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# Parking spots open

## Walnut Street side of Courthouse Square



# Grand Opening

## Bible Brew opens on Tennessee Avenue



We're excited to announce a new business opening today!! The Bible Brew, located in the former Spectrum Building on Tennessee Ave. Be sure to check them out on FB and stop by and say hi to the new owners Lisa Fugate and Tony and Anna Nierengarten.

# Man arrested in connection with shooting at KFC

From 106.3 The Big One

As we previously reported, a short time before 9:45 am, Middlesboro Dispatch received a call of a reported shooting after a vehicle was found in the parking lot of Kentucky Fried Chicken off of Cumberland Avenue with a gun shot in the driver's side front window. Sgt. Jeremiah Johnson states it was consistent with that

of a shotgun. While the shot did not exit the passenger side, it did internal damage to the window.

Video surveillance footage from a nearby business was reviewed by police to determine who may have left the vehicle in the parking lot. During the investigation it was determined that the incident started in the are of KFC, the Bowling Law Office, the Commonwealth

Attorney's office, and Middlesboro ARH HomeCare Store parking lot.

Due to the nature of the incident and unknown motive, the schools and hospital were notified for precaution. This led the hospital and Middlesboro Independent School System to go on a soft lockdown with increased entry protocols. (While initally thought by the public to have happened

near the hospital and schools, that was not the case.) SKCTC also cancelled classes for the rest of the day.

We understand from Sgt. Johnson that an individual identified as 38-year-old Paul Rogers Jr. of Middlesboro has been arrested after it was determined that he was fighting with, and assaulted, his sister. The discharge of the weapon happened during the

altercation.

Rodgers was found at Fords Wood Park with the help of the Claiborne County Tennessee Sheriff's Department and taken into custody without further incident. Rogers was found in possession of the shotgun and a handgun, both used in connection with the incident.

Paul Rogers Jr. has been lodged in the Bell County Detention Center

charged with wanton endangerment - 1st degree, wanton endangerment - 1st degree - discharge of firearm, (2) two counts of possession of a firearm by a convicted felon, assault - 4th degree (domestic violence), and he was served a failure to appear warrant.

Further details of the investigation may be clarified when the MPD issues its press release.

# Nolan Group Media chosen to help local media groups

By: Jemi Chew, UK Student Journalist

The Pineville Sun, as part of Nolan Group Media, a family business that owns a total of nine newspapers and news websites in Eastern Kentucky, was recently selected for a national program that aims to help local media groups create self-sustainable business models.

Only nine other

media organizations nationwide were selected to be part of a second cohort for a transformative program known as the Local Media Association's (LMA) Family and Independent Media Sustainability Lab. LMA is one of the largest media trade associations in North America, with more than 3000 media properties involved.

"This is absolutely

a transformational opportunity," Nolan Group Media CEO Jay Nolan said. "You get training by world class experts from Google and from across the media industry. Also you get a full year of consulting and coaching from professionals for free. Then, as a cherry on top, you get up to \$10,000 to conduct an experiment designed to help you be a better, more

sustainable local news provider. We are so grateful!"

As part of the lab, Nolan Group Media will strengthen and build upon their existing business model through a collaborative process that includes guidance from industry experts, funding for a new initiative to better serve Eastern Kentucky audiences, and access to one-on-one tailored

training sessions with industry experts this year.

This program is sponsored by the Google News Initiative and the Knight Foundation. From April 1-3, 2025, Nolan joined other members of the cohort to learn about the media industry from Google experts in New York City and to represent Nolan Group Media and Eastern Kentucky

among other industry leaders.

"As we continue to learn new ways to use technology, extend limited resources, and hopefully raise pay for our talented team members, our ultimate goal is to produce better local journalism. I hope our experiments help us make life for our audience just a little better in every community we serve," Nolan said.

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