

PUBLIC AFFAIRS
1ST QUARTER 2023
JANUARY-MARCH
WTUK FM/WFSR AM/WHLN AM

JANUARY

THE HARLAN COUNTY FISCAL COURT REJECTED A PROPOSAL FOR BROADBAND INTERNET SERVICE FROM EASTERN TELEPHONE AND TECHNOLOGIES DURING THE PANEL'S REGULAR MEETING. HARLAN COUNTY JUDGE-EXECUTIVE DAN MOSLEY SPOKE TO THE MAGISTRATES ABOUT THE PROPOSAL. MAGISTRATE JAMES HOWARD MOTIONED TO REJECT THE PROPOSAL, SECONDED BY MAGISTRATE PAUL BROWNING. THE MOTION PASSED WITH NO OPPOSITION.

THE HARLAN COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD APPROVED THE PURCHASE OF MULTIPLE NEW SCHOOL BUSES USING ARP (AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN). THE BOARD APPROVED A MOTION TO PURCHASE 30 AIR-CONDITIONED SCHOOL BUSES USING ARP ESSER FUNDS.

THE HARLAN COUNTY DRUG SUMMIT RETURNED TO THE HARLAN CENTER ON JANUARY 12, FOLLOWING A THREE-YEAR ABSENCE DUE THE PANDEMIC. IT'S THE SECOND SUMMIT THAT WE'VE HAD, MOSLEY SAID. WE HAVE ONE IS 2019. IT WAS A GREAT EVENT THAT REALLY HOMED IN ON THE DRUG PROBLEM THAT FACES OUR COMMUNITY AND EVERY COMMUNITY. ANYONE WHO IS CONCERNED ABOUT THE DRUG EPIDEMIC AND WANTS TO BE PART OF THE SOLUTION; BUSINESSES/ ORGANIZATIONS/ CHURCHES/ NON-PROFITS THAT PROVIDE TREATMENT, EDUCATION, SUPPORT OR RECOVERY SOLUTIONS ARE WELCOME TO REGISTER OR EXHIBITORS. YOU CAN REGISTER TO ATTEND BY CALLING HARLAN COUNTY JUDGE EXECUTIVE DAN MOSLEY'S OFFICE AT 573-2600.

THE CENTER FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT IS ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR IT'S 2023 ENTERPRENEURAL LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE (ELI), A ONE-WEEK SUMMER LEADERSHIP PROGRAM FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS IN SOUTHERN AND EASTERN KENTUCKY. TO APPLY FOR ELI, VISIT www.centeryouthprograms.com AND FILL OUT THE ONLINE APPLICATION FORM. THE DEADLINE TO APPLY IS MARCH 31, 2023. FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT ELI OR THE APPLICATION PROCESS, CONTACT AMY ELLIS AT aellis@centertech.com OR CALL 606-677-6000.

KINGDOM COME STATE PARK IS GEARING UP FOR THE FIRST-EVER ARTS AT THE FESTIVAL IN MUSICIANS TO ENTERTAIN FOLKS IN A APPALACHIAN MANNER. PARK MANAGER SHERRY CORNETT EXPLAINED THE INAUGURAL INSTALLMENT OF THE EVENT WAS ORIGINALLY SET FOR LAST FALL, BUT HAD TO BE POSTPONED DUE TO SEVERE FLOODING IN THE AREA. ACCORDING TOE CORNETT, THERE ARE ALREADY APPROXIMATELY 50 VENDORS LINED UP THE EVENT. THEY ARE ALL TRUE KENTUCKY CRAFT VENDORS, CORNETT SAID. WE ONLY ACCEPT CRAFTSMEN THAT DO ACTUAL HANDCRAFTS. EVERYTHING MUST BE HANDMADE. THE EVENT IS SCHEDULED FOR MAY 12-13.

ANYONE INTERESTED IN BECOMING A VENDOR CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION ON THE ARTS AT THE PARK FACEBOOK PAGE OR CALL KINGDOM COME STATE PARK AT 606-589-4138.

