



THE LEWIS COUNTY HERALD

75¢ Volume 102 The Only Newspaper Published in Lewis County Vanceburg, Kentucky Phone 606-796-2331 TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2025 NUMBER 2025-08



Dennis Brown/LEWIS COUNTY HERALD

First responders mobilized last week to assist a woman who became stranded on her vehicle on Quicks Run Road after she drove into water covering the roadway. Several departments and individuals assisted in the effort. The woman was not seriously hurt but was taken to the hospital as a precautionary measure.

Woman rescued after driving into flood water

By Dennis K. Brown cue boat over Carrs Hill Road and launched it from that side to reach the victim and bring her to a waiting ambulance. She was taken to Meadowview Regional Medical Center in Maysville by Lewis County EMS as a precautionary measure. She had reportedly been in the water for more than an hour.

A nearby resident called to report a woman stranded on top of a vehicle in the water south of KY 8 where backwater from the river generally covers a low area.

A sign near where the Ford pick-up was stranded indicated water on the roadway at nearly five-feet deep. The truck had traveled off the roadway and into the ditch where it was much deeper.

Lewis County Dispatch received the call about 3:15 p.m. Tuesday and dispatched first responders to the area of 776 Quicks Run Road.

Rescuers arriving from the KY 8 side of the area could not see the victim while those arriving from the Carrs Hill side could see the victim on the nearly completely submerged vehicle more than 100 yards from the edge of the water on the roadway. Rescuers brought a res-

Lewis County Fire and Rescue, Lewis County Sheriff's Deputies, Lewis County Emergency Management, and Lewis County EMS responded to assist in the rescue. Others, including members of Vanceburg Fire and Rescue and Garrison Fire and Rescue, assisted in helping rescuers complete the task.

Gov. Andy Beshear announced Saturday the death toll from the severe weather event has risen to 21.

"I'm sad to share the number of those lost to the weather this week has grown to 21, with the most recent a man in Logan County," Gov. Beshear announced Saturday. "These are our fellow Kentuckians, each

Please see page 3

Spring wildfire hazard season is here

Herald Report

State law prohibits burning between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. in or within 150 feet of any woodland or brushland through April 15.

"March and April are typically high wildfire occurrence months and we encourage everyone to please exercise caution and consider all factors to help maximize the safety of our neighbors, their homes and our forestlands," Gov. Andy Beshear said in announcing the twice-annual

burning restriction. "The National Integrated Drought Monitor System shows 22 percent of Kentucky is still abnormally dry, mostly in the south-central part of the state and a small part of northeast Kentucky. As we have seen the last few days, leaves and fuel on the ground quickly dry when weather turns sunny and windy," said Division of Forestry Director/State Forester Brandon Howard.

"We have responded to several wildfires since the first of February. We ask

that if debris burning occurs, take proper precautions to prevent fires from escaping and becoming wildfires, and report any suspected arson activity to local law enforcement or the target arson hotline," he said.

KDF responds to more than 1,000 wildfires annually across the state. Partners such as the Daniel Boone National Forest and local fire departments also respond to several wildfires.

Ninety-nine percent of all wildland fires in Kentucky are caused by hu-

mans. Many are accidental like unmonitored debris burning, campfires and sparks from farm equipment. Nearly 60 percent are caused by arson.

Forestry officials say public efforts can go a long way in reducing the

Please see page 3

State Legislators: HB 368 will harm communities and newspapers

By Jane Ashley Pace, Publisher, Oldham Era and Henry County Local; KPA Past President

Every county in Kentucky has one local business that has been there longer than any other, most more than a century - while some are even closing in on two centuries. In many of these counties, that business is their local newspaper.

I manage two of those local newspapers. The Oldham Era has been in operation for 149 years and is looking forward to celebrating our 150th next year. The Henry County Local has been publishing 168 proud years and counting. I also assist regionally with 13 other area newspapers with similar tenures.

Newspapers are the heartbeat of every community in Kentucky. We

exist to inform, to raise awareness, to build community, to be the voice of those that can't always speak for themselves, to cover local government and hold local officials accountable, to help local businesses grow, to enact change, to celebrate achievements and to archive our community's history.

Our founding fathers felt so strongly about the importance of newspapers and the role we play in communities that we are the only profession explicitly named in the Constitution of the United States of America.

There are three ways in which newspapers have effectively carried out some of our most important roles - covering local government, keeping officials accountable, keeping citizens informed and

helping transparency exist: public notices, open meetings and open records.

Without these three in place, knowing how your tax dollars are being spent, what bids are available and being rewarded, what decisions your elected officials are making for you, when meetings are being held and what new ordinances are being considered would not be as easily accessible.

There is currently a bill, HB368, that seeks to remove legal notices from newspapers and place them on government websites. Websites that are run by the government themselves. What could possibly go wrong with that?

When a legal ad is placed in a newspaper, it

Please see page 3

Tornado drill scheduled for March 5

Herald Report

The 2025 annual Kentucky Statewide Tornado Drill is planned for Wednesday, March 5, at 10:07 a.m. as part of Kentucky's Severe Weather Awareness Week activities.

