



# Rowan Review

*The latest news and announcements in your county.*

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## Tracy Hamilton Receives Citizen of the Year

It's important to every organization to have folks you can always count on in times of need. For us, one of those people is Tracy Hamilton.

At the City-County Christmas dinner, he was honored with the Citizen of the Year Award to recognize his exceptional performance, professionalism, and dedication to duty.

Tracy handles the maintenance for the county facilities, and he stands out as a reliable, kind person who is always there when you need him. We appreciate Tracy's dependability in difficult times, and we appreciate his friendship and great attitude all the time. We can think of no one more deserving to be called Citizen of the Year, and we truly are grateful for all he has done for our community.



# County Preparing for Winter Weather Events

The Road Department is preparing for winter weather events to come. They are readying equipment and have plenty salt in reserves. Rest assured that these dedicated employees are doing their best to maintain our county roads.

With the possibility of more winter weather events on the way, we would like to remind everyone that there are some great resources available to keep everyone informed of emergencies. The Smart911 app allows cellphone users to receive community emergency messages, including dangerous weather conditions, missing persons, road closures, and other urgent notifications. The app is available for Android and iPhone, with optional location services if you want to receive alerts based on your current location rather than just your home address. If you use a landline, Rowan County Alert sends the same messages as a recorded call with the caller ID 606-784-2618. Busy numbers and numbers that do not connect will be redialed up to 3 times.

You can sign up for Smart911 by visiting [rcky.us/rowan-alert-smart-911](http://rcky.us/rowan-alert-smart-911).

## ICE & SNOW, TAKE IT SLOW

Each year in the U.S., there are over **1,000 deaths** and **100,000 injuries** due to vehicle crashes during winter weather.

DID YOU KNOW?



**Clean off your vehicle before driving.**  
Flying snow from cars causes accidents.



**Keep it slow, and don't use cruise control.**  
Roads can be slick even if they just look wet.



**Leave extra distance between vehicles.**  
Stay especially far from snow plows.

## HOW COLD IS TOO COLD FOR DOGS?



°C	°F	SMALL	MEDIUM	LARGE
15°	60°	Green	Green	Green
12°	55°	Green	Green	Green
10°	50°	Green	Green	Green
7°	45°	Light Green	Light Green	Light Green
4°	40°	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow
1°	35°	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow
-1°	30°	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow
-4°	25°	Orange	Orange	Yellow
-6°	20°	Orange	Orange	Yellow
-9°	15°	Red	Red	Yellow
-12°	10°	Red	Red	Yellow
-15°	5°	Red	Red	Yellow



Source: The Tufts Animal Condition and Care (TACC) system

## WINTER SAFETY TIPS

### Carbon Monoxide (CO) Poisoning It can kill in minutes.

- Place portable generators **OUTSIDE** at least 20 feet away from windows, doors and vents.
- NEVER** use generators in the basement, shed or garage.
- Have **WORKING** carbon monoxide alarms in your home.

### Fire Hazards Give Space Heaters Space!

- Place space heaters **3 feet away** from flammable materials.
- Install smoke alarms on **EVERY** floor and in **EVERY** bedroom.
- Test** smoke alarms to make sure they are working. Replace batteries once a year.



## Preparing for a Winter Storm

### At Home:

- A shovel & salt
- Flashlights w/ extra batteries
- Candles
- Non-perishable food
- Bottled water
- Blankets and warm clothing
- Necessary prescription medicines
- Charged cell phone w/ spare battery

### In Your Car:

- Car full of gas
- Windshield scraper/brush
- Tool Kit
- Sand/Cat litter
- First aid kit
- Blankets and warm clothing
- Small Shovel
- Non-perishable food & Bottled Water



# Awards from Governor to Resurface Williams Branch and to Help Tourism

At the new Morehead Police and 911 Facility's ribbon cutting, our community celebrated the completion of this project and announced awards for more improvements to come.

Chief Blevins of the Morehead Police Department, Mayor Laura White-Brown, Jason Slone-President of Morehead Chamber, Senior Advisor Rocky Adkins, and Governor Andy Beshear spoke on behalf of this much-needed addition to our community. Not only will it house the city police and 911 facility but it also is equipped with a storm shelter. Governor Beshear recognizes all the great things underway in Morehead-Rowan County, and along with his visit came two more awards.

To resurface Williams Branch, the Fiscal Court was awarded \$87,550. This road was ranked among the poorest condition in the county. We are incredibly thankful for these much-needed funds to help improve the condition of our road and ensure safety and quality for everyone in Rowan County.

The second check was to Morehead-Rowan County Tourism in the amount of \$100,326 to support travel marketing and promotion. This is only the first check of \$75 million in ARPA funds to be awarded to tourism in Kentucky. Tourism plays an important role in our local economy, and we look forward to seeing the impact of these funds.

