

# Looking Back

## 25 Years Ago - July 3, 2001

Retired schools superintendent Richard Gulick will be the grand marshall of the July 7 Pendleton County parade. He will be celebrating his 87th birthday on July 4. Gulick graduated from Falmouth High School in 1932, received football and basketball scholarships to the University of Cincinnati, and received his master's degree in 1941 from the University of Kentucky.

From 1936 to 1966, he taught and/or was principal at McKennysburg, Goforth, Morgan and Pendleton High schools, and from 1966 to 1979 was either superintendent or assistant superintendent of county schools. He also is a member of the 10th Region Basketball Coaches Hall of Fame, and the 1998 Chamber of Commerce Citizen of the Year.

The United States Achievement Academy announced that Diane Fossitt of Peach Grove has been named an All-American Collegiate Scholar.

The USAA has established the All-American Collegiate Award Program to offer deserved recognition to superior students who excel in the academic disciplines.

## 50 Years Ago - July 2, 1976

Paul E. Hall Jr. of Foster was elected state 4-H president. It was the first time in the history of Northern Kentucky that someone from the area had been elected to the top spot of 4-H.

Pendleton County 4-H'ers put up a welcome home sign outside of the Farm Bureau building, where a surprise reception was held when Hall returned from the University of Kentucky campus, where the state meeting and election was held.

Steve Conrad of Pendleton County had been a nominee for vice president. Jill Conrad was selected as the Northern Kentucky Area representative.

The delegation from Pendleton County also included Ann Moore, Andrea Cox, Julie Hart, Sandra Lach, Denise Best, Diane Best, Fran Carr, Amy Tuemler, Ronald DeWald and Tammy Flaughter. Karen Davis, the county Extension agent, also attended.

The schedule for Pendleton County's July 3 celebration of America's 200th birthday in downtown Falmouth includes:

1 p.m., Jim Hayes, Shelby Cummins, Kenny Lea Group.

2:30 p.m., egg toss and frog hopping contests in front of the Pastime Theatre. Bring frogs to be marked before the contest.

3 p.m., Sweet Surprise, a young singing group

3:45 p.m., Grassy Creek Christian Church Choir

4 p.m., Oakland Christian Church Choir presenting, "I Love America"

5 p.m., Mickey Craig, guitar, and Randy Seiter, banjo

5:45 p.m., Lions Club balloon release

6 p.m., Walter Joyner Gospel Group, with Rick Joyner, Randal Joyner, Tom Joyner and Homer Bohn

6:30 p.m., Grassy Creek Band, with Lynn Booher, Jessie Browning, Louis Conrad, Bill Lawarre and Ralph Murphy

7:30 p.m., Pendleton County High School Band

## 75 Years Ago - July 6, 1951

The Falmouth baseball team is still undefeated for 1951. They played Paris Moose Lodge Sunday afternoon and won 11 to 4.

Pitching for Falmouth was Ralph Wright, who did an excellent job, allowing only five hits and walking seven.

Leading batter for Falmouth was Paul Craig of Butler, left fielder, who got four hits.

Falmouth's lineup included Paul Turner, 2B; E. Woods, 3B; T. Schwartz, CF; D. Braughler, SS; Donald Wright, RF; B.K. Baker, C; and B. Williams, 1B.

Woods, of Brooksville, received a broken right leg in the fifth inning when he slid into second base. He was taken to Brooksville and given first aid and then removed to Hayswood Hospital.

The meeting of the Morgan and Williamstown Road Homemakers, held June 13 at the home of Mrs. Talmage Antrobus, was called to order by the president, Mrs. Floyd Wills. Roll call was answered by "how I met my husband."

After the business session, a picnic was planned by the group, which will be held sometime in July. After the noon hour, all enjoyed the lesson on flower arrangement given by Miss Knarr.

Those present were Mrs. James Kenner, Mrs. Frank Klaber, Mrs. Harry Parker, Mrs. Floyd Wills, Mrs. Floyd Whaley, Mrs. Elmer Wills, Mrs. Talmage Antrobus, Miss Katharine Antrobus and Miss Knarr.

The August meeting will be held in the home of Mrs. Charles Bailey.

## 100 Years Ago - July 2, 1926

"Despondent, miserable, heartbroken, I give up the cares of life in despair," wrote Mrs. Elizabeth Cookendorfer, 50, of near Caddo, just before she drank the bitter contents of a vial of carbolic acid early Monday morning. She lived only a few minutes after drinking the poison, dying about 4:30 o'clock.

A granddaughter sleeping in the same room was awakened by Mrs. Cookendorfer pulling at the covers on her bed. The child realized something was wrong and ran for help. Dr. O.W. Brown of Lenoxburg was summoned, but Mrs. Cookendorfer died a few minutes after the physician arrived.

The last hours of the dead woman were spent in writing farewell letters to her friends. One letter was found pinned to her nightgown. Another was received by The Outlook on Monday, in which she told of the cause of her sorrow. She enclosed \$1 in cash in the letter with the request that it be published in full.

