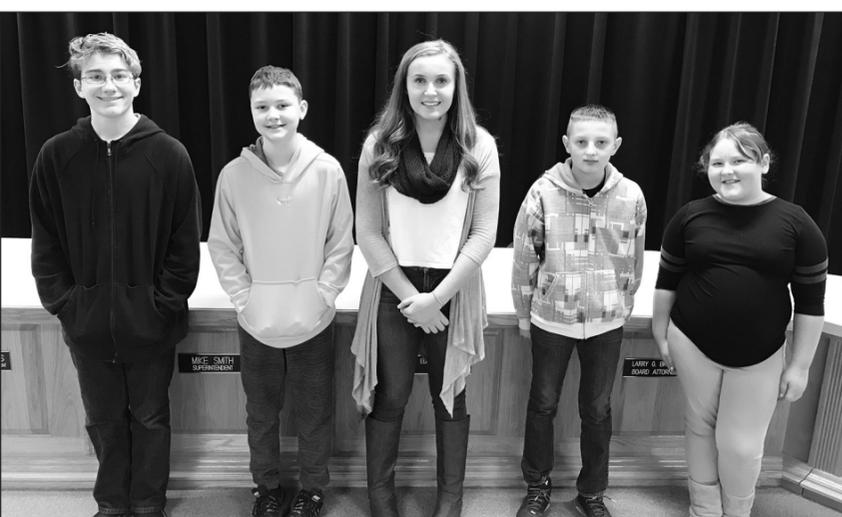


## Student Wins County-Wide Spelling Bee to Represent County at Louisville Spelling Bee

The County-Wide Spelling Bee to determine which student would represent Jackson County in the 2019 Kentucky Derby Festival Ford Motor Company Spelling Bee in Louisville on March 16, 2019, was held December 4, 2018, at the Jackson County Board of Education Administration Building. The spelling bee was for fourth grade through eighth grade students. Each school had conducted their own school-level spelling bees to determine which student would represent their school at the county-level. The pictured students were the winners at their respective schools and represented their schools well.

The participants were (pictured from left to right): Elijah Howard-Jackson County Middle School (8th grade), Owen Gray- Tyner Elementary (5th grade), Hannah Abner- Annville Christian Academy (7th grade), Kaden Bowman- Sand Gap Elementary (5th grade), Jessica Blevins- McKee Elementary (4th grade). Hannah Abner was the county-wide winner and will represent Jackson County in Louisville in March, 2019.

Congratulations to her and to all participants!



## JCHS Army JROTC Cadet of the Month

Cadet Command Sergeant Major Brendan K. Hays son of Scott and Courtney Hays of McKee, Kentucky is the October 2018 Jackson County High School Army JROTC Cadet of the Month. Cadet Hays is currently a junior at Jackson County High School, and is a member of the Battalion Raider team, Battalion Rifle team, and the Color Guard team.



To be considered as cadet of the month, cadets compete against each other throughout the month in numerous categories which include attendance, uniform inspections, physical training, grades, after school team practices, and participation in extracurricular events. Ten cadets who score the highest in these events over a month's period then go before a Command Board where they are tested on general and military knowledge and military bearing.

During the month of October Cadet Hays maintained a 3.57 grade point average. During the month Cadet Hays accumulated in excess of 15 hours of community service. Brendan has attend numerous raider, drill, and rifle team practices after school and has participated in numerous color guards. During October C\CSM Hays competed in the Whitley County and Montgomery County Raider Competitions and participated in the Jackson County Cancer Fund and Mountain Health Fest. C\CSM Hays is a vital part of the JCHS Army JROTC Program. Congratulations Brendan on a well-deserved accomplishment.

## 2018-2019 CAIP Cost-Share Programs Available

The Jackson County AG Development Council and the Jackson County Cattlemen's Association being sponsored in part by the Kentucky Agricultural Development Fund (KADF) will begin taking applications for the 2018-2019 Phase I County Agricultural Investment Program (CAIP) beginning Monday, December 3. You can pick up applications and program details at the Jackson County Extension Service. Completed applications are due back to the Extension Service by 4:00 p.m. on Friday, December 21. Late applications will not be accepted.

The maximum reimbursement will be determined after the December 21 deadline based on the number of approved applications. Every successful producer application will be eligible for the same amount of cost share. The details on the program requirements will be available when you pick up an application.

