

An encouraging word:

A Time to Ponder
By Howard Coop



It was, indeed, an awe-inspiring moment. Immediately, upon arrival in Manger Square in the heart of Bethlehem, we went to the Church of the Nativity at the east end of the square. Rebuilt in the sixth century following a fire that damaged the original church, the Church of the Nativity is one of the oldest Christian churches in the world.

Approaching the main entrance to the church, one sees the remains of a large arched doorway. That door was reduced in size about 1500 A.D. to keep persons from riding horses into the church. The door that replaced it is so small that an adult has to stoop to enter the church.

After entering the church, we were taken down a stairway to a grotto below the eastern end of the nave. That grotto, forty feet long, sixteen feet wide, and ten feet high, is, tradition says, the place where Jesus was born. A fourteen-point silver star marks the spot where that birth was supposed to have occurred. That star is inscribed with the Latin words: Hic de Virgine Maria Jesus Christus natus est. Translated, these words say, "Here Jesus Christ was born of the Virgin Mary."

After a few solemnly spoken words of explanation from the guide, there was awful silence among the group. Then, one woman standing close to the star reverently knelt before it. After a moment, she bowed even lower and kissed the star. Then, with tears in her eyes, she arose. Other members of the group stepped closer to the star. Some knelt, others bowed their heads reverently, and everyone, in some way, showed deep emotion.

That November afternoon, Christmas was more than a month away, but a small group of individuals felt in their hearts the true meaning of the season. Christmas is more than a time for merriment and gift giving. It is a time to ponder the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem, an event that split time into two distinct parts. Everything before that event is dated backward from it and noted as B.C. (Before Christ), and every-

thing after it is dated forward from it and noted as A.D. (Anno Domini).

Campbellsville offering January term classes

By Joan C. McKinney,
news and publications
coordinator

In order to save time, money and allow students to graduate early, Campbellsville University presents course offerings during the January term.

The January term dates last from Dec. 26, 2013 until Jan. 3, 2014 giving an opportunity to take classes at \$350 per credit hour.

Students can participate in a classroom setting on campus with professors who conduct the class. However, students who choose to stay at home during the break also have the option of taking their class online in the comfort of their home.

Campus classes that are offered online are Marketing 1, Organizational Behavior, Managerial Decision Making, Introduction to Old Testament Study, Christ and Culture, Computer Concepts and Applications, Introduction to Physical Activity, Walking-Jogging for Health Fitness, United States History Since 1877, Understanding Music and General Psychology will be taught online. Literary Studies, Fundamentals of Speech, American Government and Introduction to Theater will be taught on the main campus, and Selected

Kentucky Judicial Branch launches eFiling with first electronic case in Franklin County

The Administrative Office of the Courts introduced eFiling to Kentucky state courts this week by accepting the first electronic case filings at its test site in the

office of Franklin County Circuit Court Clerk Sally Jump in Frankfort. The first case was filed Monday, Dec. 16, with a total of six cases filed as of today.

"This week's electronic filings were the critical first step in providing eFiling to the legal community," Chief Justice of Kentucky John D. Minton Jr. said. "Moving from a paper-based environment to one that is primarily electronic will transform the way Kentucky courts do business. The cost savings to the court system will be substantial and the state's entire legal system will become more efficient when we process court cases electronically."

Franklin County is a proof-of-concept site, which means that limited functions are being tested before the full eFiling program is rolled out in the pilot phase. The site will initially process only civil cases filed in Circuit Court. The Franklin County Office of Circuit Court Clerk is located in the new Franklin County Judicial Center at 222 St. Clair St. in Frankfort.

The AOC trained more than 10 attorneys from

Franklin County to take part in this early testing.

"This launch begins a two-year process that should see eFiling in all 120 counties by the end of 2015," AOC Director Laurie K. Dudgeon said. "I'm looking forward to Kentucky catching up with the federal courts and the other state courts that have been providing this valuable service for years."

The proof-of-concept stage will prepare the AOC to set up pilot sites in a dozen or more Kentucky counties in 2014. The AOC will test all eFiling functions in the pilot counties for several months before beginning to implement the system statewide.

eFiling is part of the Judicial Branch's comprehensive, multiyear eCourt program. The goal is to update Kentucky's aging court technology to meet the demands on the court system and enable the courts to stay current with the mainstream of law and commerce.

The eCourt program will also upgrade the court system's technology infrastructure (hardware and software), replace its case

management systems for the trial and appellate courts, and acquire a document management system that will electronically store and index court documents.

The Judicial Branch cleared a major hurdle on its eCourt program in March 2013 when it received legislative approval to issue bonds to fund a new case management system. Resolving the funding issue jump-started the eFiling process and made it possible to begin the proof-of-concept testing in Franklin County by the end of 2013.

This week's eFiling milestone followed quickly on the heels of another major court technology rollout. In March 2013, the AOC launched CourtNet 2.0, which replaced the outdated CourtNet application and provides real-time, online access to Kentucky court case information. CourtNet 2.0 was initially offered to members of the Kentucky Bar Association and will be made available to other groups in the coming months. For more about CourtNet 2.0, see the KBA's Bench & Bar, May 2013, pages 54-55.

The Signal office will be closed Dec. 20th - 29th for Christmas.

There will not be a paper December 26th.

Have a Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year!!



Season's Greetings from NAMI Cumberland River, Mt. Vernon

Pictured: Wayne Bullock, President; Mt. Vernon Mayor Mike Bryant; Cassie Kendrick, Vice-President; Bonita Fleming, Secretary; Pearl West, Treasurer. Not present: Christin Kendrick, Project Manager and Robert Shackelford, Coordinator

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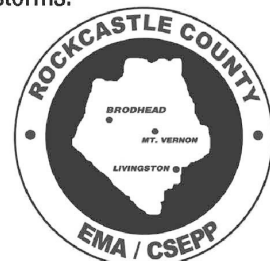
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ABSOLUTE
Auction

David Hamblin
Estate (Trust)

116 Acres More or Less

Saturday, January 4, 2014 at 10:00 a.m.

Crooked Creek section of Rockcastle County, KY

Directions: Turn off of US 25 onto State Road 1004 (Orlando). Follow 1004 approximately 3.8 miles to State Road 1912. Turn left at the end of the bridge onto 1912. Proceed approximately 4 miles to Dry Fork Road (State Road 1791). Turn onto Dry Fork Road and proceed approximately 3 miles to Gooch Lane Cave Road. Turn onto Gooch Lane Cave Road and proceed 1 1/2 miles to the property. Watch for auction signs.

In order to facilitate the settling of the estate of the late Mr. David Hamblin, our firms have been authorized to sell this property for the absolute high dollar.

This property consists of 116.192 acres by survey and is located within the Daniel Boone National Forest. There's some cropland but it's primarily wooded with some marketable timber. Also, there's a barn and a creek on the property.

Auctioneer's Note: This property is ideal for seclusion, harvesting timber, or a hunters retreat. If you like seclusion, a creek and woods, and some open land ... you'll like this place. Be sure to drive a 4-wheel drive vehicle to the auction because of the road condition.

Terms: 20% down the day of the sale, balance within 30 days.

Announcements day of sale take precedence over printed matter.

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