

CAMPBELL COUNTY POLICE
DEPARTMENT
1922-2022
100 YEARS OF HISTORY



Researched and told by Nikki Owen

CAMPBELL COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT SINCE 2014

Introduction

Campbell County was founded December 17, 1794, two years after the creation of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, becoming the state's 19th county. Campbell County was carved out of Scott, Harrison and Mason counties. The original county included all of present Boone, Kenton, Pendleton, and most of Bracken and Grant counties. Campbell County is named in honor of John Campbell, an Irish immigrant who was a soldier, explorer, statesman and one of the drafters of the Kentucky Constitution.

The first courthouse, built of logs, was replaced in 1815 by a brick structure. The present courthouse dates from 1884.

Wilmington, a pioneer settlement, was the original county seat of Campbell County from 1794 until 1797. The original justices in the Campbell County Court were John Roberts, Thomas Kennedy, Samuel Bryan, John Cook, James Little, Robert Benham and John Bush. Newport was designated as the county seat until 1823, when it was moved to Visalia, at that time closer to the geographical center of the county. This was an unpopular action, however, as the overwhelming majority of residents lived in the north, along the Ohio River. The County Court returned to Newport in 1824 and remained there until 1840.

In 1840, Kenton County was created, primarily out of a significant portion of Campbell. The Kentucky General Assembly forced the county to move its seat to Alexandria, closer to the center of the new, smaller Campbell County. In 1883, after years of lobbying, the General Assembly established a special provision to allow Newport to designate a Court House District separate from the offices in Alexandria.

The special Courthouse Commission legislation led to the misconception that the county was dual seated, but Alexandria remained the sole *de jure* county seat. It was not until November

24, 2010, that a court ruling granted Newport equal status as a county seat.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the county has a total area of 159 square miles (410 km²), of which 151 square miles (390 km²) is land and 8.1 square miles (21 km²) (5.1%) is water. It is the fourth-smallest county in Kentucky by land area and fifth-smallest by total area. It lies along the Ohio and Licking Rivers.

As far as my research has led me, the Newport Police, Campbell County Sheriff's Office and various Campbell County Constables were the law enforcement for the County since its inception. The Army was also stationed in the Newport Barracks for some time early on and could have also played a role. Newport was founded in 1795 and no doubt had the largest number of Officers.ⁱ

There are newspaper clippings as far back as 1895 describing County Patrolman, so we can ascertain that a need for a "County Patrol" stemmed from Newport Officers being busy patrolling the city and a need for law enforcement in the southern end of Campbell County.

In July of 1895, "County Patrolmen" were hot on the trail of a chicken thief in Gubser Mill. The thieves went on to steal cows and hogs as well. It was a fairly simple case to solve, as the suspect stole the animals and the next day was selling them to other farmers in the area.ⁱⁱ

In July of the same year, County Patrolmen Fred Suzoder tangled up with Henry Grabentetter and two companions in Clark's Grove (near Dayton). County Judge Bennett fined all parties \$5 for Disorderly Conduct.ⁱⁱⁱ

In May of 1898, there is also a newspaper article that talks of the bravery displayed by Campbell County Patrolman Jack McCafferty had arrested a man named John Shields. Shields had struck a woman at Glen Park, near Newport during a Sons of German Pioneers picnic. The Officer had to use a smokehouse on the grounds as a temporary jail. Several of the suspects friends had

begun to tear down the smokehouse to free Mr. Shields, claiming that then Sheriff Miller had ordered his release. The Officer was forced to draw his weapon to fend off the growing crowd of rowdy friends. After threatening to “clean out the crowd”, they retreated and the suspect was taken to the Newport Jail.^{iv}

In early 1898, with a County Patrol badly needed due to the size and rural nature of Campbell County, a County Police force was in the planning stages. House bill 434, introduced by Representative Bishop, would provide for such a department. Governor Bradley, however, disagreed and vetoed the bill, citing that it was unconstitutional to deprive the Executive Department of the cities above the fifth class the right to appoint Police Commissioners.^v

From 1898 until the early 1920's the County Patrol consisted of Officers employed by Newport Police and paid by Fiscal Court as “private” patrolmen. As late as 1918, Campbell County Commissioners were paying Newport Police the sum of \$100 per year for the Newport Auto Patrol.

There was also mention of County Patrolmen being paid to work the Alexandria Fair and other large gatherings. It is unclear how many men were employed to carry out the patrol, as the newspaper articles were sparse during this time.^{vi}



John Baptist Sheeran 1922-1926

One Newport Officer is of particular interest regarding our history. John Baptist Sheeran, born in Newport on July 18, 1868 to parents Patrick and Winifred. He was one of Newport's first mentioned Detectives in the early 1900's and as far as I can tell, he was employed with Newport as early as 1898. This officer was also a private detective for the C & O Railroad. Married to Annie Sprot in 1892, they had three children during their marriage. Son Thomas was born in 1892, Son Howard was born in 1897, but later died at the age of three, and daughter Winifred was born in 1902.^{vii}

Sheeran was employed by Newport Police Department as an Officer, and promoted to Detective around 1902-1903. He was one of Newport's first two detectives. In 1904 he was assigned to the 5th "beat" with John Flynn.

In 1908 he continued as a Detective for Newport, as well as in 1909. In 1911, he was one of many Democratic "hold outs" that was dismissed by newly elected Mayor Krieger. At this time, he left Newport and moved to Washington DC to be on the Capitol Police Force. He stayed in D.C. until 1912, when the Newport Police and Fire Commission brought him back on the Police Department. He was employed once again as a Detective.^{viii}

In September 1913, he was suspended for fifty days during a tiff between new Mayor Hembold and Commissioner Ebert. On Election Day, Sheeran was given orders by the Mayor to work as a poll count inspector, as well as orders to patrol by the Commissioner. He and another Officer were represented by Attorney Brent Spence in their Court Hearing. The suspension was upheld and the Detective was told upon his return that he must follow the orders of the Police and Fire Commission and NOT the Mayor. While suspended, Sheeran worked as a guard at the penitentiary in Frankfort.^{ix}

1914 brought about the doom of the Civil Service Ordinance that had been in place to “run” the Police Department, and Sheeran was fired after the ordinance was repealed. As of 1915, he returned to D.C and stayed there until 1917. Upon his return, he ran on the Democratic ticket for Magistrate of the 2nd District, but lost to Theo Bertelsman by a vote of 2433 to 2775.^x

In early 1922, he testified on behalf of the Government against Newport Officials on the charges of Conspiracy to violate Federal Prohibition laws. He was a Campbell County Patrolman at this time. The Fiscal Court books show he was paid about \$1.00 per day to patrol the County.^{xi}

On June 13, 1922, the Kentucky Acts passed, allowing the County Judge the power to name a Chief County Patrolman. John Sheeran was appointed to the position by Judge W.C. Buten. His salary was \$1500 per year. The Acts also allowed for an Assistant Chief, but no Assistant Chief was named at that time. Sheeran became Chief at a time when Campbell County was growing quickly. In August of 1922, a bond issue was introduced for a primary road system in the County, covering 140 miles of the total 400 miles. This was more road mileage than any other county in the state at this time.^{xii}

According to this article, June 13, 2022 will mark 100 years of the Campbell County Police Department having an official Chief. I believe this to be the official start of the Police Department as we know it. I am not sure where the "headquarters" were located, what patrol cars were used, or if they even had uniforms at this time. I believe that several of the men that had been working for Newport Police but paid as patrolmen for the county area, then slowly became Campbell County Police Officers.

SHEERAN IS NAMED

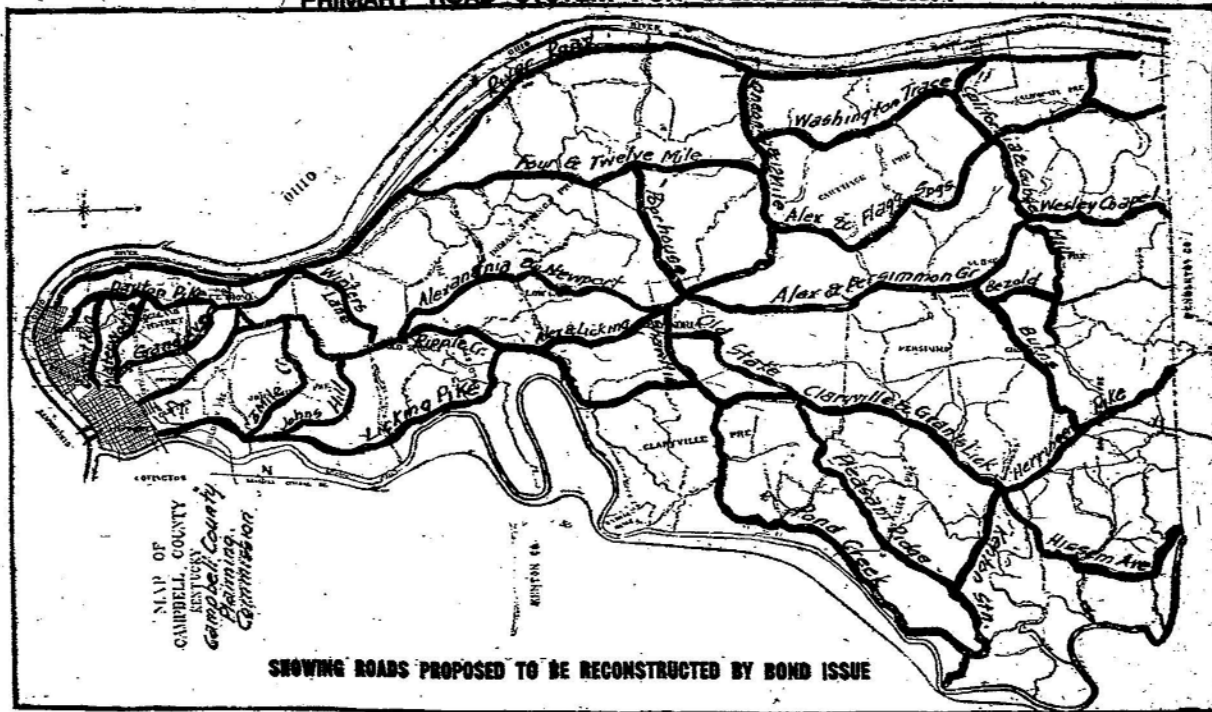
Becomes Chief of Campbell County Patrolmen

An order naming John Sheeran chief county patrolman, as provided by the new state law, which became effective Tuesday, was made Wednesday by Judge W. C. Buten of the Campbell County Court. The law gives the county judge power to name a chief county patrolman and an assistant. The salary of the chief is \$1500 a year and his assistant \$1200. For the present, Judge Buten said, no assistant will be named.

Kentucky Post (published as The Kentucky Post) - August 1, 1922 - page 1
August 1, 1922 | Kentucky Post published as The Kentucky Post | Covington, Kentucky | Page 1

WHERE CAMPBELL-CO WILL BUILD ROADS

PRIMARY ROAD SYSTEM FOR CAMPBELL COUNTY



The primary road system shown above takes in about 140 miles. Campbell-co having more than 400 miles of roads, which is more road mileage than any other county in Kentucky. The proposed bond issue is for the primary road system only. All parts of the county will be taken care of and there is a splendid system of connecting roads. Every road of importance in the northern end of the county is to be reconstructed in a modern manner, and the people will determine on Aug. 5, in voting on the proposed bond issue, whether these roadways are to be reconstructed as above planned.

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I found some entertaining articles regarding Chief Sheeran. One such article talks about a time in February of 1923, where Sheeran took possession of an abandoned automobile. He applied for a state license, and in the name of the County, proceeded to use it to run errands. When he brought a bill to the Judge for its maintenance and storage, County Attorney Conrad Matz disagreed. The Fiscal Court agreed to take the license off the car. Everyone was then perplexed as to whether Chief Sheeran had a car or not, and it wasn't clear what the outcome was.^{xiii}

Another interesting article in September of 1925 reported that Chief Sheeran had discovered a burglary of the Gahring Grocery Store. Evidently, the thieves only got away with a large quantity of cigars, cigarettes and tobacco, after helping themselves to milk and

sandwiches before leaving with their loot overnight. The store owner, who lived nearby, had removed the money from the cash register, luckily.^{xiv} Another interesting report from September 1925:^{xv}

News Article - Kentucky Post (published as The Kentucky Post.) - September 1925 - page 1
September 8, 1925 | Kentucky Post (published as The Kentucky Post.) | Covington, Kentucky | Page 1

**THIEF NEEDED
A CHANGE**

The intruder who entered the home of George Bruener of 32 W. Fifth-st., Woodlawn, south of Newport, late Monday left his own belongings behind and made practically an even change with articles found in the home.

John Sheeran, chief Campbell-co patrolman, who is searching for the thief, asserted that it is one of the most unique daylight robberies he has investigated.

The thief exchanged a shirt, a watch, a number of handkerchiefs and also a revolver and a fountain pen for two rings. The only loot for which something was not left behind by the intruder was \$28 in cash taken from a dresser drawer.

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Newspaper articles during Sheeran's tenure are sparse, and it's hard to say how many Officers were employed under the Chief, what the uniforms looked like, or what they drove. It appears the county worked alongside Newport to fight crime at the time.

It appears that Sheeran's time as Chief ended sometime in 1926. At some point after his wife's death in 1939, he went to live with his daughter, but still visited Newport frequently. He died at her home on July 20th, 1944, aged 76.^{xvi}

John J. Higgins 1926-1930

In early 1926, an article was found reporting that the Newport Moose Lodge #150 had a new secretary. This change was due to the existing secretary being named Chief of the Campbell County Patrol. The new Chief was John J. Higgins, appointed by Judge W.C. Buten. The following is what we know about this early Chief.^{xvii}

John J. Higgins was born August 24, 1872 to parents Owen and Ellen, along with four brothers.^{xviii}

Chief Higgins had also served as a deputy Sheriff under Sheriff John Nagle, as a private patrolman and as a County Patrolmen. As Chief of the County Patrol, he was supervisor of the fish that were procured from the State Hatchery in Frankfort in October of 1927. The fish were needed after most of the fish in the lake at the Campbell County Infirmary had died. It was unknown what the cause of death was at the time.^{xix}

Kentucky Post (published as The Kentucky Post.) - October 11, 1927 - page 1
October 11, 1927 | Kentucky Post (published as The Kentucky Post.) | Covington, Kentucky | Page 1

LAKE RESTOCKED

Buten Announces Arrival of Fish From Frankfort

The lake at the Campbell County Infirmary was restocked with fish Tuesday, Judge William C. Buten announced.

Several weeks ago all the fish in the lake died. It was thought poison had been placed in the water. An analysis, however, failed to disclose poison.

Judge Buten said the fish with which the lake was replenished were newlights. The fish were procured from the State Hatchery Bureau at Frankfort. They were placed in the lake under the supervision of John Higgins, chief of county patrolmen.

Also, in 1927, there was a reported “war on spooners” along Campbell County’s roadways. Spooners were evidently having “petting parties” at night, parking alongside the roadway with their lights off. Four such “spooners” were arrested and fined \$5 by Judge Wooten for Disorderly Conduct and causing a safety hazard. Judge Buten was quoted as saying: “This practice of staging petting parties on public highways will not be tolerated and must be stopped! Parking on the highways without lights on autos will result in a serious accident and death of autoists.” There are several articles regarding such “spooners” in Campbell County in the early 1920’s.^{xx}

In 1929, Campbell County’s Chief Higgins had a murder mystery case that had everyone stumped. A pistol fight had ensued on Licking Pike a short distance from 12th Street. A witness on his way to work, as well as a street car operator, had seen four men fighting along the roadway, resulting in a gun shot and a man falling to the ground. Although the pistol was found, apparently dropped at the scene, no body was recovered. The men fled in their car, unable to be identified. The banks of the river were searched and many people questioned, but no victim was ever located.^{xxi}

Not much else was found regarding Chief Higgins. At age 60, on May 12, 1933, he passed away suddenly at his home, widowing his wife Alice. Heart disease was listed as the cause of death by the Coroner, Dr. August Helmbold. Chief Higgins had no children and was buried at Evergreen Cemetery.^{xxii}



Ernest R. (E.R.) Brandes 1930-1934

Ernest Brandes was widely known in Republican Politics in Campbell County. He was married to Lillian Brandes, and had two daughters, Garnet and Rosemary. ER had served as a County Patrolman, and a Deputy State Fire Marshall for four years. He was a member of the Newport Lodge of the Elks, Fort Thomas Masons and Junior Order. He was also an avid golfer, finding time nearly every day to play a round at one of the local courses. Brandes was a Fort Thomas Magistrate and Squire, as well as acting Coroner at one time.^{xxiii}

When Brandes was named to Office of the Chief, gambling was the talk of the town, as well as getting rid of it. There were many articles referring to Brandes as being tasked to get rid of the various slot machines throughout the County. The County Patrol

was asked to cooperate with Newport in ousting the gamblers in a cleanup campaign.^{xxiv}

In 1932, Chief Brandes decided to professionalize the Police Department. He first put the civilian clothed Officers into uniforms, as well as equipping the patrol cars with much needed equipment and calling for call boxes to be installed along the patrol routes. He also made a fixed schedule for the patrol to follow. Police Headquarters were established in both Newport and Alexandria. 1932 may well have been the beginnings of the current blue dress uniforms.^{xxv}

Under Brandes, I feel that the Department really started to take the shape we know today, with uniformed patrolman, marked cruisers, and organized patrols. Officers fought the usual crimes of robbery, spooners, assaults, raids on craps games, and various other things.

Brandes, along with his six patrolmen, were no match for ousting the gamblers, and he called upon Newport Police and the Sheriff's Deputies to help him cope with the growing situation. There was some issue within the department regarding this. One ousted Patrolman claimed he was fired for trying to confiscate slot machines by his superiors. Chief Brandes replied that the two Officers were fired not for that reason, but for disrupting the morale of the department. It appears that corruption may have been brewing during these times within the City of Newport and the County itself.

Under Brandes, a new patrol system was started, placing telephones at both the Newport and Alexandria Courthouses. These phones were manned by Officers ready to take complaints. Four Patrolmen would then patrol the County and make calls to the manned call stations at designated times to respond to the

complaints. Such call boxes were to be established throughout the County to provide more efficient police protection.^{xxvi}

In September of 1931, Chief Brandes was suffering from heart disease, and had spent some time in the hospital due to his condition. He also had some sort of operation related to this, but seemed to have recovered well.^{xxvii}

One interesting case involving the Chief was in July of 1932. Chief Brandes and the patrolmen had Beechie Black, a fugitive, surrounded in a house in Melbourne. He was sought in connection with several robberies in West Virginia and his own brother had given police the address where he was hiding. During the standoff, Beechie escaped the house and leaped a large fence while being shot at by the Officers. None of the shots reached their target. Despite Chief Brandes calling for the bloodhounds from Southgate, he remained at large. Beechie was also known for escaping prosecution by pretending to be insane, going so far as being placed in an asylum for a time!^{xxviii}

One shocking story found in the Cincinnati Enquirer from August of 1931, was that of an unidentified African American man who was shot. The man was found by John Schneider, a farmer on Second Poole's Road, in his garage. The farmer held the man at gunpoint while his wife called for the County Patrol. The man asked to sit under a tree while waiting for police to arrive. After a few minutes, the man stated "I might as well be dead as to have 15 years before me" and he jumped up and ran. The farmer fired two shots, killing the man almost instantly. The man was not identified and the farmer was not charged with any crime.^{xxix}

Unfortunately, ER Brandes died in March 1934, at age 55, after a two-year illness. He had an operation the year prior, and never

really recovered. His wife was left to file bankruptcy, having claimed debts of \$9348 and assets of only \$6900.^{xxx}

NEGRO SHOT BY FARMER

After Burglar Alarm Gives Signal
—Body Unidentified.

An unidentified Negro, 40 years old, was shot and killed early yesterday morning by John Schneider, farmer, Second Poole's Road, Campbell County, near the Licking Pike, seven miles south of Newport. After being captured by the farmer in his garage, the Negro attempted to escape and was shot twice. He died almost instantly.

Two weeks ago Schneider's garage was entered and two new tires taken from his machine. Schneider installed a burglar alarm. At 2 o'clock yesterday morning he and his wife were sitting on the porch when they heard the buzzer.

Schneider armed himself with a shotgun and commanded the intruder inside to come out. The Negro replied, "If you don't shoot I will come out." Schneider marched the Negro to his home where Mrs. Schneider called county patrolmen.

While Schneider stood guard the Negro asked permission to sit under a tree 20 feet away, which the farmer granted.

After sitting there a few minutes the Negro said, "I might as well be dead as to have 15 years before me," and sprang to his feet and started to run. Schneider fired twice and the Negro fell.

Chief E. R. Brandes of the Campbell County Police, with Patrolmen William Strauss, Clarence Fitzenberger and James Emmet and Coroner Clarence D. Hughes arrived soon afterward.

Coroner Hughes ordered the body removed to C. E. Jones' undertaking establishment, Covington. It had not been identified late yesterday. The body bore many scars.

COUNTY POLICE

Garbed In Uniforms.

Campbell Chief E. R. Brandes Also
Bringing Service Up To Excellence Of Wearing Apparel.

Six members of the Campbell County Police Department have been garbed in snappy blue uniforms. The members are William Straus, Fred Kraft, James Emmett, Harry Stuart, Frank Crail and Clarence Fitzenberger. Chief E. R. Brandes still wears civilian clothes.

