

COMMUNITY

Jackets cont. from pg. 1

Caiden Smith with 12 points, and Preston Blake with 11 points and 13 rebounds.

The boys followed up those two back-to-back losses with an away game win against Holmes (64-59) on Feb. 15th.

Leading the Jackets against the Bulldogs were Caiden Smith with 23 points and 13 rebounds, Maddox Donovan with 12 points, Peyton Hatton and Braxton Martin with 11 points each, and Preston Blake with an impressive 22 rebounds.

The boys followed

up their win against Holmes with an away game, overtime loss to Augusta (77-79) on Feb. 17th.

Leading the Jackets against the Panthers were Peyton Hatton with 30 points, Braxton Martin with 18 points, Maddox Donovan with 16 points, and Preston Blake with 11 rebounds.

The Jackets' final two games of the regular season were both played at home. The boys defeated Bourbon County (74-67) on Feb. 18th and lost to Raceland (58-62) on Senior Night, Feb. 21st. The JV BlueJackets also lost to Bourbon County (36-46) on Feb. 18th.

Leading the Jackets against the Colonels

were Maddox Donovan with 23 points, Caiden Smith with 19 points and 16 rebounds, and Preston Blake with 14 points and 13 rebounds.

Leading the Jackets against the Rams were Braxton Martin with 17 points and 10 rebounds, Maddox Donovan with 14 points, and Preston Blake and Caiden Smith with 13 rebounds each.

The boys will take on Pendleton County on Feb. 25th in the first round of the 38th District Boys Basketball Tournament.

Good luck Jackets!!! We're all rooting for you!!!

(photos courtesy of Alisha Dunn)

Supporting local newspapers puts community first; HB 368 will harm communities and newspapers

Jane Ashley Pace is the publisher of the Oldham Era and Henry County Local, regional advertising manager for Paxton Media and the 2024 president of the Kentucky Press Association.

By Jane Ashley Pace, 2024 KPA President

Every county in Kentucky has one local business that has been there longer than any other, most more than a century – while some are even closing in on two centuries. In many of these counties, that business is their local newspaper.

I manage two of those local newspapers. The Oldham Era has been in operation for 149 years and is looking forward to celebrating our 150th next year. The Henry County Local has been publishing 168 proud years and counting. I also assist regionally with 13 other area newspapers with similar tenures.

Newspapers are the heartbeat of every community in Kentucky. We exist to inform, to raise awareness, to build community, to be the voice of those that can't always speak for themselves, to cover local government and hold local officials accountable, to help local businesses grow, to enact change, to celebrate achievements and to archive our community's history.

Our founding fathers

felt so strongly about the importance of newspapers and the role we play in communities that we are the only profession explicitly named in the Constitution of the United States of America.

There are three ways in which newspapers have effectively carried out some of our most important roles – covering local government, keeping officials accountable, keeping citizens informed and helping transparency exist: public notices, open meetings and open records.

Without these three in place, knowing how your tax dollars are being spent, what bids are available and being rewarded, what decisions your elected officials are making for you, when meetings are being held and what new ordinances are being considered would not be as easily accessible.

There is currently a bill, HB368, that seeks to remove legal notices from newspapers and place them on government websites. Websites that are run by the government themselves. What could go possibly go wrong with that?

When a legal ad is placed in a newspaper, it is placed in the local newspaper, dated and cannot be changed after the fact. In addition, it is placed on a website managed by the Kentucky Press Association where all legal notices in

Kentucky can be found easily – kypublicnotices.com.

HB368 seeks to have entities including county and city governments place public notices on their own websites, yet many have only one employee, if any, and can't even keep their current websites updated. I found one city website in my area that hadn't been updated with meetings or ordinances since 2020. Two others had very little information, none of the council members were current and the monthly meeting time listed was listed wrong.

Officials have said they would create their own statewide website for all notices. I would argue that they are going to spend a lot more money creating a website we have already created and maintained successfully. Right now, paid legal notices are currently a very small part of county and city budgets – only 0.16%.

