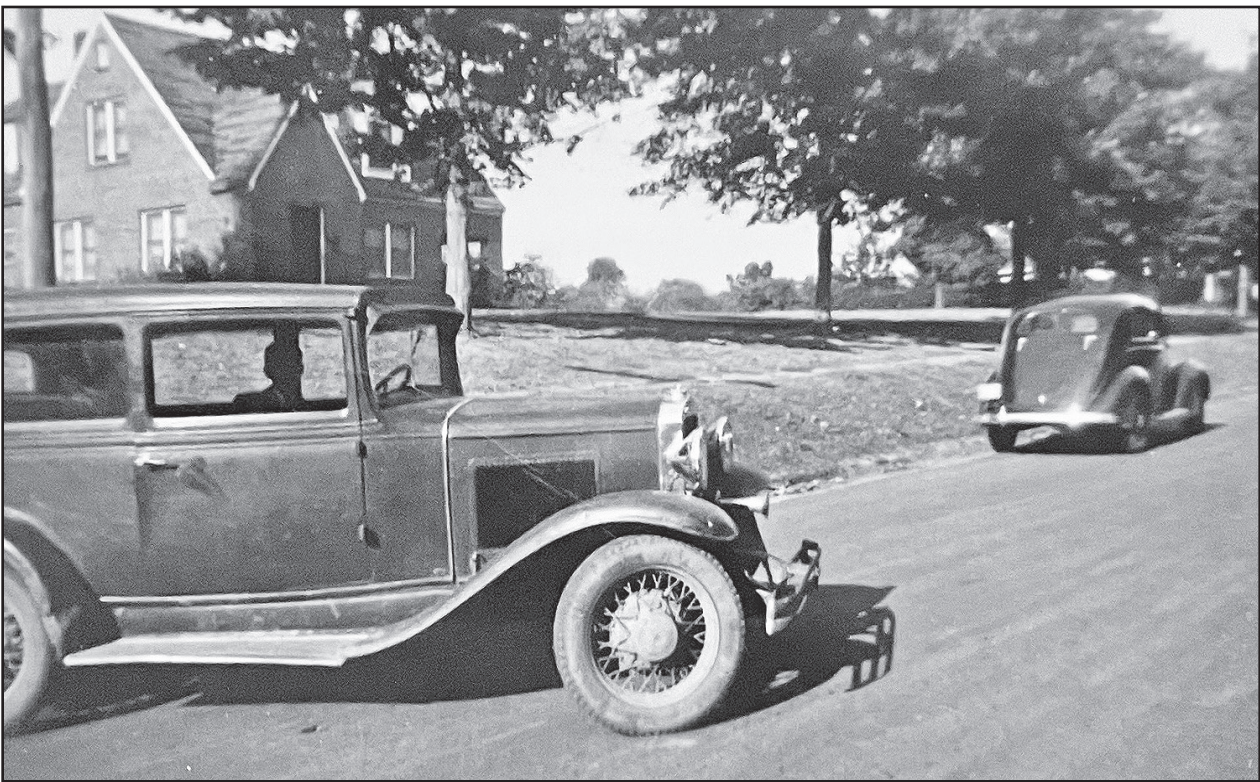




Londyn Harper, daughter of Kevin Harper, granddaughter of James Harper Jr., and great-granddaughter of Ms. Jesse DeBose of Clinton. She has won three state titles with the Cinderella Pageant, and her first major win includes a \$4,000 scholarship.



House presumed to be in Clinton, Ky. Does anyone recognize it? (Photo courtesy Rose Ann Cooley)

Blair Street Park Back to School Bash planned for Sunday afternoon

Don't forget the Back to School Bash event this Sunday, Aug. 9 from noon – 4 p.m. at Blair Street Park in Clinton, Ky. This event follows, and is meant to complement and not take away from, the annual Back-

to-School Fair held at the high school gym annually for grades K-12, which will be held on Aug. 6. Vendors are welcome to set up for a setup fee. Adult vendors \$30; Kid vendors \$20. All fees go toward school supplies

and other items. Volunteers and donations are welcome! It will be a day of food and fun with face-painting and inflatables. (They will be wet, so dress appropriately!) One or two barbers and a hair stylist will be on site

that day. Hair should be washed and blow dried prior to coming to the stylist. Food will be provided by the owners of Yani's and with help from the Hickman County Senior Citizens Center.

