

# The Times Journal

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Russell Springs, Kentucky

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**The Jamestown, South Russell and Russell Springs Fire Departments worked a house fire Monday morning on Carriage Lane off of Boat Dock Road in the Oaks Subdivision just south of Jamestown. As of press-time, Mario Gomez, 40, had been arrested on arson, criminal mischief and burglary charges related to the fire by the Kentucky State Police, according to law enforcement. No one was injured in the blaze.**

## MAY PRIMARY FILING UPDATE

This year is an off year for elections, but next year will see many seats up for grabs in the county, the state and in U.S. Congress.

Filing opened November 8 and will run through January 30, 2018 for the May 22 primary election ahead of the general election on November 6, 2018.

Deadline to change parties and still be able to vote in the May 22 primary is December 31, 2017. Anyone switching parties after December 31 will not be able to vote in the primary but will be able to vote in the general election.

As of November 14 these are the candidates which have filed for office. The order listed was provided by the Russell County Clerk's office:

County Judge Executive: Clarissa "Moochie" Hart - Republican

Landon Helm - Republican.  
Gary Robertson, incumbent Judge Executive has announced his intentions to run but says he will be filing on December 5.

County Clerk: Sue Popplewell Brockman - Republican (incumbent).

Circuit Clerk: Tony D. Kerr - Republican (incumbent).

PVA: Tim Popplewell - Republican (incumbent).

Coroner: Michael Reynolds - Republican (incumbent).

Mark Coots - Republican.

Jailer: Bobby S. Dunbar - Republican (incumbent).

County Attorney: Kevin S. Shearer - Republican (incumbent).

Sheriff: Clete McAninch - Republican (incumbent).

Magistrate District #1: Terry Waddell - Republican (incumbent).

Constable District #1: Keith Scholl - Republican.

Magistrate District #2: Patrick Loy - Republican (incumbent).

Randall Bunch - Republican.

Mickey Garner - Republican.

Magistrate District #3: James B. Clark - Democrat.

Magistrate District #4: Steve Richardson - Republican (incumbent).

Barry Wilson - Republican.

Magistrate District #5: Larry W. Holt - Republican (incumbent).

Constable District #5: Richard A. Wooldridge - Republican.

City of Jamestown Mayor - Nicholas J. Shearer (incumbent).

Additional elections which  
**See FILING, page A3**

## ANNUAL THANKSGIVING FEAST ON NOV. 23

The 15th annual free community Thanksgiving dinner will once again be held on Thanksgiving Day, according to Betty Fisher, the longtime organizer of the event.

The dinner will take place at the Russell County Rescue Squad building on Thursday, November 23, beginning at 10:30 a.m. and continuing until all the food is gone.

Approximately 800 people attended the meal and volunteers expect to feed as many or more this year.

This year they will serve nearly 20 turkeys, as well as several hams along with other traditional side items. This includes all your classic Thanksgiving classics, dessert and more.

Fisher said that her and several other volunteers put on the event

to give people a place to have Thanksgiving dinner with others.

Fisher, who has been cancer-free for 23 years this year, said she enjoys giving back to a community that has supported her endeavor over the years.

There will be gospel singing as well as "Living Waters" will be performing in the dining room of the building.

Home deliveries will be offered to shut-ins located within the city limits.

Donations are also appreciated and are still being accepted for anyone who is interested in helping out with the event.

For more information or to inquire about making donations, folks can call Betty Fisher at 270-566-3887, Stacy Brumley at 270-585-7044, Travis Hale at 270-866-6343 or Pam Gassaway at 270-866-6741.



**Betty Fisher**

## HONOR GUARD HOLDS UNVEILING EVENT FOR SPECIAL AMERICAN FLAG

The Russell County Honor Guard hosted a special flag unveiling event last week at their headquarters with honor guard members, special guests and dignitaries, according to the Honor Guard Commander Frank Irvin.

The flag, which was unveiled at the event, was donated by local veteran Bill Bernard. The flag was passed down from Bernard's mother, Annalois Bernard. Annalois, and her husband H.G. Bernard, were employed by Curtiss Wright in the early 1940s during the beginnings of World War II. Wright was a major defense contractor that helped win the war, according to Irvin.

"We're here tonight to honor the Bernard family for their donation of the flag and to those folks who worked on the flag to get it to the point where we see it tonight," Irvin said.

Irvin said Bernard showed up to the Honor Guard's building several months back with the flag draped under his shoulder, a gift to the local veterans organization.

