



REDBANKS COLONIAL TERRACE hosted a volunteer appreciation breakfast Saturday morning as a thank you to all the individuals who help with residents at the facility. Crystal Littlepage welcomed guests who enjoyed biscuits and gravy, fruit and other breakfast foods.

BOE Recognizes Teachers, Students; Approves SBDM Allocations

The Webster County Board of Education met in a short session Monday night with recognitions and SBDM allocations highlighting the discussions.

The business meeting opened with the #1WC Employee of the Month and Student Spotlight recognitions.

Jacob Knight, a teacher and coach at Webster County Middle School, was named the #1WC Certified Employee for April and Katy Lock-

hart, Lindsey Branson and Misty McVay, all special education instruction assistants in the FMD classrooms were co-#1WC Classified Employees of the Month.

The Student Spotlight recognized Austin Duncan who will attend the Governor's Scholars program this summer and Carson Hayes who has been selected to attend the Murray State University Commonwealth Honors Academy where he will enroll

in two college classes.

Following the recognition presentations, parent Samantha Winebarger addressed the board. Winebarger publicly thanked the anonymous donor who provided funding so the middle school soccer teams could have transportation to events. They had been stymied by insufficient funds in the account, but due to the generosity of an individual were able to compete in away

meets. Winebarger also commended Jacob Knight for coaching the boys' soccer team and helping them grow into exceptional athletes.

In her comments, Winebarger also asked the board to consider moving their meeting time back to 5:30 or 6:00 p.m. noting that many parents would like to attend, but the 4:30 meeting time did not allow them to get from work to the board meetings. She also suggested the

board start using the STLP students to film or record meetings so that the public can have access to board activities.

Winebarger also told the board that there have been disgruntled individuals recently due to the superintendent vote made by the board. She asked that complaints be requested in writing noting they could be anonymous but they should be written com-

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WC Fiscal Court Approves First Reading Of FY 2027 Budget

Webster County Fiscal Court gave first reading to their fiscal year 2027 budget on Monday. The tentative FY2027 budget totals \$24,090,057 with \$5.2 million of that amount placed in the general fund. The road fund is listed at \$3.9 million while the jail fund and LGEA budgets are just over \$3 each. The county list includes \$7.7 million in federal grants, \$342,847 in opioid funding, \$230,458 in the sanitation fund. Other funding is set aside for the animal shelter, the sheriff's federal asset forfeiture fund, and special funds for clerk's storage of records.

Magistrates now have time to review and revise the budget before second reading should they choose to do so. Appropriations reflect a 2.7 cost of living increase in salaries for employees, and an increase to the cost of health insurance. Although the health insurance premium has increased, Judge/

Executive Steve Henry noted that the increase will not be reflected in employees paychecks. He told the court that the budget as presented is a good starting point for them to review.

Magistrates also heard from deputy judge/executive Ryan Hammack who reported he worked on several initiatives over the past two weeks including discussions between the city of Providence and Webster County Water District, attended a grant workshop and attending several remote meetings regarding grants. Hammack said he continues to work with Vicki Shadrick at the extension office on projects and attended the local leaders breakfast where he was able to network with several individuals. Wednesday, he said he will attend the first Chamber of Commerce as the county works to re-establish that organization. Other activities included the planting of the Liberty Tree at Canaan Ridge Park.

At the conclusion of Hammack's remarks, he asked if anyone had questions about his report. Ken Stuart of Providence attempted to ask a question, but Judge/Executive Steve Henry did not let him continue noting there was no public comment section listed on the agenda.

The court moved on to the next item of business which was approving the advertisement of a public hearing for LGEA and County Road Aid funds. That hearing is scheduled for May 11. Webster County has \$245,900.54 allocated for LGEA expenditures and \$1,051,711.22 for county road aid. The court approved the advertisement.

In personnel matters, the court approved the following hires: Sheriff's department, Brooklyn Willett, part time; road department, Titus Scott and Cody Johnson both full time; and the jail, Jim Wilson fulltime.

Magistrates also approved a \$40,000 in-

terfund transfer from the general fund to the jail, and agreed to advertise for road material bids. Those bids will be opened at the May 11 court meeting and possible awarded at the May 26, meeting.

In other business, the court approved a cooperative agreement between the Transportation Cabinet Department of Municipal Road Aid and Webster County fiscal Court. The \$1,061,711.23 in funds is based on estimated revenue with three percent of that amount held in contingency as emergency funding.

Other information to

come before the court included a report from Kim Humphrey and Zara Toal regarding their attendance at a recent KAED conference. The duo is also continuing site visits throughout the county. Toal provided updates on park activities, and Henry interjected a reminder to the public that the speed limit in the park is 15 mph. Mandy Fambrough also

provided an update list of senior citizen activities.

As Henry called for a motion to adjourn at 9:35, Stuart again tried to ask a question concerning the deputy judge/executive who Stuart alleges has looked up his Linked In multiple times.

The meeting ended, with the next meeting of the court scheduled for May 11, at 9:00 a.m.

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-- PUBLIC NOTICE --

AMENDMENT TO WATER RATE ORDINANCE FOR THE CITY OF SLAUGHTERS, KENTUCKY

CHARGES FOR WATER USE ARE ESTABLISHED AT \$38.99 BASE RATE FOR INSIDE CITY LIMITS WATER CUSTOMERS AND \$43.99 BASE RATE FOR OUTSIDE CITY LIMIT WATER CUSTOMERS FOR THE FIRST 2,000 GALLONS, EACH ADDITIONAL GALLON WILL BE \$10.14 FOR INSIDE CITY LIMIT WATER CUSTOMERS AND \$12.14 FOUR OUTSIDE CITY LIMIT WATER CUSTOMERS PER 1,000 GALLONS OF WATER METERED. SLAUGHTERS WATERWORKS RESERVES THE RIGHT TO DETERMINE WHICH FORMS OF PAYMENT ARE ACCEPTABLE.]

A FULL COPY OF THIS ORDINANCE CAN BE VIEWED AT THE CITY OF SLAUGHTERS OFFICE BUILDING UPON REQUEST.

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God Knows You

By Dr. Bob Hardison

How Can We Guard Against Greed?

Q: The stock market had a banner year in 2025. My portfolio has soared to heights I never thought possible. I'm feeling comfortable about my personal finances. How can I guard against greed?

A: Rightfully so, all of us should guard against greed. Jesus taught us to "Watch out? Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; a man's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions" (Lk. 12:15). Each of us should carefully search out greed in his own heart.

People see money as an asset. Jesus views it quite differently. He sees it as a barometer.

How we manage our money reflects our values, motives and even our faith. What we do with our money shows what's important to us. "For where your treasure is, taught Jesus, "there your heart will be also" (Mt. 6:21).

Live simply! The best things in life are not found in malls. Give generously! Give a tithe (ten percent) back to God in your church and then give to ministries and objectives that God prompts you to contribute to. Also, give generously to individuals and other needs you encounter.

Take the leap into the realm of generosity and trust God to provide for your needs

(Phil. 4:19). Our resurrected Lord Jesus exclaimed, "It is more blessed to give than to receive" (Acts 20:35). Psst, here's a secret: Givers are the happiest people on the face of the earth.

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