

**POETRY,** from A1

can have. His presentation emphasized education, early detection, and community resources in preventing heart disease.

A special poetry reading by Frank X Walker, the first African American writer to be honored as Kentucky's Poet Laureate, was the artistic highlight of the evening. Walker, a professor at the University of Kentucky, shared excerpts of his work, which delves into identity, culture, and history. A co-founder of the Affrilachian Poets, Walker has received national recognition for his contributions to the literature and for his work advocating for African American voices in poetry.

Danville Mayor James "JH" Atkins offered closing remarks, thanking attendees for getting involved in the community and thanking the event's sponsors. After the program, the audience was invited to a book signing and refreshments.

Ephraim McDowell Health and its partners sought to advance conversations on health equity and to celebrate the power of poetry and cultural heritage.

**MCCONNELL,** from A1

to the federal bench.

Concerns for the senator's health have risen within the last year after falls and freezing mid-speech. Earlier this month, McConnell fell in the U.S. Senate but was reported to be "fine."

Throughout his political career, McConnell has had a strong influence on both American and Kentucky politics. He was first elected to the Senate in 1984 at a time when Kentucky Republicans were a small minority in contrast to the long-dominant state Democratic Party. When Kentucky's five Republican constitutional officers were sworn in at the state Capitol in January 2024, McConnell told the crowd he was "thrilled to have an opportunity to be here today in this most improbable thing, which is a crowd in Frankfort that is not at least 100% Democratic."

McConnell's rise to the Senate came after he was Jefferson County judge-executive in Louisville. Since then, he's repeatedly supported Republican candidates in Kentucky, leading to their rise across decades. In the 2024 election cycle, McConnell's PAC gave 95 Republican candidates \$2,100 each, the maximum allowed under state law.

Last September when the Kentucky Republican Party dedicated an expansion of their state headquarters in Frankfort, top GOP leaders in the state heralded "the house that Mitch built." The building is also named after McConnell.

"We've come a long way, and the people here today had a lot to do with it," McConnell said at the time. "Thanks for all the praise for me, but it's a team sport, and many of you have contributed a lot of years and a lot of dollars over the years to bring us where we are today."

McConnell's term ends in 2027. With his announcement to not seek reelection, the stage is set for a swath of Republican and Democratic candidates to announce their bids for Kentucky's Senate seat.

Former Kentucky Attorney General Daniel Cameron, a Republican, quickly announced his plans to run for the seat after McConnell concluded his remarks. During his unsuccessful 2023 gubernatorial bid, Cameron was often heralded as a McConnell protégé.

"Kentucky, it's time for a new generation of leadership in the U.S. Senate," Cameron said on X. "Let's do this."

Kentucky Congressman Andy Barr, of Lexington, recently told Fox News he was mulling a run for the seat regardless of McConnell's decision. That comment came after Lexington-based businessman and GOP political donor Nate Morris took to X to criticize McConnell for not confirming some of Republican President Donald Trump's recent nominations in the Senate. Morris said in the video he was considering running for the Senate seat or governor.

House Democratic Floor Leader Rep. Pamela Stevenson, of Louisville, recently filed her paperwork to raise money for a Senate campaign. In 2023, she was the Democratic nominee for attorney general but lost to Republican Russell Coleman.

**RANKIN,** from A1

Before coming home to Kentucky in 2015, Rankin managed historic camps and conference centers for the YMCA of the USA. His career began with the Chicago YMCA as Director of Camping and Group Services, and then for the Capital District YMCA in Albany, New York, as Associate Executive Director.

Since arriving to Shaker Village, Rankin has been active in the local Harrodsburg community through service on the board of the Mercer County Chamber of Commerce, as past Chair of Harrodsburg 250th Inc., past Chair of the Mercer County Extension Council and as a member of the Harrodsburg Kiwanis Club.

"It was apparent to our Board members that Billy's vision for the future, trust from the staff and operational skills are exactly what is needed to lead us into the future," said Ann Bakhaus, Chair

of the Shaker Village Board of Trustees. "In three short months since being named our Interim

President and CEO he has formed new partnerships, implemented cost-saving measures, reorganized staffing structures and laid out a strategic plan that will take Shaker Village to the next level. The Board is excited and proud to have him steering the ship."

