

It Happened in SEPTEMBER/CHARLES HARTLEY, LOCAL HISTORIAN

We will be looking back 25, 40, 70 and 100 years to see what was being printed in The Pioneer News in 1998, 1983, 1953 and 1923 in the month of September.

1998 - 25 Years Ago

The newspaper reported that it was a team effort that lifted the E. T. Sharp Number 20 to the Street Stock Championship in 1998 at Louisville Motor Speedway. The entire crew lived in Mt. Washington and included Mike, Ernie, and David Jones, and the driver, Mike Alphin.

Howard Shepherd, 85, of the Nichols area was named one of Kentucky Living magazine's 50 Community Heroes. Besides donating land for the Nichols Fire Department, he helped start the Bullitt County Saddle Club. He had recently married a childhood sweetheart, Pansy Bishop Rouse, after both had lost long time spouses.

Shepherdsville Lions Club volunteers Sam and Barbara Hardy, David and Bonnie Strange, and Ray Armstrong worked at the Lions Club vision testing booth at the state fair as a part of the club's Prevent Blindness America program.

Hebron Presbyterian Church celebrated its 140th anniversary on September 13, and pastor Art Turner invited everyone to a pot luck supper at the church.

Fueled by two punt returns for touchdowns by Wayne Livers and Travis Gossum, Bullitt East easily defeated North Bullitt 40-0. Livers' return covered 60 yards for the final points of the game.

I wonder if Alex McBride (age 4) and Trevor Swearing (age 3) remember being fingerprinted by officers Minton and Hill during the Sheriff's Department's Kids ID Day where the kids got their fingers printed and their pictures taken?

Bret Walker led the Bullitt East Chargers' soccer team to an overtime victory over North Bullitt. Meanwhile the Lady Chargers rolled to their third victory in five games, defeating Pleasure Ridge Park 5-2.

When junior Anton Payne broke free to dash 52 yards to the end zone, it was the longest play of

the season for the Bullitt Central Cougars. BC went on to defeat Ather-ton 28-7.

Debbie Lewis of Lebanon Junction Elementary and Paula Strange of Cedar Grove Elementary were each honored by Walmart with teacher of the year awards.

St. Benedict School in Lebanon Junction was holding a year of celebration in honor of its 50th anniversary. Rose Wise, a current employee and former student, said that something will be going on each month to mark the occasion.

Willis and Anna Abell celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on September 18, while the children of Mary E. O'Daniel gathered on September 20 to celebrate her 100th birthday which would actually occur on October 1.

The following 4-H'ers worked especially hard to prepare for the annual 4-H Salt River Canoe Race: Trina and Chuck Roderer, Shannon Pace, Tammy Smith, Dawn Sheveland, Beth Lamb, Mike Young, Al Decker, Fay Crumbacker, Lea Davis, Randy Pace, Abbot and Denise Maginnis, Donna Bischoff, Shirley Bullock, Valinda Reed, Jackie Sims, Karen Lund, Terry and Fawn Clark, Butch and Yvonda Rash, Tashia Rash, Benji Smith, Kyle Skidmore, and John Skidmore.

And, Matthew Becke, a Pleasant Grove fifth grader, was named to the Mt. Washington All-Star baseball team which is pretty remarkable since he hit and fielded with a single arm and hand because of a condition that has left his right arm paralyzed. Great job, Matthew!

1983 - 40 Years Ago

Tommy Ashbaugh was extremely grateful for a CPR course the phone company required of its workers when he needed to administer it to his nine-month-old son, saving his life.

Eddie Rice of Lebanon Junction caught a three-pound catfish, and John Baxter landed a five and a half pound whopper at Clermont.

Diane Cruze Mills rode Brenda Eddington's school bus and wrote about "driving controlled chaos" as Brenda

transported her charges to Brooks Elementary. I wonder if Shawn remembers turning down his radio volume, or Shannon remembers being required to pick up the papers she left behind the day before, or Tommy remembers being reminded to pick up his papers under his desk so he would not get fussed at today?

At the State Fair, Bullitt County 4-H'er Courtney Longacre exhibited the animal chosen best of polled Santa Gertrudis in the 4-H beef show.

Out Nichols way, Dorothy Jones, Patsy Larimore, Wilma Tucker, Christie Able, Woodrow Sample, and Clarence Dawson were celebrating birthdays; and June Dawson was attending the International Cake Convention at the Galt House.

North Bullitt defeated Bullitt Central 18-8 on the gridiron, but not before the Cougars staged an exciting comeback attempt with Pat Masden, John Fackler, and Craig Smith leading the way.

Down at LJ the Fall League got underway with the Miller-Lite boys taking on Woosley's boys. Dan Woosley hit a long home run, but Dave Bass of the Miller-Lite team clobbered two of them to lead his team to a 13-12 victory.

In the Pleasant Grove community, Mrs. Rilla Owen visited with the Rodger Shelburnes, Fern Lloyd called on Clara Simmons, and Dorris Stevenson and Lois Simmons went to see some beautiful quilts and then had lunch with Clara Simmons.

