



Gooch's Mill at Osceola played a key role in the town's economy and everyday lives its citizens.

# The rise and fall of Osceola

Around the turn of the twentieth century, the town of Osceola faded from existence. It had been a thriving community located on the bank of the Little Barren River in western Green County. Its downfall stemmed from a series of destructive floods in the 1890s.

The origin of the town's name is unknown, but the area reportedly became known as Osceola about 1860, shortly before the Civil War.

On January 20, 1864, a post office was established in the growing community with Jackson P. Cunningham serving as the first postmaster. Mail was rerouted there from nearby Monroe in Hart County.

Incorporated in 1873, Osceola had its own public officials as early as the 1860s. In May 1869, the county court approved a motion to appoint Wm. T. Pedigo, James Bale, and R. F. Craddock to the town's first board of trustees, as requested by petition of Osceola's citizens. Abner Gooch was appointed as police judge and Calvin Curry as town marshal. Pleas Sandidge later became town marshal.

Osceola had a school, church, mill, blacksmith shops, stores, and even saloons.

The grist and rolling mill, was built by two men, William Gooch and Matthew McDonald, on land purchased in 1838. During construction of the mill dam, McDonald fell ill



Green County Public Library Genealogy

Laura Johnson

and died of pneumonia. Gooch became sole owner and it remained in his family for decades.

Joseph Cunningham was the first man to build and operate a store in Osceola. His establishment, located across the road from the mill, was later operated by Pleas Chaudoin, J. T. Rhea, and James L. Bale. Also, Bill Pedigo and Bill DeFries had a store in Osceola.

At one time, Osceola had four saloons. Bob Craddock and Bill DeFries were probably the last ones to sell whiskey in the town.

The 1879 Kentucky State Gazetteer published several details about Osceola. It stated the town was 10 miles southwest of Greensburg in Green County, 16 east of Rowlett's Depot, its nearest shipping point, on the L. & G. S. R. R., and was on the tri-weekly mail and stage route between Greensburg and Glasgow. The population stood at 125 people.

Osceola Business Directory: H. W. Arnett, shoemaker; H. Ball, blacksmith; W. T. Cartwill, wagon maker; P. Chaudoin, general store; J. B. Collins, blacksmith; J. P. Cunningham, justice; T. J. Cunningham, barber; W. C. Curry, marshal;

W. A. Defries, general store; Gooch & Craddock, saw and flour mill; H. C. Hardwick, blacksmith; Rev. S. H. Hardy, Baptist; Hig-gason & Craddock, tanners; D. G. Overphelt, carpenter; G. C. Twyman, physician.

Once the repeated floods became too difficult to recover from, residents and store owners began moving from their place on Little Barren River.

The church which stood in the town was built about 1874. It was used by the Methodist and the Cumberland Presbyterians. Political speeches were also held in the church. About 1897, the building was torn down and its material used in building a new church at Monroe known as Monroe Chapel Church.

The post office closed, effective in November 1899, and mail was rerouted to Bale.

The old grist mill was eventually torn down and moved on top of the hill across the river and rebuilt. Hop Philpott became the owner at the time. It later went out of business, was torn away, and the machinery sold.

Osceola simply faded away. Today, no trace of the once-thriving town remains, aside from the rock pillar foundation of the old mill which can be seen when the river is low. Osceola's history is preserved through records of the time and stories passed down.

## Greensburg-Green County A proud past — A promising future

# Way Back When

By CAROL DIAL  
SPECIAL TO THE R-H

April 22, 2015

**Body recovered** - The body of Niles Lawler, Sulphur Wells, was recovered from Green River near mile marker 8. Lawler drowned March 25.

**Prom king and queen** - Colton Bush and Masden Griffiths were chosen king and queen of the 2015 Prom.

**Cross country racing** - Russell Creek Off-Road Campground hosted the Mid America Cross Country Racing's Battlefield event featuring dirt bike, ABTV and UTV races.

**Davis retires** - Benny Joe Davis retired after 34 years employment with Kentucky Farm Bureau Insurance.

April 20, 2005

**Jobless rate up** - The jobless rate for Green County jumped from 6.4 percent in January to 7.3 percent in February.

**Free trees** - In observance of Arbor Day, the Nature Conservancy will host a free tree give-away.

**Lesstobacco** - Kentucky farmers intend to grow less tobacco in 2005 the first year of production without a federal program.