CAMP BLANTON, IN HARLAN COUNTY, IS A DESTINATION GEM. CAMP BLANTON HAS CABINS TO RENT; A 60,000-GALLON SWIMMING POOL, DINING HALL THAT SEATS OVER 100 WITH A FULL PROFESSION KITCHEN OR THE ENTIRE CAMP IS AVAILABLE FOR RENT AS A WHOLE. JEFF LUCAS AND WIFE SCARLETT OR THE CARETAKERS AT CAMP BLANTON. FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE FACILITY AND RENTAL OPTIONS CALL 423-300-6242 OR GO TO <https://www.campblanton.org>.

THESE REMINDERS ARE FOR EVERYONE STARTING THE NEW YEAR. LUNG CANCER SCREENING, WITH THE NEW YEAR, IS A GREAT TIME TO ENCOURAGE FORMER SMOKERS TO GET SCREENED FOR LUNG CANCER; EVERYONE NEEDS TO BE PREPARED FOR EMERGENCIES DURING THE WINTER STORM SEASON; ALL GUN OWNERS ARE ASK TO PROTECT THEIR FAMILY MEMBERS. AND OTHERS, BY LIMITING ACCESS TO GUNS IN THE HOME AND STORING THEM LOCKED AND UNLOADED. MARCH 22, IS A DIABETES ALERT DAY. REMEMBER THE EARLY IMPORTANCE OF EARLY DIAGNOSIS FOR DIABETES.. TAKE A ONE-MINUTE RISK TEST.

THERE WILL A GRIEF SHARE SUPPORT GROUP MEETING STARTING JANUARY 26 AT HARLAN CHRISTIAN CHURCH. FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL THE CHURCH AT 606-573-1314.

IN ADDITION TO THESE ANNOUNCEMENTS, COMMUNITY CALENDAR IS ANNOUNCED THREE TIMES PER DAY. ALL ANNOUNCEMENTS OF EVENTS. FOR HARLAN, BELL, LESLIE, LEE AND SURROUNDING COUNTIES ARE UPDATED. OBITUARIES ARE ANNOUNCED DAILY, AS RECEIVED, FOR ALL COUNTIES.

FEBRUARY

GOVERNOR ANDY BESHEAR APPOINTED ROBERT LEO MILLER TO FILL THE SEAT ON THE HARLAN FISCAL COURT LEFT VACANT BY THE PASSING OF DISTRICT 1 MAGISTRATE CLARK "SPARKY" MIDDLETON. MILLER WILL SERVE THROUGH THE NOVEMBER ELECTION, THEN THE ELECTION WILL DETERMINE WHO SERVES THE REMAINING THREE YEARS OF THE UNEXPIRED TERM.

THE HARLAN COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD DISCUSSED MULTIPLE AREAS OF CONCERN DURING THE PANEL'S REGULAR MEETING. DISCUSSIONS INCLUDED SELECTING A BOARD CHAIR FOR THE NEW TERM, THE NAME OF A MIDDLE SCHOOL BASEBALL TEAM AND AN UPCOMING FIELD HOUSE PROJECT. SUPERINTENDENT, BRENT ROARK, ASKED THE BOARD OF HARLAN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION CHAIRMAN FOR NOMINATIONS. THE PREVIOUS CHAIRMAN GARY FARMER RECEIVED A NOMINATION. THERE WERE NO ADDITIONAL NOMINATIONS, WITH THE BOARD APPROVING FARMER AS HARLAN COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD CHAIRMAN FOR 2023. AFTER A BRIEF DISCUSSION, THE BOARD VOTED TO CHANGE THE NAME OF THE HARLAN COUNTY MIDDLE SCHOOL BASEBALL TEAM FROM THE PATRIOTS TO THE BLACK BEARS. THE BOARD ALSO APPROVED TO

PROCEED WITH A HARLAN COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL FIELD HOUSE PROJECT AND UTILIZE A COMBINATION OF GENERAL FUND CASH AND BONDS TO FUND THE PROJECT.

THE U.S.TIRE MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION URGE DRIVERS TO CHECK THEIR TIRES ONCE A MONTH AND BEFORE EVERY LONG TRIP. EVERYONE NEEDS TO BE DILIGENT ABOUT THEIR TIRE MAINTENANCE AND TO TAKE THE FEW MINUTES TO ENSURE THAT THEIR TIRES ARE PROPERLY INFLATED. TIRES ARE THE ONLY THING THAT SEPARATE YOUR VEHICLE FROM THE ROAD, WHICH MEANS THAT THE MAJORITY OF AMERICANS ARE INFLATING THEIR GAS BILLS AND INCREASING THEIR RISK FOR ACCIDENTS.

