



## Morgan County Cops For Kids Gift Giveaway Held Dec. 21



Morgan County Cops For Kids organizers hosted their annual gift giveaway and Christmas celebration on Saturday, Dec. 21, at the Morgan County Wellness Center. Since 2007, Morgan County Cops for Kids, a non-profit local charity, has been taking up donations and conducting fundraisers to provide gifts and a dinner to ensure that all of Morgan County's youth have a wonderful Christmas. The organization is comprised of local emergency service personnel, and their friends and families. Deputy Jailer Lowell Adkins, one of the event's organizers, told the Courier that 49 local children received gifts this year thanks to donors from throughout the community. "Morgan County Cops for Kids would like to thank everyone who donated or helped with the event in any way," Adkins said. (Photos courtesy of Lowell and Sherry Adkins)

## KSP Post 8 Troopers Bring Christmas Cheer With Annual Shopping Event for Kids

Troopers with Kentucky State Police Post 8 Morehead enjoyed two nights of shopping during their Shop with a Trooper (SWAT) event held at Morehead Walmart. This year the troopers took 207 youngsters from the Post 8 district shopping at Walmart. Each kid was able to spend \$200 on items that they wanted, which included \$50 for toys and \$150 for necessities. Funding for this event is strictly from fundraisers and donations from local businesses and individuals throughout the Post 8 area, which covers Bath, Menifee, Montgomery, Wolfe, Powell, Rowan, Morgan, Elliott, Fleming, Mason and Lewis counties. KSP Post 8 would like to thank everyone who made a donation or purchased a shirt to make this annual program possible. Post 8 would also like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! Donors to the project included First National Bank, 205 Food Mart, Kentucky Farm Bureau (Sandy Hook), T's Quick Stop, Great Outdoor Powersports (Morehead, Bruin Body Shop, Dr. Kimberly A. Buckner, Morehead Pediatric Dentistry, Major Brands, El Caminante 1 Flemingsburg, Fleming Meat Packers, Kentucky Farm Bureau-Flemingsburg, Southern States-Flemingsburg, Kent W. Kalb D.M.D., Greentree Forest Products, Walker Construction, Roe Insurance, State Farm Charlotte Mullins, Commercial Signs & Screen Printing, Commercial Bank, Dairy Queen (Morehead), West Liberty Giovanni's, New Vision Recovery, Lion Apparel (Hazel Green), Woodmen of the World, Fleming Mason Energy, Michael R. Gray Funeral Home (Owingsville), Dave's Supply (Sandy Hook), Little Sandy Lodge, Lois Robert Adams II, Standafer Builders, West Liberty Vet Clinic, Jay Girdhari LLC, First Federal Savings & Loan (Morehead), Ringo Mills Christian Church, Bank of the Mountains, The Kentucky Trooper Outreach, Swartz Enterprises, Gateway Child Advocacy Center (Morehead) and the City of Sandy Hook.

## News Of Record

### MARRIAGE LICENSES

- Jamie Nichole Baker, 27, of Vancleave, Ky., daughter of Elizabeth Ann Patrick Spencer and James Allen Spencer, to Brent Kelcey Perkins, 30, of West Liberty, son of Sue Ellen Prater Perkins and Jesse Calvin Perkins.
- Abby Ann Marie Brook Keeton, 27, of Grassy Creek, Ky., daughter of Cinderella Gipson Reed and Luther Wayne Keeton, to Shawn Daniel Pack, 24, of Grassy Creek, Ky., son of Opal Renata Peyton Pack and Jessie Daniel Pack.
- Walter C. Vanover, 80, of West Liberty, Ky., son of Cora Lee Flint Vanover and John Shade Vanover, to Shirley H. Adams, 70, of West Liberty, Ky., daughter of Virlie Lou Bolen Howard and James Lester Howard.

### PROPERTY TRANSFERS

- Spencer Heiser and Moni to Gospel Ministries International Inc. - Tract I: Beginning at the western edge of the road of Upper Sand Lick. Tract II: 25 acres more or less running with the fence to Earl Cantrell line. Tract III: 30 acres more or less beginning at corner of Arnett Cantrell line. Tract IV: Beginning at Mockingbird Road and the southern property of Linda Caudill. Donation.
- William Paul Patton and Jade Michelle Patton to Tim Clark and Sarilda Clark - Land beginning at a point; thence with Rufus Wells property line. \$3,000.
- Joe Cantrell and Christine to Terry Vest - A parcel of land on State Route 172 approximately 1 1/2 mile east of West Liberty near old County Dump Road. \$5,000.

