

THE WOODFORD SUN

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\$50, Woodford County residents

\$38, Woodford County senior residents

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\$65, out of state

From Our Files

10 Years Ago July 20, 2016

Midway Mayor Grayson Vandegrift opposed, during a Planning Commission public hearing, a proposed extension of Falling Springs Road to connect at U.S.60 at the Midway Road intersection. He supported Versailles right to alleviate traffic concerns but not without investigating other sound options which, he argued, had been ignored by planners.

Brown Forman Corporation purchased 117 acres on KY 341 where it plans to build bourbon warehouses over the next 10 to 15 years. The cost of the land was \$2,308,070 from Homer Freeny, Jr. as trustee of the Homer Freeny, Jr. Trust. The purchase follows rezoning and conditional use permits for the planned warehouses.

Midway City Council passed an ordinance making it a misdemeanor to fire a gun within the city limits, which will carry a fine of \$100-250.

Tucker Hurst was awarded the 13th annual Michael Jackson Memorial Scholarship to the WCHS senior wrestler. The award honors Michael who tragically died in a car accident.

Four WCHS softball players were part of the team that won the prestigious 16U Triple Crown National Softball tournament held in Randall Park in New York City. The players were: Lindsay Anderson, Caitlin Karo, Paige Hampton, and

Bethany Todd. All four will be returning to play on next season's Lady Jackets squad.

25 Years Ago July 19, 2001

The Versailles City Council voted unanimously Tuesday evening to reject the proposed Elm Street/McCracken Pike residential development on the Barrows property.

Mark Hogg of Versailles, who holds the world record for consuming the most worms in 30 seconds, will appear on "Ripley's Believe It or Not" on July 25 on TBS.

David Lodmell of Versailles was the undergraduate winner in biological research competitions at Western Kentucky University.

Sarah B. McMahon of Versailles graduated recently from Morehead State University.

Chantel Renee Depp was third runner-up in the 2001 Mrs. Kentucky America Pageant held recently in Louisville.

The White Sox were winners of the Woodford County Senior League regular-season championship, finishing with a 10-2 record. The team is coached by Robert Proffitt.

40 Years Ago July 17, 1986

The state has approved Woodford County's school facilities plan, which includes the consolidation of Mortonville students into a new elementary school in Versailles, construction of

a new elementary school at Midway, and an addition to Simmons Elementary.

George Stipp, the oldest working barber in Woodford County until he became ill recently, died Saturday at the age of 80. He had earned his living as a barber since 1924.

A Sun editorial called for the addition of ramps on the east side of the Blue Grass Parkway at Troy Pike.

Perry L. Dunn of Versailles has been awarded a scholarship by the University of Kentucky College of Agriculture.

Judy Griffin of Lexington has been appointed vice president for external affairs at Midway College. She has headed corporate and foundation relations at the University of Kentucky for eight years.

Robert N. Clay, owner of Three Chimneys Farm in Woodford County, has been appointed to the Midway College Board of Trustees.

Mr. and Mrs. Hardin O. Walcutt of Lake Wales, Fla., are visiting in Midway this week.

Pvt. Jason Ashley of Versailles has completed a field artillery fire support course at Fort Sill, Okla.

Winners of the recent 4-H Horse Bowl held at the University of Kentucky were Woodford Countians Carey Burford, Susan Pfanstiel, Beth Dickey, Carroll Carmickle, and Lesley Burford.

Traffic lights have been installed at Lexington Road and Paddock Drive.

Letter to the Editor

No recallable tax

I felt I needed to respond to Scott White's editorial in last week's *Woodford Sun*. The remarks he made were addressed to those taxpayers who would oppose a recallable tax. Mr. White said a recall petition this fall would be 1) shortsighted and 2) irresponsible. He did not explain what he meant by that. I would use those two words myself in describing the actions by the Woodford County Board of Education, regarding the financial health of

the school system. Were they not shortsighted and irresponsible when they voted time and again to spend money on recurring expenses that would not be available in the future? It is shameful to expect the taxpayers of Woodford County to now pay for their mishandling of past tax revenue.

