

DREAM

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school. Her goal to go to college remained the same despite grappling with adversity. “I told my family my junior and senior years were going to be important for going to college. I’m going to buckle down, go to school, and do great things. I’m going to EKU to get my degree,” said Denny. She found solace in the Future Farmers of America (FFA) chapter at her school and decided to focus on FFA to achieve her academic goals. As things were

looking up, a disagreement with school administration forced Denny to drop out of school. The hardships Denny faced made it difficult to trust herself. “I had to wait until I was 18 to get my GED. I felt like somebody else was telling me what my value was when I knew better,” said Denny. “So all these years, you know, I get married, I have children, I’m going job to job. I’m good at every job I’ve ever done. But none of them fulfilled me.” Combating the discouragement she felt giving up on her dreams of getting higher education, she also

suffered from multiple health struggles. “I was very sick with my multiple sclerosis. But on top of that, I was very depressed,” said Denny. “For three months, I didn’t get off the couch. I was fully disabled for several years and home became a prison.” With each passing day, the longing to break free and explore new horizons grew stronger. Denny’s husband, Ricky Cheeks Jr., worked at EKU for 17 years. As an employee, he received an employee tuition waiver as a part of his benefits. He encouraged her to pursue her dreams and begin taking classes

through the waiver. “He said, ‘It is time for you to do what you feel is right,’” said Denny. “I really learned to listen to myself. Even though I had these feelings over the years, I would have never acted on them. Finally, I learned to just trust myself, trust my instincts – and it’s led me all the way here.” Denny immersed herself in fulfilling her lifelong goal and followed her desire to get the full student experience. “When I started go-

ing to EKU, I had a 30-some-odd-years dream. I wanted to be a college student,” said Denny. “I got to go and do this every day at 30-something years old, just like I was 18. I walked on campus, bought myself a Jansport backpack and bought a meal plan. Everything that I would have done, I got to do.” Denny obtained an associate degree in general studies in 2022. However, she knew that wasn’t the end of her academic career.

Achieving a bachelor’s degree had been her lifelong goal. Denny enrolled in EKU’s Global Hospitality and Tourism online program to achieve as much as possible. “When I walk across the graduation stage, I want to look like a Christmas tree. So I have so many stoles and so many cords. I’ve joined everything that I could possibly join. I’ve made the very best grades that I can, and I ended up with Latin Honors,” she said.

NIXON

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like no other. Our sense of being a strong community, built around our commitments to opportunity and equality, radiates across campus.” This year’s commencement speaker, Berea College Trustee Cassie Chambers Armstrong, titled her remarks “Ripples and Change.” A wonderful example of the transformative power of higher education, Armstrong’s parents—Orlando and Wilma Chambers—were proud Berea graduates, completing their degrees in 1986 and 1991 respectively. Armstrong’s parents instilled in her a love of education and a reverence for place. Her speech wove the life of her mother, Wilma Chambers ’91, who walked across the commencement platform at Berea when Cassie was 5 years old. It wasn’t until years later, when Cassie was an adult, that she fully understood the impact of her mother’s Berea College graduation—how her mother’s hard work to get an education created ripples that would be felt for a generation. She reminded the graduates that although we can’t control where ripples end—we can determine where and how

they begin. “I am honored to have the chance to address the Berea College Class of 2024,” Armstrong said. “Berea College is a special place full of special students, and I am thrilled to have the chance to celebrate their graduation with them.” Armstrong grew up in Appalachian Kentucky hollers loved by strong women who helped raise her. She graduated summa cum laude from Yale College in 2010 and continued her education with an M.P.H. from Yale the following year and an M.Sc. in public management and governance from the London School of Economics in 2012. She returned to New England to graduate from Harvard Law School in 2015, where she served as president of the Legal Aid Bureau. Kentucky would call her back home. Armstrong was selected to be a Skadden Fellow, working two years as an attorney for the Louisville Legal Aid Society and the Kentucky Equal Justice Center, representing victims of domestic violence in family matters and litigating appeals on poverty law issues. She clerked for two federal judges and then worked as an associate at the law firm Kaplan Johnson Abate & Bird LLP.

Armstrong wrote lovingly of her roots and her family in “Hill Women: Finding Family and a Way Forward in the Appalachian Mountains,” published in 2020. Her book conveys how some Appalachian women face issues that are all too common: domestic violence, the opioid crisis and a divided world. Appalachian women, however, are also community leaders, keeping their towns together in the face of a system that continually fails them. With nuance and heart, Armstrong demythologizes Appalachian stereotypes and illuminates a region whose poor communities, especially women, can lead it into the future. Tragically, her mother, Wilma, known to many parents and children as the director of the Boyd and Gaynell Fowler Child Development Laboratory at Berea College, was killed in an automobile accident in 2019 when Cassie was nine months pregnant with her first child. She later wrote about this loss in the New York Times. Armstrong is currently an assistant professor at the Brandeis School of Law at the University of Louisville. She also represents District 19 as a member of the Kentucky Senate.

