

Looking Back

25 Years Ago - November 21 2000

Falmouth City Council will be removed from the building permit process. No longer will it approve applications of citizens to raise structures.

This function is to become the duty of the city clerk. So says the draft of the new, improved building ordinance as written by City Attorney Henry Watson.

This rule will remain true as long as the request to build does not vary from the written standards of the ordinance. If there is a variance, then the council will step in to make a decision regarding the application after a public hearing.

"Everyone is excited" at the North Key Community Care Center in Falmouth. There are poinsettias everywhere.

The construction of their greenhouse, a 36-foot-by-96-foot area, has been completed, and inside are 493 poinsettias, with more than 200 more soon to arrive.

The clients at North Key are all responsible for different duties, making sure the plants grow and are ready to offer them for sale to the public the week after Thanksgiving.

There are three colors available, freedom red, marble and white.

The center has 35 clients that it serves. "They are all excited about working in the greenhouse," said Regina Turner, assistant director at the North Key Center, 315 Montjoy St., Falmouth.

Costs are \$6.50 in the pot, and \$7.50 with bow and ribbon.

50 Years Ago - November 21, 1975

The Pendleton County Wildcats basketball team is getting ready to play its first home game of the season tonight when they meet Deming High School of Mout Olivet.

Their next game will be Dec. 2 at Williamstown.

Head coach Philip Wood said he is not making any predictions about this team, but believes they will give a good account of themselves.

There are four seniors on the Wildcat squad this year, John Callahan, Danny Hinton, Chris Wolfe and Rick Wood.

Col. Holton Houston "Hoss" Pribble, 66, of Route 1, Demossville, passed away about 4 p.m. Nov. 11, Armistice Day, at St. Luke Hospital after a short illness.

During his lifetime, Col. Pribble became a graduate of Millersburg Military Institute, the University of Kentucky, where he was a member of the football team, rose to be a U.S. Air Force Army colonel, stationed in the Pentagon at one time, a school teacher, a Pendleton County farmer and a fox hunter.

Besides his wife, the former Sidney Redmon, who is a well-known Pendleton County school teacher, he is survived by a daughter, Hannah Simpson of Key West, Fla., and a son, George H. Pribble of Morehead.

There will be a sock-hop tonight at Pendleton County High School, featuring Livingston Road. Admission is \$1.50 a person.

It will begin immediately after the first home basketball game with Deming. The Junior Executive Council said, "Come out a boogie with the Wildcats."

75 Years Ago - November 24, 1950

The two mayors just couldn't get together, so the auction of the Falmouth Fairgrounds was called off Saturday afternoon by the owner, H.B. Best.

Mayor John L. Cummins of Cynthiana was auctioning the big sale and had as his high bidder Mayor Max Goldbert of Falmouth, who had taken the price to \$37,200 when the bid was rejected and the sale of the fairgrounds was withdrawn.

A second bidder on the grounds was Nelson Breeze of Norwood, Ohio, and Maysville, Kentucky, who is in the fair business, and Dave Moore of Fort Thomas, who is associated with the Queen City Chevrolet Co. in Cincinnati, who said they would stage a "first-rate fair."

Dr. Joseph Abraham started the bidding on the fairgrounds at \$30,000.

Cummins told the large crowd the 40.35 acres could be subdivided, allow 4.2 acres for tobacco. Three houses also would go with the sale, a nine-room house that rents for \$60 a month, a four-room house at \$18 a month and a house occupied by William Casey that could be rented after next March 1.

The senior class of Falmouth High School presented its class play, "We Shook the Family Tree," Nov. 15 in the school auditorium.

A trio composed of Doris Jean Hobday, Martha Jo Mori and Janice Colvin sang "Ten for Two" and "Just a Memory."

