

UNSEALED

Prosecutors ask for change of venue in criminal case as city hall love letters come to light

By LINDA IRELAND Editor

Prosecutors in the criminal case against former mayor Terry L. Cruse and former city clerk MaDonna Hornback have requested a change of

venue.

The petition, filed Monday in LaRue Circuit Court, says extensive media coverage over the last seven months – including stories in *The LaRue County*

Herald News and *The News-Enterprise*, radio and television stations – has prohibited the state from empanelling a fair and impartial jury. Cruse also took out political advertisements in *The*

Herald News outlining his defense during his run for sheriff.

A change of venue was mentioned several weeks ago by LaRue Circuit Judge Charles Simms III. A decision

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Superintendent's evaluation is 'lowest in 12 years'

By FELICIA GRAY Summer Intern



Sam Sanders

The LaRue County School Board on Monday shared the results of Superintendent Sam Sanders' annual evaluation.

The board, at its regular meeting, released the evaluation in a PowerPoint presentation before adjourning to a closed session to discuss the details with Sanders.

"It gives board members an opportunity to make comments and look at the job as a whole. It tells the superintendent what part we think he's excelling in and parts we think he needs work," said Board Chair Michael Hornback.

The evaluation form is generated by the Kentucky School Boards Association and is used across the state. The results are based on the averages of the scores given by board members.

The scores are based on a scale from zero to four with zero meaning unacceptable and four being outstanding.

The results in each standard are as follows: Leadership and district culture, 1.4; policy and governance, 1.6; communications and community relations, 1.4; organizational management, 2.8; curriculum planning and development, 3.2; instructional leadership, 3.0; human resources management, 1.4; values and ethics of leadership, 1.0; student achievement and learning, 3.0. The tenth standard, "labor relations," was deemed not applicable and therefore did not receive a score.

"I feel like we had a good talk in closed session. Those are the lowest scores I've ever received in 12 years, but hopefully we'll do better next year. (The) district's doing well," said Sanders after the evaluation. "The purpose

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Stars

Photo by Linda Ireland
LaRue County All-Stars Curtis Ford, Junior Vazquez and Brandon Hollis stood at attention during the playing of the National Anthem at the opening of the West Kentucky Cal Ripken State Tournament at LaRue County Park and Recreation. See 16A for story and more photos.

Little Merchants:

Newspaper carriers featured in new book

By LINDA IRELAND Editor

About 50 years ago, Grant Wise was hired at his first job.

He was only 11, but he handled duties that would make some grownups cry in protest.

Up at 3 a.m., seven days a week, he pedaled his bicycle, while hefting a heavy canvas bag, for miles through the dark streets of Hodgenville – no matter the weather. He retraced his route in the afternoon.

He was a newspaper boy. Wise's story, along with several others, is included in *Little Merchants: The Golden Era of Youth Delivering Newspapers*, a book by Sandra L. Walker.

Wise contacted Walker after reading a newspaper article about the project. He was surprised when she called him – and even more so after the Washington writer arrived at his home outside Hodgenville.

Walker, who lives near Seattle, described why she chose to interview Wise:

