

GEEZER

FROM PAGE A4

There is another trick I need to focus on: when she asks me what I want for supper. She usually asks me right after lunchtime, when I'm not really hungry. I'm trying to think of what to say to take the pressure off me. Maybe I could say, "Oh, my dear, anything you make would be pleasing to

me. You're the best chef I know." There was that one time when she slipped broccoli in, much to my disdain. Not only is she good in the kitchen, but she is also good with clothing. Sometimes, not often, she will come from the bedroom, stand before me, and ask, "I just bought this dress, what do you think of it?" This is where I have a problem. I am at a loss when it comes to clothing.

They all look the same to me. I can't even tell the difference between colors. One color matches mine. I look back at her and give it some thought. The only thing that comes to mind is, "Oh, my dear, anything you wear looks amazing." And, I will smile my best smile. I don't know how many times I can get away with it, but I'll take it as far as I can go. I couldn't help but think of a verse from the Bible

that is relevant to this subject. "Can two walk together, except they be agreed?" (Amos 3:3). Sometimes we need to agree to disagree. We have differing opinions and tastes. But the secret of a good relationship is to find that area where we agree. That becomes the foundation of our relationship and can bring blessings in.

Hartford Days return Jan. 31

BY KEITH LAWRENCE
MESSENGER-INQUIRER

The Bluegrass Music Hall of Fame & Museum is bringing back John Hartford Days for the second year on Jan. 31.

Instead of two days back to back, this year will see the second day on April 18, Erin Rouse, the Hall's marketing manager, said this week.



Erin Rouse

"John had a long history with bluegrass music," she said. "We opened an exhibit about a year ago on the second floor all about him. We have some really interesting artifacts."

Rouse said, "We have three great bands that are either connected to Hartford or have a similar sound. Music starts at 6 p.m. Tickets are \$60. Musicians performing on this year's first John Hartford Days this month include the Tim O'Brien Band, Robbie Fulks and The Wildmans.

O'Brien began attracting attention with Hot Rize in 1978.

The IBMA awarded him song of the year in 2006 and named him best male vocalist in 1993 and 2006. O'Brien was inducted into the West Virginia Music Hall of Fame in 2013 and into the Colorado Music Hall of Fame in 2022.

Robbie Fulks began his professional music career playing bluegrass with Special Consensus before emerging as a solo artist in Chicago during the mid-1990s.

Aila and Elisha Wildman recently released their debut album, "Longtime Friend."

Hartford is best known for writing "Gentle On My Mind," a 1968 hit for Glen Campbell.

He died on June 4, 2001, at 63 from non-Hodgkin's lymphoma.

Hartford was a regular visitor to Owensboro in the '90s.

He performed at the old International Bluegrass Music Association Fan Fest in 1989, 1991 and 1994.

Hartford co-hosted the IBMA awards show in 1994.

On Sept. 29, 1990, at Fan Fest in English Park, he led an attempt to create the world's largest bluegrass band.

The official tally for the band was 336 people — about 260 pickers and 76 singers, more or less.

Pickers and members of the audience that day came from 41 states, the District of Columbia and 10 other countries.

In 1991, at the Always A River Festival in English Park, Hartford drew a crowd of about 2,500.

FAKE

FROM PAGE A5

huge anti-Trump protest in Boston was actually an unrelated rally years earlier was a lie. It was indeed an October 2025 "No Kings" protest in Boston. But many other videos may truly be bogus.

"A single camera angle or a blurry lens can completely change what a clip appears to show. And

aired with a false caption, wild claims can appear believable," Rubinson says in one instructional video. "So, before treating videos as proof, you need to anchor it against reliable sources and longer context."

The challenges are great. Rubinson did an instructional video on how OpenAI's new Sora 2 text-to-video AI model produces realistic-looking videos that NewsGuard found regularly advance false claims in

the news. There are telltale signs that a video was generated by AI tools such as Sora, from watermarks to on-screen text mishaps, but you need to really watch carefully.

Even Pete Souza, former White House photographer for Presidents Barack Obama and Ronald Reagan, feels at sea with the images he sees. He wrote to me, "I wish we could say we can easily tell whether a news photograph is real or not.

But the reality is that AI technology is so good, that sometimes you just can't tell."

Trump knows that well and clearly relishes the inauthentic. Recall how he posted a fake video of himself mocking "No Kings" protesters. He wore a crown and flew a jet that dumped brown sludge on masses below.

The result is to further call into question any image posted by Trump — or many others.

HEALTH

FROM PAGE A1

are particularly vulnerable to the flu.

