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School safety is Number One

BY CRYSTAL CECIL
R-H STAFF

School safety is being implemented in a new way at both Green County Primary and Intermediate schools this school year.

Raptor Technologies, a program known as the gold standard in school safety, is being used to track who comes in and out of the primary school buildings. Entrants will scan their Driver's License to gain access to the building.

With the youngest students, both schools see the most traffic in the way of visitors.

"It's a security feature we have started implementing where parents sign in and sign out using their drivers license every time they visit the building," GCPS Principal Kristen York explained. "The system prints off a badge for them with their name and picture so all staff know they are 'okay' to be in the school."

Green County Intermediate School describes the process similarly.

"When entering the Intermediate school for the first time, our office staff will assist you by scanning your ID, such as your driv-

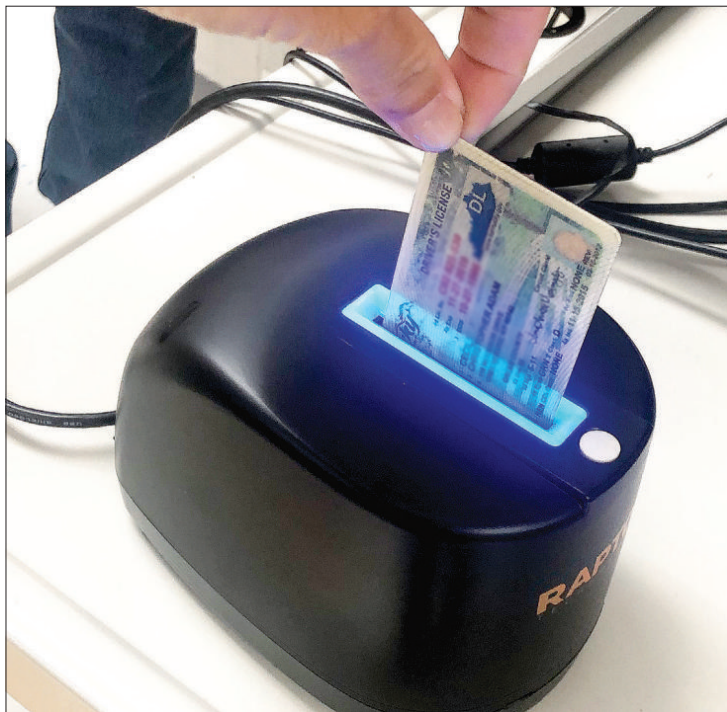


Photo by Crystal Cecil

Two of Green County's schools are using a new security feature this year. The program will scan government issued photo IDs prior to entrance to the building.

er's license," GCIS Assistant Principal Josh Gupton said. "Information such as name and birthdate will be stored to identify visitors in the future. This information is not shared beyond our records."

The system prints a visitor tag to wear that reads the location the person is going, their name, who they

are visiting, and displays their photo. The visitor, upon exiting, will sign out or will be logged out at the end of a period of time.

"The next time the visitor enters they will simply sign in and receive their tag," Gupton said

The web-based visitor management system

screens for red flags in visitors, including sex offenders, alerts staff to custody violations and provides reporting for all visitors with the simple scan or a driver's license or photo ID.

"If for some reason they shouldn't be in the school, an alert will pop up and allow the office staff to take appropriate measures to keep them from entering the building," York said.

The Raptor system checks visitors against custom databases set by the district, which may contain custody alerts and/or banned visitors. Additionally, each and every visitor is instantly screened against the sex offender database in all 50 states.

Accurate and reliable visitor details and sign-in history are recorded for every visitor that enters the schools.

If an unthinkable situation occurs, emergency personnel can be summoned with a push of a button. Emergency panic buttons allow secretaries or other front desk employees, to instantly alert a customized list of school officials and first responders.

See Safety, page 14A



Brett Guthrie

Guthrie to visit Tuesday

BY CRYSTAL CECIL
R-H STAFF

Congressman Brett Guthrie will be in Green County Tuesday at the Greensburg Rotary Club weekly meeting.

Congressman Guthrie will speak to Rotarians and invited guests at 12 p.m. CT, Aug. 12 at the Masonic Lodge on Main Street.

"Old tennis courts" to be home for new tennis courts

STAFF REPORTS

The Green County Board of Education met Thursday night for the regular monthly board meeting.

Superintendent Will Hodges unveiled plans to construct three tennis courts to host the newly formed tennis teams in the District. The tennis teams are coached by Green County Middle School Teacher and former Georgetown

College tennis player, Mrs. Jacqueline Noe.

The three new courts will be installed at the location of the previous tennis courts just below the Green County Board of Education Central Office Building.

"At Green County Schools, we have a rich history that previously included a tennis program," the superintendent said. "We are very fortunate to have Mrs. Noe reviving the

tennis program and we are excited to start the process of restoring the old courts and create a home court for our talented athletes and community to be proud of."

The courts are estimated to cost approximately \$50,000 each and are expected to be ready for play prior to the teams beginning their second season in the Spring of 2020.

The board granted permission for the district to

pursue a United States Tennis Association grant that would help cover the cost of construction for the project.

Superintendent Hodges discussed a superintendent evaluation standard focused on strategic leadership.

He also commented on the successful start of school and the overall excitement that continues to grow across the district.

Hodges discussed the District's newly revised and adopted mission, vision, and motto, recalled a recent professional development training that involved the district's teachers and administrators, and highlighted various initiatives that included a focus on attendance, mentoring, internship, and professional learning communities.

See BOE, page 14A

Green County awarded DHS/FEMA emergency funds

Green County has been awarded federal funds made available through the Department of Homeland Security/Federal Emergency Management Agency under the Emergency Food and Shelter National Board Program.

Green County will receive \$5,073 to supplement

emergency food and shelter programs in the county. The selection was made by a National Board that is chaired by the U. S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency and consists of representatives from American Red Cross; Catholic Charities, USA; National Council

of the Churches of Christ in the USA; The Jewish Federations of North America, The Salvation Army; and, United Way Worldwide. The Local Board was charged to distribute funds appropriated by Congress to help expand the capacity of food and shelter programs in high-need areas around the

country.

The Green County local board is made up of Judge-executive John Frank, Green County Ministerial Association, Salvation Army, Red Cross, Catholic Charities, and other groups will determine how the funds awarded are to be distributed among the emergency

food and shelter programs run by local service agencies in the area.

The local board is responsible for recommending agencies to receive these funds and any additional funds made available under this phase of the program.

See Funds, page 14A

Walking Track update



Photo submitted

Green County Judge-Executive John Frank, left, and Magistrate Andrew Parson Monday observed the new rubberized surface being applied to the .7 mile walking trail at American Legion Park. The total cost of the project amounted to \$105,000, paid for by a state grant with the county being responsible for 25 percent. The public is asked to refrain from using the trail for at least 48 hours after its completion.

Art in the Alley



Photo by Dale Curry

LeAnne Blakeman with Daisy Jewels, answers questions from Becky and Kenny Dixon. Great weather combined with talented artists and crafts people made for an enjoyable day in Art in the Alley in downtown Greensburg. More photos are on page B1 and a special "Thanks" is on page 2A.