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## Co. official accused of hitting reporter

By RUSS CASSADY  
EDITOR

Controversy has again erupted over the office of Pike Judge-Executive Wayne T. Rutherford, after an appointee in his office allegedly assaulted a News-Express staffer on Monday. The allegations surround Charles Carlton, director of the county's office of energy and community development, who allegedly assaulted News-Express News Editor Chris Anderson during an altercation Monday

afternoon. According to court documents, on Monday afternoon, Anderson was exiting the front door of the Appalachian News-Express building when he saw Carlton crossing the street toward the front door of the newspaper's offices. "I stopped to hold the door open for Carlton when he approached me and hit me with a closed fist in the left arm above the elbow," the document quoted Anderson as saying.

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Pike County Director of Energy and Community Development Charles Carlton, second from left, talks with officials at the site of the new EQT regional headquarters earlier this year. Carlton has been accused of assaulting News-Express News Editor Chris Anderson during an incident on Monday.

News-Express file photo

## On track for Christmas



Santa Claus surveys the crowd as a young girl, above, waves to get his attention during the Elkhorn City stop of last weekend's annual CSX Santa Train. Hundreds of people gathered at the train's three Pike County stops. Below, A young boy holds onto a CSX football he caught from Santa Claus during the Elkhorn City stop.

### Santa Train makes 69th run through Pike

By CHRIS ANDERSON  
NEWS EDITOR

Scores of people braved a frigid Pike County morning last Saturday to catch their first glimpse of Santa Claus.

The 69th annual CSX Santa Train rolled through portions of Pike County on Saturday, bringing hundreds of people trackside at three locations along the railroad's right-of-way. Children and

See TRACK, Page 2A



News-Express photos by Chris Anderson

## Virgie man dies in weekend crash

By CHRIS ANDERSON  
NEWS EDITOR

A Pike County man was killed last weekend in a crash on U.S. 119 near Pikeville.

According to Pike County Coroner Russell Roberts, Jason Dean "Miyagi" Maynor, 32, of Virgie, was killed in the wreck Saturday afternoon.

Kentucky State Police Trooper Eddie Crum said the crash occurred near the Burning Fork exit on U.S. 119 when Maynor, who was traveling south, drifted off the shoulder of the highway and overcorrected his vehicle. Crum said Maynor's vehicle then entered the gravel median of the highway, overturned several times and ejected Maynor from the vehicle.

Maynor was flown to Holston Valley Medical Center in Tennessee where he died late Saturday evening.

Crum said Maynor had an ankle bracelet on his leg at the time of the wreck and was serving home incarceration. Alcohol is suspected to be a factor in the wreck, Crum said.

Maynor was born in Pike County, Oct. 12, 1979, the son of Jerry Dean Maynor and Teresa Roberts.

He was preceded in death

See CRASH, Page 8A

## Former Dawahare's building to be new home of JWT

By CHRIS SMILEY  
STAFF WRITER

Jenny Wiley Theatre is in Prestonsburg currently, but has a new home in Pikeville now.

At a Jenny Wiley Building Committee meeting this week, Pikeville City Manager Donovan Blackburn announced that it's official. The new Jenny Wiley Theatre will be located on the corner of Second and Division Street, using a portion of the old Dawahare's building.

The city's decision to use the Dawahare's building location is to "save money, time and efforts" according to Blackburn.

"This decision could save us several million," he said.

Currently, the old Dawahare's building houses a church and the Pike County Artisan Center, but with the city's acquisition of the building, the church and Artisan Center must find new homes.

Blackburn said that the city offered the church the Garfield House on South College Street on Sundays from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Plans for the Artisan Center were not immediately known.

Blackburn said the city brought Lexington based architecture firm

See JWT, Page 2A

## Meeting begins rebuilding of Turkey Creek VFD

By AMBER PARKS  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Members of the Turkey Creek community convened Saturday November 19th in an effort to come up with solutions for the lack of volunteer firefighters, which will cause closure of the Turkey Creek Volunteer Fire Department if not immediately

addressed.

According to Turkey Creek Fire Department Chief James Stepp, the issue of lack of man power is not isolated to Turkey Creek alone, it's an issue that plagues the nation.

But Stepp said he will not be responsible for putting the community in harm's

See MEETING, Page 5A



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