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COMMUNITY EDITION

# Kentucky New Era.

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## Senate hopefuls tackle blame game

BY CHRISTINA A. CASSIDY  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ATLANTA — Who's to blame for Washington gridlock? Candidates in the battle for control of the Senate agree: It's the other guy, the other guy's party and — especially — the other guy's party leaders. But the finger-pointing is getting dicey, and not just for incumbents who have to defend the ways of Washington.



Grimes



McConnell

Newcomers are trying to campaign as outsiders without alienating, or being linked to, party leaders who may be helping them

try to win an office on Capitol Hill. So there's much rhetorical dancing and dubious spin as Republicans try to gain the six seats required to win the Senate majority and Democrats try to hang onto control. Should the GOP succeed, their majority leader would be 30-year Senate veteran Mitch McConnell of Kentucky. Central to fixing the partisan sniping and inaction, he says while campaigning, is "to put a

Kentuckian in charge of the Senate" to stand in the way of President Barack Obama's agenda. McConnell says his Democratic opponent, Alison Lundergan Grimes, is just a rubber stamp for Obama and the Senate's Democratic leader, Harry Reid of Nevada. Thus, the "real candidate of change in this race," McConnell reasons, "is me." Grimes, of course, scoffs at that claim. But she and other first-

time Senate candidates are doing some fancy maneuvering, too. Grimes and Georgia's Michelle Nunn bemoan congressional inaction but don't call out members of their own party, some of whom have been important fundraisers. Nunn will receive a big financial boost this week from national Democrats, with first lady Michelle Obama and former President Bill Clinton holding separate fundraisers for her in Atlanta.

SEE SENATE, PAGE A10

## Get your money's worth from city hall

Last week when Hopkinsville City Council had its first meeting in the new municipal center, I was surprised there weren't more people in the audience. Not counting the four news reporters and a few police officers in the back of the council chambers, there were fewer than 15 people in the audience, and it appeared each one of them had a specific reason to be present. Several hours before the meeting, I had called my husband to tell him I'd be home a little late because, I said, "I'm just enough of a nerd that I want to see the first city council meeting in the new building." "Sure," he said, acknowledging my motivation and personality in a single word. I know government meetings generally are not the most entertaining happenings in town. I've groused my way through plenty of these sessions — city council, fiscal court and school board meetings — and I've seen countless times how good governance is downright boring. But Tuesday night, I really thought more people would have been curious enough about the interior look of the building to drive downtown and attend the meeting. I've heard several people say they believe the building's exterior lacks presence and that it seems a bit underwhelming compared to the older and taller buildings around it. I'm not sure I agree. It does, at least, have more aesthetic appeal than the 1960s utilitarian Lackey Municipal Building that served as city hall for four decades and will now be renovated as the next city police headquarters. But it's the interior of the new municipal building that few people have seen. It definitely has that spiffy "new-car" appeal. The room where the council meets is carpeted and has tall windows



Jennifer P. Brown

SEE BUILDING, PAGE A10

## Tribal rhythm



A dancer (top) makes his way around the arena during an intertribal dance, which the audience was invited to join. Native American Dancers compete (left) in the men's traditional dance contest Saturday during the Trail of Tears Pow Wow at Trail of Tears Commemorative Park. The annual event is now in its 27th year. Originally organized by the Trail of Tears Commission, the powwow was started to memorialize the forced removal of the Native Americans in the late 1830s. Today the event serves as more of a cultural and social gathering where people come together to dance, drum and honor their Native American history.

KAT RUSSELL | KENTUCKY NEW ERA

**More Coverage**  
For more photos from the 27th annual PowWow, see Page B4, or visit [www.kentuckynewera.com](http://www.kentuckynewera.com).

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### WHO WE ARE: Chloe Muller, 23, Hopkinsville

Chloe Muller is a college coach at Christian County High School. In her role, Muller works one-on-one with students to help them plan where they want to go to college, how to get scholarships and to develop an alternative plan if they choose to take a different route. "My job is basically just being there as support because guidance counselors are so busy," she said. Muller is one of many college coaches placed across the

state by AmeriCorps. She said the program is a great resource for students. "When I was their age, I had no one," she said. "It's frustrating that I had the grades for scholarships back then and didn't know I could get them or where to look."



Muller graduated from Western Kentucky University last year with a degree in secondary education and social studies along with a French minor. She wants to teach history and work with refugee populations in the future. "My love is to always work with the disadvantaged groups," she said. Is there someone you know who deserves attention? We'd like to know. Contact us at 270-887-3238 or visit [kentuckynewera.com](http://kentuckynewera.com).

### MORE INSIDE

#### School safety

District hosts forums on discipline, student issues. Local/State A4

#### Ghost supper

Dining with the Dearly Departed set in Cadiz. News A6

# Powwow

Monday-Tuesday, Sept. 8-9, 2014 | Editor: Eli Pace | 270-887-3235 | epace@kentuckynewera.com



PHOTOS BY KAT RUSSELL | KENTUCKY NEW ERA

Native American dancers perform a fancy shawl dance Saturday during the 27th annual Trail of Tears Pow Wow at the Trail of Tears Commemorative Park. The weekend-long event featured food, vendors selling Native American goods, music and dance competitions for men, women and children. Organized by the Trail of Tears commission, the powwow started as a way to memorialize the forced removal of Native Americans in the 1830s. Since then, it has grown into an educational and social gathering where people from across the Pennyriple region to dance, drum and honor their Native American history.



A man performs a traditional Native American dance (left) during an intertribal contest. In traditional dance men wear older style garb that uses eagle feather and bustles with bone breast plates on their leather outfits. Dancers (above) line up around the outer edge of the Trail of Tears Commemorative Park arena at the finish of the evening's grand entrance. During the grand entrance, all of the dancers paraded into the arena. They were joined by the military veterans in the crowd and any "war-mothers" in attendance. Two little girls sit on hay bales(right) lining the outer edge of the arena and watch while contestants compete in intertribal dances.



Accompanied by drumming music, dancers make their way into the arena during Saturday's evening grand entrance. There were three grand entrances throughout the weekend — one to mark the start of the powwow, the second to start off the evening dances and a third to kick off Sunday's festivities.



A little boy watches as dancers pass by during an intertribal dance session. During the intertribals, people from the audience were welcome to join in the festivities. Children were especially excited to get out into the arena and dance with the dancers.