

DRUG ABUSE IN WORKPLACE STIRS CONCERN

Lexington Herald-Leader (KY) - March 18, 1985

- Author/Byline: Angelo B. Henderson Herald-Leader contributing writer
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God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can and the wisdom to know the difference.

A 38-year-old Lexington secretary whispers this prayer every morning before she gets up for work.

She is a drug addict.

"I have a disease that is a lot more commonplace than people want to admit," she said.

"Drug addicts are in all professions. There are doctors, priests, secretaries, nurses, construction workers, lawyers and bums," she said.

Concern about drug abuse on the job is growing among employers in Lexington and elsewhere in the nation. A growing number of companies are using in-house counseling programs and drug screening as a part of pre-employment testing to deter the use of drugs in the workplace.

The companies are concerned not only for the health and safety of their employees, but also for the costs to their bottom lines.

According to a government-sponsored study in 1983 by the Research Triangle Institute in North Carolina, drug abuse costs the U.S. economy \$59.7 billion a year. About \$33.3 billion of that is based on the reduced productivity of people in the work force.

A 1982 survey by the National Institute on Drug Abuse stated that people who used marijuana daily for a month were 27.9 percent less productive than others of the same age, race, sex, education, occupation and marital status.

Smoking marijuana, snorting cocaine and taking amphetamines were all in a day's work for the Lexington secretary.

"I took dope on my way to work, on my morning break, during lunch, on my afternoon break and after work," she said. "I did as much work as my disease would allow, and the drugs even said I was performing better. But it was hard applying myself."

No one at her office knew she was taking drugs, she said.

"If my supervisor knew I was an addict, I'd be fired," she said. "It doesn't matter that I am recovering. I would lose my job. There is no doubt in my mind."

The chances that a person will have used drugs or alcohol before graduating from college are better than 9 out of 10, said George R. Ross, a psychologist and clinical director of Possibilities Unlimited Inc., a non-profit drug rehabilitation and counseling program for teen-agers in Lexington. Those habits, and problems, are being carried into the work force in all areas and at all levels.

"Eight to 10 percent of employees at any job are affected by alcohol or drugs," said Doug Jones, an employee assistance program consultant for the state Transportation Cabinet and for General Telephone Company of Kentucky.

Companies are finding that drug use not only affects productivity, but also leads to more absenteeism, tardiness, higher insurance rates, thefts, and disability claims because of job-related accidents.

Clark Equipment Co., which operates a forklift plant in Scott County, is among Lexington-area companies taking steps to combat the problem.

"When we started doing pre-employment screening last summer, we had 30 percent of the applicants coming to us showing positive on the drug screen," said Jerry Hatcher, human resources manager for the company. "And a Lexington company that we checked with had better than 50 percent of its applicants showing positive on the drug screen.

"It is a serious problem that most companies are facing, but if we talk about it and deal with it then we can help solve it," Hatcher said.

International Business Machines Corp., Lexington's largest private employer, last fall began requiring drug screening tests for all job applicants, regardless of job status, said Jim Eggensperger, manager of communications for the company.

"Drug screens are essential if we want to avoid a potential problem in the workplace," said Eggensperger, whose company produces electric typewriters in Lexington.

Elsewhere, the U.S. Department of Transportation last September established new rules allowing railroad officials to conduct breathalcohol tests and drug screening tests for anyone seeking employment involving train operations. Last month the Boston police department announced that it would start conducting surprise tests on anyone suspected of being under the influence of drugs.

International Clinical Laboratories of Kentucky Inc. performs about 2,000

drug screenings for area employers every month, said Sam Morris, director of toxicology at the lab. In a 60-milliliter urine sample, the lab can detect the presence of several drugs, including cocaine, phenobarbital, codeine, methamphetamine, diazepam (also known as Valium), nicotine and phencyclidine (PCP).

In addition to pre-employment screening, companies have begun to deal with drug abuse problems of current employees by means of in-house programs called employee assistance programs.

Although such programs are about 30 years old, they have begun to deal with drug and chemical dependencies other than alcohol only in the past 10 years, said Eura Smith, director of growth resources at the Bluegrass East Comprehensive Care Center in Lexington.

The Bluegrass East Comprehensive Care Center is a private, non-profit mental health clinic. It provides a variety of mental health services for children and adults.

