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Lawman kills Nicholas Woman

By Charles Mattox
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An off-duty Boone County deputy sheriff shot a Nicholas County woman to death just before midnight on Dec. 29, near the community of Headquarters, in northern Nicholas County.

Investigators say Brenda Dailey, 55, of 2630 Headquarters Road was shot to death by off duty Boone County Deputy Sheriff Scott Hill.

The altercation between Hill and Dailey began over a horse named Romeo.

Investigators say Hill arrived at Dailey's rented farm near Headquarters, to transport Romeo, which belonged to Brenda-Dailey's nephew, Zach Pollitt.

Investigators say interviews with Hill, Zach Pollitt and others, indicated that Brenda Dailey had requested her nephew, who had recently lived with her, to have the horse moved from the farm by midnight that evening.

Zach Pollitt knew Hill was involved with horses and called him to help him remove Romeo.

Hill arrived at the scene around 11:30 with a truck and trailer. His wife and

daughter were also along. He met Zach Pollitt at the barn and the two loaded the horse, according to investigators.

Brenda Dailey then drove her vehicle from her house and up the small dirt lane to the barn behind her house, according to investigators.

"The deceased (Dailey), came into the driveway and confronted Mr. Hill with a weapon," said Detective Sergeant Jeremy Murrell of the Dry Ridge Post Kentucky State Police.

Murrell is overseeing the investigation, which is being conducted by Dry Ridge Detective Nathan Moore. Murrell also confirmed that Dailey had a loaded .22 caliber pistol in her possession, which she allegedly brandished.

Murrell said that at this point in the investigation he believed Hill unloaded the horse at the request of Brenda Dailey.

Moments later Hill pulled his weapon and opened fire. Dailey never fired the weapon she allegedly brandished.

"I don't think she would have ever fired a shot," Zach Pollitt said the next morning as he watched Kentucky

State Police detectives continue to process the scene. "He shouldn't have shot her so many times. He shot her five times. He never shot in the air. He never shot in the ground. He shot right into her."

Zach Pollitt said he was approximately 15 feet away when the shots were fired.

According to him and investigators, Hill was very close to Dailey when he opened fire.

Nicholas County Coroner Bill Clark confirmed the day after an autopsy was performed on Dailey, that she had been struck five times with .40 caliber rounds.

"She was struck once in the chest, twice in the back and once in the arm," Clark said.

Clark pronounced Dailey deceased at approximately 15 minutes after midnight.

Clark said he was initially prevented from entering the crime scene after arriving on the scene at approximately midnight. He arrived with deputy coroners Kevin Hutchinson, Todd Allison and Nelson Sewell.

"I never saw either of the alleged weapons that were



TRAGEDY: Jill Johnson, younger sister of Brenda Pollitt, who was shot to death by an off duty Boone County Deputy Sheriff, is embraced by nephew Zach Pollitt at the scene where the deadly shooting took place, which claimed the life of their loved one.

present when I examined Mrs. Dailey," Clark said. "They had already been moved."

"No charges have been filed," Det. Sgt. Murrell said. "Our investigation does continue."

Murrell stated a 911 call was made from the scene before the first shot was fired, but did not elaborate on the

details, nor on the justification of the shooting, or if, in his opinion a trained officer of the law should have fired a warning shot or non lethal shot or should have fired only once.

Supervisors at Dry Ridge, including Lt. Bart Taylor did comment on the devotion of investigators in conducting a thorough investigation,

which is continuing. Harrison County Deputy Sheriff Robert Peak, was one of the first officers to arrive on the scene, according to Murrell.

"We initially believed the shooting took place in Harrison County," he said regarding the scene of the shooting.

Nicholas County Sheriff



John Jones joined the City Council as its newest member as part of the official business conducted during their first meeting of the year.

Local treasure discovered

Every town has treasures that are known to their community. Some treasures are hidden and not as well known. Our town is lucky to have many historical homes and businesses that are being revived and enjoying their second or third careers.

The Nicholas County Library is lucky to have a treasure of our own. Sherry Howard has found another career as a genealogist. The library has many visitors from all over the country who are researching their family history. When they come to the library, they know who they are looking for, but not necessarily know where to find the information about that person.

