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Students, driver injured in bus accident Monday

LEBANON JUNCTION – The investigation continues after a bus flipped on Monday afternoon, sending several individuals to medical facilities for attending.

According to the Bullitt County Public School System, a BCPS bus carrying 28 Lebanon Junction Elementary students was involved in an accident at approximately 4:45 p.m.

The incident, which is still under investigation, occurred on Wilson Creek Road.

Emergency crews were notified immediately and responded to the scene.

Superintendent Dr. Jesse Bacon said BCPS transportation, school safety, and Lebanon Junction staff were also on hand to support affected students, staff, families, and first responders.

"We are grateful for the swift response and coordinated effort from the Bullitt County Emergency Management Agency, Bullitt County Emergency Medical Service, the Lebanon Junction Fire Department, and the Bullitt County Sheriff's Office," said Bacon.

EMS transported the driver and eight students to area hospitals for evaluation of injuries. Parents took another five students to local medical facilities.

First responders cleared the remaining students on site and released them directly to their families.

"We continue to work closely with emergency personnel and our families to ensure everyone's safety and well-being," said Bacon.

The cause of the accident is under investigation by the Bullitt County Sheriff's Office. The school district's safety director Sarah Smith, police chief Mike Huffman and the transportation staff is cooperating with the investigation.

"The safety of our students and staff remains our highest priority. We sincerely appreciate the Lebanon Junction community's support, patience, and care for our students during this time," said Bacon.

On Tuesday, the BCPS support staff and counselors were present at Lebanon Junction Elementary. The emotional support resources will remain for any students, faculty or staff who might need assistance for as long as necessary.

Prior to classes beginning on Tuesday, principal Dr. Jessica Emerson and counselor Jami Willis talked with the staff about the situation.

No updates were provided Tuesday morning on the condition of the driver or any of the students.

Socially good time at St. Aloysius Church



The major attraction to the St. Aloysius Social is the fried chicken dinner. Folks of all ages were lined up well over an hour before the dinner actually started on Saturday. And the line was all the way around the gym for a three-hour period. Silent auction items were also in the gym.



The wheels of chance were part of the event. The cake wheel is always one of the most popular booths at St. Aloysius each August at the social event, which replaced the picnic several years ago.

HPD hoping to deter illegal motor vehicle use

STEPHEN THOMAS
THE PIONEER NEWS

HILLVIEW — The Hillview City Council is trying to get some traction going regarding illegal motorized vehicles on city streets, especially the ones driven by juveniles.

While the Hillview Police Department increased its efforts to crack down on the issue, a few residents complained that there was not anything being done at all.

During a recent council meeting, HPD chief Bill Mahoney discussed many rules and laws pertaining to juveniles and legal motorcraft, admitting that the many issues could be confusing.

When activity began to escalate, Mahoney said the department first sent out warnings to parents, but the issue only worsened. So he decided to issue a Facebook post regarding the matter.

"People don't listen," he said. "It continues to get worse."

Mahoney decided to detail information with the council, starting with the issue of electric bicycles vs. electric scooters.

According to state law, E-bikes do not require a minimum age nor driver's license, with users obeying standard bicycle and traffic laws.

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Council hears 'fowl' talk on allowing chickens to roost in city

THOMAS J. BARR
THE PIONEER NEWS

SHEPHERDSVILLE – It took until the end of the meeting before the talks among members of the Shepherdsville City Council turned "fowl."

A few feathers were raised but it appears the matter will ultimately come down to the six members of the council as to whether residents in the city are allowed to have live chickens on their property.

Councilmember Jennifer Mendez brought up the possibility of passing an ordinance to allow property owners to raise a certain number of chickens.

That's all it took to for the social media folks to get involved.

But only a couple of individuals attended the meeting on Monday to talk on the topic.

The controversy seems to be limited to the Mallard Lake subdivision.

Becky Pellman said that her neighbor has chickens and she is against the idea.

While the current chicken holder may do an excellent job of keeping his poultry under control, she said others might not.

Even if the city would pass an ordinance limiting the number of hens and the prohibition of roosters, she asked who would have the task of enforcing the law.

The subdivision has a Homeowners Association and it has rules that must be followed. The city cannot enforce subdivision regulations set by the HOA.

Lisa Carter, who owns several rental homes, said it would be very bad to allow chickens into the city. She said if there is a problem, the renter won't get the fines, it would be the owner of the home.

She feared they would draw snakes, coyotes and other wildlife in pursuit of the chickens.

Jo Coffman said she grew up on a farm and there is definitely an odor. If someone wants to raise chickens, she said it needs to be on a farm.

Freddie Robinson, who is raising chickens at his Mallard Lake home, said that his complaining neighbor doesn't even live in the

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Woman to face life in prison after death of couple

THOMAS J. BARR
THE PIONEER NEWS

HILLVIEW – A jury has found a woman guilty in her role in the death of a husband and wife.

Dawn Marie Middleton, 33, has been convicted of two counts of vehicular homicide, driving under the influence and disregarding a traffic device.

The trial went two weeks before the jury took less than two hours to make its decision on Thursday.

On Friday, the jury deliberated for 25 minutes and made its recommendation that Middleton should serve life in prison.

Final sentencing in Bullitt Circuit Court will be held at 9 a.m. on Thursday, Oct. 1.

It was on June 5, 2024, when Richard and Phyllis Elzey were driving on Preston Highway and were cross the roadway when Middleton's vehicle ran the red light and struck the elderly couple.

The impact caused the Chevy pickup of the Elzey couple to go off the roadway.

Commonwealth attorney Amanda Hernandez Troutman and assistant commonwealth attorney Michael Van Sickle presented a number of individuals to testify during the trial.

Hillview police department handled the investigation of the case. Wyatt Rossell led the inquiry.

Mike Dennis, another Hillview police officer, recalled arriving at the scene. Wearing his body camera, he checked on Middleton in her vehicle. She was lethargic and difficult to understand, he said.

Fellow officer Kenneth James said that when he

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