

Out of the Past

10 YEARS AGO

Week of Dec. 2, 2015

With Thanksgiving over, many in the area were gearing up for several Christmas events in the county, including the Downtown Christmas Celebration, Community Christmas Fest at the Extension Office, and Cattleman's Country Christmas at the Ag/Expo.

Bobby Rigdon was sentenced to 38 years in prison for the 2012 shooting death of Gleason Pyles in Dunnville. Rigdon's legal team was planning an appeal.

Rex Rader was back in a deer blind and harvested a big buck just one year after he fell nearly 30 feet out of another deer blind. Rader thanked his friend Ryan Beard for the support. He said that he was passionate for the sport of hunting, having hunted for 37 years straight.

Casey County was ranked 89th out of 120 counties for child well-being.

Clementsville hosted its 30th Variety Show at St. Bernard Catholic Church.

Muriel Wethington grew a large turnip, weighing 9 pounds, 12 ounces, in his garden on Martin Road.

Obituaries: Kaye Bell, 67; Donald R. Burke, 87; Wallace D. Elmore, 79; Curtis Luttrell, 81.

20 YEARS AGO

Week of Nov. 30, 2005

Somerset Community College was exploring an option to create a new campus in Liberty.

Black Friday shoppers were out in force in Liberty, with the local Pamida counting 535 shoppers visiting their store from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.

High winds caused a large set of bleachers to tumble over a fence and into a track at the Central Kentucky Ag/Expo Center. Wind gusts were estimated at 40 to 50 miles per hour.

The Liberty Planning and Zoning Commission approved a permit to allow Casey County Bank to build a new location on Wallace Wilkinson Boulevard. A sticking point was that the location would be on a floodplain, but Mayor Steve Sweeney said that there were no other ideal places to expand in the city.

Jones Park Elementary School was nearing completion. Students were expected to attend the school directly

after Christmas Break on Jan. 9.

Ashley Garrett and Jordan Martin both bagged their first deer. Garrett killed both a doe and a 6-point buck. Martin got himself an 8-pointer.

Obituaries: Larry Copely, 50; Levona L. Emerson, 95; Willie Elbert Rainwater, 77; Essie M. Scales, 78.

30 YEARS AGO

Week of Nov. 29, 1995

Jesse Richards, 26, suffered numerous injuries when his clothing became tangled in a tractor's power take-off shaft. All of his ribs were broken on one side and he suffered a dislodged spleen, crushed knee, broken ankle and toes, and internal bleeding.

Casey County's annual Hometown Christmas Celebration was held in downtown Liberty. Christmas carols were also sung at area churches.

A Casey County jury recommended Robert Denzil "Dennie" Elliott receive the death penalty after the shooting death of Opal Ashley and the assault on her daughter, Terry Ashley.

Casey County was named, along with 17 other Kentucky high schools, in a federal com-

plaint filed by a Shelbyville civil rights activist. The complaint alleged that the Rebel nickname used by the high school was offensive to African Americans.

An AmeriCorps program began with Casey County High School students that enabled them to give to the community during lax times at school.

Obituaries: Sally Minne Hicks, 71; Lela Meeks Nodde, 62; Nora Mae Mullins, 80; Pauline Cochran Fights, 64; Ira Johnson Durham, 84; Mayme Martin Cochran, 100; Rollin Sutherland, 89; Virgie Williams, 95.

40 YEARS AGO

Week of Dec. 4, 1985

Michael Dale Payton, 23, was found guilty by a Marion County jury of first-degree manslaughter in the beating death of Casey County resident Sharon Herron. He was sentenced to 20 years in prison, the maximum for the crime.

Janis Phillippe resigned as principal of Cox Elementary School. Rick Cooper, a seventh-grade teacher, was named principal.

A public hearing was held

by the state Board of Education and the state Department of Education to discuss results of a school facilities survey.

Chad Weddle, 10, won a Huffy bicycle for raising the most pledges in a walk-a-thon to benefit the 4-H Leadership Program. He raised \$203.17.

The state was investigating two fires in Casey County that destroyed a barn and a trailer. The barn held 1,200 bales of hay, farm equipment, and tools, along with five horses. The horses escaped with little injury. The trailer was the home of Sherrill Warfield, who was not home at the time of the fire.

A five-pound bag of Summer Dale frozen French fries was \$1.49 at A&D Super Market.

Obituaries: Nancy Hale, 93; Bud Spears, 94; Walter Austin, 85; Arthur Ezra Pennington, 84; Danny Lee Lane, 34.

50 YEARS AGO

Week of Dec. 4, 1975

Liberty Water and Gas superintendent Glenn Wilson said in the next five to six years the entire city would have plastic pipelines to replace 20-year-old metal lines that were

prone to leak. He said that three miles of the new plastic pipe had already been laid.

Nearly \$1,000 worth of merchandise was stolen from Sandusky's Store on KY 49 during an early Saturday morning break-in.

