

Sewing
about \$25 per mat compared to \$100 from the supply company.”

The Jailer continued, “Not only can we make them but will also be able to repair damaged items without simply having to replace the whole item. This will save us and offset the county a substantial amount of money over the course of use. All training can be provided in-house, and we are also looking into the option of making some of our own clothing.”

The inmates that demonstrated how they make the mats said they were very excited about the new program and are also looking forward to the future programs that will become available at the detention center. These include planting and taking care of a garden come spring.

Gabbard said that he is very happy that these work release programs are available to the inmates.

He closed by saying, “If you need to talk to me about this, please call the Jackson County Detention Center. God Bless!”

Shoots
transported on to UK Hospital for treatment of the gunshot wound. Currently at press time, she is in stable condition, Hays said. As the investigation continues, no one had any information as to who may have shot into the residence. However, the case remains open pending additional investigation.

Health
independent pharmacies supposed to keep their doors open when you’re underpaying them below ingredient cost yet you’re still making profits?” Go-forth asked.

Many states have recently enacted laws requiring that pharmacy benefit managers disclose rebates and other pricing information, despite strong opposition from the national pharmacy benefit manager and health

insurance lobbyists. Nearly two dozen states have passed legislation to regulate the PBMs, which serve as drug-pricing middlemen, and have found themselves in the cross hairs of the national drug-pricing debate.

The Interim Joint Committee on Health and Welfare and Family Services has oversight over legislation pertaining to human development, health, and welfare; fire prevention and protection; delivery of health services; support of dependents; garbage and refuse disposal; public assistance; child welfare; adoptions; children’s homes; disabled persons; family welfare; aid to the blind; commitment and care of children; mental health; substance abuse; health, medical and dental scholarships; local health units and officers; vital statistics; communicable diseases; hospitals, clinics, and long-term care facilities; health professions; physicians, osteopaths, and podiatrists; chiropractors; dentists and dental specialists; nurses; pharmacists; embalmers and funeral directors; psychologists; optometrists, ophthalmic dispensers; physical therapists; senior citizens; eliminating age discrimination; non-public sector retirement; problems of aging; and violent acts against the elderly.

Escape
cases in the District Court.

Hays said as Biggs was being transported from District Court in the Judicial Center to the Jackson County Detention Center, although he was handcuffed, Biggs broke free from a court security officer and fled on foot. Court security personnel and Kentucky State Police Trooper Scott Townsley pursued Biggs on foot. Trooper Townsley was quickly able to locate and arrest Biggs in a small stream near Opal’s Restaurant in downtown McKee.

He was arrested without incident and transported to the Jackson County Detention Center where Biggs is now facing additional charges for the escape.

Kentucky State Police Trooper Scott Townsley is to be commended for his quick action which resulted in Biggs arrest. His actions bring great credit to himself and the Kentucky State Police. We appreciate their support, Hays said.

Sheriff
ago, my dear old Daddy said, the day may come when old people could be disposed of when they were past their productive years. That was inconceivable to me at the time, but today, is it possible, just like those unborn children, a day could come when the elderly have no voice in the matter? Could our government decide only male children, or only female children should be born? Is it possible, the time could come when someone, other than the parents, could make a decision regarding life and death for unborn or elderly? Now that we have started down this road, where will it take us? Surely God can not continue to honor a country that does not honor the least among us. Forgive us Lord!

Livestock are expensive to feed and maintain. We periodically receive complaints that livestock or pets are not being taken care of. It is sometimes difficult to determine, particularly with livestock, if they are intentionally being mistreated during this nasty, muddy time of year. We always look primarily for food, water and basic shelter. If those things are not there, we notify the owner of their responsibility to properly maintain the animals and try to work with the owner to quickly take care of the situation. If the owners are not cooperative, we may issue citations to the owners and, only as a last resort, seize the animals. If a seizure occurs, the County Attorney usually seeks restitution for all expenses incurred as a result of the seizure. This can cost the owner a significant amount of money, particularly if vet services are required as a result of mistreatment. We try to utilize some common sense and still make sure the animals are protected and cared for. Therefore, if you don’t have the property or the financial means to adequately care for animals, dispose of them. It is better for both the owner and the livestock.

Last week the Jackson County Sheriff’s office responded to eighty-five calls for

service. We investigated three traffic accidents, opened six criminal cases and arrested three individuals. Our court security team transported many prisoners, mentally ill patients, etc. We appreciate the support from the public and ask for your prayers for every member of our office. Thank You.

State Releases County Unemployment data for December 2018

FRANKFORT, Ky. (Jan. 24, 2019) - Unemployment rates fell in 69 Kentucky counties between December 2017 and December 2018, rose in 38, and stayed the same in 13 counties, according to the Kentucky Center for Statistics (KYSTATS), an agency of the Kentucky Education and Workforce Development Cabinet.