Paul B. Stahler
Versailles

BOE

Continued from p. 1

Academy school building. The one-time cost will be paid with funds from the self-sufficient ETC, and will not come out of WCPS's general operating fund, Gribbins said.

Later, Chief Operating Officer Josh Rayburn talked about positions being created for the Little Legacy Hive. Before the BOE approved those positions, Jones said some positions will only be filled if student enrollment rises to a level where they must be filled under state licensing requirements.

Hold for the HIVE

During her monthly remarks, Jones said she and Gribbins are traveling to eight locations in Woodford County – from Nonesuch to Millville to Midway – this summer to explain why WCPS needs the local revenue produced by the current property tax rate of 63.3 cents to "maintain our current level of excellence..."

Among the locations where they are scheduled to make one-hour presentations are the Woodford County Library on July 27 at noon, the Church Barn Farm in Nonesuch on July 28 at 5 p.m., Northside Elementary in Midway on Aug. 4 at 1 p.m., and the Millville Community Center on Aug. 12 at 1 p.m.

For anyone unable to attend those community meetings, a video recording of the presentation will be shared on the budget transparency page of the WCPS website, where people in the community can also post questions, Jones said.

"We just feel like we owe it to our community and we owe it to our employees, our students, our families, our board members to really just present the facts," Jones said. She also thanked *The Woodford Sun* for being an advocate for holding the local property tax rate at 63.3 cents per \$100 of assessed value to avoid additional budget cuts.

"This is hard information to take in," BOE member KT Gould said. "... So I really encourage everyone to watch the video ... to reach out to board members directly if you have questions, to reach out to Dr. Jones ... instead of making assumptions on social media."

Later, BOE Vice Chair Ambrose Wilson asked Jones to provide board members with specifics on what cuts will have to be made if they vote to approve a local property tax rate generating 4 percent more revenue rather than holding the rate at 63.3 cents. "I can do that," she told him.

Summer meal program

Jones lauded district Food Service Coordinator Courtney Quire, her cafeteria staff and the success of this summer's meal program, which has already served over 75,000 meals.

"And we think we'll probably exceed 100,000 this summer," said Jones, later adding, "Courtney Quire is passionate about getting our students fed. ... She's just a phenomenal leader."

Summer school program

Jones also thanked transportation staff for allowing WCPS to offer its summer school program by helping the district save several thousand dollars on transportation costs. "... Not only that, (but) making sure that we can continue to provide that service to the students that need it so much," BOE member Sarah McCoun said.

In an email to the *Sun* explaining the trans-

portation cost savings, Jones's administrative assistant Jessie Rayburn wrote, "Normally, the bus drivers will drive summer school routes and are paid on a limited contract since these hours are outside of their school year contracts. This summer, our year round transportation staff (who are already being paid during the summer) were the ones who drove the summer school routes. This enabled the district to save a considerable amount of money for not bringing in additional drivers for the majority of the summer school sessions."

Technology in schools

With the school year less than a month away, the district's Technology Task Force continues looking at the issue of student screen time and how devices are being used as a tool for learning in the classroom, Chief Academic Officer Ryan Asher told the BOE during his curriculum and instruction update. Student, teacher and parent surveys will provide the district with more information about screen time and how technology is used going forward, he said.

"We just don't want to swing the pendulum too far and say, 'Everybody has to close our Chromebooks,' because that's not the right answer," Asher cautioned the BOE. "But we're going to do some very intentional things to find what that right answer is."

In response to a question about AI (Artificial Intelligence) use, he said that's a part of this ongoing discussion about how technology in being used in the schools because "it's certainly not just screen time."

Agenda review meetings

BOE Chair Adam Brickler shared a calendar for agenda review meetings, which will begin on Aug. 20. The meetings are scheduled at 5 p.m. on the Thursday before the regular board meetings on Monday.

Brickler said agenda review meetings are an opportunity for BOE members to ask questions before voting on action items at the regular meeting in an effort to make regular meetings more efficient.

"I'm excited for the opportunity to have cordial and respectful conversation around these topics for the public to be able hear to increase transparency, especially as we're going into this tax rate discussion," Gould said.

