

# What's Happening

All times are Central

## This week

### Library closed Monday

The Green County Public Library will be closed Monday, Jan. 17 for Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

### GCIS SBDM Council

The Green County Intermediate School SBDM Council will hold their regular monthly meeting Thursday, Jan. 13, at 4:30 p.m. in the school conference room.

### Christian Fiction Books

Green County Public Library's Christian fiction book club will meet Jan. 14 at 10 a.m. in the community center.

### Nerf War at Library

Teens, middle and high school aged, are invited to join Green County Public Library for a nerf war at the Community Center on January 14 from 4:30 to 6 p.m. Registration is required for this event! Be sure to let us know if planning to attend by calling the library. We can be reached at 270-932-7081. Participants will need to bring their own nerf guns to this event.

## Happening Soon

### GCPL Board meeting

Green County Public Library's monthly board meeting will be meeting Jan. 18 at 3 p.m. in the board room in the library.

### GCPL Chair Exercise

Green County Public Library's Chair Exercise Class will be meeting Jan. 21 at 9 a.m. in the community center.

### GCPL art event

Green County Public Library will be having an in-person paint marbling after school program Jan. 21 in the community center.

## Ongoing events

### History Museum open

The Green County History Museum on the second floor of Longhunters Coffee and Tea Co. is open from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesdays through Saturdays. Admission is \$3.

### Genealogy update

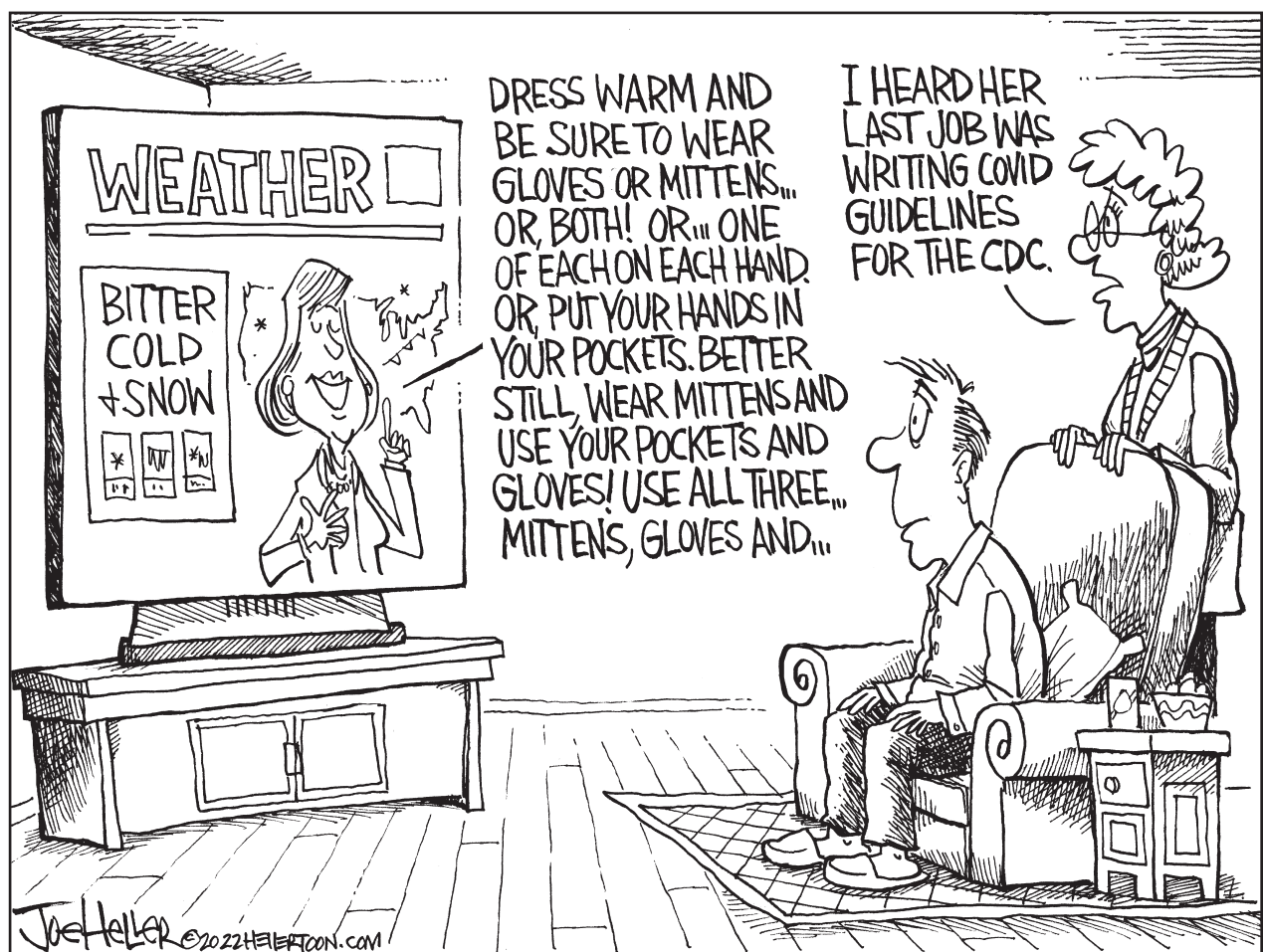
The Green County Public Library genealogist will not be available on Thursdays. For assistance in the GCPL genealogy department please visit on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Fridays.