County cruising cars are equipped with police radios, pump guns, gas bombs, fire extinguishers and other modern police devices combatting crime, apprehending criminals and safeguarding the lives and property of taxpayers.

Chief Brandes has fixed a schedule of duty for the county officers which includes the patrolling of the highways of the county day and night. Headquarters have been established in Newport and at Alexandria, the county seat. These headquarters are in the courthouses.

The County Police Department is under the control of the Campbell County Fiscal Court, composed of County Judge Conrad G. Matz and County Commissioners Louis Brandt, Joseph Bohn and Mont Truesdell.



James Wood

James Manning Reed Wood 1934-1936

James Wood was born in Kentucky, November 23, 1894 to parents Robert and Mary Alice. James was named acting Chief upon ER Brandes' death in 1934. He was also the National Treasurer of the United Lutheran Church Brotherhood, and the President of the Kentucky-Tennessee Synod Brotherhood of the Lutheran Church. He was married to Madeline and they had one son, Stanley.^{xxxi}

When Wood came into the Office of the Chief, gambling was still a hot button issue. The Police Force was six Patrolman strong at this time, and had three cruisers. The Officers worked eight hour shifts 24/7 and Chief Wood was known to help out both day and night with patrols. The Chief made a salary of \$2100, with patrolmen receiving \$1800 per year. James was also named to the Executive Committee of the Regional Police Association in 1934.^{xxxii}

1935 was when the first “Annual Report” was found in the newspapers. It showed a busy year for the County Patrol, with the cruisers travelling 67,721 miles. The Department responded to 533 radio calls and answered 194 phone calls. They also made 51 hospital runs that year. They made 97 arrests and investigated 75 automobile accidents. 15 stolen cars were recovered, along with 7 bicycles and 2 taxicabs. Recovered stolen property totaled \$275. The Department also took part in 34 traffic details. The Department at this time also had a Juvenile Division, led by Chief Wood and Mrs. Cain, assistant probation Officer. The juvenile department investigated 3,135 juvenile cases, included delinquency, neglect and failure to provide. Over fifteen hundred juveniles were place on probation and 13 children had to be placed in alternative homes. Seventy children were committed to the County Detention Home in Cold Spring. 275 children were brought before the court by various Campbell County Schools, and placed on probation with weekly reporting.^{xxxiii}

The following year, 1936 showed the Department to be even busier, with numbers climbing in all areas, some almost double! Car thefts were still an issue. Each Patrolman was made to keep a daily diary of his activity, the weather, temperature and road conditions. Chief Wood was adamant that the County Patrol would help out any city in the County if needed.^{xxxiv}

In that year, there were hobos trying to establish “colonies” along the railroad tracks south of Newport. They made shacks of railroad ties, tar paper and sheet iron, and had been blamed for stealing from neighboring hen houses for the chickens and eggs. Chief Wood was made aware, and he, with a squad of patrolmen, ran the “Knights of the Road” off and burned down the shacks.^{xxxv}

Chief Wood also initiated a “Traffic Drive” to enforce all state traffic violations. Violators were charged with improper parking, speeding, careless driving, improper equipment, disregarding stop signs and driving without licenses. This was the result of the rising number of traffic accidents that year. Drivers that were cited had to appear before Judge Buten within 24 hours for their fines.^{xxxvi}

One sad case during Chief Wood’s tour was the case of Scott Gosney. Mr. Gosney had been arrested for breach of peace after threatening to kill his wife in February of 1936. Gosney was a farmer and father of 12 children. While his wife was waiting at the Newport Courthouse for him to appear on the charge, he took his own life with a shotgun in front of two of his young children. They resided in Grant’s Lick.^{xxxvii}

Sometime after 1936, Chief Wood either stepped down or was replaced by his Assistant Chief. It’s unclear, but he was found to be a Probation Officer with the County after that for an unknown amount of time. Chief Wood died on February 3, 1968 at age 73.^{xxxviii}



Edwin Erwin Offenbacher 1936-1937

Edwin Offenbacher was born on November 2, 1896 in Kentucky, to parents William and Anna. He was married to Marie, and had one son (Wilbert) and two daughters (Elsie Marie and Shirley Mae) between 1922 and 1930. He resided in Newport his entire life.^{xxxix}

Edwin was the Assistant Chief to Chief James Woods. Under Woods, in 1934 he was seriously injured when he was struck by a car while investigating a collision. He was “hurled 15 feet to the side of the roadway” on Licking Pike. He had substantial internal injuries and severe bruising. Another Officer with him, Patrolman Livingston, was also brushed and suffered minor bruises.^{xl}

Again in 1935, Offenbacher and Livingston were both injured again, together, when their cruiser overturned three times and went down an embankment on Dodsworth, while responding to a call. It is believed that they were blinded by a heavy downpour. Both Officers were knocked unconscious and suffered bruises and cuts.

Offenbacher sustained several broken ribs. The call turned out to be from a woman that wanted police to remove her husband from a local saloon.^{xli}

Several interesting cases came across Offenbacher's desk during his time as Chief. One such instance was in 1937 when a 14-year-old boy was accidentally shot by a hunter, which happened to be the victim's brother. Unable to find any game to hunt, the boys had set up target practice. While one brother stepped toward the target to see where a bullet had hit, his brother's automatic pistol discharged, shooting the victim in the abdomen. Chief Offenbacher removed the boy to the hospital after Dr. James Stratton examined him on the scene.^{xlii}

In 1937, an aged Flagg Spring farmer was killed by his two-year-old bull, while attempting to drive him in to an adjoining pasture. He was severely gored and trampled by the young bull, after his son had warned him about the bull. 85-year-old Frank Poe was found dead in his field by his son, Earl Poe.^{xliii}

Spooners were still a problem in 1936, with Chief Offenbacher instructing his patrolmen to break up spooning and arrest reckless drivers and speeders. Evidently if you drove with one arm around your beloved, you were a traffic hazard and were to be cited to court.^{xliv}

Chief Offenbacher also instituted an after dark curfew for Silver Grove, Mentor, Melbourne, Brent and Ross. He employed special

police to enforce this rule. This was during the 1937 flood when looting was an issue on the banks of the swollen river.^{xlv}

One of the biggest cases of his career was the \$10,000 robbery of the Beverly Hills Supper Club in 1937 by six gunmen. The owners of the swanky new club had not reported the robbery. It is thought that they had planned to deal with it on their own, and that they could identify the gunmen. They would not cooperate with the police and Chief Offenbacher feared an open gang war over the incident. The Grand Jury opened an investigation into the robbery and was expected to call several witnesses. The outcome of this case was not able to be located in the newspapers.^{xlvi}

Chief Offenbacher also made it a point to improve the safety of the County roads while in office. During his term, traffic injuries and fatalities dropped sharply due to the extra patrol and ticketing done by his department. Only one fatality was reported in 1936, down from four in 1935.^{xlvii}

In 1937, the Police Department began using a car broadcasting system to warn drivers of their driving infractions. Officers were instructed to be courteous to the motoring public while announcing their poor driving. "Cut down your speed to 30 miles per hour, please", "Drive on your own side of the road" and "Don't hog the highway" were popular phrases. With the reconstruction of Alexandria Pike, drivers had gotten careless and the City Police were told they had no jurisdiction on a State Highway. This left the County Patrol to fix the issue and this was one tool that they used at that time.^{xlviii}

It appears that Offenbacher's time in office was cut short when a new County Judge came into office, Judge Bertelsman. The new judge named a new Chief and several other County positions. Chief Offenbacher died in Newport, on June 25, 1967, at age 70. He was

survived by his wife and children. It is unclear if and for how long he remained with the department.^{xlix}

FRIDAY, OCT. 8, 1937.

THE KE

A Voice in the Dark—An Eerie Warning It's Campbell County's Patrol at Work

Highway Broadcasting System Keeps Drivers in Line

"Cut down your speed to 30 miles an hour, please!"
"Drive on your own side of the road. Don't hog the highway!"
"Turn on your dimmers—your bright lights will blind the other fellow!"
"Try driving with both arms, buddy—one-arm driving is dangerous!"
If you are driving your auto over Campbell county roads and you hear one of these warnings, it is the Campbell county road patrol cautioning you against reckless and careless operation of your auto.

Move Toward Education
Judge William G. Buten of Campbell County Court, chief supervisor of the county's road patrol system, has the county patrol cruisers equipped with public address systems through which the warnings are amplified by county patrolmen.

Judge Buten had the road patrol equipped with the address systems in an effort to educate the motoring public against negligent and reckless operation of vehicles and curbing excessive speeding and careless driving.

Edwin Offenbacher, chief of the county patrol, and six county patrolmen are on duty 24 hours a day with two patrolmen assigned to each of the three-eight-hour shifts.

"Be Courteous"

"I have instructed the county patrolmen to be courteous in every respect with the motoring public," Judge Buten said. "The patrolmen are warning the motorists now against speeding and reckless driving in an effort to educate the motorists and curb recklessness."

"The patrolmen are maintaining a record of license tags of autoists violating the various traffic regulations. Should the motorists again violate the speed law or any other regulation he will be cited to court," Judge Buten added.

Chief Offenbacher said the practice of speeding and reckless driving on the county roadways has been lessened considerably.

"A Speedway"

With the reconstruction of Alexandria pike from the Mouth street underpass of Ft.



Winston Berry, county patrolman . . . startles 'em

RANKIN, HENNESSEY WIN SCHOOL HONOR

Special to The Post.
RICHMOND, KY., Oct. 8.—Otwell Rankin, son of G. C. Rankin, of 600 Greenup street, Covington, a senior at Eastern State Teachers College, has been elected vice president of the senior class.
Since his enrollment at Eastern three years ago, Rankin has taken an active part in extra-curricular activities. During his freshman and sophomore years, he served as president of his class. He is a member of the Maroon basketball squad, of the "E" Club, the Northern Kentucky Club and the Sigma Psi Pi, an organization of commerce major and minors.

He is at present sports editor of the school paper and has served on the editorial staff of the college annual several years.
James Hennessey, of 308 Fourth avenue, Dayton, has been elected vice president of the sophomore class. Since his enrollment at Eastern last fall he has taken an active part in the minor sports.

TOBACCO GROWERS TO ADD LIVESTOCK

Farmers from 14 counties, attending a planning conference at Elkton,

CYNTHIANA CITY CANDIDATES FILE

Special to The Post.
CYNTHIANA, KY., Oct. 8.—Seven city commission candidates filed before the deadline in the offices of the county clerk for the primary election Oct. 16.
They are: W. A. Gossett, James Smith, Charles Robinson, incumbents; Fred Taylor, James Reno, Joseph Costello, Harry Taylor and W. C. Endicott.
Others to file were Sterling Owen and John Cromwell for mayor, and Richard Clary and William Neal for police judge.

FARMERS IN MASON DUE TO GET \$30,000

Special to The Post.
MAYSVILLE, KY., Oct. 8.—Unless Mason county farmers take advantage of a federal soil conservation allotment, \$30,000 of a \$75,000 grant will be forfeited, County Agent Jesse L. Collins announced today.
Approximately \$45,000 has been used thus far. The closing date to apply for the remainder is Oct. 31.
The money can be used for grass seed on plowed or old pasture or meadow fields, it was said.

POLICE TO PATROL SMALL TOWNS HERE

After Dark Curfew Order Is- sued by County Chief

If you can't give a satisfactory reason for being on the streets of Silver Grove, Melbourne, Ross, Brent or Mentor after dark its a 10-to-1 shot you'll land in the cooler.

Chief Edwin Offenbacher, head of the Campbell county police, has employed special police to see that no one appears on the street when the sun goes down while the tide is in.

"If you enter our restricted flood area," Chief Offenbacher declared as he toyed with his pistol, "you might get yourself perforated."

SWEETHEARTS WARNED

Although the young man's fancy turns to love with the advent of spring, the one-armed drivers and spooners had better take warning.

Autoists who steer their cars with one hand while the other cuddles a sweetheart, and spooners who park on country roadways are traffic hazards and will be cited to court. Edward Offenbacher, Campbell county police chief, warned today.

Chief Offenbacher has instructed county patrolmen to break up spooning and also arrest speeders and reckless drivers.

New County Officers in Campbell and Kenton



Meet the new Campbell county road patrol. The new road patrol members, na ty in their blue uniforms, were sworn in today by County Judge Odis W. Bertelsma. They are: Seated, left to right, Oscar Wells, Chief Len Plummer and Gus Utendorfer. Standing, left to right, George Benz, Harry Stuart, Robert Rickels and Jake Racke.

JAN. - 3 - 38



Julius Leonard Plummer Jr. 1938-1944

On January 1, 1938, the newly elected County Judge, Odis Bertelsman, named several new people to various County Positions. Among the new appointments was J. Len Plummer to Chief of the Campbell County Patrol. J. Len had previously been a patrolman and was the son of a former Campbell County Sheriff, Julius Plummer. Sheriff Plummer was widely known as the Sheriff that found the clue that led to the identification of Pearl Bryant in the Pearl Bryant murder case. Sheriff Plummer was killed in the line of duty in a motor vehicle accident at age 57 on October 27, 1917. He never got to see his son named Chief. Prior to his law enforcement career, J. Len was also a salesman for the Eureka Fire Hose Company in Georgia and member of the Elks, James

Wallace Costigan Post, American Legion and the Shrine in Georgia.

J. Len was born on April 13, 1886 to parents Julius and Carrie. He married wife Helen in 1920 with no known children. From what I can gather, J. Len had seven siblings.ⁱ

Chief Plummer came into office with gambling again being the top headline in this area. The Chief and his patrol were tasked with locating illegal gambling devices, such as slot machines at local businesses and homes. You can imagine this was not a popular job to have at the time. There was also a war of sorts going on between local night clubs, with an explosion destroying a bridge to the Beverly Hills Country Club in 1938. In that same year, Campbell County citizens were told that a “dry era” would start, meaning that local establishments were prohibited from selling alcohol from midnight Saturday until 8 a.m. Monday morning. Although unpopular, the new Chief vowed to enforce the new law in local cafes.ⁱⁱ

In January 1938, Chief Plummer investigated a murder at a café in California owned by Lawrence Painter. A patron of the café allegedly refused to pay for his drink, an argument ensued, ending with 17-year-old brother of the owner, Earl Painter, hurling a rock at the patron, striking him in the head. The victim, 37-year-old Henry Burns, was taken to Speers Hospital, where he died from a skull fracture. The suspect was arraigned the next day. Outcome of this case was unknown.ⁱⁱⁱ

In 1939, the Beverly Hill Club was again robbed, this time of \$21,000. Although the main suspect was caught, a dragnet was set up across the county to apprehend his accomplice. Crime was prevalent around the clubs during this time period. In 1943, Chief Plummer went on record to say that “gamblers and undesirables

would not be allowed to set up shop in the County.” It proved to be a tough job.^{liii}

In 1943, Chief Plummer got himself and a few of his Officers into hot water regarding some seized slot machines. There was a raid in which allegedly the department confiscated 41 slot machines and other articles from the Beverly Hills Club. The equipment was taken to Newport Police, but somehow seemed to have disappeared overnight. A Judge demanded their return, but Chief Plummer stood by his statement that they were there when he left and he had no knowledge of their whereabouts. The Judge and the Club owner were then held in contempt of court for not producing the slot machines. Officers Benz and Rickles were also questioned, as they were assigned to guard the club at the time of the early morning raid. During this, they claimed to have been “locked out” of the establishment and had no knowledge of where the equipment ended up. The entire incident led to Chief Plummer and two Officers being removed by the County Judge in 1944. The Officers were Harry Stuart and Oscar Wells. I couldn’t determine the reasoning, but I’m sure this event had a large part in the Judge’s decision.^{liv}

In 1948, Chief Plummer suffered a heart attack after a Christmas Eve visit to the Newport Elks Lodge. He had not been feeling well, and told his wife, who then called the Fort Thomas Life Squad. Chief Plummer died before they arrived. He was 62 years old.^{lv}



George Thomas Benz 1944-1948

George Thomas Benz was born on March 12, 1887 in Cincinnati, Ohio to parents Joseph and Katherine. He had one brother and four sisters. It appears he spent most of his life in Bellevue, Kentucky. George had no children and was married to Josephine.^{lvi}

Benz was an active worker for the Bellevue Sacred Heart Church and a member of the Bellevue Eagles. He had also worked as a lineman for the telephone company and was a prior Chief of the Auxiliary Police Unit of Bellevue's Civil Defense.

Benz was selected to succeed J. Len Plummer as Chief in November of 1944. Benz had been a County Patrolman since 1938. Judge Bertelsman had removed Chief Plummer from his position, leading two other patrolmen to resign at that time, Rickles and Sweeny. Harry Stuart and Oscar Wells were also ousted by the Judge. This shakeup caused quite the ruckus at the time between the County Judge and the Police Department. Evidently, Benz and Officer Racke were the only members of the Police force that were

not affected. There was no explanation given for the Judge's decision.^{lvii}

WHY THREE OF THE CAMPBELL COUNTY POLICE WERE DISCHARGED AND TWO RESIGNED FROM THE CAMPBELL COUNTY POLICE FORCE

Due to the fact that I have heard rumors in regard to why three police were discharged and two resigned from the Campbell County Police Force, I feel it is only fair that the public should know the truth about the matter, and, therefore, I make the following statement:

I, J. L. Plummer, state that during the month of October, 1944, "Uncle Teddy" (Theodore W. Bertelsman) told me that he was going to allow the return of slot machines, and that if I would not interfere, there would be \$200.00 per month in it for me. I then told him that as long as I was Chief of the County Police there will be no slot machines in the County.

**He then said: "Maybe you
won't be Chief very long."**

I called a meeting of the Campbell County Police. All members appeared, and I informed them of what "Uncle Teddy" told me and the answer I gave to his proposal. GEORGE BENZ, one of the County Police, suggested that they back up the Chief and all resign if he should be discharged. This was agreed to by all, and they shook hands with me on the agreement.

On November 8, 1944, Teddy's nephew (Judge Bertelsman) telephoned me and said that he wanted to see me, Harry Stuart and Oscar Wells the next morning at 9:30 a. m. and that he would expect me to see to it that the other two policemen were present. I told him that they would be there.

The three of us met in the Judge's office at the time stated.

**The Judge opened the conversation by
stating that he would rather send a tele-
gram to the Governor resigning his office
than do what he had to do that morning.**

He then asked the three of us to resign and said, if we did not resign, he would have to discharge us. We asked him, "What is this all about," and he replied, "If you don't resign, I am going to have to discharge you." We asked him to call Teddy in and he replied, "Leave Teddy out of this." The Judge then produced orders, which had been prepared and signed in advance removing the three of us from the County Police Force.

Robert Rickels and Walter H. Sweeney, County Policemen, appeared in the office, and learning that the Judge had removed the three of us, they kept their agreement by at once tendering their resignations in protest to our dismissal.

The other two County Policemen, George Benz and Jacob Racke, did not resign.

J. L. PLUMMER,
Former Chief
Campbell County Police.

These policemen were entitled to have charges preferred and a public hearing thereon, but Odie W. Bertelsman, County Judge, without any hearing, caused an order to be entered on the County records which reads as follows:

Order Book 35, Page 63.

Campbell County Court,
Hon. Odie W. Bertelsman, Judge Presiding,
Regular Term, November 9, 1944.

Commonwealth of Kentucky

vs.
J. L. Plummer.

Order

This cause coming on for hearing this day, and the defendant, J. L. Plummer, being before this Court charged with improper conduct as a member of the police force of Campbell County, and,

The Court having heard the evidence and being informed,

It is adjudged that the defendant, J. L. Plummer, is guilty of improper conduct as a member of the police force of Campbell County.

It is further adjudged that said J. L. Plummer be and he is now removed from the police force of Campbell County and that all rights and powers heretofore vested in him as a member of said police force be and they are now terminated.

By similar separate orders each of the other two members of the County Police Force was removed at the same time.

Issued by Campaign Committee for

MARTIN C. KIRCHOFF FOR COUNTY JUDGE

(Pol. Adv.)

Several items of interest were found during the four years while Chief Benz was in Office. By this time, the newspapers reported more often on different crimes.

