Induction ceremony is held for Spanish Honor Society at HCHS

Staff Report

The Spanish Honor Society had its annual induction ceremony Wednesday night at Harlan County High School. The new inducted members include Kaleigh Arvin, Maliyah Bala, Abigail Blackburn, Whitey Bray, Halle Brooke Cox, Hannah Brotherton, Riley Card, Gabriel Clay, Annabelle Collett, Sidney Cupp, Aubrey Hensley, Haley Johnson, Andrew Johsnon, Braylee Kazy, Alexandria Kelly, Ethan Lewis, Zoe Napier, Anna Noe, Madilynn Nolan, Emily North, Isabella Osborne, Peyton Osborne, Emily Ositis, Jalyn Pennington, Ethan Peterson, Aiden Reynolds, Aly Sherman, Addison Truitt and Mahala Williams.

PHOTO BY DAELYN GARLAND

New members of the Harlan County High School Spanish Honor Society include Kaleigh Arvin, Maliyah Bala, Abigail Blackburn, Whitney Bray, Hannah Brotherton, Halle Brooke Cox, Riley Card, Gabriel Clay, Anabelle Collett, Sidney Cupp, Aubrey Hensley, Haley Johnson, Andrew Johnson, Braylee Kazy, Alexandria Kelly, Ethan Lewis, Zoe Napier, Anna Noe, Madilynn Nolan, Emily North, Emily Ositis, Isabella Osborne, Peyton Osborne, Jaylyn Pennington, Ethan Peterson, Aiden Reynolds, Aly Sherman, Addison Truitt and Mahala Williams.

PHOTO BY DAELYN GARLAND

Ushers at the Spanish Honor Society induction at Harlan County High School included, from left: Nevaeh Epperson, Kristina Boggs, Kaylee Lewis, Jack Eld, Addison Fields and Grayson Short

The officers, who conducted the ceremony in both Spanish and English, included Bani Chadhauri, president; Izzy Back, vice-president; Andrea Saylor, secretary; Alley Stewart, treasurer; Lacey Short and Daelyn Garland, co-directors of public relations; and Madi Nolan, spiritual advisor. The officers were aided by special ushers Addison Fields, Jack Eld, Grayson Short, Neveah Epperson, Kaylee Lewis and Kristina Boggs.

Emmanuel Anama-Green and Assun Herrero are the club sponsors.

The ceremony inducted all new members while also teaching the importance of the Sant Jordi holiday in Spain. The day is based on the legend of Sant Jordi (a knight), who saved a princess by slaying a dragon. After Sant Jordi slayed the dragon, a rosebush grew from its blood. To celebrate, people exchange books and roses to honor the patron saint of Catalonia. In honor of Sant Jordi's day, the Spanish Honor Society is selling roses at lunch.

HOWARD

Continued from 1A

Howard. Additionally, the Soil Conservation District administered the instillation of four sceptic systems in the county within the past year, among other projects.

"We're continuing the process of accepting and reviewing applications for CAPE grants — that's tobacco settlement money — and, in this past year, we awarded $15,000 out of that program to a local farm, Howard said. "Through the state division of conservations, we applied for — and we were awarded — a $20,000 grant for a landowner for an agriculture project in the county."

Howard also gave an update on the Abandoned Mine Land (AML) project, stating construction is currently underway at the Wallins site; afterward, the Soil Conservation District will set its sights on the mine in Baxter, as well as the one at the foot of Pine Mountain. The purpose of this initiative is to address potential environmental and public safety concerns posed by abandoned mine shafts, preventing possible landslides and other such disasters that may occur if left unaddressed. Finally, the Soil Conservation District gave out approximately 600 trees at Walmart in celebration of Earth Day on April 22. Thanks to these combined efforts, the Soil Conservation District is making positive agricultural strides in the community, ensuring a more environmentally safe future for Harlan County residents.

Mosley also provided an update on the county-wide "Spring Clean-Up" initiative, which has been completed in Districts 1-3 and is currently collecting unneeded items in District 4. He described the quantity of items that have been donated so far as "unreal" and highlighted this endeavor as significantly reducing yearly incidents of illegal dumping, which has historically costed millions of dollars to clean up.

"We try to keep our county clean," said Landfill Manager and former Harlan County Solid Waste Department supervisor Pericles 'Lakis' Mavinidis, "and I'd like to thank everybody for participating; we can't thank you enough for all that you do." Mavinidis turned away from the crowd so the back of his shirt was on full display; it bore the words, "Remember Our Dream: Harlan County Clean." Mavinidis urged everyone in attendance to take these words to heart and think about what they can do to make for a cleaner community.