L.O. Griffith, 77, of Griffith Ridge, drew attention from residents of Casey County for his ability to whittle. Since retiring two years earlier, he had whittled more than 200 items, each from a single piece of wood. He was most famous for whittling giant acorns and chairs, all created with a pocket knife and a coping saw without a blade. He also whittled lengths of wood chains.

A six-pack of 60-, 70-, and 100-watt Marvel light bulbs were \$1 at A&D Super Market.

Devil's Potion men's after-shave lotion was \$1.89 a bottle at the Liberty Dollar Store.

A 24-inch, six-string guitar was \$2.78 at Toyland, upstairs over Hoskins Top Dollar Store.

Aigner shoes were \$4 a pair at The Louisville Store.

Obituaries: Waldo Ishmael Williams, 47; Mack Edward Sharp, 72; Henry Bascom Elliott, 91; James Robert Lee, 83; Arthur Buchannan, 51.

FISCAL

FROM PAGE A1

there looking to cause damage for some reason," Dial said.

In a miscellaneous item on the agenda, Dial said that there had been an agreement between a landowner and a descendent to move the Murphy Cemetery.

The fiscal court would have to agree with the plan, which would involve exhuming the graves and then moving them.

Cameron Griffith, an attorney involved in the agreement, said that the deceased would be moved to other cemeteries, which are

well maintained. The Murphy Cemetery had not been maintained in a very long time.

No one has been buried there since 1890, Griffith said.

"Most of the individuals in the cemetery — there are 15 marked graves, six potential graves, that he (the descendent) identified thorough geological survey machine (LIDAR) ... It won't cost the county anything," Griffith said.

The magistrates were opposed to the idea.

Magistrate Bart Woodrum said that he felt like it wasn't his place to approve such a move.

"Those people were buried there long before I came along

and I don't feel that it's my place to OK moving their bodies," he said.

"I totally agree. I don't want them to be moved," said Magistrate Troy Sanders.

Magistrate Robby Murphy said he was "on the fence." He said that he was hesitant to disturb someone's grave but also thought it would be nicer for the deceased to be in a cemetery that's better maintained.

In a vote, only Murphy was in favor, with Woodrum, Sanders, and Cecil Roy opposed.

Also in the meeting:

- Magistrates approved the hiring of Clyde Brooks as the new dog warden. Eric Pruner,

who had served as dog warden, had resigned. Dial said that Brooks had assisted Pruner for some time.

- Magistrates approved the formation of a committee to determine whether Carr-Sasser Road could be removed from the county road inventory. Eastern Kentucky Power Cooperative sent a request to the court. The co-op has purchased all property adjoining the road, except for one, and the co-op has made an agreement with the one property owner to allow access when needed.

- Jerry Atwood was appointed to the Casey County Public Library Board. The court elected to choose a

person besides the two that were suggested by the Casey County Library Board.

- Appointed to the Casey County Extension District Board were Todd Harne and LJ Watson.

- Sheriff Chad Weddle gave his monthly report. For the month of October, his office: drove 10,319 miles; served 19 warrants; opened 12 cases; worked 708 hours of court security; worked 15 accidents; had 3 DUI arrests; conducted 36 vehicle inspections; had 49 total arrests; issued 57 citations for non-arrestable offenses; issued 119 total citations; served 75 total summonses, subpoenas, and eviction notices; responded

to 605 total calls; and worked a total of 1,626 hours.

- Jailer Mike Woodrum gave his monthly report. For the month of October, the jail had generated \$277,949 in revenue from state-held inmates, \$43,432 from Lincoln County inmates, \$2,085 from Madison County inmates, and had around \$77,000 from other programs, GED graduations, and transports, for a total of \$400,278 in revenue for the month.

- Coroner Michael Brown said that there had been 84 cases so far this year, compared to 88 at this time last year. He said that there were two open cases, of deaths being investigated by autopsy.

Letters to Santa

Publishes: Wednesday, December 17th 2025

Inserted in The Casey County News

Advertise in this loved yearly section of local children's Letters to Santa!

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Advertising Deadline: Friday, December 5th @ 3pm



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On Wednesday, December 10th

The Casey County News

City sticker law to take effect next month

By JENNIFER HARRIS
The Casey County Board of Commissioners on Wednesday approved a new ordinance that will require all vehicles registered in the county to display a city sticker by the end of the month.

Plans ready for Casey County Fair

By JENNIFER HARRIS
The Casey County Board of Commissioners on Wednesday approved the final plans for the 2025 Casey County Fair, which will be held from August 15-17 at the Casey County Fairgrounds.

The board also approved the final budget for the fair, which is estimated to cost the county approximately \$100,000.

The fair is a major source of revenue for the county and is a popular event for residents and visitors alike.

The board will continue to work on finalizing the details for the fair in the coming weeks.

For more information on the fair, visit the Casey County website.

Casey County News

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