"The typical paper route

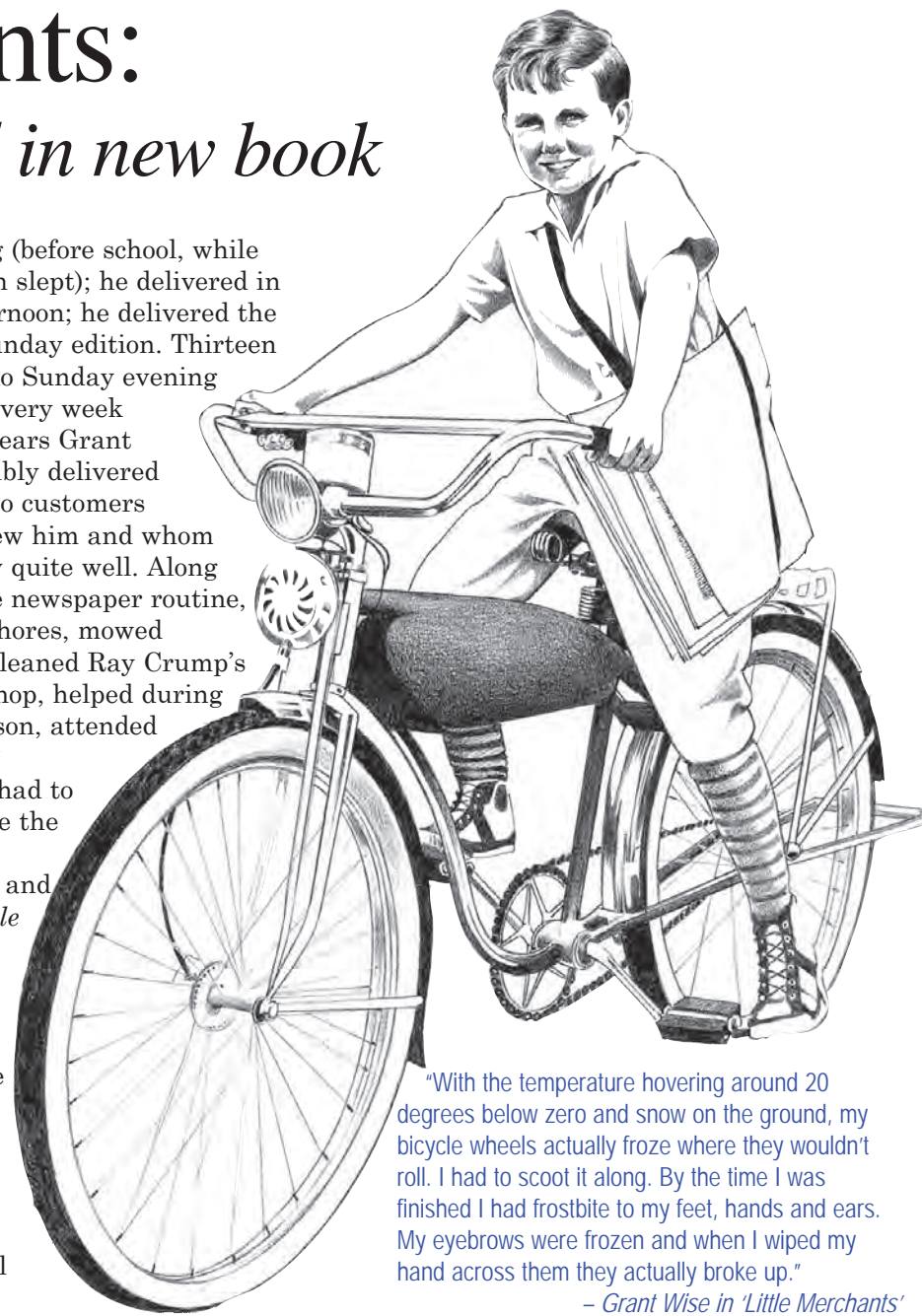


Photo by Linda Ireland
Grant Wise is featured in Sandra L. Walker's book, *Little Merchants: The Golden Era of Youth Delivering Newspapers*. He delivered newspapers for five years between the ages of 11 and 16 in Hodgenville.

in the core of the 20th century was an afternoon route, many times without a Sunday paper. The carrier kept his route for two or three years. With Grant, he delivered in the early

morning (before school, while the town slept); he delivered in the afternoon; he delivered the large Sunday edition. Thirteen times (no Sunday evening paper) every week for six years Grant responsibly delivered papers to customers who knew him and whom he knew quite well. Along with the newspaper routine, he did chores, mowed lawns, cleaned Ray Crump's barbershop, helped during hay season, attended school.

Wise had to purchase the *Courier-Journal* and *Louisville Times* route from an older boy. The fifth-grader walked inside Lincoln National



"With the temperature hovering around 20 degrees below zero and snow on the ground, my bicycle wheels actually froze where they wouldn't roll. I had to scoot it along. By the time I was finished I had frostbite to my feet, hands and ears. My eyebrows were frozen and when I wiped my hand across them they actually broke up."

– Grant Wise in 'Little Merchants'

See CARRIER, page 4A

These pirates won gold. See 17A.



