

From the Archives: The University of Scottsville

By Ray Hogan Hayes

The Archives of The Citizen-Times shares February 24, 1994 and March 3, 1994 issues with a tribute of education in Scottsville.

Scottsville, Kentucky is a University Town. The faculty has changed several times since I was a child. Nevertheless, it is a site of higher learning that equals many of the major colleges and universities that grace our land.

Scottsville is also a cultural center. When I was young, during the worst part of the Great Depression of the '30s, Scottsville was at a peak of cultural attainment. The town enjoyed the benefit of two symphony orchestras, an opera, regular opera auditions and a town band. Do you doubt it? Radio Station WHAS in Louisville piped much of it to us through our old radios. WHAS was our very own and personal all Kentucky window on the world.

Remember the NBC Symphony under the direction of Arturo Toscanini Sunday afternoons? Howard Barlow directed the Firestone Symphony Orchestra Thursday evenings. The Metropolitan Opera offered us their repertoire season after season Sunday afternoons. Sunday afternoons were enlivened not only by competitive sport events but also by the cultural competition of young artists vying on the Sherwin-Williams Metropolitan Opera Auditions of the Air.

Occasionally one of our favorite singers would win the coveted prize or scholarship. Then Saturday evenings during the summer the Town's Brass Band serenade us with Sousa marches and martial tunes. In my mind I can see every member of that old band. Perched on top of the portico of the old court house each player, in his shirt sleeves and open collar, was lost in his own performances on his own horn. Especially vivid is the memory of "Third" Settle whomping out the bass on his Sousa-phone. The music echoed from the buildings around the town square. The sound of the music and the captivating

beat of the snare and bass drums caught our feet and bounced our hearts with a rhythmic cadence that enchanted those summer nights.

Oh, how I used to pretend to march in cadence to the martial music of that old Band! Scottsville had plenty of culture then-more than enough to share!

Scottsville had then, and has now, all the intellectual and cultural stimuli to inspire a young mind. It had and has those unique resources to awaken an insatiable hunger in youthful hearts to learn and serve in return for the gifts of a caring town.

Many of the faculty I knew and loved then have departed to the life beyond. They left behind them a legacy that is so rich and wonderful I have been wealthy all of my life.

Yes, I was wealthy when I was a child. I was also wealthy on that particularly cold November day Nancy Hagan goosed my bare bottom through a hole in the seat of my thin cotton pants. She scored her direct hit with the icy metal tip of her "Wearever" fountain pen. I am wealthy as an older person by virtue of the heritage of those good people who lived me and so carefully educated me.

Among them was Mrs. Amy Divine who taught the "Lame Ducks" at Scottsville Elementary. She was a gentle special education teacher who gave those of who faltered a shove out of the morass of first grade problems.

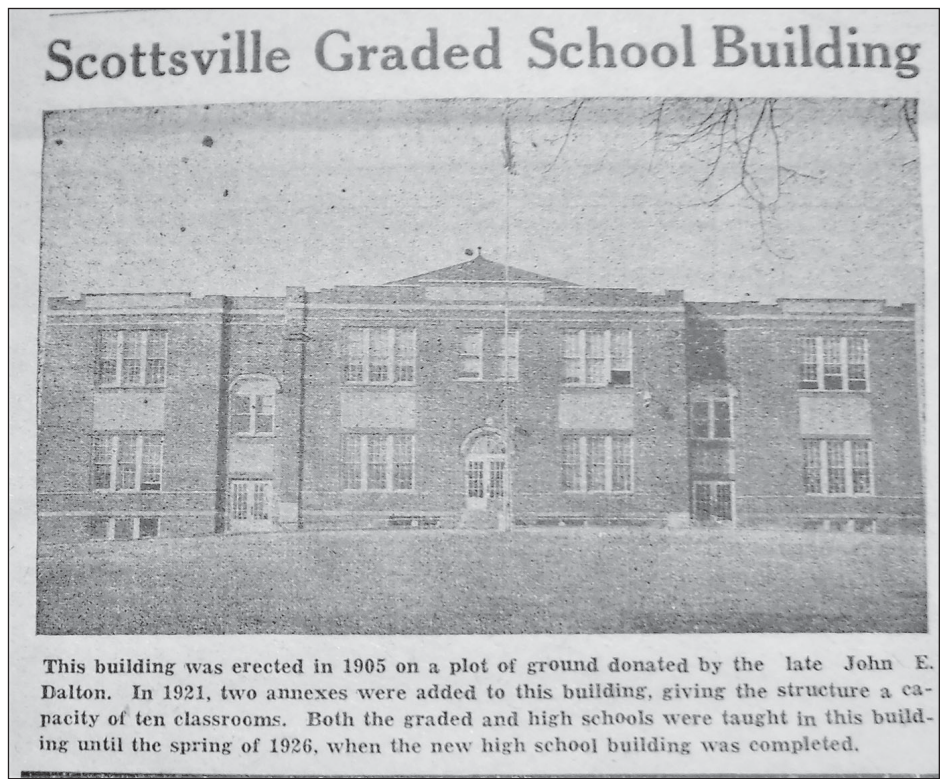
There was an excellent Liberal Arts Faculty-Mrs. Flora Nichols, Mildred Newman and Charles Barker Jones. Those people used to grade my papers. They did a lot more. A whole lot more. They would read my stories and poems and suggest. Most of all they would listen and encourage. Charles Barker Jones once sent me a penny postal card complimenting something I has written and signed it, "Will Shakespeare."

