Let Freedom Ring!

BY JACK BRAMMER SPECIAL WRITER

About 75 people rang bells in front of the Shelby County Historical Society Museum on Sept. 17 after listening to a special reading of the Preamble to the U.S. Constitution.

The day celebrated the signing of the U.S. Constitution on Sept. 17, 1787, by 39 delegates at the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia.

The event was sponsored by the local chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution as part of a nationwide bell-ringing event. Members of the Sons of the American Revolution also participated. The Shelby County Public Library provided free book bags and booklets about the Constitution to those in attendance.

Shelbyville Mayor Troy Ethington read a proclamation acknowledging the event.



Jack Brammer

Paul Schmidt (left) and Kerry Magan ring a 40pound bell at the event.



Some members of the Daughters of American Revolution touch base with patriotic soldiers during the event.

First Financial Bank launches Shelbyville Food Drive on Oct. 6

Financial Bank (Nasdag: FFBC) will hold a food drive in Shelbyville from Oct. 6-31 to support neighbors in need. The bank will accept canned food and nonperishable boxed food in large, marked bins at its financial centers in the area, including at 1734 Midland Trail in Shelbyville.

"Helping our neighbors is what we're all about as we strive to create opportunities for our clients and communities to thrive," said Roddell McCullough, chief corporate responsibility officer. "Our communities have always been supportive of our food drives, and we're excited to get started on filling cupboards in the area once more."

After the food drive concludes, First Financial collected items to local partner organizations for distribution into the community.

This is the fourth year First Financial has organized a food drive in support of local

Financial and community members collected over 5,700 food items for residents throughout Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky and Illinois. More than 19.000 food items have been collected over the previous three years of First Financial Bank's food drives.

First Financial Bank's food drives are part of its larger commitment to the communities it serves. Earlier this vear and for the second consecutive review period, First Financial earned the highest possible rating of Outstanding from the Federal Reserve Board for its performance under the Community Reinvestment Act to meet the credit needs of the people and businesses in its communities. The bank is now in the second associates will deliver all the year of its \$2.4 billion, fiveyear Community Benefits Agreement with the National Community Reinvestment Coalition and partner organizations. After the first year of the agreement, First

than 38-percent toward its goal, with over \$935 million committed. First Financial and the First Financial Foundation also donated more than \$4.5 million in philanthropy last year to create positive outcomes in its communities.

About First Financial

First Financial Bancorp. is a Cincinnati, Ohio based bank holding company. As of June 30, 2025, the Company had \$18.6 billion in assets, \$11.8 billion in loans, \$14.4 billion in deposits and \$2.6 billion in shareholders' equity. The Company's subsidiary, First Financial Bank, founded in 1863, provides banking and financial services to businesses and consumers across its key lines of business, including Commercial Banking, Consumer Banking, Consumer and Wealth Management. Wealth Management services are provided by the Company's Yellow Cardinal Advisory

planning, portfolio management, trust and estate planning, brokerage services, investment banking, and retirement plan services and had approximately \$3.8 billion in assets under management as of June 30, 2025. The Company operated 128 full-service banking centers as of June 30, 2025, located in Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky and Illinois, while the Commercial Finance business lends into targeted industry verticals on a nationwide basis. In 2025. First Financial Bank received its second consecutive Outstanding rating from the Federal Reserve for its performance under the Community Reinvestment Act and was recognized as a Gallup Exceptional Workplace Award winner, one of only 70 Gallup clients worldwide to receive this designation. Additional Lending, Commercial Finance, information about the Company, including its products, services and banking locations, is available at www.bankatfirst.com.

SHELBYVILLE - First communities. Last year, First Financial was already more Group division, offering wealth

CRIME IN YOUR COMMUNITY

RECENT ARRESTS MADE BY THE SHELBYVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Jeremy Pritchett of Louisville was arrested on September 22 for thirddegree criminal trespassing.

Cheyanne Spencer (address unknown) was arrested on September 22 for thirddegree criminal trespassing and buying/possessing drug paraphernalia.

Lauro Hernandez Chajal of Shelbyville was arrested on September 23 for reckless driving, no operator's/moped license, failure to produce an insurance card, and operating a motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol (first offense).

Michael Salyes of Lexington was arrested on September 24 for operating a motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol/substances (second offense), second-degree possession of a controlled substance (anabolic steroid), and reckless driving.

Kassandra Morris of Shelbyville was arrested on September 25 for theft by

unlawful taking/shoplifting. James Sowder of Shelbyville was arrested on September 25 for aggravated trafficking in a controlled substance (greater than or equal to 10 grams of carfentanil/fentanyl derivatives, enhancement), first-degree trafficking in a controlled substance (first offense, less than four grams of cocaine, enhancement), first-degree trafficking in a controlled substance (first offense, less than two grams of methamphetamine, enhancement), trafficking in a controlled substance within 1,000 feet of a school (enhancement), trafficking in marijuana (less than eight ounces, first offense, enahncement), third degree trafficking in a controlled substance (first offense, less than 20 D.U. drug unspecified, enahncement), and buying/posessing drug paraphernalia.

