

Judge helping me when I wasn't worth helping". That's a testimony of who he was. I know that the jail will miss his leadership and dedication to them and the inmates.

Sometime this week I will have to appoint a temporary Jailer to finish out Bills term. This is a task that I never thought I would have to do. This is a part of my job that I don't enjoy but it is my responsibility. We will see that the jail is taken care of and run as smooth as possible. In the meantime, lets honor Bill and pray for the family as they go through one of life's challenging time.

Sparks he decided to travel to Ohio to find work. Travis said that many others had found good employment in the Dayton area, so he decided to travel north and seek his fortune. He may have left home to find a steady job, but his heart remained in the hills of Jackson County. His future wife, Nannie Martin (also a Jackson County native) also went north to seek a future. Nannie worked in Detroit, Michigan for a year before she and Travis were married in 1942. They settled in Dayton, Ohio where Travis spent 42 years working for General Motors. He and his beloved wife raised two sons (Marvin David & Phillip Wayne), who still live there. Both were in attendance to watch their father receive this prestigious award from the community. Travis had been enjoying retirement for a couple of years when in 1987 he and his wife decided it was time to go home to Sand Lick Creek in Jackson County. Travis came home to the same farmland where he was born and raised and had so many fond memories. Travis recalled going to school on Sand Lick when there were no indoor toilet facilities: "The teacher directed us the boys to go one way up the road and the girls were to go the other way down the road." However, happiness upon the return home was interrupted after only a few years when his beloved wife, passed away. After his

wife passed Travis sought to occupy his time and he began working on a new project – to turn his childhood memories into a place where visitors could share and learn about growing up in rural Kentucky in the 1920's and 1930's. For the past two and a half decades Travis has been busy building and maintaining a tribute to "days gone by". He named his creation after one of the most expensive neighborhoods in Dayton – "Oakwood"! Today, Oakwood Acres contains 24 buildings all constructed single handedly by one man – Travis Sparks. Visitors can tour an old-time farm house, a blacksmith shop, a service station, a post office, a train ticket office, a library, a school, and even a barber shop. With pride in all his accomplishments that have brought people from near and far to Oakwood Acres

Travis said that he "drove every nail" and built each structure "from the ground up"! Travis has furnished his buildings with furniture, signs, appliances and tools he has purchased from the area, so visitors can experience Sand Lick and Jackson County the way he remembers it. This includes a garage where he keeps his 1929 Model A Ford, which is an exact match to one his father bought new at the Ford dealership in McKee. Travis drives this beauty with pride in The Jackson County Fair and Homecoming Parade each year.

Oakwood Acres began as a tribute to a way of life many of us never knew but Travis does not want to see forgotten. This village, nestled on his family's farm, has become a destination for visitors from across the country and has helped build a growing tourism industry in Jackson County. Thousands of people have visited from across the nation. Travis functions as the tour guide and visitors can spend as long as they wish living in the past, touching and feeling history, and listening to Travis tell how this and that worked 60 or 70 years ago! Many churches have used his little church as a

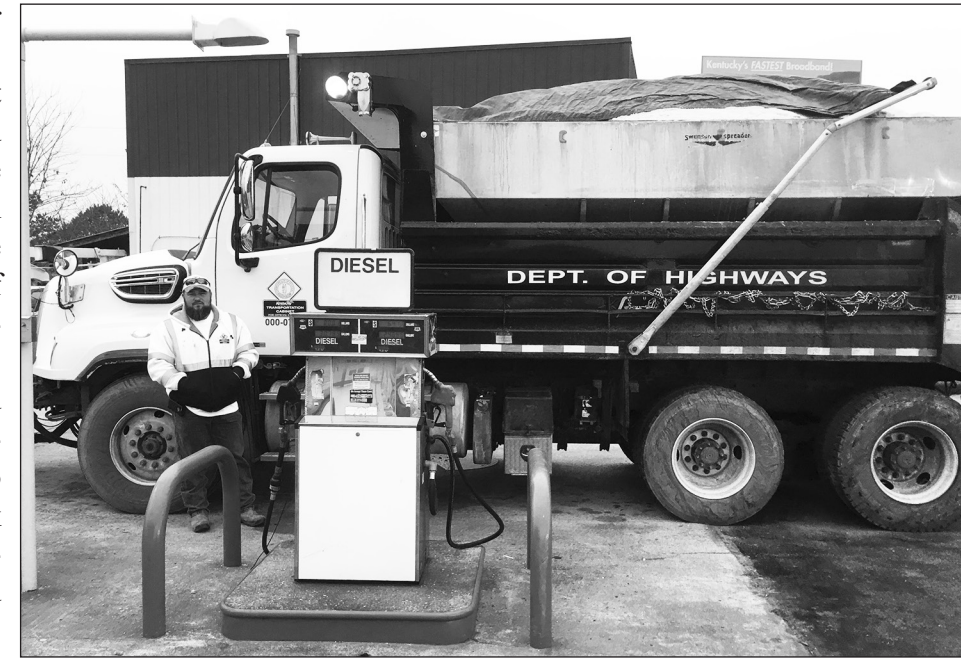
Sunday backdrop for their services. Travis even has a shelter that is used for picnics and family reunions. He has somewhat given himself and his village to the community of Jackson County (by appointment).