Originally hailing from Henry County, Kentucky, Rankin received degrees in History and Political

Science from the University of Louisville. He currently resides in Danville with his wife Sarah and son Johnny. He is a proud Kentucky Colonel, and enjoys exploring trails, waterways and historic sites across the state during his free time.

**BOARD,** from A1

short-term rentals currently listed in the area. A motion to approve the permit was made with the condition that the rental would not negatively affect nearby properties due to its remote location and low occupancy.

With no objections from the public, the board unanimously approved the permit.

"You've got a good-looking place," one board member remarked before moving on to other agenda items.

The meeting concluded with no new or old business, and the board adjourned shortly thereafter.

# Library to host activities for all ages

**SPECIAL TO THE ADVOCATE-MESSENGER**

The Boyle County Public Library offers free activities, special events, online resources, and numerous services for the community. Programs often include storytimes, crafting programs, art exhibits, and gaming events. Here is a closer look at some events at the library in the coming week:

**BABY STORYTIME**

Join us at the library on Mondays at 10 a.m. for a special storytime for babies and their caregivers designed to strengthen bonds and give encouragement for playing, reading, and growing. Each week Mrs. Rachael will read themed stories and have a sensory activity for babies and their caregivers to enjoy. Baby Storytime will be held in the Community Room, with the books and theme changing each week. (Ages birth-18 months)

**Sub-header: Storytime**

On Tuesdays and Wednesdays at 11 a.m., join us at the library for storytime, where we sing, play, and read! An activity will be offered after each storytime for toddlers and preschoolers with their caregivers to enjoy. Storytime will be held in the Youth Department on the third level, with the books and themes changing each week. (Ages 2-5)

**YA CREATIVE CLUB: RESIN CRAFTS**

Join us each week for YA Creative Club, where tweens and teens can create fun crafts and learn new artistic skills while relaxing, eating snacks, and hanging out with other creatives. Each session is suitable for artists and crafters of all skill levels. New members are always welcome! On Tuesday, Feb. 25 from 3:30-5 p.m., you can make your own gaming dice, pendants, earrings, keychains, and other resin-based crafts. Pour resin into a mold, color it using dyes and other pigments, and cure your creation in a snap using UV lights. Decorate with accessories to imbue your dice or jewelry with your own personal style. This event will be held in the Tech Area Lounge on the fifth level. (Ages 11-17; Grades 6-12)

**CARING FOR PERSONAL COLLECTIONS**

Are you a collector or do you have family treasures that have been passed down through generations? Learn about how to properly care for these materials to keep them around for many more years to come at the Caring for Personal Collections program series, which will explore common topics in collections care to help individuals prepare for at home preservation projects. The first program in the series on Tuesday, Feb. 25 from

4-5:30 p.m. will provide an introductory overview to caring for personal collections. When given the tools and guidance to preserve records, we, as a community, can do history together and save these materials for the future. This event will be held in the Community Room on the first level. (Ages 18+)

**KIDS TASTE TEST CHALLENGE**

Let's put our tasters to the test with three rounds of taste test challenges! Join us Wednesday, Feb. 26 from 3:30-4:30 p.m. as we chew through snacks, candy and so much more! Prizes will be given out and sugar rushes are guaranteed! We cannot guarantee that food served at this program has not come into contact with tree nuts, soy, or other allergens. Those with food allergies please be advised that this program will contain foods with sugars, nuts, and artificial flavor and coloring. This event will be held in the Community Room. (Ages 6-10)

**Sub-header: Crochet Club**

Join us on Thursday, Feb. 27 at 6 p.m. for this monthly series focused on community, conversation, and crocheting. Bring your yarn, needles, and projects, and you can work independently while gathering with others. This event will be held in the Reading Room on the fourth level. (Ages 18+)

## Pet of the Week

**SPECIAL TO THE ADVOCATE-MESSENGER**

Meet Lynx, a 1.5-year-old German Shepherd mix and our Pet of the Week. This fella's got it all - he's a Mutts with Manners graduate and as friendly and playful as they come! He adores all the humans, is excellent with little ones, and he'd probably like cats, too, but his energy levels might just send those felines up the walls in sheer madness! His real love is playing with his doggie friends...and you!

