



LOUISA — Winners of the Commercial 2025 Septemberfest Parade contest were: First place, Twin Rivers Wholesale; Second Place, Three Rivers Medical Center; and Third Place, Lawrence County High School FFA. Non-Commerical winners were: First Place, Lawrence County Youth Soccer; Second Place, The Asylum Haunted House of Williamsport, and Third Place, Haunted Majestic of Barboursville, WV.

REGIONAL — Don't throw away pumpkins after Halloween. Find woods or a field near you, smash them open, and leave for wildlife to eat. Pumpkin is safe for them as long as you don't use any harmful chemicals to preserve your pumpkins. Around 2 billion pumpkins are produced each year and many end up in landfills.

REGIONAL — Kentucky Power has had multiple reports of a door-to-door sales group falsely presenting themselves as representatives of AEP in Johnson and Floyd County and throughout their service area since Saturday, Sept. 6.

If you ever have questions about your account or are approached by someone claiming to be from AEP or Kentucky Power, please don't hesitate to contact us at 800-572-1113.

Stay informed about how to recognize scams and report suspicious activity by visiting our webpage <http://ms.spr.ly/6188s9Wsm>. Your safety and security are top priorities.

BOYD COUNTY — Rickie Hammond, Veterans Benefits Field Representative will be at the Boyd County Senior Citizens Building in Catlettsburg, Monday through Friday by appointment only. Veterans and their dependents will receive assistance filing for Federal and State veteran's benefits. This service is provided free of charge by the Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs. To apply, veterans need to furnish copies of pertinent documentation to verify eligibility. For an appointment, call 606-585-3833 to speak with your Veterans Benefits Field Representative.

REGIONAL — Medicare fraud and abuse is a serious crime that can affect both taxpayers and beneficiaries. Medicare fraud and abuse occurs when someone intentionally misuses a beneficiary's Medicare for their own gain.

Each year, providers, groups, and outside individuals were caught making billions of dollars by scamming innocent Medicare beneficiaries who were unaware that they were being manipulated and scammed. These schemes included fraudulent "low-cost" medical equipment sold over the phone and by social media ads, up charging for services provided and double billing beneficiaries.

Thankfully, there are ways to prevent this terrible crime. Do not trust unexpected phone calls or door-to-door visits from someone claiming to be with Medicare. Keep track of your appointments, services, and equipment. Look over charges to make sure you were not overcharged or billed for something you did not receive. Do not give your medical records or Medicare card to someone besides your healthcare provider. Report if your healthcare provider pressures you to receive a pricier service or piece of equipment- especially one you do not need.

If you feel you or someone you know has been the victim of Medicare fraud or abuse, contact your local Medicare SHIP Program or the Medicare hotline. Medicare can be reached 24/7 by calling 1-800-633-4227.

If you have questions, contact the Medicare SHIP. Your local Medicare SHIP Program is funded to provide accurate, unbiased information and to help you connect with money-saving benefits that many on Medicare are entitled to receive - such as extra help and the Medicare Savings Program! Medicare SHIP also can help

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EDITORIAL.....

By ROBERTA CANTRELL
BSN Editor

I usually try and write about upbeat, funny and non-political subjects that I know people can relate to but as I am writing this, I am saddened by a world that I'm seeing is getting farther and farther away from what we've known as our freedom of speech and religion.

I see a whole nation divided to the point human life has become dehumanized.

If you don't believe the same as others you become an object that must be thrown away like garbage, done away with, silenced, terminated however whenever just gotten rid of.

It no longer matters if it's a child, someone's parent, brother, sister just whoever it takes to prove a point is who has to be the target.

I've always heard people say we are lucky to live in a nation where we can exercise our freedoms and not be "stoned, beheaded, massacred etc." for carrying our

Bible or speaking about Christianity and being able to speak our minds and have our political views and opinions.

But now, if we don't like a political figure then let's just aim a firearm at him, if we don't like someone because they are conservative let's just aim a firearm at him, if we don't like a religious domain let's go shoot it up, we don't like someone because they think differently than we do let's go take out a school because that will show them all we mean business.

Then we find out after committed such a horrific and useless act they ended up either turning the firearm on themselves or they were among the group of people who had been hollering the loudest on peace, love and weapon control.

We are living in a very confused world where people are either unphased by everything or deeply offended



by everything.

When my daughter Kristi was killed in a car wreck my preacher Rick May who has always been someone I've trusted for advice, told me "Roberta, Kristi is safe in the arms of God, she can never be harmed or hurt again, you need to focus on the daughter that is still here in this mean old world who still needs your protection."

So that's what I do, I focus and pray for my family who are living in this crazy and mean world because we never know what's gonna be waiting for us tomorrow. God Please Bless America!

LAWRENCE COUNTY GRAND JURY HANDS DOWN 11 TRUE BILLS

By ROBERTA CANTRELL
BSN Editor

The Lawrence County Grand Jury met in regular session September 11 resulting in a total of 11 true bills.

