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Kentucky Farm Bureau

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Contact:

MIKE FANNIN

(606) 785-3794

News in Brief

Couple injured in bike wreck continue to improve

It has only been two weeks since the wreck occurred near Iviss Bible Church that sent Tommy and Starla Gibson to UK trauma center. Yet in those short days the Gibsons have made tremendous improvements. According to Joyce Honeycutt, Starla's mother, Tommy was moved Saturday to Cardinal Hill in Lexington for rehab and Starla will be moved in a few days to a specialized rehab unit in Hazard. Honeycutt said, "I am anxious for Starla to be moved to Hazard; I can go everyday to see her." David Ray Jacobs (age 21), Maricka (age 10) and Tommy, Jr. "TJ" (age 12) Gibson, Starla's children, are also anxious for Starla to be near home.

Honeycutt said they have already been getting Tommy up, but they want Starla to rest a little longer for her bones to heal. Starla has been allowed to sit up and do a little physical therapy. "They are doing great. It is a miracle to see this much improvement."

Honeycutt said that they all thank everyone for their calls, prayers, visits, and acts of kindness. "People have been wonderful," commented Honeycutt.

Letcher resident killed in motorcycle accident



ber of the basketball team.

The accident occurred at approximately 2:30 p.m. on Wednesday, June 21, on Hwy. 160 near that road's intersection with Ky. 1410 (Burgey's Creek Road).

Proposed projects spur debate

Fiscal Court requests only a portion of funds

By KAREN JOY JONES
In their regular meeting last Wednesday, the members of the Knott Fiscal Court struggled with decisions on allocation of coal severance tax funds, and resolved their differences by agreeing to only request a portion of those funds at this time.

Judge-Executive Randy Thompson presented a resolution to the court which listed only eight projects, totalling less than half of the amount the county is due to receive in coal severance tax dollars.

The projects the judge asked the court approve were:

Youth Development Center/Adult Wellness Complex, \$2,000,000; purchase of Beckham Combs and Caney schools, \$250,000 each; ATV/Horse Trails and Training Center, \$400,000; blacktop for county roads, \$750,000; lights for Cordia field, \$40,000; Carr Creek Water Treatment Plant, \$1,000,000; purchase of a building for Carrie community center, \$100,000, for a total of \$4,790,000.00.

In the court's last meeting on June 16, District Two Magistrate Ronnie Adams had asked to table approval of a long, detailed list of projects, stating that he wanted to remove some of the proposed items and instead use the money to blacktop roads. In Wednesday's meeting, Adams

was prepared to name specific projects he wished to cut from this list.

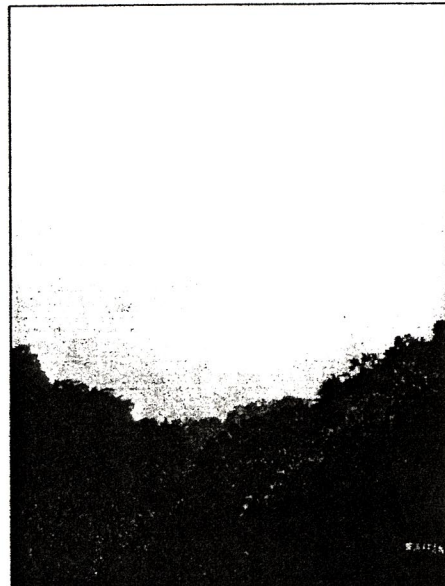
"Since the last meeting, I went through this list," Adams said. "We agreed we need a lot more money for blacktop, and according to what Randy said last time, blacktop does qualify for coal severance funding. There are several things I want taken out of this list in exchange for blacktop."

Adams began at the top of the list. He said he would like to take out funding for an amphitheater, \$35,000 to the county clerk, and funding for the Kentucky School of Craft.

Adams questioned \$100,000 set aside for sidewalks and a pedestrian bridge in Hindman. "The sidewalks are okay, but what about this bridge?"

Judge Thompson explained, "Several years ago, we were told the bridge connecting the justice center and the Human Services Center would have to come out, and the plan was to put a pedestrian bridge in its place. Recently I found out that it does not have to be removed, and I don't want it out.. The mayor doesn't want it out, and the people in the justice center don't, so it won't be taken out. The money requested for a bridge will be used to renovate the present bridge." Adams agreed to approve this project.

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Last Thursday, a colorful, hazy sunset in the Redfox area of Knott County concluded a day of steamy summer heat. (Photo by Karen J. Jones)

Motorcycle crash deaths increase since helmet laws repealed

Editor's note: The following line.