THERE WILL ALL YOU CAN EAT PANCAKE BREAKFAST FUNDRAISER, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25TH, 9 AM-11 AM AT HARLAN COUNTY CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP HALL, 130 S. FIRST STREET, HARLAN. DONATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED AT THE DOOR. ALL PROCEEDS WILL GO TOWARD THE YOUTH GROUP MISSION TRIP IN JULY.

THE CITY OF EVARTS TOURISM IS HAVING A VALENTINES PARTY FEBRUARY 11 FROM 12 TO 5 PM IN THE VERDA ELEMENTARY LIBRARY. BRING A THROW OR SMALL BLANKET AND GET READY FOR A VALENTINE SPECIAL TREAT WITH A COUPLE'S HORSE AND CARRIAGE RIDE - \$20 AND THE PRICE INCLUDES A GIFT. PROCEEDS TO GO RELAY FOR LIFE. EVERYONE COME OUT AND ENJOY THE FUN. EVENT WILL BE RAIN OR SHINE, HOWEVER, IF ROADS ARE IMPASSABLE, DUE TO AN ICE/SNOW STORM, THE EVENTS WILL BE CANCELED.

THE BLACK MOUNTAIN UTILITY DISTRICT OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED STARTING TODAY, FEBRUARY 14, FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE WEEK DUE TO ILLNESS. PAYMENTS WILL BE TAKEN OVER THE PHONE OR PAYMENTS CAN BE PUT IN DROP OFF BOX. WE ARE SORRY FOR INCONVENIENCES.

SPRING FOREST FIRE HAZARD SEASON IS FROM FEBRUARY 15 THROUGH APRIL 30, THE ILLEGAL BURNING TIMES IS FROM 6AM TO 6 PM. BE CAREFUL...DON'T START A FIRE.

HARLAN MAYOR, JOE MEADORS, ADDRESSED THE CHAMBER DURING FEBRUARY MEETING, UPDATING THEM WITH PROGRESS BEING MADE IN HARLAN. THE HARLAN MUNICIPAL WATER WORKS, A SEMI-AUTONOMOUS PART OF HARLAN CITY GOVERNMENT, IS IN THE MIDST OF A \$3 TO \$3.5 MILLION IMPROVEMENT PLAN FOR THE WATER FACILITY. THE CITY RECENTLY RECEIVED A \$1.7 MILLION GRANT FROM APPALACHIAN REGIONAL COMMISSION, TO REPLACE THE MAIN SEWER LINE FROM HARLAN TO BAXTER. THE FORMER BELK BUILDING, ALONG WITH ANOTHER BUILDING, ARE UNDERGOING CONSTRUCTION WORK WHICH WILL BE OPEN FOR NEW BUSINESSES WHEN COMPLETED. MEADORS ALSO SPOKE ABOUT THE ROUNDABOUT BEING A GOOD ADDITION FOR TRAFFIC, EVEN THOUGH THERE HAD BEEN A FEW ACCIDENTS, THEY WERE LESS SEVERE WITH BODILY HARM AND VEHICLE DAMAGE. FOLLOWING THE DISCUSSIONS, THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED.

HARLAN COUNTY HAS SEEN A SURGE OF COUNTERFEIT CURRENCY BEING

PASSED INTO CIRCULATION RECENTLY, WITH THE LARGE AMOUNT OF BILLS BEING \$50. HARLAN POLICE WINSTON YEARY SAID THEY ALL HAVE THE SAME SERIAL NUMBER ENDING IN 1474A. ANYONE FINDING THEMSELVES IN POSSESSION OF BILLS THEY SUSPECT MAY BE COUNTERFEIT, THEY SHOULD CONTACT THE POLICE DEPARTMENT, AT 606-573-1121.

THE AMERICAN LUNG ASSOCIATION, WHICH HELPS EDUCATE AMERICANS WITH ASTHMA AND COPD ABOUT PERTUSSIS, ALSO KNOWN AS WHOOPING COUGH, VACCINATIONS IS THE BEST WAY TO PROTECT AGAINST SERIOUS CONTAGIOUS RESPIRATORY ILLNESS. CONTACT YOUR HEALTH DEPARTMENT OR DOCTOR FOR MORE INFORMATION.

