



Times Remembered
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A tribute to the structures that made life easier and safer for our ancestors.

In the early days of American settlement, timber, stone and masonry were the most abundant resources our forefathers had for building throughout the countryside. Thankfully, today a lot of these same bridges are still around and in use, just like grist mills and barns.

In the old days, bridges made from wood were often covered for two reasons. First, because covering them reduced aging brought on by the weather and sunlight, and secondly, because they closely resembled a barn, which meant horses and livestock might feel less threatening to pass through compared to an open bridge with water or

Rural Bridges of America's Back Roads

rock underneath.

As time wore on, timber and stone gave way to steel and other metals, and the era of the old wooden and stone bridges became the thing of the past. To appreciate their beauty is to pay homage to our ancestors' pioneer engineering efforts, and today they are still a sight to behold on some of America's rural roads less traveled.

In fact, there are several in Kentucky that are still standing. Many are in Northern Kentucky that are located just off the AA Highway. The Wolcott Covered Bridge and the Valley Pike Covered Bridge; it is privately owned but is visible from the turn off KY 8. The Cabin Creek Covered Bridge, circa 1870, is closed to traffic but you can still view it.

In Fleming County, you find the Goddard White Covered Bridge located just off KY 32 on Parkersburg Road near KY 111, and in Millersburg you have the Colville Covered Bridge. Also, the Fleming County Covered Bridge Museum is located on Water Street in Flemingsburg. It is a museum of history and pictures of covered bridges in their area community.

Just in Northern Kentucky you could make a day trip and see most of

these bridges. When the weather gets warmer I plan to take a trip to visit some of these famous bridges.

In the Blue Grass Region, you find Western Wanderings, Kentucky's longest surviving covered bridge is found about 60 miles west in Washington County just off the BG Parkway. Take the Springfield Exit.

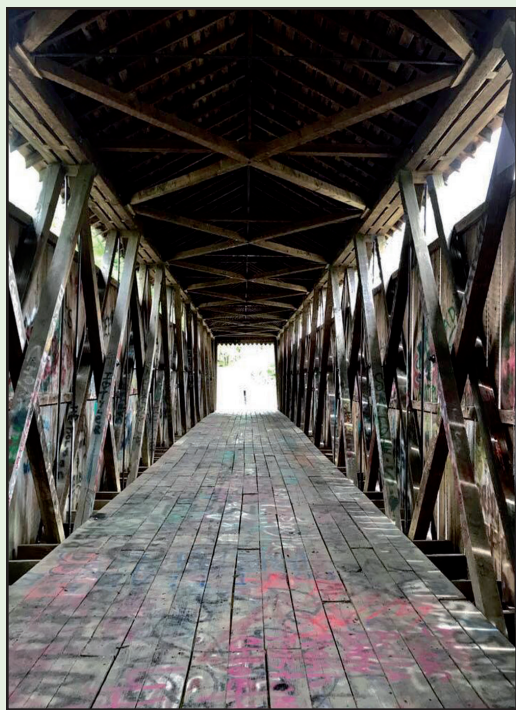
The Switzer Covered Bridge is located on 3392 Jones Lane (1262) in Frankfort, which is probably the closest to visit. Take I-75 North to I-64 West.

Many of these bridges have been lost due to deterioration and floods, but many are still standing across the country. I'd like to begin by visiting the ones in Kentucky; and I would like to see in the North East, the covered bridge in the White Mountain National Forest in New Hampshire along with several more in the North East. Bridges are dotted all over the North East; covered bridges played a large role in the Revolutionary War and the Civil War.

Hopefully, I can get pictures of some of these bridges this spring and summer when I take my day trip.



Here are some different views of Switzer Covered Bridge in Franklin County, Kentucky, taken by Stanton native Becky Conley Brewer who drives or hikes to some of the most beautiful sites in Kentucky on a regular basis. "I found several covered bridges on Google maps," says Becky, "and just took off driving to them. I've been to Colville and I think Goddard . . . I'm pretty sure Goddard is the one with a church at the end of it. It's very photogenic." Becky works at Toyota Motor Manufacturing and is a member of the Wolfe County Search and Rescue team, but she finds time on weekends to visit some of the most beautiful sites in the Red River Gorge and other areas.



Boyle County football star has ties to Estill

Estill County fans will be watching the Engineers football team this fall, anticipating great things from new Estill County head coach Jordan Marcum. But several local fans will have their eyes on the Boyle County Rebels and their star wide receiver Reese Smith, as well, because of his ties to Estill County.

