



MEMBERS OF THE Union County High School cheerleading squad are pictured here as they prepared for the basketball game last Friday night.

Union County Fiscal Court Met In Short Session On Tuesday

Union County Fiscal Court met in a short session Tuesday morning with only four items on the agenda. The first agenda item to come before the magistrates was the second reading of an ordinance amendment clarifying language related to the county's special purpose vehicle ordinance. First reading of the amendment was held on December 22, cleaning up language as it relates to the 20-

mile usage regulations on some highways. The court approved second reading unanimously. The court also heard a presentation from the county's IT director Jonathan Baird who presented information and costs of software upgrades for taxes, HR and the road department. According to Baird, he has met with a representative from Gov Track, a company that has a software that allow users to file

business taxes on line, submit HR paperwork on line and take care of road department paperwork. In his presentation, Baird noted that it is difficult to find a software company that integrates multiple platforms, but Gov Track would benefit the county by streamlining paperwork for the office staff, the treasurer and the road department. Although there is a high upfront cost,

the annual fee to have software for all three entities is \$12,000, slightly less than the county is paying for road department software now. Magistrates approved advertising for bids January 21 and 28 and opening bids at the court's February 10, meeting. During Tuesday's session, the court also opened bids for request for proposals for the Hitesville Road Bridge project. Although three

companies submitted proposals, only one of those proposals included the cost for the services. Judge/Executive Adam O'Nan asked the court to take the proposal under advisement so Shawn Sheffer can contact the bidders for additional information. Magistrates approved O'Nan's request. Before the meeting adjourned claims were approved as presented. O'Nan also announced that he will travel to Washington DC later this week and with the Kentucky Legislature in session he

will be spending "a lot of time in Frankfort" to support KACo initiatives and other possible legislation that could impact the county. The judge/executive also reported that he has met with Deaconess EMS regarding the county's concerns over response time. He will provide the court an update after his next meeting with the agency. With no other business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 9:22, with the court's next meeting set for Tuesday, January 27, at 9:00 a.m.

Ballot Position Draw Is Thursday

Union County residents who have filed to run for office in the May primary will draw for ballot positions at the county clerk's office on Thursday, January 15, at 2:00 p.m. Friday was the last day for candidates to file for county offices, and Thursday's draw will set the ballot for the May primary. According the Secretary of State's website, 29 individuals have filed their intent to run for an office. Those individuals, offices they seek and their party affiliation include

Magistrate District 1
Dylan Floyd (R)
Rick Wyatt (R)-incumbent
Leo Rednour (R)

Magistrate District 2
Darrell Wedding (5)
Jerri Floyd (D)-incumbent
David Russell (R)

Magistrate District 3
Brian French (R)
Stephen Hendrickson (R)
Derek Johns (R)
Doug Omer (R)
Jake Mason (R)
Michael P. Hardesty (R)

Magistrate District 4
Dakota Jones (R)-incumbent
Ehren Schaffter (R)

Magistrate District 5
Michael Turner (R)
Joseph "Bo" Girten (R)-incumbent
Joe Clements (D)

County Judge Executive
Adam R. O'Nan (R)-incumbent
Marvin Butts (R)

Sheriff
Jason O. Thomas (R)

Jailer
Jason L. Newton (R)

County Clerk
Garrick Thompson (R)-incumbent

Christopher Lee Willett (R)

County Attorney
Megan Randolph

PVA
Clay Wells (R)

Coroner
Jeffery "Peachy" Paris (R)

Constable District 1
Michael W. Willett (R)
Brandon L. Capps (R)
Sam McLeod (D)-incumbent

Voters will cast their ballots in the primary election on May 19. The primary will also include US Senate and US House races, state Senate and House races, Supreme Court races and District Court Judge for the Fifth Judicial district election. The general election is slated for November 3, 2026. At that time voters will also choose mayors, council/commission members and school board in some districts.

County Students Named To President's, Dean's Lists

In recognition of academic performance, the Office of Academic Affairs at University of the Cumberlands has announced the following students were named to the President's List for the fall 2025 semester.

McKenzie Adams of Sturgis, Kentucky
Olivia Goben of Sturgis, Kentucky
Katie Phelps of Morganfield, Kentucky
Michele Stacy of Sturgis, Kentucky
Larka Thomas of Morganfield, Kentucky

Students named to the University of the Cumberlands Dean's List include

Ainsley Elder of Morganfield, Kentucky
Tyler Gentry of Sturgis, Kentucky
Holly Sigler of Morganfield, Kentucky

University of the Cumberlands is one of the largest and most affordable private universities in Kentucky. Located in Williamsburg, Kentucky, Cumberlands is an institution of regional distinction offering quality undergraduate, graduate, doctoral, and online degree programs. Learn more at ucumberlands.edu.