Shepherdsville artists Alma Lesch, Anna Faye Crockett, and Dennis Shaffner were featured at the Georgetown College of Fine Arts Gallery art show.

Contestants for the Junior Miss competition were all pictured in the paper this month. They included Teri Newton, Ramona Simms, Paula Mathews, Leslie Hawkins, Tonya Proctor, Dione Losch, Carla Harvey, Gayle Milam, Tammy Shaw, Jana Meredith, Lisa Raymer, Nickie Hennig, Renee Griffin, Dandy Hopkins, Tina Bond, Denise Davenport, Paula Fisher, and Steffanie Bowles.

Lisa Raymer, a senior at North Bullitt, was the winner. First runner-up was Denise Davenport, and second runner-up was Renee Griffin.

And, Bullitt Central's William Henry Powell was selected at Bullitt County Teacher of the Year for the third time!

1953 - 70 Years Ago

Members of the Mt. Washington F.F.A. chapter showed seven dairy heifers at the Shelbyville District Dairy Show. Hill Bleemel had the junior and grand champion Brown Swiss. Harry Roggenkamp topped the junior yearling Holstein class. Joining them were Billy Roy Gentry, Donald Nutt and Leon Coulter. The boys were grateful to Mr. Robert Cornell for providing his truck to get them to the show.

Mr. and Mrs. Claud Barrall celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary with family on September 7th.

Charles Davis Shaw, son of Mr. and Mrs. C. N. Shaw of Lebanon Junction, was released in Korea following 34 months as a prisoner of war.

The honor reception for James W. Hardaway for fifty years' service at The Peoples Bank of Shepherdsville was well attended including Mr. Hardaway's cousin, Howard Hardaway (a reporter for The Courier-Journal) who took several pictures of the gathering. Others attending included Clarence Dawson, Leo Dawson, Hattie Monroe, Lillian Swearingen, Marguerite Ashby, Betty Howell, Mary Murray, Faye Haley, and Shirley Hourigan; all employees of the bank. William Simmons, Robert L. Simmons, Dr. S. H. Ridgway preceded Mr. Hardaway as bank president.

Out Bullitt Lick way, squirrel hunters were plentiful in this part of the woods then.

The Mt. Washington F.F.A. meat-judging team placed sixth at the State Fair. Team members included Tom McAfee, Lloyd Dooley, and Glenn Armstrong, with Billy Roy Gentry acting as an alternate.

Kay Hardy returned from three months in Europe. She was the wife of Harold Hardy, a local merchant.

Methodist pastors ap-

pointed to Bullitt County churches for the coming year were Amos Miller at Lebanon Jct., M. C. Yates at Mt. Washington, T. J. Wade in Shepherdsville, Addison Schiefelbein at Brooks, and Norman Parsons at Cedar Grove.

Over at Mt. Washington, Doris Bleemel, Retta Williams, Edward Frank, and Mrs. Lillian Spivey helped Betty Spivey celebrate her 18th birthday; while Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Stripling, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Duckett went to Lebanon Junction to visit Mr. Duckett's brother.

The paper reported that Bullitt County residents who had been observing Daylight Saving Time since early May would be returning to Central Standard Time at the end of September. It also reported that Shepherdsville streets were getting a fresh coat of oil and rock.

The St. Clair Theatre in Lebanon Junction was featuring a double feature including "The Redhead from Wyoming" starring Maureen O'Hara. They made a point of saying their showtimes were on "slow time."

And, Dr. J. J. Owens, Old Testament professor at the Baptist Seminary, held revival services at the Baptist Church in Shepherdsville. The paper noted his basketball prowess, and remarked that he once made 137 consecutive free throws. I wonder if he preached as well as he shot?

1923 - 100 Years Ago

Mrs. Mattie Glenn, one of the county's most popular ladies, accepted a teaching position at the school at Bardstown Junction.

The Victory School honor roll for the second month included Fonda Ratliff, Willie Maud Harris, Otis Ray Ratliff, Walter Lee Harris, Lillian Roby, Rouse D. Jones, Ella B. Bolton, Mary E. Jones, Nathan Bryan Harris, Eva Mae Jones, and Ralph Greenwell. Martha Hornbeck was their teacher.

Charles Lee Bradbury, Stanley Muir, and Crumbacker Jenkins left for Georgetown where they entered college. Others heading off to schools of higher learning included Mary Delle Barnes and Laura May

Tyler for Logan College in Russellville; Sue Dent Rouse, Mary Dent, and Helen Harris to Nazareth; Katherine Crume to Springfield; Susie Long Swearingen, Josie Clark, Anna May and Mildred McClure, Marvin Deacon, Charlie Clark, Hubert and Louis McGee, and Clyde and Vreeland McClure to Cumberland College.