COUNCIL

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time you turn your water facet on. It’s nice being a part of all this and we’ve got some really great people that work for us,” Curtis said. Mildred Walton also accepted the proclamation with Curtis. Berea City Administrator Rose Beverly praised public works employees for helping the city significantly reduce costs on infrastructure projects. She noted the city could have paid as much as \$400,000 for a practice range for police. Instead, public works employees cut the cost to \$100,000. She noted Public Works does many of its own infrastructure projects while helping other departments in the city. “That’s the kind of money we’re saving by utilizing our own workers,” Beverly said. Additionally, Fraley designated May 6-10 as Public Service Recognition Week in the City of Berea, recognizing the contributions of municipal employees. “We do have an incredibly dedicated staff across the board,” Councilman Steve Caudill remarked during the Council Comments segment. “The reality is all the employees we have could go somewhere else and do the same work, but they care about this place and the people who live here, and it shows in the work they do here every day.” Councilmembers Jim Davis, Teresa Scenters, and Cora Jane Wilson also

expressed their gratitude to city employees.

In other news ...

- Beverly said that lights on the second phase of the Berea Bypass will be installed in the coming days.
- The council also heard the first reading of a measure amending the 2023-2024 fiscal year budget to allow for the purchase of a fire truck. The second and final reading will take place at the May 21 meeting. According to the new numbers, the final budget numbers for this year will be as follows:
 - Amended General Fund Balance \$18,889,000, amended Total Revenue \$17,813,000, amended total expenditures \$21,457,000, and Ending Fund Balance \$15,245,000.
 - Berea Police Chief Jason Hays said thanks to the community for their support as police appreciation week approaches. “I’d like to extend my gratitude to the community for their outstanding support to our department. Some say this is a thankless job, but it’s really not. We get thanked daily for our service. A lot of that comes down to officers giving good service, but it’s also the community working with us and we’re very thankful for how they support us.” Additionally, Hays thanked council members for supporting his department and officers.

The next Berea City Council meeting is scheduled for May 21.

APPOINTMENTS

Pursuant to Section 424.120 and 420.340 of the Kentucky Revised Statutes, Notice of Creditors, Administration has been granted by the District court upon the following:

