

Historical Museum Receives Notable Donations

The Clay County Historical Society Museum recently received several significant donations, enriching the preservation of local heritage.

Among the items donated is an antique bed from the Sexton's Creek home of Joseph Clark, better known historically as "Old Joe Clark." This donation came from Tracie Chesnut. The bed belonged to Clark's granddaughter, Rhoda Clark Baker, who was only three years old at the time of Clark's death by shooting in 1886. The legacy of "Old Joe Clark" is preserved not only in this artifact but also through a popular ballad bearing his name, widely sung by soldiers from eastern Kentucky during World War I and thereafter. The ballad, reflecting Clark's colorful history, includes around 90 stanzas in its various forms.

Additionally, the museum has received items donated by Monica Sawdy and Avril Levy from the estate of their late father, Monte Houchell. Among these items are an oak bed and dresser originating from the historic Kate "N.C." Pot-

ter boarding house, located on Courthouse Hill. The donation also included a framed photograph of Robert Houchell, who lost his life during World War II, an 18-inch Anchor Hocking kerosene oil lamp, and a collection of nineteen Clay County High School yearbooks. Monte Houchell, fondly remembered in the community, taught Social Studies at Clay County High School from 1968 until 1998.

Mike White, President of the Clay County Historical Society, expressed deep gratitude for these meaningful donations. "We are incredibly thankful to Tracie Chesnut, Monica Sawdy, and Avril Levy for their generosity. These donations greatly enhance our museum and help us preserve and share the rich history of Clay County for future generations," White said.

The items are now on display at the museum.



A bed from the Old Joe Clark cabin belonging to Clark's granddaughter, Rhoda Clark Baker, was donated to the historical society by Tracie Chesnut.



Monica Sawdy and Avril Levy donated this bed from the estate of their late father Monte Houchell. This is an oak bed and dresser from the historic Kate "N.C." Potter boarding house.

INDICTMENTS

From A1

- Martha Jane Hensley, 62, of Eagle Branch Road, was indicted for theft by unlawful taking \$1,000 <10,000 when she unlawfully took movable property, jewelry with a value in excess of \$1,000, of Patricia Carol Hensley.
- John W. Smith, 57, of Saplin Fork Road, was indicted for theft by unlawful taking \$1,000 <10,000 when he took copper wire belonging to Windstream.
- Charlie Gray, 46, of 337 Smith Road, was indicted for burglary 3rd and theft by unlawful taking when he entered a convenience store and took lottery tickets, cigarettes, and coins belonging to Chandan Patel.
- Chelsey Hacker, 28, of Paw Paw Road, was indicted for bail jumping.

WTBK

From A1

The seller is Choice Broadcasting Corp., led by President Jonathan L. Smith. The deal was finalized on June 5 but not submitted in the FCC's LMS for regulatory approval until August 1.

The purchase price is a mere \$75,000, "to be credited to satisfaction of Seller's obligation to the Bank toward the Purchase Price under the Settlement Agreement."

This provides some explanation as to the sale price, as Choice seeks to fulfill its fiscal responsibilities to First State Bank of the Southeast.

Choice will retain certain real estate associated with WYWY, and lease it to Southern Roots.

Serving as Choice's legal counsel is this transaction is veteran attorney Barry Wood, of Wood & Maines P.C.

For WTBK, the deal with Southern Roots comes nearly five years after a failed transfer of the station to Moses via her Strategic Impact Marketing Consulting Corp. That's all because of a settlement arrangement involving \$191,637.21 in debt, tied to a promissory note that could not be fulfilled by Choice. At the time, WTBK was to have been returned to Manchester Communications, which Choice bought it from, and then transferred to Moses.

Now, 59 months later, that is happening.

GUILTY

From A1

serve 85 percent of his sentence before becoming eligible for parole.

"At this point, this is the best option for all parties involved," Bowling said, adding that the plea's "guilty but mentally ill" designation does not change much procedurally for prosecutors.

"Any facility he goes to will have a medical wing or an area like an insane asylum where inmates receive treatment," Bowling explained. "If they feel he is healed to the level where he can be safely housed, he will be moved to the prison side to serve his sentence as a regular inmate. We also have mental health standards. If they deem he is too dangerous to be released in the future, that can be revisited when he comes up for parole."

According to court records, the charges stem from a May 18, 2021 incident in which Hubbard allegedly stabbed his mother and fired a gun toward her in an attempt to kill her before fleeing in a Dodge Dakota. He was also accused of taking a .380 caliber handgun and a .38 caliber handgun.

