

HISTORY CORNER

Remembering the catastrophic Dry Ridge fire

BY J. COLTON SIMPSON
GRANT COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

On Feb. 25, 1927, a disastrous fire took place that wiped out the historic business district of the City of Dry Ridge. Included in the buildings that were destroyed was the world famous Carlsbad Inn and Spa, the Farmers Bank of Equity, the city post office, theater building, a doctor's office, many stores and several residences, all located on U.S. 25, just north of the intersection of Main Street and Broadway.

According to the "History of Grant County, Kentucky," published by the Grant County Historical Society, the fire started in the Sanders-McAtee building, where it quickly spread across the street and set to flames the Carlsbad Hotel.

From there, a strong wind pushed the flames north, setting fire to the Farmers Bank of Equity, Dr. Renaker's Office, Clement's Restaurant, the post office and Bowman's Movie House.

After the fire, word of its damage made many newspapers across the region and on one of its headlines we learn of an interesting story: A local dog, a barking Irish Setter, alerted the residents of the Carlsbad Hotel that there was a fire, ultimately saving many lives.

Though the fire caused lingering issues, including resignations from the Trustees of the City, the residents were quick to rebuild.

From a 1928 history by Zinn



The historic downtown buildings of Dry Ridge were no match for the flames that raged through town Feb. 25, 1927



This image shows the extent of the damage done by the catastrophic Dry Ridge fire in 1927.

O. Price and Joe C. Miller: it as a final defeat. The spirit "They who suffered this of their ancestors manifested great disaster did not accept ed itself and it is remarkable

what has been done in the past year. The Farmers Bank of Equity has almost completed a handsome and commodious modern bank building, one of the best in northern Kentucky; Chas. W. Northcutt has constructed and is now occupying a much larger and better store building; the Beasley Sisters have erected on their lot a neat and handsome building which they now occupy as a residence and notion store; Dunn & Jones have erected a splendid store building on the lot formerly occupied by Bowman's picture show; Dr. C.A. Eckler, sensing the community's need, erected a pretentious building (on Broadway) which is now being occupied by the post office and by Henry Spill-

man's grocery and dry goods store.

The hotel has not yet been rebuilt, but we hear rumors from time to time and would not be surprised soon to see arise Phoenix-like, out of the ashes of the old, a new and great Carlsbad.

In the meantime, the Avon More Hotel has been caring adequately for those who need relief from rheumatism and diverse ailments that respond to treatment by the famous mineral water and baths."

Colton Simpson is the Deputy Judge-Executive in Grant County and a former President of the Grant County Historical Society. You can email him at jcoltonsimpson@gmail.com.

TURNING BACK THE CLOCK

10 YEARS AGO
February 26, 2015

• Road crews described their struggle to clear roads after a storm dumped eight inches of snow on the county Feb. 16. Salt has not been in short supply though patience sometimes has been.

• Braves Youth Wrestling placed first at state in division two. NOTE: Among the young wrestlers in 2015 was current Braves senior Ethan Davis, who has made a name for himself among Kentucky's high school grapplers.

25 YEARS AGO
March 2, 2000

• Twin boys, Evan James Ryan and Kyle Allan Ryan, were born to Jason and Lis Ryan of Elsmere on Jan. 29.

• Before a packed house, the Dry Ridge City Council conducted the second reading of an ordinance to establish a

1% occupational tax. By a vote of four to two, Council rejected the tax.

• Amber Wilson was honored by the Kentucky State Senate for winning the state Bible Drill for the sixth year running.

50 YEARS AGO
February 28, 1975

• Seventh graders Chris Griffin and Tammy Ashcraft were crowned 1974-75 Basketball King and Queen

of Dry Ridge Elementary. Prince and Princess were fourth graders Timmy Cramer and Paula Sipple.

• Area square dancers won honors at Hoedown Island, Natural Bridge State Park. On Feb. 8, Joann Doolin took first in a competition for teens. On Feb. 15, Nadine Martin from Corinth won first in the adult ladies division. On both nights, Gayle Martin of Corinth helped call the show.

Dollar General Partners, a Kentucky general partnership, 100 Mission Ridge, Goodlettsville, TN 37072, hereby declares its intention to apply for an NQ Retail Malt Beverage Package License no later than February 28, 2025 for Dollar General Store No. 30681 at 3849 Dixie Highway, Dry Ridge, KY 41035. Dollar General Partners will be acting by and through its general partners, DG Strategic VI, LLC, whose officers are Zachary J. Brining, Chief Executive Officer and Emily C. Taylor, Chief Financial Officer and Secretary and DG Promotions, Inc., whose officers are Zachary J. Brining, Chief Executive Officer, Kelly M. Dilts, Chief Financial Officer, Emily C. Taylor, Secretary and Neal E. Miller, Vice President (Tax), all with a mailing address of 100 Mission Ridge, Goodlettsville, TN 37072. Any person, association, corporation, or body politic may protest the granting of the license by writing the Department of Alcoholic Beverages, 500 Mero Street 2NE33, Frankfort, KY 40601, within thirty (30) days (pursuant to KRS 243.430) of the date of legal publication.

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
UNIFIED COURT OF JUSTICE
GRANT CIRCUIT COURT
CASE NO. 22-CI-00267

AmeriHome Mortgage Company, LLC
VS.
Joshua Aaron Johnson, et al.

