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Owsley Co. Man Sentenced for Receiving Child Sexual Abuse Material

A Booneville, Ky., man, **Berlin Hollan, 52**, was sentenced to 60 months on Wednesday by U.S. District Judge Robert Wier for receiving child pornography.

On September 13, 2024, Hollan received an image of child pornography. Specifically, law enforcement located sexually explicit Facebook Messenger conversations between Hollan and a minor victim. In one of those conversations, Hollan received a sexually explicit image of a minor.

Jason Parman, First Assistant United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Kentucky; and Olivia Olson, Special Agent in Charge, FBI, Louisville Field Office, jointly announced the sentence.

The investigation was conducted by the FBI. Assistant U.S. Attorney Justin Blankenship prosecuted the case on behalf of the United States.

This case was prosecuted as part of Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative to combat the growing epidemic of child sexual exploitation and abuse launched in May 2006 by the Department of Justice. Led by U.S. Attorneys' Offices and the Criminal Division's Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section (CEOS), Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state and local resources to better locate, apprehend and prosecute individuals who exploit children via the Internet as well as to identify and rescue victims. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit www.projectsafechildhood.gov



Possible Cawood Road Closure Problematic for Some

According to Cycle News, the AMA (American Motorcycle Association) is urging all riders and supporters of motorized access to take immediate action against a proposal that would strip approximately four miles of road from public access and transfer ownership to private landowners of Cawood Road that is located in Owsley Count.

According to the AMA, it is an important corridor for responsible outdoor recreation.

"Closing this road would set a troubling precedent by allowing a public road to be shut down at the request of a private individual, potentially encouraging similar actions elsewhere and leading to a broader loss of public access across the state and perhaps the country. We believe it is the responsibility of the Owsley County Fiscal Court, as elected officials, to preserve public access to Cawood Road and not forfeit it for private interests," says the AMA.

The AMA is requesting that all supporters send an opposition letter to the Owsley County Fiscal Court and attend the meeting, which will be held at 20 Main Street, Booneville, Kentucky 41314, on Monday, September 14, 2026, at 4 p.m.

For more details on how to get involved, visit votervoice.net (Under Threat: Cawood Road Facing Closure)

City of Booneville News for August

By Lisa Robinson, Booneville Sentinel

The Booneville Board of Commissioners (City Council) met in regular session on Wednesday, August 12, 2026. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Nelson Bobrowski. A motion was made and carried to approve the minutes from the July meeting.

Paul Nesbitt from Nesbitt Engineering gave the monthly update of the projects they are working on for the city. "On the Bates Block Phase 2 – we are continuing to work with Tammy and the mayor to try to get that one done. The Water Plant Rehab Project – sort of in the same status. The Telemetry Expansion Project – the mayor and I have taken over looking

up the deeds. Sag Hollow Cabins/Subdivision – funding requests are in for that. The Cabins at Sag (AMLER Grant) – a little more positive note. There was an additional \$201,510.82 granted to it. We have an Amendment for Nesbitt to be approved, a Change Order for Billy Ball to be approved and a Requisition #7 to be approved." A motion was made and carried to approve all three. Paul continued, "Brewer Road is the same status. The Water Line Replacement Phase 3 – we took bids and are ready to award the contract. Clay Pipeline out of Manchester is the Contractor. We recommend that you award the Contract to them. We have enough money in this grant to do everything you wanted in the Lerose area as well as Sugar Camp." A mo-

tion was made and carried to approve awarding the Contract to Clay Pipeline. Paul went on to say, "the Saul AML Water Line – we should receive the construction permit in a couple of days. We should have the bid by the end of this year and the construction could be done by the end of next year. Sewer Force Main Redirect Project – we are still waiting on the Release of Funds."

Jon Allen reviewed the FEMA Projects. "We reviewed your FEMA Projects comprehensively over the last week. The button issue right now is the Water Treatment Plant Intake - that project has been sitting for a while. FEMA did not give us enough money. We are about a million short. We have petitioned FEMA Region 4 to reversion that project. [Cont. Page 12](#)

City of Booneville & Owsley Co. Receive Project Funding

On Monday, the City of Booneville announced that they and Owsley Co. FC received \$1.75 million in funding for projects. According to the City, Senator Robert Stivers and Representative Chris Fugate were instrumental in helping secure this funding.

\$500,000 was given to Owsley County Fiscal Court for the Booneville Owsley County Fire Station Rehabilitation & Modernization Project and an additional \$500,000 for Booneville Industrial Building Upgrades.

\$750,000 was given to the City of Booneville for the Community & Business Revitalization Initiative.



L-R; Sen.Robert Stivers, Mayor Bobrowski, Rep. Chris Fugate

Cooperatives collect more than \$19,000 worth of donations for Kentucky’s Ronald McDonald Houses

Jackson Energy and the other Kentucky’s Touchstone Energy Cooperatives raised more than \$19,000 of much-needed items for Ronald McDonald Houses in Lexington and Louisville. Since 2017, co-ops have collected items from employees and the public. This year is the largest collection raised to date.

Throughout July, co-ops gathered the donations in a Wish List Drive campaign to support both Ronald McDonald Houses, not-for-profit homes that enable families to be near their hospitalized children. During the summer months, donations tend be low, says the Houses.

"When families travel to Lexington for their child's medical care, they're navigating one of the hardest seasons of their lives. Thanks to partners like Kentucky's Touchstone Energy Cooperatives, we're able to remove barriers so parents can focus on what matters most: being there for their child," said Nate Graham, CEO of the Lexington House.

Co-op employees dropped off donations that included snacks, personal care items and other products to help families feel at home while staying at the Ronald McDonald House facilities. Over the last seven years, co-ops have raised more than \$114,000 worth of Wish List items for the two Houses.

"Kentucky’s Touchstone Energy Cooperatives never cease to amaze us with their incredible generosity and ability to make a huge impact for our families, said Graham. "We are thankful to have such purpose-driven partners that are committed to making Kentucky a better place for its people." Since cooperatives serve 89 Kentucky counties, they support both Kentucky Houses (Lexington and Louisville). They share a common service territory.

"At Ronald McDonald Louisville, we are so grateful for the unwavering support from Kentucky's Touchstone Energy Cooperatives.

[Cont. page 12](#)