

My Mother’s Handwriting

By Van Yandell

2 Timothy 3:16 states, “All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness”. May 11, 2025 is Mother’s Day. One very precious (and preserved) memory of my mother was her skill in hand-writing. Her skill of “penmanship” (or penwomanship), was exemplary. To view a sample of her writing was to experience a work of art.

Mom graduated high school about 1930. She lied about her age to the point, I cannot be really sure of her birth date or graduation year. I found her birth date in an old family Bible while visiting a relative, and asked her of its validity. Obviously very sensitive concerning her age, this quiet, reserved little lady uttered words I had no idea she even knew.

Apparently, handwriting was a skill emphasized in her high school years. To present a document of unparalleled beauty was a gift and she definitely had such a talent. Art in today’s world has taken on new meanings. Balance, coordination and consistency seem not to be of value.

A topic of debate in recent years concerns the teaching of writing in public schools. Once called “long-hand” and later referred to as “cursive,”

the skill was considered by some educators as being unnecessary.

With computer keyboards, voice-input word processing and digital technology; some see basic writing skills as primitive and needless.

A great sadness is experienced when we consider a young child cannot read a letter from his/her grandmother. Such an eliminating of a once considered necessary skill takes us to another form of illiteracy. Are we going back to signatures made with an “X”?

Imagining a world without such documents of past times that were handwritten is a thought of having lost something very precious.

Prior to the invention of the printing press, all documents were hand written. The Gutenberg press was first used in 1440 and multiple copies of religious texts were printed first in 1454.

Later developments in printing technologies enabled the world to possess copies of such sacred documents as the Holy Bible. In today’s world, several retail book stores maintain inventories of millions of books and other literature.

While we may think the world has progressed in its development as a literary and educational existence, some may choose to disagree. It certainly appears to some

of us, the world is in a state of decline in the intellectual level of many people.

Knowledge and intelligence are connected in that knowledge is what a person has gained through experience, discovery and study. Intelligence is the ability to apply that knowledge.

By not reading as we once did and finding excuses not to write, we cheat ourselves from the simple pleasures and learning experiences of life.

While technology, media sources and the introduction into our society of “on-screen” visual learning, has been deemed fantastic by many, I’m not so sure I agree.

Our addiction to those on-screen sources have led to a shallowing of thinking skills. We cannot continue to allow computers to do our thinking unless we want to become a society of non-thinkers with limited levels of knowledge. Limited knowledge strangles ability.

In our study of family history, we have found numerous documents from as early as the 1800’s that were hand written. Some in positions of authority (or responsibilities of preserving and cataloging) have transferred many of those documents into digital forms. While this is not all bad, it certainly is not all good.

One such document is a

land grant deed written in 1792 and signed by the first lieutenant governor of Kentucky. Hand written, the point of beginning was an oak tree on an island in the middle of Livingston Creek. When reading that deed my imagination runs wild. It would be interesting to go back in time and witness the signing of that document.

The hand-written documents will not last forever but neither will the electronically preserved copies. Hand written articles are more personable that those produced mechanically. Once again, that may be in the mind of the beholder.

Where would this world be if the electricity stops flowing? A solar generated electromagnetic pulse (EMP) or terrorist attacks can cripple the power grid. A nuclear bomb detonated in the atmosphere could cripple anything electronic for years.

There is a sincere and personal touch to a handwritten note. To receive a mass produced greeting card with a manufactured poem or greeting fails to make one feel appreciated. A personal hand-written note however, shows a sincerity that cannot be equaled by anything less than a visit.

Our precious and irreplaceable U.S. Constitution, Declaration of Independence and many other documents

written and signed by our founding fathers were hand written.

The original copies of the scriptures, and up until 1454 all religious texts and correspondence, was hand written. Each word was written with precision and care.

Can we even begin to imagine the condition of chaos the world would be in today if the words of Jesus, the prophets and the apostles had not been hand written? The Bible as we know it today would not exist because there would have been no reference from which to transcribe it.

We must express a heartfelt gratitude to those and for those that provided us with the words of Jesus and the inspiration of God. The endless hours of transcribing with quill and ink was a lifetime endeavor.

They provided a plan of eternal salvation we would otherwise never have known. We must always teach that eternal salvation is attained by a faith based belief (Ephesians 2: 8) in Christ Jesus crucified (Matthew 27: 35) for the remission of sin (1 John 1: 9) and resurrected (Matthew 28: 6).

