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Voting Machines To Be Used In County This Fall

The Letcher Fiscal Court voted Wednesday to purchase voting machines for use in the November election.

The magistrates voted 5-0 for the purchase after a machine salesman assured them they could pay for the machines and still save \$2,000 a year on election expenses.

The county will purchase 21 machines for a total of \$34,608. It will make a down payment of \$3,880 when the machines are delivered this fall, and then will pay \$4,326 a year for nine additional years until the machines are paid for.

Ollie W. Montgomery, former assistant state auditor who now is a salesman for the Shoup Voting Machine Co., said the machines will save Letcher County \$6,310 a year. After making the \$4,326 annual payment, the county still will be \$2,000 a year ahead.

With 52 precincts, Montgomery said, the county has been spending an average of \$2,074 on election officers; \$974 on tabulators, \$1,041 for supplies, \$1,376 for printing, and \$180 for rentals each election. He estimated those expenses would be cut to \$1,037 for election officers; nothing for tabulators; \$500 for supplies, \$90 for rentals and \$344 for printing.

The motion to purchase the machines was made by Lawrence Cornell and seconded by Henry M. Webb. They plus W. R. Bates, Add Polly and Clemond Scott voted for the machines. Magistrates Willis Hawley and Jesse Day did not vote, while Herbert Maggard was absent.

Although he did not actually vote on the issue, Day indicated he was opposed to purchase of the machines at the present time. He said he wanted to wait until after the county's budget for next year is adopted. He wants to be sure, Day said, that money to pay magistrates their voted salaries of \$200 monthly is available before he votes to make any purchases.

County Judge Arthur Dixon said he had checked the figures used by Montgomery and was sure that the county actually would be able to make the \$2,000 annual savings.

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Annual Scouters' Banquet Monday

Dr. Kenneth H. Thompson, associate dean of Berea College, will be the principal speaker at the annual banquet for volunteer scouters to be held at 6:30 p.m. Monday, at the Jenkins Fieldhouse.

Others appearing on the program will be Walter P. Walters Sr., council president, of Pikeville, who will extend greetings; H. E. Greer, honorary president of the council, and J. Lincoln Kiser, immediate past president who will be in charge of Silver Beaver Awards.

Byron F. Pennebaker, Scout executive, will introduce the speaker. The opening ceremony will be given by Pack 14 of Jenkins. Closing ceremony will be given by Troops 76 and 74 of Jenkins and McRoberts.

Two Silver Beaver awards will be made and other volunteer help will be recognized. All members of the scouting organization and friends of scouting are invited.

Reservations should be made through the Lonesome Pine Council office, Box 110, Pikeville.

There are some 1,300 volunteers in the Lonesome Pine Council, Pennebaker said.



ED DIDDLE

Ed Diddle Will Speak At Banquet

Ed Diddle, coach of the Western Kentucky State College Hilltoppers basketball team, will be principal speaker at the annual Whitesburg Athletics Association banquet Monday night.

The banquet will honor members of athletics teams at Whitesburg High School and their coaches. It will begin at 7:30 p.m. at the VFW clubhouse.

Diddle, a nationally known basketball coach, has compiled a win-loss record while coaching at the same college that may never be equaled. In his 35 years as head basketball coach at Western, he has become the only coach ever to win more than 600 games while coaching at the same school.

Since he took over at Western in 1922, his teams have won 677 games and lost 235, for a winning percentage of .742.

During his tenure as head basketball coach at Western, Diddle has stamped himself as one of the most colorful figures ever to appear on the national basketball scene. His habit of getting his tongue twisted during exciting moments has led to the telling and retelling of innumerable stories about him.

He coins new words and phrases almost as fast as his facial characteristics change in registering his various moods. He is a strict disciplinarian and always commands the respect of his players.

Jaycees Plan Rabies Clinics

The Whitesburg Junior Chamber of Commerce will sponsor a series of dog vaccination clinics in Letcher County next month.

Art Rubie, male nurse at Whitesburg Memorial Hospital, will administer vaccine against rabies for \$1 a dog. The vaccine will protect the animal against rabies (mad dog sickness) for a year.

The clinics are an annual project of the Jaycees. Here is the schedule:

- May 3—1 p.m.—Jenkins depot. 3:30 p.m.—Neon ballpark.
- May 10—1 p.m.—Millstone (forks of road). 3:30 p.m.—Whitesburg depot.
- May 17—1 p.m.—Kingdom Come High School. 3:30 p.m.—Blackey depot.
- May 24—1 p.m.—Lower Colson School. 3:30 p.m.—Isom School.

