Randy Sexton remains positive after life-changing medical event – page B2
The *Sun's* friendly ghost, 'Mr. Aitchie' – page B5

Section B

The Woodford Sun

Versailles, Kentucky | October 29, 2026

Schools may face staff reductions if large budget cuts are necessary

By Bob Vlach
Woodford Sun Staff

Any additional cuts to the operating budget for Woodford County Public Schools will likely impact student services, Board of Education Chair Adam Brickler told other board members during its meeting on Monday.

Recent cuts totaling $5 million in operating expenses have gotten the district out of deficit spending, Finance Director Jason Gribbins said, but no dollars are available to replace buses, make other purchases or add student programs.

Having sufficient revenue to pay rising operating costs will allow the district to avoid making more cuts, which is "going to turn into jobs and that's what we want to avoid," Brickler said.

"When you start cutting jobs," he added, "that's student services."

Gribbins said about 84 percent of the district's operating budget goes to payroll, so if "you have to make large cuts, unfortunately it has to come from the payroll side."

Quoting someone from a recent budget committee meeting, he said, "You can't cut yourself to greatness."

Their cautionary words came after schools Superintendent Lori Jones, district leaders and board members celebrated the high-performance ratings of Woodford County schools in last spring's state assessment.

During an overview of the results, Chief Academic Officer Ryan Asher said the district's overall performance level was green (high) at the elementary schools and Woodford County Middle School, and blue (highest) at Woodford County High School. The percentage of students reaching proficiency in reading and math continues to climb across grade levels, he said.

"As I've studied other districts," Jones told board members, "there really are none that I'm aware of that are our size that have made the significant financial cuts we've had to make and still maintained" academic achievement.

The BOE voted 4-1 to hold the local property tax rate at 63.3 cents per $100 of assessed value. A petition seeking to recall that rate, which is projected to generate more than 4 percent in additional revenue, is currently circulating.

To be successful, the recall petition will need to have 1,517 qualified signatures, which is 10 percent of the 15,173 votes in Woodford County in the last presidential election on Nov. 5, 2024, according to Woodford County Clerk Sandy Jones. The petition period of 45 days will end on Nov. 8, and Jones will have 30 days for signature verification (Dec. 8, 2026), according to a 2026 statutory timeline provided by Jones. The BOE will have 15 days after certification to rescind or reconsider its tax levy, or a special election will be held to allow the voters to decide if they support a recallable rate or a 62.5 cent non-recallable rate.

Prior to the BOE approving the recallable rate, Gribbins said holding the rate will actually generate 1.86 percent more revenue (about $700,000) than last year, because the school district is projected to lose about $374,000 in state funding this year.

"I wouldn't be a good superintendent if I didn't advocate for our employees and our students to ask our community for support," Jones, who has strongly recommended the board approve the 63.3 cent rate, told the BOE prior to its vote to approve the recalled rate.

On Monday, Gribbins shared a pie graph showing 65.2 percent of the district's payroll dollars are paid to certified staff, 33.5 percent to classified staff and 1.3 percent to subs (as of September).

Broken down by level, he said about 37 percent of payroll dollars are spent at elementary, 21 percent at Woodford County High School and 14 percent at Woodford County Middle School, with about 23 percent of the dollars being spent on personnel supporting all the schools.

During his financial report, Gribbins said the district has almost $300,000 in additional revenue, and expenditures are down by about $1.6 million compared to a year ago.

"That's 4 percent swing year over year" – nearly $2 million – during the first quarter, he said. If that trend can continue during the next three quarters of the fiscal year, that would put the district in "a really good position" financially, he said.

Not knowing what will happen over the next three quarters, Gribbins said he could not predict if additional budget cuts will be necessary next school year.

The food service has a fund balance of about $200,000, but four dishwashers are 18 to 23 years old and will need to be replaced in the near future, Gribbins said. Three walk-in freezers are about the same age, he said, so they will also need to be replaced soon. "Those are probably more of a concern for me," he said, "because if one of those goes out, we're losing $20,000-$30,000 worth of food…"

Before spending dollars in the food service fund balance, board member KT Gould said she prefers waiting until the purchases are necessary because of the recent price increase for student meals. "We cannot continue to put that burden on our families without just cause," she said.

The district can put a plan together so all those purchases are not made at once, Gribbins said. He said it's also important to increase that self-sustaining fund balance so food services has money to replace equipment when needed.

Gribbins said the startup costs for the Little Legacy Hive wrap-around daycare program created a deficit of about $70,000 in the Explorer Time Company fund. But he said he's not concerned because of revenue that will be generated by the daycare program.

Legacy Hive currently has 33 children, with 11 of them being the children of school employees, he said.

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SAM SENTERS AND IVY PORTER were crowned King and Queen of Homecoming Friday Oct. 23 at halftime of Woodford's win over Anderson County. (Photo by Bill Caine)

Potential buyers make multiple visits to former Yokohama industrial property

By Bob Vlach
Woodford Sun Staff

The Woodford County Economic Development Authority (EDA) Executive Director/Consultant Lucas Witt told the EDA board at its Oct. 23 meeting that "two very interested parties" have made multiple visits to the former Yokohama property at 105 Industry Drive in Versailles.

The EDA is marketing the property, which was purchased by the Woodford County Fiscal Court and City of Versailles for $8.5 million, to potential buyers.

Because no deal has been finalized to sell the property, EDA Board Chair Michael Michalisin said, "There's a lot of things we shouldn't, can't talk about publicly, but I'm aware of these companies, and I think the community would be proud to have (them) as corporate neighbors."

Woodford County Judge-Executive James Kay thanked Witt and his consulting firm for their work to help the county and city sell the Yokohama property, with the goal of recruiting a company that brings jobs and occupation tax revenue to the county.

In a press release, Kay and Versailles Mayor Laura Dake spoke glowingly of the potential sale.

"The tremendous interest we are seeing in this property confirms that the City of Versailles is open for high-quality business," said Dake in the release. "Our coordinated focus has always been on creating sustainable, high-paying career opportunities while safeguarding our unique quality of life."

911 dispatchers: answering the call when someone needs help

By Bob Vlach
Woodford Sun Staff

As the *first* first responder, 911 dispatchers at the Versailles Police Department (VPD) have to remain calm on what can often be someone's worst day.

That worst day could be a family member dying or someone getting into their first car accident, dispatcher Gabby Clover says. And no matter what a 911 caller needs – an ambulance, police officers or firefighters – "you have to be prepared for it all," she says.

Being able to communicate with a caller while talking to the first responders being dispatched requires what dispatchers call "our radio ear," says dispatcher Haley Lynn.

They can hear everything – simultaneously – even what's unsaid.

VPD Chief Rob Young describes the 911 dispatchers as being critical in the first responder community. "They literally are that first contact that our public has when they're in need of assistance, whether that be police, fire or EMS," he says.

As the bridge between a first responder and the person in need of help, 911 dispatchers are relied upon to give information to first responders while getting services to the community.

Clover and Lynn are shift partners, so they regularly work in tandem during high-risk emergencies. "And as I'm getting information (from the caller)," explains Clover, "she's giving it out to the officers so they are as prepared as they can be going into that situation…"

Lynn says providing officers with all the information they'll need helps to ensure "they're going to go home at the end of the day to their wives, to their families, and return to shift the next day."

One of the ways for dispatchers to process a *hard call* is by talking to each other – leaning on each other because they understand what they go through during their 12-hour shifts.

"… If we have a bad call, we'll debrief," says Clover. "We'll take a couple of minutes and talk it out." And sometimes, depending on the situation, "we'll ask the officers to come up and sit and talk to us about it, and share their experience from what they saw – actually in the moment – versus what we've heard. That way it kind of gives a sense of closure, because with dispatching a lot of times you don't always get closure."

Diana Leininger, who has been executive director of the 911 department at VPD since May 2025 and a dispatcher for more than 20 years, says debriefings are also an opportunity to discuss "what I could do better next time – even when you do everything that you're supposed to do." That helps prepare them for the next injury accident, heart attack or other emergency.

"You learn something from everyone that you work with," says Lucita Morales, who became a dispatcher a little more than a year ago. Other dispatchers have taught her to stay patient and to *really* listen to a caller, and how you talk to them matters too.

When the person calling 911 gets really loud, Leininger says, "We tend to get real quiet." She says her voice becomes very monotone because that helps her stay calm when emotions are high.

When dispatchers are talking to a caller, Leininger says, "Our goal is (to get) as much information as quick as possible."

"How do we know who to send? We've got to ask questions," she adds, so we can "get a snapshot of what the situation is."

Because a dispatcher is on the phone and "removed from the hysterics of what's on scene," Lynn says, "… You can kind of put the puzzle pieces together as you're asking questions."

Since becoming director, Leininger says she has worked hard to nurture more consistent working relationships with first responders at other agencies to open lines of communication.

Ensuring "all of the emergency services have what they need is important to me because although we're housed in the police department, we're not just police dispatchers. We're a Central Dispatch, so our goal is to make sure everybody gets home safe…," she says.

Leininger was working when VPD Officer Scott Bobbitt was struck by a vehicle and injured on Sept. 23 while directing traffic at Southside Elementary School. She acknowledges emotions are heightened in those situations, but the goal is the same: get everybody home safe and sound – whether that's a first responder or a citizen.

"… On a rough day," says Leininger, "I might drive home in silence. Just let it decompress. Take a moment for myself."



REMAINING CALM in the chaos is what 911 dispatchers do. When callers are asking for help, dispatchers are responsible for making sure they get what they need. Pictured, from left, are Diana Leininger, executive director of the department, with 911 dispatchers Gabby Clover, Haley Lynn and Lucita Morales. (Photo by Bob Vlach)

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GOVERNMENT MEETINGS

Monday, Nov. 2, Midway City Council at 5:30 p.m.
Tuesday, Nov. 3, Versailles City Council at 5:30 p.m.

Medical emergency changes Randy Sexton's life, not his positive outlook on what's to come

By Bob Vlach
Woodford Sun Staff

Before self-publishing a book telling his life story, Versailles author Randy Sexton's life was changed forever by a medical emergency on Sunday morning, May 31.

He and his wife Jackie were returning to their Versailles home after walking their dog Hera, a Great Dane-Lab mix, "and something seemed to kind of pop inside my foot, and I just kind of cried out in pain," remembers Randy, his voice still raspy from tubes being stuck down his throat while in the hospital for multiple surgeries.

Knowing something was wrong with his right foot, Randy took off his shoe and elevated his foot on the couch. "I pulled my sock off and looked at the foot and it was gray," he says.

Not knowing what that meant at the time, he and Jackie were later told there was no blood circulating in his foot.

Looking at the foot, Jackie told Randy, "I think we need to get to the hospital."

Randy watched the gray creeping up his leg as Jackie drove to St. Joseph Hospital. He kept saying, "This really hurts," which is out of character, Jackie says, noting her husband never complained after knee replacement surgery on his left leg.

"Randy doesn't complain," says Jackie, so she was extremely worried because "I didn't know what's going on." And she and Randy, who had played racket ball the day before, "had know idea" it was an aneurysm behind his knee, causing a blood clot.

Doctors at St. Joe knew what was happening, so Randy was transported to University of Kentucky Hospital so he could get more specialized treatment and a surgery to put a blood thinner down his leg in an effort to dissolve the blood clots and try to save some of his right leg, Jackie remembers.

By Monday, doctors did another surgery to remove Randy's leg below the knee in an effort to get some blood flow going, Jackie says. When those efforts failed, Randy lost his leg up to the hip on Friday.

Reflecting on his 68 years of excellent health and looking to the future, Randy says, "I have other things that I'm able to do." He can watch a play at Woodford Theatre, workout in the gym at Falling Springs Recreation Center and travel on cruises. "There are so many things that you can still do even after a horrible, horrible event like this one," he continues, later adding, "I think I see pickleball in my future."



EVEN WHEN THEY LIVED APART and didn't always stay in contact, Randy says his best friend Philo "was always reappearing in my life." (Photo submitted)



RANDY SEXTON and his wife Jackie were returning to their Versailles home after walking their dog Hera on May 31 "and something seemed to kind of pop inside my foot, and I just kind of cried out in pain," he remembers. (Photo by Bob Vlach)

See SEXTON p. B5

Telling his life story

Randy wrote *Misadventures of an American Vagabond* "for myself at first because (there were) so many memories that I wanted to preserve as kind of a legacy, and therefore I guess (this book is) for my family," he says.

"I feel like every person has a story" about life experiences "that would fascinate other people if they could just write it down," he continues. "... So that's why I'm excited about this book because I think it helps people clarify who I was, or who I am right now because of everything ... I've experienced."

"I want people to read (my book)," he adds, "because I feel like I've had an interesting life, and it shouldn't be untold."

His author's note describes *Misadventures of an American Vagabond* as creative nonfiction based on true stories. That's because Randy says he can't remember exactly what was said during all his life experiences, but everything he writes about did happen.

More importantly, he says the colorful people in his life

Quilt brings back memories of Mortonsville Elementary

By Bob Vlach
Woodford Sun Staff

The memories came flooding back when Erin (Tulenko) Casimir and Raelynn (Burke) Waters were looking at a quilt their class made in the spring of their second grade year at Mortonsville Elementary School. Each quilt square brings back a memory from their 1991-92 school year, which was also the final school year that Mortonsville Elementary was open.

A quilt square depicting their teacher Peggy Carter Seal's home (a log cabin in Troy) is a reminder of the close bonds built with classmates that year. "I think about that field trip every time we drive by your house," Raelynn tells Carter Seal. Their class made butter that day at the cabin – and many more memories.

"I don't think that everybody remembers second grade," says Raelynn. "But I think (we do because) there were ... so many things that we got to experience."

"Now," adds Erin, "I look at this quilt and I'm like, 'Holy cow, how did we do all this?'"

Another quilt square depicting a train is a reminder of the Nickel's Worth Club, when visitors like railroad enthusiast Winfrey Adkins came to Mortonsville Elementary – usually on Fridays – to visit Carter Seal's class.

For Adkins, the topic of his visit had to be trains because he owned Nostalgia Station Toy and Train Museum, while also being an avid collector. "So, I took trains from my personal collection," he remembers, "...and let the kids handle them."

Years before that visit, Carter Seal remembers her students telling guests, "You've got to give us at least a nickel's worth," because that's what every student contributed in past years to treat their visitors to lunch, she says.

Looking at Matthew Lay's quilt square and his drawing of a train, Carter Seal says, "... He did a good job. They all did a good job."

Her students practiced drawing their memories on sheets of paper before using permanent markers to draw them on the quilt squares, which were sewn together by moms.

The quilt was made to celebrate Kentucky's bicentennial, so squares also feature the state bird, a cardinal, and the state flower, a goldenrod.

A time capsule was buried somewhere on the grounds of Mortonsville Elementary that year too, but like their class quilt, Erin and Raelynn, both 2002 graduates of Woodford County High School, say they didn't know its whereabouts.

The pair came to the Woodford County Historical Society on a September afternoon after receiving a call from Carter Seal telling them she was donating the class quilt to the Historical Society.

"I was excited to see this (quilt) again," says Erin, "because I did remember it." Looking at the quilt squares reminds her and Raelynn of the many former classmates who somehow have stayed connected in one way or another.

With the help of Erin and Raelynn getting the word out to their second grade classmates on social media, Carter Seal is hopeful many of them will stop by the Historical Society so they can see their memories from Mortonsville's last school year.

The Mortonsville school building is now in disrepair because, unlike other schools that have been closed, it has not been repurposed as a community center or apartment building.

Knowing their former school on Delaney Ferry Road likely needs to be demolished and will not be repurposed is "really sad," says Erin.

"I loved it out there," remembers Carter Seal, who taught in the same classroom at Mortonsville Elementary for 25-and-a-half years. She loved teaching at Southside Elementary too, but says, "there just something (special about being able to teach) the whole family at Mortonsville."



A QUILT WITH MEMORIES of their second grade year at Mortonsville Elementary School (the last year Mortonsville was open) was donated to the Woodford County Historical Society on Sept. 28. Retired teacher Peggy Carter Seal was joined by two of her former students, Erin (Tulenko) Casimir and Raelynn (Burke) Waters, far left, when she made the donation. Winfrey Adkins, president of the Woodford County Historical Society, is also pictured. (Photo by Bob Vlach)

Repurposing of other schools

Former school buildings across Woodford County have been repurposed for other uses.

Versailles Elementary School was repurposed as Versailles School Apartments in 2016. Two decades earlier, Midway School was repurposed as Midway School Apartments. Both adaptive reuse projects were completed by AU Associates.

Nonesuch Elementary School was repurposed as Irish Acres and The Glitz restaurant, and a former school gymnasium is now Millville Community Center.

Pisgah Elementary School was repurposed as Woodford County Public Schools Central Office/Board of Education building, but its future is now in limbo after Central Office was moved to the former Woodford County High School on Frankfort Street in 2025.

The former Versailles High School/Woodford County Middle School building, constructed in 1928, is no longer on the corner of Lexington and Maple streets after being torn down in December 2017.



STUDENTS IN THE LAST SECOND GRADE CLASS taught by Peggy Carter Seal at Mortonsville Elementary School are pictured on a square of the quilt depicting their memories of that year. (Photo by Bob Vlach)

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Breeders' Cup at Keeneland promises to have major economic impact on Woodford County

By Isabella Sepahban
Woodford Sun Equine Intern

The upcoming 43rd Breeders' Cup World Championships are set for Oct. 30-31 at Keeneland Race Course, marking the fourth time the championships have been held in Central Kentucky.

With an increase in Thoroughbred fans and horsemen visiting from across the globe, Woodford County and surrounding communities are expected to see an increase in economic impact.

According to John Keitt, executive vice president and chief operating officer at Breeders' Cup, the economic impact was approximately $86 million when it was held at Keeneland in 2022. This year, he said the economic impact is expected to be close to $100 million.