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CARRIER

Continued from 1A

Bank and asked to borrow \$45 from Walter Cole. His mom, Helen, had called Mr. Cole in advance – but Grant handled the transaction. His payments were \$7 each month.

He never forgot Cole's warning: "Boy, you don't want to miss one of these payments. You don't want to be late. This is the beginning of your credit."

At the time, Wise didn't realize how hard he was working on the paper route. He was raised on a dairy farm on Leafdale Road. He was accustomed to work that required long hours in all kinds of weather.

After his mother became ill, his family moved to Maple Avenue in Hodgenville. He felt he had made a "step up." He was excited that, for the first time, he had children to play with.

"I grew up with a mule, cows and a dog," he said, laughing.

Wise and the other paperboys picked up their newspapers from the dock at Hodgenville Post Office. Later, the postmaster made them move because they didn't keep the area tidy. The pickups were moved to the area behind Middleton and Marcum (currently The Lincoln Museum).

"I couldn't argue with him (the postmaster)," said Wise. "I knew it was coming."

Wise can still recall his paper route. He rode his



Submitted photo

Grant Wise was 11 when he started carrying the newspaper on a five-mile route in Hodgenville. He had about 70 customers.

bicycle, carrying the "unbelievably" heavy canvas bag for about five miles. It began at the intersection of Lincoln Boulevard and Tanner Road (where the Old Courthouse Inn – now a Mexican restaurant – once stood), and continued through Hamilton Acres and Indian Trail (before Houchens Plaza was built).

He had about 70 customers – almost 100 on Sundays, when the paper was even larger. The newspapers sold for 7 cents per copy. He collected a nickel for the *Times* and received 2 cents for himself. Part of that money went to purchase the canvas bag for \$2.50. (At some point, Wise

gave up the *Courier's* morning route and kept the *Times'* afternoon route.)

"They sent a bill and you had to pay it whether you sold papers or not," said Wise.

Wise said he met some "great folks" on his route.

"I had a few gems – people I loved," he said.

Mr. and Mrs. Carlene Hughes were two of his favorites, always generous with tips and at Christmas. Other customers kept the relationship "strictly business." They wanted their paper at a certain time, in a certain spot, and no excuses.

Wise's story about a horrendously cold

morning was included in Walker's book.

"With the temperature hovering around 20 degrees below zero and snow on the ground, my bicycle wheels actually froze where they wouldn't roll," Wise said. "I had to scoot it along. By the time I was finished I had frostbite to my feet, hands and ears. My eyebrows were frozen and when I wiped my hand across them they actually broke up."

Wise said it took about three weeks for his eyebrows to grow back.

He did get into occasional mischief, such as the time he rode his bicycle down the halls of Sunrise Manor Nursing Home when it was still under construction.

But it was a Honda 90 – not a bicycle – that actually ended his paper route in Hodgenville, he said.

One of the older paperboys bought a motorcycle and used it to deliver the papers. It was easier than pedaling a bike, it was a lot of fun, and soon, they "all ended up with motorcycles." Wise even rode his Honda inside the halls of Sunrise Manor.

None of the boys had a driver's license but "the law turned its eye as long as we didn't act stupid," he said.

Before long, one of the boys had an unfortunate accident on his motorcycle that seriously injured his passenger. The "law put a stop to it" after that.

About the same time, the Louisville newspaper decided to consolidate the routes. One man, who owned

a car, took over the entire delivery.

"It was all gone," said Wise.

When Wise turned 16, he bought a car and began working at Super Test Service Station (where Ireland Auto Sales is located). He made 90 cents an hour and received 10 gallons of gas each week. It was another "step up" for him.

After he graduated from high school, he attended technical school and learned to repair appliances. He held jobs at appliance stores, a creamery and a theater. He later worked with the state as a heavy equipment operator and a blaster (he handled explosives). He's now retired.

Grant's wife, Betty, said she was impressed by the number of times her husband's name appeared in *Little Merchants*. She has about a dozen sticky-notes marking the passages.

"I always thought of kids delivering newspapers in big cities – little boys on street corners shouting 'extra, extra,'" she said. "I didn't think of it as a rural thing."

"A lot of people don't realize that was a really tough job for a kid."