So why change? Is this what is really best for the community?

In counties of 80,000 or more a bill was passed in Kentucky to change the rules of public notices due to the cost of the larger newspapers. Yet, many of those counties, including Boone, Campbell, Fayette, Kenton, Madison and Warren, have decided that newspapers are still the best way to get their notices out and have continued

OBITUARIES

Helen Mae Vance McKee



Helen Mae Vance McKee, 92, passed away February 21, 2025. She was born in Bourbon County on September 24, 1932, to the late Bert and Mollie Guy Vance. She was a Housewife. She loved her church, she enjoyed quilting, singing, playing piano and spending time with her family. In the past she traveled with church missions and

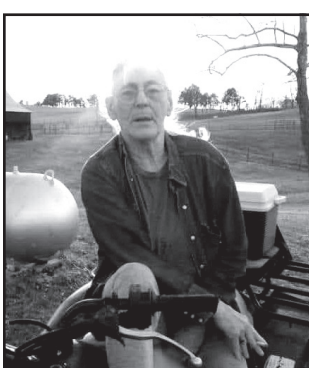
owned Jackstown Pay Lake and Store.

She is survived by her children Larry (Pat) McKee, Carlisle, Ky, JoAnn (Harry) Havens, Georgetown, Ky, Ed-die (Sandra) McKee, Lebanon, Ohio and Ronnie McKee, Cynthiana, Ky, her "adopted children" Johnny (Jennifer) Sexton, Cynthiana, Ky and Barbara (Barry) Tinch, Paris, Ky, her grandchildren Jamie (Mark) Caudill, Carlisle, Ky, Jill (Charlie) Lanh-am, Georgetown, Ky, Michelle (Jason) Patrick, Paris, Ky, Jeremy (Becky) Havens, Paris, Ky and Daniel (Ashley) McKee, Maineville, Ohio, her siblings John Vance, Margaret Vance, Linda Dryden.

She was preceded in death by her parents Bert and Mollie Vance, her husband Julian McKee a grandson Matthew (Jessica) McKee, four brothers and two sisters.

Funeral services were Wednesday February 26, 2025, at Carlisle-Clark Funeral Home with Daniel McKee and Bro. Vernon Adams officiating with burial to follow in the Carlisle Cemetery. Visitation was Wednesday 11 am. - 1 pm. Pallbearers were Azlan McKee, Caedmon McKee, Patriot McKee, Jeremy Havens, Jason Patrick and Ian Mathis. Carlisle-Clark Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.

Diana Lynn Shields Foster



Diana Lynn Shields Foster 71 passed away February 23, 2025. She was born in Nicholas County on November 17, 1953, to the late Elva and Almedia Yazell Shields.

She is survived by her husband Johnny Foster, she and Johnny would

celebrate their fifty-year marriage anniversary on February 27th, her children Donnie (Shirley) Sapp, Lora Herrington (Andy Jolly) and Jonathan (Melissa) Foster, her grandchildren Jessica (David) Cox, Courtney (David) Boggs, Jacob (Kenzy) Foster, Michael (Tina) Holland and Jesse Holland.

Her great grandchildren Derrius, Kyelin and Jayda Williams, Branson and Clyrease Watkins, Nevaeh and Grayson Foster and Brittany and Cameron Holland, Alex, Andy, Bailey, Jevlyn Crawford and Kaylee Shrout, four sisters Molly Craig, Gayle

Craig, Ramona Evans, Anita Evans and a special cousin Bonnie Hunt. She also leaves behind a large family of friends and loved ones.

Funeral services will be held at 1 pm Thursday February 27, 2025, at Carlisle-Clark Funeral Home with Bro. Darrell Sexton officiating with burial following in the Carlisle Cemetery. Visitation Thursday 11 am – 1 pm. Pallbearers are Courtney Boggs, Andy Jolly, David Crawford, David Lee Foster, Zachary Fryman and Jeremy Feeback. Carlisle-Clark Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.

community.

