



Pastor Mark Huff of River of Life Fellowship served as emcee of the event. | PHOTO BY MADISON NANTZ

Community gathers to observe National Day of Prayer

BY MADISON NANTZ
CORRESPONDENT

LONDON — Local leaders and pastors gathered at the Laurel County Courthouse steps Thursday afternoon in observance of the Na-

tional Day of Prayer.

The Laurel County Fiscal Court recognizes the day on the first Thursday of May each year, invit-

SEE PRAYER, PAGE 11A

Human trafficking charges added in SLHS teacher exploitation case

BY MACEE SWAFFORD
STAFF WRITER

BARBOURVILLE — Additional charges have been filed against two individuals previously arrested in connection with an ongoing child exploitation investigation, according to new Kentucky State Police press releases issued Thursday.

The Kentucky State Police Electronic Crime Branch announced that Bradley Kyle Yeager, 35, of Heidrick, and Rachel Baker, 22, of Bimble, are now facing multiple human trafficking-related charges connected to the investigation.

According to KSP, Yeager was arrested May 5 at 8:33 p.m. following an undercover Internet Crimes Against Children investigation. State police said the Barbourville Police Department began the investigation after discovering the suspect allegedly sharing images of child sexual exploitation online and making the initial arrest. Authorities later requested assis-

tance from the Kentucky State Police Electronic Crime Branch in identifying multiple possible victims in several counties, and potentially other states.

KSP stated Yeager is now charged with two counts of promoting human trafficking under 18 years old and 14 counts of promoting a sexual performance by a minor under 18 years old. The Charges are Class-C felonies punishable by five to ten years in prison. He remains lodged in the Knox County Detention Center.

Baker was also arrested May 5 at 4:25 p.m. as part of the same investigation, according to KSP Authorities said she is charged with two counts of promoting human trafficking under 18 years old and four counts of promoting a sexual performance by a minor under 18 years old.

She was also lodged in the Knox County Detention Center.

The new charges follow an earlier investigation detailed by

the Barbourville Police Department and Laurel County Public Schools involving allegations that explicit images and videos of a minor were exchanged.

In a previous statement, Laurel County Public Schools confirmed Yeager was employed as a teacher at South Laurel High School and had been suspended pending the outcome of the investigation. School officials stated student safety remains their top priority, and that allegations of misconduct are addressed immediately.

According to previous court records, Baker allegedly contacted Barbourville Police and reported that Yeager paid her for images and videos involving herself and the child.

KSP said equipment allegedly used to facilitate the crimes was seized and taken to the KSP forensic laboratory for examination.

Authorities noted the investigation remains ongoing and additional charges are expected.

LAUREL COUNTY WASTE TIRE COLLECTION DAYS

MAY 14TH, 15TH & 16TH
THURSDAY & FRIDAY
8:00AM UNTIL 4:00PM
SATURDAY
8:00AM UNTIL 12:00PM

TIRES ACCEPTED

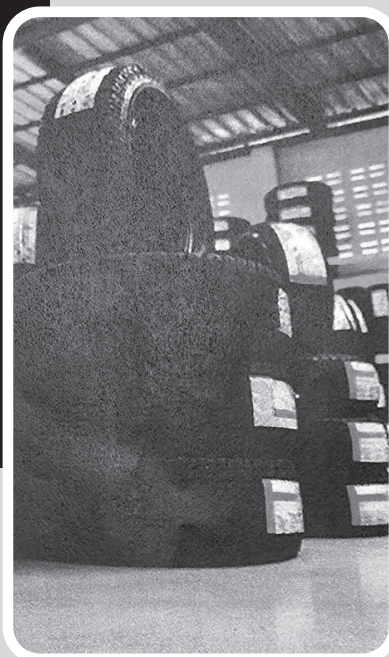
- ✓ Tires off or on rin
- ✓ Farm Implement
- ✓ Bicycle, Motorcycle, Go-Cart, ATV
- ✓ Tractor
- ✓ Tractor and Passenger

TIRES NOT ACCEPTED

- ✓ Foam Filled
- ✓ Calium Filled
- ✓ Off Road Construction
- ✓ Any Tire with bead greater that 1 3/4 inches



168 SUBSTATION ST.
LONDON, KY
40741



Laurel County, in cooperation with the Division of Waste Management, will sponsor a waste tire collection program to allow Kentucky residents a chance to dispose of waste tires at no charge.

