

Faith&Family

Small creatures, big jobs, good examples

I was recently in a part of the world where leaf-cutter ants thrive. I am fascinated by them and nearly always stop my hike to watch them for a few minutes. It is amazing to me that creatures so small can cut a very visible network of paths hundreds of yards around their nest. They are an engine of soil enrichment, transfer of carbon, and nutrient recycling.

All ant species provide some benefit in keeping pests at bay, enriching the soil, and dispersing seeds. It is impossible to imagine a world without these tiny creatures doing what they do. The writer of the first nine chapters of Proverbs used the ant as an



DR. SEAN NIESTRATH

example of industriousness and planning. Small creatures, big jobs, and a good example for us.

Proverbs 6:6-11 says, “Go to the ant, O sluggard; consider her ways, and be wise. Without having any chief, officer or ruler, she prepares her food in summer, and gathers her sustenance in harvest. How long will you lie there, O sluggard? When will you arise from your sleep? A little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to rest, and poverty will come upon you like a vagabond, and want like an armed man.”

When I go walking (or hiking), I am constantly looking for nature doing the job it was assigned by God to do. I see plants that are

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flowering, producing fruit, leafing out in the spring — all in their own well-planned time to feed the animals. I see bees, mosquitoes, butterflies, and beetles ensuring that blooms are pollinated. I see the rain and the sun. There are squirrels eating seeds and nuts, and sometimes a hawk eating a squirrel.

I was recently on top of a hill in the middle of a thick forest. There was one road cut through it — the only paved highway for miles around. I could see a stretch of road about five miles in length. There was one truck on one road — and I could clearly hear the noise it was mak-

ing. I am impressed that all the birds, frogs, singing insects, and mammals can still communicate over the din that we make. And some of us think the roar of an engine is impressive.

I am learning to be thankful for the massive job that the smallest of creatures are doing every day. They go about their business because that is what they were made to do. They do it with or without us noticing. They do it without our thanks. They often do it despite our thoughtlessness that gets in their way.

God has given everything — plant and animal — the “wisdom”

that it needs to thrive and to do its job. Such wisdom to thrive is noticed by the wise man, Agur, in Proverbs 30:25-28. Here is a list of creatures that are not large and powerful, yet they thrive because they are shrewd and wise. All of the creatures in these verses are here because they are first “not strong” and second because you can’t get rid of them, even if you tried. They are “exceedingly wise.”

Here is what Agur says about them:

“Four things on earth are small, but they are exceedingly wise: the ants are a people not strong, yet they provide their food in the summer; the badgers

[rock hyrax] are a people not mighty, yet they make their homes in the rocks; the locusts have no king, yet all of them march in rank; the lizard you can take in your hands, yet it is in kings’ palaces.”

We will nearly always see what we are looking to see in our daily experiences. The key is to look for things that are worth looking for. What wisdom do I see in all the life that inhabits that half-rotten log on the ground? What wisdom is there in that dead shell of a tree still standing? That caterpillar over there? Those larvae swimming in that still water?

My life, our lives, are totally dependent on the wisdom that God has built into this wonderful planet we live on. Find it, appreciate it, thank God for it — take care of it.

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Notice: The Paducah Independent Schools,

Student records of destruction will take place on/after July 29, 2026 this includes transferred student records from 2022 and prior, not including transcripts. If a record of an individual is needed please request via email to abigail.nguyen@paducah.kyschools.us or calling at 270-444-5600

PUBLIC NOTICE

City of Paducah is Accepting Applications for the Roof Stabilization Assistance Program

The City of Paducah requests applications for roof replacement or stabilization in the Roof Stabilization Project Area in downtown Paducah. The deadline for submitting applications is Friday, July 31, 2026.

Additional information, application and list of qualified contractors can be found at <https://paducahky.gov/bids-and-proposals>.

The Paducah Sun
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SPECIAL COMMISSIONER SALE NOTICE OF SALE JULY 27, 2026

ROBERT C. MANCHESTER, MASTER COMMISSIONER

There is a web site available with the sales listings and general information about Master Commissioner Sales. You can access the information on the first Friday that it appears in the Paducah Sun Classified Ads (which is the TWO Fridays prior to the sale) at: MCCLISTINGS.NET. You must enter the year and month in order to view only the sales for this month. The Master Commissioner has a conflict in this case and has assigned it to the Special Commissioner.

