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# Harlan Enterprise

Issue 18, Volume 126

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WEDNESDAY, MAY 7, 2025 • \$1

## Harlan County Schools chooses next superintendent

**BY JOE ASHER**  
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The Harlan County Schools Board of Education named Brett Johnson as the next Superintendent of Schools during a recent meeting.

Board Chairman Gary Farmer called the meeting to order.

"The next item on the agenda is conducting interviews for the superintendent vacancy,"

Farmer said. "We couldn't talk him (current Superintendent Brent Roark) into staying, and it was tried several times."

Farmer then called for an executive session for the board to conduct interviews. Following the executive session, Farmer called the meeting back to order.

"We interviewed three candidates," Farmer said. "They all gave great presentations. After careful consideration by the

board, the board has decided to offer the position to Mr. Brett Johnson."

Farmer told the board Johnson accepted the position of superintendent.

"The position will be effective July, 1," Farmer said. "Mr. Johnson is our 19th superintendent."

"I want to thank each and every one of you for the opportunity," Johnson told the board.

"It's an honor and a privilege. I've been blessed since I started over 23 years ago to have tremendous leadership, and I've also been blessed the last five years to serve with Mr. Roark as assistant superintendent. Mr. Roark is an exceptional leader, and I understand fully that I've got some big shoes to fill. I look forward to the opportunity."



See **SUPER**, on 2 **Brett Johnson (Photo submitted)**



Harlan County Judge-Executive Dan Mosley (center) along with KY State Senator Scott Madon (left) and Harlan County Magistrate James Howard (right) gave a press conference on Friday to address an extended water outage in the Black Mountain Utility District (Photo by Joe Asher)

## Mosley provides update on BMUD water outage

**BY JOE ASHER**  
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Harlan County Judge-Executive Dan Mosley provided an update on Sunday, May 4, to provide new information on the continuing water outage in the Black Mountain Utility District. As of this writing on Monday, May 5, the situation is still ongoing in District 5 of Harlan County.

Crews from multiple agencies have been dealing with a prolonged water outage that has affected communities including Dayhoit, Tremont, Fresh Meadows, Happy Top, Wallins Creek,

Coldiron, and Molus.

"I want to begin the update for the BMUD water outage that has been impacting customers in the District 5 area with an apology," Mosley said on Sunday, April 4. "Things did not go as intended yesterday evening."

Mosley explained water service was expected to be restored by Sunday, but this did not occur.

"Yesterday (Saturday, May 3) at 4 p.m., I shared the news that a major break had been fixed along US 119 at Fresh Meadows and the water was flowing toward the Wallins area," Mosley said. "I returned to the Wallins area that evening,

and the pump station on Daniel's Mountain was building pressure."

Mosley stated the pressure at the pump station dropped to 0 at 10 p.m. on Saturday and no water was coming into the station at that point. Crews then found a large volume of water leaking from a valve between Tremont and Sawbrier near US 119. That was repaired by 1 a.m. Sunday. However, at 2:30 a.m., the pressure dropped again, and water ceased to flow.

"They knew then a new break had occurred," Mosley said.

See **WATER**, on 2

## Grow in Grace offers vegetables, flowers and more

**BY JOE ASHER**  
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Harlan County has a new option for folks looking to grow vegetables, flowers, and other such things with Grow in Grace, a greenhouse located on KY 2425, open for business.

The Harlan County Chamber of Commerce celebrated the new addition to the business community with a ribbon cutting on Wednesday, April 30.

Owner Tammy Boggs shed some light on the greenhouse-based operation.

"I've got vegetables, any type of flowers, hanging baskets, and if you need anything extra I can get it," Boggs said. "I'm going to be getting herbs in too, because everybody is asking for herbs."

According to Boggs, basil and spearmint will be stocked along with other popular herbs.

Grow in Grace has come together relatively quickly.

See **GROW**, on 2

## KSP Post 10, Harlan, welcomes 4 new Troopers

**SPECIAL TO THE ENTERPRISE**

The Kentucky State Police (KSP) announced the graduation of 33 cadets from the KSP Training Academy. These troopers will begin their new public safety careers in communities throughout the commonwealth. Four of the graduates will be serving at KSP Post 10.

KSP Post 10 Captain Danny Caudill is excited to welcome new troopers to Harlan. Captain Caudill said, "I am excited to have four new troopers from KSP Cadet Class 105 reporting to Post 10. The addition of these four troopers aid us to better serve the citizens we serve."

See **TROOPERS**, on 2

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**"In the mountains, storytelling is truly an art form, and as much recreation as communication."**

— Maxine Cheshire

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