Woodford County recorded the lowest jobless rate in the Commonwealth at 2.6 percent. It was followed by Fayette and Oldham counties, 2.8 percent each; Shelby and Spencer counties, 2.9 percent each; and Anderson, Boone, Campbell, Kenton and Scott counties, 3 percent each.

Magoffin County recorded the state’s highest unemployment rate at 11.3 percent. It was followed by Carter County, 7.8 percent; Elliott County, 7.4 percent; Lewis County, 7.3 percent; Menifee and Wolfe counties, 6.9 percent each; Owsley County, 6.6 percent; Jackson and Lawrence counties, 6.4 percent; and Breathitt and Harlan counties, 6.1 percent each.

Kentucky’s county unemployment rates and employment levels are not seasonally adjusted because of small sample sizes. Employment statistics undergo sharp fluctuations due to seasonal events such as weather changes, harvests, holidays and school openings and closings. Seasonal adjustments eliminate these influences and make it easier to observe statistical trends. The comparable, unadjusted unemployment rate for the state was 3.8 percent for December 2018, and 3.7 percent for the nation.

Kentucky’s seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was released last week and can be viewed at <https://bit.ly/2ssweJ0>. In that release, Kentucky’s statewide unemployment rate and employment levels are adjusted to observe statistical trends by removing seasonal influences such as weather changes, harvests, holidays and school openings and closings. For more information regarding seasonal fluctuations, visit the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics at https://www.bls.gov/cps/cps_htgm.htm#why.

Unemployment statistics are based on estimates and are compiled to measure trends rather than actually to count people working. Civilian labor force statistics include non-military workers and unemployed Kentuckians who are actively seeking work. They do not include unemployed Kentuckians who have not looked for employment within the past four weeks. The data should only be compared to the same month in previous years.

Winter Weather Energy Tips

The unusually cold weather this week has resulted in higher than normal energy use by members of Jackson Energy and other utilities across the region.

Jackson Energy is encouraging members to be aware of their energy use and take steps to help manage electric bills, which are also expected to be higher than usual as a result of the extreme cold weather.

“Our members can monitor their daily usage with our free SmartHub app and see how much energy they are using at home,” says Jackson Energy Manager of Member Services Karen Combs. “The app also shows the daily temperatures and you can see how the colder temperatures impact their usage.” For more information on the SmartHub app, visit www.smarthubapp.com.

Weather, especially cold weather, affects residential energy bills more than any other factor. Southeastern Kentucky temperatures will be at record lows this week and will dip into the single digits.

Heating claims about a 42 percent share of overall energy use in U.S. homes. Put simply, the temperature difference between the inside of your home and the air temperature outside is greater during the winter than in the summer.

The greater the temperature difference, the harder your heating system has to work to maintain a comfortable indoor temperature.

For example, if you want your house to be 70 degrees inside and it’s 20 degrees outside, your HVAC system has to make up 50 degrees difference in temperature. Even on a 100-degree summer day, the HVAC system only has to make up about 30 degrees difference versus that 50-degree variance in winter.

Jackson Energy’s website offers a free online energy audit to assess your home’s insulation level, heating system and other factors that influence your energy use. Called Billing Insights, the online program also offers member a free LED bulb for completing the survey.

One way to eliminate the winter billing peaks is to sign up for Jackson Energy’s leveled billing program. Leveled billing uses a rolling 12-month average of your electric usage to calculate your monthly bill. “Leveled billing evens out the peaks of winter bills and provides our members with a monthly bill that is more predictable and easier on their budget,” says Combs. The rolling 12-month average also eliminates the need for a catch up month, which is associated with budget billing.

“We all can expect higher energy bills from the cold weather,” says Combs, “but there are some simple steps we all can take around our homes to cut back on energy usage.”

9 Quick Tips to Use Less Energy

Here are some ways to cut back on home energy use:

1. Find and seal all air leaks. Check for cracks near doors and windows, gaps around pipes and chimneys, and any unfinished areas. Plug leaks with weather-stripping, caulk, or expandable foam.
2. Set your thermostat to 68 degrees, or install a programmable thermostat.
3. Close blinds and curtains at night; if sunny, open them during the day.
4. Cover drafty windows yourself with easy, effective, and inexpensive shrink-to-fit plastic.
5. Turn off lights when not in use. Replace incandescent light bulbs with LEDs, which use at least 75 percent less energy.
6. Lower your water heater temperature to 120 degrees Fahrenheit.
7. Wash clothes in cold water, and use cold-water detergent whenever possible.
8. Keep your garage door closed for a warmer garage in winter, and cooler garage in summer.
9. Have your heating system inspected and serviced once a year.

To find more ways to save, go to www.TogetherWeSave.com.

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