

Hazard Herald Lifestyles

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EKU releases local graduates and honors

A HAZARD HERALD
STAFF REPORT

Eastern Kentucky University staff have recently released the names of local graduates, as well as local students who were on the EKU Dean's List, EKU President's List or received an EKU Dean's Award.

At the conclusion of the Spring 2018 semester, EKU recognized 1,998 graduates during separate academic college commencement ceremonies on May 11 and May 12. Of those 1,998 graduates, 21 were from Perry County.

Local EKU graduates include: Samuel Whitehead, of Hazard; Danny Riley, of Hazard; Crystal Dobson, of Chavies; Jennifer Hamblin, of Bonnyman; David Yonts, of Hazard; Lauren Roark, of Viper; Marjorie Hammonds, of Hazard; Taylor Miniard, of Hazard; Amber Sumner, of Hazard; Courtney Creech, of Hazard; Katherine Mullins, of Yerkes; Amanda Campbell, of Bonnyman; Jalen Cooper, of Chavies; Marissa Caywood, of Hazard; Collier Mobellini, of Hazard;

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Hazard Herald photos by Katie Kelley

Community comes together for Star-Spangled 5K Color Run

By KATIE KELLEY
STAFF WRITER



Perry County community members joined together July 3 in the Star-Spangled 5K Color Run held in support of a local family. All proceeds from the event are going to go to the family of Hazard High School alum Zac Arnold and current HHS student Haley Jacobs, who lost their house and possessions in a fire on June 20.

The event was organized by Stacie Fugate, Hannah Whitaker and Taylor Williams, who were classmates of Arnold's. The three girls, along with other friends of the family, were devastated to hear about the accident.

"Whenever their house burned down, I was really heartbroken, because I feel like the worst things always happen to the best people. They are truly undeserving of that (the fire), they're some of the best people I know," Fugate said.

Instead of just sending well wishes, Fugate, Whitaker and Williams decided to

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Elizabeth Jones named an ARH Scholar

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Elizabeth Jones is a Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) at the Mary Breckinridge ARH hospital and one of the most recent ARH Scholars. After previously applying for the program, Elizabeth was ecstatic to learn she had been named a Spring 2018 ARH Scholar. Among 72 applicants throughout the 12 ARH communities, Jones was one of the 11 scholarship recipients for this round.

"Oh my gosh!" Jones said. "I cried for 30 minutes [when I found out I was an ARH Scholar], I was so happy. It's been really hard trying to work and go to

school and pay for school so it's one less thing to have to worry and stress about."

"The competition was very intense," said Christopher Johnson, System Director of Employee and Labor Relations at ARH. "We are pleased to offer these awards in an effort to encourage individuals to pursue higher education."

As an ARH Scholar, Jones will receive a financial reward of \$5,000 toward tuition and living expenses while pursuing her nursing degree at Galen College of Nursing. She began the program in July of 2017 and will graduate this December as a Registered Nurse (RN).

Jones grew up in Hazard and has been married

to her husband, Charlie Jones, for 22 years. She has three children, one of whom is also pursuing a nursing degree. Jones' passion for nursing was sparked at a young age, and in 2004, she began her career as an LPN working for a long-term nursing facility. In 2005, she joined the ARH family where she has worked ever since.

"I have always loved taking care of people," Jones says. "Even when I was little, if my mom or someone got sick I wanted to take care of them. It was just always something I wanted to do."

Jones' favorite part of being a nurse is the impact she is able to make every

day through her job. She is present for patients' best and worst days and she is proud to offer the best care possible regardless of the situation.

Jones said she is excited to further develop her skills to become an RN and continue caring for her community. She plans to stay with Mary Breckinridge after receiving her RN license to continue the good work she is doing in her local community.

"I love working at Mary Breckinridge," Jones says. "Everyone I work with genuinely cares about the patients and what is best for them. It's not just a job to

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North Fork River trail established in Hazard



Hazard Herald photo by Destiny Caldwell

A sign was recently placed next to City Hall in Hazard marking the launch of 4.5 mile long North Fork River Trail. Kayakers, paddlers and small boat enthusiasts of all kinds are welcome to float down the trail. The trip is an estimated two to three hours and launches out at the Perry County Park.

Dungeons, dragons and librarians



Hazard Herald photo by Destiny Caldwell

The Perry County Public Library is hosting a weekly "Dungeons and Dragons" session for anyone ages 13 and up. "Dungeons and Dragons" is a tabletop fantasy role playing game. In the game participants can create their own character from a variety of different races and specializations. One member of the group, the dungeon master, develops the storyline before hand and facilitates the game, keeps track of the rules, and acts as a narrator to the events of the game. The library will be hosting three more sessions this month from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. each Saturday. For more information please contact Youth Services Librarian Jessica Chandler at, jchandler@perrylib.org, or, (606) 436-2475, ext 230.