"Employee assistance is used by companies as a benefit to employees, and it is totally confidential," Smith said. "We train supervisors to focus on job performance issues, such as absenteeism and tardiness, rather than suggesting that an employee may be using drugs."

He said employee assistance counselors assess the problem and refer the individual to the appropriate treatment, and follow up by suggesting self-help groups such as Alcoholics Anonymous and Narcotics Anonymous.

"Over one-half of the Fortune 500 companies in the United States have employee assistance programs," Smith said, "and we serve 6,500 employees in

Kentucky, plus the family members."

The center operates employee assistance programs with six Lexington-area employers including GenTel and the Urban County Government, Smith said. The programs cost the employers about \$15 to \$25 per employee a year.

Jones, the assistance program consultant, said companies shouldn't go on a "witch hunt" looking for drug addicts and alcoholics.

"These people have a disease, and a company should treat it as such," he said.

"Employee assistance programs allow us an opportunity to recognize alcoholism and drug abuse in earlier stages, before the person bottoms out, and while they are still employable," Jones said.

With increased concern about detecting and addressing drug abuse in the workplace, the question of legal rights also arises. How far can employers go without violating their employees' individual rights? The answers are not clear-cut.

Dick Stephenson, a Lexington attorney, told members of the Bluegrass Personnel Association last week that "there is no federal law that addresses under what condition an employer may conduct a drug screening test or a drug search."

He said Kentucky had no state law addressing that issue, either.

Stephenson said employees who were being punished for drug usage could use the federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as a legal defense in some circumstances. The act, commonly known as the "Handicapped Act," prohibits discrimination against handicapped employees. A drug user might claim that his dependence on drugs would qualify him as a handicapped employee, Stephenson said.

But he added that the act applied only to companies with government contracts.

The Federal Civil Rights Act of 1964 may be another defense if the drug screening or alcohol testing precluded the employment of a disproportionate number of a group protected under the law, he said. The law prohibits discrimination based on race, sex, national origin and religion.

Employers do have the right to conduct searches of employees' lockers, desks and work areas, without violating the employees' legal rights to privacy, Stephenson said. Protection against such searches, without a search warrant, applies only to government authorities, such as police officers, not to private companies.

Employers with labor unions might be prevented by their labor contracts

from conducting such searches, however.

- Caption: PHOTO Color Herald-Leader/Tom Woods II Drug screening test Eight to 10 percent of working people affected by drugs or alcohol, counselor says. Jim Anderson prepares samples for pre-employment drug screening tests at International Clinical Laboratories
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CONSERVATIONIST SHOWS AND TELLS LOVE FOR THE LAND

Lexington Herald-Leader (KY) - April 17, 1985

• Author/Byline: Bettye Lee Mastin Herald-Leader staff writer

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Van Shipp. The name is unusual, and so is the knowledge that Shipp, a Woodford County farmer, has of native plants being obliterated in the Bluegrass.

On Saturday John Van de Graaff Shipp III (his full name) will lead an Audubon Society of Kentucky walk in the Woodford County Swamp. The trip, which is open to the public, will focus on migratory birds and native plants.

Although Shipp is known to many people for his frequent letters to the editor, letter writing isn't a favorite activity for the owner of the Shipp Tobacco Seed Co.

At his office on a family farm where he grew up or at his Versailles home, Shipp usually types a letter only in response to conservation issues.

"Surprisingly, I'm not much at writing personal letters. Basically my concern is the environment. What triggers a letter is that someone says something, or writes something, and I carry it a little bit further."

The letters - although not the times he writes them - have the support of his wife, Judith.

"It can be difficult when he gets up in the middle of the night to write," said Mrs. Shipp, who is director of programs for a Lexington rehabilitation center, Possibilities Unlimited. "But he has these concerns, and I've really reinforced him to do what he feels. He has an effective way of being an advocate. I wish I had the talent. We don't have enough advocates."

Shipp considers himself to be a "solemn fellow. My grandfather, the first John Van de Graaff Shipp, was a solemn fellow, and they say I'm like him.

"I like to see truths expressed. Writing a letter is one of my ways of rebelling against untruth."

He formerly edited the Buckley Hills Newsletter for six years, "and being editor means you usually do the whole thing," said Betty Maxon, former president of the Buckley Hills Audubon Society Chapter and a former president of the Audubon Society of Kentucky. "Van carried the newsletter alone and performed quite a service to keep it going."