In June of 1944, Chief Benz and Officer Walter Sweeny found a 19-year-old girl at the corner of Dodsworth and River Road, in Brent. The girl claimed that she and her friends had met four men in Cincinnati and accepted a ride to Kentucky from them. They ended up at a café on Four Mile Pike, where they purchased two jugs of beer and proceeded to the home of Tracy and Jess Hardy on Duck Creek Road. The girls claimed that they were threatened at gunpoint and one girl was taken to a parked car where she was subsequently raped. Although an empty revolver was found on one of the suspects, all involved parties were arrested and transported to Newport, and charged with Breach of the Peace (\$500 bonds each). Under questioning from the Campbell County Attorney, Albert Keeler, the girls admitted to drinking heavily. Since the victim's story could not be substantiated, they arrested them all, with no rape charges.^{lviii}

In May 1945, Chief Benz had received many complaints about drivers passing school buses on Campbell County roads. He announced that any drivers that were caught doing so would be arrested. The law required that the driver of any vehicle on a highway, or meeting or overtaking a school bus which has stopped, shall come to a complete stop and then proceed with caution.^{lix}

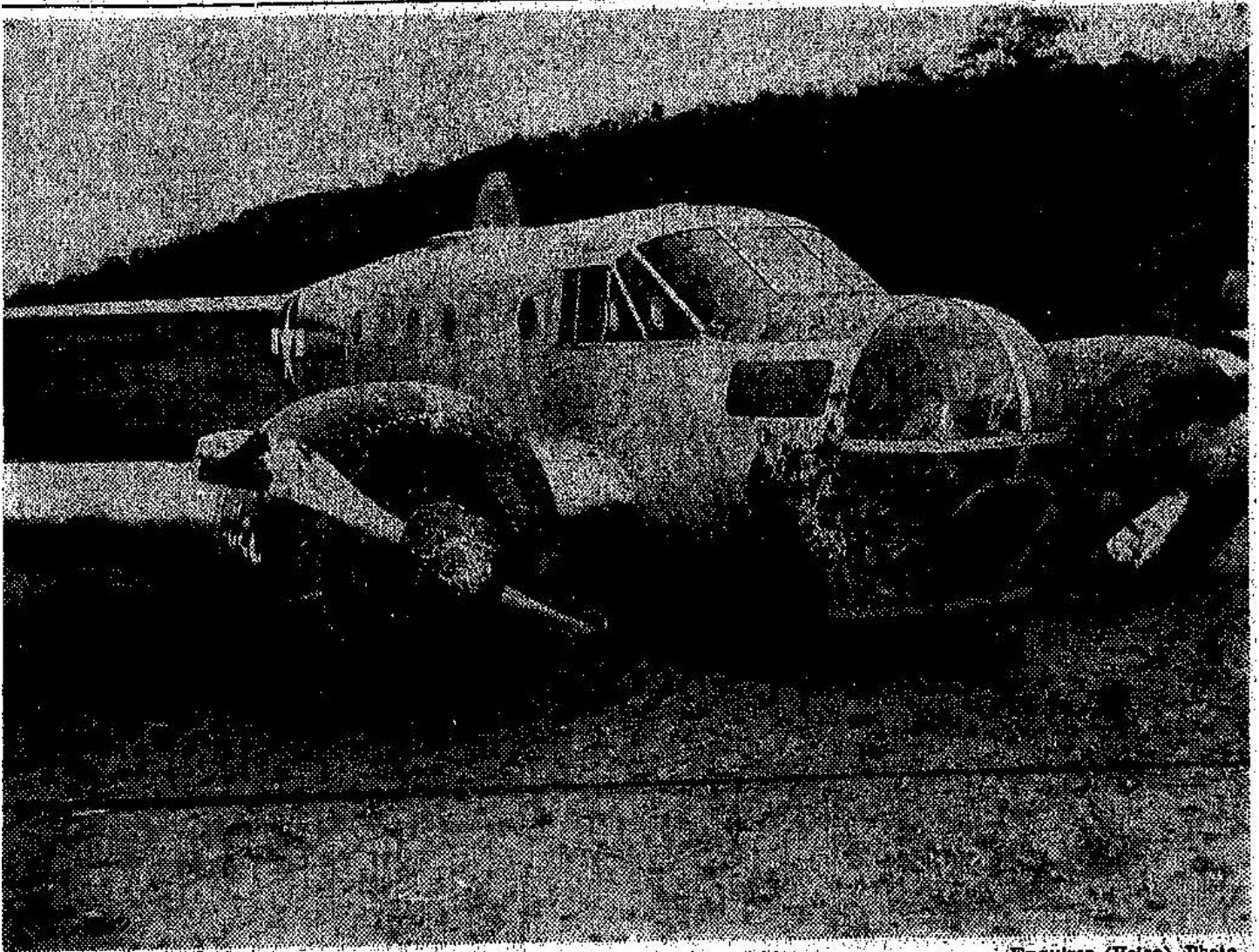
In November 1945, a 16-year-old Melbourne boy was arrested after being apprehended in Tennessee. The boy, Elmer Lee Delk, started his criminal career at age 10, which culminated with the murder of his neighbor on Lower Eight Mile Road, Edward Heuver, sixty-three years old. Heuver was a bachelor recluse and was found dead in his kitchen, two doors down from where Delk resided. He then stole the victim's car and gun and headed south.

Tennessee Highway Patrol found him in Nashville, where he led them on a short chase, wrecking the car and sustaining head and face injuries. He had another suspect with him at the time, but he had no knowledge of the crime and was released shortly afterwards. No motive for the murder was reported.^{lx}

In December 1945, the Cincinnati Enquirer reported on a drunk driving collision on “Inglis” Road. This would have been Mary Ingles Highway as we know it. George Christofield, 23, was driving drunk with two female passengers when his tire blew out and the steering gear locked up. The car rolled over several times and went 250 feet off the roadway, almost ending up in the river. Chief Benz said had the car not stopped where it did, the occupants would have surely drowned in the river. The driver was charged with operating an automobile without a license, as well as unreasonable and improper driving while under the influence.^{lxi}

In May 1946, there was some excitement at Martz’s Grove in Ross, when a U.S. Army advanced training bomber plane had to make a forced landing. The plane was on a routine mission flight from Memphis to Cleveland with four occupants. The plane came to rest, covered in mud with bent propellers, after losing both engines and its landing gear. Jake Martz, County Commissioner, Chief Benz and Officers Racke and Gegan were nearby and helped the occupants crawl out to safety. They were attempting to land at Lunken Airport, but did not have radio contact when the plane fell.^{lxii}

OCCUPANTS ESCAPE AS PLANE CRASHES



—Enquirer (Heise) Photo.

Mud-spattered, its props bent, this Army trainer-bomber lay at Martz's Grove, Ross, Ky., yesterday, while three of its occupants congratulated the fourth, 1st Lt. Ronald Carver, 21, Golden, Colo., on making a landing that brought them out uninjured. Lieutenant Carver had to make a skip and belly-slide landing, less dangerous than an attempt for a wheeled landing with only 2,100 feet of clear field.

August of 1946 brought a sad story of an accidental shooting in Campbell County. A jury found Arthur Pelle, 14, had accidentally shot to death Mentor Morgan, 45, of Butler. The boys, Arthur and his brother Jack, 13, had been hunting when the elder boy shot at "something red". The red object was later found to be a red sack

that Morgan was using to collect roots and herbs. He had been shot in the face and chest.^{lxiii}

Another sad case that month included the disappearance of father and son, William and Clarence. Their rowboat capsized on the Ohio River near Fort Thomas. The pair had borrowed a boat to go fishing, when only a half hour later, passerby's noticed the boat floating bottom up. Oars and a pair of shoes from 19-year-old Clarence were found as well. Friends and relatives, the Coast Guard and Chief Benz all searched the river, but the bodies were not found.^{lxiv}

In 1947, articles were found about raids on gaming places in Newport. Campbell Count Patrolman helped in those raids, along with Newport. Gambling was still a problem they all fought, even into the 1940's. In one such raid, under the direction of Chief Benz, Officers Gegan, Matthews and Grizzom raided two resorts in Newport and confiscated gambling equipment and cash. The resorts were "The Yorkshire" and "The Mecca". It was said that the operators of several larger gambling casinos were planning to start operations on a larger scale, but this raid caused them to abandon their plans.^{lxv}

In November 1947, the Ohio River claimed another victim when Chief Benz reported that the body of George Lynch, 37, was found near the ferry route between Coney Island and Brent. Lynch and another man were employed on a dredge laying mains across the river when they decided to go ashore on a smaller boat. The body of the other man, Robert Mayes, was not found.^{lxvi}

In May 1948, a former Sergeant for the Kentucky Highway Police, Melvin Huff, was shot to death by William Vaught. Chief Benz reported the charges to be "malicious shooting with intent to kill". Vaught had evidently hidden in the back of a car while Huff drove

Vaught's estranged wife Annabelle to the White Star Tavern in Cold Spring. When they arrived, a fight ensued inside the car, with Vaught shooting Huff in the back as he tried to escape down a flight of stairs at the tavern. Huff's wife, Mabel, had previously sued Annabelle for "alienation of affections" after finding out about her husband's affair with Annabelle Vaught. Annabelle suffered a nervous breakdown as a result of the shooting.^{lxvii}

September 20, 1948 proved to be a fateful day for Chief Benz, and Campbell County Juvenile Probation Officer, Gus Utendorfer. While on duty, Chief Benz and Officer Utendorfer were returning from transporting a juvenile to the Greendale House of Reform near Lexington. While traveling along Kentucky State Route 17 in Nicholson, their automobile skidded off the roadway for an unknown reason. Chief Benz attempted to right the vehicle, but it skidded on two wheels on the wrong side of the road for more than 75 feet, sideways, into a large milk truck driven by Robert Vater of the L.P. Vastine Dairy. The Chief's car was demolished and the pair was taken to St. Elizabeth Hospital in Covington. Chief Benz was dead at the scene and pronounced dead on arrival of a broken neck, head injuries and a compound fracture of the right ankle. Gus died 30 minutes after Chief Benz around 4:00 p.m. He had suffered a fractured skull and several internal injuries. Gus was survived by his wife and two children. Benz left behind his wife and three sisters.

Both Officers were highly respected both in and out of Campbell County. Both had been named County Patrolmen in 1938, with George later promoted to Chief and Gus promoted to Juvenile Probation Officer. Judge Bertelsman was quoted as saying "They were men and Officers of the highest integrity and their death is a severe loss to all of Campbell County, as well as a personal loss to me."

We were not aware of this on duty death until we received a letter from a researcher in Albany, Kentucky, asking us to place Chief Benz's name on the National Memorial Wall. After many months of research and planning, Chief Benz was placed on the National Police Memorial Wall in Washington, D.C. in 2020. Due to the Covid-19 Pandemic, the service was virtual, but we were able to provide his surviving family members with a plaque from the monument and a virtual viewing of the candlelight vigil. Chief Benz will be placed on the Covington Memorial in the spring of 2022, as well as the DOCJT Memorial in Richmond. He is the only line of duty death recorded for a Campbell County Officer thus far. The death of Chief Benz inspired the researching of the history of the Police Department, leading us down a more than three-year path to record the last 100 years.



August Utendorfer

1881-1948

County Patrolman and Juvenile
Probation Officer. Served as a
Police Officer for 17 ½ years.

Benz was 61 and August was 67 at the time of their deaths.

I was able to find out some additional information about both August and George through the newspapers. Prior to his career in law enforcement, Benz was working as a “trouble man” for the phone company. He was at one point elevated to “wire chief”. By 1930, he was working as a building supply salesman, as well as being a Bellevue City Councilman. In 1937, when Bertelsman defeated incumbent Judge Buten, Bertelsman decided the entire police force needed replacing. This is how Chief Benz was appointed. Chief Benz was also an avid bowler, one of his favorite teams being named “Justice and Truth”.

August Utendorfer was a first-generation German, born in 1881 to Gustave and Caroline. His wife’s name was Helena. He had been employed as an apprentice machinist in 1900, as well as a taxi driver in 1918. He and his wife had three daughters, Helen, Ruth and Vera Mae. Sadly, Helen drowned in the Ohio River while being taught how to swim by her uncle. He nearly drowned trying to save her. Helen was 13 years old at the time of her death. In April of 1931, then Sheriff Bertelsman appointed Gus to Deputy Sheriff to replace recently deceased Jacob Matz. For several years, he served as Deputy Sheriff, serving warrants, participating in raids on gambling and alcoholic establishments, and possibly as spokesperson for the Sheriff’s Office. Gus was one of the Officers transferred from the Sheriff’s Office to Campbell County Police Department when Bertelsman became County Judge in 1938. In 1942, he was transferred again to position of Campbell County Juvenile Probation Officer. I have not yet been able to ascertain if this was in fact a sworn position. If I can prove that he was, then we can have him added to the National Memorial as well. Note of interest, August’s daughter Ruth, married Carl Luhn, who was integral in designing the early police radio system for Cincinnati Police. Vera Mae, the third daughter, married Wilbert Simpson, who

was a Campbell County Police Department Officer and Newport Motorcycle Patrolman. Vera Mae and Wilbert's son, Thomas, followed in his father and grandfather's footsteps, becoming a Campbell County Patrolman in 1963. Unfortunately, a year later, he died like his grandfather in an automobile accident, when the driver of the car he was in ran into a truck in Indiana. He was killed instantly.

What became of the juvenile that they were transporting? Hubert Courtney, having turned 18, was released from the Greendale House of Reform in 1950. It didn't take him long to get in trouble again, committing a robbery in Campbell County. He was sentenced to two more years in adult prison. In 1957 he was arrested again in Chicago for auto theft. It was said that he had a chest tattoo that read "Crime Doesn't Pay". On September 21, 1958, almost 10 years to the day of Benz and Utendorfer's deaths, while being held in Newport on federal charges for breaking and entering, he escaped, only to recaptured in Cincinnati in 1959, according to an account in the Cincinnati Enquirer.^{lxviii}

**I would like to say a special "Thank you" to Officer Ashley Tate, Campbell County Police Department, for all of his hard work on this portion of our history. He did a huge amount of researching, emailing, locating surviving family members and calling contacts to not only find out the story of Benz and Utendorfer, but to also get Chief Benz added to the various Police Memorials.*

TODAY'S WEATHER

CINCINNATI AND VICINITY: Cloudy. And Cooler. With Scattered Showers. Low 67. High 80.

THE CINCINNATI ENQUIRER

FINAL EDITION

108th YEAR NO. 165—DAILY

TUESDAY MORNING, SEPTEMBER 21, 1948

28 PAGES

Printed at circulation center 402 S. 117th St. at Post Office, Cincinnati, Ohio, 45201.

FIVE CENTS

DEWEY VOICES AIM: TO UNITE U. S. IN CAUSE OF PEACE CAMPBELL COUNTY OFFICERS KILLED IN COLLISION

POLICE CHIEF Is Crash Victim, Juvenile Aid Succumbs 30 Minutes Later

Tragedy Occurs When Auto Strikes Big Milk Truck On Kenton Highway.

George T. Benz, 61, Campbell County Police Chief was killed and August Uendorfer, 67, Campbell County Juvenile Probation Officer, died 30 minutes later at St. Elizabeth Hospital, Covington, late yesterday after the automobile in which they were riding collided with a large milk truck on Ky. 14 near Nicholas, Ky.

The two victims were returning from the Greenleaf House of Reform after taking a Campbell County Juvenile Detention party, obtained by Kenton County police who investigated the accident, indicated that Benz was driving the car when the accident occurred.

Kenton County police said the milk truck was driven by Robert Wilson Vatter, 20, R. 1, Butler, Ky., and that the truck was owned by L. E. Vastine, Butler, dayman.

SKIDDED ON TWO WHEELS. Vatter told Kenton County police that the death car crashed into the truck broadside after it had skidded on two wheels on the wrong side of the highway.

Police ascertained that Benz apparently lost control of the car, skidded off the highway, and hit the milk truck. Vatter, police said, suffered only minor injuries and shock. He was cited on a technical charge of non-attendance by Kenton County police. The police chief's car was demolished. A private ambulance took the victims to St. Elizabeth Hospital.

DIES AT HOSPITAL

Benz was pronounced dead on arrival. Uendorfer died in the emergency operating room. Benz suffered a broken neck and internal injuries and Uendorfer a possible skull fracture and internal injuries.

Chief Benz was appointed a Campbell County patrolman in 1938 by Judge O.H. W. Bergmann of Campbell County Court. He received the Chief's appointment in 1944. He lived at 215 Division St., Bellevue.

Uendorfer lived at 408 E. Fifth St., Newport. He was appointed a Campbell County Probation Officer in 1945 by Judge Bergmann.

Mrs. Treasa Riffe, Kenton County Coroner, returned a verdict of accidental death.

DIE IN ACCIDENT



GEORGE T. BENZ



AUGUST UENDORFER

UN SESSION

Will Open Today

In Paris As Tension Overspreads World.

Reds' Berlin Blockade May Be Debated—Molotov Is Among Absentees.

PARIS, Sept. 20—(AP)—The United Nations General Assembly opens a fateful session tomorrow before a world worried over East-West tensions in Berlin and unrest and assassinations in Palestine.

The issue of enforcing peace in the Holy Land—drastically pointed up by the murder of Count Folke Bernadotte—stands high on the crowded calendar of the 50-nation "World Parliament."

On the eve of the third annual session, there was a possibility that the Berlin blockade with its far-reaching complications in the West—West tug-of-war—also would be thrown before the assembly for full debate.

Even as the 53 delegates waited for the opening gavel, the Foreign Ministers of the United States, Britain and France met in the French Foreign Office to review the German situation.

A standstill absence among the world's leaders was V. M. Molotov, Soviet Foreign Minister, who remained in Moscow, and Andrei Y. Vishinsky, Deputy Foreign Minister. There were no indications whether Molotov would come later.

President Vincent Auriol of France will officially welcome the delegates tomorrow afternoon at the opening of the session, expected to run three months. The first

HURRICANE

Smashes At Cuba,

With Florida Coast In Path Of Storm.

Blow Is Expected In Miami About Mid-Morning—Red Cross Prepares.

MIAMI, Fla., Sept. 20—(AP)—Winds up to 55 miles an hour raked the Florida Keys tonight as a "mighty midget" hurricane swept across waters Cuba and aimed at the Florida East Coast.

The tropical storm, with winds in the center over 100 miles an hour, already has struck the southern Cuban coast. It was sweeping over the marshlands and buffeting Havana with 45-mile-an-hour winds.

In a bulletin issued at 6:30 p. m. (Eastern Standard Time), the Weather Bureau headed the storm 40 to 50 miles southeast of the Cuban capital. It predicted the hurricane would surge across the Florida straits within the next two or three hours.

It was expected to strike the Greater Miami area about mid-morning tomorrow.

Winds were expected to increase through the Keys and as far north as Miami during the night, searching hurricane force in Miami early in the morning.

Hurricane flags were ordered up just a year after the "Gold Coast" began picking up the pieces from another hurricane which took a toll of at least 20 lives and left nearly \$40,000,000 damage in its wake.

Envoys Called In For Paris Huddle On Berlin Muddle

MOSCOW TALKS END

U. S. Would Go To UN But Step Is Opposed By Britain, France

PARIS, Sept. 20—(AP)—The Western Powers tonight called a halt to Moscow negotiations and set up strategy headquarters here in their row with Russia over the future of Berlin.

The American, British and French Foreign Ministers immediately plunged into a series of high policy conferences to decide their next move in the struggle which has kept the former German capital under duress conditions for three months.

All three nations recalled their top advisers from Moscow and Berlin to sit in on the talks. George C. Marshall, Secretary of State, Ernest Bevin, British Foreign Secretary, and Robert Schuman, French Foreign Minister, met for an hour in an opening conference at the French Foreign Ministry. Another meeting was set for tomorrow.

A spokesman for the French Foreign Ministry described today's session as one to establish contacts among the respective staffs looking toward discussion of issues which divided Russia and the Western Powers in the two-month secret Moscow negotiations.

The Foreign Ministers are here for the meeting of the United Nations General Assembly tomorrow. However, V. M. Molotov, Soviet Foreign Minister, did not come, sending Andrei Y. Vishinsky, Deputy, to head the Russian delegation.

TRIO AWAIT ENVOYS

Top-level official opinion here was that a decision would emerge from the three-power talks on whether the Western Powers would continue the secret exchanges with Russia over Berlin or toss the whole issue to the UN.

A British official close to Berlin said the decision probably would not be reached until the Foreign Ministers had a chance to talk with their Moscow envoys.

Walter Bedell Smith, U. S. Ambassador, and Frank Roberts, British special envoy, have announced plans to leave Moscow tomorrow for Paris. The French spokesman said Yves Chateignat, also would come.

Marshall was accompanied to the first session by John Foster Dulles, Republican foreign policy leader, and a delegate to the Assembly, Lewis Douglas, American Ambassador in London, who has been directing much of the field work in the Moscow negotiations; Charles E. Bohlen, State Department adviser on Russian affairs; and Jefferson Caffery, Ambassador to France.

The Western envoys were understood to have asked Molotov last week to reinstate Marshal Vassily Sokolovsky as to the terms of an agreed head directive for a Berlin settlement. The directive has been referred to the four military governments to be translated into a detailed understanding.

U. S. FOR UN MOVE

The Western envoys were said to have told Molotov that Sokolovsky had departed greatly from those terms. Authoritative sources here said Molotov did not say yes and did not say no when he saw the envoys Saturday.

One official said the Western envoys were left with the impression that they were being swung along.

The Western Powers were reported further to feel that

BIG PROJECTS

In West Visioned

By Truman If Election Favors Democrats.

President Tells Denverites That GOP Is Trying To Sabotage Program.

DENVER, Sept. 20—(AP)—President Truman today promised "great new developments" for the West if the voters pick "Democratic re-juvenation of the people" over "Republican puppets of big business."

Boiling into Denver a day ahead of Gov. Thomas E. Dewey, Mr. Truman called his Republican opposition "savage agents of the big business lobbies" who are trying to "sabotage" the West.

The President made his first major campaign speech in the Far West from the steps leading up to the State Capitol. A bright sun flooded down from a cloudless sky on a crowd estimated at 25,000 to 30,000.

Mr. Truman told the whooping audience the right choice in this year's "fateful election" would mean that "you can foresee great new developments of your agriculture, your industry and your commerce."

Party leaders had told him he has "a fighting chance" to carry Colorado.

TO TURN CLOCK BACK!

If the national election goes against him and his party, Mr. Truman predicted that reactionary elements he said are backing the GOP "will try to turn back the clock in the day when the West was an economic colony of Wall Street."

