



GEORGETOWN-SCOTT COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Luncheon endorsement rankles candidate

By Dan Adkins
 Georgetown News-Graphic

Chuck Tackett's jaw clenched and he shook his head slightly as Gov. Matt Bevin endorsed Tackett's opponent in the local March 8 special election. "I will ask for your vote on behalf of Phil Pratt," Bevin told some 200 listeners at Monday's Georgetown-Scott County Chamber of Commerce luncheon. "I would ask you to transcend your party and vote the values that our state needs," Bevin, a Republican, said. "You've got two good choices. You really do, as far as the caliber of the individual. You've got two good people. But I tell you I need men and women who are business people... who are conservative," Bevin said. Possibly without realizing it, Bevin

'That was an ethics violation.'

Chuck Tackett
 Democratic candidate for the Kentucky House of Representatives

had opened a hornets' nest, violating the chamber's policy of nonpartisanship. Besides that, he made Tackett mad. Tackett is the Democrat running to replace newly elected Agriculture Commissioner Ryan Quarles as western Scott County's state legislature. Pratt is the Republican in next month's special election. Both were chosen by the local party leaders of the 62nd House District, which

'I thought it was a great speech.'

Philip Pratt
 Republican candidate for the Kentucky House of Representatives

includes all of Owen County, west and southwest Scott County and a sliver of northwest Fayette County. "That was an ethics violation," Tackett claimed later, after Bevin's completed his remarks. "Wrong time, wrong place," Tackett said. "We'll see what the chamber has to say

See Luncheon, 14



Kentucky Gov. Matt Bevin speaking Monday at the Georgetown-Scott County Chamber of commerce luncheon.

Y-Corps Institute participants train at ECS

By Jerry Boggs
 Georgetown News-Graphic

To say Elkhorn Crossing School was humming with activity Saturday night would not do justice to the scene there. It was vibrating... thrumming... echoing with laughter, cheers and the sheer energy of 225 teens making preparations for an adventure. The teens are members of the Y-Corps, a service learning organization which operates under the umbrella of the YMCA. Starla Whitaker, engagement project manager, described it as a sort of teen AmeriCorps. The event was the organizations second Y-Corps Institute, which helps prepare the teens for their summer service trips which will take place in July. The 200-plus teens hail from around the state, with a dozen from Scott County. A handful of those are back for their second year with Y-Corps. They're the wily veterans, sharing their experiences from last summer — things like what food to pack and how to manage the long bus or van rides. "We are teaching them how to be a team, how to fundraise, how to advocate, what philanthropy means, how to do meaningful service, and really just engaging some of our best students in that process," Whitaker said. The trips mix educational stops to sample the culture of the area being visited, and service projects helping individuals and groups.



The enthusiastic efforts of a Y-Corps participant, at right, leading a cheer, draws laughter and applause from members of his team on Saturday during the second annual Y-Corps Institute, which brought 225 students from around Kentucky to Elkhorn Crossing School.

variety of ways, Fryman added. "We worked with wildlife, we worked with people with mental disabilities, we painted a house ... and we got to learn while we were doing it," said Fryman. "We also did educational stuff for us. We saw a Shakespearean play in the park, we got to rebuild houses in New Orleans and learn about the history of Hurricane Katrina." Perhaps the most educational aspect of the trip was the chance to travel and really get to experience the regions they were visiting in a way most tourists never could. "All I've ever really wanted to do was travel," said Stone. "That's what got me into this." "You get to see the parts of the communities that people don't go to when you're on vacation," Johnston said. "So when we were in New Orleans, yes, we had a traditional Cajun-style dinner, but we also served in the lower Ninth Ward of the city where a lot of homes that were de-

stroyed by Hurricane Katrina were still in shambles. You could still see the spray paint were FEMA came through. "It's really cool to see the other side of the culture of these places." Much of Saturday was spent in classrooms at ECS, learning the nuts and bolts of the Y-Corps program. All that studying made for a lot of pent-up energy, which organizers sought to burn off with the Y-Corp Olympics. The participants broke into their geographic groups, which correspond to the destinations of their service trips. Groups were also divided into those bound for locales inside Kentucky and others traveling farther abroad. The teens sang and cheered loudly — very, very, very loudly — while pretending to sit on their bus. They raced to get into their sleeping bags, then raced to pack and stow the bags. Another event featured relay races to gather and sort

