

FROM OUR FILES

100 YEARS AGO – 1914

Danville will pay a large amount of war tax, considering the size of the town. Proprietors of theatres and picture shows having a capacity of 250 people have to pay an annual tax of \$25; theatres having 500 seating capacity are taxed at \$50. Proprietors of billiard rooms and bowling alleys must pay \$5 on each alley and each table. Dealers in leaf tobacco must pay a war tax measured by the amount of business they do, as well as cigar and cigarette manufacturers. The war tax is now due.

A.L. Arnold, the McGrorty Avenue merchant and member of the garage firm of Conn & Arnold, suffered a serious loss yesterday. He put a sack containing more than \$100 in his automobile and started to the bank to deposit it. En route, he stopped for a short time and left the machine. During his absence the cash disappeared and to date he has found no trace of it. A strong clue has been established and it is thought that the thief will be captured within the next 24 hours.

It is almost impossible for Danville hunters to find any rabbits in this area, and it may be because they all have died of diphtheria. In many localities it has been found that the rabbit tribe has almost been entirely exterminated by diphtheria.

M.G. Weisiger, who is going to build a hotel in Danville that will be a monument to his progressiveness, left yesterday for Cincinnati, where he went with an entirely new set of plans and specifications to give to one of the best construction companies there. The new plans call for an enormous amount of marble throughout the building and thousands of square feet of Mosaic floors.

75 YEARS AGO – 1939

Evidence purporting to show how some Danville residents have been victimized by short weights of coal by truck driver Fred Griffin, of Rockcastle County, was introduced in court. D.G. Spoonamore, of Danville, testified he purchased a load of coal with the weight ticket showing a gross weight of 15,460 pounds, with a tare of 5,000 pounds being the weight of the truck and driver. Suspicious of the weight, Mr. Spoonamore investigated. Mr. Sharpe, proprietor of a gasoline service station and lunch stand at the corner of Stanford and Alta Avenue, who also operates a scale for the benefit of truckers, said he weighed the load and found it had a gross weight of 13,125 pounds, with a tare of 5,400 pounds. Several people have complained to law enforcement about the short weight by this particular driver, so the deputy sheriff asked the jailer to purchase a load of coal. When the driver was asked to weigh the truck and its load in front of the buyer, he refused and drove away. He was pursued out Harrodsburg Road and didn't stop until the buyer shot and punctured the two rear tires. Mr. Griffin then argued with police and said they had no authority to stop him because it was his coal. The truck was taken to Mr. Sharpe's weight station and it was revealed that the load was several hundred pounds lighter than what he was selling it for.

While plowing in a field on his farm on Louisville Road, Tom Cotton escaped injury when the ground caved in under the lead mare of the three-horse team hitched to his riding plow. Cotton managed to get out and ran for help. When they returned to the scene, only the head and forelegs of the mare were above ground, and all the earth where Cotton and the plow were had sunk about 10 feet. With the aid of a wrecker, the mare was pulled out and only had scratches and bruises. Examination showed that the crust of earth had broken through into a small cave under the field.

50 YEARS AGO – 1964

Elizabeth C. Speakes, 17, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Speakes, was crowned queen of the Kentucky Farm Bureau Federation in Louisville. She received a silver bowl, a check and a five-piece luggage set. Miss Speakes is a senior at Boyle County High School where she is editor of the annual and photographer for the newspaper. She is a district officer in Future Homemakers of America, and a member of the cast of the school's senior play. After graduation, Miss Speakes plans to enroll in the Good Samaritan Hospital School of Nursing in Lexington.

Danville is expected to have a more beautiful yuletide appearance this year due to the combined efforts of Kentucky Utilities and the Danville Retail Merchants, who installed 20 new sugar plum branches as Christmas decorations. Ten of the new branches are on Third Street and 10 are on Fourth Street, and will be similar to those seen last year on Main Street. The cost for the decorations is \$1,582.

A group of anti-annexationists from the Indian Hills and Rolling Hills areas met at the Bowlarama and discussed the Danville City Council's proposal to annex the area. Before the meeting adjourned, the group asked a committee to contact John Horky and get his opinion on hiring a lawyer and what steps to take to stay out of the city. Mayor pro-tem, George R. Davis, said the council will adopt an official resolution concerning the possible annexation. He said he was amazed at the misinformation being circulated concerning the proposed annexation. The resolution will officially list the city's wishes for the installation of sewers, street lighting, fire protection, street maintenance, garbage collection, insurance rate reductions, water system, municipal off-street parking and police protection for the area.