"If you saw the drone footage in District 3 and what it looked like Sunday at about 5 o'clock, it was — 'overwhelming' would be the best term that I can think of. It was overwhelming," said Magistrate Paul Browning.

"If you know the size of the Cumberland High School parking lot, you could barely drive between it and the playground. It was overwhelming . . . The road crew and solid waste [crew] were nothing short of amazing." Browning, who encouraged everyone to take a look at the drone footage online that highlighted the staggering amount of debris, stated it had all been cleaned out the following evening.

"They were like SERVPRO, like it never even happened," Browning joked before giving his sincere appreciation for everyone who participated.

POLLING

Continued from 1A

the same time frame as the primary election day schedule: 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. This will help ensure all Harlan County residents are able to make their way to the ballot box, regardless of their work schedule.

Due to the extended polling hours, a resolution was passed to ensure election workers would receive additional compensation for their services.

"Our election workers are a vital role for our election," said Harlan County Clerk Ashley Sullivan. "Without them, we wouldn't be able to do our election process in the . . . twenty-one locations we do. We have over 152 workers; [during] that time, they don't get to leave for lunch—they're there the whole time. They arrive early, [and] they take it seriously. They're what make it successful."

Mosley emphasized the importance of participating in the electoral process: "Many men and women have died for our right to vote in this country," he said, "and we owe it to them—through their sacrifice and service—to go and preserve that right that we still have. A lot of rights . . . have been challenged through the years, but this is a right that we still have — to pick our leaders — and it's something we should all take seriously and exercise our right to vote, accordingly."

The locations of all 21 voting centers can be found on the Harlan County Clerk Office webpage, as well as the official Facebook page. Those interested in voting are also welcome to stop by their office in person for more information.

In related news, next month's fiscal court meeting has been moved to May 21 at 10 a.m. to avoid overlapping with the primary election date. June's fiscal court meeting has also been rescheduled and will now take place on June 15 at 10 a.m.

Other items on the agenda that were approved during Tuesday's fiscal court meeting include the following:

•Harlan County Sheriff's first quarterly report, subject to audit

•Agreement between the Commonwealth of Kentucky, Justice and Public Safety Cabinet, Department of Corrections, and Multi Kentucky County & Regional Jails for program facilitator services

•Agreement between Harlan County Fiscal Court and Commonwealth of Kentucky for KY-ASAP 2027 (substance abuse programs) in the amount of $20,000

•Planned maintenance agreement with Cummins Sales and Services for the courthouse generator

•Adoption of both the Fair Housing Resolution and Fair Housing Proclamation

•Land Usage Agreement with Kendra Conley

•Declaration of two public nuisance buildings along U.S. 421 at Cranks and the authorization of their demolition

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

The Housing Authority of Cumberland will receive bids for the project entitled:

ROOF REPLACEMENT IN KY29-1&2 CFP KY029-501(25)

… in Cumberland, Kentucky. This project will involve 30-year "dimensional shingles" on various buildings and structures, and the proper removal and disposal of all old material. Bids will be received until 1:30 p.m. local time on the 7th day of May, 2026, at the office of the **Housing Authority of Cumberland**, at which time and place all bids shall be publicly opened and read aloud.

A Pre-Bid Conference for Contractors proposing to submit bids on this project will be held at 1:30 p.m. local time on the 23rd day of April 2026, where each bidder should be represented.

The bidding/contract documents are in digital form and will be emailed to requesting firms upon request from the **Housing Authority of Cumberland** at the address and contact information below:

The Housing Authority of Cumberland prefers email requests for bidding/contract documents, however, all of the following methods are acceptable.

Email: cumberland2@windstream.net
Telephone: (606) 589-4600
Letter: Vera Ison; Executive Director, Housing Authority of Cumberland, 178 Russell Drive Cumberland, KY 40823

Bidding/contract documents will be emailed to interested bidders. Hard copies can be provided if a digital copy cannot be provided, however, the contractor must pick them up at the office of the Housing Authority.

Attention is called to the Labor Standards provisions of the General Conditions, and to Executive Order #14026 that requires a **minimum hourly rate of $17.75** for all workers on this project.

The **Housing Authority of Cumberland** reserves the right to reject any or all bids or to waive informalities in the bidding.

No bids shall be withdrawn for a period of sixty (60) days subsequent to the opening of bids, without the consent of the **Housing Authority of Cumberland.**

Vera Ison; Executive Director
Housing Authority of Cumberland

Email: cumberland_2@windstream.net
Telephone: (606) 589-4600
Letter: Vera Ison; Executive Director, Housing Authority of Cumberland, 178 Russell Drive Cumberland, KY 40823

GRADUATION
Greetings

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