### CIRCUIT COURT

New civil suits - Arthur Dean Ferguson Jr. vs. Hannah Lyon, Dec. 14; Ruth Dent vs. Nicholas Lance Branham, Dec. 16; Bryan Hettiger #277058 vs. Warden Shawn McKenzie, Dec. 17; Melissa Stone vs. Mountain Rural Telephone Cooperative (operating as Mountain Telephone), Dec. 17.

**DISTRICT COURT**  
New civil suits - LVNV Funding LLC vs. Lena Davis, Dec. 13; LVNV Funding LLC vs. Steven R. Davis, Dec. 13; LVNV Funding LLC vs. Dena E. Gilliam, Dec. 16; LVNV Funding LLC vs. Caitlin Hounshell, Dec. 16; LVNV Funding LLC vs. Timothy Boatright, Dec. 17; LVNV Funding LLC vs. Kimberly Legg, Dec. 17; Portfolio Recovery Associates, LLC vs. Jenny Hampton, Dec. 19.

### ARRAIGNMENTS

David Burgett - improper parking violations - pleaded guilty, \$50.  
Kevin L. Conner - no/expired Kentucky registration receipt, no/expired registration plates, improper display of registration plates, failure to produce insurance card, license to be in possession, failure to wear seat belts - failed to appear; bench warrant issued.  
Rodney Ferguson - criminal mischief (first degree) - rescheduled Jan. 7, 2025.  
Bobbie Jo Fields - no/expired Kentucky registration receipt, no/expired registration plates, improper display of registration plates - rescheduled Jan. 14,

### 2025.

Nathan Kyle Ison - no/expired Kentucky registration receipt, no/expired registration plates, improper display of registration plates - rescheduled Jan. 21, 2025.  
Kenneth Wayne Jenkins - no/expired Kentucky registration receipt - Pleading guilty, \$50.  
Kenneth Michael Johnson - speeding 5 mph over limit - paid in full.  
William Little - speeding 19 mph over limit - order entered.  
Michelle Lykins - insufficient head lamps, careless driving, operating a motor vehicle under the influence of substance, possession of a controlled substance (third degree; drug unspecified) - pre-trial conference June 3, 2025.  
Taylor Daniel Niece - failure to produce insurance card, operating on suspended/revoked operator's license - rescheduled Jan. 7, 2025.  
David L. Puckett - resident hunting/trapping without license/permit (two counts) - rescheduled Jan. 28, 2025.  
Robert L. Snowden - no/expired Kentucky registration receipt, no/expired registration plates, improper display of registration plates - bench warrant issued.  
Benjamin Lambert Spenger - speeding 5 mph over limit - rescheduled Jan. 21, 2025.  
Wesley Kyle Watkins - no/expired registration plates, no/expired Kentucky registration receipt, failure to produce card, failure of owner to maintain required insurance/security, failure to register transfer of motor vehicle, intermediate licensing violations, no operator's/moped license - rescheduled Jan. 28, 2025.  
Terry Ray Whitt - theft by deception including cold checks under - rescheduled Jan. 21, 2025.  
Amanda Carrie Woods - speeding 5 mph over limit - failed to appear.  
Pre-trial conference - Elvis Anderson - refusal to provide DNA sample - rescheduled Jan. 14, 2025.  
Preliminary hearing - Willie Ray Ross - alcohol intoxication in a public place, wanton endangerment (first degree), endangering the welfare of a minor (two counts), convicted felon in possession of a handgun.  
Elena M. Sparenburg - distribution of obscene matter (one unit of material (seven counts), human trafficking (commercial sexual activity; victim under 18) - defendant indicted.  
Pre-trial conference - Michael Adkins - violation of Kentucky EPO/DVO, criminal trespass (first degree) - rescheduled Jan. 21, 2025.  
Pre-trial conference - Christopher N. Hatfield - license to be in possession, operating on suspended/revoked operator's license - rescheduled April 22, 2025.  
Pre-trial conference - Tamatha Havens - disorderly conduct (third degree) - pleaded guilty, 30 days.  
Pre-trial conference - Blake J. Howard - operating a motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol - rescheduled Feb. 24, 2025.  
Pre-trial conference - Cody Yates - menacing - case diverted two years.