Billy Fossett, Bobby Kellum, David Parker, Billy Gallo-way, Edward Perkins, Ronnie Ballinger and Jimmy Allen-der sang "Sometime" and "Stars are the Windows of Heaven." They also played a jazz arrangement of "Carolina in the Morning" and "California, Here I Come" while Lina Sue Mockbee and Judy Browning jitterbugged.

100 Years Ago - November 20, 1925

Judge John B. Colvin filed a lawsuit in Pendleton County Circuit Court asking for a recount of the ballots in the county judge's race in the recent election when he was defeated by eight votes by Judge M.S. Mills, Republican.

The election officers in charge of the recent election were divided between the two political parties, but every sheriff in the election was a Democrat and had the deciding vote on all disputes arising from challenged voters and doubtful ballots.

The average teacher's salary in Pendleton County from 1922 to 1923 was \$76.80; 1923 to 1924, \$82.70; 1924 to 1925, \$82.50; and 1925 to 1926, \$83.40.

The slight increase in the average salary lately is due mainly to the fact that several teachers with but little high school training have quit the ranks and their successors are mainly high school graduates, usually with some normal school training.

Present law requires the minimum salary of \$75, provided that all of our public school money from Frankfort and half of our county school taxes will amount to that.

LIFE IN THE COLE BIN

By Burton W. Cole

Say that again, but this time make it make sense



"I would agree with you," my former friend said, "but then we'd both be wrong."

"This is why I talk to myself so much," I shot back. "It's the only way I can have a conversation with someone who's intelligent."

A passer-by stopped, stared first at him, then at me, shook her head, and muttered, "Has there ever been a man who made any sense?"

"Oh, yeah?" It was the most profound retort my friend could think of on the spur of the moment. Thinking always was a burden for him.

I crossed my arms. "Answer me this: If a man says something in the forest, and there's no woman to hear him, is he still wrong?"

"Everyone has the right to be stupid once in a while," she said. "But some people abuse that privilege." She gave me what I assume was supposed to be a meaningful look. "I don't have enough crayons to explain

this to you." She walked away.

"Is your name Google?" I shouted after her. "You act like you know everything!"

I wasn't positive but I think I was losing the battle of wits. Or the battle of half-wits.

It was time to add some fire-power to my arsenal of questionable wisdom and silly sayings. Here's what I've collected so far:

- I always say "morning" instead of "good morning." If it were a good morning, I'd still be sleeping and not talking to people.

- People say nothing is impossible, but I do nothing every day. (Winnie the Pooh/ A. A. Milne

- I had my patience tested. I'm negative.

- Run like the winded.

- When I ask for directions, please don't use confusing words like "north" and "west."

- I'd never pretend to not see you in public. You're one of the few people I find tolerable.

- I'm not weird. I'm a limited edition.

- I made my to-do list for the day. Now I gotta find someone to do it.

- Can you hear that? That's my pillow calling, and it gets really mean if I make it wait too long.

- The trouble with having an open mind, of course, is that people will insist on coming along and trying to put things in it. (Terry Pratchett)

- If he ever got a good idea, it

would die of loneliness.

- I never make the same mistake twice. I make it five or six times. Maybe eight or nine. Just to be sure.

- I'm not lazy. I'm just very relaxed.

- When people tell me, "You're going to regret that in the morning," I sleep until noon, because I am a problem solver.

- An apple a day keeps anyone away if you throw it hard enough.

- If you can't laugh at yourself, I can help you out.

- If you're not supposed to eat at night, why is there a light bulb in the refrigerator?

- No, you're not adopted. But we've placed an ad.

- You know you've reached middle age when you're cautioned to slow down by your doctor, instead of by the police. (Joan Rivers)

- Do you remember me asking you for your opinion? Yeah, me neither.

- Reality continues to ruin my life. (Calvin/Bill Watterson)

- My brain has too many tabs open.

- Whatever you do, always give 100 percent. Unless you're donating blood.

- Life would be tragic if it weren't funny. (Stephen Hawking)

Add your insults and silly sayings at news@falmouthoutlook.com or on the [Burton W. Cole page on Facebook](#).

