

**SOPER'S
FAMILY DRUG**
102 South Broadway Corner
of Broadway & Market St.
Phone: (859) 289-8501
Hours: Mon. - Fri. 8:30 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Sat. 8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
"The Only Pharmacy You Pkay Need!"

"AUTO" DIGIT 405
Young Lenny PMA
503 S. LIMESTONE
LEXINGTON, KY 40506-0001

**Sept
5
2007**

Man dies in rollover crash



Photo by Charles Mattox
Anthony Pettit, 23, was killed when he was ejected from a 2003 Chevy Impala near East Union, during the early morning hours of Sept. 3. Investigators say the vehicle rolled seven times before coming to rest on its top.

By Charles Mattox
News Editor
charles@thecarlislemercury.com

A Carlisle man was killed and two of his relatives were injured in a single-vehicle accident near East Union in the early morning hours of Labor Day.

Anthony Pettit, 23, of Carlisle, was pronounced dead by officials with the Fayette County Coroner's Office at 11:20 a.m. Sept. 3 at the University of Kentucky Medical Center following the accident.

According to Nicholas County Sheriff Dick Garrett and Deputy Bennie Buckler, who both continue to investigate the fatal accident, Pettit was a passenger in the front seat of a 2003 Chevy Impala driven by his stepbrother, Marcus Perkins, 19, of Convent Road in Nicholas County. Pettit's cousin, Thomas Pettit, 16, also of Nicholas County, was a passenger in the back seat of the vehicle.

Investigators say the vehicle was traveling at a speed of between 45-75 M.P.H. west on Ky. 57 near East Union just after midnight of Sept. 3, when Perkins told investigators a deer jumped out into the road.

He veered left to avoid a collision and ran off the road on the left where the Impala traveled down the ditch line approximately 64 feet. Perkins then overcorrected causing the car to flip seven times at a high rate of speed.

Investigators say no one in the vehicle was wearing a seat belt.

Police said Anthony Pettit was ejected during the accident, and the car continued off the road before coming to rest on its top after having traveled a total of 309 feet from where it first left the road.

Nicholas County Ambulance personnel and Nicholas County Fire Chief Mark Hughes, along with 10 firefighters, joined other emergency personnel at the scene preventing further injury while assisting in treating the injured and controlling traffic flow.

Anthony Pettit was stabilized and transported by a LifeNet air medical helicopter crew from the scene to UK Medical Center where he was later pronounced dead. Thomas Pettit was transported to the Nicholas County Hospital with non-life threatening injuries.

Marcus Perkins was transported to NCH by private vehicle with non-life-threatening injuries, according to officials.

Perkins was later arrested and charged with being Absent Without Leave from the United States Marine Corps, according to Buckler and Garrett.

Buckler detailed the contributing factors the wreck investigation has provided thus far.

"There were several contributing factors," Buckler said.

"The tires on the vehicle were faulty in that they had extreme wear. They were also mismatched in that one was a 20-inch tire and the other three were 15-inch tires.

They were also traveling at a high rate of speed and were not wearing seat belts."

Final arrangements for Anthony Pettit, son of Joe Pettit and Cheryl Perkins will be held Thursday, 2 p.m. at Matiere-Gaunce Funeral Home. Visitation will be after 11 a.m., Thursday at the funeral home. Interment will be in Bartterville Cemetery.

Investigators say the vehicle was traveling at a speed of between 45-75 M.P.H. west on Ky. 57 near East Union just after midnight of Sept. 3, when Perkins told investigators a deer jumped



Photo submitted
Fire destroys Moorefield home

An early morning fire destroyed the home of a Moorefield man Tuesday, Nicholas County Fire Chief Mark Hughes and nine county firefighters responded to 748B Upper Lick Road, Moorefield, at approximately 5:10 a.m. Tuesday morning Sept. 4 and battled a raging inferno that engulfed a doublewide mobile home owned by Jeremy Cheek. According to firefighters, Cheeks had fallen asleep with a lit cigarette, which ignited, and the blaze later spread through the home. Cheek was treated on the scene by firemen and transported to the Nicholas County Hospital for smoke inhalation. "Mr. Cheek appeared to be in shock and suffering from smoke inhalation when we arrived," Hughes said. "Mr. Cheek was very lucky to escape the fire with his life. The home was a complete loss." Hughes said firefighters were able to salvage Cheek's truck, which was situated very near the burning home, but all other material possessions were lost.

