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## Bellew, Nicholas honored at as FFA leaders

MURRAY, Ky. — The Hutson School of Agriculture at Murray State University recently honored high school students from the Purchase, Pennyrile and Green River regions as Murray State FFA All-Region Stars based on the students' demonstrated leadership in FFA. Recognized from Hickman County FFA were Abbey Bellew and Zeke Nicholas.

The STARS recognition banquet was held on Murray State's cam-

pus on Nov. 17 in honor of the recipients. The featured speaker was Dr. Ron Patterson, Murray State University President. Dr. Brian Parr, Murray State University dean of the Hutson School of Agriculture, also gave remarks. The honored FFA students attend a number of high schools in the 18-county Murray State service region including Ballard Memorial, Calloway County, Carlisle County, Fulton County, Graves

County, Hickman County, Livingston Central, Marshall County, McCracken County, Murray Independent and Trigg County in the Purchase region; Caldwell County, Christian County, Crittenden County, Lyon County, Muhlenberg County and Todd County Central in the Pennyrile region; and Henderson County, Union County and Webster County in the Green River region.



Dr. Ron Patterson, Murray State University President, and Hickman County FFA student Abbey Bellew. Zeke Nicholas is not pictured, but was also a recipient.

## Blair Street Park to get new equipment



Shown left and above are photos of the new equipment ordered for Blair Street Park.

Cole, Irvin Stroud, and Kory Naranjo, Administrative Assistant Hillary Webb, County Treasurer Amy Leslie, Deputy Judge/Executive Dawn Allen, County Attorney Jason Batts, Sheriff Ben Natividad, and Gaye Ben-cini

Blair Street Park in Clinton, Ky., will get additional playground equipment. The fiscal court voted Monday to purchase a multi-user arch swing for \$3,379 and a dome climber with orbs for \$8,339.

The Blair Street Park upgrades join a list of park improvements in the county, the most recent being Fulgham Park, which features a new pickleball court. Rotary Park, located along the main thoroughfare Hwy. 51, continues to draw large numbers of visitors each year to its fishing lake, playground, and farmer's market.

### Community Meals & Food Give-Aways

Hickman County Judge/Executive Kenny Wilson commended Mt. Moriah Baptist Church and all involved in the cookout on Court Square in Clinton on Sunday evening, Nov. 16, where approximately 600 free meals were provided to the community.

The Hickman County Schools Falcon Nation will give out free holiday meals on Dec. 11. The deadline to register is Dec. 4. Registering may be

done by calling the school your child attends.

Judge Wilson noted that Chris and Niki Moon, with the help of others, are providing turkey basket donations and Oakwood United Methodist Church had a community Thanksgiving supper Saturday night. "There are lots of ways people are helping others," Judge Wilson said.

The Feeding America food give-away by The Mission House, a program through the Purchase Area Development District, was held last Thursday at Rotary Park with much participation and all food given away.

### Senior Center Project

The architect and two engineers involved in the Hickman County Senior Citizens upgrade project looked over the building "top to bottom," Judge Wilson said. The upgrades, which will be funded by a grant the county received, will include new flooring, electrical work, lighting, all new heat and air system and more.

The work is not expected to affect the center's meal program, but if temporary meal prep space is needed, a local church has offered space for this to be done. Advertisement for bids is expected to go out in the spring with work starting in late spring.

### Highway 51 Improvement Project

Judge Wilson said the environmental plan has been completed and the project is still in the works. There may be a change in the engineering firm that had been hired, but it is ongoing.

### Bridges

Whitlock Road Bridge work is complete, and that road is open. Work is being done on Howell Road Bridge, and will possibly be completed this week.

### Mission House Christmas Toy Drive help needed

The Mission House has a program where people can fund a child for Christmas. The Mission House reports that their annual Christmas Toy drive is way down this year. Anyone who can help fund a child is encouraged to contact the Mission House. 270-653-3271

### Other

Judge Wilson has contacted Representative Steven Rudy and Senator Jason Howell to ask for county funds for emergency management, possibly for an ambulance or funds for the rescue squad. He noted the Smithsonian exhibit is now being displayed at The Hickman County Memorial Library

and will run through the month of December. (See related story).

### Upcoming

Judge Wilson, Dawn Mathis, Amy Leslie, and Hillary Webb will meet with Purchase Area Development District staff in January. This will include staff that works in areas of aging population and staff that works with grants. "We're going to focus on economic development," Judge Wilson said.

### Items of Business

The fiscal court:

- \* approved the second reading of the Payroll/Net Profit Ordinance, lowering the cap on the payroll/net profit tax to \$700 from

\$1,000.

- \* acknowledged receipt of the completed 2024 clerk's audit

- \* approved amendment to the sheriff's 2025 budget to include additional training and court security mileage.

- \* approved updated electrical inspector contract for Alan Wilson

- \* approved updated electrical inspector contract for Johnny Parham

- \* approved cash transfers from DES to Road fund for WEX (gas card)

- \$64.76; from Jail Fund

- to Road Fund for WEX

- (gas card) - \$295.47; from General Fund to Road

- Fund for WEX (gas card) - \$2,136.54; and from Road

- Fund to General Fund - \$4490.66 and approved

misc. line-item transfers.

- \* approved two parts payment for new sheriff vehicle and equipment because the dealership, Morlan, will take it to a third party to have it outfitted.

### Upcoming Dates

Dec. 6- Christmas Parade 6 p.m.

Dec. 7- Cookies with Santa and Friends- 2-4 p.m. Hickman County Memorial Library

The judge's office will be closed Dec. 22-26 for Christmas and Dec. 31-Jan. 2 for New Years.

The next regular meeting of the Hickman County Fiscal Court will be Thursday, Dec. 18 at 8 a.m.

### FINAL SUMMARY ORDINANCE 2025-05 AMENDING HICKMAN COUNTY ORDINANCE 2008-3

AN ORDINANCE OF THE FISCAL COURT OF HICKMAN COUNTY, RELATING TO THE IMPOSITION AND PAYMENT INTO THE TREASURY OF HICKMAN COUNTY, KENTUCKY, OF LICENSE FEES BASED ON THE EXERCISE OF ACTIVITIES NECESSARY TO CARRY ON BUSINESSES, TRADES, PROFESSIONS AND OCCUPATIONS IN HICKMAN COUNTY, KENTUCKY. THIS LICENSE FEE IS FOR GENERAL CAPITAL OUTLAY PURPOSES, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO ROADS, BRIDGES, EQUIPMENT PURCHASES, AND DEBT REDUCTION AT THE HICKMAN COUNTY DETENTION CENTER.

Pursuant to KRS 67.077 Passage of Ordinance and Amendments and Additions to the proposed Ordinance relating to the imposition and payment into the Treasury of Hickman County, Kentucky of License Fees based on the exercise of activities necessary to carry on businesses, trades, professions and occupations in Hickman County, Kentucky. This License Fee is for general capital outlay purposes, including but not limited to roads, bridges, equipment purchases, and debt reduction at the Hickman County Detention Center.

#### MAXIMUM ANNUAL TAXATION

No taxpayer, whether individual or corporate, shall be required to pay more than One Thousand Dollars (\$1000.00) in any one calendar year; except that for calendar year 2026 no taxpayer shall be required to pay more than Seven Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$750.00).

The above numbered ordinance was approved by the Fiscal Court of Hickman County by two readings. First reading was held on October 23, 2025. The second reading was held on November 24, 2025, and therefore is duly adopted.

A copy of the Ordinance is available for public inspection at the Office of the Judge Executive of Hickman County, 116 S. Jefferson Street, Clinton, Kentucky, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.