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The Lebanon Enterprise

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County to purchase new garbage truck

BY JANE REID KLEYN
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The Marion County Fiscal Court voted last Thursday to purchase a new garbage truck. Last month a company from Nashville, TN, brought a truck to the fiscal court meeting for magistrates to view and provided a quote for that truck. However, the court decided to purchase a truck from Municipal Equipment in Cincinnati, OH. The county has worked with Municipal Equipment in the past and it is believed to be a better truck at a better price. The new truck will cost \$214,000 which will come from

the 2025-26 budget. It will be delivered to the county in July.

At the meeting on Thursday, March 6, the court also approved an agreement with the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet and Department of Highways for a grant of \$355,304 for the replacement of the Lovers Lane Bridge.

The court opened sealed bids for resurfacing county roads for the 2025-26 budget. Magistrates agreed to table accepting the lone bid from Haydon Materials until the next meeting so that County Road Supervisor Jimmy Rakes could review the quote prior to approval.

The court also discussed a change in the plan for the Emergency Communications Project. A new location has been chosen for the tower that will provide better service with less interference. It is hoped the tower can be erected on Putnam's Knob which is located on WMA property. This has been allowed in other counties and it is hoped Marion County can locate the new tower there.

Magistrates approved a Memorandum of Agreement between the Marion County Career Center and the Office of Veterans' Affairs. Under the agreement, a veterans repre-

sentative will be in the office full time to serve Marion and Washington counties. Currently Marion County shares a veteran's representative from Elizabethtown with seven other counties.

The grand opening and ribbon cutting for the new Event Center and Sportsplex has been postponed until March 28. Manager Will Knight said the building is nearing completion and almost ready to open. In preparation for the opening, the court approved the hiring of 18 individuals to staff the facility. All will be part-time and trained on all aspects of the

facility prior to opening. The court also approved the purchase of a scissor lift for \$8,800 and a floor scrubber for \$3,105. Magistrates approved an additional \$15,374 for equipment and furniture for the facility.

IN OTHER BUSINESS

Road Department Supervisor Rakes reported Burke Springs Road will be closed for two weeks for road work.

The court approved a donation of \$1,500 to Project Graduation.

The next meeting of the Marion County Fiscal Court will be Thursday, March 20, at 4 p.m.



Submitted

The connection between a child and a horse helps special needs people like this boy improve their skills. The REATH Center in Campbellsville has been doing this for 20 years.

C'ville program brings horses, special needs children together

BY DENNIS GEORGE
SPECIAL TO THE ENTERPRISE

Sammy Garrison remembers the night as if it happened yesterday. It was over 20 years ago when he and his wife Marchetta were returning to Campbellsville after making one of their many trips home from Shelbyville where they had taken their daughter for a therapeutic horse-riding session.

"She asked me if I thought we could do something like this in Campbellsville," Garrison said. "I looked at her and asked if she was crazy. After I said that, I tell you it was a long 45-minute ride home."

Marchetta was not as crazy as her husband imagined.

Their REATH (Riding Enhanced Around Therapeutic Horses) Center is celebrating its 20th Anniversary this year and is holding an Open House Saturday to show off its horses and give various demonstrations.

Over the years, they have been a resource for hundreds of people with special needs who needed help with motor skills, balance and social skills. Being around a horse also improves their confidence and speech and language skills.

"There is a connection between a horse and a person," Marchetta said. "A horse

can hear your heart beat from six feet away and his heart-beat will mimic the person. If you are anxious and nervous, the horse will react the same way."

The Garrisons took an interest in such a program when they read a story in Kentucky Living Magazine about the one in Shelbyville. Their daughter Sabrina was born prematurely and doctors discovered she had Cerebral Palsy a week later.

"Her left side is weaker than the right and she has very little use of her left hand," Sabrina's father said.

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Man indicted on possession of matter involving sexual performance by minor

BY DENIS HOUSE
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A Lebanon man charged with possessing or viewing matter portraying a sexual performance by a minor under 12 years of age was one of the individuals indicted by the March Marion County Grand Jury.

Thomas Goodin, 61, of 509 Cypress St., Lebanon, was indicted for possession/viewing of matter portraying sexual performance by a minor under 12 years of age, a Class C felony. The grand jury charged that these events happened on or about Nov. 1, 2024, when Goodin knew its content and character, and that the sexual performance is a minor under 12, knowingly had in his possession or control any matter which visually depicts and actual sexual performance by a minor person under 12, or intentionally viewed any matter which visually depicts an actual sexual performance by a minor person under 12.

The bond was set at \$50,000.00 full cash with no violations of

the law, and no use of drugs or alcohol. Goodin was arrested on Oct. 3, 2024, and charged with first-degree rape, victim under 12 years of age, first-degree sodomy, victim under 12 years of age, and first-degree sexual abuse, victim under 12 years of age.

• Austin Peake, 31, 595 Tatum Lane, Lebanon, was indicted for one count of first-degree criminal abuse/child 12 or under vulnerable victim (Class B felony). The grand jury charged that these events happened on or about Aug. 24, 2024, when Peake intentionally abused a person, or permitted a person of whom one has actual custody to be abused and caused serious physical injury or placed a person in a situation that may cause serious physical injury, or caused torture, cruel confinement, or cruel punishment to a person 12 years of age or less, or who is physically helpless or mentally helpless or aided, abetted, or counseled in said act.



Thomas Goodin

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Lexington man charged with rape and sexual abuse of underage victim

BY DENIS HOUSE
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A Lexington man was arrested on March 5 and charged with rape and sexual abuse involving a victim under 12 years of age.

Randall Ray Clark, 47, of Lexington, was arrested by Probation and Parole and charged with first-degree rape, victim under 12 years of age,



Randall Ray Clark

and first-degree sexual abuse, victim under 12 years of age.

Clark was lodged in the Marion County Detention Center on a \$5 million cash bond with a court date set for March 19.



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