Isonville Socials-Plus

By Janet P. Stinson

Feb.17 – I started the day with J. W. Pest sprayers; Jamie that has sprayed my house for years was accompanied by Bobby because Jamie's right arm was in a sling; he fell in this icy weather tearing ligaments in his shoulder. Jamie will have to have surgery on that shoulder soon; I send prayers for his physicians to do an excellent repair and rapid healing for him. Jamie is a retired bus driver as well as working for J. W. for years. I send prayers for all folks that have injuries from our rough winter weather; another storm is headed our way! I send prayers for all the folks in California's snow tragedy and Oklahoma wild fires. God's creation has violent abilities; folks should remember how human we are.

After the sprayers left, I did a few chores; later in the day I baked a pan of Banana Bread and a large batch of Brownies. I didn't text Samuel in time for him to sample the goodies – he was asleep by the time I sent a text, lol.

Feb. 18 – I had a late sleeping day with little motivation even with 60+ temperatures. I talked with the new waste management company; I was concerned because I had paid for the year to WM that is now different; all ended well. I enjoyed the goodies I made yesterday while drinking coffee, checking FB posts, putting "Happy Birthday" wishes to Nephew Don Rigsby on FB, texting with Indiana friends and relatives, watching some Olympic competitions, and making plans for a special B-Day celebration for great-grandson Joah's 3rd Birthday this weekend. It's prayer meeting night for several local churches; I'm sure their meetings will send praise and prayers to our Lord Jesus Christ in behalf of the many illnesses in our small community and our nation/world. My roses are still beautiful and have been a bright spot in each day since the 12th/13th! I have been in detailed texting with Cousin Cindy Lewis Ison and her sister Jennifer Lewis Wright about the surgery fundraiser; I look forward to seeing Jennifer soon. Niece Ruth Oliver has posted beautiful scenery pictures of the Portland, Oregon area; they certainly do not have riots or need for ICE brutality. The posts from various Valentine dance events are lovely; beach vacations have been posted and a video of the honor parade for ECHS Cheerleaders winning the Bronze Medal in National Competitions. I pray all students have continued success and safety as they each pursue their bright futures.

Feb. 19 – I need to make a run to Discount Drug today and get my items organized for a visit with Granddaughter Danielle's family in Georgetown. I shared an early phone visit with Denise Adkins of Isonville that is currently a resident of Elliott Nursing Center; she needs a paper notarized; I've been a Notary Public Officer for over 55 years. With chores rounded up, I started to the Nursing Ctr. About 10:30am; Denise and I have known each other since we were children; our mothers worked together in school and 4-H projects in the 50s, 60s, 70s, +++! We shared pictures and family up-dates, I notarized her paper, and she "Corrected" me that I had been talking with her sister Gayle – Not Cleo, lol. It was Gayle that I saw and talked with at the $ Store last week; I hadn't visited with the girls in so long; I just got their names mixed up. Gayle lives here in Isonville and was from Gayle that I learned Denise needed a notary, lol. I also left magazines for Mr. John Carter's Lighthouse Unit. These nursing home folks need visitors; it's difficult for me to go since mother was there in the same wing as Denise when she passed at age 99 ½ back in 2014.

My next stop was the post office to mail some newspapers to cousin Lorraine in Bath County; we were joking about this article; I told her I would send her a few so she could see what I had been doing with part of my time, lol. I went by Discount Drug to pick up meds, stopped at Stock Yard Bank for a quick hug from Granddaughter Bethany but the place was too busy; I visited briefly with neighbor Allen Ison of Isonville and former co-worker Tilden Trent of Sandy Hook; they were talking about their delightful grandchildren that Tilden's son and Allen's daughter have; they are very darling and growing so rapidly from the FB posts. I left the busy employees with waves and drove up to the $ store for milk and a B-Day Card for daughter Sigrid; I will take it to Joah when Stephanie and I go tomorrow.

