



Child dies in house fire

STAFF REPORTS

A juvenile lost his life as a result of a house fire early Sunday morning in Greensburg.

According to reports, shortly after 6 a.m. the Greensburg/Green County E-911 center received a report of a house on fire at 208 Durham St., behind the Old Depot.

Greensburg Police Department and Greensburg/Green County Fire Department were both dispatched.

Upon arrival of officers, it was determined there may still be a juvenile inside the residence. Both police officers on

scene attempted to enter the residence but rescue efforts were unsuccessful.

While working the fire, the remains of a body were located inside the residence.

Along with the Green County Coroner, the Greensburg Police Department and Kentucky State Police are conducting a death investigation.

Arson is not suspected, however per normal procedure when a death is involved a fire the State Fire Marshall's office was contacted and a State Arson Investigator responded to the scene.

See Fire, page 12A



Photo by Beverley Fitzgerald

A house located just behind the Old Depot was engulfed in flames shortly after 6 a.m. Sunday morning. A juvenile was killed in the fire.

Pruitt wins awards at state DYW

BY CRYSTAL CECIL
R-H STAFF

Green County's 2020 Distinguished Young Woman, Josie Pruitt, competed in the state program over the weekend and brought home awards.

Pruitt's talent, a vocal solo entitled, "Memory," from the Broadway musical, "Cats," won her a Preliminary Talent Award and she also received one of two All Heart awards.

"[It was] the best experience of my life," Pruitt said of the weekend. "There were so many encouraging, kind people that would lend a helping hand whenever. None of them were rude or hateful."

"It was a great atmosphere full of amazing people," Pruitt said. "Despite all the hardships-I'd do it again."

She received \$800 in cash scholarships for these awards.

Pruitt is the 18-year-old daughter



Josie Pruitt

of Tommy and Karen Pruitt.

Elif Ozyurekoglu, Louisville, was named the 2020 Distinguished Young Woman of Kentucky, also winning Overall Interview, Overall Scholastics, and Preliminary Talent.

For more program information and updates, follow the Green County Distinguished Young Woman on Facebook.

Grand Jury indicts one

BY TOM MILLS
NEWS EDITOR

The Green County Grand Jury indicted one person at its regular monthly meeting January 8.

Billy R. Smith, 51, 605 Thunder Rd., was indicted on one count

each of possession of methamphetamine, possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of marijuana and public intoxication controlled substance. The charges stem from an alleged incident September 21. Bond was set at \$5000.

City Council presents '19 GPD report

'Our Officers stepped up''

BY CLEVIS JEFFRIES
STAFF WRITER

Greensburg City Council members were provided the Greensburg Police Department activity report for 2019 at their regular monthly meeting Monday evening.

Statistical information available in the report showed officers:

- (1) Patrolled over 41,000 miles;
- (2) Issued over 650 traffic citations;
- (3) Made 16 DUI arrests and 325 Criminal and Traffic arrests;
- (4) Responded to 18 Domestic Violence calls with arrests made in 13 of those calls;
- (5) Responded to 55 alarm calls, including residential and business alarms;
- (6) Responded to and investigated 75 vehicle accidents in 2019 as compared to 59 in 2018. Forty-three percent of the vehicle accidents investigated was in parking lots;
- (7) Conducted 86 Criminal investiga-

- tions;
 - (8) Conducted 3,450 security checks after hours at businesses and residences;
 - (9) Spent many additional hours patrolling neighborhoods on foot;
 - (10) Handled 4,095 calls (43%) dispatched from the Greensburg/Green County E-911 Center.
 - (11) Attended approximately 112 hours in Court and received over 200 hours of further training in 2019, including classroom and online;
- The 2019 data also showed a decrease in domestic violence calls as compared to

2018. There was also a slight decline in calls for service. Accidents increased in 2019 as compared to 2018 and criminal arrests decreased by 47 in 2019 as compared to 2018.

"In 2019, we were short-handed. Our officers stepped-up and continued to provide the service we are accustomed to at GPD. I am proud of the professional performance of our officers," said Chief Wayne Hedgespeth.

"I also want to point out the dedication of our dispatchers' performance for their proficient handling of the over 9,500 calls they received in 2019."

Edwards named First Baby of 2020



Photo by Crystal Cecil

Willow Jane Edwards is Green County's First Baby of the Year. Willow was born January 4, 2020 at 6:01 a.m. CT at TJ Sampson Hospital to proud parents Ashley Haines and Zane Edwards. She was welcomed home by big brother Abe, and big sister Evy; grandparents Tammy and William Haines, Kasey and Blake Gordon, and Jamie and Cindy Thompson and great-grandparents Gerald Curry and the late Rose Curry, Mary Lou Edwards and the late Lew Edwards, the late Jimmy Thompson, the late Nancy Sinclair, and Eddie and Sheila Sinclair. Baby Willow won a variety of prizes from local advertisers for being the first baby of 2020.