



# THREE FORKS TRADITION

Beattyville and Lee County's only locally-owned newspaper

VOL. 37, NO. 20 WEDNESDAY, March 18, 2026 PUBLISHED IN BEATTYVILLE, KY 41311



## Lee County Spring Clean-Up scheduled for April 24th & 25th

The Lee County Fiscal Court met in regular session on Thursday, March 12, 2026 in the Lee County Courthouse. Along with County Judge Executive, Magistrates Dean Noe, Rodney Ross, Tim Brandenburg and Dennis Pelfrey were in attendance. After Judge Mays welcomed everyone Magistrate Dennis Pelfrey opened with prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Reports were given from the following departments:

Solid Waste Director Mitch Cornelius reported that his department had taken in \$56,532.83 for the month of February. Also that the Spring Cleanup was scheduled for April 24th and 25th at the old County landfill on Hwy 11 and a tire amnesty would be held at the State Highway Garage April 30th and May 1st and 2nd.

Road Foreman Kevin McIntosh reported that

his road crew had been busy with cleaning up rockslides and removing trees.

Ambulance Director Trish Cole reported that the ambulance service had made 139 runs in February with 90 of them being billable runs. She urged everyone to support House Bill 447 which would about double the rates ambulances were paid for runs. She gave an example of a run they had to UK which was about \$2000 and the ambulance service only received \$77 because it was deemed out of network.

This new bill would change how the out of network is perceived.

Deputy Coroner Kenneth Lewis reported that he and Coroner Josh Hagen were scheduled for 66 hours of training in the next few months.

Economic Development Director Scott Jackson reported that he

*continued to page 5*



## Clash of the Titans...

In these photos by Jessica Smith during Monday's late season snow, Old Man Winter was conceding no ground as he covered Mother Nature's spring shades of green and pastels with a blanket of white. The wet snow on the new green trees and blooming flowers was enough to create a gorgeous picture in the Three Forks area, and slick roads gave Lee County kids Tuesday off from school.



## Primrose Volunteer Fire Department Fundraiser

(Top Photo) The Primrose Volunteer Fire Department is pictured during their Soup Supper/Bingo Fundraiser at the Happy Top Community Center this past Saturday.

(Photo at Right) Primrose Volunteer Fire Department Chief David Paul Abner presents Firefighter of the Year Award to Captain Randy Reed (Firefighter Ryan Jones pictured behind Reed and Abner). This year's Primrose officers are: Randy Reed - Captain, Assistant Chiefs - Glenn Kincaid, Tony Clevenger and Gary Angel, Treasurer - Bill Begley, and Safety Officer - Eddie Cundiff. Photos by Linda Smith.



## Gov. Beshear: Main Street Communities Report Nearly \$76 Million Investment, 395 New Jobs, 72 New Businesses in 2025

FRANKFORT, Ky. (March 12, 2026) – Today, Gov. Andy Beshear announced that Kentucky Main Street (KYMS) program communities finished 2025 strong, reporting a total investment of \$75.6 million in downtown commercial districts, resulting in 395 new jobs and 72 new businesses.

“Our downtowns are the heart of our communities and through this program they’ve celebrated major growth and success as they fuel our economy, create good jobs and boost our record-breaking tourism industry,” said Gov. Beshear. “Team Kentucky is grateful to our Main Street leaders for their continuous hard work. Together, we’re making our New Kentucky Home a better place to visit, live and work.”

The \$75.6 million represents \$23.6 million in private investments matched by \$8.9 million in public investments encompassing building rehabilitation, new construction, infrastructure and special projects offset by rehabilitation tax credits, grant funds and local city and county budgets. Additionally, these communities

finished the year with a net gain of 205 new full-time jobs, 190 new part-time jobs, 29 business expansions and \$32.6 million invested in completing 26 rehabilitation projects in Main Street districts. These efforts were also supported by over 26,000 volunteer hours, illustrating the communities’ deep commitment.

“From some of the best restaurants to local shops and services, the businesses along Kentucky Main Streets fuel tourism and economic growth across the commonwealth. With an emphasis on historic preservation, along with public and private investment partnerships, Kentucky Main Street communities are flourishing more than ever,” said Tourism, Arts & Heritage Cabinet Secretary Lindy Casebier. “We are proud of our Main Street program’s successes and the many ways it has contributed to quality of life in our New Kentucky Home, while showcasing what is special about our communities.”

Since its inception, the

*continued to page 6*

# Happy St. Patrick's Day