



Brindle Ridge Volunteer Fire Department responded to a single car accident last Friday on Hwy 1505 in Brindle Ridge. Authorities say Justin Bretz, 20, of Brodhead was traveling north on Hwy 1505 when his truck hydroplaned and dropped off the roadway into the ditch and flipped several times. Bretz was transported to Rockcastle Regional Hospital where he was treated for non-life threatening injuries and released.

“Climax”

(Cont. from front)

houses, connecting graveled pathways, three picnic tables and lighting. The project was financed primarily with an \$80,000 50/50 matching grant from the state.

During the meeting, the court also approved the 2013-14 budgets for the Tourist Commission and the Rockcastle County Board of Health.

The Tourist Commission budget shows expected revenues of \$361,100 from the motel/transient and restaurant tax, \$16,000 from state government, \$6,800 from museum tours/donations, \$14,500 from craft sales and \$120 from bank interest. This, along with a carryover from last year's budget of \$124,000, will give the commission total available revenue of \$522,520.

Appropriations include: \$126,400 for personnel, \$276,570 for operations, including \$113,900 for advertising and printing, \$58,350 for administration and reserves and \$61,200 for debt service.

The health department's budget shows expected revenue of \$243,234 and, coupled with a carryover of \$177,835, total revenue available of \$421,069. Appropriations listed, include \$208,102 for operations (which includes a \$188,882 contribution to the Cumberland Valley District Health Department) and \$212,967 for reserve for transfer.

In other action, the court approved \$500 for a paving stone in the Kentucky National Guard Memorial and \$2,271.81 for utility bills for the Pongo Fire Department for January thru June of 2013.

The court also entered into a Memorandum of Agreement with the Department of Local Government for \$52,000 in coal severance funds which will be used toward construction costs of the Climax Fire Dept.

Carloftis also made the court aware of FLEX funds available this year for repaving of roads already surfaced. The court will have a total of \$367,713 for the work which includes \$42,000 leftover from the last fiscal year and funds not completely expended in 2005 and 2010.

Last year, the court had \$566,893 available from these funds and 88%, or \$400,369, was spent on Lambert Road. Carloftis told the court that Flat Gap Road, which runs parallel to Lambert Road, will be widened this year but no flex funds will be spent on it. He said tiles necessary for the widening had already been purchased.

The judge gave the magistrates a list of roads available for the FLEX funds but said an estimate of the cost of each road would have to be obtained from Greer Bros. and the state will have to approve the roads selected by the magistrates for patching or complete repaving with the funds.

In addition, the judge

told the court that he was proposing new surfacing for: Redstart Lane, Arrowhead Lane and Goochland Rd. The cost of paving these roads would have to be paid from road funds.

In other action, the court approved the transfer of \$155,000 from the general fund. \$50,000 will be transferred to the jail fund, \$100,000 to the road fund and \$5,000 to the CSEPP account.

“School”

(Cont. from front)

individual plans with them (to help them stay in school). The state is not offering anything in the way of a plan to keep children from dropping out. Ultimately, any plan by the state will pass down to us and we will have to finance it. They're showing no leadership."

The state offered a \$10,000 grant to the first 96 school districts to adopt the 18 year old drop out age and Pensol said he resented the implication by the state that if a district didn't immediately raise their drop-out age to 18, then they don't care about kids. As of last night, Pensol said that 94 district had adopted the new drop-out age. He said the state had put up a website with a map showing which counties have already adopted the new law. Once the 96 school district mark is reached, the law automatically goes into effect for all of the state's 174 school districts. "I think it's important that we don't play their game," Pensol said. "It's a wash anyway with the \$10,000 grant since what you can use it for will be so limited." Pensol also noted that the school district has been working on the problem. "Without fanfare, our department heads, principals and teachers have been working on this problem for some time and it shows."

School board member Angie Mink commented that she felt if the legislature wanted the drop-out age to be 18, they should have passed the legislation. "You can sure see a hemp flag flying near the state capitol showing a lot of support for making the growing of that legal," she said.

Actually, Kentucky's graduation rate already exceeds the national average. And, it has been proven in other states that increasing the dropout age to 18 has had little effect on improving overall graduation rates, according to an opinion piece in the Crittenton Press, Marion County on July 4th. Crittenton County Board of Education has also not changed the school district's compulsory attendance age from 16 to 18, along with Jessamine, Madison, Fayette, Clark, Casey and others.

The board also adopted a streamlined enrollment form, beginning with this school year. Director of Student Services and Pupil Personnel told the board that the two 8x10 sheets would replace the 1 1/2 to 2 inch packet of forms normally required for enrolling stu-

dents in the system. She did caution that other forms would have to be filled out such as from the health department, school lunch program, etc.

The superintendent's personnel action report showed one certified personnel hiring - Anna Reynolds as a special education teacher at BES.

“Brodhead”

(Cont. from front)

to be blacktopped as well.

