



McCrae native makes bid for TN State Representative
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2025 Remembering Our Loved Ones



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Engage. Enlighten. EMPOWER!

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UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Show up, Stand up, Speak up
It's **Your** McCrae County!

SOLID WASTE BD MEETING

5:00 PM Tues, Jan. 13
EMA BLDG

MCCRAE CO. TOURISM

5:30 PM Thurs., Jan. 15
Tourism Office

MCCRAE COUNTY'S JONAH NEAL FILES CANDIDACY FOR KY STATE REPRESENTATIVE



By Eugenia Jones
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McCrae County Republican Michael "Jonah" Neal will face Wayne County Republican Kevin Jones in the May Primary Election, as both candidates seek to fill the seat of KY's 52nd District State Representative. The 52nd

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See NEAL on A2

LAW ENFORCEMENT SEARCHES FOR MAN IN PETERS MT. AREA; ASKS PUBLIC TO CONTACT THEM WITH ANY INFO

By Eugenia Jones
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McCrae County E-911 received a request for assistance from National Park Service Law Enforcement on Wednesday, January 7, 2026, regarding a missing

See MISSING on A11

CASEY CO. GRAND JURY RETURNS NO TRUE BILL REGARDING ALLEGED FOOTBALL INCIDENT

By Eugenia Jones

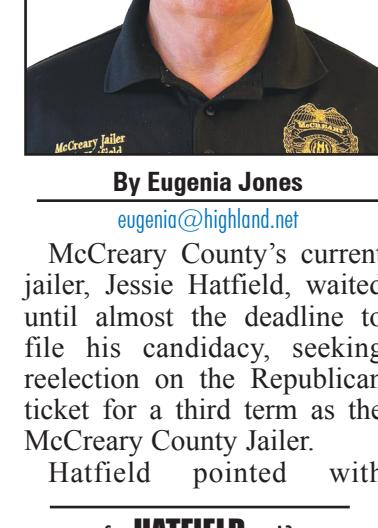
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Last week, a no true bill was returned by a Casey County Grand Jury in connection with

an alleged hazing-type incident involving some members of the McCrae Central High School football team. The incident reportedly

See INCIDENT on A3

JESSIE HATFIELD SEEKS 3RD TERM AS MCCRAE CO. JAILER



By Eugenia Jones

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McCrae County's current jailer, Jessie Hatfield, waited until almost the deadline to file his candidacy, seeking reelection on the Republican ticket for a third term as the McCrae County Jailer.

Hatfield pointed with

See HATFIELD on A3



Photo By: Eugenia Jones

McCrae County Republican Vice President Tim Corder urged local Republicans to unite for a better McCrae County.

By Eugenia Jones

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McCrae County Republicans met for a raucous quarterly meeting on January 5, 2026. With an unusually large number of Republicans in attendance, the meeting had minimal official business; however, many present had other business to address.

Republican Roger Phillips addressed the Republican leadership and requested that the local Party Chair, Mary Singleton, resign. Phillips

cited Facebook posts viewed as endorsing one of the three Republican McCrae County Judge Executive Primary candidates on Singleton's personal Facebook page as being the reason for his request. Phillips

expressed his opinion that the Chairperson should remain neutral during the primary.

Vice-Chairperson Tim Corder confirmed that he had notified state officials and was advised the following.

"As long as political comments regarding a candidate are on her personal page, it's OK; however, they can't be on the official Republican page."

Others questioned Judge

See HEATS UP on A15

See PRIMARY on A16

42 MCCRAE COUNTY REPUBLICANS ON MAY PRIMARY BALLOT

By Eugenia Jones

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Local Democrats are out of luck if they hoped to cast their vote for a McCrae County candidate in the upcoming May 2026 Primary election.

With zero candidates running as Democrats for office within county government, McCrae County Republicans will

determine the outcome of the May 19, 2026, primary election in all local government races. Kentucky has

a closed primary system in which only voters registered

See PRIMARY on A16

DEFYING THE ODDS: DALTON'S JOURNEY WITH AMC



Photo Submitted

8-year old Dalton Threet has a strong support system, including his father and mother, Darrell and Heather Threet.

By Eugenia Jones

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8-year-old Dalton Threet has been a fighter and defied the odds since birth. Doctors diagnosed him with the rare disease, Arthrogryposis Multiplex Congenita (AMC), before he was born, while his mother was pregnant with him at around 27 weeks.

Doctors predicted he would never walk or talk and even suggested abortion to his parents, Darrell and Heather Threet.

"We immediately refused and said that was not even an option," Heather said.

"God gave him to us, and we

were going to give him the

best life possible regardless.

Receiving a diagnosis like that

was overwhelming and frightening.

ening at first. Like many families, we had never heard of AMC. From the moment we heard the diagnosis, fear and uncertainty filled the room. Being told your child has a rare condition is something no parent is ever prepared for.

But even in that moment, God was already writing Dalton's story, and we

trusted that His plan, though unknown to us, was purposeful."

Dalton began his journey, defying the odds at birth by being born via C-section on

January 15, 2018, and requiring

no NICU or respiratory help.

AMC is a rare condition characterized by multiple joint

contractures, resulting in stiff

joints with limited range of

motion and sometimes fixed

in certain positions. AMC can impact muscles, joints, and mobility, with no two cases ever looking completely the same.

Although AMC affects the body, it does not impact the mind, heart, or spirit of children living with it. Many children with the diagnosis are exceptionally bright and communicative.

According to Dalton's mother, his life has been filled with therapy sessions, surgeries, medical appointments, long drives, and countless prayers. Physical and occupational therapy have been a constant part of his life, helping him gain strength, flexibility, and independence.

"Each milestone has come through hard work and deter-

See DALTON on A15

