



Black Bears  
stay  
undefeated.  
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# Harlan Enterprise

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## Fiscal Court updated on flood recovery

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The Harlan County Fiscal Court heard an update regarding ongoing efforts related to severe flood-

ing which occurred earlier in the year during the court's regular meeting for August.

Harlan County Judge-Executive Dan Mosley took time to bring the magistrates up to date on disaster recovery activities.

"This as has been a monthly update with FEMA," Mosley said. "I'm pleased to report that FEMA has been here and did site inspections last week. All the projects that were identified as caused by the flood in February have been done."

Mosley called on Harlan County Emergency Management Director Stephen Lewis for more information concerning the matter.

See **FLOOD**, on 2

## Harlan searching for bear solutions



City of Harlan Mayor Joe Meadors introduces representatives from the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife during a public meeting to address a nuisance created by bears within the city limits. (Photo by Joe Asher)

BY JOE ASHER

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A public meeting was held on Tuesday, Aug. 26, to address the issue of bears being a nuisance within the city limits of Harlan. Representatives from local and state government as well as the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife met with concerned citizens at the Harlan Center to discuss possible solutions to the rising bear population creating a nuisance for residents and businesses in the city.

Kentucky State Senator Scott Madon attended the meeting. He shared some of his thoughts on

the matter during an interview before the meeting began.

Madon said he believes there are more bears in the area than Fish and Wildlife have estimated.

"We've been kind of overrun with them lately," Madon said. "I pulled in my driveway, and my neighbor came across the street and told me they had a bear in their garage at 9 a.m. that morning. We've got to address it, and all get on the same page."

Madon mentioned bears have caused a significant amount of property damage in Bell and Harlan County.

"I don't think anybody wants to

completely wipe them (the bears) out," Madon said. "We've just got so many right now that we've got to do something about it."

Harlan City Police Chief Winston "Wink" Yeary has seen a large amount of bear activity inside the city limits.

"Eastern Kentucky is overrun with bears," Yeary said. "It's an issue all of us have to deal with. I think we need more management of the bears."

Yeary noted lengthening the hunting season for bear could be a step in the right direction.

See **BEARS**, on 2

## County school board hears project update

BY JOE ASHER

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The Harlan County Schools Board of Education held their regular meeting for August recently, discussing matters including an ongoing roofing project and the hiring of new principals for a pair of elementary schools.

Board Chairman Gary Farmer called the meeting to order and called on Superintendent Brett Johnson to update the board.

Johnson updated the panel on some roof projects in the district.

"Evarts Elementary is about 100 percent complete besides a couple of days of some list items to complete," Johnson said. "Cawood should be done in two to three total weeks if weather permits, and Cumberland Elementary should be done in two to three weeks if weather permits."

According to Johnson, the roofing projects have had some delays.

"I know there have been some setbacks, some weather delays," Johnson said.

Johnson noted there are some details to be worked out before the projects are complete.

"We're not entirely sure if they are this close or not, but this is the estimate that was given," Johnson said. "When that was approved, one of the goals was to make sure construction was not interrupted, and it has not been interrupted whatsoever. We are thankful for that."

Johnson advised the board that principal positions have been filled for two of the district's elementary schools.

"Needham Saylor was selected," Johnson said. "He began as principal (Rosspoint Elementary) on Tuesday, Aug. 5. We also completed the hiring process for the Evarts Elementary principal position as well. Hobie Boggs was selected, and he began as principal on Thursday, Aug. 21. We're excited for both of those gentlemen, and they're doing a fantastic job so far. We're looking forward to seeing everything they have in store as the grow as administrators at their new schools."

See **BOE**, on 2

## Trash for Cash program targets illegal dumping

BY JOE ASHER

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Along with many southeast Kentucky counties, Harlan County has dealt with the problem of illegal garbage dumping for some time. The Trash for Cash program is designed to help combat the issue and provide some groups with an incentive to help clean up the county.

Harlan County Judge-Executive Dan Mosley took some time

during a recent Harlan County Fiscal Court meeting to address the issue.

"I would like to take a moment while we're talking about illegal dumps and litter abatement to talk about a couple of programs that fall under the solid waste department," Mosley said. "They've been attacking some illegal dumps that have been problem areas. They've got two of three cleaned up on US 421 near Bob's Creek just past Lenarue that have been terrible dumps for the last

couple of years."

According to Mosley, garbage, brush, and other debris have been dumped in the area.

"The before and after pictures are incredible," Mosley said, referring to the clean up progress near Bob's Creek. "We certainly appreciate what's been done in that area."

Mosley also talked about a litter abatement program.

"We have launched the 'Cash for Trash' program," Mosley said. "We've had our first school partic-

ipate in that. Harlan County Middle School football just completed several miles on KY 1084 and KY 413 in the Baxter area to assist."

Mosley mentioned the inmate work program at the Harlan County Detention Center has also provided cleanup work.

"The Inmate Work Program does a great job on a lot of the main highways, but there's more trash to pick up than there's people to pick it up," Mosley said.

Mosley noted that school groups, nonprofit organizations,

or other organizations interested in raising money may wish to look into the Trash for Cash program as a way of raising funds for their groups.

"It's a good way to raise some money," Mosley said. "I think the project that the middle school football team just did added up to about \$500 for their team...it's a good way to teach young people about the importance of not littering."

See **TRASH**, on 2

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"In the mountains, storytelling is truly an art form, and as much recreation as communication."

— Maxine Cheshire

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