

5-22-2014

The Murray Ledger and Times, May 22, 2014

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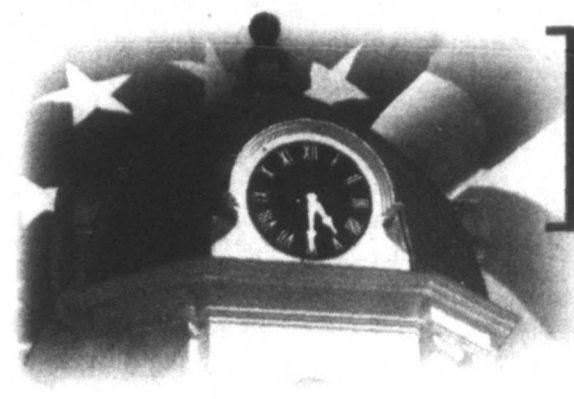
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Vol. 135, No. 121

www.murrayledger.com

Thursday, May 22, 2014

Murray, KY 42071

75¢

Clerk's office: 28 percent primary vote, few issues

By **JOHN WRIGHT**
 Staff Writer

Voter turnout for Tuesday's primary election in Calloway County was significantly higher than when voters last participated in a primary two years ago.

The Calloway County Clerk's Office reported Wednesday that final totals show 28 percent of the county's 26,573 registered voters exercised their right to go to their polling places and choose candidates in a variety of state and local races. That comes after a dismal 6-percent showing during the primary election of 2012, which included only one real ballot item, the nominations for the Democratic and Republican parties' candidates for U.S. president, a matter pretty much already decided nationally by the time Kentucky had its turn.

"With so many candidates listed on the ballots here, I was thinking we'd be better this time," said Calloway County Clerk Antonia Faulkner, whose county not only improved its turnout numbers from two years ago but also eclipsed the state average in the process. The Kentucky State Board of Elections reported that about 26 percent of the commonwealth's registered voters went to the

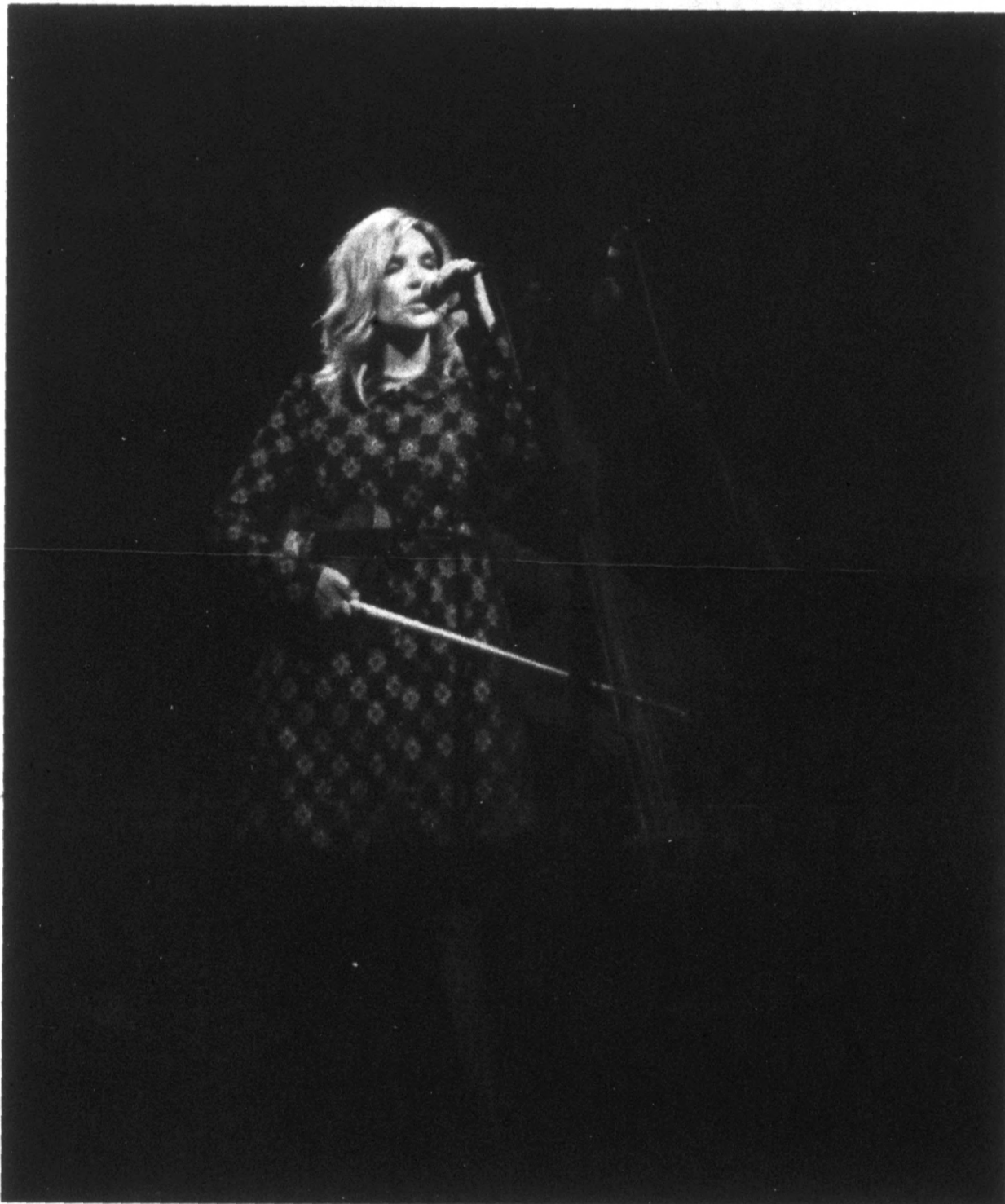
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Verse of the Day

But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

- Romans 5:8

'A long time coming'



AUSTIN RAMSEY / Ledger & Times
 Alison Krauss and Union Station followed by country legend Willie Nelson filled Murray State University's CFSSB Center with a little old-fashioned music Wednesday night. Krauss, above, started the night off singing her bluegrass hits and newer covers. Then Nelson took the stage to an energized crowd. The groups' tour was scheduled to kick off in Murray earlier this month, but fans had to wait until tonight when that concert was rescheduled for Wednesday.

Station design changes reviewed

By **HAWKINS TEAGUE**
 Staff Writer

The Murray Public Safety Committee voted Wednesday to recommend several changes to the City Council at tonight's meeting for the design of the planned north fire station.

The design was first presented to the committee on May 8 by Architect Craig Thomas with Owensboro's RBS Design Group. Thomas brought back a revised version of the design with several additions Wednesday, and City Administrator Matt Mattingly told the committee that if the design was finalized right away, the bid specifications could be finished soon and the project could be bid out, making it possible for the station to be ready by the first of next year.

Thomas said the proposed changes would cost an extra \$30,000 over the original design, mostly because of the addition of limestone to the outside of the structure. He said an arch was added underneath the entry and limestone detailing was added around the entry, at the top of the windows and at the top of the apparatus bay's vehicle doors, which will be the point of entry and exit for fire engines. The facility will also be made of red brick, which was a change from the initial design presented to the committee.

Committee member Robert Billington Jr. said he didn't think \$30,000 was too much to spend in the long run for the design to look good. The committee unanimously voted to recommend the design to the city council for its final approval.

