

Child porn charges against Pike man elevated to federal level

A News-Express Staff Report

A complaint has been filed with the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Kentucky to bring federal charges against a Pike County man who was arrested earlier this year and charged with possession of child pornography.

Michael Hilliary, 57, of Board Fork, McCarr, was arrested and subsequently indicted by a Pike County grand jury on 20 counts of possession of matter portraying a sexual performance by a minor less than 12 years old.

“Through my training and experience, a lot of (materials on Hilliary’s computer) meets the federal definition for child pornography,” FBI Task Force Officer Jessie Johnson wrote in an affidavit connected to the criminal case filed Aug. 1.

His complaint against Hilliary was filed before U.S. Magistrate Edward B. Atkins on Aug. 1. The charge on the complaint was pos-

session of child pornography involving a pre-pubescent minor.

Hilliary was originally arrested in May after the Kentucky Attorney General’s Office executed a search warrant on his residence.

The search resulted as part of an investigation involving internet crimes against children, Shelby Guffey of the AG’s office wrote in a criminal citation filed against Hilliary.

“While on scene, I observed a file in the downloads folder under (Hilliary’s) user name on his computer,” Guffey wrote. “The file contained at least 20 images/videos of child sex materials. The images were of prepubescent children under the age of 12 years.”

The citation said Hilliary, after receiving his Miranda warning, allegedly admitted to downloading the images; that the computer belonged to him; and gave investigators the password to the device.

Hilliary has remained lodged in the Pike County Detention Center since his arrest in May.

MARKET

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to be antique or vintage.”

The store features items ranging from mid-century modern pieces to depression glass, coal mining memorabilia and Pike County heritage collectibles. Bartley said she and Lucas have been collectors for years.

“I’ve always wanted to open an antique store,” Bartley said. “It just took me 20 years to figure it out.”

Both women already own and operate other businesses. This new venture is another step in their entrepreneurial journey. Bartley owns Bartley Medical Services, which offers weight loss and hormone replacement. Lucas owns a business called Crafty Mamas, which also focuses on antique and vintage goods.

“This building became available and I felt like it was

perfect,” Bartley said. “It’s the Martha Klein building, built in 1948. It has so much history in Pike County.”

The store layout mimics an open market, she said.

“When you walk through the doors, you feel like you’re outside walking down streets,” Bartley said. “We named each street after our kids — between the two of us, we have six.”

Currently, the market includes nine vendors and is almost at capacity.

“We only have one spot left,” Bartley said. “We add items daily.”

Customers are encouraged to tag the business in photos or social media posts.

“People run into old friends here, or they make new ones over a vintage dish,” Bartley said. “A lot of folks affected by flooding are coming in to replace things they lost. They can’t get back their

grandmother’s actual dish, but they can find something that brings the memory back.”

The market also aims to attract tourists.

“We would love to host tour groups that come into Pikeville so they can find that one piece to take back home — something they can remember Pikeville by,” Bartley said.

Customers can reach the store at (606-509-DEAL, or message through Facebook. The Antique Market is active on both Facebook and TikTok under the same name.

“I just started the Facebook page on July 1,” Bartley said. “I can go live now, so my plan is to start doing live sales on Sundays.”

Bartley said the store offers more than just items to purchase.

“People aren’t just buying furniture,” Bartley said. “They’re buying memories.”

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