

Willis is candidate for Mayor

By Kody Willis

Hello! My name is Kody Willis. I would like to thank the Lewis County Republican Party for sponsoring and hosting the "Meet the Candidate" Forum on Oct 22nd. We had a great turnout and I was honored to get to speak. I also would like to give a shout out to the City Employees and Mayor Joe Billman for the work they have done recently to make improvements to the city! The hard work does not go unnoticed!

I was raised in Lewis County and graduated from LCHS in 2004. I obtained a bachelor's degree from Morehead State University and a Master's Degree from Murray State University. I then moved to Cincinnati to pursue a job in the logistics field. Those years spent away from Lewis County prompted me to reflect on the often-overlooked benefits of living in a small town and I found that I missed the tight-knit community I had grown up in. So, I moved back and made it my mission to get involved.

I was a lender for Citizens Deposit Bank where I had the honor of helping many of you achieve your financial dreams and goals of owning a house, or car, or tractor for your farm. I was also able to help over 100 small businesses in the region continue to pay their employees with the Paycheck Protection Plan loans when Covid struck. When Citizens Deposit Bank was sold, I made the transition to teaching. I taught business for three years at the Lewis County Career and Technical Center and I think every student and parent I met during that time would speak highly of me and the work I accomplished in the classroom. Around that same time, I coached Football, Volleyball, and Golf. You even may have heard my voice on the radio, at the football stadium, at the softball field or as a volunteer emcee at the Lewis County Shooting sports banquets.

I am an active member of the Vanceburg Lions Club, the Lionbackers and various service-oriented programs at Vanceburg First Baptist Church.

I chose to run for Mayor because I want to see Vanceburg thrive. We want a town focused on growth and improvement; we want businesses and resources. I



HERALD

Kody Willis

believe Vanceburg has great potential with great people.

The 4 C's: Cooperation, Connectivity, Compassion, and Continuity

The first is cooperation. I am a firm believer in establishing open communication between the city government and other organizations, businesses and entities throughout the county. In order to be successful, we need each other. If we listen and attempt to understand each other, progress will be made.

The second is Connectivity. I would like to acknowledge the leaps and bounds that our city clerks have achieved with the website and the social media accounts. They have done a wonderful job of bringing Vanceburg into the 21st century with a more robust online presence! This will enable Vanceburg to connect with citizens in the city and county in a much more efficient way. Connectivity also includes working to improve the poor cell and internet service that seems to

plague the city. This factor alone may deter many businesses from setting up shop in Vanceburg and I plan to research different ways that we may mitigate this issue.

Third is compassion. I believe in taking pride in what we have and where we are from and that often begins at home. There are areas in the city which need to be cleaned up, and I plan to ensure that it is done with the understanding that the city may need to support those that need help. I plan to implement cleanup days where the city allows citizens to put items by the street for free pick up. I want to work with SET sanitation to allow a window of opportunity for citizens in the city to throw more than 5 bags of trash away. These small steps could end up making a huge difference in appearance our

city.

Fourth is Continuity. This entails revising city policies and procedures to ensure that the city is running in a manner congruent with others around us. We need a full revision of these policies and procedures. There should be no question about what is right, what is wrong or what is allowed. We will create the law, we will follow the law, and we will lead by example.

I would also like to address a concern that I have seen tied to me, regarding my previous term on city council. I was in fact unable to attend the last few meetings of my term. During that time, I began employment as a logistics account manager and found myself working 24/7. I spent nights, weekends, and holidays glued to a computer and a phone. This does not mean I stopped being on Council. This does not mean I quit working for the citizens in this town. I took calls and still met with residents. I had citizens come to my home where we discussed issues, concerns and shared successes. As a man and as a future potential mayor, I find little difficulty in admitting my wrongs and I believe a good leader must be able to acknowledge their downfalls and limitations in order to learn and grow.

I'm not perfect and I won't promise you something I can't commit to. I will promise to be the hardest working mayor possible, and I will do so by being cooperative, transparent and compassionate with all that live and work here.

Vanceburg needs a fresh start. We need a clean slate with a hard-working council and mayor to lead us into an era of revitalization. There is no room for complacency in the coming years as they may prove to be some of the most pivotal our small town has seen. If elected mayor, I will not allow us to go easily into the abyss; I will not allow us to become a ghost town, irrelevant and inconsequential. We will fight to remain relevant, to remain resilient and to remain what we have always been: a town that is proud of our people and our community, a town that takes care of our citizens and neighbors, and a town that will survive and prosper for years to come.