Six State School Officials Coming Here Next Week To Survey Problems And Speak At Public Meeting

A team of top state school officials will be in Letcher County next week.

They will have two purposes: 1. To make a thorough study of the education program and educational needs of Letcher County.

2. To meet with interested Letcher County citizens to discuss the school situation here and suggest some solutions to local school problems.

Dr. Robert Martin, state superintendent of public instruction, is the highest ranking member of the group. He will be present at a public meeting, which is set for 8:30 p.m. (EST) Tuesday in the Whitesburg gymnasium.

The survey team will come here Monday. Ted C. Gilbert, assistant superintendent of public instruction, will head the group. Other members will be Walter Roschl, director of finance for the State Department

of Education; John Vickers, director of transportation for the department; O. B. Wilder, supervisor of instruction, and Roy G. Smith, director of the Division of Buildings and Grounds in the state department.

The survey group brings with it a wide background of experience gained in dealing with school problems all over the state. All are career employees of the State Department of Education.

Members of the group will spend two full days working as teams to analyze the school situation in Letcher County. Dr. Martin will arrive here at 5 p.m. Tuesday. He will hear a report from the survey group and then will attend the public meeting, where he and the members of the team, will answer questions on local school problems.

Martin said he hoped the public meeting would attract a "representative group of Letcher

County citizens, interested in a fair and impartial discussion of the entire education situation and our suggestions as to some approaches to the solution of your educational problems."

The survey team is coming to Letcher County as the result of requests from the Citizens' School Committee, a group of citizens which has been studying school problems here for the past several months, and from W. B. Hall, superintendent of Letcher County schools.

Members of the Citizens' School Committee met with Martin and the other members of the group coming here early in February at Martin's office in Frankfort. Martin indicated then that he would be glad to undertake a survey of Letcher County schools and to come to the county for a personal look at the situation. He said such a survey would have to be request-

ed by the county school board; the committee asked the board to request the survey, and the board complied.

Shortly after the citizens group conferred with Martin at Frankfort, fire destroyed the Fleming-Neon High School, and a school situation already critical became more critical. When problems and disputes continued to arise over the expenditure of the limited amount of building funds now available to the county school board, the Citizens' committee asked Martin if he would talk at a public meeting about local problems and ways of solving them.

Meanwhile Supt. Hall made several trips to Frankfort to appeal to the State Department of Education for assistance in improving Letcher County's School situation.

Dr. J. Huston Westover, chairman of the citizens' committee, will preside at the meeting

Tuesday night at the gymnasium. He emphasized that the session is open to anyone interested in school problems. He also emphasized that Dr. Martin wants to hold a "fair and impartial" discussion of the local situation.

Supt. Hall issued a statement this week in which he said he and State Department of Education officials have been working on a building program for Letcher County schools for a year or more.

"This has been and continues to be a very difficult task," Hall said. "This is due to the fact that the cost of a building program to meet the minimum needs of the Letcher County schools is so great, and our resources are so limited."

The job of raising money for a proposed building program is a tremendous one to say the least. (Continued on Back Page)

Mrs. Albert Jones Wins Woman Of Year Award

Mrs. Albert Jones received Whitesburg's "Woman of the Year" award in ceremonies at a banquet at the VFW clubhouse Saturday night.

The award is given annually by the Veterans of Foreign Wars auxiliary to a candidate selected from those nominated by local civic groups. Mrs. Jones was the nominee of the Whitesburg Rotary Club.

Whitesburg is a better community "because Rosa Jones lives here," the Rotary Club said in its nominating letter.

The Rotarians pointed out that through her combination of musical talent and uplifting personality she "has touched most of our families and has made each one gain by this contact."

Mrs. Jones is an accomplished musician and has "unselfishly given this talent to God's use for others," the letter said. As a piano, organ and voice teacher she not only teaches the fundamentals of music but also instills a desire to use what is learned. She has been willing

to take pupils who have not shown enough ability to encourage other teachers to accept them, and through patience and love has caused them to do their best and gain a skill which otherwise might forever have been denied them.

She selects for each church young people to play the organ, and her piano and voice students are always in demand for religious and civic meetings. She is always available for weddings and funerals, and her counsel and ability aid not only the families but also the ministers involved. For many years she has played the piano and (Continued on Back Page)

4-H Clubs Show Work At Rally Day

By Elwood Combs
Assistant County Agent

Whitesburg was a busy place on Saturday, April 19, for the 4-H Club boys and girls in Letcher County. Approximately 250 persons attended the 4-H Spring Rally held at the First Baptist Church.

