

Out

-n-

About

By Dennis Prater

We are less than a week away from the 2024 Presidential Election and hopefully less than a week away from a winner being declared. It seems as though with all of the advancements that we have had throughout the years with technology that we would have a winner declared shortly after all of the polls close. But it seems as though we have been trending in the exact opposite direction with some elections in recent years taking days and weeks to be decided.

Regardless, get out and VOTE! Let your voice be heard! I still think there should be some kind of law that prevents people that don't exercise their right to vote from complaining about what elected officials are doing or not doing when they didn't bother to cast a ballot either way. Just my humble opinion.

\*\*\*\*\*

A poor gentleman was in the hospital for a series of medical tests, the last of which had left his bodily systems extremely upset. Upon making several false alarm trips to the bathroom, he decided the latest episode was another and stayed put. He suddenly filled his bed with diarrhea and was so embarrassed beyond his ability to remain rational.

In a complete loss of composure, he jumped out of bed, gathered up the bed sheets, and threw them out the hospital window.

A drunk guy was walking by the hospital when the sheets landed on him. He started yelling, cursing, and swinging his arms violently trying to get the unknown things off, and ended up with the soiled sheets in a tangled pile at his feet.

As the drunk guy stood there, unsteady on his feet, staring down at the sheets, a police officer, barely containing his laughter, and who had watched the whole incident, walked up and asked, "What the heck is going on here?"

The drunk guy, still staring down replied: 'I think I just beat the crap out of a ghost.'

\*\*\*\*\*

Leena was tired of her husband coming home drunk every night and decided to scare him straight. One night, she put on a devil costume and hid behind a tree and waited on her husband to come home. When he walked by, she jumped out and stood before him with her red horns, long tail and pitchfork.

"Who are you?" he slurred.

"I'm the devil," she answered.

"Well come on in the house," he said. "Your sister will be glad to see you."

\*\*\*\*\*

If you haven't had a chance to watch the Kentucky Wildcat men's basketball team in action during their two pre-season exhibition games you have missed a treat. Obviously, the competition during those games was less than stellar but the shooting, defensive hustle, execution and most importantly, the heart, can definitely be seen in this team.

In the next couple weeks, the competition will pick up and we should get a better gauge on what to expect this season. But if these early warm-ups are any indication, expect to see a style of play that is eerily similar to Kentucky teams of the early 90's!

\*\*\*\*\*

ON THIS DATE IN HISTORY

On October 31, 834, the first All Hallows Eve (Halloween) is observed to honor the saints.

On October 31, 1864, Nevada admitted as the 36th state.

On October 31, 1941, Mount Rushmore is completed.

On October 31, 2006, Bob Barker retires after 35 years as host of The Price is Right.

\*\*\*\*\*

Please send any comments, jokes, rants, raves, and anything else that comes to mind to: P.O. Box 1445, Salyersville, KY 41465 or [thistownthatworld@yahoo.com](mailto:thistownthatworld@yahoo.com).

SIZEMORE

From Pg. A1

day.”

“I had a good time playing music and building my law practice, and I’m not sure what’s in front of me, but I’m enjoying a much simpler and slower life right now,” Sizemore said. “There’s enough time in my life for another act, but it’s not up to me.”

Which is a theme through his life, with Sizemore noting, “I’ve had an interesting life, but I can’t take much credit for it. You have to do the best with life where you are.”

Sizemore said he never could “engineer” anything, explaining the best things in his life happened when he would take his hands off the wheel and let it happen.

One of his favorite music projects he did was his first album with Rounder Records, “Good News,” which he said they recorded mostly live and was produced by the great Buddy Cannon, remembering he stipulated he wanted to write the songs at home, doing it just be doing something, but Rounder Records heard the tape and wanted to release it.

“One minute I’m sitting in my law office, and the next I’ve got a band, buses and a record deal,” Sizemore said. “It just kind of happened.”

“Songwriting is the most fascinating aspect of this business and I’ve been really fortunate to have Paul Craft and Tom T. Hall as my mentors,” Sizemore said.

