

## The Lineup

### Today

**McCracken County Agriculture Development Council**, 7 a.m., McCracken County Extension Service.

**Senior Medicare Patrol**, 8 a.m.-4 p.m., 1400 H.C. Mathis Drive. Learn to detect potential Medicare errors, fraud and abuse. Report errors or suspected fraud to SMP. 442-8993.

**Paducah Lions Club**, lunch, noon, Walker Hall, 443-3122.

**Mayfield Lions Club**, noon, Rita's Cafe, 101 N. Seventh St., Mayfield.

**The Lone Oak Intermediate School's SBDM Council**, 4 p.m. in the school's library.

**Paducah Singles Connection**, 7 p.m., 6:30 p.m. First Tuesday Grace Episcopal Church, Eighth and Broadway. 270-349-0211 or 270-554-2743.

**Woodmen of the World, Chapter 2**, 6:30 p.m., Knights of Columbus Hall, 3028 Jefferson St., free chicken dinner, regular business meeting and door prize drawing. 443-8263.

**National Railroad Historical Society, Paducah Chapter**, 7 p.m., second floor meeting room, McCracken County Public Library. 442-4032.

**American Legion Chief Paduke Post 31**, Legionnaire and auxiliary meeting, 7 p.m., 425 Legion Drive. 442-2525.

### Wednesday

**Lone Oak Kiwanis**, 7 a.m., 554-0431., Walker CPA building near Banks Market.

**Disabled American Veterans, Miles Meredith Chapter 7 of Paducah**, weekly Commander Coffee Call, 8 a.m. to noon. Service officer available.

## Agenda

The Agenda is a listing of government meetings today.

■ Bardwell City Council — 5 p.m., City Hall.

■ Barlow City Council — 5:30 p.m., City Hall.

■ Caldwell Fiscal Court — 8 a.m., courthouse.

■ Grand Rivers City Council — 5:30 p.m., City Hall.

■ La Center City Commission — 5:30 p.m., City Hall.

■ Paducah City Commission — 5:30 p.m., second floor commission chamber.

### Monday's lottery Kentucky

**Pick 3-midday:** 6-5-7

**Pick 3-evening:** 1-8-8

**Pick 4-midday:** 6-0-4-0

**Pick 4-evening:** 9-5-0-2

**Cash Ball:** 7-8-16-32 **CB** 11

**Cash Ball Kicker:** 0-5-2-9-3

**5 Card Cash:** 4H-7D-5H-3S-5S

**Decades of Dollars:** 2-6-9-13-15-36

### Illinois

**Pick 3-midday:** 0-9-8 **FB** 7

**Pick 3-evening:** 8-2-8 **FB** 5

**Pick 4-midday:** 8-1-5-9 **FB** 1

**Pick 4-evening:** 0-1-3-4 **FB** 4

**Lucky Day Lotto-midday:** 08-14-18-39-42

**Lucky Day Lotto-evening:** 04-05-13-19-42

**Lotto:** 04-13-29-32-41-52 **Extra Shot:** 14

# Officials discuss fire scene fate

BY LAUREN P. DUNCAN

lduncan@paducahsun.com

The McCracken Fiscal Court discussed Monday what it can do about tearing down the remains of the burned Reidland home where a woman died in a fire earlier this year.

Keith Griffith, 55, faces the death penalty after being accused of setting his Tudor Boulevard house on fire. He faces charges of murder for the death of his wife, Julie Griffith, who had been shot three times and was found dead in the home following the Jan. 17 fire.

The home's remains have been left for evidence purposes in Griffith's upcoming trial, which is set for February.

McCracken Circuit Judge Tim Kaltenbach ruled in August that the home not be torn down until a specialist examine it. Attorney Emily Roark of Bryant Law Center, which is representing Griffith, said the specialist who examined it recommended the property be left untouched until after the trial because the burn patterns in the home may be used as evidence.

