

Paintsville ARH honors nurses Maynard, McGaffee

SPECIAL TO THE
PAINTSVILLE HERALD

Paintsville ARH Hospital announced in a statement it is celebrating two outstanding nurses who have received awards from the Appalachian Regional Healthcare system. These awards, the statement said, honor nurses who show exceptional dedication, lead with heart, and go the extra mile for patients, families and their teams. “Nursing is a calling and we are privileged to have nurses whose knowledge and compassion define the care we provide. They are the foundation of healthcare and their

impact cannot be overstated,” said Kathy Stumbo, Paintsville ARH Hospital CEO. Nurse Executive Award winner Crystal McGaffee is a strong and caring leader who consistently leads by example, the statement said. “She works side by side with her team daily, offering support, listening to concerns and helping solve challenges while making every team member feel valued,” the statement said. “She is deeply dedicated to both her team and patients.” After her daughter’s graduation, McGaffee returned the same night to help cover a shift, the

statement said. “McGaffee connects with her patients, offering kindness and support that makes a lasting difference,” the statement said. “McGaffee has continued to grow professionally as she earned her BSN after becoming a Chief Nursing Officer.” McGaffee, the statement said, graduated from the ARH Leadership Academy and is currently working toward her master’s degree. “She is actively involved in committees and focuses on innovation, always playing an important role in improving patient care and the overall experience throughout the hos-

pital,” the statement said. Marlene Maynard, the statement said, is the Emergency Department Nurse winner. “With more than 30 years of experience, Maynard is a highly respected nurse known for her compassion, patience and extensive clinical knowledge,” the statement said. “She always delivers high-quality patient care and is skilled at recognizing early changes in patient conditions and acting quickly to ensure the best outcomes. Maynard is a valued resource for her co-workers and is a role model for leading by example through integrity, professionalism and accountabil-



Marlene Maynard



Crystal McGaffee

ity, even in high-pressure situations. “She is always focusing on achieving the best patient outcomes,” the statement continued. “This commitment to excellence and her positive influence make her an important part of the Emergency Department at Paintsville ARH Hospital.” Stumbo said Maynard and McGaffee represent the best of who ARH is. “Their compassion and commitment to excellence are making a difference in the lives of our patients and their families every day. It’s an honor to recognize and celebrate them,” said Stumbo.

Paintsville council approves court project, road funding

BY MYCCA DECKER
NEWS EDITOR

The Paintsville City Council approved a court resurfacing project, road funding, a zoning change and repairs to City Hall during its July 11 meeting. The council reviewed

and approved three bids to resurface two tennis courts and convert part of an existing court into a pickleball court. The council also approved a resolution accepting \$37,400 from the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet to resurface F.M. Stafford Avenue and Rob-

ert Wiley Lane. The council approved a recommendation from the Paintsville Planning and Zoning Commission to change property owned by Paul David Brown from C-2 commercial zoning to R-2 residential zoning. The property is located near the Paintsville Golf

Course. Council members also reappointed Grady Underwood to the Paintsville Utility Commission. The council approved seeking bids for repairs to the City Hall basement following flood damage. During the meeting, Troy Hearn with the Ken-

tucky Department for Public Health presented a proposed Bike Walk Master Plan. Hearn said the plan identifies sidewalk, bicycle and trail projects and could help the city when applying for funding. “If you’re ever going to apply for state or federal

funding, having a standalone document literally gives you extra points on your application right off the top,” Hearn said. The council delayed a vote on the plan to allow members time to review it. The council is expected to consider the plan at a future meeting.

FUTURE
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before receiving new offers of assistance from the School Facilities Construction Commission. Better data helps ensure funding decisions are based on accurate assessments and genuine need. The committee also discussed how local facility taxes, school revenue bonds, SEEK funding and state assistance work together to finance construction projects. Understanding how these funding sources interact is essential for making informed budget decisions and ensuring fairness across school districts. Beyond the bricks and mortar, lawmakers also examined career and technical education (CTE) funding. Investments in CTE programs help students earn industry certifications, develop technical skills and prepare for high-demand careers that strengthen Kentucky’s workforce. School buildings and workforce development are closely connected, with students needing quality learning environments to prepare for the opportunities that await them. These discussions are about more than budgets. They are about building

schools that serve students for decades while ensuring public dollars are spent wisely. Every classroom we build today represents an investment in Kentucky’s future. Today’s students are tomorrow’s workforce, business owners, healthcare professionals, skilled tradespeople, educators and community leaders. The quality of the education they receive and the facilities in which they learn, has a direct impact on Kentucky’s future economic success. When we invest responsibly in safe, modern schools and strong career and technical education programs, we are not simply constructing buildings or funding classrooms. We are preparing the next generation with the knowl-

edge, skills and opportunities they need to compete in a changing economy while ensuring Kentucky has the workforce necessary to attract new industries, support existing employers and strengthen communities across the commonwealth. As interim committees continue their work ahead of the 2027 Regular Session, these conversations will help shape decisions that affect students, families, educators and taxpayers across the commonwealth. By emphasizing accountability, transparency and strategic investment, Kentucky can continue providing quality educational opportunities while maintaining the fiscal discipline taxpayers expect. As always, I can be

reached anytime through the toll-free message line in Frankfort at, 1-800-372-7181. You can also contact me via email at, Bobby.McCool@kylegislature.gov, and keep track through the Kentucky legislature’s website at, legislature.ky.gov.

**BSACAP ANNOUNCES
BI-MONTHLY BOARD MEETING**

In accordance with its bylaws, Big Sandy Area Community Action’s Board of Directors will meet on Tuesday, July 28, 2026. The meeting will be held at the Mountain Arts Center, 50 Hal Rogers Drive, Prestonsburg, KY at 11 a.m. All meetings are open to the public.

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**Elections Set for
Big Sandy Area Community Action Program**

The Big Sandy Area Community Action Program low-income representative election will be held on Friday, July 17, 2026, in the following location:

Johnson County: 230 Court Street, Room 333, Paintsville

- You must be 18 years of age or older, a resident of the county of election, and meet the 200 percent poverty income guidelines to vote in the election.
- You will be asked to provide proof of age, residence, and income before being issued a ballot.
- Ballots containing the name(s) of eligible candidates will be available for all who qualify to vote.
- Voting will begin at 8 a.m. on Friday, July 17th, and end at 2 p.m.

All low-income residents of Johnson County are encouraged to participate.

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