



# Bulletin of the Kenton County Historical Society

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2022



Honoring Past President Donald Raymond Fowler,  
Pictured Above  
Thomas Harris and the Independence Cemetery  
The Craig Street Cemetery Story

# Donald Raymond Fowler (1943-2021)

## The Shared Pleasures of Endless Curiosity

By Janine Abdellaoui and Katherine Watters; edited with title by John Boh

Donald "Don" Raymond Fowler capped his lifelong love of history as President of the Kenton County Historical Society (February 2011-August 2015). During his tenure as President, he was Master of Ceremonies at program meetings and oversaw elections of Board members and Officers. A resident of Covington, he passed away, age 78, on October 10, 2021, with his devoted daughters Katherine Watters and Janine Abdellaoui by his side. He was survived also by stepson Montgomery; grandchildren Clayton, John, Luke, Adam, Layla; great grandchildren Aubrey and Magnus; and his sisters Wanda and Norma.

This is a story of a boy nursed by a prominent Northern Kentucky institution who, according to his daughters, with limited higher education became a sort of self-made Renaissance character. For whatever reasons Don's father left his mother and children indigent. Don and siblings Arthur (Art), Norma, and Wanda grew up in the Children's Home in Devou Park (currently named the Children's Home of Northern Kentucky). Don also resided at the Campbell Lodge Boy's Home as a teenager, and he graduated from Holmes High school in 1961. He also recalled taking a course in Kentucky history taught by visiting UK professor Thomas D. Clark at the old Northern Kentucky Community College. Of Irish heritage his mother Joyce Marie Head Fowler was from Rockcastle County, his father Melvin Fowler from Harlan County. Don once sent a photo of his mother Joyce mounted on a mule, which made the front cover of *Kentucky Explorer* magazine (Vol. 28, No 2, June 2013). When the Society was gearing up to help write the Bicentennial History of Covington, published in 2015, he was in the process of contributing when illness prevented his participation.

His profession was that of a long-haul truck driver. Awarded numerous times for safety on the road, he earned a couple of one-million-mile safe driving awards. His CB handle was "Bare Facts" and "DR Fowler." He created humor trying it out in his trucker friends. Truck driving for Don also included "travel" to pursue various interests. Years doing genealogy research meant special trips to Frankfort archives, the Kenton County Library, and family cemeteries deep in the mountains of Kentucky. He took his family to learn about their family origins down in Kentucky.

Don taught himself to play the piano for his and his family's enjoyment. His grandson John learned to play, and John inherited his grandfather's talent for picking up seemingly any instrument to attempt an amateur rendition. Don's love of every kind of music centered on classical which he played on the piano. The special song for the Fowlers was Beethoven's "Für Elise". (And Don knew to include the German umlaut on the "ü.") He enjoyed attending the Kentucky Symphony Orchestra programs and the Stephen Foster Story in Bardstown. He had quite a collection of music and enjoyed the symphony, opera, and oil paintings – and, in another sideline, for several decades, playing golf!

According to his daughters he studied Chess strategy, memorized Bible verses, geography and did advanced Sudoku puzzles, crosswords, jig-saw puzzles, and created his own puzzles. He enjoyed teaching his two daughters and five grandchildren history, jokes, drawing, chess, good penmanship, vocabulary, grammar, intriguing magic tricks and downhome vernacular. Proud of his Irish heritage he taught himself to shout out old Gaelic refrains. Family adventures included riding the Anderson Ferry and the ferry at Augusta, where he also would randomly arrive and say, "This is where Rosemary Clooney lived." They would enjoy a cold Sarsaparilla at the Rabbit Hash General Store. He enjoyed watching Jeopardy with his family, and he used his DVR to record Jeopardy. In his final days, they enjoyed the Game Show Network.