Truman denounced again a theme that he said the Republicans, just as he did in campaign appearances before labor in Detroit and farmers in Iowa.

So he appealed to the people of the West to join him in fighting what he called "reactionary sabotage of the West."

"Billions of dollars that Wall Street is pouring into the treasury of the Republican party."

"For my part," Mr. Truman said, "I am convinced that rapid and sound industrial development in the West will make a vital contribution to the living standards and well being, not only of the people of the West, but of the entire nation."

SECOND BIG SPEECH

It was the second big prepared-in-advance speech of a 4,500-mile campaign tour. And it was speed between several informal talks, and

Aged Man Dangles

From Rail Trestle

Victim Found Hanging By Heels And Unconscious, With Legs Broken

His neck caught between ties and his legs broken, a 60-year-old man was found hanging head down late yesterday afternoon from a 75-foot high Chesapeake & Ohio Railroad trestle over Covert Run Pike, Bellevue.

The victim, Martin Heresch, who lives along the C. & O. tracks in Bellevue, was taken to Spessers Hospital, Dayton. Physicians amputated the right leg early last night while Heresch still was unconscious from his injuries and loss of blood. Late last night the elderly man still was unconscious and in critical condition.

After hurried private notified Bellevue police and firemen that a man was dangling from the trestle, Assistant Fire Chief Gus Zisch and Patrolman Paul Callahan rescued Heresch by throwing a rope around his shoulders and pulling him back up to the apex.

It was not determined how long Heresch had been suspended under the trestle or how the accident occurred. Police expressed the belief that Heresch stumbled, fell backward and was caught by his heels.

It was not determined how long Heresch had been suspended under the trestle or how the accident occurred. Police expressed the belief that Heresch stumbled, fell backward and was caught by his heels.

BLONDE MUM

At Spy Inquiry.

Louise Bransten, At Closed Session,

Identified As Mrs. Berman, Also—Statement Asserts Charge Is "Infamous."

WASHINGTON, Sept. 20—(AP)—Mrs. Louise Bransten Berman, blond heiress killed as a one-time associate of Soviet agents, refused today to answer questions in the Congressional investigation of atomic spies.

The slender and attractive 36-year-old witness had next to nothing to say—to reporters or to a House Un-American activities subcommittee—beyond a formal statement. That statement denied any "wrongful activities" and accused the House Committee of an "infamous act" in linking her name with its inquiry.

Rep. John McDowell, Republican, Pennsylvania, told reporters that in an hour and half of questioning by

CANDIDATE

Calm In Promise

Of "Biggest Untangling Operation In History."

New Yorker Opens Campaign At Des Moines, Pledging "Principle, Teamwork"

BY GLENN THOMPSON (Staff Correspondent)

Des Moines, Iowa, Sept. 20—(Special)—Gov. Thomas E. Dewey, opening his campaign for President here tonight, declared his campaign would untangle, not divide, the American people and unite them in the cause of world peace.

Dewey also pledged that "on next January 20, there will begin in Washington the biggest untangling, unmanaging, untangling operation in our nation's history."

As for unity, he hung this warning to the world: "And to all those in this country or abroad who hate freedom as well as to our friends everywhere who love freedom and look to us for aid and leadership, let me make this very clear: So far as I am concerned—so far as the Republican party is concerned, this campaign will not create divisions among our people. Instead it will unite us as we have never been united before to build our nation so strongly that no force will again attack us and to labor unceasingly to find common grounds of firm and peaceful agreement with all nations."

CALM AND CONFIDENT

Five thousand persons packed into Drake University's football stadium to hear him, and another 10,000 listened to loudspeakers in the adjoining stadium, where the speech was scheduled until rain threatened. They heard the speech of a calm and confident man. He didn't get down in the dirt to wrestle with President Truman, who had blasted at "Republican gluttons of privilege" two days ago in nearby Dexter, Iowa.

The speech was that of a man who expects to be President and talked as such.

And, despite its conversational tone and pure simplicity, they interrupted him frequently with cheers—loud for his promise of the "unmanaging" in Washington.

For that administration he also pledged: "That, as President, every act of mine will be determined by one principle above all others: It is this good for our country?"

"That my administration will be made up of men and women devoted to that same principle. Of men and women whose love of their country comes ahead of every other consideration. They will know how



Jacob Frank Racke 1948-1950

Jacob Racke was born August 15, 1893 in Alexandria, Kentucky to parents John and Margaret. He was married to Margaret Bachman and had two sons, William and Chester. I found at least ten siblings of Jacob's. Jacob was a lifelong resident of Alexandria, a Campbell County Deputy Sheriff, Campbell County Police Department Officer and Campbell County Police Chief. He was with the Sheriff's Office for 16 years and the Campbell County Police for 12 years, serving two of those years as Chief. Racke was a member of the American Legion, Jr. OUAM of Grant's Lick, Fraternal Order of Police, and Campbell County Republican Club.^{lxix}

There wasn't a lot of information readily available about Chief Racke in the newspapers. I did find several photographs of him both before and during his career in law enforcement. Racke was appointed as Chief by Judge Bertelsman, upon Chief Benz'

untimely death. At this time, Richard Gegan was also named as Assistant Chief. As my research continued, Gegan was called upon many times as Assistant or Acting Chief throughout his career. Racke was the department's oldest member at the time of his appointment at age 55.^{lxx}

I did find some interesting articles in the Cincinnati Enquirer regarding some crimes he dealt with. One such crime was in November of 1948. It was reported as a "minor crime wave", including the burglary of a school, the attempted robbery from a chicken house, and the attempted robbery of a water main. From the school, the thieves stole a 300-pound safe containing \$250 in cash, \$120 worth of bus tickets as well as meats and canned goods totaling \$100 from the Cold Spring Public School.^{lxxi}

Two brothers were caught by farmer Louis Haubner near his chicken coop. He had constructed his own alarm system for such a chicken coop raid, and when he heard it, he hurried outside to find the men attempting to steal chickens. He and his neighbors held the suspects at bay with shotguns until Chief Racke could arrive. The suspects were brother Edward and Paul Meyer of Newport. Officers were also called to a field in Wilder near the Pebbleford Distillery, where they found that three men and three boys were attempting to steal a section of 24" water main iron pipe. Evidently, it was an eventful day!

Another interesting call was in October of 1949. Elsie and John Stratton were in the proceedings of a divorce, in which Mrs. Stratton accused her husband of cruelty and beatings. Mr. Stratton informed his wife that he was going to tear up all the furniture in the house and then end his life. She called the police. When Chief Racke arrived at the house, Mr. Stratton answered the door and collapsed, having slit his own wrists. He was removed to Speers Hospital where his injuries were deemed not serious. While being

transported, he told Chief Racke that “next time I will make a better job.” Mr. Stratton’s mental status may have been affected by his employment with Newport Steel, who was in the midst of a strike.^{lxxii}

In November, Chief Racke underwent a major operation at Cincinnati’s Christ Hospital. Although the type of operation was not listed, the newspaper reported that he had visited his office headquarters in Newport, and would report back for duty the following Monday. Gegan was acting Chief for a short time while Racke was recovering.^{lxxiii}

January 1950 brought a new election, and a new Judge Elect, Stanley Moebus. Judge Moebus reappointed Chief Racke and the entire Police force, which included Assistant Chief Gegan, and Patrolmen Winters, Pryse, Simpson, Roberts, Adams and Mathews.^{lxxiv}

By late 1950, Judge Moebus had decided to replace Chief Racke and demote him to Patrolman. The Judge decided that Jacob wasn’t in the best health, and he thought it was too much strain physically and mentally, therefore wanting to name a younger man to Chief.

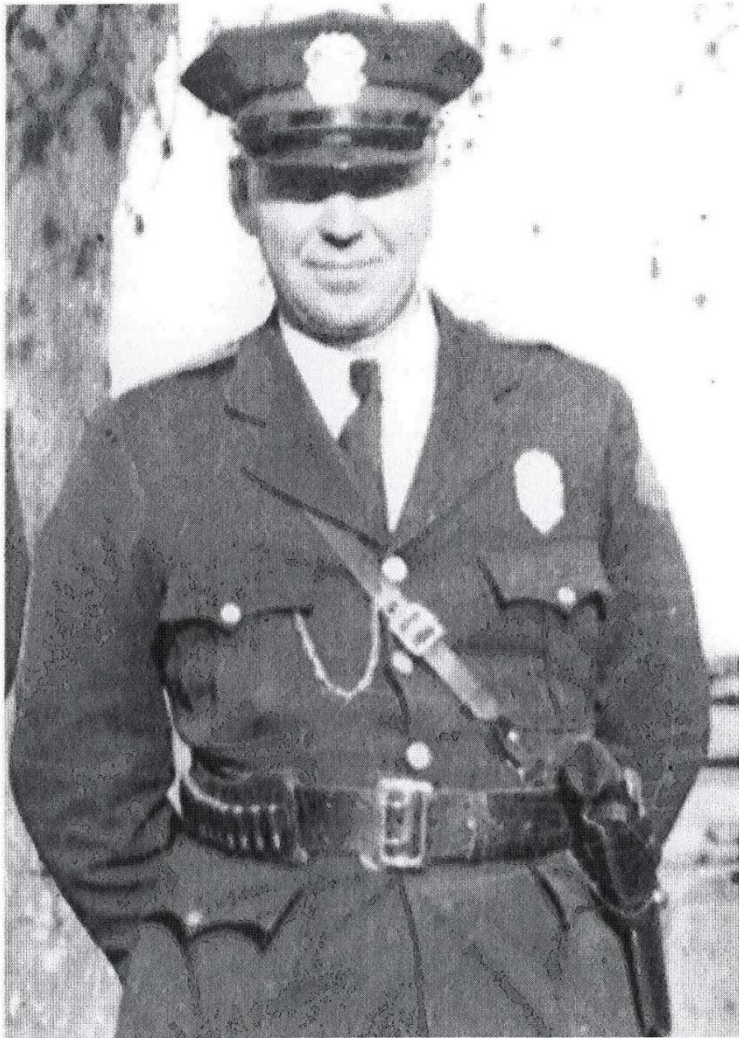
There was obviously more to the story than just age and health, as articles reported Moebus meeting several times with the patrol and instructing them to do surveys repeatedly of local establishments for gaming violations. Although they had made several arrests, not many gaming devices were seized. Not enough for Judge Moebus’ liking it seems. Chief Racke was upset that the Judge had reported that he could not do his job effectively and a “tit for tat” went on in the local newspapers for a good week. In late December, Chief Racke declined his demotion to Patrolman and submitted his formal resignation to the Fiscal Court. He vowed to make a full statement regarding the events in his Annual Report for 1950. He then

shocked most by accepting a position as Deputy Sheriff, as he had back in 1929. This move was described as a political “ten strike” for the GOP leaders of Campbell County, as Racke had a wide array of friends throughout the County, especially in the rural areas.

When Judge Moebus went to find a new Chief within the Department, everyone declined. Gegan and Roberts declined the appointment, as well as former Chief James Wood, and Louis Cook of the Fort Thomas Police Department. Gegan voluntarily surrendered his Assistant Chief Badge to Judge Moebus and went back to being a Patrolman.^{lxxv}

Chief Racke died on February 10, 1957, aged 63 as a Campbell County Deputy Sheriff. His cause of death was listed as respiratory failure due to chronic myocarditis and arteriosclerosis.





uesday, December 27, 1950

RESIGNATION

Is Offered By Racke,

Campbell Police Chief Scheduled For Demotion—Accepts ~~Post~~ As Sheriff's Deputy.

Jake Racke, Campbell County Police Chief, whose demotion to patrolman was to become effective January 2, submitted his resignation yesterday to County Judge Stanley Moebus. Racke is to accept a position as deputy in the office of Sheriff Ray Diebold.

After he had submitted his resignation, Racke said that several friends had suggested that he retain his connection with the county patrol but that he had declined "because of the way I have been treated." He refused to elaborate on this statement.

Racke had been with the county patrol for 13 years, two of which he served as chief. Prior to that he served eight years as a Deputy Sheriff.

Judge Moebus has announced that Patrolman Ralph Adams would be promoted to the office of Chief. Judge Moebus said he was making the change because of the illness of Chief Racke and to place a younger man in the office.

"I want a younger, more aggressive Chief, one who will take much of the burden off my own shoulders with regard to law enforcement." Judge Moebus said.



Ralph Williams Adams Sr. 1950-1951

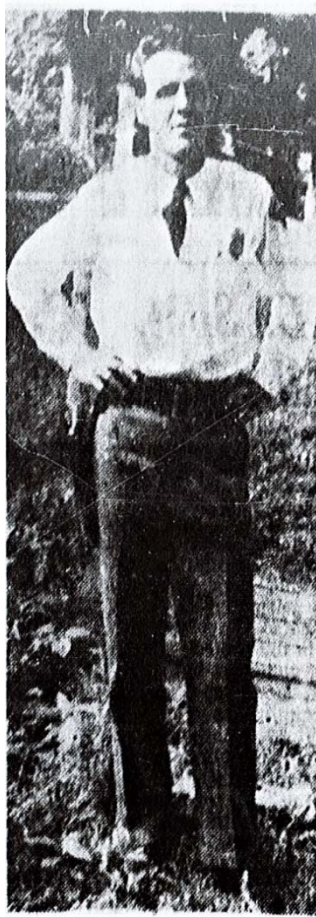
Ralph Adams was born January 19, 1923 in Newport to parents Charles and Elsie. He had three sons and three daughters with his first wife, Margaret. He remarried around 1975 to Mary Sue Adams. Adams lived in Elsmere for a time before serving in the Army during World War II at age 19. Upon returning from his service in the military, he resided in Newport.^{lxxvi}

After Judge Moebus ousted Chief Racke, Ralph was the only person offered the job that did not decline. Adams had been a patrolman since 1948. Ralph was only 27 at the time! The morale of the department under the new Judge was not good. The Chief had been fired, the Assistant Chief had turned in his badge and returned to patrol. Judge Moebus announced Adams as the new Chief after a two-hour meeting with the other patrolman in late December 1950, where he informed them that the operation of the

Police Department in 1951 would be on a probationary basis. The Judge wanted a county wide crack down on illegal gambling and he wanted the County Police to enforce his wishes. He wanted to be “completely divorced” from law enforcement work so that as a Judge he could give defendants a fair and impartial trial and a first look at the case. The department had strict schedules for visiting all the local gambling establishments to look for infractions and conduct raids when needed. 1951 brought on many such raids under Chief Adams with the help of the State Alcoholic Beverage Control Board. They cited many business owners, seized cash and confiscated slot machines. The seven-member Police Department was struggling to keep up with the activity when Judge Moebus also asked them to crack down on prostitution, especially in the Wilder area. Chief Adams assigned all the patrolmen to special duty in that area. The community threatened vigilante action if their complaints were not taken seriously.^{lxxvii}

In March of 1951, Chief Adams was informed that there was an opening at Newport Police Department. He had taken their test two years prior and gotten the highest score. He was offered and accepted the position. Only a year later, he resigned from Newport to go back to his pipefitting career. In 1955, he again applied for the Chief’s position at Campbell County. Judge Moebus considered restructuring the Police Department, but instead decided that Retired Cincinnati Police Department Captain Earl Reynolds was hired to start a four-week training course for the force. The training was split into two-hour sessions and covered shooting, laws of evidence, search and seizure, disarming adversaries, general protection methods and Officer standards of conduct. Other agencies were offered to join in the training as well.^{lxxviii}

It appears Chief Adams moved to Florida sometime in 1993, where he died at age 77 on October 15, 2000.^{lxxix}



James Earl Winters II 1952-1955

James Earl Winters was born July 22, 1923 to George and Wilma in Bellevue, Kentucky. James hailed from a long line of public servants, with his father having been a past Bellevue Police Chief and his grandfather being a former Bellevue Mayor. James was a World War II veteran, serving in the Army Engineers and even set a record for the broad jump in the Armed Forces Olympics in England. James attended Bellevue High School, where he lettered in track, baseball and football. In 1940, he set the school record for the broad jump, and he held that record until his son beat it 25 years later! James was also a Mason and a member of the Silver Grove Lodge. He was married to Win Winters and they had one son and two daughters.^{lxxx}

James was appointed to the position of Chief in 1952, after serving as a patrolman with Campbell County Police for five years. At the

time, the police force was seven members strong. Chief Winters reported in his 1952 Annual Report that Officers had to patrol 508 miles of County roads, along with 35 miles of waterfront on the Licking and Ohio Rivers. In 1952, Officers travelled 104,112 miles and responded to 1,319 calls, making 197 arrests and investigating 2 drownings. Chief Winters was the one of the youngest men to ever serve as Chief of Campbell County Police, at age 28. At the time of his appointment the department consisted of himself, CPT Amster Roberts, CPT Richard Gegan, Thomas Falbush, Alfred Seifried, George Arnold and George Stortz. Winters hoped to add another member to the force while in office. His plans were abandoned later that year when Fiscal Court announced budget constraints.^{lxxxix}

Horse thieves made the news under Chief Winter's watch in May of 1952 when he ordered his men to track down a stolen horse from Licking Pike. Louis Batsch Sr, reported his 12-year old sorrel horse missing from its pasture. During the investigation, the Officers learned that the horse was seen being ridden towards Newport by two 15-year old boys. No update on the disposition of this case at the time.^{lxxxix}

In July 1952, Chief Winters was boating near Dayton when another boater narrowly missed colliding with him. The Cincinnati Coast Guard was called in to investigate. Several boaters in the area had made complaints about vessels playing "tag" on the river at that time. It's unclear if the boaters were located, but the Chief declined any prosecution. The fine would have been \$2000, one year or prison, or possibly both.^{lxxxix}

Also, in July, Chief Winters came upon a nude woman strolling along the Ohio River bank. The California state native admitted to drinking and was fined \$25 on a breach of peace charge. Her name

was Mary Ruth Cuccio and she claimed to be an actress, playing bit parts in several Hollywood movies.^{lxxxiv}

As of August 1952, the war on illegal gambling was still on, with Chief Winters accompanying the patrol with the inspections of night clubs in Campbell County. The patrol, along with four State Troopers and members of a newly formed “vice squad” toured several businesses, but found no violations. Chief Winters vowed to keep up the inspections.^{lxxxv}

In November of that same year, Chief Winters arrested James Malas of Mount Washington after a short police chase down Poole’s Creek Road. Malas was said to have been traveling in excess of 70 miles per hour and was found to be in possession of a loaded shotgun when he was finally stopped. The initial call came in as a disturbance at the Green Diner in Grant’s Lick. Malas was charged with driving under the influence of liquor, but his charges of unreasonable driving and possessing a deadly weapon were dismissed. Malas was unable to pay the fines of over \$200 and was taken to the County Jail in Alexandria.^{lxxxvi}

December 1952 brought along new technology to the Campbell County Police in the form of a telephone communication system installed in two of the County cruisers. This system was meant to augment the current two-way radio system that was in use. Winters announced that an Officer could be reached in rural areas by dialing 211, long distance operator, asking for the mobile operator, and then giving the cruiser call numbers JL4-4302 or JL4-3952. This service was only meant to be used by persons living in the outlying sections of the County. Everyone else needed to call Newport Police, who would then in turn relay messages via the traditional radio system.^{lxxxvii}

January of 1953 saw all the same members of the Police force sworn in for another year of service. Judge Moebus was the presiding Judge at the time.^{lxxxviii}

1953 also marked the Formation of the Campbell County Police Department Merit Board. Judge Moebus and the Fiscal Court stated their desire to form a “Merit Board”. This Board would take away control from the Judge when it came to the Police Department. The Judge would still be in charge of the Chief and Assistant Chief, but the Board would be given the control to remove, reduce, suspend, lay off, fine or discipline any other Officer. They would also lay down rules and regulations regarding examinations and promotions. By October 1st of 1953, the very first Campbell County Police Department Merit Board had met. The County Judge appointed Emil Kraus, Felix Breitenstein, George Winkler, and Gerald Egan to the first Merit Board. Ray Layfield was named as secretary. At this meeting, they presented the Merit Board Rules and Regulations to be formally adopted to govern the operation of the Merit Board and the Officers and employees for the Campbell County Police Merit System. Mr. Breitenstein made the motion to accept and Mr. Winkle seconded. The motion passed and the Merit Board with the Rules and Regulations were official. These original Rules and Regulations, along with all the historical Merit Board meeting minutes are still in the possession of CCPD. Today, in 2022, the Department is still under a Police Merit Board System, with the current members being Keith Daniels, Bill Voelker, Rees Hardy, Victor “Van” Needham II and Tom Ramler. The Merit Board meets every other month, or as needed. The Merit Board is essential in matters of hiring new employees, as well as Policy changes and disciplinary matters.^{lxxxix}

Chief Winter's 1952 Annual Report showed 104,302 miles travelled with 1402 calls for service. Patrolmen issued 25 traffic citations along with investigations of several crimes. One murder, three suicides, 250 accidents, 90 hospital runs, 90 automobiles stolen and recovered, 14 missing persons, 18 thefts, 16 breaking and entering calls, 6 prowlers, 210 trouble calls, 8 fires, 250 warrant arrests, 130 arrests, 3 drownings, 4 automobile deaths, 3 accidental deaths and 285 miscellaneous calls. Chief Winters reported that the newly installed car/telephone radio system really helped to increase the department's efficiency.^{xc}

In late November 1953, the Chief was called upon to investigate the suicide of then Campbell County Jailer, Edward Pretot. Edward was 53 and was found dead of a gunshot wound to the temple in his bedroom. His home was located in the County building in Alexandria. It was reported to Chief Winters that Edward had been depressed and had lost weight in previous months, but had not sought medical help for his issues. His wife reported that he had excused himself from a family card game, retreated to his bedroom, and subsequently shot himself. Pretot was the first Republican in 50 years to be appointed to Jailer by Judge Moebus and was beginning to serve his second four-year term when tragedy struck. Edward was a previous Bellevue Police Officer, Army veteran and volunteer fireman.^{xci}

A pay increase for all County workers was approved in the 54-55 budget of 10%. New Judge Fred Warren also announced a reorganization of the Police Department. The Police Department received a pay increase of \$17,000 in this budget. Judge Warren also gave strict instructions to the department to eradicate commercialized vice and gambling in the county, including bingo games. Despite his orders, bingo continued to operate in July at three local establishments; Beverly Hill Country Club, The Latin

Club and Glen Schmidt's Playtorium in Newport. The Campbell County Civic Association reported to the Kentucky Edition of the Enquirer that they hoped the County Police could enforce Judge Warren's edict.^{xcii}

This charge to eradicate gambling led Chief Winters and his men to think outside the box. In late 1954, the Chief and his two Captains, Arnold and Roberts, each sat at one of three local establishments for dinner to deter illegal activities. Chief Winters was reported as saying "Looks like a parade out there, doesn't it? Never saw so many persons move so fast. Must be cold out there." More than 300 men ran out of the clubs that night due to the police presence.^{xciii}

Full Houses Half Empty

At Known Newport Gambling Resorts As Police Sit In To Discourage Bettors

There wasn't a single full house among Campbell County's known Newport gambling spots yesterday.

