

EDITORIAL AND COMMENTS



One Voice

Sharon Burton

What defines you

Today's mass sharing of information via social media can leave people feeling depressed and lonely, but having to deal with hurt and rejection is nothing new. We have all had defining moments in our lives but we can use those moments to make us stronger and kinder.

I still remember an incident from when my husband and I bought our first home together after several years of marriage. It was a small farmhouse, around 900 sq. ft. and included 17 acres of land. Some people might consider it a small beginning but we were excited to start the next step of our life together.

I visited an insurance company to get a quote for homeowners insurance for the first time in my life, but to my dismay I was told our property didn't value high enough for them to even give me a quote. They didn't offer insurance policies for that small amount, I was told.

I felt very small and embarrassed as I left that office. I still today remember how that person's attitude took away some of my excitement about our new home.

After that I was nervous about contacting other insurance companies in fear that I would face the same rejection. Thankfully, everyone else was more than willing to work with me and I remember David Wells treating us like we were his best ever customer.

I would like to say that I put the incident behind me and never let it bother me, but that would be a lie. To this day I can't bring myself to do business with that company, and the person who rejected me that day so many years ago is long gone.

Still, I decided then that if

I realized that people should never be treated differently because of their income level, and I have aspired to never let a person's wealth or lack of wealth affect my treatment toward others.

my business wasn't good enough for them then, it wouldn't be available to them when it did meet their standards.

That moment was a defining moment for me, though. I realized that people should never be treated differently because of their income level, and I have aspired to never let a person's wealth or lack of wealth affect my treatment toward others.

Another defining moment came for me almost three decades ago but it's something I've never forgotten. The Farmer's Pride, our sister publication, was in its early years but had tremendous support across the commonwealth, as it does today.

An auction company in west Kentucky was a trusted advertiser with the Pride and during one of his sales someone from Adair County signed in.

Impressed that the person

had traveled that far, the auctioneer commented with the assumption that the person saw his advertisement in the Pride. That person took the opportunity to criticize our newspaper, and that advertiser pulled his ads from us for a short time.

It's that hometown attitude some people have—you know the one: it's from here so it can't be of value.

I learned to loathe that small minded attitude and I make sure when I am out of town I have nothing but good things to say about my community and especially the businesses in my community. I am proud of our local entrepreneurs who work so hard to be successful and I will do what I can to carry a positive message for their efforts wherever I go.

I guess my point in this is that it doesn't matter what other people say about you, or even to you; you decide how it affects you. If you let it define who you are, let it define you by the positive response you have to it.

There is always going to be someone who wants to make you feel small or resents you if you are working hard to be successful. Do not resent small beginnings. Don't fret when others don't recognize your efforts. Just keep working hard, believe in yourself, and always do the very best you can do at whatever you are doing.

I like to think of life as a training ground. Whatever we are doing, we should strive for excellence. We will learn from our experience and be better prepared for the next chapter in our lives.

I hope 2018 is a year of successes and defining moments for us all.



Capps' Corner

Adam Capps, Assistant Editor

Wanting Adair County to grow

Last week, we spotlighted all of the progress and growth that has been seen throughout Adair County in 2017.

This week, I would like to talk about a few changes that I would love to see in 2018.

Although some of these ideas may be far fetched, I believe that Adair County has so much potential and hopefully, we will see even more development in the near future.

When I think of what is lacking in Adair County, one of the first things I think of is a "farm to table" restaurant. We have restaurants that could be operating as "farm to table" already, but I would love to see a new restaurant in town that only serves products featured from local farms.

We have all of the farming infrastructure to make this dream a reality, but it would take a lot of money and hard work to buy or build a space and create a menu.

However, I think a "F2T" restaurant would put Adair County on the map as all of our neighboring counties are lacking a "F2T" restaurant as well. The nearest "F2T" establish-

ment is located in Bowling Green. I think patrons would pay a premium price for locally grown and sourced organic meals, and I could see a "F2T" restaurant really thriving in this area.

It gives customers a sense of satisfaction when they know they are paying for products that have been created and outsourced locally.

On top of a "F2T" restaurant, I also believe that Adair County lacks entertainment. We have so many great musicians and people with all sorts of talents, but we do not have a space that can be accessed by members of the community.

In Russell County, a weekly "Open Mic Night" is held at their local VFW post.

I think it would be great if one of our local restaurants could host an "Open Mic Night." A sound system and small stage could be put together for less than \$1,000 and live music could draw in even more people from out of the county.

Finally, I think it would be awesome if Adair County had mixed martial arts/wrestling

academy or club.

Combat sports are gaining so much popularity, but the closest combat training gym to Columbia is located in Elizabethtown.

There are lots of young men and women in the Adair community who would love to learn self-defense, or more specific techniques like Jiu Jitsu or Judo.

Personally, I would love to be able to take Jiu Jitsu classes, because it teaches self defense, discipline, and it's all about making your opponent uncomfortable (although bones/joints can be broken with jiu jitsu) and it's meant to be used for defending yourself in the event of a surprise attack.