The family called some of their silly jokes “Fowlerisms,” too silly to repeat, and understandable only to a “Fowler.” He created his own humor in various jokes, songs, and limericks. He kept notebooks containing his “humor creations,” his drawings and word jumbles. He would write a word and see how many words he could make using the letters from that word. A limerick from his notebook is quoted here: 😊

*I thought I'd try fishing with no bait  
Then a thoughtful fisherman said, "No, wait!"  
He handed me a worm  
And it started to squirm  
I handed it back saying "Thanks, but no thanks. I just ate."*

At one of his residences, he built a two-tier pond, with bubbling brook created with carefully chosen and positioned plants, trees, rocks and a stone walkway. He identified every plant and tree with both common and scientific names. According to his daughters he collected and documented beautiful rocks collected from across the US. Settling his estate his daughters encountered the many items he chose to save - genealogy records and artifacts dating back to childhood, letters he wrote to his mother around age 10, a few unsent letters written to celebrities as a teenager, and records and documents from time spent at the Children's Home, including hospital papers and letters from his father.



## The Beginnings of Independence Cemetery

Joan W McCready, © 2021

Independence Cemetery is a well-maintained cemetery in the town of Independence, Kenton County, Kentucky. Its beginnings are traced to a Revolutionary War patriot, Thomas Harris.

Thomas Harris was born on December 1, 1760 in Fairfax County, Virginia. He was married twice – the name of his first wife is not known, and his second wife was Martha “Patsy” Carter of Powhatan County VA.

Thomas signed the Oath of Allegiance in Powhatan County in 1777 and served in the Powhatan militia under Captain Edward Mumford during the Revolutionary War. He may have been one of the Powhatan militia men at the battle of Yorktown, which troops were trained by General Lafayette during the final push to defeat Lord Cornwallis and end the war.

According to a 1904 memoir <sup>(1)</sup> written by his daughter, Julia Ann Williamson, Thomas brought his young family from Powhatan County, Virginia to Lexington, Kentucky about 1801, when his fifth child (Martha’s first), Elizabeth, was just a few weeks old. After living in Lexington for 25 years, he purchased land near Independence in what was then Campbell County.

When Thomas Harris wrote his will in 1847 <sup>(2)</sup>, four of his children – Randall, Thomas, Sookey and Phebe – had already died and may have been buried on his farm. In the eighth clause of his Will he directs his executors:

“... to reserve from sale (as is directed in this will) one half acre of the land, including the ground now used, as a family burying ground – the title to which I hereby vest in my heirs, jointly forever to be held by them in common for the purpose of a burying ground for their use, and the use of each others of the neighbors as may choose to buy their dead there. I further direct that a passage to and from said burying ground be reserved from said sale, and I further direct my Executors out of the proceeds of the sale of my effects to have the same inclosed (*sic*) with a good substantial fence.”

Thomas Harris died on May 29, 1848, and his will was probated on June 20, 1848 by his executors, who included his sons John and Jordan Harris. In the settlement account for his estate, filed on February 17, 1853, a voucher was included for \$ 35.00 “for fencing graveyard.” <sup>(3)</sup>

After Thomas Harris’ death, the story of Independence Cemetery continues in Kenton County deed books. After more than thirty years of operation, the Harris heirs realized the need for a formal cemetery corporation. Jordan Harris, W. H. Witson, Jas. H Seales, C. E. Quick, John W. Yates, T. A. Bird and D. C. Wilson filed the Articles of Incorporation for Independence Cemetery on April 23, 1886. <sup>(4)</sup>

On June 26, 1886, an Edmund W. Wilson of Covington, Kenton County, Kentucky, sold 10 acres of his land to the Independence Cemetery Company. <sup>(5)</sup>

“... The intention of Grantor is to convey 10 acres only of the above described land. There is em-



braced in the above boundary the old Cemetery containing one half acre and fourteen lots sold heretofore by the Grantor to the following persons: Sam Brink, \_\_\_\_\_ Yantes, Mrs. Armstrong, J. Miller, Jno. Shinkle, J. C. Byland, J. Jones, J. G. Hume, C. E. Quick, J. Harris, Ritchoefen, Jas. Cooper, Geo. Acre & Jas. Fleming. The Grantor also reserves the right to remove barn off the premises and the said Cemetery Co. is to build and keep good all fencing between them and said Grantor....”

Edmund Wilson’s relationship to the D. C. Wilson listed in the cemetery’s incorporation document is unknown, as is the reason why he, and not the Harris family, sold plots to citizens before the cemetery was incorporated.