Owing to the nature of the missive, The Outlook regrets that it cannot comply with the dead woman's request and publish the letter in full.

"I loved him dearer than I loved my life," she wrote in part, referring to her former husband, from whom she was divorced several years ago. "For almost five years my heart has never ceased bleeding; for me he made trouble rise like a mountain of sorrow deep as the sea.

"But still down in this aching heart of mine, which he won, that pure, true love for him remains. If he had just spoken one kind word to me, what a comfort it would have been. There are things which cannot be hidden from the All-Seeing Eye."

# LIFE IN THE COLE BIN

By Burton W. Cole

## Habit herds the herd to 'assigned' seats



"Cows always return to the same place," Grandpa said.

Scripture also says that God owns the cattle on a thousand hills.

At church, we're taught that we must be the sheep of the Good Shepherd. Now I wonder if we're more like God's cows, planted on our individual hills, set in our stubborn ways. We aren't moooving. (Sorry, couldn't resist.)

The sanctity of the Sabbath can turn into terror if a newcomer walks in and — unknowingly — sits in Old Fred's seat, the place where he's taken root since 1982. The wandering sheep have just declared war on the arthritic cattle.

As kids we were lambs, scampering to and fro, from seat to seat, and where we'd land, nobody knew. Every seat was a new adventure, a new view to explore, a different set of grownups to annoy with knock-knock jokes that we couldn't get right.

Then our cattle training began. Restaurants with play areas let you sit wherever you want. But if the

grownups dragged you to the kind of place that sets four kinds of forks beside your plate, the maître d escorted you to the seat reserved — assigned — for you.

That was only the beginning.

Teachers assigned us seats. Bus drivers assigned us seats. Even the lunch ladies could get carried away and assign us seats.

"Aw, c'mon. I sat there yesterday. I want to sit over here today. And tomorrow, Jimmy and I figure we'll hang out back there."

The teacher didn't go for it. She especially wanted to keep Jimmy and me separate.

We were being herded. Buy a ticket for the football game — here's your assigned seat.

Book a flight on the airline — here's your assigned seat.

Road trip with Mom and Dad — you stay right there, young man, and stop touching your brother.

At weddings, you're assigned which side of the aisle to sit based on to which side you're related. This became a big problem when a cousin on my dad's side married a cousin on my mom's side. They weren't related to each other but I was related to both.

The usher asked, "Bride or groom?"

"Yes. I'll just sit in the aisle between the two sides. Tell Marce to step over me when the wedding march starts."

Even at Thanksgiving, there came a time when you no longer were permitted to sit at the kids' table. You

were assigned to the grownups table.

(Pro tip: Don't fall for it. Stay at the kids' table. Grownups are boring. Ask grownups to pass the ketchup, and they never say, "Plane, train or subway?" then throw the ketchup bottle for plane, or roll it across the floor for subway, or adapt to whatever other transport your imagination creates.)

Before we realize it, we've become cattle. We've chosen our go-to stanchion, stall, stool or settee, unspoken rules dictate that that's our rightful turf, and we're going to have a real beef with anyone who takes it from us.

Call us bullheaded if you like, but being displaced disrupts everything. One simply cannot serenely munch clover if one's hooves are shuffled off to the wrong chair.

Fortunately, I've reached the age when I am regressing into my second childhood. I simply sat elsewhere and enjoyed a new point of view. I detest being a creature of habit. I crave variety, and I was going to relish this like a bull who's discovered a big new box of grain.

Until the interloper finished her visit with the person who always sits behind me. She moseyed back to the seat where she sits every week.

I quickly reclaimed my carefully contoured portion of the pew. It was good to settle back into my own stanchion of familiarity and comfort.

Moo.

Horn in on Burt's bench at news@falmouthoutlook.com.

## What day is it? - Independence Day, July 4

By Nila Harris



This year marks a special Independence Day as our country celebrates 250 years since the birth of our nation with the signing of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776.

Special events have been taking place to commemorate this special time in our nation's history.

In our own county, Butler will be hosting its annual fireworks festivities with food trucks, vendors and a sensational fireworks show starting at dusk. The Mystery Box, Peoples with snow cones and cotton candy, Curbside Sweet Shop, and Fresh Squeezed Lemonade from a veteran's group will be available at the festivities.

On Independence Day, Pendleton County Tourism Council will host a Fourth of July Parade at 3 p.m., with entrants lining up at 2 p.m. at the Pendleton County Fairgrounds.

"All entries must adhere to the theme of celebrating the Fourth of July and should be respectful to our diverse community," organizers state.

At 6 p.m., Trinity Southern Baptist Church will host a Fourth of July Community Party, also at the fairgrounds.

This free event will have free pulled pork sandwiches (while supplies last), a Northern Kentucky Gaming Truck, petting zoo and inflatables. Come show off your spiffed-up vehicle at the car show for a \$5 entry fee (free for the public to come and admire).

