

THE PIONEER NEWS

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Calendar option may be later start

By THOMAS J. BARR
THE PIONEER NEWS

SHEPHERDSVILLE — When the calendar committee for the Bullitt County Public Schools gets together to discuss plans for 2025-26, members will have a new option to consider.

And for those who talk about when they were chil-

dren and didn't start school until the end of the Kentucky State Fair, this new option might sound appealing.

Steve Smallwood, director of pupil personnel, and superintendent Dr. Jesse Bacon outlined some of the details on an option which received approval from the state legislature several years ago.

The variable calendar will be one of three options the

committee will consider and what the public will have a chance to vote for on-line in the near future.

Bacon said one of the comments often heard was that school starts too early in August. Traditionally, classes begin in the second week of August.

Smallwood said the district is not pushing for or against the variable calendar; instead,

it is being presented as an option.

Last year, the third option was for a nine-week in class, with a two-week out of class calendar. It was not the one selected.

Under the variable calendar, one requirement is that 1,062 hours of time is spent in class. Currently, districts have normally followed the 170-day requirement.

Smallwood said that if the variable calendar was selected, the district would have 165 days in session. However, the 185-day contract for personnel must be honored.

The only other requirement is that classes must start by the Monday in August closest to Aug. 28. Next fall, that would mean a start date for

see **SCHOOL**/Page A-7

Dreams of arts center back in picture

By STEPHEN THOMAS
THE PIONEER NEWS

SHEPHERDSVILLE — At a time when the arts are crucial to society, a regional group of like-minded individuals hopes other talented folks won't slack and will become involved in their efforts.

The Salt River Local Arts Collaborative (SLAC) was developed to promote artistic endeavors of all kinds. SLAC will host a free holiday art workshop on Saturday, Nov. 23, encouraging community members to gather together and share their unique talents.

Bullitt Central High School English teacher Bobbi Buchanan helped to organize SLAC, assisted by Donna Caudill and Steve Davis, co-owners of Dance with Steve and Donna. Caudill and Davis were active members of the former Bullitt County Arts Council.

SLAC's short-term goal is providing events where artists can gather and share their works and creativity, with a long-term goal in the form of an established location where events can be hosted and artworks can be bought and sold.

see **ARTS**/Page A-4

City to look at group to make plan for roadwork

By THOMAS J. BARR
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SHEPHERDSVILLE — Stating that it was probably her last term on the city council, Faith Portman said she wanted to work on some projects which has been an interest for years.

While not saying she wouldn't seek other political offices in the future, Portman said the completion of the splash pad in the Shepherdsville Park was a top priority.

Portman said she wasn't leaving office until that project is completed. She said she would work with Tom LaFollette, the public works supervisor, on the splash pad.

She also wanted to work with him on getting more benches sponsored for the park, which is in the midst of a major renovation.

see **ROADS**/Page A-4

Overdale Elementary honors the Veterans



Overdale Elementary students and staff celebrated the service and sacrifices of the veterans with a truly memorable moment.

During the program, Lance Corporal Dallas Farmer, U.S. Marines, returned home from deployment to surprise his younger brother, Austin, a fifth-grader at Overdale. This reunion was a heartwarming highlight of the event and beautifully underscored the sacrifices military families make.

Alongside this reunion, the program included moving tributes, such as a posting of colors by the North Bullitt ROTC, performances of the National Anthem and "America, the Beautiful" by the North Bullitt Band, and heartfelt songs by Overdale's 3rd and 4th graders.

Principal Tonya Holt shared, "This moment between Dallas and Austin is a powerful reminder of the sacrifices military families make and the support our community offers in return."

The event concluded with a moment of silence and Taps, followed by a reception for veterans, students, and staff.



Early Deadlines for holiday; Santa Letter deadline

A couple of special dates are approaching. All news and advertising deadlines for the Thursday, Nov. 28, edition, set for Thanksgiving Day, will be altered. Those deadlines will be at 5 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 21.

Deadlines for the Dec. 5 issue will remain

at 10 a.m. on Monday, Dec. 2.

Also, it is time for those Letters to Santa Claus.

Letters must be delivered to The Pioneer News, P.O. Box 98, Shepherdsville, or in the drop box located at our new office, located at 200 S. Buckman Street (we are in the back of the building located next to Frank E. Simon Avenue). Letters will be published on Dec. 12 or Dec. 19. But they will also be sent to the North Pole. Letters

MUST be delivered to us by November 29.

Teachers in grades K-3 are also invited to have their students write letters to Santa.

These must be EMAILED to editor@pioneernews.net no later than DEC. 5.

Please send all students in your class together in a single email. Also make sure the teacher's name, grade and school is included. These will also run on Dec. 12 and Dec. 19. And they will also be forwarded to Santa.

INSIDE

Obits.....A-3
News.....A-4
Church Page.....A-5
Classifieds.....B-5,6,7
Sports.....B-1,3,8
Legal Notices.....B-6,7

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