Another one of his “it just kind of happened” moments occurred when he decided to have his album release party on Puncheon Creek, which ended up being what he considers the highlight of his career.

He was releasing an album of Tom T. Hall songs, called “The Story Is...The Songs of Tom T. Hall,” in 2002, and he had been off the road for a few years, so when the record company started trying to plan the party, he said he only agreed to it if he could pick where it was held. He wanted to have it at Tom Whitaker’s cabin at the head of Puncheon Creek.

“I figured we’d go up there, just a few people, play the record – that’s what I had in my mind,” Sizemore said. “Dixie Hall, Tom T.’s wife started

inviting people and all the sudden you could not get on Puncheon. It was the highlight of my career. Not the Lincoln Center in New York. Not the Grand Ole Opry. Tom Whitaker’s cabin at the head of Puncheon Creek doing Tom T. songs, and being right there on Puncheon Creek with people I grew up with. That’s about as good as it gets.”

As for being inducted into the Hall of Fame, Sizemore is nothing if not humble.

“This area and this county have a reputation for producing musicians and we’re accustomed to being around really good musicians,” Sizemore said. “I don’t have any special talents they didn’t have, but the cards turned out differently for me. I know people who may never be on a big stage, but they are first-rate musicians. We have Terry Miller, and Jackie Williams on banjo. Larry Minix, on Oakley, on guitar. I didn’t feel special around here. Being able to play and sing doesn’t make you special – it makes you normal.”

“I was shocked,” Sizemore said of hearing he was to be inducted into the Kentucky Music Hall of Fame, remembering he received a text from Danny Risner, who was at the Exile show at the MAC when they announced the inductees.

“He sent me a text saying, ‘congratulations,’ and I wrote back ‘what are you talking about,’” Sizemore laughed. “I was shocked and I still am. I could find people more deserving, but I appreciate it and I’m glad they thought of me. Kentucky is not an easy place to stand out with musical talent. I’m really lucky to be here along with such truly great names, like Gary Stewart.”

While Sizemore wasn’t able to attend the ceremony on Saturday, his son, Patrick, stood in for him, accepting the award in his honor.

TEK

From Pg. A1

40% increase in enrollment this year over last year and we had a 65% graduation rate last year. Twenty of the 27 graduates are currently working, so I would call that a successful operation. This year we have added a couple other pathways. We added masonry and welding to what we offer, and we have probably 56 students enrolled this year. We are currently already issuing core and level 1 certifications.”

Even more impressive, the education is covered by many different scholarship opportunities, making it free – if not mostly free – for most students.

“For our students, if you are eligible for WIO, which is the Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act, most students around here can do so, but we do offer those scholarships in partnership with EKCEP and Big Sandy Community Action, that they will cover \$7,000 of the \$10,000 tuition,” Reynolds said.

While the Gifford Industrial Park location will not be ready for a couple of years, Reynolds said they’re ready to make the move here sooner than that.

“At the 2024 SOAR Summit, we were awarded \$3.18 million through the Abandoned Mine Land Economic Revitalization Grant, it will allow us to do site development, engineering, design and administration phase of this project to build a 30,000 square foot campus at the Gifford Road Industrial Park.”

While they hope to hit the ground running in Magoffin, planning to expand their curriculum to carpentry and HVAC, Reynolds said they are looking to expand to more programs as soon as possible.

“We know Magoffin County is a trade county,” Reynolds said. “There’s a lot of union workers here, and a lot of the trades we’re offering at TEK Center leads directly into those unionized jobs.”

She said their programs can help students who may not be suited to college.

“Now is the time for those students who work with their hands and maybe aren’t traditional college students to take a look at the TEK Center and see if we can’t help you get into a career within a year’s time that you can viably sustain your family no matter where you are, whether it’s in Eastern Kentucky, across the state of Kentucky, or anywhere in the U.S.”

No matter which pathway chosen, the tuition is \$10,000, but they have partners that cover 70% of that, and then other partners that will cover additional costs, potentially covering 100% of the costs.