On MONDAY, JULY 27, 2026 at or about 1:30 p.m. pursuant to terms of various Judgments in the McCracken Circuit Court, the Commissioner will sell the properties listed below at public auction to the highest bidder at the McCracken County Courthouse, Paducah, Kentucky, as described in the following actions. The auction for this month will be held inside the courthouse on the steps in the old section of the courthouse (on the Washington Street side or the left side of the courthouse.)

You do not need to register to bid on properties, but be sure to have access to sufficient funds to buy property for the purchase price and pay the full purchase price ON THE DAY OF THE SALE, AT THE SALE LOCATION, unless you have a preapproved security bond. You must also meet certain requirements if you plan on paying the 10% deposit, instead of the full amount. You must have someone present at the sale to sign a surety bond; that surety bond person must be preapproved at least 5 days prior to the sale. To get pre-approval you must make an appointment to meet with the Special Commissioner to get the surety approval. If you do not have pre-approval, it will not be given the day of the sale.

You should have a letter from the bank saying that you have sufficient funds or credit to buy the property. These are listed below under the Terms of Sale on this document, please read carefully all the Terms of Sale. For more information go to the web page listed above or pick up a list at the Special Commissioner's Office at 535 Broadway Street on the corner of 6th and Broadway.

1222 HAMPTON AVE, PADUCAH, KY; U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION AS TRUSTEE FOR LB-RANCH SERIES V TRUST VS HEIRS OF JOHN D. HAMM, ET AL; 21-CI-00372. Sale is made to recover the following: Judgment for the Plaintiff in the amount of \$23,854.10 as principal, interest accrued (\$12,421.33) and continuing at 9.47%; fees & costs of and attorney fees of \$3,350.00; and the costs of the sale. Lot 7, Block A, Worton's Second Addition in Plat Book A, P. 90. Deed Book 929, p. 378 and Deed Book 1177, p. 589. PIDN: 103-42-12-007

TERMS: The following terms are in effect unless otherwise mentioned above: Properties are to be sold for cash or on credit of 30 days. If the purchaser does not pay the full amount on the day of the sale, he or she must provide a pre approved surety, letter of credit and will be required to execute bond with a surety signature per KRS 426.705 and provide a deposit of 10% of the sale price. The person signing for the surety bond must be preapproved at least 5 days before the sale. Call the Special Commissioner's Office to set an appointment for the approval. Credit sales will accrue interest at the rate per annum as designated by the Order of Sale. Full Payment or a deposit of 10% MUST be made THE DAY OF THE SALE.

The properties are located in McCracken County, and plat and deed books referred to herein are located in the McCracken County Clerk's Office. Properties are to be sold free and clear of all liens, encumbrances, and interest of all parties that have been named in the Order, except as specifically noted or announced the day of the sale. Purchaser shall be required to pay all taxes that become due against the property in 2026 and all subsequent years. It is recommended that a Title Search be done to assure that all liens and encumbrances were listed in the law suit. It is also recommended that the purchaser consider acquiring insurance on the property as it becomes their property after the Report of Sale has been entered.

Some sales may be cancelled, and any announcements made at the sale take precedence over printed matter contained herein. The undersigned Commissioner does not have access to the inside of the above-mentioned properties. It will take approximately 30 days until the Deed can be completed and approved.

This the 10th day of July, 2026

Robert C. Manchester
Special Commissioner

21-CI-00372 HAMM. David C. Nalley, Sottile and Barile, LLC, 394 Wards Corner Boulevard, Suite 180, Loveland, OH 45140

Larry D. Doucet, II, Division of Unemployment Insurance, Attorney for Commonwealth of Kentucky, 500 Mero Street, Fourth Floor, Frankfort, KY 40601

Mark L. Ashburn Attorney for William Wayne Burns, P.O. Box 268, Paducah, KY 42002

Robert C. Manchester, P.O. Box 78, Paducah, KY 42002

Heirs of John D. Hamm, 1222 Hampton Ave, Paducah, KY 42001

Any Current Resident, 1222 Hampton Ave, Paducah, KY 42001

Goes great with coffee

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