



The

August 29, 2025

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Guardian

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A-Maize-ing Farms in Mayfield to Open Soon for Fall

By Kelsey Edwards
KPI Editor

A-Maize-ing Farms, which is a thriving fall favorite attraction in the area, has recently unveiled its 2025 design honoring the 50th anniversary of classic movie “Jaws.” A-Maize-ing Farms is also known for being Kentucky’s Largest Corn Maze. The maze has different difficulty levels which include child, intermediate, and expert. They also offer hayrides, giant inflatables, a ride to the pumpkin patch where you can pick out a pumpkin to purchase, and a petting zoo and more. A-Maize-ing Farms has received support from major sponsors like First Kentucky Bank, Patriot AG and Pepsi, along with other local businesses. A-Maize-ing Farms is something you can do with your whole family and is great

for every age group as there is something for everyone to enjoy. For more information on A-Maize-ing Farms, you can visit www.funcomnmaze.com. The business is located at 715 E Broadway in Mayfield and will be open starting on September 13 and will go through November 2 on select days. General admission is \$15 for ages two and up and includes all-day access to the entire park. The hours for September are as follows; Saturday: 11:00 a.m. — 9:00 p.m. Sunday: 1:00 p.m. — 6:00 p.m. The hours for October and November are as follows; Wednesday through Friday: 11:00 a.m. — 8:00 p.m. Saturday: 11:00 a.m. — 9:00 p.m. Sunday: 1:00 p.m. — 6:00 p.m. Make sure and get you and your family out to the farm for some fun fall activities!



The “Battle of the Birds” has long been one of western Kentucky’s most anticipated football rivalries, drawing thousands of fans each year as the Graves County Eagles and Mayfield Cardinals face off under the Friday night lights. On August 22, 2025, Mayfield secured a decisive 40–7 win, continuing its strong tradition on the field. But this year’s matchup will be remembered for far more than the score. A tragic shooting during the game shook the very heart of the community, turning what has always been a sacred celebration of school pride and togetherness into a night marked by grief and disbelief. For decades, this rivalry has been about unity, tradition, and family; now it will also carry the memory of a moment that forever changed how the community gathers for this cherished event. The resilience of the people of Graves County and Mayfield will be measured not only in the outcome of future games, but in their ability to come together, heal, and honor both the tradition and the lives impacted by this tragedy.

Photo by Jimmy Palmer Photography

Battle of the Birds Hometown Tradition

By Laurna Todd
KPI Writer

The 33rd annual Battle of the Birds is an eagerly anticipated event in the community each year. The 2025 high school football season kicked off on

Friday night with the Mayfield Cardinals facing off against the Graves County Eagles in a matchup rich with tradition, community pride, and emotion. This year, the game held deeper significance as fans from

both schools wore gold to honor Dakari Saxton, a courageous freshman and team captain from Mayfield who is bravely battling Stage IV bone cancer. Saxton’s presence at midfield, leading his team out of the tun-

nel, served as a powerful reminder of the strength, spirit, and unity that define this community. On the field, Mayfield dominated the game, securing a convincing 40-7 victory. Key moments included

..Battle Of The Birds continued to page A8

Graves County Sheriff’s Office Welcomes New Deputy

By Laurna Todd
KPI Writer

The Graves County Sheriff’s Office has welcomed its newest deputy sheriff, Tanner Bazarnyj, who officially joined the department on August 18. Deputy Bazarnyj, originally from Paducah, is a graduate of McCracken County

High School. He has a strong background in both law enforcement and emergency response. Before joining the Graves County Sheriff’s Office, he worked as a Court Security Officer for the McCracken County Sheriff’s Office, where he gained valuable experience in maintaining safety and order in

the courtroom. In addition to his law enforcement experience, Bazarnyj has actively participated in fire and rescue services. He served with the Concord Fire Department and has earned several specialized certifications. He is a CPR and first aid instructor, a swift water rescue technician,

a certified firefighter, and a HazMat Operator. These qualifications demonstrate his dedication to public safety and his readiness to respond to various emergencies. For the time being, Deputy Bazarnyj will assist with court security and complete field training. He is scheduled to attend the Ken-

tucky Basic Training Academy later in 2025, which will prepare him for the full range of responsibilities as a deputy sheriff. Sheriff Jon Hayden stated on social media post that Bazarnyj’s addition to the department is a positive development for the community. “Deputy Bazarnyj’s

background in both law enforcement and emergency services makes him a tremendous asset.” His skills will not only strengthen our department but also enhance the safety and security of Graves County.”

