



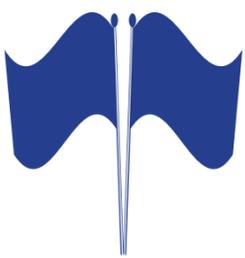
Titan Baseball & Softball Season Preview

Thursday, March 12, 2020

In this issue...



6A



Mercer Winterguard Places in Top Three

1B



Lady Titans Wrap Up Region Play

1B



Angie McGlone Ruehs Inducted into 12th Region Hall of Fame

3B



INDEX

Editorial.....2A
 Church News.....3A
 Obituaries.....4A
 Society.....5A
 Sports 1 - 3B
 Classifieds4B
 Business News3B

Issue 11 12 Pages



\$1.00 (tax included)

Harrodsburg Sees First Hint of Spring



The Harrodsburg Herald/April Ellis

Hope for Warmer Weather

After weeks of colder weather, the first hint of spring starts to pop out with the first few daffodils of spring.

One dead after collision on US 127

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Authorities responded to a fatal accident early Tuesday, March 10.

According to a press release, the Kentucky State Police Richmond Post was contacted just before 7 a.m. on Wednesday, March 10, about a two-vehicle collision

on Louisville Road (US-127) in Mercer County.

According to the KSP, a Rumpke trash truck driven by Jeremy Caudill, 35, of Hustonville, was stopped in the northbound lane of Louisville Road collecting trash at a residence when it was struck from the rear by a 2003 Chevrolet Silverado operated by Jason McCarty,

See One | 3A

Local man convicted for running pill mill in Paintsville

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A Harrodsburg man was convicted last week for running a cash-based, high-volume pill mill in Paintsville.

On Wednesday, March 4, a federal jury in Frankfort convicted Jeremy Bryson, 47, of Harrodsburg, on one count of conspiracy to distribute controlled substances, six counts of distribution of controlled substances, one count of conspiracy to use a DEA registration issued to another person, and one count of money laundering. The verdict came after approximately two hours of deliberations following an eight-day trial, according to a Department

of Justice press release.

According to evidence introduced at trial, during the conspiracy, Jeremy Bryson and his father, Don Bryson, operated a medical clinic in Paintsville called Appalachian Family Medicine (AFM). Don Bryson had previously surrendered his medical license in 2012 after a Kentucky Board of Medical Licensure investigation into complaints about his controlled substance prescribing practices, according to the DOJ.

Jeremy Bryson hired Don Bryson as a "medical consultant" at AFM. Evidence at trial established that under Jeremy and Don Bryson's operation, AFM

See Local | 2A

Planning and zoning commission to hold data center hearing in May

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The Harrodsburg-Mercer County Joint Planning and Zoning Commission will hold a public hearing on a proposed data center ordinance in May.

The commissioners were unable to give a definite date for the meeting, but said it would be held at the fairgrounds in the evening.

At the planning and zoning commission's regular meeting on Friday, March 6, Chairman Bobby Upchurch asked board members Jonathan Elliott and Connie Allen to form an ordinance committee to review a possible ordinance for data centers. Upchurch will serve on the

committee along with Elliott and Allen.

Upchurch said the ordinance should be available by the middle of April and will be available to the public for two weeks, followed by the public hearing in May.

The commission held a forum in February at the Stables to gather community input on data centers. Approximately 400 people attended, with nearly 40 speakers sharing their concerns with the commission.

"Public comments will be considered in the drafting of the ordinance," Upchurch said Friday.

Unlike the February meeting, the May meeting will be a public hearing, which Upchurch said is designed to accept public testimony and

evidence. Speakers would be sworn in.

"We will hold a sign-in sheet," Upchurch said. Those who just want to express support or opposition can sign in to indicate their position.

"People will be welcome to provide evidence or testimony," Upchurch said.

At Friday's meeting, the commission approved preliminary and final plats for the Brown property, located at 388 Handy Pike in Mercer County, and zoned A-1 (Agricultural).

The plats submitted by Gary Brown to create tracts 2 through 4.

Kendal Wise of Vantage Engineering, who represented the applicant, said there

See Planning | 6A

Fiscal court learns about family recovery court

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The Mercer County Fiscal Court heard a pitch from Family Court Judge Bruce Petrie and representatives from Volunteers of America to help establish a family recovery court in Mercer County.

At their meeting on Tuesday, March 10, the magistrates learned about family recovery court, a voluntary program that works with families who struggle with substance use disorder and are involved in the child welfare

system.

The program began in Jefferson County in 2018 and now has locations in Manchester, Stanford, Mt. Vernon, Barbourville, Somerset, Elizabethtown, McKee, Richmond, Owensboro, London and Madisonville, with another coming soon to Hopkinsville, according to voamid.org.

The immediate goal is sobriety, and the long-term goal is family reunification, according to the VOA website. Judge Petrie called the program the best thing he'd seen in his time on the bench.

"This is the best opportunity I've seen in 27 years," Petrie said.

Jennifer Hancock, president and CEO of VOA Mid-States, called family recovery court an alternative to traditional drug court that works with families with underlying addiction issues. The program is funded through a mix of local opioid abatement funds and state and federal funding.

Hancock said many families here in Mercer County and across Kentucky have multiple generations dealing with addiction.

See Fiscal | 3A

City employees receive raises; suspends code enforcement officer

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The Harrodsburg City Commission has approved raises for some city employees.

At their regular meeting on Monday, March 9, the city commissioners gave second reading to an ordinance revising the city's pay scale. Following that vote, the commissioners also approved pay increases for city employees to place them in the newly adopted pay scale. They voted to give

a \$.09-per-hour increase to Water Treatment Plant Operator Chad Beane and a \$2.03-per-hour increase to Harrodsburg Police Department Sgt. Andrew Lay, a \$1.13-per hour increase for HPD Patrolman Brian Beeler; \$2-per hour increases for Patrolmen Brennen Walton, Dustin Mical and Hunter Kelly; a \$1.50-per hour increase for Patrolwoman Erin Rice; \$1.10-per hour increases for Patrolmen Michael Sheperon and Dominic Pusey and \$.50 per hour increases for HPD

See City | 2A



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