

Pastor's Column

Thanksgiving should be "Thanking."

Key, Kevin Thomas First Baptist Church

It is amazing how things change as we grow older. Our perspectives change greatly as we grow and mature. As small children, we have our needs met and we seldom appreciate it. It isn't until one gets to college or to his income taxes that he learns to appreciate the efforts of his teachers in high school. One doesn't learn to appreciate the value of money until he is the one earning it at his job and being responsible for the bills. Not until we have had children, or the responsibility of caring for a group of children, do we really appreciate what our parents have done for us. Likewise, it isn't until we have grown older that we appreciate the small things in life, like our health and the opportunity to be healthy.

What is my outlook on each special day of the year? I look to God? The truth is, we live much of our lives worrying, wishing things were better, complaining, or failing to see how blessed we really are. Thanksgiving is not just a day in November, but it should be the lifestyle of every virtuous Christian. In fact, we should all strive to achieve a lifestyle that I will call "Thanksgiving."

Some of the best illustrations come from real life, and I show the following story as food for thought: Not long after I had begun my work at First Baptist Church as Minister to Youth, we planned an outing for children in the Cincinnati Zoo. As I recall, we had a very large turnout for the trip, and being new to the job, things were a bit hectic to say the least!

Rowan fiscal court tables airport construction talk

By SEAN KELLY Staff Writer

Further action on the proposed new airport at Fox Farm by the Rowan County Fiscal Court, will have to wait until January — when a new court is seated.

The court unanimously voted at its Tuesday regular meeting to table any action on the airport — after Magistrate Nick Caulliff expressed some doubts about the project.

"I would like the people to be aware of what they're getting into," Caulliff said, regarding costs to the county for the airport. "We're talking about a big step."

County Judge-executive Clyde Thomas had requested that the court give him authority to negotiate land options with the owners of the 260-acre parcel for the airport and its 1,500-ft runway.

Thomas said the total average was appraised at \$17 million, or an average \$5,300 an acre. The land option would allow the county to pay a minimal amount to have control of the land, until Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) funds are available to purchase the parcels.

"It's the safest way to do it," he said.

Thomas said the airport would make Rowan County more competitive in attracting industries and jobs, by making

Commonwealth group to host pot luck picnic

Members for The Commonwealth in inviting local citizens to learn more about their organization while enjoying a Christmas "Pot Luck Picnic" on Saturday, Dec. 5.

The gathering will take place from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the American Legion Hall, 115 Blue Ave. in Morehead. Dinner will be served at noon. The Tri-Tones and other local artists will provide entertainment.

KPTC is a statewide, citizen organization working for a better Kentucky for all people. The 17-year old group works on issues such as sustainable forestry, mining and mountaintop removal, welfare and economic justice, and money in politics.

"We believe that all these issues tie together and that by working together we can make a difference in the lives of all Kentuckians," said Judy Hines, chair of the Rowan County KPTC chapter.

All interested people are encouraged to attend.

For details call 784-9229.

RENEW YOUR SUBSCRIPTION

MSU professor gets funds for more cocaine research

By KIM HAMILTON Staff Writer

Dr. Bruce Mattingly, a professor of psychology at Morehead State University, has received a \$91,390 grant from the National Institute on Drug Abuse to continue his research on cocaine addiction for the next three years.

Mattingly, who is serving as interim chair of the department of Psychology, has studied psychostimulant drugs for the past 20 years.

His current research involves behavioral sensitization to cocaine, which "although to be responsible for the intense craving that develops with repeated cocaine abuse," he said.

Drug craving is considered to be one of the leading causes of relapse in drug treatment programs.

He and his students use laboratory mice on which to perform the experiments, because they can duplicate the same chemical responses that humans receive from cocaine.

"This can help us understand the craving humans have and hopefully we can create better treatments," Mattingly said.

"With cocaine, the more you take it, the stronger the craving becomes," he said.

Trial continued for Dowell, founder of children's theater

By KIM HAMILTON Staff Writer

The sex abuse trial of the founder and director of the Morehead Children's Theater has been postponed to Feb. 23.

The jury trial for Luther Henry McDowell, 50, of Normal Hill in Morehead State University, was not because of conflicts in the schedules of court officials involved with the trial.

Dowell is accused of second degree child sexual abuse, a misdemeanor, to be tried in district court before Judge John Cox.

Court records say Dowell allegedly had improper physical contact with two young children who participate on three theater programs and February last year.

The girl was 12 years old at the time.

Two of the incidents allegedly occurred at Dowell's residence, while the other alleged incident occurred during a car ride, according to court records.

Dowell was arrested by Kentucky State Police on April 18 at his residence, and was released two days later on \$3,000 cash bond on the condition that he have no contact with the alleged victim or member of her family.

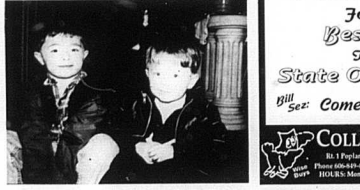
He pleaded not guilty to the charges.

Michael Campbell, a Morehead attorney who represents Dowell, said the girl made up the allegations, and that eye-witnesses will contradict her testimony.

"It's a shame his time and efforts in helping provide a theater program for children are being held up by false accusations," Campbell said.

"Allegations of child sexual abuse are hard to make the public very skeptical of the accused they believe in when they hear it," he added. "This man will be helping a lot of children if his reputation is ruined forever."

County Attorney Harvey Pennington has not commented on the case.



Brotherly love
Brothers Frankie Stacy, 6, left, and Korie Stacy, 4, were hanging around with each other recently, as they walked on their father. They are the sons of Jimmie and Beverly Stacy of Cranston Road.

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Hunter killed in fall from stand

A 62-year-old Ohio man was killed when he fell from a deer stand in Elliott County, Kentucky, State Police Post 8 in Morehead said.

The body of Donnie McCoy of Newark, Ohio, was found at 8:30 a.m. McCoy had apparently fallen from the stand, state police said.

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