

History museum planning for exhibit of all community’s original high schools

By Jamie Vinson
Advocate Managing Editor

If you know Barry Frazier, it’s no secret he’s a history buff. Frazier has collected local history items for years from places such as eBay, Facebook Marketplace, flea markets or local yard sales. Some of the items he’s given to other locals who may have a bigger interest. “For instance, I acquired a Mt. Sterling Trojans duffle bag that belonged to a close friend and classmate of Curt Steger’s, and it seemed right for him to have that. I also once purchased 1916 and 1917 Mt. Sterling High School yearbooks—they were fascinating time capsules,” Frazier told the Advocate. Some of those yearbooks even had perfectly preserved school newspapers in them.

As another example, Frazier said he once acquired a football program from the early 1950s of a game between DuBois and a black school in Bourbon County (pre-integration). “Of particular note, the DuBois team had exactly 11 players ... every player played every single down on both offense and defense! Those were some tough young men,” Frazier said. The Montgomery County History Museum is planning on having exhibits at the museum for all of the community’s original high schools. An old Trojan megaphone that was just featured at Trojan Retro Night as part the Recreation Bowl is among items that will be included. Frazier also happens to be the president of the Montgomery County Historical Society. If anyone would like to

lend the museum memorabilia from their high school (Mt. Sterling High School, Montgomery County High School, Camargo High School, DuBois High School or Montgomery Training School), Frazier said the museum would love to receive those items. (School jacket, uniform, scrapbooks, anything with the school logo on it for example). Photos can be emailed to mchmky@gmail.com or dropped off at the history museum. Each high school’s display will also include a digital photo frame that will have a slide show of photos and items the museum may not have complete space for in the display cases. “We’d also love to start a library of high school yearbooks from Montgomery County. It would be great to one day have all of the year-



The Trojan megaphone above is among items that are expected to be part of an upcoming exhibit at the history museum for all of the community’s original high schools. Photo submitted.

books in one place. And who knows, maybe at some point in the future, we could make many of them viewable from a digital database (if we’re not violating copyrights),” Frazier said.

FLOCK

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name of “Thomas,” addressed the council Aug. 18 to express concerns about the constitutionality of the use of Flock cameras in local communities. Thomas commended Noel for a previous presentation to the council and encouraged the city to follow changes in the law as technology advances. Thomas also encouraged transparency in the use of the cameras. Thomas asked the city to regularly audit use of the cameras and to ensure proper procedures are in place for them. Thomas also commended the dept. for use

of body cameras being worn, saying that “accountability really matters.” In other action, the council: • Approved first reading of an ordinance setting forth city tax rates. Mayor Al Botts said it’s the lowest property tax rate since 1977.. • Approved a Memorandum of Understanding between the city, county and industrial authority. The city and county will make interest only payments on the Industrial Authority’s loan for development of the Walters Industrial Park. The city and county have already provided around \$200,000 to the project. The Industrial Authority will take out a

loan to cover the rest of what is needed to get the project started. Until land is sold off to pay back the loan, the city and county will make the interest payments. The industrial authority agrees to pay back the city and county for all interest payments made under the agreement. • Heard a request from Kelly Ward with the Gateway Regional Arts Center for a noise ordinance exemption for an upcoming Back Porch Battle of the Bands event. The event will feature multiple bands performing between 4 p.m. and midnight Saturday, Oct. 3. The city granted the request. • Public Works Director

Nathan Boston announced 36 truckloads of debris collected in the city were hauled off after a recent storm. • Botts reported the Columbia Gas project is nearing completion. He applauded downtown businesses for being creative with facade grants granted by the city and said only Spring Street remains to be completed on the city paving schedule. • Accepted the resignation of council member Jon Ledford and appointed Cay Lane to serve out the remaining four and a half months of his term. • Went into closed session to discuss a collective bargaining contract and returned with no action taken.

FOSTER

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zone), were merged with the above listed charges as part of the plea agreement. A charge of failure to produce insurance card was dismissed. Foster is represented by Mt. Sterling Attorney Ben Shields. According to the Kentucky Dept. of Education’s website, Foster is a member of the dept.’s leadership team and an associate commissioner of the Office of Continuous Improvement and Support. She was arrested Aug. 13 by the Montgomery County Sheriff’s Office. Prior to being booked in the Montgomery County Regional Jail on the latest charges, sheriff’s Deputy Michael Grapner claims in a uniform citation Foster allegedly stated she was “big wig” and reportedly asked if authorities knew