In the same Kenton County Deed Book 46, we find R. F. Spilman and twenty-two other named individuals conveying title to The Independence Cemetery Co (pages 548-551) <sup>(6)</sup>

“... for and in consideration of one dollar (\$ 1) and other goods and valuable consideration to them paid by the “Independence Cemetery Co.” the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, do hereby Bargain, Sell and Convey to the said “Independence Cemetery Co.” its heirs and assigns forever the following described Real Estate, to wit: beginning in the center of the Turnpike Road at a point due West of a post planted in a line of the fence as it now runs on the East side of said road and being at a point in the North margin of a Grave-yard now established there ... *(survey description continues)* ... together with all the privileges and appurtenances to the same belonging, including all homestead exemptions and all other rights and interests.... It is expressly understood that the Grantors herein reserve to themselves the same rights and privileges as to their lots in the one half acre herein described as do the lot owners in the Independence Cemetery Co. The same care is to be taken of this half acre as of the others & it is to be subject to the same rules and regulations as all the other lots in the Independence Cemetery. The road or passway across said lot is to be kept open as such and not sold off for lots. In witness whereof the said R. F. Spilman, *(list of the other twenty-two individuals)* hereunto set their hand this 16<sup>th</sup> day of August in the year 1886.”

It may be assumed that this half-acre of burial ground was outside of, but adjacent to, the original half-acre that Thomas Harris left as a family cemetery and the additional ten acres deeded by Edmund Wilson in June. The “Turnpike Road” mentioned in this deed is known today as Madison Pike.

Finally, beginning with Deed Book 47, the sale of plots by Independence Cemetery to individual families are recorded as they occur. A modern cemetery company was now fully functioning.

In 1988, Independence Cemetery’s maintenance and operation became a division of Highland Cemetery, Inc. in Fort Mitchell, Kentucky. In 1996, Independence Cemetery bought the adjacent 64-acre farmland, doubling the cemetery’s acreage. <sup>(6)</sup>

Joan Wingert McCready was raised in Springfield, Ohio and now lives south of St. Louis. She is a member of the Louisiana Purchase Chapter, NSDAR, DeSoto, Missouri. Thomas and Martha Harris were her 3<sup>rd</sup>-great grandparents through their daughter, Elizabeth Harris Ragan, wife of John Ragan.

#### End Notes:

- <sup>(1)</sup> "A Short Family Record," as dictated by Mrs. Julia Ann Williams to her Grandson, Hershel Williams (Moberly, Missouri: 29 Oct 1904), notarized by J. Crose Bounds, NP, Randolph County, Missouri, 3 Apr 1905 (National Society Daughters of the American Revolution, record copy RC-A051973-M668211-SD-161539.pdf).
- <sup>(2)</sup> Thomas Harris' will, Kenton County KY, Will Book 1, pages 68-69 (Ancestry.com).
- <sup>(3)</sup> "Thomas Harris deceased, Settlement of Estate of ...," Independence, Kenton County KY, Inventory & Settlements Book 3, page 85 (FamilySearch.com, film 004819641, image 43)
- <sup>(4)</sup> "Independence Cemetery - Articles of Incorporation," Kenton County KY, Deed Book 46, pages 429-430, microfilmed 28 Feb 1966 by the Kentucky Historical Society; microfilm held by Archives Research Room, Kentucky Department for Libraries & Archives
- <sup>(5)</sup> "E. W. Wilson et ux. to the Independence Cemetery Co.," Kenton County KY, Deed Book 46, page 472-473 (FamilySearch.org, film # 008309508, image 573)
- <sup>(6)</sup> Independence Cemetery page, Highland Cemetery, Inc. website (<https://highlandcemeterysite.wordpress.com/independence-cemetery/>), accessed 23 October 2021.