What day is it? - Absurdity Day, Nov. 20

By Nila Harris

"That which seems the height of absurdity in one generation often becomes the height of wisdom in another," quoted Adlai Stevenson, U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations from 1961 to 1965.

In my 61 years, I have seen some quirky things. My husband and I lament over some of what WE think are crazy ideas transpiring in society now, but I'm guessing that Stevenson was correct in that what seems absurd now may be perfectly natural later and vice versa.

Some historical absurdities make me shake my head.

The idea that a past generation would think it was alright to buy and sell human beings as slaves is ludicrous. Or how women were not allowed to vote. And how coal mining companies would pay their workers with tokens that could only be used at the coal company store.

To me, these things sound absolutely absurd. But to those generations, it was the way things were done.

I have often thought,



"What is it about this generation that will cause future generations to shake their heads?"

Nov. 20 is National Absurdity Day — a day to embrace unconventional ideas and go against societal norms.

On this day, you may want to dye your eyebrows purple, wear your clothes backward to work or let your toddler be the boss for the day. Absurd, huh?

Maybe you would rather celebrate Monday like it's a Friday. Go for a run in shorts on a 40-degree temperature day. Send a sympathy card for a friend's birthday.

One thing I have always wanted to do (and may do on National Absurdity Day) is to move a person's running car. Wouldn't it be fun to move the car and watch the person's reaction

when he/she comes out of the store?

That is something too absurd for me to do, but I think it would be hilarious to see.

When my husband was in high school, he was friends with a teen who helped the custodian. The young lad had keys that would open all the lockers.

Once, during a basketball game, the two opened lockers and took contents from one locker and put it in another person's locker — often a hallway away!

As I think of that story, I laugh thinking about the chaos that ensued when kids went to their locker the next day looking for their books. I wouldn't recommend doing that, however.

My husband ended up getting 18 licks from the principal over that caper when he got caught.

History is full of absurdities. When the parcel post began operations in 1913, children who met weight requirements were occasionally transported across the country via parcel service. Even babies were shipped to grandma's house for as low as 15 cents plus insurance.

The Dancing Plague of 1518 caused its victims to dance uncontrollably in the streets of Strasbourg, France; some to the point of exhaustion and death.

A joke told by Johnny Carson on late night TV regarding a looming national toilet paper shortage was taken too seriously and caused concerned citizens to hoard the precious commodity. Stores soon ran out, leading to the Toilet Paper Crisis of 1973.

In 1935, British inventors designed a specialized piano for people on bed rest to boost morale for the patient.

In the early twentieth century, professional boxers used to fight kangaroos. This absurd sporting event lost its fervor when concerned animal rights advocates stepped in.

Alligator farm picnics were held in Los Angeles for 50 years from 1907 to 1953. Paying customers could dine and socialize with trained alligators. Amazingly, there were no major alligator attacks during that time.

Have fun on National Absurdity Day Nov. 20 by trying something absurd — but not too crazy!

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 Nov. 4 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 Kentucky, 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.

The reform succeed-

ed through cooperation among state leaders, legislators, members of the bar and local officials across Kentucky, including county judge executives who worked to ensure the new system could be implemented smoothly at the local level.

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. That success was possible only because of the vision and collaboration of the General Assembly

and community leaders throughout the commonwealth.

"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. The emblem will appear on official Judicial Branch materials, social media and public outreach 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 engagement 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 ad-

ministrative 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.

The Supreme Court is the state court of last resort and the final interpreter of Kentucky law. Seven justices sit on the Supreme Court and all seven justices rule on appeals that come before the court.

The justices are elected from seven appellate districts and serve eight-year terms. A chief justice, chosen for a four-year term by fellow justices, is the administrative head of the state's court system and is responsible for its operation.

The Supreme Court may order a ruling or opinion to be published, which means that the ruling becomes the case law governing all similar cases in the future in Kentucky.