a like site so just click on the like button and it will help to keep you informed.

Keep cool in the summer heat



ADAIR COUNTY EXTENSION AGENT

Family and Consumer **Sciences**

> Dylan Gentry

Amid Kentucky's extreme summer temperatures, high humidity and prolonged heat can make being outdoors uncomfortable and dangerous. During this time, you need to know the signs and symptoms of heat-related illnesses and how to treat them. These include heat exhaustion, heat cramps and the most serious-heatstroke (also known as sun stroke).

Heat-related illnesses occur when a person's body cannot properly cool itself. These sicknesses can occur at any age, but people at greatest risk include infants and children up to four years old, adults 65 and over and those who are overweight. Additional factors that may lead to heatstroke include exertion in hot weather, sudden exposure to hot weather and lack of air conditioning, Certain illnesses and medications, such as antihistamines

and antipsychotics, can also increase risk of heat-related illnesses. Wearing too many layers or clothes that prevent sweat from evaporating, drinking alcohol and becoming dehydrated may trigger heatstroke.

Older adults are at risk for many reasons. Sweat glands, which help cool the body, often diminish in number with age, and those remaining may not function as well as they once did. Existing health problems, especially involving the heart, lung and kidneys and some medications can also increase older adults' risk of heat-related ill-

You can take steps to protect yourself and your loved ones from overheating. Here are some tips from the Centers for Disease Control and Pre-

· Keep up-to-date on

the weather forecast and stay in your home or another air-conditioned facility, such as a mall, public library or heat-relief shelter if the temperatures and humidity are forecasted to be extreme.

· Avoid strenuous outdoor activities, such as exercise or gardening, during the hottest hours of the day.

· Stay hydrated by drinking plenty of water, fruit or vegetable juices. Drink even when you are not thirsty. Avoid caffeine and alcohol.

Wear loose, lightweight and lightcolored clothing.

· Avoid using your oven and cover windows that receive direct sunlight to keep your house cooler.

baths to help yourself cool down.

· Take cool showers or

Know the signs of heatstroke-high body

temperature, dizziness, fatigue, lack of coordination, cold and clammy skin, racing heart rate, headache, nausea/vomiting, changes in cognition and/or behavior, rapid breathing, muscle spasms and/or cramps and ankle swelling. Heatstroke is a potentially life-threatening condition that requires immediate medical attention.

If you are a neighbor, friend or family member of an older adult, regularly check on them during warm days and extended/excessive hot periods to ensure they stay cool and hydrated and have access to air conditioning and proper clothing. Seek immediate medical attention if someone has signs of a heat-related illness.

More summer safety tips are available at the Adair County Extension

Source: Amy Kostelic, Associate Extension Pro-

The Martin-Gatton College of Agriculture, Food and Environment is an Equal Opportunity Organization with respect to education and employment and authorization to provide research, education information and other services only to individuals and institutions that function without regard to economic or social status and will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, ethnic origin, national origin, creed, religion, political belief, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, pregnancy, marital status, genetic information, age, veteran status, physical or mental disability or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity.

Local pharmacist wins excellence award



Easton Bryant with Kentucky Pharmacists Association **Executive Director, Ben Mudd.**

Adair County Pharmacist Easton Bryant was recently selected by his peers to be awarded the 2023 Excellence in Innovation award from the Kentucky Pharmacists

Association.

"I never would have imagined having this type of national reach. Having the opportunity to help guide so many people in their unique health journey is both a privilege and a responsibility I don't take lightly," said Bryant, who is the owner of North Century Medicines. "I'm excited for what's ahead as we work to keep growing, innovating and providing value."

After accepting the award, Bryant took to social media and his followers to express his grat-

"Innovation is one of our core values, so being presented the 2023 Excellence in Innovation award from the Kentucky Pharmacists Association is an incredible honor. I have so much to learn and so much yet to accomplish, but receiving some affirmation from respected colleagues is certainly something special," Bryant wrote.

