

Weather Record							
Date	2-5	2-6	2-7	2-8	2-9	2-10	2-11
High	68.7	63.4	71.9	38.8	36.8	43.7	54.1
Low	56.4	57.7	38.9	22.6	16.8	26	42.8
Prec	0	1.95	0.89	0	0	0.63	1.3
Reporting period for each day runs from midnight to midnight. Statistics from Kentucky Mesonet's Bengal Station.							

Rainy day spent repairing water break



Green County Public Works spent the rainy Sunday on Long Meadow Drive, working to restore water to residents, as they repaired a 6-inch main line. The line, which likely busted due to weather change and rock in the ground, took approximately seven hours to repair. The crew was assisted by Green County Rescue. The community made sure the workers were fed and hydrated well during the day.



Photos submitted

City weighs departmental concerns

By CLEVIS JEFFRIES
STAFF WRITER

The Greensburg City Council, at its regular called meeting Monday, considered personnel issues regarding the water plant, police department and public works.

Mayor John Shuffett indicated that an additional operator is needed at the water plant. The public works department will be sending employees

for schooling in order to acquire their collection licenses.

“Our operators at the water plant are the very best, but they are logging serious overtime. We need to find an additional Class 3 operator to adequately operate the plant,” said Mayor John Shuffett.

The Council heard concerns relating to the retention of police officers and discussed the need for additional officers.

“We need to consider both setting a retention schedule and freeing up revenue in order to better pay our officers and compete with surrounding departments,” said the Mayor.

An update was presented on the current status of an agreed order concerning the collection system of the Waste Water Treatment Plant. The existing corrective action plan will be amended.

“At issue here is

groundwater and storm-water infiltrating our sewer system,” Shuffett said. “Our maintenance crew can implement a series of improvements to address these issues.”

A proclamation will be issued declaring March 12 as Lew Edwards Day in the City of Greensburg.

“Given his contributions to the community over the years, the city wishes to honor Mr. Edwards by setting aside a special day,” he said.

ECTC offers workforce training opportunities

By CLEVIS JEFFRIES
STAFF WRITER

Ben Whitlock, Director of Program Facilitation/Workforce Liaison at Elizabethtown Community and Technical College, who provides services to Green, Taylor, Marion and Washington counties, was the guest speaker at Greensburg Rotary February 5. He shared with members the training opportunities available through the Workforce Solutions program at the college.

Whitlock said that the college provides responsive training for business and industry in the ten-county region it serves, which includes Green County.

ECTC has collaborated with area companies in Green, Taylor, Marion, and Washington Counties through its Workforce

Solutions department, and has customized training programs for major area manufacturers and small service providers alike.

Whitlock noted that Workforce Solutions provides continuing education and short-term customized training for business, industry and government agencies designed to strengthen the workforce and to expand the life skills, knowledge, and cultural enrichment of the community.

The program facilitation director said that his job, primarily, is to work with area businesses and people who are already employed to further develop the workforce. He also serves as a liaison between the community and ECTC.

“My job, in a nutshell, is to be the face



Ben Whitlock

of ECTC here in Green County and the other counties that I serve,” Whitlock said.

His role, if a company experiences a job-related issue, would be to develop a plan to solve the problem through training and workforce development.

“Our team would develop a customized training plan for them to address that issue. We would also train

them in soft skills.”

The director talked about the many functions of Workforce Solutions, which include providing economic development training for new and expanding industries; recruiting students to participate in the KY FAME program – a program for industrial maintenance techs; conducting training for training consortiums; being involved in communities; and much more.

Whitlock noted there also is a CDL program for truck drivers at ECTC Workforce Solutions.

The Workforce Solutions program can offer funding for training purposes, including the purchasing of equipment, job profiling and customized employee training. There also are apprenticeship programs and

Senator Givens’ Legislative Update

The General Assembly hit the ground running last week as it began the continuation of the 2019 Regular Session with emotional testimony from parents of two teens slain at a western Kentucky high school, siblings separated in the state foster care system, and organ donor advocates fighting to keep Kentucky’s donor registry relevant.

Committee meetings were in full swing this week as we discussed and passed bills to the Senate floor for final votes. On Thursday, the Senate passed three pieces of legislation.

Senate Bill 32, sponsored by Senator Stan Humphries, improves the current water well drilling system by allowing water well driller assistants to be certified by the Kentucky Energy and Environment Cabinet. Senate Bill 77, sponsored by Senator Julie Raque Adams, proposes an expansion of Kentucky’s current organ donor registration list through an easily accessible sign-on system to designate consent. Senate Bill 31, sponsored by Senator Ralph Alvarado, requires the Cabinet of Health and Family Services to provide frequent visitation for siblings who are in out-of-home care and not jointly placed.

Also on Thursday, the Senate Education Committee was honored to welcome families of the victims of the Marshall County High School shooting as they testified on behalf of Senate Bill 1. The testimony from the Holt and Cope families was powerful and moving. At the conclusion of the meeting, SB 1 was unanimously voted out of committee.

SB 1, the School Safety and Resiliency Act, passed on Friday with an overwhelming majority. Sponsored by Senator Max Wise, SB 1 is a bipartisan piece of legislation that fo-

Capitol Focus

State
Senator
David
Givens



cuses on developing standardized conditions and training that will better secure safety in our schools through personnel, structures/protocols, and a culture of connection with students that concentrates on their overall well-being. Accountability for school safety compliance will also be emphasized. The safety and security of the children of Kentucky is paramount. As the bill moves to the House, the Senate Education Committee will continue to provide input so that the bill that eventually arrives on the Governor’s desk is in its best possible form.

Prior to our return to Frankfort this week, the General Assembly continued to discuss legislative priorities throughout the three-week interim in committee meetings. The newly formed Public Pensions Working Group, co-chaired by Senator Wil Schroder, met twice each week. Throughout these meetings, this bipartisan group from both chambers heard extensive and detailed testimony on the condition of our public pension systems. While there is still much to be done, we are confident that this working group is heading in the right direction toward developing a viable solution to this persistent dilemma facing our state.

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.legislature.ky.gov.

workforce transition programs available.

The program provides a multitude of classes available to industries in the areas of computer skills, leadership development, and technical skills.

Whitlock said that Elizabethtown Community and Technical College Department of Workforce Solutions seeks to become the first choice for workforce development training in our region.

“We can provide you with the training that you need,” he said.

“We would also like to offer more courses to Green County by collaborating with businesses in Green County to train their employees. We would like to offer classes, in partnership with Green County Schools and Green County Area Technology Cen-

ter, that are open to the public.”

Whitlock noted that plans are to offer a night welding class beginning March 5 at the local ATC, with the cost being \$275 per student.

Upon successful completion of course requirements, students will have the opportunity to take a certification test.

This spring, Computer for Beginners Levels I and II and Soft Skills You Need classes are also scheduled to be offered at night.

ECTC, Whitlock said, has invested in a mobile training classroom that will allow for the training of employees during the day.

“This unit will be devoted specifically to soft skills,” he said.

If interested in training, call 270-706-8711.