The Mountain Top Peach Farm, formerly owned by J. C. Holsclaw, was up for sale. It was the best fruit and tobacco farm in Bullitt County.

The editor wrote, "Mr. Nathan Morrow visited his brother, Judge W. T. Morrow. Mr. Morrow had a very fine memory and could recall with great exactness occurrences of fifty odd years earlier. He remembered well the visit of cholera in this town in 1854 and knew the names of all who died and those who recovered. It was certainly a great pleasure to talk with him and hear him tell of life here more than half a century ago. Very few are here now who were here then and of the houses which stood here at that time, but about eight or nine remain."

Will Smith struck oil at 160 feet on Ernest Miller's land near Bardstown Junction. Mr. Miller had been looking for oil for three years.

And I just had to share this tongue-in-check piece just as it appeared in the September 21st edition. "Mr. John D. James, of Leaches, who lives just above the fellow who lives just below him, and just this side the man who lives just beyond, was here Thursday and attended the sale. He bought a medium size hat of the vintage of 1922. It was a fine piece of head gear for the price and John wore it home in a paper sack. We are not sure about the color of the hat, but rather think it was a dark cream color with band to match. Bill Herps said the hat would have been cheap at half the money, but this was disputed by Jim Collings and others. The hat is used in Arkansas where it is known as 'The Chestnut Pickers Skypiece.' It is guaranteed to wear out in due time unless lost or destroyed in the meantime."

Pioneer Village residents will see tax rate drop

By Stephen Thomas
The Pioneer News

PIONEER VILLAGE — Residents of Pioneer Village will see a tax decrease... sort of.

The Pioneer Village City Council set ad valorem tax rates for real property, personal property and public utilities during their August meeting.

For a second straight year, the real property rate decreased. However, for the first time in over a decade, the personal property and public service rates went up.

The new real property rate was set at 11.139 cents per \$100, meaning that a house assessed at \$100,000 would pay \$111.39 in real property taxes, a decrease of \$2.71 from the previous year.

City attorney Mark Edison reminded the council that last year's rate had been set at 11.41 cents. He said the city's gross assessment increased by \$9 million this year, up to \$224 million, with no property growth reported.

Factoring in other monies, including an increase of \$3 million in city Homestead exemptions, now up to \$21 million total, the city's rate was calculated based on a total near \$203 million.

A compensating rate, which would allow the city to collect the same amount of revenue as the previous year, was calculated at the 11.139 mark.

Edison added that a 4 percent increase would calculate to 11.58 cents. He reminded that any rate between 11.139 and 11.58 was subject to a public hearing.

The maximum rate allowed by law, according to Edison, was 11.59 cents. He reminded that any rates above the 11.58 rate would be subject to recall and placed on a ballot, with the city not collecting taxes until after the election.

The council discussed keeping the same rate this year, though it would require a public hearing. Edison reminded that a hearing would need to be advertised

and published in The Pioneer News, which could wind up costing the city the same amount as the rate would save.

The council agreed to and approved the 11.139 rate by a 4-0 vote, with council members Mike Exton and John Mast absent.

Edison reminded the council that the personal property and public service rates were required by law to be set at the same rate. Mayor Gary Hatcher said the rate had held at 20 cents per \$100 for many years.

After much discussion, the council members decided to increase the rate to 21 cents, in lieu of lowering the real property rate. The new rate was agreed upon and approved 4-0.

Residents who pay real property tax bills prior to Nov. 1 will receive a 2 percent discount. Those not paying tax bills by the Dec. 31 deadline will be subject to ongoing penalties and accumulating interest, along with eventual property liens.

In other business:

- Commonwealth Sign representatives Lester Lemaster and Jo Bratcher spoke with the council about a potential new LED sign for the city. They also displayed a portable LED sign in the Becknell Hall parking lot during the meeting as a visual example.

The company has been responsible for LED signs located at the intersection of John Harper Highway and East Blue Lick Road and at Paroquet Springs Conference Centre in Shepherdsville.

The council collected the company's information, including pricing. Council members elected to check with other companies for further pricing.

- The city received an estimate from resident Berl Williams for landscaping work at City Hall.

Hatcher asked Williams to provide a price estimate. A plan was presented to the council totaling \$1,860.

Council member Doreen

Garrett felt the price was too high and that there were too many items planned for the front of the building.

Meanwhile, council member Jim Burke asked if there were other estimates gathered to compare pricing.

Hatcher said the city would seek more bids and prices for further discussion at the next business meeting.

- The mayor mentioned that current construction issues within the city could delay its annual dumpster days.

According to Hatcher, the city still hoped to have construction completed and would be able to host the event in October. He would provide an update at the city's next business meeting.

- The next Pioneer Village City Council meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, Sept. 26, 7 pm, at Becknell Hall on Summitt Drive. The public is invited to attend.

Looking for a unique place to visit close to home?

Check out the treasures at the
Bullitt County History Museum
open weekdays in the
Bullitt County Courthouse...

Tell staff members you saw this in The Pioneer News