Keitt said although he expects this year's Breeders' Cup to be big, he also wants to make sure it is a smooth experience for all those involved and attending.

"It's a huge event, and we try and make it as attractive, but also as seamless, as possible to get people to be able to come and just focus on having fun at the Breeders' Cup," he said.

According to Keitt, thousands of people from out of state are expected to visit. Because of this, he said it is important to make sure all preparations have been adequately made.

"We reserve literally thousands of nights of hotel rooms, taking over a lot of the hotels in Lexington mostly," Keitt said. "We make sure we have those so that all these people who travel from outside of Kentucky will have places to stay."



JOHN KEIT, executive vice president and chief operating officer of the Breeders' Cup. (Courtesy, Breeders' Cup Limited and Eclipse Sportswire)

Keitt said he is excited for incoming visitors to get to experience the beauty of Woodford County's environment and community.

"Woodford County has some of the very best, most well-respected and absolutely beautiful stallion farms," Keitt said. "You're in the absolute heart of the Thoroughbred industry globally."

Keitt said he looks forward to what is to come in the next few days as the Breeders' Cup approaches.

"I think it's just going to be an amazing race. The experience itself, both at the track and around the community, is going to be one of the top you could ever hear about and experience," Keitt said. "We're looking forward to showing off Lexington, but also creating this wonderful experience, and the racing is what's the most important part of it, and it's going to be fantastic."

Emily Downey, director of Visit Woodford and president and CEO of the Woodford County Chamber of Commerce, said there has always been a "huge influx" of visitors during past Breeders' Cups hosted at Keeneland.

Downey noted the increase in visitors from out of state and other countries, saying there is at least one visitor from every state that comes to attend the Breeders' Cup.

According to Downey, many of the local businesses in Woodford County and surrounding areas are expected to see an increase in customers, saying that even hair salons have an increase from visitors coming in to get their hair done for the Breeders' Cup.

"Our hotel rooms are sold out, our Airbnbs are sold out and have been for months," Downey said. "Our horse farms are doing tours, and that's an influx there."

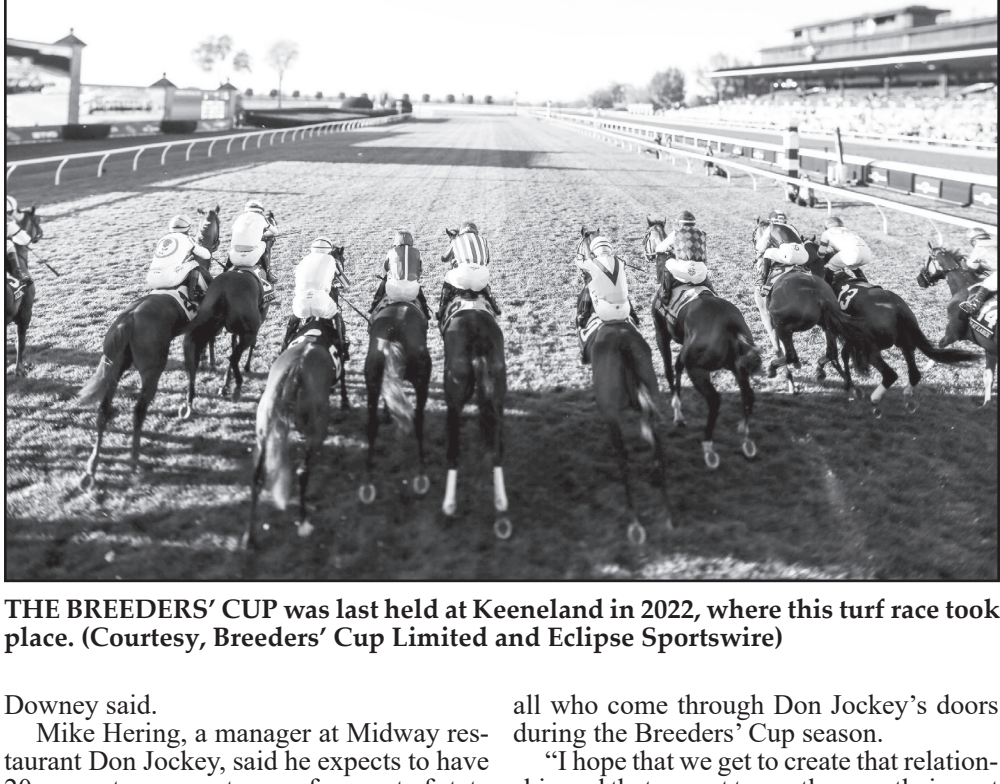
Downey said she expects this year's Breeders' Cup to be especially popular.

"It's gonna be huge. Keeneland has done a great job. It is obviously a place that now people have come to, having hosted a couple of years," Downey said. "They know the Lexington, Kentucky, area . . . and now they are coming back, not only for the Breeders' Cup, but due to the love for our place of home, they're coming to experience it again."

Outside of the Breeders' Cup itself, Downey said she is excited to showcase Woodford County to incoming visitors.

According to Downey, by visiting and supporting local businesses in the area during the Breeders' Cup, Woodford County's economy gets a boost.

"We love it, and we know it's the greatest place on earth, but getting to share it with other people who come– there's a real sense of experience that people are yearning for, and small-town charm is certainly it," Downey said.



THE BREEDERS' CUP was last held at Keeneland in 2022, where this turf race took place. (Courtesy, Breeders' Cup Limited and Eclipse Sportswire)

Mike Hering, a manager at Midway restaurant Don Jockey, said he expects to have 20 percent more customers from out of state than normal during Breeders' Cup week and is looking forward to meeting new patrons.

"That's probably the most exciting part of my day, is being able to interact with everybody and be able to entertain and get to know and create new friendships and relationships," Hering said. "There's nothing to me that's more important."

According to Hering, creating a welcoming environment is important when it comes to maintaining positive relationships with all who come through Don Jockey's doors during the Breeders' Cup season.

"I hope that we get to create that relationship and that we get to see them on their next visit to Midway or Woodford County and maintain those communications and positivity," Hering said.

For Hering, it is important to ensure that visitors do not just have a good time at this year's Breeders' Cup, but want to come back for more.

Isabella Sepahban is a University of Kentucky School of Journalism senior with a focus on narrative multimedia storytelling.

County receives $1.3 million from federal grant to complete Big Sink sidewalk project

By Scott White
Woodford Sun Staff
Report for America corps member

County Judge-Executive James Kay announced at Tuesday's Fiscal Court meeting that the county has been awarded a $1.3 million federal Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) grant for the long-planned Big Sink Road sidewalk and multi-use path, which will run from the entrance to Stonegate subdivision all the way to the intersection with the U.S. 60 Bypass.

"These additional funds (are) the game-changer that we need to complete the project, (it will fully) fund the purchase of right-of-ways and easements," Kay said. "For years, this connectivity and pedestrian safety project has been a top priority of the Fiscal Court . . . and will give us the amount of money we need . . . so this is a very, very big deal." Magistrate John Varner, whose District includes this area, has been leading the charge on getting this project completed. "There have been a lot of hurdles to jump through and a lot of setbacks," Varner said as he made the motion to amend the scope of work for the project to add this funding. "We are now out in front of all that (and) I am so happy for folks out in Stonegate and, hopefully, we can get this project completed in the next year."

MLK Boulevard project

The Fiscal Court was asked to conditionally contribute $25,000 for a city project to install four speed tables on Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard (MLK). The item was added to the meeting agenda on Tuesday morning at the request of Magistrate John Gentry.

Gentry explained he had attended a listening session held by Versailles Mayor Laura Dake with residents of MLK about their concerns with ongoing speeding and the heavy traffic there – 1,200 vehicles a day. As a result, the city committed $25,000 towards the installation of speed tables for traffic calming and public safety.

Gentry went on to say the hope was for four speed tables, at an approximate cost of $15,000 each. "That amount will run out pretty quick (to complete the project), and I believe we should chip in and help them out."

In response to a question raised by Magistrate Mary Ann Gill about the effect of speed tables on emergency vehicles, Gentry said he went through the proper channels and spoke to the chiefs of the city fire and police departments (since the street is in the city limits) and the acting director of emergency medical services, and that all of them said the tables would not interfere or hamper their work.

Magistrate Larry Blackford pointed out that there were several issues that needed addressing in that neighborhood, and was concerned that funding this could create a feeling that if this issue is addressed, it would further put off the other issues that historic African-American community has, such as lack of sidewalks, poor lighting and the need to move utility poles.

"We have a committee that has been working on this for quite a while, and I've talked to the mayor and we are scheduling two meetings soon, one during the day and one at night so everyone can (have a chance to speak)," Blackford said. "We need to meet and find out what they want – do they want it to go one-way? Do they want sidewalks? Do they want more lights? A whole lot goes into what they really want there . . . there is no rush. I think it is good for us to wait till after these committee meetings and come up with a solution."

Gill agreed. "I think we need some time for due diligence. We just got this (proposal) at 10:10 this morning. Does Versailles have an ordinance to allow speed tables, which under the law you have to have to do this . . . (what) is the actual cost? I think we need to look at these things as Squire Blackford said. This is not an emergency."

Varner, too, believed taking some time to make this decision was a better path, pointing out that when the court made a speed limit change in a prior year it required all of the residents of the area to support the change. "I think we need to have input from the folks who live out there to make sure they are happy with the direction we are headed," he said. In response to a question from Magistrate Jackie Brown, Kay confirmed the county could contribute to the city's project since it related to public safety. But since the proposal was unbudgeted, it could only come from the general fund and not the road or rural improvement funds.

After further discussion, including from Magistrate Liles Taylor, who confirmed the point that approving the proposal did not preclude the county from doing other public safety projects in that area in the future, the motion was amended to make the contribution of the $25,000 contingent on the court's review of the actual plan once the city prepares and approves it.

Gill voiced other concerns. "This isn't budgeted . . . (we are) two days before early voting starts and the optics are bad to do right now; if we took a little time, I prefer we wait."

Magistrates Blackford, Gill and Varner voted no, and the motion passed 5-3.

Solid Waste and Recycling Department

The court approved the appointment of Joe Girouard as the director of the Solid Waste and Recycling Department. Girouard has been serving in an interim capacity since the retirement of the prior director in August.

Treasurer's report

County Treasurer Melody Traugott reported that the current money market account balance is $9,806,260.64.

FOOD PANTRY
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Annual Fundraising Appeal

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Food prices continue to rise, and we are seeing more families seeking assistance because of unemployment, rising household expenses, and other financial hardships. Our pantry works hard to provide not only emergency food, but nutritious staples and other essential groceries. As demand increases, so does the cost of keeping our shelves stocked. Last year alone, the pantry spent more than $68,000 on food, even with generous community and foundation support.

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From Our Files

10 Years Ago
October 27, 2016

Ben Chandler, Jr., the long-time Publisher of the Woodford Sun, and a member of the Kentucky Journalism Hall of Fame, passed away aged 87 at his Versailles home. Chandler took over as the Publisher of the Sun in 1957, 15 years after it was purchased by his father, Gov. Albert B. "Happy" Chandler, Sr. His popular "Happy Landings," covered a wide interest in politics, Woodford County history, literature, and sports. His son Whitney Dunlap Chandler took over as Publisher after his father's retirement in 2014. Though the son of one of Kentucky's most important politicians and the father of a son who became a U.S. Congressman, Chandler did not like the limelight. The funeral and burial took place at Pisgah Presbyterian Church.

The Woodford Chamber of Commerce and Midway Women's Club held a candidate forum for Kentucky House District 56 which pitted incumbent James Kay against Republican challenger Dan Fister.

The Woodford County Parks opened a new Disc Golf course at Woodford County Park off Beasley Road, and it is already getting lots of use Director Rich Pictor reports.

The trial of Vernon Sanders for the murder of his brother, Timothy, began at the Woodford County Courthouse.

The WCHS football team's woes continued with a 20-18 loss to District foe Montgomery County. The boys soccer team's season ended with a loss to Lexington Dunbar in the Regionals. The girls soccer team also finished their season with a loss to Lexington Catholic in the Regional semifinals, 2-0.

25 Years Ago
November 1, 2001

A mercury spill at a Sycamore Estates residence on Oct. 24 is being investigated by federal and local officials.

The hearing on a proposed 500-lot development on the Backer property on Lexington Road will continue at next Thursday's P&Z meeting.

Actor Hunter Garner of Los Angeles, Calif., took a break from "As the World Turns" last week to visit his family in Versailles.

A merger between Lexington-based Life Adventure Camp and The Cleveland Home was announced Oct. 26 following a special ceremony at The Cleveland Home Farm.

The Bluegrass Community Hospital Auxiliary and the hospital's administration held a ribbon-cutting ceremony Monday for the facility's gift shop.

The Woodford County High School Yellow Jackets upset Lexington's Tates Creek 21-20 in Friday night's football game.

Gainsborough Farm purchased 112.623 acres at 6182 Frankfort Road for $12 million at a master commissioner's sale on Oct. 10.

40 Years Ago
November 30, 1986

Woodford Fiscal Court has approved a zone change for 25 acres owned by Bobby Gaffney, adjacent to Stonegate subdivision, for residential development. The Planning and Zoning Commission had denied the request in September.

Former Gov. A.B. Chandler was named "Kentuckian of the Century" by the Kentucky Broadcasters Association Oct. 23.

A bypass around the western side of Versailles from the Frankfort Pike to the Troy Pike is being planned by the state, County Judge-Executive Denny Nunnelley told the Chamber of Commerce last Thursday.

Woodford County has 10,372 eligible voters - 8,729 Democrats, 1,443 Republicans, and 200 no preference or "other."

The Irish Acres antique shop, owned by Emilie Hannigan, has opened in the former Nonesuch School.

Pledging sororities at the University of Kentucky recently were Lana Marie McManaway, Alpha Gamma Delta; Nancy Jeanne Clark and Margaret Jane Lamonica, Delta Delta Delta, and Yolande Catherine Hornback, Kappa Alpha Theta.

Soup's On for the Holidays: A Healthier Helping of Comfort

By Beth Maxedon
Woodford County Extension Agent for Family and Consumer Sciences

As families and friends gather this November, a warm bowl of soup can bring comfort to the holiday table without putting as much pressure on the grocery budget. Soup packed with beans, pasta, and vegetables, offers a flexible way to create a hearty meal while using ingredients already on hand.

Small choices can make soup more nutritious. Reduced-sodium broth and salt-free herbs and spices can help cut sodium without sacrificing flavor. Beans provide plant-based protein, fiber, iron and other nutrients, while fresh, frozen or canned vegetables make it easy to add variety.

Soup can also help families stretch their food dollars. Store-brand ingredients, dried beans or rinsed canned beans, and seasonal vegetables can be economical options. Before shopping, check the refrigerator, freezer and pantry for vegetables, pasta, beans or broth that can be used. The recipe is easy to customize, too: try cannellini or great northern beans in place of kidney beans, substitute yellow squash for zucchini, add frozen vegetables, or choose whole-wheat pasta for an extra whole-grain boost.

Easy Minestrone Soup

At about $1.37 per serving, this simple minestrone combines beans, pasta and vegetables in a flavorful broth. Each serving contains about 210 calories, 14 grams of protein and 12 grams of dietary fiber.

Ingredients
1 box (32 ounces) low-sodium chicken broth, or beef or vegetable broth
2 cans (14.5 ounces each) no-salt-added petite diced tomatoes
1 can (15.5 ounces) no-salt-added kidney beans, rinsed and drained
1 medium zucchini, diced
1 teaspoon garlic powder
¼ teaspoon onion powder
¾ cup small shell pasta, or other small pasta
1 can (14.5 ounces) mixed vegetables, rinsed and drained
1½ teaspoons Italian seasoning
¾ teaspoon salt
2 tablespoons grated Parmesan cheese, optional

Directions
Wash hands thoroughly and rinse zucchini under cool running water.

In a large pot, combine broth, tomatoes, kidney beans, zucchini, garlic powder and onion powder. Bring to a boil.

Add pasta and reduce heat to low. Simmer for 8 to 10 minutes, or until the pasta is tender.

Stir in mixed vegetables, Italian seasoning and salt. Heat through.

Serve topped with Parmesan cheese, if desired. Refrigerate leftovers within two hours.

Makes: 5 servings
Serving size: 1½ cups
Prep time: 5 minutes
Cook time: 20 minutes

A little creativity can turn simple pantry staples into a warm, nourishing meal that fits both a family gathering and a family budget.

Adapted from https://www.myplate.gov/recipes/supplemental-nutrition-assistance-program-snap/minestrone-soup and https://www.planeatmove.com/recipes/recipe/streamlined-minestrone-soup



Why should we protect farmland?

By Nat Colten
Operations Manager, Woodford County Conservation District

A cynic might say that farmland protection is a hot topic when it is politically expedient.

An optimist might say that widespread public concern for farmland protection is an indication of common values.

Whatever the case may be, the Woodford County Conservation District is happy to capitalize on the moment and continue its work as it has for the past 80 years.

I keep a copy of the District's 1989 Long Range Plan on my desk. It illuminates the legacy of people like Harold Carmickle, Randal Rock, Martha Newby and Donald Mitchell whose work has helped conserve Woodford County's soil and water resources in recent decades.

Major progress has been made since 1989 toward addressing agricultural resource concerns like erosion and water quality.

Local attorney Hank Graddy reminded attendees of our September 22nd Farmland Protection Luncheon that there have also been Land Use Planning successes – namely, the creation of the Kentucky Agricultural District Program, and the local KY River Buffer and Agricultural Equine Preserve Zoning Districts.

However, two items from our 1989 Long Range Plan continue to be of particular concern: prime farmland and water resource protection.

Farming is dependent on soil and water resources. This fact has not changed in over 11,000 years. Even before the Neolithic Revolution, humans relied on soil and water to produce wild plants and animals for their sustenance.

