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MONROE COUNTY THE CITIZEN

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Reflecting on a Busy 2019



Congressman James Comer
U.S. Representative,
1st District of Kentucky

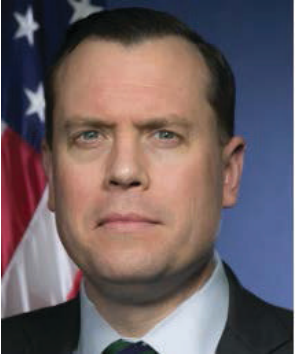
As we move into the New Year, I've been reflecting on what we have accomplished in 2019 on behalf of the 1st Congressional District. Every time I returned to Kentucky throughout 2019, I heard loud and clear the priorities of my constituents, which have been to enact policies that put working Americans first. While this year has offered unique challenges in a time of rising partisanship, many of my congressional colleagues and I have still made meaningful progress.

The year ended with equal parts accomplishment and frustration.

On a positive note, the House finally acted on the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA), President Trump's new and improved trade deal aimed at helping farmers, manufacturers, and America's middle class. My Republican colleagues and I have worked consistently to pressure House Democrats to bring the USMCA up for a vote, marking a major trade victory for President Trump. As a farmer and Kentucky's former Commissioner of Agriculture, moving forward on the USMCA was highly important to me so that our farmers could have access to new markets.

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Statement from U.S. Attorney on Pardons



U.S. Attorney Russell Coleman

"Regarding those who received state pardons by our former governor: If the underlying conduct took place in the Western District of Kentucky, it will be treated like any other violation of federal law. We will review the matter when brought to us by one of our Commonwealth's Attorney colleagues or a partner law enforcement agen-

cy and examine through the lens of the statute of limitations, double jeopardy, and evidentiary requirements to determine if it meets Department of Justice standards to then aggressively prosecute," said U.S. Attorney Russell Coleman. "The uniqueness of a situation following a state executive pardon will, however, require ultimate approval by the highest levels at the Department of Justice in Washington, D.C. I am particularly concerned about the risk to the public by those previously convicted of sex offenses, who by virtue of the state pardon, will not fall under any post-release supervision or be required to register as sex offenders."

Monroe County Indictments Burglary, drugs and sexual assault

JENNIFER MOONSONG
Central Division,
General Manager
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Luke Ballard, 53, of Monroe County was indicted on two counts of 1st degree sexual abuse of a minor under the age of 16.

Barrett Hamilton, 33, of Monroe County was indicted for trafficking in a controlled substance (methamphetamine), 1st degree, second count.

Rosemary Keith, 60, of Monroe County was indicted for traf-



ficking in a controlled substance (methamphetamine), 1st degree, second count.

Stephen Bell, 27, of Monroe County was indicted for trafficking in a controlled substance

(methamphetamine), 1st degree.

Sky Williams, 34, of Monroe County was indicted for trafficking in a controlled substance and trafficking in marijuana, while on parole

for a prior felony conviction.

Brian Walker, 36, of Monroe County was indicted for resisting arrest, fleeing the police on foot, operating a vehicle while under the influence of alcohol, and failing to signal.

Brian K. Elliott, 43, of Monroe County was indicted for possession of drug paraphernalia, operating a motor vehicle while intoxicated, possession of a controlled substance not in its original container

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Regional Feature

For the love of horses



Dr. Hughes opened her practice 10 years ago. Above, she is testing an equine blood sample.

JENNIFER MOONSONG
Central Division,
General Manager
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When Dr. DeAnn Hughes was still just a girl, she already knew she wanted to pursue a career as a veterinarian.

"I don't remember ever wanting to do anything else," Hughes said.

A lifelong love of horses

In Harrisburg, Illinois where she was born and raised, young DeAnn would visit the local veterinary clinic after school.

"I'd just go there and hang out," she said. "They were really nice to me."

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