

# Greensburg-Green County A proud past — A promising future *Way Back When*

BY CAROL DIAL  
SPECIAL TO THE R-H

**Feb. 2, 2011**  
**Committee to chose superintendent** - Six local residents make up a committee to screen candidates for the next superintendent of Green County schools.

**Unemployment remains high** - Green County's unemployment rate is 10.8 percent, up from 10.7 percent in November.

**Mission trip** - Several Green Countians were part of a group from Campbellsville University who made a mission trip to Haiti.

**New business opens** - Fred's Super Dollar opened Jan. 28 on Industrial Park Road.

**Jan. 31, 2001**  
**Fire departments funded** - Green County Fiscal Court voted to release \$150,000 in state funds to local fire departments.

**Cattlemen meet** - The Green County Cattlemen's Association met in an annual meeting to elect officers for 2001.

**WKU Honors Band** - GCHS students Jeremy Rafferty, Jordan Dial, Diane Dehoney, Cole Caven and Sayard Kelly were named to the Western Kentucky University Honors Band.

**Powell celebrates** - Hoddy Powell, who

was born Dec. 5, 1890, celebrated her 105th birthday at Green Hill Manor, where she has resided since 1971.

**Jan. 30, 1991**  
**Two injured** - George Kent Larimore and Michael Pickett were injured in a two-vehicle accident at the intersection of Hwy. 88 and 61.

**Fire damages home** - The home of Marvin Curry, Montgomery Mill Road, was damaged by fire.

**Lady Dragons win again** - The GCH Lady Dragons won their second consecutive 5th Region Class "A" championship with a 56-28 win over Campbellsville.

**Anderson called to duty** - Bobby L. Anderson, II, has been called to duty in the Persian Gulf.

**Jan. 29, 1981**  
**New fire truck** - The Greensburg Fire Department has purchased a new fire truck.

**Water expansion needed** - Over 300 people attended a meeting at the courthouse to express the need for expansion of the Green-Taylor Water District.

**TV satellite reception** - The means to receive transmissions of television signals from satellites is now available locally.

**Thurlow, Lurlia Simpson** - Employees

at Union Underwear are wearing yellow ribbons in remembrance of the released Middle East hostages.

**Feb. 4, 1971**  
**Family escapes fire** - The family of Mr. and Mrs. Billy Keltner, Taylor Avenue, were able to escape their burning home without injuries Thursday night.

**Emberton enters governor's race** - Thomas D. Emberton, an Edmonton attorney, has announced that he will seek the Republican nomination for governor of Kentucky.

**Outstanding young farmer** - Leon Phillips has been named the 1970 Outstanding Young Farmer in Green County.

**Obituaries** - Lois Chaudoin Milby, 74, Jan. 26; Lawrence Jenkins Curry, 68, Jan. 28.

**Feb. 3, 1961**  
**Slugged in parking lot** - Homer Handy, an employee of General Electric in Louisville, is in critical condition after being slugged and beaten in the GE parking lot.

**Trout released** - The Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife released 1,000 Rainbow Trout in Big Brush Creek.

**New bakery** - Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Crowder are the owners of the bakery recently opened here.

## Life of Avelette H. Calhoon



Green County Public Library Genealogy  
Laura Johnson



Avelette H. Calhoon depicted in a charcoal portrait, circa 1885.

Avelette H. Calhoon was born January 24, 1842 in Green County. His parents were James N. Calhoon and Matilda Henry Calhoon, both of Virginia. Matilda died in 1853 and James died in 1854, leaving twelve-year-old Avelette and his siblings to be raised by others.

By 1860, Avelette and his brother, Edward W., were living with Braxton Courts and family. Both boys were apprentice saddlers, learning the trade from Courts who was an established businessman in town.

Avelette would enlisted with the Union Army at Camp Hobson on September 25, 1861. During the Civil War he held the rank of Sergeant in the 13th Kentucky Infantry regiment, Company E. He was severely wounded in a skirmish in Hart County and afterwards discharged on February 19, 1863.

March 10, 1864, Avelette married Elizabeth "Bettie" Hagan, daughter of Henry Hagan & Mary J. Smith Hagan. Their first child was born the following year. Eventually, the cou-

ple had a total of eight children, four boys and four girls: James Henry, Catherine, July, Ella E., Alma Lee, William Avelette, Ida Mae, and Joseph H. Their son, July, was born in 1869, but died in infancy.

In the late 1860s, Avelette was part owner of a saddlery shop in Lebanon with Braxton Courts. Courts bought out his half after three years. While still a young man, Avelette set up his own saddlery shop here that he operated for many years. He was very successful at his work and known by almost everyone in the area. He also taught the trade to his brother-in-law, William Hagan.

In December 1902, Avelette, Bettie, Ida Mae, and Joseph

moved to a home just north of Greensburg on the Campbellsville Pike. The farm was bought by their son, William Avelette "Brub" Calhoon.

Bettie died on March 22, 1918 of apoplexy. She had been an invalid for a number of years as the result of an accident. Avelette and Ida Mae cared for her until her passing. Bettie's funeral was held at the Presbyterian Church and she was laid to rest at the Greensburg City Cemetery.

By 1920, Avelette had a house full of family again. Ida Mae was still living with him, as was Brub, who was also widowed with six children to care for.

Avelette passed from this world on January 16, 1922 at the age of 79. He awoke that Monday morning feeling as well as usual and had a fine breakfast. At about 9 o'clock he suddenly fell from his chair and died moments later of heart failure.

Avelette H. Calhoon left quite a legacy for his seven children, 36 grandchildren, and 15 great-grandchildren. He had professed religion early in his life and joined the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. He lived a consistent Christian life, was a man of high honor and great integrity, and was missed by everyone who knew him.



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