These are just a few things that I would love to see in Adair County, but I'm sure everyone else has their own opinions on what this community needs.

So much has happened over the last few years, but I'm excited for the future progress of this county and community. Here's to 2018 and all the progress it will bring.

How to contact local officials

U.S. Congress

Sen. Rand Paul: 202-224-4343
Bowling Green office: 270-782-8303
Website: paul.senate.gov

Sen. Mitch McConnell: 202-224-2541
Email: senator@mcconnell.senate.gov
Website: mcconnell.senate.gov

Rep. James Comer: 202-225-3115
Tompkinsville Office
Phone: 270-487-9509
Toll Free Number: 1-800-328-5629

Kentucky General Assembly

Sen. Max Wise
Capitol: 502-564-2450 ext. 200
max.wise@lrc.ky.gov

Rep. John "Bam" Carney
Capitol: 502-564-8100, ext 708
Home: 270-403-7980
Email: john.carney@lrc.ky.gov

Governor

Gov. Matt Bevin
502-564-2611

Adair County Fiscal Court

Judge Executive Mike Stephens: 384-4703
Email: acjudge1@duo-county.com

Magistrates

District 1—Harold Burton: 384-1439
District 2—Daryl Flatt: 634-1033
District 3—Sammy Baker: 378-6496
District 4—Perry Reeder: 634-3234
District 5—Billy Coffey: 250-4449
District 6—Greg Caldwell: 384-0370
District 7—Terry Hadley: 384-4083

Adair County Constables

District 1—William Troutwine: 385-9597
District 2—Shannon Rowe: 634-2345
District 3—Robert Loy: 378-6001
District 4—Ed Wigal: 378-5086
District 5—Tim Bottoms: 378-2339
District 6—Jason Rector: 634-2171
District 7—Joe Collins: 378-1597

City of Columbia

Mayor Curtis Hardwick: 384-2501
Email: mayor@cityofcolumbiaky.com

City Council

Craig Dean: 384-5961
Mark Harris: 634-2542
Linda Waggener: 384-3979
Craig Lasley: 384-6144
Ronald P. Rogers: 384-5069
Pam Hoots: 250-7010

Adair County Board of Education

Superintendent Dr. Pamela Stephens:
270-384-2476

Board Members

Jonathan Gaskins: 634-3089
Daniel Adams: 634-4394
Mike Harris: 384-2165
Lisa Burton: 384-3140
Terry Harvey: 378-6477

LETTER TO EDITOR

Dear Editor,
As many readers of the Community Voice may know, Journey to Recovery has been involved with helping recovering addicts restore their lives through our weekly support group meetings as well as other resources that we provide.

We are a non-profit faith based organization located in Columbia. We currently host Friday night support meetings that involve special speakers who give their testimonies of overcoming addictions.

The meetings are held at the Agape House Resource Center located at 114 Office Park Dr. every Friday night at 6 p.m.

Our current board of directors is considering the next steps for JTR. We believe our direction will still involve support group meetings and counseling by professional counselors as well as life skills education for addicts wanting to live a restored life free of addiction.

We are also considering a facility for women being released from jail where they can stay for a limited period of time while they try to get their lives together.

We believe that a safe environment for them may help prevent them from returning to the very relationships that contributed to the reason they were incarcerated. Very often this was drug related.

We will be holding a special called meeting for anyone that may want to become involved or interested in helping us brainstorm regarding the future of Journey to Recovery on how to best help those who want to live a restored life free of addiction.

The meeting will be at 6 p.m. p.m. at the Agape House Pregnancy Center on Thursday, Jan. 11.

For more information or directions call Billy Flatt at 270-566-2100 or Jerry Dene at 270-392-4937.

Truth will prevail.

"For there is nothing covered that shall not be revealed; neither hid that shall not be known."

Luke 12:2

Sharon Burton

Publisher and Owner

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FREE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Free birthday listings, classifieds and community events can be recorded by calling 270-384-0059 after business hours or verbally given to a customer service representative during business hours at 270-384-9454.

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EDITORIAL POLICY

The Adair County Community Voice encourages readers to submit letters to the editor. They will be published on a first-received, first-published basis. All letters must contain the signature, address and telephone number of the writer. We reserve the right to edit and reject any letter. Letters must not contain material that is deemed offensive or libelous by the Voice. We reserve the right to limit the frequency of published letters by any individual. Letters of endorsement for candidates will be published up until the issue prior to any election. Any letter making allegations against someone will be held until the other party has the opportunity to respond within the same publication. Letters should be clearly identified as letters to the editor and mailed to Editor, The Adair County Community Voice, P.O. Box 159, Columbia, KY 42728 or emailed to snburton@duo-county.com.

NEWSROOM CORRECTION POLICY

The Adair County Community Voice strives for accuracy when reporting the news. If you see an error, please contact the newsroom at 270-384-9454, and the error will be corrected as soon as possible.

...That we may glorify the Father
John 15:7-8 and John 14:12-14.

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