But there were a lot of flushes—from the cold, that is—on the faces of would-be wagers who showed up during the day.

County Police Capts. George Arnold and Amster Roberts and Chief James Winters were the reasons.

Captain Arnold sat in the Yorkshire Club; Captain Roberts stood silently in the Snax Bar & Barn, and Chief Winters casually ate his dinner in the Flamingo Club.

"Looks like a parade out there, doesn't it?" Chief Winters observed. "Never saw so many

persons move so fast. Must be cold out there."

It was, and the more than 300 men who shuffled up and down York Street between Fifth and Seventh couldn't take much of it. Most left within two hours, looking like the world had suddenly come to an end.

Yesterday's visits marked the third day in the law's "siege" of known gambling places in Newport and Campbell County. The county police remained in the back rooms until 6:30 p. m., then returned for an evening session.

"We're going to come back to these places every day, until either the places close up or the gambling stops," Chief Winters said. "If anything will stop gambling, cold weather will."

By early 1955, Chief Winters was under scrutiny from Judge Warren. The Chief claimed that the Judge was “out to get him”. The Judge subsequently fired Chief Winters for “laxity” in enforcing gambling and other laws. Winters, of course, disagreed, citing his record on such arrests was as good as any others. Winters accused Warren of confronting one of his Officers while Winters was on leave for illness and asking the Officer to do something about the gambling so that Warren would have a reason to fire the Chief. Warren fired back with saying that Winters was discharged because he was unsatisfied with him, and if necessary, he would get an entirely new police force. The Officers planned a meeting with the Police Merit Board to discuss the issues at hand.^{xciv}

Upon being fired, Chief Winters went on to become an employee in the Newport Zoning Office and later operated and owned a coin laundry business with outlets in Dayton, Newport and Cincinnati. Chief James Winters died in 1994 while undergoing heart bypass surgery at Good Samaritan Hospital. He was 65 years old.^{xcv}

Praise For Police!

Chief James Winters and members of the Campbell County Police were lauded yesterday in a letter received by County Judge Stanley C. Moebus from Walter Berkemeyer, Director of Holly Hill, the Campbell County Protestant Home.

The officers were praised for their work in handling traffic last Sunday at the dedication of the new home at Dodsworth Lane and Old Alexandria Pike.

“They are a fine staff of officers. Our heartfelt thanks for a job well done,” Mr. Berkemeyer said.



Hugh Arthur Hacker 1955-1956

Hugh Arthur Hacker was born on January 21, 1911 in Clay Kentucky to parents Julius and Laura. He had no known children, and was married in 1942 to Lucy. Hugh was a Lt. Col. In the Army and had recently retired when he was appointed to Chief in early 1955, replacing ousted Chief Winters. Between the tenures of Winters and Hacker, Richard Gegan was again called upon as acting Chief. Judge Warren had “secretly” appointed Hacker as the Chief in late November of 1955, but the Chief had been working on undercover investigations in plain clothes. Judge Warren had high hopes for Hacker to eradicate illegal gambling, as he had promised the citizens of the County. Hacker was a twenty-two-year veteran of the military and vowed to give the citizens “the type of law enforcement that they deserve and expect.”^{xcvi}

The Judge also announced, along with the new Chief, several promotions within the Department. Sgt. George Storz was promoted to Lieutenant, joining Gegan and Amster Roberts. Patrolmen Thomas Falbush and George Arnold were both promoted to Sergeants. The force donned newly designed Army type uniforms, with the Eisenhower jacket included. With Chief Hacker’s appointment, Judge Warren “hope to now divorce myself as much as possible from the Police Department.”^{xcvii}

Chief Hacker got to work quickly and announced that two patrol cars would be patrolling the County from 6 P.M. until 2 A.M., unlike the previous single patrol unit. One car would be assigned to cover all the land East of US 27 and the other to the West. The area was over 93,000 acres.^{xcviii}



RECEIVE PROMOTIONS: Four members of the Campbell county patrol are shown with County Judge Fred M. Warren as they received their new commissions. Left to right are Lt. Richard Gegan, Lt. Amster (Bill) Roberts, Judge Warren and Sgts. Al

Seifried and George Stortz. The four were awarded the promotions as the result of a recent test conducted by the police merit system board. Lt. Gegan has been acting chief and will continue in this capacity, Judge Warren said.

Trouble between the Judge and Chief Hacker was brewing as early as early 1956. Rumor was that Chief Hacker was set to resign as Chief, after turning over information to the Grand Jury that he had uncovered during his short tenure. Chief Hacker was instructed by Circuit Court Judge Ray Murphy to perform an undercover investigation into the vice activity in Campbell County. Eleven cases were heard that day against illegal gambling and prostitution.

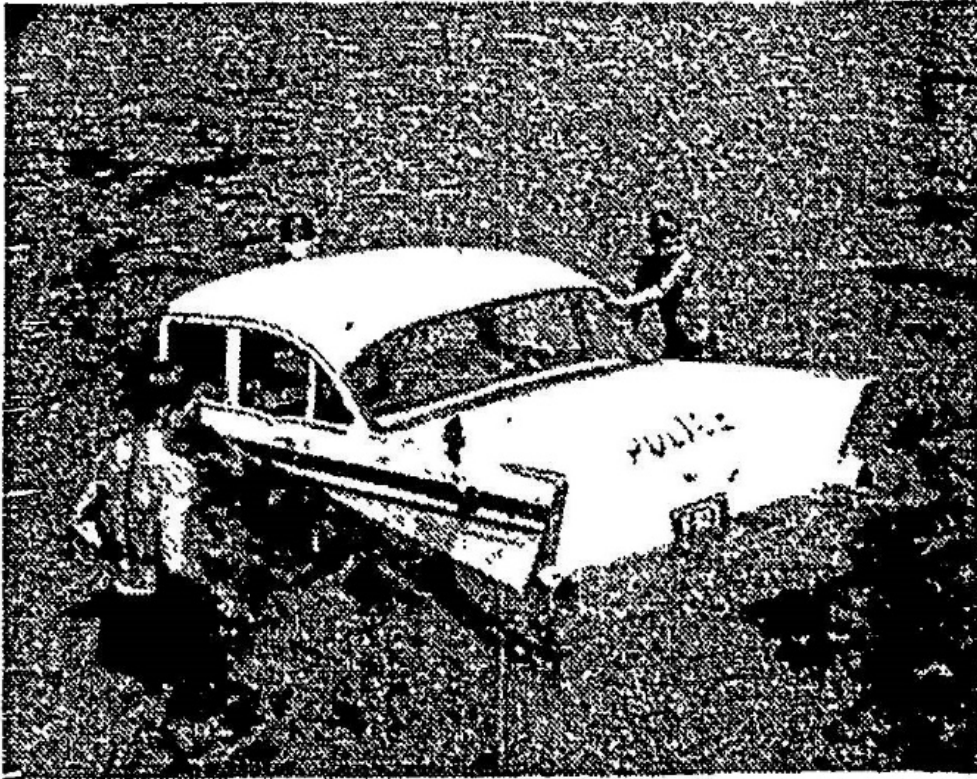
On February 20, 1956, Chief Hacker officially resigned, after serving as Chief for a little less than four months. Judge Warren, again, needed to start over and find a new Chief for the Department. Once again, Gegan became the acting Chief of the Department. Judge Warren announced that he was in no hurry to name a successor.^{xcix}

In March, Judge Warren put out a stern warning to the Department. "Do the things I want or I will get rid of the Force". Judge Warren stated that for two years he had made a diligent effort to combat gambling and had seen little support by the County Patrol in enforcing his wishes to abolish it. He explained to the six-man patrol and the public that the County budgets \$35,000 to the Police Department annually and if the members of Patrol cannot enforce the gaming and vice laws, bringing a complete halt to those operations, then he would insist that no budget appropriations be made for the police, ultimately abolishing the Police Department.^c

Before his resignation, Chief Hacker did publish the 1955 Annual Report, citing 1189 calls and 89,655 miles traveled. There were 106 gaming violation arrests, 11 prostitution arrests, 7 collision fatalities, 292 accidents, 37 traffic arrests, 44 burglaries, one criminal attack, 31 dog bites, 11 stolen dogs, three drownings, four fire calls, 13 auto thefts, 5 boat larcenies, 33 missing persons, 9 prowlers, 11 robberies, 4 shootings, 1 suicide, 46 thefts, 86 trouble calls and 499 miscellaneous calls. Thirty-eight hospital runs were made, as well

as five stolen cars recovered, 18 missing people found and 95 warrants served.^{ci}

Chief Hacker moved on and eventually passed away of unknown causes in Berea in July of 1994.^{cii}



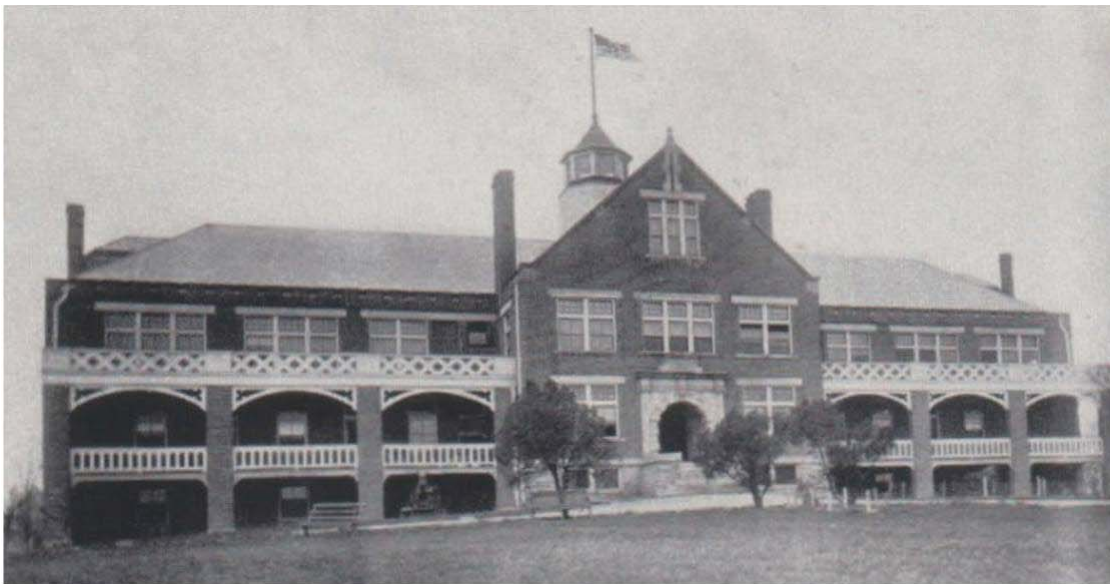
SURPRISE DUNKING—The new cruiser of Campbell county police got an unscheduled “bath” in the lake at the County Infirmary at Cold Springs Sunday.

Sgt. John Dickert parked the car and walked into police headquarters. The car started moving downhill, and didn't stop until it was nearly submerged in the lake several hundred feet away.

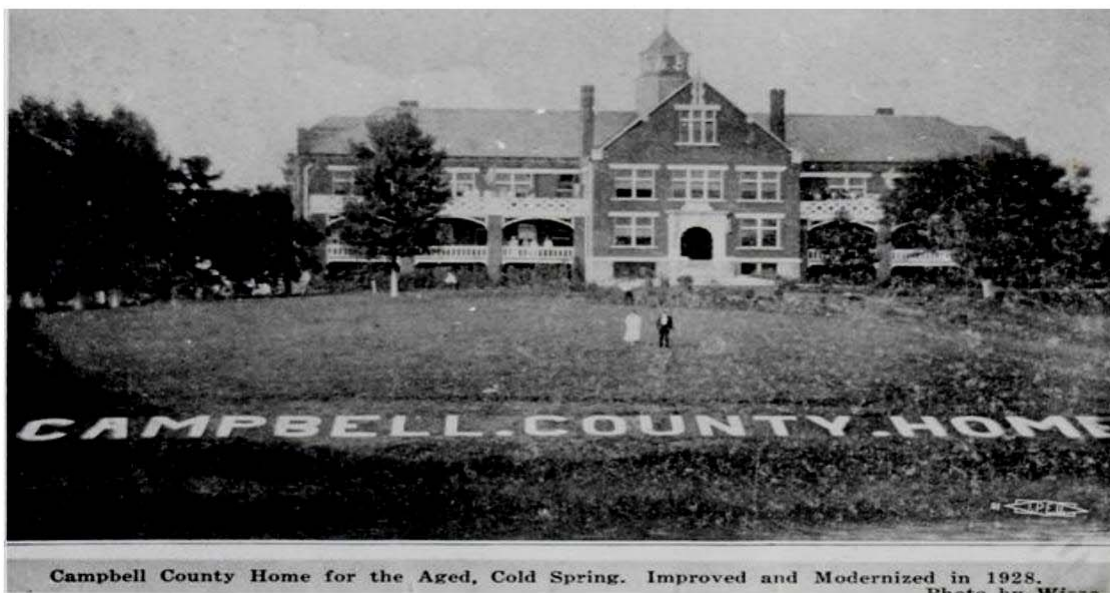
Danny Ratchford, left, and Johnny Jones put on bathing trunks and attached a towing cable to the car so it could be dragged from the water.

The picture was taken by Ken Hastings, of Cold Spring.

I was able to ascertain that the Patrol headquarters were located in Newport until 1954, when they moved into a building behind what was known at the time as the Campbell County Infirmary. This location is better known as Lakeside Place, and now Callahan Hall for Northern Kentucky University. The Infirmary building burned down in 1965 while undergoing renovations. Lakeside Place was constructed in 1968 and sometime before 1969, CCPD moved their headquarters to the Alexandria Courthouse.^{ciii}



**CAMPBELL COUNTY INFIRMARY
1922**



Two Cars Assigned To Campbell Patrol

Hugh Hacker, Campbell County police chief, reported yesterday that two cars will patrol the county from 6 p. m. to 2 a. m. daily beginning today.

Previously one car often patrolled the county's more than 300 miles of roads over a 93,000-acre territory.

One car will be assigned to cover all the land east of U. S. 27 and the other west of the highway.

Al Seifried was named Acting Chief after Hacker's resignation, and remained in that capacity until Harry Stuart was hired in 1958. Al had been with the department since 1951.^{civ} He was the fourth Chief or Acting Chief in a span of four years. During this time, there was a sad case of a murder suicide in Silver Grove, where John Stanley Brown, 42-year-old father of six, shot Norma Heiert on her porch and then walked down the street 100 yards and ended his own life in the yard of his brother. This was a sad end to their clandestine love affair, according to a note found in John's pocket.^{cv}



Harry Benjamin Stuart 1958-1964

Harry Benjamin Stuart was born September 8, 1897. He was married to Helen and they had two daughters and one son together. Harry and Helen resided in Newport, where Harry had been a veteran of World War I, a member of the Mayo Masonic Lodge 198 in California, Member of the James Costigan Post of the American Legion and the Fraternal Order of Police. Stuart had also served as a Deputy Sheriff for four years and a Campbell County Patrolman for eleven years before being named Chief in 1958. He also served as a Newport City Councilman.^{cvi}

November 1957's election named a new County Judge, A.J. Jolly. When Jolly won the election, he announced that Al Seifried would

stay on as acting Chief until Stuart took his new position on January 1, 1958.

Chief Stuart believed that public relations were an Officer's greatest asset, in proving to the community they are working continually in their interest. "At times you must be as delicate as a heart surgeon and again as rough as an oil-field roustabout the next. Yet it is done through constant and continuing self-discipline."

There wasn't much reported in Chief Stuart's first year, but there was an annual report excerpt found for January 1959, where the Chief credited the new two-way radio system with improving the Department's efficiency. The new system was connected to all emergency agencies in the County, as well as other police agencies and volunteer fire departments. During 1958, the Department had 317 auto mishaps with 153 injuries, compared to 298 accidents in 1957 with 117 injuries. There were 1484 calls in 1959 compared to 1682 the previous year. Patrol cars travelled 111,630 miles. Stuart credited the newly formed 8-member County Auxiliary Police Department. This new Auxiliary Police force assisted Officers with traffic issues on weekends and holidays, as well as other areas where large gatherings called for more crowd control.^{c.vii}



1961- Cole, Pemberton, Jones, Ritterman, Bailey, Borman, Born and Schmidt

In 1958, there were five automobile fatalities, five persons struck by autos, one homicide, 61 burglaries, three suicides, 61 assists to other departments, 41 dog bites, 6 auto fires, 14 auto thefts with only 3 recoveries, 3 stolen bikes, 2 stolen boats 68 juvenile runs, 32 missing persons, 3 rapes and 32 prowlers, amongst numerous other calls. In addition, County Police made 105 hospital runs and executed 105 warrants. During Stuart's tenure, the average salary for the Department was Chief: \$4600.00, Lieutenants: \$4080.00, Sergeants: \$3960.00, and Patrolman: \$3840.00.^{cviii}



CAMPBELL COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT

COURT HOUSE
ALEXANDRIA, KENTUCKY
HARRY S. STUART, CHIEF

PAY SCALE COMPARISON OF THE CAMPBELL COUNTY POLICE WITH OTHER DEPARTMENTS

NEWPORT

Chief..... \$6,606.00
Lieutenants..... 4,970.00
Sergeants..... 4,820.00
Patrolmen..... 4,400.00

PORT THOMAS

Chief..... \$6,500.00
Lieutenants..... 5,250.00
Patrolmen (Starting pay)..... 4,700.00
After 3 years..... 5,100.00

SOUTHGATE

Chief..... \$4,950.00
Patrolmen..... 4,000.00

COVINGTON

Chief..... \$7,200.00
Lieutenants..... 5,713.00
Sergeants..... 5,433.00
Dispatchers..... 5,713.00
Patrolmen..... 5,090.00

KENTON COUNTY

Chief..... \$5,120.00
Captains..... 4,520.00
Patrolmen..... 4,420.00

CAMPBELL COUNTY

Chief..... \$4,600.00
Lieutenants..... 4,080.00
Sergeants..... 3,960.00
Dispatchers (AUX)..... 3,600.00
Patrolmen..... 3,840.00

In October 1959, Chief Stuart investigated a horrible accident in Crestview, involving 3-year-old Joseph James Kuntz. Joseph and his brother Mark were riding a tricycle on a steep grade around 44 Pine Hill Drive, near their residence, when the bike began plummeting downhill. Their mother screamed at them to jump from the bike, but before the younger brother could do so, the tricycle hit a curb and threw Joseph under a slow-moving truck driven by Edward Knepfle, a cement contractor. He was unaware of the accident until he heard the mother screaming. He drove the injured boy to the hospital himself, where he was pronounced dead from a broken neck.^{cix}

1960 found Chief Stuart asking Fiscal Court to hire three more patrolman and grant cost of living pay increases to all men on the force. He cited that Campbell County's salaries were below the pay scale of other surrounding agencies. No word on if the increases were awarded.^{cx}

There wasn't much found for the year 1961 regarding the Police Department, but 1962 was full of turmoil. Turmoil that would last almost a year and bring uncertainty to the future of the Department.

Governor Bert Combs, being tired of the illegal gambling and prostitution that had given Newport an unsavory reputation throughout the years, had declared that he would exercise all his powers to help in the reform movement of Campbell County. Against the recommendations of this special Commissioner, John Davis, Gov. Combs decided to remove Chief Stuart from the position of Chief. The Governor held that the Chief had jurisdiction over every part of the county, incorporated and unincorporated. He pointed out that "the evidence is overwhelming that there was a flagrant and notorious violation of the laws in the incorporated towns, and it is clear that Chief Stuart knew, or by the exercise of slightest diligence would have know about the violations." Further

he declared, "It is difficult for me to believe that Stuart, in good faith, relied on the order of the Campbell County Court. It is difficult for me to believe that a man with his intelligence would not have ascertained whether a court order was valid." Basically, the Governor felt that Chief Stuart was responsible for cleaning up Newport, instead of the Newport Police Department and Chief.

