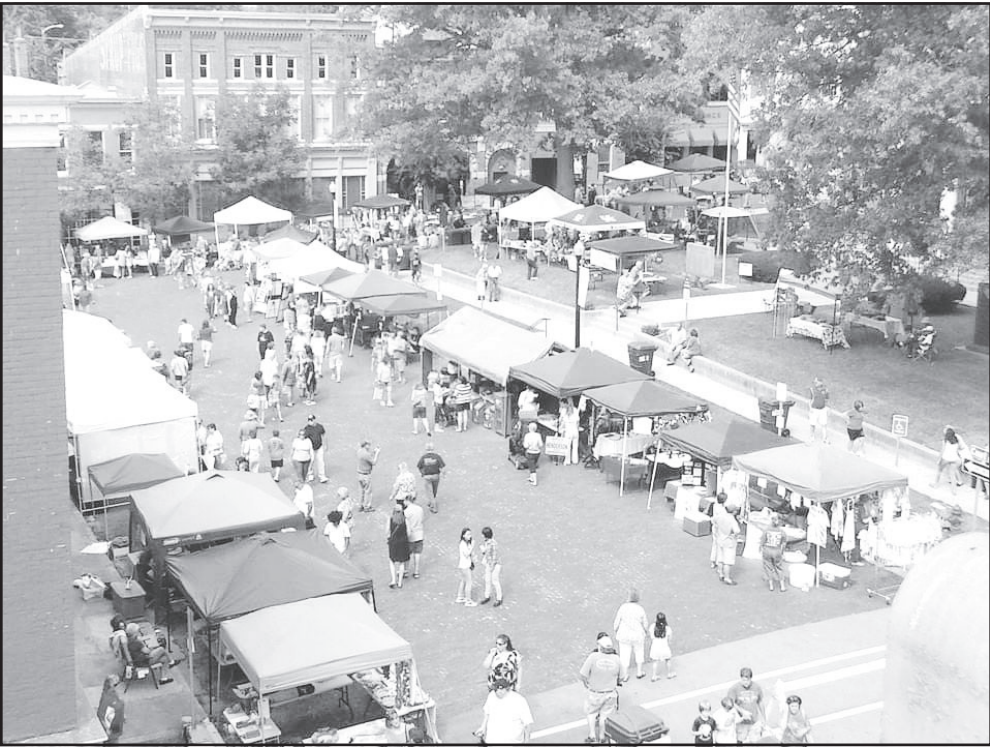


COMMUNITY



Spring Festival
cont. from pg. 2

The festival is being held to honor the life and legacy of Nancy Green, the Original “Aunt Jemima” born into slavery on March 4th, 1834 in Montgomery County. She moved from Kentucky to Chicago with a local family to help raise their children. She was a nurse, chef, caregiver and became known in the community for her delicious pancakes. In 1890, she was hired by R.T. Davis Milling and became known for her portrayal as the original “Aunt Jemima”. She was the advertising world’s first living trademark and spokesperson, model, businesswoman and entrepreneur. Nicknamed the “Pancake Queen” after selling more than 50,000 boxes of pancake mix at the 1893 World’s Columbian Fair. Green became well known for her culinary skill and ability to market her product across the country. She was so popular, that her notoriety affected trademark laws, and in 1915 the “Aunt Jemima Doctrine”



became law in this country and is a trademark law in America still today. Nancy Green was also instrumental in the growth of Olivet Baptist Church, the oldest in the city of Chicago, Illinois, which was established in 1850. She was a missionary, activist and philanthropist, who fought for equality. Olivet Baptist became the largest congregation in Chicago with more than 9,000

members by 1920. Nancy Green worked tirelessly within the Bronzeville community to advocate against poverty in Chicago until her death on August 30th, 1923. For more information about the festival and donations for the Nancy Green Leadership Scholarship Fund, visit the website www.theNancyGreenProject.org

