

Moving to Kentucky frontier during war featured in O'Malley program

HELEN MCKINNEY
SHELBY COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Nancy O'Malley has built a career as a professional archaeologist, specializing in historical archaeology, particularly the late 18th century early settlement in the middle Ohio Valley (early settlement and Revolutionary War Kentucky), African American history and industrial sites (mills and potteries). Nancy is the archaeologist responsible for surveying and unearthing artifacts from the original Painted Stone Station site in Shelby County, KY. This very important early



NANCY O'MALLEY

station was established by Squire Boone, and was evacuated in September 1781 after constant Native American harassment. The ensuing attack came to be known as the Long Run Massacre. Nancy will present a program for the Shelby County Historical Society (SCHS) on Tuesday, August 19th at 6:30 pm about her latest book, set to release in October 2025 entitled, Kentucky Frontier to Commonwealth, Historical Archaeology at Daniel Boone's and Hugh McGary's Stations. This program will take place at the Carnegie Library Center, 731 College St. in Shel-

byville. The SCHS is hosting this program in collaboration with the Shelby County Public Library. It is the fourth program in a series, With Liberty & Justice For All!, created by the Countdown to USA250! Committee. Each program highlighted an aspect surrounding the Revolutionary War era, and featured speakers Jim Holmberg (former Curator for the Filson Historical Society), Julien Icher (President, The Lafayette Trail, Inc.) and Mel Hanka (educator, writer, and Kentucky longrifle & antiques expert). Retired from the University of Kentucky, Nancy spent nearly 40 years in research, museum administration and teaching. She

is the author of the well-researched Stockading Up: A Study of Pioneer Stations in the Inner Bluegrass Region of Kentucky and other publications. She has held many positions including: Assistant Director for the William S. Webb Museum of Anthropology, Adjunct Faculty, Dept. of Historic Preservation, College of Design, University of Kentucky, Staff Archaeologist for University of Kentucky, and Research Archaeologist for the Texas Historical Commission, Austin, Texas. Nancy has also been very involved with the Hopewell Museum in Paris, KY. About the book: Daniel Boone is considered one of the United States' first

folk heroes for his exploration beyond the thirteen colonies into Kentucky. Hugh McGary, the Irish-born American pioneer who joined Boone on his 1775 expedition, is lesser known, but played a prominent part in establishing early posts such as Harrodsburg. In this book, Nancy O'Malley provides insight into Kentucky colonial life through research into station site remnants. Boone's Station is well preserved and shows what a lasting occupation looked like, whereas McGary's Station—abandoned soon after the end of the Revolutionary War—bears the markers of settlers who endured more primitive conditions. The SAR (Sons of the

American Revolution, Gov. Isaac Shelby Chapter), DAR (Daughters of the American Revolution, Isaac Shelby Chapter), Painted Stone Settlers, Inc., and Shelby County Public Library are partnering with the Shelby County Historical Society to present this FREE public program. Be sure to check out Revolutionary Minutes airing on the Shelby County Historical Society's YouTube channel and Facebook group page. These are the most fun and informative 60 + seconds of history you'll ever witness! Learn about the struggles our Patriot ancestors and Founding Fathers faced to create the United States of America.

Shelby students complete 2025 Governor's School for the Arts

The 2025 Kentucky Governor's School for the Arts program concluded on July 26, with a class that represented more than half of the Commonwealth's 120 counties. Growing from 256 students to more than 500 students, the tuition-free program took place during two consecutive three-week sessions (Session 1: June 8 – June 28; Session 2: July 6 – July 26) with students divided into each. Both sessions were hosted at The University of Kentucky.

During the three-week program, student-artists from 72 counties were immersed in a rigorous schedule of daily seminars, creative projects, master classes, and lectures. Instruction was offered in nine disciplines: Creative Writing, Dance, Design, Drama, Film+Photography, Instrumental Music, Musical Theatre, Visual Art and Vocal Music. Graduates from Shelby County include: Colton Block, of Shelby County High School, for Drama Benjamin Ashbrook, of Veritas Scholars Academy, for Visual Art Eliza Coffee, of Eminence High School, for Dance Alexander Gomelsky, of Martha Layne Collins High School, for Drama Evan Shepherd, of Shelby County High School, for Instrumental Music Charles Webb, of Martha Layne Collins High School, for Vocal Music Special activities and performances for GSA 2025 included a Kentucky Shakespeare in Central Park performance and the UK Opera Theatre's annual It's a Grand Night for Singing!

Award-winning performing artist and educator, Harry Pickens, as well as artist, teacher, and actress Joy Lanceta Coronel visited students this year. Other events included guests like visual artist LaNia Roberts and musical performer Peter Collins. Since 1987, more than 8,500 rising high school juniors and seniors have descended on a college campus setting to immerse themselves in an arts intensive environment, with cross-discipline learning, special guest artist performances and lectures, and the opportunity to access critical life-changing college scholarships.

ABOUT THE KENTUCKY GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL FOR THE ARTS

GSA is a public/private partnership inaugurated in 1987 by The Kentucky Center, the Commonwealth of Kentucky and numerous private supporters. Today, the vital funding required to make GSA a reality is provided by the state through the leadership of the Governor's Office and the Kentucky Tourism, Arts and Heritage Cabinet, along with the other agencies, seeks to preserve and promote the history, heritage, and arts of the Commonwealth. Three locations in Louisville make up the family of venues under the Kentucky Performing Arts umbrella: The Kentucky Center at 501 W. Main St. The Brown Theatre, 315 W. Broadway Old Forester's Paristown Hall, 724 Brent St.

ABOUT KENTUCKY PERFORMING ARTS

Bringing world class performances to Kentucky, connecting artists with the community, and providing arts education opportunities, Kentucky Performing



Kentucky Performing Arts

Arts lives its statewide mission of connecting and inspiring through the arts. Kentucky Performing Arts has a significant impact on the Commonwealth's tourism and local economy, contributing \$26.3 million in an average year, including \$15.8 million in direct economic impact with our patrons spending an additional \$10.5 million annually. As an integral member of the Kentucky Tourism, Arts, and Heritage Cabinet, Kentucky Performing Arts, along with the other agencies, seeks to preserve and promote the history, heritage, and arts of the Commonwealth. Three locations in Louisville make up the family of venues under the Kentucky Performing Arts umbrella: The Kentucky Center at 501 W. Main St. The Brown Theatre, 315 W. Broadway Old Forester's Paristown Hall, 724 Brent St. The University of Kentucky College of Fine Arts offers Kentucky's broadest collection of visual and per-

forming arts academic programs with four academic units. The college also is home to the Singletary Center for the Arts and the UK Art Museum. The College of Fine Arts declares that the arts are essential to the life of the individual and the community. We express our commitment to the arts through dedication to teaching, scholarly research, artistic experimentation, performance, outreach, and exhibition.



Kentucky Performing Arts

I-64 construction update

Starting Thursday night (August 14) at 7 pm to 7 am Friday morning (August 15) and 7 pm that night to 7 am Saturday morning (August 16), I-64 west will be reduced to one lane near KY 1848/Buck Creek Road and near KY 55/Taylorsville Road. The lane closures are necessary in order for crews to perform base failure repairs along the interstate. According to the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet, "The three-year project includes widening and pavement upgrades of an 11-mile section of I-64, reconstruction of the KY 53 interchange, rebuilding of three bridges over I-64,

and widening of four existing I-64 bridges. These improvements will enhance daily travel while also sup-

porting future growth in the region. The interstate project is expected to be completed by the Fall of 2027."

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