David Judy of Shelbyville was arrested on September 26 for no motorcycle/moped license, failure of a non-owner operator to maintain required insurance/security (second offense), motorcycle registration plate, and first-degree criminal mischief.

Mary Jimenez of Shelbyville was arrested on September 27 for third-degree assault (police officer or probation officer) and public intoxication (controlled substance, excludes alcohol).

Thomas Castro of Shelbyville was arrested on September 27 for alcohol intoxication in a public place (first and second offense).

Alfredo Rodarte Cervantes of Lexington was arrested on September 27 for speeding 26 MPH or greater over the speed limit (limited access), improper lane usage (vehicle keep right except to pass), rim or frame obscuring lettering on decal or plate, and failure to notify address change to the Department of Transpor-

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Repeal of open burn ban in Shelby County

SHELBYVILLE - On Aug. 27, 2025, Shelby County Judge Executive Dan Ison issued an Executive Order implementing a county-wide open burn ban under the authority of Kentucky Revised Statute Chapter 149.401, due to severe drought conditions.

Since that time, Shelby County has received sufficient rainfall to ease those conditions. Following consultation with the Shelby County Emergency Management Director and the Fire Chiefs from across the county, it has been determined

appropriate to lift the ban. Effective Friday, September

26, 2025, the county-wide open burn ban is officially repealed.

helped reduce fire risks and protect our community. With improved conditions, we are now able to safely allow open burning once again."

This repeal is issued under the authority vested in the Shelby County Judge Executive

that it is now safe and

"I want to thank the citizens

of Shelby County for their cooperation during this time," said Judge Executive Ison. "Your compliance with the ban pursuant to KRS 149.401.

> you say what you believe even if it is civil discourse and you respect the other side, we are going to take you out, well Rand Paul and I will not be intimidated by that message."

> Finishing up, Massie explained a few other issues he is passionate about, including the Second Amendment, the Fourth Amendment, foreign aid, and national debt.

"Even if you don't agree with every vote I've taken, I hope you understand that the lobbyists haven't bought me. I don't give my voting card to the speaker of the house; this voting card belongs to 750 thousand of you in Kentucky," said Massie. "The way his republic works is that Ivote this card for you every single

FROM PAGE A5

standing up irks them; they are afraid there will be more."

As Massie took the stage, he recognized Shelby County Sheriff Mark Moore for being recently named the 2025 Sheriff of the

He moved to make his first point, which was why he thinks he is so hated in Washington.

He explained that the first reason he is so disliked is that he is "changing the way things work in DC.

Another reason he stated is that the "billionaires" are upset that he refuses to vote for foreign aid and US involvement in foreign

Lastly, he stated the biggest reason he believes he is hated in Washington.

"I am leading the charge to release the Epstein files," said Massie.

Massie explained that he is trying to get a discharge petition Health and Human Services signed to force a vote on the release of the files. He stated he needs 218 signatures, and right now, he is at 217. He promised that during a special election to fill an empty seat, both candidates RFK Jr. would do a good job

swore they would sign the petition. "One of those candidates won, so when I get back to Congress, I will have 218 signatures," said Massie.

Massie then stated that even though President Donald Trump may say mean things about him, he still supports him, but when he believes the president is wrong, he is not afraid to say so.

"I don't disparage the president, I support him in 90 percent of what he does, I think he is probably the best president we have had in our lifetime, I support what he does but if i think he is wrong on policy or one of his cabinet members has misled him on something, I will speak up if I don't think it's following the



constitution and that's the difference," said Massie.

He then transitioned to talk about the financial state of the

country. "The federal government does not have its fiscal house in order," said Massie. "We are monetizing the debt when you print money and lend it to banks, and the banks loan it back to you and get a cut of it, you devalue the dollar and

have inflation." Massie also remarked that he believes Robert F. Kennedy (RFK) Jr. is doing a great job as (HHS) Secretary, while doing impressions of both RFK and

Trump. He told a story about how Trump asked him if he thought before he was named secretary, and stated that Trump has reservations surrounding vaccines and RFK Jr.'s thoughts on the

subject. "I said Trump thinks you want to ban all of the vaccines, he said 'I never said that" said Massie, "I told him that if you clear that up, he may choose you for HHS secretary. The next day, he was chosen."

He explained to the crowd that the reason he believes he and Paul have garnered so much attention while on their tour is because many other members of Congress are canceling their events out of fear.

I do not think we should cower. Political violence is terrible, but

freedom of speech is important." "The reason they assassinated Charlie Kirk instead of murdering him, they killed him in front of a large crowd to try to change public opinion, to try to terrorize

people, specifically conservatives, to say that if you speak up and **INDIVIDUAL, FAMILY**

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