PLAINTIFF
DEFENDANTS

By virtue of a Judgment and Order of Sale entered in the Grant Circuit Court on January 27, 2023, and subsequent Orders entered on August 24, 2023, September 7, 2023, and January 31, 2025, I will sell at public auction at the **Judicial Center Lobby**, 224 South Main Street, Williamstown, Kentucky, the property described herein located in Grant County, Kentucky, on **Wednesday, March 12, 2025**, at the hour of **1:30 p.m.**, prevailing time, and more particularly described as follows:
More Commonly Known As: 3435 Crittenden Mount Zion, Dry Ridge, KY 41035
Map ID #: 032-00-00-083.02
There is not a mobile home, doublewide and/or manufactured home included in the sale.
Announcements made on the day of sale take precedence over printed material.
The amount of money to be raised by this sale is the principal sum of \$255,810.12 adjudged due plaintiff together with interest thereon at the rate of 5.625% from January 1, 2021 until paid plus late fees, costs and attorney fees.
The real estate shall be sold on the terms of 10% cash at the time of the sale, except that said deposit shall be waived if the Plaintiff is the successful bidder at the sale, and the balance on a credit of thirty (30) days bearing interest at the rate of 5.625% per annum for the date of sale. When the purchase price is paid in full, the deed will be delivered to the purchaser. It is further provided that the property sold includes insurable improvements and the successful bidder at said sale shall, at bidder's own expense, carry fire and extended insurance coverage on said improvements from the date of sale until the purchase price is fully paid in the amount of the Court appraised value of said improvements or the amount of the unpaid balance of the purchase price, whichever is less, at minimum, with a loss payable clause to the Commissioner of the Grant Circuit Court and the Plaintiff herein. Failure of the purchasers to obtain such insurance shall not affect the validity of the sale or the purchaser's liability thereunder, but shall entitle, but not require, the Plaintiff to obtain said insurance and furnish the policy or premium thereon or the proper portion thereof shall be charged to the purchaser as purchaser's costs.
The aforesaid property shall be sold free and clear of all liens and encumbrances, except the following:
a. All unpaid state, county and city real estate taxes for the year 2023;
b. Easements, restrictions, and stipulations of record;
c. Assessments for public improvements levied against the property;
d. Any facts which an inspection and/or accurate survey of the property may disclose.
For further information, see the Final Judgment and Order of Sale and pleadings of record in the Office of the Circuit Court of Grant County.

/s/ Edward M. Bourne
MASTER COMMISSIONER
GRANT CIRCUIT COURT

www.grantky.com

Wray J. Jump Circuit Court Clerk Grant County Judicial Center, 224 South Main Street, Williamstown, Kentucky 41097, Phone 859-824-4467, Fax: 859-824-0183	Commonwealth of Kentucky OFFICE OF CIRCUIT COURT CLERK Grant Circuit Clerk Grant District Clerk	ESTATE Brown, Gavin (Dec) Crittenden, KY	FIDUCIARY Brown, Larry (Co-Admin) Crittenden, KY Simpson, Carolyn (Co-Admin) Dry Ridge, KY	DATE OF APPT: FINAL	DATE FOR FILING OF CLAIM: 03/4/25
Williams, Geneva L (Dec) Dry Ridge, KY	Hammonds, Larry (Admin) Dry Ridge, KY	01/17/25	07/17/25		
Smith, Carl Junior (Dec) Dry Ridge, KY	Wagner, Bonnie (Adm) Alexandria, KY	FINAL	03/4/25		
Risen, Edna (Dec) Williamstown, KY	Jump, Gary Louie (Ex) Verona, KY	01/28/25	07/28/25		
Ritter, Helen (Dec) Williamstown, KY	Ritter, Kim (Ex) Williamstown, KY	FINAL	03/18/25		
WRITTEN EXCEPTIONS TO THE ABOVE-NAMED SETTLEMENTS MUST BE FILED IN THE GRANT COUNTY DISTRICT COURT ON OR BEFORE THE DEADLINE AT 1:00 PM. IF NO EXCEPTIONS ARE FILED, SAID SETTLEMENTS WILL BE CONFIRMED RECORDED. Wray J. Jump, Grant Circuit Clerk BY: /s/ A. Taylor, DC					

POSTED NO
TRESPASSING

**No Trespassing Persons are notified that the land and property belonging to the below listed persons are posted against hunting, fishing, trapping, 4-wheeling or dirt bike riding, walking, horseback riding, woodcutting, dumping or any other kind of trespassing. Owners are not responsible for any accidents.

Violators will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.

POSTED PROPERTY LISTINGS ARE BELOW.

Property of Doering Family Ltd. Partnership on Dry Ridge Mt. Zion Rd., Dry Ridge.

PROPERTY LOCATED AT - 5340 Stewartsville Rd., Williamstown.

Dimitt Property 7120 Warsaw Rd Dry Ridge (Old Kelly Martin Farm).

Dishon Farms, Verona-Mt. Zion Rd., Vallandingham Rd. and Arnold's Creek Rd.

DEGLOW, RICHARD & LINDA. Farm at 1495 Heekin Road, Williamstown, KY.

Littrell Property located at 800 & 940 Ashbrook Rd. Williamstown, KY 41097 NO TRESPASSING & NO HUNTING

MCINTIRE PROPERTY located on Old Cynthiaana Rd. and Oak Ridge Pike.

Sponcil, Wayne 485 Sherman Newtown Rd. Sponcil Properties, 2895 Dixie Hwy.

Janice & Jack Bowling property located on White Chapel Road.

MARTIN PROPERTY - Lots on Sunny Hill Drive, Dry Ridge, KY.

West-Marsh Property located at 2975 Falmouth Rd., Williamstown, KY

Henry Family Farm at 1115 Smokey Rd., Williamstown, KY 41097