There was "Uncle Frank" Rieherd, the Professor of languages. He was an old fashioned Greek and Latin scholar

who had a fabulous library. It was he who spent many tireless hours teaching me and guiding my reading program. He carefully selected a balanced variety of first class authors and their best works. He eagerly pushed heavy reading my way. A few items demanded much of several summers. The ones I remember particularly are "McCauley's Essays," "Thompson Outline of Science," "The Complete Works of Shakespeare" and the 1884 "Proceedings of the British Society of Psychical Research," Uncle Frank aggressively under-took my sexual education. On my thirteenth birthday he gave me a beautifully illustrated copy of "The Unexpurgated Version of the Arabian Nights." I remember the mock seriousness in his voice as he handed me that lovely book. "Ray, I think you are old enough to learn what life is mostly about."

There were "Miss Myrt" Brown and Professor N. D. "Ramrod" Bryant. "Miss Myrt" excelled in speech, elocution, ethics, philosophy, counseling and spiritual inspiration. Few people knew it. She was also a fully licensed Chiropractor. She could transform the most commonplace event into an exciting adventure. "Ramrod" was principal of Scottsville High school. He taught public speaking, mental arithmetic, vocational agriculture, drafting, mechanical drawing and how to build a self-cleaning chicken house.

Virginia Creasy was a one-woman prep-school. She taught practical college preparatory courses and remedial education at the high school level. She could make academic work and college level courses sound easy. She could remove all doubt, fear and anxiety about whether a young person could make it away from home. She taught that money, whatever that was in those bleak old Depression Days, was a tool. She taught us how to pay our way. She knew all the places money could be found. "All a student needs to do," she would say, "is to invest a little effort. Then room, board,



▲ ARCHIVE PHOTO (SCOTTVILLE GRADED SCHOOL)
Ray Hogan Hayes began his education at Scottsville Graded School with his first grade teacher Amy Christine Devine as a gentle special education teacher.

tuition and books will appear and the money to pay for them. Know what you want and want it badly enough and whatever you wish for is yours!"

Mrs. Annie Justice was Chairperson of Fine Arts. From her I

learned to appreciate the beautiful and precious things of this world. Circuit Judge Sims would speak at "Chapel when Circuit Court was in session." He taught us respect for the law, our government, its function and structure

and the fundamentals of politics. Attorney Gobble Goad helped us to distinguish among three types of lies: white, black and statistics.

SCOTTVILLE,
Continued on page A12

LEGAL NOTICE

MASTER COMMISSIONER'S SALE

ALLEN CIRCUIT COURT
MOVEMENT MORTGAGE, LLC
v.
CHARITY F. GEERY, et al.

CIVIL ACTION No. 25-CI-00081
PLAINTIFF
DEFENDANTS

Pursuant to the judgment and order of sale entered by the Allen Circuit Court in the above styled case, notice is hereby given that the master commissioner of said Court will offer for sale to the highest bidder at public auction on Friday, September 5, 2025, at 10:00 A.M. C.D.T. at the front entrance of the Allen County Judicial Center, 200 W. Main St., Scottsville, Kentucky, the real property in Allen County, Kentucky, described as follows:

A house and lot, containing 0.79 acre, at 161 Emma Cook Rd., Scottsville KY. The house is approximately 1,400 sq. ft. PVA 61-27-1-5.

Being the same real property conveyed to Charity F. Geery at deed book 331, page 246, Allen Co. Clerk.

The purchaser may pay cash or make a 10% down payment and execute a bond for the remaining 90% of the sales price due in 30 days with interest at 3 per cent per annum; a qualified surety is required on the bond. The purchaser shall pay the 2025 property taxes. The amount to be raised by the sale is \$117,155.23, plus interest, costs and attorney fee.

Kelly D. Powell
Master Commissioner Allen Circuit Court

LEGAL NOTICE

MASTER COMMISSIONER'S SALE

ALLEN CIRCUIT COURT
AAMG FC PROPERTIES, LLC
v.
DIANA LOGAN, MICHAEL LOGAN and
LOLITA MAY LANDERS' Unknown heirs, et al.

CIVIL ACTION No. 25-CI-00112
PLAINTIFF
DEFENDANTS

Pursuant to the judgment and order of sale entered by the Allen Circuit Court in the above styled case, notice is hereby given that the master commissioner of said Court will offer for sale to the highest bidder at public auction on Friday, September 5, 2025, at 10:00 A.M. C.D.T. at the front entrance of the Allen County Judicial Center, 200 W. Main St., Scottsville, Kentucky, the real property in Allen County, Kentucky, described as follows:

A house and lot, containing 1-1/4 acres, at 445 Squire Lyles Rd., Scottsville KY. The house is 1,120 sq. ft. w/det. gar. PVA 19-33.

Being the same real property conveyed to Lolita May Landers at deed book 73, page 217, Allen Co. Clerk. See will book 35, page 863, said clerk's office.

The purchaser may pay cash or make a 10% down payment and execute a bond for the remaining 90% of the sales price due in 30 days with interest per the judgment; a qualified surety is required on the bond. The purchaser shall pay the 2025 property taxes. The amount to be raised by the sale is \$131,619.08, plus interest and costs.

Kelly D. Powell
Master Commissioner Allen Circuit Court