Judge Wireman said they are ready to proceed with filling up the industrial park.

“We got an Abandoned Mine Lands Grant in September ’22,” Wireman explained. “It had to go through a vetting process, and that’s required on all AMLER grants and that makes sure it’s ready to go. That process took longer than I was expecting, almost a year. Once we got that last fall, we have to get through

the request for proposal process to get an engineering firm to do the design work. After a couple of tries doing the proper advertising and all that, we finally have an engineering firm on board. The design work is in progress. Basically, what that’s going to do is allow us to bid this project out, along with Big Sandy ADD, and the project is going to run gravity-feed sewer along the perimeter of the industrial park, do soil sampling and testing to meet all the geo-tech standards, and then it will have preparations for a 50,000 square foot facility. What we’re looking at with the TEK Center, we have one possible tenant for the middle track. Five acres on each end is already sold, one to Emerald Energy, and one to TEK Center. The group that’s looking at the middle track needs about 25,000 square feet. TEK Center needs about 25-30,000, so in the design phase we’re looking at splitting up that 50,000 track and this will expedite the TEK Center building their school.”

Emerald Energy has their design phase ready to go whenever the sewer and soil testing completed.

Reynolds and Wireman also talked about relocating TEK Center’s operations to Magoffin County sooner, with Reynolds looking at the community center as a temporary headquarters while the industrial park site is built.

More information about TEK Center can be found at <https://www.tekcenterky.org/> and on social media.

Salyersville

Independent

MORTIMER MEDIA GROUP, LLC

Salyersville, KY

(606) 349-2915, 349-7090

USPS PERMIT NUMBER: 944-240

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to P.O. Box 29, Salyersville, KY 41465. Periodicals postage paid at Salyersville, KY post office. Published every Thursday by the Salyersville Independent, 15 East Maple Street, Salyersville, KY, and printed by Charleston Gazette in Charleston, WV.

USPS PERMIT NUMBER: 944-240

RITT MORTIMER, Publisher

HEATHER ONEY, Editor

heather@salyersvilleindependent.com

VANESSA CASTLE, Advertising

vanessa@salyersvilleindependent.com

JERRUD ADAMS, Composing

jerrud@salyersvilleindependent.com

Yearly Subscription Rates

In Magoffin: \$27

Out of Magoffin: \$35

Mail your check to

P.O. Box 29

Salyersville, KY 41465

Pay with a credit card over the phone

606-349-2915

We accept all major credit cards.

The publisher and editor reserve the right to edit and/or omit items submitted for publication.

COMMUNITY NOTES

MAGOFFIN CO. EXTENSION OFFICE

The Magoffin County Extension Office will be closed Tuesday, November 5, 2024, for the Presidential Election.

Crochet Club:

Wednesday, November 6th, 10 AM, Extension Office

Lunch and Learn

“Understanding Suicide” Thursday, November 7th, noon, Extension Office

WATER INTO WINE FOOD PANTRY

NOVEMBER PANTRY DATES:

REGULAR PANTRY (TFAP)

Wednesday, November 6

9:00-11:00

Wednesday, November 20

9:00-11:00

SENIOR COMMODITIES (CSFP)

Thursday, November 21

9:00-11:00

\*\*\*Clients on the Main Commodity list that fail to pick up their Commodity box 3 months in a row ARE TAKEN OFF THE

MAIN COMMODITY LIST!!

\*\*\*Please have your pantry card with you, it makes the line go much faster.

\*\*\*Pantry can be cancelled for any unforeseen reason!!

Send your Community Notes to [heather@salyersvilleindependent.com](mailto:heather@salyersvilleindependent.com)

--

Thank you for reading the SI!

--

Guidelines for Community Notes:

The community notes section of the newspaper is for FREE Community activities or announcements. Yard sales, bake sales, and any events that charge admission, a fee, sell concessions or other items are considered advertising and will not be listed in the Community Notes section for free. Non-profit organizations can contact our Ad Rep., Vanessa Castle, for non-profit advertising rates at 606-496-5959.