

# What's Happening

All times are Central

Today

## GCHS SBDM Council

The Green County High School Site Base Council will meet Wednesday, Jan. 16 at 4 p.m. in the conference room at the high school.

## Industrial Dev. Board

The monthly Industrial Development Authority Meeting will be held Wednesday, January 16 at 4:30 p.m. at the Green County Courthouse, 203 West Court Street.

Tomorrow

## Diabetes 101

Diabetes 101 Just the Basics will be held at the Green County Health Department Thursday, Jan. 17 from 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. The class is free but pre-registration is required, 1-800-928-4416, ext. 1166.

## Public Hearing

There will be a public hearing Thursday, Jan. 17 at 4:30 p.m. at the Courthouse, 203 W. Court Street., regarding the partial closing of a county road. For information call Judge-Executive John Frank's office at 270-932-4021.

## Fiscal Court to meet

The monthly Green County Fiscal Court meeting will be held on Thursday, Jan. 17 at 5 p.m. at the Courthouse. Committee meetings will begin prior to monthly meetings at 4 p.m.

## VFW meeting

The regular monthly meeting of the James L. Pruitt Post 5813, VFW and Ladies Auxiliary meeting will be Jan. 17 with a meal starting at 6:30 p.m. at the Post home, 150 Hidden Valley Road, Greensburg. Members and anyone interested in joining either organization are encouraged to attend.

Weekend

## BOE Public Forum

Green County Board of Education will be having their annual public forum at the Green County Board of Education office Jan. 18 at 1 p.m. to assess the current Local Wellness Policy. Anyone who is interested is invited to attend.

## Movie at GCPL

The Library will be showing "The House With a Clock on the Walls" at 2 p.m. Friday, Jan 18.

## Homeplace meeting

The annual Homeplace on Green River will meet Saturday, Jan. 19 at 6 p.m. at the Adair County Extension Office. The topic will be sustainability and special guests will be Green County Agriculture teacher Samantha Gaddie and a student. Rex Mann, of the American Chestnut Foundation, will also speak. A chili meal is served. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Happening Soon

## Color Me Calm

Color Me Calm, an adult coloring program, takes place at the Green County Public Library every Thursday at 10 a.m.

## Chair exercise event

Join the Green County Public Library every Tuesday, from 1 to 2 p.m., for Chair Exercises.

## Amer. Legion Auxiliary

The American Legion Auxiliary will meet Jan. 21 at 5:30 p.m. at Ennis Restaurant on the square. All members are urged to attend.

## GCPL closed MLK Day

The Green County Public Library will be closed Monday, Jan 21, in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr Day.

## Historical Society

Green County Historical Society will meet Monday, Jan. 21 at 5:30 p.m. at Longhunters located on the square in Greensburg. This will be a general business meeting followed by Show and Share, in which members may bring and share objects, etc. having to do with Green County history.

## GCPL goes to paint

Meet at Paint and Party in Campbellsville on Thursday, Jan. 24, at 1 for a program sponsored by the Green County Public Library painting a snow scene. Space is limited to 12 adults. You can register by calling 270-932-7081.

# Senator Givens offers Legislative update

## Capitol Focus



State Sen. David Givens

The 153rd Regular Session of the Kentucky General Assembly convened this week with more than 150 prefiled bills awaiting consideration.

In years past, the first week of off-year "short" sessions was spent mainly on organizational matters such as electing leaders and appointing committees with the work of passing bills beginning in February. But with only 30 working days to accomplish so much, I am proud to say the Kentucky Senate went right to work.

This week, the Senate's activity involved some procedural measures. We welcomed everyone back to Frankfort to swear in members and confirm the Senate Leadership. Senator Robert Stivers (R-Manchester) will remain the Senate President, and I am honored to serve as the new Senate President Pro Tempore. We were also thrilled to officially welcome Senator Matt Castlen (R-Owensboro) and Senator Robby Mills (R-Henderson) as our newest members. Other tasks included confirming new committee appointments and adopting the Senate rules for the 2019 session.