Bourbon Community Hospital publishes 2024 Community Benefit Report

Bourbon Community Hospital (BCH) today published its community benefit report for the 2024 calendar year. This annual report outlines the various ways the hospital is working to support the health and economic vitality of Bourbon County as part of its mission of making communities healthier®. “For more than 25 years, Bourbon Community has been proud to call Paris our home, and as a leader in our community, we are committed to providing high-quality care close to home, investing in our region’s overall well-being and making a positive impact on those we serve,” said Tommy Haggard, chief executive officer (CEO) of Bourbon Community Hospital. “This year’s report underscores our ongoing commitment to providing the highest quality care possible – both inside and outside our hospital walls.” Bourbon Community Hospital’s 2024 community benefit report highlights its continued efforts to meet the growing healthcare needs of its community through welcoming new providers, expanding service lines and continually investing in its facilities and healthcare technology. For example, in 2024, BCH added several providers in cardiology, interventional pain medicine, radiology and orthopedics; and made nearly \$1.5 million in capital improvements, including a new security system for Bourbon Behavioral Health. Additionally, Bourbon Community Hospital made a donation of \$7 million in health services to those in need, demonstrating its continuous commitment to ensuring everyone has access to care, regardless of their ability to pay. Bourbon Community Hospital is also devoted to creating environments where providers want to practice and employees want to work. In 2024, the hospital distributed \$18,582,090 in salaries, wages and benefits for its approximately 230 employees, while contributing more

than \$124,813 in professional development and tuition assistance so all its employees can have the opportunity to learn, grow and improve the care they provide their patients. Last year, the organization paid \$4,287,003 in local and state taxes, while also continuing its support of local activities and organizations committed to serving the region, including the American Heart Association, Bourbon County Schools, Paris Independent Schools, Habitat for Humanity and more. “We feel fortunate to call Bourbon County our home, and we are incredibly grateful for the continued support of all those who entrust us with their care. We are also thankful for the hard work and dedication of our providers and employees who make it all possible,” said Haggard. “As we look ahead to the future, we remain committed to honoring our legacy while further enhancing the many

ways we serve our neighbors and communities.” Bourbon Community Hospital’s 2024 community benefit report is available here. **About Bourbon Community Hospital** Bourbon Community is a 58-bed acute care facility dedicated to providing emergency, inpatient and outpatient services in Paris, Kentucky. The 33-bed Bourbon Behavioral Health, located within the hospital, provides inpatient psychiatric care for adolescents and adults, with treatment programs overseen by a dedicated team of experts. The hospital is part of a four-hospital network, which includes Clark Regional Medical Center, Bourbon Community Hospital, Georgetown Community Hospital and Bluegrass Community Hospital. For more information about Bourbon Community Hospital, please call 859-987-3600 or visit BourbonHospital.com.

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OBITUARIES

Urbanie “Bunny” DeGraeve Burton



Urbanie “Bunny” DeGraeve Burton, 101, of Carlisle and formerly of Hilton, New York, wife of the late Dewey Burton, passed away Wednesday, March 26, 2025 at Harrison Memorial Hospital in Cynthiana. Born January 8, 1924 in Rochester, New York, to the late Gustaf & Elisa Verhagen DeGraeve, she was a retired employee of the Eastman Kodak Company. A devout Catholic, she raised her family attending St. Leo’s Catholic Church

in Hilton, New York and attended Our Lady of Mercy in Leroy, New York later in life. A shining example of giving kindness to all, Bunny opened her doors to anyone in need, from friends to family to the many “bonus” children she took in over the years. She greatly enjoyed spending time with her children & grandchildren, gardening, and cooking Sunday dinners for everyone. She was also an avid animal lover. Special recognition goes out to Paul & Tracy Magruder. They are and always have been special “bonus” family. Surviving are 5 children: Danny Burton, Stephen (Ginger) Burton, Janet Louk (George Hayes), Susan (Al) Bonin & Lisa (Jon) Harvey; 2 sons-in-law, Fiapaipai Lotomau & Peter Mirabito; 22 grandchildren, numerous great-grandchildren, several great-great grandchildren, many

nieces & nephews, and a host of “bonus” children. Also preceding her in death were 5 children: David (Jane) Burton, Donna Lotomau, Mark Burton, Dewey R. Burton & Jeanne Mirabito; a brother, Albert DeGraeve; 2 sisters, Suzanne VerStraete & Bertha Gray; and a “bonus” son, Neil McIlvany. Calling hours will be held on Tuesday, April 15th, from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. at Farrell-Ryan Funeral Home in Greece, NY. A Funeral Mass will take place at St. Leo’s the Great Church in Hilton, NY on Wednesday, April 16th at 10:00am, followed by interment at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery. Local arrangements are under the direction of Mathers-Gaunce Funeral Home. Condolences may be left at www.mathers-gaunce.com.