THE SMART START EARLY LEARNING ACADEMY AND KENTUCKY CAREER CENTER JOBSIGHT, HARLAN WILL HOST A JOB FAIR TO HIRE FOR A NUMBER OF OPEN JOBS. THE JOB FAIR WILL BE THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23, FROM 10AM TO 3PM. POSITIONS INCLUDE: LEAD & ASSISTANT TEACHERS, FOR FULL AND PART-TIME POSITIONS. FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT THE KENTUCKY CAREER CENTER JOBSIGHT AT 573-5335, EXT. 233 FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE POSITIONS AVAILABLE OR VISIT smartstartkentucky.org.

IN ADDITION TO THESE ANNOUNCEMENTS, COMMUNITY CALENDAR IS ANNOUNCED THREE TIMES PER DAY. ALL ANNOUNCEMENTS OF EVENTS FOR HARLAN, BELL, LESLIE, LEE AND SURROUNDING COUNTIES ARE UPDATED DAILY. OBITUARIES ARE ANNOUNCED DAILY, AS RECEIVED, FOR ALL COUNTIES.

MARCH

THE KENTUCKY TRANSPORTATION CABINET ADVISES MOTORISTS THAT CROSS DRAIN OPERATIONS WILL TAKE PLACE ON KY 2005 AT MILE POINTS 2.6 TO 3.6 IN HARLAN COUNTY BEGINNING MONDAY, MARCH 6. THE ROADWAY WILL BE CLOSED BEGINNING MONDAY, MARCH 6 AT 8 AM AND WILL REMAIN CLOSED UNTIL ALL REPAIRS ARE COMPLETE. REOPENING IS ANTICIPATED BY MONDAY, APRIL 3. KYTC ASKS MOTORIST TO BE AWARE OF THE WORK ZONE, EXPECT SIGNIFICANT DELAYS, AND TO UTILIZE SAFE DRIVING HABITS WHEN TRAVELING THROUGH THE AREA.

FIRE PREVENTION IS EFFECT NOW THROUGH APRIL 30, ILLEGAL TIMES FOR BURNING ARE FROM 6AM TO 6PM. BE CAREFUL...DON'T START A FIRE,

THE HARLAN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY HAS ANNOUNCED ANYONE INTERESTED IN THE MYTHICAL CREATURE KNOWN AS BIGFOOT CAN LEARN MORE ABOUT THE CREATURE AT THE LIBRARY ON MARCH 4. THE EVENTS WILL FEATURE RESEARCHER LLOYD DAVIS, EAST TENNESSEE BIG FOOT EXPERT, MATT SEEBER AND JUSTIN DECKER OF THE SKOOKUM SESSION PODCAST. ALL THREE HAVE STUDIED THE PHENOMENON OF BIGFOOT EXTENSIVELY. THE HARLAN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY IS LOCATED AT 107 N. 3RD STREET IN DOWNTOWN HARLAN. FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE BIGFOOT LECTURE, CALL 606-573-4223.

FINISH VERTICAL CROSSFIT COMPETITION: FINISH VERTICAL CROSSFIT IN HARLAN COUNTY IS HOSTING THEIR FIRST CROSSFIT COMPETITION FOR COMPETITORS FROM ACROSS THE REGION AND STATE LINES TO PARTICIPATE ON APRIL 1ST. THE INAUGURAL COMPETITION WILL HAVE A TEEN (16-18), RX, INTERMEDIATE AND SCALED DIVISION. EACH DIVISION IS A TWO-PERSON, SAME SEX COMPETITION. MOVEMENT STANDARDS, PRICING, LOCATION TO SIGN A TEAM UP, OR TO DISCOVER MORE INFORMATION, VISIT FINISH VERTICAL CROSSFIT ON FACEBOOK

THE BLACK MOUNTAIN OFF-ROAD ADVENTURE AREA INVITES YOU TO RING IN SPRING WITH THE APRIL FOOL'S RIDE, MARCH 29 TO APRIL 1ST. THIS RIDE TAKES PLACE AT KENTUCKY'S HIGHEST ELEVATED OFF-ROAD PARK. YOU CAN EXPLORE OVER 7,000 ACRES OF TRAILS AS YOU CLIMB YOUR WAY AROUND BLACK MOUNTAIN. FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL 606-837-3205.

