

OPINIONS

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Heaven Is  
A Lot Like  
Kentucky

By Charles Mattox

**June 1780**  
Inside Captain John Grant’s Station, this was situated at the head of a small tributary of Houston Fork, which is located along a tributary of Houston Fork, in what will one day be known as Bourbon County, Kentucky

Jacob Stucker, 15, starred intensely, from left to right.  
After reassuring himself that there were no enemy warriors within range, he once again

focused his attention southward, toward a dirt path, which was the main avenue of approach to their isolated frontier fortress; their only avenue of possible salvation.  
But Jacob realized soon enough that no help would be coming tis otherwise beautiful morning.  
Jacob shifted the Kentucky Long Rifle from his crouched position, just inside the two-story blockhouse on the southwest corner of Grant’s Station.  
Smoke stung his eyes and he squinted hard and grimaced. The confines of the blockhouse were sweltering.  
The fortress still smoldered and the other blockhouse had been completely destroyed by fire that had been set by a group of 60 Native American warriors who had attacked the fort the day before.  
They had almost burned the entire fort.

They had managed to burn all of the cornfields and several cabins that dotted the landscape near the fort.  
Several well-placed shots had kept them at a respectful distance, but fire danced through the ripened cornfield and soon engulfed the palisade.  
All of the long hours of axe work that Jacob had toiled endlessly at in order to clear the fields and help build with the logs were now seemingly wasted.  
His gaze shifted to the smoke-filled sky.  
Turkey buzzards were circling overhead and Jacob knew with a sickening sadness that the buzzards were there for his very own father and his uncle, George.  
Jacob Stucker Sr., and his brother George, their wives, and their combined total of 14 children, were among the 30 inhabitants of John Grant’s Station  
The Stuckers were of Swedish descent. Young Jacob’s grandfather had immigrated to Pennsylvania from Sweden. The Pennsylvania Dutch craftsmen were wonderful gunsmiths who perfected the accuracy of the Kentucky Long Rifle.  
Jacob’s father and uncle had arrived in Kentucky in January of 1780

at Bryant’s Station. They immediately found their dreams in the Kentucky wilderness around the fields of the John Grant’s fort, a haven for many Pennsylvania Dutch, including their kinsman Michael Stoner.  
And now the Stucker brothers: Jacob Sr., and George, both lay dead, killed by Shawnee warriors that formed a splinter group away from a massive British and Native American invasion force, which was led by British officer, Colonel (also often identified as ‘Captain’ Henry Byrd.  
The main enemy force under Byrd had destroyed the neighboring forts of Isaac Ruddle’s and John Martin’s stations. They had taken approximately 300 prisoners from Ruddle’s Station and 50 more from Martin’s. They had killed dozens in the process. Many of those who were killed or taken prisoner were also of Dutch and Swedish descent and were very close friends of the Stucker family.  
But Jacob was not yet aware of this added pain as he sat crouched in the blockhouse that terrible, June day.  
Jacob would learn these additional sad truths from members of a relief party of 40 men from Bryant’s Station that eventually came marching down the dirt path to their aid.  
Jacob became extremely educated in frontier survival skills and be-

came a local legend for his bravery, marksmanship and courage. And though he never learned to read or write, he was respected for his honesty.  
I’ve let my fingers glide over his ‘X’, signed on court documents related to several land disputes filed among the ancient manuscripts, which were then found in courthouse archives and repositories across Kentucky.  
His deposition appeared on page 505 of Land Book C, then located at the Fleming County Courthouse Genealogical Archives. He gave testimony to the court regarding a certain tract of land he was familiar with, in a case to determine rightful ownership of overlapping deeds, a very common occurrence in the early 1800s.  
Only five months after losing his father and uncle during the June, 1780, attack on Grant’s Station, Jacob had become so skilled at primitive frontier survival that Lt. Colonel, Daniel Boone, recruited him as a scout and spy for Bryant’s Station and neighboring communities. Boone also placed him as his second-in-command during a Nov. 1780 excursion through Bourbon, Nicholas, Fleming, Mason and Lewis counties, in pursuit of another group of Shawnee warriors that killed Edward Boone (Daniel’s brother). Edward Boone had been killed approximately