Great things are underway in our area, and we look forward to continuing the work with this needed funding.



## Rowan Review Hits 1000 Subscribers!

The Rowan Review has hit 1000 subscribers! Two and a half years ago, we started publishing the Rowan Review to raise awareness of what's going on locally, particularly within county government. We've filled 30 editions and hundreds of pages with articles on community events, department updates, board highlights, good news in our area, and much more. The Rowan Review is completely FREE to receive in your email inbox every month.

Over the last few months, we've even started distributing paper copies at locations around the county for the people to read. Carlos Bowman has been leading the effort to get them distributed within the Courthouse, and we are incredibly thankful for his continual efforts to promote the Rowan Review and community positivity. Since our Administrative Assistant Savannah Jackson has taken the reins in writing and publishing, she's expanded the Rowan Review's content, doubled the average page count, and created many of our favorite recurring sections. It's no doubt that the Rowan Review's success is due to having such a great team and the support of our community. Everything we do with the Rowan Review is to create easy access to information about the county for everyone. We grow closer to this goal every issue, and we're here to stay.

If you haven't already, you can subscribe to receive this great resource- at no cost to you- at [rcky.us/review](http://rcky.us/review).





# MOREHEAD-ROWAN COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ANNUAL AWARDS WINNERS

The Morehead-Rowan County Chamber of Commerce's mission is to assist with our area's development. At the awards banquet, various community leaders, local businesses, and organizations were awarded for their service to our city and county, based on Chamber members' votes. It was a nice evening and event to recognize these individuals and their contributions. We are thankful for the Morehead-Rowan County Chamber of Commerce for organizing this event, and for all they do for our business community.

We also celebrated the graduation of the 2020 Leadership Academy class. (Pictured right). The purpose of the Morehead-Rowan County Chamber of Commerce Leadership Academy is to identify, inform and educate existing and emerging leaders of the local community, and to motivate them towards leadership responsibilities by exposing them to community opportunities and needs, who can in the years ahead, assume a dynamic leadership role in active participation within the Chamber of Commerce and in shaping the future of Morehead and Rowan County.

## 2022 Morehead-Rowan County Chamber of Commerce Award Recipients:

- Ora L. Cline Award: Mr. Bill Redwine
- Educator of the Year: Dr. Benjamin Malphrus
- Tracy C. Williams, Service Above Self Award: Mr. Jeff Fannin
- Presidents Award: Mr. Russ Ward
- Outstanding Young Professional: Mr. Dylan Lambert
- Community Organization of the Year: Friends of Rodburn Hollow Park
- Community Partnership Award: St. Claire Healthcare, Rowan County Schools, Morehead Optimist Club, and Morehead Rotary Club
- Business of the Year: The Board Room on Main



2020 Leadership Academy Class Graduates: Morgan Rivers, Dylan Lambert, Travis Miller, Lara Nickell, Andrea Withrow, Jeremy Cooley, and Diane Rodgers





# Dylan Lambert Wins 2022 Outstanding Young Professional Award

Each year during the Annual Chamber of Commerce Awards Banquet, members nominate and provide input on those recognized during the annual event. This year, they recognized Mr. Dylan Lambert, Director of Operations for the Rowan County Fiscal Court and 2020 graduate of the Morehead-Rowan County Chamber of Commerce Leadership Academy. The Outstanding Young Professional Award celebrates the accomplishments of the past year of professionals under 40 who make a positive impact in both the organizations they represent and in our community.

Dylan played an instrumental role in leadership through various projects in the Fiscal Court and during his time in the Chamber's Leadership Academy by coordinating, assisting in fundraising with other peers in the class for their community driven project, and bringing a positive can-do-attitude every day. Dylan is an incredibly hard worker who is highly respected by everyone he comes in contact with. He keeps things running smoothly in the Judge's Office and coordinates between departments to make sure the Fiscal Court is doing its best in everything we do. Professional communication is one of his strengths, and he's someone who's easy to talk to and ready to listen.

Not only does Dylan listen to concerns, but he often goes the extra mile to help those in need. He's constantly on the lookout for improvement for the county, seeking out grants and other opportunities for our community's advancement. Dylan is always willing to put forth additional effort in both his personal and professional life. He is absolutely deserving of the title Outstanding Young Professional, and we are proud to have him on our team.



## Morehead- Rowan County Chamber of Commerce Young Professional Association

The Morehead-Rowan County Young Professionals Association (YPA) is a local group for young leaders under 40. YPA is committed to inspiring future leaders through, networking, professional/personal development, and philanthropic opportunities to make Morehead-Rowan County a better place to live, to work, and to visit. YPA hosts different kinds of events to give back to the community. These events usually entail fundraising for nonprofits, networking, or supporting local businesses. Our successful events in the 2022 year have been the Wag Woof Walk 5K (dog run/walk) to raise money for STAR (Saving the Animals of Rowan County), Cornhole for a Cause (partnered with Frankie's Plaza to raise money for SEKY Flood Victims), Appalachian Entrepreneurship Event (partnered with New Frontier to do a discussion and q & a on being business owners and young professionals), and 12 Days of Christmas Giveaways (helps local businesses market and advertise)! YPA also does their part by volunteering at local events.