Van Yandell is a retired Industrial Arts teacher, an ordained gospel evangelist and missionary. His email is vmy3451@gmail.com

GRADD Releases Activites, Events For Older Americans Month

Each May, the Administration for Community Living (ACL) leads the nation’s observance of Older Americans Month (OAM)—a time to honor the contributions of older adults, recognize aging trends and reaffirm our commitment to supporting the aging population.

The 2025 theme, “Flip the Script on Aging,” encourages a cultural shift in how we view aging—celebrating older adults as vibrant, capable and deeply engaged members of our communities.

“As a senior center director, I am inspired to focus on changing how society perceives, talks about, and approaches aging,” says Hancock County Senior

Services Director Lona Morton. “I encourage our older adults to do the same by continuing to learn and try new things. This month, let’s ‘Flip the Script on Aging’ by disproving outdated stereotypes and celebrating the opportunities and joy that come with aging.”

To celebrate, senior centers around our district are hosting a series of events throughout the region that include community celebrations, entertainment, and a full slate of health fairs aimed at supporting older adults’ well-being. All the community celebrations will be held at the senior centers except for Webster County’s celebration (Canaan Ridge Park).

Older Americans Month Community Events

- * Union County – Union County Proud May 12 | 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. | Music by The Tempos
- * Henderson County – Bingo & Line Dancing with Kelly Turley May 13 | 10:00 a.m.
- * Ohio County – Country Picnic May 19 | 10:00 a.m.
- * Hancock County – “Through the Decades” Entertainment by Kelly Turley May 21 | 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
- * Daviess County – Senior Spring Picnic FUNdraiser May 22 | 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Sponsored by Hospice & Morrisons | Games, Entertainment & Lunch
- * McLean County – Where Luck Finds You May 23 | 10:00 a.m.
- * Webster County – Seniors Reelin’ & Chillin’ at the Ridge May 30 | 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. (Held at Canaan Ridge Park)

Health Fairs – All Events 9:00–11:00 a.m.

- * Union County – Friday, May 2
- * Ohio County – Wednesday, May 7
- * Hancock County – Friday, May 9
- * Webster County – Tuesday, May 13
- * Henderson County – Thursday, May 15
- * McLean County – Tuesday, May 20
- * Daviess County – Thursday, May 22

These health fairs offer older adults the opportunity to connect with valuable resources, receive health screenings, and learn more about local programs that support healthy aging.

“May is a thrill-

ing month for all our GRADD Senior Centers, as they showcase and celebrate the incredible programs they offer to our communities,” says GRADD Community Services Manager Amber Geb-

hard. “We invite everyone to join in the festivities and discover the beauty and vibrancy of our centers. If you haven’t visited one yet, now is the perfect time to experience all they have to offer!”

Webster County Jailer’s Report

Webster County Jailer Greg Sauls reports inmates worked a total of 1714 hours between April 27 and May 3, 2025. Hours worked include 850 hours at the detention center; 280 hours at the RCC; 80 hours mowing; 200 hours for Union County; 40 hours for the city of Clay; 40 hours for the city of Dixon; 80 hours for the city of Providence; 40 hours for the road department recycling; 40 hours for the road department shop; 40 hours for the dog warden and 16 hours for Landon’s Hope.

The total jail population is 154 with 45 county inmates; 20 Union County inmates and 89 state prisoners.

Twenty-six inmates attended Moral Recognition Therapy classes; thirteen attended Anger Management with two graduating; 14 attended Thinking for Good; 14 attended Un-

tangling Relationships and 11 attended Parenting classes.

Eight inmates participated in the GED program with three taking tests.

Incarcerated during the same period were

Juan Aparicio
Henry Barahona
Michael Brown
Decora Cotton
Paul Courtney
Geoffrey D. Deibler
Cael Doyle

John Drake
Gregory Duncan
Randi Fritts
Mark Lang
Kennith McCalla
Mary O’Leary
Felipe Perez
Ernest Rigdon
Victoria Rodriguez
Charles Sharp
Darrell Short
Courtney Stone
Adam Thompson
Lucas Weikel
Tracy Wilson
Broderick Woods

PUBLIC NOTICE

Stephanie Lynn Todd, 214 U.S. 41-A, North, Dixon, KY, appointed Executrix of the Estate of Martha Ruth Clayton Lynn, who died testate, a resident of Webster County, KY on January 10, 2025. Date of qualification April 1, 2025. Attorney Tommy Joe Friday, 7106 Main Street, P.O. Box 468, Sebree, KY 42455. Inventory due June 10, 2025. Settlement due April 6, 2027. All claims must be filed within six months of appointment.