### GCPL program updates

Green County Public Library's Lapsit and Story Hour will remain on regular schedule. Green County Public Library is doing an online winter reading challenge Jan. 1 - March 19 on Beanstack. Read to earn badges that turn into prizes. Books entered in logs must be checked out at the library. For more information call the library at 270-932-7081.

Events and reunions for What's Happen to [news@record-herald.com](mailto:news@record-herald.com).

The deadline is Monday at 2 p.m., prior to the Wednesday paper, unless otherwise noted.



# Rotary: A look into the Imagination Library

DALE CURRY  
STAFF WRITER

The Greensburg Rotary Club recently heard from Faye Howell, who told of her experience in Campbellsville with helping to establish Dolly Parton's Imagination Library in that county.

The Rotary Club and Kiwanis Club in Taylor County have just started sponsoring this educational program that provides monthly books to children, birth until five years of age.

Now that the program has started in Taylor County, Green County is the only county in the south-central part of Kentucky that does not participate in this program.

Howell strongly encouraged the local Rotary Club to become the sponsoring organization so that children in Green County would be eligible to participate in the program which began in Sevier County, Tennessee by Dolly Parton.

"Dolly Parton was very proud of her dad," Howell said, "because he was so smart, but she was concerned that her father could not read or write."

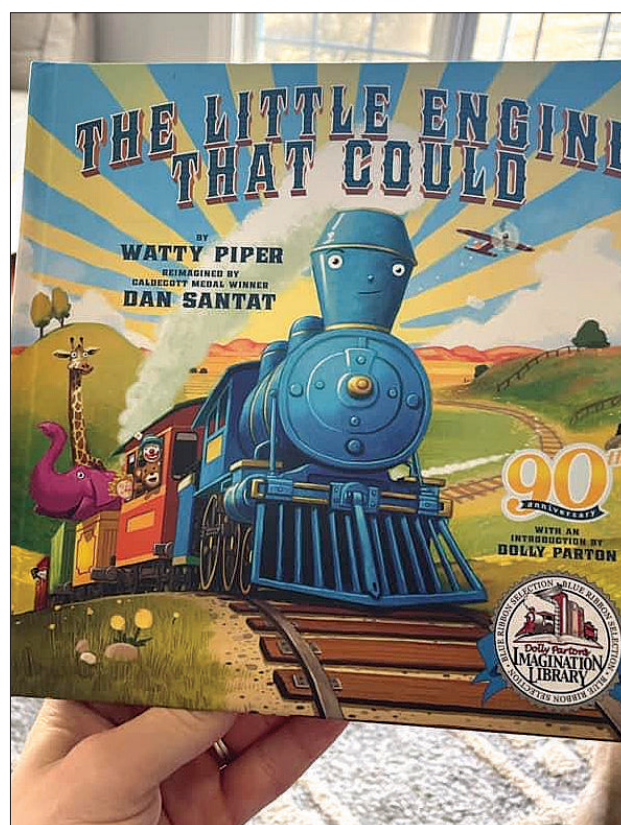
Howell said that Parton wanted to make sure no child in east Tennessee would face the same circumstances as her father. "In 1995," Howell said, "the program began in Sevier County with her idea to mail a book to every child in the county."

The program continued to grow and in 2000, the Imagination Library program went nationwide and was also in five different countries.

"Rotary International has been involved since 2009 with Imagination Library," Howell said.

She went on to tell how every Rotary Club in Georgia is involved with the program and this year, in the state of Georgia, they have a goal of having the program in all 159 counties.

"The Kentucky Department of Education has agreed to pay half the cost for any child



in Kentucky," Howell said. "This makes it very affordable for groups to begin the program."

Howell explained that according to the Department of Education, 546 children in Green County are eligible to participate but statistics show that only about 60% of the children will register and become part of the program.

The cost for each child to participate for a year is \$28.00 and this includes shipping books to the child's residence.

So according to Howell, because the Department of Education is picking up 50% of the cost, Green County needs to raise just over \$4,500 in the first year in order for the program to become a reality in Green County.

Howell explained that the money can

come from businesses or individuals in the community, but money must be funneled through a 501(c)3 non-profit in order for the books to be mailed with non-profit mailing rates.

Howell said that if the Rotary Club decides to be the sponsoring organization in Green County, that all sorts of fund-raising events are available and she encouraged the club to be creative in looking for fund-raising ideas.

"People from the Green County Public Library have been asking questions about the program," Howell said, "and the Family Resource Center would probably be very supportive of the effort."

Howell said that once an organization decides to get involved, the process should take four to six

weeks before children can start registering for the books, but she said a more realistic timeline may be up to six months.

"The Little Engine that Could," Howell said, "is the very first book that a newborn child receives and the last one they receive before turning five years old is Look Out Kindergarten, Here I Come."

The Rotary Club has not officially decided to sponsor the program but they will be having a board meeting soon to decide.

Any church or other organization that would like to financially support this effort should contact Rotary Club members to let them know of the interest in the community.

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Walt Gorin

Staff:

Tom Mills

Crystal Cecil

Leise Long

Staff Writer

Shelley Bishop

Clevis Jeffries

Dale Curry

Jalen Willis

Angelina Alcott

### Office Manager/Billing

Anne Gorin

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Crystal Cecil

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