Fulton County Elementary Awarded USDA Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Grant

By Laurna Todd
KPI Writer

Fulton County Elementary School has received a grant of \$21,825 from the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP). This initiative will provide students with free fresh fruit and vegetable snacks

throughout the school day during the 2025–26 school year. Funded by the USDA, the FFVP is designed to introduce children to a wider variety of fruits and vegetables. The program promotes healthier eating habits and aims to bring about positive changes in students’ diets. At Fulton County

Elementary, snacks will be delivered directly to classrooms at 1 p.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays, with substitutions available for students with food allergies. The program’s goals include: - Creating healthier school environments with better food choices

- Expanding the types of fruits and vegetables students experience - Increasing daily consumption of fresh produce - Positively impacting children’s long-term health Kentucky received more than \$3.8 million in FFVP funding for the 2023 federal fiscal year, with priority

given to schools that have the highest percentage of students eligible for free or reduced-price meals. According to Fulton County school leaders, the program is expected to make a lasting difference both in and out of the classroom. “This grant helps us build healthier habits for our students while

also supporting families in our community,” said a district spokesperson. Described as a step toward better nutrition, stronger learning, and a healthier future, the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program has been warmly welcomed.

GRAVES COUNTY

EAGLES

Date	Opponent	Time	H/A
8/22	at Mayfield	7 PM	A
8/29	Paducah Tilghman	7 PM	H
9/5	at Murray	7 PM	A
9/12	Union County	7 PM	H
9/19	Owensboro	7 PM	H
9/26	at Madisonville-N Hop.	7 PM	A
10/3	at Apollow	7 PM	A
10/17	at Marshall County	7 PM	A
10/24	Muhlenberg County	7 PM	H
10/31	McCracken County	7 PM	H

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MAYFIELD

CARDINALS

Date	Opponent	Time	H/A
8/22	Graves County	7 PM	H
8/29	at Christian County	7 PM	A
9/5	at Paducah Tilghman	7 PM	A
9/12	McCracken County	7 PM	H
9/19	Crittenden County	7 PM	H
9/26	at Todd Co Central	7 PM	A
10/3	at Caldwell County	7 PM	A
10/17	at Trigg County	7 PM	A
10/24	Fort Campbell	7 PM	H
10/31	Central	7 PM	H

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Crossings Camps have a new president

By Teresa Pearson
KPI Staff

Lance Howerton has officially retired as president of Crossings camps at Cedarmore and Jonathan Creek. Howerton’s leadership has guided Crossings Camps with year-after-year growth and record attendance. Howerton leaves behind a leadership legacy that has impacted hundreds of thousands of campers and staff. While his ministry has had national impact, Howerton’s leadership of Crossings is possibly his greatest achievement. Last Monday night was Lance’s retirement sendoff at Cedarmore. Family, board members, lifelong friends, and current Crossings staffers came together to say thank you to Lance Howerton. Through the years, 219,027 campers have attended Crossings Camps and 11,497 campers have crossed over from death to life (John 5:24, from which Crossings got its name). Dan Talcott, who has served the past nine years as director of business management

for Crossings Ministries, has been named as its next president. He began serving as president-elect on August 18, 2025. Talcott is a member of Kenwood Baptist Church, where he serves in student ministry, on the worship team and works with the nursery. He and his wife, Katie, have three sons. “Kentucky Baptists will be pleased with Dan Talcott as the next president of Crossings Ministries,” said Todd Gray, KBC executive director. “Dan has the right background and training, a heart for the gospel and is an active member of a faithful Kentucky Baptist church.” Dan has served alongside current Crossings President Lance Howerton for the past several years and has been an integral part of key decisions leading to the great success Crossings is enjoying today. Hundreds of local area kids attend Crossings each Summer, with reports of salvation or seeds planted from each camp experience.