Among older residents, immune systems may be compromised by factors such as chemotherapy, and they are at high risk of contracting the flu.

People coming to the hospital should consider wearing masks, Gillim said.

People in the community should also take precautions, Gillim said.

For example, people should wash their hands frequently with soap and

water or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer. People should also cough or sneeze into their elbow and consider wearing masks in public, she said.

People still have time to get an influenza vaccine, Russell said.

Flu season could last well into the spring, Gillim said. "Flu season is typically October to March, but, typically, the largest months are December, January and February" in terms of the number of new cases, Gillim said.

"I can't say we've peaked already," Gillim said.

The number of new flu cases "continues to go up."

BLOOD

FROM PAGE A1

of the population has O-negative blood.

In emergencies where medical personnel do not have time to conduct a blood type test, O-negative blood is used, Smith said.

"They know O negative is not going to cause harm," Smith said. Hospitals also must have a unit of O-negative blood available for women in childbirth, she said.

The medical facilities the blood center supplies still have O-negative blood on hand, but the center currently cannot replace the units being

used. "We are running at a deficit right now," Smith said. "We don't have (units) to backfill" O-negative units.

The center is open from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Thursday; from 8:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. Tuesday; and from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Friday.

"We need all types all the time, but we are desperate for O negative," Smith said.

LEGAL NOTICE

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS
CONTRACT 653-24-02
SACRAMENTO GRAVITY SEWER
CITY OF SACRAMENTO MCLEAN COUNTY, KENTUCKY

Sealed proposals for the following work will be received by the City of Sacramento, McLean County, Kentucky, at the City Hall, 210 West Third Street, Sacramento, Kentucky 42372, until 10:00 am local time, Wednesday, February 4, 2026, for furnishing labor and materials and performing all work as set forth by the Advertisement, General Conditions, Specifications, and/or Drawings prepared by Bell Engineering. Immediately following the scheduled closing time for the reception of bids, all proposals which have been submitted in accordance with the above conditions will be publicly opened and read aloud at the City Hall Annex, 290 Main Street, Sacramento, Kentucky 42372. A non-mandatory prebid conference will be held at 1:00 pm local time on Thursday, January 22, 2026, at City Hall Annex, 290 Main Street, Sacramento, Kentucky 42372.

The work to be bid is described as follows:
All necessary excavation, labor, materials, and equipment for the construction and installation of approximately 10,800 linear feet of 8-inch PVC sewer pipe and appurtenances.

Drawings, Specifications and Contract Documents may be examined at the following places:

City of Sacramento Sacramento City Hall 210 West Third Street Sacramento, Kentucky 42372	Bell Engineering 107 Forbes Drive Hopkinsville, Kentucky 42240
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Associated Builders and Contractors of Kentuckiana, Inc. 1333 Magnolia Street Bowling Green, Kentucky 42104	KPAP, Community Development Office Cabinet for Economic Development Capital Plaza Tower Frankfort, Kentucky 40601 (Advertisement for Bid Only)
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or may be obtained from Lynn Imaging, 328 Old Vine Street, Lexington, Kentucky 40507, phone 859/255-1021, upon receipt of non-refundable deposit as follows:

CONTRACT 653-24-02--\$250.00

Sealed proposals for this Contract shall be clearly marked on the outside of the envelope as follows:

"Sealed Proposal for Contract 653-24-02. Not to be opened until 10:00am, local time, Wednesday, February 4, 2026."

If forwarded by mail, the sealed envelope containing the proposal must be enclosed in another envelope and mailed to the City of Sacramento, 210 West Third Street, Sacramento, Kentucky 42372, allowing sufficient time for such mailing to reach this address prior to the scheduled closing time for receipt of proposals.

Bids shall be accompanied by a certified check or bid bond made payable to the City of Sacramento, Kentucky, in an amount not less than the percent of the base bid indicated in Specification Section C-200, Instructions to Bidders, Bid Security. No bidder may withdraw his bid for a period of 60 days after the date bids are opened. He may, however, withdraw his bid at any time prior to the time and date scheduled for opening of same or any authorized postponement thereof. Any bid received after the time and date specified shall not be considered and will be returned unopened to the bidder.

The attention of all contractors is called to the fact that any contract awarded under this Advertisement for Bids is expected to be funded in part by a grant from the Kentucky Infrastructure Authority (KIA) Cleaner Water Program and Community Development Block Grant (CDBG).

The OWNER's share will be provided from current funds on hand and/or from revenue bonds.

Work to be performed by contractors involved in this project may be subject to the minimum wage rates established by the U.S. Department of Labor under the provisions of the Davis-Bacon Act.