Free clothing will be available for families in need. For families starting the school year who do not have electricity or water, contact Isaac Lemons at (270) 207-1212 or to discuss any other needs or ask questions.

The event is sponsored by Pristine Touch. For more information, contact Lemons at the number above, or Charles Mackins at 270-254-0604 or contact Lemons, Mackins, Haynes or Marissa McClam on Facebook.

Fiscal Court continued from front page

Ky. The project will include structural repairs, construction of accessible ramps, ADA compliant restrooms, kitchen enhancements, and heat and hair, plumbing, and electrical upgrades. Judge Wilson said the senior center staff is working with the Hickman County Ministerial Alliance for location assistance during the time of construction. Staff and senior center attendees will go to the West Kentucky Baptist Association building on McMorris Street for their day-to-day activities. The center director, Louveta Mason, said the center serves a little over 100 meals a day, both in-house, and to clients in the meal delivery program. The meals will continue to be prepped and served out of the senior center until kitchen work begins, and then that will be done at the WKBA building on McMorris Street as well.

The rehab work was advertised in the paper and online. A pre-bid meeting was set for Wednesday at 1:30 p.m. in the Hickman County Senior Center building.

Cairo Bridge issues lead to rebidding of rock & hauling

The fiscal court's recent opening of sealed bids for paving, pipe, and rock for the next fiscal year hit a snag when the Cairo Bridge unexpectedly closed due to needed emergency repairs. The company with whom the court voted to accept the bid in May, B&K Trucking, notified the court that they would have to raise their price for the extra costs incurred with the bridge's closure and repair time, which was originally expected to be quite lengthy. The county readvertised for rock and hauling

sealed bids with the opening of bids date July 27. The bridge has now reopened much sooner than anticipated. However, with the bridge's unpredictable nature, the court considered the new bids and awarded the bid for hauling to Shawnee Stone.

Items of Business:

- The fiscal court:
- Approved the Treasurer's FY 26 Annual Settlement
 - Acknowledged receipt of the FY23 Fiscal Court audit. No money was missing.
 - Approved Ordinance 2026-02 Hickman County Fiscal Court Budget Amendment. This involves a \$115,000 federal grant to the Hickman County Sheriff's Office, which comes through the fiscal court. Plans are to purchase a new vehicle for the sheriff's office.
 - Approved the Summary of

- Ordinance 2026-02 for advertisement
- Resolution 2026-05, KYTC Agreement for LARP Funds. This is federal money in the amount of \$167,000 for paving on Nicholas Road.
 - Approved Administrative Code-Procurement in the amount of \$50,000. This is referring to the amount for which something, or a service, can be purchased by the county without it being advertised for bids. It used to be \$40,000 and is now \$50,000, according to a recent new state law.
 - Approved the request of the Hickman County Fair Board to be a sponsor. The court voted to approve \$1,000 as has been done in the past.
 - Approved line-item transfers: General to Road- WEX (gas card) \$1,754.90; Jail to Road- WEX (gas) - \$233.89; DES to Road- Wex (gas)- \$585.84; Road to General Fund- Dawn

Allen salary- \$1,173.69; Civil War Days to General Fund- Postage \$44.40; and the court approved misc. line-item transfers.

- Approved a sponsorship request from the Hickman County Volleyball Team Falcon Fan T-Shirt project. The court approved \$100.00.

Other

Folks are parking at the Fulgham pickleball court in front of the Fulgham fire station, which is blocking the doors if a fire truck needs to be driven out in a hurry. Paving to the walkway was done last year, and striping will be added to show designated parking areas there. The next regular meeting of the Hickman County Fiscal Court is set for Monday, Aug. 24 at 8 a.m.