"We have every intention of destroying the house as soon as



Submitted photo

The burned remains of a home sit at 307 Tudor Blvd. in Reidland in February. The home's remains have not been removed or demolished due to a court order to preserve the home as evidence in the upcoming trial of Keith Griffith, who faces charges of murdering his wife, Julie Griffith. Investigators found Julie Griffith had been shot three times before her body was found in the remains of the Jan. 17 fire.

the trial is over ... and at our client's expense," Roark said.

McCracken County Code Enforcement Officer Danny Walker said the property is a safety concern and eyesore for the neighborhood.

Although Kaltenbach's ruling bars the county from moving forward with demolition,

the Fiscal Court voted Monday to approve a report by Walker that states the structure is not repairable and needs to be demolished.

"This reserves our right to demolish the property when the time comes," County Attorney Michael Murphy explained.

Roark said Kaltenbach has

set a hearing for Oct. 27 to revisit the issue of demolishing the structure. Roark said she did not know what would happen to the demolition schedule if the case is retried or appealed. In the meantime, she said she would discuss with Griffith the possibility of paying for a fence to put around the property until after the trial is over.

Nearby resident Bill Bartleman spoke in support of the immediate demolition of the structure. He said the community understands Griffith's right to a fair trial but is worried about it posing a safety hazard. He said the structure has undergone physical changes since January due to weather and the needed evidence could be documented by video or photographs.

He said the home's remains also serve as a reminder of what happened there.

"It's not something we in the community want to drive by every day," he said.

Contact Lauren Duncan, Paducah Sun staff writer, at 270-575-8692 or follow @laurenpduncan on Twitter.

## Woman stays spry at 100

BY GENEVIEVE POSTLETHWAIT

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Bernice Schwerwing of Paducah blew out three birthday candles Monday afternoon. A wax number one, followed by two wax zeros.

After the 75 or so friends and family members gathered at the Paducah-McCracken County Senior Center sang "Happy Birthday," Schwerwing paused to make a wish. Her pause was so long and concentrated her niece leaned over her shoulder to check on her. She was fine, just still wishing, she told her.

"What did I ask for? Just health," Schwerwing said. "I always ask for good health, and that's why I'm here!"

At 100 years old, Schwerwing is the only one left of a family of seven children. She lives on her own, just



JOHN PAUL HENRY | The Sun

Centenarian Bernice Schwerwing (right) and Nola Bishop, 93, both of Paducah, share a laugh and some punch during Schwerwing's 100th birthday celebration Monday at the Paducah-McCracken County Senior Center. Schwerwing and Bishop are friends and volunteer together at the center.

renewed her driver's license, continues to volunteer at the Senior Center four days a week after 14

Please see **SPRY** | 5A

## Section of Olivet Church to close

Staff report

A Paducah-McCracken County Joint Sewer Agency contractor will close a section of Olivet Church Road starting Wednesday.

The closure will include the section of Olivet Church west of the Kentucky Oaks

Mall area near Eva Drive, Enterprise Drive, Stanley Cemetery Road and James-Sanders Boulevard.

The JSA contractor will maintain local access for property owners.

Motorists may encounter some preparatory work in

this area today if weather allows.

This closure to through traffic is to allow for sewer line construction as part of the widening of Olivet Church Road. The work is scheduled to run through Friday.

## College to host LGBT presentation, discussion

Staff report

Jody Cofer Randall, coordinator of the Murray State University Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender program, will speak at West Kentucky Community & Technical College about the inclusion and affirmation of LGBT individuals at colleges and universities.

Randal will give his first

talk, "It Gets Better by Us Making it Better: Inclusion and Affirmation," at 2 p.m. today in the Emerging Technology Center room 109 on the WKCTC campus.

A second presentation begins at 7 p.m. at the MSU-Paducah Regional Campus at 4430 Sunset Ave. While the two presentations will

address many of the same issues, the evening presentation will include an open discussion with Cofer Randall and several MSU students who identify as part of the LGBT community.

