

The Wolfe County News

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Speaking Of And For WOLFE COUNTY, KENTUCKY, In The Foothills
And Campton, The Friendliest Town In The Mountains

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Look What's Coming Up
In Wolfe County
And Around the Area

Library to hold public meeting to discuss best use for grant funds

The Wolfe County Public Library will host a Community Meeting on Wednesday, May 14, to solicit comments from the public on how best to apply a \$10,000 grant from ALA to assist nerodiverg The neeting will start at 11:30 a.m. Refreshments will be provided,ent adults.

End of Year Science event for Kiddies May 19 at Library

The Wolfe County Library has scheduled a free two-hour science event from 3:30-5:30 p.m. on Monday, May 19 at the Library. Two hours of fun Science experiments. See mento and soda explode. Play with water vortex cannon and make bubbles fog with Boo Bubbler. See see Elephant Toothpaste. End of year science celebration. Bring the kiddies and watch the fun.

Retired Teachers to meet Tuesday, May 13

Wolfe County Retired Teachers Association will be having a meeting on Tuesday, May 13, at be 4:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall of the Campton Methodist Church. Members and all retired teachers are invited to join us for wonderful fellowship, and good food. I encourage all retired teachers, if you have not already, join KRTA (Kentucky Retired Teachers Association).
Bernice Elam
President of. WCLRTA

Revival set at House of Prayer May 11-13

Pastor Craig Centers invites everyone to attend a Revival Sunday, May 11, thru Wednesday, May 14, at the House of Prayer with Evangelist DeMikale Knowles. The revival will be at 6 p.m. Sunday, May 11; and 7 p.m. from Monday through Wednesday. The House of Prayer is located at 126 Lawson Ridge Road, in Wolfe County, Rt 746, 8 mile marker from Campton. Everyone is welcome.

Car, tractor, motorcycle show slated May 24th

The Hazel Green Food Project will sponsor a Car, Tractor and Motolrcycle Show May 24. Entry fee \$15.00. Free to the public. For more information, call 606-662-4344.

Public Hearing set Tuesday, May 15th

The Wolfe County Fiscal Court will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, May 13, at 12:30 p.m. at the Wolfe County Courthouse. The purpose of this hearing is to provide general information to the public regarding the use of USDA Rural Development grant funds for the purchase of a police cruiser for the Wolfe County Fiscal Court. The public is invited to attend and comment on such issues as economic impact, service area, alternatives to the project or any other pertinent issues.

It Pays To Advertise In The Wolfe County News

Historic Hazel Green home being revitalized by local couple wanting to make a difference

New life for historic J. Taylor Day home. hope for community

**By Heather Parks
The Morehead State Univ.
Trail Blazer**

Hazel Green, home of historic Hazel Green Academy and once the cultural and economic hub of Wolfe and Morgan counties, is being revitalized by one couple wanting to make a difference.

Joe and Linda Bowen, who came to Wolfe County four years ago, have turned renovations on their 1863 Victorian-style home, into an effort to renovate the Hazel Green community into a Celtic Village-themed town.

"There is a study that was done, for a resort being built in Slade, and in there they recommend that someone develop a theme town somewhere in the Red River Gorge area and these little towns are attracting a million and a half to 4 million people every year," said Joe Bowen. He said the best his area attracts is 500,000 to 700,000, less than half of smaller, themed communities.

The project is just another step of overcoming obstacles to raise awareness and to give back.

In 1980, Joe Bowen walked over 3,000 miles on stilts to raise money for Muscular Dystrophy, a cause that was personal to him due to his daughter's childhood friend suffering from Duchenne.

Over the years, he has been involved with numerous humanitarian efforts, including raising money for Dessie Scott's Children's Home, doing five more stilt walks in European countries, a 14,000 mile bike ride across America, building statues to honor great Kentuckians like Bert T. Combs and many other smaller more local efforts in his community.