YPA is an extracurricular group; therefore, you are involved as much as you want to be. There is an executive board that has an executive chair, past executive chair, vice chair, secretary/public relations chair, benefits and membership chair, and two members-at-large. We do nominations yearly to help fill those positions. Anyone in the community can nominate a young professional for those roles. The executive chair, vice chair, and secretary/public relations chair do rotate out yearly. This Board is a way to be a little more active in the group and achieve goals you have in mind for our community.

YPA membership is a yearly fee of \$35. Being a member means you have to engage with the group on your own terms. The Board will reach out about needing assistance for events, about upcoming networking opportunities, and more but, it is the member's choice on whether they want to support or attend. However, like with anything, in order to get something out of being a YPA member and have a good experience, you have to BE INVOLVED.

This group we have now is driven to make Morehead-Rowan County a better place and the majority either grew up here or call it home. Young professionals are our future. We are always looking for new members and are currently looking to fill 2 positions on the Board. If you are interested please contact [morgan@thinkmorehead.com](mailto:morgan@thinkmorehead.com)!



# BOARD HIGHLIGHTS: MOREHEAD - ROWAN COUNTY CLYDE A. THOMAS REGIONAL AIRPORT BOARD

The Morehead - Rowan County Clyde A. Thomas Regional Airport (KSYM) continues to upgrade infrastructure, technology and safety at the airfield. Recently completed capital projects total nearly \$3 million from federal, state and local sources. Additionally the airport has just received authorization from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to design a new corporate apron north of the terminal building that will entice private business to construct hangars to store their corporate aircraft. An airport apron is an area of an airport where aircraft are parked, unloaded, loaded, refueled, boarded or maintained.

The airport's 10-member volunteer board appointed by the city and county works closely with federal, state, and local governments to maintain and upgrade the airport to the highest standard. Garver, a multidiscipline engineering, planning and environmental services firm with a nationwide footprint, is now in its seventh year as the Board's aviation engineering partner for all airport projects. Our communities "new" airport is now almost 15 years old and serves an ever increasing number of operations such as, medevac, business, military, training and recreational.

The airport board and the Morehead-Rowan County community have been fortunate to have strong federal, state and local (County and City) governments' support. FAA and state funds through the Kentucky Department of Aviation (KDA) are our primary funding partners. The City and County provide annual funding to the airport to meet the matching fund requirement of the Federal Airport Improvement Grants – usually five (5) percent, as well as general operational support.

A recent fuel system renovation involved replacing or updating worn components such as a cellular credit card "pay at the pump" system for both Jet fuel and General Aviation fuel (100 low lead). The project included the interior cleaning of the tanks, repainting of the exterior and new placards.

A runway renovation project repaired a section that was damaged by drainage issues and concluded with a full width and length repaving and stripping. Paving an airport runway is not like paving a road, as the asphalt has to be a special mix that will hold up to the rigorous use from different types of aircraft. The striping was completed with a reflective paint that helps pilots during night landings. This project has been substantially completed.

An airfield lighting project corrected chronic issues with the initial installation. Garver and the FAA's research showed that a complete makeover of the lighting system utilizing new LED technology would net the best long-term safety. This project was completed in 2021.

All capital projects meets FAA standards, are competitively bid and completed in a manner that is least disruptive to our airport patrons.

The airport board is looking to the future by installing the new north apron for corporate aircraft. When completed the estimated \$1.6 million project will add another economic development asset to support the community's aggressive economic expansion initiatives. As needs are identified, more capital projects will be undertaken as we intend to be the #1 general aviation airport in the region.

For more information about the airport visit its website [www.mrcairport.org](http://www.mrcairport.org).

## Members:

Bruce Mattingly- Chairman  
Ron Oliver- Vice Chairman  
David Perkins- Secretary-Treasurer  
Tim James  
Porter Dailey  
Shannon Murphy  
Charles Derrickson  
Wes Holland  
Tom Fossett  
Aaron Roberts





# Morehead American Legion, Post 126 Donates to Aviation Training Scholarship Program

## By James Stevens, EAA Chapter 1525

The pictured check for \$1,000 was presented to Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA) Chapter 1525 for their Flight Training Scholarship Program: "Giving Wings to our Next Generation". Pictured (left to right) with the donation are: American Legion Member Scott Barker; EAA1525 Chapter President Lee Lipps; Rowan County Senior High School Principal Jordan Mann; Rowan County High School Aviation Teacher Dr. Shannon Murphy, and American Legion Member Larry Law. Funding for this donation comes from the estate of member Steve Fouch who recently passed away and asked the Legion to devote a portion of his estate to a worthy community cause. Major Fouch was an Air Force Veteran, and it was thought that a program supporting aviation training for youth would be most appropriate to honor his legacy. This check is the first that will be donated from Major Fouch's estate to the EAA Flight Scholarship fund over the next 10 years.

