

SEBREE BANNER



VOLUME EIGHTY-NINE

SEBREE, WEBSTER COUNTY, KENTUCKY, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19, 2025

NUMBER EIGHT



Four Webster County Middle School Students Perform In All-State Concert

Four Webster County Middle School students auditioned and were selected for the KMEA All-State Concert Band. The four students, Peyton Brasher—trombone, Isaac Jobe—French Horn, Jon Parkest—trumpet, and Emery Thomasson—clarinet, submitted an individual recording performing the KMEA required audition music. As Lucas Morgan, band director, stated, “Not only is this the

highest honor that a middle school musician can achieve, but it is also the first time Webster County Middle School has had students accepted into the honor band.

The four students joined others from across the state for a twelve-hour practice session on March 7th and a performance at the Glema Mahr Center for the Arts on March 8th.

Sebree City Council Meets

The Sebree City Council met in regular session on Monday night with Mayor Jeremy Brown presiding and four council members present. Council members Billy Smith and Jana Forker were not in attendance. Also present for the meeting were City Clerk Monte Davenport and City Attorney Wil Cox.

Following approval of the minutes from the January meeting, the council dealt with a short agenda. The council did not meet in February due to inclement weather.

Code Enforcement Officer Debbie Stull told members she has closed 18 cases in 2025. Twelve cases remain open, and four new cases were added in the past few days. “I have been in conversations with several property owners,” she said. She also noted that with warmer weather approaching, she expects and increase in violations of the city’s nuisance ordinance. Ms. Stull also said there have been several instances of city residents leaving appliances in yards or on porches and decks.

The city clerk told members a

spring clean up day will be held in the community; however, a date for that has not been scheduled. The clean up day will give residents the opportunity to dispose of appliances and other nuisance items.

Mayor Brown informed council members that rates for water service from the Henderson Water Utility will increase effective April 30, 2025. In a letter dated January 15, 2025, Todd Bowley, chief financial officer for Henderson Water Utility, informed city officials of the increase. The cost for treated water will increase from \$2.8174 per 1,000 gallons to \$2,9780 per 1,000 gallons. The cost for wastewater treatment will decrease from \$5,315 per 1,000 gallons to \$5.0414 per 1,000 gallons. The increase in rates is not expected to increase utility costs for city residents.

The city clerk presented each member with an overview of the city’s revenues, expenses and end of month balances for December, January, and February. According to May-

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Webster Grand Jury Returns Indictments

The Webster County Grand Jury convened March 12, 2025, returning indictments against seven individuals.

Four indictments were returned against Brandon Robert Bean. Bean faces charges of first degree possession of a controlled substance, third or greater offense, methamphetamine; drug paraphernalia-buy/possess, menacing and resisting arrest.

In the case of Robert Earl Brantley, five indictments were returned against the defendant. Brantley was indicted for first degree possession of a controlled substance, third or greater offense, methamphetamine; drug paraphernalia-buy/possess; operating a motor vehicle under the influence of a controlled substance, first offense; failure to wear seatbelts, failure to produce insurance card.

Cory James Lussier saw seven indictments returned against him. Lussier’s indictments include operating on a suspended/revoked operator’s license; trafficking in marijuana, less than eight ounces, first offense, amended to second offense; first degree trafficking in a controlled substance, first offense, less than two GMS methamphetamine, amended to second offense; convicted felon in possession of a handgun; drug paraphernalia-buy/possess; carrying a concealed weapon by prior deadly weapon felony offender; and carry concealed weapon by prior deadly weapon offender.

James William Painter was indicted on three charges: first degree possession of a controlled substance, first offense, methamphetamine; drug paraphernalia-buy/possess and possession of marijuana.

Five indictments were returned against Joshua Thomas Revelett. Thomas is charged with possession of marijuana; drug paraphernalia-buy/possess; first degree possession of a controlled substance, second offense, methamphetamine; license to be in possession; and failure to register transfer of a motor vehicle.

Jonathan Logan Rooney was indicted on charges of operating a motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol, first offense, aggravating circumstances; license to be in possession; resisting arrest; second degree fleeing/evading police on foot; drug paraphernalia-buy/possess; and reckless driving,

Nine indictments were returned against Amy Marie Thomas. Thomas faces charges of operating a motor vehicle under the influence of a controlled substance, first offense; first degree possession of a controlled substance, second offense, methamphetamine; drug paraphernalia-buy/possess; possession of marijuana; failure to produce insurance card; no/expired Kentucky registration receipt amended to out of state; reckless driving; tamperin with physical evidence and first degree promoting contraband.