Chief Stuart was well liked among the County Judge, Fiscal Court and the Department, and an appeal was immediately set forth. Most of 1962 was spent fighting the Governor's decision in the appeals process, with the Chief actually losing the first appeal in June. When the Governor ordered Stuart out of office, it also meant that he could not hold another public office for the four years following the ouster. The Court of Appeals stated that they "were not unsympathetic to Chief Stewart in his claim that he was following orders in failing to use his police powers in incorporated cities." The Chief claimed he was acting under direct orders of County Judge Jolly in confining his Officers to duties in the rural areas of the county, leaving the incorporated cities to the police agencies of those cities. The Appeals court found in their ruling that when Stuart "chose to obey an order of his superior which required him to neglect the duties imposed on him by the statutes, he assumed the risk of the consequences."

With this ruling, the future of the Police Department itself, became unclear. Fiscal Court held a special meeting with Judge Jolly to discuss the issues at hand. Judge Jolly provided two alternatives; the first being doubling the budget for the force so that they could cover the entire County, or two, disband the Department. He was concerned about hiring another Chief that clearly would not be able to do the job that the Governor was requiring of them. Of the thirteen patrolmen in 1962, only two men were on duty at any one time in a single cruiser. Judge Jolly praised the job Stuart had been

doing, stating that the Chief and his Department had received fewer complaints than any other agency in the County. Judge Jolly also added that “I would hate to see the fine system we have developed here abolished.” He also pointed out the County revenues were down and prospects were dim for increasing the size or departmental budget at that time. As they readied another appeal hearing, Judge Jolly also pointed out that Stuart was in the same position as four other Kentucky Counties that employed a County Police Force, and that their opinions should be included in the findings to the Court.

It was announced in December 1962 that Governor Bert Combs had rescinded his ouster of Chief Stuart, and he was back on the job, calling it “a wonderful, wonderful, wonderful Christmas present for me and my family!” Over 7500 Campbell County residents had signed a petition to restore Stuart to power, along with Judge AJ Jolly. Judge Jolly explained that the Chief would be expected to operate on the same orders as before the ouster. Although the County Police Chief had the authority, under Kentucky law, to make investigations and arrests anywhere in the County, it was only a matter of practicability to allow the cities to handle their own calls and call upon the County force for assistance if needed.

Governor Combs listed five reasons for the reversal of his decision:

1. “Stuart’s ouster was ordered to attain certain results; to attack an intolerable situation, which could only be corrected by positive action.”
2. “While Stuart was guilty of neglect of duty, he was, in part, a victim of circumstances and a product of a vicious system.”
3. “The commissioner who heard the case found extenuating circumstances in Mr. Stuart’s favor.”

4. “Mr. Stuart has paid sufficient penalty for his neglect of duty and he should not further be deprived of the right to earn a livelihood for himself and his family.”

5. “Many of Mr. Stuart’s fellow citizens have recommended that his civil rights be restored.”

Chief Stuart’s removal from office resulted ultimately from a spring 1961 drive by the Social Action Committee of the Newport Ministerial Association to remove from office top officials it charged were negligent in not ridding Campbell County of gambling and vice.^{cx}



Chief Stuart and grandson Jack Porter.

Jack L. Porter is a member at Morgan Smith Porter, PLLC., previously serving as an Assistant Commonwealth Attorney, and as Commonwealth Attorney in Campbell County, Kentucky. Jack was also an Officer with Campbell County Police and Covington Police.

THE CINCINNATI ENQUIRER

KENTUCKY EDITION

124th YEAR NO. 142

SATURDAY MORNING, AUGUST 29, 1964

PRICE 10 CENTS—HOME DELIVERED 50¢ A WEEK

CRASH KILLS CAMPBELL POLICE CHIEF

Sadly, on Friday, August 28, 1964, Chief Harry Stuart was killed tragically in a car accident on U.S. 27, near Poplar Ridge Road and The Spare Time Grill. Chief Stuart, his wife Helen, her sister and husband, were all travelling on US 27 when they rear-ended a car that was in the northbound lane, preparing to turn in a service station. Helen and her sister were uninjured, Brother in Law Kenneth Moore was treated at St. Elizabeth for cuts to his head, and Chief Stuart was fatally injured by the steering wheel.

The impact of the wheel, according to Coroner Dr. Fred Stine, had broken Stuart's sternum and several ribs, injuring his already frail heart. The driver of the other vehicle, along with his 13-year-old son, were not injured. Services were held for Chief Stuart at the Radel Funeral Home in Newport. He was survived at that time by his wife, his son Harry, his two daughters, two sisters and three grandchildren.^{cxii}



George A. Arnold 1964-1982

George Arnold was born in 1920. He was married to Virginia Rummel Arnold and they had no children. Chief Arnold spent a total of 31 years with Campbell County Police, 18 of them as the Chief.

George was a veteran of World War II, where he suffered arm and leg injuries in a tank accident with the Third Army during the Battle of the Bulge in Belgium. He was hired as a Patrolman for Campbell County Police on April 23, 1951, and worked his way up to the title of Chief, immediately upon the death of Chief Stuart. Chief Arnold was a Kentucky Colonel, a member and past President of the Northern Kentucky Police Chiefs Association and a member of the Disabled American Veterans. His wife described him as “a very self-disciplined person, a law-abiding Police Officer, through and through.” It’s nearly impossible to list all that Chief Arnold did for Campbell County Police Department during his many years of faithful service. He is currently the longest serving Chief.^{cxiii}

Campbell County Judge AJ Jolly, confirmed the appointment of then Assistant Chief Arnold, using the Merit System that was inaugurated a decade prior. Arnold automatically became the Chief of the twelve-man force. Lieutenants Fahlbush, Gegan, Edgley, Seifreid and Roberts were all in line to take the civil service test to determine who would become the Assistant Chief to Arnold.

We know that sometime around 1960, the “Bee Hive” patch was introduced. This patch design was also seen on the Police Department Cars and sported by all Patrolmen, as well as the Auxiliary Police Force. The Auxiliary Force patch actually had gold metallic threads. This patch became the Official patch in 1978.



In 1967, Chief Arnold reported in the Annual Report that his 13-member force answered 1414 calls and traveled 165,000 miles. The patrol investigated 308 traffic accidents and assisted other agencies 115 times. There were six fatal traffic accidents and 378 hospital runs. The Patrolmen also investigated 72 cases of breaking and entering, 35 vandalisms, six assaults, six grand larcenies, one accidental shooting and one case of armed robbery. There were 120 arrests on criminal charges, including 37 for breach of peace. Dog bites totaled 49 that year, and cars impounded totaled 28. Ninety-one warrants were executed and they recovered 13 stolen vehicles.^{cxiv}

Also, in 1967, The Northern Kentucky Police Chiefs Association approved plans to establish a central criminal file at the State Police Post in Dry Ridge. This system would consist of creating a card for each defendant, listing his/her name, charge and disposition on it. These cards would then be sent to the post as part of a master file, allowing authorities to quickly access information when it was needed, without having to contact each individual police agency. The Association also voiced their approval of the Kentucky Peace Officers standards and training program being offered at Eastern Kentucky University in Richmond. Chief Arnold and then Assistant Chief Jack Edgley were named as Directors that year.^{cxv}

In November of 1967, the Chief was out of work for almost a month after needing plastic surgery due to an injury caused by a lawn mower. He spent two of those four weeks at Christ Hospital in Cincinnati while Assistant Chief Edgley held down the fort.^{cxvi}

December of 1969 saw Campbell County Attorney George Muehlenkamp shut down all bingo games county-wide. In a letter to both Chief Arnold, Sheriff-elect Howe and Newport's Chief Gugel, The County Attorney stated that all games of bingo, whether charitable or not, would be considered illegal in the County.^{cxvii}

In 1973, the Fiscal Court and Chief Arnold announced a restructuring of the Police Department, along with new pay hikes. The court approved the promotions of the four highest ranking Patrolmen to Captain, and the next four highest to rank of Sergeant. Those upgraded to Captain were: Gegan, Seifried, Fahlbush and Neltner. Those upgraded to Sergeant were: Bridges, Perkins, Matthews and Gianciolo. The rank of Lieutenant will be held open for future promotions Total cost of the new table of organization would be \$9021 per year. The Department was now up to 14 members and those men would see a 10% pay increase within a year, with the Chief making \$10,356, Assistant Chief \$9558, four Captains at \$8896, four Sergeants at \$8179, four patrolmen at \$5457 after one year, and probationary Officers at \$5069. Arnold pointed out that the new schedule permitted his department to compete with at least two nearby communities which had been paid higher than those of the County's Patrolmen up until now.^{cxviii}

1975 saw the ruling of the Kentucky Court of Appeals on impounding cars after the drivers were arrested. Chief Arnold agreed with the ruling, stating that it would take away the Officer's responsibility for the car after the arrest. If the car was not blocking, it would be locked and the keys given to the arrestee. The Court ruled that "the practice of impounding vehicles following arrests for mere traffic violations is utterly unnecessary and indeed, is one of questionable legality."^{cxix}

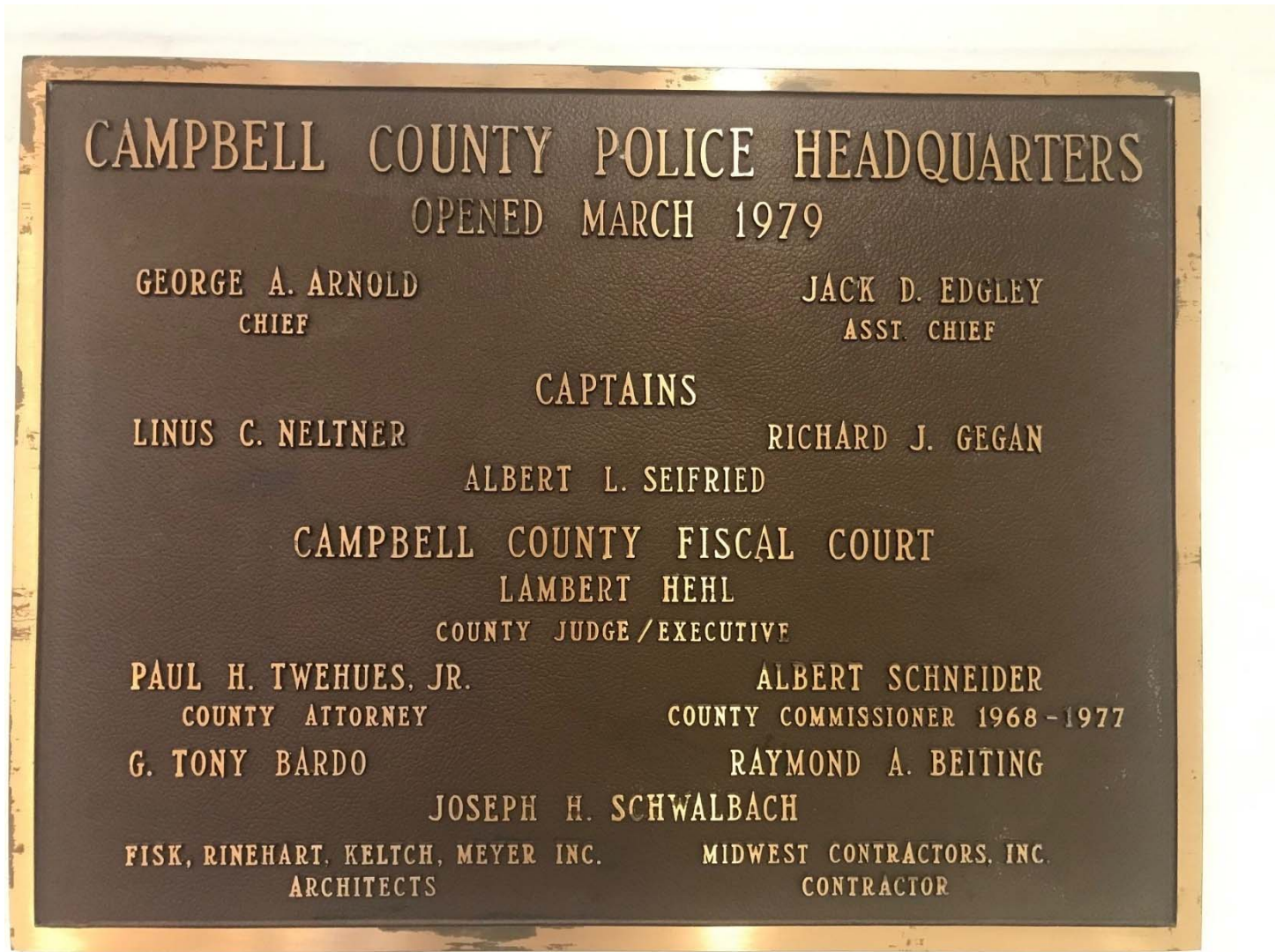
One notable case in 1975 included the shooting of a suspect in California by County Patrolmen Hurd and Perkins. The suspect and his friend broke into an unoccupied rural summer home. The Officers spotted them inside the house, ordering them out. One of the men surrendered and the other tried to flee the scene. The Officers were separated with the two men, whom they assumed

were armed, and one fired a warning shot in the air. Upon hearing the shot and one of the suspect fleeing, one of the Officers shot his shotgun towards the fleeing suspect. Chief Arnold stated that pellets from both Officer's shotguns made contact with the suspect, who was treated at the hospital and listed in fair condition. The Commonwealth Attorney's Office was called in to investigate the shooting. No outcome for this case could be located.^{cxx}

One of the worst cases to cross the desk of Chief Arnold was that of five-year-old Keith Holliday in 1977. Keith had disappeared from his home while playing outside near Brookwood Estates just days before Christmas. Both County and City police, fire, EMS and volunteers combed the nearly 300 homes and frozen hillsides in the rural area looking for the boy. The exhaustive search was finally called off after 48 hours. The parents, fearing their son had been kidnapped, offered a large reward and pleaded for the return of their son. In March of the following year, Mrs. Holliday was glancing out her window when she saw what appeared to be the little boy's blue knit hat floating in the pool in their side yard. A neighbor was called to check and found the little boy had drowned. The spring thaw had brought the body to the surface. Officials stated that although the pool was checked, there was a thick layer of algae and leaves on the bottom of the pool, which probably made them not see the little boy that day. The coroner ruled the boy's death an accidental drowning and that the boy's body had been in the pool since the day he disappeared, nearly three months prior.^{cxxi}

1978 was the year that the current Police Department building was erected. The dispatchers, which had previously been housed with the Police Department at the Alexandria Courthouse, moved into the new building on Constable Drive. The Dispatch Center was located in the current Chief's office. The new building was two stories tall, equipped with a kitchen, garage, offices and restrooms.

The architect that designed the new headquarters was Fisk, Rinehart, Kelsch and Meyer, Inc. The building, under Judge Executive Lambert Hehl, opened in March of 1979. The original plaque commemorating the opening is still hanging in the lobby.



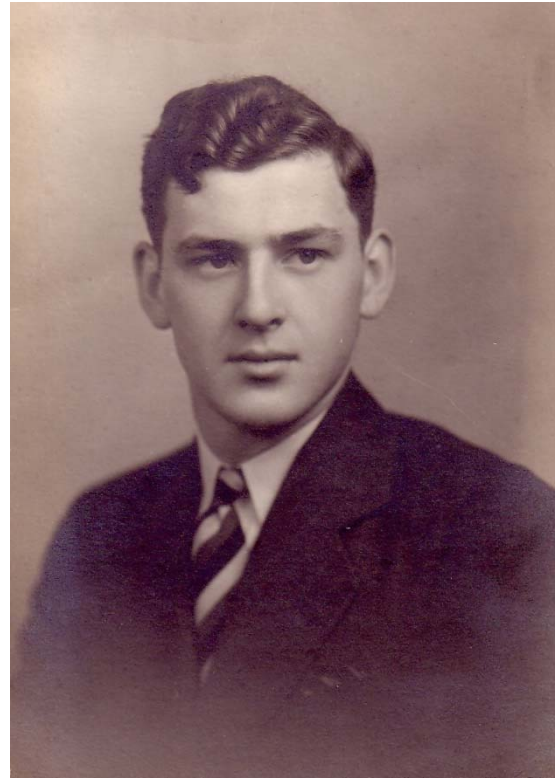
The building has undergone several changes over the years, as well as renovations and reorganization of the offices. Currently, the building basement houses the Campbell County Office of Emergency Management and it's three Directors. In 2022, the headquarters has a lobby, main office, Chief's office, conference room, squad room, kitchen, Detective's bay, Sergeant's bay, Captain's offices, an electronic crimes detective office, locker room,

interrogation room, several storage closets, men's and women's restrooms, evidence storage and processing rooms, two bay garage, records room, ammunition storage and a shared server room.

One of the most interesting stories I found about Chief Arnold was of his kidnapping in August of 1963, before he was appointed Chief. While investigating a break in at the Highland Country Club on Three Mile Road, Arnold's cruiser was commandeered, along with the Officer, by ex-convict Frederick Neal. Arnold, with a pistol held to his side, was forced to drive Neal for nearly three hours all over Kentucky at speeds reaching 100 miles per hour, across five counties. Arnold was freed, unharmed, when his cruiser ran out of gas and Neal stole another vehicle. Neal was later killed in a gun battle with police in Harrodsburg.^{cxxii}

In June 1988, six years after retiring from the Police Department, at age 68, George Arnold died at St. Luke Hospital. He was survived by his wife and two sisters and buried at St. Joseph's Cemetery in Cold Spring. I was able to locate several photographs, as follows, from a relative, Joyce Venneman.^{cxxiii}





A notable hire under Chief Arnold was the appointment of Joan Volpenhein to Police Officer in April of 1974. “Joanie” was Newport’s first female Officer and became Campbell County Police’s first female Officer. She had also previously been a matron at the Campbell County Jail. Joanie worked for Campbell County until her retirement in 1986, mainly being utilized as an administrative Officer. She typed all the police reports, tracked court dockets and dispositions, did monthly activity reports and handled all the other Officers’ training applications. She also answered the phones, dispatched and dealt with customers at the office. She was known as being a skilled sharpshooter and in her 1978 Position Classification Questionnaire, she also stated she helped with female searches and suspect interrogations (she knew shorthand). She listed that she occasionally patrolled the road, but with the amount of paperwork to do at the office, there was not much extra time for that! Joanie died in 2018 at the age of 87, after suffering from Alzheimer’s for several years. She was a resident of Carmel Manor Nursing Home, where she regularly “patrolled” the hallways, keeping her fellow residents safe. She broke new ground in policing for women in Campbell County, while raising four children. She was also a lifelong member of FOP Lodge #10.





Tom Bridges 1983-1993

Tom Bridges was a 24-year veteran of Campbell County Police Department. Bridges was a native of Fort Thomas and served four years with the Air Force Military Police before joining CCPD in 1969. The Police Force at that time was 12 men strong, and the Officers also had Dispatch duties. Chief Bridges was a former President of the Northern Kentucky Police Chiefs Association, as well a three-year treasurer of the Kentucky Police Chiefs Association. He was the first Officer from Campbell County to attend the FBI National Academy for Police Officers in Quantico, Virginia as well.

Chief Bridges joined the Police Department in 1969 with a dozen Officers on duty that also dispatched as well. His hiring process took eight months to complete.^{cxxiv}

Shortly after becoming Chief in 1984, there was a murder suicide at Southview Manor Apartments. Marvin Bloom shot his former wife, Judy Bloom with a 12-gauge shotgun around 1 a.m. After pulling the gun on Judy, Marvin shot himself. No motive was listed.^{cxxv}

In 1985, the Combs Hehl Bridge was a traffic nightmare during concert season, much as it is today. After a Bob Segar concert at Riverbend caused four accidents, two of which had injuries and one had a fuel spill that closed part of the interstate, Fiscal Court asked the State for help in alleviating the constant traffic congestion. This particular night, the traffic was backed up for two miles and the entire police shift was there trying to sort out the mess.^{cxxvi}

June of 1988 saw a lightning strike silence the dispatch call center in the Police Department. It remained out for 15 hours after a lightning bolt hit the tower at headquarters. Officer Scott Bauerle was holding a telephone, with his body touching the radio console table when the strike occurred. He was knocked about six feet across the room. Luckily, he only suffered a bruised finger from the ordeal, after being in the hospital for observation for a few days. This was the second- or third-time lightning had hit the building since it was built in 1979, according to Chief Bridges.^{cxxvii}

By 1990, Fiscal Court voted unanimously to stop dispatching for all of unincorporated county area except Fort Thomas and Newport, saving the County at least \$100,000. This was the beginning of the Campbell County Consolidated Dispatch Center as we know it now. There were dispatch centers in Fort Thomas, Newport and Campbell County Police headquarters at the time.^{cxxviii}

Also, in 1990, the Police Department had 6 vacancies and 18 Officers, most of whom were working overtime to fill patrol slots. The DARE program was started as well.^{cxxix}

In 1992, Fiscal Court hired a Public Safety Officer, Bill Van Strohe, former US Deputy Marshall, who would oversee operations of the Police Department, Office of Emergency Management, and the Detention Center. Chief Bridges cited this hire as a “factor” in his decision to retire in 1993, but wouldn’t elaborate. He stated “There gets to be a time when you have to leave or you never will.” Chief Bridges currently resides in Florida with his wife.^{cxxx}

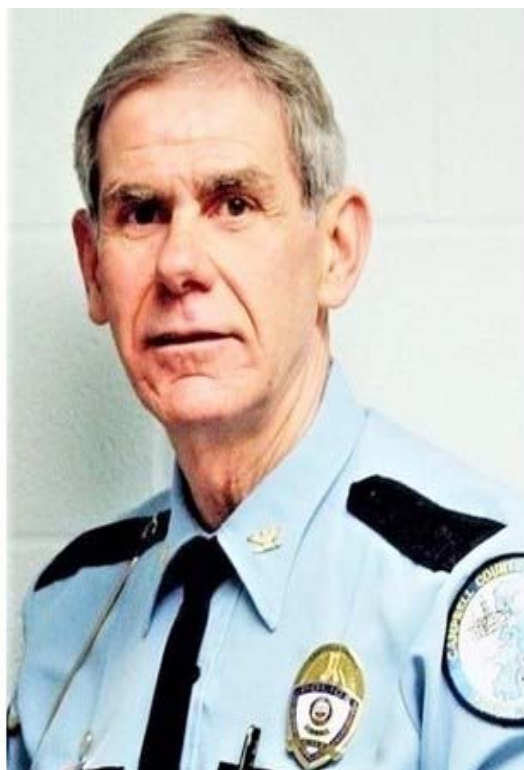
Two notable deaths while Bridges was in office were those of Officer Richard Gegan and Thomas Noonan.