ESTATE	FIDUCIARY	ATTORNEY	KIND
JUDY BLANTON 24-P-00049	AARON BLANTON	B. TRAVIS NEWMAN 2420 FRANKFORT AVENUE STE 300 LOUISVILLE, KY. 40206	ADMINISTRATOR APRIL 17, 2024
BRIAN WEEKS 24-P-00076	EDNA M. WEEKS	KORY O. ISAACS 306 WEST MAIN ST RICHMOND, KY 40475	ADMINISTRATRIX APRIL 24, 2024
LOWELL T. MCCOLLUM 24-P-00113	RICHARD MCCOLLUM	LUXON AND HIMES 450 BIG HILL AVENUE RICHMOND, KY. 40475	EXECUTOR APRIL 18, 2024
FRANCIS R. LEAKE 24-P-00144	PEGGY A. LEAKE	JIMMY DALE WILLIAMS PO BOX 266 RICHMOND, KY. 40475	EXECUTRIX April 17, 2024
VINCENT J. LUBBERS 24-P-00201	BEATRICE L. BLAND	ALISON LOBB EMMONS 232 WEST MAIN ST. RICHMOND, KY. 40475	EXECUTRIX APRIL 17, 2024
RAPHAEL E. WAROUTH 24-P-00202	TIMOTHY R. WARMOUTH	GREG K. PUCKETT 232 WEST MAIN STREET RICHMOND, KY. 40475	EXECUTOR APRIL 17, 2024
HERBERT LEE HALCOMB 24-P-00161	ROY E. HALCOMB	CHARLES F. HOFFMAN 227 JACKSON ST. PO BOX 927 BEREA, KY. 40403	EXECUTOR APRIL 3, 2024
	C		
RONNIE ANDERSON 24-P-172	JONATHAN ANDERSON	SARAH-JAMES SENDOR PO BOX 2036 RICHMOND,KY. 40475 ,	ADMINISTRATOR APRIL 4, 2024
CURTIS R. COOKSEY 24-P-00170	SHARON COOKSEY 1027 PARK PALCE DRIVE RICHMOND, KY. 40475		EXECUTRIX APRIL 17, 2024
CAROL LANE PERKINS 24-P-00175	BENNIE PERKINS	KORY ISAACS 306 WEST MAIN ST. RICHMOND,KY. 40475	EXECUTOR APRIL 3, 2024
JACKIE M. ONKST 24-P-00188	JOEL ONKST	JERRY W. GILBERT 212 NORTH SECOND STREET PO BOX 1178 RICHOND, KY. 40475	ADMINISTRATOR APRIL 3, 2024
ANNEUESE S. BAUMANN 24-P-00191	LOTHAR BAUMANN 5012 PAINT LICK ROAD PAINTLICK KY 40461		EXECUTOR APRIL 17, 2024
CLIFFORD LEE GULLEY 24-P-00192	BONNIE SANDERS-SAYLOR	ISAACS LAW OFFICE 306 WEST MAIN ST. RICHMOND,KY 40475	EXECUTRIX APRIL 3, 2024
HURSTON RAY HOLD 24-P-00194	JOE DAVID HOLT	ISAACS LAW OFFICE 306 WEST MAIN ST. RICHMOND, KY. 40475	EXECUTOR APRIL 3, 2024
BRADLEY D. STEPHENS 24-P-00204	STEPHANIE STEPHENS MCKNIGHT 2710 FOXHUNTERS ROAD FLATWOODS, KY. 41139		EXECUTRIX APRIL 24, 2024
GARY W. POTTER 24-P-00206	ADRIENNE L. MCCARTHY VICTOR KAPPELER	GREG K. PARRETT 232 WEST MAIN ST. RICHMOND,KY.. 40475	CO-EXECUTOR APRIL 17, 2024
BARBARA CAIN 24-P-00207	LINDA BUCHANAN	TRACY T. BLEVINS 400 RICHMOND ROAD N SUITE C BEREA, KY. 40403	EXECTRIX APRIL 30, 2024
JANICE SUE LIPPS BLEVINS 24-P-208	WILLIAM P. LIPPS 600 EAST MAIN ST. #201 LOUISVILLE, KY 40202		EXECUTOR APRIL 24, 2024
RONALD WARREN LANTER 24-P-00020	KEITH LANTER 2878 PAINT LICK ROAD PAINT LICK, KY. 40461		ADMINISTRATOR APRIL 24, 2024
DONNA STROSNIDER 24-P-211	SHIRLEY ARVIN	MICHAEL S. FORE 200 N. THIRD ST. PO BOX 726	EXECUTRIX APRIL 17, 2024
BILLY T. HACKER 24-P-00212	JEFFREY KIDD	STUART K. OLDS 218 WEST MAIN ST. RICHMOND, KY. 40475	EXECUTOR APRIL 24, 2024
RUTH WHITE 24-P- 00220	BILLY WALL	ROBERT RUSSELL 212 NORTH SECOND ST. PO BOX 1178 RICHMOND, KY 40476	EXECUTOR APRIL 18, 2024
JUDITH ANN ADAMS 24-P-00222	TONYA R. ADAMS	LUXON AND HIMES 450 BIG HILL AVENUE RICHMOND, KY. 40475	EXECUTRIX APRIL 24, 2024-
RICKY DALE HARVEY 24-P-233	DANA PORTWOOD	GREG K. PUCKETT 232 WEST MAIN ST. RICHMOND, KY. 404075	ADMINISTRATRIX APRIL 24, 2024
LAURA E. ZELENKA 24-P-00238	CHRISTOPHER ZELENKA	MARC ROBBINS 214 NORTH THIRD STREET RICHMOND, KY. 40475	ADMINISTRATOR APRIL 30, 2024
ANN CATHERINE TATE 24-P-00243	DONALD MARSHALL	MARC ROBBINS 214 NORTH THIRD STREET RICHMOND, KY. 40475	EXECUTOR APRIL 30, 2024

The respective representatives no later than 6 months from the day of appointment

May 9, 2024
DAVID FERNANDEZ BY SJ/DC
MADISON COUNTY CIRCUIT/DISTRICT CLERK

NOTICE OF FILING SETTLEMENT

Notice is hereby given to all persons that on the 12 day of JUNE 2024 AT 1:30 p.m., the following fiduciary accounts will be read and confirmed in the Madison District Court. All objection must be filed on or before the above date.

Estate Of	Fiduciary	Attorney	Kind
KATHLEEN ABNEY 23-P-00463	GREGORY ABNEY 1123 SOUTH DOGWOOD DRIVE BEREA, KY. 40403		FINAL SETTLEMENT APRIL 4, 2024
SHAWNNA DEE SKIDMORE 23-P-0097	JOHN SKIDMORE	CHADWIC K B. HAMMONDS 133 PLAZA DRIVE SUITE 2 BEREA, KY. 40403	FINAL SETTLEMENT APRIL 19, 2024
HUGH P. SKIDMORE 22-P-00624	JOHN SKIDMORE 449 SHAWNEE DRIVE LEXINGTON, KY. 40505		FINAL SETTLEMENT APRIL 23, 2024

This May 9, 2024
David M. Fernandez by JS/DC

Madison County District Court

FILED
MAY 03 2024
MADISON DISTRICT COURT
DAVID FERNANDEZ, CLERK