

WEBSTER COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER DOG OF THE WEEK



Courtesy of Willis Photography

ATLAS is an 10-month-old shepherd mix who loves kids, belly rubs and cuddling on the couch. He has done well with other dogs and cats in the past. He is not good around livestock. He available for a \$50 (+tax) adoption fee, which covers neutering and vaccinations. The Webster County Animal Care and Control is located at 1919 KY 132 in Dixon. The office can be reached at (270) 639-7034.

WEBSTER COUNTY DISTRICT COURT

Dwight Sherildan Smith - DUI 2nd offense, criminal littering, possession of open alcoholic beverage container in vehicle, no/expired registration; pretrial conference 9/29

Jarod Thomas Bowley - speeding 19 mph over limit; refer to CATS

Link Willem Butler - speeding 26 mph or more over limit; continued to 9/22

Lowell Christopher Foster - violation of federal safety regulations CDL, driving commercial vehicle without proper licensing, no exterior ID or improper display; pretrial conference 10/20

Martin Jose Mondragon - DUI 2nd offense; pretrial conference 10/20

Elijah T. Skinner - trafficking in marijuana 1st offense, possession of drug paraphernalia; 180 days probated 2 years, pay fines and costs (\$513)

Hunter Dwayne Coomer - speeding 23 mph over limit; dismissed

Shakira Jenkins - possession of marijuana, possession of drug paraphernalia; bench warrant issued

Joshua J. Martin - 4th degree assault domestic violence; continued to 9/22

Richard Adam McVay - 2nd degree cruelty to animals, 3rd degree terroristic threatening; continued to 10/20

Richard Adam McVay - owner permitting vicious dog to run at large, local county ordinance; continued to 10/20

Billy W. Simms - 2nd degree talking; deferred one year

Steven Dewayne Waddell - possession of marijuana, possession of drug paraphernalia; complete MEPS by 10/13 or appear

Steven Dewayne Waddell - 3rd degree terroristic threatening; 30 days probated 2 years, pay costs (\$163)

Patricia Ann Williams - careless driving, rear license not illuminated, DUI 1st offense; continued to 9/22

Justin Grant Anderson -

flagrant non-support; dismissed

Trevin Lee Bush - failure to or improper signal, no/expired plates, failure to produce insurance card, instructional permit violation, possession of drug paraphernalia 1st degree possession of methamphetamine; preliminary hearing 9/22

Jordan Dewayne Morfoot - 1st degree criminal possession of a forged instrument; probable cause found, refer to grand jury 10/14

Christopher L. Rideout - 3rd degree burglary, 1st degree criminal mischief; waived preliminary hearing, refer to grand jury 10/14

Christopher L. Rideout - 3 counts of 3rd degree burglary, 3 counts of 1st degree criminal mischief; waived preliminary hearing, refer to grand jury 10/14

Christopher L. Rideout - 3rd degree burglary, 1st degree criminal mischief; waived preliminary hearing, refer to grand jury 10/14

Makenzye Stone - enhanced 1st degree possession of methamphetamine, possession of drug paraphernalia; waived preliminary hearing, refer to grand jury 10/14

Preston Dewayne Whitfield - disregarding stop sign, failure to or improper signal, enhanced 1st degree possession of methamphetamine 2nd or greater offense, possession of drug paraphernalia, convicted felon in possession of a handgun, possession of marijuana, no license; waived preliminary hearing, refer to grand jury 10/14

Preston Dewayne Whitfield - theft by unlawful taking or disposition firearm; waived preliminary hearing, refer to grand jury 10/14

Marty G. Wright - enhanced 1st degree possession of methamphetamine, possession of marijuana; preliminary hearing 9/29

phetamine 3rd or greater offense, possession of drug paraphernalia

Adam Joel Gray - indicted for 1st degree criminal mischief tampering with key infrastructure assets

Tiffany Rebecca McKenney - indicted for 1st degree criminal mischief tampering with key infrastructure assets

The grand jury passed a case against Leslie Anne Dorey for theft by failure to make required disposition of property \$10,000 or more

WEBSTER COUNTY GRAND JURY

The grand jury reviewed the results of the 2026 primary election and found no issues.

Jonathan Leroy Casey - indicted for 3 counts of 1st degree wanton endangerment for discharge of a firearm, convicted felon in possession of a handgun, receiving stolen property (firearm)

Tracy Lynn Franklin - indicted for speeding 16 mph over limit, 1st degree possession of opiates, possession of marijuana, 1st degree possession of metham-

Providence considers taxes and building permits

BY DAVID R. DRENNAN
JOURNAL-ENTERPRISE
CORRESPONDENT

The Providence City Council met Tuesday, Sept. 8, because of the Labor Day holiday, and heard the first reading of the property tax ordinance for the year, which included a 50 cent levy for each \$100 of assessed valuation on real estate as well as personal property.

The council briefly considered adding a business inventories tax as well, but decided to strike that from the ordinance. The ordinance was sponsored by Councilman James Palmer.

Council members Jimmy Crowell and Jeff Marshall expressed concern about the inventory tax during the discussion, with Crowell citing the new and needed ambulance tax just approved.

Mayor Tom Glover understood their concerns, recalling that the city’s inventory tax had previously been dropped as “an incentive to attract and retain new business.” Glover noted “that didn’t work.” It was also established that 10 or 12 years ago, it was 25 cents.

Palmer asked if this was a common tax for towns like Providence, and Glover confirmed that “it was a source of revenue for most cities.”

Councilman Mark Turner also noted that “it would only impact one or two businesses,” but those businesses had a wealth of inventory that would impact their payment.