See Y-Corps, 14

BOE balks over fence construction at Lemons Mill

By Dan Adkins
 Georgetown News-Graphic

The Scott County Board of Education balked Thursday at okaying the erection of a fence at Lemons Mill Elementary School that hadn't been presented in previous plans for the school. School district Facilities Manager Mike Luscher said the fence would fulfill an agreement with the Amerson Orchard residential development owner, Dennis Anderson. "This is for the east side of the property, from the north to the south starting at the tennis courts and ending where the retaining wall is," Luscher said. The six-foot-high, 600-foot-long fence would cost between \$12,000 to \$15,000, Alliance Corp. project manager Tim Geegan told the board. "In the land agreement, it says (the fence would be) acceptable to both parties... There are stipulations in the land contract," he said. "Well, this is not acceptable to me," board member Jennifer Holbert said. When the school district was considering where to locate the property for LMES, officials negotiated a land exchange with Anderson that placed the school just west of the subdivision, Luscher and board Chair Haley Conway told the board. "I negotiated an additional five acres with (Anderson)... for a baseball field and a softball field," Conway said. "(The land swap) was not a selfless act on (Anderson's) part because he's taken a school and put it in the middle of his subdivision, which is going to make his subdivision far more attractive to potential buyers," Conway said. "I don't remember ever, in any shape, form or fashion, having a discussion ...

See Fence, 14



Coming up:
 Kennel proposed
Thursday

Area deaths

- Leslie B. Guill, 91
- Stanley Ray Hughes II, 42
- Steven Michael Kames, 62
- John Andrew Burkhead, 51
- Joseph "JJ." Kovalich, 94
- Keiarie Elaine Marie Russell, 17

Inside

- Calendar 5
- Classifieds 12
- Comics 8
- Obituaries 6
- Opinion 4
- Sports 8
- Weather 2

Buy News-Graphic

PHOTOS!

Scan here to go online and see prints from our photographers for sale.



CHUCK TACKETT

STATE REPRESENTATIVE

Farmer • Business Owner • Frankfort Outsider

Special Election - March 8

PAID FOR BY CHUCK TACKETT CAMPAIGN FUND

Bevin asks locals to support his proposed budget, praises area

By Dan Adkins
Georgetown News-Graphic

Kentucky Gov. Matt Bevin asked area residents Monday to press for legislative support for his 2016-18 biennial budget, which includes a number of budget cuts and offers a plan to shore up state pension plans for teachers.

"We have always budgeted just to cover our basic costs over the immediate projections over the next two years," Bevin told some 200 local business leaders, educators and government officials.

"But because things sometimes happen that are not expected, we end up incurring debt, whether it's a downturn in the market (or) whatever the case may be, that there's no accommodation for because you

budgeted for a better-case scenario than that," Bevin said.

"We now have tens of billions of dollars that your children and grandchildren are going to pay off whether they want to or not," the governor said.

Bevin's speech was seeking to build local support for the budget address he gave to the Kentucky General Assembly two weeks ago, in which he outlined nine areas of \$29 billion in state spending and programs his administration will scrutinize.

Those areas are shoring up the state's finances; investing in education; investing in the state's workforce; restoring solvency to the state's pension funds; safeguarding Kentucky's most vulnerable citizens; protecting

first-responders; fighting substance abuse; transforming healthcare delivery; and maintaining and renovating infrastructure like roads.

