



NEWS

Stamping Ground City Commission appoints ethics member **Pg. 3**



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the 1963 Civil Rights Act

prohibits discrimination

based on race, color and

national origin in pro-

grams and activities receiving federal financial

Billy Parker Jr., Scott County's superintendent

of education, said he was

initially reluctant to sign

the agreement but found it did not prohibit any

"Before signing, I con-

sulted with

our school

continuing

the impor-

current programs.



GCHS Junior Trista Keeton pilots a Cessna 172 in preparation to become a certified private pilot in August.

GCHS Warhawk takes flight

Keeton certified private pilot at 17

By Kayla Thomas Engle Georgetown News-Graphic kthomas@news-graphic.com

At 16 years old, most students are focused on getting their driver's license to operate a regular vehicle, but junior Trista Keeton is focused on a "loftier" goal: acquiring her private pilot's certificate.

Keeton's first formal flight lesson was June 6, 2023, she said. By October 2024, shortly after turning 16, Keeton was able to fly a plane solo by acquiring her student pilot certificate, well before she was able to get her restricted driver's license in February.

Though a certified student pilot well beyond the FAA requirement of 40 flight hours, Keeton has to wait until she turns 17 to receive the private pilot's certification, said Wings Georgetown and Lexington Assistant Flight Operations Manager Joshua Blackburn. By then, she'll likely have 70-plus hours of flight time.

'She's working on her private pilot's certificate, which is generally the first step that everybody goes through," Blackburn said. "Any student has to be 17 years old to. Her birthday's in late August, so that's the targeted date we have for her to be able to take her check ride."

Currently, Keeton flies a Cessna 172 with Wings Flight Training, she said, but she wants to ultimately fly professionally for an airline or privately and hopes

See **FLIGHT**, 14



DEI restriction forms signed by Scott County Schools

By Mike Scogin and McKenna Horsley Georgetown News-Graphic/The Kentucky Lantern mscogin@news-graphic.com

Scott County Schools, like most Kentucky school systems, signed an agreement to adhere to the Trump administration's new restrictions on diversity, equity, and inclusion in public schools.

Of Kentucky's 171 public school districts, only Fayette and Jefferson

Depart-

ment of

Education

The certification forms

were sent in March stat-

ing, "...any violation

of Title VI — including

the use of Diversity, Eq-

uity, & Inclusion ('DEI')

programs to advantage

one's race over another

and using "certain DEI

federal law." Title VI of

is impermissible"

practices can violate

'After thorough county schools, did review, it was clear not sign a U.S. Dethat the form did partment of Education not prevent us form to certify complifrom continuing ance with the Trump the important administration's work we are interpretation of civil already doing in rights, according to our district. documents from the Kentucky

Billy Parker Superintendent

board attorney to ensure that the form would not restrict or alter any of our current practices or commitments," Parker said. "After thorough review, it was clear that the form did not prevent us from

tant work we are already doing in our district. While I did not agree with the way this new requirement was rolled out, my priority was to protect our district's funding and avoid any unnecessary risk to our students and staff.

See DEI, 14

Local Civil Air Patrol cadets collect data for NASA

From Staff Reports Georgetown News-Graphic

Civil Air Patrol (CAP) is assisting on a project with NASA by collecting data to better understand "high-altitude humidity and its impact on contrail formation and aviation safety," according to 1st Lt Michelle Roberts and a press release provided by CAP.

Saturday, May 10, CAP gathered data while in Brooking Park.

"Building on success and lessons learned during the 2023 and 2024

NASA Solar Eclipse Missions, CAP is again gathering important data for NASA," states the press release. "CAP members have been tasked with obtaining ground-based observations, which will be paired with satellite imagery from NASA's GEO and NOAA-20 weather satellites. This will provide a unique perspective on atmospheric conditions."

This experience provides hands-on experience, according to the release.

"The 2025 Aviation Weather Mission is an incredible opportunity for Civil Air Patrol members to contribute to real-world scientific research while deepening their understanding of aerospace science," said Capt. Shannon

Babb, mission director. "This mission strengthens our partnership with NASA and inspires the next generation of

aviators and scientists. "By engaging in hands-on data collection, our cadets and senior members directly

support advancements in aviation safety and weather research. It's an exciting time for CAP and aerospace educa-

tion's future." CAP is committed to aerospace education, states the release.

"It is an honor to support our community, state, and nation in any capacity," Roberts said. "This mission shows our members that their training and aerospace education knowledge contributes to missions on a scale much larger than our local area."



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Cadet Senior Airman Tobias Hemenway (right) records data while Cadet Staff Sergeant Brayden Cain relays the information.

Coming up: Property Transfers Friday



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