MOUNTAIN MARKET HANDMADE CRAFTS, UNIQUE FINDS AND SECOND HAND TREASURES WILL AWAIT YOU THE MOUNTAIN MARKET APRIL 29TH. THIS EVENT, IS HELD IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE HARLAN COUNTY JEEP CRAWL, THE EVENT WILL TAKE PLACE INSIDE THE HARLAN CENTER SO THAT VISITORS CAN ENJOY THE MARKET INSIDE AS WELL AS THE JEEP CRAWL FESTIVITIES OUTSIDE. FOR MORE INFORMATION ON BEING A VENDOR AT THE MOUNTAIN MARKET, CALL 606-573-4156.

COMMON PESTS FOUND BOTH INSIDE AND OUTSIDE OUR HOMES CAN BE FAR MORE DANGEROUS THAN THEY SEEM. THE NATIONAL PEST MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION ASK EVERYONE, WITH SPRING HERE, TO BE CAREFUL AND EDUCATE YOURSELF ABOUT THE HARMFUL EFFECTS OF PESTS AND THE IMPORTANCE OF PROTECTING YOURSELF FROM PEST-RELATED ILLNESSES BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE.

THE ARBOR DAY FOUNDATION, THE WORLD'S LARGEST MEMBERSHIP NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION, IS DEDICATED TO PLANTING TREES - 500 MILLION IN THE NEXT FIVE YEARS IN FORESTS AND NEIGHBORHOODS OF GREATEST NEEDS. A TREE CAN BE A SOLUTION TO SOME OF THE MOST PRESSING ISSUES FACING PEOPLE AND THE PLANET TODAY.

U.S. TIRE MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION URGE DRIVERS TO CHECK THEIR TIRES ONCE A MONTH AND BEFORE EVERY LONG TRIP. YOUR TIRES ARE THE ONLY THING THAT SEPARATE YOUR VEHICLE FROM THE ROAD, YET QUITE OFTEN, THEY GO UNCHECKED BY DRIVERS. PROPERLY INFLATED TIRES CAN SAVE MOTORISTS TIME, IMPROVE GAS MILEAGE AND INCREASE TIRE LONGEVITY. BE SAFE AND KEEP CHECK ON YOUR TIRES.

VETERANS, RETURNING HOME AFTER SERVING OUR NATION, CAN BE FILLED WITH MANY CHALLENGES AND OBSTACLES TO OVERCOME. ADAPTING TO SIMPLE TASKS SUCH AS MAKING A MEAL, TAKING A SHOWER OR GOING UP STAIRS CAN BE A DAILY STRUGGLE FOR VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES. HOMES FOR OUR TROOPS MISSION IS TO HELP REBUILD THE LIVES OF OUR NATION'S MOST SEVERELY INJURED VETERANS. ASK YOUR LOCAL DEPARTMENT HOW YOU CAN HELP RESTORE SOME FREEDOM AND INDEPENDENCE FOR OUR NATION'S MOST

SEVERELY INJURED VETERANS.

VEHICLE THEFTS ARE INCREASING AT AN ALARMING RATE IN THE UNITED STATES. EVERY 36 SECONDS ANOTHER VEHICLE IS STOLEN, AND THE NATIONAL INSURANCE CRIME BUREAU NEEDS HELP TO SLOW AND REVERSE THIS DISTURBING THEFT TREND. THE NATIONAL INSURANCE CRIME BUREAU IS THE NATION'S LEADING NOT-FOR-PROFIT ORGANIZATION DEDICATED TO FIGHTING VEHICLE THEFT AND INSURANCE FRAUD. FOR MORE INFORMATION ON AUTO THEFT, PLEASE CONTACT TULLY LEHMAN VIA PHONE 925-758-0744 OR EMAIL: tiehman@nicb.org.