Shipp's wide-ranging discussions usually get around to philosophy, native trees and interlocking biological relations.

"In nature you see lots of diversity, but we're losing that," Shipp said. "There's a lot about the interdependencies of life systems that we don't understand, but why destroy them before we do?

"Everything doesn't have to be saved, but we're not saving nearly enough. It scares me, but Kentucky has never been famous as an environmentally astute state."

He preserves native flora in fence rows on the family farms that he owns with his brothers and a sister. "I must be the only person in Central Kentucky willing to clean fence rows out by hand, leaving native vegetation for reproduction," he once wrote.

But he blames policy-makers, not individuals assigned to carry out orders.

"A fence row in front of the farm here on Aiken Road had 12 different species, all indigenous, all native. But, lo and behold, here came a bush hog. The guy operating the bush hog didn't know those plants were there; he was just doing a job.

"You can't begrudge him making a living, but someone should take some responsibility. Bit by bit we're corralling nature, and there's no provision to retain anything."

Shipp has not been a member of the Woodford County zoning board or been involved in politics.

"I couldn't get on the zoning board if I wanted to, and it doesn't fit my nature to try to lead. I know it's necessary for someone to do it, but it certainly doesn't make you any money or friends," he said, adding that he admires those who are leaders.

Shipp, 59, came to appreciate the wilderness only as an adult. "I was born with a silver spoon, or what was thought of at the time as that. I sort of call it my rebirth when I visited Wyoming when I was about 35. As a boy, I wandered a lot outside, but I wasn't conscious of the rewards of nature."

He grew up in a house built by his ancestors in 1820, on the farm that has the seed company office. The house still has the tools used to build it. And much older tools - Woodland Indian axes and a pounding stone - have been found on the site, which is part of a 1,200-foot mound called Old Fort Place, or Lovedale.

"Now this area has changed so completely, an Indian wouldn't know it. Even the vegetation has changed," Shipp said.

Although Shipp's grandfather, a thoroughbred breeder, and his father both produced tobacco seed, "I had to teach myself the business," he said. He grows about 15 varieties of white burley seed, and after 10 years' work recently obtained certification for a new variety.

Pollinating tobacco in the dry summer of 1983, Shipp learned new lessons. "It was hot, and I was bored and watching the insects. You could see dramatic changes brought on by the drought. There's adaptability there, and plants have adaptability that 90 percent of the people don't realize."

Interested in nature photography, he has written columns and poetry for a biweekly paper in the West and has made 14 trips to wilderness areas, four of them to Alaska.

After studying at Transylvania College, he was in Navy training programs at out-of-state colleges, then earned a degree in agriculture from the University of Kentucky in 1948.

"I've never left UK," Shipp joked. "I take classes although I've never been particularly interested in getting an advanced degree. What I learn just benefits me."

But one spokesman for education, the late Edward F. Prichard Jr., believed that Shipp had benefited others.

"Prich and I both felt Van to be a giant, an absolute giant, a real scholar of our times on our ecological heritage," said Prichard's widow, Lucy. "He is one of the most honest people; he's fearless, brave and knowledgeable."

The Audubon Society of Kentucky tour will start at 8 a.m. Saturday. For information, call president Jim Williams, 269-3915, or Betty Maxon, 272-1883.

- Caption: PHOTO Herald-Leader/David Perry Conservationist John Van de Graaff Shipp III will lead an Audubon Society of Kentucky walk in the Woodford County Swamp on Saturday.
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TWO-FACED KITTEN DIES

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A kitten born with two faces died yesterday morning, the kitten's owner said.

Ann Strange, 700 Colonial Drive, said she found the kitten dead when she awoke.

"I guess maybe it's better this way," Ms. Strange said. "It may have had problems later on."

Ms. Strange said she would give the kitten's body to Dr. Marlin W. Crowe of the University of Kentucky's veterinary science department. Crowe told her he studied birth defects and abnormalities in animals. Crowe could not be reached for comment yesterday.

Reconsideration of death sentence sought: An attorney for Edward Lee Harper Jr. has asked the Supreme Court to reconsider its decision upholding the death sentence for Harper, who was convicted of killing his adoptive parents in Jefferson County in 1982.

The Supreme Court upheld Harper's conviction in an opinion about three weeks ago. Now that a request for a reconsideration has been filed, the attorney general's office has an additional three weeks to file a response.