## Fiscal Court approves alcohol ordinance on second reading during Dec. 18 meeting

Members also approve proposed budgets for county clerk, sheriff; minutes are listed

By Miranda M. Cantrell

The Morgan County Fiscal Court during a special Dec. 18 meeting approved an Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) ordinance on second reading.

Judge Executive Jim Gazay said after the meeting - which the Courier did not attend - that the following key points introduced during the ordinance' first reading on Dec. 10 remained the same:

- Hours Of Operation For Alcohol Sales** - 6 a.m. to midnight, Monday through Saturday. There will be no Sunday sales.
- Non-Operating Hours Restrictions** - Cooler doors must be locked, and cash registers restricted to prevent sales.
- Sales Tax** - A 5 percent sales tax will be imposed, aligning with the City of West Liberty's rate.

Though no Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) administrator was appointed, Judge Gazay agreed serve in this capacity on a strictly temporary basis until a permanent officer is hired and the position is funded.

Judge Gazay reiterated that he had no desire serve as ABC administrator on a permanent basis.

The judge executive also previously stated during the Dec. 10 meeting that he has no intention to apply for an alcoholic beverage sales license, which is prohibited among ABC administrators.

Following the Dec. 10 meeting, Judge Gazay told the Courier of a similar plan in Menifee County - which also approved alcohol sales in November - regarding a temporary ABC administrator.

On a motion made by Magistrate Brandon Evans and seconded by Magistrate Tommy Fannin, the court unanimously approved the ABC ordinance with amendments regarding keg regulations, sidewalk cafes and the restriction of plastic cups outside venues.

In other news, the court unanimously approved the following proposed budgets for the 2025 calendar year:

• **County Clerk Randy Wil-**

**iams' Office** - This budget was presented as a whole, subject to audit. Additionally, the maximum total for deputies' salaries was set at \$211,000.

• **Sheriff Greg Motley's Office** - This budget was presented as a whole, subject to audit. Additionally, the maximum total for deputies' salaries was set at \$875,000 (amount also includes Sheriff Motley's salary), with the court agreeing to reimburse the sheriff's office excess fees, and to allow the sheriff to participate in the state advancement program.

Several other items were also approved during the Dec. 18 gathering, as noted in the meeting minutes:

### Meeting Minutes

The following is an unofficial listing of minutes from the special Dec. 18 meeting of the Morgan County Fiscal Court:

Present Members were Magistrates Brandon Evans, Tommy Fannin, Donnie Keeton, Eric Pelfrey and Leroy Phipps, and Judge Executive Jim Gazay.

• **Motion Passed** - Approval of the minutes of the last meeting of the Morgan County Fiscal Court. Passed with a motion by Donnie Keeton and a second by Tommy Fannin.

**Vote - Unanimous yes.**

• **Motion Passed** - Approval of the financial statement. Passed with a motion by Brandon Evans and a second by Donnie Keeton.

**Vote - Unanimous yes.**

• **Motion Passed** - Approval of tourism grant match to the budgeted chart of accounts as presented. Passed with a motion by Tommy Fannin and a second by Eric Pelfrey.

**Vote - Unanimous yes.**

• **Motion Passed** - Approval of adoption of budget amendment #4 (\$275,847) and approval of the first reading of budget amendment #5 (\$75,000) as presented. Passed with a motion by Brandon Evans and a second by Eric Pelfrey.

**Vote - Unanimous yes.**

• **Motion Passed** - Approval of budget transfers as presented. Passed with a motion by Brandon Evans and a second

by Donnie Keeton.

**Vote - Unanimous yes.**

• **Motion Passed** - Approval of \$50,000 interfund cash transfer fro the general fund to the jail fund. Passed with a motion by Tommy Fannin and a second by Donnie Keeton.

**Vote - Unanimous yes.**

• **Motion Passed** - Motion to ratify prior period expenditures for WEX November bill. Passed with a motion by Tommy Fannin and a second by Eric Pelfrey.

**Vote - Unanimous yes.**

• **Motion Passed** - Approval to set up a bank account for animal shelter grants and donations. Passed with a motion by Eric Pelfrey and a second by Tommy Fannin.

**Vote - Unanimous yes.**

• **Motion Passed** - Approval to use the Elan Financial credit card at Tractor Supply. Passed with a motion by Brandon Evans and a second by Donnie Keeton.