Reese is the son of Estill County native Lisa Neal-Smith and Boyle County native Jimmie Smith. Lisa practices dentistry at Danville. Reese is the grandson of proud grandparents Scotty and Donna Patton Neal of Doe Creek in Irvine.

Just last week the 3-star junior recruit out of Danville, committed early to the West Virginia Mountaineers with plans to play in Morgantown during his college career after getting offers from nearly a dozen top schools including Kentucky, Louisville and Tennessee. Some say West Virginia's new coach Neal Brown "plucked their first commitment from Kentucky from the Cats' own back yard," but Brown also had an inside track since he is a Boyle County grad who played for Massachusetts.

Smith has played every year for the Rebels varsity and earned 2,875 yards. He has scored 44 receiving touchdowns and three TD's on individual runs for 47 total career touchdowns. Former Boyle County coach Chuck Smith, no relation, returned to the Rebels in 2014 after a stint with the UK Wildcats, and Boyle won the state in 2017; then finished as runner-up to Corbin in 2018.

Reese comes from an athletic family and has played in sports all his life. He has an older sister, Marlee who won a basketball scholarship at a Georgia school but was forced to quit because of an injury. He also has a younger sister, Phoebe.

As a Boyle County freshman, Reese earned two state championship rings, one for his Rebels football team's win over Corbin and the other for track. Just recently, he was named all-region for the Boyle County basketball team, but his grandmother, Donna, says football is his first love.

She and Scotty try to attend all his games as well as events for the rest of their seven grandchildren, but Donna says she "like to froze to death," at a recent game.

Donna anticipates driving to Morgantown, West Virginia, to see Reese play after he finishes his senior year at Boyle County. "He's a good, Christian boy," says his granny. "He has a good work ethic and he works hard."

She adds, "He's not one to lay on the couch!"



Boyle County junior Reese Smith is shown with West Virginia head coach Neal Brown after Reese committed to play for the Mountaineers over nearly a dozen other schools, following his senior year at Boyle County.



Congratulations to Estill County Lady Engineers senior Meagan Bellamy. She made the 1,000-point club on January 18th and finished with 1,184 points and 199 three-pointers. At right is Lady Engineers coach Ruth Hughes.

Estill County Middle School Student of the Week



Brynnleigh Muncy

The Estill County Middle School Youth Services Center Student of the Week is Brynnleigh Muncy. She is the daughter of Bill and Larissa Muncy, is currently in the 6th grade, and enjoys softball and band.

Students receiving this recognition are nominated by staff members at the Estill County Middle School for exemplary behavior, attitude, and/or citizenship. Courtesy Elizabeth Hardy

Jackson Energy presents grant to Hargett Fire Department

Jackson Energy's Operation Round-Up is helping Estill County organizations fund community projects through Operation Round-Up grants. The Hargett Volunteer Fire Department recently received a \$500 grant.

"Operation RoundUP is an easy way for co-op members to give a small amount each month to deserving individuals and organizations in their local communities," said Jackson Energy Vice President of Corporate Services Ryan Henderson.

Operation RoundUP works when co-op members voluntarily have their electric bill rounded to an even dollar amount. For example, if a bill was \$122.62 and the member had volunteered to participate in RoundUP, it would automatically be rounded up to \$123.

The additional 38¢ would go directly into the RoundUP account. The average contribution over time is approximately 45¢ per month.

The donated funds go directly into a trust account that can only be used for grant funding. This account is administered by a seven-person Board of Trustees who meet quarterly to review grant applications. Any individual or community group with a worthwhile project can apply for funding.

More than \$240,000 has been donated to area community service projects since Jackson Energy began this program in 2003.

For more information on Operation RoundUP call 1 800-262-7480, or log on to Jackson Energy's web site, www.jacksonenergy.com/content/operation-roundup.



Jerry Goosey, right, accepts a \$500. Operation RoundUP grant check for the Hargett Volunteer Fire Department. Presenting the check is Jackson Energy's Estill County Director Teresa Dawes. (Photo courtesy of Jackson Energy)

Estill County Middle School Student of the Week



Callee Arvin

The Estill County Middle School Youth Services Center Student of the Week is Callee Arvin. She is the daughter of Anthony Arvin, is currently in the 7th grade, and enjoys band.

Students receiving this recognition are nominated by staff members at the Estill County Middle School for exemplary behavior, attitude, and/or citizenship. Courtesy Elizabeth Hardy