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CHRONICLE & TIMES

Wed.-Fri., Sept. 15-17, 2021 **FLOYD COUNTY** VOLUME 7, NUMBER 37 • 22 PAGES • 50 CENTS

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Shepherd: Floyd Schools will continue masking requirements

A FLOYD CHRONICLE AND TIMES STAFF REPORT

The Floyd County Schools District announced in a statement Sept. 10 that the district's mask requirement will continue as approved on Aug. 23, requiring all students above the age of two inside public buildings and buses to wear masks, despite legislative action taken this week.

On Sept. 9, the Kentucky legislature approved a bill which removed the statewide mask mandates put in place by Kentucky Gov. Andy Beshear and the Kentucky Department of Education. However, in a statement issued Sept. 10, Floyd Schools Superintendent Anna Shepherd said the district will stay its current course.

"We want everyone to be clear about the masking expectations for students, staff and visitors for our school district. We are following our Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity Service Plan and this

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K9 Officer Nelson joins the PPD

By Trevor Thacker
 STAFF WRITER

The Prestonsburg Police Department recently welcomed its newest member to the force — K9 Nelson.

PPD Officer Jake Chaffins traveled to Little Rock, Arkansas to undergo training and pick up his new partner.

Nelson is a 20-month-old Belgian Malinois and he was born January 20, 2020.

Nelson began training for a career as a service dog at birth and was imported to the United States this past July where he began specific fields of training and screening.

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Prestonsburg Police Officer Jake Chaffins kneels beside his new partner, Nelson, a 20 month-old Belgian Malinois who will make up the K9 Unit for the PPD.
 Submitted photo

BSCTC students make tools for W.R. Castle FD

SPECIAL TO APPALACHIAN NEWSPAPERS

Big Sandy Community and Technical College's Waterjet Cutting Technology and CNC Machining Program students recently put their newly-gained knowledge and skills to good work with real-time problem-solving.

After taking a tour of the Appalachian Manufacturing Initiative laboratory, W.R. Castle Assistant Fire Chief Brian Phillips inquired about having the students manufacture some fire hose spanner wrenches, used for various tasks in routine duties by firefighters.

That inquiry led to a real-world waterjet cutting project requiring students to reverse engineer a product and duplicate the tool.

"We are so appreciative of BSCTC allowing their students to utilize their skills to provide a much-needed resource," said Paul Burchett, W.R. Castle Fire Chief.

BSCTC President Sherry Zylka, spoke of the importance of such programs especially, with the decline of the coal industry and many now out of work or looking to start another career.

"BSCTC is all about innovation, and with such programs as waterjet technology, we are able to educate and meet the needs of our community simultaneously. This is a great point of pride,"

See STUDENTS, Page 5A



Members of the W.R. Castle Fire Department display new spanner wrenches made by students of Big Sandy Community and Technical College's Waterjet and CNC machine program.
 Submitted photo

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