Whitley County Sheriff's Deputy Brandon Prewitt said the victim was found in the front yard of her home with multiple wounds but was conscious and talking. She identified Hubbard as her attacker.

Shortly after Whitley County 911 issued a BOLO alert, Kentucky State Police located Hubbard's vehicle on Ky. 11 in Clay County and found him at a McDonald's in Manchester. Officers took him into custody without incident.

Hubbard has been held at the Whitley County Detention Center since his arrest and will receive credit for the time served toward his sentence.

JOCKEY

From A1

residents bought, sold, and traded goods, particularly livestock.

The street became especially famous for horse trading. Local sellers would hire jockeys to race horses along Goose Creek to showcase their animals' speed and quality. This spirited tradition earned the street its distinctive name — one that city leaders now aim to restore as part of honoring Manchester's heritage.

The Jockey Street project is one of several being spearheaded by 1 Clay County in an effort to breathe new life into the city's historic core, blending modern amenities with a deep respect for local history.

In accordance with KRS 65A.080(2), the most recent audit and adopted budget for Daniel Boone Community Action Agency, Inc. can be viewed at the Department for Local Government public portal for SPGEs at: http://kydlgweb.ky.gov/entities/16_SpgeHome.cfm. If you would like to view our most recent financial statement, please visit us at 1535 Shamrock Road Manchester, KY 40962 during the hours of 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM EST Monday thru Friday.

Clay Fiscal Court hold regular mtg.

Staff Report
ENTERPRISE NEWS

MANCHESTER, Ky. — The Clay County Fiscal Court convened a special meeting on Aug. 7, 2025, addressing a wide range of county business and community initiatives.

Youth Workforce Development speakers Briley Hooker (Senior, CCHS), Jazmyn Copeland (Junior, CCHS), and Ziya Soni (Sophomore, CCHS) addressed the court, followed by a presentation from Mr. Accurso on disaster relief programs.

Among the items approved was the Sheriff's tax settlement and the first reading of the 2025-26 budget amendments. The court also set county tax rates at 9.3 per \$100 of assessed value for real estate, tangible property, and inventory, and 9.9 per \$100 for vehicles and watercraft.

Judge Harmon was authorized to sign all necessary paperwork.

Other approvals included:

- Applying for a grant for open garbage dumps.

- Appointing Russell Reynolds as interim dog warden.
 - Closing the Administration Building on Aug. 29 for the Manchester Music Fest, with early closure on Aug. 28 at 4 p.m.
 - Granting Deann Allen's request to reduce her work hours to five per week for \$250 per month, with the option to revisit in November.
 - Adopting Oak View Road into the county road system.
- The court also discussed opioid litigation, the Big Dog Branch Road project, and collaborating with the Elk Hill Industrial Board to apply for up to \$2 million in KPD grant funds. Clay County would serve as the fiscal agent, with no local match required.
- Additionally, members discussed applying for historical recognition for the Langdon Building, acknowledging the resignation of Alex Williams from the Road and Bridge Department, and approving the Treasurer's monthly settlement report.
- The meeting concluded with the payment of bills and a motion to adjourn.

Manchester Music Festival Set for Aug. 28-30

Downtown Manchester to host three days of live performances

MANCHESTER, Ky. — Downtown Manchester will come alive with music later this month as the Manchester Music Festival returns for three days of performances, running Thursday, Aug. 28 through Saturday, Aug. 30.

The festival kicks off Thursday evening with an opening ceremony at 6 p.m., followed by performances from Sneaky Pete at 6:30 p.m. and Hollerhead at 8 p.m.

Friday's lineup begins at 2 p.m. with Colby Sams, followed by Mayor of Shenanigans at 2:30 p.m., Spooky Fox at 3 p.m., and Roy Caudill at 4 p.m. Scott T. Smith takes the stage at 5 p.m., leading into Deep South at 6:15 p.m., The Creekers at 7:30 p.m., and Nicholas Jamerson and the Morning Jays closing the night at 9:30 p.m.

Saturday's schedule kicks off at 2 p.m. with The Seas, followed by Bill Taylor and the Appalachian Heathers at 3 p.m., Emily Jamerson at 4 p.m., and Abe Partridge at 5 p.m. Evening acts include Rob Ickes and Trey Hensley at 6:15 p.m., Taylor Hunnicutt at 7:30 p.m., and headliner Brent Cobb at 9:30 p.m.

Organizers say the festival will feature a variety of musical genres and styles, showcasing both local and national talent. All performances will take place in downtown Manchester, and attendees are encouraged to bring lawn chairs or blankets.

For more information about the Manchester Music Festival, visit the event's official page or follow updates on social media.