Schools strengthen game day guidelines to protect students and families

By Laurna Todd
KPI Writer

Fall sports season has returned, bringing back the Friday night traditions our communities love—band music echoing under the lights, players taking the field, and the crowd uniting in school spirit. But along with the excitement, school leaders across the region are stressing one message: safety

and respect must come first. Both Graves County and Mayfield Schools have strengthened their game day guidelines this year. Families are reminded that students in kindergarten through 8th grade must now be accompanied by an adult at all athletic and extracurricular events. Students in

see **GUIDELINES**
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Teen charged in Mayfield High School football game shooting

By Laurna Todd

Mayfield, KY — A 14-year-old boy from Fulton, Kentucky, has been charged with first-degree assault following a shooting that occurred during the fourth quarter of the “Battle of the Birds” high school football game on Friday night in Mayfield. Investigators report that the shooting took place after a physical altercation between the victim and another juvenile. During the dispute, the suspect allegedly fired a weapon, striking 18-year-old Jordan Riley of Farmington, Kentucky. Riley

sustained serious injuries to his arm and upper torso and was airlifted to a hospital out of state. Authorities have indicated that he is now in stable condition. The suspect has been taken into custody and is currently held at a juvenile detention center. He faces a charge of Assault in the First Degree, classified as a Class B felony under Kentucky law. This charge applies when an individual intentionally causes serious physical injury to another person using a deadly weapon or dangerous instrument. If convicted, the suspect could face a sentence ranging from 10 to 20

years in prison. As the investigation continues, detectives with the Mayfield Police Department have gathered additional evidence and identified more victims related to the shooting incident that occurred on August 22, 2025. Through witness interviews, the 14-year-old suspect now faces further charges, including five counts of Wanton Endangerment in the First Degree, Possession of a Handgun by a Minor (1st Offense), and Unlawful Possession of a Weapon on School Property. The Mayfield Police Department is leading

the investigation with assistance from the Kentucky State Police, the Graves County Sheriff’s Office, the Carlisle County Sheriff’s Office, Mayfield EMS, the Fulton Police Department, and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms (ATF). Authorities encourage anyone who witnessed the incident or has relevant information to contact Mayfield Police dispatch at (270) 856-3721, Crimestoppers at (270) 443-8355, or by texting “WKY” followed by your tip to 738477. The investigation is ongoing.



Congratulations to DeeAnn Bogaczyk and Leslie Heath with Blended Boutique on their ribbon cutting. Blended Boutique offers a variety of Reidland gear, vintage/secondhand pieces, locally sourced scents and so much more! They also have vintage Reidland and Farley mementos as well. They are located at 5540 Reidland Road. Check out their Facebook page to stay up-to-date on new arrivals and store hours.

Kentucky Fish and Wildlife welcomes game warden recruit class

FRANKFORT, Ky. — The Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources Law Enforcement Division welcomed Class 29 of game warden recruits on Aug. 18, 2025, as they began their training for a career with the

agency. The class includes 14 recruits who are starting their training to become game wardens. Upon graduation, they will be assigned to districts across the state. It is the largest recruit class in more than 10 years. Class 30, which is scheduled to start Sept. 22, will welcome 16 new recruits. The recruits will complete six weeks of intensive, division-led training designed to prepare them for the next stage of their law enforcement careers. They will then attend the Department of Criminal Justice Training Academy in Richmond to continue developing the skills necessary to protect Kentucky’s wildlife and natural resources. Afterwards, they will return for 10 additional weeks of Fish and Wildlife agency training.



Game wardens serve a critical role in safeguarding the Commonwealth’s outdoor heritage, ensuring compliance with conservation laws, and supporting public safety across Kentucky’s waterways, forests and fields. “These individuals represent the largest group of recruits in over a decade to attend the game warden recruit

academy,” said Lieutenant Bryan Hill, training coordinator for Kentucky Fish and Wildlife Law Enforcement. “These men and women represent the future of our Law Enforcement Division. Their commitment to service is a powerful reminder of the honor, integrity, personal courage and selfless service embodied daily by Kentucky game wardens.” Kentucky Fish and Wildlife is committed to training professional, dedicated wardens who will serve with integrity and protect Kentucky’s natural resources for future generations. Information about a career as a Kentucky game warden is available on the department’s website (fw.ky.gov) on the Career in Law Enforcement webpage.



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Before **After**



Before **After**

GUIDELINES,
from page A2

these grades will not be admitted without a parent or guardian and must remain with them in the stands throughout the game. If children are found wandering, they will be escorted back to their parents.

Graves County has also added specific football guidelines, including closing tailgating areas after kickoff, prohibiting loitering in breezeways or parking lots, and keeping sidelines behind team benches clear. Pets and outside athletic balls are no longer allowed at events. Mayfield Schools have adopted nearly identical measures, emphasizing supervision of younger students at all times.

