

THE WOODFORD SUN

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YEARLY SUBSCRIPTION RATES

\$50, Woodford County residents

\$38, Woodford County senior residents

\$60, Kentucky residents

\$65, out of state

From Our Files

10 Years Ago February 25, 2016

The WCHS Mat Jackets completed a great season under head coach Rusty Parks, Jr., finishing second in the state out of 87 teams who had qualified for the Kentucky State Championship Meet, narrowly missing out to Union County on yet another state championship for the storied program. Chase Yost (an 8th grader) won his weight class, with second place finishes going to Max Andreoni and Tucker Hurst, a fourth place finish went to Michael Eldridge and Emir Bernabe, and Joey Roberts had a fifth place finish. Five other Woodford wrestlers competed but did not place, but all contributed to the remarkable team finish.

Versailles Mayor Brian Traugott and WC Economic Development Authority chair and a consultant hired by the City of Versailles previewed their pro-development stance in advance of a public hearing scheduled for March 3 on the future of the Edgewood Farm property.

The Versailles-Midway-Woodford County Planning Commission's comprehensive plan committee held a well-attended public hearing on the expansion of the urban service boundary of Versailles, which included several citizens and elected officials expressing their views.

Donald Morton, a descendant of a family with deep roots in Hometown, a "free town" established by former enslaved Black men and women in northeastern Woodford County that was essentially destroyed by the creation of the Bluegrass Parkway, spoke at a program titled "Piecing A Story Together" held at the WCHS high school library organized by history teacher Sioux Finney for her ninth grade class. Finney's class, along with other teachers and folks with roots in Hometown began the project to tell Hometown's story.

Joe Graviss, owner of several central Kentucky McDonald's restaurants, presented a \$10,000 check to WCHS for the purchase of CPR mannequins for students to learn life-saving techniques.

The WCHS Academic Team "Brain Jackets" won its first ever 11th Region title and advances to the state championship where the winner takes home the Governor's Cup.

The WCHS boys basketball team won its first game against Western Hills to advance to the finals of the District tournament. The Lady Jackets girls basketball team bested Dunbar on Senior Night in the Hive, and the Jacket Fish had great results at the Regional meet, placing 12 swimmers and two divers in the state championship meet, and were led by senior diver Jacqui Kowalke.

25 Years Ago February 22, 2001

The WCHS Mat Jackets finished third in the state wrestling tournament last weekend. Juniors Eric Slugantz and Tyler Baldwin won individual titles.

Woodford County farmer Hampton "Hoppy" Henton has been appointed by Gov. Paul Patton to head the Kentucky Center for Agricultural Development and Entrepreneurship.

Applications have been received from 36 individuals interested in becoming the next superintendent of Woodford County Schools.

Woodford Hospital failed to pay more than \$265,000 in federal and state payroll taxes between November of 1999 and January of 2000, according to a report issued by the state Attorney General's office as part of a special grand jury investigation into the facility's financial failure.

Graduating from Eastern Kentucky University at the end of the fall semester were Woodford County students Paulette Akers, Tammy Leigh Arnold, Carol Robertson, and

Kenneth Allen Johns.

Representing St. Leo Middle School at the state Governor's Cup will be Kevin Davidson, Katherine Dale, Andrew Baker, Molly Hogan, Jackie DiBiasie, and Teresa Cox.

Advancing to the state Governor's Cup from Woodford County Middle School were Jamie Tulenko, Clay Roysse, and Taylor Phillips.

Jennifer Steen of Midway has been named director of volunteers and education for Hospice of the Bluegrass.

40 Years Ago February 20, 1986

Three members of an Amsden Avenue family have been held to the grand jury in connection with the imprisonment of another family member in the basement of their home.

Schools were closed Friday for the fifth day this year because of snow. The fresh snowfall, added to the five or so inches already on the ground, brought accumulations in Central Kentucky to between seven and nine inches.

Margie Elizabeth Grose, 7, of Versailles was crowned Miss Fayette Mall in the 5-7 age category on Feb. 1 in Lexington.

Patricia Etherington of Versailles graduated in December from Eastern Kentucky University.

On the Western Kentucky University dean's list for the fall semester were Stanley S. Dawson, Stephanie Leigh Johnson, and Richard Raymond Peck, all of Versailles.

Both the Woodford County High School Yellow Jackets and Lady Jackets own 15-4 records this basketball season.

Six Yellow Jacket wrestlers advanced to the state tourney in the team's second-place finish in last weekend's semi-state. They are Marc Richardson, Zack Means, John Morgan, Andy Martin, Eddie Kirkpatrick, and James Clemons.

Clippings from our past...