First person to be indicted was Christopher Sons, 45, of Blaine, who was charged with 1st degree fleeing/evading, (2) counts of 1st degree wanton endangerment (police officers), operating a motor vehicle on suspended or revoked license and no tail lamps.

The indictment states that on August 9, Sons unlawfully disregarding signals and commands to stop given by Deputy Daniel Castle and Deputy Joe Osborne with the Lawrence County Sheriff's Office with the intent to flee or elude his arrest creating a substantial risk of serious physical injury or death to the officers while operating a motor vehicle on suspended license and no tail lamps.

•Gage Burris, 19, of Louisa, was charged with 1st degree fleeing/evading, speeding 26 mph over limit, reckless driving, no registration plates, failure of owner to maintain required insurance when on July 27 he committed the offense of disregarding signals and commands to stop given by Post 14 KSP Trooper Chase Coverdale with the intent to flee, avoid or elude his arrest creating a substantial risk of serious injury or death to the trooper. The indictment also states that Burris was also driving 26 MPH over the limit without due regard for the safety and convenience of pedestrians and other vehicles upon roadways without registration or insurance.

•Larry Horn JR, 57, of Inez, was charged with 1st degree bail jumping when on July 10, he/she committed the offense of unlawfully having been released from custody by the court with or without bail upon a condition that he/she will subsequently appear at a specified time and place in connection with a felony charge and failed to appear at that time and place as ordered by the court namely an arraignment hearing.

•Brian Carter, 46, of Ulysses, was charged with 1st degree bail jumping when on July 10, he/she committed the offense of unlawfully having been released from custody by the court with or without bail upon a condition that he/she will subsequently appear at a specified time and place in connection with a felony charge and failed to appear at that time and place as ordered by the court namely a report date.

•Brian Carter, (on a separate case) 46, of Ulysses, was charged with 1st degree bail jumping when on July 10, he/she committed the offense of unlawfully having been released from custody by the court with or without bail upon a condition that he/she will subsequently appear at a specified time and place in connection with a felony charge and failed to appear at that time and place as ordered by the court namely a report date.

•Sam Shepherd, 57, of Defuniak Springs, FL., was charged with theft by unlawful taking over \$10,000 but less than \$1,000,000 when on March 8 he committed the offense of unlawfully taking a 2019 Coachman brand travel trailer owned by Brad and Patricia Crites from it's location at Creekside Cabins in the Fallsburg community with the approximate value of \$12,991.

•Both Madaline Johnson, 20, of Inez and Charles Marcum, 51, of Louisa were charged with two separate charges of 1st degree trafficking in a controlled substance (complicity) when on May 30 they both acted alone or in complicity in committing the offense of trafficking in <2 grams of methamphetamine and Fentanyl. The indictment also states they were in possession of \$75 in cash monies (2) sets of digital scales and individual plastic baggies.

•Both Jeffrey Ball, 48, of Perry, OH and Christopher Cox, 39, of Huntington, WV, were charged with trafficking in a controlled substance (complicity) and trafficking in marijuana (complicity) when on July 31 they both acted alone or in complicity in committing the offense of unlawfully being in possession of 26.9 grams of methamphetamine and \$456 in cash along with less than 8 ounces of marijuana. Cox was also charged with rear license not illuminated.

•Kyle Davidson, 42, of Ashland, was charged with 2 counts of 1st degree possession of a controlled substance operating a motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol/drugs, no/expired registration receipt, failure to produce insurance card and operating on a suspended/revoked license when on May 29 he committed the offense of unlawfully being in possession of methamphetamine and fentanyl while he was impaired driving without insurance on a revoked license.

(Editor's note: An indictment is not an indication of guilt but a determination by a grand jury that criminal charges warrant further judicial review.)

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Subscription Rates (1 year)
In State - \$27 Out of State - \$37

Subscriptions include sales tax where applicable. All subscriptions payable in advance.
The Big Sandy News (USPS 055-900) is published weekly by Big Sandy Media, LLC located at 3455 HWY 2565, Louisa, KY.

Postmaster: Send address changes to the Big Sandy News, P.O. Box 766, Louisa, KY 41230-0766
Member of the Kentucky Press Association

WE ENCOURAGE LETTERS TO THE EDITOR
The deadline for letters to the editor is 5 p.m. Friday.
Send letters to:
The Big Sandy News
P.O. Box 766, Louisa, KY 41230
Every submission must be signed and must include the writer's address and telephone number.

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COMMUNITY APPRECIATION

Community Appreciation Day

Thursday, September 18, 2025 at 5:00pm

Martin County Extension would like to invite you out for our Community Appreciation Event! Come by to talk to us about the programming we have planned for you for the fall and enjoy a BBQ Dinner.

100 Dinners will be available at \$5 per plate beginning at 5pm.