No, it is not the job of the legislature to keep newspapers running but why are they so against doing something that maintains transparency and at the same time, would hurt some of the oldest local businesses in this state?

I'm not blind to the criticism of the media and think that cable news networks have hurt our industry as a whole. I was trained that a journalist is to cover the facts and to try and keep any biases out. I think your local newspapers do a pretty darn good job at still doing that. We have opinion/editorial pages that are open for opinions to be shared and topics to be discussed but they are clearly labeled and kept separate from the news

Nicholas and Robertson County Circuit Court sentencing for Jan. and Feb. 2025

Nicholas County Circuit Court...

James Everett Baker (aka Jamie Everett Baker) – PRISON – sentenced to a total of 15 years imprisonment on the charges of Trafficking in a Controlled Substance (Methamphetamine) in the 1st Degree – 1st Offense (2 or More Grams) (two counts); Possession of Drug Paraphernalia (Possession of Firearm at Time of Offense); Possession of a Hand-

gun by a Convicted Felon; and Persistent Felony Offender in the 1st Degree; to be served consecutively to Mr. Baker's other multiple sentences in Bath, Fleming, Montgomery, and Simpson Circuit Court. Probation was denied. Mr. Baker will not be eligible for parole until he has served a minimum term of incarceration of not less than 10 years.

Cory Houston Watkins (aka Corey Hous-

ton Watkins) – PRISON – sentenced to a total of 7 years imprisonment on the charges of Wanton Endangerment in the 1st Degree; Assault in the 4th Degree (Domestic Violence – Minor Injury); Terroristic Threatening in the 3rd Degree; and Persistent Felony Offender in the 3rd Degree. Probation was denied.

Andrew Clark Berry

– PROBATION – sen-

Sentencing
cont. on pg. 6

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606-541-1787

For Sale
Barley straw hay Great for cows, goats and sheep **\$50/roll (4x5)** and a 60x60 horse Kubota Tractor. Less than 1000 hours asking **\$29,999.**
Call Jim at 859-948-4376.

LEGAL NOTICE
The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet

In accordance with KRS 176.051, Kentucky's noxious weed law, the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet will control noxious weeds on state-owned right of way at the request of the adjoining property owner. The noxious weeds named in this law are Johnson grass (Sorghum halepense), Canada thistle (Cirsium arvense), Cutleaf Teasel (Dipsacus laciniatus) Nodding thistle (Carduus nutans), Common teasel (Dipsacus fullonum), Poison hemlock (Conium maculatum), Marehail (Conyza canadensis), Amur Honeysuckle (Lonicera maackii), Multiflora Rose (Rose multiflora) Japanese knotweed, (Polygonum cuspidatum), Spotted Knapweed (Centaurea stoebe) and Kudzu (Pueraria montana).

Persons who own property adjacent to state right of way and who are involved in eradication efforts on their property can submit a written application to the highway district office in their area. Contact information can be found at transportation.ky.gov/DistrictPages

NOTICE
Please remove all holiday decorations from the Carlisle Cemetery that do not meet the cemetery guidelines by March 15th.

KYANA GIANT INDOOR SWAP MEET 58th Year
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Largest Indoor Swap Meet in The Country
7 Acres 1150 Spaces Inside Heated & Air conditioned
100 Space OUTSIDE CAR CORRAL

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Sunday, March 9th 08:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Admission: \$10 per day -- Children under 12 Free With a Parent
Maureen Vannatta: 502 619 2917 kyanaswapmeet@gmail.com
Chester Robertson 502 619 2916
http://www.kyanaswapmeet.com

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RESCHEDULED

You are invited to **Mary L. Cartmill's 100th Birthday Celebration.**
At The Neal Welcome Center
108 West Main St., Carlisle, KY. 40311
Sunday MARCH 2nd, 2025
From 1 to 4 pm.
Please no presents!
Hope to see you there.