Additionally, the Senate introduced legislation regarding electronic campaign filing, a constitutional amendment moving the statewide election date, and school safety.

Bills must be presented at a public committee meeting and passed with a majority vote before heading back to the Senate to be voted on by the entire Senate body. Once the Senate approves a Senate bill, it heads to the Kentucky House of Representatives where the same process occurs. The Senate has to agree to any changes the House makes to the bill before it is submitted to the Governor for his approval and is finally signed into law.

We have listened to the feedback of our constituents, and the Senate majority has several priority bills that we would like to see ratified during the 2019 Regular Session. Following the tragic 2018 shooting at Marshall County High School, legislators formed the bipartisan School Safety Working Group for the purpose of developing a solution to better ensure the safety of our schools in Kentucky. Senate Bill 1, the School Safety and Resiliency Act, sponsored by Senator Max Wise (R-Campbellsville), was drafted as a result of the findings of the working group. The Senate Majority is encouraged by the overwhelming sup-



## How have cheaper gas prices benefited you?

By Roving photographer Clevis Jeffries



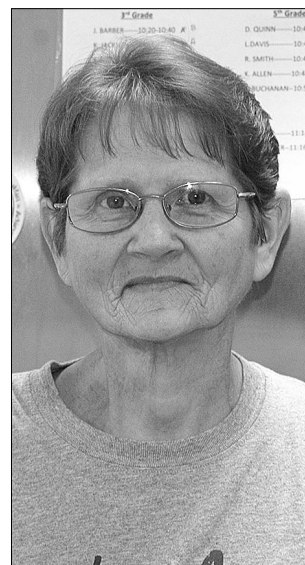
"It has saved my family money on a recent trip." —Melissa Sturgeon



"It gives me extra money to spend on other things." —Christy Brooks



"It puts more money in my wallet." —Ginger Rapier



"I don't have to spend as much to travel." —Carolyn Adkins



"It allows me to have more money to spend on certain things." —Rebecca Curry



"I have extra money for other things." —Diana McCubbins

port of this proposed legislation and we look forward to continuing discussion with the House on how to address this critical issue.

The Senate was able to pass five bills out of chamber in the initial week of session. By the third day, Senate Bill 5, sponsored by Senator Chris McDaniel (R-Taylor Mill) was passed out of the chamber by a 31-4 vote. This bill is a proposed amendment to the Kentucky Constitution to move the elections of statewide constitutional offices to even-numbered years. Several bills were voted on Friday morning. Senate Bill 4, sponsored by Senator Damon Thayer (R-Georgetown) requires candidates to file all campaign finance reports electronically. Senate Bill 50, sponsored by Senator Robby Mills (R-Henderson), relates to the reporting of prescriptions designed to induce an abortion. Senate Bill 8, sponsored by Senator Steve West (R-Paris), relates to the quality of teacher tribunal hearings by requiring the chair to be a trained attorney in teacher employment law. Lastly, we passed Senate Bill 3, sponsored by Senator John Schickel (R-Union). This measure, also known as School Board Decision Making (SBDM) reform, re-

defines the minimum parent teacher representation on school councils and grants superintendents the ability to hire principals.

Finally, the co-chairs of the Legislative Research Commission, pending full LRC approval, created a Public Pensions Working Group to review and analyze the state's public pension system. The working group will conduct a review of the systems' structure, costs, benefits, and funding. The working group is authorized to meet as often as necessary at the discretion of co-chairs Senator Wil Schroder (R-Wilder) and Representative Jerry Miller (R-Louisville).

Bill summaries, amendments, and resolutions, in addition to the next day's committee meeting schedule and agendas, are updated daily on the Kentucky Legislature's home page at www.lrc.ky.gov throughout the session, with final adjournment scheduled for March 29.

If you have any questions or comments about these issues or any other public policy issue, please contact me toll-free at 1-800-372-7181 or email me at david.givens@lrc.ky.gov. You can also review the Legislature's work online at www.lrc.ky.gov.

## Greensburg Record-Herald

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