Bryant said he used the opportunity to be candid with his peers and to encourage pharmacists to listen. "Listen to what your patients truly want. The status quo isn't working any longer. Band-Aid approaches stacked upon one another don't cut it, and they shouldn't. Patients want answers and, as the most accessible health care providers, that gives us both a tremendous responsibility and a tremendous

opportunity," he said. Bryant, who is now reaching people across the country with videos about various compounds and recommendations, sometimes serenading with a song as he picks a guitar, said pharmacists don't have all the answers but, "we do have the abilities and resources to at least get (customers) one step closer to the answer."

"Sometimes, it only takes a bit of simple education to make a world of difference. Sometimes, it takes a load of active listening. Either way, both are powerful uses of our time. Listen. Learn. Give. Care. It just might change a life," he said.



Riley Dental Group has ribbon cutting

Riley Dental Group held a ribbon cutting recently to celebrate the opening of their

Police reports

Adair County Man Arrested in Connection

with Car Theft

new office on the public square.

On July 13 at approximately 9:20 p.m. a 2005 Saturn vehicle was reported stolen to the Adair County Sheriffs Office. A few hours later, Robert Meyerhoff, 31, of Columbia was arrested on charges of receiving stolen property over \$1,000 but less than \$10,000 and criminal mischief after a traffic stop on A. Jones

A passenger, Michael Miniard, 47, of Russell Springs was also arrested with charges of possession of a controlled substance - 1st degree methamphetamine, possession of a controlled substance - 3rd degree, possession of drug

paraphernalia, prescrip-

tion-controlled substance not in proper container, and for two outstanding warrants in Russell County.

Both men were lodged in the Adair County Regional Jail. The sheriff's office is continuing investigations.

Deputy Josh Durbin and K-9 Deputy Chandler Staten were the arresting offi-

Laurel County Man Injured in Single-Vehicle Rollover

A Laurel County man was injured after a single-vehicle rollover accident on LBN Parkway on

Around 9:30 a.m. Adair County 911 received a call for a rollover accident around the 39-mile marker westbound on the parkway.

The caller told dispatch that the vehicle had overturned

after hitting a rock wall. Robert Centers, 72, of Laurel County was operating a 2003 Ford Ranger when the vehicle dropped off the lefthand side of the westbound passing lane. When trying to re-enter the roadway, Centers over corrected and lost control. The vehicle traveled across both lanes before striking a rock wall and then overturning.

Centers was treated at the scene by Adair EMS and then transported to TJ Health of Columbia for additional treatment.

Deputy Jason Camfield was assisted on scene by Sheriff Josh Brockman, Trooper Levi Scott, and the Adair County Fire Depart-

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Utility district provides five-year financial review to dispel rumors

Trying to put to rest rumors that the Columbia Adair Utilities District has lost millions of dollars in recent years, manager Lenny Stone said last week that CPA Brad Hayes was asked to review the district's financial data and respond to the allegations.

"Some inside audits went around by a former board member," Stone said. He said copies were given to magistrates but were not presented to or discussed by the district board.

"His thing was...that the water district had lost \$1 million for the past five years," Stone said.

Brad is a partner with RFH, an accounting firm in Lexington that provided the district's most recent audit. Hayes said during last week's meeting that he pulled together information from the district's audits from the past five years for his presentation. He provided board members with graphs comparing cash balances, accounts receivable/payable, current assets/liabilities, total debt, operating income/expense, and cash flows.

"As a practical matter, if you lost \$5 million in the last five years, where did the cash go?" he said.

Cash on hand has increased from \$1.3 million to \$1.6 million since 2016.

"So it increased over the five years," Hayes said.

Cash balances were the lowest in 2020 during Covid when restrictions were in place that would not allow the district to collect payments or set late fees.

The accounts receivable/payable ratio changed from 1.78 to 1.58 in 2021, with receivables increasing from \$401,622 to \$557,286 and payables showing an increase from \$225,287 to \$353,592. Those numbers reflect rate increases as well as increases in expenses, Hayes said, adding that

he saw nothing alarming in the data.

In comparing assets to liabilities, referred to as current ratio, the district's most positive ratio came in 2021. The ratio was 1.14 in 2016, dropped to .86 in 2020 when Covid restrictions were in place, but increased to 1.22 for 2021.

"So your ratio of current assets, your ability to pay, your current liabilities – increased over the five years, especially the last year. So again, that's positive," he said.

