# • SMUCKER'S Continued from page A10

In wanting to streamline the process for making Uncrustables, Smucker's had to figure out how to make the bread in an efficient manner. Sarah Lee provided on the bread for the Uncrustables. So we were buying all that bread and making it Uncrustable."

Eventually, a plant was built in Watsonville, Calif., where the process for making the bread for Uncrustables was developed. Yet production needed to expand and that's where Scottsville comes into the story.

Before getting right into that however, like a true Southerner, Grace had to spin a little yarn.

"J.M. Smucker, Jerome Monroe Smucker, started the Smucker Company in 1897. He was a Mennonite. So I would love to stand up for and say, 'Hey that was the connection with Scottsville. Some of the relatives of Jerome were down here.' But that's not true at all I can't find any supporting evidence for that."

What actually drew Smucker's to Scottsville was, "Kentucky was trying to attract food plants. Allen County jumped up and said, 'We can do that." You guys had a great workforce, great location. So that's about all I know about it.'

Work on the Smucker's plant on Smiths Grove Road began in 2003 and by May 10, 2004 they'd begun production on Uncrustables.

"How many people do you guess that they said we would employ?" asked Grace. "One-hundred and fifty folks. I've seen other states that say one-hundred fifty to two hundred. I just say they didn't know what they had because we employ about five-hundred fifty people today. So a lot more than what we thought throughout. It's grown beyond I think what the original expectation was."

In the 24 years since beginning operation, the original Fargo plant was shut down. Watsonville still has its operations. Plants have also been opened in Colorado and Alabama. Yet Scottsville has, since 2012, "basically more than doubled capacity."

Grace stated, "We doubled the bakery capacity a little bit more than double. We added two more high speed lines so we can take on more and honestly I don't think it's ever been enough. We've never had a lot of breathing room when it comes to demand because every time we think we've caught up we have more demand. So we have rapidly expanded since 2012." The initial output of 300 million sandwiches produced by the Scottsville plant has grown to over 700 million sandwiches.

Grace then opened up his time for questions and there were plenty. Perhaps the biggest one though was if they'd ever consider doing a factory tour.

"That is a great question and we would make an awesome 'How It's Made' episode," answered Grace. "But the company is really strict with our technology. We won't even let other Smucker's folks see how we do what we do."

Grace went on to explain that, "We're really tightened up. We've got a lot more competition the last few years" and that what's set them apart is it's how they make their bread. "That's harder to replicate." This means they won't be doing tours any time soon.

What isn't a secret though is how much of a contributor to Scottsville Smucker's has become. They've sponsored events at First Friday and are one of the title sponsors of NorroFest. They not only sponsored but also provided several Uncrustable sandwiches to this year's community Easter Egg Hunt and "Kid Uncrustable" can be spotted at many events in the area. They've also donated to the local animal shelter and they'll donate a certain dollar amount for each day during a quarter they go without having an employee accident to a charity of the employees' choosing. Plus many more through the United Way, the Cal Turner Rehab Facility and many more on top of that.

Grace ended his time by saying, "Thank you guys for giving me time to talk about our customers and one of my favorite subjects."

### **July 4th Fireworks Celebration** Set for Barren River Lake State **Park – Plan Ahead for Parking**

Lucas, KY – The Friends of Barren **River Lake and Park** invite residents and visitors to join us for an unforgettable Fourth of July Fireworks Celebration on Friday, July 4th, 2025, at Barren **River Lake State** Park. The fireworks show will begin at 9:00 PM, lighting up the skies over the lake in a stunning patriotic display.

Please Note: This year's event will not include the traditional Family Day at the Beach, as both the beach and beach parking areas remain underwater due to recent flooding.

**Fireworks viewing** from the park will be available on the grassy hill behind the State Park Lodge and around the tennis courts. Boaters are welcome to anchor offshore near the beach, outside the designated fireworks safety zone. (Please ensure all boat lights are operational and keep a lookout for floating debris.)

Limited Parking Availability

Due to the beach flooding and the loss of 350 beach parking spaces, attendees are encouraged to:



PHOTO | SHERRY WILLIAMS State Park Beach House.



▲ PHOTO | SHERRY WILLIAMS State Park Beach.

 Carpool with family or friends whenever possible

•Arrive early to secure a good spot

 Use designated parking areas and be prepared for a short walk

•Respect all noparking zones and marked areas

Bring your lawn chairs or blankets, claim your spot early, and enjoy dinner at the Driftwood Restaurant or from one of our local food trucks before the fireworks begin at 9:00 PM. Our partners at Commonwealth Broadcasting will be

broadcasting live from the park and simulcast patriotic music during the fireworks, so don't forget to bring your radio and tune in to WCLU or WHHT to join the excitement!

A special thank you goes out to our generous sponsors:

 Presenting Sponsor: K & M Services

•Other Key Sponsors: **Barren** County Fiscal Court, Barren County Tourism, Commonwealth Broadcasting, WHHT, WCLU

**CELEBRATION**, Continued on page A13





#### INVITATION TO BID Allen County Fiscal Court Allen County Park FEMA Flood Repairs and Mitigations June 26th, 2025

<u>RECEIPT OF PROPOSAL</u>: The Allen County Fiscal Court will receive sealed bids for FEMA Flood Repairs and Mitigations until 4:00 pm (CST) on July 11th, 2025, at the Allen County Fiscal Court building located at 201 West Main Street Suite #5, Scottsville, KY, 42164. The following scope of work is being solicited at this time:

- Muck out silted up retention ponds
- Clean up basin slopes and stabilize Repair berm and slope washouts
- Repair eroded ditch
- Clean up slopes and provide reinforcement matting
- Repair adjacent owners fencing
- Clean up all silt and sediment on adjacent property owner and return adjacent property to predeveloped conditions
- Affected areas are shown on provided plans denoted in red

Interested bidders shall contact the office of the Engineer of Record Arnold Consulting Engineering Services Inc. to obtain access to the Bid Plans, Documents, and Specifications.

PRE-BID MEETING: A Pre-Bid Meeting will not be held for this bid package. Contractors may contact the Engineer of Record Arnold Consulting Engineers Services, Inc at 270-780-9445 or by email to d.whitley@a-ces.com for questions related to the plans and specifications

PROJECT: FEMA Flood Repairs and Mitigations will consist of repairing washout in and clean up silt and repairing neighbors fencing, installing erosion matting along backside of slopes, installing riprap along inner side of slopes, muck out ponds from silted runoff, and repairing washouts leading to retention ponds and around quadplexes

BID BOND: No Bonding will be required for this scope of work.

OBTAINING CONTRACT DOCUMENTS: Plans and specifications will be made available to bidders in both hard copy and electronic form beginning June 26th, 2025, at 8:00am. There is no fee for access to plans in either hard copy or electronic format. Access to bid documents may be obtained by contacting the Engineer of Record at the following contact information:

Daniel Whitley, Project Manager Arnold Consulting Engineering Services, Inc. 1136 South Park Drive, Suite 201 Bowling green, KY 42103 270-780-9445 dwhitley@a-ces.com

OWNER'S RIGHT RESERVED: The Allen County Fiscal Court reserves the right to reject any or all bids or waive any informalities in the bidding. No bids shall be withdrawn for a period of thirty (30) days after the opening of bids without the consent of the Owner.

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allows you to choose the date that is best for you, giving you needed extra time while avoiding late penalties.

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Contact your local Tri-County Electric office or visit our website www.tcemc.org for information on these or any of our programs and services Burkesville • Celina • Edmonton • Hartsville Lafayette • Scottsville • Tompkinsville • Westmoreland 1-800-369-2111