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The canine perspective

Sheldon the Shih-Tzu shares **LIFESTYLE, PAGE B1**



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Glimpses of our community **PAGE B6**



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House Bill 166 dead in committee

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FRANKFORT – House Bill 166 will not be voted on during the 2018 legislative session.

HB 166, a medical cannabis legalization bill, had gained significant support this year but after reaching the Judiciary Committee, the bill died as many medical cannabis bills have before it.

“Looking back, we wish they would have voted on it in the Judiciary Committee meeting on March 7,” said Eric Crawford. “The people spoke, their voices were

heard but the elected officials did not listen.”

Eric Crawford and his wife, Michelle have been major proponents in the bill getting as far as it has during this legislative session.

Eric Crawford is a quadriplegic who also has glaucoma and has used cannabis for his ailments before. He and his wife both swear by the results they have seen since he used them and the side effects that occur if he no longer consumes cannabis in some form.

The Crawfords met with State Rep. John Sims and shared their

story and the research that they had done on the legalization of medical cannabis in other states and the beneficial impact it could have on an ill person’s life. After some research of his own, Sims was on board and sponsored the bill and throughout 2018 the bill gained 25 cosponsors in the House.

After several regular sessions in the Judiciary Committee, HB 166 finally reached the House floor and what started as a single day for the hearing, soon turned into three days.

The benefits and pro side of medical cannabis was heard on March 5, and the committee agreed that the negative side should be heard as well.

The committee heard the opposing side on March 6, but a vote still was not called and Judiciary Committee Chair Rep. Joseph Fischer agreed to give the bill a vote and not overlook it.

On March 7, more discussion occurred regarding the bill but once a vote was called, Rep. Jason Nemes called for a pass over vote. The pass over was successful and

granted more time for the bill to be worked on and voted on officially at a later date.

Unfortunately, the bill work that was done was not enough and the bill has been pass over for the year.

“HB 166 was the number one viewed and monitored bill,” said Eric Crawford. “It’s frustrating because we had the votes for it to pass the House, but they didn’t want to vote on it. Rep. John Sims worked hard on this bill and

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TERRY PRATHER, THE LEDGER INDEPENDENT

Local artist Steve White’s newest painting hangs in the Kentucky Gateway Museum Center. It shows Daniel Boone, standing, and Simon Kenton, seated, enjoying a drink of bourbon whiskey together at Limestone Tavern in Maysville.

Painting unveiled by museum

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Two of Maysville’s most famous sons are featured in a painting revealed earlier this week at the Kentucky Gateway Museum Center’s annual

Charter Dinner.

The painting of Simon Kenton and Daniel Boone in Boone’s tavern in Maysville was created by Maysville artist Steve White, who is known for his accurate depiction of historical scenes.

The painting began as a concept developed by KYGMC Executive Director C.J. Hunter and Trustee Emeritus Louis Browning, Hunter said. The painting shows Daniel Boone and Simon Kenton viewing the Collet map

of the Road from Limestone to Frankfort, and talking over old times. Each had traversed this road hundreds of times over the years, always very alert for

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Augusta pool aid offer accepted

CHRISTY HOWELL-HOOTS
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AUGUSTA – City council approved an interlocal agreement Wednesday between Augusta and Bracken County Fiscal Court that will help pay for repairs to the Augusta pool.

“The county has loaned us \$150,000,” Augusta Mayor Wendell High said. “It’s interest-free. They already give us \$7,500 a year for recreation, but they’re giving us that up front and then we won’t receive the \$7,500 a year for 20 years.” Instead, the court will repay itself with the annual donation.

High said the money will be used to make several repairs to the existing pool. However, the city still has to find a way to fund the remaining portion of the pool repairs.

According to High, the rough estimate received by the city from PSS Construction earlier this year was \$235,000.

“Of course, you don’t know what’s going to happen when you get in there,” High said. “There’s a lot that needs to be done and you never know what you might find.”

High distributed a paper outlining the scope of the work during the meeting. Needed repairs include removing the concrete floor, deck and wading

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TERRY PRATHER, THE LEDGER INDEPENDENT

FANTASTIC FOOTWEAR

Amos Shields, of Maysville, takes a close look at a large boot sitting in front of Shoe Sensation’s Work & Safety Store on Thursday. The boot was part of the weekend’s grand opening ceremonies. The new store is located in Market Square.

Law enforcement bill passes

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A bill has passed in the state Senate that would provide mental health and wellness support for law enforcement officials who have encountered tragic and horrific events while on the job.

“On a personal note, from being involved in a fatality accident about two years into my career, I can tell you firsthand the value of this type of program,” said Sen. Danny Carroll, a former police officer who presented House Bill 68. “Back during those times, there were no supports in place. You simply went to a psychiatrist for an evaluation. He or she either said you were fit or you were not fit for duty – and that was the end of it.” He said that fatal accident al-

most ended his career, in part, because he didn’t receive helpful counseling.

“Those things do not go away,” said Carroll regarding the fatal wreck.

The House passed HB 68 on a 95-0 vote in February and it moved on to the Senate where it passed with a 38-0 vote.

HB 68 calls for Department of Criminal Justice Training of the Justice and Public Safety Cabinet to develop a Law Enforcement Professional Development and Wellness Program. The program will be set up as a seminar-based peer support and counseling service. It will be designed to reduce negative mental and behavioral health outcomes as a result of the events they come across while on

duty.

“Those are memories that stay with you your entire life,” said Carroll. “Sometimes they are very difficult to deal with.”

The program, once designed, will be offered to every Kentucky law enforcement officer at least twice each calendar year.

The services are fully confidential but the department may use anonymous data for research, statistical analysis and educational purposes.

The funding for this program will consist of money received from the Kentucky Law Enforcement Foundation Program, grants, gifts, state appropriations and federal funds.

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Ponto the office dog says:
“Silent” and “listen” are spelled with the same letters.

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COMICS	B4	REGION	A3
LIFESTYLE	B1	SPORTS	A5