Guidelines for the following programs will be available at the Extension Service:

- |                                       |                                |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Agricultural Diversification,      | 8. Small Animal                |
| 2. Farm Infrastructure                | (goat, sheep, bee, rabbit)     |
| 3. Fencing and On-Farm Water          | 9. Technology and              |
| 4. Forage and Grain Improvement       | Leadership Development         |
| 5. Large Animal (beef, dairy, equine) | 10. Value-Added and Marketing, |
| 6. On-Farm Energy                     | 11. Innovative Agricultural    |
| 7. Poultry and Other Fowl             | Systems.                       |

## Several Honored at Hospice Care Plus Dinner

Berea, Ky., 4 Dec. 2018—At its annual National Hospice Month Dinner, Hospice Care Plus recognized many, including local individuals and businesses.

Staff members Christal Isaacs and Angie Tankersley, both of Jackson County, were honored for reaching years-of-service milestones. Isaacs, who works as a nurse aid in Hospice's home care program, and Tankersley, a nurse at the Hospice Care Plus Compassionate Care Center, were each honored for 10 years of service.

Hometown Pharmacy received an Above and Beyond Award at the dinner. The award is presented to businesses, churches, or civic groups that, for at least two years, have gone above and beyond in support of the organization's mission. Hometown Pharmacy received the award for allowing WWAG trivia winners to donate their \$10 weekly or \$50 monthly prize to Hospice. Over several years, those donations have reached more than a few thousand dollars. Jeremy Bowling and Robert Goforth were on-hand to accept Hometown's award.

Hospice Care Plus is a non-profit organization serving Estill, Jackson, Lee, Madison, Owsley and Rockcastle counties. It offers all care regardless of ability to pay. To learn more, visit hospicecareplus.org or call 859-986-1500.



Pictured (top) Jackson Countian Angie Tankersley (second from left, back row) with other Hospice Care Plus staff honored for years-of-service milestones. Tankersley was recognized for 10 years working as a nurse with the organization. Not pictured: Christal Isaacs. Pictured (bottom) Robert Goforth and Jeremy Bowling with the Above and Beyond Award for Hometown Pharmacy.

## Mitch McConnell Touting Victory With Hemp Legalization on Farm Bill

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell's decision to put himself on the farm bill conference committee was insurance that one of his policy priorities — and a key issue for his 2020 re-election campaign — would make it to President Donald Trump's desk this year.

"At a time when farm income is down and growers are struggling, industrial hemp is a bright spot of agriculture's future," McConnell said Tuesday morning. "My provision in the Farm Bill will not only legalize domestic hemp, but it will also allow state departments of agriculture to be responsible for its oversight."

The Senate then acted quickly to vote to adopt the conference report Tuesday afternoon, passing it 87-13. It now heads to the House, which could pass it as early as Wednesday and then send to Trump for his signature.

When at home in Kentucky, McConnell has regularly visited hemp farmers and processing facilities, often stressing to critics that industrial hemp comes from a different plant from marijuana. His leadership role in securing legal status for the potentially lucrative cash crop is sure to come up over and over again.

"My being in the majority leader position is a real advantage to Kentucky. It gives us a chance to kind of punch above our weight," McConnell said in an interview that aired over the weekend. "This opportunity for Kentucky produces things like the legalization of industrial hemp."

"I'm in the middle of every discussion on every issue, looking for opportunities to help our state" he said. "I don't think we ought to prematurely give that up because it only comes along occasionally. We had one other — Alben Barkley back in the 30s."

Barkley, a Democrat, was the majority leader for about a decade, from the middle of 1937 all the way through World War II.

"This could be big," McConnell said on WKYT in Lexington. "I don't want to overstate this. We all know how important tobacco was to Kentucky a few years ago, but there's excitement about hemp."

"There's hemp all over America right now. It's all imported," McConnell said. "There's no reason by American farmers shouldn't be able to grow this crop."

The interview came before text of the farm bill conference agreement was released Monday night (which McConnell said on Twitter that he had signed with a hemp pen), but as reported last week, it was clear by the time the interview with the local CBS station was recorded that the conference would go his way.

And McConnell was clearly continuing to record more local interviews about the farm bill and the new hemp program.

The language would enable hemp growers to get access to crop insurance, and as for the regulatory environment, the agreement removes the plants from the controlled substances list, which McConnell said, "moves it out of the Justice Department, over to the Department of Agriculture."

Kentucky has already run pilot programs, so the commonwealth farmers might have an early leg up over those in some other states.

"I don't know how big this can become, but I know we're ahead of everybody else. We're not afraid of the competition," McConnell said.

# McKee Trade Store Now Open

Monday - Friday 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM  
Saturday 9:00 AM to 12:00 Noon

Located at the old Lord's Gym in McKee