

MUSEUM NEWS

BY VICKI VENTURA
FOR THE MCLEAN COUNTY NEWS

Following is the continuation of the article from last week, about the news in McLean County in the late 1800s.

JANUARY 1896

Jan. 1 – “Strange Proceeding: Joseph Sorenson, a stock raiser of McLean county, was infatuated with the daughter of a neighboring farmer, who opposed the match. Sorenson wrote a proposal to the girl to elope, and she consulted her brother. “A meeting occurred on Sunday night and Sorenson, with a prepared license and his supposed sweetheart, who was heavily draped and veiled, rode rapidly to the house of a magistrate and they were speedily married, when, throwing off the encumbering wraps, the brother of the girl stood revealed.”

Now, if any of you are fans of The Andy Griffith Show, that may remind you of an episode of that show, where Deputy Barney Fife dressed up as a bride — his face and head covered by a large veil — and was “married” to wild mountain man Ernest T. Bass,

giving Charlene Darling the chance to escape.

Jan. 17 – “C. L. Short has been appointed postmaster at Cleopatra, McLean county, vice J. F. Short, (who) resigned.”

Also on Jan. 17 - The Field Coal Company – “The Hartford Herald says: Messrs. C. L. Fields, Rowan Holbrook, G. B. Likens and L. L. Stewart have purchased the Chicago Coal and Coke company plant at Island, Ky. The new company which is to be known as the Field Coal Company, has a paid-up capital stock of \$4,000.

“The articles of incorporation have been filed in the McLean county court. Under these articles of incorporation, C. L. Fields is made president, G. B. Likens, vice president, Rowan Holbrook, secretary and treasurer, and L. L. Stewart, superintendent. Mr. Holbrook left yesterday for Island to open up a stock of goods and put the wheels of the new company in motion.

“The new company will put in a telephone line from here to Island via Centertown and Point Pleasant, provided they can get the proper assistance here and along

the line. This would put these towns in connection with Livermore, Calhoon, Owensboro and other cities.”

Jan. 19 – From Owensboro: “Buck Gibson, a venerable citizen of McLean county, near Calhoon, who lived here many years ago, rode over on his horse last Friday, and remained until Saturday. Mr. Gibson is eighty-one years old, and says he remembers as residents of Owensboro, at the time he left here, only S. D. Kennedy, Dan Griffith and Clint Griffith.”

Jan. 29 – “Going in the Latest Style – Lawyer Will K. Wall, of Mayfield, says he has a grandfather in McLean county, aged eighty-five years, who will in the spring ride through the country to Graves county on a bicycle.”

Many of you attended the presentation by Harold Wilson, at our museum in December, where he spoke about the Boys from Camp Calhoon during the Civil War, and offered his book for sale. For anyone that missed it, or would like to let a friend know, so that they may attend, Harold will

be speaking on the same topic at the Owensboro Museum of Science & History at 6 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 26. Everyone is invited to attend. Admission is \$5.00, and doors open at 5:30 p.m. The Owensboro Museum of Science & History is located at 122 E. 2nd Street, Owensboro, KY, and their phone number is 270-687-2732. Harold will again have his Boys from Camp Calhoon books available for sale for \$27.

The McLean County History Museum and the Treasure House Thrift Store are open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Come in and take a free tour of the museum and research center. The museum is located at 540 Main Street in Calhoon, and the Treasure House is next door, at 530 Main Street. Our museum number is 270-499-5033.

I wish everyone a great week ahead!

For any comments or input, please email secretary@mcleancountyky-museum.org.

LAKE LEVELS

LAKE LEVELS AS OF JAN. 19

Kentucky Lake (Upper)
Normal: 354.0 ft.
Present: 354.6 ft.
Change: +0.6 ft.
Temp: 45°
Kentucky Lake (Lower)
Normal: 302.0 ft.
Present: 303.1 ft.
Change: +1.1 ft.
Temp: 45°
Lake Barkley (Upper)
Normal: 354.0 ft.
Present: 354.9 ft.
Change: +0.9 ft.
Temp: 45°
Lake Barkley (Lower)
Normal: 302.0 ft.
Present: 305.0 ft.
Change: +3.0 ft.
Temp: 45°

RIVER STAGES AS OF JAN. 19

Green River at Calhoon
Flood Stage: 23.0 ft.
Present: 10.68 ft.
Difference from flood stage: -12.32 ft.
Green River at Paradise
Flood Stage: 380.0 ft.
Present: 365.2 ft.
Difference from flood stage: -14.8 ft.

GRADD SENIOR NUTRITION

For seniors who are able and have transportation, a lunchtime meal will be provided at any of the four congregate meal sites in McLean County.