The southwest station, which is scheduled to begin construction toward the end of 2016, will be identical to the north station and will share design features with the Public Safety Center that will house the fire and police headquarters on 16th Street, Mattingly said. The Public Safety Center is scheduled to begin construction in

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Good Morning

to Ledger & Times subscriber:
Anthony Hamby

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BZA calls for change to McDonald's plan

By **JOHN WRIGHT**
 Staff Writer

The Murray Board of Zoning Adjustment approved a 14-foot front setback variance Wednesday for a larger McDonald's restaurant on North 12th Street that will replace the smaller building already at that location.

However, in approving the measure by a 5-1 margin, the BZA also called for an alteration in the form of the removal of 10 proposed parking spaces that would border North 13th Street to the west. In those spaces, the BZA proposed green space to provide a noise barrier for residents liv-

ing nearby, particularly on Farris Avenue.

That is where Russell Lencki resides with his family and he asked for the extra leeway during a public hearing on the subject Wednesday afternoon at City Hall.

"When we're outside, we can clearly hear the drive-through area," he said after he and wife Blaire heard that the new McDonald's, which is scheduled to use more than 6,000 square feet of space, compared to the more than 3,000 of the current building, will have two drive-through lanes in hopes of providing a remedy for the

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JOHN WRIGHT / Ledger & Times

BIGGEST DAY SO FAR: A large crowd of children and adults is shown Tuesday afternoon at the Owen's Station Spray Park at the Murray-Calloway County Pool inside Murray-Calloway County Central Park. Tuesday marked easily the biggest participation day so far at the facility since it opened a few weeks ago. Admission is free through Friday. The pool opens for the 2014 season Saturday.

Memorial Day
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WEATHER

TODAY	TOMORROW
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60s	60s

Daily Forecast

The National Weather Service

Thursday: Partly sunny with a 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms, mainly after 1 p.m. A high near 87. West northwest wind around 9 mph.

Thursday Night: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 64. Northwest wind around 6 mph becoming calm in the evening.

Friday: Partly sunny with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. A high

near 82. Northeast wind 3 to 7 mph.

Friday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 61. Northeast wind around 6 mph.

Saturday: Partly sunny, with a high near 81. East wind around 6 mph.

Saturday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 63. East southeast wind around 5 mph.

Sunday: Partly sunny, with a high near 86. East southeast wind around 6 mph.

Sunday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 65. South southeast wind around 6 mph.

Memorial Day: Mostly sunny, with a high near 86. South southwest wind 6 to 8 mph.

Monday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 67. South southwest wind 5 to 7 mph.

Tuesday: A slight chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly sunny, with a high near 85. South southwest wind 5 to 9 mph.

Post 73 sets schedule of Memorial Day activities

Special to the Ledger
American Legion Post 73 of Murray will be providing services at cemeteries in Calloway County to honor fallen comrades on Monday, May 26 (Memorial Day). The cemeteries and the times (approximate) of the ceremonies are as follows:

- 1 p.m. - Elm Grove Cemetery
- 1:30 p.m. - Hazel Cemetery
- 2 p.m. - Coldwater Cemetery
- 2:30 p.m. - Kirksey Cemetery
- 3 p.m. - Murray Memorial Gardens
- 3:20 p.m. - Murray City Cemetery

According to Commander Cecil Cowser, each of these ceremonies will include a prayer for all deceased military veterans, a

rifle salute and the playing of TAPS. "In addition, the ceremony at Murray Memorial Gardens will be conducted at the site of the grave of Billy Lane Lauffer, Congressional Medal of Honor recipient and the namesake of American Legion Post 73," Cowser said.

"We will also place a marker at his grave site during this ceremony," he said.

Lauffer received the Congressional Medal of Honor posthumously after saving several lives from his unit by charging an enemy machine-gun nest just days into tour of duty with the Army in the Vietnam War.

Cowser also said that Post 73 will host a Memorial Day ceremony from 4-5:30 p.m. at the American Legion Veterans' Hall located

at 310 Bee Creek Drive (off North Fourth Street). "This ceremony will include brief talks by the officers of the Post, the placement of crosses in honor of deceased members of Post 73, a rifle salute and TAPS," he said. He said that this ceremony will be followed by a raising of a new American flag for the Post and a reception with finger foods and desserts.

Cowser emphasized that the public is invited to any and all of these ceremonies and there is no charge for any refreshments.

For additional information contact Mark Kennedy at 270-752-3333.

28 percent; primary...

From Front

ring for voters Tuesday, though there were several reports of voters having to vote elsewhere after discovering they were no longer registered at long-time precincts. This came in the wake of changes caused by findings in the last U.S. Census. She also said there were some reports of voters not knowing that in a primary election they are only allowed to vote for the party to which they are registered, not for both parties.

"There are a lot of things I learned from overseeing this election that have made me a lot more knowledgeable for the future. I now know of some things I really need to investigate when dealing with people at the time they are filling out their voter registration cards," she said.

The time-honored claim for many clerks of saying how only a few votes make a difference in an election was brought out in full Tuesday. In the race for Calloway County jailer, which featured four Democrats, former Murray Police Chief Ken Claud prevailed by just 16 votes over long-time deputy jailer Rodney Hill.

"Only 16 or 17 people made a difference in a race with a lot of votes (5,364 to be exact). That's why we say every vote counts," she said, adding that, presently, it does not appear a re-count will happen as a result of that race. "We are very confident in our equipment and we will do a pen-to-paper review of those votes during our post-election assessment, but I do not anticipate that at this time."

Faulkner said she was not told of any major problems occurring for voters Tuesday, though there were several reports of voters having to vote elsewhere after discovering they were no longer registered at long-time precincts. This came in the wake of changes caused by findings in the last U.S. Census. She also said there were some reports of voters not knowing that in a primary election they are only allowed to vote for the party to which they are registered, not for both parties.

McConnell must unify GOP after bruising primary

By ADAM BEAM and BRUCE SCHREINER
Associated Press

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP) — It's Mitch McConnell's turn to unify his party.

The U.S. Senate minority leader is accustomed to rolling into November with a united party behind him while Democrats scrambled to rally around a challenger to the powerful five-term senator. Now McConnell finds himself on the other side as Democrats have rallied behind Alison Lundergan Grimes and Republicans are calling for unity following a bruising primary.

McConnell easily defeated tea party-backed GOP challenger Matt Bevin on Tuesday. But more than 30 percent of Republicans voted against McConnell. With recent polls showing a razor-thin race between McConnell and Grimes, the question now is whether Bevin supporters will vote for McConnell in November.

"I'll vote for the Democrat if Bevin loses," 46-year-old Mike Lotspeich said shortly after voting for Bevin in Boone County. "I will vote to get him out. Whoever has the best chance to beat him. If I can't get rid of Mitch McConnell, I'll never get him replaced."

But voters like 62-year-old Sallie McLane in Union voted for Bevin fully expecting him to lose. They just wanted to send a message to McConnell.

"(McConnell) needs to be more conservative," she said, adding that she would vote for McConnell in November because she would never vote for a Democrat.

Assuming McConnell can convert Bevin backers, Tuesday's raw turnout numbers suggest he'll still have his work cut out for him. About 350,000 Republicans cast ballots in the mud-filled, cash-heavy race between him and Bevin, the most widely covered contest this spring in Kentucky and the nation.

Spending little compared to McConnell, Grimes pulled in well over 300,000 of the more than 400,000 votes cast by Democrats.

But senior McConnell campaign adviser Josh Holmes said Kentucky Republicans have a history of rallying around their nominee. Holmes pointed to a 2010 poll that said 43 percent of GOP voters would not vote for Rand Paul after the Republican primary. But exit polling on election day found 91 percent of Republican voters cast a ballot

for Paul.

