

Pike grand jury indicts 10

A News-Express
Staff Report

A Pike County grand jury returned eight true bills on Sept. 8, indicting 10 people. Those indicted include:

- Andrew Albin, Weddington Branch Road, Pikeville; possession of a firearm by a convicted felon (two counts), first-degree criminal mischief and first-degree criminal tres-

passing.

- David Collins, Riverfront Road, Belfry; theft, first-degree criminal mischief and third-degree criminal mischief.
- Blake Daugherty, Phillips Branch, Jamboree; second-degree fleeing or evading police and traffic violations.
- Miguel Angel Hernandez, address unavailable; first-degree possession of a controlled substance, DUI and a traffic viola-

tion.

- Adam Little and Jennifer Little, both of Jackson Branch Road, Elkhorn City; first-degree trafficking in a controlled substance (two counts), first-degree trafficking in a controlled substance (while in possession of a firearm) and first-degree aggravated trafficking in a controlled substance (while in possession of a firearm).
- Arnett Randall Mullins,

Thorpe Road, Jackson; first-degree trafficking in a controlled substance, third-degree possession of a controlled substance, possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of marijuana, DUI, and first-degree persistent felony offender.

- Estil Tackett and Melissa A. Lawson, both of Ky. 979, Harold; second-degree criminal trespassing and theft.
- Tommyt Curtis Wolford,

Ratliff Creek Road, Pikeville; first-degree trafficking in a controlled substance.

Editor's note: An indictment is not an assertion of guilt; it is a finding by a grand jury that there exists enough evidence to formally charge an individual with a crime. All individuals listed are considered innocent until proven guilty.

WATER
Continued from Page 1A

for the Stillhouse water storage tank project, which supersedes the agreement between the firm and the city that was passed in August 2023. Now that the Stillhouse water storage tank project is fully funded by USACE and state matching funds, the council voted unanimously to approve the agreement. In other actions, Elkhorn City Mayor Nathan Bryant announced the city has formally been notified that money for debt reduction relief has been awarded and the money can come in at any time. "This has been a long time coming," Bryant said. "We've been patiently waiting for this money, and it's now been officially approved." Bryant said that when the city

receives the money, an announcement will be made to inform the public. "We want to be transparent, and this is a major amount of money that will be used to pay down debts the city has," Bryant said. "Nothing moves very quickly when dealing with large amounts of money, but as soon as this comes in, the public will know. "I really want to thank Mountain Water District, Kentucky Power and others who have worked with us since I became mayor," he continued. "We've kept in contact with these folks and they saw we were working diligently in getting the city on good financial footing. They worked with us and we appreciate that." The council also voted unani-

mously to apply for additional funding through the Kentucky WWaters assistance program, which is administered through the Kentucky Infrastructure Authority. "This is just another example of the city trying to alleviate itself of financial burden," Bryant said. "And I want to remind the public that we post the city's financial bank statements on the bulletin board each month in the lobby of city hall so anyone can come and see what money the city has and where the city is spending money and that will continue to be the policy as we continue to be transparent to our residents." The next regular scheduled meeting of the council is set for 7 p.m. on Oct. 13 at Elkhorn City Hall.

BOE
Continued from Page 1A

a \$22.8 million beginning balance," he told the board. "We're projecting receipts for the year of \$82.2 million for the fiscal year 2027, bringing the total budget to \$105 million." The district's primary receipts come from state sources, including SEEK funding, McCoy explained. Those receipts are expected to be \$59.3 million or 72.1 percent of the revenue stream. Local sources are expected to bring in another 24.4 percent or \$20.06 million. McCoy added that the contingency fund is around \$13.7 million, "which is actually a little bit better than what we

had last year." Projected expenses, according to McCoy, are estimated at \$91.2 million, higher than the projected receipts. However, the strong beginning balance will cover that deficit, keeping the budget strong. Along with the budget, the BOE approved another financial matter and set the fiscal year 2027 property tax rate. The BOE has often expressed its aversion to raising taxes and, over the past few years, has even reduced tax rates. While the tax rate will not go down again this year, it will not increase, as the board voted to keep the same rate as last year — 82.8 cents per \$100 of assessed value.



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MEMBERSHIPS STARTING @ \$32/MO.!

Sheriff's Office begins camping enforcement

By Heather Duty
Appalachian Newspapers

WILLIAMSON, W.Va. — The Mingo County Sheriff's Department said it has spent the past four weeks offering housing, rehabilitation, food and medical assistance to people living outdoors in

Williamson but will now begin shifting its focus to enforcing the city's anti-camping ordinance. In a Sept. 2 social media statement, the department said deputies have been working with the county Quick Response

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September 2026

Pike County Public Library
126 Lee Ave Pikeville, KY 41501
*Registration Required.



606-437-6001 MWFS 9:00-6:00 TT 10:00-7:00 NOTES Sign up for a new library card in September and get a FREE swag bag! Every member of the family can have their own library card—parents, kids, grandparents, spouses, and all! One swag bag per new cardholder, while supplies last. September marks the fifth anniversary of Dolly Parton's Imagination Library program at Pike County Libraries! Join our celebration on September 22, and make sure any child under the age of 5 is enrolled. Programs marked with an asterisk (*) require registration. To sign up for a program, visit www.informationplace.org	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	 Pike County Libraries	1 Mountain Music: Dulcimer Workshop* 5:30	2 Adult Guitar Class 2* 2:00 Teen Guitar Class 1* 4:30	3 Teen Guitar Class 2* 4:00 Chess Club 4:00 Music Theory 5:00	4	5
	7 CLOSED ★LABOR DAY★ ★★★	8 Book Talks Book Club 5:00 Superheroes at the Story Trail 5:00	9 Adult Guitar Class 2* 2:00 Teen Guitar Class 1* 4:30	10 Story Time 11:00 Story Time 2:00 Teen Guitar Class 2* 4:00 Chess Club 4:00 Music Theory 5:00 Dun & Dragons 5:00	11	12 Story Time 11:00 Quilters 11:00
	14 Music Theory* 2:00 Adult Guitar Class 1* 4:30 Alibis at the Book Club 5:00	15 Hello Kitty Day 5:30	16 Adult Guitar Class 2* 2:00 Teen Guitar Class 1* 4:30	17 Story Time 11:00 Story Time 2:00 Teen Guitar Class 2* 4:00 Chess Club 4:00 Music Theory 5:00	18	19 Story Time 11:00
	21 Music Theory* 2:00 Teen Time 4:00 Adult Guitar Class 1* 4:30 Teen Book Club 5:30	22 Book Talks Book Club 5:00 Dolly's Imagination Library Celebration 5:30	23 Adult Guitar Class 2* 2:00 Teen Guitar Class 1* 4:30	24 Story Time 11:00 Story Time 2:00 Teen Guitar Class 2* 4:00 Chess Club 4:00 Music Theory 5:00 Dun. & Dragons 5:00	25	26 Story Time 11:00 Quilters 11:00
	28 Music Theory* 2:00 Adult Guitar Class 1* 4:30 Alibis at the Book Club 5:00	29 Fall Painting Program* 5:00 3D Printing Workshop* 5:00	30 Adult Guitar Class 2* 2:00 Teen Guitar Class 1* 4:30			
						Bob Amos Story Trail 