



Kenny Walker looks for Pope to use tough love. **Page 9A**

The Advocate Messenger

TUESDAY, FEB. 3, 2026 | VOL. 148 ISSUE 10

WWW.AMNEWS.COM

Fiscal court reviews animal control policy

By **JOSELY LABARRERE**
Advocate Messenger

The Boyle County Fiscal Court met Jan. 30 for its regularly scheduled meeting, addressing county finances, policy matters and a wide range of departmental updates.

The meeting was called to order at 9 a.m., with Magistrate Paula Bodner offering the invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Fiscal court members approved the minutes from the previous meeting and unanimously approved budget transfers, cash transfers and payment of county bills.

Members also recognized the Boyle County Quick Recall

Team, noting its role in emergency preparedness and response within the community.

Under old business, the court revisited the Boyle County Animal Control cat policy. Magistrates discussed how the policy is currently being implemented and addressed questions related to enforcement, community concerns and the balance between animal welfare and public safety. The discussion reflected ongoing efforts to refine animal control practices across the county.

New business began with the approval of a proclamation recognizing February as American Heart Month. Magistrates emphasized the

importance of heart health awareness and prevention, noting the impact of heart disease on families and communities.

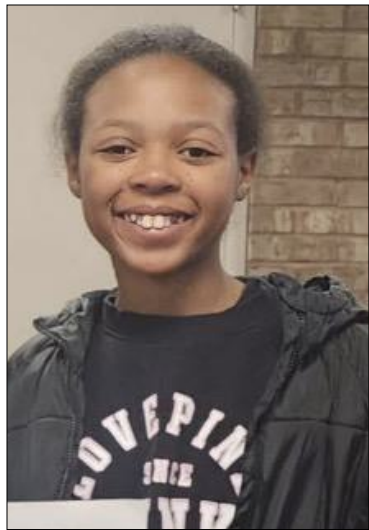
Nicholas Spoonmore, vice president of Ephraim McDowell Medical Center, provided a hospital update that included operational highlights and current priorities. He discussed ongoing services and the hospital's role in meeting the health care needs of Boyle County residents.

Kari Kuh, director of the Danville-Boyle County Humane Society, presented an update on shelter operations. Her report included information on animal intake, adoption efforts and

ongoing challenges faced by the shelter.

Mo Shalash, EMS deputy director of education, addressed the court regarding the Bluegrass Community and Technical College paramedic program. He discussed training opportunities and workforce development efforts aimed at strengthening emergency medical services in the region.

Facility Supervisor Mark Gordon provided multiple updates related to the Fred Cain Center, including general maintenance, roof conditions and the status of the building's sprinkler system. Magistrates



BOYLE COUNTY FISCAL COURT
Gabriella Russell, a fifth grader at Tolliver Elementary, leads the Pledge of Allegiance at Friday's Fiscal Court meeting.

See **BOYLE**, 2A



DANVILLE INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS

Solar panels were recently installed at Danville High School. -Danville independent schools.

DIS reports early savings with its energy upgrades

By **JOSELY LABARRERE**
Advocate Messenger

Danville Independent Schools have completed a series of energy efficiency projects aimed at reducing utility costs and modernizing district facilities, according to a press release from the district.

The work, which began during the summer of 2025 and continued through the fall and holiday breaks, was completed through an energy savings performance contract with Ascendant Facility Partners. District officials said the projects were finished on time and within budget and are already

producing measurable energy savings.

Improvements were made at several district buildings, including Danville High School, Mary G. Hogsett Primary School and the district's Central Office. At Danville High School, the district replaced boilers and cooling towers and installed destratification fans in the gymnasium to improve temperature regulation and energy efficiency. Boiler upgrades were also completed at Hogsett Primary School, while the Central Office received updated heating and air conditioning systems.

Additional districtwide

upgrades included improvements to LED lighting where needed, enhanced insulation and the installation of solar photovoltaic systems at Danville High School, Hogsett Primary School and the Central Office. District leaders said the combination of system upgrades and renewable energy installations is expected to significantly reduce long-term energy costs.

Superintendent Ron Ballard said Ascendant Facility Partners helped the district move beyond routine upgrades to a more

See **DANVILLE**, 2A

Frigid temps trigger reports of 'frost quakes'

By **CASEY ROBERTS**
Advocate Messenger

As bitter cold temperatures settled over Central Kentucky this week, many Danville residents reported hearing sudden loud pops, cracks and booming noises coming from the ground or nearby structures, raising concern across neighborhoods.

Meteorologists say the sounds are caused by a phenomenon known as frost quakes, a harmless but sometimes startling occurrence that happens during periods of rapid temperature drops.

Frost quakes, also called cryoseisms, occur when moisture in the soil freezes

quickly. As temperatures fall sharply, water trapped underground expands as it turns to ice, placing pressure on surrounding soil and bedrock.

When that pressure becomes too great, the ground can crack suddenly, producing a loud noise that can sound like an explosion or a gunshot.

Unlike earthquakes, frost quakes do not involve shifting tectonic plates and typically do not register on seismic instruments. They also do not cause structural damage, according to weather experts.

Reports of the sounds have

See **COLD**, 2A

Free tax prep services available at Boyle County Public Library

By **JOSELY LABARRERE**
Advocate Messenger

Boyle County residents can receive free tax preparation assistance this spring through a partnership between the Boyle County Public Library, AARP Tax-Aide and United Way's Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program.

The annual program offers taxpayers access to trained

volunteer tax preparers who assist individuals and families with filing federal and state tax returns. Services are available by appointment only and are held in the community room at the Boyle County Public Library.

United Way VITA volunteers are available every Saturday

See **FREE**, 2A

INDEX

Classifieds 7A Sports 9A
Crossword 5A Sudoku 5A
Deaths 3A



41° | 23°
Wintry mix

OBITS

ANNA WILMA BROGLE ARNOLD
THERESA LYNN LEDNIK, 70
PATRICIA ANN (TODD) CONKLIN, 84
COLLIS CLARK RAY, 94

Danville, Kentucky
\$1 Newsstand