Iraq claims guardsman

Lexington man was in Carlisle Unit

A soldier assigned to the local National Guard unit was killed and three of his fellow soldiers were injured during combat operations in Iraq over the weekend.

Staff Sergeant Delmar White, 37, a resident of Lexington, and a soldier assigned to Battery B, 2nd Battalion, 198th Field Artillery Unit, based in Carlisle, was killed on Sunday, September 2, by an improvised explosive device while on a convoy escort mission in Baghdad, Iraq.

Three other soldiers in the unit were injured during the explosion. One has returned to duty while the other two have been transported to US Army Medical Facility in Germany for treatment.

In accordance with Department of Defense regulations, their names have not been formally released.

"I knew he was gone when I saw the soldiers coming to my door yesterday morning," White's widow Michelle said Monday from her Lexington home.

"The soldiers that delivered the awful news were very professional and the military has stood by us through this difficult time. They have provided us with answers to our questions."

Michelle said she was not prepared to speak of what she knew about her husband's last military mission, but all spoke briefly about their life together, and the love they shared for their two children.

She, her 5-year-old son Seth and daughter Shelby, 14, had communicated with Delmar, or Dale as she had



Delmar Miller

always called him, Friday night, just before his last mission.

"Our daughter Shelby had been instant messaging him and then Seth and I joined in. Seth couldn't type words, but he wanted to talk to his daddy so he would just hit a bunch of letters and Dale would know it was Seth when he did that, so he sent back the message 'Hey buddy, how are you? I miss you and your sister and mom...'"

Those would be among White's last words to his family.

Michelle said her husband was a very patriotic American who was proud to be a soldier.

"Dale loved the military and he loved America. He was very patriotic. He'd been in the military 13 years. He was loved by many and he died doing what he loved. He loved his family and friends and they loved him."

Although Michelle said she and Dale were born in Illinois, they met in Eastern Kentucky and Dale always considered himself a Kentucky boy.

"His favorite things were simple family night things, like playing games with me and the children," she said.

Maj. Gen. Duane C. Storm, adjutant general for Kentucky, honored White and spoke of the terrible loss in a press release issued over the weekend.

"The death of Staff Sgt. White is a terrific loss for the entire Kentucky National Guard family," Storm said.

"Words cannot describe the grief that we all feel at this time. Delmar White gave his life in defense of his nation, so that we can all live our lives in freedom. There is no greater sacrifice. His family is in our prayers and we will do everything in our power to help them through this tragic event."

See IRAQ Page 2

Motorists beware on KY 57

Motorists who travel KY 57 near the Bourbon - Nicholas County border are urged to practice caution this week as road crews will be working on a three-mile section of road there.

Paving improvements to KY 57 totaling \$206,000 will begin Tuesday, Sept. 4, in Nicholas County.

Hinkle Contracting Corp. will resurface 3.6 miles of the roadway from the Somerset Creek Bridge near the Bourbon County line north (toward Moorefield) to a mile past the next Somerset Creek Bridge.

The project could be finished in as few as three days, depending on weather conditions. Motorists should be prepared for one-lane traffic and delays during this time.

Motorists are asked to heed warning signs, to "Drive Smart" in work zones and to be aware of workers and construction equipment while traveling.

Gioppini's
Pizza
Pasta-Subs-Salads
4133 Lexington Road - Paris, KY
(Phone is very Ringed)

Senior Lunch Buffet \$4.99 Every Day
Drink and Tax Extra
859-987-2727

Jerry's FAMILY RESTAURANT
Lexington Road Paris, KY
859-987-3465

\$5.00 OFF any purchase over **\$20.00**
Expires 9-30-07

Cheaps
714 W. WATER ST. FLEMINGSBURG, KY 41041

Your Local Homezone Dealer
Phone (606) 845-2261
Fax (606) 845-2441
Toll Free 1-888-845-2261

Visit us at www.cheapchevrolet.com

Looking to purchase a home, farm or acreage?
Thinking of building and need a lot to put your new home?
Call us today!

Vince Wells
Real Estate & Auction
(859) 289-5594

Vince Wells
Cell: 473-8811

Cathy Anderson
Cell: 473-9799