



MIDFIELD
HENRY COUNTY FOOTBALL TEAMS • ROSTERS • SCHEDULES

Special Section • Friday, August 21, 2020

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GRAPHICS BY TIFFANY POWELL | P-1

Great gridiron is back

Get up to speed on this year's Henry County High School Patriot football season before tonight's game with the 2020 Midfield guide. The 16-page special section is bulging with facts on each Henry County team, including rosters and schedules.

Henry couple wakes up to find their home on fire

BY JUSTIN HODGES
POST-INTELLIGENCER

A married couple was able to escape from their home after it caught fire early Wednesday morning in Henry.

A mobile home at 1431 Pettijohn Creek Road in Henry caught fire at 6:56 a.m. The blaze apparently began in an air conditioning unit.

According to an incident report by Deputy Frankie Scott of the Henry County Sheriff's Department, the Henry Volunteer Fire Department had

extinguished the flames before he arrived on the scene.

When Scott spoke with the home owners, Mike Canady and his wife Heather Canady, the two said they were asleep in the home and were woken up by fire alarms going off.

They found a window air conditioning unit had caught fire and flames were spreading through the inside of the house.

The Canadys escaped the building unharmed before calling 911.

Chief Keith Qualls of the Henry VFD said firefight-

ers responded with two fire engines and eight firefighters at 7:08 a.m.

They received assistance from the Mansfield Volunteer Fire Department, which sent one fire engine and two firefighters to the scene.

The fire was out within 10 minutes of the Henry VFD's arrival.

Qualls said the mobile home is still standing but the inside is entirely scorched, along with all of the couple's possessions.

Scott said the home is a total loss.

Damon Lowe confirms candidacy for sheriff

Longtime law enforcement veteran Damon Lowe announced his candidacy for Henry County sheriff Thursday morning.

Lowe, who has been chief deputy under Sheriff Monte Belew, is currently handling the duties of sheriff until the Nov. 3 election. His statement is as follows:

"I am formally announcing my candidacy for the office of sheriff of Henry County.

"I have been with the Sheriff's Office for over 34 years and I have had the opportunity to work with many great sheriffs and officers. I feel that I have learned a little something from each and every one of them along the way.

"I have the proven experience and knowledge to continue to lead Henry County in the positive direction we have come to know.



Damon Lowe

"I started work with the Sheriff's Office in 1985 as a deputy road officer. Through my career I have been promoted through the ranks to the positions of sergeant, investigator, director, captain and to my current position as chief deputy. I have worked in every department in the office

and I know what is required and expected from each section. With this hands-on experience I know that I am qualified and prepared for the job of sheriff.

"Being in my current position of chief deputy, I have worked hand in hand with Sheriff Monte Belew since his coming into this office. We have created many great programs for Henry County and with your help I plan to keep all of these programs strong. My plans are to continue to build and keep the office as a community-friendly Sheriff's Office. I feel that it takes all of us.

"I am proud to serve the citizens of Paris and Henry County and I am proud to be a member of the Henry County Sheriff's Office. I look forward, if given the opportunity, to being your next Sheriff."

Calloway County sheriff marked last day on the job Monday

EDITOR'S NOTE: The same day Henry County Sheriff Monte Belew announced his resignation, Calloway County Sheriff Sam Steger had his last day in office after resigning last week. The following story on Steger's last day appears courtesy of *The Murray Ledger & Times*.

BY JOHN WRIGHT
LEDGER & TIMES

"I'm going to be 10-7. Y'all have a good day."

That was how Sam Steger officially relinquished his post as Calloway County sheriff Monday morning, as he officially submitted his resignation from the office. Steger made public his intentions late last week, announcing that an opportunity with his family farm in Christian County was too good to let pass, bringing an end to a career that spanned 30 years, the last six as sheriff in a community where he has resided his entire career.

Then, seconds later, with

dispatcher Dan Galloway on the other end of the radio, came another transmission.

"Two Calloway ... I'm 10-7 as Unit 2, 10-8 Unit 1." That was how Steger's longtime friend, Calloway County native Nicky Knight, went from Steger's chief deputy to officially on duty as Steger's successor, having earlier been sworn in to the position by Calloway County Judge-Executive Kenny Imes in a ceremony attended by nearly every person in the Calloway County Sheriff's Office, as well as county officials.

"It's a relief to get the swearing in done and we're ready to keep moving forward," said Knight, who also has 30 years of law enforcement experience, having served stints with the Murray Police Department, Benton Police Department and CCSO. "It's not going to be any different, other than Sam being No. 1 and I being No. 2. Now, I'm No. 1 but, leadership wise, our style of leadership is the same.

"For the first four years, we could just about finish each other's sentences. We thought alike and it's been good being together. I've been in this for 30 years and, when he was a dispatcher (with what is now the Murray State University Police Department), he used to come and ride with me (when Knight was an MPD patrol officer), so he went his way (eventually to a 20-year stay with the Kentucky State Police)

and I went mine and our paths came back together."

Imes said that while losing Steger two years before his second term ended was difficult, he said the decision to tab Knight to finish that term was not.

"I don't think we could've done any better with the appointment," Imes said. "It's about continuity and a very easy transition. He's been, and I think Sam will tell you this, Sam's right arm through all of this and when Sam's been out of pocket for anything, I've been just as comfortable talking to Nick and he'd keep

me advised of any situation, as well as the magistrates."

Knight first entered law enforcement in his patrol officer role with the MPD from 1990-95 before he headed to nearby Benton, where he would stay until 2010, the last 10 years spent as a captain, which is the equivalent of an assistant chief. After retiring from Benton, he came back to his hometown, joining CCSO for a few years before coming back to the MPD as the school resource officer at Murray High School.

When Steger was elected sheriff in November 2014,

he said it suddenly dawned on him that he would need a chief deputy. He said it did not take long to begin focusing his attention on Knight, who also was his training officer after arriving at the MPD.

"I'll never forget it. I was on my back porch and I was racking my brain. Then I thought that the one person that has the same personality as me and has the same work ethic as me was Nicky. So, just like that, I knew who I wanted to choose," Steger said last week. "I thought Nicky would make a great one, if I could convince him to make that step (from

SRO at Murray High).

"He had already been here at the sheriff's office (under Sheriff Bill Marcum) and I was ecstatic when he said that he'd come on this trip with me. Not only did he bring his good leadership style here, but he had more recent experience at the sheriff's office than I did, so the guys already knew him. It wasn't like I was bringing somebody in from the outside that nobody knew and nobody trusted or didn't know what their work ethic was. They knew they were getting a solid chief.

"He's just an all-around great and respected man. His family is very well respected in the community and he is very respected in the law enforcement community."

Knight said he appreciates that Imes thought highly enough of him to appoint him to succeed Steger. However, he said it is the people of Calloway County who now will determine if he was the right choice.

"Don't get me wrong. I'm proud that (Imes) had the faith in me he did. But one man versus the majority of the county is two different things. Now, I'm going to make or break myself," he said of how this will be determined when he has served the remainder of Steger's term and runs for re-election in 2022. "Now, I'm going to show that we can continue on and do good things or I fall flat on my face.

"That's not an option."



Calloway County Judge-Executive Kenny Imes (right) shakes hands with new Calloway County Sheriff Nicky Knight Monday morning after Imes administered the oath of office to Knight at the Miller

Courthouse Annex in Murray. Knight was sworn in on the day his longtime friend Sam Steger resigned the office to pursue an opportunity on his family's farm in Christian County.

JOHN WRIGHT | LEDGER & TIMES

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