There were two exhibits by the club members. One was a clothing exhibit, and the other a woodwork exhibit. These exhibits represented some of the 4-H project work being carried out within the different clubs of Letcher county.

Demonstrations by club members held the main interest of the day. There were demonstrations on: Breadmaking; Dairy Foods Preparation; General Demonstrations; Electrical Demonstrations; Tree Planting; Strawberry Planting and First Aid.

The speeches and style revue were two activities which held a lot of attention. Faith Armstrong, of the Little Cowan 4-H Club, was Senior speech winner. Her topic, "How The 4-H Club Benefits My Community," Lorene Brown, of the Eolia 4-H Club, was the Junior speech winner. Her topic was on "Good Grooming."

In the style revue the girls wore the clothing articles which they had made this year. A lot of credit goes to the parents (Continued on Society Page)

Citizens' Committee Reports On Letcher County Schools

The Letcher County Citizens' School Committee this week made public a report of its findings on current problems of Letcher County Schools.

The report emphasized that the committee's concern is for all the schools in the county, not for those of any particular section.

The committee was formed last fall at a public meeting at the Letcher County courthouse at which school problems were discussed. The present committee is a continuation of one organized at a similar meeting a year previously.

The committee said it recognized that basic improvements in education in Letcher County, including increased teacher salaries and better centralized

school buildings, can be accomplished only by increasing the school budget. It said it plans to circulate a questionnaire asking for citizens' suggestions on ways of getting more money for schools.

Meanwhile, it made these recommendations:

1. That future school plans be carried out only as part of a sound broad plan to help all the schools in the county, whether money becomes available on a bond issue or a pay-as-you-go basis.
2. That future building plans recognize modern, less expensive construction techniques suitable to the local area and recognizing the sharp limitation of funds here.

Local Chapter Of Red Cross Held In Danger

Howard Wilson, director of Red Cross field service for the Eastern area of the United States, was in Whitesburg this past week to say Letcher County is about to lose its Red Cross chapter.

Wilson said fund drives in Letcher County both last year and this year have fallen far under the quota, and that unless additional money is raised the chapter will be closed.

Wilson estimated that \$1,200 to \$1,500 would be required to save the chapter. He urged an extra drive to raise the necessary money.

Letcher County, he said, would be the only Kentucky county without a Red Cross chapter.

Wilson said those who ask what Letcher County has got from the Red Cross should remember that last year in the flood disaster Letcher County received \$52,000 in cash, plus commodities and used clothing.

He also said Letcher County benefits from the Red Cross services to the armed forces, veterans, the blood service, first aid services, water safety services, nursing services, Junior Red Cross services, community services and international services. (Continued on Back Page)

City Council Okays Plan To Annex

Whitesburg's City Council took another step toward annexing new territory to the city last week.

Thursday night the council passed an ordinance proposing to make the city limits reach roughly from the junction of Ky. 15 and U. S. 119 East of Whitesburg to Graveyard Hollow on Ky. 15 West of Whitesburg. The annexation will include Graveyard Hollow and Tunnel Hill but does not reach far on either side of the highways.

The ordinance proposing annexation must be published four times. After publication, the council will have to adopt another ordinance making the annexation final. The ordinance passed unanimously. Only Councilman D. S. Setzer was absent from the meeting.

Mayor Arthur Banks said he thought the annexation would increase Whitesburg's population by about 1,000. He said he believed the next legislature would be willing to raise Whitesburg from a fifth class to a fourth class city.

The council also voted to join other cities in the eastern half (Continued on Back Page)

Supervisor Says County May Lose Extension Agents

Letcher County is in danger of losing its County Agent, Home Demonstration Agent, and 4-H Club programs, a field representative of extension service warned this past week.

The representative, Keith Kelly, supervises extension work throughout Eastern Kentucky.

Kelly said the program currently is costing Letcher County about \$4,000 a year. Part of the money comes from the fiscal court, and part from the board of education. The \$4,000 in local funds is matched by state and federal contributions for a program costing a total of some \$20,000 a year.

Kelly said that unless Letcher County's budget for the fiscal year starting July 1 contains funds for the program, then the service will be withdrawn.

There has been widespread speculation that the fiscal court might drop the appropriation for the extension service as one means of raising the funds needed to pay the county's eight magistrates salaries of \$200 a month each.

Kelly said that if the appropriation is not made, then County Agent Bob Fike and Home Demonstration Agent Roberta Halcomb both will be (Continued on Back Page)