



Dragons
drop two
straight.
Page 8

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County approves cemetery relocation

BY JOE ASHER
joe.asher@harlanenterprise.net

The Harlan County Fiscal Court heard from a representative of the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet concerning a family cemetery which must be moved for an upgrade project to begin on a section of U.S. 421 at the Kentucky/Virginia state line.

Harlan County Judge-Executive Dan Mosley called on Orie Dobson from the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet to advise the magistrates on the matter.

“He is here to discuss somewhat of a somber issue this morning as it relates to the 421 project near the Virginia line,” Mosley said. “The project of course is moving forward, but

there is something that requires action by the Fiscal Court.”

Dobson told the magistrates there is a family cemetery located between Cranks and the Virginia state line which will require disinterment and reinterment of approximately 17 graves.

“This is necessary because some of the cuts that are going to be made to the hillside are in

that vicinity,” Dobson explained. “It’s been a while since we’ve had to do that here in Harlan County, so it may be that none of you are familiar with how that process works. I will be happy to answer any questions related to this today. We do not come at this without regard for the families who have people up there.”

Dobson advised the magistrates he had brought a map

showing the location of the cemetery.

“The cemetery that is in the situation here – approximately 17 graves – Mr. Dobson indicated to me there hasn’t been anybody buried there in years.”

Dobson noted it has been at least 10 years since anyone

See **CEMETERY**, on 2



Kentucky State Police Troopers and staff of Kentucky State Police Post 10, Harlan, spent some time shopping with Harlan County children during the Shop With a Trooper event at the Harlan Walmart on Dec. 10 (Photo courtesy of the Trooper Jacobs Facebook page)

Long time Harlan County Board of Education member leaves board

BY JOE ASHER
joe.asher@harlanenterprise.net

The Harlan County School Board held a special called meeting recently, recognizing long time board member Myra Mosley for her service to Harlan County Public Schools Board of Education. Mosley is leaving the board after serving in her position for 24 years.

Board Chairman Gary Farmer called the meeting to order, and Superintendent Brent Roark brought the matter up at the top of the meeting.

“It’s her last board meeting with us after serving 24 years,” Roark said. “We want to acknowledge that, and we want to acknowledge what you’ve meant to Harlan County Schools, what you’ve meant to me, and what you’ve meant to this board.”

Roark took the opportunity to read some notes into the record.

“Jeff contacted several former board members, former superintendents, and he got quotes from all those people,” Roark said. “I want to read some of the quotes into the record...If you’ll indulge me for just a few minutes.”

Roark noted Mosley’s term on the board will end on Dec. 31.

“Mrs. Mosley has served for 24 years on the Harlan County Board of Education,” Roark said. “She did not seek reelection to her seat this year.”

Roark mentioned a new board member will become the District 3 representative in January.

“Mrs. Mosley’s district encompasses Green Hills Elementary, Harlan County High School, and Rosspoint Elementary. Board members and administrators who have served with Mrs. Mosley over the years are sharing their thoughts on the tremendous service she has provided to our school district. Board of Education Gary Farmer has served 29 years, 24 of those with Mrs. Mosley. He’s been Chairman for 22 years.”

Roark then turned the floor over to Farmer.

“I’m sure Myra fully remembers her first month on the board,” Farmer said. “At that time, this district’s finances and facilities were kind of not in a good spot. Those first years were tough. Myra did

See **BOARD**, on 2

Shop with a Trooper, Shop with a Deputy events hit Harlan

BY JOE ASHER
joe.asher@harlanenterprise.net

Kentucky State Police, Post 10, Harlan, held their annual Shop with a Trooper event in Harlan recently, buying clothing and toys for Harlan County children while giving them a chance to spend some quality time with Troopers outside of the stressful situations many children associate with law enforcement. The Harlan County Sheriff’s Office also held their Shop with a Deputy event recently, bringing additional Harlan County children a little Christmas spirit.

According to Kentucky State Police Public Information Officer Shane Jacob’s social media outlet, the event took place on Dec. 10.

“These incredible kids enjoyed a shopping spree they’ll always remember, making their holiday season brighter and carefree,” said Jacobs. “It was amazing to see their smiles as they bonded with our troopers, who were just as excited to share this special time.”

Jacobs explained a few of the positive benefits of Shop with a Trooper in a previous report.

“This is just another way the Kentucky State Police can give back to our community,” Jacobs said. “We work hard all year to raise money, we get donations from local businesses throughout the communities in Harlan, Bell, and Knox counties.

We’re able to team up with them and then give back to our community and help these kids out.” Shop with a Trooper has long

been a favorite event for the personnel at Post 10.

“This is a favorite time of year to be able to give back to these kids and see the smiles on their faces,” Jacobs said.

KSP Post 10 Captain Danny Caudill noted in a previous report Shop with a Trooper allows children to see Troopers in a positive light.

“This way kids will have a positive interaction with us, because often times when we’re called to their homes or they’re involved in an accident or some type of incident, it isn’t so positive,” Caudill said. “They get to talk to us, get to know us, and see us at a more personal level.”

See **SHOP**, on 2

County renews waste collection contract

BY JOE ASHER
joe.asher@harlanenterprise.net

The Harlan County Fiscal Court voted to renew an agreement for waste collection with Waste Connections during the panel’s December meeting. The contract was approved following a few adjustments to the previous agreement.

Harlan County Judge-Executive Dan Mosley presided over the meeting.

“This is something we’ve discussed the last few months,” Mosley said. “We’ve talked about it a couple of times. I want to thank Waste Connections for sitting down and discussing this with us and talking about many issues that the Fiscal Court has had related to the delivery of the solid waste service in the county.”

According to Mosley, Waste Connections has always been responsive to the county’s concerns. One of those concerns

was the county being required to pick up waste from residents who reside on roads not accessible by Waste Connections’ large packer trucks.

“One of the things they have committed to is they are acquiring a one-ton pickup truck to eliminate the solid waste pickups along county routes where their packer cannot get to,” Mosley said. “They were willing to absorb that. That will take a lot off our solid waste recycling center. At one point, they were pick-

ing up at 70 to 80 stops that the packer could not get to. I think it’s down to about 40 now, but that’s still a lot of work on our people.”

Mosley said Waste Connections began those pickups the previous week.

“Another thing they’re going to expand to is offering a service with 2-, 4-, and 6-yard boxes that will be available to be rented by citizens,” Mosley said. “Sometimes the trailers we rent aren’t large enough for someone’s

needs, these are, they are a bit larger.”

Mosley went over the pricing contained in the new contract.

“They have agreed to stay with the structure they have had in place with the exception of one minor change,” Mosley said. “We really wanted to stay on the 50 cent increases per year on the residential, that’s been the case for a long time where it would increase 50 cents per

See **CONTRACT**, on 2

Index
News 2
Puzzles 5
Classifieds 6
Sports 8

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

– Maxine Cheshire

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