Richard Gegan was hired by Campbell County Police in 1936. He remained on the force until his retirement in 1981. He was acting Chief several times throughout those 45 years. Even on the date of his retirement, fellow Officers said the Gegan could outrun any one of them, being a prime physical specimen and never having been seen drinking or smoking, and exercising regularly. Officers stated he looked twenty years younger than his age. Richard was described as empathetic towards his men and sympathetic to community needs. He was “the coolest man I’d ever met, without being cold” said Bruce Collins. He remained absolutely calm in every circumstance. Richard was survived by his wife, Mathilda and their two daughters Patricia and Maureen.^{cxxxi}

Officer Thomas Noonan, although not a Campbell County Police Department Officer, was killed in the line of duty on his way to a false burglar alarm at a Boron Gas Station near Northern Kentucky University. He lost control of his cruiser on Johns Hill Road in Highland Heights, with the cruiser struck a utility pole, went airborne, overturned and ejected Noonan. He was a controversial Officer, but devotedly religious, carrying a bible and spending his lunch break at Mass. He began his career in Newport in 1984, and was a Highland Heights Police Officer for two years before his death. You may recognize his name on the front of the FOP #10

building on Mary Ingles Highway in Silver Grove, as “Noonan Hall”^{cxxxii}.

During Chief Bridges time in office, several changes took place. The uniform hats and style of the badges were changed. A new digital phone system was installed at Headquarters with all incoming and outgoing calls recorded. There was one line installed for personal phone calls at the time. Take home cruisers with restrictions were approved. Each Officer got a personal radio with a panic button. 911 systems were upgraded, as well as dispatch equipment. The LINK/NCIC Terminal was also upgraded. A Rules and Regulations Manual was established, previously nothing had been in writing, as well as Standard Operating Procedures. Vacation checks were started. Two canine teams and an Accident Reconstructionist were added, as well as several female employees along with full time civilian clerks and dispatchers. Semi-automatic pistols were issued by the department, as opposed to Officer supplied weapons. Range qualifications were set to semi-annually. A Command Center bus equipped with radios and a cell phone were made available. The huge radio antenna was added to the US 27 side of the building (dismantled in January of 2020). Salary increases were initiated, as well as the Field Training Officer program. Formalized budgets and budget requests, as well as Annual Reports were introduced as well, under Chief Bridges.^{cxxxiii}



David Herman Sandfoss 1994-2004

David was the first child born in 1945 at Spears Hospital. His parents were Joseph and Helen of Camp Springs, Kentucky. He was married to his wife Anita for 56 years and they had four daughters, Melanie, Monica, Molly and Maria. Sandfoss was hired as a Patrolman on April 1, 1973 and was a Lieutenant, an Assistant Chief, a Major and acting Chief twice while employed at the Department. In May 1994, he was promoted to Chief of Police, replacing retired Chief Bridges. He retired in 2004 with 31 years of service to his credit, all of them with this department.^{cxxxiv}

Sandfoss had several interesting cases during his tenure as Chief. In May of 1994, the Kuhnhiem residence on Dobbiling Lane was broken into by two intruders. Wayne and his son Randy, fought with at least one of the intruders, hitting one on the head with a skillet and getting one into a chokehold. Michael Eversole, 20, of Silver Grove was pronounced dead at 6:30 am in the Kuhnhiem's

bedroom, while the other intruder fled. The two suspects had broken in through a basement door, allegedly had several sets of handcuffs and a weapon that was fired. The family knew one of the intruders, who had lived with them the previous summer. There was no word if the other intruder was apprehended.^{cxxxv}

In April 1995, 85-year-old Reade Smith of Melbourne was beaten to death in his home. Smith was a widower, suffering from diabetes and recently had undergone cancer surgery. He rented several tracts along the river near the Harrison Boat Harbor. The investigation revealed a total of 5 suspects. Richard Yelton, 18, was sentenced to life in prison for murder and robbery. Ricky Lee Leap, 28, and Earl Boggs, 23, were sentenced to 5 years each for theft. Jane Bauer, 18 was tried in juvenile court. James Willman, age unknown, was found guilty of murder and robbery and got life in prison as well. Yelton's testimony saved him from the possibility of the electric chair. James Willman was Smith's neighbor at the time of the murder. They used beer bottles to beat Smith to death.^{cxxxvi}

In December 1996, the body of a young woman was found in a cistern in rural Campbell County. She was nude and badly decomposed with no identification. The coroner's autopsy listed her cause of death as drowning, with cocaine in her system. A clay model of her face was made by forensic anthropologist Emily Craig to help and identify her. She was later identified as Jackie Bonner. This case remained a cold case with no suspects until 2013, when Robert Morgan called Crime Stoppers to report that he had murdered two women in northern Kentucky. Robert Morgan confessed to killing Bonner after a fight over drugs by hitting her in the head with a rock, panicking, and dumping her in the cistern. He also confessed to strangling and stabbing Vera Harrison of Dayton, another cold case. Morgan was sentenced to thirty years in prison.^{cxxxvii}

1996 brought the case of Krista Renee Cox-Heras. A fisherman found a submerged car in a pond on Miller Road. County Police and water rescue were called in to pull the car. Once pulled, officers ran the license plate and found it belonged to the missing girl. A search of the car produced the body of missing 26-year-old Krista in the car's trunk. There were no outward signs to determine cause of death, and a large log had been jammed against the car's accelerator. Krista was from Covington, and was described by her neighbors as a quiet girl, keeping to herself. During the missing person's investigation, Krista's ex-husband, Danny Heras, admitted to strangling her, stuffing her body in the trunk and dumping the car in the pond. He admitted to attacking her in her sleep, tying her hands behind her back and choking her to death. Heras gave no motive or explanation for the killing, only saying he was "sorry". Danny Heras was sentenced to 35 years in prison.^{cxxxviii}

In 2000, talks began about merging the current three dispatch centers that were operating in Campbell County. Officers and civilian dispatchers were operating in what is now the Chief's Office at the CCPD Headquarters on Constable Drive. Sandfoss supported such a merger that would ultimately save the County money, and offer dispatchers more training, technology and improve services. Eventually, this did take place, making way for the new Campbell County Consolidated Dispatch Center in Newport.^{cxxxix}

In January 2002, James Kirk, robbed a bank in central Kentucky and led Officers on a five-hour chase towards Alexandria. Eight-year veteran Officer, Steve Ellison, spotted the suspect in a stolen pick up truck and followed him, awaiting backup. The suspect pulled in to a driveway off Moreland Drive. The suspect jumped out of the truck, firing on Ellison, who ducked, put his cruiser in reverse, down an embankment into a tree. He drew his weapon, not

knowing what the suspect would do next. The suspect appeared in the truck, driving around the house, and gunfire was exchanged between the two. Ellison fired eight shots, missing Kirk. Ellison was wounded superficially in the head, abdomen and leg. As he radioed for help, the suspect took off back down 27 towards the Ameristop gas station, where he was surrounded by responding Officers. Kirk ended the entire ordeal by taking his life while surrounded near the gas pumps.^{cxl}

The following January of 2003, a suspect was brought into the Police Headquarters for a breathalyzer test. Recording a .16 (twice the legal limit), the suspect was placed in the holding cell off the main office (currently the supply closet). While being held, the suspect used his own belt to attempt to hang himself from the door closer in the cell. He was being checked according to policy, and current Captain Tom Nitschke (on new hire probation at the time) and Officer Nate Boggs freed him during a routine check. His attempt was unsuccessful. The incident happened one day before construction of a new holding cell was to begin. As of 2022, there is no longer a holding cell at headquarters.^{cxli}



Keith D. Hill 2004-2014

Keith Hill was born in 1959 to parents Kenneth and Margaret Hill. He was raised in Florence, Kentucky. Keith and his wife Martha Ann have two daughters, Emily and Ellen, and they currently reside in Alexandria.

Keith was hired by CCPD in 1982 and finished his Graduated Law Enforcement Basic Training in April of 1983. He was selected as a Child Abuse and Neglect Detective (a first for the Department) in 1987. Hill was promoted to Sergeant in 1998, and Lieutenant in 1991. During this time, he was a Shift Commander and the Commander of the Dispatch Center. In 1994, he was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel, becoming the Accreditation Manager and Commander of the School Resource Officer Program. He

implemented the Nation Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS) for the Department and also attended the FBINA in 1996. Hill was also assigned temporarily as the Chief Deputy Jailer at the Detention Center in 1998. From August 2004 until November 2004, he was named Interim Chief, and served as Chief of Police from December 1, 2004 until his retirement on August 1st of 2014. Chief Hill was also on the local law enforcement Block Grant Advisory Board, he was President of the Northern Kentucky Association of Chiefs and in 2008, he was awarded with the Northern Kentucky Area Development District's "Public Service Contributor's Award."

During Chief Hill's tenure, he put dash cams in every cruiser, started the Anonymous Tip Line, put MDT's in the cruisers and introduced the current cruiser design. He implemented AR rifles in the department, started the "Fit for Duty" award, the Honor Guard, Volunteers in Police Service (VIPS) Program, current Facebook page, and the Citizen's Police Academy.

In the mid-2000's, the Department teamed up with Highland Heights Police Department in a sting operation the catch pedophiles. Seven men were arrested and the sting was filmed for the show "To Catch a Predator".^{cxliii}

On May 17th 2005, a frantic Amy Bosley called 911. She claimed an intruder was inside their cabin just off the old roadside park on US 27 near Grant's Lick. This intruder had shot her husband, Bob Bosley, knocked Amy to the ground and was headed towards her two sleeping children upstairs. Officers responded quickly, setting up a perimeter in the early morning hours and putting a nearby school on lockdown. When the chaos subsided and the investigation began, it was clear Amy's story didn't quite add up. After many hours of crime scene evidence collection and interviews of Amy and others, it became clear that not everything was as it seemed. The investigation showed that Amy Bosley not only killed

her husband while he lay in bed, shooting him six times with a 9 mm handgun, she then staged the house to look like it was a bungled burglary, ransacking it, and breaking glass from the inside of the house. The investigation showed that unbeknownst to Bob, their successful roofing business was about to be investigated for tax evasion totaling \$1.7 million. Amy was the office manager and the IRS was planning a visit the very next day. She was arrested ten days after Bob's death. Amy plead not guilty to murder and tampering charges (casings were found wrapped in laundry at the bottom of the washing machine and she concealed the murder weapon in a purse that was consequently removed from the scene.) and held on a one-million-dollar cash bond. After agreeing to a plea deal, Amy Bosley was sentenced to 25 years in prison. Due to good behavior credit, at the time of this writing, she is due to be released mid-May 2022.^{cxliiii}



This case was featured on several television shows such as “Snapped” and “Forensic Files” to name a few, as well as many true-crime internet blogs.

In 2007, Campbell County Police Department sadly lost one of their own to cancer. Detective Jason “Woody” Faulkner, lost his battle with cancer. Jason was hired with CCPD in 1998 and rose through the ranks to become a Youth Services Detective, investigating crimes against children. The current “Woody Faulkner Golf Outing” is named for Jason and benefits the FOP Cops and Kids Program. Jason was survived by his wife Annie and was only 30 years old at the time of his passing.



After Chief Hill's retirement in August of 2014, Assistant Chief Todd Straman (retired from CCPD with 32 years) was named as Interim Chief as the hiring process began for the next Chief of Police.^{cxliv}



Craig Patrick Sorrell 2015-Present (2022)

Originally from North Concord, Vermont, he moved to Panama City Beach, Florida in 1983. He is married to Jessica Sorrell and has a daughter named Brianna and a Step-son, Roman, from a previous marriage. After graduating high school, he joined the US Army serving as a heavy equipment operator, military police officer, military police investigator, and special agent, thereafter retiring as a Chief Warrant Officer. During his 20 years in the Army Craig served on Active Duty, in the National Guard, and the Army Reserves both stateside and overseas. On the day of the 9/11 attacks, his unit was called up to assist with the recovery/scene processing of the Pentagon. Subsequently, he would be called upon again to serve an additional two years at the Pentagon providing personal security to the Secretary and Assistant Secretary of Defense as well as the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Joint Chief of Staff, completing his call up while serving as the Personal Security Officer for Marine Corp General Peter Pace.

Prior to coming to the CCPD Craig was a police officer with the Lexington, KY Police Department for 23 years. During his time with Lexington, beyond being an Officer, Sergeant, and Lieutenant in patrol, he was a Homicide Detective and held a variety of assignments as a Lieutenant including: Narcotics Enforcement Unit; Drug Enforcement Agency Task Force, Prescription Fraud Unit; Alcohol Beverage Control/Vice Unit, Intelligence Unit; Drug Court; Forensic Services Unit, Polygraph, the Backgrounds Investigation Unit, and Assistant Commander of the Training Section. At his retirement Craig was the Commander of the Training Section responsible for police academy and in-service training.^{cxlv}

Chief Sorrell has instituted many changes and upgrades thus far within the Police Department. These changes included Body Worn Cameras for each Officer, along with a digital evidence software system that simplified retention periods and file sharing between the Department and the various Prosecutor's offices. He also transitioned the Department to electronic record keeping, mostly eliminating the need for paper copies. Changes and updates to policy were done, with special regard to limiting police pursuits. Under Chief Sorrell, the building has received several needed upgrades and updates, including freshening up the Squad room, kitchen, men's and women's restroom and the addition of Officer's lockers, and improved evidence and evidence processing equipment and storage. The department also transitioned to a new standard duty uniform and department issued Glock handguns with optics. The fleet is currently also in the process of transitioning to all SUV style cruisers, better suited for some of the unincorporated County terrain. Chief Sorrell expanded the Department by adding a full time Electronic Crime Unit Detective, and through the help of the Victim's of Crime Act grant, a Police Social Worker was added in 2021. Silver Grove Police Department was acquired by Campbell

County Police in 2016, allowing the city to have a dedicated Officer there each day on second shift. The Crisis Assistance Response Effort Team (CARE) was also formed under Chief Sorrell. This was a voluntary team of Officers that were given the resources to help victims' or families during and after a crisis situation. The School Resource Officer program was also expanded, to add an additional Officer at the High School, as well as at Reiley and Grant's Lick Elementary Schools.

A historic hire for the Police Department occurred in 2015, with the hiring of the department's first African American Officer. Officer Alex Turner came to the Department from Cleveland Police, where he served as a Detective, Bomb Squad Team Member, as well as a member of both Bike and Foot Patrols. Officer Turner brought over 22 years of policing experience to the Department, where he currently serves as a Patrol Officer, CARE Team member, Driving Instructor, CIT Officer, Bike Patrol member and Department Chaplain.



In Sorrell's seven years in office so far, three cases stood out and undoubtedly received the most attention.

In March 2016, 911 received a call for a chain-reaction collision on the Combs Hehl Bridge, with what appeared to be one vehicle

climbing up the 3-foot concrete side barrier, falling into the Ohio River down below. Witnesses saw a red passenger car go over the side with unknown occupants. Rumors flew, as some thought they saw several victims in the water at the time. Crews responded, including Boone County Water Rescue, who tried to immediately get a diver in the water to attach a line to the sonar indicated vehicle. Unfortunately, the river current was at five miles per hour, and caused the diver to get wrapped up in his equipment and abandon the attempt. The river proved to be uncooperative in the rescue attempt for a long eleven days, due to swift currents and poor weather conditions. On the eleventh day, water rescue again dove, located the upside-down car and were able to bring it to the surface. The river was shut down during the day long mission. Once the car was on shore, investigators located one deceased male, David Bouma of Milford, inside. Bouma had succumbed to head trauma, most likely on impact into the river. A missing person's report had been filed just days after the accident, helping detectives to identify the victim. Due to the river conditions, the car was 90% filled with debris and sand when it was recovered. It was determined that one of the cars in the chain reaction collision made contact with Bouma's car and "pushed" it up and over the barrier in a freak accident. Shortly after this accident, the height of the barriers on the bridge were raised.^{cxlvi}

In February of 2017, the case of Retired Campbell County Judge and Tim Nolan was under investigation. Nolan was a past Newport City Solicitor in the 70's, as well as a Republican Party leader in Campbell County. He also ran and won a seat on the Campbell County School Board. A controversial public figure, Nolan was also appointed by Governor Bevin as one of four members of the first Kentucky Boxing and Wrestling Commission, but was removed from that office days later for an offensive social media post. The

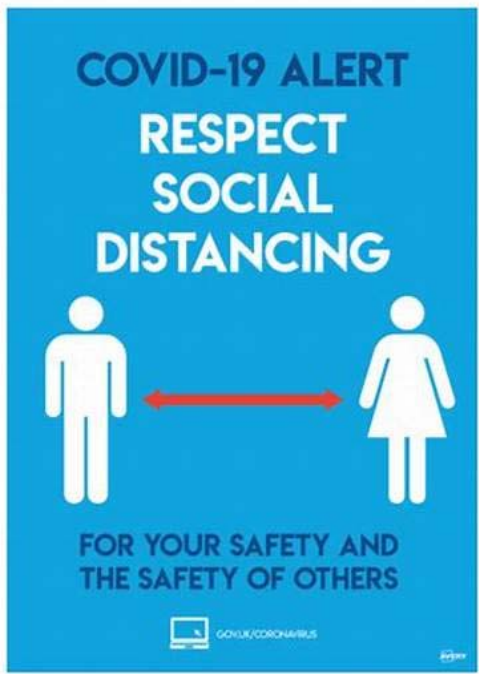
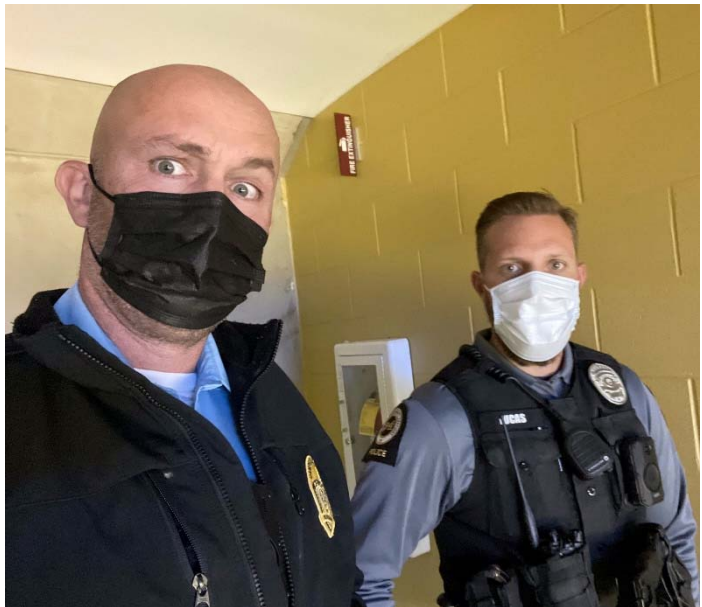
Campbell County Police investigation ended with Nolan being charged with 28 felonies, including charges of rape, human trafficking, witness tampering, prostitution, unlawful transaction with a minor and sodomy. Nolan had a total of 22 found victims, including eight juveniles. He initially plead not guilty, but almost a year later, changed his plea to guilty to 21 counts. He was sentenced to 20 years at the Northpoint Training Center at the age of 71 and was ordered to pay a \$100,000 fine. He is still serving out his sentence at the time of this writing.^{cxlvii}

Adding to the detective 2017 caseload was the 2017 shooting of Cheryl Allender. Police responded to the Allender residence to find John "Will" Allender in the front yard, and his wife Cheryl deceased in the doorway with several gunshot wounds. Will and Cheryl, Cheryl's father and the couple's six children lived at the residence. The couple was separated at the time, with Cheryl having sought out the assistance of a divorce attorney. Their relationship had been a tense one, with previous domestic incidents and a fight that morning over filling up a gas tank for a lawn mower that Cheryl's dad had been mowing with. At the time of the shooting, Will claimed that Cheryl had entered his room without permission, and with what he thought was a gun. Will claimed he felt threatened and shot his wife in self-defense. Cheryl ended up dead in the threshold of the doorway to that room, with three bullet wounds to the head and one to her arm. Detectives found a gun under Cheryl's arm, but her father adamantly claimed she was unarmed. The found gun was used by Will and his girlfriend at a shooting range the weekend prior, and Allender claimed he had given it back to Cheryl. Will was held on \$1 Million dollars bond, and showed no emotion in the courtroom. He had been married twice before, with he and his first wife both having filed EPO's on each other. Will worked as an IRS tax preparer and Cheryl worked as a deli clerk at the California