When asked if he had some wisdom that he wanted to share with younger folk (which includes practically everyone), he said that Jackson County is a much better place today than when he left in 1940. He recalled Jackson County when there was no running water to the house, no electricity, no telephones, no television, (certainly no internet or fiber optic), no ambulance service, or no blacktop highways. However, some things have not changed. The "spirit" of living, the twinkle in the eye, and the joy of creation that was dwelling in a young boy on Sand Lick Creek in the 1920's has never left these hills and hollers. It was brought back home when Travis returned. Travis Sparks will forever be a pioneer. Travis will forever be a reminder of what is best in human nature. To be industrious, creative, and self-sufficient! To never give up. To always be constructive. he has never forgotten what is important about our past.

Likewise, Travis will forever be remembered as an invaluable member of this community. He has been a treasure for the past 96 years and there is no reason to stop now! Our lives and our community are better because of you! Congratulations on winning this prestigious award Travis. You are a true country gentleman whom I am honored to call my friend.

Arrest Detention Center. Horn was charged with theft by unlawful taking (less than \$500) and Paul was charged with first-degree controlled substance possession (methamphetamine) and drug paraphernalia possession. Both remained in jail Monday evening, according to online jail records.

Sheriff each employee had to buckle down and do



Highway trucks across the state prepare as winter weather kicks in over the upcoming weeks. Officials hope that early preparedness equates safety.

their jobs, even as they mourned Bill's passing. The Laurel County Detention Center volunteered to send deputy jail personnel to assist Jackson County in order for our personnel to attend the funeral. We appreciate their assistance during this difficult time. Please remember the Jackson County Detention Center personnel as they continue to serve our county.

The Stuff the Cruiser campaign for 2017 is nearing completion. We have received a significant amount of gifts and are beginning to wrap these for our most deserving children. If you wish to donate, we would appreciate if you could get those gifts into our office by Dec. 18, 2017. We hope we can deliver the presents prior to Dec. 23, 2017. God Bless you for helping us make Christmas a little better for a special boy or girl in our county.

Each year we remind our citizens to be especially careful during the holiday season. Impaired drivers, and distracted drivers cause many serious accidents, especially at this time of year. Always have a safe and sober driver and never text and drive. Be smart and have a great holiday!

Last week the Jackson County Sheriff's Office responded to fifty-one calls for service. We investigated three traffic accidents, opened three criminal cases and arrested three individuals on various charges.

Thank you for your continued support

Snow To meet the challenges of the up.

coming winter driving season, KSP reminds drivers to plan ahead, make sure all passengers are properly restrained, drive defensively and ensure their vehicle is properly maintained to handle the effects of cold temperatures. Other safe winter travel tips include:

Check road and weather conditions before you leave by visiting <https://transportation.ky.gov/sites/GoKY/home> an online traffic, roadway information and weather portal operated by the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet. It's user friendly and offers real-time information that is updated every two minutes. (Refrain from calling KSP posts or 911 for road or weather conditions due to high call volume.)

Reduce speed in wintery conditions.

Leave early – allow more travel time; expect delays.

Increase distance between vehicles – the ability to stop is significantly affected on snow covered or icy roadways.

Clear all windows on your vehicle prior to travel – having unobstructed vision is vital to avoid running off of the road or having a collision.

Ensure your windshield washer fluid is full and that you use an anti-ice solution.

Turn on your vehicle's headlamps. Remove any dirt, mud or snow.

Use caution on bridges and overpasses as they are susceptible to freezing before roadways.

Avoid using cruise control which can cause a vehicle's wheels to continue

turning on a slippery surface when speed needs to be decreased.

Ensure your vehicle has a full tank of gas in the event you are stranded for an extended period of time.

Charge your cellular phone prior to departure.

Always dress warmly and keep a blanket in the vehicle.

Carry a winter survival kit that includes items such as blankets, a first-aid kit, a can and waterproof matches (to melt snow for water), windshield scraper, booster cables, road maps, tool kit, bag of sand or cat litter (to pour on ice or snow for added traction), collapsible shovel, flashlight and extra batteries.

KSP is also requesting travelers to observe for stranded motorists. If you see or suspect that someone is stranded, contact KSP at 1-800-222-5555.

If you get stranded, staying in your vehicle is often the safest choice, says Lawson, who offers these added tips:

Tie a brightly colored cloth to the antenna as a signal to rescuers.

Move anything you need from the trunk into the passenger area.

Wrap your entire body, including your head, in blankets, or extra clothing.

Stay awake. You will be less vulnerable to cold-related health problems.

Run the motor (and heater) for about 10 minutes per hour, opening one window slightly to let air in. Make sure that snow is not blocking the exhaust pipe as this will reduce the risk of carbon monoxide poisoning.

As you sit, keep moving your arms and legs to improve your circulation and stay warmer.

Do not eat unmelted snow. It will lower your body temperature.

"We ask everyone to please remember to be patient," says Lawson. "Bad weather often produces an unusually high volume of requests for service. Plus, the capabilities of first responders are limited, which increases response time."

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