A federal wage rate determination will be incorporated into the Specifications by an addendum issued prior to the scheduled bidding date, if it is applicable to this Project.

Bidders must comply with the President's Executive Order Nos. 11246 and 11375, which prohibit discrimination in employment regarding race, creed, color, sex or national origin. Where the President's Executive Order No. 11246 is shown, Executive Order No. 11375 also applies.

Bidders must make positive efforts to secure small or minority owned business enterprise participation in this Project.

Bidders must comply with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Anti-Kickback Act, the Contract Work Hours Standard Act, and the Davis-Bacon Act.

Bidders must certify that they do not and will not maintain or provide for their employees any facilities that are segregated or based on race, color, creed, or national origin.

Bidders must show a certification of prior work under Executive Order 11246 (Equal Employment Opportunity) as amended.

All contractors and subcontractors must comply with 41 CFR 60-4, in regard to affirmative action. This is to ensure equal opportunity to females and minorities, and apply the time tables and goals set forth in 41 CFR 60-4.

This Project is subject to the Build America, Buy America (BABA) Act and Section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968 requirements.

The City of Sacramento may consider informal any bid not prepared and submitted in accordance with the provisions of this advertisement and/or the Specifications and may waive any informalities or reject any and all bids.

CITY OF SACRAMENTO
Betty J. Howard, Mayor

LEGAL NOTICE

ALLISON BALL
AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

The Honorable Curtis Dame, McLean County Judge/Executive
The Honorable Carol Eaton, McLean County Clerk
Members of the McLean County Fiscal Court

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statement Opinions

We have audited the accompanying Statement of Receipts, Disbursements, and Excess Fees - Regulatory Basis of the County Clerk of McLean County, Kentucky, for the year ended December 31, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statement.

Unmodified Opinion on Regulatory Basis of Accounting

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statement presents fairly, in all material respects, the receipts, disbursements, and excess fees of the McLean County Clerk for the year ended December 31, 2024, in accordance with the basis of accounting practices prescribed or permitted by the Commonwealth of Kentucky to demonstrate compliance with the Commonwealth of Kentucky's regulatory basis of accounting and budget laws as described in Note 1.

Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles

In our opinion, because of the significance of the matter discussed in the Basis for Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles section of our report, the financial statement does not present fairly, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the financial position of the McLean County Clerk, as of December 31, 2024, or changes in financial position or cash flows thereof for the year then ended.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS) and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards (GAS), issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, and the Audit Program for County Fee Officials issued by the Auditor of Public Accounts, Commonwealth of Kentucky. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statement section of our report. We are required to be independent of the McLean County Clerk and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

Basis for Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles

As described in Note 1 of the financial statement, the financial statement is prepared by the McLean County Clerk on the basis of the accounting practices prescribed or permitted by the laws of Kentucky to demonstrate compliance with the Commonwealth of Kentucky's regulatory basis of accounting and budget laws, which is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

The effects on the financial statement of the variances between the regulatory basis of accounting described in Note 1 and accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, although not reasonably determinable, are presumed to be material and pervasive.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statement

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of this financial statement in accordance with accounting practices prescribed or permitted by the laws of Kentucky to demonstrate compliance with the Commonwealth of Kentucky's regulatory basis of accounting and budget laws. Management is also responsible for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of a financial statement that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statement, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the McLean County Clerk's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statement

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statement as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS and GAS will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statement.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS and GAS, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statement, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statement.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the McLean County Clerk's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statement.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the McLean County Clerk's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we have identified during the audit.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with Government Auditing Standards, we have also issued our report dated September 19, 2025, on our consideration of the McLean County Clerk's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, grant agreements, and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with Government Auditing Standards in considering the McLean County Clerk's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Based on the results of our audit, we have presented the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Responses, included herein, which discusses the following report findings:

- 2024-001 The McLean County Clerk Lacks Adequate Segregation Of Duties
- 2024-002 The McLean County Clerk's Fourth Quarter Report Was Materially Misstated

Respectfully submitted,

Allison Ball

Allison Ball
Auditor of Public Accounts
Frankfort, KY

September 19, 2025

State law requires the Auditor of Public Accounts to annually audit fiscal courts, county clerks, county sheriffs, and print the results in a newspaper having general circulation in the county. The complete audit and any other audit of state agencies, fiscal courts, county clerks, sheriffs, and property valuation administrators may be viewed in the reports section of the Auditor of Public Accounts' website at auditor.ky.gov or upon request by calling 1-800-247-9126.

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