Human society in Central Kentucky is a far cry from subsistence, but soil and water conservation is more important now than ever before due to increasing development pressure.

In our last column, we recalled the environmental impacts of the Dust Bowl and the apparent need for best management practices like reduced tillage and cover cropping to protect soil resources from wind and rain. These are still relevant concerns.

But no amount of plant cover can protect against a bulldozer.

Like how farming practices of the past exacerbated the effects of drought and windstorms in the 1930's, urban and industrial development today threaten to eliminate a natural resource that is geographically unique and finite.

You cannot recreate a Maury Silt Loam after an area has been bulldozed and paved.

And the impacts that development can have on water pollution, not to mention stormwater flow, are evidenced in the recently published Glenns Creek Watershed Plan: loadings of ammonia, nitrogen, phosphorous and total dissolved solids are all highest coming from the city center of Versailles.

There is some irony in the fact that the very natural resources that enticed European-Virginian settlers to establish the community of Falling Spring (later Versailles) are now polluted and bulldozed away.

Where resources are abundant, populations grow.

The District's role is not to judge decisions made by public officials and private landowners. Our role is to emphasize and promote the value of what we are responsible for stewarding so that we can collectively understand why it is worth conserving and plan actions accordingly.

The Woodford County High School (WCHS) Land Judging Team understands this, as was demonstrated by their recent success at the regional high school land judging competition.

Tracy Probst, Woodford County ag. teacher and land judging coach, does her part to teach the importance of natural resource stewardship to all her students. Her land judging team is taking that knowledge to another level – developing skills that are transferrable to future careers and community land use planning – as they prepare to compete at state in November.

Land judging is a way of appraising the physical nature and capability of soils.

Slope, soil texture and color, landform characteristics, erosion potential and the depth to the most limiting layer all inform the capability of soil.

As they've prepared for competition, the WCHS land judging team has had the opportunity to assess soil cores from all over the state - considering how each soil was formed and what factors contributed.

Both sections of Mrs. Probst's horticulture class got to learn from retired Natural Resource Conservation Service soil scientist Steve Jacobs during a mock land judging event at the high school in September. Steve provided practical guidance for land judging and shared anecdotes from his decades of experience surveying soils and supporting local communities with technical assistance.

During a recent visit to Rusty and Martha Thompson's farm on Tyron Pike, students got to see a variety of conservation practices, which are part of the land judging contest, first-hand: a newly emerging cover crop that was planted by an aircraft (a relatively novel practice that helps get a cover crop established earlier), contour planting, grassed waterways, and filter strips to name a few.

Farming will always be relevant to our economy and survival. This is particularly evident in a place like Woodford County, and likely not taken for granted by most.

As we have been interviewing influential farmers and conservationists this year, several themes have emerged.

Financial sustainability is critical to the conservation of farmland.

The economic pressures to sell or subdivide land are strong in a county with such high land values. Most people, particularly beginners, have to consider a significant opportunity cost associated with farming.

Increasing land values, subdivision and development exacerbate land access issues faced by farmers who are trying to expand and, especially, those just beginning.

We certainly don't have all the answers, but there is a very important human component to solving this farmland protection equation.

Support local farmers by prioritizing local spending; work collaboratively to develop new market opportunities; and listen to your neighbors who are out there, with dirt under their fingernails, actively stewarding the landscape that we all value so much.

The Farmer's Resource Breakfast returns this year, on November 6th. If you are interested in learning more about resources available through the Ag. Resource Building, we encourage you to join us!

You can find out more about our programs and upcoming events on our website, Facebook page, or by subscribing to our newsletter. Questions and feedback are always welcome.

Nat Colten is the District Operations Manager at the Woodford County Conservation District. He can be reached directly by email to woodfordcd@gmail.com, by calling 859-873-4941 Ext. 3., or by visiting the Ag. Resource Building (180 Beasley Rd.) in person during business hours.

At the Sun's request, Nat is now writing a bi-monthly column to educate the community on the important work of the WC Conservation District. He can be reached at (859) 873-4941 ext 3 or his office during regular business hours 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m

Corrections

In the article "Plan to build a new J&B Food Mart/gas station moves forward," in the Oct. 15, 2026, edition of *The Woodford Sun*, it incorrectly stated John Wilhoit's objection to the zone change request. In an email to the Sun, he said, "My issue was not that a convenience store is inappropriate for downtown. My objection was that the scale of the convenience store and gas station, as shown in an artist's rendition during the meeting, was way out of character for downtown and the neighborhood that backs up to the property. It looked like something much more appropriate for an interchange on Highway 60 on the way to Lexington, or at an interstate exit. In addition to it being out of character, I also raised concerns about the extra traffic that a new convenience store/gas station of this scale is sure to generate. Many people already complain about traffic problems downtown, and it seems to me that a development of this scale will make it worse." The *Sun* apologizes to Mr. Wilhoit for this error.

In the article "1965 Woodford County Courthouse fire film premieres at library," in the Oct. 22, 2026, edition of *The Woodford Sun*, Tommy McNeil was the Versailles resident who used his 8 mm handheld movie camera to film the fire. The *Sun* apologizes for this error.

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The *Sun's* friendly ghost, 'Mr. Aitchie'

By Scott White
Woodford Sun Staff
Report for America corps member

Versailles just had its annual Spooktacular and Halloween is Saturday, so it is that time of year for a good ghost story. But the tale we have to tell is not a fictional creation from the brain of Steven King.

This is a real story with more than a few rational, reasonable witnesses. And it all happened, and still happens, at *The Woodford Sun* . . . even in our reduced, renovated office.

The *Sun* was home to Atchison Bowmar, who, with his brother Dan, ran the paper from sometime in the 1880s when they took it over from their father, until 1942 when it was purchased by former Gov. (and U.S. Senator and Baseball Commissioner) Albert B. "Happy" Chandler Sr., who lived in Versailles. Happy originally came to Versailles to coach the Versailles High School's football and girls' basketball teams while also practicing law in the early 1920s.

The Bowmar brothers built *The Woodford Sun* building in 1891, from which we still publish the paper.

Mr. Aitchie, as he was known to his friends, died a little over a decade after selling to Chandler. But, as subsequent publishers and employees have discovered, Mr. Aitchie is still around. His presence is not malign, but encouraging, unobtrusive.

Thanks to Jennifer Chandler, the person who oversaw and designed the *Sun's* new space, discovering an old article written in 1970 by her father-in-law and longtime *Sun* publisher, Ben Chandler Jr., we will begin this ghost story by sharing his experience.

Mr. Chandler wrote:

I became the editor of a country weekly newspaper upon two days' notice and eight days training.

The paper, which is now 101 years old, is located in a small town, in a small county in Central Kentucky. Our paper is the only one in the county.

The paper was owned from about 1880 until 1942 by the Bowmar family. First the father and then two of his sons, Aitchie and Dan, were the editors and publishers. Due to their father's incapacitating illness, Aitchie and Dan had taken the paper over at ages 18 and 16. They ran it until Aitchie was 74 and Dan, at age 72, was taken by death. A few months after Dan's death, his widow and Aitchie sold the paper to my father.

No member of my family knew anything about running a newspaper, so a succession of editors came and went from 1942 until 1957. At that time, a contemporary of mine who happened to be the editor, decided to take a job elsewhere and called me to say that I should consider running the paper myself or advise my father to sell it. I decided to give it a whirl, and the next day made virtually my first appearance inside the building.

I watched and helped the editor put out the edition that week (he sold the ads, wrote the copy, and did much of the make-up work). Then, as we started on the next week's edition, he stood over my shoulder and commented as I began to do all the things I had seen him do the previous week.

On the eighth day after my arrival, the paper was put in the mail and the editor was gone. I felt very much alone and, of course, felt every person in our small county was waiting to see just what would happen the following week.

As I started into the planning and writing of the following week's paper, I gradually realized that I was not alone by any means... Aitchie and Dan were with me.

I must digress to tell you about Mr. Aitchie.

He and his wife Mary and my family had been next door neighbors through most of the 30's and 40's (on Elm Street). He had been an old man and I a child and a teenager. My memories of the Bowmars included seeing Mr. Aitchie walk up the street to work each day, dressed in a black suit and vest, totally deaf, humming to himself, and carrying a long black umbrella. His wife would generally drive to town once each day, in a little black Ford. It was about three-quarters of a mile to downtown and Mary would stay in first gear for the first two-thirds of the trip and finally get as far as second gear as she coasted down into town. I'm not sure she ever got the car into third gear as long as they owned it.

I don't ever remember having a real conversation with Mr. Aitchie, and I'm certain I never did with Mr. Dan, who lived across town.



A FULL HUNTER'S MOON, got here just in time to shine its eerie light for Halloween. This was taken from the city lot behind The Woodford Sun. (Photo by Albert Chandler)

As I started to do the work on that first week's paper, and ever since, I began to feel the presence of a Bowmar, and that presence was not the least bit malevolent.

It is now 14 years later and I'm the publisher. My two best friends are the editor and the ad manager. The former has been here about ten years and the latter as long as I have. We have all three had numerous encounters with our friend.

We know that it's Mr. Aitchie.

We have heard him, felt him, brushed into him, and Moss (Vance), the editor, has seen him. He's here, alright, and each of us would gladly take a lie detector test to affirm what we know. Mr. Aitchie wishes us well. He served us, our parents, and the grandparents of many of us. This newspaper was his life and he poured his life into it.

As the first few weeks and months of my stewardship here began to pass along, I began to appreciate just how much the Bowmars were still contributing through the old files. Every conceivable event, activity, tragedy, drama, and crisis had been covered down through the years. News and events have a way of repeating themselves, with slight variations. I have been able to get invaluable guidance on the care and treatment of a story simply by glancing through the old files and taking note of how the Bowmars handled such and such event. Their comments on war and peace, politics and religion, Christmas, Thanksgiving, and the Fourth of July are still very pertinent.

The three of us managing this growing newspaper are continuously and freshly in their debt.

When Mr. Dan passed away, his lonely brother wrote this, "When my brother and I were tiny tots we shared one trundle bed. When heavy responsibilities fell upon us in our teens we shared them. Until we began to settle ourselves in life we had a common purse, each taking what he needed... with never a word of dissension. From early youth we worked within a few feet of each other, day after day, year after year. As boy and man my brother's loyalty to me was absolute, although, with strong and firmly held opinions, he frequently differed from me. The loss to me in his passing is something no written words can express and the depths of which my mind cannot yet grasp. May I be able to forget my own sorrow in joy that he has passed from a world torn with agony to eternal Life and Light. May I be able to 'carry on' courageously, as he would have done. Till we meet again."

Mr. Aitchie's farewell to his readers is preserved in our files of May 28, 1942, and although I'll not quote it here, it is a piece of real beauty. He lived another eight or 10 years after his retirement.

Although Mr. Aitchie and Mr. Dan are now standing on the ramparts of Valhalla, observing what we are doing with their newspaper, we know that they are wishing us well. And Mr. Aitchie is frequently still here in this building.

The three of us who now bear the responsibilities are occasionally required to come to work one or more nights during a particularly heavy week. I don't believe any of us relish being here alone during such times. I definitely don't.

The only thing worse than being alone is being alone, but not really. Mr. Aitchie is not always present . . . not even frequently. But, on occasion, and each of us has known such occasions, he is here. We each feel that he is merely inspecting the premises and the general condition of his newspaper. As a result, we have tried very hard over the past 14 years not to embarrass or humiliate him. He must sense, by now, that we too love the paper.

Well, when Mr. Chandler left the *Sun* to be succeeded first by his son, Whit, and then by Ben III, it was soon discovered that Mr. Aitchie stayed.

I asked Ben's wife, Jennifer, to share a particularly remarkable experience she had with Mr. Aitchie just last year. Here's what she said:

"During the 2025-26 renovation of *The Woodford Sun* building, I believe Mr. Aitchie was very interested in what I was doing to his building . . . and he was not initially a fan of my efforts!

"Very early in the project, on a Sunday afternoon, I was working alone, drawing a floor plan for the new office space. I was measuring and taping where new walls would go when my tape measure suddenly went missing. Frustrated with myself, I conducted a search of the building, retracing every step I'd taken in the last 10 minutes. After giving up, I returned to where I'd left my drawings, and there was my tape measure, in plain sight, precisely where I'd left it.

"A short while after that, I 'had a talk' with Mr. Aitchie. I told him (out loud) how much I respected what he and his brother had built and that our family dearly loved his newspaper. I told him I hoped the building restoration would make them proud.

"I'm happy to say he quit toying with me after that. Although I did nearly fall to my death through an open window during the renovation, I like to think Mr. Aitchie teamed up with my usual battalion of guardian angels to stop my fall . . . I do hope he likes what we did with his building."

If you know Jennifer, then you know full well she neither suffers fools or foolishness, nor is she anything but frugal and practical. If she says she experienced Mr. Aitchie's presence, you can darn well be certain it was real!

One last story. Like many editors before me (I'm now the "community liaison" and take my marching orders from the current editor, Lucie Chandler), I've spent many late nights at the *Sun* since I became involved in 2022. Trying to run a newspaper with no prior experience was a sharp learning curve, and I found myself learning and messing up on hundreds of things every day.

In the spring of 2025, around 11 p.m., probably a Monday or Tuesday, before the renovation had begun, I was in my first-floor office working on laying out the classified ads for that week's paper. I heard distinct footsteps on the second floor above me. It could be anyone, as tons of people still had keys to the building, and unexpected visitors during non-business hours were never a surprise. I walked up the back stairs. It was pitch dark. I groped for and turned on the light.

Nothing. But it *felt* like someone was there. I walked through the entire second floor, back down and through the whole first floor and the old press room. Still, nothing. But someone was there.

This happened every week or so until June 2025. Lucie joined the *Sun* team and has reported similar encounters. Since then, I've never had the same experience, but I have felt many times that someone was with me late on some weeknights.

I'm not worried or scared. It's Mr. Aitchie.

He is looking out for us and his newspaper. I'm just glad he doesn't require a paycheck, given all the time he's put in with his supervisory role.

SEXTON

Continued from p. B2

were all real.

"I've always wanted to have lots and lots of friends. And I do. I've got lots of very close friends," says Randy. So interesting people always populated his orbit, and they made his life fun in different ways.

"I'm drawn to people who are somewhat outcasts, I think," says Randy, who's come to realize having interesting people come and go in his life led to a lot of adventurous moments.

He continued writing because he wanted, and really needed, to tell those stories. So he wrote about the time him and his best friend Philo got picked up by police for being out past curfew when they were 15.

The police handcuffed Philo and me and put us in the back of the cruiser. They put our ten-speed bikes on a rack at the back of their police car and took us to jail. We were locked up in a big cell with a bunch of old drunk men who looked like they were thirty-something. The cell smelled like vomit.

Soon, Randy was asking himself, "What other trouble did I get into?" while growing up in California. Those stories were other misadventures he'd write.

Reading Randy's stories about the wild, and sometimes odd people in his life before they married, left Jackie wondering, "What's wrong with me? Am I weird?" she asks, laughing.

Becoming a writer

Randy says if he hadn't met Florida-based writer George Fleming who told him about self-publishing, "I probably wouldn't have published."

His first book, *Reachable Moments,* focused on his teaching career, and fulfilled a desire to become a writer. "That was what I wanted ever since I was probably in college, right after high school," he says, "... but it's hard to find anyone who will publish what you've written."

What would evolve into his second book, *Misadventures of an American Vagabond*, began with Randy writing stories like a memorable bike riding experience to meet Philo – halfway between their homes in California.

"He was always in my life," says Randy of Philo. They grew up next door neighbors. And even when they lived apart and didn't always stay in contact, "He was always reappearing in my life," says Randy.

"I loved him like a brother. He really was a brother," he adds, calling Philo his main role model early in his life. "I kind of worshipped him less as I got older, but still wanted to be his friend," he says.

Randy says he was aware, but didn't write about Philo's heart problems in the book. He did write about their last adventure together in Colorado Springs, and riding bikes like they were kids again – not knowing Philo was recovering from a recent heart attack.

When Randy received the call informing him that Philo had died, it was not totally unexpected "because by that time I was aware of all of the (health) problems that he had had, and that he was an alcoholic," Randy says.

Driving down interstate 95, I reflected on the memories of my youth with Philo. I thought about the years that came after. Now my friend, and sometimes, nomadic companion, was gone.

I felt empty. A piece of me died as I drove down that freeway.

Growing up

Being raised by a dad, who "didn't really know how to be a parent," but tried, and a mom, who read books about how to parent a child, helped shape Randy's life growing up.

Because his mom read Dr. Benjamin Spock, and followed his advice that parents shouldn't argue in front of their children, Randy says, "I avoid conflict as much as possible in my life and I'm not very assertive, sometimes."

And Jackie says her husband never thinks anyone has evil intentions. So when others see a wild character, he sees the good in a person who is "uniquely different" in some way.

Seeing the good in everyone he met allowed Randy to have friendships with people from many different walks of life.

My journey was shaped by countless events and many friends, both long term and short term. It's startling to see where some of those friends' paths have led them.

What's next?

Randy returned home from the hospital on July 8, also his 69th birthday. A welcome home party reminded him of the many kind and caring friends in his life.

His "leg blew up" about a week before he was supposed to go to his high school class reunion in California, where he'd see some old friends again. While disappointed that he didn't get to go, he looks forward to what happens next.

"Life doesn't end just because you've lost a limb," says Randy. "It's really a matter of the perspective that you have and being positive and realizing there are people in your life who really care about you. So I think that's what got me through this."

Reading Randy's posts about what had happened to him on his author Facebook page compelled people to reach out to him. *Did you really have your leg amputated?*

Randy wishes he could have added this chapter of his life to *Misadventures of an American Vagabond*. His wife of 38 years Jackie says that'll be a story for his next book.