### Supplemental Notes by Pam Marcum

Joan McCready contacted the Rebecca Bryan Boone DAR chapter in Kenton County requesting assistance pertaining to the Independence Cemetery. Kenton County Historical Society Board member Pam Marcum contacted her and was advised that McCready's ancestor was a Patriot and was buried in the Independence Cemetery. Her Patriot is Thomas Harris, as described in the foregoing Article. The family grave-stones had all broken and fallen to the ground. Over the years the markers had become buried in the soil with only a small portion being visible. Tom Honebrink (General Manager of Highland Cemetery) agreed to raise the markers and reset them so that they are now visible. The markers can be seen along the fence line of the old portion of the cemetery. The markers are in very good condition as shown in the following photos.

Joan and her husband recently traveled from Missouri to Independence to meet with Tom Honebrink, Pam Marcum, and Janet Kinney (DAR Regent of the Rebecca Bryan Boone Chapter) and begin making arrangements for a DAR grave marking ceremony.



THE HARRIS FAMILY GRAVESTONES RE-ERECTED







## DEMISE OF THE CRAIG STREET PIONEER

### BURYING GROUND

By John Boh

#### General Background: The Craig Street Burying Ground

After the Revolutionary War and the establishment of the Northwest Territory in 1787, settlers moved on to virgin land in the Ohio and Licking River and Banklick Creek watersheds. As deaths occurred the deceased were interred on farmland property. The Ohio River ferry operator Thomas Kennedy acquired his farm in 1801 at the Ohio and Licking rivers. He, however, later sold some 200 acres to John Stites Gano, his brother Richard Gano, Thomas D. Carneal, and James Bryson, partners in the "Covington Company." They pledged to plat the property for a new Town. Later two deeds, or indentures, listed John Stites Gano, his brother Richard Gano and Thomas D. Carneal as purchasers of the farm.<sup>1</sup> Officially recorded in August 1815, the plat of the original Town of Covington set the city limits on 150 acres. The western boundary was on the east side of Washington Street and the southern boundary at the north side of Sixth Street.<sup>2</sup> The other fifty acres of Kennedy's farm lay beyond the Town of Covington. Many local citizens came to be interred west of the Town border in the Craig Street Pioneer Burying Ground. The earliest court reference to the Craig Street Burying Ground is found in a deed book dated January 11, 1823 (Courthouse in Alexandria). It involved the heirs and representatives of the Gano family.<sup>3</sup>

A court later determined that when Thomas Kennedy sold his farm to the proprietors of the Covington Company, the Craig Street (pioneer) Burying Ground was not included in the purchase. The burying ground fronted on the west line of Craig's Road, or later Craig Street, in Covington. The cemetery on the outskirts, however, eventually became exposed and vulnerable, as the Town and City expanded westward and grew around it. In 1831 the Town was expanded beyond Washington Street and in 1832 beyond Craig's Road (street). Maintained by the city, Covington's pioneer cemetery, certainly by the 1870s, looked obsolete and out of place.<sup>4</sup>

#### The City Oversees the Burying Ground

On February 24, 1834 the Kentucky General Assembly made the Town of Covington into an incorporated city. On January 6, 1835, Covington passed an ordinance regulating burials at the graveyard and created "the office of Sexton." Later that year the Committee on Internal Improvements was instructed to find the exact boundaries of the graveyard.<sup>5</sup> The problem of maintenance, however, was ongoing. Over thirty years later in May 1869, it was reported that the fence around the cemetery was in disrepair. Hogs were getting in, and one can imagine what hogs do rooting around in a cemetery.<sup>6</sup>

The cemetery's boundaries once were "loosely" described as facing on Craig Street between Willow (now Kentucky Street) on the north and Bremen (now Pershing Street) on the south; further convoluted references were made to the boundary at Johnston Street and at the east end of the West Sixth Street Market. Its boundaries were reexamined in 1876 with a survey by Ellis and Yates, Civil Engineers, who describe the burying ground as more confined:

*Beginning at a point on the West line of Craig Street, 64 feet South of the intersection of Craig Street and Willow Avenue, running thus Southwardly along the West line of Craig Street 169-½ feet, more or less, thence Westwardly 29-1/4 feet, more or less, thence Northwardly 171 feet, more or less, thence Eastwardly 288 feet, more or less, to the beginning.*<sup>7</sup> The 1877 Covington Atlas shows that a row of residential lots separated the newly defined boundary and Willow Street and the same between the opposite boundary and Bremen Street.<sup>8</sup>

