

# Neighbors



Garden Club members Mary Beth Marcum, from left, Joan Radford, Barbara Clement, Johnny Howard, Debbie Skaggs and Ruth Ray surround the largest sassafras tree registered with the American Forestry Association in Owensboro.

### Garden Club members travel to Owensboro

The Garden Club of Elizabethtown took another field trip May 15. The largest sassafras tree in the United States is in Kentucky and most likely is the largest tree of its kind in the world. The tree is well more than 300 years old. Several members traveled to Owensboro to see the tree and wondered how many people it would take to circle around the 16 foot tree trunk. They needed a few more people. The field trip also included a visit to the Western Kentucky Botanical Gardens. Members enjoyed seeing

the newly acquired WeatherBerry Mansion, walking the Path of Hope and Healing, discovering lovely sculptures, listening to the various water features and touring more than 20 gardens. This botanical garden is big enough to make it worth the trip from Elizabethtown, but small enough to ensure you can see it all at a leisurely pace. Following the garden tour, the club ate lunch at Moonlight Barbecue. For information about the programs, projects and activities of the club, call Mary Beth Marcum at 931-260-8272 or find club news on Facebook and Instagram.

### Gatton Academy recognizes area educators

The Gatton Academy of Mathematics and Science in Kentucky recently recognized 30 educators from across the Commonwealth for their support of high ability students. The educators were recognized at the program's May 10 Commencement in Van Meter Hall. The Gatton Academy established the Gatton Academy Educator Recognition Program in 2018 to acknowledge and celebrate the support students receive from teachers, counselors,

gifted and talented specialists and principals along their educational journeys. Educators play key roles in encouraging students to develop their strengths, explore topics of interest and set lofty goals. Students often learn of the opportunities The Gatton Academy offers through educators who recognize their potential. Gatton Academy graduates were invited to nominate one educator from a Kentucky school to be recognized at graduation. Selected

educators received a certificate of recognition, a specific message of gratitude from their nominating students and were invited to stand to be acknowledged as their names were read during The Gatton Academy commencement ceremony. The following area educators were recognized by the Class of 2025: Rosalie Batistoni, Central Hardin High School; Christine Birch, John Hardin High School; and Amy Litton, LaRue County High School.

### Cox named to Ohio Dominican Dean's List

Camden Cox of Elizabethtown has been named to Ohio Dominican University's 2025 Spring

Semester Dean's List. In order to make the dean's list, full-time undergraduate students

must achieve a 3.5 GPA or better after completing a minimum of 12 credit hours.

### DAR welcomes new members

Captain Jacob Van Meter Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution celebrated members May 17 at the Brown-Pusey House in Elizabethtown. Regent Linda King called the meeting to order with DAR Rituals following. Nine ladies were welcomed with a new member ceremony: Marsha Barnes, Sherry Crawford, Virginia Couch, Teresa Edlin, Norma Hatfield, Sonji Holsclaw, Debra Skaggs, Bethany Spencer and Beth Sprowles. The Revolutionary War patriots of these ladies served in New Hampshire, North Carolina, Pennsylvania and Virginia. The service of each member's patriot was read and honored. Members received a DAR lapel pin and rose. Members with anniversaries were honored with a certificate: Vonita Heck, five years, Amy Cooper and Sharon Williams, 15 years, and Emily



Virginia Couch participates in the new member ceremony.

Humphries, 55 years. Van Meter Fort Society Children of the American Revolution Senior President Ashley Narvaez summarized the national C.A.R. project. A video is planned honoring Dr. Joseph Warren, who was a Founding Father of the United States, an American physician and was one of the most important figures in the patriot movement in Boston during the early days of the American Revolution. Dr. Warren was killed in the Battle of



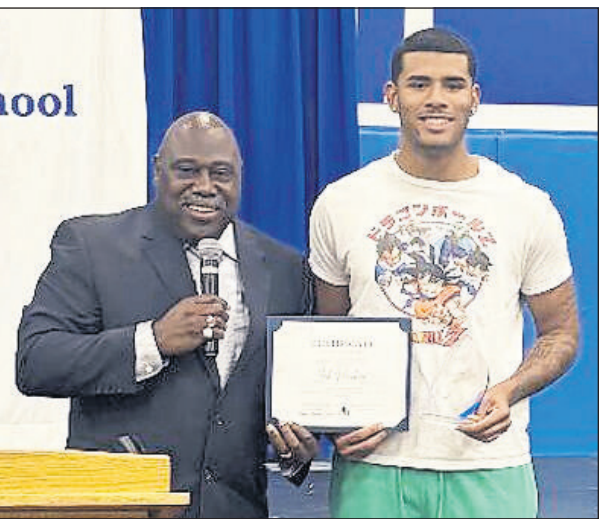
DAR New Member Ceremony, Teresa Edlin, Beth Sprowles, Bethany Spencer, Sonji Holsclaw, Chaplain Deborah Sims, Regent Linda King, KSDAR 2nd District Director Sharon Williams, Marsha Barnes, Norma Hatfield, Sherry Crawford and Debra Skaggs.

Bunker Hill. The video is planned for the History Channel. Captain Jacob Van Meter Chapter will donate to this project. Sue Rock has obtained 12 boxes of supplies for the Radcliff Veterans Center. Lisa Greene will deliver the supplies. Back Home catered the luncheon.

### MAD presents scholarships

Making A Difference Co-Director Bishop Marcus Dixon, on behalf of the Director of the Making A Difference Conference his wife, Minister Linda Dixon, and Evangelist LaTrice Thomas, Kamrin LaShon Boone's mother and one of the sponsors for The Kamrin LaShon Boone Memorial Making A Difference Scholarship presents scholarships to three \$500 scholarship winners, Zak Mackey, Mikaela Siagatonu and Janiya Banks.

The history behind the award, Karmin Lashon Boone, 25, of Louisville, transitioned this life on Jan. 4, 2023, in Louisville. He was born Oct. 22, 1997, in East Point, Georgia, to Kelvin E. Norris and Ester L. LaTrice Thomas. He was a military dependent who attended Berrien, Liberty, Clayton and Fayette County Schools in Georgia, school in Hawaii and completed his high school years in Hardin County. Boone completed his freshman year of college at Lindsey Wilson College and his sophomore through senior years at Thomas More University, where he earned a Bachelor of Science in Communications. He was enrolled in Messiah University with only three courses remaining to complete a master's degree; he was determined to earn his PhD to become an HBCU Professor.



Bishop Marcus Dixon and Zak Mackey.



Bishop Marcus Dixon and Mikaela Siagatonu.



Bishop Marcus Dixon and Janiya Banks.



Kim Douglas, from left, Helen Lamb, Sharon Post, Whitney Wallace, Mike Gartin, Melissa Gaddie, Hunter Hammer, Anita Thomas, Dawne Divine and Francy Corbin gather at a recent Kiwanis Club meeting.

### Kiwanis members elect officers

At the Kiwanis Club of Hardin County meeting, officers were elected for October 2025 through September 2026. Officers include President Jenny Geist, Vice-President Brittany Jackson, Vice-President Elect Helen Lamb,

Treasurer Kim Douglas, Secretary Francy Corbin, Third Year Board Member Melissa Gaddie, Second Term Board Member Whitney Wallace and First Term Board Member Dawne Divine.



Emily Humphries receives certificate honoring 55 years of DAR membership presented by Regent Linda King.