"He likes to write about things that are personal to him, and this has been very personal," says Jackie.

911

Continued from p. B1

She says her family usually knows when she's had a tough day. If she does, they know to leave her alone for a while.

Dispatchers have coping mechanisms too. "I like to color. I like to watch my daughter play softball," says Leininger.

"We all have our things that we do to decompress."

A couch behind their workspace offers a comfy spot for the dispatchers to relax in the aftermath of a tough call.

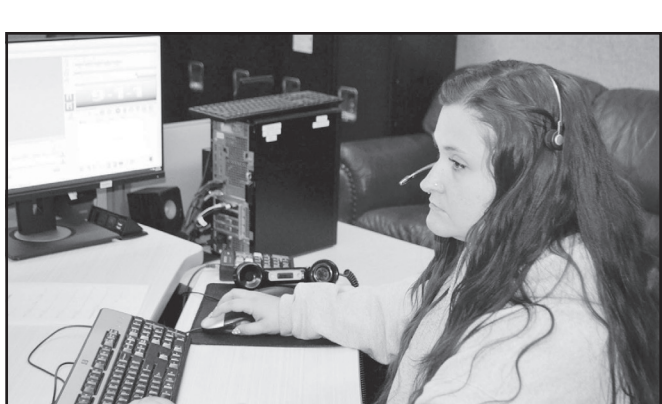
They have to be ready to answer the next call, so "they need somewhere – not far away – where they can decompress and relax for half a minute to regain their composure," Young says.

Being the caregiver for her younger brother, who is autistic and "my world," made Lynn want to help other people when he didn't need her as much.

Morales did women's hair and nails before she became a dispatcher. Being bilingual is an opportunity for her to help people, like a Spanish-speaking caller who appreciated her for remaining calm while giving them all the information they needed, which Morales says, "builds your confidence that you're doing the right thing."

Clover, who has been a dispatcher for five years and earned a bachelor's degree in psychology, also wanted to help people. She used skills learned in a specialized training on crisis and hostage negotiations to help someone who was suicidal. The training gave her tools to "empathize with the person – not sympathize with them," she says.

Leininger enjoys working in Versailles, she says, "because I like knowing who I'm talking to on the radio." Often, she knows who an officer is when she hears their voice – not when she hears their unit number.



GABBY CLOVER used skills learned in a specialized training on crisis and hostage negotiations to help someone who was suicidal. The training gave her tools to "empathize with the person – not sympathize with them," she says. (Photo by Bob Vlach)

By the time someone has been doing this job for a year, "the dispatcher has probably encountered the majority of the type of calls that they're going to get on a regular basis," Leininger says, before emphasizing no two calls are ever the same.

So being able to multi-task is a critical skill for dispatchers who are often relaying information and communicating with more than one first responder, says Young, before adding, "they have to be at their best when others are at their worst."

Lynn, who's been a dispatcher for nearly seven years, says, "We're supposed to be that calm in the chaos."

Steve and Cindy Sawyer celebrate their 'first date anniversary'

By Bob Vlach
Woodford Sun Staff

Versailles artist Steve Sawyer and his wife Cindy celebrated their "first date anniversary," when they drove to St. Charles, Illinois, to see Justin Hayward, the last surviving member of the Moody Blues.

The couple saw Hayward perform with his band on Sept. 20 – nearly 53 years after their first date on Nov. 1, 1973, to see the original Moody Blues play at Freedom Hall in Louisville.

"I can't even remember the concert really," says Cindy, with Steve adding, "I don't either. I remember you."

Their first date almost never happened "because we couldn't find each other," says Cindy, after their paths briefly crossed one summer when she was 15.

When Steve finally found Cindy, he credits a good friend for giving him two tickets to the Moody Blues concert for their first date. Steve has lost contact with that friend, so he has never been able to tell him "the full impact of his gift."

From the time Steve and Cindy briefly met at Kentucky Dam Village, they knew this was who they'd marry. So Steve says, "It was clearly life-altering."

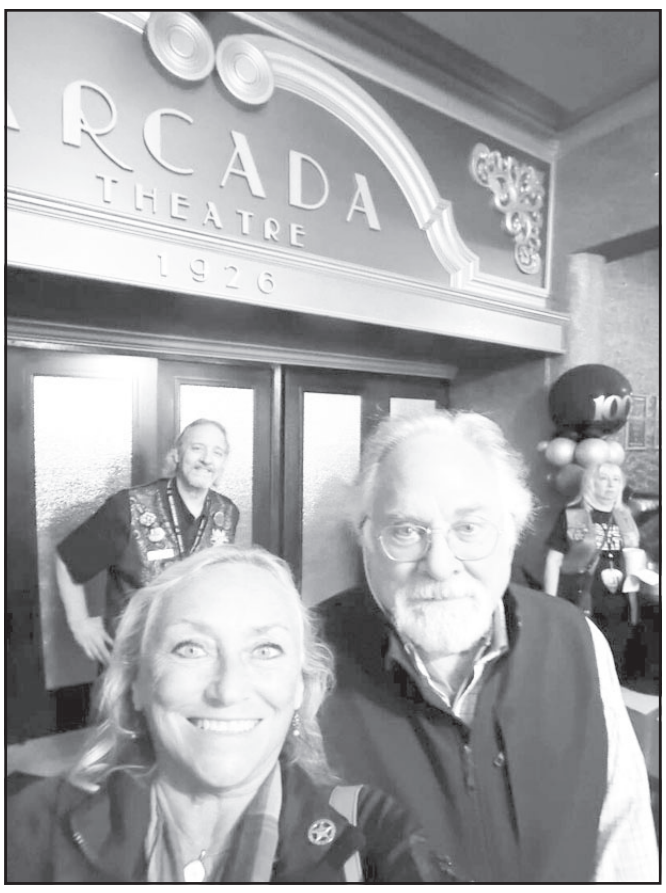
Cindy lived in Louisville and Steve, a University of Kentucky student, was a lifeguard at Kentucky Dam Village when their paths crossed one summer. She was anxious *and upset* that her parents were stopping at the state park instead of driving to Florida.

Cindy's dad told her to take a look at the Kentucky Dam pool from their balcony. When she did, she saw Steve and told her dad she wanted to stay.

It wasn't until her family's last day at Kentucky Dam Village when Cindy finally spoke to Steve. He started playing piano for her before singing "Color My World" to her – "and it was like *smitten time*," she remembers.

Her family returned the following summer, but Steve wasn't working. A chance encounter with another lifeguard, also a student at UK, led to Steve and Cindy finally finding each other, she says.

"So it was one phone call. One date, and we were engaged just a few months later," she says. They married on June 15, 1974. She was 18, and he was 21.



CINDY AND STEVE SAWYER celebrated their "first date anniversary" by driving to St. Charles, Illinois, to hear Justin Hayward, the last surviving member of the Moody Blues, on Sept. 20. (Photo submitted)

"We walked through the looking glass into each other's lives, I guess," says Steve, while reflecting on their chance meeting, first date and a life spent together.

They now have five children and six grandchildren, and Cindy has never stopped appreciating Steve's creativity.



A PERFORMANCE BY JUSTIN HAYWARD, the last surviving member of the Moody Blues, helped Cindy and Paul Sawyer celebrate their "first date anniversary" at the ARCADA Theatre. (Photo submitted)

BOE

Continued from p. B1

Score Card Check-In

Jones, Asher and Chief Operating Officer Josh Rayburn gave a 45-day check-in on a district Score Card tracking progress in the four pillars of its strategic plan: student success and engagement, staff services and retention, community and caregiver partnerships, and stewardship of finances.

Responding to a question about artificial intelligence, Rayburn said a policy is being built with a holistic plan including the ethical use of AI. "It's a tool that can either help you cheat, or it's a tool that can help you learn. And so we want to focus on (using AI as a) tool that can help you learn," he said, noting AI "is something that is very heavy on the minds of our teachers right now."

Jones provided an update on an Alumni Association for Woodford County Public Schools, which now has over 200 members, with a goal of reaching 5,000, she said. Also, the district has begun the process of making improvements to its website for users, she said.

WCMS presentation

Sixth graders from Woodford County Middle School talked about their experiences during a recent partnership with the City of Versailles when they got to see government agencies in action.

The Civic Responsibility and Wellness Project field trip was an opportunity for students to "engage with our community in a meaningful way," WCMS Principal Rebecca Preston told the BOE.

During their visits to the Versailles Police, fire and other government departments, the sixth graders saw what city employees do to keep residents safe and how they make a difference in the lives of local families by providing public services, including drinking water.

CRYPTO FUN

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

Solve the code to discover words related to popcorn.
Each number corresponds to a letter.
(Hint: 17 = E)

A. 7 26 19 19 17 9 15
Clue: Tasty quality

B. 24 17 9 5 17 2
Clue: Inner part of a seed

C. 18 4 21 9 12 1 25 3 17
Clue: Cooking device

D. 16 12 16
Clue: Explode

Answers: A. buttery B. kernel C. microwave D. pop

WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to popcorn.

EHTTARE

Answer: Theater

GUESS WHO?

I am a fashion designer and reality show star born in England on October 26, 1984. As the daughter of the "Prince of Darkness," I've traveled around the world during his music tours. I appeared on a TV show about my family, and became a mom three years ago.

Answer: Kelly Osbourne

WHAT'S POPPIN' WORD SEARCH

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

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

WORDS

AIR
BAG
BUCKET
BUTTER
CARAMEL
CHEESE
CORN
CRUNCHY
FLUFFY
GARLAND
HULL
KERNEL
KETTLE
MICROWAVE
MOVIE NIGHT
OIL
POPPING
SALT
SEASONING
SNACK
STOVETOP
THEATER

Community Calendar

The deadline for Community Calendar items is Noon Monday.

Community Bible Study

Psalm 119:105 – Your word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.

Come with a "thirst." Bring a Bible, pen, paper and your coffee.

The study will be held at the Versailles Presbyterian Church Welcome Center, 130 N. Main St. on the first and third Saturdays at 10 a.m. with Minister Larry Blackford, lblackford.magistrate@gmail.com, 859-492-4075.

Mentors & Meals

Make a difference in a middle school student's life. Mentors & Meals seeks high school mentors, college role-models, and adult volunteers to provide homework help as compassionate mentors. This free after-school program offers academic support, enrichment activities, snacks, and hot meals Monday–Thursday, 3–5:30 p.m., at the First Christian Church Family Life Center (across from CVS Pharmacy). Transportation for students is provided to the program with parent/guardian pick up by 5:30 p.m. Student enrollment is open for grades 6–8, but space is limited, so contact us soon. Interested in volunteering or enrolling a student? Visit www.mentors-meals.org or email Program Director McKenna Halderman, mckenna@mentors-meals.org.

Midway Toastmasters

Midway Toastmasters meets every Monday at 6 p.m. in the basement of the Little Memorial Library on the Midway University campus. Meetings are open to the public and visitors are encouraged to attend. For more information, contact the club at nick@safetyreloaded.org or 859-397-5068.

Parkinson's Exercise & Support

Woodford County offers free classes and support for individuals living with Parkinson's disease and their caregivers. Join us and experience exercise, encouragement, and fellowship.

Classes are at The Cross Center at Forks of Elkhorn Baptist Church, 480 Duckers Road, Midway (behind the church with ample parking). Please check in at the front desk for all classes.

Drums Alive is on Mondays from 3:30-4:30 p.m. Beat the drums to the rhythm of music, movement, and laughter.

Monthly Support Group is on the third Thursday of each month with snacks and fellowship from 6-6:30 p.m. and a support group meeting from 6:30-7:30 p.m. Bring a snack to share.

For more information, call 859-421-6678 or 502-330-5819.

Rotary Club of Woodford County

The local Rotary lunch/speaker meeting is the third Tuesday of each month at Versailles Brewing Company from 12-1 p.m. in their private room. Lunch is ordered off the menu. There is no guest meeting charge. Check out more on the Rotary Club of Woodford County Facebook page.

Survivors of Suicide

The Woodford Survivors of Suicide Loss Group meets the first Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. in the community room (5th floor) of the WesBanco building. The address is 100 United Drive, Versailles. Please contact Julie Renner at 859-421-7697 if you have any questions or would like to attend.

Versailles Kiwanis Club

The club's monthly meetings are held the fourth Tuesday each month at 11:30 a.m. at Callie's Homestyle Restaurant.

For membership inquiries, please contact club president William Downey at 859-351-4429 or wkdowney5@gmail.com.

Woodford County Amateur Radio Club

The November meeting of the Woodford County Amateur Radio Club will be held Wednesday, Nov. 4 at the Versailles Fire Dept. Station #3 / Fire Training Center, 1415 Huntertown Rd, starting at 7 p.m. Anyone interested in amateur radio is invited to attend.



DR. ELLEN CROCKER, Associate Professor of Forest Health Extension in the Department of Forestry and Natural Resources at University of Kentucky gave the presentation at the Woodford County Woman's Club October meeting. Crocker, left is pictured with Ellen Hellard. (Photo submittted)

Woodford Co. Extension Homemakers Assn.

Circle of Friends: third Thursday of the month at 6 p.m.

Patchwork: third Monday of the month at 6 p.m.

Woodford County NAACP

We meet every second Saturday at 10 a.m. in the Woodford Library Community Room. All are welcome.

Woodford County Republican Party

The Woodford County Republican Party meets the first Monday of every month.

Meetings are held at 7 p.m. at Versailles Brewing Company, 513 Marsailles Rd.

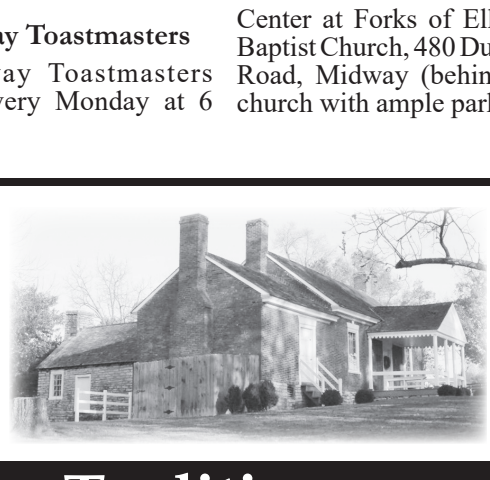
Woodford County Salvation Army Unit

The Woodford County Salvation Army Unit meets on the second Thursday of the month at Centerpoint Health at 9 a.m. in the second floor conference room. The unit is always looking for new volunteers. Salvation Army helps with many community organizations such as Coats and Shoes for Kids, Bluegrass Community Action, Family Resource Centers and the Red Kettle campaign. Anyone is welcome to attend.

Woodford County Woman's Club

The Woodford County Woman's Club welcomes all women in Woodford and surrounding counties to our monthlly meetings, held on the first Wednesday of each month at 10:45 a.m. in the Versailles Presbyterian Church fellowship hall On November 4, we will get updates on our Coats & Shoes project and our donation to the Woodford County Festival of Trees, and will be working on Christmas care packages for members of the military. We will also have a presentation from Natalie's Sisters. Come and help us make a difference! Lunch will be catered, so if you would like to join us, please RSVP by emailing contact@woodfordcountywomansclub.org.

Forty Miles That Saved America
Jack Jouett's Ride



Mourning Traditions
with Susan Miller

Saturday, November 7, 1 p.m.
Jack Jouett House Historic Site
255 Craig's Creek Road, Versailles, KY

Historian Susan Miller will share stories of the beliefs and traditions surrounding mourning in the 18th and 19th centuries. She will be displaying mourning clothing and keepsakes including a replica of Mary Todd Lincoln's velvet mourning dress worn after the loss of two beloved sons and her husband. Learn about the superstitions and ways of coping with grief that for too many families dealt with during Kentucky's early days.

ADMISSION IS FREE

Cops for Kids is now accepting donations for the 2026 Holiday Season!



If you wish to contribute, please use the QR code below or contact us at (859) 873-3126 or in person at 239 N. Main Street

venmo

This is your chance to help bring the magic of Christmas to some of our less fortunate Woodford County Children!

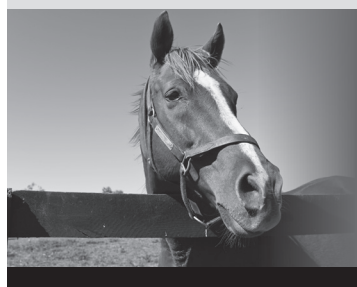
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Managed by Continental Senior Communities

Christmas BAZAAR
November 6th, 7th and 8th
First Christian Church
160 Lexington Road
9 am - 4 pm

Bake Sale Lunch Home Goods

Obituaries & Church News



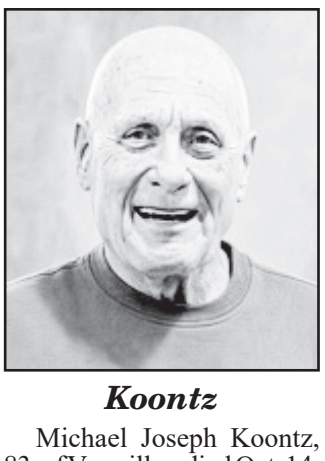
Eustice

Teresa Tudor Eustice, 77, died Oct. 16, 2026. Born on June 3, 1949, in Union, Kentucky, she was the daughter of the late John and Trudy Girdler Tudor.

Teresa is survived by her husband, Terry Lee Eustice, Versailles; two step-sons, Richard Eustice and William Eustice; and brother, Bryan Tudor.

Memorial services were held Saturday, Oct. 24, at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church in Lexington, Kentucky.

Friends and family are encouraged to leave messages of condolence and share memories on Teresa's tribute wall at www.blackburnandward.com.



Koontz

Michael Joseph Koontz, 83, of Versailles, died Oct. 14, 2026. He was born Feb. 12, 1943, in Bedford, Indiana, to the late Holland and Pauline Koontz.

