



Fiscal court supports opioid proposal

By Dennis Crump, Editor

On November 26, at 6:00 p.m., the Adair County Fiscal Court convened their regular meeting to discuss an opioid proposal, a contract with Cumberland County and an emergency management director ordinance, among other matters. The meeting began with a call to order, a pledge of allegiance to the flag, prayer and roll call. The first action taken was to accept the meeting agenda. Then the board voted to approve the minutes of previous meetings held on October 22 and August 27.

The board heard the Sheriff's Report, outlining activity for the previous month. The Sheriff's Office reported the issuance of 14 warrants, attending to 13 accidents, issuing three citations, and addressing three domestic disturbances. During the month, the office responded to 775 calls for service. The board also heard reports from the Road Department, the Green River Animal Shelter (GRAS) the Personnel Committee, the jailer and the treasurer. GRAS reported boarding 23 dogs and seven cats. The Treasurer's Report outlined numerous line-to-line and fund-to-fund transfers, citing no budget amendments or court

orders. Lynda Wilkerson, a licensed social worker in Columbia, spoke to the court concerning an opioid proposal. The proposal would provide drug disposal kits to the community for neutralizing the danger of opioid availability for misuse by the public. Community members who legally have certain medications are at risk of seeing those drugs misused by children in the home and become targets for break-ins by people looking to obtain these drugs through theft.

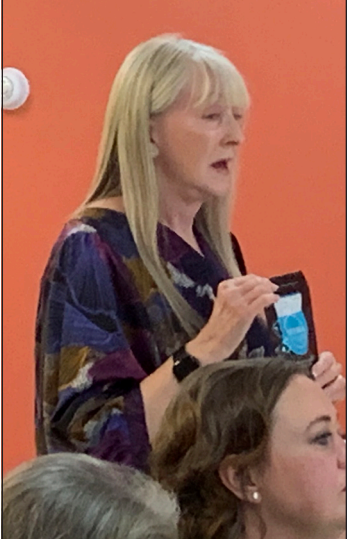
The project involves the distribution of the Detera pouch drug deactivation system, an environmentally friendly, evidence-based solution for making opioids harmless. It should be available at the library, local pharmacies, and through other sources such as Emergency Medical Services (EMS) personnel and some counseling centers. Wilkerson indicated that presentations are planned especially for grandparents who may have unnecessary medications in the home while raising their children. The court ultimately voted to fund the project.

Two proposals, one involving a Cumberland County Jail contract and the other requesting permission to purchase a recycling truck from

Don Franklin Ford, were tabled. Another proposal which would approve the hire of an additional road department employee was also tabled. A measure which would set the pay rate for a deputy judge executive and another which would address the former fiscal court clerk's actions prior to her resignation were not acted on during this meeting. The decision to pay current fiscal court clerk Amy Bell to correct the inadequacies of the previous court minutes was approved.

In addition, the court approved proposals to stripe and seal the lot at the Jim Blair Center, obtain a quote from ACA Prime to file clerk's/sheriff's forms 1095 and 1094, advertise boiler and HVAC bids for the Judicial Center, and retractive funds back to February 2023 to include minute books for the auditors.

Near the meeting's end, an unidentified man spoke to the fiscal court concerning the handling of an incident that occurred in October concerning his son. He indicated that his 9-year-old son was attacked by a dog which dragged its owner out of its trailer and his son received injuries due to this attack. Moreover, his son is fearful and has difficulty sleeping as a result. The man was dissatisfied with the



Lynda Wilkerson, LCSW, speaks to members of the Adair County Fiscal Court concerning an opioid initiative.

handling of this incident by law enforcement and the county attorney's office and believes that the dog is dangerous and should be put down.

The county attorney explained the language of the current applicable statute does not allow such a response due to the circumstances of the attack - specifically that it did not take place on the victim's property. The court took no action in response. After some concluding discussion concerning the Jim Blair Center, the meeting was adjourned without further action.