For questions, please contact your Solid Waste Coordinator at (606) 878-6845

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF KENTUCKY SOUTHERN DIVISION AT LONDON

HBKY, LLC,
Plaintiff,

Civ. No. 6:21-cv-00101-GFVT-HAI

v.

KINGDOM ENERGY RESOURCES, LLC, ET AL.,
Defendants.

NOTICE OF SALE & APPOINTMENT OF APPRAISERS

Comes the undersigned, Court appointed Special Master, and gives notice that pursuant to the Order of Sale [Doc# 1152] entered in the above-captioned case on March 30, 2026 he will on **JUNE 11, 2026 at 1:00 P.M.** at the door of the Harlan County Courthouse facing Central St., in Harlan, Kentucky, offer for sale at public auction and outcry to the highest and best bidder the hereinafter described real property in Harlan and Bell Counties, more particularly described in the Order of Sale (the "Realty"):1

FORMER BLACK STAR LAND & MINING PROPERTY

KENTUCKY HIGHWAY 72, BLACKSTAR
HARLAN COUNTY PVA MAP #s 037-00-00-001.00; 037-00-00-001_01;
036-00-00-001.00

KENTUCKY HIGHWAY 72, BLACKSTAR, IN RELATION TO CERTAIN MINERAL INTERESTS IN WHOLE OR IN PART ONLY
HARLAN COUNTY PVA MAP #s 025-00-00-001.00; 027-00-00-001; 027-00-00-002

CHUNKLINK SPUR, PATHFORK
HARLAN COUNTY PVA MAP #049-00-00-001.00

CATRONS CREEK
HARLAN COUNTY PVA MAP #062-00-00-001.00

1 Note that the Realty is subject to an Order of the Court (R. 1081) with regard to remaining interests in a certain oil and gas Lease as described therein and as such Order is recorded in the Harlan County Clerk's Office at MC51 PG 230.

KY 987 BLAKESNAKE
BELL COUNTY PVA MAP # 179-00-00-020.00

The Realty is being sold to pay the principal judgment of \$45,260,810.90, plus interest, costs, and fees and in accordance with the Order of Sale and terms therein, and subject to [Doc #335], including those terms related to credit bidding. **GENERAL SALE TERMS:** (1) A minimum bid which is greater than or equal to 67% of the appraised value of the Realty will be required in order to bid (the "Minimum"), with the Minimum to be paid to the undersigned by certified check or cashier's check made payable to the "United States District Court for the Eastern District of Kentucky" by a bidder before any bid will be accepted (*i.e.*, a bidder must pay the Minimum in order to bid at the sale), which shall be held by the undersigned until the sale has concluded and refunded to any unsuccessful bidder within 10 days of the sale; (2) the balance of any bid in excess of the Minimum shall be paid to the undersigned within 20 days after the sale, by a certified or cashier's check payable to the "United States District Court for the Eastern District of Kentucky"; and (3) if the successful bidder fails to timely pay the balance due, the certified or cashier's check for the Minimum shall be forfeited and shall be applied to cover the expenses of the sale, including any commissions due, with any amount remaining remitted to the Plaintiff and applied to reduce the Plaintiff's aforesaid judgment, and the Realty shall then be offered again for sale.

The Realty will be appraised by Kevin Biscaglia and Jonathan Evans, two disinterested, intelligent housekeepers actively engaged in or having at least one year of experience in the field of real estate. Their appraisals will be filed in the record once received by the undersigned and may be obtained from the undersigned

Respectfully submitted,

/s/C. BISHOP JOHNSON
C. BISHOP JOHNSON
C. BISHOP JOHNSON, PLLC
PO Box 128
Pineville, KY 40977
Phone: (606) 337-6500
Fax: (606) 337-6100
Email: cbishopjohnson@bellsouth.net

Eligible participants do **NOT** include tire retailers or salvage yards