**Accolades** - DeMarcus Compton was named All-American Scholar. Karleigh McDermott was presented a United States National Mathematics award.

April 19, 1995

**Roadside dumping a problem** - Bobby Gene Curry, Solid Waste Coordinator, reports that roadside dumping continues to be a county wide problem.

lem.

**Hall injured** - Rocky Hall was injured when his motorcycle left the highway and skidded along a ditch.

**4-H winners** - Holly Gilpin and Jeremy Baker were Green County 4-H demonstration winners. Rebecca Cook was the winner of the Green County 4-H Speech Contest.

**Sullivan honored** - Paige Sullivan was certified as having a Stewardship Forest by the Kentucky Forest Stewardship Program in Kentucky.

April 18, 1985

**Truck crashes thru fence** - An Elizabethtown truck driver received a citation after passing on a double yellow line and then crashing through a fence north of Summersville.

**Anniversaries** - Mr. and Mrs. Ramon E. Hollins, 31 years, April 15. Mr. and Mrs. Jessie Whitehead, 37 years, April 17.

**Summershade, Hazel Kessler** - There was heavy frost two nights last week.

**Master Homemaker** - Phyllis Price, a Summersville Extension Homemaker, was named Green County's Master Farm Homemaker.

April 24, 1975

**County stores robbed** - Thieves struck the Workman and Lowe store at Thurlow and the Thomas Curry store at Donansburg. A wide variety of items, including food, were taken.

**Accidents** - Coy Leon Jones and Boyce Jones were injured when their vehicle plowed into the porch

of the William Judd home. Elsie Whitlow was injured in a single vehicle accident. Paul "Pistol" Judd's car crashed into a stone bank on Mickey Vaughn Curve.

**Little Barren Reia Clark** - There were high winds, rain and some hail over the county Friday night.

**Showing at the Skyline** - Roger Moore stars as James Bond 007 in "The Man With the Golden Gun".

April 23, 1965

**Preserving the past** - Representatives from Program Research of New York City have conducted a study of historic properties in Greensburg and Green County. Preservation. Local officials are advised that promotion could bring as many as 300,000 tourist per year to the area.

**New library planned** - Construction is expected to begin on the new library building on South Main Street next door to VanCleave Motors. The Jane Todd Crawford Library began in the 1930's and operates in the Old Courthouse.

**New Masonic Lodge** - Ground breaking was held for construction of the new Summersville Masonic Lodge adjacent to the Summersville Baptist Church.

### Cemetery upkeep

Greasy Creek Baptist Church Cemetery is seeking donations for cemetery upkeep for 2025. Mail donations to GCBC Cemetery, 246 Locust Grove Rd., Greensburg, KY 42743. For more information call Rex Houk at 270-932-7157.

### NOTICE OF ACCEPTANCE OF SEALED BIDS

Greensburg Water Works is now accepting sealed bids for the rehabilitation of the primary sedimentation basin at the Greensburg Water Treatment Plant. Questions can be answered and the bidding exhibit and/or the bid form can be obtained by emailing [blake@durrettengineering.com](mailto:blake@durrettengineering.com) or by calling 270-405-1457.

Sealed bids clearly marked for the project should be remitted to Greensburg City Hall located at 110 West Court Street Greensburg, KY 42743. Bids will be accepted until 10:00 am CT, April 18, 2025 and opened publicly thereafter. The City of Greensburg and Greensburg Water Works reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

### REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT

The City of Greensburg, Kentucky, is requesting proposals from professional Roadway Design firms including those with Conditional Approval for Small Roadway Design for the purpose of providing Construction Inspection Services for pedestrian and bicycle facilities located along various routes in Greensburg, Kentucky.

A construction inspector must inspect the contractor's work on the project pursuant to the inspection plan. These inspections ensure that the project is well built, compliant with the construction specifications, and that the LPA is getting a good value from the contractor. They also play a role in determining when work has been completed, allowing the contractor to receive progress payments on their contract.

The inspector must be qualified by having at least five (5) years of roadway and/or bridge construction experience. Engineering education may be substituted on a year-by-year basis with the KYTC State Highway Engineer (SHE) approval. The inspector must have experience and understanding of construction practices, record keeping and workmanship regarding inspections. The inspector must be capable of handling the physical requirements needed to access and perform all inspection activities on any construction project.