Back on Elkhorn Branch, I took Joah's card for Sigrid to sign, did a little raking of small limbs that cover the yard from all the snow/ice weather, waved at the mail carrier as he went up the road with no stops at my mailbox or Sigrid's – No Bills, LOL! I began organizing my items into the beautiful carry bag Danielle made me for Christmas; it's amazing the details an over-night visit requires for an ole grandma, lol. I enjoyed a brief visit with Jennifer and Billy Wright about dusk – they were helping me with my small contribution to Cindy's Surgery Fundraiser; she doesn't have insurance and has to pay one-half of the cost before they will do her surgery. Cindy was at KDMC Cardio Unit; Jennifer had been caring for small family children during the day. I send prayers for success and lots of community support for this urgent need.

I sent prayers on FB for Wallowhole IBC's prayer service tonight; I had completed the Micah 7 chapter Bible Study. I learned too late that Samuel had a basketball game somewhere tonight; it must have been away game because Maynard and Sigrid were in Grayson when we were texting as to whether or not I was attending. Sigrid provided "Awesome Data" about Samuel's welding class; he has been chosen to represent ALL the students in a competition at MSU; I send a BIG CONGRATULATIONS for this honor; I am confident he will excel in the MSU competition. I fell asleep in my recliner listening to KJV reading – Daniel was in the 21st chapter when I awoke and went to bed. I hope Elliott won their game.

Feb. 20 – I'm up early in final preparation to meet Stephanie in Morehead this afternoon for our trip to Georgetown; I am excited for my "First" overnight at Danielle's lovely home. Joah's Birthday Party is Saturday at a children's play area. I will be making a stop by the recycle center in Morehead as I go to Stephanie's office on First Street. We have one or two pictures of the four generations with Joah, Danielle, Stephanie, and me. It's going to be a wonderful visit while many students here in Elliott and other counties enjoy ECHS Valentine Dances and other school related activities. My Cup Runneth Over! ! ! We Rural Americans "R" Blessed.

After a recycle stop, I drove to Stephanie's office in Morehead about 2:30pm; she had considerable contacts to complete, a large stack of letters to mail, and computer data to complete before we headed toward Georgetown and Danielle's home. It was a discussion filled trip with catch-up data sharing of family and friends; I shared my contacts with Great-Niece Sharon Oliver Ghel's family in Montana and all the events her sons had experienced. We were delighted with the news from Sigrid that Samuel had won the MSU Welding competition and would be going to State; Sigrid's family is excited; Samuel was very grateful for the terrific prizes he won at the regional competition. Stephanie and I and all our families are very proud of Samuel's accomplishment. When we arrived at Joah's home, he was full of hugs, laughter, running and wanting to see Aunt Bethany, Jesse, and Uncle Joe's family, lol; usually when Joah sees Mamaw Stephanie, the other family members are there also.

We had a wonderful evening of visiting and playing with Joah; Jericho picked up "Penn Station" sandwiches for everyone at supper time – Delicious! Joah ate his cheeseburger, fries, apples, and borrowed a bite here and there from other sandwiches; while eating, they were talking with Bethany and Jesse on the phone as they traveled to Danielle's house. We had a fun-filled family sleepover; Bethany brought "Spuddies" for anyone that wanted more food; Jesse had a meal from "Cane's"! Aunt Bethany finally got Joah calmed enough to sleep; she slept with him long enough to ensure he was down for the night.

Feb. 21 – This was a Saturday filled with celebrations for my family and lots of other folks. The girls were up early filling balloons with helium for Joah's party. Coffee, play, and conversation filled the morning with joy, laughter, and fun; Joah didn't want Aunt Bethany and Jesse to leave when we were all going to his party location; they had to get back to Sandy Hook for Jesse's Valentine Photos/Dance, and Bethany's obligations to help with an event. At the Mystic Dragon Party Playhouse, Jericho's mother Geraldine, his sister Savanna, and several friends with children were arriving by the time decorations were in place. Danielle's brother Joseph (Dr. J. R. Bowling), his wife Ashley and their sons Peter and Jude were part of the B-Day celebrations. After delicious pizza, chips, beautiful cake, ice cream, and drinks. there were lots of gifts, clothes, toys, and fun; each child got a gift bag with tokens to play the many games in the party house portion of the facility; Joah had a fabulous time as did all the other children. I got a good selfie with Grandson Joseph and his son Peter that will have an 11th B-day in April. Ashley took lots of pictures that will be shared; I love my grands very much. I'm sure Jericho very much misses his Dad John David Sipple at times like this – J. D. loved Joah so very much; he is greatly missed since he passed away.