TORNADOES OFTEN LEAVE BEHIND UNTOLD NUMBERS OF PEOPLE LEFT WITH THE DAUNTING TASK OF REBUILDING. UNFORTUNATELY, AS THE REBUILDING BEGINS, DECEITFUL CONTRACTORS DESCEND ON THE REGION LOOKING TO MAKE A QUICK BUCK OFF VICTIMS. HOMEOWNERS, UNDERGOING THE STRESSES AND STRAINS COMMON AFTER LOSING A HOME, OFTEN FALL PREY TO THESE WELL-REHEARSED PREDATORY SCHEMES, SLOWING THE RECOVERY PROCESS. ACCORDING TO OUR ANALYSIS, FRAUD ACCOUNTS FOR ABOUT 5-TO-10 PERCENT OF ALL INSURANCE CLAIMS FILED. FOR MORE INFORMATION ON CONTRACTOR FRAUD, PLEASE CONTACT TULLY LEHMAN VIS PHONE 925-758-0744 OR EMAIL tiehman@nicb.org

AFTER YEARS OF DECLINING INTEREST IN THE TEACHING PROFESSION, THE NATION IS FACING ITS WORST-EVER SHORTAGE OF TEACHERS, WHICH HAS BEEN COMPOUNDED BY THE PANDEMIC AND ACCOMPANYING FISCAL CRISIS. THIS YEAR, ALL 50 STATES REPORTED THAT THEY ARE FACING A TEACHER SHORTAGE. TO ADDRESS THE CRITICAL NEED FOR TEACHERS ACROSS THE COUNTY, THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION LAUNCHED "TEACH" TO PARTNER WITH THE K-12 PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM. THE FUTURE DEPENDS ON TEACHERS, SO TAKE THE TIME TO CALL YOUR LOCAL DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION FOR INFORMATION ON BECOMING A TEACHER.

MORE THAN 235,000 AMERICANS WILL BE DIAGNOSED WITH LUNG CANCER THIS YEAR, BUT NOT ALL LUNG CANCERS ARE THE SAME. COMPREHENSIVE BIOMARKER IS KEY TO HELP DETERMINE THE BEST TREATMENT FOR AN INDIVIDUAL'S UNIQUE TYPE OF NON-SMALL CELL LUNG CANCER. IF YOU ARE A MEMBER OF YOUR FAMILY ARE HAVING PROBLEMS, PLEASE CONTACT YOUR HEALTH CARE GIVER.

WITH SPRING HERE, KINGDOM COME STATE PARK HAS ACTIVITIES PLANNED FOR FOLKS READY TO GET OUT OF THE HOUSE. ACTIVITIES WILL INCLUDE HIPPIITY HOP MINI GOLF AND THE EASTER EGGSTRAVAGANZA. THE HIPPIITY HOP MINI GOLF IS SCHEDULED TO TAKE PLACE AT THE KINGDOM COME STATE PARK MINI GOLF COURSE FROM 10 AM TO 8 PM, MARCH 31 TO APRIL 7 AND APRIL 7 TO APRIL 9. THERE WILL BE PRIZES AWARDED AND FOOD WILL BE AVAILABLE.

CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION IMMUNIZATIONS FOR SCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN DECREASED AGAIN FOR THE SECOND YEAR IN A ROW, LEAVING HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF CHILDREN AT RISK FORM VACCINE-PREVENTABLE DISEASES LIKE MEASLES AND WHOOPING COUGH.

ONLY ABOUT 50% OF CHILDREN HAVE BEEN VACCINATED AGAINST INFLUENZA (FLU) THIS SEASON - AND MORE THAN 100 CHILDREN HAVE ALREADY LOST THEIR LIVES. AS THE CONTINUE ONGOING COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND OUTBREAKS OF OTHER VACCINE-PREVENTABLE DISEASES, IT'S MORE IMPORTANT THAN EVERY TO GET VACCINATED. CONTACT YOUR LOCAL HEALTH CARE GIVER AND MORE INFORMATION ON BECOMING SAFE.

WITH MORE THAN 153,000 NEW CASES EXPECTED IN THE UNITED STATES IN 2023, COLORECTAL CANCER IS THE NATION'S SECOND-LEADING CAUSE OF CANCER DEATH. THE DISEASE IS ALWAYS TREATABLE IF CAUGHT EARLY AND CAN EVEN BE PREVENTED THROUGH TIMELY SCREENING. THE LATEST GUIDELINES FROM THE AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY (ACS) RECOMMEND SCREENING FOR COLOR CANCER STARTING AT AGE 45 WHICH INCLUDES VIRTUAL COLONOSCOPY. ASK YOUR HEALTH CARE FOR MORE INFORMATION.