"As we unfolded the flag we immediately recognized that it



**From left to right, Donna Willis, Allen Larkin, Bill Bernard, Steve Upchurch and Vickie Redmon. Each were honored for their help and assistance in restoring an early 1940s gold star American flag.**

was not an ordinary flag, it was a funeral flag. It had 48 stars, which is correct for the time era," Irvin said. "On one side of the flag the stars were golden, which is highly unusual."

As the weeks went by, Irvin

began research to try and determine more information about the flag.

"Obviously, it had some meaning and some purpose for its design and I wanted to know just exactly what," he said. "I started

with Curtiss Wright and talked with several facilities around the world actually and finally talked with the vice president of the nuclear division."

The flag had piqued his interest.  
**See FLAG, page A3**

## Boil water advisories in Russell Springs can now be received via email; hopes are for text notification in near future



**Council member Eddie Thomas received an award by the KY League of Cities for successful completion of achievement in a recent training.**

Council member Sherry Daniel said she has been consulting with city employee Brian "Hooty" Stephens and that the city's new online bill pay service for water services may have the capability to provide mass text services at this month's meeting of the Russell Springs City Council last Thursday.

This is following her recent investigation into getting a text message service for all customers of Russell Springs city

water in the event of a boil water advisory.

Research so far has shown that a mass texting service shows that an initial cost startup and yearly fee would be prohibitive.

Within the last couple of weeks some updates to water services and disruptions are capable of being accessed via email for customers who register for it. Mayor Selby and City Clerk Wendy Burton urges customers of Russell Springs sewer

and water to visit the city website at [www.russellsprings.net](http://www.russellsprings.net) and at the top register online. By doing so customers may pay online and also receive email alerts to events such as line breaks or boil water advisories.

Mayor Selby announced and presented an award to council member Eddie Thomas awarded by the Kentucky League of Cities for successful completion of level #1 achievement in city officials training on city government.

A representative of the Lake Cumberland Breakaway Project approached the city council following up on a visit last month requesting a donation to the service.

LCBP is a central hub for those in recovery or seeking recovery from addictions. Their services are to provide a safe and comfortable meeting place, provide helpline services, staffing counseling services and other services related to helping those recovering or attempting rehabilitation.

The city had donated \$10,000 to the initial startup of the services through their ABC (Alcohol Beverage Commission) fee collections, which by law must in part be spent on

education and prevention services of some sort.

ABC Commissioner Jeremy Coffey said his research into donating was that the city would need a letter from LCBP outlining the usage of funding donated.

Mayor Selby said he would like to have the letter to share with city council members and have them vote on the donation.

The city received their yearly audit of finances, receiving a general bill of "clean audit," from Baldwin CPA's. A complete audit is provided in this issue of The Times Journal.

One issue much discussed was the recommendation that the city write off some old accounts that have not been collected on for water bills.

These were past due balances of unpaid accounts over 90 days old coming to about \$110,000. It was determined that most of these past due accounts were "very old," some 10 years old or older.

The auditor said just from an accounting perspective they needed to be off the books. The council discussed attempting to collect on these old debts but it was determined that attempting

**See CITY, page A3**

## Correction: Fresh story will run in Saturday's News-Register

BY JOHN THOMPSON

Last week in the story "Rescue cat finds new home in Seattle, Washington" I made a big mistake that needs to be corrected. I indicated that over the course of the six months that Dori McCalvin and Mitza Smith have been keeping records they have been able to save 280 (now over 300) animals

BUT that those not finding homes had been transported to facilities and humanely put to sleep.

As euthanizing animals is antithetical to their mission as animal rescuers, this is an embarrassing error. The two do NOT involve themselves in animal euthanasia and are against it except under limited circumstances such as extreme illness or the animal is

very violent.

Yes, it was not a good day for this reporter, as I also misnamed one of the two interviewed as Dori McAlister when her name is Dori McCalvin.

They say three's a charm, and in this case it must have been a bad luck charm because a third piece of information was misreported; The veterinarian Dr. King does

not provide services free of charge.

A corrected version of the story will be reprinted in this Saturday's edition of The Russell County News-Register.

For those who did read the story, there's a bit of good news; Highway Hounds for Rescue and Transport recently received their 510c3 nonprofit status.

**The deadline for the Nov. 22 Times Journal is Nov. 16 at 4 p.m. and the deadline for the Nov. 25 New-Register is Nov. 20 at noon.**

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