His efforts have been rewarded over the years with being honored to carry the Olympic Torch, holding a Guinness World Record, many



The Owenses in front of their renovated home, the historic J. Taylor Day house in Hazel Green. The view of the house below is from a crumpled old photograph. *Photos reproduced from social media sources.*



publishing of his writing, being featured twice in "Ripley's Believe it or Not, an Ellis Island Medal of Honor, among many others.

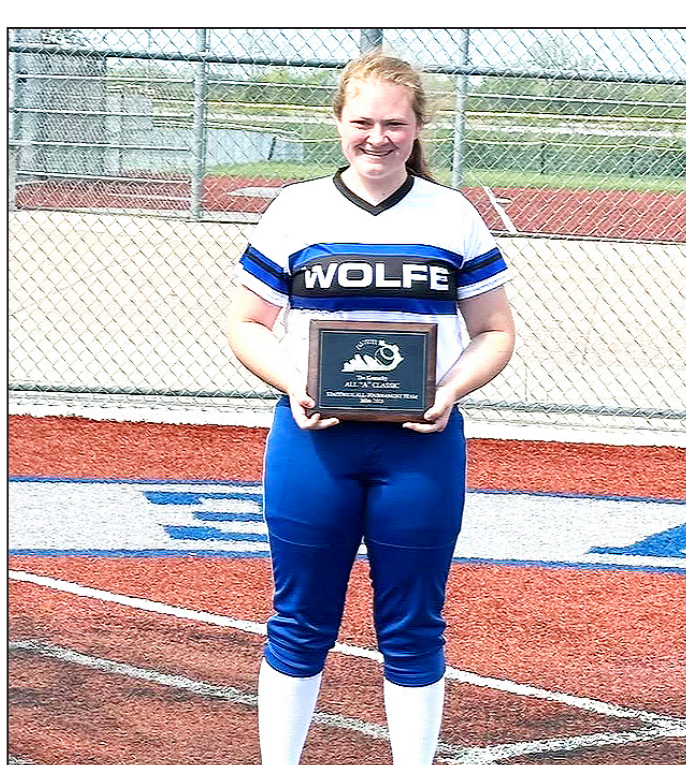
Now, the Bowens have their sights on their new home and community.

They moved to Hazel Green four years ago and found their historic home, originally owned by Jessie Taylor Day, a founder of the Hazel Green Academy, which is right down the road from the house.

After seeing all the history left in the house, the Bowens knew they couldn't just throw

it away, so they kept all the artifacts and have slowly been turning their home into a museum as they renovate it into a bed and breakfast they hope to call The Celtic Inn.

"I've never lived in a more precious, welcoming little town," said Linda Bowen. "People here look out for each other here. It's an incredible little town to live in. They've embraced us and we're going to honor them as much as we can. Because this town has so much history that needs to be showcased. It's just a matter of bringing attention to it."



Kinsey Miller Named All-A State Team

Congratulations to Kenzie Miller of the WCHS Lady Wolves, who was named to the All-A-State Girls Basketball Team following last week's championship tournament. Kenzies helped the Lady Wolves advance to the quarter-finals where after defeating Jackson County, 23-1, Bracken County, 14-4, and Holy Cross. 13-3, they fell to a strong Whitesville Trinity team/.

Rogers man indicted for drug trafficking

Part of nationwide Operation Take Back America Initiative

LEXINGTON, Ky., April 24 — A Rogers, Ky., man, Robert Lutes, 50, was indicted on April 17 by a grand jury sitting in Lexington for four counts of distributing fentanyl, two counts of distributing 50 grams or more of methamphetamine, one count of possessing with the intent to distribute 50 grams or more of methamphetamine, one count of possessing with the intent to distribute 40 grams or more of fentanyl, and one count of possession of a firearm in furtherance of drug trafficking.