Certifications listed below shall be held and maintained throughout the duration of the contract:

• ACI Level I Certification • Aggregate Sampling Technician • Grade Level I Technician • Asphalt Lay-Down Technician • Structural Inspection Level I • KPPSC-RI qualification

The inspector is required be on the project's job site at any time construction work is being completed. The inspector is required to create Daily Inspection Reports (DIRs).

Information about the project and a complete Request for Proposals (RFP) package can be obtained by contacting Mayor John M. Shuffett at 110 West Court Street, Greensburg, Ky 42743. Five (5) individual copies of the proposal should be submitted to the attention of Mayor John M Shuffett at the aforementioned address and clearly marked on the outside "Request for Proposals- Greensburg Pedestrian/Bike Project", no later than 4:30 pm local time, on April 25, 2025. Inquiries regarding this RFP should be directed to:

Mayor John M. Shuffett  
110 West Court Street  
Greensburg, KY 42743  
270-932-4298



### Public Notice

Commonwealth of Kentucky  
Court of Justice  
Eleventh Judicial District Court  
Green County  
Probate Division  
Karen Gilpin, Clerk

In compliance with SECTION 424.30 AND SECTION 424.120 **KENTUCKY REVISED STATUTES** NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the following **FIDUCIARY APPOINTMENTS** have been made by the court.

NAME ADDRESS OF DECEDENT OR WARD	NAME & ADDRESS OF FUDICIARY	NAME & ADDRESS OF ATTY REPRESENTING	DATE OF APPT	CREDITORS MUST FILE CLAIMS BY FUDICIARY
YVONNE DENISE COOK 966 Mell Road Greensburg, KY 42743	MICHAEL DEWAYNE TUCKER 385 Gabe Road Greensburg, KY 42743	R. ADAM STEARMAN 101 N. Public Square Greensburg, KY 42743	3/13/25	9/13/25
DONNIE WAYNE BUCKNER 416 Henry Street Greensburg, KY 42743	LINDA RHINEHART BUCKNER 416 Henry Street Greensburg, KY 42743	RUSSELL W. GOFF 116 S. Main Street Greensburg, KY 42743	3/13/25	9/13/25
BETTY SUE NEAGLE MILBY 344 Hwy. 88 Greensburg, KY 42743	SHEILA K. CHAUDOIN 17481 Orange Grove Road, Lot 6 Gulfport, MS 39303	RUSSELL W. GOFF 116 S. Main Street Greensburg, KY 42743	3/13/25	9/13/25
WILLIAM R. MILLER, SR. 2659 Fry Ridge Road Greensburg, KY 42743	MICHAEL MILLER 130 Thomas Coffey Road Columbia, KY 42278	RUSSELL GOFF 116 S. Main Street Greensburg, KY 42743	3/24/25	9/24/25
RANDALL ALLEN SUTTON 545 W. Buckner Hill Road Greensburg, KY 42743	PATRICIA SUE SUTTON 545 W. Buckner Hill Road Greensburg, KY 42743	R. ADAM STEARMAN 101 N. Public Square Greensburg, KY 42743	3/17/25	9/17/25
INDUS PICKETT 6809 Hwy. 88 Greensburg, KY 42743	LANETTA DAVIS 7920 Hwy. 88 Greensburg, KY 42743	RUSSELL GOFF 116 S. Main Street Greensburg, KY 42743	4/7/25	10/7/25
	LARISSA KEILEIN 225 Scottsdale Drive Bowling Green, KY 42105			
	LAMANDA BEASLEY 125 Cottonwood Drive Russellville, KY 42276			
DAVID MEADOWS 615 Legion Park Road Greensburg, KY 42743	HEAVEN MEADOWS 29 Jamestown Street Russell Springs, Ky 42642	RUSSELL GOFF 116 S. Main Street Greensburg, KY 42743	3/10/25	9/10/25
SUSAN MONTGOMERY 841 Old Hodgenville Road Greensburg, KY 42743	NANCY MONTGOMERY 117 Long Meadow Drive Greensburg, KY 42743	R. ADAM STEARMAN 101 N. Public Square Greensburg, KY 42743	3/18/25	9/18/25
ROSALINE ANNETTE CURRY 662 Happyville Road Greensburg, KY 42743	JASON M. HILL 662 Happyville Road Greensburg, KY 42743	RUSSELL W. GOFF 116 S. Main Street Greensburg, KY 42743	3/24/25	9/24/25