Ballard Memorial has also released expectations for fans attending home games. Spectators

are encouraged to “cheer loud, cheer proud, and cheer respectfully,” always using appropriate language. Children must remain with an adult, with no playing under bleachers or walking on the track. For safety, visitors should follow the orange fence line to reach their seating area.

Following last week’s “Battle of the Birds” incident, many community members believe these measures are both necessary and long overdue. School officials stress that while they want all attendees to enjoy the games, children should not be left unsupervised. There is speculation that other districts in the region may soon implement similar policies, ensuring that our beloved Friday night traditions remain safe, spirited, and welcoming for everyone.

Celebrating the strength and spirit of Kentucky workers

By Sen. Danny Carroll

As Labor Day approaches, we pause to honor the hard-working Kentuckians whose dedication and resilience power our communities. From classrooms to construction sites, farms to factories, public offices to private enterprises, our workforce is the backbone of the commonwealth.

Across rural Kentucky, from farming towns to coal communities, hard work is not just a job. It is a way of life. Whether it is harvesting crops at dawn, repairing roads and bridges, operating local businesses, or running essential public services, our rural workforce reflects the values of determination and a deep sense of responsibility.

In cities like Paducah, we see the daily rhythm of labor in our hospitals, schools, offices, and local businesses. Teachers are back in the classroom with their students to prepare the next generation with care and purpose. Health care workers, utility staff, and service professionals keep our communities moving and connected. Their

work is essential not only to the economy but to the quality of daily life.

This Labor Day, we also recognize the first responders who remain on duty while others take a well-earned break. Our police officers, firefighters, EMTs, and dispatchers stand ready to protect and serve, often sacrificing their own holidays to keep us safe. Your commitment is deeply appreciated.

Labor Day is a time to reflect on the contributions of workers across generations who built this country with strength and resolve. Let us continue that legacy by valuing work, supporting families, and creating opportunity in every corner of Kentucky. Kentucky’s workforce is among the bluegrass’s greatest assets, and at the core of our multi-year record-breaking economic investments are the workers that private industry needs in order to thrive.

Thank you for your hard work, your service, and your continued belief in the power of a job well done. I wish you and your family a safe, restful, and meaningful Labor Day weekend.

Murray State University celebrates first graduates of Cybersecurity Analyst certificate program

MURRAY, Ky. – The Murray State University Cyber Education and Research Center is proud to announce the graduation of the first cohort from the Cybersecurity Analyst certificate program. This initial group included 18 participants, all of whom received their certificates on Aug. 16. The ceremony took place at the Freed Curd Auditorium within the Jones College of Science, Engineering and Technology, where family and friends gathered to celebrate their success.

The graduating class includes the following individuals: Jamar Blakney of Mayfield, Kentucky; Peter Dover of Almo, Kentucky; Jace Duncan of Symsonia, Kentucky; Tyler Galbraith of Paducah, Kentucky; Dante Gray of Benton, Kentucky; Grayson Hagerman of Madisonville, Kentucky; Charlie Hamlet of Benton, Kentucky; James Harper of Cadiz, Kentucky; Brandi McKinney of Paducah, Kentucky; Michael Mercado of Paris, Tennessee; Benjamin Meter of New Concord, Kentucky; Nathan O’Neill of Murray, Kentucky; James (Matt) Ragsdale of Murray, Kentucky; Jacob Scott of Puryear, Tennessee; William Simmons of Calvert City, Kentucky; Brandon Tapp of Benton, Kentucky; Christopher Turner of

La Center, Kentucky; and Brandon Taylor of Paris, Tennessee.

The graduating individuals completed a nine-month, 12-credit-hour program. Each participant was provided with job placement and continuing education opportunities to help ensure their future success. Individuals already working in the information technology (IT) and cybersecurity fields had the chance to upskill, creating opportunities for advancement within their current jobs. For many participants, the program offered a pathway into the IT/cybersecurity sector without any prior knowledge, allowing them to secure full-time positions after completing their internships.

A program participant, Jamar Blakney, stated, “The word ‘opportunity’ cannot be overstated for everyone involved. I was given the opportunity to try something new and different, as well as a chance to get into a profession that I was unsure how to get into from the beginning.”