The aviation career field is exploding with demand for young pilots, mechanics, and other related aviation professionals. Our local high schools in Rowan and Morgan have stepped up to the challenge by incorporating special aviation classes in their curriculum in order to help motivated students take first steps toward gaining their wings. Hands-on flight training, however, is a separate endeavor which is expensive and intense. Qualifying for a Private Pilot License is a foundational step for most aviation careers and must be funded over and above other related studies.

EAA Chapter 1525, headquartered at the Morehead Airport, has worked for the last two years to garner flight training scholarship funding for high school students expressing a serious interest in aviation careers. Two students (one from Rowan and one from Morgan) have so far benefitted from these scholarships. Some funding for aviation training is provided by EAA International, but such resources are limited and local EAA chapters are encouraged to seek local support to supplement the funding.

Flight training is a character-building endeavor. It requires mind/body discipline, academic ability, and personal perseverance. It is a worthy investment for the development of young people in our community. American Legion Post 126 believes Major Fouch would be pleased with this opportunity to help a young aviator earn his or her wings.



## UPCOMING MSU STAR THEATER EVENTS

December 28

- 12:00 PM to 1:00 PM: Expanded View
- 2:00 PM to 3:00 PM: Forces of Nature
- 4:00 PM to 5:00 PM: ElectroLaze

January 28

- 11 AM Capcom GO
- 1:30 PM. The Future of NASA
- 6:30 PM Metallica Laser

January 14

- 11 AM. Sunstruck
- 1:30 PM Interstellar Boundary Explorer
- 6:30 PM Laser Vinyl (laser show)

February 11

- 11 AM Planetarium show TBD
- 1:30 PM Planetarium show TBD
- 6:30 PM Laser Show TBD





# MONTHLY COMMUNITY EVENTS

## DECEMBER 2022- JANUARY 2023



### WEEK OF 12/25

ON BOARD AT THE ROWAN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY, 12/27, 4-6PM  
 WRITER'S WORKSHOP AT THE ROWAN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY, 12/28, 4:30-6:30PM  
 STAR THEATER PUBLIC PLANETARIUM SHOWS 12/28 SEE PAGE 7  
 STORYTIME AT THE ROWAN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY, 12/29, 4-5PM  
 NEW YEAR'S EVE LIVE MUSIC AND GAMES AT THE BOARD ROOM, 12/31, STARTS AT 4PM  
 NEW YEAR'S EVE BASH AT FRANKIE'S PLAZA, 12/31, STARTS AT 6PM  
 NEW YEAR'S EVE BASH AT THE VENUE, 12/31, STARTS AT 8PM

### WEEK OF 1/8

CRAFTIN' AROUND AT THE ROWAN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY, 1/9 AT 11AM-1PM  
 ZUMBA GOLD AT THE ROWAN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY 1/9 AT 6-7PM  
 SENIOR BOOK GROUP AT THE ROWAN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY 1/10 AT 1-3PM  
 SHELF-INDULGENCE BOOK BUNCH (GRADES 5-8) AT THE ROWAN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY, 1/10 AT 4:30 PM  
 TRIVIA NIGHT AT THE MOREHEAD HISTORY AND RAILROAD MUSEUM, 1/12 AT 6PM  
 STAR THEATER PUBLIC PLANETARIUM SHOWS 1/14: SEE PAGE 7

