

**Ice**  
 conditions as well as falling ice and trees, these jobs become that much more difficult. Because of the immense scale of the damage, Jackson Energy has aggressively increased manpower to record levels. More than 300 field personnel are working to restore power, including mutual aid crews from multiple electric cooperatives from Kentucky, Georgia and Alabama. These crews are working long hours in terrible conditions and share Jackson Energy's mission to restore power as quickly and safely as possible. As of Monday morning, power has been restored to all but 3,500 Jackson Energy members. Among those still without power are Jackson Energy linemen who are working long, extended hours to restore power." "At Jackson Energy, the safety of our members and employees is our number one priority. We appreciate all of our crews continuing to work safely, yet diligently, to restore service to our members," said Carol Wright, President & CEO. If you are experiencing a new power outage, members are encouraged to call the automated phone system at 800-262-7480 or report the outage through the SmartHub app.

**Visit**  
 stop by the Jackson County Highway Department. Jackson County was hit extremely hard in the ice storm and there are many folks who are still without electricity, food and water. Several counties and multiple different types of crews chipped in today to join in the efforts to clear the downed power lines and trees. Several people I spoke with today described some of the areas as if a tornado had hit dumping ice and then snow causing massive amounts of trees and power lines to be downed. The National Guard was instrumental in helping to render aid to those where the road crews have not yet been able to make it as a result of downed trees and power lines.

**PLEASE PRAY**  
 for everyone impacted by the ice storm and winter weather!

**Update**  
 to vaccinate all of our school personnel," said Gov. Beshear. "Since then, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and others have moved that way and other states have followed our lead."

Lt. Gov. Coleman said the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) issued a comprehensive, 136-page manual, KDE COVID-19 Guidance

2.0, which will assist with the shift back into school buildings. "Kentucky continues to be a national leader in vaccinating our school staff, and getting our kids back in the classroom safely remains a top priority for every Kentuckian - from the Governor to our littlest learners," said Lt. Gov. Coleman. "With this guidance, we hope to make the transition back to in-person learning as smooth and safe as possible." Lt. Gov. Coleman said the manual advises schools on planning school-related student travel; administering spring state testing; operating schools after teachers and staff are vaccinated; assessing knowledge gaps caused by the pandemic's impact on learning; and using second round Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Funding. More Information: To view the full daily report, incidence rate map, information on testing locations, vaccines, contact tracing, school reports and guidance, guidance for health care providers and the White House Coronavirus Task Force reports for Kentucky and more, visit [kyco-vid19.ky.gov](http://kyco-vid19.ky.gov). Health Coverage Gov. Andy Beshear has joined in urging Kentuckians who lack health insurance to take advantage of new opportunities now available to sign up for coverage. The sign-up window for government insurance markets runs through May 15. President Joe Biden ordered those markets that ended their annual enrollment periods in December to reopen. Beshear, who calls health care a basic human right, said the coronavirus pandemic has underscored how "expanded health care in Kentucky has helped us to have fewer deaths than most states." "It is critical for every Kentuckian to have health care coverage, and I urge those still needing coverage to take time to enroll during this period," the Democratic governor said. Kentuckians needing help to enroll for health care coverage can visit [kynect.ky.gov](http://kynect.ky.gov), a one-stop portal for finding health coverage and other benefits, state officials said. The site is run by the state Cabinet for Health and Family Services.

**Sheriff**  
 to people who were homebound. Most citizens were respectful of the people who tried to get their power back on and patient as everyone worked hard on their behalf. I think Jackson

aCounty shined throughout this mess and I am proud of the effort made to help others. Once again I want to remind people of the importance of putting address numbers near your drive to help emergency services to locate your home. Likely, fifty percent of the homes in this county currently do not have box numbers on mailboxes or at the entrance to their residence. This makes it much more difficult for emergency services to respond to an emergency. You can help by placing three inch reflective box numbers near your entrance. It could save a life. Finally, Zack Bryant resigned from the JCSO, effective Friday, February 12, 2021, to Berea PD. Zack is a great police officer and a true gentleman in every way. We wish him the very best in his future endeavors. Ryan Lanigan has been hired to replace Brant as a deputy at JCSO. He is already certified as a police officer through DOCT. Ryan worked at Jackson County years ago, so he knows the people and the area. He is a good fit for our office and I am happy to have him as a new deputy in Jackson County. Last week, the Jackson County Sheriff's Office responded to sixty calls for service. We investigated seven traffic accidents and opened seven criminal cases. Much of our week, several deputies and I cleared roads, delivered needed supplies and provided any services possible to help our county through this ice storm. We always appreciate the thoughts and prayers of every citizen for our deputies and me. God Bless