Fetch is his jam, alongside chase and tugging games - he'll have you running circles if you're not careful! When it's time to show off some smarts, he nails basic stuff like sit and stay without breaking a sweat.

But wait—there's more! Lynx knows advanced commands that make even seasoned service dogs say, "Wow." Picture him turning on lights, fetching your slippers, or perhaps attempting both at once—because why not?

When it comes to entertaining an audience (yes, folks—that means you!), Lynx is a pro. He can spin 'round like a ; he'll roll over faster than you can say biscuit—and don't get me started on how adorable his high-fives are, waving like nobody's business!



Lynx (Photo submitted)

He's sure to bring a smile to your face.

Lynx is fixed, vaccinated, microchipped, and ready to go home. Apply to adopt him or another Mutts here: [dbchs.org/muttswithmannersdogs](http://dbchs.org/muttswithmannersdogs) and email [cherjoel@gmail.com](mailto:cherjoel@gmail.com) with questions. Want to visit dogs at the shelter? DBCHS is open 1-5 pm Monday and Tuesday, Noon-5 Wednesday, 11-7 on Thursday, noon-4 Friday, or 10-3 Saturday.

Have a shamrockin' good time with DBCHS and our friends at Wilderness

Trail Distillery: it's time for the Lucky Paws St. Paddy's Day Pawty on March 14! Plan on a fantastic evening: live music from local favorite Carey Band, food from The ChuckWagon for purchase, a rye whiskey barrel pick, drink specials, a 360 photo booth, and more! Donations are appreciated, but there's no cover charge! Be there Friday, March 14, from 6:00-9:00 pm at Wilderness Trail Distillery for our St. Paddy's Pawty, and remember, it's not just a time to gather with friends; it's a chance to support the

Danville-Boyle County Humane Society and the people and pets it serves.

The Danville-Boyle County Humane Society, a non-profit 501 (c)(3) established in 1972, relies on your generosity to operate. Your donations, big or small, are crucial to our mission of promoting the humane treatment of animals through compassionate care, engagement, and support. Currently, our greatest need is dry cat food. Your donations make a difference, and we appreciate you!



### REAL ESTATE AUCTION With On-Line Bidding

**Live Sale Saturday, March 1st at 10:00 AM**  
**On-Line Bidding thru March 1st @[VipAuctionKy.HiBid.com](http://VipAuctionKy.HiBid.com)**



**41 Tuggle Road  
Danville, KY**

**We have been authorized to offer at  
PUBLIC OUTCRY this Real Estate which includes:**

This single story brick ranch consists of 3 bedrooms & 2 baths (primary bedroom with ensuite, 2 additional bedrooms, 1 additional full bath), breakfast nook, open concept living / dining room with vaulted ceiling, laundry room with newer washer & dryer, plenty of large closets. Heat Pump, 2-Car attached garage, fenced back yard with concrete patio, large front yard with magnificent view. City water & all electric. The septic consists of the tank only and will need to have a leach field or lagoon installed. All located on one of Boyle County's most desirable roads, convenient to both Danville & Perryville!

**All being Sold at AUCTION - So Come - Bid Last - Buy at YOUR Price.**

**Directions: From Danville Main Street, Go West, Continue West on US 150 (Perryville Road) to Tuggle Road. The house will be on the left on the corner of Perryville Road and Tuggle Road, look for the sign!**

**Open House - Sunday, February 23rd, 2:00 - 4:00 PM**



NOTICE: Potential bidders may conduct any desired inspections by appointment prior to sale day, this may include but not be limited to perk testing, home inspection, etc. Announcements made at the sale will take precedence over any prior oral or written statements. Not responsible for accidents. Sold AS IS-WHERE IS with no warranties expressed or implied. TERMS: 10% down at auction, balance and possession with deed on or before April 15th, 2025. TAXES- The 2025 real estate taxes will be prorated to the day of closing. There will be a 10% Buyers Premium added to the winning bid to determine the final sale price.

**REMEMBER:**

**TIME- 10:00 AM**

**DATE- Saturday, March 1st, 2025.**

**PLACE- 41 Tuggle Road, Danville, KY 40422**

**V.I.P. AUCTION CO.**

317 West Main • Danville, KY • (859) 236-1852

[www.vipauctionky.com](http://www.vipauctionky.com)

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"We'll Do The Crying and You Do The Buying"

