

CARDINAL

 CHEVROLET • CADILLAC • GM • BUICK
 HIGHWAY 15 SOUTH
 HAZARD, KY
 TOLL FREE 1-877-910-3434
 OR 606-436-2154
 WWW.CARDINALGM.COM

EVERYDAY LIVING

YOUR LOCAL CONCRETE SUPPLIER!

 • CONCRETE
 • GRAVEL
 • SAND
 • SEPTIC SUPPLIES
 • SEPTIC INSTALLATION
TRI COUNTY CONCRETE
 312 COWPEN RD. 1700 US 23 SOUTH
 PIKEVILLE, KY HAGER HILL, KY
 (606) 437-6499 (606) 789-8800

Wednesday, May 2, 2012 • Page 1C

ON THE COUCH



Michelle Goff

Thank you for being a friend

"The friends you make in college remain your friends the rest of your life."

I can't remember if I read that sentiment on a felt-letter T-shirt or if my college chum, Crystal Schelle aka Schelaylee, shared those words of wisdom during one of her more philosophical moments.

The more I study on it, the more I decide it had to be Schelaylee because, as a writer, she has a flair for language. I credit her for turning that tired old saying "coon's age" into the more sophisticated sounding "raccoon's lifetime."

Anyway, don't ask about the origin of Schelaylee's nickname, just know it helps us differentiate between her and another college chum, Crystal Hatfield. When we met, I dubbed Hatfield the "Katie Couric of college journalism" due to her indisputable perkiness. Hatfield, who wore black every day, seemed surprised by my description of her. My opinion hasn't changed ... much.

Schelaylee, Hatfield and I plan to reunite directly with the fourth member of our quartet, Angela Traver. Angela possesses a genuine and infectious laugh that lingers with you long after she's left your presence. Just thinking of that laugh makes me smile.

Although I've hung out with Angela and Schelaylee since our halcyon days at Morehead State University, the four of us have not been in the same room since graduation eve.

However, I've been hesitant to get too pumped for our reunion because previous plans have come to naught. You see, we've been discussing reunions for years, and life has always gotten in the way. Somebody loses a job, somebody moves to Wisconsin, somebody lapses into a coma. You know, the usual stuff crops up and ruins our plans.

But we're all a half-day's drive from one another again, so dare I dream this is our time?

See GOFF, Page 2C

Matt Corbin's Blue Raven takes flight

By JOYCE PINSON

With a wing and a prayer, The Blue Raven Restaurant had a limited opening yesterday. The official grand opening will be Tuesday, May 8.

Pike County native Chef Matt Corbin has come home to roost. The son of Paul and Karla Corbin, the 29-year-old brings a new energy to the old Wells Motor Building in Pikeville's downtown.

Throughout his culinary adventures the chef has had one goal in mind; come back to the mountains. Chef Corbin has attended the University of Kentucky and has received a culinary degree from Sullivan College.

Corbin has been employed by Chef Ouita Michel, a three-time James Beard nominee. He has worked as a private chef, and most recently did a stint with Varden's in Bourbon County.

Fueled by his experiences, Matt Corbin delivers the farm-to-table movement to Eastern

See FLIGHT, Page 3C



Photo for the News-Express by Joyce Pinson
 Chef Matt Corbin looks over orders in the kitchen window of The Blue Raven Restaurant, located in the old Wells Motor building on Main Street, Pikeville. Shown are crab cakes and a hamburger.



Photo for the News-Express by Joyce Pinson
 Pork tenderloin, corn chowder and a draft beer are served up at The Blue Raven Restaurant.



Photo for the News-Express by Joyce Pinson
 A bucket of fries accompanies a hamburger at The Blue Raven Restaurant.



Tomorrow is National Day of Prayer

SPECIAL TO THE
 NEWS-EXPRESS

On Thursday, May 3, Christians throughout the United States of America will observe the 61st National Day of Prayer. According to the official Web site, the National Day of Prayer was created in 1952 by a joint resolution of the United States Congress and signed into law by President Harry S. Truman.

The theme for this year's event, "One

Nation Under God," is based on Psalm 33:12 which declares: "Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD."

And for one day in May, millions of Americans will put aside their theological differences which often polarize the body of Christ and come together with a single focus.