"We can't afford to have 30 percent of Kentuckians on Medicaid. We can't afford it financially. It doesn't matter whether we like it. It doesn't matter if it feels good. It doesn't matter even whether we need it, sadly.

"If we don't have the ability to pay for it, something has to give," Bevin said.

Bevin also said the state must improve the work skills of its residents.

"We have thousands of skilled jobs that are going unfilled in this state right now," Bevin said.

"It's hard to believe, when you think of how many people are needing

work... More people like us do not go to work every day, than go to work every day," Bevin claimed.

"How sustainable is that?" he said.

Bevin praised the Georgetown area and specifically its local leaders during Monday's Chamber of Commerce luncheon. "Everyone of you is critical to the success of this community, Scott County generally, Georgetown specifically," Bevin told about 200 local business people, educators and government officials.

"It's unbelievably explosive," Bevin said about the area's growth.

"I want to see that continue to be the case," he added.

DAN ADKINS can be reached at dadkins@news-graphic.com.

LUNCHEON: Chamber president addresses crowd, says group does not endorse candidates

From Page 1

about that. I've never seen anything like that in my lifetime," he said.

Pratt, who also attended the luncheon, had a different feeling.

After the governor left and before the chamber luncheon ended, its president William Haugh said flatly, "(The chamber is) a nonpartisan organization that does not endorse political candidates."

He said he made that statement on advice from chamber Director Jack Conner and its attorneys.

Pratt said, "I thought it was a great speech," and chuckled.

Pratt indicated he would support Bevin's efforts to

gain control of state spending by trimming Medicaid rolls, bolstering public pensions and maintaining much of the state's elementary and secondary education spending.

Meanwhile, Tackett later released a statement that did not address Bevin's endorsement of Pratt.

Instead, his statement said, "I will focus on solving the challenges working families and small businesses face and I will work with Governor Bevin, Speaker Greg Stumbo or anyone else who is willing to put their interests ahead of any partisan political interests."

DAN ADKINS can be reached at dadkins@news-graphic.com.

Y-CORPS: Teens will embark on service trips this summer

From Page 1

breakfast, lunch, dinner and snack foods.

Though the screaming, running and jumping looked a little chaotic, there was a method to the madness, institute director Tracy Ingram explained.

"It all teaches a lesson, about the Y-Corps culture or tasks they'll be doing during their service trips," she said.

The gathering, which included the teens, staff, and volunteers camping out at the school overnight, also builds stronger teams. It's a bond that pays off in the dog days of summer when the teens are hot, tired and sleeping at a far-flung YMCA.

Those benefits were apparent after last year's inaugural Y-Corps Institute, Ingram said.

"We saw greater retention, record fundraising and the teams got along better," she said.

The institute leaders talked a lot about culture as



Scott County Y-Corps participants include, from left, back row: Blake Sims, Claire Nickell, Morgan Rehm, Taylor Fryman, Sam Showalter and Nick Worbleski; front row: Ana Poposki, Abby Stone, Carlee Denney, Bailey Campagna and Amanda Johnston.

they strive to instill in the teens a sense of investment in the world around them.

"The idea is that when you come to know and love

the culture you're a part of... you'll fall in love with your state and you'll continue to invest in your state as you grow from a teen-

ager into an adult," Ingram said.

JERRY BOGGS can be reached at jboggs@news-graphic.com.

FENCE: Board to review land swap deal with developer

From Page 1

that we were going to bear the full cost of that fence," Conway said.

Luscher said that Anderson did not want the athletic fields to include lights. To accept the lights, Luscher said, the developer wanted a six-foot aluminum fence.

"(That fence) would have been three times the cost," of a regular fence, Luscher said.

Holbert then noted that for the last two years, after LMES's construction was nearing an end, she has

repeatedly asked if the project was finished.

"Never once did a fence come up," she said.

Planning and bonding for the LMES project were approved in late 2011 and early 2012, a year before Holbert and Jo Anna Fryman joined the board, and before Vice Chair Kevin Kidwell and Stephanie Watson Powers came aboard in January 2015.

