

Looking back to March 19, 2020

Written by Christy Hoots

The following information was entered into the March 19, 2020, edition of The Ledger Independent:

Entertainment for the 'hunkered down'

With concerns over COVID-19 causing the closure of schools, entertainment venues, theaters and other businesses/centers, parents are having to find ways to entertain themselves and their children at home.

In Maysville, Andrew Lupercio, co-owner of Brown Bag Comics, suggested activities such as board games and comic books.

Lupercio said Magic! The Gathering is a good card game that he suggests to family members and there are also many board games that families can play together.

"Families can sit down and play board games," he said. "Heroes of Dominaria is a Magic! The Gathering based board game. It's an actual board game and not cards, so it would be good for families with kids."

According to Lupercio, comic books can also be a nice solo activity.

Sometimes, if you want to get a break from each other, you can sit down and get caught up on some of the great stories coming out from Disney," he said. "Reading comic books is a good way to get caught up."

Daniel Sammons, who owns EZ Cash and Pawn in Maysville, also suggested board games and comic books as a fun activity for family members, but he highly recommends reading in general.

"Read regularly," he said. "It's an educational and fun activity. And, reading comic books can help kids get more interested and excited about reading."

As far as group activities, he said Dungeons and Dragons is a good activity to bring people together, but in smaller groups.

"DND is a good one to play, because you can have less than 10 people," he said. "You can have your three or four players and your dungeon master. It's a fun activity."

There is a group of people in Augusta who are among those that have not let their DND group fade amid concerns over COVID-19.

Robertson County School District Basketball Coach Patrick Kelsch said he and his brother, Augusta Independent Principal Robin Kelsch, along with Robin Kelsch's son, Tanner Kelsch, Conner Snapp, Jason Snapp and Roy Machen plan to participate in a Wizard's DND marathon on Friday.

"We will definitely take advantage of the time we have now," Patrick Kelsch said. "It's been hard to get together during the basketball season because Rob, myself, Tanner, and Jason all coach and Conner played for Augusta. So now that we're free, we will get together to play DND."

Robin Kelsch said he and his brother have played since they were teenagers and now get together with the whole group about once a month.

"We started with the basics when we were about 13 or 14," he said. "We didn't really do much between 3.5 and 4, but around the time 4 came out, we started playing with a group of friends from high school and now, Mr. Machen — who does the (AIS) haunted house — he created a campaign and we all get together about once a month and play. On Friday, we're going to start about 10 a.m. and play until who knows when."

Patrick Kelsch said he and his family will enjoy the time they have to spend together through "food, fellowship, and saving the world by slaying one dragon at a time."

Mason County resident Cathy Walston said there has been a lot of binge watching and volunteering in her household.

"I've been binge watching Hulu, volunteering for my church as we hand out and deliver food for students and the elderly," she said.

Trish Elliott said she and her daughter, Jada, and stepdaughter, Aubrey, have been working on projects together.

"Aubrey, Jada and myself have made our own vanity and been having our own beauty salon," she said.

Augusta Independent School released a list of family resources/activities that can be done at home while school is out.

The activities include fun math, an Authors Everywhere YouTube channel with videos from authors reading boards, a kids Yoga and a list of 50 activities parents and children can do together, as well as numerous other activities.

That list can be found at https://docs.google.com/document/d/1CJ2eMgUImUmcfPONr-dfP01TJIidY04DXpxtHi-4_6io/edit?fbclid=IwAROFkV__13Rabp-Y2GIIhvtCPNZRJkY-8g6CtQ8oK-abBFAWDykecTkCAI.

The Cincinnati Zoo and Botanical Garden has also started doing Facebook live videos as no visitors are currently allowed.

Those videos can be found by visiting <https://www.facebook.com/cincinnati-zoo>.

Air Equipment Company signs on as Education First Employer with Bluegrass Community and Technical College

Submitted by Shelbie Hugel
Bluegrass Community and Technical College

LEXINGTON, Ky. (March 2026) — Bluegrass Community and Technical College (BCTC) is proud to announce that Air Equipment Company (AEC) has joined the college's Education First Employer initiative, reinforcing a shared commitment to workforce development and student success across Central Kentucky.

Air Equipment Company has provided air equipment and services for nearly every HVAC application for decades and is widely recognized for its groundbreaking innovation and ability to tackle complex mechanical challenges. The company offers a diverse line of HVAC equipment designed to create comfortable, healthy, and energy-efficient environments. Their experienced sales engineers bring extensive expertise in HVAC equipment, systems design, and technical application.

Through the Education First Employer partnership, Air Equipment Company is committing to support employees

who are pursuing their education at BCTC. Students employed by the company will benefit from competitive wages, tuition reimbursement opportunities, and flexible scheduling that allows them to attend classes while gaining valuable hands-on experience in the workforce.

"Air Equipment Company exemplifies the type of industry partner that helps bridge education and career pathways," said Dr. Greg Feeney, President and CEO of BCTC. "By supporting their employees' educational goals while providing real-world technical experience, they are helping develop the next generation of highly skilled HVAC professionals. We are proud to welcome them as an Education First Employer and grateful for their investment in our students and region."

"We pride ourselves on being the 'Experts Helping Experts,'" said Matt Wilder, Regional Service Manager at Air Equipment Company. "We are proud to partner with BCTC in order to help develop and field the highest caliber young technicians possible."

"We are proud to wel-

come Air Equipment Company as an Education First Employer," said Tracy Spotts. "Their commitment to supporting employees in pursuing education while working demonstrates the kind of leadership our workforce needs. By investing in learning, they are not only strengthening their own talent pipeline but also creating meaningful career pathways for our students and community."

The Education First Employer initiative encourages regional employers to actively support employees pursuing higher education by offering flexible scheduling, tuition assistance, and career advancement opportunities while they work.

Through partnerships like this, BCTC continues to strengthen connections between education and industry, ensuring students gain both the academic preparation and practical experience needed to succeed in high-demand technical careers.

For more information about Education First Employer, please contact Dr. Tracy Spotts at tracy.spotts@kctcs.edu.

Welfare

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the BCSO's insurance provider, the Kentucky Association of Counties (KACo), has advised it that responding to wel-

fare checks presents high constitutional and civil liability risks, recommending using diversion tactics, crisis intervention teams and medical-legal responses instead.

Boody concluded, "These recommendations are not based on

indifference, but on established case law, risk-reduction principles, and the responsibility to protect both individuals in crisis and Kentucky counties from predictable constitutional violations and financial liability."

Fugitive

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degree (first offense).

The presiding judge signed off on a warrant of arrest on the indictment and a bond amount of \$50,000.

Aaron Ashley Alderman, criminal abuse in the first degree of a child age 12 or under. The presiding judge signed off on a bench warrant and set a bond amount of \$25,000.

Jack L. Thornton, assault in the fourth degree and strangulation in the second degree. The presiding judge signed off on a warrant of arrest on the indictment and set a bond amount of \$10,000.

Michael A. Clark, theft by unlawful taking of more than \$1,000 but

less than \$10,000. The presiding judge signed off on a bench warrant and set a bond amount of \$2,000.

Ashley E. Childers, possession of a controlled substance in the first degree (first offense), drug paraphernalia — buy/possess, improper display of registration plates and possession of marijuana. The presiding judge signed off on a summons for March 27.

Teahl D. Cantrell, possession of a controlled substance in the first degree (first offense).

The presiding judge signed off on a summons for March 27.

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MIKEY MILLS

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The newspaper reserves the right to edit all letters and comments for libelous, obscene or other inappropriate material.

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