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Vol. 118— No. 29 SPEAKING OF AND FOR MORGAN, THE BLUEGRASS COUNTY OF THE MOUNTAINS $1.00 Per Copy | $38.00 Year In County $41.00 Year In Kentucky $43.00 Year Outside Kentucky



Local veterans Emily Elam, Jessica Skaggs, Paul Keeton and Sam Long unveiled the Freedom Bench placed at Treadway Park by the Big Sandy Sons of the American Revolution chapter during an Oct. 17 dedication ceremony. The bench honors American veterans of all wars and commemorates the 250th anniversary of the Founding Fathers' signing of the Declaration of Independence.

Photograph courtesy of William LeMaster

Freedom Bench dedication held at Treadway Park

Big Sandy SAR, Morgan DAV take part in ceremony

By Miranda M. Cantrell

The Big Sandy Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) chapter on Saturday, Oct. 17, hosted a dedication ceremony for the memorial Freedom Bench that was recently placed at Treadway Park.

Approximately 50 people gathered for the service, which opened with a welcome from Big Sandy SAR Past President Edward Keeton, of West Liberty, and the posting of colors by the Big Sandy SAR Color Guard.

The presentation of colors from Color Guard members – who dressed in historical military regalia from the American Revolution era – preceded an invocation by Big Sandy SAR Chaplain Aryn Merritt.

Following the invocation, Morgan County DAV Chapter 132 member Darlene Crouch led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance ahead of a recitation of the SAR pledge by Big Sandy SAR chapter members:

••••

"We, descendants of the heroes of the American Revolution who, by their sacrifices, established the United States of America,



Big Sandy Sons of the American Revolution Past President Edward Keeton, of West Liberty, spoke at the event, which he organized.

Photograph courtesy of William LeMaster

reaffirm our faith in the principles of liberty and our Constitutional Republic, and solemnly pledge ourselves to defend them against every foe."

•••

Big Sandy Chapter SAR Past President Edward Keeton gave a brief overview of the SAR's organizational objectives.

"Every SAR member is a direct descendant of someone who participated in the American Revolution," Keeton said. "Our purpose is to perpetuate the memory of our ancestors and build camaraderie among descendants."

Keeton noted that the placement of the Freedom Bench coincides with the 250th anniversary of the singing of the Declaration of Independence, and that the Big Sandy SAR chapter previously erected similar monuments in Pikeville and Morehead.

Additionally, the Daughters of the American Revolution will plant a Liberty Tree in Treadway Park to further commemorate the United States Semiquincentennial.

See CEREMONY, Page 3

Deadlines for Nov. 3 general election listed

Morgan Countians are preparing to vote in the General Election on Tuesday, Nov. 3, for local, state and federal offices.

General Election Dates, Deadlines And Other Info

The following is a listing of important dates from the Kentucky's election calendar, as per the State Board of Elections:

• ***Tuesday, Oct. 20*** – Online mail-in absentee request portal to close 14 days before the election.

• ***Tuesday, Oct. 20*** – Voter or their legally authorized agent may submit a nota-

See ELECTION, Page 8

Trick or Treat slated Saturday, Oct. 31st

Trick or Treat will be Saturday, Oct. 31, from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. The City of West Liberty will again host the annual Halloween event at Old Mill Park during this time. Have a safe and happy Halloween!

Sample Ballot Can Be Found On Page Ten

Water District board meets in a special session on Oct. 15th

Commissioners hear regular monthly reports; chair addresses recent general manager resignation and job opening, notes complaint

By Miranda M. Cantrell

The Morgan County Water District Board of Commissioners met in a special session on Thursday, Oct. 15, at the water district office on Hwy. 172.

Board Chairman Chris Adams said the meeting had been scheduled for the regular meeting date of Monday, Oct. 12, but was postponed due to the Columbus Day holiday.

In addition to Chairman Adams, those present included commissioners William LeMaster, Ellen Motley and Wade Cantrell.

Commissioner Patty Cordeiro was not in attendance.

Accountant Brenda Morgan provided financial reports to the board ahead of a management review from Assistant General Manager John Coffey.

Coffey told the board that the current water loss rate is 25.17 percent, which he said was down from the previous month.

Additionally, Coffey said that he had learned from engineers that a recent water line extension project would be completed under budget with approximately $120,000 of the allotted funds left unused.

Coffey stated that Gateway Area Development District officials told him that the leftover funds could be used for the purchase of equipment, trailers, trucks or parts, but noted that the money could not be used for additional water line extensions.

At the conclusion of Coffey's report, Chairman Adams addressed the absence of former General Manager Andy Legg.

"I would like to say something," Adams said. "Andy is no longer with us. I'd like to take the time to

See MCWD, Page 8

Jr. High Lady Cougars Are OVC Basketball Champions!



The Morgan County Junior High Lady Cougars defeated the Bath County Lady Cats 46-23 to win the OVC eighth grade girls' small school basketball championship tournament held at Raceland last week. The team is pictured above from left to right: Front row – Azie Halsey, Serenity Roberts and Perrie Dagnan. Back row – Peyton Royse, Baylen Cantrell, Coach Kyle Risner, Coach John Dagnan, Coach Ryan O'Neal, Kinzie Beculhimer, Saydie Blair and Kaydence Halsey. CONGRATULATIONS, CHAMPS! ***Photograph courtesy of Mad House Media***



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