### RECURRING EVENTS

"CURIOSITY CABINET" ART EXHIBIT AT ROWAN COUNTY ARTS CENTER THROUGH FEBRUARY 3RD  
 ZUMBA GOLD AT THE ROWAN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY, EVERY MONDAY, 6 PM  
 CRAFTIN AROUND FOR 13+ AT THE ROWAN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY, 2ND MONDAY MONTHLY, 10 AM-2 PM  
 CREATIVE COLORING FOR ADULTS AT THE ROWAN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY, 3RD MONDAY MONTHLY, 11AM-1PM  
 STORYTIME AT THE ROWAN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY:  
 TUESDAYS AT 10:15 AM FOR TODDLERS  
 TUESDAYS AT 11:15 AM FOR PRE-K (3-5)  
 THURSDAYS AT 4 PM FOR AGES 5-12  
 DEVICE ADVICE AT THE ROWAN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY, 1ST TUESDAY MONTHLY, 10AM-NOON  
 A GOOD YARN- SIT AND STITCH AT COFFEE TREE BOOKS, TUESDAYS AT 4PM, SATURDAYS 10AM-1PM  
 ON BOARD- GAME NIGHT FOR 13+ AT THE ROWAN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY, LAST TUESDAY MONTHLY, 4-6PM  
 CHOW CLUB- COOKING CLUB FOR ADULTS AT THE ROWAN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY- 4TH TUESDAY MONTHLY, 11AM-1PM  
 YOGA AT SAWSTONE BREWING, TUESDAYS 6-7 PM  
 TEEN ANIME CLUB (13-17) AT THE ROWAN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY, 1ST WEDNESDAY MONTHLY, 4:30-6:30 PM  
 LEGO CLUB FOR 5-12 AT THE ROWAN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY, 2ND WEDNESDAY MONTHLY, 4 PM  
 TEEN GAME NIGHT (13-17) AT THE ROWAN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY, 3RD WEDNESDAY MONTHLY, 4 PM  
 WRITER'S WORKSHOP FOR 13+ AT ROWAN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY, LAST WEDNESDAY MONTHLY, 4:30-6:30 PM  
 TRIVIA NIGHT AT THE MOREHEAD HISTORY AND RAILROAD MUSEUM, SECOND THURSDAY OF THE MONTH AT 6 PM

### WEEK OF 1/1

NEW YEAR'S DAY HIKE (DANIEL BOONE RAILS TO TRAILS) WITH ELIZABETH MATERA: EMAIL DBRTINFO@YAHOO.COM 1/1 AT 1PM  
 DEVICE ADVICE AT THE ROWAN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY, 1/3 10AM-2PM  
 TEEN ANIME CLUB AT THE ROWAN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY 1/4 AT 4:30-6:30PM

### DO YOU WANT YOUR COMMUNITY EVENT FEATURED IN THE ROWAN REVIEW?

CONTACT US AT 606-784-5151 OR EMAIL SAVANNAH.JACKSON@RKY.US BEFORE THE MONDAY PRECEEDING EACH MONTH'S GENERAL SESSION FISCAL COURT MEETING

## LOCATIONS, HOURS, AND CONTACT INFO

ROWAN COUNTY ARTS CENTER:  
 MONDAY-FRIDAY: 10AM-4:30PM  
 SATURDAY & SUNDAY: BY APPOINTMENT ONLY  
 ROWAN COUNTY ARTS CENTER  
 CALL: 606-783-9857  
 EMAIL: RCAC@MOREHEADTOURISM.COM  
 VISIT: ROWANCOUNTYARTSCENTER.COM

ROWAN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY:  
 MONDAY-THURSDAY: 9AM-7PM  
 FRIDAY & SATURDAY:  
 9AM-5PM  
 ROWAN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY  
 CALL: 606-784-7137  
 VISIT: ROWANCOUNTYLIBRARY.ORG

MOREHEAD CONFERENCE CENTER  
 CALL: 606-780-9694  
 EMAIL: MCC@MOREHEADTOURISM.COM  
 VISIT: MOREHEADCONFERENCECENTER.COM

KENTUCKY FOLK ART CENTER:  
 MONDAY-THURSDAY: 10AM-4PM  
 CALL: 606-783-2204  
 EMAIL: KFAC@MOREHEADSTATE.EDU  
 VISIT: MOREHEADSTATE.EDU/KFAC/

ROWAN COUNTY VETERANS' MUSEUM  
 SATURDAY 10AM-2PM, OTHER TIMES BY APPOINTMENT  
 CALL: 606-776-3147

MOREHEAD RAILROAD AND HISTORY MUSEUM  
 FRIDAY AND SATURDAY 11AM-5PM  
 CALL: 606-784-5122

HALDEMAN MUSEUM  
 WEDNESDAY- SUNDAY 10AM-8PM  
 CALL: 606- 780-4043



# Haldeman Community Center 2023 Events

The Haldeman Hayes Crossing Community Center has several great community-wide events planned for 2023.

The HCC is located on the historic site of the Haldeman School in Rowan County at 4399 Open Fork Road. After a catastrophic fire, the building and property was purchased in 2007 by a concerned group of Haldeman and Hayes Crossing community residents. The Haldeman Hayes Crossing Community Foundation has set about to restore the historic building, originally built by the WPA in 1937, which played a vital role in educating so many in the community. They are achieving more with their initiatives than ever before. They work on many exciting projects to help improve the lives of others, and are very proud of the progress they continue to make.

One such program is their After School Program. With this initiative, the HCC's goal is to promote education and to give children a safe space. With partnership with MSU's Volgenau College of Education, they can connect future teachers with K-5 children in a win-win situation. The children are educated and the MSU students build their teaching skills and gain the confidence to fulfill their potential.