The court then can agree to reconsider its decision or refuse, thereby setting in motion a statute that automatically sets an execution date for the fifth Friday after the effective date of the final court order.

Harper has written letters to newspapers and to Attorney General David Armstrong saying he would drop his appeals if the high court refuses to overturn his conviction and penalty.

4 charged with drug offenses plead not guilty: Four men charged with drug offenses have pleaded not guilty in Fayette District Court, a clerk said.

Police executed a search warrant Tuesday at 2605 Chant Court, resulting in the arrests of David M. Oliver, 25, of 3099 Kirklevington Drive, and Daniel Patrick O'Brien, 28, Steven Michael Lanz, 25, and Kevin J. Haney, 24, all of 2605 Chant Court, detective Alan Ernest said.

Oliver and O'Brien were charged with possession of cocaine and O'Brien was charged with possession of Tuinal. Haney was charged with trafficking in amphetamines and possession of marijuana, and Lanz was charged with possession of cocaine.

The men have been released from the Fayette County Detention Center, a jail employee said last night.

Human rights contributions to be recognized: Four Fayette County educators and a local sorority will receive awards tonight for their contributions to human rights and for leadership and sensitivity to civil rights issues.

The Fayette County Education Association will present the awards at its fourth annual Minority Affairs Committee Dinner at 7 p.m. at the Radisson Plaza Hotel.

Teacher of the Year Awards will go to Danny Ellison of Clays Mill Elementary School, Deborah Embry of Winburn Junior High School and Loris Points of Tates Creek Senior High School. A Humanitarian Award will be presented to Lantis Stewart, the principal of Russell Cave Elementary, and a Community Service Award will go to Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority.

The dinner will feature a keynote speech by Dale Robinson, a representative of the National Education Association.

Fourth annual golf benefit set: The fourth annual Children's Charity Classic, a golf benefit featuring national and local celebrities, will be June 22 at Greenbrier Golf and Country Club with Kyle Macy as host.

Central Bank & Trust Co. will sponsor the event, which is a major fund- raiser for the Children's Charity Fund of the Bluegrass Inc.

Celebrities who will participate in the tournament include Jose Ferrer, Leslie Nielsen, Claude Akins, Tom Poston, Robert Morse, Marj Dusay, Doug McClure and Dan Issel.

During the last three years, the Children's Charity Fund has donated nearly \$64,000 to such local charities as the Child Development Centers of the Bluegrass, the Ronald McDonald House, the Nest, the Todd Trease Teddy Bear Fund and Possibilities Unlimited.

Recommended starting pay set for teachers: A panel has recommended a starting salary of \$15,500 a year for public school teachers in Kentucky.

The maximum pay for teachers who reached the top of the scale would be \$38,750 a year after 20 years.

The recommendations were made Wednesday by a subcommittee of the Career Ladder Development Committee. The committee was created last year to study the issue of connecting teachers' pay to their performance.

Pizza Hut robbed: Two men with guns robbed the Pizza Hut Restaurant at Maxwell Street and Euclid Avenue just before 11 p.m. yesterday.

No other details were available last night.

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CORRECTION

The Herald-Leader incorrectly reported yesterday that the Pizza Hut restaurant at 384 Woodland Avenue was robbed Thursday night. The robbery did not occur.

Memo: Kentucky briefly

SEE CORRECTION BELOW.

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90% OF STATE REFUNDS CLEARED, AGENCY SAYS

Lexington Herald-Leader (KY) - May 25, 1985

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The Revenue Cabinet said yesterday that it had cleared 728,289 individual state income tax refunds, about 90 percent of the total, and that all refunds should be received by June 15.

Those paid to date total \$119 million, compared with \$106 million paid on 720,169 refunds at this point in 1984, according to a news release.

"At this point, we are running two weeks ahead of schedule," Revenue Secretary Gary Gillis said. "So, anyone who filed a timely return and who expects a refund should receive their check by June 15."

Under Kentucky law, the cabinet must meet a July 15 deadline to avoid paying interest to taxpayers expecting refunds. Last year, all refunds were processed by July 1, the release said.

Magoffin school damaged by fire: An after-hours fire damaged classrooms and hallways at Magoffin County High School yesterday afternoon.

Volunteer firefighter Sam Caudill said three Magoffin County fire departments responded to a blaze that began near the principal's office about 4 p.m.

The cause of the fire was being investigated last night, Caudill said. The fire was brought under control "fairly soon," he said, but several classrooms and hallways were damaged by smoke and flames.

