

COUNCIL

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He then expressed concern about the loss of city investment as council decided to sell the closed Falmouth School Center on Chapel Street.

Ernst emphasized the need for a facility to provide youth activities, and a need for a place to relocate city operations out of the flood zone.

He also questioned council appointing the mayor from within and pointed out that action was inconsistent with replacing mayors in the past.

Council had voted at the Monday meeting to appoint Hazen, a councilwoman, as mayor to fill the post vacated by Mayor Luke Price a week earlier when he resigned, citing new obligations with his full-time job.

Ernst's final question addressed what he referred to as nepotism in the hiring of Hazen's fiancé as the city water plant operator. No response was given.

After making his points, Ernst left City Hall.

OTHER BUSINESS

In other business, council:

- Approved the creation of an RFP/RFQ (request for quote/request for proposal) to contract for legal counsel in lieu of the resig-

nation of Brandon Voelker.

Hazen had initiated talks about an RFP/RFQ at the April 8 meeting of City Council.

A heated discussion ensued between her and Voelker, and Voelker stated that if the city went through with the RFP/RFQ, he likely would not submit a bid.

- Approved placing the Falmouth School Center for sale through a sealed bid, making the property available for inspection and working out any complications that may be encountered with the winning bidder.

Later in the meeting, a resident commented on his past experience in trying to acquire the property and complimented council for the way they are proposing to sell the property.

- Discussed filling a vacant council seat that must be filled within 30 days of April 14, when Councilwoman Hazen was chosen by council to fill the vacant mayor's seat.
- Discussed possible recommendations for new fire chief and assistant fire chief.

Hazen requested that council members visit the fire department and interview the volunteers to get a better understanding of their concerns and recommendations.

- Heard the second reading of the text amend-

ments to the zoning ordinance that provides Code Enforcement clarity on addressing storage containers and other items on property within the city and makes violations a misdemeanor subject to fines. Council approved the changes.

- Praised members praised the community's and EMS response to the recent flooding.

REPORTS

Hazen explained the recent development of committees.

Councilman Anthony Cox shared some ideas and recommendations regarding the Public Works Committee, including posting supervisors' credentials on the City's website.

He also suggested regular meetings with department heads.

- Hazen invited Assistant Chief of Police Nicolas Timon to make an announcement. Timon introduced two new police officers to the force to the spontaneous enthusiastic applause of the audience.
- Cox shared a recent conference he attended on autism. He expressed interest in taking advantage of the Yellow Dot program training for all city police and EMS personnel and opening it up to county departments as well.

The mayor and council all expressed interest in the project and training.

Council appoints Councilwoman Hazen as mayor

The minutes of the special meeting of April 14, state that Councilwoman "Amanda Moore made a motion to appoint Sabrina Hazen as mayor to complete the term that will end December 2026.

"Before a seconded, the council members were given an opportunity to speak.

"Joyce Carson stated her case the city residents have put their confidence in the seated council and her goal was to have continuity of city government.

"Anthony Cox stated he ran on integrity, transparency, and honesty.

"After hearing the discussion and taking the advice of KLC (Kentucky

League of Cities) he too changed his mind and felt the residents had voted for each of them to office and felt one of them should serve the remainder of the term in order to ensure projects started should be finished. He felt Sabrina Hazen was a good choice.

"Steve Jenkins agreed with Joyce and Anthony and felt they were a cohesive group to continue what former Mayor Luke Price had begun.

"Sabrina Hazen expressed her concern over the high volume of turnover in recent years to mayors and council members, and the concern over losing employees. The city employees, the city

residents deserve the loyalty entrusted to them to put the best path forward and appreciated her fellow council members' vote of confidence.

"Anthony Cox ended comments by stating he was conflicted internally but realizes the best thing in taking this action is to be transparent.

"There being no other statements, Anthony Cox seconded the motion appointing Sabrina Hazen as mayor. Roll Call vote: Steve Jenkins, yes; Craig Owens, no; Anthony Cox, yes; Amanda Moore, yes; Joyce Carson, yes. Motion carried."

—Jim Thaxton

Cox said he emailed contact information for the free training and "yellow dot" brochures.

Police Chief Marty Hart responded: "Outstanding. My guys are very supportive of the program. They have been wearing blue badges on their uniforms in honor of April being autism awareness month."

- Council reminded residents that the April 28, the last Monday of the month, is large garbage pickup day.
- Announced that the Ewenique Art Walk will be held May 10 in downtown Falmouth.
- Council heard from a

citizen seeking relief from a rundown property next to her home complaining that the city has ignored the sit-

uation for over a decade. The mayor assured her that an attorney was assigned to address the situation.

USDA expediting economic assistance for farmers

USDA

WASHINGTON — U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Brooke Rollins announced that the U.S. Department of Agriculture is issuing up to \$10 billion directly to agricultural producers through the Emergency Commodity Assistance Program for the 2024 crop year.

Administered by USDA's Farm Service Agency, ECAP will help agricultural producers mitigate the impacts of increased input costs and falling commodity prices.

The Farm Service Agency executive director the centers Falmouth and Cynthia is Benjamin Benton, 814 U.S. Hwy 27 S, Falmouth, 859-654-3374, Ext. 513.