The full-size gym, still in good condition, can accommodate a few hundred people, and has been approved as a Red Cross emergency shelter. Community events are currently held in the gym or on the grounds. Below is a tentative calendar of their 2023 events. For more information, contact the Haldeman Community Center at [hcccenter@gmail.com](mailto:hcccenter@gmail.com), call 606-783-0420, or visit their Facebook page Haldeman HC Community Center.

- April 1st Spring Festival, a vendor event
- May 13 Car Show Country Breakfast and lunch
- June 17 Father's Day Pancake Breakfast
- July 29 Haldeman Parade and Reunion
- August 12 Hoodlums in the Holler Car Show Country Breakfast and lunch
- October 7 Appalachian Gourd Festival and vendor event
- October 28 Trunk or Treat
- November 18 Christmas Bazaar vendor event

## Rowan County Public Library Winter Reading Program Begins

From now to February 12th, you can earn a chance to win free books and a grand prize. All you need to do...is read!

You can sign up to participate in the Winter Reading Program by visiting the library, calling at (606) 784-7137, or using the online form at <https://rowancountylibrary.org/winter-reading/>. The last day to register is January 13th. Everyone of every age is invited. When you register, they will have a Winter Reading bag for you to pick up that includes a reading log, which you can use to track your reading and turn in to be eligible for our prize drawings. And don't forget to share your reading progress with others and see what everyone else is reading along with you! Then, all you have to do is read age-appropriate books for your category, track them on the log that comes in your bag, and turn that log in at the end of our Winter Reading program! Teens and adults who read five (5) or more age-appropriate books will be entered into the grand prize drawing: in addition to the free books they can already earn, they'll have a chance to snag a CoffeeTree Books gift card! Consider signing up today.





# DEPARTMENT UPDATES



**Steve Kelsey**  
Road Foreman

This week we've focused on getting all our trucks ready for winter weather events to come. We have plenty salt in reserves, but unfortunately during bitter cold temperatures salt will not be effective. However, we are working hard to prepare for snow removal.

We will later be looking into getting a new vehicle.



**Danny Blevins**  
Ambulance Service

Winter weather events can slow response times. Our fleet is healthy and four-wheel drive, which will help during these events. We are thankful for the Road Department for working with us addressing the community's needs during winter storms.

We have had 5300 runs this year, making it an extremely busy one. Due to the recent rise in pneumonia, RSV, flu, and COVID cases, we have had a lot to do.



**Wes Coldiron**  
Jailer

Our work release program has been going great. Recently it was featured in the Lexington Herald Leader. One business owner remarked that they were among the best employees the business had in over 20 years.

We changed our jail tracker/booking system. The new link is [https://omsweb.public-safety-cloud.com/jtclientweb/jailtracker/index/Rowan\\_County\\_KY](https://omsweb.public-safety-cloud.com/jtclientweb/jailtracker/index/Rowan_County_KY).



**Tyler Brown**  
Solid Waste and Floodplain

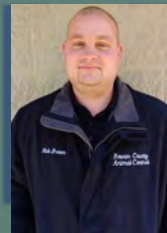
In our cleanups, a total of 417 miles and 64 dump sites have been cleaned with 9,319 bags total this year. We anticipate that we may reach 10,000 bags by the end of the year depending on weather the coming week. We're up to 264 electric permits for the year.

The Recycling Center recycled over 44,000 pounds this month. We are holding some materials because the market is down. For information about recycling, visit <https://moreheadrecycling.org/> or call 784-1250.



**Mike Mackin**  
Finance Director

Visit [rcky.us/alcoholic-beverage-control](http://rcky.us/alcoholic-beverage-control) to view our alcohol license application guidelines and the Rowan County Alcohol Sales Ordinance. Rowan County's business regulations and new business checklist are available at [rcky.us/occupational-tax](http://rcky.us/occupational-tax). For further information on these, I can be reached at 606-784-6218 or [michael.mackin@rcky.us](mailto:michael.mackin@rcky.us).



**Nick Brown**  
Animal Control Officer

To see the animals we have in the shelter, visit [rcky.us/animal-control](http://rcky.us/animal-control). We also post intakes to our Facebook page, @RowanDogPound (Tri-County Animal Shelter - Clearfield, Ky). Consider adopting instead of shopping for a pet, and please spay/neuter your pets. This does so much to reduce animal overpopulation in our area and helps us save more animals' lives.

## Courthouse Updates

As winter weather continues, we urge all citizens to sign up for Smart911 by visiting [rcky.us/rowan-alert-smart-911](http://rcky.us/rowan-alert-smart-911). This app offers location or address based emergency notifications. If you are in need of a warming center, call the Morehead Police Department at 606-784-7511.

We'd like to thank the Road Department for everything they do to keep our roads safe and as clear as possible during winter weather events. Additionally, we thank you all for staying in during our recent storm and doing your part to help.

We wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. The Rowan County Christmas Decorating Contest results will be featured in the next Rowan Review.



**Harry Clark**  
Judge-Executive



# The Sugarloaf Mountain "Volcano"

## Article by Joe Clark

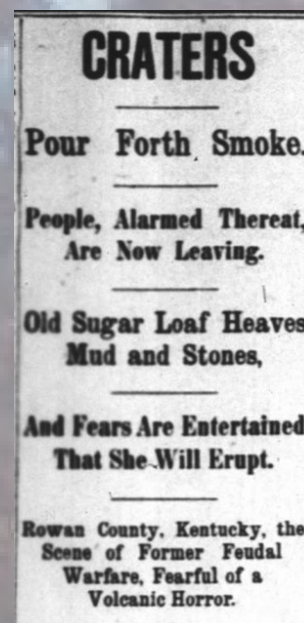
As the administrator of the Memories of Morehead & Rowan County Facebook group, one of the most popular subjects on the group has been the "Sugarloaf Mountain Volcano." Yes, you read that correctly, the "Sugarloaf Mountain Volcano." Not only is the "Sugarloaf Mountain Volcano" popular on today's social media, but back in the day, it made the newspaper headlines literally across the United States.

The story began on January, 1904 when Hiram Purvis was cutting railroad ties on the mountain side. He noticed a thin wreath of smoke rising above the tree line some distance up the mountain. As he put it, he was "thinking that some hunter was a-smokin' out a varmint," so he went to investigate. As he drew near, the smoke breathing became difficult; but he kept looking around and came upon a clearing where the underbrush had been scorched and shriveled. The trees were warped and twisted and stripped of their branches due to the heat. In the center of the clearing was a large hole from which smoke poured into the air 30 to 40 feet. Beneath his feet the ground felt hot. And he heard recurring rumblings and what sounded to be dull crashes as the masses of rock falling into a cavern. The heat had attracted so many rattlesnakes that the ground was covered with them. Purvis, though frightened, continued to look around and discovered five to six fissures from which the smoke was pouring. Purvis then left the mountain and spread the news about what he had seen.

The very next day, Purvis, accompanied by Hilda, KY postmaster James Thompson, returned to the site of the "volcano." Together they broke away the stones that choked the throat of the largest of the craters, releasing even more smoke. Other witnesses, including William Allen of Rowan County, claimed that all the trees nearby had been blasted into splinters and were dead as if "struck by lightning", according to one report in the Cincinnati Enquirer. And they also reported that smoke poured from five fissures on the side of the mountain. The smoke was accompanied by a deep rumbling noise. A strong smell of gas was reported to have filled the atmosphere in the area. People were afraid to strike matches or start a fire in fear of causing a major catastrophe.

The Cincinnati Enquirer reported that "the volcano is there and likely at any moment to lose its head and kill hundreds of people if they do not make their escape in time." The residents in the area became terror-stricken and prepared to move should the "volcanic" activity worsen. And some in fact did pack their belongings and move.

As the days went on, there was some speculation regarding the alleged volcano. The Fort Wayne Daily News in Fort Wayne, Indiana reported that an investigation was made into the alleged volcanic activity. And as a result of that investigation, it was believed that the smoke was coming from a burning coal mine due to the strong smell of gas and coal. There was a coal mine approximately 14 miles from Sugarloaf Mountain and the coal that was believed to be burning was thought to be an extension of that coal vein. Another explanation that was given was the "volcano" was the result of numerous lightning strikes on the mountain. However these explanations were not convincing to Deputy Marshal George W. Castle of Carter County. Deputy Castle "smelled a mouse."





For quite some time Deputy Castle had been in search of two noted moonshiners. They had been missing from their usual locations. So he decided to make a tour of Sugarloaf Mountain section of Rowan County.

As he explored the community and spoke to its residents, he learned that the two men he wanted had in fact been seen in the area. Upon learning that fact, Castle returned to Carter County and summoned a posse of men and returned to Sugar Loaf Mountain.

The posse went straight to the largest of the fissures with their weapons drawn. They advanced until suddenly they rounded a corner and came upon two men who were busy stirring and fixing something in a vat. The two men had been so busy that they had not seen the officers.

"Hands Up!" said Deputy Castle. And the men's empty hands shot upward.

"Howdy George, you've got the drop on us this time," said John Hildebrandt, one of the most notorious moonshiners in all of Kentucky.

"Yes, Johnny, and I am glad to see you. You have scared half the people in the mountains almost crazy with the smoke and noises you have been turning out of here," said Castle.

Hilderbrandt's accomplice(s) remains a bit of a controversy. One report gave Charley Donathan as the accomplice. But most reports list the accomplice as Presley Crowe. Perhaps it was both of them. Regardless, the men were arrested during the moonshine raid.