"I think we have gotten to a much better place (in terms of having respectful discussions) than ... in the past," Brickler said. "One of the first things I did as chair was to put the treasurer's (financial) report back on the agenda so we can talk about it. And I think that we have shown that we can have those conversations. And so this is the next step."

A moment of silence

The BOE conducted a moment of silence in remembrance of two retired WCPS educators, Steve Campbell and Joelle Gay Finney, who both died recently. During really hard times in their students' lives, including hers, Gould said Mr. Campbell and Ms. Finney were always there for their students – inside and outside of their classrooms.

"Mr. Campbell," she continued, "was really the bright spot in my day during really, probably the most challenging year (I had as a Woodford County student). And I know that I'm not alone in sharing those sentiments."

"... They truly will be missed. And they have definitely left a mark on Woodford County Public Schools."

Clippings from our past...

Editor's Note: We are returning to the summer of 1891, as Kentucky prepared to vote on whether to adopt the new Kentucky Constitution, which resulted from the debates of the Constitutional Convention held in Frankfort. The people accepted the new Constitution, and it remains the one in effect today, governing our Commonwealth. For historical purposes, we reprint the Clippings "warts and all," and so derogatory and racist stereotypical words are reprinted in an effort to combat any attempts to "clean up" history for modern eyes or assuage modern consciences. Below are two particularly awful examples of racism from the July 16, 1891, edition of the Sun. Be aware that the July 23, Sun summarized this week, reported on an extra-judicial act of racially based terrorism, a lynching, under the headline "Judge Lynch"].

The Woodford Sun July 23, 1891

[JUDGE LYNCH] On last Monday morning, a negro named Jim Pulliam, who lived near Shelbyville, went to the house of Mr. Glenn, a respectable farmer, who was absent from home. After choking his wife into insensibility, [Pulliam] committed a still greater outrage upon her. In a few hours, hundreds of angry men were in pursuit of the beast, who was finally captured in Anderson County and placed in the Lawrenceburg jail. The Shelby Sheriff started for home with the prisoner after nightfall accompanied by a strong posse, but a mile and a half from Lawrenceburg was met and overpowered by a large body of armed men, who took Pulliam to the roadside and hung him. He confessed his guilt.

[NEW CONVENTION] Although the air is filled with ancestral voices prophesying woe in the even of the adoption of the New Constitution for Kentucky, it will be supported by all those who

oppose five months sessions of the Legislature, railroad subscriptions, lotteries, frequent elections and all the demoralization that grows out of these things. The evils enumerated are real and unquestioned, while those with which we are threatened are mainly imaginary.

It is reported that Gov. Buckner has not made up his mind to vote for the New Constitution. This is regrettable but not unexpected. Before the Convention closed, he had manifested his dislike to some features of the instrument.

[BASE-BALL IN VERSAILLES] Don't frown on the base-ball enthusiasts in Versailles this summer. It is a perfectly innocent amusement, and very healthful (except for the umpire), and all sensible people ought to encourage it. It is good recreation for these summer days, and will keep our young male Versaillesians from yielding too much to the dolce far niente that the season brings. The writer of this article don't know a three-bagger from a

royal flush, but all the same he approves of base-ball, and is proud of the gallant boys who compose Versailles club.

[CONFEDERATE VETERANS] Don't forget the meeting of the Confederate Veterans Association at the Court-House next Monday, Court-Day. Mr. John Bailey has been appointed Second Vice President of the Association for the county. A question to be decided is whether the various county associations will gather together to form a single statewide association.

[OF INTEREST TO TEACHERS] There are 25 white and 18 colored schools in Woodford County. The examination for white teachers will be held on the first Fridays of the months, and for colored teachers on the second Friday of the months.

[ST. LEO'S CHURCH] The new Catholic Church at the head of Main Street will present a handsome appearance when completed. We learn that work has resumed and will be completed next fall.



KEN SPALDING was sworn-in as the newest school resource officer in Woodford County Public Schools during Monday's Board of Education meeting. Spalding, a retired Frankfort Police officer, has 32 years of law enforcement experience, WCPS Police Chief Steve Sutton told the board. Spalding will be the new SRO at Safe Harbor Academy. WCPS still needs to fill one SRO vacancy. (Photo by Bob Vlach)

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