Will you join the National Day of Prayer? All 50 governors have issued proclama-

See PRAYER, Page 3C

POET'S CORNER

Just Like Me

I decided to climb a mountain
 so I could sit on top and enjoy the view
 but I heard a voice behind me saying,
 "Choose each step careful Dad, cause I'm following you"

I did not ask my child to follow
 why must they go through this strife
 but whether or not we want them to
 they will follow us all our life

Are we making good decisions
 carefully picking each path we choose
 will we be proud years down the road
 because our child was following in our shoes

May I treat others with respect
 and try to help my fellow man
 to reach out when they're hurting
 and always give a helping hand

Let kindness be my foundation
 let my tears show I care
 let my words always encourage
 let me start each day with prayer

Will I be proud as I stand before God
 or drop my head in shame as His face I see
 When I hear my Maker say these words,
 "My child has turned out just like Me" ...

*William Blankenship
 Phelps*

Coal Run Kiwanis news ...

SPECIAL TO THE NEWS-EXPRESS

COAL RUN — The Coal Run Kiwanis Satellite Club recently inducted four new members: Vicky Bartley, Jesse Justice, Melissa Little and Lisa Scalf.

Kiwanis is a global service organization dedicated to changing the world one child and one community at a time.

Goals for the Coal Run Club include provid-

ing service to the Coal Run area with helping children as the primary goal. Members have already put a Key Club in place at Pike County Central High School, with 50 members.

Anyone interested in becoming a member of Kiwanis can attend a meeting at the Pepsi Cola Bottling Plant on the first and third Mondays of each month at 6 p.m.

You may also contact Donna Ratliff, Lt. Governor for Division 8, at (606) 205-7610 for more information.



Submitted photo

Pictured are new club members of the Coal Run Kiwanis Satellite Club. They are, from left: Jesse Justice, Vicky Bartley, Melissa Little and Lisa Scalf.

Math Olympics winners



Submitted photo

February's Math Olympics winners at Mullins School are, from left: front row, Dylan Montgomery, Robert Parsley and Malcolm Freeman; back row, Hunter Akers, Hannah Ray, Samantha Tibbs, Mason Smith and Luke Ray.

FLIGHT

Continued From Page 1C

Kentucky with passion. His enthusiasm is contagious.

Dedicated to using Kentucky Proud and local ingredients, Corbin adds a fresh spin to casual brew-pub dining. Chili, hamburgers, brats, steaks, and an assortment of appetizers are on the menu. Items can be ordered as small plates — a sampling treat — or as enticing entrees.

Corbin explains, "The Blue Raven is about our community. Small plates are meant to be passed and shared among friends. My goal is to bring people together. It is one of the reasons I wanted to come home; people here are friendly. There's nothing like living in a small town."

Featuring Akers Beef and artisan-crafted brats from Johns Custom Meats, The Blue Raven's price points are surprising affordable. The a la carte menu allows hungry customers to pick and choose from a variety of options. Fried green tomatoes, crab cakes, roasted asparagus, and savory corn chowder are but a few of the choices.

To contain costs, the chef and his wife Heather plan to grow many vegetables and herbs in their own garden. Corbin looks forward to featuring ingredients from the Pike County Farmer's Market. Local growers take note: The chef is looking for consistent produce quality, with preference given to Kentucky Proud certified

growers.

Like most Kentucky boys, Chef Matt Corbin is all about the University of Kentucky Wildcats. He laughs heartily when queried about the name of his restaurant. "The Corbin coat-of-arms is a raven. My brother, Don Paul, said the restaurant should be a blue raven. It is so much better than a red cardinal!"

During the months prior to opening, it was not unusual to see the chef staining woodwork, constructing the restaurant's bar, and installing light fixtures. He made a guest appearance on Pike TV, showcasing his take on a meatloaf sandwich. Matt Corbin is an ambitious and hands-on kind of guy.

A comfortable melding of past and present, The Blue Raven's atmosphere is rustic and whimsical. A relic from Charlie's Hardware, an antique cash register, is perched in the lobby. Overhead, barn beams salvaged from his late grandfather Frank Justice's barn lend warmth and character. A blue raven poised for flight, sits atop a huge birdcage flanking the bar.