He is survived by his wife, Karen; his sister, Sherry (Jackie) Young; his children, Rhonda (Scott) Wade and Rob (Julie) Koontz; and his grandchildren, Max Wade, Macey Wade, Ellie Wade, Grayson Koontz and Addison Koontz.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his brother, Logan Koontz.

There will be a Celebration of Life in the activity room of Daisy Hill on Nov. 7 from 1 to 4 p.m.

Friends and family are encouraged to leave messages of condolence and share memories on Michael's tribute wall at www.blackburnandward.com.



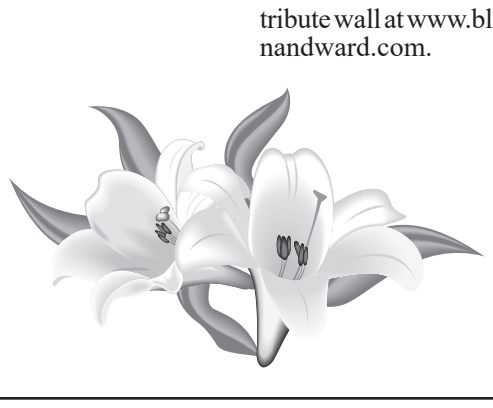
Graul

Sally Jo Graul, 86, of Versailles, died on Oct. 23, 2026. She was born March 23, 1940.

She was preceded in death by her loving husband of 55 years, Dr. William James Graul Jr.; her son, William Brent Graul; and her parents, William Lane and Edna Arnold Lane.

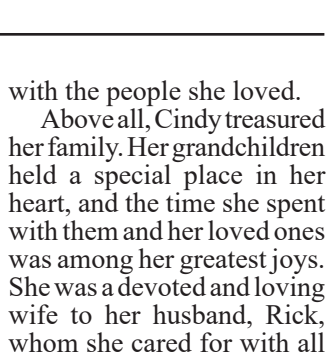
She is survived by her sons, John Graul (Jennifer) of Shelbyville, Kentucky, and Dr. Craig Graul (Annette) of Bristol, Tennessee; her daughter, Sabrea Rivette (Chris) of River Ridge, Louisiana; nine grandchildren and a host of great-grandchildren; her sisters, Judy Padgett (Stony) of Versailles, Patty Staggs (Hilton) of Fairview, Tennessee, and Melissa Heithcock of Spring Hill, Tennessee; her brother, Roger McDonald (Jaime) of Adairville, Kentucky; and a host of friends and family.

A private family interment will take place at Camp Nelson Cemetery on Nov. 6. A Celebration of Life for friends and family will be held later that day from 4 to 6 p.m. at Wesley Covenant Fellowship in Versailles.



Jones

William Casey Jones, 73, husband of Patricia Berry Jones, died on Nov. 6, 2025. A celebration of William's life will be held Saturday, Nov. 7, 2026, from 2 to 5 p.m. at their home, located at 284 Rose Hill Ave., Versailles, KY 40383. Clark Legacy Center, Versailles Road, is handling the arrangements.



Young

Patricia Ann Walker Young, 96, of Lexington, Kentucky, died Saturday, Oct. 24, 2026, in Lexington, Kentucky. She was born Nov. 16, 1929, in Hazard, Kentucky, to the late Robert Ellis and Edna Roberts Walker.

Patricia is survived by her two daughters, Viki Young and Kimberly Young Easton; her grandson, Bysshe L. Easton, and his wife, Carolina Easton; and her nieces and nephews.

In addition to her husband, Zane Young, and her parents, she was preceded in death by her four brothers and her son-in-law, Raymond L. Easton, husband of Kimberly Young Easton.

In lieu of flowers, the family kindly requests that memorial donations be made in Patricia's memory to Bluegrass Care Navigators in Lexington, Kentucky, the Woodford Humane Society or a charity of one's choice.



Williams

Bettye Anne "B" Blevins Williams passed away peacefully at her home in Farmville, Virginia, on Oct. 18, 2026. Born in Versailles on May 11, 1931, B grew up on her family's farm in Woodford County.

She attended Margaret Hall School and graduated from Versailles High School. She attended Ward-Belmont College in Nashville, Tennessee, and graduated from the University of Kentucky with a bachelor's degree in education. At UK, B met and married her life partner, John Patton "Pat" Williams.

B and Pat settled in Versailles, where they became active citizens and devoted parents to their three children. B lived in Versailles for 76 years until she and Pat moved to Farmville to be closer to their children.

B's faith was central to how she lived her life. She was a member of the Versailles Baptist Church where she taught Sunday school, arranged flowers for Sunday worship services, volunteered for Vacation Bible School and was active in the women's ministry. Once in Virginia, B became an active member of the Farmville United Methodist Church.

B also found purpose serving her community. She was a charter member of the Woodford Historical Society and the Woodford Memorial Hospital Auxiliary. She was active in the Woodford Gardeners, the Little Garden Club and the Jack Jouett House Heritage Committee. B served on the board of the Cleveland Home for Girls in Versailles, and she was instrumental in the establishment of the Heart of Virginia Free Clinic in Farmville.

B was dedicated to teaching and learning. Trained as a teacher, she brought her teaching skills to other aspects of her life, particularly as a mother. She organized time reading stories aloud as a family after dinner and during summers and led "field trips" to historic sites all over Central Kentucky. B's love of learning led her to travel the world with Pat.

B was passionate about making her home beautiful both inside and out. She designed three of the homes she lived in, including fulfilling her childhood dream of restoring Elmwood, a historic home on Troy Pike. Above all, B loved to plan and install the landscape plantings at each of her homes, from trees and shrubs to flower, herb and vegetable gardens. She was happiest when nurturing her gardens.

B was a lifelong, avid UK football and basketball fan, attending many home games with Pat and their friends, and watching the Cats on television. B's family was fond of saying that she "coached" the Cats, frequently to victory, whether in person or on television. The shared love of the Kentucky Wildcats was a source of great fun for the family. When not cheering for the Wildcats, B enjoyed reading and playing bridge.

Most of all, B loved her children and grandchildren and was engaged and interested in each of them until the end of her life. They will miss her greatly.

B is preceded in death by her husband of 58 years, her mother, Nancy Mitchell Blevins, and her father, Laurence O. Blevins.

She is survived by her sister, Patsy Blevins, and brother-in-law, Ron Hazelett, of Englewood, Florida; her children, Pam Butler of Farmville, Virginia, Marc Williams (Nancy) of Alexandria, Virginia, and Larry Williams (Margo) of Freeport, Maine; her grandchildren, Cabell, Mitchell, Jack, Ford, Lea, Anne and Bridget; and many nieces and nephews.

The family would especially like to thank her loving caregivers and hospice staff for their kindness during her final months of life.

There will be visitations and Celebration of Life services in both Virginia and Kentucky. Visitation in Farmville, Virginia, will be on Friday, Oct. 30, from 10-11 a.m., and service at 11 a.m., at Puckett Funeral Home, 115 Covington Court. Visitation in Lexington, Kentucky, will be the following Monday, on Nov. 2, 1-2 p.m., and service at 2 p.m., at Kerr Brothers Funeral Home, 3421 Harrodsburg Road. A private burial is scheduled at another time.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to the Heart of Virginia Free Clinic via the webpage, or if mailing a check, 401 E 3rd St, Farmville, VA 23901, or Appalachia Service Project via the webpage, or if mailing a check, 4523 Bristol Hwy, Johnson City, TN 37601. Any digital or physical donations should be designated "In memory of Bettye Anne Williams."



Pittman

Karen McDonald Pittman, 74, of Versailles, passed away peacefully at her home on Oct. 22, 2026, surrounded by the family she loved so dearly.

A woman of deep faith and an even bigger heart, Karen's love for her family and her Lord was evident to anyone fortunate enough to cross her path. She had a special gift for making people feel welcome, loved and never alone. Karen truly knew no stranger, and if you met her once, there was a good chance you would leave feeling like an old friend.

Karen had a giving heart and spent much of her time bringing smiles to others, especially through her frequent visits to local nursing homes. She visited Daisy Hill so often to spread a little happiness that one might have reasonably wondered if she had a room there herself!

When she wasn't busy crocheting or visiting with friends, Karen enjoyed taking a good country drive. Of course, if that drive happened to pass a Cracker Barrel, stopping was not up for debate. You were going in, whether you had planned to or not! In her younger years, Karen and the love of her life, Donnie Wayne Pittman, could often be found at Hojo's, where the two of them could clear the dance floor with their moves and their love for one another.

But above all else, Karen's greatest joy was her family. Her grandchildren held an especially precious place in her heart and likely received the first hug whenever she walked through the door. Her love was generous, her laughter was contagious and her presence made life a little brighter for everyone around her. Karen was seen by just about everyone in town after spending 40+ years working as the office manager for Hornback Realty of Versailles.

Karen will be lovingly remembered by her sons, Robert Frazier of Versailles and Michael Frazier of Sadiville; her sister, Peggy Herald of Lexington; her grandchildren, Kina Frazier and Zachary Frazier; her great-nephew, Jacob Scrivner; and her great-niece, Jessica Bryant.

She was preceded in death by her beloved husband, Donnie Wayne Pittman, and her parents, William Summers McDonald and Mary Brown McDonald Bradley.

A funeral service honoring Karen's life will be held on Thursday, Oct. 29, 2026, at 1 p.m. at Blackburn and Ward Funeral Home, with Nick Green officiating. Visitation will be held Thursday from 11 a.m. until the time of service. Burial will follow at Rose Crest Cemetery in Versailles.

Pallbearers will be Zack Frazier, Jacob Scrivner, Greg Means, Daniel Padgett, Patrick Brown and Josh Westfall.

Karen leaves behind a legacy of faith, kindness, laughter and unconditional love. She spent her life reminding others that a little companionship, a warm hug and a caring heart can make all the difference. Though her family will miss her dearly, they can take comfort in knowing she is reunited with Donnie, likely already dancing with him once again. And while there may be no more country drives or Cracker Barrel stops ahead for Karen here on earth, her love will continue to guide and comfort those she leaves behind.

In lieu of flowers donations can be made to Glen Creeks Baptist Church. Friends and family are encouraged to share messages of love and support on Karen's tribute wall at www.blackburnandward.com.



Reed

Cindy Marie Honican Reed, 64, a beloved wife, mother, sister, grandmother and friend, passed away peacefully, surrounded by the love of her family, on Sunday, Oct. 25, 2026, in Lexington, Kentucky. Born Sept. 16, 1962, in Detroit, Michigan, Cindy was the daughter of the late Arthur Honican and Judy Maybrier.

She was a loving and devoted woman whose kindness, hard work and caring heart touched the lives of so many who had the privilege of knowing her.

Cindy dedicated 15 years of her life to the Woodford County School System as a bus monitor, a job she truly loved. She especially enjoyed working with the children and took pride in being a part of their lives. Her warm heart, patience and caring nature made her well suited for a job that allowed her to look after and care for others. Cindy was a hard worker who always gave her best, whether at work or at home.

Outside of work, Cindy found joy in the simple pleasures of life. She loved yard sales and shopping, and she especially enjoyed hosting yard sales and sharing that experience with others. She had a deep appreciation for nature, found happiness in watching hummingbirds and loved spending time at the beach and swimming. These were the little things that brought a smile to her face and made lasting memories with the people she loved.

Above all, Cindy treasured her family. Her grandchildren held a special place in her heart, and the time she spent with them and her loved ones was among her greatest joys. She was a devoted and loving wife to her husband, Rick, whom she cared for with all her heart. Taking care of Rick was one of the many ways she showed her love, always putting the needs and happiness of those closest to her at the center of her life.

Cindy's love was shown not only through her words, but through the countless things she did for others every day. She had a heart for caring, a spirit that never stopped giving and a love for her family that will never be forgotten.

Her love will live on in the hearts of those she leaves behind, and her memory will remain a blessing for generations to come.

In addition to her husband, she will be lovingly remembered by her three sons, Griff (Julie) Reed of Versailles, Josh Reed of Louisville and Bruce (Angela) Reed of Versailles; one daughter, Heather Shelton of Lexington; one sister, Susie Brothers; five grandchildren, Grace Reed, Piper Reed, Brooks Reed, Addison Reed and Dillon Roe; and two great- grandchildren, Mariana Castro and Mila Castro.

In addition to her parents, Cindy was preceded in death by her son, Marshall Wayne Shelton; two brothers, Scott Honican and Buddy Honican; and one sister, Michelle Woods.

A visitation will be held Saturday, Oct. 31, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Blackburn & Ward Funeral Home. A Celebration of Life will be held at 1 p.m., with Kelly Baker officiating.

In lieu of flowers, the family has asked for donations to be made to Shriners Children's, Lexington.

Church News

Clear Creek Baptist

Sunday worship service is at 8:30 a.m and 11 a.m. with a livestream of the 11 a.m. service on Facebook. Adult and youth Sunday School is at 9:45 a.m.; Wednesday evening prayer meeting begins at 6:30 p.m. with Adult Bible Study and Book Club at 7 p.m. Clear Creek is located at 30 Pinckard Pike (corner of 169 and 33).

Clover Bottom Baptist

We invite you to join us in worship and Bible study at Clover Bottom. We are located south of Nonesuch at 6321 Fords Mill Road (#1965).

Our Sunday schedule begins with Sunday school classes for all ages at 10 a.m., followed by morning worship service (traditional style) at 11 a.m. and Bible study at 6 p.m. Our midweek Bible study is at 7 p.m. on Wednesday. See our Facebook page for current events and other news.

First Christian (Disciples of Christ)

Everyone is welcome to join us for worship on Sunday mornings at 9 a.m. for our traditional service, 10 a.m. for Sunday School, or 11:05 a.m. for our contemporary service. Our small groups and youth group meet every Wednesday at 6:30 p.m., with dinner at 5:30 p.m. The church's devotional library by the garden on Locust Street is open to everyone. If you have any questions or want more information, please call the church office at 859-873-3901 or email fccdoc@windstream.net. The church is located at 160 Lexington Street in Versailles.

Glen's Creek Baptist

We would like to invite you to our 11 a.m. Sunday Service at the Church (4678 Steele Road, Versailles).

The House of Prayer

Weekly services include Sunday School at 10 a.m.; Sunday morning worship at 11:30 a.m.; evening service at 4 p.m.; Tuesday prayer service at 7 p.m.; and Thursday Bible study/pop-up church. Address: 855 Kingsway Dr.

King's Way Church

Join us on Sundays at 10 a.m. (11:30 a.m. Español) for an unforgettable time of worship. Dive deeper midweek on Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. We are located at 4175 Lexington Rd.

Midway Baptist

Everyone is invited to join Midway Baptist Church in worship. Our Sunday worship times are: 9 a.m. – traditional service; 10 a.m. – Sunday School/small groups with donuts and coffee available; 11 a.m. – contemporary worship. We offer nursery and children's worship during the 11 a.m. service. We are located at 121 S Winter St.

See CHURCH p. B9

Church News Guidelines

The *Sun* welcomes brief notices from local (Woodford County) churches to run free each week. Since space is a factor, church notices should be **no longer than 100 words** and written in *complete sentences*. The notices should be written in the *third person.* The deadline for all church notices is noon on Monday of the week of publication, except for weeks with a Monday holiday (Memorial Day, Labor Day, etc.), when notices are due at noon on the Friday preceding the week of publication.

Notices may be sent via email (preferred) to news@woodfordsun.com or dropped off at our front office at 184 S. Main Street.

OBITUARIES & CHURCH NEWS

CANDIDATES
Continued from p. 1

in beautiful Midway, where all are welcomed.

Midway Christian (Disciples of Christ)

All are welcome to gather for worship on Sundays at 10:55 a.m. The service is available in person, on YouTube and Facebook. Sunday School begins at 9:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall.

The theme of "Sanctuary" continues with "Becoming a Living Sanctuary: A Great Cloud of Witnesses" as the sermon. Hebrews 12:1-3 will be the scripture.

All Saints Day will be observed November 1 as family members and friends who passed away during the year are remembered during the service. Submit the name, birthdate and death date with a photo by Thursday, Oct. 29.

For more information, go to Facebook, YouTube, http://www.midwaychristian.org or contact the church office at 859-846-4102.

Midway Presbyterian

Sunday worship is at 11 a.m. Children's choir practice is at 10 a.m. on Sundays. Adult choir practice 6:30 p.m. on Mondays.

Community Garden clean up days are Saturdays at 10 a.m. All produce is for all the community.

A carved pumpkin display will be on Saturday, Oct. 31 from 6-8 p.m. There will be prizes for kids and adults in the following categories: Halloween Spirit, Scariest and Most Creative. Pumpkin drop off is from 5-5:45 p.m.

Midway United Methodist

Sunday service begins at 10:30 a.m., and can be livestreamed on YouTube at: @johnloper6370.

For more information, visit www.facebook.com/MidwayKYUMC or call the office at 859-846-4963.

Millville Christian

Millville Christian Church holds service at 11 a.m. every Sunday on McCracken Pike.

Mortonsville Methodist

We hope you can join us this Sunday at 11 a.m. We are located at 929 Delaney Ferry Road, Versailles.

Mt. Vernon Baptist

We invite you to join us in worship and Bible study at 1220 Old Frankfort Pike, Woodford County. Sunday schedule begins with Fellowship at 9:15 a.m., followed by Sunday School at 10 a.m., Morning Worship at 11 a.m., and Evening Service at 6 p.m. The 11 a.m. Morning Worship is also live streamed on Facebook.

New Hope Baptist

The Hoppers Christmas performance will be Sunday, Dec. 6 at 6 p.m. There is no admission fee, but reservations are required. Call the church at 859-873-1707 for info.

Sunday School is at 9:15 a.m. Sunday Service is at 10:30 a.m. The Wednesday prayer meeting is at noon and children's activities are at 7 p.m.