Meal service locations and times are as follows: 11:15 a.m. on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday at the McLean County Senior Citizens Center, 875 Walnut St. in Calhoon; 11:15 a.m. on Monday and Thursday at Island City Hall, 280 Adams Ave. in Island; 11:15 a.m. on Wednesday and Friday at Livermore City Hall, 105 W. Third St. in Livermore; and 11:15 a.m. on Tuesday and Thursday at the Sacramento Fire Department, 75 Main St. in Sacramento.

If transportation is needed to one of those facilities, seniors should contact McLean County Senior Services.

Homebound seniors can contact the GRADD Aging & Disability Resource Center at 1-800-928-9094 to determine eligibility for home-delivered meals.

Any questions should be directed to McLean County Senior Services.

There is no charge for the meal, but donations are accepted, and the suggested donation per meal is \$1.50.

Whole wheat products should be two slices or 2 oz. unless otherwise noted. A 1% milk should be served at each meal.

MONDAY

Fish sandwich, broccoli and cauliflower, scalloped potatoes, applesauce, hamburger bun, tartar sauce

TUESDAY

Tuscan bean and sausage soup, house salad, clementine, cornbread, margarine, creamy French dressing

WEDNESDAY

Chicken and dumplings, carrots, mixed fruit, chocolate pudding, dinner roll, margarine

THURSDAY

Pork chop, mashed potatoes, lima beans, peaches, dinner roll, margarine

FRIDAY

Pasta with meat sauce, tossed salad, breadstick, apple slices, Italian dressing, margarine

DIETARY TIP

One of the best and easiest ways to maintain a healthy body weight? Eat low-fat or nonfat foods.

EXERCISE TIP

For some easy ways to get more activity, try these: talk a walk, swim or take the stairs and not the elevator.

MEETINGS

MONDAY, JAN. 26 - FRIDAY, JAN. 30

9 a.m. on Thursday, Jan. 29, McLean County Fiscal Court meeting at the McLean County Courthouse

CAMERON

FROM PAGE A1

broadly will never be forgotten” if he is elected to the Senate, and that “I will work diligently to support you, to help you and to facilitate conditions in Washington that make this place thrive in every way possible.”

Cameron was asked about the potential impact on the 2026 election of a whistleblower complaint filed by a former state driver’s licensing branch employee earlier this year. The worker, who lives in Louisville, alleged undocumented immigrants were receiving licenses through a scheme where they paid money to certain workers to receive licenses they could not obtain legally.

Cameron said he believes that is still being looked at by the state, adding “...it is wrong to have members of (an) agency giving licenses to illegals.

It’s unfair to you as a citizen of this country. It’s unfair to the electoral process.

“Here’s my position on immigration: We need to get folks here illegally out of the country,” Cameron said. “We need to fully fund ICE and CBP, we need to stop counting illegals in the census.” Cameron said “blue states” including undocumented immigrants in the census “it inflates their ability to make decisions in Washington and deflates our ability in the commonwealth.”

When later asked if he had any concerns with the way Immigration and Customs Enforcement was operating, Cameron said, “We’ve got to be a nation of laws, and it’s imperative in a nation of laws that we adhere to the rule of law and to the responsibility that we stand firm on that.

“When it comes to immigration, what I’ve often said, we have to get our house in order,” he said. “That

means if there are folks here illegally, we need to deport them to their country, we need to support ICE and fully fund ICE and CBP and secure our southern border.”

Cameron said not having control of the border allows fentanyl to be trafficking into the county and “hurt people in our 120 counties.”

The enhanced subsidies created in 2021 that helped people purchase health insurance plans expired at the end of the year without Congress passing a plan to extend them. The House passed a bill to extend the subsidies on a 230-196 vote last week, but the Senate has not yet taken action on the measure.

When asked what Congress should do about the expired subsidies, Cameron said, “My hope is we can, assuming I’m given the opportunity to be there, we can create something that allows for folks who are trying to work and be a part of our workforce, that we are able in some way to help

them with the healthcare costs we have right now.

“I think it’s imperative in the United States Senate we address this issue, because it’s top of mind for most people. I’m going to be focused on how I can work alongside members of the Senate and fashion some sort of agreement with the House, so we can get something that works for the American people.”

Cameron said, “I think people recognize the sincerity with which I try to approach issues, I want to fight for the values of Kentucky and I have a track record of having done that.

“That’s what I ultimately think people are going to have to make a judgment about: Is their confidence based on a track record that this person is going to go to Washington, and stand up for our values and interests?” Cameron said. “I have a track record of doing that, and I’m prayerful people will give me an opportunity to stand for their interests in Washington.”

EXPLORING

FROM PAGE A1

he explained, due to what he calls the "four Ds": "divorce, death, dismemberment and detainment."