20 miles northeastward from Grant’s Station, near the present border of Bourbon and Nicholas County. The 50-man army, which consisted of dozens of older war veterans followed the orders of the young teen Stucker and try though they might, they could not catch the Shawnee, though they closely trailed them all the way to the Ohio River.  
Boone would later testify in court depositions, that the only positive aspect of the pursuit had been showing his son Israel Boone the Ohio River for the first time and taking him and several other family members away from the group and killing a buffalo near Stockton’s spring (Flemingsburg) on the return home.  
Grant’s Station was also referred to as ‘The Burnt Station’, after being attacked in June 1780. It was eventually abandoned, but rebuilt in 1784 and reoccupied, with some then calling it The Irish Station.  
Jacob Stucker married Elizabeth ‘Betsy’ Rodgers on June 30, 1789.  
Elizabeth Stucker died in 1811, shortly after giving birth to David Stucker, their 14th child.  
Jacob Stucker died June 11, 1820 in Scott County Kentucky.  
If the Good Lord is willing, dear reader, we will visit with him again within the confines of this column.

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COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY  
FLEMING CIRCUIT COURT  
CIVIL ACTION NO. 24-CI-00171

KENTUCKY HOUSING CORPORATION

VS.

JONATHAN SWYMN, et al.

PLAINTIFF

DEFENDANTS

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In obedience to an Order of sale entered on the 21st day of January, 2025, in the above action, I will, as Master Commissioner proceed on:

THURSDAY, JUNE 5, 2025  
FAMILY COURT ROOM  
2ND FLOOR, FLEMING COUNTY JUSTICE CENTER  
FLEMINGSBURG, FLEMING COUNTY, KENTUCKY  
AT 10:00AM

to sell the real estate located at 3934 Orchard Rd., Hillsboro, Fleming County, Kentucky 41049. This property is described in Deed of record at Deed Book 269, Page 136, Fleming County Clerk’s Office, with the PVA records calling for 1.713 acres. Parcel Mapping number: 063-00-00-002.02.

This sale is to satisfy Judgment in the sum of \$81,195.63, plus interest, taxes, court costs and attorney fees. The purchaser may pay in full as the sale if he/she chooses to do so. Otherwise, the purchaser immediately shall pay not less than 10% of the purchase price, and execute bond with surety, who is a Kentucky resident with new worth of greater or equal to the amount of the bond and who is approved by the Master Commissioner, and who must be present at the sale and execute the sale bond and affidavit of surety at the sale, for the balance of the purchase price, payable to the Fleming Circuit Court Clerk within thirty days with interest at 5.25% per annum on the balance from date of sale until paid in full. The bond shall have force of a judgment and a first lien shall be retained on the property as security for the payment of said bond and interest. The purchaser shall at his/her own expense carry fire and extended coverage insurance on all insurable improvements located on the real property from the date of sale until the purchase price is paid in full, with loss payable to the Master Commissioner. The purchaser shall be required to assume and pay all taxes assessed against the property for 2025 and all subsequent years. The title interest of the parties to this lawsuit will be conveyed without warranty by the Master Commissioner to the purchaser and the purchaser shall be entitled to possession upon payment of the purchase price in full after confirmation of the sale by Fleming Circuit Clerk, subject to any equity of redemption if the property does not sell for two-thirds of its appraised value.

Buyer is advised to have a title search completed on the property and must file any exceptions to the sale within ten (10) days. The purchasers will be required to have any persons evicted or property or property removed from the premises. The sale is subject to any terms and conditions that may be announced on the day of sale.

JOHN C. PRICE  
MASTER COMMISSIONER  
FLEMING CIRCUIT COURT

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INHERIT FROM YOU WITHOUT  
A LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT

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COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY  
FLEMING CIRCUIT COURT  
CIVIL ACTION NO. 24-CI-00021  
ELECTRONICALLY FILED

ANP TAX LIEN COMPANY, LLC

VS.

UNKNOWN HEIRS, DEVISEES & LEGATEES  
OF CYNTHIA NESBITT, ET AL.

PLAINTIFF

DEFENDANTS

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In obedience to an Order of Sale entered on the 9<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2025, in the above action, I will, as Master Commissioner proceed on:

THURSDAY, MAY 22, 2025  
FAMILY COURT ROOM  
2<sup>nd</sup> P FLOOR, FLEMING COUNTY JUSTICE CENTER  
FLEMINGSBURG, FLEMING COUNTY, KENTUCKY  
AT 10:00 A.M.

to sell the real estate located at 770 Hall Rd., Flemingsburg, Fleming County, Kentucky 41041. This property is described in a Deed of record in Deed Book 200, Page 258, Fleming County Clerk’s Office, with the PVA calling for 1 Acre, including a 1989 28 x 60 mobile home. Parcel Mapping number: 072-20-00-008.00.