Lewis County Emergency Management Director Dennis Brown said during the drill, the National Weather Service (NWS), in partnership with Kentucky Emergency Management (KYEM), the Kentucky Weather Preparedness Committee (KWPC), and Kentucky Broadcasters Association, will issue a test tornado warning message.

This will activate weather alert radios, outdoor warning sirens will sound, and many television and radio stations will broadcast the alert, giving everyone the opportunity to practice tornado safety.

This year, the tornado drill will activate the Emergency Alert System (EAS), including messaging over NOAA Weather Radio, local television and radio stations, and cable override.

While the drill will not set off Wireless Emergency Alerts on your mobile phone, if you have a third-party weather app, the alarm function may be triggered.

Lewis County Alerts will be participating and, if adverse weather is not in the area, a test will be sent utilizing the local alert system for those who have signed up to receive the alerts.

If severe weather is forecast for the test time, the drill will be postponed to a fair-weather day.

Emergency management officials have these suggestions:

• Have a family tornado plan in place and practice a family tornado drill at

least once a year.

• Have a pre-determined place to meet after a disaster.

• Learn the signs of a tornado: dark, greenish sky; large hail; dark, low clouds; and loud roaring sounds.

• When a tornado watch is issued, increase your situational awareness by monitoring the weather on weather.gov, watching local TV, or listening to NOAA Weather Radio.

• Flying debris is the greatest danger in tornadoes, so store protective coverings such as a mattress, sleeping bags, thick blankets, etc., at or near your shelter space, ready to use on a few seconds' notice.

• Put as many walls and floors between you and the tornado as possible.

• If you are in a mobile home, get out. Go to a neighbors, underground shelter, or a nearby per-

Please see page 3

Bivens warns of scam calls

By Dennis K. Brown

Sheriff Johnny Bivens is warning area residents of a phone scam operating in the area.

Bivens said his office has received several reports of a scam involving a male caller claiming to be with the department.

He said the caller alleges that the local resident has an outstanding

warrant and demands payment of a fine.

The caller says you must pay the fine to avoid being taken into custody.

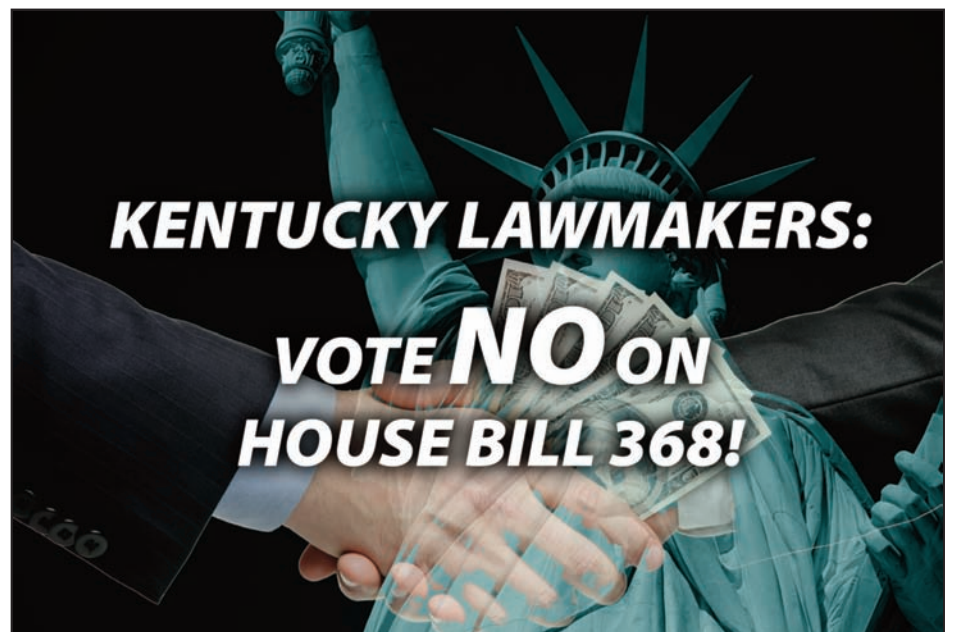
Bivens said the Lewis County Sheriff's Office will not call to inform you of a warrant or ask for payment over the phone.

If you receive a call like this, do not provide any personal or financial in-

formation.

Instead, hang up immediately and contact the Lewis County Sheriff's Office at 606-796-2912 to report the scam and verify the authenticity of the call.

He said if something seems suspicious, trust your instincts and take steps to protect yourself.



The Lewis County Herald

House Bill 368 seeks to remove legal notices from newspapers and place them on government websites. When a legal ad is placed in a newspaper now, it is dated and cannot be changed after the fact. It is also placed on a website managed by the Kentucky Press Association where all legal notices in Kentucky can be found easily - www.kypublicnotices.com.

75¢	Index	Inserts	Obituaries	©2025 LEWIS COUNTY HERALD PUBLISHING CO., INC.
	Classifieds 7	Save-A-Lot	Darrel Edington	
98304 11052 4	Court News 4		Della Fields	
	Obituaries 5		Jody Blevins	
	Sports 2		Al Stapleton	
			Dustin Garrett	
			Dusty Lykins	