

The Opioid Epidemic in Kentucky

By PJ Martin
Editor
The Herald-News



▲PHOTO | PJ MARTIN
Narcan Nasal Spray will help a patient for 30-90 minutes until they can get medical care.

We hear it daily—on the news, radio, and social media: someone has overdosed. That someone could be your neighbor, a friend, or even a family member.

Kentucky has been at the forefront of the opioid crisis since the early 2000s. According to the National Institutes of Health (NIH.gov), the Commonwealth has consistently ranked among the highest

in opioid-related fatalities. Yet, recent numbers provide a glimmer of hope.

OPIOID,
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Bids, Budget, and Policy

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hearing was then closed.

A long agenda was approved along with the minutes from the May 22nd meeting.

The bids were awarded for the following:

Maintenance (Admin Office of the Courts - AOC): Chris Reece HVAC

Janitorial (AOC and Gov. Center)

POLICY,
Continued on page four

The Metcalfe County fiscal court held its regular meeting on Thursday, June 12th with all magistrates in attendance. Prior to the meeting, a Public Hearing for public comments on the use of County Road Aid and Local Government Economic Assistance (LGEA) Funds was called to order. No comments were received and the

Mail Delay



The US Postal Service offices will be closed on Thursday, June 19th, in observance of Juneteenth. Therefore, any subscribers who normally receive their paper on Thursday will receive it later.

Health Department Discusses New Tax

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▲PHOTO | PJ MARTIN
Matt Hunt Director of the Barren River District Health Department.

On June 6th, the Barren River District Health Department's Metcalfe Board met in the Metcalfe Government Center's fiscal courtroom. Those in attendance were Judge/Executive Larry Wilson, Jackie Parker, Terri Cassady, Shelia Scott, Sheila Stilts, Jody Curry, Kaytlyn Sharp, Ronnie Miller, and Leeann Hennion, RN, Nurse Team Lead.

Speaker Matt Hunt was welcomed. Hunt is the Director of the Barren River District Health Department of which Metcalfe, Barren, Hart, Simpson, Butler, Logan, Warren, and Edmonson County health departments are members. He referred to the many programs that are required by state statute for the county health department to perform.

Hunt began, "You know, by statute, all counties, 120 counties in the state are required to have a local health department. And so, things like, think about Communicable Disease Control. Think about, vaccines, and tuberculosis control. I know we've had TB, we've talked about that across the district...Think about adult and childhood vaccinations. That's a requirement by statute...Other things you think about chronic disease management."

He continued, "You think about restaurant inspections, on-site septic if you build a house in the country, things like that, or, again, things that you must do as a health department."

TAX, Continued on page nine

Metcalfe County Fair Pageant

PHOTOS PROVIDED BY GINNY ACREE



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Little Miss & Mister Metcalfe County Fair (L-R): Avalynn Jaymes Fiene and Knoxton Pierce Hughes, 1st runner up – Evalyn Jane Mayes and James Rylee Kingrey, 2nd runner up – Norah Katherine Bryant and Jagger Blaze Weston. More photos can be found on page eight.

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