



PULASKI COUNTY JUDGE EXECUTIVE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
MEDIA RELEASE

COUNTY UPDATE

Some Gave All

By Judge Executive Marshall Todd

Somerset, Ky. (September 29, 2023) – It's hard to believe that Fall is already here. So many of our deeply rooted traditions here in Pulaski County are tied closely to leaves showing off their falling colors and harvests being brought into our kitchens and placed on our dinner tables. Area schools are headed into their Fall breaks, so what better time to explore the beauty of nature that we have in Pulaski? Whether you visit Bear Wallow Farm and pick out the perfect pumpkin or Haney's Appledale Farm and pick out the perfect apple, Fall is in the air.

Late August gave way to September with the first meeting of our Emergency Management Listening Tour. The August 31st gathering at the Nancy Fire Department went very well and was a productive way of asking questions of our team primarily related to local emergency management concerns. The next meeting was held at Burnside Fire Department on September 14th and we had one just the other night in Science Hill as well. Meetings in October will be held at White Lily on the 12th and Woodstock on the 26th. Director of Emergency Management Don Franklin has done a great job coordinating these meetings and is continuing to compile questions asked and answered during the meetings. He was also able to

give remarks this month at the 9/11 Memorial Service held at the Somerset-Pulaski County Special Response Team building. As he mentioned in his comments, this nation was built on hard work, innovative thought, and taking care of one another. It is obvious that we are not perfect and, at times, question where we are headed, but adversity has a way of bringing us back to our core values.

I believe that part of those core values are directly related to how we take care of those we sent to respond to those cowardly attacks on 9/11. Veterans of the War on Terror are still coming back differently than how we sent them. So many Veterans of so many wars and deployments have come back differently. Some face more challenges than others and that's why I am proud that we are putting in an office for the Kentucky Department of Veteran Affairs here in the Pulaski County Courthouse. This new office here at the courthouse will provide a Veteran's Benefits Field Representative that will be fully accredited with the Federal Department of Veterans Affairs Office of General Counsel. The representative will assist Veterans with filing benefit claims and appeals, filing survivor claims, working with homeless Veterans, educational benefits, and employment services. The office will cover Pulaski and five other surrounding counties and will be fully operational in the coming weeks.

Pulaski County, under my watch, will always be a Veteran friendly place to live. We will always strive to be pro-family and pro-America. On October 21st we will take part in an American Flag Retirement Ceremony which will see members of the American Legion Post Number 38 Honor Guard assist in properly disposing of discarded flags. Feel free to drop off any American flags you may have to dispose of to the Pulaski County Courthouse at 100 North Main Street here in Somerset. We will also be declaring the first full week of November as Veteran's Week in Pulaski County to coincide with Veteran's Day on the 10th.

As always, if you have any further questions about our Emergency Management Listening Tour or our new KDVA Office here at the courthouse, feel free to reach out to us. My email is mtodd@pcgovt.com or you can call this office at (606)678-4853 for any questions or concerns you may have.

God Bless You All and God Bless Pulaski County.

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