Work begins on new county garage: Ground has been broken for the Urban County Government's new public works garage at 2185 Old Frankfort Pike.

When completed by the end of the year, the garage will replace several smaller deteriorating garages throughout the city and will consolidate vehicle maintenance and repair services.

The new garage will have 18 bays for heavy-equipment repairs, 14 bays for car maintenance, a paint and body shop, a parts stockroom, a fueling station and administrative offices. The garage, which will cost up to \$1 million, was recommended by a group of consultants who studied the government's fleet.

The groundbreaking took place Thursday and construction is scheduled to begin immediately.

Lexington woman picked for state post: A Lexington woman has been named director of field services in the Human Resources Cabinet's Department for Social Services, Commissioner Anna Grace Day said yesterday.

Nancy Rawlings, now director of children's services for Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government, will begin her new duties on June 3. She will oversee the agency's field offices around the state, supervising 1,600 employees.

Rawlings has a master's degree in social work from the University of Louisville and also has experience teaching and in school social work.

"I would describe her as a competent, committed professional who has a wealth of experience," Day said.

Rawlings succeeds Steve Fox, who left the position last fall. Ben McClellan, an assistant director, has been acting head of the division.

Golf benefit scheduled: The fourth annual Children's Charity Classic, a golf benefit featuring national and local celebrities, will be June 22 at Greenbrier Golf and Country Club with Kyle Macy as host.

Central Bank & Trust Co. will sponsor the event, which is a major fund- raiser for the Children's Charity Fund of the Bluegrass Inc.

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Centers of the Bluegrass, the Ronald McDonald House, the Nest, the Todd Trease Teddy Bear Fund and Possibilities Unlimited.

Service set at Camp Nelson Cemetery: A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. Sunday at Camp Nelson National Cemetery in Jessamine County.

The service, which will include a color guard and a bugler playing taps, is sponsored by Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 680 of Lexington.

Hopkins leaves for Taiwan: U.S. Rep. Larry Hopkins left yesterday on a trip to Taiwan, where he will discuss agricultural, trade and military issues with government and education officials.

The eight-day trip for the Lexington Republican is at the invitation of Edward C.H. Yang, the president of Shoochow University in Taipei. The university is paying for the trip, a Hopkins spokeswoman said.

Road to be closed: Todds Road south of Liberty Road will be closed to traffic in both directions today from 8 a.m. to noon. Kentucky American Water Co. will provide detour signs and barricades.

- Memo: Kentucky briefly
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MAGOFFIN SCHOOL FIRE DAMAGES HALLS, ROOMS

Lexington Herald-Leader (KY) - May 25, 1985

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The cause of the fire was being investigated last night, Caudill said. The fire was brought under control "fairly soon," he said, but several classrooms and hallways were damaged by smoke and flames.

Pickets reported at Pike mines: About 80 United Mine Workers pickets were marching at Blackberry Creek mine and an additional 150 at Millard yesterday, state police said.

Police were investigating reports of rock throwing at both sites, trooper Kenneth Frost of the Pikeville post said. No arrests were made.

Both mines are A.T. Massey Coal Co. affiliates. The Millard mine is about 12 miles southeast of Pikeville on U.S. 460, and the Blackberry Creek mine is in McCarr, about 30 miles north of Pikeville on Ky. 1056.

Massey Coal has been the target of a selective UMW strike since Oct. 1, when the company refused to sign the union's national contract with the Bituminous Coal Operators Association.

90 percent of tax refunds sent: The Revenue Cabinet said yesterday it had cleared 728,289 individual state income tax refunds, about 90 percent of the total, and that all refunds should be received by June 15.

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Under Kentucky law, the cabinet must meet a July 15 deadline to avoid paying interest to taxpayers expecting refunds. Last year, all refunds were processed by July 1, the release said.

Couple sues over alleged wiretapping: A Nelson County couple are seeking more than \$1.3 million in a federal civil rights suit alleging their telephone was tapped illegally from 1979 through this year.

James Othel Potts and his wife, Anna Carol Potts, of New Haven filed suit Thursday in U.S. District Court in Louisville against J. Michael Whelan of Hodgenville, former district court judge; South Central Bell Telephone Co., and state police Lt. Ellis Ross.

Potts said yesterday that the case was in connection with the investigation of Clyde Daniel Graham, a Nelson County man who police think killed state trooper Eddie Harris on Nov. 7, 1979.

