

COMMUNITY

TRANS-RAIL

from AI

or required additional information or further action from the landfill developers.

In addition to responding to the deficiency letter and addressing several "housekeeping" items, including dates, secondary contacts, and extra fees, the landfill project's response addressed the Division of Water's request for additional information on practicable, on-site alternatives that avoid aquatic resources. According to Hyfantis' response, there is no practicable alternative location for the proposed landfill on the 325.5 acres of contiguous property. (The response references The Law Dictionary definition of practicable as "any idea or project which can be brought to fruition or reality without any unreasonable demands.") According to the response, relocating the project to avoid aquatic resources on the property is not practicable because it could terminate the existing permit and require submission of an entirely new application, with new engineering, planning and design, agency review, public notice, etc. The response stated that this would be

unreasonably burdensome in terms of cost and time. Additionally, the response referenced long-range plans for developing additional operating units and a materials recovery facility (MRF), which is needed in Tennessee. In his response, Hyfantis stated that if the Division of Water Resources insists upon an alternative location, it will delay or possibly even cancel the entire project, resulting in "significant adverse environmental consequences" for the entire state.

Regarding the deficiency letter's item 3 concerning evaluation of offsite alternatives, Hyfantis' response stated that no offsite alternative locations have been evaluated because the permittee does not own or lease any offsite parcels upon which the landfill could be constructed and that no other parcels of comparable size, topography, location, and access to rail service are available in the vicinity of the site. According to the response, no practicable off-site alternative locations exist.

The response addressed the deficiency letter's request for social and economic considerations by stating the Trans-Rail Waste Services Ecology Park project will pro-

vide substantial social and economic impact in the area as well as the state of Tennessee. The response indicated that economic impact will be achieved through a four-pillar approach including (1) jobs (100 during construction; 48-52 after completion), (2) local spending (commitment to spend dollars locally), (3) property taxes (substantial increase by moving the acreage to commercial use), and (4) host fees (estimated in excess of \$1,000,000 to Scott County and potentially \$1,000,000 to Oneida.)

In addition to addressing other items in the deficiency letter concerning stream credits, the use of a French drain to fill streams, and relocation of Stream 10, Hyfantis confirmed the project's recent formal review by the Tennessee Wildlife Resources (TWRA) as required by Item 16 in the letter of deficiency. The review was required due to the possible presence of listed species in the vicinity of the Alberta Landfill Phase II (Trans-Rail Waste Services, LLC) site. The review was deemed necessary to determine if surveys of species needed to be conducted or conditions placed in the permit for any species. A TWRA review letter attached

to Hyfantis' response indicated no significant concerns regarding any state-listed species in the project area.

With a response to the letter of deficiency now submitted and received, TDEC's Division of Water Resources is expected to begin its review of the project's application. The permit coordinator may request additional project information during the review process. Part of the review process includes determining if the proposed alterations will result in degradation to aquatic resources.

McCreary County government officials and many residents oppose the landfill project, particularly regarding its location and impact on the Bear Creek Watershed. Bear Creek, a tributary of the Big South Fork River, is directly affected by the proposed landfill because the targeted land drains into it. McCreary County, downstream from both the proposed landfill site and Bear Creek's confluence with the Big South Fork River, intakes its residential, commercial, and recreational water from the Big South Fork River, raising local concerns regarding water quality and potential contamination.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

ASSISTANCE

SOS MCCREARY a non-profit serving the McCreary County communities is asking for donations to sponsor school clothes, shoes, and back-to-school items for the children of the McCreary County. To assist, please contact SOS McCreary at (606) 516-1403.

12 STEP/ADDICTION RECOVERY PROGRAM - For men and women. In the chapel at 70 Crit King Rd, Whitley City, KY 42635. For more information call Lex Meldrum at (405) 332-3011 or Lisa Meldrum at (606) 392-5474.

CHRISTIAN APPALACHIAN PROJECT'S EAGLE FOOD PANTRY is open Tuesday - Thursday 9:00AM - 11:45AM & 12:30PM - 4:15PM. Senior Program (CSFP) available. Sign up by calling 606-376-3272 or visiting 100 Eagle School Rd, Parkers Lake, KY 42634.

THE LORD'S CAFE - Free Lunch Tuesday & Thursday - 11:00am-1:30pm. Dine-in. We do require a donation of \$5 for Take-Out Doctor's note required disabled (no donation) Menu is posted daily on FB.

EVENTS

WILLIAMSBURG GOSPEL BARN presents a special 2024 year ending concert featuring the Singing Cookes of Kingsport, TN, and Richard Corbin of Williamsburg, KY, on Saturday, December 27th at 5 PM. Admission is free. Doors open at 4 PM.