The presentations are free and open to the public and are part of WKCTC's 2014-2015 Diversity and Inclusion program series.

## Walk for children with apraxia coming Saturday

Staff report

The West Kentucky Walk for Children with Apraxia of Speech is planned Saturday at Mike Miller Park in Draffenville. Onsite registration and check-in begins at 8 a.m., with the walk at 9 a.m.

Childhood Apraxia of Speech (CAS) is a complicated neurological speech disorder. The little known disorder makes it difficult or impossible for children to accurately produce sounds, syllables, and/or words despite having a good understanding of language. The Walk for Children with Apraxia of Speech is held across the country to heighten awareness and funding.

The West Kentucky Walk for Children with Apraxia of Speech is open to all adults and children. Anyone interested in registering, making a donation, or learning more about the event can contact Tracy Dyke, the walk coordinator, at tracyd@dcelectricinc.com or visit secure.apraxia-kids.org/westkentuckywalk.

All proceeds will benefit important apraxia programs and research of the Childhood Apraxia of Speech Association of North America.

## Free Walk with Ease program starts today

Staff report

A free Walk with Ease program by the Arthritis Foundation will be at 10 a.m. today at Margaret Hank Memorial Presbyterian Church gym, 1526 Park Ave.

The event is sponsored by the Purchase District Health Department and the McCracken County Extension Office. There is no charge for the classes. People can pre-register by calling 270-444-9625, ext. 175.

The class will meet Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. each week until Nov. 20.

The Arthritis Foundation Walk with Ease Program was developed to help people with or without arthritis form walking groups whose goals are safety and success. Each class will include a short education session, warmup, walk at your own pace/length, cool down. Helpful tools and incentives will be offered throughout the program.

The Paducah Parks Service provided the space for the class.

## Coming Up ...

### WEDNESDAY



■ Get the delicious details on all things edible.

Taste

■ Entertainment news from around the region.

Current



THURSDAY

### FRIDAY



■ News from the local church communities.

Faith

■ What's happening in the great outdoors?

Outdoors



SATURDAY

### SUNDAY



■ Stories that offer a personal touch.

Life & Leisure

### MONDAY



■ See recent winners in local duplicate bridge.

News

MONDAY

Miss a day. Miss a lot. To subscribe, call 800-959-1771.

### TUESDAY



■ Current events of interest to youngsters.

The Mini Page

# Hospitals urged to 'think Ebola'

BY EMILY SCHMALL AND NOMAAN MERCHANT

Associated Press

**DALLAS** — Federal health officials on Monday urged the nation's hospitals to "think Ebola" and launched a review of procedures for treating patients, while medical records showed that an infected Texas nurse repeatedly visited the room of a Liberian man as he was dying from the disease.

The World Health Organization called the outbreak "the most severe, acute health emergency seen in modern times."

Nurse Nina Pham was among about 70 staff members at Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital who were involved in Thomas Eric Duncan's care after he was hospitalized, according to the records. They drew his blood, put tubes down his throat and wiped up his

diarrhea. They analyzed his urine and wiped saliva from his lips, even after he had lost consciousness.

The 26-year-old was in his room often from the day he was placed in intensive care until the day before he died last week.

Pham and other health care workers wore protective gear, including gowns, gloves, masks and face shields — and sometimes full-body suits — when caring for Duncan, but Pham became the first person to contract the disease within the United States.

Her family told Dallas television station WFAA on Monday that she was the health care worker with Ebola. A rector at her family's church, Hung Le, told The Associated Press that Pham's mother told him Pham has the virus.

The Texas Christian University nursing school

graduate was monitoring her own temperature and went to the hospital Friday night when she discovered she had a low fever. She was in isolation and in stable condition, health officials said.

By Monday evening, she had received a transfusion of plasma from Kent Brantly, a Texas physician who survived the virus, according to her pastor and the nonprofit medical mission group Samaritan's Purse.

