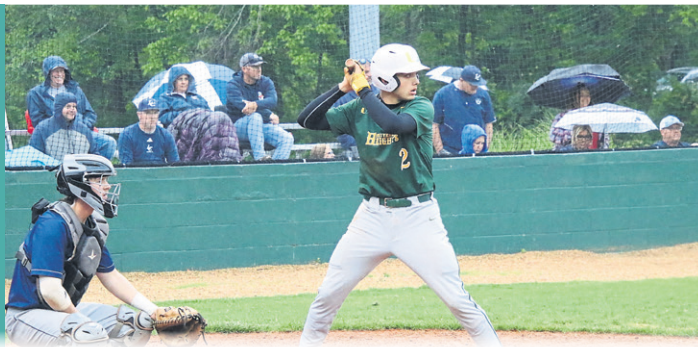


# Baseball

Blazers fall to Cougars/Sports, B1



THURSDAY

# Kentucky New Era.

May 16, 2024 | \$2

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## Meet the Candidates

BY KNE STAFF

Seven of the 12 Hopkinsville city Council wards have more than one candidate running, with the incumbent running in six of those races. The candidates in the other five races are running unopposed.

The Kentucky New Era sent a questionnaire to the candidates on the May ballot in an effort to help the community understand the candidate's platform.

Early voting will be from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. starting today through Saturday at select locations. Election Day is Tuesday, May 21 and the polls will be open from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. For more information on voting, visit christian-countyky.gov/elections.

This is the second part of a three part series. The first part was published in Tuesday's paper, while the last part will be in Saturday's paper.

What is the city doing right?

Chuck Crabtree (Ward 4, R): Not raising city taxes! Focusing on public safety through fire, police, & EMS. Investing in city infrastructure & equipment for fire, police, EMS, public works, and Parks and Recreation. Investing in city employees. Realignment of the Codes Department: grass, trash, weeds; Lot Next Door; Acella Software Implementation. Communication & Transparen-

cy through a new PIO, which has made many improvements.

Faye Hendricks (Ward 4, R): The city's collaboration with the community and the Chamber of Commerce to create a vision plan and reach those goals has helped grow our community, improve infrastructure and attract amenities that make Hoptown a wonderful place to live, work and play. Our City Government has successfully built or renovated

numerous city structures, like building a new City Hall and relocating HPD in the renovated Lackey building. Recent efforts on renovating city landmarks, like the historic Alhambra Theatre and the museum, or building parks, a walking trail, a Sportsplex, and more all raise quality of life and attract new residents. These bold decisions have contributed

SEE CANDIDATES/PAGE A3

## Indian Hills Elementary students leave a legacy prior to school closing

BY JENNIFER LINDAHL  
KENTUCKY NEW ERA REPORTER

The League of Extraordinary Ladies and Gentlemen at Indian Hills Elementary School planted a ginkgo biloba tree and buried a time capsule on Tuesday to commemorate the closing of Indian Hills at the end of this school year.

The closing comes after the Christian County Public Schools Board of Education unanimously approved an amended District Facility Plan during a meeting in June of last year.

Miriam-Webster's dictionary defines the word legacy as "a gift by will especially of money or other personal property", but for these students, the legacy they are leaving behind is beyond any monetary value.

"We just wanted to remember this school as the best learning school," said student and league member, Madison Banks.

Ran by Lead Pastor Ron Hicks and Youth Minister Michelle Price of the Henderson Memorial Baptist



Photos by Jennifer Lindahl/ KNE

Students of Indian Hills Elementary School are part of a group called the League of the Extraordinary Ladies and Gentlemen will leave a legacy by planting a tree and burying a time capsule on Tuesday.

Church, The League of Extraordinary Ladies and Gentlemen was started about six years ago. Hicks originally led a group of young men and taught them lessons from how to shake someone's hand to leadership skills.

After a painting was

donated to the school by the league, a group of young ladies approached Hicks and asked if they could join as well.

"The teachers and administration were asked to pick 10 boys and 10 girls that they identified as leaders within the school,"

explained Price. "We met every Monday, and talked about leadership and what does it look like."

Legacy was talked about at the end of the year.

"We talked about legacy and what it means to leave a

SEE INDIAN HILLS/PAGE A3

## Court approves \$48M budget for 2024-2025

BY TONYA S. GRACE  
NEW ERA STAFF WRITER

Christian County Fiscal Court has approved a \$48 million budget for the county's 2024-2025 fiscal year, approving the measure unanimously during Tuesday's fiscal court meeting.

Christian County Judge-Executive Jerry Gilliam thanked everyone who worked on the budget, including budget committee members.

"I'm proud of this budget, and I hope everyone that's had a hand in it is equally as proud," the judge said during the meeting earlier this week.

He noted that the new budget included "days and days and days" of sitting and analyzing data to make sure that every tax dollar is used to the utmost efficiency and

effectiveness.

The budget was approved on first reading, and Gilliam said it will next go to the Department for Local Government for that entity's approval.

A second reading by the fiscal court will likely take place at the court's first meeting in June.

The local court meets at 8:30 a.m. on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month.

Gilliam during the recent court meeting offered some specifics of the proposed budget as he read the ordinance, noting among other things that the budget includes total general fund expenditures of \$18,560,119 and total road fund expenditures of \$3,763,500.

Additionally, it includes

SEE COURT/PAGE A3

## PeADD hears updates at monthly board meeting

Vincent talks about legislative wins

BY JODI CAMP  
EDITOR@KENTUCKYNEWERA.COM

Pennyrile Area Development District Executive Director Jason Vincent praised the recent legislative session at Monday's board meeting.

"We had a very good budget session for [Kentucky's] Area Development Districts as a whole," he said. "Not to mention some of

the successes we had here in the region, just the project level."

Vincent highlighted the approval of a Regional Law Enforcement Training Center in Madisonville. He also mentioned funding allocated for the Crittenden-Livingston Water District, the city of Guthrie, and park improvements in Crofton.

"Crofton is going to receive about \$500,000 for park improve-

ments," he said.

Funding was also set aside for an assessment of Interstate 24 to explore potential expansion.

"A lot of great things in the budget," Vincent said.

**Pennyrile Area Agency on Aging update**

Pennyrile AAAIL Director Jill Collins informed the board about recent developments.

The advisory council adopted a by-law change in March, giving the PADD Board of Directors chair the

authority to appoint the advisory council on aging chair.

"We met with Crissy (Carter, from Livingston County) our PADD board chair, and she has appointed (Elkton) Mayor Arthur Green to be the chair person," said Collins.

She also provided an update on the Todd County Senior Center, which is undergoing renovations funded by a Community Development Block Grant.

"During this project we have to

relocate all the services, we can't have a gap in any of the services that occur or go out of the senior center," said Collins. "We were able to secure a location in Elkton, just a couple of miles away from the site that is being renovated."

The new location is Elkton Nazarene Church and the hours are 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday through Friday. She said they expect the project to be completed by the end

SEE PEADD/PAGE A3

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Terry Dale Murphy  
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Serena Hatcher-Fulps

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A hospital is more than a place to heal. It is a part of the community that fosters health and represents hope.

Baptist Health Deaconess Madisonville is deeply grateful for our team and honors their dedication to our mission.

HOSPITAL WEEK

MAY 12-18, 2024



BAPTIST HEALTH DEACONESS MADISONVILLE