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CRUISER DONATED TO HIGH SCHOOL'S LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY PROGRAM

By **HEATHER ONEY**
Editor

SALYERSVILLE – On Monday the Magoffin County Sheriff Department donated a retired patrol car to the Magoffin County High School's law and public safety program.

Sheriff Bill Meade had conversations with Superintendent Chris Meadows and the Law and Public Safety Program instructor Jim Burke about having a couple of vehicles they were thinking about auctioning off, but decided the Dodge Charger would be a good fit for the school and they would like to donate it to the school.

"We certainly like to partner with our school system as much as we can," Sheriff Meade said. "We're tickled to death they have this program going. Tim and I know Jim Burke from some years back, and we're confident he's going to do an

excellent job with this class. I hope we can produce some future law enforcement officers out of this program and just anything we can do for the schools we certainly want to do it."

Jim Burke, the new law and public safety teacher for the high school, told Mortimer Media he has been a police officer for 30 years all over the state of Kentucky.

"The program we have here is law and public safety and we teach anything from introduction to law enforcement to criminal investigations and anything in between," Burke said. "We have also corrections and emergency management courses, as well. I hope in the future I can get all of these kids certified in career tech that way when they leave here, they're ready to go work somewhere. Most of

See **CRUISER** | Pg. **A2**

MORE INDICTMENTS RELEASED

By **HEATHER ONEY**
Editor

SALYERSVILLE – A Magoffin County grand jury released two new indictments this past week, with a third released from 2017 since the defendant has now been served.

Brian C. Perkins, 40, of Kel Patton Road, in Salyersville, was indicted on November 7 on the charge of first-degree burglary (Class B felony); and two counts of second-degree assault (Class C felony). According to the indictment, on or about March 17, 2024, Perkins allegedly knowingly entered or remained unlawfully in a building belonging to another person, and participated in a crime during that time, as well as caused serious physical injury to two other people.

James D. Alley, 64, of McDowell, is charged with two counts of first-degree trafficking in a controlled substance, first offense, greater than or equal to 10 dosage units of a drug unspecified (Class C felonies); first-degree trafficking in a controlled substance, first offense, greater than or equal to 10 dosage units of opiates (Class C felony); and prescription controlled substance not in proper container, first offense (Class B misdemeanor). According to the indictment, on or about September 30, 2024, Alley allegedly possessed a quantities of oxymorphone, gabapentin and oxycodone with the intent to distribute, as well as possessed a controlled substance he was prescribed in a container in which it was delivered to him.

Melissa Goodman, 44, of Paint Lick, was indicted on February 2,

See **INDICT** | Pg. **A2**

CITY COUNCIL MEETING GETS HEATED

By **HEATHER ONEY**
Editor

Former SWW superintendent questions if the \$7 fee on water bills is legal

SALYERSVILLE – The Salyersville City Council met in regular session on Monday, November 18, discussing with a community member multiple concerns regarding Salyersville Water Works, as well as the speed limit at the lower end of town.

Mayor Stanley Howard said he had authorized a camera run in sewer lines in two homes where there were blockages in residents' basements, so they could identify where the blockages were occurring, which were several feet under the floor and/or basement (on those people's properties, not on the city's line), noting those are issues he is seeing on social media.

David Gardner, a former superintendent of Salyersville Water Works, addressed the council, commending City Clerk Karen Howard for complying with his recent open

records request.

He asked the council if there's any solution possible to enforce the speed limit on the west end of town where the speed limit is 25 MPH from the bottom of the hill on Ivy Point and into the downtown area of Salyersville, noting there's been many accidents there, but some small children live in that area and he's seen many wrecks and almost wrecks in that area. Mayor Howard said he would have city police patrol that area. Other council members suggested a caution light there.



Gardner also asked about raises and vacation time, as well as purchases made, without authority at the Salyersville Water Works, and Mayor Howard said those issues have been addressed. He said the personnels' pay in question were getting paid more than when he was superintendent,

though he says the city told him no raises have been approved by the governing body. Howard said the issue is under investigation.

Gardner said on social media last month and the newspaper article there was a flurry of talk going around about Water Works' electric bills, noting that the bills eluding to 2022, which was when he was superintendent. He said that, from what he can remembers, they were two months in arrears, and by his calculations he figures they have paid \$350,000-400,000 in electric bills since he resigned. And of those bills paid, he asked if the city has paid any of the 2022 bills, which they affirmed some had. He alleged that the loan they are taking out to pay up the Kentucky Power bill for Water Works then will not be any bills from 2022, but City Clerk Karen Howard said

See **CITY** | Pg. **A3**







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