

OPINIONS

The opinion page does not reflect the views of the KyNewsGroup.



Heaven Is  
A Lot Like  
Kentucky

By Charles Mattox

I was cleaning up my office at the Gazette the other day, and among some old notes I found a particular aspect of the media coverage of Hurricane Katrina and its aftermath from August 2005.

“Nobody came for those people,” one reporter after another penned with an expression of total surprise and disgust when

speaking of the 100,000 or so refugees who did not evacuate the coastal south in the wake of Katrina’s fury. Nobody came for them, in many cases, for up to two whole weeks.

Although that information was clearly disturbing, it came as no surprise to me.

First of all, most of those folks were poor and black.

In my opinion, they continue to be largely forgotten about by the government and society in general. It just took them being trapped in a natural, and then social, catastrophe to remind everyone that they had been so forgotten and in such dire need of rescue.

I look at everything and analyze the information a little differently than some, as you may have noticed in the past, dear

reader.

Here’s a prime example. James Smalley and Donald Maddox are but two Fleming Countians who have been needing rescue for over 65 years.

As Korean prisoners of war, nobody ever came for them: Nobody.

They’re still unaccounted for after all these years.

They and over 8,500 other seemingly-forgotten soldiers who left home to serve their country during the war in Korea, never returned.

Seems kind of hypocritical to express disgust over the poor displaced folks down south who have been victimized by a natural disaster when we historically have exercised a policy of taking our young defenders of freedom from our homes and communities, drop them into hell holes across the globe and promptly forget about them when they no longer serve the war effort.

Hundreds upon hundreds are still missing and unaccounted for from the Vietnam War.

One of them is William Milliner.

William’s father Joseph Milliner fought to defend our nation during World War Two and was taken prisoner by German and Italian soldiers after being shot from the sky when his flying fortress was downed during a bomb run over Italy.

William was shot down

in a helicopter in Laos in 1971.

Bath County native, Danny ‘Greasy’ Belcher, who helped lead Task Force Omega members in raising the black POW/MIA flags across the county, state and nation, continues to seek information regarding our POW/MIAs.

Belcher served in the same unit in Vietnam as William Milliner did.

Belcher and Joseph Milliner joined family members of the James Smalley family and the families of Fleming County World War Two POWs, Herd Shrout, Garr May and Calvin Brown during a POW/MIA flag at the District 9 Office of the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet several years ago.

“Why was nothing ever

done to find out more about Donald or any of those other boys,’ a distraught Dorothy Bower asked me in February, 2000 as she wondered aloud why her twin Donald Maddox, a young man raised in Elizaville, who went to Korea in 1951, and never returned home, could be so forgotten. Maddox was captured by Chinese forces during the frozen retreat from the Chosin Reservoir that winter.

His empty grave with monument awaits his arrival in the Elizaville Cemetery.

Why indeed was nothing ever done, to bring that fine young man, and all the others home?

Why?

When I consider all the wonderful things Donald

and James and William could have accomplished had they returned home, I am deeply troubled. For I also consider Daniel Boone and Simon Kenton and George Stockton, three men taken captive by enemy Native American forces during their lives. All were returned to their families though, and after that fact each struggled valiantly to bring peace and prosperity and family and communal security to Fleming County for future generations.

I wonder what they would say if they saw those black flags whipping in the wind all these years later. I often contemplate such things here in Fleming County.

Here beneath the black flag.

THE STEPCHILD YOU RAISED WILL NOT INHERIT FROM YOU WITHOUT A LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT

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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

Published in the Flemingsburg Gazette on 05.21, 05.28, & 06.04 of 2025

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,  
DEWISEES, 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

Published in the Flemingsburg Gazette on 05.21, 05.28, & 06.04 of 2025

Auction

Rt. 52 Ripley, Oh 45167

Sunday, June 1st - 10:00 am

Early List to Some of Items Already In For Auction. Call Today if You Have Items To Add Many Items From Washington Twp. Trustees-

Special Interest Items - '21 Jeep Wrangler Unlimited (Rebuilt Title) - Kubota RTV w/Cab Heat & Air (Snowplow Attachment\_ 1 Owner 340 Hours - -21 Club Car Gas 4 Seater 1 Owner Only 21 Hours - 11 Ford F350 4x4 1 Owner - -99 Crownline 202 Boat w/350 Magnum - -91 Ranger 197 Fish & Ski w/225 Merc. - -74 Sting Ray 19' 351 Cleveland.

Implements - Frontier RC2048 Rotary Cutter - GM1072E Finish Mower - 3 pt. Post Hole Digger - Sub Soiler- 7' Rotary Cutter - 2 Bottom Plus - 2,6' Scraper Blades - Vermeer 505 Round Bailer - 4 Wheeler - Small Trailer - Large Tent 30 x 40? - 5 Small Tents - Pond Water Fountain - 9 Bus Tires & Others - 20+ Moving Pads -

19 Guns From Private Collection (Sale at 10:30) - Including Remington & Winchester - Must Be an Ohio Resident or have FFL Shop - Hand & Power Tools (Tables Full) - 9,500 lb. USA Tool Lift - Derek Weaver Wheel Balancer & Tire Changer - IR Air Compressor - Nexxus 56V Power Pack - Paint Sprayer - CC Chipper - Mig Welder - Power Pack Wood Working Tools- 2 Rolls of Steel Cable- New Cub Cadet XT1 Lithium ion Ion Riding Mower - & CC 30E Mower - Edger - Push Mower - Cub Cadet Zero Turn

Coins & old Money - Silver Dollars & Others -

Antique -Household & Collectibles - Quilts - Coke Cooler w/Tray - Dayton School Desk - Radio Flyer Wagon - Small Anvil - Celestron Telescope - & More!! 50 Fishing Rods & Reels

New Building Material - Come In & Look!!

Kitchen Cabinet Sets - Vinyl Water Proof Flooring 15 Colors to Choose From - Skids of Lumber - 25 Rolls of House Wrap - Metal Roofing -

All Sold As Is - 1st Time writing a check, Bring Bank Letter of Guarantee - Announcements made day of Sale take precedence over any printed material. 4% if paying by CC - Items may be picked up Later - Absentee Bids Welcome

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Towlersauctioninc.com

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