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MW officials discuss recent water line break

BY STEPHEN THOMAS
THE PIONEER NEWS

MOUNT WASHINGTON — City officials spilled all the information about a main line water break that occurred in Mount Washington on Monday, August 18, followed by an unrelated, isolated break two days later. At the August 25 meeting, mayor

Stuart Owen provided insight on the break and the aftermath, detailing what the city did to handle the situation. He said the main line from Louisville affected everyone in the city when it failed. “We hate that it happened, and we worked diligently to correct (the issue),” he said. “There was nothing that indicated the break was coming, no issues. We don’t

think it could’ve been prevented.” Public Works crews immediately assessed the situation by locating the failed area. A delay occurred when employees needed to check for a potential live electrical wire in the pit with the water. “Once the area is located, we must follow procedure,” Owen said. “We had to get all the proper work permits.”

The water was shut off during repairs, with a bypass line installed on Tuesday. Meanwhile, Owen said Bullitt County Emergency Management and Bullitt County Public Schools were alerted early Tuesday morning. BCPS classes were canceled on Tuesday as a result. The city provided water and portable restrooms to its three

senior center facilities as well as the Robert Alexander Center, courtesy of Bullitt Septic Service. Owen personally thanked many area businesses and individuals for their assistance, along with Louisville Water who provided pumps. Owen acknowledged a

SEE MW/PAGE A4



North Bullitt High School principal Kristi Lynch is shown.

NB principal earns state administrator award

BY STEPHEN THOMAS
THE PIONEER NEWS

HEBRON ESTATES — Momma Eagle brought a special treat back to the nest. North Bullitt High School principal Kristi Lynch was selected as the 2025 School Level Administrator of the Year by the Kentucky Association of School Administrators. The award is presented by KASA to honor exceptional leadership and commitment to advance the educational field.

“Kristi Lynch exemplifies what it means to lead with heart, purpose, and vision,” said KASA chief executive officer Dr. Rhonda Caldwell. “She’s not only strengthened her own school, she’s lifted an entire community of educators.” In her fourth year as North Bullitt principal, Lynch arrived at a time when leadership turnovers were frequent. As many as five principals stayed two years or less for various reasons, such as changing districts or accepting other positions. “Lynch’s leadership has been nothing short of catalytic,” Caldwell said. “This

award is a reflection of the lasting change she’s inspired.” A Louisville native, Lynch first taught in South Carolina, then in Hardin and Meade counties. She was an assistant principal in Hardin and Nelson Counties prior to North Bullitt. “I didn’t know the school too much, I came in just as scared as the freshmen,” Lynch recalled. “I was aware of the turnover, and kids not wanting to be here, and some staff. I set out to change that. I love my job, and I wanted the

SEE AWARD/PAGE A4

Adam Shepherd RR crossing to be closed for repairs

For years, there have been cries to anyone who might listen about the need to make repairs on the railroad crossing on Adam Shepherd Parkway in Shepherdsville. Oh, by the way, repairs are coming...like tomorrow. The announcement TODAY is that the crossing

will be closed on Wednesday, Aug. 27, through Friday, Aug. 29, for repairs. Obviously detours will be required. Highway 44 would be the most logical. Another option is to use Conestoga Parkway to reach Highway 61. Be patient.

BCPS goes outside box for science teachers

BY THOMAS J. BARR
THE PIONEER NEWS

SHEPHERDSVILLE — As the new academic year approached, the Bullitt County Public School System was seven teachers short in its classroom instructors. That may not sound like a lot but it could affect 1,000 students out of a population of 13,000. So, local educators went to their partners in the college world of producing future teachers. At the University of Louisville, there was one student majoring in the teaching field of science. At Western Kentucky University, science majors are getting jobs with higher pay in other fields even before they start their student teaching. “There’s nobody out there,” said Dr. Amy Compton, director of secondary education for BCPS. So, what is the alternative? You start to think out of the box using some skills learned during COVID. During the pandemic, student learning came digitally. Some students, such as those who are part of the Bullitt County Virtual Academy, found that learning from the computer was a more effective way for them to learn. With the shortage of science teachers in particular, Dr. Adrienne Usher, assistant superintendent of BCPS, said that finding a solution to an “urgent” problem needed some outside-of-the-box thinking. Subject.com is a company based in California which

can provide instruction for many areas, including middle and high school. Usher said that the company, which has a few clients in Kentucky, has a plan that meets all state standards. But the program is not cheap. The district would have to pay for a teacher-of-record who is responsible for all reporting to ensure certification at each of the high schools. There would be seven instructional tutors, one for each of the classrooms. There would also be one teacher of record for the middle school level, with Hebron Middle, home of the science-based Discovery School, being the location. Currently, the district has invested in instructional assistants at all of the schools. The instructional tutor positions would require a little more educational training. They would offer a higher level of pay and would work like a teacher’s contract. Two tutors will be hired per school. The position would be for 7.5 hours per day, like classroom teachers. Compton said the contract with Subject.com would be \$175,000, which includes the instruction material and three teachers of record. While not a perfect solution, the on-line learning would allow students in science classes unfilled with a local classroom teacher to continue with their learning. And they would not fall behind in their pursuit of college.

SEE BCPS/PAGE A5

ELECTION 2026

Webber to run for county clerk

BY THOMAS J. BARR
THE PIONEER NEWS

SHEPHERDSVILLE — While it is her first race for political office, Sheri Webber is certainly no stranger to the electoral process. Webber has filed her letter of intent to fill the open seat for Bullitt County Clerk. Kevin Mooney, who has held the seat for nearly 20 years, will not run for re-election in 2026. Webber said she talked with Mooney about the position and was able to learn some of the duties. After that conversation, Webber knew that her skillset would be perfect for the position.



Sheri Webber

Currently, she works for Dr. Matt Mooney and his eye care business. There, she is able to work with staffing, customer service and budgeting. And, of course, making sure the medical practice makes money is another key component. “I enjoy a challenge,” said the lifelong Bullitt County resident. “This is perfect for my skills. I think I would be a perfect fit.” Looking for her next step in life, Webber said that she fully expects several candidate to run for the open position next year. Fellow Republican Allen Maricle has also filled his letter of intent. Throughout her life, Webber said she has been a leader.

“I enjoy serving the people,” said Webber. While it is early, Webber said she is looking to make major changes as Mooney has served the office well. But, with the growth of the county, Webber would like to at least study the idea of satellite offices. She understands that the cost of doing that must be considered. It is her first race for office; however, she was part of the campaign for her husband, Russell. He served six terms as a member of the state House of Representatives. Plus, she said they often discussed issues and concerns during his tenure. For the time being, Webber said she will be busy talking to voters about why she is the best candidate.

INSIDE	
Happenings	A5
Classifieds	B4
Sports	B1-6
Legal Notices	B4-5