The program, which is free for eligible participants, offers a comprehensive curriculum covering various topics such as network configuration, vulnerability assessment and traffic analysis. With a strong emphasis on practical, real-world scenarios, students learn how to

effectively identify and mitigate cyber threats, thereby protecting organizations against potential breaches and data loss. The entire curriculum is aligned with industry certifications, enabling students to graduate with multiple recognized credentials. Throughout the certificate program, participants have the opportunity to earn their CompTIA A+, Network+ and Security+ certifications.

In addition to the graduation ceremony held on Aug. 16, the incoming cohort of students had their orientation. The current group of students will attend classes from August to May, followed by an eight-week summer internship starting at the end of May 2026, with the aim of securing a job placement upon completion of the program. The current cohort consists of 24 students who are either entering the IT/cybersecurity field for the first time or seeking to enhance their existing knowledge.

This certificate program was funded by a \$1.5 million three-year grant from the Employment and Training Administration within the Department of Labor through the Delta Regional Authority. Eligible students who take part in the grant will have free tuition for the 12 credit hours of coursework, a paid

internship, a laptop, career coaching, job placement support and real-world experience.

The Murray State University Cyber Education and Research Center is currently accepting applicants for the 2026-2027 Cybersecurity Analyst Certificate program. Spaces are limited with only 24 spots available to eligible participants. Individuals interested in the Cybersecurity Analyst Certificate program and grant can reach Cheryl Calvert through email at ccalvert2@murraystate.edu.

The Cyber Center and the Cybersecurity and Network Management program are part of the award-winning statewide Program of Distinction at Murray State University. The program provides degree tracks in cybersecurity, wireless communications, and network and systems administration. Cybersecurity and Network Management focuses on cybersecurity and network infrastructure in the rapidly growing field of technology. It is an interdisciplinary program that provides students with a solid foundation in cybersecurity technologies and their application in a business environment.

Learn more about Murray State’s Cybersecurity and Network Management program at murraystate.edu/cyber.

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WEST KY SPORTS



“The annual ‘Battle of the Birds’ between the Graves County Eagles and Mayfield Cardinals drew a packed stadium and electric hometown energy—Mayfield emerged dominant with a 40–7 win on August 22, 2025. This rivalry matchup has long been a cornerstone for local unity, tradition and school pride, drawing generations of fans for its spirited competition and communal camaraderie.”

Photo by Jimmy Palmer Photograp

Bombers rally falls short

By Tim Taylor

Ballard Memorial found themselves trailing by 2 scores multiple times in their season opening football game, and their rally fell short at 32-28 to Todd County Central. With the offense struggling and trailing 14-0 in the 2nd quarter, the Bombers found an offensive spark. Sophomore Jackson Sutton stepped into the QB roll and found Caden Opel in the middle of the field for a pass completion. Opel evaded a couple of tacklers and went into the end zone for a 72-yard TD to trim

the deficit to 14-6. That would be the score at the half. The Rebels struck first in the 2nd half, and the lead grew back to double figures. Sutton then started using his legs instead of arm to kick start the offense. He had two runs that combined for 51 yards, including the last one being a 20-yard run for his first varsity touchdown. After another Rebel score, he found the end zone again with 7:06 left in the game to pull the Bombers to within 26-22. Todd County Central took advantage of some missed tackles to go

ahead 32-22 with 4:29 remaining. A quick response by the Bombers saw Sutton finding Luke Sullivan for a 25-yard screen pass for a score to pull the Bombers back to within 4. The defense forced a fumble with 1:55 remaining to give the Bombers a shot at the win. The Bombers had a couple of plays nullified by penalties and the penalties forced them into a 4th and 30 play. The pass from Sutton to Opel fell incomplete as Ballard Memorial lost the opener 32-28. “We made a lot of mistakes early,” said Coach Jon Hedges adding, “This is

a developing team right now and have a lot of kids that have not played contact sports before, but I am really proud of this team.” Sullivan was all over the field defensively recording 21 tackles with Opel adding 15 stops and Sutton had 9 tackles. Sutton rushed for 50 yards and 2 scores while completing 8 of 14 passes for 165 yards and two scores. Opel had 2 receptions for 76 yards and a TD. Cooper Clark had 2 catches for 37 yards and Sullivan hauled in 2 passes for 26 yards and a score. The Bombers will next host Jo Byrns, Tn Friday night at 7:00.