25 YEARS AGO – 1989

The Salvation Army Angel Trees will be going up in two Danville stores — Walmart and K-mart. The ornaments on the trees represent gifts requested by youngsters served by the Salvation Army during Christmas. People are asked to select an ornament or two, purchase the gifts requested, and return the wrapped and marked gifts to the store. The five financial institutions in downtown Danville will also have "Wish Trees" that have ornaments representing gifts for children. These trees are sponsored by the Heart of Danville.

The agent for Danville's Greyhound Bus depot is planning to challenge testimony given by company officials at a state Transportation Cabinet hearing in Frankfort. The agent, Bob Cranfill, said statistics that Greyhound officials used at the hearing to support their case to close its depots in Danville, Harrodsburg and Stanford didn't tell the whole story.

Unearthing history

Part 2: Fathers and sons served in Civil War

(Editor's note: This is the second part of a two-part series about the clean-up project at the Shelby City African American Cemetery near Junction City where many black veterans are laid to rest. The 2½-acre cemetery has been abandoned for many years until a clean-up project began a year ago as a service project for the Eastern Kentucky University Genealogy Club and most of the cemetery has been cleared of brush, trees and trash, according to said Cindy Peck, director at EKV's Danville campus, who is helping with the project. She and the club, along with volunteers of the Boyle County African American Genealogical Association and the Boyle County Genealogical Association, have been working on the project on Saturdays for the past year.

Mike Denis, president of the Boyle County Genealogical Association, has added grave information on the Find-A-Grave site and is working on a spread sheet for burials at Junction City along with Danville and Boyle County. He has written a brief biological sketch of those who are buried and a photo of the gravestone. Bary Sanborn and Charles Grey and other volunteers have helped with the project. Sources for the research on this article by Denis include census, marriage and death records; Veterans Census; and the Find A Grave Website.)

By **BRENDA S. EDWARDS**

Contributing Writer

Graves of war veterans buried in the Shelby City African American Cemetery in Lincoln County, show Jordan Wallace and his four sons, and Jerry Warren. Wear and Allen Motley Wakefield and their sons, served in the Union Army during in the Civil War.

Civil War burials in the Shelby City cemetery with headstones are Reed Givens, William Scott, John Q. A. Wakefield, Allen Wallace, Jordan Wallace Jr., and Lewis Yeager, who served during in the Civil War. Wallace Gaines was in World War II. James W(e)arren also is buried there but a stone has not been found.

Jordan Wallace and his sons, Allen, Thomas and Jordan, former slaves of Magdalen Wallace (wife of Caleb Baker Wallace) enlisted in 1864 at Camp Nelson.

Jordan Wallace was 52 years old when he enlisted Sept. 28, 1864. He served in Co. D of the 123rd U.S. Colored Troops. Jordan was born about 1815 in Kentucky. He was married twice, first to Ann Maria (?), who was born 1818, and Mary (?), born in 1820. The place of death and burial of the two women are unknown.

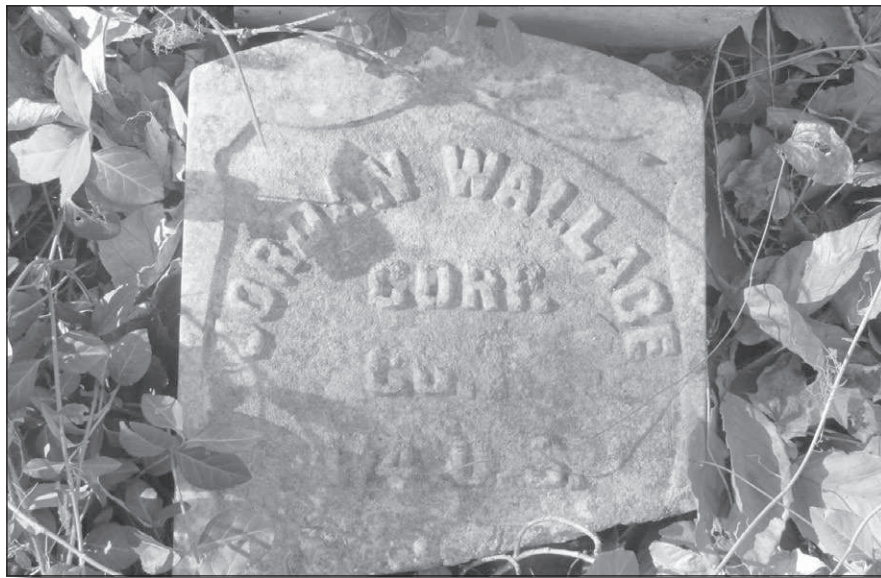
Jordan Wallace's children and birth dates by his first wife, were: Anderson, born in 1833; Sarah, born in 1835 and married to George Hunn; Thomas, born in 1836; Allen, born in 1833; Charlotte, 1841-1911, and married to Horton Stewart, having been together for 35 years; and Jordan, born in 1844. Ann Maria also is buried in the Shelby City cemetery. Jordan had two children by his second wife Mary. They were George, born in 1856, and Daniel, born in 1858. He also had two stepchildren, John and Annie.

