

Looking Back

25 Years Ago - November 14, 2000

Fifty-six percent of registered Pendleton County voters cast ballots in the Nov. 7 election, and largely supported George Bush for U.S. president.

Bush and Dick Cheney carried the county with 3,044 votes to Al Gore and Joe Lieberman's 1,670 votes.

Other presidential candidates were Ralph Nader and Winona LaDuke, 57 votes; Pat Buchanan and Ezola Foster, 13 votes; Harry Browne and Art Olivier, 12 votes; John Hagelin and Nat Goldhaber, five votes; and Howard Phillips and Joseph Sobran, two votes.

The results of the election nationally were still unknown due to counting issues in Florida.

Falmouth resident Gary Askin, a write-in candidate for mayor of Falmouth, said Monday that he intends to file a petition with the Pendleton County Board of Elections protesting the mayor's race.

Askin said he received several telephone calls on election night and the next day saying that some precinct workers were encouraging voters to vote for particular candidates.

Incumbent Mayor Gene Flaughter received 382 votes to Askin's 103.

The highly debated issue of whether to establish a fire district tax for the Northern Pendleton Volunteer Fire Department passed by 49 votes.

The total was 373 votes in favor of the tax and 324 against it.

"I was shocked. I didn't think it would pass," fire Chief Larry Miller said. "I'm very grateful to all those voters who voted yes on the issue."

50 Years Ago - November 14, 1975

More than 30 women from across Pendleton County gathered for the first session of the beginner's crochet class at the Pendleton County Public Library.

The class is open to the public and sponsored by the Cooperative Extension Service and the library.

The Northern Kentucky Council on Aging met at the Pendleton County Courthouse Thursday morning.

John LaVelle announced that 6,000 telephone calls would be made by professional surveyors to find out the need of the elderly in the eight Northern Kentucky counties. Someone challenged the plan because many elderly do not have a telephone, so it was decided that a committee should study further on that. Perhaps some door-to-door surveys could be done, it was suggested.

The council spends federal money and wants to help all elderly people have "the good life," according to the group.

The Pendleton County Jaycees turkey shoot is set for Nov. 16 at the Cookendorfer Air Strip in Falmouth. Shells will be furnished.

This is the chance for attendees to win a Thanksgiving turkey.

75 Years Ago - November 17, 1950

"We have this week had two cases of tularemia (rabbit fever) reported to us," Dr. Virginia Kratz, health director of the Pendleton County Health Department, said.

"Rabbit fever can cause illness and even death to its victims. Certain preventive measures should be observed at all times.

"A rabbit should always be shot on the run, never if it can be caught sitting," Kratz said. "Throw the carcass away if small white or grayish spots are seen on the rabbit's liver.

"Rubber gloves should always be worn when dressing rabbits; hands should be kept away from the face whenever handling rabbits.

"... If these precautions are observed, there is no reason why fear of tularemia should be allowed to interfere with anyone's enjoyment of rabbit meat, which is nutritious."

Falmouth Fire Department was called out Saturday night to extinguish a blaze in the engine of an automobile parked near the corner of Fourth Street and Maple Avenue. Wiring in the car was burned.

Firefighters did not learn the car owner's name.

Firefighters were called to Messmer Bros. Garage Sunday night to extinguish a blaze. A tub of gasoline caught fire as a grinder was being used nearby.

No damage was reported.

100 Years Ago - November 13, 1925

Representatives from a half-dozen builders of power-generating equipment met Monday with Falmouth City Council. Council received proposals from each of the representatives for a new generating unit which is needed for the city municipal power plant.

The proposal were not acted upon Monday night, owing to the lateness of the hour when each of the competitive bidders had their say. An adjourned meeting will be held this week to further consider their propositions and either accept one or reject all of them.

The Pendleton County Fiscal Court elected C.L. Hill of Nelson County as farm agent for Pendleton County.

He was elected for one year and his duties will begin Jan. 1.

He comes well recommended. Hill has had eight years experience since his graduation from college and is said to be an able farm demonstrator.

It is hoped that the farmers of Pendleton County will avail themselves of Mr. Hill's services and seek his advice in matters where expert assistance is required.

Ten gallons of moonshine liquor were poured into the sewer at the corner of Main and Shelby streets Tuesday morning under the supervision of W.C. Thompson, federal prohibition officer.

The liquor was found early Tuesday morning by C.W. Carnes on the lawn art his home in East Falmouth. It was in two five-gallon cans and had been thrown from a machine some time during the night.

The prohibition officer was in hot pursuit of a suspected rum-runner and it is thought that the suspected ridded himself of the forbidden fruit before the officer overtook him.

