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WINCHESTER, KENTUCKY

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Funeral homes dealing with social distancing, public health

BY FRED PETKE
Sun Reporter

Recommendations against public gatherings have stricken so many businesses around Clark County, but one of the most difficult has been the funeral industry.

At a time when people want to be with each other, they can't for public safety.

Rolan Taylor, owner of Rolan Taylor Funeral Home in Winchester, said he was planning his first actual funeral since the coronavirus pandemic took hold.

"We are allowing 10 people," he said. "We have a service (Wednesday), and we are allowing the husband and nine others. They have an hour of visitation. They are adults, and they know the restrictions."

There will be a private burial afterward, he said.

Funerals were mentioned in one of

See FUNERALS, A2

STATEWIDE NEWS

KDE cancels K-PREP testing for 2019-20

SPECIAL TO THE SUN

The Kentucky Department of Education notified all Kentucky public school superintendents March 24 that K-PREP testing for the 2019-20 school year has been canceled.

U.S. Department of Education officials announced March 20 that students impacted by school closures due to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic can bypass standardized testing for the 2019-2020 school year.

KDE applied for a waiver and was notified over the weekend its testing waiver was tentatively approved by the USED.

The testing window during which the Kentucky Performance Rating for Educational Progress (K-PREP) is given annually is within the last 14 instructional days on a school district's calendar.

While all 172 of Kentucky's school districts are now using the Non-Traditional Instruction (NTI) Program to ensure students continue learning while school buildings are closed, in-person classes have been called off through at least

See K-PREP, A3



Stonemason Stuart Joynt of Winchester works on a white marble headstone for the daughter of Gov. James Clark to be placed in front of Holly Rood, where the Clark family is buried. (Photo by Randy Patrick)

Carved in stone

Drystone mason's avocation is carving vintage grave markers

BY RANDY PATRICK
Sun Reporter

Stuart Joynt concentrates as he leans over the smooth white marble, carving the dates and letters into the stone with a hammer and chisel, careful not to fracture the brittle rock.

"The energy from the chisel dissipates into the stone at an angle," the artist said. "If you just hit straight down, it's going to shatter and go crazy places, really bad."

"If I rush this and chunk out a great big piece, I've got to buy a new stone," he said.

Joynt is hand-making headstones for the first wife and a son and daughter of Kentucky Gov. James Clark (1779-1839) of Winchester, who are buried with him beside his tall monument in front of the Clark mansion, Holly Rood.

They were interred near the old Winchester High School football field, but when their remains were moved, their headstones

See JOYNT, A2



Local dry mason Stuart Joynt spent a recent Saturday completing a head stone for Sarah Ann Clark, the daughter of Kentucky Gov. James Clark (1779-1839). The marker will be placed at Holly Rood. (Photos by Randy Patrick)



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