CROHN'S DISEASE AND ULCREATIVE COLITIS (COLLECTIVELY KNOWN AS INFLAMMATORY BOWEL DISEASE OR IBD), CAN BE DANGEROUS FOR A PATIENT'S LONG-TERM HEALTH AND WELL-BEING IF LEFT UNTREATED. UNFORTUNATELY, COUNTLESS PEOPLE EXPERIENCE DELAYED DIAGNOSES BECAUSE THEY ARE UNAWARE OF IBD. MANY PATIENTS SETTLE FOR NOT FEELING 100%, BECAUSE THEY AREN'T AWARE OF NEWER TREATMENTS THAT MAY WORK BETTER FOR THEM. SPEAK WITH YOUR HEALTH CARE GIVER ABOUT ANY HEALTH ISSUE YOU MAY EXPERIENCE.

THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE HARLAN COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND BOARD OF EDUCATION ISSUED AN URGENT PLEA TO LOCAL BUSINESSES ASKING THAT THEY MOVE VAPING PRODUCTS BEHIND THEIR STORE COUNTER AND TO MONITOR CLOSELY THE SELLING OF THESE PRODUCTS TO MINORS. WE URGE YOU TO TALK WITH YOUR CHILDREN ABOUT THE DIRE CONSEQUENCES WHICH MAY RESULT FROM THEIR USE OF VAPING PRODUCTS AND NOT BEING AWARE OF WHAT MAY BE IN THE VAPE. PLEASE HELP US AVOID A TRAGEDY BY HAVING A SERIOUS CONVERSATION WITH YOUR CHILD ABOUT THE RISKS THEY FACE BY USING VAPING PRODUCTS. THAT CONVERSATION SHOULD INCLUDE A REMINDER THAT OUR SCHOOL CAMPUSES ARE TOBACCO AND VAPE FREE FACILITIES.

ANY BOYS OR GIRLS KINDERGARTEN TO 5TH GRADE INTERESTED IN JOINING CUB SCOUTS PACK 149 OUT OF HARLAN THEY ARE RESTARTING THE PROGRAM. FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT SARA SMOCK AT 606-499-5322 OR B.J. SMOCK AT 606-909-0080. THERE WILL BE MEETING AT 7 ON MARCH 30, 2023 AT THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN DOWNTOWN HARLAN NEXT TO THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

SPRING CLEANUP WILL START ON APRIL 3. BEGINNING ON APRIL 3RD, THE CITY OF HARLAN AND THE HARLAN STREET DEPARTMENT IS OFFERING A BIG OPPORTUNITY TO ASSIST IN SPRING CLEANING IN OUR NEIGHBORHOODS. EACH WEEK, OUR STREET DEPARTMENT WILL VISIT A DIFFERENT NEIGHBORHOOD AND WE WILL HAUL OFF LARGER ITEMS THAT USUALLY REQUIRED MORE WORK. FOR MORE INFORMATION WHEN THE SPRING CLEANUP WILL BE IN YOUR AREA, CALL HARLAN CITY HALL AT 606-573-2602 OR 606-573-4495 TO ARRANGE FOR

PICKUP. IN ADDITION TO THIS CLEAN UP INITIATIVE, THERE WILL ALSO BE TWO DUMPSTER LOCATIONS FOR GENERAL USE. THESE WILL BE LOCATED BEHIND THE BOYS & GIRLS CLUB, ON THE CORNER OF NORTH MAIN STREET AND WALNUT STREET NEAR THE FLOOD GATES.

IN ADDITION TO THESE ANNOUNCEMENTS, COMMUNITY CALENDAR IS ANNOUNCED THREE TIMES PER DAY. ALL ANNOUNCEMENTS OF EVENTS, FOR HARLAN, BELL, LESLIE, LEE AND SURROUNDING COUNTIES ARE UPDATED. OBITUARIES ARE ANNOUNCED DAILY, AS RECEIVED, FOR ALL COUNTIES.