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# The Enterprise

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## Beating the Odds

### Businessman Morris Thompson pens book in hopes of helping children reach their dreams

Staff Report  
ENTERPRISE NEWS

Growing up poor doesn't mean you can't be successful.

Local businessman Morris Thompson has authored a book titled, "The Poor, Wise, Hillbilly" that will be available in coming days.

The book's subtitle is, "Use the secrets of this poor, wise Hillbilly to build a blessed, prosperous and successful life and make your dreams come true."

Thompson said he's always thought about writing a book and decided to because he wants children today to understand they can overcome obstacles to achieve their dreams.

"I've based my life on Ecclesiastes 4:13, 'Better is a poor and a wise child than an old and foolish king, who will no more be admonished' that's the basis for my book," he said. "I want kids today to know they can reach their dreams even if they're poor."

Morris was born and raised in the Goose Rock area of Clay County.

"I am from Moses Branch and lived in a holler," he said. "I know what it's like not to have nothing. I dreamed of getting a job and I knew I'd have to go to Ohio or work in the coal mines. I didn't want to work in the mines."

Thompson learned the cable television trade and later started his own company to provide service to residents in Clay County.

"It's an interesting story how all that got started," Thompson said. "I tell that story in my book. It was something very small that got me started."

The book has three points Thompson wants kids today to learn: 1. To Smile. 2. Honesty and 3. To Work, Work, Work.

"I believe in this day and time that's the most important principles you can have," he said.

The soft bound book is nearly 150 pages and is priced at \$9.95.

The book will be sold through the Clay County Historical Society at [clayfamilies.org](http://clayfamilies.org) and at R&S Variety, Quickie Market and the Clay County Clerk's office within the next week.



Local businessman Morris Thompson has written a book hoping to teach children they can overcome all odds to be successful living in Clay County.



IN THIS ISSUE!



County Judge-Executive Tommy Harmon declared Monday, March 27th Dr. Aaron Thompson Day

## Judge honors Clay native Dr. Thompson

Clay County Judge-Executive Tommy Harmon honored a native son during a speaking engagement at Eastern Kentucky University Monday.

Dr. Aaron Thompson, native Clay Countian and President of the Kentucky Council on Post Secondary Education, visited the county and spoke to a large crowd at EKU.

The judge bestowed the honor of making March 27th, Dr. Aaron Thompson Day.



## New details revealed about courthouse shooting

### Historical Society's Spring & Summer issue will feature a new twist on assassination of Baker

Staff Report  
ENTERPRISE NEWS

Spring is here and with it comes allergies and itchy skin.

History buffs always seem to have an "itch" for new knowledge and the Clay County Historical Society has the "scratch" for it.

The Spring and Summer edition will be available in coming days and will have information that contradicts a story about the shooting of 'Bad' Tom Baker.

The society has learned about some news that

will be a shock to local history buffs.

The opening paragraph says, "After nearly one hundred and twenty-five years, you might assume there is no more to learn about a certain series of events in Clay County history, but that assumption would be incorrect."

We're not going to spoil the surprise, but if you enjoy history, this issue is a must-read!

Also, in the issue you will learn about Ralph Hollin, Eastern Kentucky's Premier Outdoorsman; Manchester's Nomination to National Register; Was Chief Red Bird a Sheriff and much more!



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