

MARCH

from FRONT

the academic teams of Adair County High School, Adair County Middle School and Adair County Elementary School (and virtual students) in Columbia and in Adair County,

Whereas these teams and individuals have brought recognition to our local community,

Whereas we want to recognize the schools, the teachers, the academic instructors and coaches and the students,

Therefore the month of March 2025 has been proclaimed as Academic

Recognition month in Columbia Kentucky.”

Mayor Hoots also presented awards to the students of the teams at each of their respective schools. Awardees included the following students:

Fourth grade – Luke Collins, Brody Coffey, Londyn Bernard, Kayleigh Peterson–Stapp, Asher Kemp, Susan Sclabach, Hyson Blair, Sawyer Padgett, Braxton Turner, Gabby Held and Piper Renfro.

Fifth grade – Clara Kotter, Jaxon Stephens, Owen Collins, Cash Hare, Catalan

Fugate, Rory Kleckler and Warren Willis

Sixth grade – Gabe Erickson

Seventh grade – Ricardo Cantoran–Antle, Dustin story, Jackson Rexroat and Kylie Thorpe

Eighth grade – Christopher Armenti, Susie Stotts, Riley Andrew, Susie Kotter and Elaine Cook

Ninth grade – Sarah Goforth, Daria Cheng, Ayden Barnett, Alex Goodin, Sky Lambert

Tenth grade – Hannah Kotter, Ian Makransky, Madison Turner, Sophie

Eden, Skyler Huff, Kendal Burton, Rae Ritzie, Abby Wheeler and Summer

Graziano
Eleventh grade – Abby Kemp, Keeley Kerns

Twelfth grade – Bailey Watts, Andrew Zinati, Alex Perkins, Ben Kingrey



ACES Fourth and Fifth Grade students were recognized for their academic work.



Adair County Middle School award recipients were honored for their achievement.



Adair County’s high school academic team members received certificates for their academic efforts.

JESSIE

from FRONT

letter of intent to play football for Gardner–Webb University (GWU) as students, parents, faculty and others watched in celebration. Former coaches and other athletic staff spoke concerning his impact at ACHS and their hopes for his future.

After signing the letter, Easton Jessie made a statement in which he thanked his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and his family - as well as previous coaches and many others

who had supported him in years past. Jessie said. “I thank my brothers for always pushing me - making me the competitor I am today. Thank you to all my coaches . . . I am blessed to have been coached by you all. I thank my teammates for making me look good and picking me up when I needed it. I couldn’t do my job without them.”

Adair County School Superintendent Jason Faulkner spoke to Easton before the crowd, saying,

“I just enjoyed getting to be around you for this past year. You exemplify what a student athlete should be and we are extremely proud of you - extremely excited to see what you are going to do when you get into college. We have high exceptions for you - and we know you have high expectations for yourself. But I want you to know that you are always going to be an Indian. We’re always going to be here for you.”

Jeff Jessie, Easton’s

father, said that Easton was injured last fall and diagnosed with a complete tear of his ACL which was injured during a game against LaRue County. His father said that “Easton was scheduled for surgery . . . but after discussions with multiple doctors, college coaches and much prayer, Easton decided he wanted to try and finish the season before having the surgery. If you know Easton or have seen him working out daily then you know his work

ethic and determination. . . . Thanks to everyone that has reached out and especially for the prayers.”

Easton Jessie also expressed his gratitude to GWU for selecting him despite the injury. Gardner–Webb University is a private Christian university in Boiling Springs, North Carolina. It was founded as Boiling Springs High School in 1905. Gardner–Webb is classified among “Doctoral/ Professional Universities”

Over 3,000 students attend Gardner–Webb, including undergraduate, graduate, and online students. The school competes at the Division 1 FCS level, placing them in competition with teams like Murray State and Eastern Kentucky University, for instance. Gardner–Webb is a member of Ohio Valley Conference–Big South Football Association. The football team last won the conference title in 2023.

Capsized Boat Leads to Water Rescue

By Dennis Crump, Editor

On March 12 at 12:45 p.m., the Adair County 9-1-1 Center received a call concerning a boat that was sinking near the Holmes Bend Marina. The exact location of the incident and total number of souls on board the boat were not immediately known by authorities. So many area agencies responded to the scene, including Breeding

Fire Department Technical Rescue, Adair County E.M.S., Columbia Police Department, Adair County Sheriff Office, Adair County Emergency Management, Campbellville Fire Rescue, Kentucky Fish & Wildlife and the Knifley Fire Department. The Adair County Fire Department was placed on standby.

“Green River Lake is still experiencing flooding conditions,” said Brandon Harvey, Captain of the

Breeding Fire Department and Search and Rescue Coordinator. “With any water rescue, we plan for the worst and hope for the best.”

The incident occurred in the Buffalo Cliffs area of Green River Lake where two men, Michael Eakins and Mark Adams, were fishing. The fishermen spotted the partially capsized boat and a man clinging to it. They retrieved the man and attempted to bring him to the dock.

Eakins said, “We were we were fishing and we heard a crash and looked over and saw a boat wreck in the

water - and we hurried up and put all our stuff away and ran over there - and he was hanging on the boat and we rescued him.”

Mark Adams added, “We heard a crash . . . and we got over quick as I pulled him out of the water.”

But the man that was rescued reportedly did not want to return to the dock. Later, the man was spotted in the area of Holmes Bend Marina and local law enforcement personnel searched for him - but they were unable to locate him. Kentucky Fish & Wildlife is continuing the investigation.



The Adair County Search and Rescue Coordinator Brandon Harvey speaks to EMT Wayne Ray, Paramedic Jeremy Wall and Mike Keltner of the Breeding Fire Department as they prepare to embark on the rescue operation.



On Friday afternoon, rescue personnel launched their craft from the Holmes Bend boat ramp.

Week 19 - Basketball Contest Results

This week’s Adair Progress Basketball Contest have been adjudicated by our expert judges. The winners this week are as

follows:

Tony Burton of Columbia (1st place) - \$25
David Reliford (2nd

place) - a six-pack of Ski
Josh Grant (3rd place) - a Pizza Hut coupon for 1 large 1-topping pizza

We look forward to receiving more entries each week from members of the community.



Left to right: Karen Roland, Anne Bird, Darlene Campbell and Mike Watson attend Arts Council meeting.

Adair County Arts Council Holds Monthly Meeting

By Cathy Hoots Abell, Contributor

The Adair County Arts Council held their monthly meeting on March 13 at the Highland Station Gallery. After calling the meeting to order, Anne Bird, President of the Council, updated members on the status of the Regional Art Exhibit to the held at Lindsey Wilson College. According to Ms. Bird, this is now being planned for Spring 2026.

The next item on the agenda was the Adair County School Student Art Show. Ms. Bird announced that this would continue to take place at the Trabue House. Darlene Campbell provided an update on the

Writer’s Conference which is scheduled for Saturday, June 14 at the Adair County Extension Office. She asked members to send her any suggestions they have for writers that might consider reading a selection from their work.

Ms. Bird reminded those in attendance of the movie festival for the week after the Writer’s Conference.

After addressing items on the agenda, members talked about the special exhibit of Henrietta and Jeff Scott that surrounded them as they sat in the gallery.

The Adair County Arts Council meets the second Thursday of each month at 5:00 p.m. The next meeting will be April 10.

Your local news source is The Adair Progress. Let us announce your births, anniversaries, marriages, etc. for Free! 270-384-6471 Call to subscribe today!

BLESS THIS MESS TRASH PICKUP



249 PIERCY ROAD, COLUMBIA, KY 42728
270-250-2869 Brandy or Amber