

FROM THE FRONT

WATERS

from Al

because of his love for the community.

“I want to run for Sheriff because I care deeply about my community and believe everyone deserves to feel safe, respected, and supported,” Waters stated. “I want to help people, not just by enforcing the law, but by listening, being fair, and working to prevent problems before they grow.”

Waters said his platform consists of four main planks: common sense, accountability, trust, and leadership.

“Common sense means that my deputies will have the training and support to make wise and correct decisions in the field,” Waters said. “It’s all about making common-sense decisions instead of decisions based on politics.”

According to Waters, accountability and transparency with every decision go hand-in-hand with common sense.

“No one is above the law, including the sheriff,” Waters declared. “Nothing is more dangerous than a man or woman with a badge who thinks they are above the law. I support clear policies, fair discipline, and independent oversight where appropriate. When mistakes happen, we need to own them, fix them, and learn from them.”

Trust and strong leadership are components that round out Waters’ core platform.

“I bring strong leadership built on experience,” Waters said. “As sheriff, I’ll set the tone for the entire department by being a working sheriff. To me, leadership means serving others, backing my deputies, and holding everyone, myself included, to the highest standards.”

Waters said trust is the key to implementing his platform.

“If a sheriff and deputies can’t earn the trust of our community, then we’ve failed as a department.

ment. I won’t let that happen,” the former sheriff asserted. “I will earn the trust of our citizens every day through transparency, communication, and respect.”

If elected sheriff, Waters vows to be a “working sheriff” who will address several specific items, including reducing crime, protecting all communities in McCreary County, providing timely responses to 911 calls, fighting drugs, implementing uniformity and consistency with all deputy cruisers and uniforms, and working with all first responders as well as local, state, and federal agencies.

Waters is particularly passionate about showing respect when the community has lost a loved one and pointed to his record as former sheriff.

“When I was sheriff from 2015 to 2022, I made it a priority for myself or a deputy to lead all funerals,” Waters said. “A law enforcement

escort or presence at a funeral is a sign of respect and can provide comfort to grieving families and friends. It shows that the department and community stand with the family during a difficult time. Law enforcement vehicles allow the funeral procession to proceed in a way that people recognize and reduce the risk of collisions or confusion for other drivers.”

Waters, a veteran with six years of military police service, is a lifelong resident of McCreary County. He has a diverse work history, including 17 years of combined experience in coal mines and plant management. He has worked for the McCreary County Water District for three years. Waters worked for eight years in the PVA’s office. In addition to his military police service, Waters’ law enforcement experience includes four years as a constable and eight years as McCreary County Sheriff.

Waters and his wife, Colette, have been married for 46 years and have one son, Kevin, and a granddaughter, Madison.

When asked to summarize why voters should choose him to be the next sheriff of McCreary County, Waters’ response was direct and to the point.

“I believe in responsible law enforcement, honest communication, and serving the people first. A vote for me is a vote for safer streets, strong values, and a sheriff who works for the people. Serving as sheriff allows me to help and protect others, stand up for what’s right, and make a real difference in people’s everyday lives.”

CHRISTMAS EVE

from A4

animals of the night. But we didn’t. We just kept walking. And I got to thinking.

Tomorrow I would wake up early, before dawn, to see what gifts Santa had brought to me. But, tonight, I had seen joy in the eyes of my grandparents as they bit into slices of my mother’s special gift to them and I knew then that Christmas was not about receiving presents from Santa Claus. It was about something much

bigger, something much more important than that. It was about something I had witnessed through the charitable acts of my parents. It was something I knew I would never forget. Tonight, it was Christmas Eve all over the world, but for me, tonight was special. On this night, it was Christmas Eve on Mulberry Branch.



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Notice of Noncompliance

Pursuant to KRS 65A.040, the Kentucky Department for Local Government hereby gives public notice that as of December 2, 2025, South McCreary County Fire District is in violation of Kentucky Law for failure to comply with the reporting requirements of KRS 65A.020. The last known point of contact for South McCreary County Fire District is Jordan Perry, who may be reached at (606) 354-2424 and/or PO BOX 549, 5787 S HIGHWAY 1651, PINE KNOT, KY 42635. The last known Board Members are: Charles Miller, Wayne Wilson, Cody Pryor, Costello Wilson, Odell King, Charlie Miller, Jordan Perry. The district was noncompliant with FY2025 - Budget Year End Actuals. The Auditor of Public Accounts has been notified and state funding for this entity will be withheld until further notice. Department for Local Government encourages this entity to comply with the law.

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ADVERTISEMENT FOR MCCREARY COUNTY PUBLIC FORUM MEETING AND LOCAL PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING

THE MCCREARY COUNTY SCHOOLS' LOCAL PLANNING COMMITTEE WILL CONDUCT A PUBLIC FORUM MEETING ON JANUARY 8, 2025 AT 5:30 PM ET AT THE MCCREARY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION, 120 RAIDER WAY RD, STEARNS, KY 42647.

THE PUBLIC FORM MEETING WILL BE IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWED BY THE LOCAL PLANNING MEETING TO BEGIN AT 6:00 PM ET AT THE MCCREARY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION ON JANUARY 25, 2025.

THESE MEETINGS ARE INFORMAL GATHERINGS TO ENCOURAGE LOCAL PARTICIPATION THROUGH COMMUNITY SUGGESTIONS RELATIVE TO FUTURE UTILIZATION OF EXISTING SCHOOL FACILITIES AND CONSTRUCTION OF NEW SCHOOL FACILITIES. THESE COMMUNITY SUGGESTIONS OR RECOMMENDATIONS WILL BE CLOSELY MONITORED BY THE LOCAL PLANNING COMMITTEE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF A PROPOSED DISTRICT FACILITY PLAN FOR THE MCCREARY COUNTY SCHOOLS.

NOTICE

US BANK AS C/F SASS MUNI VI DTR VS MARY VANOVER (MCCREARY CIRCUIT COURT 21-CI-00185). IF YOU ARE MARY VANOVER OR ROBERT VANOVER YOU SHOULD IMMEDIATELY RETAIN AN ATTORNEY AND MAKE YOUR APPEARANCE IN THE AFOREMENTIONED ACTION OR YOU MAY FOREFEIT ANY RIGHT OR INTEREST YOU MAY HAVE IN THIS MATTER. QUESTIONS MAY BE DIRECTED TO MICHELE WILSON JONES AT (606) 376-2200.

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