"Bruising primaries are hardly something new," Holmes said. "No question we still have some work to do after the primary is over. But we feel ultimately folks are going to come home and will see sort of a unification of that vote behind Sen. McConnell."

Bevin has said repeatedly that McConnell would lose the general election because the Kentucky Republican party is divided. And he refused to sign a pledge to support the McConnell in November if the senator won. But some of his biggest supporters have urged Republicans to rally around McConnell.

"We congratulate Senator McConnell on his victory and urge Republicans in Kentucky to come together to defeat Alison Lundergan Grimes," said Matt Hoskins, executive director of the Senate Conservative Fund, which spent millions of dollars backing Bevin.

McConnell began the process of unifying the party Tuesday night when he congratulated Bevin and asked his supporters to give him a round of applause.

"Matt brought a lot of passion and tenacity to this race, and he made me a stronger candidate," McConnell said. "A tough race is behind us, and it's time to unite. To my opponent's supporters, I hope you'll join me in the months ahead and know that your fight is my fight."

But after months of negative campaign ads, Bevin was not ready to endorse McConnell on Tuesday. Still, he said he would not support Grimes.

"The only chance for our nation ... is the solutions must come from within the Republican Party," he said.

Grimes, in an attempt to woo scorned GOP voters, portrayed herself as an independent Kentucky woman Tuesday night, saying she would answer to the people of Kentucky, not the president.

"(McConnell) claims Kentucky will be lost if we trade in his seat for a Kentucky woman he believes will sit on the back bench," Grimes said, referring to comments McConnell has made saying he was assigned to the back of the Senate chamber when he was first elected. "No Kentucky woman, Mitch McConnell, will sit on the back bench."



Thank You!

"I would like to thank all of my supporters and those of you that voted for me in the primary election on Tuesday. I appreciate all your hard work on my behalf.

Congratulations to Antonia on her primary election victory. She will have my full support as the Democratic Candidate for Calloway County Clerk in the general election in November.

I also want to thank my family and friends for their love, guidance and patience during the primary election campaign."

Thank You!

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THE LAST FIVE YEARS: Gabrielle Wibbenmeyer is pictured playing Cathy in the Playhouse in the Park production of Jason Robert Brown's "The Last Five Years." The musical is double-cast, so some performances feature Molly Nimmo in the same role, while the other character of Jamie is played by both Collin Andersson and Brad Brauser. The show will be at 7 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, and the closing performance will be at 2:30 p.m. Sunday.

Ward wins film festival competition with screenplay

By LAURA HARPER

WKU Student and Public Relations Assistant

Murray native Dillon Ward, a self-designed Storytelling Traditions in Cinema, Literature, Art, and New Media major at Western Kentucky University, surpassed 1,500 entries from across the country to win the Thriller/Horror Short Film division of the Nashville Film Festival (NaFF) for his script "The Ants Go Marching." Achievements like this drive momentum for future success in the industry, it was reported. "I've already sent the short out to my industry contacts and have gotten great reactions and encouragement for me to make it," Ward said.

Getting started in a highly competitive field like film can be intimidating, but attaching a prestigious name like the NaFF to a film draws attention and attracts new opportunities.

NaFF Screenwriting Manager Michael Wood said, "In our first year hosting this competition, we read so many great screenplays. We can only imagine that

filmmakers and producers from all over the globe will be clamoring to work with these writers."

Ward received the direction he needed to pursue lofty ambitions through the Honors College at WKU. The Honors College supports those choosing to forge their own course by opening resources for them.

"The Honors College has been a great ally," Ward said. "I felt like the Honors College was there to help me figure out my own path. They encouraged risk taking and innovation."

Ward's interests combine multiple disciplines, shaping his desire to create a unique major. His Honors College advisor, Professor Wolfgang Brauner walked him through the process. "Filmmaking is a combination of all the great art forms, so I am very fortunate and thank the Honors College for their flexibility and trust," he said.

To see more from the festival, visit its website at <https://www.nashvillefilmfestival.org/>.

Wickliffe Mounds hosts kids' author

Special to the Ledger

WICKLIFFE, Ky. – Wickliffe Mounds State Historic Site is hosting children's author Phyllis Bechtold, who writes about an American bald eagle named Seymour Bluffs, from 1-3 p.m. May 31.

Visitors may meet Bechtold at the welcome center gift shop. In her book "Seymour Bluffs and the Legend of the Piasa Bird," Seymour travels back in time to an Illini Indian village located along the Mississippi River. A life-size Seymour Bluffs character will be on hand to help Bechtold personally autograph the books for sale.

This is a wonderful book program for children of all ages.

The free event will be held inside the center.

Wickliffe Mounds is an archaeological site of a Native American village of the Mississippian culture. The park features a museum, mounds, walking trail, picnic area, visitor center with tourism information and a gift shop.

The park is located along the Mississippi River's Great River Road National Scenic Byway at 94 Green St., Highway 51-60-62, Wickliffe, Kentucky. For more information, call 270-335-3681, email carla.hildebrand@ky.gov or visit our website at www.parks.ky.gov.

Murray native writes Prohibition history

Special to the Ledger

McFarland Publishing announces the publication of "Bootleggers and Beer Barons of the Prohibition Era" by J. Anne Funderburg. The author, whose maiden name was Judy Anne Cooper, was born and grew up in Murray.

The bootleggers and beer barons defied the Volstead law to keep America sopping wet during the Great Drought (1920-1933). The beer barons ran illegal breweries and distilleries. They "imported" liquor from Canada, Mexico, Cuba, the Bahamas and elsewhere. They ruled large, violent urban mobs and formed organized crime syndicates. The bootleggers delivered illegal booze to thirsty Americans. They were pop culture heroes roaring through the 1920s in their whiskey-sixes, fast cars modified to carry liquor and outrun the police.

"Bootleggers and Beer Barons" is an entertaining, accurate account of Prohibition crime based on FBI files, old newspapers and other sources. Funderburg tells the outrageous true stories of Volstead's most notorious bootleggers, including many who were famous during the Great Drought but are little known today. The riveting tales reveal the criminal lives of Al Capone, Dutch Schultz, Owney Madden, Waxy Gordon, Boo Boo Hoff, Roy Olmstead, the Triple X, the Purple Gang, the Havre Bunch, the Millionaire Newsboy, and the Capitol Hill Bootlegger. The author also writes about two important but lesser known groups: Women bootleggers and flying bootleggers.

Funderburg attended Hazel Elementary



Police are pictured raiding a collection of alcohol in a photo from the front cover of "Bootleggers and Beer Barons of the Prohibition Era," which was written by Murray native J. Anne Funderburg.

and Murray High School. She earned a bachelor's degree in history at Murray State University and a master's degree at the University of Kentucky. Her sister, Jane Cothran Jackson, taught at MSU and in Calloway County public schools.

"Bootleggers and Beer Barons" is available online as an e-book or paperback at amazon.com and other websites.

For more information, contact Funderburg at annefundy@gmail.com or phone (302) 376-3680.

Lake Barkley presents comedy dinner theater

Special to the Ledger

CADIZ, Ky. – Lake Barkley State Resort is hosting a dinner theater June 14 that should leave guests laughing heartily.

Bil Lepp is a nationally renowned storyteller and five-time champion of the West Virginia Liars' Contest. His humorous tall tales and witty stories have earned the appreciation of listeners of all ages and

from all walks of life.

The doors open at 6:30 p.m. and the show starts at 7 p.m. The dinner and show is \$40 a person. There will be limited seating for this event at the park's Breathitt Convention Center, so call early. Call 1-800-325-1708 for reservations.