The indictment alleges that from February 6 to March 26, 2025, Lutes possessed and distributed fentanyl and methamphetamine in Lee County. The indictment also alleges that on March 26, 2025, he possessed a firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime.

Paul McCaffrey, Acting United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Kentucky; John Nokes, Special Agent in Charge, ATF, Louisville Field Division, and Phillip J. Burnett, Jr., Commissioner of the Kentucky State Police, jointly announced the indictment.

The investigation preceding

the indictment was conducted by the ATF and KSP. The indictment was presented to the grand jury by Assistant U.S. Attorney Paco Villalobos.

Lutes was detained in custody on April 17, as he awaits a trial scheduled for June 25, 2025. He faces a minimum of 15 years and a maximum of life in prison. However, any sentence following a conviction would be imposed by the Court after consideration of the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines and the federal sentencing statutes.

This case is part of Operation Take Back America, a nationwide initiative that marshals the full resources of the Department of Justice to repel the invasion of illegal immigration, achieve the total elimination of cartels and transnational criminal organizations (TCOs), and protect our communities from the perpetrators of violent crime. Operation Take Back America streamlines efforts and resources from the Department's Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Forces (OCDETFs) and Project Safe Neighborhood

Any indictment is an accusation only. A defendant is presumed innocent and is entitled to a fair trial at which the government must prove guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

Reflections On 'Reflections'

BRIARS AND BUCKEYES

By Marti Hamilton

April 23—Better late than never. Well actually not late, just a bit tardy from not writing anything for the Wolfe County News for awhile. I first started writing this counumn about 40 years ago with JB Stamper's approval. I was born and raised at Rogers in Wolfe County but like a lot of other people I moved to Ohio. Living in Ohio I began to see a lot of other people living near me that were also from Wolfe County. Kentuckians are known as "Briars" and Ohioians as "Buckeyes". I thought this was a good title for my column and it stuck. I usually sent a column to the paper once a month, including my personal contact info and began to get letters from all over the country. Amazing how far our news travels. I enjoyed hearing from lots of hometown folks, adding their news in my column—other people like myself that had moved away but wanted to stay in touch with home. Military people wrote and others looking for someone they had lost touch with. I was happy to help reconnect some old friends.

I enjoy reading what others send in to the paper. The late Richard Jett and Ruth Spencer wrote weekly and now Mary Peck usually does. There are a few others that do so occasionally. Recently I have enjoyed reading "Reflections of a Country Editor" by CD Long. One person he spoke of was Delmer Lykins. I'm not sure of the connection but I believe Delmer was related to Hobert Lykins who owned and operated a

general store at Rogers. This brought back a lot of memories. My parents, Johnny and Mabel Bryant, bought a lot of food and supplies from Hobert's store. One of the things we bought from the store was large bags of feed for our cows. The feed was in plain white bags and also in pretty print bags. I would go with my dad to pick up the feed. I would pick out a print that I liked and after the feed was out, the bag was washed and made enough fabric that Mom would make clothing. She used the white bags to make dish towels, etc.

Hobert and his wife, Ruth, were good neighbors. They had the only phone in Rogers. I was in a bad auto accident back in 1955 along with Joann Lesher and Joe Ratliff. Joe wasn't hurt but Joann and I were taken into Campton to Dr. Maddox's clinic. He gave us first aid but sent us on to Lexington in an ambulance. I asked the doctor to call Hobert and have him go tell my mom. My dad worked in Ohio as a carpenter, only home on the weekends. We had no personal transportation thru the week. Hobert brought Mom to Campton and she rode in the ambulance with Joann and me.

CD's "Reflections" stirred other memories for me. I will save those for another time. I would love hearing from anyone interested. I can be reached by snail at 631 Woodlawn Ave, Apt#604, Hamilton, Ohio 45015, or by phone or text at 937/304-8178. When I introduce myself to new people some will comment about my name being Hamilton and I live in Hamilton. I laughingly tell them the city was named for me!

Until next time, blessings to all.



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