



PHOTO BY MADISON NANTZ

Both fun and practical items were handed out at the event.



PHOTO BY MADISON NANTZ

These young attendees were decked out with blow-up guitars and balloons.

CHI Saint Joseph hosts “Sweet Child of Mine,” a child abuse awareness event

By Madison Nantz
Staff Writer

“Sweet Child of Mine,” a free event intended to raise child abuse awareness, was hosted by Saint Joseph London’s Violence Prevention program at the Laurel-London Optimist Club Friday, April 25.

“We were thinking we wanted music and a rockstar theme because people working for the better of children in Laurel County are rockstars. Rockstars led to music, which led to the famous song,” Mollie Harris, Saint Joseph’s Vi-

olence Prevention Coordinator, said of the event’s name.

Saint Joseph London’s Violence Prevention is a program dedicated to preventing child abuse. The organization’s event, which started in 2012, is held in honor of April being Child Abuse Awareness Month.

The annual event was initially started by Crystal Mayes, a former DCBS worker. Before Mayes passed last year due to ongoing health issues, she passed the torch to a group

of women she knew she could trust. Mollie Harris, Dorissa Dotson, Valerie House, and Jara Burkhart now play a major role in spearheading the event.

The event featured 10 vendors and a performance by Mighty 99’s. Vendors included London Women’s Health, Bluegrass Services, Walmart Transportation, Volunteers of America, Second Mile Behavioral Health, Laurel County

Health Department, Cumberland Area Development District, Heartstrings Mental Health, Foster KY, and Permalinx.

Also at the event were Neon Squeeze, KaraFun, and 360 Long Shots Photo Booth. Pizza, candy, water, tote bags, and other goodies were additionally provided to attendees.

“Prevention saves lives,” Harris commented on the importance of rais-

ing awareness.

To learn more about the Violence Prevention pro-

gram, visit <https://www.commonspirit.org/impact/violence-prevention>.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

VFW — Monthly post meeting 2nd Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m. Meeting at London DAV Post, 300 DAV Lane, London, KY 40741.

WEEKLY VETERAN BREAKFAST — Every Tuesday at 8 a.m. American Legion Post 88 at 84 East Wentworth St., Corbin, KY 40701.

BOONE TRACE 250 — Commemorative Relay Hike through June 7. Sign up to hike a 5-10 mile segment at bit.ly/BT250Signup. For more information, visit www.BooneTrace250.com

THURSDAY, May 1
JOB FAIR — Open to the public at Kentucky Career Center-Cumberlands. Meet with employers and apply for open positions from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Bring a resume and dress for success. Located at 410 E. Mt. Vernon St. in Somerset. For more information, call 606-677-4124.

NORTH LAUREL HIGH SCHOOL — Site Based Decision Making Council parent elections will be held at the school from 12 noon until 5 p.m. Candidates running are Beth McDaniel, Heather Elza and Amber Van. If you are a parent of a student attending NLHS during the 2025-26 school year, please stop by and vote.

FRIDAY, May 2
NORTH LAUREL HIGH

SCHOOL — Site Based Decision Making Council parent elections will be held at the school from 12 noon until 5 p.m. Candidates running are Beth McDaniel, Heather Elza and Amber Van. If you are a parent of a student attending NLHS during the 2025-26 school year, please stop by and vote.

SATURDAY, May 3
WILLIAMSBURG GOSPEL BARN — An evening of gospel music with the Singing Echoes of Cleveland, TN; the Singing Cupps of Williamsburg; and Jim Foster of Mills River, NC. Admission is free. Doors open at 5 p.m. with open mic.

THURSDAY, May 15
LONDON-LAUREL COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE — Monthly luncheon starts 12 noon at London Community Center. Cost to attend is \$13.

SATURDAY, May 17
ST. JOHN’S EPISCOPAL CHURCH — Bike Donation Day, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Bring new, used, or broken bikes or cash contributions to the Burkhart Center at 701 Engineer St. in Corbin. Bikes will be repaired and distributed to community members in need. For more information or to volunteer, email hoskinshouse.th@gmail.com.

TOURISM

Continued from page 2A

F-150 with four doors and four-wheel drive. The purchase, which will cost \$18,549, received support from commissioners.

— South Little League, which reopened over the weekend, requested assistance with replacing outdated in-field lighting, to which the commission agreed. Sizemore provided a quote for replacing all the fixtures with LED sports lighting, which was \$36,750. A local contractor has volunteered to install the lights at no charge. A commissioner, likely Roberts, will also begin attending the league’s board meetings.

— Also regarding parks, commissioners approved a motion to apply for a trail grant to fund the proposed one-mile loop behind the swimming pool at Levi Jackson. The grant is an 80-20 match, with the total cost of the project estimated to be around \$180,000. Sizemore plans to apply for 723 funds to cover the park’s share of the match, leaving only about 3% of the cost to be paid directly.

The meeting adjourned

Sheriff’s 2023 Property Tax Audit

• A copy of the complete audit report including financial statements and supplemental information is on file at the Sheriff’s Office and is available for public inspection during normal business hours.

• Any citizen may obtain from the Sheriff a copy of the complete audit report, including financial statements and supplemental information for their personal use.

• Citizens requesting a personal copy of the Sheriff’s audit report will be charged for duplication costs at a rate that shall not exceed twenty-five (\$0.25) cents per page.

• Copies of the financial statement prepared in accordance with KRS 424.220 are available to the public at no cost at the business address of the officer responsible for preparation of the statement.

Now Hear This



Carolyn Reeves,
Hearing Specialist

STUDY LINKS
HEARING AIDS
TO LOWER RISK
OF DEMENTIA,
DEPRESSION AND
FALLS: PART I

Older adults who get a hearing aid for a newly diagnosed hearing loss have a lower risk of being diagnosed with dementia, depression or anxiety for the first time over the next three years, and a lower risk of suffering fall-related injuries, than those who leave their hearing loss uncorrected, a new study finds.

Yet only 12% of those who have a formal diagnosis of hearing loss actually get the devices - even when they have insurance coverage for at least part of the cost, the study shows. It also reveals gaps in hearing aid use among people of different racial and ethnic background, geographic locations and genders.

The findings, using data from nearly 115,000 people over age 66 with hearing loss and insurance coverage through a Medicare HMO between 2008 and 2016, are published in the Journal of the American Geriatrics Society. Unlike traditional Medicare, Medicare HMOs typically cover some hearing aid costs for members diagnosed with hearing loss by an audiologist.

The study confirms what other studies have shown among patients studied at a single point in time-but the new findings show differences emerging as time goes on.

We already know that people with hearing loss have more adverse health events, and more co-existing conditions, but this study allows us to see the effects of an intervention and look for associations between hearing aids and health outcomes.

Though hearing aids can’t be said to prevent these conditions, a delay in the onset of dementia, depression and anxiety, and the risk of serious falls, could be significant both for the patient and for the costs to the Medicare system.

Presented as a service to the community by

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Listing Agent:
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Elaine Parrott 606-682-0151

1147 Barbourville Rd. London, KY 40744

MLS# 25002729

Listing Agent:
April Wilson 606-524-9696
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SATURDAY, MAY 3RD • 12 PM - 2 PM

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SUNDAY, MAY 4TH • 2 PM - 4 PM

MLS# 25006255

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