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# THE PIONEER NEWS

THURSDAY, MARCH 27, 2025 WWW.PIONEERNEWS.NET VOL. 141, No. 25 \$2 SPRING BREAK STAYCATION page B-12

## Parade to honor Vietnam veterans

By **STEPHEN THOMAS**  
 THE PIONEER NEWS

**SHEPHERDSVILLE** — It has now been 50 years since the fall of Saigon, signaling the end of the Vietnam War.

For many military veterans who served during the conflict, their own personal wars have continued long after, with many not welcomed home properly after their service.

Local officials and groups want to help put an end to that second conflict, planning an

official homecoming parade to commemorate National Vietnam War Veterans Day on Saturday, March 29.

The annual date was selected to commemorate the departure of the last U.S. military combat units from Vietnam in 1973. The Vietnam War Veterans Recognition Act of 2017 officially decreed the March 29 designation.

In 2012 the U.S.A. Vietnam War Commemoration was authorized by the U.S. Congress

and launched by President Barack Obama. Via presidential proclamation, the Vietnam War 50th Year Commemoration would continue for 13 years, culminating this year on Veterans Day, Nov. 11.

Obama acknowledged the war was not popular in the U.S. during its time, resulting in poor treatment for some soldiers both before and after their tours of duty.

“You were often blamed for a war you didn’t start when you

should have been commended for serving your country with valor,” Obama said. “You came home and sometimes were denigrated when you should have been celebrated.”

Local veteran Cortney Burden, who is organizing the parade, admitted that some of Bullitt County’s Vietnam veterans also received similar treatment over the years.

“They were not always

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**Salute to Vietnam War veterans on pages A-6,7,10, 12**

## Confirmed date to confer diplomas for Class of 2025

By **STEPHEN THOMAS**  
 THE PIONEER NEWS

**SHEPHERDSVILLE** -- Barring any crazy happenings this spring, the Class of 2025 now knows the details about its graduation festivities.

The Bullitt County Public School Board unanimously approved a lease with Broadbent Arena to hold all three graduation ceremonies on Saturday, May 31.

The lease for the facility will cost the district \$5,665.

Superintendent Dr. Jesse Bacon said that the previously announced order of commencement exercises had changed in the past few days.

Realizing that the state track and field championships are held on that day, he said there was a survey done to see how the athletes could compete in the state meet and not miss graduation.

It was determined that the order of ceremonies would be:

- \*North Bullitt, 11 a.m.
- \*Bullitt Central, 2 p.m.
- \*Bullitt East, 5 p.m.

There are no limits on the number of family and friends who can attend as the arena seats over 5,000. However, parking is \$15 per vehicle.

Last year, Bullitt Central and North Bullitt held commencement exercises on their new football fields.

However, with construction at each of the high schools possibly hindering parking, all three principals agreed that returning to Broadbent Arena would be the best solution for this year.

The annual Salute to the Graduates section of The Pioneer News will be published May 29.

## Irene Carroll Luncheon and Style Show



Over the past 53 years, the Bullitt County Woman’s Club has provided scholarship funding to 136 Bullitt County high school students... and they’ve done it with style.

The 2025 Irene Carroll Scholarship Luncheon & Style Show at Paroquet Springs Conference Centre honored three graduates, one from each Bullitt County high school.

Recipients included Manjula Regmi from North Bullitt, LeeAnna Hodge from Bullitt Central, and Walker Ousley, a Bullitt East student participating in the Bullitt Advanced Math and Science (BAMS) Academy. Each received a \$3,000 scholarship from the Woman’s Club.

After honoring the students, club members (and at least one husband) worked the catwalk to display styles provided by Country Vogue Boutique, Grace on Main, Grit and Lace Studios and Boutique, and Small Town Mama Boutique, all located in Bullitt County.

Established in 1924, the Bullitt County Woman’s Club has supported the community in various ways, from providing the county’s first public library and assisting to create the county fair, to raising and providing funds for various community program, including the scholarships.

The club meets on the second Monday of each month, with an executive meeting at 6 pm followed by social time at 6:30 and a regular meeting at 7. For more information contact Shelia Neat, (502)263-3636.

See more photos by Stephen Thomas on page A-11

## BCPS eases process, cost of transferring students

By **THOMAS J. BARR**  
 THE PIONEER NEWS

**SHEPHERDSVILLE** — Changes are on the way that could make it easier for families to transfer their youngsters into the Bullitt County Public School System.

With approval needed by the school board, Steve Smallwood presented a number of proposals at a recent work session.

(The board voted to accept the proposed changes during its March 24 meeting.)

The director of pupil personnel received no negative feedback from members of the

school board. One proposal would be to extend free tuition to first responders and active duty military who work within Bullitt County.

If they live outside the county but work here, Smallwood proposed waiving the out-of-county tuition fee.

Currently school district employees who live outside the county can transfer their children to BCPS without a tuition fee.

The first responders would include fire, police and EMS employees.

Smallwood said he didn’t think it would affect a large

number of potential students but felt it was appropriate to offer the option to those who serve the community.

Another proposal would be to amend the fee schedule for those transferring from out of county.

Currently, no matter when you enroll or if you leave during the school year, the tuition must be paid in full.

Smallwood’s proposal would be to pro-rate the tuition. A student who might transfer into the district during the last grading period would pay 25 percent of the tuition fee.

Superintendent Dr. Jesse

Bacon said that currently students cannot transfer into the system during the school year.

North Bullitt High principal Kristy Lynch said that she’s had about 15 families who requested to transfer a student in but the current policy does not allow that.

Bacon said that there would not be any staffing added. If the school did not have the space available, the transfer would not be allowed.

Also, he said principals still make the final call on transfers. Issues such as attendance, behavior and grades all play a role in determining transfer eligibility into the dis-

trict. The district is not responsible for transportation of the out-of-county transfers.

The tuition rates paid are non-refundable and students can always be asked to leave based on issues caused at their new schools. And they can be refused a return to the district the following year due to any issues.

The policy would go into effect next school year.

However, board chairman Dr. Matt Mooney said he would not be opposed to im-

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