LIFE IN THE COLE BIN

By Burton W. Cole

Clean up your health with dirt



I was going to run the vacuum cleaner, and maybe even wash the dishes. A few of them, anyway.

But then I considered the health consequences of trying to survive in a sterile environment.

Science says that we are too clean for our own good. In fact, cleanliness makes us sick, some reasonable researchers say.

For my own health and wellbeing, I swatted the cookie crumbs off my easy chair and plopped down, safe for another day. The T-shirt I'm wearing for the 13th day in a row may be the armor of immunity that's saving my life.

As the National Library of Medicine so eloquently states it, "The 'hygiene hypothesis' as originally formulated by Strachan, proposes that a cause of the recent rapid rise in atopic disorders could be a lower incidence of infection in early childhood, transmitted by unhygienic contact with older siblings."

Burt translation:

Dude, go play in the mud. It's good for ya.

Other researchers dispute this notion as a bunch of dirty, rotten hooey, but I'd rather not take any chances by taking any unnecessary showers. Our hale and hearty ancestors who took a bath every Saturday night even if they didn't think they needed one might have been on to something.

The fact is, according to the dirty researchers, that we, as a nation, are too clean. It used to be that roughly 60% of the human body was comprised of water. Now it's about 72% hand sanitizer and antibacterial soap.

And it's playing havoc with our health.

A decade or so ago, during an International Conference on Emerging Infectious Diseases, Tufts University geneticist Stuart Levy warned the shiny clean congregation that that with all the antibacterial soap we use, shining ourselves up just like Mom lectured us to do all those years ago, we are cleaning up for the viral beating of our life.

It takes a little dirt to keep the ol' immune system strong, by Levy's theories. Dirt works on the same principle as vaccines.

Basically, the strategy for vaccines is to plunge harmless antigens into the body to imitate infections so that immune systems create the antibodies that will neutralize the real thing,

should it ever come a'knockin'.

Levy's reasoning is that a little bit of messy prevents us from catching full-blown nastiness.

Which means that my refrigerator contains the richest store of health this side of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

All of us kids used to grow up with sandboxes. The grownups in our lives would have scoffed at the notion of sanitized fillings for our sandboxes. "Go play in the dirt," they'd say.

A woman I know once gift-wrapped boxes of dirt for her grandkids for Christmas. Good clean dirt not only is healthy, it stimulates the imagination.

It's even better if you share your dirt with other mucky, dusty kids.

Which we did. We built castles out of dirt, dug holes in dirt with our Tonka trucks, spun out our bicycles on dirt, and even played war by throwing dirt clods at each other.

Again, other researchers poo-hoo this reasoning as soiled logic. But do I really want to dust the shelves and mop the floors only to catch the flu? I don't know if the risk is worth it.

I didn't want to do dishes, anyway.

Write to Burt at news@falmouth-outlook.com or contact him on the Burton W. Cole page on Facebook. Use hand sanitizer first. You don't know what kind of dirt he's rolled in.

What day is it? - Veterans Day, Nov. 11

By Nila Harris

Each year my church shows a video featuring military veterans from our church and those connected to our church in some way. I always get emotional watching the slideshow of people who have passed, but I also enjoy seeing many others who are serving or have served our country.

Seeing the photo of Pete Hargett — a Vietnam veteran who passed away on Nov. 7 — brought tears to my eyes. I felt proud when I saw my son, Navy sailor Mark Harris, and Brent Florer, a Marine and one of my former first grade students.

I love being reminded of veterans who I attended church with at Turner Ridge Baptist and have gone on to be with The Lord — Preston Farrar, Kenny Jenkins, Wesley Jenkins, Donnie Lovelace, Earl Lovelace, George Parsons, John Schlueter, Kenny Showalter, Bill Thomas and Brother Fred Workman.

Plus, others who have served or are currently serving who also attended church with me — Hunter Cookendorfer, Gabe Duncan, Sebastian Ernst, Scott Farrar, Rob Gow, Brian Koettel, Roger Lawson, Troy Myers, Brad Sorrell, Mason Wessel, Art Wiggins and Preston Wright.

All the photos stir up a sense of gratitude of these men who served our country in the Air Force, Army, Marines, and Navy.

And it's not just Turner Ridge that honors veterans.



I greatly enjoy the presentations other churches post on their social media accounts.

Veterans Day is celebrated every year on Nov. 11, since Nov. 11, 1918, marked the end of World War I.

"In November 1919, President Woodrow Wilson proclaimed Nov. 11 as the first commemoration of Armistice Day with the following words: 'To us in America, the reflections of Armistice Day will be filled with solemn pride in the heroism of those who died in the country's service and with gratitude for the victory, both because of the thing from which it has freed us and because of the opportunity it has given America to show her sympathy with peace and justice in the councils of the nations...'" department. va.gov states.