Families and individuals can enjoy this event and the other entertainment and lodg-

ing opportunities at the park, located at 3500 State Park Road in Cadiz. From Interstate 24, take the Highway 68 exit west toward Cadiz.

For more information contact Nick Edmonds at nick.edmonds@ky.gov or call the lodge at call 1-800-325-1708.



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Obituaries

Dorothy Mae Manning

Dorothy Mae Manning, 71, of Murray, Kentucky, died Monday, May 19, 2014 at Murray-Calloway County Hospital.

Graveside services will be Thursday, May 22, 2014 at 11 a.m. at Coldwater Baptist Church Cemetery with Rev. Tim Palmer officiating. Burial will follow.

She was born in Sumner County, Tennessee, on March 2, 1943 to Arnett Ray Story and Cora Mae Bell Kemp Story. She was of Baptist faith.

She was preceded in death by her parents; a sister, Barbara Parker and four brothers, Hugh Story, Junior Story, Kenneth Story and Hoyt Story.

Mrs. Manning is survived by her husband Paul Manning of Murray; three daughters, Lori Williams and husband Mark of Murray, Vickie Clendenen and husband Jeff of Hendersonville, Tennessee, and Tammy Tabers of Murray; one son, Randy Manning and wife Kathy of Murray; three sisters, Ruby Williams and Ruth Beach, both of Murray and Betty June Sykes of Dothan, Alabama; one brother, Ira Lee Story of Hopkinsville; as well as several grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Online condolences may be left at www.thejhcchurchillfuneralhome.com.

J.H. Churchill Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Patricia Fitts 'Patsy' Stinnett

Patricia Fitts "Patsy" Stinnett, 59, of Murray, Kentucky, died Monday, May 19, 2014 at her home.

Graveside services will be at 10 a.m. Friday, May 23, 2014 at the Outland Cemetery with Garry Evans officiating. Burial will follow. Visitation will be Thursday, May 22, 2014 from 5-7 p.m. at the J.H. Churchill Funeral Home.

She was born Aug. 7, 1954 to Cecil Fitts and Moela Steele Fitts Williams, who preceded her in death.

She was working at Baymont Inn and Suites. She was a member of Glendale Road Church of Christ.

Mrs. Stinnett is survived by her daughter Michelle Stinnett Clark of Paducah and one grandchild, Rachel Clark of Paducah.

Expressions of sympathy may go to Angel Fund Family Resource Center, 1169 Pottertown Road, Murray, KY 42071 or Outland Cemetery Fund, c/o Betty Vinson, 2011 Gatesborough Circle, Murray, KY 42071.

Online condolences may be left at www.thejhcchurchillfuneralhome.com.

J.H. Churchill Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Jane Perry Cremer

Jane Perry Cremer, 80, of Williston, Tennessee, died Monday, May 19, 2014.

She was born Feb. 7, 1934 in Morganfield, Kentucky to Robert and Dorothy Perry. She graduated from Murray High School in 1952 and Murray State University in 1955 with a B.S. in Administration and her master's degree in Business Administration in 1961. She taught school in Illinois, at Murray State University, Melrose High School and Shelby State Community College, for a total of 41 years in her profession. She was a member of Germantown Baptist Church.

She was preceded in death by her parents, and her husband of 55 years, Dr. Kenneth Cremer.

Mrs. Cremer is survived by her daughters, Karen Cremer Cooksey and husband Rick of Williston and Kenna Cremer Jones of Collierville, Tennessee; two grandchildren, Jon Franklin Jones and Maddie K. Jones, both of Collierville; two step-grandchildren, Jennifer Cooksey Prather and husband Bart of Starkville, Mississippi and Charles Ryan Cooksey and wife Brooke of Southaven, Mississippi; a sister, Ann Perry Churchill and husband Ronald of Murray; and two stepgreat-granddaughters.

Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. Thursday, May 22, 2014 at Germantown Baptist Church. Visitation will be Thursday, May 22, 2014 from 12:30 p.m. until the funeral hour at the church. Burial will be Friday, May 23, 2014 at 10:15 a.m. at West Tennessee Veterans Cemetery.

Family Funeral Home, Memphis, Tennessee, is in charge of arrangements.

The number of times published or the length of one or more of the preceding obituaries exceeds the maximum set by the Ledger and Times policy. A fee has been paid for additional publishing or space.

Nigerian extremists strike villages, kill 48

JOS, Nigeria (AP) — Islamic militants killed 48 villagers in northeastern Nigeria near the town where they kidnapped 300 schoolgirls, and the U.S. said Wednesday it was sending in 80 military personnel to expand the drone search for the captives.

The developments came hours after twin car bombings claimed at least 130 lives in this central city in an escalating campaign of violence blamed on the Boko Haram terrorist network and its drive to impose an Islamic state on Nigeria.

The three villages attacked overnight Tuesday and early Wednesday are near the town of Chibok, where the girls were abducted from their boarding school in a brazen April 15 assault that has ignited a global movement to secure their freedom.

First lady Michelle Obama is among those who have joined a

viral social media campaign under the hashtag #BringBackOurGirls, tweeting earlier this month, "Our prayers are with the missing Nigerian girls and their families. It's time to #BringBackOurGirls."

On Wednesday, President Barack Obama announced that the U.S. was sending in 80 military personnel to help in the search for the missing schoolgirls.

In a letter to House Speaker John Boehner and the Senate, Obama said the service members were being sent to Chad, which borders northeastern Nigeria, to help with intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance aircraft missions over Nigeria and the nearby region.

The U.S. mission will help expand drone searches of the region, said Lt. Col. Myles Caggins, adding that this latest deployment will not be involved in ground searches.

Former soldier, mother on trial in toddler death

CLARKSVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — A trial has begun for the mother and stepfather of a toddler who prosecutors say was beaten to death.

The Leaf-Chronicle reports jurors in Clarksville, Tennessee, began hearing testimony on Tuesday in the 2009 death of 23-month-old Keegan Metz.

The child's stepfather, 26-year-old Joshua Starnier, and mother, 27-year-old Caitlyn Metz, are charged with murder, aggravated child abuse and aggravated child rape. Starnier is a former Fort Campbell soldier.

Prosecutor Robert Nash said in his opening statement that the couple's explanation of an accidental fall causing the horrific injuries the boy suffered didn't add up. He said the only explanation is abuse.

"Both parents admitted the morning consisted of Keegan whining, crying, not minding them and being placed in time out and numerous spankings of this child," Nash said. "There was nothing but abuse of this child because he wasn't minding as a 23-month-old, and he was whining. You will discover why."

The attorney for Metz blamed Starnier for the boy's death, while Starnier's attorney blamed Metz.

"Joshua Starnier beat and killed Keegan Metz. He snapped. Mr. Starnier snapped at some point when Ms. Metz went to the store," said Metz's attorney, Edward Dewerff.

"Caitlyn loved Keegan. She probably made a bad choice in marrying Joshua Starnier," Dewerff said. "Mr. Starnier was not a good stepdad. He'd spank

Keegan and whip him with things. ... She didn't kill that baby. She loved that baby."

Starnier's attorney, Sheri Phillips, said Metz's actions immediately after the boy's death show that she was responsible.

"She's crying now," Phillips said, but when her son was in the hospital, "she was emotionless, she was concerned about everything going on besides her son."

Phillips said Metz called Starnier several times while she was shopping at the Fort Campbell commissary.

"She was expecting him to say something was wrong with Keegan," Phillips said. "She knew something was wrong, and she needed to place the blame on Joshua Starnier."

Several people were called to testify Tuesday including medical examiner Adele Lewis, who said the child died of multiple blunt force trauma.