While Glover was agreeable to striking the inventory tax, he reviewed the “things we need revenue for.” This

included the new ambulance and garbage truck, the efforts to repair and replace fire hydrants, water leaks, and the new federal mandate to test for lead water lines.

“We don’t know the cost of that project yet,” he added. “We are going to have to have new revenue from somewhere.”

Crowell agreed with the mayor, who noted that it was hard to attract new police officers to the city because they did not have hazardous duty retirement.

The council also heard the first reading of the ordinance for the requirement of building and construction permits, as well as subsequent inspections of the work. The ordinance cited building code and residential codes in Kentucky law and established the role and schedule of fees for a building inspector. Councilwoman Shannon Layton sponsored the ordinance.

Glover explained that the ordinance had been initiated by local builders, who had recently had issues with banks not willing to give loans for new projects because Providence didn’t have a building inspector.

Glover admitted that some may not like having regulations, but in this case, regulations helped “get people into new homes and remodeled homes quicker.” With the building inspector’s “certificate of authenticity,” banks would be more likely to trust that the loan is for a real project.

If approved, the city will tap Frank Wallace for this inspection and permitting work. Wallace

also does this for the City of Madisonville.

The only reservation noted was by Marshall, who had concerns about the ordinance’s language on remodeling. He pointed out that if someone was cited by code enforcement to update a property, but then was required to get a remodeling permit, that would be an undue hardship.

Glover replied, “We don’t want (the permit) to be cumbersome, but we want them to do it right.”

He also explained that the fees were not cost-prohibitive.

In other business, Glover gave updates on the Green Grove interconnect project with the Webster County Water District. Work will begin the first of October. Engineering is also starting on the Diamond interconnect. The city is still continuing to work with the state on water issues. Additionally, pre-bid conferences were held for the new wastewater treatment plant.

Glover was happy to report that there were five prospective bidders. There is \$8.1 million budgeted for that project, but Glover reported that was “borrowed” money, and referred back to new revenue streams for the city’s big projects.

Fall cleanup was also considered by the council.

“It is a mess. It is expensive and costs in manpower,” stated Glover.

The mayor’s consideration was for the city to partner with the county’s solid waste program in order to save the money and resources and cancel the annual fall event.

Individuals from Webster County can buy \$15 permits for use of open top trash containers located in Clay, Dixon and Sebree. The council was agreeable to this.

“People can take responsibility for their own trash,” Crowell explained.

In order to be more accommodating, Glover said the city could even buy 10 permits for citizens who couldn’t go to Dixon to buy one. He also suggested the city could help someone who didn’t have the means to get their trash to Clay. As for the financial savings from the cancellation, Glover explained that they would “feed those funds back into the system.”

Turning their attention back to revenue, Glover advised the council that they could raise the insurance tax, which is currently at 8%, to the maximum 10%. The monies accrued from this tax could cover the ambulance, garbage truck and some fire hydrant payments, he explained. The council members, who were firm about no inventory tax, were a little more open to this change.

Crowell stated, “Only a 2% change is a good number.”

Glover encouraged the council to “take it home” and think on it.

The council also approved Glover’s recommendation to name Travis Turner as the Director of Public Works. Turner, who works in a variety of roles around the city, received high praise from the mayor and council.

Fall is a good time to add fruit to the landscape

September is a good time to start thinking about fruit trees and plants, not just because cooler weather is around the corner, but because fall can be an ideal season to get new perennial fruit plantings settled into the landscape.

Many gardeners get most excited about planting in the spring, when garden centers are full and the days are getting warmer. But in Kentucky, October and November often offer an excellent planting window for fruit trees, shrubs and other hardy plants. Once plants are dormant, they can focus on establishing roots before new growth begins in spring. Cooler temperatures also reduce stress from heat, dry weather and weed pressure.

Home fruit plantings can be both productive and attractive. Apples, pears, peaches, cherries and pawpaws can fit into a larger landscape, while blueberries, blackberries, raspberries and strawberries may work well in garden edges, raised beds or edible landscape areas. Dwarf and semi-dwarf fruit trees are often good choices for home plantings because they are easier

to prune, harvest and manage.

Before buying plants, think about the site. Fruit plants generally need full sun, good air movement and well-drained soil. Avoid low spots where cold air settles, because late spring frosts can damage blooms and reduce fruit set. Also consider mature size, spacing and how much time you realistically have for pruning, watering and pest management. A small, well-tended planting usually brings more satisfaction than a large planting that becomes hard to manage.

Choose varieties that are adapted to Kentucky and look for disease resistance when possible. Pollination matters, too. Peaches are generally self-fruitful, but apples, pears, sweet cherries and many plums need another compatible variety nearby to produce well.

Blueberries can produce on their own, but planting more than one variety often improves berry size and yield.

In an ideal situation, soil preparation begins a year before planting. A soil test

can show whether pH or available nutrients need adjustment, and fall is a practical time to test because amendments have more time to adjust the soil to the desired conditions before plants begin growing. If you did not test a year ahead, do not let that stop you from planning; contact the Webster County Cooperative Extension office for soil testing information and recommendations before making major changes.

We can also provide planting, pruning and pest maintenance tips.

Fall planting is not about rushing to fill empty space. It is about giving fruit trees and plants a strong start. With the right site, thoughtful variety selection and a little preparation, your landscape can become more beautiful — and more delicious — for years to come.

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THE JOURNAL-ENTERPRISE

270-667-2068
Published every Thursday
Periodical Postage Paid
Paid at Providence, KY USPS No. 277.680

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A consolidation of
The Providence Enterprise (founded 1902)
The Dixon Journal (founded 1899)
The Clay Tribune (founded 1936)

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

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3 months \$15	3 months \$20