Sherry Howard has selflessly reached out to them and quickly and efficiently has been able to find who they are looking for. If the family member ever lived in Nicholas County, Sherry is able to find them. If a record

of their birth or marriage was ever filed, she can find it. She has saved many travelers' hours of time, searching for family history.

She is also an author of a book called "Nellie's Legacy" which retells a story of one of her family members. She is the wife of Ronnie Howard and mother to Jo Ellen Jackson, of Carlisle, Robin Yaden of Lily, Ky and Tony Howard of Lexington. Her grandson Derek Jackson is a student at Morehead State University. She worked many years at Jockey International and then retired from working as a legal secretary for Conley and Conley attorneys. She has used her time since retiring to compile a lot of valuable historical information in an easily accessible format for other genealogists to benefit from.

Recently, a gentleman from out of town called and asked for information about his relatives in Nicholas County. Sherry did the research and compiled the documents in book form and mailed to him. He was so thankful for the excellent work she did that he wanted to pay



Sherry Howard

her a sizeable amount for her work. She refused to take the money but said that the library could use the money for a microfilm cabinet. This cabinet would ordinarily have been too costly for us to afford without donations. Through her generosity we will be able to purchase the cabinet and have the

City Council seats new member

By Stephen Scalf
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The City Council held its first meeting of the year on Jan. 5, 2009, with Mayor Ronnie Clark calling the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. After pausing for a moment of silence, the roll call was conducted with all members present: Billy Mac Gaunce, Tommy Crawford, Eugene Hall, Doug Garrett, Sandy Ritchie and Betty Jo Booth.

Sandy Ritchie moved that the minutes of the regular meeting on Dec. 8, 2008 be approved. Motion was seconded by Doug Garrett and passed unanimously.

Jerry Hensley of Ray, Foley, Hensley & Co., PLLC then presented the audit report for 2007/2008. Mr. Hensley stated - it was a

"clean" report, meaning all accounting and recordkeeping had been in accordance with accepted standards. He then explained the most important parts of the report and showed the City's status in comparison to the previous year. Total assets and liabilities remained, nearly the same, with only slight decline in assets due to depreciation.

Total operating costs for the City showed nearly a \$120,000 improvement over the previous year. Utility operating expenses showed a \$127,000 deficit, primarily due to water and sewer. Gas had actually realized gains. City operated funds for the utilities showed \$40,000 improvement, which had operated with a deficit of \$28,610 the previous year.

The City's budget had also

been carefully managed with General, Police, Fire, Zoning, and Streets all remaining under budget for the year.

Doug Garrett moved to approve the audit report, seconded by Tommy Crawford, and passed unanimously. Prior to dismissing the old City-Council, Mayor Clark took the opportunity to express his appreciation to Doug Garrett for his hard work as a council member and for his efforts on behalf of the community. Doug commented that it had been an honor to serve, and that the past two years on the council had been especially enjoyable. Mayor Clark announced that he planned to appoint Garrett to a board so the city could continue to benefit.

See COUNCIL Page 12

Church burglary investigation continues

By Charles Mattox
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The investigation continues into the burglary of a Carlisle Church, which occurred Dec. 27.

Nicholas County deputy Sheriff Bonnie Buckler said he and Sheriff Dick Garrett are continuing to gather evidence related to the crime, which took place at the Assembly of God Church along Concrete Road in western Carlisle.

"We haven't made an arrest yet, but I believe at this point we are receiving some good information," Buckler said. "We are still offering a reward and encouraging people to contact us with any information that might help us close this case."

Thieves gained entry into the house of worship, which is also a Christian school, through a rear window, according to Buckler.

Once inside the perpetrators broke locked cabinets searching for money and took approximately \$200 from the collection plate.

Buckler said he has received information that indicates a man wearing blue jeans and a hooded sweatshirt was seen running from the scene at the same time as the burglary was committed.

Anyone with any information regarding the crime is urged to contact the Nicholas County Sheriff's Office at 289-3740.

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