Lady Bombers working toward All A

By Tim Taylor

Ballard Memorial volleyball is working in the early season trying to find out what combinations on the floor work best together. Coach Adam Solomon is trying different things to make sure he can put the girls in the best position to maximize their talents prior to the All A 1st Region Tournament on September 6th. Hosting a district foe in the 2nd match of the season is not ideal but can be used as a growing experience. The Lady Bombers grew despite their 3-0 loss to Graves. The Lady Eagles were the better team on the floor, but Ballard Memorial took steps to get better as the match went along. The Lady Bombers lost 25-10,



25-14, 25-23. A Lady Eagle 9-3 run in the 3rd set erased a 4-point Lady Bomber lead. The Lady Eagles led 23-20 but the Lady Bombers pulled to within 24-23 and had a chance to tie

the set, but their last attempt went into the net causing the ball to fall on the Ballard Memorial side of the net to allow the Lady Eagles to get the 3-0 sweep.

Ballard Memorial rebounded in their next match facing CCA. A dominating opening set saw the Lady Bombers jump out to an 8-1 lead and then did not let up winning the opener 25-7. They finished the 2nd set on a 13-5 run to win 25-11. CCA got their first lead of the match in the 3rd set and their largest lead was 2. The set was tied at 18 all before Ballard Memorial ended the set on a 7-2 run to win the match 25-7, 25-11, 25-20. Senior Hala Ouderkirk led the team with 12 kills and 4 aces. Aubrey Alexander recorded 22 digs, and Keira Shaw had 21 assists. Ballard Memorial finished the first week of the regular season 2-1 and they will host the All A 1st Region Tournament on September 6th.



Paducah Tilghman finished runner-up in the Western Kentucky Smackdown Junior Varsity Silver Bracket on Saturday, Aug. 23. The Western Kentucky Smackdown was held at the Hopkinsville Sportsplex.
photo courtesy of Christian County High School

Glisson goes 4 for 4

By Tim Taylor

Ballard Memorial senior Madison Glisson has competed in four 1st Region All A Tournaments. She now has four 1st Region All A titles. She dominated the competition finishing with a 16-stroke advantage. While other competitors used push/pull carts to transport their clubs’ hole to hole, Glisson slung her bag over her shoulder and carried hers over her back for the 18 holes of competition. Talk about making a statement, Glisson did just that. An opening hole bogey started the day for Glisson, but she put that behind her and went to work even more determined. She got a couple of strokes back on the first 9-holes and ended with a 1 under par 35 at the halfway mark. She rolled through the back 9 like she did her competition finishing the final 9 with a 3 under par 33 to finish her title defense with a 4 under par 68. “It feels great to get the 4-peat regional champion,” said Glisson. She added, “I hit a lot of fairways and hit a lot of shots where they needed to be,” She is right where she needs to be as she now looks to 4-peat as the All A State Championship. Glisson will compete at The University Club at Arlington in Richmond on September 6th to try and become only



the 2nd ever player to 4-peat in the girls All A State. She followed that win up with another top 5 finish in high school tournaments. She fired an even par 71 to claim 3rd place in Glasgow at the Barren County Trojanettes Invitational.

In boys’ action, the Bombers finished 3rd in the All A Regional at Drake Creek. Senior Lynden Davis had one of his best tournament performances, finishing with a team best 84. “My putting was amazing, and this is my best accomplishment,” said Davis who finished 6th best of the All A boy competitors. Owen Enfinger was 11th best on the day with a 90, and Ike Miller was 13th with a 92. Sophomore Drew Fickes finished with a 102 to help the Bombers to a 3rd place finish.



Eric Haney drove the green on the 316 yard # 1 Hole (Par 4) for a (Albatross Hole-In-One).

Lady Comets win Comet Classic

The Lady Comets won the Comet Classic held @ Carlisle County. They went 3-1 in pool play. They defeated Fulton City, Murray, and Hickman County. Their only loss was to Union City. In bracket play, they defeated

Murray to advance to the championship to take on Union City. The Lady Comets avenged their pool play loss by defeating them 2-0. Congratulations to the players and coaches on going 5-1 on the day and winning the tournament.



