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MONROE COUNTY CITIZEN

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Legislative Update



Representative **Bart Rowland**

House approves budget with school safety funding, record education spending, fully funded pension commitments, and additional rainy day

While we consider many bills and resolutions during a legislative session, the one task we are constitutionally obligated to accomplish is passing a budget. I am pleased to report that we are one step closer to that goal as I joined my colleagues in voting for the two-year, \$23 billion spending plan for

our state. Members of the House budget subcommittees have worked countless hours and held many meetings over the past few months, all with the goal of crafting a responsible spending plan that not only meets today's needs but helps prepare us for tomorrow's opportunities.

Our goal with this budget is simple – do the most we can with the resources we have while being smart in how we raise new revenue. To use a well-worn phrase, no state has ever taxed its way to prosperity. That is why tax policies passed by the House are aimed at broadening the base in order to lower individual taxes. I have long believed that our state has a spending problem. Without a doubt, we have many needs, but the House version of the budget balances those

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Opinion:

"Your Donation, Your Community, Our Leaders."



By Kentucky Commissioner of Agriculture Dr. Ryan Quarles

Kentucky 4-H President Gloria Bolin Kentucky FFA President **Haley Nelson**

In the months of February and March, Kentuckians across the Commonwealth will make their annual trek down to their county clerk's office to renew farm license plates, or as members of Kentucky's agricultural community call them "ag tags." When

farm families visit with

their county clerk this year, we hope you consider making a voluntary \$10 donation to the Kentucky Ag Tag Fund to invest back in our communities and in our leaders.

Ag Tag donations are equally divided among Kentucky 4-H, Kentucky FFA, and the Kentucky Department of Agriculture (KDA) for youth development and promotional programs. As leaders of those respective organizations, we

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B & B Farm Supply in Gamaliel rebuilds



Photo and information provided by Patti Richardson

Special to the Citizen

B & B Farm Supply in Gamaliel opened the doors to their new store this week on March 2, 2020. The original building was destroyed by fire in April of 2019. The new building was built in the same location as the previous store.

The grand opening allowed friends and community to see the new facility, which is simply stunning. B & B Farm Supply is a proud family owned and operated business. Owners Todd and Kerrie Burgess are proud to offer several locally sourced and "Made in USA" prod-

Along with family and employees, community members and state officials present for the ribbon cutting, also attending were several business representatives of Gamaliel and Tompkinsville; tucky Commissioner of Agriculture, Ryan Quarles; Magistrates, Jamie Veach and Ricky Graves; Mayor of Gamaliel, Bob Greer; County Attorney, Wes Stephens and Assistant County Attorney, Ann

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Read Across America and more

March's Monroe Students





In celebration of Read Across America week, Ms. Alayna and Mr. Grayson from the MCHS girls and boys basketball teams read to Kayla Eaton's class, along with Officer Denton who showed the students his tongue twister skills read-



Last week GES Students got the first glimpse of the library makeover at Gamaliel Elementary School.

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