Webster County Water District Board Hears Financial Report

The Webster County Water District board met Thursday, March 13, with three members—Tommy Robertson, Ryan Hammack and Billy Joe Parker—present.

Following the approval of the minutes and payment vouchers, the board heard from water superintendent Trevor Baldwin that in February, the district produced 30,315,250 gallons of water and sold 25,471,278 gallons, up 7.5 million gallons over February 2024 sales.

Baldwin also provide a tank inspection report that details recommendations for repairs and maintenance to the county’s six tanks and the clear well. Having just re-

ceived the report, Baldwin said he has not had time to thoroughly review the recommendations nor has he received pricing for cleaning the tanks. He will provide additional information, including costs at the board’s next meeting. The superintendent said he will also work on a cleaning rotation for the county’s tank.

The water department employees have also spent quite a bit of time cleaning up around the interconnects, the tank properties and the plant property, work he says had been put off for a while.

The water board’s next regular meeting is set for Thursday, April 10, at 10:00 a.m.

Providence Council Approves Resolutions; Sets Rates For Golf Course

The Providence City Council met in a 24-minute session Monday night with members adopting two resolutions and approving the rates for the Providence Municipal Golf Course.

Following the approval of the minutes, the council adopted two resolutions related to the city’s sewer and water rehabilitation projects that will soon get underway. Attorney Bobby Murray read the resolutions. The first relates to the city’s agreement for fair housing should any resident be affected by the work. That resolution protects community members against discrimination during the course of the project.

The second resolution relates to they committing funds for work on the water treatment plant. That resolution calls for the city to commit funds for replacement of plant filters in conjunction with a \$45,000 loan from Green River Area Development District. The resolution calls for the city to secure funding above the \$45,000 to complete the fil-

ter replacement project and gives the major authority to complete any documents necessary for the project.

In other business, the council, without discussion, unanimously approved new rates for the Providence Municipal Golf and Recreation. The council had previously seen the proposed changes to the fees. The plan reflects costs for 18 holes of golf Monday through Friday plus cart rental as well as nine holes of golf plus cart rental. Eighteen holes of golf with cart rental will cost \$28,00. Golfers will be charged a lesser amount for golf only if playing without using a cart. A Saturday-Sunday fee scheduled reflects a slightly higher charge for those days with the charge for 18 holes with cart rental set at \$35.00.

Individuals and family also have an option to pay a membership fee. A single plan is \$475 plus tax while a family plan is \$575 plus tax. An additional \$275 plus tax is charged for an annual cart plan. Seniors over 60 will receive a ten percent discount.

During the discussion

period, councilman Jimmy Crowell told the council and mayor, “We (the city) did a bad thing in February because we put 35 days on the light bills.” According to Crowell, December bills were for 29 days, but then five full weeks passed before meters were read again, causing bills to be 25 to 33 percent higher than normal, an inconvenience for customers, Crowell said. He urged the city “not to let that happen again.”

Crowell also asked about the city’s water situation. Mayor Butch Hackney noted that the state says the water is fine. He added that last week city employees repaired 21 water leaks. Hackney also told the council that Terry Rice, the public works director, is in contact with a company that produces a chemical that can resolve the city’s problem with the odor and taste of the present water. “Terry is doing all he can do,” Hackney said.

Mark Turner asked about code enforcement, noting that they council has not had a report for a while. Hack-

ney said he has asked code enforcement officer Rick Mills to go back to his original work schedule of Monday through Wednesday. Hackney also said he has spoken to a property owner on Broadway about whom the city has had several complaints.

Councilmembers also expressed concerns about the number of people in Providence living in camping trailers, something that is not legal in the city per ordinance. Hackney said he will have Mills address that issue.

Shannon Layton asked about the fire hydrants that are inoperable, and the mayor responded that the fire department continues to work on that issue. Layton also reported that she has had several calls regarding a property near the school that is piled with junk as well as calls about people living in campers.

Jeff Marshall asked that it be clarified that the property near the by-pass was purchased by the county, and the city of Providence has spent no funds on that purchase. He said many res-

idents believe the city helped with that purchase. Marshall also asked that at the next council meeting, the council receive a financial report since the third quarter will have ended by that meeting.

Before the meeting adjourned, Hackney addressed the council about allegations being made on social media. He noted that some residents have claimed via social media that they city’s number one priority is the golf course. “That is not true,” Hackney said, adding that the city’s “number one priority is the citizens of this town.”

He also reported that allegations have been made against him saying he called a resident bad names behind his back. Hackney denied this saying, “Again, this is not true.” He added that he urges residents who have issues with him or the city to come to a council meeting to voice their concerns.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Providence City Council is Monday, April 7, at 6:00 p.m.