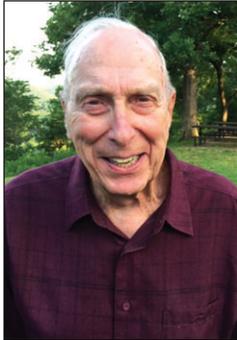


2019 Turkey Trot Grand Marshall named

Keeping with tradition, the 2019 Turkey Trot committee has selected as Grand Marshall an individual that has selflessly given, over many years, to our community. Roger Bates graduated from high school in Mountainburg, Arkansas and attended Hendrix College lettering in basketball, football, and track. The first commitment to Marion County came in 1969 when he and Shelby, his wife of 63 years, bought a cabin on Bull Shoals Lake for family vacations. They eventually settled in Yellville after his retirement from Southwestern Bell.



Recognizing an opportunity to utilize his phone company experience, Bates became a key member of the team struggling to put into effect the 911 emergency response system. "Without Roger," said Mayor Shawn Lane, "we probably would still be trying to implement 911. He stepped in and saw it to completion."

Bates has always been a 'go to' guy. He has been an active supporter of Yellville-Summit schools, the Yellville Chamber of Commerce, the First Presbyterian Church as a Ruling Elder and numerous nonprofit boards including School of New Hope and Twin Lakes Community Foundation. He was a board member of the Bank of Yellville continuing with Arvest Bank after the acquisition.

In the late 1990s he moderated a community meeting to discuss the idea (not his) to build a state penitentiary in Marion County. Discussion proved lively and the proposal was eventually withdrawn.

Please join in on Saturday, Oct. 12 to honor Roger Bates for all that he has done for our community as he leads the 74th Turkey Trot Parade.



Street dance tunes by Kickin Kountry

Kickin Kountry will supply the music for the Turkey Trot Street Dance on Friday, October 11. Kickin Kountry is a 5-piece band out of Harrison, Arkansas who is a honkytonk dance band and plays a little bit of everything. They have opened for Asleep at the Wheel, Bellamy Bros., Dan Seals, Narvel Felts, Judge Parker, Daryl Singletary, Jeff Carson, Rhett Akins, Chad Brock, to name a few. They also do some original music. Kickin Kountry has been around for more than 20 years in one form or fashion with several different members but with one constant - Duane Hoppis. The current installment of talented members are all seasoned musicians and songwriters including: Duane Hoppis: Lead Guitar, Vocals; Russell Joyner: Rhythm Guitar, Vocals; J.R. [Gene] Massengale : Bass Guitar; Ronda Harp : Drums, Vocals; Lynn Joyner : Vocals.

Everyone is invited to come out and listen to the great dance tunes at the Friday night street dance beginning at 7:00 p.m. on the square in Yellville.

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