Stephanie and I headed back to Morehead and my car about 2:30pm; she talked with husband Jerry by phone as we traveled; she and I seem to never get caught up on family talk; I give Jesus praise and prayers of thanks for the numerous blessings Stephanie and her family bring into my life. At her office, she picked up her laptop computer; we took a restroom break, shared terrific hugs, and headed home. Back on Elkhorn Branch I carried my tote bag into the house, took my night meds, and relaxed under my heated throw while listening to KJV's book of Revelations being read on U-Tube!

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Feb. 22 – I should have attended church this Sunday; but did Bible studies, quizzes, and lots of FB posts to the local churches, valentine dance pictures, and looking at shared photos from Joah's B-Day Party. Late in the afternoon Samuel and Jasper Roe came out to get some "Steel Wool Pads" for their work in the garage; they had a large piece of brownie and drinks before returning to their repair project in Samuel/Maynard's garage. They are always working on a motorcycle, Samuel's truck, Jasper's vehicles, or something, LOL! I charged them a "Hug" for the brownies, lol. It is always delightful for brief visits with Samuel and friends. I am very thankful for the wonderful time and photos shared with all the darling grands. Samuel also wore his Senior Basketball Letter Jacket out for me to see; I brought him a UK letter jacket from Danielle to him that is his "Early" B-Day gift from her and Jericho – His B-Day is March 4. Danielle picked it up for him from an E-Bay purchase in Georgetown; they are cousins but the age difference makes him feel more like Danielle and Bethany are his aunts, lol. Family is Fun!

I studied Chapters 1-10 of Revelations extensively; responded to the quote that Wallowhole IBC's Pastor Laney posted; John the Revelator's visions are so amazing; my little ole mind is challenged to imagine the beauty, meanings, and wondering what he saw and was told "Not" to write. I love studying this last book of the KJV.

Feb. 23 – I had planned to take Samuel to KDMC this morning for his PT appointment; however with low temperatures, snow, and wind, I asked his Dad to make the drive so this ole 81 year old could sit by the fire, lol. Maynard called and joked around with me about my "No Trip" today; he forgave me for saying no one time, lol. They had a safe trip and even brought me blueberries, blackberries, and orange juice; I mentioned that I had a list but just didn't feel safe to get out – I didn't really ask them to get the items but they did anyway; Samuel brought them out just afternoon; I got a wonderful hug from him and paid him for the items. I send prayers of thanks for their caring help.

I'm highly concerned with new proposals in the Elliott School System; the proposed plan to move 8th graders into the secondary building is (in my opinion) a TERIBLE idea; 8th graders are young as 12 years old while seniors are old as 19 – Not a safe environment for mixed classes, facilities, dances, events, and daily interactions. Also the folks that take school pictures are the SAME Company that is affiliated with "Epstein Files" photos. Citizens with students and/or that care about children need to contact the Board of Education concerning these dangerous situations that are being planned and/or ignored! I send prayers to my Lord Jesus Christ to give eyes to see and ears to hear the BEST, SAFEST Education Environment for the youth of our county! Cost is a factor; numbers of students are a factor; retiring teachers is a factor; education safety and students seem to be at the bottom of the list. I seek guidance from my Lord and Savior to be a positive example and opinion for our small community and county! Until Next Week Folks ! ! !