God Bless Vanceburg and thank you for your time. Vote Kody Willis for Mayor

Jahn is candidate for City Council

By Roger Jahn

My name is Roger Jahn, I opened a timber and lumber business in Lewis County in 1978. I remember 2 car dealers, Bakers Dept store, Lykins Shoes, 3 hardware stores, Shakey Tolle the barber, a drive in theater, Bridge Boy, Annie Applegate's diner, Hickles Pool Room and Corrine Ames' Bar. The traffic jams as the shoe factory let out and the ferry to get to Portsmouth while the only bridge was closed. You couldn't find a parking spot in town on Saturday.

But Shoes could be made with cheaper labor in Central America and suddenly 800 jobs left the county overnight. Some workers moved away, most just made the hard choice to leave the county everyday to earn a living, spending their paycheck in the city they worked in, bringing precious little back home to spend. Soon, shops and stores started closing for lack of demand and now you can have any parking spot in town you want on a Saturday evening.

Recent news of a possibility of a large facility locating here in the County has caused me to re-write my little speech. I was here when the AA was built, we prospered for a while, then the crews left as they carved more hills to make us more road. I was here when the high tension power line came through, we prospered for a while, then the crews moved on as they strung cable across other far away



HERALD

Roger Jahn

hills. But now, we have an opportunity to prosper for multiple generations, ... if we are ready. As president

of the Chamber Of Commerce, I see that our job is to support the existing businesses we have and to identify new business opportunity for our people so we all can get ready to prosper, if indeed something big comes to Lewis County.

I want our kids and grandkids to have jobs and business opportunities right here at home, whether in the skilled trades or fresh from grad school, and we can have that if we work together. I will bring many years of business experience and common sense to City Council if you hire me to represent you.

Pugh is candidate for City Council

By Joni Pugh

Dear Friends and Neighbors, As I seek reelection to the Vanceburg City Council, I am reminded how fortunate I have been to call this community home for the past 40 years. Since moving here, I have been passionate about Vanceburg and Lewis County and have believed that a strong community is built by people who care enough to get involved and work together for the greater good. The following are just some of the projects I have worked on:

I was appointed by the mayor to serve on the Renaissance on Main Board, where we worked with the Buffalo Trace Area Development District to secure grants for the renovation of the George Morgan Thomas House and the installation of period lighting in the downtown business district.

My service has also included many organizations and initiatives that are important to the people of Vanceburg and Lewis County. I currently serve as Chairman of the Board of Primary Plus and have been a member of the Interagency Council since it began, where I served on their transportation committee which brought LTrans here until their grant ran out. I was on the board during the startup of New Beginnings. I participated on the Vanceburg Depot Committee where I worked with a former conductor with CSX to obtain railroad memorabilia. I was also able to acquire a railroad car that sits beside the Depot preserving another piece of our history.

In 2006, I founded the Lewis County Theatre Guild and brought dinner theatre to offer creative opportunities for local entertainment and involvement. I also started

the Veteran's Banner program during the first May Fest, providing a special way to recognize and honor the men and women who have served our country.

I am proud to serve on the Board of Directors of the Lewis County Chamber of Commerce and to have participated on the board of the TEAM Center. It is now exciting to see the TEAM Center develop a new business in town dedicated to advancing beekeeping excellence and providing hands on training to help cultivate the next generation of beekeepers. These demonstrate the value of supporting local initiatives that can bring new energy, knowledge, and economic activity to our area.

One effort, especially close to my heart, has been connecting with Kenzie's Closet, a non profit organization in Cincinnati, to provide prom dresses for low income girls, which now includes Lewis County High School. They will receive a new prom dress (with alterations if necessary), two pieces of jewelry, a purse, and new shoes. Every young person deserves to feel special and confident, and I am grateful to have helped bring this opportunity to our community. The first trip included just a

few girls, but the last I heard recently, after all these years, they took a bus with 22 girls.

These experiences have taught me that serving a community is not about one project, one person, or one organization. It is about showing up, listening, building relationships, and doing what you can to make life better for the people around you. Progress often comes through acts of service, partnerships, and a willingness to work together toward common goals.

If reelected to City Council, I will continue to bring that same spirit of commitment to the work ahead. I will continue looking for opportunities to support local businesses, preserve our history, encourage new development, and help make Vanceburg a community where people are proud to live, work, and raise their families.