"He had injuries to his brain, swelling to his brain and bleeding behind his eyes," Lewis said. "It takes a significant amount of force. Maybe a major car wreck or a two or three story fall (to cause an injury like that). ... I can say a child who sustains injuries this severe to their head would immediately become symptomatic in some way. A normal person would know there's something wrong. He would become unconscious, have seizures or have a change in his breathing pattern almost right away."

Testimony in the case was to continue on Wednesday.

Kentucky News in Brief

Fort Knox-based team to be inactivated

FORT KNOX, Ky. (AP) — A war fighting unit at Fort Knox is being inactivated and will case its colors during a ceremony at the central Kentucky military post.

About 1,200 soldiers from the 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division will participate in Wednesday's ceremony.

The ceremony will feature a horse-mounted color guard and a flyover by Fort Knox's 8th Battalion, 229th Aviation Regiment. A salute battery will also fire a round in honor of every division soldier who died in combat since the unit arrived at Fort Knox from Fort Hood, Texas, in October 2009.

The unit will then case its colors at the Brooks Parade Field, signifying its inactivation.

The brigade was originally activated in May 1917 and has been inactivated two other times in its history.

Hemp regulations approved by commission

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP) — Kentucky's industrial hemp commission on Tuesday approved regulations setting guidelines for research projects that are meant to reintroduce the crop but are being stalled by a legal fight over distribution of seeds.

The regulations aimed at keeping track of test hemp plots were drafted by the state Agriculture Department. The guidelines next go to Gov. Steve Beshear for his review.

Later Tuesday, Holly Harris VonLuehrte, Agriculture Commissioner James Comer's chief of staff, said the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration had approved an import permit for hemp seeds. State officials have been assured they will be able Wednesday to get a shipment of hemp seed that has been held up.

"I think it's laying out a process for the rest of the country," VonLuehrte said. "There will be hopefully no more arbitrary actions."

Growing hemp without a federal permit was banned in 1970 due to its classification as a controlled substance related to marijuana.

Hemp and marijuana are the same species, Cannabis sativa, but hemp has a negligible amount of THC, the psychoactive compound that gives marijuana users a high. Hemp's comeback was spurred by the new federal farm bill, which allows state agriculture departments to designate hemp pilot projects for research in states that allow hemp growing.

BZA...

From Front

very heavy traffic from North 12th into the restaurant parking area that currently exists. "We've got a 2-year-old and a 4-year-old and we have neighbors that have younger kids, too. If it could be done differently, that would just be fantastic."

The current McDonald's was drawn closer to North 12th in the 1980s when construction widened the road and took the building from a comfortable 50-plus feet from the road to within 33. The new building is proposed to stand 36 feet from 12th Street.

Candace Dowdy, city planner, said she will discuss the BZA findings with McDonald's franchisee Mike Love in the coming days.

The current McDonald's is scheduled to be demolished and completely rebuilt at its current site, a process known as scrape-and-rebuild. It is not certain how long it will take to construct the new building or when construction would begin.

Dowdy said Love has told her that the Murray McDonald's, once rebuilt, will be the largest single building of the chain between Murray and Indianapolis.

The BZA unanimously gave its approval to a request for variances pertaining to the proposed Springhill Suites hotel at 1512 N. 12th Street between the current Holiday Inn Express hotel and the Murray Business Center on the east side of that road.

Priyesh Nathu, a representa-

tive of Gopal Investments, LLC asked for a 23.5-foot height variance on the proposed four-story hotel, as well as a four-foot height variance on a privacy/screening fence planned for construction along the back property line of the hotel, separating that property from the Riviera Courts mobile home community that borders it.

Gopal is proposing to construct a 12-foot stone or brick fence to separate the hotel property from the mobile home community.

Also the BZA unanimously decided that a proposed residential/commercial planned project in the area of 1025 Southwood Drive is compatible with existing city ordinances and can move to its next phase of seeking approval.

John Randolph, who owns a house at that address, has produced plans for an independent living community of 29 one-bed units, at least two commercial buildings that would hold businesses catering to the needs of the residents and a centralized commons building. This being a compatible hearing, the only real issue seemed to be the project's proximity to a nearby flood plain; BZA members, though, found that this was not of concern presently.

The development would be situated behind the Quality Inn on North 12th Street.

A detailed examination of the project is expected in the future from both the BZA and the city's Planning Commission. That is when more specialized blueprints are expected to be presented.

Public safety...

From Front

November and finish in January 2016.

The north station will be located next to Woodcrafters

Gallery and is estimated to cost \$2.037 million for construction, contingency, soft costs and miscellaneous items. The cost of construction itself is estimated at \$1.75 million.

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Closed Sat. & Sun.
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Published Monday through Saturday.
Not published on Sundays, Memorial Day, July 4, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day and New Years Day. Periodicals postage paid at Murray, KY. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to THE MURRAY LEDGER & TIMES, P.O. Box 1040, Murray, KY 42071-1040
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COMMUNITY

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DATEBOOK



NARFE meeting planned

The Kentucky Lake Chapter #0853 of the National Association of Retired and Active Federal Employees will hold its regular monthly meeting Friday, May 23, at 11 a.m. at August Moon Restaurant. All members and any active or recently retired Federal employees are invited to attend. For more information, contact Ronnie Hubbard, 270-293-2680.

Datebook
Martha Finney Andrus, Community editor

Samfest V to be held

A celebration of music will be Saturday, May 24 at Hidden Creek Campground, 2567 W. Antioch Road in Springville, Tennessee, near Paris Landing State Park, in honor of the former Sammie Crutcher, area musician and drummer. The first band will take the stage at noon. Samfest V is a fundraiser for The American Heart Association. There is no admission charge but donations will be accepted.

Stroke Support Group to meet

Murray Stroke/Brain Injury Support Group will meet Thursday, May 22, at 5:30 p.m. at the Murray-Calloway County Hospital Center for Health and Wellness classroom. The program will be a video and discussion on "You've Had a Stroke...Now What?" For more information, contact Cheryl Crouch, 270-293-9442.

Retirement Celebration for Kraemer

The community is invited to a retirement celebration for Calloway County Alliance for Substance Abuse Prevention (CC-ASAP) Project Director Dottie Kraemer Thursday, May 22, from 3-5:30 p.m. at the Murray Calloway County Transit Authority, 1111 Transit Way. In lieu of gifts, donations are being accepted to the Kraemer Community Fund, c/o Community Foundation of West Kentucky, P.O. Box 7, Paducah, KY 42002. For more information, contact Michelle Hansen, 270-762-7333.

MWC to hold Memorial Service

The Murray Woman's Club will hold its Memorial Service on Thursday, May 22, at 6 p.m. A salad supper and installation of officers by GFWC Kentucky President Susan Alexander will follow the service. Special music will be provided by the Music Department Chorus.

Compassionate Friends to meet

The Compassionate Friends support group will meet Thursday, May 22, at 7 p.m. in PDR 1 outside the cafeteria entrance at Murray-Calloway County Hospital. This support group meets for the encouragement of bereaved parents who have lost children as a result of accident, illness or tragedy, regardless of their child's age. For more information call Hilda Bennett at 270-498-8324 or Chaplain Kerry Lambert at 270-762-1274.

Murray Youth Football Camp to be held

Murray High School will host a youth football camp Saturday, May 31. Registration forms are available by calling Amanda or Christi at 270-753-3300 or forms are available at the front office of any Murray city school. Current K-second grade will be from 8-11:30 a.m. and current third - fifth grade will be from 1-4:30 p.m.