County Judge dicusses status of County Roads

Having received some inquiries as to conditions of certain county roads, Judge Hamilton is pleased to offer information as to funding of road maintenance, schedule of repair and rating. The average cost of resurfacing (blacktopping) one mile of a county road 14 feet in width approximates \$130,000.00. Nicholas County has approximately 165 miles of blacktopped roads in the county road system. The state funding of county road maintenance is composed of two general types of funding, along with a separate process for emergency relief. 1) Flex Funding - Flex funds are monies set aside from Rural Secondary apportionment to assist counties with resurfacing needs; these funds are to be used solely for repairs and resurface of existing asphalt surface. This funding is granted upon application of a statutory formula. This funding is based on the level of service (LOS) of our State Rural Roads in each county. LOS is basically a determination of the condition that the state roads are in. Roads are graded on a scale from A to D. (“A” is indicative of roads in the best condition; “D,” the worst.) Based upon the grading scale, the county is given a percentage in flex funding of the initial money distribution of CB06 funding to that county. On average, Nicholas County receives \$110,000.00 of flex money each year, which is less than adequate to blacktop ONE MILE of county roads. For flex funding purposes, the county judge requests that each magistrate advise the judge/court as to his preference for area of road improvement needs; the court will then vote as to the locations where the flex funding resurfacing shall occur. 2) County Priority Projects Program (Previously known as Discretionary Funding). The procedure for this type of funding has recently changed. Until the 2024 budget session, such assistance was administered by the

Executive Branch, Department of Local Government (DLG); now such funds are available to the county when selected by the General Assembly. Applications (Form TC 20-34) must be submitted to the office of Rural and Secondary Roads each year in October for evaluation and determination of eligibility - a challenging and highly competitive process. The county judge personally drives all roadways and works very closely with the road foreman and magistrates in order to determine which roadways are in the greatest need of repair. The judge takes the lead in submitting such applications as noted. For instance, during the 2024 budget session (the last period for which DLG had decision-making authority for discretionary funding purposes), Judge Hamilton submitted a request for three resurface projects totaling the approximate sum of \$ 753,585.00; two of the three projects were approved, and Nicholas County was granted road in the sum of \$234,350.00. At the time, the third road, Locust Grove, was not approved for resurface. Thereafter Judge Hamilton submitted applications to the Office of Rural and Secondary Roads; Judge Hamilton renewed the application, requesting over \$515,000.00 of aid in order to resurface Locust Grove. The request was initially denied. The local legislators were very supportive, but had been advised that requests of aid in excess of \$500,000.00 would not likely be granted by the assembly. The judge refused to accept no for an answer, and continued to vigorously pursue the funding. He and several magistrates remained in direct and close contact with Sen. West and Rep. Koch, pushing for the funding. Judge Hamilton received word on March 28, that Nicholas County was approved for an additional \$570,000 for the resurface of Locust Grove. Of course, throughout recent periods of inclem-

ent weather, our county roads have been significantly affected. On numerous occasions, Judge Hamilton has sought aid for emergency events that have damaged bridges and roadways. For example: 2019—Approximately \$ 80,000.00 for repair of bridges/culverts throughout the county 2020—Approximately \$ 900,000.00 in discretionary funding to resurface Miller Station 2021—Approximately \$ 353,400.00 in discretionary funding for Dixie Highway and Lower Sharpsburg 2022—Approximately \$ 94,480.00 for bridge repair on Stoney Creek; \$ 149,650.00 Arthur Road 2023—\$297,000 discretionary approval for resurface of Abners Mill; thereafter over \$400,000.00 in emergency funded was received for the area due to massive road slips; \$ 276,000.00 emergency funding for Crayton; \$16,650.00 emergency funding for slip on Oxbow 2024—\$23,330 in emergency funding for bridge on Upper Sharpsburg Judge Hamilton and the court are quite aware of the conditions of the county roads and advise that they continue to work vigorously to seek as much aid as possible. In fact, recently the regional DOT representative congratulated the judge on his successful and determined efforts in obtaining the recent Locust Grove project award. Of course, emergency situations must take priority, but otherwise they work to seek equal distribution of funding for road repair across the county. Also, it should be noted that some magisterial districts contain significantly more miles of county roads than others. They invite any who wish to relay information or requests concerning road attention to contact them directly. The court is very appreciative of Mr. Dunn and the county road crew who work tirelessly to maintain the roadways.

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