Major changes came for the Burying Ground. A hurried request appeared in a newspaper on May 5, 1872:

*To the Citizens of Covington- You are requested by order of the Council, to remove the body or bodies of your relatives from the Craig Street Burying-ground. Council, seeing the total neglect and wanton desecration which is constantly occurring in that resting place of the dead, have purchased a large and desirable lot in Highland Cemetery, which is dedicated to the Pioneers of Covington. And all bodies remaining in the Craig Street Graveyard after the expiration of two months from this date will, with due honor and respect, be removed by the City Council to the lot reserved for that purpose in Highland Cemetery. (The new Highland Cemetery in Ft. Mitchell was dedicated in 1869.)*

The notice was signed by four members of a committee, N. Bartlett, John Marshall, Geo. W. Howell and W. W. Mosher, Covington, Ky April 29, 1872.<sup>9</sup> The request, however, involved more than would be accomplished.

The deadline to relatives for removal in two months looked unreasonable. The order from the city council resulted in scenes of a ghoulish nature. In July 1872 the newspaper report was graphic. Prematurely, it might seem, laborers were said to be preparing the burying ground for a public park. The work seemed to include removing dirt for leveling the grounds to street level. Bones uncovered are "placed in a numbered box." With headstones missing or broken "it is impossible to place any identification on them whatever." The wood coffins used forty or fifty years ago have rotted away. The remaining bones "are blacked and decayed to mingle with mother earth." The remains of a child estimated to be two years old was well preserved, but hair was separated from the skull. Relatives and friends by then had only removed a some of the remains. "By far the larger portion still remain in the ground."<sup>10</sup>

Officials counted 317 "dead bodies" removed by August 15, 1872.<sup>11</sup> Removing the remains from the Craig Street Burying Ground was an adventurous project. A portion were removed to decades-old Linden Grove (1845). Gravestones usually prove that pioneers and notables from the Craig Street Cemetery were buried in Linden Grove to the south - and still in the heart of their city. They include Thomas Kennedy (1741-1821) and wife Dinah, owner of the farm where the original Town of Covington was developed. Today thirty-four or more tombstones are said to date before 1835 but it is not known just how many in Linden Grove came from Craig Street.<sup>12</sup>

Many people stopped by to witness the "ten or twelve" uncovered and removed daily. An iron casket was found. Previously an iron casket had been claimed by "a man named Shera" from Oregon stating that it contained his wife's remains "buried there twenty-seven-years ago."<sup>13</sup> In September 1872 an invoice for \$897 from the Highland Cemetery for reinterments from the Craig Street Burying Grounds was considered by city council.<sup>14</sup> On October 4, 1872, city council was presented with another bill of \$484 for labor, that is, for the "hands at work in Craig street cemetery."<sup>15</sup>

By November 22, 1872, 1,789 were claimed to have been removed. Over 100 were believed still to be uncovered.<sup>16</sup> On January 23, 1874, the project was still ongoing. The city treasurer reported a seemingly lucrative receipt of \$1,472.25 from a sale of dirt from the Craig Street Burying Ground.<sup>17</sup>

Then on August 8, 1874, the newspaper reported a fantastic reversal of course by a waffling city council. It had ordered the discontinuation of the project! The property was to be fenced, and burials in the Craig Street Cemetery were again permitted! "The city has no power to divert the property to any other use. An outcome to be regretted."<sup>18</sup> The reasoning was suggested in another newspaper article on November 28 of that year. Even though the city, it was claimed, had paid "\$18,000" by then for removing bodies and grading the lot, city council feared that IF the Burying Ground overseen by the city for a graveyard could legally be used for only that, the city had to leave a few bodies there to protect its interests - "to keep the heirs of the grantors from pouncing on it."<sup>19</sup> For a few days in 1877 belligerent boys were reported digging around in the cemetery. And they had uncovered "several bodies."<sup>20</sup>