Mayfield golfer Rylan Crouch placed first in the 1st Region All “A” Classic boys’ golf tournament at Drake Creek Golf Club on Thursday, Aug. 21.
photo courtesy of Mayfield High School Golf



Mayfield golfer Keely Henson placed second in the 1st Region All “A” Classic girls’ golf tournament at Drake Creek Golf Club on Thursday, Aug. 21.
photo courtesy of Mayfield High School Golf

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McCracken County defeated Massac (Ill.) in a boys’ high school golf match at Metropolis Country Club on Tuesday, Aug. 26.
photo courtesy of McCracken County High School



McCracken County defeated Massac (Ill.) in a girls’ high school golf match at Metropolis Country Club on Tuesday, Aug. 26.
photo courtesy of McCracken County High School



Men’s Championship Flight
Club Champion- Eric Straub
A Flight
Champion- Jimmy Brown
B Flight
Champion- Chad Bassi
C Flight
Champion- William Skinner



High School Football Paducah Tilghman 63, McCracken County 28

By Staff Report

PADUCAH — Reigning KHSAA Class 4A Champion Paducah Tilghman pulled away to defeat rival McCracken County 63-28 in a high school football season opener on Friday, Aug. 22. The Tornado won convincingly on the road. Quarterback Stone Crowe led Paducah Tilghman to the win. Crowe completed 25 passes for 432 yards and seven touchdowns. Avery Thompson was Crowe’s top target, reeling in five receptions for 122 yards and two touchdowns. Aiding Paducah Tilghman offensively, Chance McPike, Jemarion Purdiman, Cameron Wade, Blair Sains and Demarkus Wilson each added one receiving touchdown. On the ground, Paducah Tilghman rushed 29 times for 205 yards and one touchdown. Rushing 13 times

for 91 yards and one touchdown, Mason Copeland was Paducah Tilghman’s top rusher. Defensively for Paducah Tilghman, Wyatt Gower and Isaac James posted nine tackles apiece. Delivering in Paducah Tilghman’s secondary, Thompson and Wade recorded one interception apiece. Quarterback Maddox O’Neal paced McCracken County, completing 19 passes for 182 yards and two touchdowns. Jakari Matchem emerged as McCracken County’s top receiver, finishing with 13 receptions for 140 yards and two touchdowns. On the ground in McCracken County’s offensive attack, Landon Newman and Elijah Pullen each supplied one rushing touchdown. Defensively for McCracken County, Max Sturm tallied 10 tackles. Matchem and Sturm each recorded one interception for the Mustangs.

Friday Night Football Friday, Aug. 29

- Fulton County at South Fulton (Tenn.), 7 p.m.
 - Hart County at Trigg County, 7 p.m.
- Hopkins County Central at Todd County Central, 7 p.m.
- Jo Byrns (Tenn.) at Ballard Memorial, 7 p.m.
- Hopkinsville at Madisonville-North Hopkins, 7 p.m.
- Marshall County at Caldwell County, 7 p.m.
 - Mayfield at Christian County, 7 p.m.
- McCracken County at Logan County, 7 p.m.
 - Murray vs. Calloway County, 7 p.m. (at Murray State University)
- Paducah Tilghman at Graves County, 7 p.m.
- Union County at Crittenden County, 7 p.m.

Boys’ High School Soccer McCracken County 8, Mayfield 0

By Staff Report

PADUCAH — McCracken County shut out Mayfield 8-0 in a non-district boys’ soccer match on Monday, Aug. 25. The Mustangs and Cardinals are 1st Region rivals from bordering districts. William O’Neill led McCracken County to the win. O’Neill netted four goals for the Mustangs. Along with O’Neill, Mason Atnip (two goals), Grey Vessels

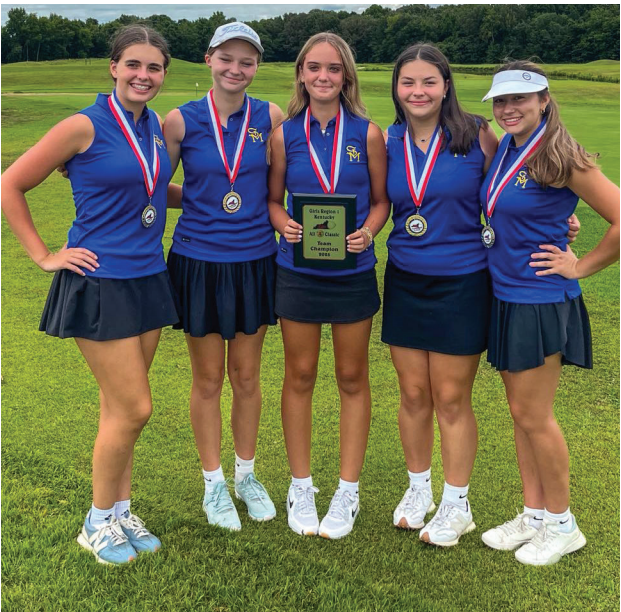
(one goal, one assist), Kaden McKenzie (one goal), Jake Hazel (two assists), Maks Hazel (two assists), Brady Hayden (one assist), Lane Grace (one assist) and Pep Vanaclocha (one assist) contributed offensively for the Mustangs. Defensively for McCracken County, Cameron Sullivan (one save), Braxton Freeman and Lane Grace split time at goalkeeper during the match.