But Luscher said the issue didn't come up because he believed the construction manager had found a prevailing-wage-law loophole that would have let the

fence work proceed at a less expensive rate.

The Kentucky Department of Education, Luscher said, recently required the prevailing wage to apply to this aspect of the project, thereby requiring board approval before the work proceeds.

"That's not been on any specs. None of the specs that we have has a fence called for. None of it," Holbert snapped.

"I think we need to hold off on the bid," board Vice Chair Kevin Kidwell said.

"I think we need to hold off on all of it," Hol-

bert said.

The board agreed to hold off on considering the fence project until Luscher provides materials from the land-swap agreement as well as project specifications approved before Holbert, Kidwell and board members Jo Anna Fryman and Stephanie Watson Powers joined the panel.

The board's next meeting will be at 6 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 18, at the Great Crossing Office Complex on U.S. 460/Frankfort Road.

DAN ADKINS can be reached at dadkins@news-graphic.com.

Anniversary

Muir's celebrate 50th

Stuart and Betty (Flora) Muir will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on Friday, Feb. 12.

The couple was married Feb. 12, 1966, at Southland Christian Church.

They will celebrate with a reception to be held Friday, Feb. 12, from 5 to 9 p.m. at Best Western Inn, Georgetown.

The Muirs are the parents of two children, Kimberly Muir of Lexington and Marsha Muir of Lexington. They have two grandchildren, Aaron and Hannah.

FREE Lifeline Service
Available for Income-Eligible Residents

If you participate in public assistance programs or meet monthly income level guidelines, you may qualify for a free phone + 250 Minutes & Unlimited Texts.

To apply visit www.enroll.accesswireless.com

Free phone is provided by Access Wireless. Access Wireless is a service provider for the government-funded Lifeline Assistance program. Lifeline assistance is provided by wireless L.L.C. d/b/a Access Wireless, an eligible telecommunications carrier. Lifeline service is non-transferable. Lifeline benefits are limited to one per household. A household is defined, for the purposes of the Lifeline program, as any individual or group of individuals, who live together at the same address and share income and expenses. Violation of the one-per-household rule constitutes violation of FCC rules and will result in the customer's de-enrollment from Lifeline. Only eligible customers may enroll in the program. Customers who actively make their customers in order to obtain a Lifeline benefit can be punished by fine, imprisonment, or can be barred from the program. Customers must present proper documentation proving eligibility for the Lifeline program. Your information will be validated against public records and any discrepancy could result in delays or denial of service.

access WIRELESS
A government-funded Lifeline Assistance Program.

February SPECIAL:

FREE DENTAL

Excluding anesthesia, tooth extraction, pain meds, antibiotics etc.

Available at your local

Central KY VETERINARY CENTER

111 Southgate Drive, Georgetown, KY
502-863-0868

Mon 7:30 am - 5:00 pm
Tue • Wed • Thu • Fri 7:30 am - 9:00 pm
Sat 7:30 am - 1:00 pm • Sun 11:00 am - 4:00 pm
5 - 9 pm hours are by appointment only
Emergency Services - 24 Hours a Day

Guaranteed to GROW

PEOPLES EXCHANGE BANK
People Serving People Since 1912

923 South Broadway
Georgetown, KY | 502.868.8860

1.15% APY*

12 Month Term Certificate of Deposit
Minimum balance to open: \$5,000.

It's a rate YOU just can't miss.



WWW.PEBANK.COM

*Annual Percentage Yield (APY) shown is accurate as of 1/28/2016. The minimum balance required to open this CD is \$5,000. A penalty may be imposed for early withdrawal. Fees could reduce earnings on the account. Additional restrictions may apply. Peoples Exchange Bank deposit accounts are FDIC insured up to \$250,000 per depositor. Interest rates and corresponding APY's may change at the bank's discretion. This Certificate of Deposit is for a limited time only and may be discontinued without prior notice.