

**SELBIE**, from A1

Selbie, who also only has one kidney, was fed by a gastronomy tube (g-tube) for two-and-a-half years, underwent physical and speech therapy, and more.

Yet soon, as the family was learning more in efforts to assist Selbie, a relationship with the American Heart Association developed.

"They provide materials [like] videos...they also [provided] resources not just for Selbie...but for me and my husband and well,"

said Means, noting that toys, blankets, and food vouchers were among many such options.

Over time, not only did the family's relationship with the American Heart Association continue growing positively, but so did the news.

"As of right now, they've said that her heart repair is holding up well," Means added. "She is the best case scenario for the type of surgery that she had."

While continual care will be provided, doctors remain optimistic.

Means, a Winchester

native, hopes that sharing Selbie's story with the community and other involvement will help others.

"To be so young [and] to be so little, she's one of the bravest people that I know," she said.

In working with the American Heart Association, Selbie has already collaborated with others - including Miss Kentucky Teen Mallory Jones - in multiple ways.

With regard to the Joe Reed Memorial Heart Walk, Means has a unique connection.

She was a student of

Mayor Reed's during the latter's tenure as an elementary school teacher.

"I've heard about it in the past, and the funny thing is that you don't necessarily get involved until something affects you personally," she said. "We decided that those things were something we were going to participate in [for] the future. It [is] definitely something...we want to be a part of...it's super important to us."

For those who haven't had the chance to meet Selbie, opportunities still present themselves.

She's been seen on a billboard located on N. Main Street promoting the Heart Walk alongside Jones.

"[We] just try to encourage more people to get involved," Means said.

She added that seeing others in the community rally to support Selbie is meaningful.

"I have said from the very beginning that Selbie's very loved...she has always been doted on," Means said, pointing out that many learned of Selbie through Facebook updates. "A lot of people even

donated to us when she was in the hospital....just learning how many people care about my child and care about her well being...is something that I can't explain."

She also hopes that others will take action, whether by learning cardiovascular resuscitation (CPR) or other deeds.

"You never know when heart disease or really anything is going to affect you personally," Means added. "I never expected when I went to that appointment that I was going to find out my child had a heart defect."

**DOTSON**, from A1

In addition to Clark, Kentucky's 6th District in the U.S. House of Representatives includes all or portions of Anderson, Bath, Bourbon, Estill, Fayette, Fleming, Garrard, Jessamine, Madison, Mercer, Montgomery, Nicholas, Powell, Scott, and Woodford counties.

Dotson concluded by stating that his public announcement would be the first of many posts.

"I will come back with future videos talking about my platform [and] talking about the things that I feel...[need] to be done in the United States of America," he said. "I am calling on all my friends to stand with me as we make this huge, major decision to move forward to run for [the] U.S. Congress."

**COMMISSION**, from A1

With Winchester Chief of Police Travis Thompson noting that there hadn't been an assistant chief of police in many years, the Commission unanimously voted in favor of appointing Harvey Craycraft to the position.

"I don't know anybody more deserving than Harvey," said City Commissioner Kitty Strode. "I've worked with Harvey for twenty years...I'm very, very pleased."

Thompson also provided an update about the ongoing events at WPD.

Among many points, Thompson acknowledged WPD's involvement in the local community, which included participating in food drives and making several visits to local schools.

Thompson also noted that, in the first three months of the year, the department has made 70 mental health transports.

Mentioning different protocol changes, Thompson noted that the number of transports declined from January to March.

He noted that the changes in place improve the quali-

fications for mental health transports and can keep officers on the street instead of transporting across county lines.

The expertise of WPD's K9 officer, Jensik, was also highlighted.

In particular, a video was shown demonstrating how the dog was able to efficiently detect 18.5 grams of methamphetamine stowed in a car's engine compartment drugs, with Thompson noting that the animal - who is trained by officer Blake Gabbard - will be used to better keep the streets free of

substances.

"I show you that to show you what Jensik is capable of when he gets out and gets to work," said Chief Thompson, expressing hope that another K9 can be added next year.

"Jensik has assisted other agencies...[including] the local ATF"

Certainly not least, following the untimely passing of Abe - whom the presentation was dedicated to - Thompson expressed hope that another therapy dog could be added, with grant opportunities for funding currently being considered.

**CRESCO**, from A1

"You are on the way to helping so many Kentuckians struggling with chronic pain not to have to take addictive opioids and helping veterans struggling from PTSD to get the relief they need," he said. "I've talked with so many people whose lives medical cannabis has helped repair, taking the shattered parts of themselves, helping them put it back together, and getting back to a job."

Cresco Labs CEO Charlie Bachtell announced that the company plans to keep the community informed.

"We've got a lot of experience and awareness and education platforms that are needed in order to make sure all stakeholders in the state understand what medical cannabis is and how to participate in the program, and we look forward to bringing that experience here," he said.

Having launched cannabis programs in other states such as Illinois and Pennsylvania, Bachtell has expressed confidence in the operations.

The opening comes on the heels of State Auditor Allison Ball announcing that her office would investigate the Office of Medical Cannabis and its execution of the Kentucky Medical Cannabis program.

However, Governor Beshear expressed confidence in the execution.

"Every part of the lottery and this program was not only available to the public, but it was put into various regulations or policies that anyone who wants to participate or comment on could," he said. "I understand that there are businesses that are disappointed and that's natural. But we're having to scale this starting small because we saw what happened with the hemp industry."

Cresco Labs has launched a website - <https://www.kystateof-relief.com> - to educate others on the medical marijuana program.



Kentucky Governor Andy Beshear is joined by others at a ribbon-cutting ceremony for Cresco Labs in Winchester. (Photo from Governor Andy Beshear's Facebook page)

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