**Judge**  
 Emergency Operation Center portion of Central Dispatch. This gave us the ability to take calls of citizens needing assistance with supplies such as food, water, heat, shelter and other life sustaining supplies without tying up the 911 lines which are intended for medical and personal emergencies. When the number of residents in our county without electricity went up to 70%, we decided we would need to try to set up a warming shelter. The only building big enough to house a significant amount of people would be a school. The Jackson County Public School system was on board with the idea, the only problem was that during the peak of the storm, the only school with electricity was Tyner Elementary School. We then opened the emergency shelter at Tyner School and began to round up volunteers

**Attention JCHS Juniors & Parents**

As part of the state assessment, the ACT will be given to all Juniors on Tuesday March 9, 2021. More information will be announced soon through our one call system, school email, and Facebook. If you have not received any information by March 1 or you have additional questions, you may call or email Randi Moore at JCHS, 606-287-7155 or [randi.moore@jackson.kyschools.us](mailto:randi.moore@jackson.kyschools.us)

a to transport citizens to the shelter and to stay with those needing a place to ride out this storm. If it were not for school employees and volunteer firemen during this event, the warming shelter would not have been able to happen. They really stepped up. As the week went on, we decided that we would need more assistance. Ice accumulations has caused a lot of damage in many areas of Jackson County. This is when we decided to call on the National Guard for help. Our county road crews were busy plowing roads, firemen and other volunteers were busy cutting trees and dispatch was busy trying to coordinate. The National Guard became our essential supply delivery during this event. This is the first time I have worked with the Guard. These soldiers are a real asset to our commonwealth. I can't express enough

thanks for what they did for us this past week. During the peak of last weeks storm, 76% of Jackson County was out of power. Utility crews have and continue to work around the clock to restore electricity to our citizens. What this has taught us is to be prepared for the worst, even when you expect the least. Our fireman, law enforcement, road crews, dispatchers, board of education staff, utility workers, volunteers and citizens are all heroes this week. As far as I know, we did not lose a single citizen due to this storm in Jackson County. That means you did your job and went above that call and did it well !!! I expect to spend the next several weeks looking at the damages caused by this storm. I am not sure if we will have enough to ask for FEMA assistance but we will look over this well before we decide.

a FEMA assistance is a drawn out process that requires a lot of paperwork. Regardless of what some may perceive, receiving federal or state help requires much more than just picking up the phone and asking. Every penny spent has to have proper documentation and many time pictures to go along with it. We will do our best to make a decision that best fits our needs in Jackson County. Many people have asked me what they can do to help. There are so many people that have suffered personal loss during this storm, I'm sure any thing you can do for them would be appreciated. There will be several people needing help with tree clean-up as well as building repair. There will be an opportunity for everyone to do something to help your fellow citizens. In the meantime, keep praying for those effected by this storm. Have a blessed week.

**Judge Executive Declares Feb. 20-27 FFA Week**

Earlier this week Judge Executive Shane Gabbard signed a proclamation declaring FFA Week in Jackson County. He said the following, "I received a proclamation this evening to sign declaring this week as FFA Week in Jackson County. I was the FFA Treasurer at JCHS in 1994-95 and earned my State Farm Degree my senior year in 1995. The FFA holds a special place in my heart"



NATIONAL FFA WEEK PROCLAMATION

**Whereas, FFA and agricultural education provide a strong foundation for the youth of America and the future of food, fiber and natural resources systems; and**

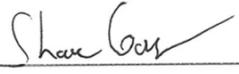
**Whereas, FFA promotes premier leadership, personal growth and career success among its members; and**

**Whereas, agricultural education and FFA ensure a steady supply of young professionals to meet the growing needs in the science, business and technology of agriculture; and**

**Whereas, the FFA motto —“Learning to Do, Doing to Learn, Earning to Live, Living to Serve” —gives direction and purpose to these students who take an active role in succeeding in agricultural education; and**

**Whereas, FFA promotes citizenship, volunteerism, patriotism and cooperation.**

**Therefore, I do hereby designate the week of Feb. 20-27, 2021, as National FFA Week.**

  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature

2-22-2021  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date

**A Special Thanks For Helping Jackson County In Our Time of Need!**

**Georgia Cooperatives:** Coweta-Fayette EMC, Tri-County EMC, North Georgia EMC, Flint Energies, Carroll EMC, Hart EMC  
**Alabama Cooperative:** Pea River Electric Cooperative  
**Kentucky Cooperative:** Kenergy  
**Contractors:** Davis H. Elliot, Southeast Power Corp, Cruse Power Line Construction, Pike Electric

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