Columbia Police Department Activity Report for November 2024

From Officer Evan Burton, Chief of Police
By Jasmine Mitchell, Writer

Each month, the Columbia Police Department releases an activity report of events. The Columbia Police Department's Activity Report for November 2024 is as follows:

- Calls for Service/Contacts: 864
- Citations: 91
- Motorist Assists: 17
- Escorts: 14
- Accidents Investigated: 16
- Injury Accidents: 0
- E-Call/Incident Report: 9
- Criminal Cases Opened: 10

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KSP recruit for next generation of hometown heroes

FRANKFORT, KY – Gov. Andy Beshear and the Kentucky State Police (KSP) announced that the agency is accepting applications for those interested in becoming a hometown hero to join Cadet Class 106. Candidates selected for the final hiring register who are from Posts 1, 2, 5, 6 and 16 will receive guaranteed assignments at their home post location. All other applicants will be assigned to their home or a bordering post based on positions and agency need. KSP is offering an increased starting salary for sworn officers, with compensation starting at \$67,615 annually, and an improved retirement system with a sick leave buyback program.

"We are building a new Kentucky home and to ensure all Kentuckians feel safe and are safe in their communities; we need dedicated individuals joining Team Kentucky as our finest heroes," said Gov. Beshear. "The Kentucky State Police is nationally recognized for their training and expertise and applicants will receive the best when they join Cadet Class 106."

Cadets without a prior background in law enforcement will undergo an intensive 24-week training regimen, with over 1,000 hours of classroom and practical field study. Cadets will be trained in various critical topics, including constitutional

law, juvenile and traffic laws, crisis response, criminal investigations and community relations. Specific training areas also cover weapons use, first aid, high-speed pursuits, crowd control, hazardous material handling and implicit bias education. Those with prior law enforcement experience can apply to participate in KSP's Law Enforcement Accelerated Program (LEAP), which enables seasoned officers to join the agency through an accelerated 13-week course program.

"Patrolling the scenic landscape of Kentucky combined with an exceptional salary package provides an amazing career opportunity for future

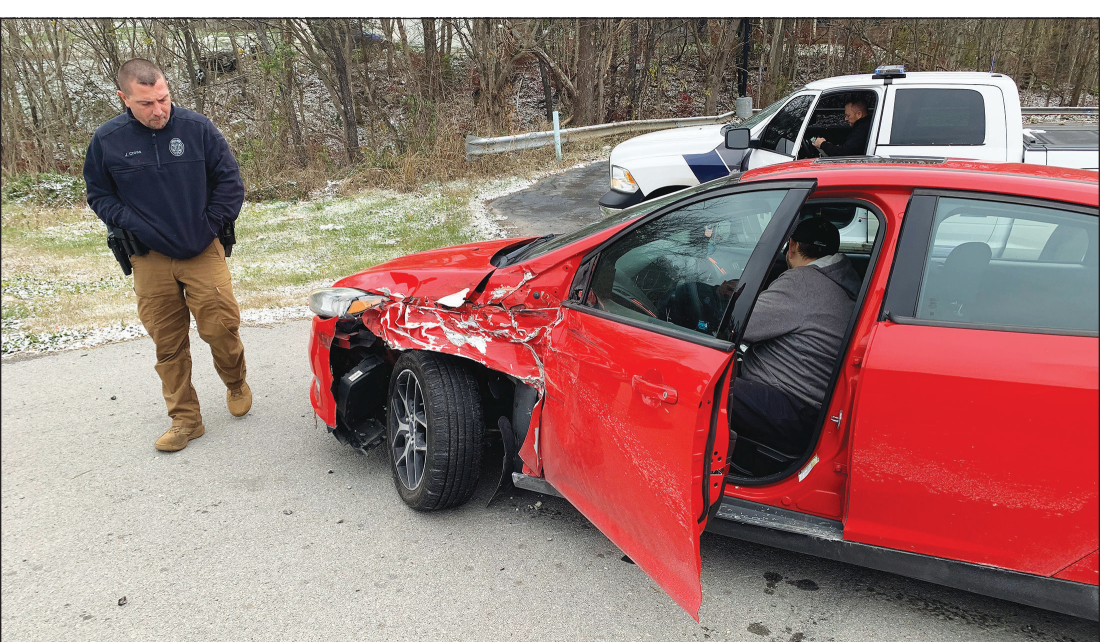
troopers," said Recruitment Branch Commander Sgt. Michael Murriell. "Those interested in serving local communities, safeguarding citizens while having an 'office with a view', should apply for cadet class 106." Interested applicants should visit the online portal to submit their application from any electronic device. Cadet Class 106 and the LEAP program applications must be submitted to the KSP Recruitment Branch by close of business April 25, 2025. The upcoming cadet class is slated to begin August 10, 2025. Those interested in applying can visit KSP's website for the minimum requirements, disqualifications and a list of required supporting