Allen Wallace enlisted July 5, 1864, and served in Co. G 116th U.S. Colored Infantry. He was born in 1840 and died in 1905. He and his wife, Anna (or Hannah) Hays Wilson Wallace, and three children, Robert, 13; Allen, 11, and Fannie, 8, are listed in the 1870 census. The 1900 census shows Allen, 68, and Hannah, 58, had been married 43 years. Living with them were their daughter, Fannie, and her husband, Richard, a blacksmith, and Judy Adkins, 89, a widow.

Additional information on Anderson Wallace is not available.

Thomas Wallace enlisted May 28, 1864, at age 28. He was assigned to Co. E, 114th U.S. Colored Troops. His burial place is unknown. He reportedly had two children, Anna, born in 1857, and Alice, born in 1859.

Jordan Wallace enlisted June 3, 1864, at the age of 21, with the Union Colored Troops at Camp Nelson. He served until April 2, 1867. The 1890 Veterans Census shows Jordan, of Shelby City, was a corporal in Co. H, 114th U.S. Colored troops. He was in the Battle of Vinegar Hill and fought the last major battle of the war in Charleston, West Virginia. He also took



Tombstones of Jordan Wallace, above, and Reed Givens, right, show they served in the U.S. Colored Troops during the Civil War. They are buried in the Shelby City African American Cemetery in Lincoln County near the Boyle County line.

part in the bloody battle of Big Hill in Richmond, Kentucky.

Jordan saluted President Lincoln on several occasions when the president was inspecting his armies and remembers seeing him many times, according to an article in the Kentucky Advocate in March 1934. Jordan also was at Appomattox Courthouse, Virginia, when Gen. Robert E. Lee surrendered to end the war.

Jordan was born between 1842 and 1845 in Stony Point on Lexington Road, Danville, and died Sept. 28, 1938, in Shelby City. He worked for the families of Gov. Isaac Shelby, McAfee and Tevis. Jordan's obituary states he was 103 when he died.

He was married three times, first to Nora (?), born in 1849, and Lydia Pigg, who was born June 5, 1849, and died May 16, 1919. Lydia was a daughter of Jeff and Mahala Thomas Pigg. He and his third wife, Lillie Blakeman, age 49, of Taylor County, were married in March 15, 1920. Lillie said he was 103 when he died.

The 1880 Census shows Jordan and his wife, Nora, had seven children, Mark M., 13; Jennie, 10; Martha E., 9; Mary Eliza, 7; Nora, 5; Joe, 3, and Henry M., 1. Jordan and Lillie's children were Allen, Robert and Handen.

Allen Motley and his son, John Quincy Adams Wakefield, also served in the Civil War infantry. Allen was a private in Co. D of the Union Civil War Volunteers. His mother was Agnes Wakefield of Greensburg.

John Wakefield enlisted in the 125 U.S. Colored Union Volunteers during the Civil War. He was born in 1847 in Kentucky and died Dec. 31, 1931. He was married first to Eliza; and then to Ella DeJarnett the second time. Ella was from Richmond, Kentucky, and died June 3, 1932. Ella is buried in the Shelby City African American Cemetery.

John and Ella had 11 children Mary E., Rissire (?), Izaiah, Bettie, Maggie, Willis, Dan, Frank, Kate, Allen and Mat.

