



THE LEWIS COUNTY HERALD

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Dennis Brown/LEWIS COUNTY HERALD

Several first responders were dispatched to KY 59 on the south side of Vanceburg Hill last week when this pickup went off the road and overturned back onto the roadway, blocking both lanes of traffic. Only relatively minor injuries were reported as a result of the incident.

Exercise based on new ATV park

By Dennis K. Brown

First responders and local officials participated in a tabletop exercise Thursday based on a scenario involving a simulated incident at 1806 Adventures ATV Park which will be opening November 29, the day after Thanksgiving.

The recently organized ATV park consists of about 8,000 acres of remote southern Lewis County property near the Rowan and Carter county borders containing several miles of trails with varying challenges.

Jonathan Ruggles, who serves as the park's director of operations, said the opening of the park will coincide with an annual event that has become known as the Turkey Run with the park encompassing many of those trails and several others.

Ruggles says entrances and parking for the property will be off Briary Creek Road (off KY 377) and Straight Fork Road (off KY 59). Permits range from a \$30 two-day admission pass to a \$150 one-year admission pass. Lewis County residents may purchase the annual permit for \$100 through the park's website, www.1806adventures.com.

The discussion-based exercise, held on the third floor of the Lewis County Courthouse, consisted of a scenario involving a simulated incident in which two individuals were injured and in a remote section of the property.

Emergency Management Director Dennis Brown guided participants through the discussion in which first-responders talked about their roles and responses to the situation as it unfolded.

Participants included dispatchers, ambulance personnel, fire and rescue personnel, air ambulance personnel, sheriff's deputies, local officials, visiting emergency management officials, and representatives with 1806 Adventures.

Ruggles gave an overview of the park and answered questions from participants to familiarize them with the park's safety response plan.

Many of the attending first-responders were already familiar with the area through earlier response to incidents or from previously riding trails in the area.

Local officials had earlier met with park repre-

sentatives to discuss an emergency response plan being developed by the county as well as the plan being developed by park officials.

Local officials also visited the park to identify potential landing zones and how emergency responders might navigate the area under various conditions.

The officials also discussed communications details with park officials as well as plans for mutual assistance should first-responders be summoned to the park in the event of an emergency.

Members of the Ambulance Tax Service District Board discussed the opening of the ATV park during a regular meeting of the board on Wednesday.

Members approved implementing a fee schedule for businesses requesting an ambulance to be staged at, or dedicated to, specific events.

Ambulance Board Chair Danny Palmer emphasized that ambulances and personnel for such events would be put into service in addition to the normal staffing of the local service.

"Response for our citizens will remain un-

changed and the costs of providing the additional services for such events will not be at the expense of taxpayers but will be covered by fees charged based on the agreement with event organizers," Palmer stated.

Palmer said such an

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High voter turnout for General Election

By Dennis K. Brown

The majority of Lewis County's eligible voters turned out for last Tuesday's General Election.

Of the eligible voters in the county, 5,754, or 57.2 percent, turned out to cast their ballots at vote centers or participated in early voting.

There will be two new faces on Vanceburg City Council.

John Grabill and Richard Walje will be joining Kathy McCann, Nichole Cantu, Angie Patton and Joni Pugh on the city's governing board.

Eleven candidates were in the race for the six seats with only one vote separating the sixth and seventh highest vote-getters.

Donald Trump carried the county in the presidential race with 87.3 percent of the vote with Kamala Harris receiving 11.6 percent.

Trump also carried Kentucky with 64.5 percent with Harris receiving 33.8 percent.

Lewis County voters said yes to Constitutional Amendment 1 and no to Constitutional Amend-



HERALD County Attorney Benjamin Harrison reads voting center results.

ment 2, mirroring statewide results on the questions.

Lewis County voters also approved the medical cannabis question with 57 percent in favor.

You can find county results on the back page of this week's edition of THE HERALD.

Follow the QR code for an unofficial Lewis County individual pre-cinct returns or visit <https://lewiscountyherald.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/Lewis-Precinct-Unofficial-Report.pdf>.



Elden Riffe honored for service

By Dennis K. Brown

Lewis County's Elden Riffe was honored last week at Maysville Community and Technical College for his service to the nation and his community.

Friday's Star Spangled Celebration at MCTC was a two-hour patriotic salute to veterans with Cincinnati TV personality Bob Herzog hosting.

Judge Executive George Sparks presented Riffe a proclamation in honor of his service during the event:

IN HONOR OF ELDEN RIFFE IN RECOGNITION OF HIS LIFETIME OF ACHIEVEMENTS

To all To Whom These Presents Shall Come:

Whereas, Elden Riffe served in the US Army from 1963-1989; and

Whereas, Elden Riffe served two tours of duty in Vietnam and three years in Frankfurt, Germany; and

Whereas, Elden Riffe earned a Purple Heart in Vietnam and multiple Bronze Stars throughout his time served; and

Whereas, Elden Riffe went back into battle even after earning a Purple Heart; and

Whereas, Elden Riffe, after serving two tours, stated he would have gone to Vietnam a third time because of what he learned while he served; and

Whereas, Elden Riffe earned the rank of Sgt. Major, the highest enlisted rank in the US Army; and

Whereas, Elden Riffe served as Senior Army Instructor for the LCHS

JROTC from 1989-2006; and

Whereas, Elden Riffe served with the Lewis County Sheriff's Department as Chief Deputy under Sheriff Bill Lewis for 10 years; and

Whereas, Elden Riffe has been involved in the Garrison Rough Riders Saddle Club since 1986, having served as treasurer and is still an active member to this day.

Now therefore, I, George Sparks, Lewis County Judge/Executive, do hereby proclaim and declare pride and appreciation of all Lewis Countians for the hard work, commitment, and dedication of Elden Riffe on this occasion of his well-earned recognition for service to his country and the citizens of Lewis

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Snap Benefits can be replaced

By Tom Latek Kentucky Today

The US Department of Agriculture (USDA) has announced that households in 15 Kentucky counties, including Lewis County, impacted by Hurricane Helene could be eligible for replacement of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits.

This is one of many recent steps the USDA says they have taken to ensure those who were impacted by Hurricane Helene in

need have food to eat.

Rather than require SNAP households to report food losses by applying individually, the USDA is allowing the state of Kentucky to approve automatic mass replacements for residents of certain counties and zip codes who lost food because of the hurricane.

The USDA is authorizing the mass replacement of 60 percent of regular SNAP benefits for households that were issued in the calendar month prior

to September 26, 2024, in the following 15 counties: Anderson, Bath, Boyd, Bracken, Estill, Green, Greenup, Lee, Leslie, Lewis, Menifee, Owsley, Powell, Robertson, and Rowan counties.

SNAP recipients residing in other affected areas beside the 15 counties covered by this action, may also request replacement benefits, but they will have to file an affidavit with the local office attesting to their disaster-related loss.

More details on SNAP benefits replacement will be made available through the website of the Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services.



Kim Sparks/LEWIS COUNTY HERALD

Elden Riffe (left) was honored for his contributions to country and community during an event honoring veterans at MCTC. Judge Executive George Sparks (right) presented Riffe with a proclamation in his honor.

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