American Legion #73 meeting planned

American Legion Post #73 will meet Thursday, May 22, at 7 p.m. at the Legion Veterans' Hall at 310 Bee Creek Dr. Final planning for Memorial Day weekend ceremonies will be completed and the Adjutant will cast a single vote for the slate of officers made by the nominating committee. All Veterans are invited to attend. Any questions, call Post Commander Cecil Cowser, 270-519-8375.

CCPL to close Monday for holiday

The Calloway County Public Library will be closed Monday, May 26, for Memorial Day.

Knit-wits will meet Friday

The Knit-wits group will meet Friday, May 23, at 1 p.m., in the Community Room of the Calloway County Public Library. Knitters and crocheters of all levels are welcome. For more information call Dot at 270-293-5588.

Downtown Saturday Market to be held

The Downtown Farmers Market continues its 16th season on Saturday, May 24, on the south side of Murray's court square. Over 30 vendors are offering early season vegetables, strawberries, farm raised meats, fresh bread and baked goods, bedding and garden plants, and handmade jewelry and textiles. For vendor information, contact DeAnna Wright at Murray Main Street, 270-759-9474.

Breast Cancer Group to hold meeting

The Breast Cancer Support Group will meet Tuesday, May 27, at 6:30 p.m., at the Murray-Calloway County Wellness Center classroom. For more information, contact Evelyn Wallis, 270-489-2462 or Angie Hutching, R.N., 270-435-4455.

Reformers' Unanimous to meet

Reformers' Unanimous, a faith-based addictions program, meets every Friday from 7-9 p.m. at Eastwood Baptist Church. The public is invited. Childcare is provided. For more information or a ride, call the church office at 270-753-1834.

Murray Bank Good Life trip planned

The Murray Bank Good Life will be sponsoring a bus trip for June 11-15, to Shipshewana, Indiana, the third largest amish community in the U.S. This trip will include many sites and activities local to the area as well as seeing the amish perform in a musical production, the Oak Ridge Boys in concert and The Gaither's in concert. For more information, contact Brenda Sykes at 270-767-3338 or email bsykes@themurraybank.com.

Anniversary



Mr. and Mrs. Ron McNutt

Ron and Debby McNutt of Murray, will celebrate their 40th wedding anniversary Saturday, May 31, 2014 from 2-4 p.m. at Green Plain Church of Christ. All friends and relatives are invited to attend.

Mr. McNutt and the former Deborah Elizabeth Cherry of Paducah, were married June 1, 1974 at Seventh and Poplar Church of Christ in Murray. John Dale officiated the wedding. Cynthia Cherry Hornbeak, sister of the bride, served as matron of honor and Dan McNutt, brother of the groom, was best man.

Mrs. McNutt is the daughter of Dorothy Ann Cherry Jackson and Thomas Cherry, deceased.

Mr. McNutt is the son of Zella Morris McNutt and Nuel McNutt, both deceased.

They are the parents of Alyson McNutt English of Huntsville, Alabama; Lindsay McNutt Orange of Frankfort, Kentucky and Matthew McNutt of Murray. They have five grandchildren, Caroline Orange, Will English, Adelaide English, Landon McNutt and Raleigh Orange.

Clause graduates with distinction

Special to the Ledger

Nathaniel Clause, of Murray, graduated with distinction from the Carol Martin Gatton Academy of Mathematics and Science in Kentucky.

The Gatton Academy Executive Director, Dr. Julie Roberts, expressed that the graduation ceremony was a celebration for the entire Commonwealth. "The Gatton Academy provides an exceptional two-year experience for some of Kentucky's most capable high school students with STEM interests and it serves as a beacon of excellence for schools throughout the Commonwealth."

Gatton Academy Director Dr. Tim Gott shared his gratitude for the Western Kentucky University faculty and staff members in making the Gatton Academy both a rewarding and challenging educational experience for Kentucky. "The success of the Gatton Academy and our students has been a result of the rich partnership with Western Kentucky University. Our students have been able to conduct research and learn alongside leading faculty within their fields allowing our stu-

dents to gain insight into STEM disciplines that could not have occurred in a traditional school environment."

To place an ad call 753-1916

LEDGER & TIMES

2014 PotPourri Poetry contest winners listed

Special to the Ledger

The Murray State University collegiate chapter of NCTE (National Council for Teachers of English) once again sponsored the PotPourri Poetry Contest for students in grades 6-12 in celebration of National Poetry Month in April. With over 300 entries submitted, the contest reached out to schools all over the state.

Danielle Geier, contest coordinator, was pleased that the contest tapped into the talent of many adolescent writers representing schools as far away as Mt. Sterling, Ky. "I want to thank the teachers for encouraging creative writing in the classroom, and I appreciate those who judged the entries," Geier said.

Judges for the finalists included faculty members Ann Neelon, director of the M.F.A. Program in Creative Writing; Carrie Jerrell, associate director of the M.F.A. Program in Creative Writing; Pamela Parker, MSU adjunct and published poet; and Bernard Lewis, MSU adjunct and published author.

The winning entries will be featured on the MSU English and humanities website.

Grade Level Winners of the 2014 Poetry Contest:

- 6th — The Alphabet, Emily Linesch of Camp Ernst Middle School in Burlington, Ky.
- 7th — Burning Chickens, Justyn Weber of Bondurant Middle School in Frankfort, Ky.
- 8th — For Lease, Elijah Folsom of North Middle School in Henderson, Ky.
- 9th — Perfection is Not Real, Serina Goff of McCracken County High School in Paducah, Ky.
- 10th — Adam Sims, Adam Sims of McCracken County High School in Paducah, Ky.
- 11th — I Met a Man who Made Walking Sticks, Morgan Sexton of Wayne County High School in Monticello, Ky.
- 12th — Picturesque, Shannon Ooiikaas of Montgomery County High School in Mount Sterling, Ky.

An organization for preservice English and language arts teachers, the National Council of Teachers of English student affiliate encourages professionalism through interaction with students, community and educational networks. Recently, students attended the Kentucky Council of Teachers of English annual conference where they presided over several workshops.

For more information about NCTE activities, contact Stephanie Fulcher, 2014-15 president, at sfulcher2@murraystate.edu.

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Concepts Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Concepts Sudoku

By Dave Green

			3	9	5			
7	2				1			8
			1					8
4		9	3	6				
9								4
		8	5	4			3	
8		4						
9				7	2			
7	1	6						

Answer to previous puzzle

9	1	5	2	3	4	6	7	8
4	7	2	8	5	6	3	1	9
3	8	6	9	7	1	2	4	5
7	9	1	4	6	2	5	8	3
2	6	3	1	8	5	7	9	4
5	4	8	7	9	3	1	6	2
8	3	7	6	2	9	4	5	1
6	5	4	3	1	8	9	2	7
1	2	9	5	4	7	8	3	6

Difficulty Level ★★★

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Garage and Yard Sale Directory

<h4 style="text-align: center;">TAG SALE</h4> <p>1003 Fairlane Dr</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Saturday 8:30AM-Noon</p> <p>Moving sale: furniture and a few outdoor items.</p> <p>Cash & carry only!</p>	<h4 style="text-align: center;">GARAGE SALE</h4> <p>699 Robertson Rd. South</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Friday & Saturday 7:30AM-5PM</p> <p>Antique ice box, yard items, 4x6 area rug with matching small rugs, household items, women's name brand clothes & shoes & boots, leather purses, jewelry, seed sewer, new Briggs & Stratton 450 engine, new Cook-all fish cooker (propane), chainsaw, weedators, 2 ladders.</p>
<h4 style="text-align: center;">YARD SALE</h4> <p>100 Fox Meadows Dr. Lot 6 (corner lot close to mailboxes)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Fri & Sat 7AM-3PM</p> <p>Misc items; too many to list!</p>	<h4 style="text-align: center;">YARD SALE</h4> <p>2119 Southwest Dr (off Gibb Store Rd)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Saturday 7AM-12PM</p> <p>Teen girl clothing, household items, and much more!</p>
<h4 style="text-align: center;">MULTI-FAMILY YARD SALE</h4> <p>114 Cohoon Rd (off 280 past E. Elem)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Fri & Sat 7AM-?</p> <p>4 post White Queen bed, White Night Stand, baby changer/crib/items, clothes, old Singer Sewer machine, small tables, various misc items.</p>	

Due to being closed on Memorial Day, some of our deadlines for Classifieds have been changed for next week.

