

What's Happening

All times are Central

Tomorrow

Christian Fiction Books

The Christian Fiction Book Club will meet at the Green County Public Library on Thursday, March 7 at 3 p.m. Next month's reading will be "The Hope of Azure Springs" by Rachel Fordham.

League of Citizens

The League of Citizens will meet Thursday March 7 at 5:30 p.m. in the Green County Library community room. All members are encouraged to attend.

Weekend

Nature program at GCPL

Mikayla Groce, with Americorps Environmental Education Learning Corps, will be at the Library Friday, March 8 at 2 p.m. for an after school nature program. She will be bringing frogs and tadpoles as live examples and teaching about their habitats.

Happening Soon

Ambulance Svc. Board

Green County Ambulance Service board of director's meeting will be Tuesday, March 12 at 5 p.m.

Genealogical Society

The Green County Genealogical Society will meet Thursday, March 14 at 5 p.m. in the Green County Public Library's community meeting room. For more information call Martha Houk at 270-932-4950 or Brenda Taylor at 270-932-4201.

Headstart registration

A Headstart registration event will be held Friday, March 15 at the Green County Public Library. The event, a Headstart Hoopla, will be held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the library, 112 West Court Street. The event will accept registration for eligible three- and four-year-olds for the 2019-20 school year. There will be snacks, games, face painting and more. For more information regarding headstart call 270-932-6618 or the library at 270-932-7081.

Spring league signups

Green County Park Board has Spring League signups underway at greecountyparkboard.com. League will begin the end of April and run through June. Signups are \$65 prior to March 15 deadline. For more information contact any park board member.

Retired Teachers Assoc.

The Green County Retired Teachers Association will meet at Los Agaves Thursday, March 21 at 11 a.m. The guest speakers include AARP Greensburg Essay Winner and the 4th District Membership chairperson.

Ongoing events

GCPL children programs

Every Tuesday morning at 10 a.m., the Green County Public Library has Terrific Tuesday Story Hour for two- to five-year-olds and Wednesdays at 10 a.m. a LapSit Lullaby program for babies and toddlers, birth up to 2 years. For more information, contact the library at 270-932-7081.

Chair exercise event

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

Preschool registration

Green County Preschool registration will be held Friday, April 12, for all incoming Green County 2019-2020 preschoolers. The following information is needed for applications: birth certificate, income verification, immunizations, social security card, dental exam, physical exam, and eye exam. Students must be four by August 1, 2019. Call the Green County Primary School Family Resource Center for an appointment at 270-932-6619.

Reunions

All times are Central

The **Class of 1979** is currently organizing their class reunion. Contact Jackie Bennett at 270-932-0023 or Rod Moore at 270-405-6204 for more information or to assist.

Boosting school choice, busting deficient history standards



Jim Waters

Bluegrass Beacon

The need for pension, education and regulatory reform are on full display these days and offer plenty of fodder for this edition of Liberty boosters and busters.

Liberty Booster: Sen. Chris McDaniel

While lawmakers understandably want to focus on implementing new programs, sometimes getting rid of wasteful ones is the most valuable service they provide.

McDaniel, R-Taylor Mill, has filed legislation tossing the fat-laden pork roast known as Kentucky Wired, a government-owned broadband network that state Auditor Mike Harmon speculated might hand taxpayers a \$1.5 billion bill and may never be completed.

If McDaniel can get some questions answered in the process, so much the better.

For example, while Macquarie Group, a foreign operation, was hired as the commonwealth's private partner, how did the massive costs and risk of this project get shifted to taxpayers?

Plus, why isn't Kentucky at the very least following the example of neighboring states like Tennessee which incentivize private providers to expand and make high-speed broadband available to all citizens?

Better yet, lowering taxes, reducing regulation and generally getting government out of the way would result in our powerhouse private providers figuring out how to build such networks without publicly backed incentives.

Liberty Buster: Social studies standards committee

It's been over a decade since Kentucky's social studies standards were updated.