Total debt went down from 2016 to 2020 but went back to nearly the same level in 2021 as new projects and expansions were funded. The district's total debt was \$23.516 million in 2016 and \$23.146 million in 2021.

Hayes said the best way to compare the district's financial health may be through comparing the operating income and expenses.

Operating revenue remained steady for four years but showed an increase after rate increases went into effect.

The district showed an increase from \$4.49 million to \$4.52 million in four years and increased to \$5.47 million in 2021.

Operating expenses increased from \$4.88 million to \$5.29 million during the five-year period.

"So, they didn't increase as much as your revenue, which is very positive," Hayes said.

The district has around \$2 million a year in depreciation, reflecting the age and value of assets.

"It's not costing you any cash, but it's an expense that we have to pick up in financial statements," Hayes said.

Depreciation became a factor in obtaining financing for the district when applying for a loan in recent years. PSC required the district to increase its

rates to reflect depreciation, which was not previously being done.

Hayes reflected income without depreciation, which was \$1.69 million in 2016 and \$2.14 million in 2021.

Cash flow has increased over the five-year period, with operating income reflected at \$1.42 million in 2016 and \$2.16 million in 2021.

"Now that doesn't mean that you held onto all 2 million every year because you made improvements to the system, you buy capital assets, various things, you paid your debt; that comes off of that. But the idea is that you're operating income, or income from operations, increased over that five-year period," Hayes said.

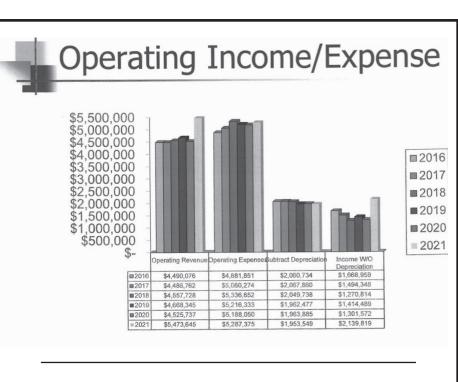
Overall, Hayes said, "Every year was not great, but over the five-year period, things were moving in a positive direction."

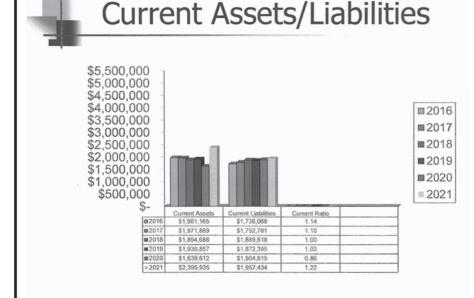
After a comment from Stone that the numbers show that the district has not lost a \$1 million a year, Hayes said that was correct, but noted that with depreciation the district may show a net loss every year.

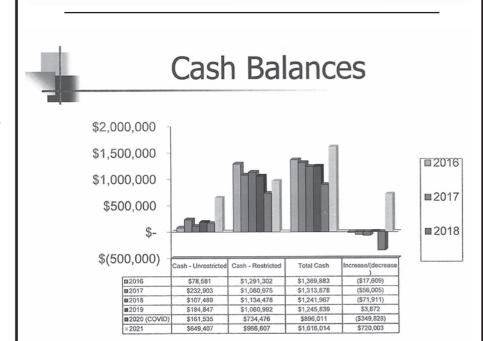
'You guys will always have about \$2 million in deprecation; you are not losing money. You are not burning cash," Hayes said. "You might have positive cash flow of \$1 million a year, but if depreciation is \$2 million, you are going to show a \$1 million loss. But the PSC keeps a pretty close eye on that kind of stuff. They are not going to let you raise your rates too much and they hopefully won't let you get to far behind either."

Stone thanked Hayes for his presentation, adding, "There's so many rumors going around, and I think it's time we put a stop to it."

By Sharon Burton snburton@adairvoice.com









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Grant sets course to lead students to life after graduation

Adair County teacher Denise Grant was beginning to look at retirement options after 23 years of working in education when the opportunity to not only teach but have a direct hand in helping students graduate fell into her lap. Grant has officially taken on the role as the Jobs for America's Graduates specialist for Adair County High School and is working with JAG Kentucky and colleagues to implement the program locally.

