

An evolving life: Farm, business, and politics



Albert L. Crabtree, pictured during his first run for jailor in 1933.

Albert Lewis Crabtree spent nearly a century rooted in the soil, communities, and institutions of south central Kentucky. Born January 11, 1883, in Hart County to Thomas B. Crabtree and Nancy Akin Crabtree, he grew up near the Lobb community, where he learned early the value of hard work.

On November 9, 1904, in Elizabethtown, Albert married Daisy Lillian Noe, beginning a partnership that would last well over 60 years. Together they raised four children, William, Edwin, Nancy, and Grace. Their growing family remained a central anchor as Albert's public and professional life expanded.

By 1910, Albert was already active in community affairs, elected as a school trustee for the Rock Lick division of Green County. For many years he farmed near Lobb, where he earned a reputation as a progressive and capable farmer.

In 1929, he moved his family to Greensburg, marking the beginning of a long and varied business career. He entered the fertilizer and produce trade, advertising special plant bed grades and encouraging farmers to "get my prices before buying." His work connected him with growers across the county, strengthening the relationships that would later support his political ambitions.

Albert bought a

house and lot on South Cross Street in 1932 from Mrs. Percy Tucker, sold his farm that same year, and soon afterward entered the restaurant and grocery trade. Crabtree's Restaurant became a familiar stop in town for meals, cold drinks, and conversation.

Albert engaged in various other business ventures as well. He purchased Burress's poultry, feed, and egg operation in 1936, continuing it under the name Crabtree & Son.

Beginning in March 1938, he worked as a traveling salesman for the Green County Milling Company, covering a twelve county territory, and in June 1939, he took a position as a Watkins Products dealer for garden and household products.

Politics also became a significant part of Albert's life. A lifelong Republican, he sought the office of Green County Jailor in both 1933 and 1937, campaigning vigorously, even defending his reputation when rumors arose about his church membership. The Brush Creek Baptist Church issued a formal statement affirming his decades of

faithful standing, a testament to the respect he held in his home community.

Although Albert was defeated as jailor, he ultimately found his place in public office with an appointment in September 1937 as Greensburg's Police Judge, a role he fulfilled with diligence, and even a touch of humor. In 1940, shortly after the installation of the town's first traffic lights, he became the first person fined for running a red light, paying the \$1 penalty under the very ordinance he helped enforce.

Crabtree's Restaurant was sold in August 1940 to Mr. Shine Gorin and Mrs. Eva Armstrong.

Albert was reelected as Police Judge without opposition in November 1941. His tenure ended in 1942 when he resigned after moving to Mt. Sherman, but his time of service left a clear imprint on the town's civic life.

In his later years, Albert and Daisy settled in Elizabethtown, where he became a member of Mt. Zion Baptist Church. After Daisy's passing in 1970, Albert lived another decade, remaining connected to his children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren. He died on May 23, 1980, at Caverna Hospital in Horse Cave at the remarkable age of 97. Funeral services were held in Elizabethtown, with burial in Hardin Memorial Park.

For nearly a century, Albert L. Crabtree built a life of steady purpose, not through grand gestures, but through decades of finding new ways to serve those around him.

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

1986— Eight inches of snow!

BY CAROL DIAL
SPECIAL TO THE R-H

Feb. 15, 2006
Three become Eagle Scouts - Adam Smith, Brian Smith and Cody Nunn have earned their Eagle Scout rank.

Unemployment rises - The December Green County unemployment rate rose to 5.9 percent as compared to the November rate of 5.6 percent.

Bagby speaks to Rotary - Gary Bagby, Indiana Hardwoods Senior Sale Associate, informed Rotary Club members that the Greensburg plant employs 45 people and the annual payroll is approximately \$1,000,000.

Judds celebrate anniversary - Earl Thomas and Addlene Judd celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary January 21 with a reception hosted by family members.

Feb. 14, 1996
More snow days - The winter weather keeps snow on the ground which is disrupting school attendance. There have been ten snow days so far this year.

Little League champs - Little League girls Green and Gold Team are tournament champions. Team members include Laura Sidebot-

tom, Chelsea Sharpe, Chelsea Bills, Amber Robertson, Katie Clark and Brooke Davis.