"It might be a little morbid to think about it that way, but that's what we see in this business," he said.

So far, he said that two of his biggest "treasures" have been a piece of antique furniture from the 1700s and a piece of Native American artwork, the sale of which gave him the means to purchase a business truck.

"We've found motorcycles and mopeds, too," Calvert said. "This is why I think we're unique, and why I call this place 'Treasure Island!' ... Most weekends, we'll put out items from a new locker, so that there are new items for customers to see each week."

He said it's a slow process because he has to go through his storage locker hauls piece-by-piece to see all of the "treasures" and to price them.

"It's time-consuming," he said. "But we have a little bit of everything, something for everyone. You can literally come in here and buy your kids' clothes for the entire school year here for next to nothing because we bring in so much stuff. Plus, say if a customer is needing clothes and a TV, I can bundle everything together for them for one price. I'm always willing to accommodate all walks of life."

What was formerly the school's gymnasium serves as the main sales floor, but Calvert also utilizes the different classrooms and hallways to house items as well.

"It's been a process to clean up around here because both my dad and my brother were hoarders, so I've had to do



Photo by Michele Ruxer, McLean County News

Bowls, plates, additional silverware and miscellaneous items are pictured inside a former classroom space Thursday at the Treasure Island School House off Adams Avenue (U.S. 431) in Island. The business sells a variety of items ranging from antiques, appliances, furniture, mirrors and glassware among other items.

a lot of cleaning up here. It's just my buddy and me, so the process is slow, but I have big dreams for this place," he said.

Business, he said, initially began slowly, but he said that now, "we're gained traction and have a heck of a following now, and it is awesome."

"Everyone here already knows me anyway because I've worked in the school system for years, and I was born and raised in this town," said Calvert. "The fun thing is that a lot of the families who I have worked with over the years come in here and visit me, just about every weekend."

Calvert said he envisions Treasure Island School House evolving into an establishment similar to Greenville's flea

market space or Daviess County's Preservation Station, the former West Louisville Elementary School, which has been converted into a "shopping mall full of boutiques, antiques, new furniture, home decor and one-of-a-kind unique items", according to the business's Facebook page.

"I've already spoken to the city, and they would love for something like a big flea market to end up here down the road," he said.

Treasure Island School House is open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday.

More information about the business can be found by visiting the Treasure Island School House LLC Facebook page.

Burger Week returns March 5-14

BY KEITH LAWRENCE
MESSENGER-INQUIRER

Owensboro Burger Week returns March 5-14 for the sixth year.

And the Owensboro-Daviess County Convention & Visitors Bureau is expecting it to have even more participants than last year.

"Based on the past, this event will bring over 40 restaurants and over 60,000 burgers sold and consumed," Daylin Tolgo, the CVB's director of destination marketing and services, said.

She said, "Burger Week is one of the most anticipated local events of the year, and we cannot wait to watch it continue to grow to be even bigger and better than the year before."

The CVB and the city

created Burger Week in 2021 to help restaurants that were heavily impacted by forced closure during the coronavirus pandemic.

It was so successful that it has continued to grow.

Last year, 49 Daviess County restaurants sold 63,105 burgers.

That's 15,776 pounds of beef.

Or as Mark Calitri, CVB president, says, "the equivalent of five Toyota Camrys or one full-size elephant."

The year before, 57,316 burgers were sold by 40 restaurants.

Dave Kirk, who was the CVB's destination management director at the time, said, "\$504,840 was spent in nine days on featured burgers

SEE BURGER/PAGE A6

REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS

THE FOLLOWING REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS WERE RECORDED BETWEEN JAN. 13 - 19:
Two tracts on Daniel Street, Sherry and Everett C. Lindsey, Ava and Mark Heath to Julie Fulkerson, \$65,000.



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REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATION

The Green River Area Development District (GRADD) is soliciting sealed proposals from qualified firms of certified public accountants to audit the financial statements for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, of the Green River Area Development District. This proposal includes an option of auditing the financial statements under a multi-year agreement subject to yearly renegotiation. The Request for Qualification (RFQ) shall be available at the GRADD office from January 15, 2026 to February 23, 2026 between the hours of 8:00 AM and 4:00 PM or on the GRADD website at www.gradd.com. Questions regarding the RFQ shall be directed to Mariah Myres at 270-926-4433. Proposals shall be addressed as follows: Mariah Myres, Director of Administration, Green River Area Development District, 300 GRADD Way, Owensboro, KY 42301. Proposals shall be returned to GRADD by 3:00 PM (CDT) on March 2, 2026. Proposals received after this time shall not be considered for review. Sealed proposals will be opened at that time.

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