JAG Kentucky is a program affiliated with the Jobs for America's Graduates, which is a non-profit organization dedicated to helping students across the nation overcome barriers that may prevent them from graduating. The program also helps transition students into postsecondary education, the workforce, or the military after graduating high school.

The program is structured to help with graduation and retention rates in high schools while also

skills, financial literacy, and the life skills.

Grant was born and raised in Adair County and graduated from ACHS before attending college and graduating from the University of Kentucky with a degree in health sciences, medical technology, and clinical laboratory sciences. She returned to school years later to begin her career in teaching.

This past spring, while Grant was teaching high school sciences, the ACHS principal announced that JAG Kentucky was looking to expand and that he had applied to include Adair County in the program and received the bid necessary to implement the program. When the position as a JAG specialist became available, Grant knew it was her calling.

"He was talking about what it was, and I perked up a bit," said Grant. "I had already met in Frankfort to talk about retiring, because I just finished my 23rd year.

developing career-based I had started to look back at going into the lab, but I felt like it was God tapping my shoulder and opening a new door for me."

With the national average for graduation from high school being 87 percent, the national JAG program graduated approximately 96 percent of students enrolled in 2022, with JAG Kentucky graduating 100 percent of students enrolled in the program last year.

The primary goal for Adair County JAG is to graduate students with a secondary objective of showing students all available options post-graduation, including joining the workforce, trades, military, or college.

"I want students to know that it's okay to not know what you want to do, but my program is built around finding out what they like, like 'have you ever wondered what a heavy equipment operator does?' Let's bring one in here and talk about it. Let's go to a work

With many students facing graduation, fear can be a driving force in a lack of post-graduation plans. Grant said JAG is a resource for students to eliminate the fears of the world and to learn from site and show you what people in various career

students expand their knowledge.

"I'm in a career that matters at a deeper level," said Grant. "I don't want these kids to just be a statistic; I want them to be a part of what makes Adair County High School great in academic, in behavior, in graduation and retention rates. I want them to help build up our high school and I know they can."

A ribbon cutting ceremony will be held when classes start.

By Jaidyn Lee newsroom2@adairvoice.com



Faulkner begins tenure as school superintendent

FROM PAGE 1

looking for schools to work for and said Adair had everything he was looking for.

"I was very specific on the districts that I would apply for. What attracted me the most to Adair County was that we have a very good agriculture program. One of the biggest things that school districts are falling short on is preparing students for jobs and careers," said Faulkner. "My goal for us is to identify those student interests and try to put them on pathways that will prepare them for a career and, if they want to, prepare them for college."

He begins the position striving for higher test scores, with an emphasis on academics, athletics and the arts.

Faulkner said two areas of improvement needed in Adair and other Kentucky districts are preparation for life after high school and national test scores.

"I think statewide, we have a lot of work to do," said Faulkner.

His goals for academics include pulling all the schools together to create a greater connection and easier transition for students, and implementing a consistent progress monitoring program to identify what areas need improvement with students.

"My schools work in four independent silos, and they all do things differently, so the first thing I want to do is get us aligned. The next thing I want to do is look at our assessment practices and see if we can identify students and their needs, and I want to progress monitor those students to set outcomes that are goals," said Faulkner. "Progress monitoring is going to be big for us. We need to clearly identify who those students are, see where they're falling short, what skills they're missing, and see if our intervention practices in schools are set in place that fosters that improvement."

Faulkner places a heavy focus on academics but also believes

that students involved in extracurriculars, like athletics, can increase student production and change student behavior.

"We want to be strongly academic focused and we're going to be, but we also want to have strong athletic programs. My goal here is to build those and get more students involved. I think there are some sports programs we could bring into Adair County to get more students involved and into extracurriculars," said Faulkner.

Athletics are the Faulk-

ner is excited about where the school system is currently and has high hopes for the near future of Adair County youth.

"I feel that we can provide these students with an educational opportunity that will be very impactful for their future. I want to get to a point where every student in Adair County has a pathway to a better life outside of the walls in our schools," said Faulkner.

By Jaidyn Lee newsroom2@adairvoice.com



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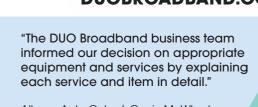
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