Potts lived near where Harris was slain, and he told police and reporters during the search for Clyde Graham that Graham had broken into his house and had taken some food.

Potts also was indicted for hindering the apprehension of Graham for allegedly giving him food and clothing the night Harris was shot. Graham was killed in an Effingham, Ill., motel room by a state police officer on Dec. 7, 1979. The charge against Potts was dropped later.

Lawsuits give only one side of a case.

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Rawlings has a master's degree in social work from the University of Louisville and also has experience teaching and in school social

All three of her children, ranging in age from 1 to 6 years old, were taken into protective custody, he said.

Ms. Clay was in the Fayette County Detention Center in lieu of \$2,000 bond.

Plane crash injures 3 in Letcher:

Three members of a Wake Forest, N.C., family were injured yesterday when their small airplane crashed in Letcher County.

State police said Warren Ray Ward, 46, suffered a broken back when the single-engine Piper Cherokee he was piloting crashed on a hillside 1,000 feet off U.S. 119 in the Payne Gap area, 10 miles north of Whitesburg.

Ward's wife, Janice, 42, and his 20-year-old son, Kendall, received minor injuries in the crash, which occurred at 3 p.m.

The plane was on its way from Illinois to North Carolina when it went down. The cause of the accident was not known yesterday.

State police dispatcher Sue Allen said the Wards were taken to Jenkins Community Hospital and were then transferred to a hospital in Kingsport, Tenn.

The Federal Aviation Administration was notified of the crash and will investigate.

Senator's wedding delayed:

U.S. Sen. Mitch McConnell and Pam Schultz have postponed their wedding, an aide to the Republican senator from Kentucky said.

The ceremony had been scheduled for Dec. 28.

Janet Mullins said the two were still engaged, but she declined to give any other details.

McConnell, 43, and Miss Schultz, 30, announced their engagement in May.

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TWO MORE ARE ARRESTED IN KNOX COUNTY SLAYING

Lexington Herald-Leader (KY) - October 27, 1985

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Two more men have been arrested and charged in Thursday's shooting death of a grocery store owner in Stinking Creek in Knox County, bringing the total number of suspects charged in the case to four.

Kentucky State Police identified the latest suspects as Donnie Smith, 20, of Fourmile in Bell County and Jody Stephens, 19, of Flat Lick in Knox County.

Both men were charged with first-degree murder and first-degree burglary in connection with the slaying of Shirley Smith, 45, of Flat Lick at his store in Stinking Creek in Knox County.

On the day of the incident, state police arrested Marty Smith, 23, of Fourmile and Ricky Merida, 22, of Flat Lick, who also were charged with first- degree murder and burglary.

Marty Smith and Merida pleaded not guilty at their arraignments Friday and were being held without bond yesterday in Knox County Jail. Donnie Smith and Stephens were also being held without bond and are to be arraigned Monday.

Marty Smith and Donnie Smith are brothers but were not related to Shirley Smith.

Man charged in death of couple:

A Greensburg man was arrested yesterday and charged with two counts of capital murder in the Oct. 21 shooting deaths of a Green County couple.

Arrested about 5:30 p.m. yesterday was Robert E. Judd, 30, of Mount Sherman. He was lodged in the Green County Jail.

Kentucky State Police at the Columbia post charged Judd with the slayings of Jack and Kathy Zieg of Magnolia in Green County. Zieg, 38, was found dead about 10 p.m. at his home, and his wife, 30, wounded but still alive, was found near her home. She was dead on arrival at a local hospital. Both were shot with a medium-caliber weapon, police said.

Two days after the slayings, 56 pounds of processed marijuana were seized from a truck on the Zieg property, police said.

Girl, 16, reported missing:

Lexington police are seeking help in finding a 16-year-old Bardstown girl who disappeared 10 days ago from her Lexington foster home.

According to a police report, the girl, Sonya was enrolled in Possibilities Unlimited, a drug rehabilitation program for young people. The report says the girl was discovered missing at 7:30 a.m. Oct. 17 from a home on Blairmore Road where she was staying.

Miss was described as being 5-foot-5 and 125 pounds with brown hair and brown eyes. She was last seen wearing blue jeans, a light-beige top and tennis shoes.

Anyone with information about should call Lexington police at 258-3760.

- Memo: Kentucky briefly
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