Walker, 72, spent more than six years researching and writing the book, talking to carriers across the country. She began her project as a tribute to her late brother, Carl Lane, a paper carrier in central Ohio from 1947 to 1951.

"I wanted grandchildren, who will not have paper route experiences,

to know about the incredible job youth did handling paper routes," said Walker. "From a pilot project designed at the premier Museum of History & Industry in Seattle, the research expanded beyond the Northwest, from Alaska to Alabama, Maine to California and many towns in between."

Walker said she interviewed "hundreds of 'silver-haired' paperboys, and a smaller number of girls," for the book.

Wise's story was unique, she said, because throughout the difficulties he faced, he "had a pleasant disposition."

"What was Grant's thought about having a paper route?

Without hesitation or reservation, he said it was 'fun,'"

Walker wrote in an email. "The route was 'an education in the real world.' He liked belonging to the community and considered the best part, 'the friendships (he) made.' He made lasting friends with other carriers and with customers. Besides the fun and friends, Grant liked the feeling of accomplishment on a job well done."

For more information about *Little Merchants*, visit www.carrierchronicle.com. The 362-page book is available on Amazon.com.

MILBY

Continued from 2A

for example, a credit health or bankruptcy session. If a client enrolls in a debt management program a fee is charged, depending on the number of accounts the client has and his state of residence.

"If a client meets certain income requirements that fee is waived," she added. "In a debt management program, we work with creditors to reduce interest rates and minimum payments on accounts."

"The creditor agrees to stop charging fees and, often times, the account re-ages, which means it shows current status, not past due," she added. "The client sends us a monthly payment and we disburse it to the creditors. Most accounts are paid off within a five-year period."

Counseling sessions are 90 minutes and can be done face-to-face, on the phone or Internet. The specialist will review the client's income, budget, and debt and give him an action plan and education resources depending on his needs.

In addition to debt management (assistance with credit cards and unsecured debt), counseling is available for housing

(delinquency or pre-purchase), bankruptcy, budget planning, and credit report education.

"We also assist with the paperwork and counseling for the Unemployment Bridge Program through Kentucky Housing Corporation and the U.S. Treasury Department," she said. "This program pays clients' mortgage payments up to 18 months or \$30,000 if they are unemployed or underemployed due to no fault of their own."

That website is www.kyhousing.org/protect.

Partnerships

Apprison forms partnerships through its community outreach program.

"These partnerships can be with employers, schools, other non-profits, churches – just about anybody who could benefit from our services or financial education," she said. "We also are involved in many financial education initiatives in our communities, such as Money Smart Week or shred events."

The company also receives referrals from local agencies, such as Community Action, Helping Hand of Hope, Extension office, United Way, local banks and libraries.

Another offering is on-site financial education classes as well as on-demand webinars on the company's website (www.apprison.com).

com). Apprison also sends out a monthly newsletter, "The Money Minute," that contains information on upcoming events as well as timely financial education articles.

"Our website also houses a learning and tools section where consumers can receive quick tips on a variety of topics and worksheets to help them get organized," she said.

The website offers a feature in which a consumer can chat with a certified counselor and can enter financial information online for it to be reviewed by a counselor.

"We also have a Facebook page," she said.

Presentations

Apprison personnel are available for on-site presentations.

"Recently, we held budget and credit presentations at the Hardin County Public Library (Elizabethtown and Radcliff) and Elizabethtown Community and Technical College," Milby noted, adding that more are planned at several locations, such as Helping Hand of Hope, libraries, and in the LaRue County community.

Another program, Start Fresh/Bank On, a part of United Way, provides checking account education and a certificate for those that are unbanked or need to open a second-chance checking

account.

"I am working closely with them on this initiative to help spread the word," she said.

A Sonora resident, Milby has eight years of banking experience. She has also volunteered with several organizations including Junior Achievement,

Heartland Festival in the Park, and is planning a car show fundraiser at her church.

She has served on the board for Young Professionals of Hardin County, is a past member of Rotaract, and has served as assistant treasurer, treasurer, and president of the

Elizabethtown Junior Woman's Club, an organization in which she's still quite active.

"I enjoy helping people save money because I am frugal myself," said Milby. "It's heartwarming when a client is able to walk away with less stress than when they first came in."



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