New Year Finds Miracle Of Peace

By Becky Greenwell
bgreenw2@bellsouth.net

How many times have we lost something and fretted because finding it would be like looking for a needle in a haystack?

Over the years I have had my share of needles in a haystack, but have miraculously found them in a surprisingly short time. Albeit with the help of St. Anthony, but that haystack didn't turn out quite as large as I thought it was.

St. Anthony of Padua (1195-1231) is the patron saint of lost things, known for his powerful preaching and miracles, with the "lost things." Catholics pray to him for help finding physical items like keys, and wallets, as well as lost souls or spiritual direction.

Over the years he has found many things for me: keys lost on a beach, wallets, a missing credit/debit card, hearing aids, the diamond in my ring twice, and even my dustpan when

I absolutely thought I was going crazy. The dustpan was attached to the broom I was carrying around. I think he put it there without me seeing him do it. That dustpan was not on the broom the whole time.

Sometimes he is quick in giving me aid and sometimes he has me wait a little longer than I want to wait.

Whenever my brother died, I missed him sorely. After his funeral I started finding things in the shape of a heart. When I would work in the flower gardens, I would find a rock or two in the shape of a heart. I was always finding something in the shape of a heart. There were leaves, the shape of a cookie that should have been round, the first thing I saw was a whole potato shaped like a perfect heart. All things made me think of Raymond and smile.

Whenever my dad died, I started finding pennies randomly placed, on the sidewalks, in a jacket I hadn't worn for a while.

I knew my brother and dad were where they needed to be.

After that it made me think about my mother. She died in 1999 and shortly afterwards I asked her if she would send me a sign that she was okay. Not just any sign. I wanted a wheat penny dated 1936, the year she was born. I never got a sign.

When I received a sign from my brother and dad right after they passed, in 2019 and in 2023, I went on a crazy guilt trip. I was sure it was all my fault I never got a sign from my mother. During my teen-age years my mother and I battled and we weren't close. After I became an adult and matured, things started changing in our relationship.

When I thought things were going well, she died of breast cancer. I was in my early 40s and she was in her early 60s. We never really had a closure. I prayed to God one day if she had forgiven me could she leave me a

sign. Not any sign. I still wanted a wheat penny dated 1936. I never got a sign.

I then added St. Anthony to my prayer. I asked him to find my mother and help me find the peace I wanted. I have prayed for her over the years, I asked her forgiveness, but never felt at peace.

The rest of the story. It was the morning of New Year's Eve, 2025. I sat at my desk catching up on paperwork, and maybe even thinking about decluttering the desk as my first resolution for the New Year.

The desk was a work in progress with paperwork piling up in front of me. Next to my stacked papers I noticed something in the shadow. It was a penny. I hadn't seen any loose change on my desk for a long time.

I picked it up. It was a wheat penny. I wondered where it had come from. I turned it over thinking "could it be?" and there was the date, 1936. I got cold chills and tears came to

me eyes. I was literally shaking. In the 26 years my mother has been gone, I have seen very few wheat pennies and none dated 1936.

My first thought was I have been forgiven. St. Anthony has found her and given me the peace I have needed for so long.

I know for those who are not Catholic, you may not have the same belief in Patron Saints, or their prayerful power, but I really wanted to share my own personal miracle with everyone.

May your 2026 be filled with miracles every day.

-- PUBLIC NOTICE --

NOTICE OF INTENT TO FILE APPLICATION
The City of Sturgis intends to file an application for federal financial assistance with the U. S. Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Rural Utilities Service. The project includes improvements to the water distribution system and water treatment plant. Any comments regarding this application should be submitted to the City of Sturgis.

PUBLIC NOTICE

THE FOLLOWING ESTATE HAVE BEEN PROBATED IN UNION DISTRICT COURT. PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS TO FILE AGAINST SAID ESTATES MUST FILE SAME NOT LATER THAN SIX MONTHS FROM THE DATE OF THE APPOINTMENT OF THE FIDUCIARY.

Estate of David Pierce. Executor Sherry Bills, 1197 State Route 365, Sturgis, KY 42459. Date of appointment January 8, 2026. Attorney Arnett Law Office, PLLC, P.O.. Box 419, Morganfield, KY 42437.

Estate of Kenneth Louis Wolfe. Executor Donna Jean Wolfe, 2322 Boxville Road, Morganfield, KY 42437. Date of appointment January 8, 2026. Attorney John David Meyer, Meyer and Meyer, LLP, 608 Frederica Street, Suite 301, Owensboro, KY 42301.