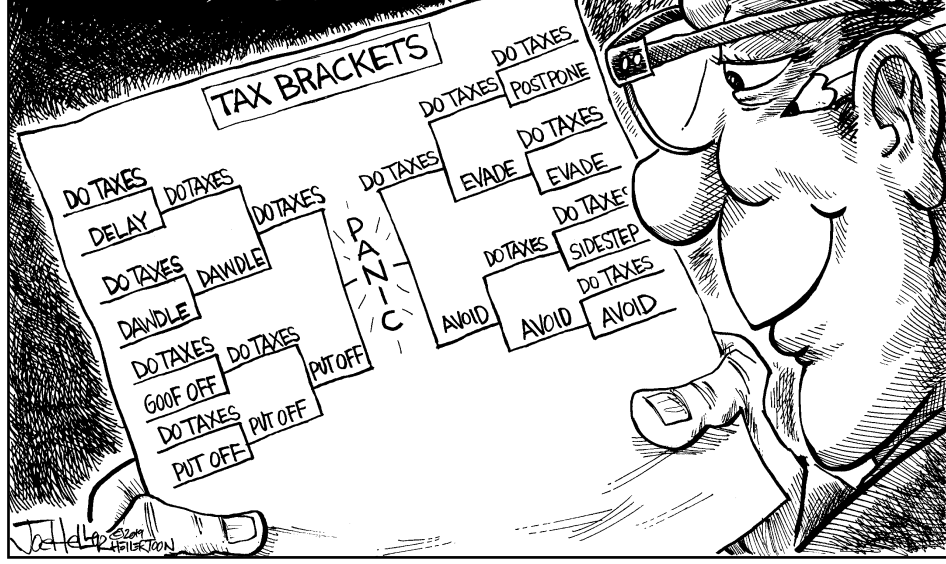
Considering the revision proposed by this committee chosen by Frankfort education insiders, it might be better to keep the old ones a bit longer.

After all, how can you offer history standards to Kentucky schoolchildren that never even mention Abraham Lincoln, who, along with being the nation's 16th president, was a native of this commonwealth?

A major fallacy of this process is the omission of virtually every important historical person integral to understanding what makes America such an exceptional nation, with no apology to Colin Kaepernick.

In fact, I doubt even Kaepernick would be happy that Martin Luther King Jr. doesn't warrant so much as a mention in these proposed standards,

MARCH (AND APRIL) MADNESS

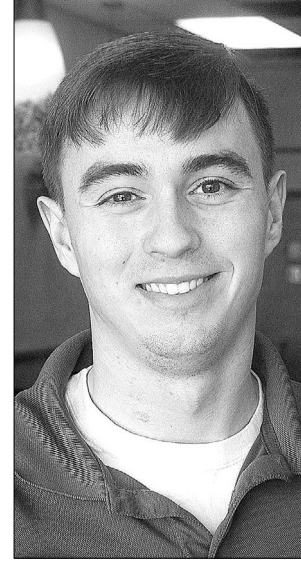


What are your thoughts about the time change on March 10?

By Roving photographer Clevis Jeffries



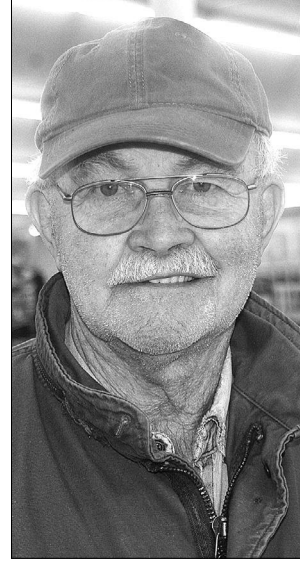
"I would like for the time to stay the same all year round."
—Jenna Montgomery



"It gives you more daylight for activities after working hours."
—Johnny Jennings



"I think the time should stay the same throughout the year."
—Maria Hyde



"I think we should stay on the same time all year without switching back and forth."
—Edward Casebolt



"I wish they would leave the time alone."
—Starlene Milby



"I wish the whole state was on one time."
—Yvonne Creason

which are far from ready for prime time.

Liberty Boosters: House leaders supporting legislation to expand educational opportunities for low- and middle-income Kentucky families.

Agreeing to become a co-sponsor of Majority Floor Leader John "Bam" Carney's bill making Kentucky the 19th state with a Scholarship Tax Credit program is one of the most positive and consequential decisions made by Speaker David Osborne, R-Prospect, and Majority Whip Chad McCoy, R-Bardstow, during this year's General Assembly.

This isn't just a move to pacify school-choice supporters who for years have clamored for more options, especially for lower-income parents to enjoy the same opportunity as wealthy families of placing their children in private schools.

By joining Carney, R-Campbellsville, during the current legislative session, Osborne and McCoy are doing what it takes to get controversial, if sound, policies passed: leading.

Liberty Buster: Forward Kentucky's Bruce Maples, who dismisses such school-choice programs as "a scam for the wealthy."

Most reasonable

Kentuckians would expect a self-proclaimed progressive like Maples to support options helping poor children escape bad schools, especially when he claims on his organization's website that Forward Kentucky exists "with the goal of helping our state move forward and be all that it can be."

How can the nine out of 10 black students and two out of three whites across Kentucky failing to attain proficiency in the critical areas of math and reading and who disproportionately find themselves in failing schools "move forward" without a better education?

How can poor families "move forward" to get their children a different educational setting without financial assistance?

Creating a program where the wealthy help the poor to get their children into those settings sounds like the kind of forward movement Maples claims to endorse.

Jim Waters is president and CEO of the Bluegrass Institute for Public Policy Solutions, Kentucky's free-market think tank. Read previous columns at www.bipps.org. He can be reached at jwaters@freedomkentucky.com and @bipps on Twitter.

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