Tubman continued from front

Tubman made 13 perilous trips to Maryland's Eastern Shore, where she was born in 1822, to lead more than 70 enslaved men, women and children out of bondage. The National Park Service built the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad National Park near her birthplace. The facility, which includes videos, displays, artifacts and exhibits connected to her life and work, is close to Cambridge on Chesapeake Bay. In Philadelphia, Tubman established contacts with abolitionists, and she became an integral part of the Underground Railroad, a secret network created to help African Americans flee bondage in the 15 slave states, including Kentucky. "Conductors" included enslaved and free Blacks and sympathetic whites, notably Quakers. "I was the conductor of the Underground Railroad for eight years, and I can say what most conductors can't say—I never ran my train off the track and never lost a passenger," she recalled in 1896, 14 years before her death in Auburn, N.Y. She was about 91 years old. Tubman was dubbed "Moses," for Moses in the Old Testament who led the Israelites out of slavery in Pharaoh's Egypt. During the Civil War, Tubman went to the U.S. Army in South Carolina and volun-

teered to help recruit Black soldiers. She also was a spy, scout and army nurse. "Perhaps her most dramatic effort to weaken the Confederacy came on June 1, 1863, when she planned and led an armed raid along the Combahee River, becoming the first woman to do so in U.S. military history," says the NPS. "Tubman, Colonel James Montgomery, and the 2nd Carolina Colored Infantry burned several plantations, destroyed Confederate supply lines, and freed more than 750 people from slavery. Born Araminta Ross, Tubman "was separated from her father when her slaveholder, Edward Brodless, moved only Tubman, her mother and siblings to his farm in Bucktown [Md.]," according to the park service. "Also, three of her older sisters were sold into slavery in the Deep South. By age six she was separated from her mother when she was rented out and forced to work for other masters to care for their children, and catch and trap muskrats in the Little Blackwater River. Tubman remembered the emotional pain of being separated from her family, which she never wanted to experience again." In bondage, Tubman suffered brutal beatings from her enslavers. Yet even in her youth, she demonstrated the courage and

spirit of resistance that would lead her to endanger her freedom to free others. Tubman, aged 12 or 13, was at the Bucktown store when she saw an overseer arrest an enslaved man who had slipped away from work. When the man resisted, the overseer ordered Tubman to help restrain him. She refused, and the man broke free and started to run away. Enraged, the overseer hurled a two-pound weight at the man, but instead it struck Tubman in the head. The blow staggered and nearly killed her. Even so, Tubman received no medical care. She later remembered, "They carried me to the house all bleeding and fainting. I had no bed, no place to lie down on at all, and they lay me on the seat of the loom, and I stayed there all that day and next." Explains the NPS: "Her mother did the best she could to nurse her daughter back to health, but again, Tubman was taken from her mother and forced back to work. Despite continuous separation, Harriet Tubman found ways to spend time with her family. Tubman hired herself out and worked in the timber fields with her father at Stewart's Canal in Parson's Creek, cutting and logging wood down the canal. "Harriet Tubman worked in

the marshlands (swamps) on the Eastern Shore of Maryland as an enslaved child into adulthood which gave her the skills to navigate the marshlands and gain her freedom. Other skills Tubman gained to navigate the landscape came from African American mariners (sailors) working in the timber fields at Parson's Creek. African American sailors had more mobility than free and enslaved people. They transported goods on their ships to Baltimore, Maryland, Pennsylvania, and Delaware. These sailors provided a network of communication on the Underground Railroad for Tubman and other freedom seekers." While working in the marshlands around Parson's Creek, she married her first husband John Tubman, a free African American. "She changed her name from Araminta Ross to Harriet Tubman, perhaps in honor of her mother," according to the NPS. In 1859, New York Republican Sen. William H. Seward, a leading abolitionist, sold Tubman a house in Auburn, where 10 years later, she married her second husband, Nelson Davis, a Civil War veteran. Though her head injury caused her to suffer pain, dizziness and bouts of epilepsy for the rest of her life, she joined the fight for

women's rights after the war. "Tubman became a co-founding member of the National Association of Colored Women that demanded equality and suffrage for African American women," says the NPS. In 1849, Tubman, expecting she was about to be sold away from her family, decided to flee north. Thus began a grueling 100-mile journey from her home in Poplar Neck to Pennsylvania. Tubman hid by day and trekked by night, following the North Star. God "set the North Star in the heavens; He gave me strength in my limbs; He meant I should be free," she said. (John Tubman declined to join his wife's flight. But when Harriet returned to transport him to freedom, she discovered he had remarried. A white man killed him in a roadside argument in 1867.) When she crossed the Maryland state line into Pennsylvania, Tubman said she "looked at my hands to see if I was the same person. There was such glory over everything; the sun came like gold through the trees, and over the fields, and I felt like I was in heaven." Even so, she would spend years descending back into the hell of Maryland slavery covertly bringing enslaved Blacks to her earthly heaven.