

The Booneville Sentinel



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Shiners: Voices from Owsley County to make statewide debut on KET



"The problems that come with poverty, and this goes for all groups around the world regardless of identity, you see addiction and broken families and hopelessness. And so my film is about a group of students looking to tell their stories in a way that is truthful but also not shameful or extractive or exploitative. So the film and the play that the students wrote, that the film is about, is really about normalizing poverty."

play about growing up in rural Appalachia. While overcoming problems of addiction in one of the nation's poorest counties, the inspiring students travel from their small town to Kentucky's high school theater competition. The hearts and voices of the young people at Owsley County High School in eastern Kentucky shine as they share their story.

The project has had a profound real-world impact on its participants. One student, Kayden Turner, says that before the film, his future felt "signed, sealed, and delivered" to a single path, but the mentorship of the filmmakers pushed him to pursue higher education; he is now finishing his Bachelor of Science degree.

Shiners is directed by Seth McClellan and produced by Bob Martin of Clear Creek Creative and 2016 OCHS graduate;

Frankie Henry serves as Associate Producer and Media Coordinator for the documentary.

Producer Bob Martin has worked in Owsley County for over a decade, building the trust necessary to tell this story from the inside out.

Student Voices: The film features raw, honest perspectives from students like Callie Smallwood, who says the project helped her "stop focusing on the cracks and start noticing the light."

Award-Winning: The documentary arrives on KET after winning "Best Documentary" at several festivals, including the Lindsey Film Festival.

Shiners will debut on KET/PBS on Sunday February 8th at 12pm and 8pm.

Winter Storm Fern; Reader Submitted Photos throughout issue



Submitted by Katrina Faye

New KRADD Representative Introduced at the January City Council Meeting

Booneville City Council met in regular session on Wednesday, January 14, 2026. Mayor Nelson Bobrowski called the meeting to order. A motion was made and carried to approve the minutes from the regular meeting on December 10, 2025, and the special meeting that occurred on December 22, 2024.

There were no public comments, so Mayor Bobrowski went on to inform the Council that David Hall (DBWS Superintendent) was working at the water plant at the time of the meeting. He had been there all night, working on putting valve system in that was broken. This repair will make the plant a little more efficient operation wise, according to the mayor.

Paul Nesbitt from Nesbitt Engineering gave his monthly update. He said that they have several things that they are working on. They will continue to work with Tammy on the Bates Block Project. They also have an ARC grant that is following with that too. KRADD has helped with that grant. The water plant back wash pond has some additional

work and a \$150,000 KIA loan. The Telemetry Expansion Project is still being worked on. They also had good news about the Sag Hollow Subdivision Cabins. The contract for it has been signed with Billy Ball and he is going to start work later this month. The cabins are supposed to be finished by May 24, 2026. Nesbitt went on to say that the Brewer Road Water Line Replacement Phase 3 is continuing to be worked on. Also, they are finishing the design for the Saul AML, and they have two grants for the sewer redirect project.

John Allen then gave a FEMA update to the Mayor and Council. He said that the FEMA projects have just about everything that has been obligated. They just have a couple of projects that need to be completed, but the money is there. That have worked with KRADD on a couple of things that will benefit the city. One is the Disaster Response Recovery Plan. They have finished that plan. The other thing that are working on is a community wildlife protection plan. The have been procured to assist with that. They will be working with the fire departments and the local communities to identify overburdened forestry areas so that homeowners can do some things to reduce their fire risks. They

will be working this for a couple of years. This will benefit the community and fire departments in the long run. Michael Smith, representing KRADD, replacing Lisa Napier, introduced himself. He said that he is not up to par on all the projects they are working on for Booneville. He said that he will have more to contribute to the next meeting.

Next, Ruth Hensley have the CBWS collections report. Tammy Shouse proceeded to give the November Financial report. She has not gotten the December Financials back from the CPA yet. The city has gone with a different auditor for this year, according to Shouse.

A motion was made and carried to pay the bills before Booneville Police Chief Claude Hudson have his report. He said that has been working morning and afternoon school traffic, including sporting events; and helping to get students home for various reasons when parents cannot do so. He went on to say that he has been doing his school patrol, inside and out, on foot and in the police cruiser. He has handled illegal parking reports, alarm calls, dead animal removals on roadways, welfare checks, and certain KSP calls for December.

100 Days at OCE



Check Kentucky courts website for closings, schedule changes during winter weather

As the commonwealth experiences inclement weather this winter, the Kentucky Court of Justice website is the go-to source for the latest updates on court schedules and closings.

Weather-related closures and scheduling adjustments for judicial centers/courthouses in each county are determined locally by the chief circuit judge in consultation with the chief district judge and circuit court clerk. To check for closings and schedule changes, see the top of the Kentucky Court of Justice homepage at kcoj.info/KCOJhomepage.

For more information and to verify the schedule of a judicial center/court-house not listed on the homepage, please contact the circuit court clerk's office in the appropriate county at kcoj.info/Counties.

As of this writing, the Administrative Office of the Courts is scheduled to operate on its regular schedule Monday, Jan. 26. If the AOC schedule changes, it will issue an additional news release.

Administrative Office of the Courts - The AOC in Frankfort is the operations arm of the state court system. The AOC supports the activities of nearly 3,300 court system employees and 412 elected justices, judges and circuit court clerks. As the fiscal agent for the state court system, the AOC executes the Judicial Branch budget.