This sale is to satisfy Judgment in the sum of \$3,440.62, plus interest, taxes, court costs and attorney fees. The purchaser may pay in full at the sale if he/she chooses to do so. Otherwise, the purchaser immediately after the sale shall pay not less than 10% of the purchase price, and execute bond with surety, who is a Kentucky resident with net worth of greater or equal to the amount of the bond and who is approved by the Master Commissioner, and who must be present at the sale and execute the sale bond and affidavit of surety at the sale, for the balance of the purchase price, payable to the Fleming Circuit Court Clerk within thirty days with interest at 6% per annum on the balance from date of sale until paid in full. The bond shall have the force of a judgment and a first lien shall be retained on the property as security for the payment of said bond and interest. The purchaser shall at his/her own expense carry fire and extended coverage insurance on all insurable improvements located on the real property from the date of sale until the purchase price is paid in full, with loss payable to the Master Commissioner. The purchaser shall be required to assume and pay all taxes assessed against the property for 2025 and all subsequent years. The title interest of the parties to this lawsuit will be conveyed without warranty by the Master Commissioner to the purchaser and the purchaser shall be entitled to possession upon payment of the purchase price in full after confirmation of the sale by Fleming Circuit Court, subject to any equity of redemption if the property does not sell for two-thirds of its appraised value.

Buyer is advised to have a title search completed on the property and must file any exceptions to the sale within ten (10) days. The purchasers will be required to have any persons evicted or property removed from the premises. The sale is subject to any terms and conditions that may be announced on the day of sale.

JOHN C. PRICE  
MASTER COMMISSIONER  
FLEMING CIRCUIT COURT

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COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY  
FLEMING CIRCUIT COURT  
CIVIL ACTION NO. 24-CI-00083

U.S. BANK TRUST COMPANY, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION,  
NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS  
INDENTURE TRUSTEE OF CIM TRUST 2023-NRS

VS.

UNKNOWN DEFENDANT(S), THE UNKNOWN HEIRS,  
DEVISEES, LEGATEES, AND ALL PERSONS CLAIMING  
BY AND THROUGH EZRA E. ENDICOTT DECEASED, et al.

PLAINTIFF

DEFENDANTS

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In obedience to an Order of sale entered on the 8th day of April, 2025, in the above action, I will, as Master Commissioner proceed on:

THURSDAY, JUNE 5, 2025  
FAMILY COURT ROOM  
2ND FLOOR, FLEMING COUNTY JUSTICE CENTER  
FLEMINGSBURG, FLEMING COUNTY, KENTUCKY  
AT 10:00AM

to sell the real estate located at 4350 Hilltop Road, Ewing, Fleming County, Kentucky 41039. This property is described in Deed of record at Deed Book 178, Page 449, Fleming County Clerk’s Office, with the PVA records calling for 1 acre. Parcel Mapping number: 019-70-00-008.00.

This sale is to satisfy Judgment in the sum of \$43,630.85, plus interest, taxes, court costs and attorney fees. The purchaser may pay in full as the sale if he/she chooses to do so. Otherwise, the purchaser immediately shall pay not less than 10% of the purchase price, and execute bond with surety, who is a Kentucky resident with net worth of greater or equal to the amount of the bond and who is approved by the Master Commissioner, and who must be present at the sale and execute the sale bond and affidavit of surety at the sale, for the balance of the purchase price, payable to the Fleming Circuit Court Clerk within thirty days with interest at 11.10% per annum on the balance from date of sale until paid in full. The bond shall have force of a judgment and a first lien shall be retained on the property as security for the payment of said bond and interest. The purchaser shall at his/her own expense carry fire and extended coverage insurance on all insurable improvements located on the real property from the date of sale until the purchase price is paid in full, with loss payable to the Master Commissioner. The purchaser shall be required to assume and pay all taxes assessed against the property for 2025 and all subsequent years. The title interest of the parties to this lawsuit will be conveyed without warranty by the Master Commissioner to the purchaser and the purchaser shall be entitled to possession upon payment of the purchase price in full after confirmation of the sale by Fleming Circuit Clerk, subject to any equity of redemption if the property does not sell for two-thirds of its appraised value.

Buyer is advised to have a title search completed on the property and must file any exceptions to the sale within ten (10) days. The purchasers will be required to have any persons evicted or property or property removed from the premises. The sale is subject to any terms and conditions that may be announced on the day of sale.

JOHN C. PRICE  
MASTER COMMISSIONER  
FLEMING CIRCUIT COURT

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