documentation (physical standards requirements and testing information). They can also email the KSP recruitment branch at KSPRecruit@ky.gov for questions or assistance with applying.

KSP's mission is to provide better public safety, maintain critical services, and better reflect the diverse communities that KSP serves. In June, the Beshear-Coleman administration announced that 37 troopers graduated from the KSP training academy and were ready to serve the commonwealth, safeguard lives and property, assist their fellow Kentuckians in law enforcement and reduce crime. The next cadet

class is slated to begin in November and the academy received a record number of applications. Gov. Beshear signed Jouse Bill 380, expanding the eligibility of potential peace officers to include individuals who are not yet 21 but will reach this statutory requirement by the time certification is completed to help law enforcement agencies expand their workforce.

Also, as the governor recommended in January 2022, \$12.2 million was included in the state budget for KSP to purchase body cameras, which is the first time in the commonwealth's history that funding has been allocated for this much-needed expense.



The driver of this Ford Focus tried to avoid hitting the vehicle in front of him by leaving the road - but collided with the other vehicle.



The Ford Focus took this path as it left the road.

McConnell: Republicans will use 'mandate' To reduce runaway regulation

WASHINGTON, D.C. – U.S. Senate Republican Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) delivered the following remarks today on the Senate floor regarding the Congressional Review Act (CRA): "Congress writes the nation's laws and the executive branch sticks to enforcing them. That idea is not new. It's written plainly into our Article I powers in the Constitution. But half a century of ceding legislative authority to an unelected bureaucracy has thrown this balance off-kilter.

"Earlier this year, of course, the Article III branch quite clearly restored the boundaries on freelance regulatory interpretation in the executive branch."

But there's more work to be done to rein in Washington bureaucrats' expansive interpretation of their powers over working Americans. And fortunately, Congress has a powerful tool called the Congressional Review Act that does exactly that.

"To great effect, Senate Republicans used the CRA to scrap a slew of bureaucratic

rules after eight years of runaway regulation under the Obama Administration.

"Republicans worked to end a coal-mining rule that threatened hundreds-of-thousands of workers, including many in Kentucky.

"We took a hammer to a pair of 'far-reaching' and 'aggressive' Obama-era education rules.

"And we dramatically scaled back D.C. bureaucrats' control of lands that should be managed with local input.

"Between 2017 and

2018, Republicans used the CRA sixteen times to impose an ambitious regulatory housecleaning that gave farmers and miners, landowners and job creators, small businesses and builders the certainty and confidence to stay producing on American soil.

"We did all of this with hardly any Democratic support.

"So it's not surprising that under the Biden Administration, Democrats have worked relentlessly to resurrect the Obama

Administration's regulatory regime, from student loan socialism to job-killing energy polices to blatant infringements on property rights.

"Literally, on day one, President Biden signed an executive order that began tearing down the regulatory certainty that Republicans restored.

"Now, with just over a month left in the year, the Biden Administration's 2024 regulations alone amount to the second highest annual total by pages in the Federal

Register.

"On the whole, President Biden's agenda has imposed regulatory costs that, by one estimate, surpass \$1.8 trillion. That's trillion with a 'T'.

"So it's safe to say Congress once again has an opportunity.

"Two weeks ago, the American people gave Republicans a legitimate, crystal clear mandate. And come January, we ought to use it to hit the brakes on runaway regulation."

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