As they boarded Deputy Castle's wagon for the long trip to the jail in Carter County, Hildebrandt remarked: "These guys around here ought to be arrested for lunatics. Those holes in the mountains make lovely chimneys, and it was oh, so easy to roll a barrel or two around to rumble some, and throw a little mud and a few rocks out of the place."

He then looked up at the mountain whose actions had terrified the community, and said "Ta, ta old chap; I'll return some time." And then they were taken off to jail. The "volcano" was extinguished.

\*\*\*Sources Used Include but are not limited to the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, The Cincinnati Enquirer, Fort Wayne Daily News, The Fargo Forum And Daily Republican, and others.\*\*\*



Interested in local history? Visit [rcky.us/history](http://rcky.us/history) for a great resource full of articles about historical events, people, communities, and more in Rowan County and the surrounding area.



# Community Celebrates Christmas

Our holiday season was started with the 30th annual City-County Christmas Dinner. This was the first one we'd been able to hold since the pandemic began, and we were delighted to bring back the holiday spirit. Our employees and elected officials served approximately 600 people with a delicious meal to enjoy as one community.

We are incredibly grateful for the efforts of everyone who made this possible. Particularly, we would like to thank MaryAnn Stevens and Michele Jessee for all the work they put in towards organizing, decorating, cooking and more. We're so thankful for all they did to put the Christmas dinner together. This wouldn't have been possible without them.



## Historical Extras: Christmas in 1955

"Members of the Morehead's Junior Chamber of Commerce sold Christmas trees to help finance their second annual Christmas project. The Club announced it will hang stockings on doors around town to collect fruit and candy for the needy of Rowan County.

These stockings will be placed on doors Monday, December 19. With each stocking the Jaycees added this notation: "To the people of Morehead-this stocking is to be given to some child in Rowan County who is less fortunate than you this Christmas. We are asking your assistance in filling this stocking with fruit, candy and nuts and in this way making it a Merry Christmas for the less fortunate children in our area."

The following day, the club collected the 360 stockings and more than 90% of homes filled the 3 foot stockings to the brim with fruit, nuts and candy. Many housewives included a toy or two. President Billy G. Brown said the club would probably distribute the stockings Thursday, December 22 to Rowan's needy. The group distributed stockings in the Haldeman, Christy Creek, Clearfield-Lower Licking and Cranston-Sharkey districts of the county."

Featured in the Rowan County News, Art Stewart, December 15, 1955





# 2022: A Year-End Review

Following some hard fought wins in '21, we thought we might land upon the shores of a newer and quieter year to rest upon in '22. We were woefully but happily wrong. It has turned out to be a year of many challenges, and a year of equally as many victories.

The secret is out. Rowan County is the place to be. It's where businesses want to be, and where people want to be. The result of the last census is proof enough. We are one of the only counties in Eastern Kentucky slated to grow over the next 10 years. Why is that? We host a regional hospital, a top of the line educational system, and the most vibrant industrial sector in the greater area. Your county is the envy of many.

How is this accomplished? It is by nothing short of the blood, sweat, toil and tears of the citizens of Rowan County. You are a hardworking people that we are proud to serve. We take your tax dollars and administer them carefully, in the most fair, beneficial, and responsible manner that we possibly can for the benefit of you: our friends and neighbors. We're not a perfect community, but we work to become more perfect each day. Every new business in our county and every new family coming into our neighborhoods is a blessing for each of us: more places to trade at, and more folks to count as our friends.

These are trying times for all Americans. From the seat of county government, we recognize and admire your resolve to persevere through all difficulties and conditions that the greater world thrusts upon Rowan County. It has been proven time after time. Together, we can weather any storm and achieve any goal.

*Merry Christmas!*



**All of us join in wishing you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!**

**From the Rowan County Fiscal Court**



# Tri-County's *Pets of the Month*



Beans, Hamlet, and Finn are three great puppies that came together to the Tri-County Animal Shelter back in October. They've been with us almost 70 days, and they need a loving home like yours. They're 9 months old, all male, and are shepherd/hound mixes.

The adoption fee (\$100 cash or check each) covers spay/neuter, as well as microchipping, rabies and parvo/distemper vaccine, and deworming.

Visit them at the Tri-County Animal Shelter and consider bringing one of these great dogs into your fur-ever home today.



Arista is a lovable young adult female cat who needs a good home. She is four years old and has been with us over 50 days. Think about stopping by to bring her into your fur family.

**Call 606-784-4930**

## Magistrates



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Magistrate District 1  
Phone: (606) 783-1529  
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**Rob Hamm**  
Magistrate District 4  
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## Employee Birthdays

PATRICK ONEY, ROAD DEPARTMENT, 1/7

HOMER LEWIS, AMBULANCE SERVICE, 1/17



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