Editor's Note: We are republishing excerpts from the 1891 Woodford Sun. The Constitutional Convention of 1890-91, which enacted the constitution which remains intact today with numerous amendments since, began meeting in Sept. 1890, and was presided over by Ambassador Cassius M. Clay of Madison County. The excerpts related to this will be the Clippings focus. For historical purposes, we reprint the Clippings "warts and all," and so the presence of derogatory and racist stereotypical words are reprinted.

The Woodford Sun February 26, 1891

[ON THE FLY, (a weekly miscellany front-page column of Editor J. Bowmar's observations, jokes, etc)]
[LOVED JIM WAS THAR: "Is Jim here?" inquired an old black mammy at the door of the county jail the other day. "Jim who?" asked the jailer. "Jim Johnsing, dat's who. He's my ole man," she replied. "What's Jim been doing?" responded the jailer. "Nothing's I knows, 'cept he mebbe come to dinner, if'n I 'lowed you mought hab him in heah . . . hes's ah onery ol' fool."

[CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION NOTES] If Capt. Blackburn of this county should be defeated for State Auditor, which we feel sure will not be the case, the Convention will be the cause of it. Capt. Blackburn has been probably the most

regular and faithful attendant of any man in it. He does not believe in drawing \$5 for a day's work in the convention and then electioneering while there.

The convention is making fair progress with the conclusion of the Corporation report and are now tussling with the lengthy Legislative report containing 59 sections. The section on apportionment is taking the longest to debate. The capitol question remains controversially in abeyance.

[DEMOCRATIC STATE CONVENTION] How is it that the date for the Democratic State Convention was set for the week of the Louisville races? Could this have been intentional?

[POLITICAL ORATORY] The first guns have been fired and the war for Legislative honors in Woodford is now upon us. A big crowd gathered in the Circuit

Chamber Monday afternoon to hear opening speeches from candidates S.H. Shouse and Field McLeod, the two Democrat combatants.

[J.J. HAYES DEAD!] One of Versailles most prominent and beloved citizens expired suddenly of heart failure at 11 pm on Tuesday night. In apparent good health one hour before and dead the next.

[DOWN IN FLORIDA] A word from the "land of the Sun" may not be unwelcome in Woodford given how hard it has been this winter. We heard from our friends in Lake County who have been resting there from their labors here in Woodford County and are eating oranges there for the past month. Our Woodford County friends report is now almost a "Kentucky Colony," abounding in orange groves, beautiful fresh lakes, and splendid fishing.

Letter to the Editor

Support Career and Technical Education

As a 26 year educator (14 years at WCMS), I wanted to, as Ms. Faith Davis did in her article last week, support Career and Technical Education (CTE) courses that are provided for our students here in Woodford County. I have 20 years experience teaching middle school science and 6 years teaching CTE courses. I have seen firsthand the impact CTE courses and clubs have had on my students.

CTE courses are vital to our students as they navigate through public schools towards future careers. CTE courses offer students a chance at skills that will pave their way to be successful adults. Students, in their course loads, may not have the opportunities

to use and learn skills such as collaboration, teamwork, time management, professional communication/collaboration, and work ethics. These skills are absolutely essential in today's workforce.

I encourage parents in Woodford County to make sure their scholars consider or take a CTE course. Get them involved in a CTE oriented club/team that is offered at WCMS and WCHS. Instead of asking your student "What did you learn today?", you can ask "What skills did you use today?"

Geoffrey Sprinkle
Woodford County resident and educator



February is Heart Health Month

By CASSIE PRATHER
WOODFORD COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH DIRECTOR

I hope you were able to join us at the CPR event held at the high school last weekend. If not, we have the event annually and would love to see you next year. The class is meant to be a refresher or overview of what you can do in a cardiac emergency.

Many times, family and friends are the first responders, and it's so important that resuscitation is started before medical help arrives. In just minutes, your heart not beating deprives vital organs of oxygenated blood, causing irreversible damage.

However, the best medicine is prevention, and there are many things that you can do, in non-emergent times, that can keep your heart healthy.

Your heart beats about 100,000 times a day, and your lifestyle can either promote or inhibit its performance. By living a healthy lifestyle, you can help keep your blood pressure, cholesterol and blood sugar levels normal and lower your risk for heart disease and heart attack.

Here are some tips for heart health: Choose healthy meals and snacks to help prevent heart disease. Be sure to eat plenty of fresh fruits and vegetables and fewer processed foods.

Eating foods high in fiber and low in saturated fats, trans fat and cholesterol can help prevent high cholesterol.

Limiting salt (sodium) in your diet can also lower your blood pressure.

Drinking less alcohol may help lower or prevent high blood pressure.

Maintain a healthy weight. People who struggle with excess weight or obesity have a higher risk of heart disease. Carrying extra weight can put extra stress on the heart and blood vessels.

