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Letters To The Editor

In Kentucky's last Presidential primary election in 2024, less than 12.7 percent of eligible voters turned out to cast their ballots, yet the outcome of elections affects us all. Participating in the voting process is as important now as it has ever been.

Kentucky's primary election day is May 19. It's our responsibility to know where each candidate stands on the issues that affect us every day. As Bracken Countians, it is our responsibility to let the candidates know what issues are important to our community.

Several key issues are expected to be considered by our legislative leaders at all levels of government. It is critically important we have elected officials in office who understand the importance of agriculture and the concerns confronting rural Kentuckians.

Bracken County Farm Bureau urges you to make an impact by voting in the May Primary Election!

Drue Hyrcza, President
Bracken County Farm Bureau Federation

Don't miss an issue. Make sure we know about any address changes!
606-735-2198

Curnutt, Caitlyn Manon, (1) assault, 4th degree dating violence (minor injury), continued to 5/12.

Puckett, Chase Daniel, (1) terroristic threatening, 3rd degree; (2) menacing, continued to 5/12.

Bracken Fiscal Court

A regular meeting of the Bracken County Fiscal Court was held Wednesday, April 8, 2026, for the purpose of transacting any business properly presented by the established agenda. Presiding: Tina K. Teegarden, Judge Executive. Present: David Kelsch, Danny Holleran, Debbie Mayfield, John Scott, Craig Miller, Sandy Ruf, Kevin Jarrells, Heather Brumley, Judge Teegarden.

Let the record reflect that the Court Members received a copy of any Transfers and Vendor Claims and a copy of the Financial Statement ending March 31, 2026.

Upon motion of Debbie Mayfield, second by Danny Holleran, the court approves the minutes of the regular meeting March 25, 2026. Abstained: Heather Brumley, was absent March 25, 2026.

Road Department Update - Road Supervisor Stacey Florer gave an update. They have finished the slip-on Thompson Rd, did some coal patching, trimmed trees, taken all the sanders off, helped set up the container out to the dog shelter, cleaned up a dump truck load full of trash on Holts Creek.

Animal Shelter Expansion Update - Tabled.

Property Licking Estates surplus - Tabled.

Coroner - Chris Cummins, Salary Coroner/Deputies - Chris addressed the court. Prior to the meeting he gave each magistrate a copy of his letter. He is looking for a

raise of \$4,971.00 for the coroner and \$2,017.50 per deputy for a total of \$9,006.00 total for the 3 of them. This would be for the upcoming Fiscal Year of 2026-2027.

Motion to approve the coroner and deputy salary increase made by Heather Brumley, second by Sandy Ruf. Vote unanimous.

Animal Shelter Monthly Report - Co-Directors Honan and Childers were there to address the court. They handed out a report to each magistrate. They went over those reports that include intake and outtake. There are several fundraisers. They started working with 3 new rescues. They did go over the ordinances and made some changes and turned them in for review, they are hoping to raise the adoption fee. They have been working with a vet on a next guard

grant. Magistrate Miller wanted to recognize Woody Graham and his wife, they were the ones that donated the cargo container.

80/20 Project - Snag Creek add to agenda - Judge Teegarden stated she had put in for this emergency project on Snag Creek. It is for 2 culverts to be replaced. They sent a resolution and agreement yesterday. She asked if it was ok to add this to the agenda today or would the court rather carry it over to next meeting. This project cannot move forward until this is approved.

Sandy Ruf made a motion to add it to the agenda, Debbie Mayfield second it. Vote unanimous.

Resolution 26-04 80/20 Project Snag Creek - This gives Judge

Fiscal Court continued on page 4

District Court News

DISTRICT COURT

Heard on Tues., April 21, 2026 by District Court Judge Kim Razor.

Courtney, Shannon Faith, show cause payment, owes \$1,123, continued to 10/27.

Baute, Trevor M., (1) local county ordinance, animals to be under control; (2) local county ordinance, licensing and registration of dog(s); (3) local county ordinance rabies vaccination, failed to appear, issued notice for 5/19.

Earlywine, Martin D., continued for 911 recording.

Gonzalez, Jhony, (1) speeding 18 mph over limit; (2) driving on DUI suspended license - 1st of

fense, continued to 4/28.

Robinson, Hannah L., (1) speeding 26 mph over/greater, \$52 fine; (2) failure of owner to maintain required insurance/security 1st offense, directed to enroll in diversion program, to review 5/5.

Spencer, Nicholas D., continued to 5/12.

Watts, Heather L., case review, proof filed and fine paid, removed from docket.

Work, Tina M., (1) theft by deception - include cold checks, continued to 4/28.

Sticklen, Jack V., (1) assault, 2nd degree - domestic violence; (2) assault 4th degree domestic violence minor injury, continued to 5/5.

Get the Dirt on Soil During Soil Stewardship Week

It's Soil Stewardship week from April 26 to May 3!

The Bracken County Soil Conservation Office invites you to stop by local restaurants for a meal and have fun with some coloring and activities pages. Children can learn more about how crucial conservation is to both natural and managed habitats with this year's theme: "Soil. Where it all Begins."

Participating restaurants are Augusta General Store, Bub's Grill & Bar, Carota's Pizzeria, Donna's Place, Subway, and Tabletop Traditions.

Bookmarks are available at Bracken

Soil. Where it all Begins



County Public Library.

The Bracken County Soil Conservation Office, located at 218 Frankfort Street in Brooksville has several resources available for farmers and gardeners, including seed depth tools.

submitted

HONESTY • INTEGRITY • TRANSPARENCY

I am a true Bracken Countian—born, raised, and proud to call Bracken County, Kentucky my lifelong home. I graduated from Bracken County High School in 1991, and at just 17 years old, I followed in my father's footsteps by joining the United States Marine Corps.

For 13 years, I had the honor of serving our country. During my service, I led Marines in Master Weapons Training, urban and battlefield security, and the deployment of security forces in high-pressure environments. I managed the second largest armory in the US. The Marine Corps instilled in me discipline, accountability, and leadership—values that guided me as I trained and led platoons, ensuring readiness, teamwork, and mission success. While in Cuba for 18 months, I managed other Marines as they did foot patrols, riot management, and tactical response during the Haitian migration. Above all, I upheld the highest standards of honesty and integrity expected of every Marine.

After completing my military service, I returned home to Bracken County, where I continued serving my community in a different way. I spent 18 years at CMWA, rising through the ranks to become a department head and team leader across multiple manufacturing facilities. My experience in leadership, operations, and accountability prepared me to manage complex responsibilities while building strong, effective teams.

Now, I am asking for your support as I run for Bracken County Sheriff in the May primary. I believe my background in military leadership and real-world management has prepared me to lead with honesty, integrity, and transparency. I am committed to serving this community with professionalism, strong moral values, and respect for every citizen. I will not be a political activist—I will be your Sheriff, focused on doing the job right and upholding the standards our county deserves.

I humbly ask for your vote on May 19th.