The Blue Raven's kitchen is "theatre style." Patrons in the main dining room can watch the chef in action as he rolls out dishes with style and finesse. The front dining room features black and white photos for eras gone by; the ambiance is casual and inti-

mate. A side wing offers open-air dining via large sliding barn doors. Parties and celebrations are reserved for the private dining room. Customers have the option of entering the main lobby or a side entrance which leads directly to the bar.

This past weekend, The Blue Raven hosted a series of "soft opening" events. Observing the wait staff, there was an air of excitement and confidence. Front-of-the-house manager, Heather Corbin, greeted guests with a warm smile as she meandered from table to table in high-topped cowboy boots.

Before Saturday night's event, a visit to the kitchen reminded me of a championship basketball team just before taking the floor. The mood was relaxed and assured, much like the team leader Chef Matt Corbin.

What more can I say? The food was phenomenal. Welcome home Matt Corbin! We are hungry!

The Blue Raven will be open on a limited basis Tuesday through Saturday this week beginning at 4:30. The official grand opening is Tuesday May 8. For behind-the-scenes with Chef Matt Corbin check out www.friendsdriftinn.com.

Joyce Pinson is a Master Gardener, home cook, and a local insurance agent. She maintains a food and garden blog at www.friendsdriftinn.com.



Chef Matt and his wife Heather stop working long enough to pose for a picture at The Blue Raven Restaurant, Pikeville.

Photo for the News-Express by Joyce Pinson

WEDNESDAY'S SUDOKU & CROSSWORD ANSWERS

5	9	2	7	4	6	8	3	1
3	4	8	9	1	2	5	7	6
1	7	6	5	3	8	4	9	2
7	6	4	1	2	3	9	8	5
2	3	9	6	8	5	7	1	4
8	5	1	4	9	7	6	2	3
9	8	5	2	6	1	3	4	7
6	1	3	8	7	4	2	5	9
4	2	7	3	5	9	1	6	8

R	O	S	T	E	R	E	P	A	H	A	R	P	
U	N	R	I	P	E	U	R	N	O	T	H	O	
M	O	A	N	E	D	R	O	T	W	H	Y	S	
		G	E	O	D	E	S	I	C	D	O	M	E
A	C	M	E	S	E	K	E	E	A	S	E	D	
R	O	A	D	S	E	A	A	S	H				
A	U	G	H	A	M	B	A	S	S	E	T	S	
B	R	O	O	R	E	A	R	N	P	O	P		
S	T	O	R	M	E	D	T	O	A	C	P	R	
		E	E	K	M	E	N	N	O	A			
S	T	A	L	E	A	A	A	R	I	T	Z	Y	
T	E	L	E	C	O	M	M	U	T	E	S		
R	E	B	A	D	I	M	E	N	S	I	G	N	
U	T	E	S	D	N	A	D	E	A	D	E	N	
T	H	E	E	S	O	L	S	E	N	A	T	E	

PRAYER

Continued From Page 1C

tions in honor of the observance of the National Day of Prayer. In doing so, they have affirmed the importance of prayer and of this annual event.

The National Day of Prayer belongs to all Americans. It is a day that transcends differences, bringing together citizens from all backgrounds to pray for the nation.

If you are unable to join the group, please be in prayer for the country wherever you may be.

Lost.
(How most kids feel about preparing for college.)
KnowHow2GO.org 800-433-3243

Beltone
The Beltone Experience is all about patient satisfaction.

Experience The Beltone True Difference



- Barely visible
- Detects speech clearly in noise
- Best Anti-whistling system
- Excellent on the phone
- Wind noise reduction



I never realized they played music in the grocery store!

Beltone tested my hearing, answered all my questions then let me make my own decision.

This is my third set of hearing aids. The previous two, I had trouble with conversations. It was very embarrassing to ask to repeat it.

Now with my new Belton Digital Hearing Aid, it's more comfortable. No one knows that I am wearing it and no more of that look that says what did you say?
-Helen Hinkle

Friday, May 4
Wednesday, May 9
Friday, May 11
Wednesday, May 16

Save **\$1,000**
Get \$1,000 off On Any Beltone System, or \$500 Off a Single Aid.
Cannot be combined with other discounts or previous orders.

FREE
Hearing Test
Coupon \$125.00 Value
Factory trained specialist on hand.

Call (800) 634-5265

77 Weddington Branch Plaza, Pikeville, KY
(606) 437-1866