Physical activity can help you maintain a healthy weight and lower your blood pressure, blood cholesterol and blood sugar levels. For adults, the surgeon general recommends 2 hours and 30 minutes of moderate-intensity exercise, like brisk walking or bicycling, every week. Children and adolescents should get 1 hour of physical activity every day.

Cigarette smoking greatly increases your risk for heart disease. If you smoke, quitting will lower your risk for heart disease. Your doctor can suggest ways to help you quit. You can also visit quitnowkentucky.org for additional resources to help you quit smoking.

Lastly, your health care team should test your blood cholesterol levels at least once every 4 to 6 years. Talk with your health care team about this simple blood test. If you have high cholesterol, medicines and lifestyle changes can help reduce your risk for heart disease.

Fiscal Court discusses designating new road in County Park

By SCOTT WHITE
WOODFORD SUN STAFF

The Woodford County Fiscal Court heard a proposal from Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Director Kenneth Johns concerning naming a road in Woodford County Park at its Tuesday, Feb. 24 meeting.

The proposal would designate as a new road the existing roadway from the entry into the park at the Woodford County Senior Center to the tennis court and dog park area. Johns explained this will have no impact on the road system and that the county road department already maintains these areas.

Johns explained the issue arose from County Administrative Assistant Emily Castle, Maintenance Department Director Rick Wade and Woodford County Emergency Management Agency Director Drew Chandler. The problems related to properly identifying the various county structures along the roadway on insurance policies and better identification of locations for 9-1-1 purposes. Right now, all of the structures have generic names instead of proper three- or four-digit addresses, said Wade.

Johns said he had conferred with the Versailles-Woodford County Parks & Recreation Department board and the management at the Rail Explorers and Bluegrass Railroad Museum, and all agreed it was a good move. They, too, had concerns relating to patrons finding their location, given that they are now addressed as Beasley Road.

Johns recommended the "new" road be named "Recreation Way," as it relates to the recreational area. However, Woodford County Judge-Executive James Kay, recognizing it was a last-minute suggestion, proposed the name be John "Bear" Coyle Way.

Johns said if that was the court's decision, there would be no impact on the GIS department's procedure, though he said his opinion was that "it (should) not be named after a political figure because of many different issues, but that's the court's decision."

With no objections, Kay said his office would reach out to the businesses there and Parks & Recreation to see if his suggested name would be acceptable and report back. Though it was hard to hear, someone suggested the road be named "Bumpy Bear Way," given the existing road is a bit rough, which elicited big laughs with Kay chuckling, "I

don't know if the Coyles would appreciate that."

Sammy Weese

The court honored Sammy Weese, who just won the Kentucky State Middle School Indoor Track & Field competition, becoming the most recent Woodford County state champion.

"Sammy is just a wonderful young man. He just started this event last spring, and he will jump much higher in the future on the high school team," said Head Coach Chavi Muniz. "He is active in several things, including being on the WCMS academic team. He is just a really well-rounded kid."

Kentucky Senior Games

Due to the popularity and scenic nature of Woodford County, the Kentucky State Senior Games requested permission to hold its cycling road races here on Aug. 29. The route would begin on Kentucky Avenue and wind down McCracken Pike. There are 5K and 10K timed trials, and a 20K road race. The winners qualify for the National Senior Games.

As part of the event, the racers and supporters will be provided information about distillery tours and local restaurants, as well as informing families and farms who live along the route.

Though permission for cycling events is not technically required since those roads are open to cyclists, Kay, with no objections from the magistrates, said the county will support the event.

Contracts

Fiscal Court approved the Maintenance Department's request to pay \$17,550 to Eads Fence Company for the installation of an electronic gate at the entrance to the road garage.

Ordinance

The court approved the first reading of an ordinance to accept Larland Lane into the county road system.

Treasurer's Report

County Treasurer Melody Traugott reported the current flex account balance as \$14,832,279.56. Traugott also advised the court that there was a significant outstanding balance owed by the Kentucky Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC), related to the operation of the Courthouse and Annex, and she was reaching out to AOC to get those funds.

Guidelines for letters to the editor:

The Woodford Sun welcomes letters to the editor. Letters should be original, on topics of public interest, and not addressed to a third party.

Letters must contain the name, address, and daytime telephone number of the writer for purposes of verification. The Sun does not publish unsigned or unverifiable letters. We reserve the right to reject or condense any letter and to limit frequent writers. Letters should be typed, not in all upper case, and be no longer than 400 words.

Thank-you letters and those containing personal messages are not accepted, nor are all letters concerning candidates for local offices.

The deadline for receipt of letters is noon Monday. Letters may be brought to our office at 184 South Main Street, mailed to us at P.O. Box 29, Versailles, KY 40383, or emailed to news@woodfordsun.com.