Since she tested positive for the disease, public-health authorities have intensified their monitoring of other Dallas hospital workers who cared for Duncan.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Director Tom Frieden said he would not be surprised if another hospital worker who cared for Duncan becomes ill because Ebola

patients become more contagious as the disease progresses.

Pham's name appears frequently throughout the hundreds of pages of records provided to The Associated Press by Duncan's family. They show she was in his room Oct. 7, the day before he died.

Her notes describe nurses going in and out of Duncan's room wearing protective gear to treat him and to mop the floor with bleach.

She also notes how she and other nurses were ensuring Duncan's "privacy and comfort," and providing "emotional support."

Frieden has said a breach of protocol led to the nurse's infection, but officials are not sure what went wrong. Pham has not been able to point to any specific breach.

# Pilot crash-lands plane in vacant Chicago lot

BY DON BABWIN

Associated Press

**CHICAGO** — People living in a Chicago suburb on Monday looked at scattered pieces of a small plane and wondered if the last act of the pilot before his death was to spare residents' lives by crash landing in an empty lot on a crowded street.

Three physicians died in the crash late Sunday in Palos Hills, officials said.

"It looks like (the pilot) aimed for the one vacant spot," said Barbara Janusz, who lives with her daughter's family in Palos Hills. "I'm sure he sacrificed his own life for everybody else's."

Palos Hills Deputy Police Chief James Boie had the same thought after surveying the scene. He said neighbors told authorities they heard a sputtering

engine and the aircraft circling before it crashed — a maneuver that could suggest a desperate search to land a crippled aircraft.

"I'd like to think that," Boie said. "That is the only vacant lot for (four) blocks."

The National Transportation Safety Board said there were no obvious reasons why the twin-engine Beechcraft Baron plane crashed in the suburb at about 10:40 p.m. Sunday, shortly after taking off from Chicago's Midway's International Airport. The Federal Aviation Administration said the plane was heading to Lawrence, Kansas.

Two of the doctors who died had worked for Stormont-Vail HealthCare, the Topeka-based medical system explained in a statement.

## SPRY

CONTINUED FROM 2A

years there, and has only missed one day of work in that time. She doesn't take any regular medication except for the occasional aspirin if she has a headache, and she only just recently started taking a multivitamin.

"We wanted her to feel special, and I hope she does," said Schwering's niece Suzanne Cummings. She and a friend traveled from Roseville, California, to put on a birthday celebration for "Aunt B."

They filled the Senior Center with pink and purple balloons and decorations,

got two cakes — one vanilla, one chocolate — and set up a "throne" at the front of the room for Schwering, who wore a pink-feathered birthday tiara and corsage of red flowers purple tulle for the occasion. Schwering remained seated in her throne for the speaking, singing and birthday candle-blowing, but as soon as she ate her piece of cake she was up and about, mingling with her friends and family who came to help her celebrate the big 1-0-0.

"I had a favorite aunt on both sides of my family, and she was always my favorite on my mother's side. She's a very independent, stub-

born woman, but very loving," said Cummings as she watched her Aunt B open her arms wide for a hug from a friend on the other side of the room.

"Yes, independent and stubborn, emphasis on the stubborn," said Cummings' brother and Schwering's nephew, Edwin Adams of Bowling Green.

When a friend from the Senior Center wished Schwering, "Happy Birthday young lady, and many many more," Schwering replied, "Thank you! If they stay as nice as this has been that'd be all right."

Schwering has been granted her birthday wishes

of good health thus far, and as long as the good health continues she said she'd like to stick around. She doesn't want to be sick, she said, and the thought of visiting, much less *living* in a nursing home makes her ill.

Schwering is already an anomaly as one of only about 53,000 centenarians in the United States. According to 2010 census data 34 percent of those centenarians live on their own like Schwering. Most require the help of family members or assisted living facilities to get by day by day.

Schwering's biggest "weakness" is dancing, she said.