The United States Congress officially passed a resolution designating Armistice Day, stating, "whereas the 11th of November 1918, marked the cessation of the most destructive, sanguinary, and far reaching war in human annals and the resumption by the peo-

ple of the United States of peaceful relations with other nations, which we hope may never again be severed, and whereas it is fitting that the recurring anniversary of this date should be commemorated with thanksgiving and prayer and exercises designed to perpetuate peace through good will and mutual understanding between nations."

Congress went on to say that flags should be displayed on all government buildings and invited people in the schools, churches, and other places to recognize the day with ceremonies.

Following World War II, the 83rd Congress at the urging of the veterans service organizations, changed the word "armistice" to "veterans" so that Nov. 11 became a day to honor all American veterans in all wars, instead of just specifically World War I.

In 1968, the Uniform Holiday Bill was signed into effect intending to ensure three-day weekends for Federal employees by celebrating Washington's Birthday, Memorial Day, Veterans Day and Columbus Day on Mondays. Several states did not agree with this decision and continued their celebrations on the original dates.

On Sept. 20, 1975, President Gerald Ford returned the commemoration of Veterans Day to Nov. 11.

Each year, Pendleton County hosts Veterans Day celebrations in the schools, churches, and at other plac-

es in the community.

Pendleton County schools will host a meal for veterans at 6 p.m. today, Veterans Day, in the high school gymnasium.

At the school, perpetual plaques are displayed in the PCHS auditorium lobby, listing the names of Pendleton County graduates who served in the armed forces.

To add a veteran's name to the plaque, send the veteran's full name, year of graduation, and name of Pendleton County School the veteran graduated from, military branch and years of service to LCDR CJ Warren at clinton.warren@pendleton.kyschools.us.

To celebrate Veterans Day, thank a veteran for their service, give a shout out on social media, buy someone lunch, fly the American flag proudly, vote for politicians who support the military and advocate for veterans' affairs.

Years ago, Army veteran Bill Ashcraft advocated for the military by working to get Pendleton County Schools more involved in patriotism and recognizing Veterans Day.

He advocated for the schools to have Veterans Day programs, institute poster contests and use them to decorate the halls, host a breakfast for veterans and get state officials to make appearances at the individual programs.

I'm appreciative of Mr. Ashcraft's service to our country and our community as well as to all of the veterans and their service.

Kentucky courts to mark 50 years of unified justice in 2026

FRANKFORT — The Kentucky Court of Justice will commemorate the 50th anniversary of the state's unified court system throughout 2026.

The Administrative Office of the Courts announced the upcoming observance last Tuesday on the anniversary of Kentucky voters approving the landmark constitutional amendment that reformed the judiciary during the 1975 General Election.

The 1976 Judicial Article fundamentally changed how justice is administered in Kentucky.

Before its adoption, more than 300 separate courts operated under different rules, funding systems and jurisdictions.

The amendment unified those courts into a single, statewide system led by the Supreme Court of Ken-

tucky, creating consistency in how cases are handled from county to county.

The amendment was enacted with overwhelming bipartisan support from the Kentucky General Assembly, which placed the measure on the ballot for voter approval.

It also established the AOC to provide centralized support for the Judicial Branch, handling finances, technology, personnel, facilities and communications for every court in all 120 counties.

The reform modernized Kentucky's judiciary, strengthened accountability and ensured equal access to justice regardless of where a person lives.

"This milestone marks more than an anniversary. It marks a transformation in how justice is delivered across Kentucky," said

Chief Justice of the Commonwealth Debra Hambree Lambert.

"When voters approved this amendment in 1975, they helped make Kentucky a national leader in judicial reform. ...

"Our unified system remains one of the most progressive and well-structured in the country, a model that other states continue to look to even 50 years later," Lambert said.

To mark the occasion, the AOC unveiled a commemorative logo featuring Lady Justice to appear on official Judicial Branch materials throughout 2026.

"Kentucky Courts: 50 Years of Unified Justice" will be the tagline for the yearlong commemoration.

The commemoration will include educational initiatives, historical features and community en-

agement opportunities to highlight the past, present and future of Kentucky's judiciary. Specific events and programming will be announced in the coming months.

The Judicial Article to the state constitution took effect Jan. 1, 1976. It unified and modernized Kentucky's courts by:

- Creating the Kentucky Supreme Court as the administrative head of the state's court system.

- Establishing a centrally funded Judicial Branch to replace hundreds of locally supported courts.

- Forming the AOC to manage statewide operations and support local courts.

- Standardizing procedures, salaries and record-keeping to ensure uniform justice across all 120 counties.