We are located at 3825 Tyrone Pike, Versailles. We hope you can join us.

New Union Christian (Disciples of Christ)

The church invites all to Sunday morning worship at 11 a.m. with options to attend onsite or live on Zoom. Our weekly prayer and friendship group meets Tuesdays on Zoom at 11a.m. This Sunday, Oct 25, 4:00-5:30 p.m., New Union will host another opportunity for Jam & Bread. This gathering is an informal, family-friendly song circle, inviting area acoustic musicians, singers, poets, and listeners to gather in-the-round for uplifting musical harmonies, insights and friendship. All ages are invited, including young musicians and learners. Come as you are. For more information, contact: newunionpastor@gmail.com,

Pinckard Baptist

We have adult, student and child age Sunday school at 10 a.m. every Sunday with morning worship service at 11 a.m. Adult, atudent and children's Wednesday night services are at 7 p.m., with a meal provided before hand at 6 p.m. We are located at 3401 Pinckard Pike, Versailles.

Pisgah Presbyterian

Pisgah Presbyterian Church will be remembering Pisgah's saints during the All Saint's worship service on November 1, 2026. On that Sunday, communion will be serviced as well. Pisgah's Sunday school classes for children and adults meet at 9:45 a.m. prior to the worship service at 11 a.m. All are welcome to join Pisgah's Sunday school classes and service.

St. Andrew's Anglican

A Service of Morning Prayer is offered at 7:30 a.m. each Wednesday morning in our sanctuary. We invite you to start your day with us in prayer. St. Andrew's is located on 115 Paddock Drive, just off US 60. Our Sunday service is held at 10 a.m. and is live-streamed on the church's website (www.standrewsky.org). Church office hours are 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesday-Friday. We hope you will join us this Sunday.

St. John's Episcopal

There is only a 10:30 a.m. service this week as there is a baptism. "Godly Play for children" is at 10:30 a.m. and brunch is at 11:30 a.m.

A healing service is on Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m. Livestream of the 10:30 service and Compline on Tuesday and Thursday at 8:30 p.m. is at http://www.stjohnsky.com. Thanksgiving food boxes are due Nov. 15.

St. Leo Catholic

Weekend mass times are 5 p.m. Saturday; 8 and 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. (Spanish) on Sunday. Coffee and donuts are served the first Sunday of each month after the 8 a.m. mass. Visit https://saintleoparishky.org for weekday mass times. Weekly Rosary is on Saturday at 4:30 p.m. Find our Masses on YouTube.

Southside Christian

Southside Christian Church, located at 3621 Cabinhill Lane in Versailles, invites the community to attend weekly services.

Sunday School is held at 9 a.m., followed by worship at 10 a.m. Adult Bible Study meets at 6 p.m. on Wednesdays. All are welcome to attend.

Troy Presbyterian

Adult Sunday School is in the Learning Center at 9:30 a.m. The Sunday worship service is at 11 a.m., in person or on YouTube, Facebook or our website, TroychurchKY.org.

This is Stewardship Month. For the next few weeks we will introduce Stewardship Month. Time and talent forms and pledge cards will be collected this Sunday.

The Troy men's breakfast group meets the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month at 9 a.m. at the Dixie Café in Keene.

The Troy Chili Lunch with a cake walk and vendors will be Nov. 7 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Wednesday Choir practice is at 6 p.m. Everyone is welcome.

Versailles Baptist

VBC offers worship services on Sunday at 8:45 a.m. and 11 a.m. The 8:45 a.m. service is livestreamed on Facebook. Sunday School, for all ages, is at 10 a.m. There is Wednesday night programming for all ages.

Visit our Facebook page for more details at facebook.com/versaillesbaptistchurch.

Versailles Church of God of Prophecy

We will have a Christian Trunk or Treat on Saturday, Oct. 31, starting at 5:30 p.m. with candy, hot dogs and sack lunches.

We are at 445 Laval Heights, Versailles.

Versailles Presbyterian

Versailles Presbyterian Church is an open, welcoming and inclusive church located at 130 North Main St. Rev. Julie Johnson is the pastor. Sunday worship service is at 10 a.m., and is livestreamed via YouTube and Facebook (https://www.facebook.com/versaillespresbyterianchurch).

Orders are being taken for Christmas poinsettias, now through Nov. 22. The plants are $15 each.

Call 859-873-3491 or visit www.versaillespres.org for more information.

Versailles United Methodist

VUMC invites everyone to join in the ministries of the church. Academy Trick or Treat will be Friday, Oct. 30 at 10 a.m. The United Methodist Mountain Mission truck will be at VUMC on Monday, Nov. 2.

The Sunday worship services are at 9:30 a.m and 10:30 a.m. with Sunday School classes at 9:15 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. The youth meet at 4 p.m. on Sunday afternoon. The Ladies of J.O.Y. meet on Monday at 10 a.m. Chancel Choir rehearsal is on Wednesday, at 6:45 p.m.

Versailles United Methodist Church is located at 230 Payne's Mill Road, 859-873-4304.

Wesley Covenant Fellowship

Join us at Wesley Covenant Fellowship, a Global Methodist Church. Sunday school begins at 9 a.m., followed by fellowship at 9:30 a.m. and worship service at 10 a.m. We're located at 134 Court St. Everyone is welcome. Have questions? Connect with us on Facebook, email info@wesleycovenantfellowship.org, or call 859-682-9542.



LEONARD K. "BUBBA" NAVE JR., a Versailles native whose family still lives here, was the team leader on a project that integrated new technology with Eastern Kentucky University's campus-wide existing network. The project's success was recognized by the National Association of Broadcasters with its Project of the Year Award at its annual convention in Las Vegas last spring. "I am truly grateful for the opportunity to represent the team at EKU and the unique and innovative system that we and our technology partners developed," said Nave, who recently retired as EKU's production manager/producer for Communications and Brand Management. Nave is on the far right in the photo. (Photo courtesy of Eastern Kentucky University)



THE AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY and Woodford County's Love Lights a Tree will host a special program on Monday, Dec. 7 at 7 p.m. at Versailles Presbyterian Church, 130 North Main Street, to celebrate the community's fundraising work for the American Cancer Society. This year's special guest speaker is cancer survivor Victoria Partridge. The ceremony will feature the lighting of the "Love Tree" and a candlelight service to remember those lost to cancer and celebrate survivors. The Woodford County High School string quartet and Southside Elementary School choir will provide music for the evening. Woodford County remains one of the few Kentucky locations sponsoring a Love Lights a Tree program, an annual tradition for more than 40 years. To learn more about honoring a loved one at this year's Love Lights a Tree program, contact Peggy Carter Seal at 859-873-7879. (Photo submitted)

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To stay up-to-date on news and events happening in Woodford County, visit www.facebook.com/thewoodfordsun

News Of Record

Police Reports

Versailles police investigated 17 non-injury and four injury vehicle collisions, made 9 arrests, had 562 calls for service, and made 102 traffic stops and enforcements from Oct. 18 to Oct. 24, 2026.

Fire Reports

City

The Versailles Fire Department made 7 EMS calls, conducted three fire inspections, and responded to five false alarms from Oct. 20 to 27, 2026.

On Oct. 20, firefighters responded to a grass fire on Commerce Drive.

On Oct. 21, they responded to an outside fire on U.S. 60.

On Oct. 23, they responded to a vehicle fire on Kingsway Drive.

On Oct. 24, they responded to a carbon monoxide release on Lexington Road.

County

The Woodford County Fire Department made 10 EMS calls, performed two car seat installations, responded to five false alarms, and responded to two vehicle collisions (no injury) from Oct. 20 to 27, 2026.

On Oct. 20, firefighters responded to an illegal burn on McCracken Pike, and a smoke scare on U.S. 60.

On Oct. 21, they responded to a gas leak on Troy Pike.

On Oct. 22, they responded to a kitchen fire on Fords Mill Road, and a carbon monoxide release on Wells Lane.

On Oct. 23, they responded to an illegal burn on Steele Road.

On Oct. 25, they responded to a grass fire on Ray Allen Road.

Public Records

Suits

Northeast Woodford Water District v. Utili-Com South, Inc – action to recover for property damage to District's property during installation of fiber optic cable.

Laura Coche v. Rafael Vargas – petition for custody of minor child.

Dormakaba Canadana, Inc. v. Mefford Contracting, Inc. - action on agreement for $13,183.46.

Jackson Watts v. Elizabeth Turley – petition for divorce.

In re 2001 Mack Truck – petition for clean title.

Kareen Reid v. Samantha Ladegast – tort action for personal injury from vehicle accident.

U.S. Bank NA v. Mike Beasley – action on account for $7,468.86.

Jai Lewis v. Jeremy Griffith and Penske Leasing Rental Co. - tort action for personal injury from vehicle accident.

Editor's note: civil suits when filed are allegations, nothing has been proven, and only tell the side of the plaintiff, the person bringing the lawsuit. At time of reporting, the Defendant in the lawsuit has not responded with their side.

Deeds

Claudeca A. Clark and Marray B. Clark Jr. to Michael Shon Pink and Sherri R. Ping, 203 West Eagle Street, $702,000.

Derek W. Darnell and Angela M. Darnell to Thomas A. Cadwallader and Carla R. Cadwallader, 1322 Shoreacres Road, $89,000.

Kyle Douglas, as executor of the Franklin Douglas estate, to Larry Ritchie and McKenzye Nelson, 107 Loy Street, $250,000.

Ball Homes, LLC to Eric Robert Bias and Bailey Sky Hall, 351 Glasbury Lane, $341,791.

Rebecca Cummings to Lilly Marie Gammons, as trustee of the Rebecca Cummings Revocable Living Trust, 4140 Fords Mill Road, other consideration.

Manephoto, LLC to Charles Starzman and Annie Starzman, 419 Mill Road, Midway, $410,000.

Deborah Shouse, John Shouse and Michael Shouse, as co-executors of the Raymond T. Shouse estate, to Timothy Allen Popovitz and Karen Gail Popovitz, 639 Regent Road, $285,000.

Emily Elizabeth Belcher and Ryan Christopher Belcher to Sue A. Allen, 156 Ridge View Road, $297,000.

Jon C. Dodds and Lindsey S. Dodds to Abbigail Acres, LLC (Joshua L. Green and Sasha Moczulski, members), 1013 Bluegrass Road, $925,000.

Debbie A. Jones and Kenneth Jones to Elizabeth J. Turley, 185 Berry Avenue, $245,000.

Patricia A. Gaunce to Brent Alan Spalding and Windy Lynn Spalding, 116 Woodford Village Drive, other consideration, quitclaim deed.

Marriage Licenses

Stacey Leeann McClure and James Nathan Hicks; Jade Michelle Rodgers and Austin Lorenzo Massie; Kaytlin Brooke Gaines and James Dakota Hardin; Breanna Ann Howlett and Donald Christopher Carter; Mary Elizabeth Lathery and Paul Wayne Lathery; Caylee Elizabeth Scott Marshall and Logan Thomas Mitchell; Kayla Marie Hale and Hunter Maclain Knauss; Samantha Bernard and Michael Richard Lawrence; Carmelita Elizabeth Marotta and Barry John Searfoss; Madeline Jae Doolin and Casey Nicholas Allen; Stephanie Elaine Baker and Travis James Patterson.

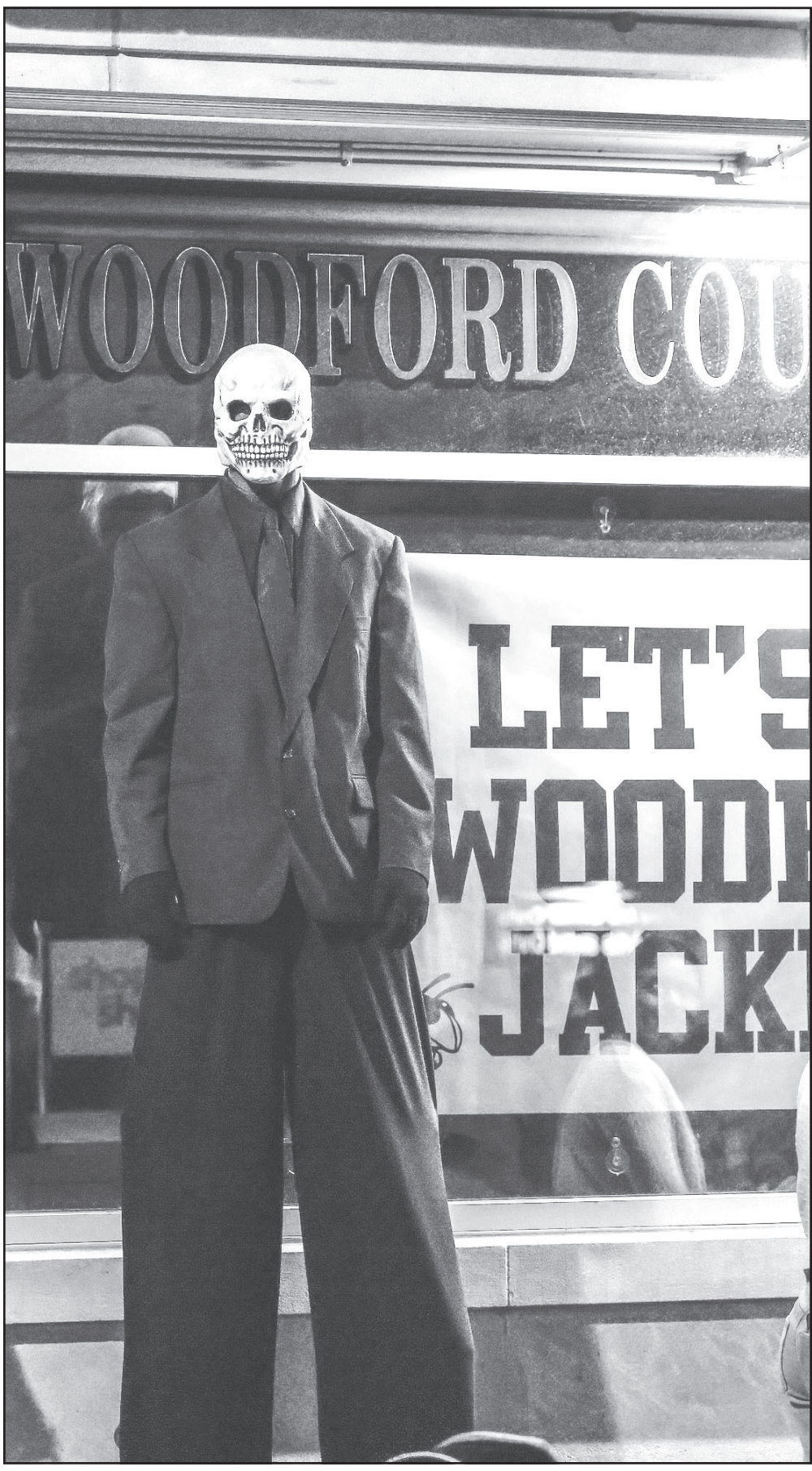
About News of Record:

The Woodford Sun reports on this page all traffic and misdemeanor fines in District Court; police reports released from the local or state police departments and sheriff's office; civil suits in Circuit Court; fire reports released by the city and county fire departments, and property transfers recorded in the county clerk's office.

Information on this page is public record. No names will be withheld by request.



THE GOOD BITE, downtown Versailles' newest restaurant located at 172 S. Main Street, celebrated its summer opening with an official Woodford Chamber ribbon cutting on Oct. 16, which drew a big crowd who enjoyed lots of goodies prepared by Chef Leah Hemenway. The diner and deli offer breakfast and lunch with a variety of handmade sandwiches, salads, soups and bowls. Owner and Woodford County native Russell Booker, who seems to always be there with a friendly smile and a recommendation from her own collection of recipes, was joined by her parents, DeeDee and Duncan Booker, along with elected officials Judge-Executive James Kay, Versailles Mayor Laura Dake, Woodford County Property Valuation Administrator John Paul Coyle, Woodford County Conservation District Chair Michael Duckworth and her landlords, Andrew, Matthew and Jordan Coyle. (Photo provided)



A GHOUL (Kenneth Johns) watches over Halloween revelers in front of the Woodford County Library. (Photo by Bill Caine)

The Woodford Sun
Community Newspaper

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The Versailles Police Department wants to remind everyone to:

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Let's continue working together to keep our Woodford County roadways safe.

Versailles Police Department
239 North Main Street
859-873-3126

Woodford County ASAP (Agency for Substance Abuse Policy) is currently accepting applications for Mini Grants to fund programs and activities focused on combating alcohol, tobacco and substance abuse within Woodford County. The applications period is open from November 1st to December 10th. To access the application, please visit our website at (www.drugfreewoodford.com) or email us at nblackford.asap@gmail.com.

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WCHS girls' soccer season ends in 8th Region final

BY BILL CAINE
WOODFORD SUN SPORTS

Woodford County's postseason run ended with a loss to South Oldham in the 8th Region girls' soccer championship Oct. 24, one win short of a berth in the state tournament.

For Woodford coach Brandon Cummons, the disappointment was still fresh afterward, but his focus was on what his team accomplished in reaching the regional final for the first time since 2009.

"This team was special," Cummons said of the postseason run. "I don't even have the right words but the word special comes to mind the most."

Woodford generated a handful of shots early, but South Oldham controlled possession for much of the final 30 minutes of the first half. The Dragons broke through with 9:52 remaining when Ally Stahl found Celia Falco on a throw-in for the opening goal.

Piper Roberson scored on a through-ball with 6:14 left in the half, giving South Oldham a 2-0 lead at the break.

Cummons urged his players at halftime to play with more energy and urgency.

South Oldham added to its lead with 23:42 remaining when Blair Hartman played a through-ball to Abigayle Hammons, who floated a shot into the net to make it 3-0.

"We knew what they were gonna give us today. They're a really good team," Cummons said. "We made some mistakes that were uncharacteristic."

