

THE PIONEER NEWS

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Regional driver's license center comes to Bullitt

BY THOMAS J. BARR
 THE PIONEER NEWS

FRANKFORT – Those complaining when the state opted to eliminate a facility to renew driver's licenses in Bullitt County can stop.

In the two-year state budget, it appears that Bullitt County will be one of three locations in the state to have a new regional licensing office created.

"This is huge," said state Rep. Thomas Huff.

And the \$17 million facility is just one of many items placed in the state budget that will benefit Bullitt

County.

Huff said it was truly a team effort of the Bullitt County contingency, state Rep. Peyton Griffiee, state Rep. Emily Calloway and state Sen. Mike Nemes. "We all really pushed for Bullitt County," said Huff. "And we got a lot. Some counties didn't get anything."

When the state opted to regionalize the drivers' licensing locations, Huff said he heard many complaints. Even though the wait time has improved at the Louisville sites, Huff said it was still an inconvenience to drive to another county to get a drivers' license renewed.

In talking with Bullitt County

Judge/Executive Jerry Summers, Huff said he was under the impression that space could be found for the regional office.

Unlike in the past when the operation was handled by the circuit clerk's office, the new setup would totally be manned and equipped by the state.

While that is a major announcement, Huff said there were several other projects funded by one-time expenditures. And the important thing to understand is that all of the projects announced have the money available to quickly move

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One of the disciples speaks of his work as an accountant who would not betray Jesus.



Jesus sat with his 12 disciples at the Last Supper.



Pleasant Grove Baptist was packed on Friday night.

All photos by THOMAS J. BARR

Forum April 23 for county candidates

SHEPHERDSVILLE – The public is encouraged to attend this forum.

Want to know a little more about the candidates running for public office this spring? The Bullitt County Chamber of Commerce, in partnership with Paroquet Springs Conference Centre and The Pioneer News, will host a candidates' forum on Thursday, April 23.

The forum begins at 6 p.m. at Paroquet Springs Conference Centre.

Candidates for county judge, jailer, sheriff, county clerk and magistrate have been invited to attend.

In the past, each candidate will have an opportunity to answer the same question. Each will have two questions and a brief opportunity to introduce themselves.

There will be no questions taken from the audience. However, most candidates will be in attendance 30 minutes prior to the forum and will stay afterwards to

talk with the public.

The public is encouraged to attend this forum.

SECOND FORUM SET FOR LEBANON JUNCTION

A forum specifically for the Lebanon Junction community will be held on Thursday, April 30.

In partnership with the Bullitt County Library System, the Bullitt County Chamber of Commerce and The Pioneer News, candidates for Lebanon Junction mayor and Fourth District magistrate will be invited to attend.

The forum begins at 6 p.m. at the Lebanon Junction branch library. Everyone is invited.

In the mayor's race, three candidates will be on the May 19 ballot. The top two votegetters will then face off in the general election in November.

South Hospital turns 2, exceeds all projections

BY THOMAS J. BARR
 THE PIONEER NEWS

HILLVIEW – It was mid-March two years ago an event occurred which would change Bullitt County forever.

UofL Health opened the doors to its South Hospital in northern Bullitt County. The hospital, which was an extension of its emergency room and out-patient services, was seen as something that was desperately needed in the community.

Two years later, those expectations have been far exceeded.

UofL Health South Hospital opened with 40 in-patient beds and it quickly exceeded its capacity.

"We have really exceeded by leaps and bounds the volume of patients projected," said Dorie Shelburne, CEO of the hospital. "The in-patient needs are much higher than the projections."

Besides offering the in-patient beds, the hospital group has brought in a wide variety of specialists.

She said that instead of transporting patients to another U of L facility, they have the medical expertise

to keep them at South Hospital.

"We have continued to bring more quality health services to the community," said Shelburne.

The company acquired the Hester Building, which is now known as Medical Plaza II, which has allowed even more specialists and primary care doctors to relocate to Bullitt County.

And there is still room to expand offerings in that building.

"It's been an evolution," Shelburne said of the gradual increase in the number of specialists who now treat patients in Bullitt County.

While the in-patient hospital was an important event, she said that being able to bring quality health care closer to home is just as vital to the community.

She proudly noted that the hospital has been accredited and honored by two organizations – in orthopedics and chest pain care.

And for the second straight year the hospital has been honored by the Kentucky Hospital

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The Living Last Supper

Presenting the real meaning of the Easter season, members of Pleasant Grove Baptist Church gave a Good Friday presentation

of The Living Last Supper. With a packed audience, Jesus (Mike Cook) presided over the Last Supper with his 12 disciples. Each spoke

and all wondered who would be the one to betray the Son of God. It was a powerful evening of music and worship.

Rides provided by Ride Out group

BY STEPHEN THOMAS
 THE PIONEER NEWS

HILLVIEW — Ride to Ride Out Breast Cancer is doing just that – offering rides.

The non-profit organization is now providing transportation to families dealing with cancer and in need of assistance in getting to doctor appointments or other health-related events.

Ride to Ride Out Breast Cancer was initially formed 15 years ago by founder/owner John Kasey. The original concept was to assist individuals dealing with breast cancer in honor of his cousin, Kathy Pearson, who was going through similar issues.

In past years Ride to Ride Out Breast Cancer has assisted with local programs such as the Cancerfest concerts, the Hillview City Fair and the Fairdale Fair, along with occasional poker runs. They made donations to the American Cancer Society, as well as bicycles for community children, and have become members of the Bullitt County Chamber of Commerce.

Just over two years ago Ride to Ride Out Breast Cancer opened a charitable gaming location in the Maryville Shopper.

"It fell into my lap," Kasey said, noting that he wasn't expecting to



Ride to Ride Out Breast Cancer founder John Kasey with the new transportation fleet at the charitable gaming facility.

open and operate such a location. However, as money began to be raised, the organization began to seek out further ways to assist the community.

The latest result was a new fleet of transportation vans that will be used to assist individuals and families to appointments. Kasey said transportation was one of the primary issues facing many families.

"In the past we've helped by paying mortgages, trash bills, cell phone bills,"

Kasey said. "Every case is different. Now we've broken it down to other things, electric bills, water bills. We've helped kids that can't afford to play sports. We've assisted county programs and school programs."

According to Kasey, Ride to Ride Out Breast Cancer has assisted on average 275-300 families per month. He said the transportation fleet will help to assist even more.

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Mike Rice for Bullitt County Magistrate District 3
 Responsible Development and Growth
 Honest and Open Communication
 Common Sense Solutions from a Proven Local Entrepreneur
 Election Day - May 19th, 2026
 Paid by Candidate Mike Rice



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