Paula Denton, 904 Princeton Street, Providence, KY, appointed Executrix of the Estate of Betty A. Gibson, who died testate, a resident of 912 Maple Street, Providence, KY on February 2, 2025. Date of qualification April 22, 2025. Attorney Bobby D. Murray, 100 North Broadway Street, Providence, KY 42450. Inventory due June 24, 2025. Settlement due April 6, 2027. All claims must be filed within six months of appointment.

Rick Davis, 4041 Day Street, Burton, MI, appointed Administrator of the Estate of Linda Davis, who died intestate, a resident of 406 North Broadway Street, Providence, KY on February 25, 2025. Michele Livingston of 608 North Broadway Street, Providence, KY designated as agent of service. Date of qualification April 22, 2025. Inventory due June 24, 2025. Settlement due April 27, 2027. All claims must be filed within six months of appointment.

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO MINE

Pursuant to Application Number 917-5016, Renewal 5

In accordance with KRS 350.055, notice is hereby given that Webster County Coal, LLC; 1146 1146 Monarch Street Suite 350 Lexington, KY 40513 has applied for renewal of an existing underground coal mining operation located 1.8 miles north of Manitou in Hopkins County. The renewed permit will disturb 41.2 acres of surface disturbance making a total area of 41.2 acres within the surface permit boundary.

The proposed renewal area is approximately 0.6 miles east from KY 630's junction with Wolf Hollow Road and located 0.2 miles east of an unnamed tributary of Pond Creek.

The proposed operation is located on the Slaughters U.S.G.S. 7.5-minute quadrangle maps. The surface area to be disturbed is owned by Webster County Coal Corp. There is no coal extraction associated with the renewal area, which is a mine management area intended to support an underlying underground mining operation.

The application has been filed for public inspection at the Division of Mine Reclamation and Enforcement's, Madisonville Regional Office, 625 Hospital Drive, Madisonville, KY 42431. Written comments, objections, or requests for a permit conference must be filed with the Director, Division of Mine Permits, 300 Sower Boulevard, 2nd Floor, Frankfort, KY 40601.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

WEBSTER DISTRICT COURT

CASE NO. 22-P-00125

IN RE: Walter Eugene Miller who died intestate on the 2nd day of November 2022 a resident of Webster County, Kentucky

ORDER REGARDING' FILING OF FINAL SETTLEMENT

It is now ordered that the Final Settlement tendered herein be filed in the Clerk's office; advertised in accordance with statutory regulations, and continued until May 13, 2025 at 8:15 A.M. for exceptions.

BE IT SO ORDERED, this 25th day of March 2025.

HON. BEN LEONARD
Webster District Judge

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO MINE

Pursuant To Application Number 917-5013, Renewal #8

(1) In accordance with KRS 350.055, notice is hereby given that Webster County Coal, LLC, 1146 Monarch Street Suite 350 Lexington, KY 40513 has applied for renewal of permit 917-5013 for an underground coal mining operation, slurry injection and a coal processing facility located 2.3 miles southwest of Lisman in Webster County. The proposed operation will disturb 192.81 surface acres and will underlie 20,083.15 acres and the total area within the permit boundary will be 20,116.26 acres.

(2) The proposed operation is approximately 2.9 miles south-east from KY Route 270's junction with KY Route 132 and located 0.6 miles north of Slover Creek.

(3) The proposed operation is located on the Providence, Nebo, Slaughters, Bordley, Dixon, and Sebree U.S.G.S. 7-1/2 minute quadrangle maps. The surface area to be disturbed is owned by Webster County Coal, LLC and Arthur Miller Jr. All underground areas have been mined.

(4) The application has been filed for public inspection at the Division of Mine Reclamation and Enforcement's, Madisonville Regional Office, 625 Hospital Drive, Madisonville, KY 42431. Written comments, objections, or requests for a permit conference must be filed with the Director, Division of Mine Permits, 300 Sower Blvd, 2nd floor, Frankfort, KY 40601.