**Vote - Unanimous yes.**

• **Motion Passed** - Approval of employees holiday schedule for calendar year 2025. Passed with a motion by Eric Pelfrey and a second by Brandon Evans.

**Vote - Unanimous yes.**

• **Motion Passed** - Approval to pay tourism grant invoices upon receipt up to \$19,340.20, the total amount of the grand funding and match, and sign the necessary Memorandum of Agreement and amendment Memorandum of Agreement. Passed with a motion by Tommy Fannin and a second by Brandon Evans.

**Vote - Unanimous yes.**

• **Motion Passed** - Approval of the county clerk's 2025 budget presented as a whole, subject to audit, and set the deputies maximum salaries at \$211,000. Passed with a motion by Brandon Evans and a second by Eric Pelfrey.

**Vote - Unanimous yes.**

• **Motion Passed** - Approval of the Morgan County Sheriff's Office budget for calendar year 2025 presented as a whole, subject to audit, set the deputies' maximum salaries at \$875,000, reimburse the sheriff's office

to celebrate the birth of Jesus.

Remember the reason for the season.

Merry Christmas to all. To the staff of LVC blessings for the holiday and New Year.

### HEAVENLY FUDGE

- 1 & 1/2 cups sugar
- 5 oz. can evaporated milk
- 2 tbsp. butter

excess fees, and to participate in the state advancement program. Passed with a motion by Brandon Evans and a second by Eric Pelfrey.

**Vote - Unanimous yes.**

• **Motion Passed** - Approval of the second reading of the Morgan County alcoholic beverage control ordinance with amendments to the keg regulations, sidewalk cases and the restriction of plastic cups outside a venue. Passed with a motion by Brandon Evans and a second by Tommy Fannin.

(Note: Judge Executive Jim Gazay agreed to serve as temporary Morgan County ABC Coordinator until someone is found to permanently fill the position.)

**Vote - Unanimous yes.**

• **Motion Passed** - Approval to remove a portion of Old Elam Road from the county road system to the property line of Wells and Minix. Mileage to be measured later. Passed with a motion by Eric Pelfrey and a second by Donnie Keeton.

**Vote - Unanimous yes.**

• **Motion Passed** - Approval to take Conley Branch into the county road system. Passed with a motion by Donnie Keeton and a second by Tommy Fannin.

**Vote - Unanimous yes.**

• **Motion Passed** - Ratification of paid vendor claims. Passed with a motion by Brandon Evans and a second by Donnie Keeton.

**Vote - Unanimous yes.**

• **Motion Passed** - Approval of unpaid vendor claims. Passed with a motion by Tommy Fannin and a second by Donnie Keeton.

**Vote - Unanimous yes.**

• **Motion Passed** - Adjournment of the meeting. Passed with a motion by Brandon Evans and a second by Eric Pelfrey.

**Vote - Unanimous yes.**

### Additional Information

For additional information regarding Morgan County Fiscal Court activities, contact Judge Executive Jim Gazay at 743-3897 or visit his temporary office in the Morgan County Wellness Center on Route 7.

## Kellacey

By Sandra Carpenter

Thought for the week: Each of us is an INNKEEPER who decides if there is room for JESUS.

Without Christ there would be no Christ-mas. Everyone wonders what they can get their

loved ones for Christmas. Have you ever wondered what you can do for Christ?

What would Jesus Christ have on his Christmas list?

1. Jesus wants us to love him with the same love God has for him.
2. Jesus wants us to help those in need.
3. Jesus wants to be first in

his life

4. Jesus wants your trust in him.
5. Jesus wants you to witness for him.
6. Jesus wants you most of all.

The greatest gift you can receive this season is Jesus the Christ child. For without Christ Jesus there would be no reason

- 1/ tsp salt
- 2 cups miniature marshmallows
- 1 & 1/2 cup semi-sweet chocolate morsels
- 1/2 cup pecans or walnuts
- 1 tsp vanilla

Line 8 inch square pan with foil. In heavy saucepan combine sugar, milk, salt, butter. Bring to rolling boil over me-

dium heat. Stir constantly for 4-5 minutes, remove from heat, stir in marshmallows, morsels, nuts, and vanilla. Stir for 1 minute until melted. Pour in pan. Refrigerate for 2 hours.

**THANKS FOR READING THE PAPER!!!**