ROAD: Zehr family asks mayor for update

From the front page

Harrison replied he called the state as promised and spoke with district engineer Chris Jones, who said the Zehr family could call him about the matter if they wanted.

"I just expressed your alls concerns and my concerns. He said, "Well just tell them that if they want to call me, they can,'" Harrison said.

The current plan is to have Penny Lane extended and become one-way with the exit further down KY-92W past the waterpark. Over the past four years there have been 48 wrecks at the intersection of Penny Lane and KY-92W.

During government building, utility or road projects, government agencies will sometimes declare eminent domain to obtain private property for public use in instances where owners do not want to sell the property voluntarily.

The government is required to pay fair market compensation for the property, which is typically determined by a board of commissioners appointed by the court.

Property owners can challenge the government's seizure attempt in court and the amount of compensation paid for such property.

ATT. MURDER: Alleged victim told police he put the suspect in a choke hold

From the front page

the scene in a tan car, Cain wrote.

When police arrived at the scene, they discovered the alleged victim bleeding profusely from three separate stab wounds to the leg.

Sgt. Elijah Hunter applied a tourniquet to control bleeding. Paramedics advised that the injuries were life threatening and the victim was flown out.

Cain briefly interviewed the alleged victim in the back of an ambulance.

The alleged victim told police he had put the suspect in a choke hold but had released him and was stabbed.

Witnesses and video showed the suspect on top of the alleged victim fighting, according to the arrest citation.

Morgan told police that he stabbed the alleged victim in self-defense and then stated he didn't want to make any other statements and the interview with him ended, the citation stated.

EMS checked Morgan, who said he was alright and advised he did not want to go to the hospital.

Morgan was arrested at 10:41 p.m. on KY-92E.

Williamsburg Police Officer Mike Taylor also assisted with the investigation.

As of noon Tuesday, Morgan remained incarcerated in the Whitley County Detention Center, according to the detention center's website.

TRAFFICKING: Police serve bench warrants from Laurel and Knox counties

Photo SUBMITTED

ARREST: Police said the suspect removed items from his pockets when asked. One of the items reportedly removed contained suspected methamphetamine. The alleged bag can be seen above.

From the front page

complaints related to possible drug trafficking activity, Taylor wrote on the arrest citation.

Herrell came to the door and Taylor asked him to step outside and noticed several items in his pocket. Taylor then asked Herrell to empty his pockets.

Herrell removed items, including a plastic bag containing a suspected quantity of methamphetamine. Herrell also gave police permission to search the room where paraphernalia associated with drug trafficking was located, Taylor wrote on the arrest citation.

Taylor arrested Herrell at 1:22 a.m. at the home located 10 miles south of London. Deputies also arrested three other people at the residence.

Deputies served Charles Gray, 31, of Waco Street, Corbin, with a Laurel District Court bench warrant charging him with failure to appear in court. In addition, he was also served with four Knox County bench warrants of arrest charging failure to appear in court, the release stated.

Deputies served Kaitlyn Wilson, 31, of Highway 770, Corbin, with a Laurel District Court bench warrant charging non-payment of court costs, fees or fines, the release stated.

Deputies served Jacob Gray, 29, of Slate Lick Street, London, with a Laurel District Court bench warrant for failure to pay fines and costs, the release stated.

All four individuals were lodged in the Laurel County Correctional Center.

Wilson and Jacob Gray were released from custody less than 12 hours after their arrests Friday. Charles Gray was released from custody at 1:30 p.m. Tuesday. As of 2 p.m. Tuesday, Herrell remained incarcerated in the Laurel County Correctional Center, according to the correctional center's website.

Laurel Sheriff's Shift Sgt. Robert Reed and Deputy Robert Smith assisted with the investigation.

Sheriff John Root said drug investigations will continue in Laurel County.

FIRE UPDATE: City looks at next steps

From the front page

million. The scale of the loss and the number of affected business and apartments prompted the involvement of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF).

"ATF's conclusions, after about a week or so, were that it was just a terrible accident," Harrison said. "No arson or human error."

According to Harrison, investigators determined the fire started above the ceilings and burned downward through the structures. Initial assessments suggest the first floors of several buildings may still be salvageable if property owners pursue investigative demolition, which involves removing damaged portions of the second floors.

After the "investigative demo" is complete, owners can see whether walls and floor joists are still good, Harrison told the Williamsburg City Council during its monthly meeting Monday.

Harrison said that ServePro's involvement has been through the insurance companies.

The owner of one building definitely plans to rebuild, Harrison said adding that he has not heard from the other owners.

Councilwoman Chelsey Tyree asked what happens if the owners decide not rebuild?

Harrison said the owners would probably have to use their insurance money to take the remains of the buildings all the way down to the ground or rebuild.

"Then I think we would need to get involved at some point after that," Harrison said.

File Photo

Harrison noted that a representative from the Kentucky Heritage Council met with building owners on Feb. 24 to discuss tax credits they could receive if they repair the current structures as opposed to demolishing what is left and rebuilding from the ground up.

There are 20 percent tax credits from the state available and 20 percent tax credits from the federal government available for owners wishing to repair the current structures.