"The cul-de-sac holds water and has only been patched and not blacktopped in the past which has caused it to be uneven," Abrams said. "I pay taxes like everyone else and considering the road's condition, I would like to have the rest of the road blacktopped if it is possible."

Abrams also said people drive off the roadway and turn around in his yard while they are turning around in the cul-de-sac.

"I can be in my front yard and watch people drive in my yard while they are turning around in the cul-de-sac," Abrams said. "People don't even have the courtesy to stay on the road while they are turning around and I have even seen a whole car in my yard turning around before."

Councilman and Brodhead Fire Chief Larry Taylor said Proffitt Street and its cul-de-sac is a part of the driving training course for their new firefighters and that they have never had any problem turning around in the cul-de-sac.

"If we can turn around a fire truck there than other people should be able to turn around in their smaller vehicles," Taylor said. "We can't help that people are getting off into yards because they have enough room to turn around if they would just have the courtesy to stay on the road."

However, Taylor said he was in favor of blacktopping all of Proffitt Street including the cul-de-sac versus patching only part of the road.

"When we went out and looked at it, we noticed it was raised up toward the end of the street toward the cul-de-sac and we thought the blacktop was still in good shape," Taylor said. "We never looked at it that close but we still have an allotment in our blacktopping plan to fix that small section."

Councilman Mark Buras agreed with Taylor and said that adding blacktop to the remainder of the street would be feasible.

"Since there is not a lot of traffic on the street and it is not in terrible shape, we can just add an inch on top of the old blacktop and that should be substantial," Buras said. "I think it would be better if we go ahead and blacktop the remainder of the street instead of doing piecemeal work."

The council agreed unanimously to leave the cul-de-sac the same size but put another inch of blacktop on top of the current blacktop.

“Meth”

(Cont. from front)

Chief Barry Adams and Deputy Sheriff Matt Bryant received information that Carpenter had ingredients inside his bedroom that were used to manufacture meth.

Once officers arrived, Carpenter admitted that he had ingredients to manufacture meth inside his bedroom. Carpenter also admitted to officers that he had items used to manufacture meth hidden inside a fireplace at the home as well.

After receiving consent to search his bedroom, officers found crushed-up pseudoephedrine tablets in a hand tied plastic wrapper along with several other small plastic baggies. Officers also found several packs of lithium batteries and coffee filters hidden inside the fireplace.

Carpenter later told officers that all the materials found by them were going to eventually be used to manufacture meth.

Carpenter was charged with manufacturing meth. He remains lodged in the Rockcastle County Detention Center on a \$25,000 cash/property bond.

“Teen”

(Cont. from front)

he hopes Farthing's case is solved soon for her family's sake.

"For the family's sake I hope the body is recovered soon," Peters said. "But there is still hope that she is alive. Maybe she just decided to run away from home or something and hopefully she will turn up soon."

According to the Kentucky State Police, witnesses said they last saw Farthing the morning of Saturday, June 22nd at a home on Dillon Court in Berea.

The same house Farthing was last seen at also caught on fire the same morning. No human remains were found inside the home but KSP and arson investigators are still trying to determine what caused the fire and if it is related to Farthing's disappearance.

KSP said Farthing did not live in the home but she reportedly attended a party there on Friday night, June 21st. Another friend, who was also the homeowner, said he was with Farthing before he left his home early in the morning on June, 22nd and when he came back Farthing was gone and there was a fire inside the house. The home had been without electricity for several weeks because the homeowner was in the process of moving out.

KSP investigators believe that Farthing did not disappear on her own as a lot of her belongings were left inside the home.

Farthing is described as 5'1" with blonde hair and brown eyes. She was reportedly wearing a gray Madison County FFA t-shirt and denim shorts at the time of her disappearance.

KSP is requesting that property owners in Estill, Jackson, Rockcastle and Madison counties check their own property for any signs of Farthing. They said particular attention should be paid to ditch lines, freshly turned earth and unusual smells in remote areas.

Anyone with information regarding the missing person investigation is encouraged to contact KSP at 859-623-2404 or call toll free at 1-800-222-5555. You can also use the "text a tip" feature by texting your tip to 67283.

“Weather”

(Cont. from front)

added up to a total of 1.55 inches of rain. He said there was only 2.28 inches of rainfall recorded for the month of June and, after the first ten days in July, the total is already 3.22 inches of rainfall.

City of Mt. Vernon Administrative Assistant Jill Medley said the high amount of rainfall also put a damper on the activities during the Grand Reopening of the Lake Linville Boat Dock. She said all the activities went as planned but that the fireworks display had to be postponed from last Thursday night to Friday night.

"There was still a good crowd at the event despite the rain," Medley said. "We did have to postpone the fireworks but everything else went smoothly."

According to Rockcastle County CSEPP Director Hal Holbrook, the high amount of rainfall last week did not cause any flooding damage in the county.

"We received no complaints of flooding or property damage as a result of the rainfall," Holbrook said. "The steady rain allowed the water to soak into the ground and not cause any serious flooding issues which was definitely a good thing for the citizens of our county."

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