Love Lines winners - The winners of the Record-Herald Love Lines contest are Jimmie D. Lobb, Most Humorous, and Kay Nell Moran, Most Romantic.

Summershade, Hazel Kessler - We have more snow and ice. Cold temperatures zero to four degrees.

Feb. 13, 1986
Mobile home burns - Ronnie Judd's mobile home on Buckner's Hill was destroyed by fire.

Eight inch snowfall - A Nally and Gibson front-end loader was used on the Square and Main Street to remove eight inches of snow that fell Monday and Monday night.

Perkins wins spelling bee - Jennifer Perkins, 6th grader at Pierce Elementary School, won first place in a county-wide spelling bee.

Pickett promoted - Brian Pickett, serving in the US Air Force at Wright-Patterson AFB in Ohio, has been promoted to Sergeant.

Feb. 19, 1976
January was colder - January 1976 was 36 percent colder than January 1975 as reported by the National Weather Service at

Lexington.
Oil field continues production - The twenty oil leases in southern Green County continue to produce with 17,388 barrels being pumped in January.

"Big Six" visits students - William "Big Six" Henderson spoke to History Club members at county schools about his career as a revenue agent tracking down moonshiners.

Thurlow Ridge, Lurlia Simpson - Mules are selling high at the Glasgow auction barn. So, if you have a mule to sell, they are high, and it's time to start farming again.

Feb. 17, 1966
Ebenezer School News, Valda Russell - We had twelve absences last week due to measles.

Five inducted into Army - Five local men, James A. Judd, Dwight D. Davis, Charles R. Ford, Arion D. Judd and Arthur L. Milby, were inducted into the Army this week.

Pickett, Mrs. Ray Coffey - We enjoyed the music played by the Boys from Exie, Donnie Pruitt and Donnie Landis at the Rodgers Grocery Friday night.

Featured at the Franklin - Elvis Presley stars in "Tickle Me".

Pierce

From page 1A

"We understand that the community may be gun shy," Penick said, "but we are already seeing miracles take place."

Penick encourages people to call the facility and speak with him or the Director or someone else on the Board so that they get accurate information instead of just going on

gossip that they may hear in the community. The phone number is 270-565-2882.

"We want people to come by and see us," he said. "Check it out for themselves."

Melton said that if there is someone who needs a new start, or if people know of someone who is ready to be there, to please contact

them.

"Let us know," Melton said, "but they have to be ready to be here. Someone else can't just want it for them. The person has to want the change to take place."

Pierce Community Ministries is located in the old Pierce Elementary School on Highway 218.

NOMINATE YOUR PUBLIC HEALTH HERO

2026 Dr. Hossein Fallahzadeh Public Health Hero Award



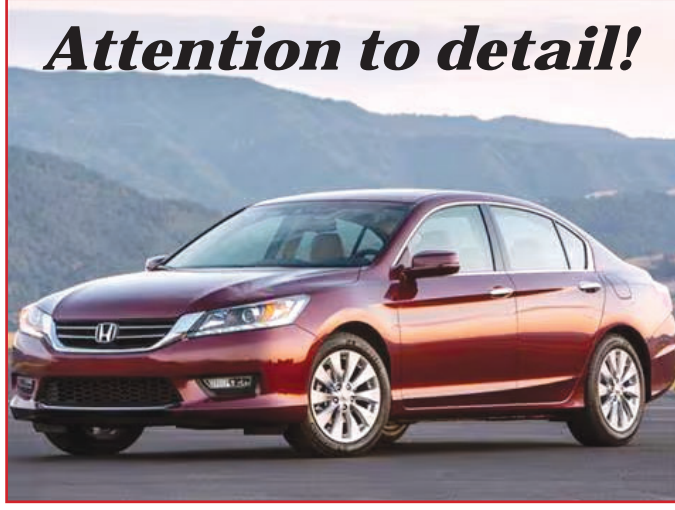
In memory of
Dr. Hossein Fallahzadeh

This award is given annually to an individual who has made remarkable contributions to improving public health in the Lake Cumberland District.

Anyone can nominate a candidate by scanning the QR code or visiting our website at: www.LCDHD.org



Nomination deadline is February 28. This award is sponsored by the Lake Cumberland District Health Department.



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