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THERE'S A NEW DEPUTY IN TOWN

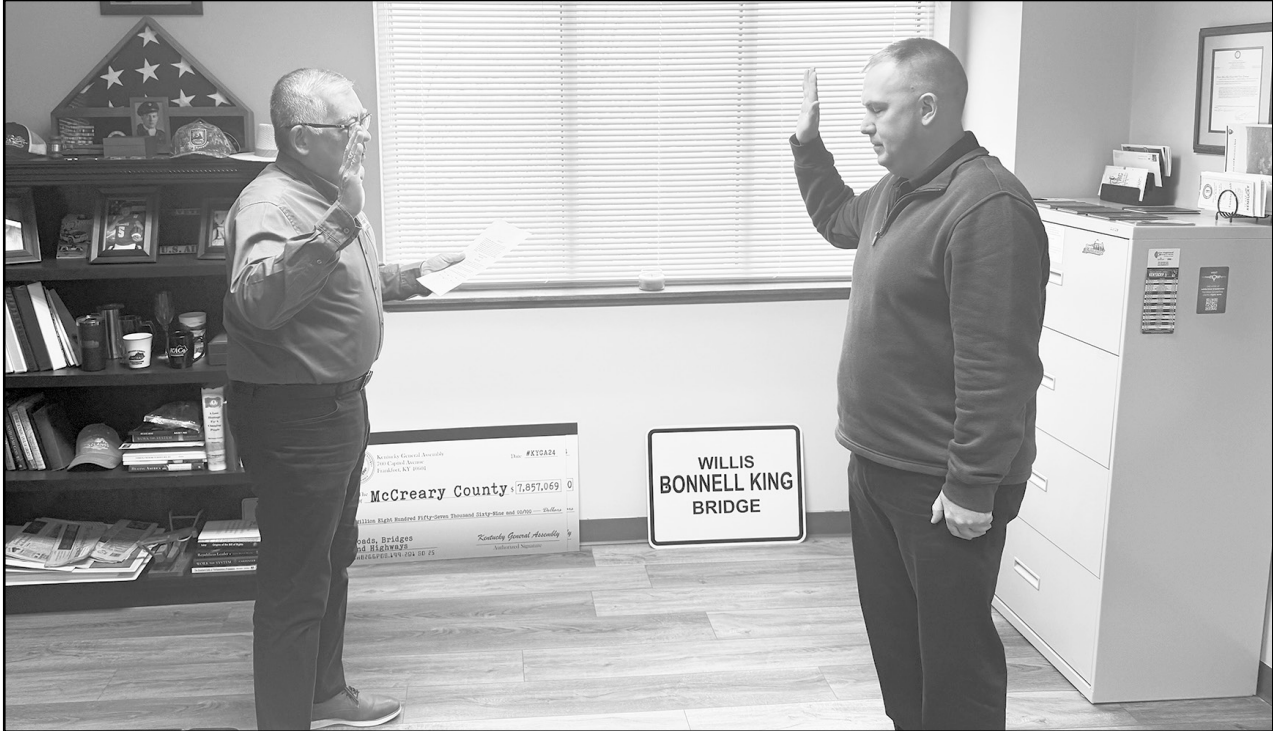


Photo by Eugenia Jones

Judge Greene recently swore in McCreary County's newest paid deputy, Dorman Patrick. Deputy Patrick is already on patrol and working hard to keep McCreary County safe.

LIBRARY CORNER

By Rhonda Kendziorski
Assistant Librarian

Hours: Mon., Tues., Wed., & Fri. 9:00 AM – 5:30 PM, Thur. 9:00 AM – 7:00 PM, and Sat. 10 AM – 2 PM.

***The library will be closed Wednesday, Dec. 24th, and Thursday, Dec. 25th, for Christmas. We will also be closed Wednesday, Dec. 31st, and Thursday, January 1st.**

Check out our newly updated website at www.mccrearylbrary.org.

NEW BOOKS

"The Time Hop Coffee Shop" Phaedra Patrick, "The Opportunist" Tarryn Fisher, "A Murder in the Making" Victoria Laurie, "The Heir Apparent" Rebecca Armitage, "The Last Days

of Marilyn Monroe" James Patterson, "Wild Instinct" T. Jefferson Parker.

Adult Programs: Open to adults, and young adults ages 15+
Dec 26 – 5:30 PM – The Art of Paper – Paper Angels (RSVP Required)
Dec 29 – 5:30 PM – Yoga Class

YOUTH PROGRAMS:
Youth programs will resume in January.

BOOKMOBILE SCHEDULE

Interested in the Bookmobile or other Library services? Call us at 376-8738.

Dec 30 – Day Ridge; Stearns/Hilltop Route: Hwy 1651
Dec 31 – Closed - Off the Road
Jan 1 – Closed - Off the Road
Jan 2 – Daycares

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