



## Fire training keeps local rescuers top notch



Photo by Whitney Perian

Local firefighters were busy participating in a live Kentucky State Fire Training event Saturday in the Grab community. Over 40 participants were involved in the 8-hour training held on Simpson Road. The property owner, Patricia Pascoe, gave permission for rescuers to use the two-story house as a training exercise. Both new and certified firefighters benefited from the exercise. More photos are on page 16A.

## Bevin addresses pension crisis

By CLEVIS JEFFRIES  
STAFF WRITER

Kentucky Governor Matt Bevin spoke to an attentive crowd March 12 at Longhunters Coffee and Tea Company about the state public pension system and the urgent need to alleviate its problems.

Currently, Kentucky's unemployment is at its lowest, workforce participation is at an all-time high, and more dollars are being invested in the state, Bevin said, there are still issues that must be considered such as modernizing the tax system, addressing the state pension crisis and dealing with foster care and adoption.

The governor answered questions during his visit, one regarding



Photo by Clevis Jeffries

Gov. Matt Bevin discussed local opportunities with County Judge-Executive John Frank, left, and Mayor John Shuffett, right, after speaking and answering questions from a near capacity crowd March 12 at Longhunters Coffee and Tea Company.

medical marijuana. He discussed in-depth the current pension crisis from a question present-

ed by Green County Superintendent of Schools Will Hodges, the approach needed to solve

the problem and the proposal that is presently being considered that would keep a defined benefit plan for future employees.

"You cannot continue to offer a defined benefit plan for future employees," Bevin said.

"You're benefiting from the people that are actually still working," Bevin said. We have more retirees than workers in Kentucky in our public pension system. It's broken. It's been broken actually for decades. We have the worst funded pension system in America."

Kentucky's governor said that the most anyone is paying into the pension system right now is 13 percent of their paycheck.

See Gov., page 15A

## NCAA bracket time



By CRYSTAL CECIL  
R-H STAFF

It's March bracket time! The annual bracket contest is now in full swing at the Record-Herald office. The first round of games will be played tomorrow and Friday.

Basketball fans can get in on the competition with a free chance to win hundreds of dollars worth of prizes from merchants in the Record-Herald's annual Catch the Madness bracket contest.

Fill out the bracket on pages 8-9A in this issue and get it turned in to the R-H office by Friday, March 22 at 5 p.m. CT.

One bracket is allowed per person. Other rules are on page 8A.

The first round of games, tomorrow and Friday, are considered FREE in the R-H contest.

Don't forget to select a tie-breaker in the center of the bracket— the total amount of points scored in the championship game.

Each correctly predicted game earns points and whoever has the most points after the NCAA championship, will receive all the prizes in the R-H's winner-takes-all contest. See page 9A for a list of prizes.

Free entry forms may also be picked up at the R-H office.

Good luck!

## Board meets in regular session

By CRYSTAL CECIL  
R-H STAFF

The Green County Board of Education met in regular session Thursday, March 14.

Four employees were recognized for the month of March receiving Golden Apple "Above and Beyond" awards.

Missi Suratt, reading interventionist at Green County Primary School, was recognized for going above and beyond for her students.

Principal Kristen York said Ms. Missi works hard for all students at GCPS.

"With her reading recovery/interventionist position she works extremely hard to get those struggling readers to a higher level," York said. "She worked many, many hours on the recent RTA grant, which we were awarded for another

year, thanks to all her hard work and effort—not only on writing the actual grant, but also the work she does on a daily basis to prove the grant has been beneficial."

Green County High School custodians Rodney Hadley and W.L. Walker were recognized for their extraordinary service and dedication.

Board Chair Marcy Goff said Hadley and Walker recently offered exceptional help when Green County Schools hosted the 5th Region Basketball Tournament.

"In the days leading up to and throughout the tournament, both Rodney and W.L. would always meet me at the door and would go above and beyond to provide assistance in any way they could."

Liz Parson, Instructional Assistant at Green

County Intermediate School, was recognized for her volunteer activities.

GCIS Principal Mielle DiStefano noted that on any given day, Parson works hard to ensure that all staff and students have the things they need in order to be productive.

"Liz was seen giving students, who were going home with sickness, Dippin' Dots, which she personally paid for, to cool down their fever," DiStefano said. "I cannot thank Liz enough for what she did during this time of need."

The 2018-19 school calendar for the remainder of the school year was amended. Monday, March 18 was approved a make-up day. There will be no early release on Friday, May 10. Schools will dismiss at 2:25 p.m. The last day of school for

students will be May 21. Closing Day for faculty and staff will be May 22, with a teacher workday either May 23 or May 24.

The Board approved the adoption of a revised District Facility Plan. This plan addresses the future needs for the District.

The addition of an E-sports coach was approved.

A fundraising request from Ms. Ivy Warf, librarian at Green County Intermediate School, was approved. A book fair, a schoolwide fundraiser, will be held April 17-23. The fundraiser will be used to purchase books for students.

Superintendent Will Hodges advised the new school buses would be ready for the 2019-20 school year.

See BOE, page 13A

## KSP to do safety checks

Kentucky State Police Post 15 will be conducting safety traffic checkpoints in the Post 15 area, which includes Green, Taylor, Marion, Washington, Russell, Adair, Metcalfe, Monroe, Clinton and Cumberland.

KSP will be checking for impaired drivers, children not properly restrained in safety seats and informing about the use of seatbelts. These checkpoints will be conducted in various locations throughout the Post 15 area.