Despite the disappointment, Cummons pointed to his team's response to challenges throughout the season as a defining part of its regional runner-up finish. Injuries piled up on the Jackets but Cummons plugged the next player in and Woodford's bench was tested all season.

"The biggest key word is adversity all season," he said. "We went through it."

The Yellow Jackets' tournament run gave Cummons something he hopes the program can build on.

"Obviously, this isn't the hardware we wanted, but, this is the furthest a Woodford team's gone in a long time," Cummons said. "I'm proud of them. Hopefully we can build on it."

Woodford earned its place in the championship game earlier in the week when freshman Afton Hall scored twice in the first half to lead the Yellow Jackets past North Oldham 2-1 in the regional semifinals.

The victory sent Woodford County High School to its first regional final in 17 years. Its previous appearance came the same year many of this year's seniors were born, a connection Cummons called "kind of poetic."

Hall opened the scoring five minutes into regulation, giving Woodford an early lead and helping settle her teammates.

"It made us all connect more and just calm down," Hall said.

Woodford goalkeeper Emma Dorsey preserved the advantage with a leaping save before North Oldham eventually broke through for the equalizer. Woodford responded quickly, with Hall scoring her second goal of the half to put the Jackets ahead 2-1 at halftime.

Cummons said the response came within about 90 seconds of North Oldham's goal.

"Our girls could have caved, and they responded," Cummons said.

Sacoyia Garcia also had a scoring opportunity in the first half, but North Oldham's goalkeeper made the save. Hall's two goals proved enough as Woodford held North Oldham scoreless after halftime to secure a place in Saturday's final.

Cummons expected North Oldham to challenge his team.

"I knew they were dangerous," he said. "I knew they were gonna be physical, and they were gonna move the ball well."

At halftime, Cummons reminded the Jackets they held the lead and encouraged them to adjust to North Oldham's pressure. With Hall and Garcia creating opportunities, he wanted Woodford to play balls over the top and give them room to pursue possession.

The victory carried added meaning for a program that had come close to reaching the final in recent seasons. Cummons recalled a semifinal loss to South Oldham, a shootout defeat the following year and last season's loss to Simon Kenton.

"I'm glad we're finally over there," Cummons said after the semifinal victory.

With a place in the final secured, Cummons knew the Jackets would face another challenge as they played for the regional title and a berth in the state tournament.

"We're gonna have our hands full with whatever we get on Saturday," Cummons said following the semifinal. "It's not gonna be an easy game."

For Hall, reaching the championship game as a freshman reflected the work and support of the entire team.

"We just trained really, really hard at practice," Hall said. "We always were there for each other."

She also credited her bench teammates for keeping the energy up throughout the run.

"Even if they're not playing, they really help, too," she said.

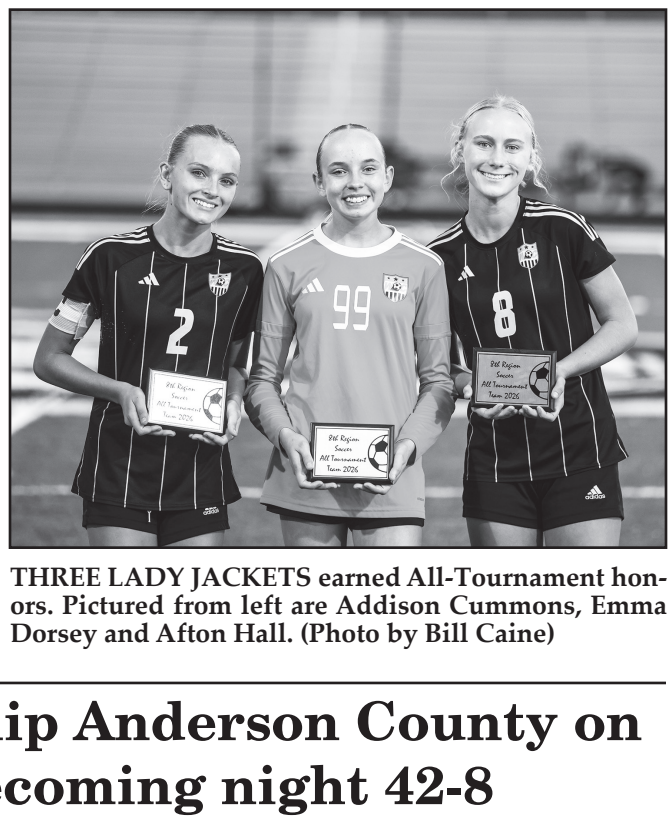
Hall finished as Woodford's leading scorer with 14 goals, followed by Garcia with 12, Abby Lowe with 10, Annastyn McIntosh with nine and Erin Myers with five.

Lowe led the Jackets with 14 assists, followed by McIntosh with 10 and Garcia with five. Hall, Anna Dorough and Avery Sayre tied for fourth with three assists apiece.

Dorsey finished with 88 saves and 12 shutouts in 24 appearances. She allowed 28 goals, posting a .759 save percentage and a 1.17 goals-against average.



THE WCHS GIRLS' SOCCER TEAM received a hero's sendoff prior to the 8th Region championship game in Grant County Saturday, Oct. 24. Woodford lost to South Oldham, 3-0 in the championship game. (Photo by Bill Caine)



THREE LADY JACKETS earned All-Tournament honors. Pictured from left are Addison Cummons, Emma Dorsey and Afton Hall. (Photo by Bill Caine)

Jackets whip Anderson County on Homecoming night 42-8

BY BILL CAINE
WOODFORD SUN SPORTS

Woodford County High School wrapped up its district football schedule with a 42-8 win over Anderson County Oct. 23 at Community Stadium. The Yellow Jackets piled up 385 yards of total offense, including 196 through the air and 189 on the ground, while building a 35-0 halftime lead.

For Woodford coach Dennis Johnson, the preparation leading up to the game was just as important as the result. With the postseason approaching, Johnson said his team has begun taking greater ownership of its preparation regardless of the opponent.

"We've got one goal," Johnson said. "It doesn't matter who the opponent is. We've got to prepare like we're going to win the whole thing, no matter who we're playing. You've got to prepare and do the right thing."

Johnson said he has noticed a change in how his players approach the week, with more leadership coming from within the team.

"I thought they're really starting to buy in and get it," Johnson said. "It's more team-led than coach-led."

Woodford established its running game early, pounding the ball up the middle behind several strong runs from Aidyn Powell that kept the chains moving. Quarterback Foxx Coons mixed in completions to Greyson Hodge and David Jones Jr., moving the Jackets to the one-yard line. Ryan Brown finished the opening drive with a one-yard touchdown run to give Woodford a quick 7-0 lead.

Anderson County responded with a promising possession, picking up two first downs before Darrian Tomlin made a leaping interception over the offensive line, giving Woodford excellent field position.

The Jackets wasted little time capitalizing on the turnover. JT Jackson picked up a first down on the ground before Coons connected with Kael Rihtar for a 19-yard gain. Brown followed with a 15-yard run up the middle, and Coons found Omari Jointer for a 15-yard touchdown pass to extend Woodford's lead to 14-0.



JACE CARROLL made a leaping throw for one of his two touchdown passes in Woodford's 42-8 win over Anderson County. (Photo by Bill Caine)

After forcing an Anderson County punt, Woodford struck again through the air. Jace Carroll connected with Hodge for a 53-yard touchdown pass, pushing the Jackets' advantage to 21-0.

Woodford's defense continued to frustrate the Bearcats, forcing another turnover on downs and giving the offense another opportunity to add to the lead.

Jackson helped move the ball downfield with two first-down runs before a completion to Hodge put Woodford within scoring range. Coons finished the drive with another touchdown pass to Jointer, giving the Jackets a 28-0 lead midway through the second quarter.

The defensive pressure continued as Anderson County turned the ball over on downs once again. Powell went back to work on the ground, running downhill and finding openings in the Bearcats' defense.

Tre Jarber capped the drive with a 15-yard touchdown run, sending Woodford into halftime with a 35-0 lead and putting the running-clock rule into effect.

The Jackets continued to find success offensively in the second half. Carroll connected with Zach Fugate

See JACKETS p.12

WCHS COACH DENNIS JOHNSON and Rev. Floyd Greene of First Baptist Church walk to midfield for the coin flip prior to Woodford's win over Anderson County. (Photo by Bill Caine)

Woodford Club members remember Pat Smejkal

BY BILL CAINE
WOODFORD SUN SPORTS

For the women who shared rounds of golf with Pat Smejkal at The Woodford Club, memories of her accurate shots and knowledge of the rules come with something more personal: the ways she helped them.

She welcomed newcomers, organized tournaments and kept friends connected through the game. Members remembered someone willing to help anyone and an organized person who took pride in creating the annual Oh! Susannah tournament.

"She was just the glue that kept us all together," Cathy Weil said. "I've been thinking about that, and she really was the glue."

Smejkal died Oct. 10 at age 89. Her friends are remembering their years together while preparing to continue the tournament that now bears her name.

"Pat was what you would call salt of the earth," Polly Smith said.

Weil, who knew Smejkal for at least 30 years, said one of their hardest conversations came a couple of months ago, when Smejkal called to ask whether she would take over organizing the Oh! Susannah.

"The saddest day, for me, was just a couple of months ago, when she called me," Weil said.

Weil wanted Smejkal to be able to continue. But accepting the responsibility was an honor, and turning down her friend was difficult to imagine.

"You never said no to her," Weil said. "Whatever she asked, you found out a way to do it."

At Smejkal's funeral, Weil said, her children told her how difficult relinquishing the tournament had been for their mother.

"They both said that that was the hardest thing for her to give up," Weil said.

Marsha Stark said she and Weil had helped Smejkal organize the event over the years. Stark played in the Oh! Susannah at the club "ever since I started playing golf here," she said, "so it's been a lot of wonderful years."

Stark was especially pleased that the tournament was named for Smejkal in 2025, allowing members to honor her while she was alive. Health reasons prevented Smejkal from attending this year.

"We were so thrilled that last year, we named the tournament after her," Stark said.

Smith remembered the organization and follow-through behind Smejkal's work.

"She followed through with what she started," Smith said. "I think she was in control of it, and that's the way she wanted it."

That care extended to golfers who were still learning.

Mary K. Woodrum had been a tennis player before taking up golf. When she began playing at the club, Smejkal helped her learn the rules and find her place among the women.

"When I started playing, Pat just kind of took me under her wing," Woodrum said.

Smejkal invited Woodrum to ride with her and the other women to tournaments. Woodrum was unfamiliar with many of the courses and recalled making those trips before GPS could guide the way.

"She was always really sweet," Woodrum said.

"She knew where she was going, so that always helped," she added. "We did that for years."

Stark, who met Smejkal after moving to the area in 1985, remembered similar care in her work with their Central Kentucky golf group. Smejkal kept members informed about where they would play and whom to contact at each course.

"She just always kept us informed," Stark said.

On the course, she also helped friends navigate the rules.

"It was always comforting to play with her because she knew the rules," Stark said.

Smejkal kept up as those rules changed. Stark recalled occasions when she questioned how to handle a situation, only to discover Smejkal had it right.

"The golf rules have changed on and off, and so she kept up," Stark said.

Smith remembered teasing Smejkal about her insistence on putting out, even during casual rounds. Smejkal approached the game carefully, and her friends remembered the accuracy of her shots.

Weil said Smejkal had an unconventional swing that was recognizable from a distance.

"It was always long, and it was always straight," Weil said.

For Stark and Weil, memories of Smejkal also included her husband, Bill. The couple regularly played early morning rounds together, with Stark recalling their arrival around 7:30.

"They played golf every morning, the two of them," Stark said.

After Bill's death, Weil said, Smejkal played more regularly with the women. Whatever the day brought, she remembered a friend who made a foursome enjoyable.

"She was just always fun," Weil said. "You never knew if Pat was having a bad day because she always smiled."

Stark remembered the same kindness.

"She's always been the dearest, sweetest person; always cared about other people," Stark said.

"Nobody could say an unkind thing about her," she added.

Now, Weil and friends aim to continue the tournament that Smejkal entrusted to her. The Oh! Susannah has drawn golfers from Louisville and Cincinnati, including women who returned for years, she said.

"We have some people, ladies that come from Cincinnati," Weil said. "And they have been coming for years."

Her goal is to carry that tradition to its 50th edition and celebrate the milestone.

"We're definitely going to get to the 50th," Weil said. "Then we will keep it going but with some extra help I'm sure."



PAT SMEJKAL, who died Oct. 10 at age 89, left a lasting impact on women's golf at The Woodford Club. She organized the annual Oh! Susannah tournament, welcomed new golfers and built friendships that lasted decades. (Photo submitted)

WCHS volleyball falls to North Oldham in regional quarterfinal

BY BILL CAINE
WOODFORD SUN SPORTS

Woodford County High School's volleyball season ended with a 3-0 loss to North Oldham in the 8th Region quarterfinals Oct. 25, but the Yellow Jackets left knowing how far they'd come.

Woodford rallied from early deficits in the first two sets and led early in the third before the Mustangs completed a 25-18, 25-13, 25-16 sweep. North Oldham's blocking and outside hitting helped turn back those challenges, keeping Woodford from extending its season.

For coach Meghan Bottom, the result did not erase her team's progress, particularly during the final month of the season.

"The amount of growth that we had from the beginning of the season to the end was tremendous," Bottom said.

That growth included 10 seniors in leadership roles, a group Bottom credited with embracing their roles and helping the team move forward.

"They bought in and they led," Bottom said.

Woodford had opportunities to challenge North Oldham, beginning with a first-set comeback that erased a seven-point deficit.

Despite points at the net from Lorelai Johns and Scarlett Dabney, the Yellow Jackets trailed 13-6 when Bottom called a timeout to interrupt the Mustangs' momentum.

A North Oldham serve sailed long to give Woodford a sideout. Dabney followed with a point at the net, and the Yellow Jackets forced a pair of errors to close within 14-11.

Woodford continued to work its way back, with Johns delivering a kill that tied the set 17-17.

The Mustangs answered with three consecutive points before Lucy Culbertson earned a sideout with a kill. North Oldham regained control down the stretch, closing the set 25-18.

The second set began with another North Oldham run. The Mustangs scored the first five points. After a Woodford timeout, North Oldham extended its lead to 10-2.

Again, Woodford responded. Defensive work at the net helped the Yellow Jackets cut the deficit to 10-7, putting them within reach after another difficult start.

North Oldham scored the next three points, then continued to build separation as its outside hitters found openings down the line. The lead grew to 16-7 before the Mustangs finished the set 25-13.

Facing a two-set deficit, Woodford opened the third with its best start of the match. Addie Bryant served a pair of aces as the Yellow Jackets took a 5-2 lead.

North Oldham responded with seven straight points to move ahead 9-5. A Mustangs serve into the net ended the run, but their blocking continued to present problems for Woodford's hitters.

Bottom said the challenge was to vary the offense while staying ready to keep blocked attacks in play.

"Try to play a little smarter, try to mix up what we're setting and what we're hitting," Bottom said.

Woodford continued looking for openings. Lydia Sumner scored at the net to cut the deficit to 15-11 as Bottom urged her players to focus on the next point.

The Mustangs stretched the margin to 18-11 before Dabney answered with a kill.

Caroline Gribble later delivered a block, but North Oldham kept the ball alive and won the rally for a 19-14 lead. The Mustangs continued attacking, pushed the advantage to 22-14 and closed out the match 25-16.

Their first-set rally and early third-set lead gave Woodford moments to build on, even as North Oldham ultimately controlled the match.

Afterward, Bryant reflected on what volleyball had provided beyond competition. With softball as her main sport, she said volleyball gave her a chance to play alongside friends without the same concerns about her athletic future.

"I feel like I can come out here and just have fun and play with my friends," Bryant said.

Returning to the regional tournament also meant a lot for a group that had played together since sixth grade. Bryant said the players had not always been close and entered the season with questions about what they could accomplish.

By the end, they had reached the same stage of the postseason as the previous year.

"We didn't believe in ourselves at first, but we did do it in the end," Bryant said.

Gribble said the relationships built during the season would remain with her after the final match. The team had become a group of close friends, giving the season meaning beyond wins and losses.

"These girls have become some of my best friends," Gribble said. "We truly have such a special bond."

For Gribble, that connection was central to what she would remember about playing for Woodford.

"At the end of the day, this bond has been more than volleyball," Gribble said. "It's true friendship."

Bottom saw that commitment in how her players kept competing against North Oldham. Even when the Mustangs built leads or turned back attacks at the net, Woodford kept working to extend rallies and create another chance.

"They came out and they fought today," Bottom said. "They never laid down."

Asked whether the final month represented Woodford's best volleyball, Bottom agreed. The Yellow Jackets had continued improving as the postseason approached, giving their coach something to value even after the season's final loss.

"You want to end playing your best," Bottom said. "That's what we did."



LYDIA SUMNER jumps for a kill during the 8th Region final against North Oldham. Woodford lost the match in three sets. (Photo by Bill Caine)



CAROLINE GRIBBLE rises for a serve during the regional final against North Oldham. (Photo by Bill Caine)

Lady Jackets, Porter qualify for state cross country meet

BY BILL CAINE
WOODFORD SUN SPORTS



BLAKE PORTER qualified for the state championship with a solid performance at regionals Oct. 24 in Georgetown. (Photo by Bill Caine)

The Woodford County High School girls' cross country team and Blake Porter qualified for state at the regional meet Oct. 24 in Georgetown.

The Lady Jackets finished fifth as a team with 137 points, led by Avery Gill's fifth-place finish. Porter placed 19th to qualify individually as Woodford's boys finished ninth.

Gill completed the 5K race in 19:56.34 and acknowledged how tough the course was, especially after homecoming the night before.