Tuesday, May 27th deadline is Thursday, May 22nd at 5 pm.

Wednesday, May 28th deadline is Friday, May 23rd at Noon.

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SPORTS

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MURRAY STATE VOLLEYBALL Racers announce slate for 2014

From MSU Athletics

Murray State will play their 32nd edition of varsity volleyball in 2014. The Racers finished 2013 with a 16-14 record.

This year the Racers will open in Montgomery, Alabama at the Alabama State University Tournament Aug. 29-30, one of four tournaments to start the year. In 2013, the Racers won three of their four early season tournaments as they jumped out to a 10-5 start.

This year's docket will take them to four different states before conference play. In addition to Alabama, the Racers will travel to Lynchburg, Virginia for the Liberty University Tournament (Sep. 5-6), Chattanooga, Tennessee for the Chattanooga Tournament (Sep. 12-13) and Valparaiso, Indiana for the Valparaiso University Tournament (Sep. 19-20).

MSU's home opener will also be their first conference match. The Racers will welcome Southeast Missouri to Racer Arena Sep. 26. 2014 will also commemorate the 60th anniversary of Racer Arena.

The Racers will play three of their first four conference matches at Racer Arena. Following SEMO, UT Martin will visit Sep. 27 and Eastern Kentucky Oct. 4. Sandwiched between, MSU will travel to Austin Peay for a midweek match, Sep. 30.

MSU's longest road trip will come in the middle of October. The Racers will be on the road for four straight matches starting Oct. 10 at Eastern Illinois and concluding Oct. 18 at Tennessee State. Matches against SIU-Edwardsville and Belmont make up the rest of the road trip.

Directly after their four-match road trip, the Racers will enjoy a four match homestand, their longest of the season. MSU will turn around to conclude a home-and-home with SIUE and EIU (Oct. 24-25) before wrapping up with Jacksonville State (Oct. 31) and Tennessee Tech (Nov. 1).

The Racers will finish the regular season on the road for three of their final four matches, including the season finale at 2013 OVC Champions, Morehead St. (Nov. 15). The Racers final home match will come Nov. 11 against rival, Austin Peay.

This year's OVC Tournament will be held Nov. 20-22 at the site of the No. 1 overall seed.

MLB Cardinals recall OF Robinson, option Butler

ST. LOUIS (AP) — The St. Louis Cardinals have added bench experience, recalling outfielder Shane Robinson from Triple-A Memphis.

Rookie outfielder Joey Butler was optioned to Memphis in moves announced before Wednesday night's game against Arizona.

Jhonny Peralta was not in the lineup against the Diamondbacks' Brandon McCarthy because he was 1 for 21 against the right-hander. Daniel Descalso got a spot start batting eighth. Peralta hit his team-leading ninth home run Tuesday night.

Robinson batted .371 in 18 games last season. Butler batted .200 in 10 games last season. See CARDS, 10A

Forza Pistoia!

Former Racers Ed Daniel and Tony Easley square off in Italy



By KYSER LOUGH
Special to the Ledger

Outside a gym slightly smaller than Racer Arena, in a city roughly twice the population of Calloway County, fans await the opening of the gates for the final game of the season for the Giorgio Tesi Group Pistoia Eurobasket team in Pistoia, Italy.

They've arrived early as most of the gym is general admission and they want the prime seats. Everyone is decked out in the team's bright red color, whether in team jackets or scarves, and many carry giant flags and banners. There's excitement in the air as more and more arrive. The arena only seats 4,000 but it will be standing room only once everyone packs in.

The game holds special significance - if the team, who just this season moved up to the top-tier Italian Lega Basket Serie A league and was not expected to finish well, beats the

visiting Pasta Reggia JuveCaserta team, they will claim the eighth and final playoff spot. If they lose, JuveCaserta will instead be in the playoffs.

The game holds even more special significance as two former Racer basketball players are on the rosters and now taking the court for opposing teams. Ed Daniel, class of 2013, starts as a forward for Pistoia and Tony Easley, class of 2010, starts at power forward/center for JuveCaserta. This is Daniel's first season abroad, Easley's fourth (he spent his first year in Poland before coming to Italy for three seasons).

As a faculty member on a Murray State University study abroad program to Italy and Greece, combined with a lucky schedule and an excellent Italian train system, I am able to make the trip to Pistoia for the game. The team staff are very welcoming and provide press credentials. After being escorted in by Francesco Petrucci, who handled media relations, I am

seated next Alessandro Conti, who writes for the team website and social media accounts. He and Marta Colombo, the team photographer, work hard the entire game covering the event and being patient as I ask a million questions.

Due to the frantic schedule, I am not able to meet up with Daniel or Easley to talk about life in Italy, but get to chat with them briefly before the game as they visit with each other during warm-ups. It was a very out-of-place feeling to see the familiar afro of Ed and giant grin of Easley, but in the middle of Italy.

I wondered about what the transition must have been like to life abroad, in a nation that speaks an entirely different language. It was jarring to be surrounded by chanting fans and a whole lot of official-looking people bustling around chattering away in Italian. But then I grabbed my camera, adjusted the strap around my wrist and began checking the light and dialing in my settings. Suddenly it was

comfortable. I was in my element-taking photos. The thought instantly occurred to me that maybe it was the same for Daniel and Easley. Maybe just as photography became a universal "language" for me, basketball was their language and once they stepped onto the court it suddenly didn't seem so foreign anymore. Indeed, Daniel was not an isolated American basketball player, he was interacting with the other players, making jokes, talking and making plays.

The team itself is composed of a mixture of Italians and foreigners. Daniel is joined by Deron Washington, JaJuan Johnson, Brad Wanamaker and Kyle Gibson from America, along with five Italian players. The local favorite is power forward/center Giacomo Galanda, who served as team captain for Italy's 2004 silver medal Olympic team and who recently announced his upcoming retirement.

See PISTOIA, 10A

NFL

Colts' Mathis apologizes to teammates for suspension

MICHAEL MAROT
AP Sports Writer

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — NFL sacks champion Robert Mathis made one thing clear Wednesday: He's coming back this season as a motivated man.

In his first public comments since learning he would sit out the season's first four games for violating the league's performance-enhancing substance policy, Mathis was his usually blunt self after speaking to his Colts teammates.

"I told them I'm sorry, and I'll be back," Mathis said.

Last week, he explained in a statement that the substance, Clomid, was found in a fertility medication he was temporarily using. His wife is now pregnant. But Clomid also can be used

as a masking agent for other PED treatments, and Mathis acknowledged that the mistake he made was not checking with the NFL or the NFL Players Association to determine if the medicine could cause a positive drug test.

Some contend the explanation for making such a big jump in sacks, from eight in 2012 to a league-high 19½ at age 32, can be linked to PEDs. Mathis denied any such connection in a statement late last week and his agent, Hadley Englehard, has repeatedly said Mathis' position change, from defensive end to outside linebacker, was the primary reason his numbers improved. Mathis first made the switch in 2012 and looked much more comfortable at his new position in 2013.