who she was. In addition, Grapner alleged in the citation Foster said, “She was running and operates the Board of Education for the state under Gov. Andy Beshear.” She allegedly repeatedly stated, the citation further claimed, “She could not and would not go to jail and to call Gov. Andy Beshear.” The Kentucky Dept. of Education declined comment following the arrest. Scottie Ellis, communications director for Beshear’s office, told the Advocate last week Foster does not work for the governor and noted the KDE is a statutorily independent agency run by the Commissioner of Education. The statement said the governor does not have disciplinary authority of employees at that agency. Grapner said he was dispatched to the 108 eastbound mile marker of I-64 at 9:58 p.m. in

reference to the driver of a white Toyota Camry allegedly swerving from side to side striking traffic cones and barrels. Grapner claimed the driver failed to stop and continued driving with himself and Mt. Sterling Police Dept. officers observing the Camry exit the interstate at the 110 mile marker and turn left onto Maysville Road. The driver, later reportedly identified as Foster, allegedly continued swerving from side to side, going into the emergency lane and opposite lane of traffic, according to the citation. Grapner initiated his emergency equipment (lights and sirens) to signal a traffic stop around Maysville and Silver Lake Drive. Foster allegedly continued on past Rolling Hills approximately a quarter of a mile before coming to a stop. The vehicle, according to Grapner, had damage reportedly consistent with striking

traffic cones/barrels, the citation claimed. Foster allegedly refused arrest and to exit the vehicle. When she did exit the vehicle, Grapner’s citation claimed Foster stumbled and almost fell. She allegedly stated she had been drinking at a Lexington restaurant before traveling home “and had a few shots of vodka, the citation claims. Foster allegedly refused a breath and blood sample. That prompted a search warrant to be sought, acquired and executed. Foster was allegedly difficult, Grapner claimed, requiring three phlebotomists to attempt to draw blood for a sufficient sample.

DUNN

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dents allegedly occurred when he stayed overnight at Dunn’s home on Bell Farm Road in Jeffersonville and at a work site where Dunn was performing electrical work. Kentucky State Police allegedly found a used condom on Dunn’s property containing DNA consistent with Dunn and the boy. A jury convicted Dunn at a 2010 trial on five counts and Circuit Judge

William “Bill” Lane sentenced him to serve 50 years in prison. The case, however, was overturned by the Kentucky Court of Appeals. Dunn argued he received ineffective counsel. The court wrote that Dunn’s trial attorney, Alex Rowady of Winchester, should have objected to jury instructions for each charged offense. Dunn argued in a 166-page motion that the instructions failed to properly particularize each of the charges

against him. All the charges in the indictment were identically worded, the court found. In the 2009 case, an indictment charged Dunn, formerly a fire-arms instructor, with providing incomplete firearms training. Each offense was punishable by one to five years in prison if convicted. The charges were ultimately dismissed by Judge Lane in December 2010 and never went to trial.

DATA

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ing a data center in the community. Members of the Fiscal Court said at previous workshops the community does not have the water or power infrastructure to accommodate a data center. Former Judge-Executive and Property Valuation Administrator Floyd Arnold previously went before the Fiscal Court about it adopting some sort of moratorium. To date, only the Fiscal Court and city of Camargo have taken any official action on the matter. The Camargo City Commission recently approved first reading of an ordinance for a 180-day moratorium on data centers. Mayor Clayton Neal previously told the Advocate the city might revisit the language depending what action the county took. He also noted there had been no inquiries about data centers. The Camargo City Commission meets again Sept. 14. Mt. Sterling Mayor Al Botts said the city has also not been contacted by anyone representing a data center, that the city isn’t seeking a location for one or recruiting a data center. The city, like the Fiscal Court, Botts said, is studying and working to better educate or prepare in the event someone reaches out about constructing a data center. Any data center

development requests would be publicly heard at Planning and Zoning meetings. Botts addresses data centers further in a letter on page A4. In other action, the Fiscal Court: • Approved a Memorandum of Understanding with the city and industrial authority to provide financial support to the authority. • In the morning workshop the court learned that Montgomery Youth ADAPT plans to apply for \$5,000 in opioid settlement funds for a drug prevention program. • Chief Deputy Jailor Beth Willoughby informed the court that the Best Forward drug program at the jail is having good results. It also received money from the county fund. • Announced it is still working to resolve the roof issue at the Montgomery County Health and Civic Center. • Reported a leak was found on the fourth floor of the North Maysville Road building. The building was donated to the county by Community Trust Bank. • Approved first reading of property tax rates. The rate will be 6.1 cents per \$100 of assessed value on read and personal property. The rate is lower than the 6.3 cent rate imposed last year, Haddix said.

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