There will also be food and treats available for

purchase: Mimi's Kitchen, Kona Ice, Fresh Lemonade, Dirty Sodas and more.

At dark, the public can enjoy a spectacular, free fireworks show. Bring your lawn chairs, and family and friends to celebrate our nation's 250th anniversary.

As a sixth-grader during our nation's bi-centennial, I was part of the county's celebration as the music directors in Pendleton County schools brought youngsters together for a countywide choir led by PCHS Principal and former PCHS band/choir director Cliff Wallace.

It was beautiful seeing the schools work together in patriotic unison for our nation's birthday.

Each individual school held their own bicentennial celebrations, as well. I proudly donned a Betsy Ross costume with a full hoop skirt created by Addalyn Cox and sang "You're a Grand Old Flag" at Northern Elementary's PTA's Fifty Stars for Old Glory program.

The school also held an Open House bicentennial organized by PTA featuring artwork, displays, and speech presentations by students.

In searching through the Outlook archives, I discovered that Judge Execu-

tive David Pribble formed a bicentennial committee in February 1976 to plan countywide events, with Shirley Tuemler as chairperson. It was called the "Spirit of '76" and the committee suggested that churches hold special services on July 3 and ring their church bells at 2 pm. "This will be done all over the United States" the newspaper proclaimed.

Northern Pendleton Volunteer Fire Department held a bicentennial community picnic. Families were asked to pack their suppers, blankets/lawn chairs, and come ready to visit, play games and have fun on Monday, July 5.

Butler organized its own bi-centennial committee with Reba Brock as chairperson. Both committees started meeting in February of 1976 to listen to ideas and plan community events.

County celebrations were scheduled for Saturday, July 3, and Butler decided to hold festivities on Aug. 7 and 8, with a parade beginning on old 27.

Many churches were mentioned in the archives as hosting their own special services. A bicentennial revival was held at Falmouth Christian for a week in April, and Blanket Creek Baptist Church, Falmouth, held an old-fashioned celebration with parishioners dressing in period theme on July 4, 1976.

Gardnersville Baptist had a parade on July 3 starting at Carter's Chapel road and ending at the church.

Much of the countywide celebration was held on the courthouse lawn on Main

Street but continued from Main to Shelby all the way down to the railroad tracks. The Masons held a fish fry, serving 1,260 fish dinners, but ran out of baked beans!

Entertainment organized by Patty Fardo included the PCHS band and choir. A Flea market, with Carolyn Moore as the organizer, was stationed along Shelby Street. Art exhibits were exhibited in front of the then-new library on Main Street.

"Guys grow out your bicentennial beards and gals come dressed in your old-time skirts and sun-bonnets," was encouraged by the committee. A youth dance was held with the band Exit performing on top of Dairy Treat (formerly located next to where Auto Zone is now) with band members Harry Crozier, Ken McKenney, Danny Klaber, Mark Aulick, Greg Valentine, Randy Howe, Keith Plummer and Larry Cummins.

Unfortunately, many of the activities were rained out, yet the parade, fish fry, band and choir performances, youth dance, and costume contest still took place.

Because of the rainfall and the Pendleton County Youth Fair taking place the following week, the Outlook was filled with photos and recaps of the fair with no photos of the bicentennial celebration included.

Many fun activities are being planned for our nation's 250th bicentennial this week, but if it happens to rain, we still must remember to take photos for The Outlook. 2076 is depending on us!

## After 40-plus years, Falmouth Commodities ceases

By Burton Cole

FALMOUTH — For decades, people in need lined up the second Monday of every month at Falmouth Commodities for the distribution of free food.

But with the proliferation of food banks, other distributions in Pendleton County for people in need and the loss of government resources, the monthly distribution at 200 W. Shelby St. is no more.

"The government quit furnishing food," organiz-

er Mary McDowell said of her nonprofit site.

"I've done this about 40 years," McDowell said. "Fire then it was at the back hall and we got cheese. Everybody got that cheese then."

Even before losing government food, her center had been slowing down.

"I have only 31, 41 families a month. I used to have 150," McDowell said.

Another factor, she said, is that other food distributions have people to carry boxes and bags of

food to the recipients' cars.

McDowell said that at hers, recipient had to bring their own bags and boxes and carry their own food to their vehicles.

"They didn't want to carry it to the car themselves," she said.

There are a number of other food distribution sites in Pendleton County that receive stock from the food bank in Cincinnati and other sources, she said.

Among those is the Food for Friends Mobile Pantry at St. Francis Xavi-

er Church, The Gathering Wing, Butler Baptist Church, Pendleton County Neighborhood Center, St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry, Blessings Box food pantries, and other churches, community centers and locations.

McDowell said that she and her daughter, Susan Sorrell — both recently retired Red Cross volunteers — likely will convert their storefront at 200 W. Shelby into a concessions shop that sells items like candy bars and flavored crushed ice treats.