After 40 years, my love for this community is strong as ever. I am grateful for the friendships, opportunities, and experiences Vanceburg has given me, and I believe I still have a role to play in helping our town to grow. Thank you for allowing me to serve and for considering me for another term on Vanceburg City Council

**Vote for
Jacob Sartin
Vanceburg City
Council**

Paid for by Bobby Farrow

PUBLIC NOTICE

The second reading of Ordinance 26-04 Creating a Tourist and Convention Commission for Lewis County will be held on November 9, 2026, at the third-floor courtroom of the Lewis County Courthouse at 3:00 p.m. A copy of the proposed ordinance with full text is available for public inspection at the office of the County Judge/Executive during normal business hours.

Penny Lee Treasurer
Public Notice 43c

**Vote for
Roger Jahn
Vanceburg City
Council**

Paid for by Bobby Farrow

NEED HELP WITH YOUR RETIREMENT PLAN?

If you have questions about your pension, 401(k) or-profit sharing plan, call the Mid America Pension Project at (866) 783-5021 to get free legal advice. Funded by the U.S. Administration for Community Living, MAPP staff provides free legal assistance to anyone with a question about their retirement plan.

CALL US TODAY 1.866.783.5021

You can find the Lewis County Board of Education 2026-2027 Working Budget at the link below. For a physical copy, please contact the LCBOE office at 606-796-2811.

[Report-MUNAPPP-0029DC-21948-09-11-06-07-28.4.pdf](#)

Public Notice 43c

JEANA BILLMAN FOR VANCEBURG CITY COUNCIL

My name is Jeana Billman.

I worked as the City Clerk for almost 35 years, and now I'm asking for your support for city council.

I will always do what is in the best interest of the City of Vanceburg and its citizens.

Thank You

Paid for by Jeana Billman



Commonwealth of Kentucky Court of Justice LEWIS CIRCUIT COURT Civil Action No. 26-CJ-00130	
NEWREZ, LLC D/B/A SHELLPOINT MORTGAGE SERVICING	PLAINTIFF
AND	
PHILLIP HESTER	DEFENDANT
NOTICE OF RESCHEDULED MASTER COMMISSIONER'S SALE	
By virtue of a Judgment and Order of Sale entered in the Lewis Circuit Court on September 8, 2026, to raise the sum of \$153,420.57, plus interest, fees and costs, I will expose for sale to the highest and best bidder, at the Lewis County Courthouse, 112 Second Street, Vanceburg, Kentucky, 41179, on Thursday, November 12, 2026, at the hour of 11:00 a.m., the following property: A tract of land located at, 484 Clarkburg Road, Vanceburg, KY 41179, and identified as Lewis Co. P.V.A. Parcel No.: 079-00-00-024.00. The land is more particularly described in the record of this action located in the office of the Lewis Circuit Court Clerk, where it can be reviewed upon request. Terms of the sale are as follows: (A) At the time of sale, the successful bidder shall either pay cash or make a deposit of 10% of the purchase price with the balance on credit for thirty (30) days. In the event the successful bidder elects to credit the balance, said bidder shall post bond with surety acceptable to the Master Commissioner and pre-approved by the Master Commissioner at least by noon, two (2) business days before the sale date, as security for the unpaid purchase price, bearing interest at the rate of 6% per annum from the date of the sale. The surety must be present at the sale and must own real estate in Kentucky, but may not be the successful bidder's spouse. A lien shall be retained by the Commissioner as security for the purchase price; (B) The purchaser shall assume and pay all taxes and assessments for the current fiscal year. (C) All other delinquent taxes and assessments for previous years shall be paid from the sale proceeds if properly claimed in writing and filed of record by the purchaser within ten (10) days from the date of sale; (D) If a successful bid is less than two-thirds of the appraised value, the defendant shall retain a right of redemption for six months from the date of sale; the purchaser shall receive an immediate writ of possession and a deed containing a lien in favor of the defendant reflecting the defendant's right of redemption. KRS 426.530; (E) The property shall otherwise be sold free and clear of any right, title and interest of all parties to the action and of their liens and encumbrances thereon, excepting easements and restrictions of record in the Lewis County Clerk's Office, and such right of redemption as may exist in favor of the United States of America or the Defendant(s); (F) For more particulars, reference is made to the records of the Lewis Circuit Clerk; (G) Bidders are advised to obtain a title examination; (H) Exceptions must be filed not later than ten (10) days following the filing of the Commissioner's Report of Sale; (I) Risk of loss for the subject property shall pass to the purchaser on the date of sale, and possession of the premises shall pass to the purchaser upon payment of the purchase price and delivery of deed. CLAYTON G. LYKINS, JR., MASTER COMMISSIONER P.O. Box 160, VANCEBURG, KY 41179 TELEPHONE: 606/796-2531	
Public Notice 43-45c	