### Industrial and Commercial Development

After the Civil War the American economy grew rapidly. Covington saw developments in its own industrial and commercial infrastructure. Industrial and commercial development accomplished by powerful regional and national forces often wiped-out local pioneer sites and landscapes. Proposed by the early 1870s was construction of rail bridge to reach the Cincinnati railyards. Local citizens would also enjoy "free" pedestrian and vehicular travel across the same bridge. The Burying Ground, however, was located near where the tracks were to be laid to the new bridge. A commitment to the railroad project would help decide the fate of the Burying Ground. Since the 1850s the tracks of the Kentucky Central Railroad had terminated around Pike and Seventh street. Now under C & O control the tracks would be extended northward. The Craig Street Burying Ground became a small impediment for the powerful C & O Railroad.<sup>21</sup>

Around seven years after the cemetery boundaries were defined and around five years after disinterment in the cemetery was halted, the Appeals Court in 1879 confirmed the city's right to remove the cemetery. The removal of bodies was resumed and soon considered accomplished. In 1883 the C & O Railroad right of way was dedicated through this area. It passed from the Pike Street business district across westside Covington to a new bridge. The new railroad bridge at the north end of Main Street opened in 1888.<sup>22</sup>

## Final Resting Places

Despite the City stating that the new burial site would be “dedicated to the Pioneers of Covington”,<sup>23</sup> only a small marker in Highland Cemetery, shown in an accompanying photo, presently marks the mass burial site. The Kenton County Historical Society has proposed that a more substantial marker and monument honoring the place of the reinterments be installed, and has received a positive response from the Highland Cemetery General Manager.

1. Allen Webb Smith, *Beginning at 'The Point,' a Documented History of Northern Kentucky and Environs, the Town of Covington in Particular, 1751-1834*, printed locally, 1977, pp. 32-36

2. Town limits on the plat described concisely by Joseph F. Gastright, in “Covington,” *The Encyclopedia of Northern Kentucky*, p. 233

3. Smith, cited above, p. 44,

4. Smith, cited above, p. 91, 97

5. O. J. Wiggins, “History of Covington,” *Dailey Commonwealth*, 10<sup>th</sup> in a series, June 7, 1884

6. *Cincinnati Enquirer*, May 5, 1869, p. 7

7. Smith cited above, p. 44; Ellis and Yates’ property description taken by Smith from Charles S. Adams, “Old Covington Cemeteries,” *Christopher Gist Papers*

8. *City Atlas of Covington, Kentucky*, Mt. Vernon, Indiana: Windmill Publications, Inc. reduced by 75 %, reprinted, and sponsored by the Covington Economic Development Dept., 1993, p. 22

9. “To the Citizens of Covington,” *Cincinnati Commercial*, May 5, 1872, p. 5

10. “Craig-Street Grave Yard,” *Covington Journal*, July 20, 1872

11. *Cincinnati Commercial*, Aug. 15, 1872, p. 7

12. Burials in Linden Grove have included such notables as B. F. Howard founder of the African American Elks, U. S. Congressman and Judge William E. Arthur, Industrialist Alexander Greer and U. S. Congressman William Wright Southgate. With public offices and schools closed and hundreds in attendance in 1910 renowned Kenton County born statesman and wife Mary Jane were interred in Linden Grove after his remains were taken from New York City the place of his last residence; John Boh, “Linden Grove Cemetery,” *Encyclopedia of Northern Kentucky*, p. 554; “Carlisle, John G.,” p. 154

13. *Covington Journal*, August 24, 1872, p. 3

14. *The Evening Star* (Cincinnati), Sept. 11, 1872, p. 1

15. *Cincinnati Enquirer*, Oct. 4, 1872, p. 7

16. *Cincinnati Commercial*, Nov. 22, 1872, p. 6

17. *Cincinnati Commercial*, Jan. 23, 1874, p. 3

18. *Cincinnati Enquirer*, Aug. 8, 1874, p. 7

19. *Courier Journal*, Nov. 28, 1874

20. *Cincinnati Daily Star*, July 21, 1877, p. 3

21. John Boh, “Northern Kentucky Railroads and Bridges, Crossings, Intersections, and Stations,” Bulletin of The Kenton County Historical Society, Sept-Oct. 2013