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

By Representative Richard White

Child Care, Public Safety, Education Top House Orders

Feb. 23 — In the Kentucky legislature, the term "Orders of the Day" refers to the official agenda of business that either the House or Senate will consider on a given day. It lists the bills, resolutions, and motions scheduled for debate, amendment, or vote on the chamber floor.

Before a bill reaches the Orders, it must follow a structured process. First, it is filed by a legislator and assigned to a standing committee based on subject matter. The committee reviews the bill, holds hearings where testimony from the public, stakeholders, and experts can be presented. Bills must receive at least one hearing before being reported out of committee, though some legislation may have multiple hearings. Once a committee approves a bill, it is either placed on the Orders of the Day or reassigned to another committee for further consideration. This happens a great deal with bills that would cost the state money or impact multiple agencies or programs. Once it clears the committee process, legislation is placed on the Orders of the Day and ready for full House (or Senate) consideration. However, just because legislation is on the Orders does not mean it will pass the House, simply that it is ready to be considered.

The Orders are basically an agenda, ensuring an organized flow of legislative business and providing members and the public notice of what will be considered each day. Here are a handful of the bills that were on the Orders and cleared the House this week:

HB 6 expands safe, affordable child care for working parents, removes barriers for children with disabilities, and promotes community-based innovation. It strengthens the Child Care Assistance Program, enhances quality ratings, improves transparency, and permanently establishes the CCAP income exclusion - creating a more accessible, high-quality system that supports families and children statewide.

HB 10 would strengthen accountability, transparency, and continuity of government during gubernatorial transitions in the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

HB 139 would strengthen Kentucky's election system by ensuring only eligible voters are on the rolls, standardizing candidate filing forms, and requiring timely delivery of election materials and faster results reporting. It sets school district boundaries before school board filing deadlines, adjusts common school tax rate elections, requires districts to post election bonds, mandates pre-election testing of tabulating equipment for all elections, updates write-in procedures, allows withdrawals to trigger party nominations, and bars officials from certifying votes for deceased, withdrawn, or disqualified candidates.

HB 213 would provide city and county governments and universities the ability to re-employ retired police officers without incurring employer retirement contributions.

HB 257 would shift Kentucky's education accountability to a growth-focused model by modifying the state system in four ways: reducing state testing, tracking individual student growth, allowing districts to adopt local quality indicators to boost community engagement, and prioritizing attendance. Kentucky would join 36 states using chronic absenteeism as an accountability measure.

HB 414 would help law enforcement solve and prevent crime, as well as exonerate the innocent by authorizing local law enforcement to collect DNA samples from individuals charged with a felony at the time of arrest, booking, or initial appearance at a local jail.

HB 455 would restrict the use of artificial intelligence by licensed professionals in therapy and psychotherapy services, such as licensed psychologists and licensed clinical social workers. The measure would not apply to religious counseling, peer support, or self-help materials and educational resources that are available to the public and do not purport to offer therapy or psychotherapy services.

HB 485 would modernize Kentucky's mental health statutes to ensure those suffering from mental illness get proper care and treatment and improve public safety by ensuring appropriate treatment and legal processes.

HB 529 would update statutes relating to the appointment, service, and operation of the Kentucky Parole Board, ensuring consistency, transparency, and functionality in parole decision-making while maintaining a strong focus on public safety and victims' rights.

HB 562 would expand educational and workforce opportunities for students with disabilities by creating an additional high school diploma option for eligible students who currently receive only a certificate of completion.

HB 577 would strengthen and expand the Kentucky Innovation Act to better support entrepreneur-led economic growth and attract talent, investment, and emerging companies to the Commonwealth.

HJR 50 would direct the state auditor to study the applicable statutes, administrative regulations, and agency policies that impact the opening and operating of licensed and certified child care centers and report findings and recommendations to the legislature.

As always, I can be reached anytime through the toll-free message line in Frankfort at 1-800-372-7181. You can also contact me via email at Richard.White@kylegislature.gov and keep track through the Kentucky legislature's website at legislature.ky.gov.

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