He reiterated that position Wednesday.

"Let them say what they may," Mathis said. "In my heart of hearts, I know what it is and what it is not."

Under league rules, the Pro Bowl linebacker will be allowed to participate in all offseason team activities, training camp and the preseason. He will be suspended without pay for the first four games and is not eligible to return to the Colts until Sept. 29.

Mathis did attempt to appeal the ruling, but Commissioner Roger Goodell did not show any leniency.

"It's been a long process. It ran its course and I accept its responsibility," Mathis said. "I was just following directions. I shouldn't have did it. It was

banned."

Teammates, like defensive end Cory Redding and Andrew Luck, accepted Mathis' explanation.

"I didn't need to hear it because I know who he is, you know?" Redding said. "I have no doubt the kind of person, the kind of character, the kind of man he is. So I didn't need to hear it for my betterment."

Losing Mathis could be a huge blow for the Colts. He is the franchise's career sacks leader and last year set a single-season franchise record. The rest of the Colts combined for 22½ sacks.

Indy does have options. Bjoern Werner was the Colts' first-round draft pick in 2013. Though he made the same position switch as Mathis and con-

tended with knee and ankle injuries throughout his rookie season, Werner appeared to be making solid progress over the final month.

The Colts also have outside linebacker Erik Walden, who they signed as an unrestricted free agent in 2013, and they selected college defensive end Jonathan Newsome in the fifth round of this year's draft — a player former Colts general manager Bill Polian compared to Mathis. Polian drafted Mathis.

Redding is convinced there's enough talent to make up for Mathis' absence.

"We have 53 men on the team, probably more than that because we're going to have walk-on guys and all that kind of

See MATHIS, 10A

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■ Pistoia...

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The fans were another story, however. Being a fan of Eurobasket is like speaking an entirely different language than what we are used to at the CFSB Center. The entire west end zone was filled with a cheering section that was rarely quiet throughout the entire night. If they weren't cheering, they were chanting. If they weren't chanting, they were singing. Most of the time there was synchronized clapping (complemented by the front rows beating on the plexiglass barricade). Two fans with megaphones, I call them the "general" and the "captain," kept a close eye on the game and would shout instructions to the fans on which thing to yell, chant or sing next. Others waved enormous flags or stretched out giant banners with Pistoia slogans and logos. There was rarely seen a fan without some sort of red in their clothing. It was impressive, to say the very least.

Along the long sides of the court, fans were less rabid, but still very vocal and would join in most of the cheers. If a call didn't go Pistoia's way, the response was as one would expect - only instead of booing, most of the fans would stand up and let loose a string of Italian dissent while punctuating each inflection with sharp hand motions. Deep on the other side of the court sat roughly 500 JuveCaserta fans, who made a five-hour trip to Pistoia for the match. Like something out of a

children's movie, the visiting team color was a villainous black and the fans played the bad guy well. Pirate flags flew, banners were unfurled and they had their own chants, cheers and songs that would at times drown out the home team.

This served very contrary to what I was expecting. In preparation for the visit to Pistoia, I did a little research into the team and found that it was very rare for anyone but the local media to cover the team. While the fans were all decked out in team attire, there is no brick-and-mortar team store in the gym - everything is done online or in small shops around town. But then stepping into the gym it feels like there is nothing else that matters at that moment, only Pistoia basketball. It was an interesting juxtaposition.

Watching Ed and Tony on the court was like the good ol' days when they were Racers. In fact, for Ed especially it looked like Italy has been good for him. I saw a new hustle, as he ran down the court and viciously denied a JuveCaserta basket just as easily as he would cut to the rim for his own points. We were treated to the trademark Ed dunk, which really got the crowd pumped up, especially the ones wearing giant wigs to match his signature hairstyle.

Pistoia had a very back-and-forth performance during the four quarters, both trailing and leading by double digits. Daniel and Easley both had significant minutes, and would guard each other at times. Pistoia was down two at the

half, but used a 30-18 run in the third quarter to push ahead. As the final minutes ticked away, Pistoia managed to hold onto their lead and win 73-68, securing the final spot in the playoffs.

The fans, as expected, went nuts. They didn't rush the court, but stayed around a long time as the players visited with them and celebrated. Daniel is certainly a part of Pistoia now, as he was frequently called over for photos and autographs. He hopped up into the stands and was immediately surrounded.

Overall, the opportunity to witness not only Eurobasket but to see Daniel and Easley take the court again was priceless. Admittedly, I have often thought of playing basketball abroad as a compromise or "lesser" opportunity for athletes versus getting picked up by an NBA team. This is definitely not the case anymore. Just one look at the sweat on Easley's forehead, the camaraderie between Daniel and his teammates, the passion of the fans and the hard work of the staff was enough for me to see this is a tremendous opportunity for any athlete lucky and skilled enough to find a spot on the roster. My only regret is to not be returning to America with a Pistoia scarf or jacket, and to have missed out on cramming into a streetside café with Daniel and Easley to sip espresso and talk about life in Italy. Maybe next time. Forza Pistoia!



KYSER LOUGH / Special to the Ledger (Front) Former Murray State Racers Ed Daniel, left, and Tony Easley clash under the basket during the second quarter of a Eurobasket SerieA professional basketball game between Pistoia and JuveCaserta Saturday, May 11, 2014 in Pistoia, Italy. (Above) Former Murray State Racer Ed Daniel interacts with fans after his Pistoia Eurobasket team defeated JuveCaserta to claim the eighth seed in the upcoming playoffs Saturday, May 11, 2014 in Pistoia, Italy. (Left) Former Murray State Racers Ed Daniel, left, and Tony Easley currently play for opposing Italian professional basketball teams and are pictured before a game on Saturday, May 11, 2014 in Pistoia, Italy.

NFL
Hoyer, Manziel to battle

By TOM WITHERS
AP Sports Writer

BEREA, Ohio (AP) — Unlike most Clevelanders, Brian Hoyer didn't jump up and down or cheer when he heard the Browns drafted Johnny Manziel.

Hoyer shrugged and got ready to fight for his job.

"It was almost a sense of relief when he was drafted," he said, "because I knew exactly right then and there what it was going to be."

It's going to be a quarterback battle unlike anything Cleveland has seen before.

Hoyer, the hometown kid and incumbent starter, and Manziel — the college football superstar with the larger-than-life persona, catchy nickname and Heisman Trophy — were on the field together Wednesday, the second day of organized team activities.

■ Cards...

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games in the minors and hit .524 (11 for 21) against left-handed pitchers. He had multihit games in six of his last eight starts, including three hits Tuesday night at Colorado Springs.

Robinson was 2 for 20 to start the year, with 11 pinch hit appearances, before being sent to the minors on April 27. He had 144 at-bats in 99 games last year for St. Louis, batting .250 with two homers and 16 RBIs.

Butler's contract was purchased from Memphis on May 9. He was 0 for 5 with three strikeouts and a walk and three appearances as a pinch hitter.

■ Mathis...

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stuff," Mathis said. "I'm pretty sure Robert has a backup. If he were to get hurt, sprain an ankle, bust a shoelace, next man has got to get in there, right? Next man has got to get in there and play ball, period."

It just won't be easy for the Colts or Mathis.

"From my understanding, it's all set in stone, so there's really nothing you can say about it that's going to change anything," Luck said. "I know we're not wasting our breath talking about it too much. We realize the circumstance. We realize we're going to be without our best player probably for the first four games, so guys are going to have to step up."

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