22. John Boh, cited above

23. *Cincinnati Commercial*, May 5, 1872, p. 5





# Kentucky Trivia

*An ongoing feature from Michael Crisp's*

*"The Best Kentucky Trivia Book Ever," available at bookstores or at [michaelcrisponline.com](http://michaelcrisponline.com)*

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*This issue features*

## Geography

### Questions

1. In what County is the state's geographic center located?
2. Where is the highest point in the state?
3. Where is the lowest point in the state?
4. What is the state's largest lake?
5. What Kentucky River does John Fogarty sing about in a 1969 hit song by Creedence Clearwater Revival?
6. It is the longest Creek in the state, at 99 miles; what is it?
7. What famous hiking destination in the western part of the state can be found 13 miles northeast of Hopkinsville?

### Kentucky Trivia Answers

1. Maron County, with the center being just 3 miles northwest of Lebanon.
2. Black Mountain in Harlan County. The Mountain's Summit is approximately 4139 Feet high.
3. While some might say "the Kentucky Legislature", the answer is: along the Mississippi River in Fulton County where portions of the plain rest at just 257 feet.
4. Cumberland Lake, which is 79 miles.
5. Green River. Fogarty later revealed that his song "green River" was actually named after a brand of soda pop rather than the Green River.
6. Elkhorn Creek. In Kentucky, a creek must be 100 miles long to be classified as a river.
7. Pilot Rock. It is a short walk to the top but you can see spectacular scenery from the summit.



# Kenton County Historical Society

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ARTICLES FROM BACK ISSUES ARE INDEXED ON OUR WEBSITE!

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**The Kenton County Historical Society**  
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Robert Webster, Dennis Harrell and  
Jeannie Lange Ex-officio

## I Bet You Didn't Know

*Tidbits from Kentucky's heritage  
for every day of the calendar year*

January 10, 1786: an act was passed by Virginia favoring separation of Kentucky as an independent state.

January 11, 1865: The Galt House, Louisville's best known hostelry in the 19th century, was completely destroyed by fire.

January 20, 1949: Alben Barkley was sworn into office as the nation's 35th Vice President, at the age of 71, which made him the oldest man in history to be elected to that office.

February 4, 1791: an act was passed by the United States Congress providing for the admission of Kentucky as a state on June 1, 1792.

February 12, 1809: Abraham Lincoln was born near Hodgenville, on the South Fork of the Nolin River.

From *On This Day in Kentucky*, by Robert A. Powell

## Programs and Notices

### Kenton County Historical Society

The Kenton County Historical Society currently has no audio-visual educational program scheduled. However, as noted in the article about the Craig Street Cemetery, found in this issue, we are engaging with the Highland Cemetery on the subject of installing an appropriate marker honoring Covington Pioneers; more later.

### Behringer Crawford Museum

The BEHRINGER CRAWFORD MUSEUM HISTORY HOUR CONTINUES (ZOOM) Wednesdays, 6:30. NOTE THAT THE "HISTORY HOUR" SCHEDULE IS REDUCED FROM WEEKLY TO ONCE EVERY OTHER WEEK.

#### NORTHERN KENTUCKY HERITAGE MAGAZINE UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT

*Northern Kentucky Heritage*, the biannual magazine long published by the Kenton County Historical Society, is now being published by the Local History and Genealogy department of the Kenton County Public Library. The Magazine will keep its focus on all things historical in the Northern Kentucky region and will look for new trends in record gathering and record keeping, and digital collections. *Northern Kentucky Heritage* also has a new editor, Elaine Kuhn, to whom all submissions of Magazine articles should be made. Elaine is the Local History & Genealogy Services Coordinator for the Kenton County Public Library. The former Magazine editor, Karl Lietzenmayer, will stay on as Editor Emeritus.

Subscriptions to the magazine will continue at \$20.00 per year. Renewals of membership in the Kenton County Historical Society that include subscription to the Magazine in 2022 will be fulfilled by the Library. From then on out, subscriptions will be payable to the KCPL Foundation. Look for digital subscriptions to be offered in the coming months.