Marketplace. A jury found Will Allender guilty of murder and tampering with a witness, with the judge sentencing him to life in prison in the summer of 2021. He is eligible for parole in 2037.^{cxlviii}

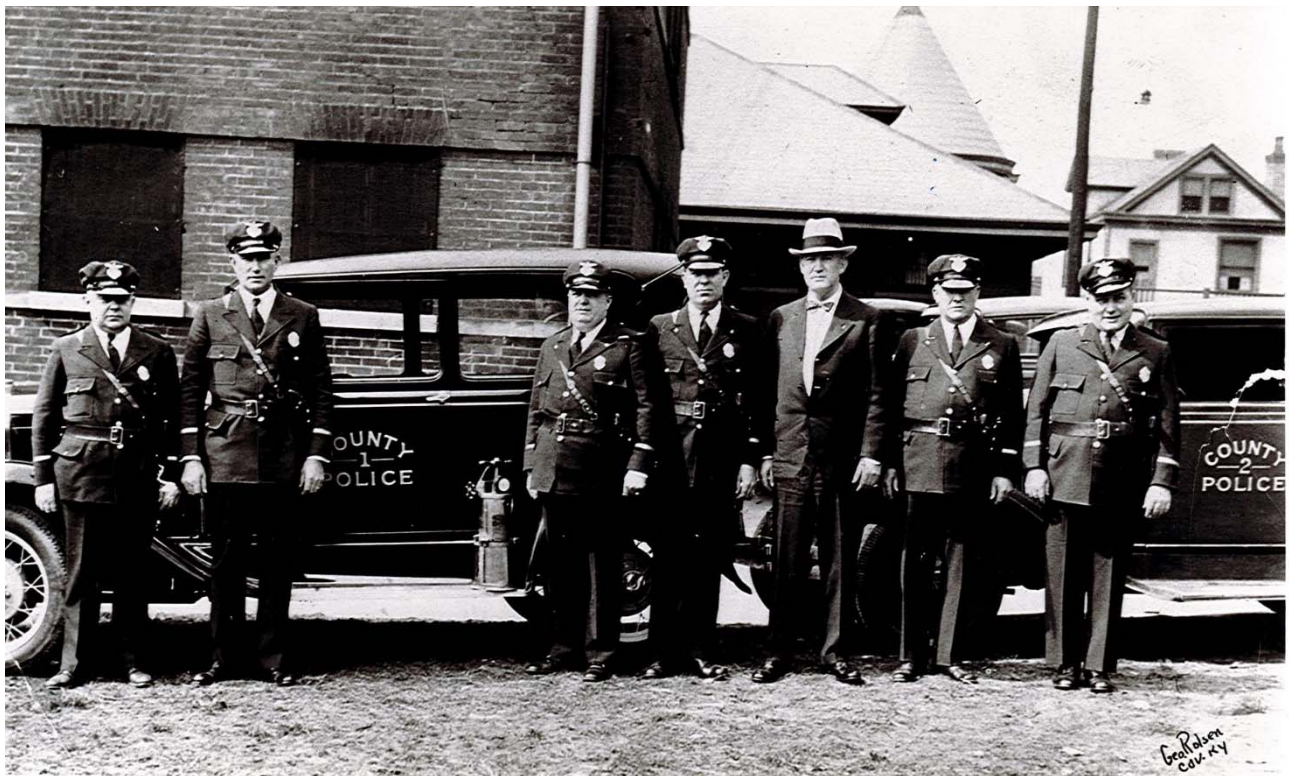
Perhaps the biggest news during Chief Sorrel's tenure wasn't a criminal case at all, but a worldwide Pandemic known as Covid-19, that reared its ugly head in early 2020. News first spread about the unknown virus in late February/early March, with cases starting in China. Quickly, cases spread worldwide, shutting down everything from air travel to schools. In uncharted waters, the Police Department found itself trying to not only protect the community from crime, but also protect its employees from a deadly virus. As cases rose and tempers flared nationwide, there were food shortages, entire schools and colleges moved to online classes, airline flights cancelled, parties and all events were cancelled and lock-downs put in place. Courts closed and cases were postponed, in some cases for over two years. Life truly changed for everyone. Face masks, gloves and hand sanitizer became a part of the uniform, and Officers were asked to not mingle at the office, and meet with victim's and suspects outside if possible. The Department adapted by taking many calls and reports by phone, ensuring that the public was still being safely served. Command staff and Detectives rotated between the office and working remotely, as to keep a bare minimum of employees exposed to not only the public, but to each other. More than half the Department ended up contracting the virus, with only a few thankfully having severe cases. The Police Department was also called on voluntarily to help staff the Campbell County Jail, due to the large number of Deputy Jailers that were out sick due to the virus. One of the unprecedented outcomes of the virus was the "quarantining" that was required if you had an exposure or symptoms. This quarantine policy caused many employees to be off of work for 2 weeks or

more from the time of exposure or positive test. “Social Distancing” became the norm, elective surgeries were cancelled, anti-mask protests flared as well as tempers, nationwide. When a vaccine became available, it was a matter of relief to some, and even more protest to others. In 2022, we are still seeing the effects of Covid-19. Living in what seems to be a “new normal”, although the cases have dropped despite several virus variants, everyone has learned to live with the virus the best they can.

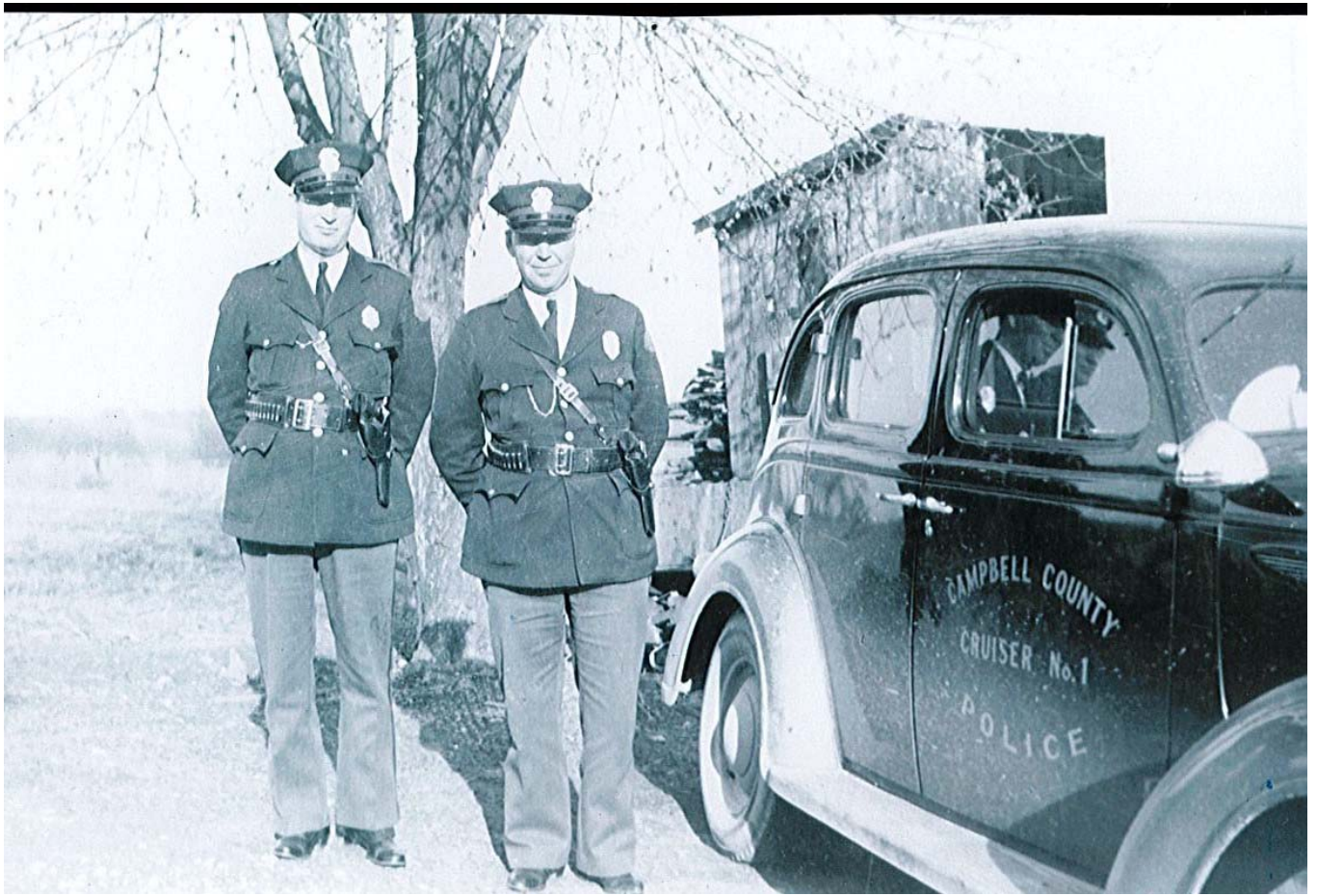


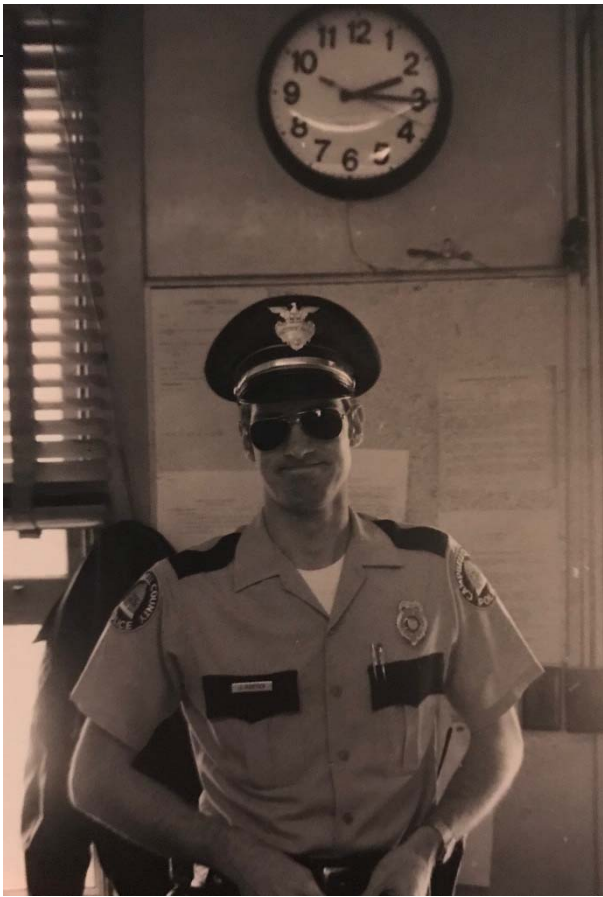
In Conclusion

At the time of this writing, May 2022, the Department is poised to celebrate it's "Official" 100 years of Police Service this June. What started as a simple request letter to look into Chief Benz' death while on duty, has turned into a several year long quest to track down as much history as we could, utilizing the Kenton County online library, various internet websites, and talking to employees and retirees. I'm sure some details have been lost to bad memories or inaccurate newspaper clippings. It would be impossible to tell the entire story of the Campbell County Police Department, with all it's past employees, cases, suspects, victims, and stories. I hope that this small collection of stories and histories does the Department some justice. This Department's history will continue to write itself over the years, adding even more for the next person to discover. One thing is for certain, whether it be 100 years or 500 years of service, the Campbell County Police Department and its employees have dedicated their careers to serving the community of Campbell County to the best of their abilities.



Campbell County Police Department, Circa 1930





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- ⁱ Wikipedia
- ⁱⁱ Kentucky Post, July 15, 1895
- ⁱⁱⁱ Kentucky Post, July 15, 1895
- ^{iv} Kentucky Post, May 16, 1898
- ^v Kentucky Post, March 18, 1898
- ^{vi} Campbell County Fiscal Court Meeting Minutes 1916-1921
- ^{vii} Anestry.com, John Baptist Sheeran
- ^{viii} Various Cincinnati Enquirer Articles from 1902-1921
- ^{ix} Cincinnati Enquirer, November 20, 1913
- ^x Kentucky Post, June 4, 1914
- ^{xi} Campbell County Fiscal Court Books 1922
- ^{xii} Kentucky Post, June 14, 1922
- ^{xiii} Kentucky Post, February 20, 1923
- ^{xiv} Kentucky Post, September 4, 1925
- ^{xv} Kentucky Post, September 8, 1925
- ^{xvi} Kentucky Enquirer, July 21, 1944
- ^{xvii} Kentucky Post, January 21, 1926
- ^{xviii} Findagrave.com, Ancestry.com, John J Higgins
- ^{xix} Kentucky Post, October 11, 1927
- ^{xx} Kentucky Post, May 31, 1927
- ^{xxi} Kentucky Post, April 28, 1929
- ^{xxii} Kentucky Post, May 13, 1933
- ^{xxiii} Ancestry.com, Findagrave.com, Kentucky Post, April 20, 1930
- ^{xxiv} Kentucky Post, June 18, 1930
- ^{xxv} Cincinnati Enquirer, March 25, 1932
- ^{xxvi} Kentucky Post, September 19, 1931
- ^{xxvii} Kentucky Post, September 8, 1931
- ^{xxviii} Cincinnati Enquirer, July 29, 1932
- ^{xxix} Cincinnati Enquirer, August 2, 1931
- ^{xxx} Cincinnati Enquirer, March 25, 1934 and Kentucky Post, November 22, 1934
- ^{xxxi} Ancestry.com, Kentucky Post, October 20, 1934
- ^{xxxii} Kentucky Post, January 2, 1934
- ^{xxxiii} Kentucky Post, January 2, 1935
- ^{xxxiv} Kentucky Post, January 1, 1936
- ^{xxxv} Kentucky Post, January 29, 1934
- ^{xxxvi} Kentucky Post, September 27, 1934
- ^{xxxvii} Kentucky Post, February 18, 1936
- ^{xxxviii} Ancestry.com, Findagrave.com, James Manning Reed Wood
- ^{xxxix} Ancestry.com, Findagrave.com, Edwin Erwin Offenbacher
- ^{xl} Kentucky Post, June 14, 1934
- ^{xli} Kentucky Post, May 3, 1935
- ^{xlii} Cincinnati Enquirer, December 31, 1937
- ^{xliii} Kentucky Post, September 13, 1937
- ^{xliv} Kentucky Post, May 13, 1936
- ^{xlv} Kentucky Post, February 2, 1937
- ^{xlvi} Cincinnati Enquirer, June 8, 1937
- ^{xlvii} Kentucky Post, January 1, 1937 and Cincinnati Enquirer January 1, 1937
- ^{xlviii} Kentucky Post, October 8, 1937
- ^{xlix} Kentucky Post, December 3, 1937 and Ancestry.com
- ^l Findagrave.com and Ancestry.com
- ^{li} Cincinnati Enquirer, May 18, 1938, July 1, 1938
- ^{lii} Cincinnati Enquirer, January 8, 1938
- ^{liii} Cincinnati Enquirer, October 24, 1939
- ^{liv} Cincinnati Enquirer, September 23, 1943, November 28, 1943 and February 1, 1944
- ^{lv} Findagrave.com, Chief Julius Leonard Plummer, Jr.
- ^{lvi} Ancestry.com, Findagrave.com, Officer Down Memorial Page, internet.

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- lvii Cincinnati Enquirer November 24, 25 1944
- lviii Cincinnati Enquirer, June 14, 1944
- lix Cincinnati Enquirer, October 4, 1945
- lx Cincinnati Enquirer, November 7, 1945
- lxi Cincinnati Enquirer, December 10, 1945
- lxii Cincinnati Enquirer, May 1, 1946
- lxiii Cincinnati Enquirer, August 20, 1946
- lxiv Cincinnati Enquirer, August 20, 1946
- lxv Cincinnati Enquirer, April 20, 1947
- lxvi Cincinnati Enquirer, November 13, 1947
- lxvii Cincinnati Enquirer, May 23, 1948.
- lxviii Cincinnati Enquirer, September 21, 22, 26 1948. Kentucky Post, September 22, 1948. Officer Down Memorial Page, Internet.
- lxix Ancestry.com, Findagrave.com
- lxx Kentucky Post, October 1, 1948
- lxxi Cincinnati Enquirer, November 12, 1948
- lxxii Cincinnati Enquirer, October, 8, 1949
- lxxiii Cincinnati Enquirer, December 29, 1949
- lxxiv Cincinnati Enquirer, January 1, 1950
- lxxv Cincinnati Enquirer, December 15, 16, 18, 25 and 27, 1950
- lxxvi Ancestry.com, Findagrave.com
- lxxvii Cincinnati Enquirer, December 16, 17 1950. March 2, 1951
- lxxviii Kentucky Post, March 29, 1951
- lxxix Kentucky Post, October 17, 2000
- lxxx Ancestry.com, Findagrave.com
- lxxxi Cincinnati Enquirer, April 26, 1952
- lxxxii Cincinnati Enquirer, May 6, 1952
- lxxxiii Cincinnati Enquirer, July 22, 1952
- lxxxiv Cincinnati Enquirer, July 2, 1952
- lxxxv Cincinnati Enquirer, August 15, 1952
- lxxxvi Cincinnati Enquirer, December 3, 1952
- lxxxvii Cincinnati Enquirer, December 12, 1952
- lxxxviii Cincinnati Enquirer, January 2, 1953
- lxxxix Campbell County Police Department Merit Board Meeting Minutes Book, CCPD Basement.
- xc Cincinnati Enquirer, January 25, 1953
- xcj Cincinnati Enquirer, November 27, 1953
- xcii Cincinnati Enquirer, June 18, 1954
- xciii Cincinnati Enquirer, December 12, 1954
- xciv Cincinnati Enquirer, July 29, 1954, January 6 and 7, 1955
- xcv Cincinnati Enquirer, June 17, 1989
- xcvi Ancestry.com, Findagrave.com, Kentucky Post, December 1, 1955
- xcvii Kentucky Post, July 2, 1955
- xcviii Cincinnati Enquirer, December 11, 1955
- xcix Cincinnati Enquirer, January 1, February 1, 7 1955 and Kentucky Post February 20, 1956
- c Kentucky Post, March 8, 1956
- ci Kentucky Post, January 13, 1956
- cii Ancestry.com and Findagrave.com
- ciii Kentucky Post, December 3, 1954
- civ Kentucky Post, March 16, 1956
- cv Kentucky Post, March 8, 1957
- cvi Ancestry.com and findagrave.com, Conversations with Jack Porter (Grandson)
- cvii Cincinnati Enquirer 1959 and October 22, 1959
- cviii Internal CCPD Memorandum
- cix Cincinnati Enquirer, October 6, 1959
- cx Cincinnati Enquirer, October 4, 1960
- cxj Kentucky Post, June 26, 1962. January 25, 1962. June 22, 1962. January 22, 1962. December 22, 1962.
- cxii Cincinnati Enquirer, August 29, 1964
- cxiii Cincinnati Enquirer, September 1, 1964
- cxiv Cincinnati Enquirer, January 15, 1967

cxv Cincinnati Enquirer, February 23, 1967
cxvi Cincinnati Enquirer, November 15, 1967
cxvii Cincinnati Enquirer, December 9, 1969
cxviii Cincinnati Enquirer, February 20, 1973
cxix Cincinnati Enquirer, June 18, 1975
cxx Cincinnati Enquirer, July 1975
cxxi Cincinnati Enquirer, December 24, 1977
cxxii Cincinnati Enquirer, September 1, 1964
cxxiii Cincinnati Enquirer, June 17, 1988
cxxiv Various emails with Chief Bridges
cxxv Cincinnati Enquirer, August 22, 1984
cxxvi Cincinnati Enquirer, August 23, 1984
cxxvii Cincinnati Enquirer, June 22, 1988
cxxviii Kentucky Post, April 5, 1990
cxxix Kentucky Post, August 27, 1990
cxxx Kentucky Post, May 28, 1992 and March 16, 1993
cxxxi Cincinnati Enquirer, March 10, 1986
cxxxii Cincinnati Enquirer, September 12, 1988
cxxxiii Conversations with Chief Bridges
cxxxiv Kentucky Post, March 16, 1993 and Legacy.com
cxxxv Kentucky Post, May 18, 1994
cxxxvi Kentucky Post, April 25, 1995
cxxxvii Kentucky Post, March 26, 1997
cxxxviii Kentucky Post, June 28, 1999
cxxxix Kentucky Post, April 18, 2000
cxli Kentucky Post, January 22, 2002
cxlii Kentucky Post, January 9, 2003
cxliii Emails with Chief Keith Hill
cxliiii Kentucky Post, June 7, 2005
cxliv Community Press, June 16, 2014
cxlv Emails with Chief Craig Sorrell
cxlvi Cincinnati Enquirer, March 26, 2016
cxlvii Wikipedia, Tim Nolan
cxlviii Cincinnati Enquirer, June 1, 2017