"It was really tough, especially being so early," Gill said. "Usually our races are at nine, so eight was really early after homecoming last night."

The hills allowed Gill to compete.

"I like hard courses," she said. "I felt like I was competitive, and I was able to just, like, fight."

For coach Adam Swingle, preparation for regionals began with summer distance running and continued through the season with hill work, tempo runs and attention to race strategy.

"We're doing a lot of mindset work as well," Swingle said. "Making sure they know the right way to race the race."

Gill said that mental preparation includes working through doubts before lining up against strong competition.

"You gotta tell yourself that, you know, you're fast enough to run with them, and you can do it," she said.

Her teammates provide motivation, too.

"It just kind of makes you want to run good for them," Gill said.

Swingle said the girls entered the regional meet knowing a state berth was within reach.

"We knew coming in that the girls should be able to qualify," he said. "They just had to go and run their races."

Harmony Gampper finished 15th in 20:21.75, and Penny Oxnard placed 25th in 21:17.85.

Swingle praised Gill's performance and said Gampper moved up considerably from her seed. He also lauded Oxnard's progress throughout the season and Jacey Lyddane's contribution at regionals.

Lyddane finished 42nd in 22:31.54, followed by Lucy Danks in 52nd in 23:40.36 to complete Woodford's scoring five. Genevieve Cox placed 53rd in 23:53.84 and Ashlyn Dearinger finished 56th in 24:06.08.

"All the girls stepped up," said Swingle, who praised Cox's contribution and Dearinger's improvement from season to season.

Porter led the boys with a time of 17:21.70 to secure his state berth.

"It's a difficult course," Porter said. "I mean, it's pretty hilly. You can use the downhills, but then you gotta go right back up the hill, so it makes it pretty difficult."

Porter described his race as "a decent performance" and said he pushed through after the second hill left him winded. During the race, he reminded himself to keep moving up through the field with a state berth in mind.

Oliver Cox finished 39th in 18:16.97, followed by Gavyn Burns in 55th in 19:04.41.

Swingle said Porter entered the meet with a strong chance to qualify individually. The boys competed with no seniors in their lineup, and late-season injuries kept some of their top runners out of the meet.

"But they stepped up big," Swingle said.

Burns delivered a performance that stood out to his coach, setting a personal record on a course Swingle said rarely produces them.

"He had a phenomenal, phenomenal day," Swingle said.

Liam Muniz finished 68th in 20:07.98 and Paxton Magruder placed 70th in 20:13.17 to round out the scoring runners. Julian Muniz finished 81st in 21:44.79, while Andrew Wellman placed 83rd in 21:56.50.

With a young boys' lineup and eighth graders preparing to enter high school, Swingle sees opportunities to build depth in both programs.

"The future of our running looks bright," he said. "We will have many returning runners as well as some bright stars coming up the middle school ranks."



AVERY GILL placed fifth in the regional 5K race Oct. 24 in Georgetown. (Photo by Bill Caine)



HARMONY GAMPPER placed 15th in the regional meet Saturday, Oct. 24. (Photo by Bill Caine)

JACKETS
Continued from p.11

for a touchdown in the third quarter, extending Woodford's lead to 42-0.

Anderson County avoided the shutout with a late touchdown and two-point conversion against Woodford's third-string defense, accounting for the final 42-8 margin.

Coons completed 10 of 12 passes for 120 yards and two touchdowns, while Carroll finished 3 of 5 for 70 yards and two scores. Braydon Wallis completed his only pass for six yards as the three quarterbacks combined for 196 passing yards and four touchdowns.

Hodge led the receiving corps with five catches for 92 yards and a touchdown, including his 53-yard scoring reception. Jointer caught three passes for 45 yards and two touchdowns, while Fugate added two receptions for 23 yards and a score. Rihtar contributed a 19-yard reception, while Jones, Gage Allen and Jesse Duncan also recorded catches.

Jarber led Woodford's rushing attack with 51 yards and a touchdown on five carries, averaging 10.2 yards per attempt. Powell added 43 yards on five carries, while Wallis rushed for 38 yards on three attempts, averaging 12.7 yards per carry. Jackson finished with 31 yards on three carries, and Brown added 27 yards and a touchdown on four attempts.

Defensively, Alex Senters led the Jackets with seven total tackles, including five solo stops and two assists. Tomlin finished with five tackles, a tackle for loss and an interception, while Jacobi Liggins added five tackles, including two solo stops.

Jordan Holman recorded four solo tackles and two tackles for loss, while Andy Hawkins finished with four tackles. Elias Tackett and Josiah McKee each recorded three solo tackles and a tackle for loss. Powell and Elijah Huff added three tackles apiece, while Jarber forced a fumble.

The kicking game was also perfect on extra-point attempts. Cash Wolfe converted all five of his attempts, while Brandon Tompkins Jr. made his lone attempt as Woodford finished 6 for 6.

The large halftime lead also allowed Johnson to get his younger players valuable playing time as the Jackets prepare for the postseason.

"Their JV season is over, so it keeps them going because they practice hard," Johnson said. "They get a chance to get some action, and you never know when I'm going to need one of those guys."

Carroll, who completed three of five passes for 70 yards and two touchdowns, said making the most of his opportunities is important, particularly while playing behind starting quarterback Coons.

"Very meaningful, just being able to play, especially behind a guy like Foxx. It always means something to me," Carroll said.

With the postseason approaching, Carroll said the Jackets must continue putting in the work throughout the week to maintain their momentum.

"Consistent work at practice, keeping an effort through the long days and staying focused week by week," Carroll said.

The Jackets will close out the regular season against Ballard Oct. 30 before turning their attention to postseason play.



DARRIAN TOMLIN leaps for an interception during Woodford's 42-8 win over Anderson County Oct. 23 at Community Stadium. (Photo by Bill Caine)

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YARD SALES

7th New-2-U Sale
Sat., Nov. 7, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.
123 E. Bruen Street, Midway
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New, gently used, vintage items of all kinds including housewares, home and holiday décor, costume jewelry, original artwork, books, cotton quilting fabrics – mixed colors/patterns, tools, estate items, clothing, purses and accessories, kitchen items, small furniture and lots more! 10.22.2t

614 Deerfield (Stonegate). 8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. New crown molding $30 for 3-16" pieces, glassware, home décor, pans, etc. Lots of Christmas items & Paul Sawyer prints. Low prices! 10.29.1t

MISC. FOR SALE

FIREWOOD FOR SALE. 4x8 rick longbed. Will burn. Hardwood. Call Jeese Brown at 859-509-1530. 10.29.tf

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PUBLIC NOTICE
Open Position
Part-time Custodian

The Woodford County Fiscal Court is currently accepting applications for the position of Woodford County Custodian. This part-time, second shift (working hours TBD) position is under the supervision of the County Maintenance Supervisor, this position is responsible for keeping the Courthouse, Jack Jouett House and Court House Annex offices, hallways and exterior clean and other duties as assigned. Background and drug testing required.

The successful applicant must have a high school diploma/GED combined with 6-12 months related experience or equivalent combination of education and experience.

A more detailed job description and application can be obtained online at https://woodfordcountyky.gov or Woodford County Human Resources Manager, 103 South Main Street, Room 203, Versailles, KY 40383.

Email applications can be submitted to
ttipton@woodfordcountyky.gov
Applications will be accepted through
Friday, October 30, 2026 at 4:00 p.m.

Woodford County is an Equal Opportunity Employer 10.22.2t

PUBLIC NOTICE

The second reading of a proposed ordinance amending the Woodford County Budget for Fiscal Year 2026-2027, to realize unbudgeted receipts in the amount of $100,000 will be held on November 10, 2026, at 5:30 p.m. at the Regular Meeting of the Woodford County Fiscal Court, Woodford County Courthouse, second floor courtroom, Versailles, Kentucky. A copy of the ordinance with full text is available for public inspection at the office of the Woodford County Judge/Executive during normal business hours. 10.29.1t





PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE OF MASTER COMMISSIONER'S SALES

In order to comply with Orders of the Woodford Circuit Court, the Master Commissioner will sell the properties in the actions described below on **Friday, November 13, 2026** at the hour of 10:00 a.m. in the Woodford County Courthouse Annex Building Conference Room at 130 Court Street, Versailles, Kentucky. Each property shall be sold to comply with the Orders of Sale entered by the Woodford Circuit Court and to raise the amounts hereinafter set forth, together with interest and the costs of the actions described below, if said amounts are claimed, and (unless otherwise indicated) upon the following terms and conditions:

(A) At the time of sale, the successful bidder shall either pay cash or make a deposit of 10% of the purchase price with the balance on credit for thirty (30) days. In the event the successful bidder desires or elects to credit the balance, he or she will be required to post bond and shall furnish an acceptable surety thereon. Each bond shall be for the unpaid balance of purchase price and shall bear interest at the rate set forth in KRS 360.040 from the date of sale until paid.

IN THE EVENT THAT THE PURCHASER IS NOT PAYING THE FULL AMOUNT OF THE PURCHASE PRICE OF THE PROPERTY ON THE DATE OF SALE, ANOTHER PERSON MUST BE PRESENT ON THE PURCHASER'S BEHALF TO SIGN AS SURETY FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE PURCHASE PRICE, WITH SURETY THEREON ACCEPTABLE TO THE MASTER COMMISSIONER AND PRE-APPROVED BY THE MASTER COMMISSIONER.

(B) Risk of loss of improvements shall be on the purchaser from date of sale.

(C) The purchaser shall be required to assume and pay all taxes or assessments upon the property for the current tax year and all subsequent years. All taxes or assessments upon the property for prior years (unless otherwise indicated) shall be paid from the sale proceeds if properly claimed in writing and filed of record by the purchaser prior to payment of the purchase price.

(D) The property shall otherwise be sold free and clear of any right, title and interest of all parties to the action and of their liens and encumbrances thereon, excepting easements and restrictions of record in the Woodford County Clerk's Office and such right of redemption as may exist in favor of the United States of America or the defendant(s).

BIDDING INSTRUCTIONS TO ATTORNEY(S):

ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFFS OR DEFENDANTS MAY FAX OR EMAIL THEIR BID NO LATER THAN THREE (3) BUSINESS DAYS PRIOR TO THE SALE DATE. THE RECEIPT OF THE BID MUST BE CONFIRMED BY THE MASTER COMMISSIONER BY FAX OR EMAIL PRIOR TO THE SALE. IF CONFIRMATION OF RECEIPT OF BID FROM THE MASTER COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE IS NOT RECEIVED BY THE BIDDING PARTY BY 5:00 PM OF THE DAY PRECEDING THE SALE, THEN THE PARTY SUBMITTING THE BID MUST HAVE A REPRESENTATIVE PRESENT AT THE SALE. THE BID SUBMITTED MUST BE FOR A SPECIFIED AMOUNT.

****

SALE NO. 1

Gary Sorrell and Abby Sorrell v. Ruth Miller; Unknown Spouse of Ruth Miller; William Harrod; Unknown Spouse of William Harrod; Willie Giles; Unknown Spouse of Willie Giles; Beatrice Friend; Unknown Spouse of Beatrice Friend; Arthur Friend; Unknown Spouse of Arthur Friend; Jasper Lee Giles; Unknown Spouse of Jasper Lee Giles; Thomas Giles; Unknown Spouse of Thomas Giles; James Giles; and Unknown Spouse of James Giles (Woodford Civil Action No. 25-CI-00288, Division II). This Master Commissioner's sale is held to partition the Real Property at issue in this Civil Action and for division of the sale proceeds among each Party in accordance with their respective interest in the Real Property. The legal description is included below to further describe the Real Property.

222 West Main Street, Midway, KY 40347
PVA Parcel No.: 38-5001-005-00

Legal Description:
Fronting on Railroad Street 23 feet 6 inches and extending North therefrom between parallel lines for a distance of 102 feet, bounded on the East by the property of Thomas Courtney, Sr., on the North by the property of Mrs. Cordelia Fogle, and on the West by the property of McCelland Sorrell. Being the same property that was conveyed to Mrs. Jasper Sorrell by deed March 19, 1929 that appears of record in Deed Book 29 at Page 295 in the Woodford County Clerk's Office; and which passed by intestate succession upon her death to George Sorrell, Nona Comley, McClelland Sorrell, Selbert Sorrell, the children of Mary Ellen Harrod; and the spouse and children of Eva Giles as shown by the Affidavit of Descent that appears of record in Deed Book 41 at Page 275 in the aforesaid Clerk's Office; and in which George Sorrell and spouse, Nona Comley, McClelland Sorrell and spouse each conveyed their undivided 1/6 interest to Selbert Sorrell by deed dated January 16, 1944 that appears of record in Deed Book 41 at Page 274 in the aforesaid Clerk's Office; and in which Selbert Sorrell and spouse conveyed his undivided 4/6 interest therein to James Gary Sorrell by deed dated October __, 1965 that appears of record in Deed Book 65 at Page 559 in the aforesaid Clerk's Office.

SALE NO. 2

Orchard Tax Lien Services, LLC v. James Murray; Unknown Spouse of James Murray; and County of Woodford, Kentucky (Woodford Civil Action No. 26-CI-00015, Division II) to raise on behalf of Plaintiff, Orchard Tax Lien Services, LLC, the principal amount of $6,888.48, together with interest, charges and costs. The legal description is included below to further describe the Real Property.

5730 McCracken Pike, Millville, KY 40601
PVA Parcel No.: 07-1001-013-00

Legal Description:
Beginning at a stake corner to Charles Ruby on the East side of the McCracken's Mill Turnpike thence S 19-1/2 W 3 chains 16 links 2 inches to a stake corner to Jennie M. Botts on the same side of road, thence S 74-1/2 E 3 chains 16 links 2 inches to a stake corner to said Botts, thence N 19-1/2 E 3 chains 16 links 2 inches to a stake corner to said Ruby, thence N 74-1/2 W 3 chains 16 links 2 inches to the beginning.

There is excepted herefrom so much as was conveyed by Clayton Johnson and Anna Lee Johnson, his wife, to Marshall Watts and Mossaleen Watts, his wife, by deed of record in the Office of the Clerk of Woodford County Court in Deed Book 39, Page 74, and described as follows: Beginning at a point in the center of the McCracken's Mill Road corner to Dellie Watts, thence with the center of said road 90 feet to a pint in said road corner to Clayton Johnson, thence turning at right angles and running in a eastern direction a distance of 100 feet to a point corner to Clayton Johnson, thence turning again at right angles and running in a southern direction 90 feet to the line of Dellie Watts, corner to same, thence west with line of Dellie Watts 100 feet of the point of beginning.

Being the same real property conveyed to James Murray, by a deed recorded February 17, 1998 in Deed Book 182, Page 655 and recorded in the Woodford County Clerk's Office.

SALE NO. 3

Freedom Mortgage Corporation v. Robert E. Gean (Woodford Civil Action No. 26-CI-00046, Division I) to raise on behalf of Plaintiff, Freedom Mortgage Corporation, the principal amount of $349,582.10, together with interest, charges and costs.

1221 Mundy's Landing Road, Versailles, KY 40383
PVA Parcel No.: 36-0000-001-04

ROBERT C. STILZ, JR.
MASTER COMMISIONER
WOODFORD CIRCUIT COURT
10.29.1t

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A spooktacular evening in Versailles



THE THRILLER PARADE, in its seventh year, was led by Lauren Stigers, a Versailles native and Jane's School of Dance alum who now dances professionally in New York City. The "Zombies" included not just current and former Jane's School of Dance students, but over 30 residents who went through lessons organized by the dance school . (Photo by Albert Chandler, from the second floor of the *Sun*)



IS THIS A SCENE FROM MACBETH? A group of witches, who we thought were City of Versailles employees, seem to have captured Mayor Laura Dake, who had been standing guard, so they could pass out free hocus-pocus candy! The hocus-pocus is said to make children turn into frogs within one week of ingestion. From left, Cindy Rankin, Amanda Wainscott, Elizabeth Reynolds, Dake, Patty Wilder and Marlena Jacobs. (Photo by Scott White))



SAVANNAH BARKDOLL, aka The Flaming Femme, an accomplished fire dancer, entertained the large crowd at Sunday's annual Spooktacular in downtown Versailles. (Photo by Bill Caine)



"THE SODA POP GIRLS," not to be confused with their colleagues, the munchkins from the Lollipop Guild, won their category in the costume contest. The group of close friends is, from left, Vesper Vick, Alexandria Hooten, MiCali Shawver and MiKayla Shawver. (Photo by Scott White)

By Scott White
Woodford Sun Staff
Report for America corps member

BOO!!

The Fifth Annual Spooktacular, organized and sponsored by the Woodford County Chamber of Commerce, attracted about 4,300 people, according to a software company that uses cell phone data to measure crowd size. The city closed off Main Street from Green to Morgan streets for the event, which included lots of activities, music and food and drink vendors. Downtown merchants were also open.

There were hundreds of ghosts, goblins, superheroes, police and firemen, dinosaurs, cowboys and cowgirls, and a menagerie of Disney and Marvel characters trolling for candy, playing games, trying to get the 10-foot skeleton to talk, marveling at the headless horseman and generally having a big time.

The night reached its climax with the annual Thriller Parade.

Lauren Stigers, a Versailles native who now dances professionally in New York City, flew home to play the Michael Jackson role for a third time. She was joined by a large group of Zombies made up of dance students and over 30 untrained Woodford County residents, who were taught the tightly choreographed long-dance by Jane's School of Dance owner Megan Schenck Dragoo.

A two-minute clip of the dance posted on the *Sun's* Facebook page has already had over 38,000 views.

What a night!

WOODFORD
THEATRE
A Christmas Carol
By Charles Ludlam
Adapted from the novel by Charles Dickens
"A Christmas Carol (Ludlam)' is presented by arrangment with Concord Theatricals on behalf of Samuel French, Inc.
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December 4-20
Fridays & Saturdays at 7:30pm
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