"Producers are facing higher costs and market uncertainty, and the Trump Administration is ensuring they get the support they need without delay," Rollins said.

"With clear direction from Congress, USDA has prioritized streamlining the process and accelerating

these payments ahead of schedule, ensuring farmers have the resources necessary to manage rising expenses and secure financing for next season."

Authorized by the American Relief Act, 2025, these economic relief payments are based on planted and prevented planted crop acres for eligible commodities for the 2024 crop year.

To streamline and simplify the delivery of ECAP, FSA will begin sending pre-filled applications to producers who submitted acreage reports to FSA for 2024 eligible ECAP commodities soon after the signup period opened on March 19.

Producers do not have to wait for their pre-filled ECAP application to apply. They can visit fsa.usda.gov/ecap to apply using a logging.gov account or contact their local FSA office to request an application once the signup period opens.

ELIGIBLE CROPS

The commodities below are eligible for these per-acre payment rates:

- Wheat — \$30.69

Eligible oilseeds:

- Corn — \$42.91
- Canola — \$31.83
- Sorghum — \$42.52
- Crambe — \$19.08
- Barley — \$21.67
- Flax — \$20.97
- Oats — \$77.66
- Mustard — \$11.36
- Upland cotton & Extra-long staple cotton — \$84.74
- Rapeseed — \$23.63
- Long & medium grain rice — \$76.94
- Safflower — \$26.32
- Peanuts — \$75.51
- Sesame — \$16.83
- Soybeans — \$29.76
- Sunflower — \$27.23
- Dry peas — \$16.02
- Lentils — \$19.30
- Small Chickpeas — \$31.45
- Large Chickpeas — \$24.02

PRODUCERS

Eligible producers must report 2024 crop year

planted and prevented planted acres to FSA on an FSA-578, Report of Acreage form.

Producers who have not previously reported 2024 crop year acreage or filed a notice of loss for prevented planted crops must submit an acreage report by the Aug. 15 deadline.

Eligible producers can visit fsa.usda.gov/ecap for eligibility and payment details.

Beehive

AUGUSTA TAVERN

Spring + Summer 2025

WEDNESDAY

4-8pm

THURSDAY

11am-8pm

FRIDAY

11am-10pm

SATURDAY

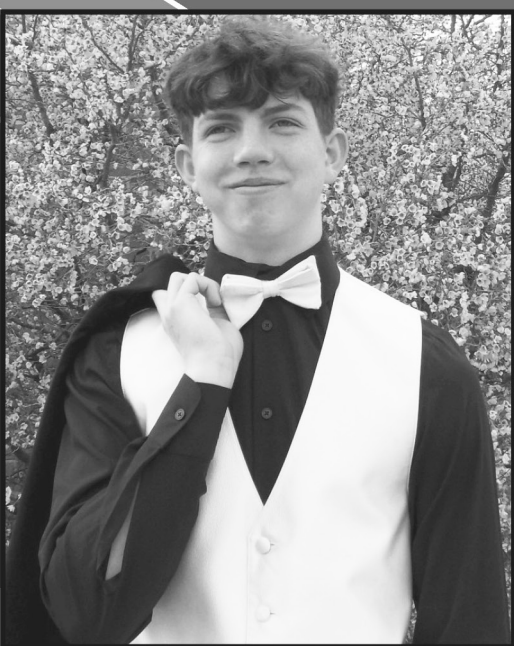
11am-10pm

SUNDAY

11am-8pm

Hilltop Presents the Pendleton County Schools

ACADEMIC STUDENT OF THE MONTH



Name:

Andrew 'AJ' Redden

Member of: NHS and Student Council


Grade: 11TH


PARENTS: Mark and Jennifer Redden

SIBLINGS: Allison, Anna, Shawn and Tyler

FUTURE PLANS: AJ's future plans are to attend college and study engineering.

AJ was selected as a Kentucky Governor's Scholar for 2025. The Governor's Scholars Program is a summer residential program for outstanding high school students in Kentucky who are rising seniors. The Program originated in 1983 as a result of Kentucky leaders' concern that the state's "best and brightest" were leaving the Commonwealth to pursue educational and career opportunities elsewhere without fully understanding the potential of their talents at home. Students who are selected attend the Program without charge. In the spirit of partnership, the Office of the Governor, the Kentucky State Legislature, and private enterprise come together to provide the financial support for the program.





www.hilltopcompanies.com

FARM, LAWN & GARDEN EQUIPMENT CONSIGNMENT AUCTION

May 3, 2025 at 10:00 a.m.

Alexandria Fairgrounds

100 Fairground Rd., Alexandria, KY 41001

Sale conducted by

Double H Auction Services

Bill Hall Principal Auctioneer 859-322-9217

In conjunction with Campbell County Farm & Livestock Expo

Receiving Items:

Wednesday, April 30, and Friday, May 2, from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m.

Commission Rates

\$200 & under20%

\$201 and over10%

Maximum Commission\$300

No Sale Fee under \$500\$25

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*AE (Tax Exempt) numbers required for all farm tax exempt purchases.

*Announcements day of sale take precedence over written material.

NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR ACCIDENTS.