"I just love to dance, dance dance," she said. "And I like good dance partners too, I don't want somebody that goes out and (demonstrates a silly dance move), but oh! I love to dance. It's one of the greatest exercises. I can tell you somebody that's a wonderful dancer that comes here, the man who does Humana insurance upstairs. That man dances like I do! I mean he dances like a dream."

Schwering was born in Paducah 100 years ago to a sharecropper family and has been on the move ever since, a lifestyle that has taken her all over the Midwest and as far as New

Mexico. She was the oldest of four girls and had three older brothers, and was the only one without a middle name.

"Bernice! That's just me," she said.

Her nephew described hers as a "hardscrabble life" — and many might — but Schwering wouldn't.

"It's been a long, beautiful journey, and it doesn't seem so long," Schwering said. "Because I've had a good time, I really have."

Contact Genevieve Postlethwait, a Paducah Sun staff writer, at 270-575-8651 or at gpostlethwait@paducahsun.com.

## DEBATE

CONTINUED FROM 1A

the new majority leader, with the power to set the Senate's legislative agenda during the last two years of Obama's presidency.

The contest is also one of the most expensive in the country, with millions of dollars in television commercials aired by the candidates, their parties and allies focused on Senate races nationally. McConnell also has benefited from about \$20 million in advertisements from a pair of organizations set up by former aides and associates solely to re-elect him to a sixth term.

McConnell and Grimes disagreed sharply about the minimum wage, coal, trade and the health care law.

McConnell, who has led the charge in the Senate to repeal the law known as Obamacare, said it's all right with him if Kentucky wants to continue an expansion of care for low-income residents set up as part of the program.

Side by side with McConnell for the only time in their race, Grimes offered several possible labels for the 30-year Senate veteran — "Senator no-show, Senator gridlock and Senator shut-down."

McConnell countered that as Senate Republican leader, he has been involved in the major bipartisan deals that have been reached in the

past four years of divided government.

He also said that despite her attempts to establish her political independence from the president, Grimes was a delegate to the Democratic National Conventions in 2008 and 2012, when some Democratic office-holders stayed away. "She's made a major effort to deceive the people of Kentucky," he said.

Grimes said repeatedly the minimum wage should be raised, and said if it were, at least a million Americans would be better off. McConnell countered that a study by the non-partisan Congressional Budget Office said it would cause the loss of between 500,000 and one million jobs.

McConnell also sharply rebuked Grimes when she said he has become wealthy while in the Senate "on the backs of hard-working Kentuckians." The five-term senator said an independent fact-checker had debunked her claim, and said the bulk of his increase in wealth over three decades came from an inheritance by his wife, former Labor Secretary Elaine Chao, and from her employment.

The president is highly unpopular in the state, and Grimes has spent months and millions in advertising money trying to establish her political independence from him.

McConnell, whose own

poll ratings are poor after 30 years in office, has worked nonstop to cast his rival as a certain ally of the administration if she captures the Senate seat.

Both candidates unveiled new television ads in the hours before the debate, each one designed to underscore a central claim of their campaign.

Grimes' commercial featured retired Democratic

Sen. Wendell Ford, who said McConnell "is Mr. No," and said that unlike the incumbent, the challenger won't vote to send jobs overseas.

McConnell's ad showed Chuck Todd, an NBC newsman who moderates "Meet The Press," saying earlier in the week, "I think she (Grimes) disqualified herself" by not saying who she voted for.

Grimes, 35, was recruited

by the Democratic party nationally to run, and got off to a fast start while McConnell, 72, was bogged down in a costly primary race with tea party rival Matt Bevin.

Grimes and McConnell both won their primaries with ease in mid-May, at a time the Democratic challenger was ahead in most if not all of the public polls. She soon came under a withering barrage of televised

attacks, though. In recent weeks, her favorability has eroded in public surveys, many of which show McConnell with a slender advantage in a very tight race.

The debate's sponsors did not allow still photographers or reporters into the studio during the event, preventing them from capturing the full context of how the candidates performed outside the view of KET's cameras.

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