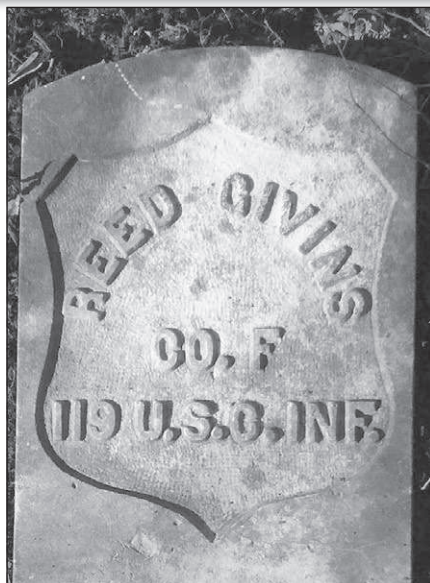
Jerry Warren and his son, James, served in the Civil War.

Jerry enlisted in Feb. 21, 1865, at Camp Nelson. He was in Co. G 124th U.S. Colored Infantry. He was discharged Oct. 24, 1865. He was owned by George Tribble.

James enlisted in May 1864, in Lexington and was a member of Co. C, 100 U.S. Colored Infantry. He was discharged Dec. 26, 1865, and drew an invalid pension granted in 1881. He is buried in the Shelby City cemetery, but no stone has yet been found.

Jerry and Maria Hackley, (1833-1921), were married in 1870 after being together for 20 years. She was a daughter of Jim and Charlotte Hackley (or Hacking) Fealen. Both are buried in Shelby City cemetery.

James Warren was born in Lincoln County and was owned by Jefferson



Thymond. James was married to Louise (?), then divorced and was living with his mother, Maria, in 1910.

Other veterans buried in Shelby City cemetery, who served in the military, include:

Reed (Reid) Givens (or Givens) of Shelby City was a private in Co. F, 119 Kentucky Infantry during the Civil War. He enlisted April 10, 1865, and was discharged April 27, 1866.

Givens was born between 1837 and 1842 and died Feb. 15, 1914, in Shelby City. He was the son of (?) Kinley and (?) Givens, both of Boyle County.

Reed Givens and Permelia Johnson, were married May 15, 1869. He married Jennie Logan (born 1861) on Dec. 29, 1882. In 1870, Reed and Jennie were living in the same house as James Givens, Davidson Kenley and Melia Givens.

Census show Givens had six children: James, Fanny, John and Lewis Givens by his first wife, and Marie and Lizzie Givens by his second wife.

Corporal William Scott was a member of Co. F 114 U.S. Colored Troops in the Civil War. He was born in December 1840 and died Jan. 10, 1921.

He was married in 1892 to Caroline (?), born March 1864. The 1900 Census showed four people living in the household including step-daughters, Salea Johnson, born April 1886, and Flora Johnson, born March 1889. The 1910 census shows a grandson, William Edwards, born in Illinois in 1910, lived at the Scott residence.

Lewis Yeager enlisted at Camp Nelson in May 1864 at the age of age 21. He was 5 feet 5 inches tall. He was a private in Co. A, 116th U.S. Colored Troops. His owner was Churchill Yeiger.

Born in Kentucky in 1844, Yeager was a son of Adam and Judie Yeager of Boyle County. He died Oct. 18, 1915. He was married four times: He and Susan Mukes were married Aug. 22, 1867; he married Alice Ruffum on Jan. 2, 1874; Millie Powell on Sept. 29, 1894; and Lucy Carpenter Goode on Aug. 15, 1904.

In 1900, Yeager was listed with three children, Mary, Joseph and George. He was living in 1900 with stepdaughters, Lillie Mary Walker and Dovie Jones; son-in-law, Hawk Jones; granddaughter, Rose Walker; and adopted daughter, Pearle A. Nelson. Ten years later, he was living with a grandson, William G. Jones, and boarders Katie and Susie Raines.



Photo/Kentucky History Center
On May 23, 1864, nearly 250 black men — most of them slaves — left Boyle County to March to Camp Nelson to enlist in the Union Army. When the recruits reached camp, Union Col. Andrew Clark initially refused to accept them because no policy allowed for the recruitment of slaves. The recruits eventually were accepted into the army, causing a Union policy change that allowed able-bodied African American men, including slaves, to enlist. More than 5,000 U.S. Colored Troops were eventually recruited at Camp Nelson, with some of the first coming from Boyle County. A historical highway marker at Constitution Square in Danville highlights the historical significance of the action. Some of the soldiers' graves are being discovered in a Shelby City cemetery.