During the Feb. 24 meeting, Mike Radeke, historic tax credit project manager with the Kentucky Heritage Council State Historic Preservation Office, said the second floor above Donna Guilkey's accounting office and Kim Frosts attorney's office, would have to be torn down but that the first floor could stay. This is the building located at 201 Main Street.

He said the remainder of the buildings located on Main Street at 203 (vacant store front), 205 (Croley and Foley law office) 207 (Associates in Eyecare), 209 (formerly Shale Oak Wine Tasting and the Butcher Law Office), and 211 (recently the location Ngoc Kitchen and the formerly the Emby McKeehan law office) would lose a foot or two of brick near the roof but could stay intact.

He said that the fire essentially just moved through the attic space on the buildings and didn't cause much damage to the first or second floors. However, water did a tremendous amount of damage to all the possessions and dry wall on the first floor.

The 1818 Law Office, which was adjacent to the burned buildings and had extensive smoke and water damage, has found a new permanent home at 286 South Third Street directly across from the Whitley County Public Library.

"I'm not sure what a city can do, but we're going to do something," Harrison said emotionally. "We're gonna make sure the block will be back and businesses. We're gonna be back."

—24TH ANNUAL—

"People's Choice" AWARDS

DEADLINE FRIDAY, APRIL 3RD

Area's #1 Reader's Poll 2026

—OFFICIAL BALLOT—

Vote for your favorite businesses and individuals!

Two separate polls - one for Williamsburg and one for Corbin. Select the area in which you live.

CASH PRIZES 1ST PLACE — $100 2ND PLACE — $50

Send your ballot in for a chance to win - A drawing will be held to determine the winners

SHOPPING & SERVICES

Accounting Service
Air/Heat Repair
Antique Dealer
Appliance Dealer
Attorney Office
Auto Body & Repair
Automobile Dealer
Auto Services (OIL CHANGES TUNE-UPS, ETC)
Auto Parts Store
Bank
Barber Shop
Beauty Salon
Building Materials
Cabinets
Chiropractor
Child Care
Check Cash Advance
College/University
Dentures
Dry Cleaner
Event Rental Facility
Eye Wear
Farm Store
Finance Company
Fishing/Tackle Dealer
Flooring/Carpet Dealer
Florist
Formal Wear
Funeral Home
Garden Nursery
Hearing Aid Center
Health & Rehab Center
Hotel/Motel
Home Health Medical Supplies
Home Improvement Store
Hospital
Insurance Agency
Jewelry Store
Landscaping
Laundromat
Lighting Dealer
Liquor Store
Mobile Home Dealer
Movie Theater
Paint Store
Pawn Shop
Pest Control
Pharmacy
Place to Work
Real Estate Agency
Shoe Store
Shopping Center
Storage Facility
Supermarket/Grocery Store
Swimming Pool Sales & Repair
Tanning Salon
Tax Services
Tire Dealer
Towing Service
Truck Dealership
Urgent Care Facility
Used Automobiles
Waste Collection
Window Sales & Service

PEOPLE

Automobile Salesperson
Bank Teller
Barber
Bartender
City Official
Dentist
Eye Doctor
Financial Advisor
Funeral Director
Insurance Salesperson
Medical Doctor
Orthodontist
Pediatrician
Pharmacist
Photographer
Physical Therapist
Real Estate Agent
Stylist
Veterinarian

DINING, FOOD & FUN

Barbecue
Breakfast Spot
Buffet
Catering
Chicken
Chili
Chinese
Dinner Date Restaurant
Drive-In
Family Dining
Family Fun Place
Farm to Table Restaurant
Fast Food
Fish/Seafood
French Fries
Hamburgers
Home Cooking
Hot Dogs
Ice Cream
Italian
Locally Owned Restaurant
Lunch Spot
Mexican
Pizza
Produce Stand
Recreation/Activity
Salad
Sandwiches
Steak
Trivia/Game Night
Wings

VOTES ARE FOR

_____WILLIAMSBURG _____CORBIN

Name

Address

Phone

Please Note: Only entries with name, address, phone number and **votes in at least 15 categories** will be counted and eligible for cash prize.

ONLY ONE ENTRY PER PERSON - MULTIPLE ENTRIES WILL NOT BE COUNTED.

DEADLINE IS FRIDAY, APRIL 3RD, 2026 AT 5 PM

——CONTEST RULES——

You must be 18 years of age to enter. **Only signed entries with votes in at least 15 categories will be counted and eligible for cash prize.** Only one entry per person. Multiple entries from same household may be mailed together - please make sure you have the correct postage on your entries **(any entry that comes postage due will not be accepted)**. Cash prizes will be payable by check. **PHOTO COPIES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.** Employees and agents of the News Journal are not eligible for prizes. **All entries must be in our office by 5 pm, Friday, April 3rd, 2026**

SEND WILLIAMSBURG ENTRIES TO: PEOPLE'S CHOICE, PO BOX 418, WILLIAMSBURG, KY 40769

SEND CORBIN ENTRIES TO: PEOPLE'S CHOICE, PO BOX 1524, CORBIN, KY 40702

ENTRIES MAY BE DROPPED OFF AT 215 N. MAIN STREET, CORBIN, KY