Boys’ High School Soccer Marshall County 5, Calloway County 2

By Staff Report

BENTON — Marshall County defeated Calloway County 5-2 in a 2nd District boys’ soccer match on Thursday, Aug. 21. Lincoln Colburn paced Marshall County, scoring two goals for the Marshals. Accompanying Colburn in Marshall County’s scoring column, Brayden York, Davis Hunt and AJ Hale each netted one goal. As part of a balanced

offensive attack for the Marshals, Hunt and Houston Johnson recorded one assist apiece. Defensively for Marshall County, Carson Lovett and Nick Clapp split time at goalkeeper. Lovett recorded three saves for the Marshals. Cole Thomas and Yoni Damian each scored one goal for Calloway County in the district match. Defensively for the Lakers, goalkeeper Maximus Milburn recorded 10 saves.



St. Mary won the 1st Region All “A” Classic girls’ golf championship at Drake Creek Golf Club on Thursday, Aug. 21.
photo courtesy of St. Mary School



Ramos Construction & Siding LLC has sponsored warmup shirts for the Mayfield High School boys’ soccer team.
photo courtesy of Mayfield High School Boys’ Soccer

Tennessee Valley Authority:

Calling the commonwealth home for over 90 years

By Wade White

The late Governor Happy Chandler once said, “I never met a Kentuckian who wasn’t either thinking about going home or actually going home.”

The Tennessee Valley Authority is proud that our employees, power plants and Kentucky Dam have called the commonwealth home over the last 92 years.

Together we helped power America through a world war, we’ve weathered economic downturns, and we have stood together in the aftermath of the December 2021 tornadoes. Fourteen local power companies partner with TVA in Kentucky to serve our families, neighbors and friends in good times and bad.

When the seven-state region had the hottest weather in over a year last month, TVA was able to meet peak power demand those days using our coal, natural gas, nuclear and hydro-electric assets.

Kentucky is home to TVA’s oldest coal-burning plant—Shawnee Fossil in McCracken County. Burning approximately 14,600 tons of coal a day, the plant on the Ohio River generates enough electricity to power 640,000 homes. Just this year, TVA finished upgrades on Shawnee units that

are allowing them to keep running at full capacity throughout the summer. TVA’s coal plants have been workhorses through the years, and they remain an important part of our generation as we look into potentially keeping them running for longer than previously planned.

Kentucky Dam is an engineering marvel—the longest dam in the TVA system at 8,422 feet—it is 22 miles from the confluence of the Tennessee and Ohio River. Kentucky Lake has a flood storage capacity more than two and a half times the capacity of the next-largest reservoir in the TVA system, making it crucial for mitigation of flooding in communities downstream and along the Ohio River—notably Paducah.

The dam’s five hydro-units will power about 220,000 homes, and they can go from cold to full capacity within five minutes on the hottest of summer afternoons or coldest January morning.

There are two natural gas plants in Kentucky—Paradise Combined Cycle in Muhlenberg County and Marshall Combustion Turbine in Calvert City.

In 2024, thanks to our hard-working employees, the Paradise

site was named the top-performing plant of its kind by Guidehouse’s Energy, Sustainability, and Infrastructure segment. The combined cycle units can power up to 644,000 homes and in late 2023, TVA added three new simple cycle units onsite that can generate enough power for up to 398,000 homes.

Those simple cycle units, like the eight in Marshall County, have the ability to go from zero to full capacity in about 12 minutes. Kentuckians can be proud that about 500 TVA employees are working in the commonwealth each day to keep the lights (and air conditioning!) on when we need it the most.

TVA and your local power company are working together to serve you, not for shareholders in another state. That partnership is important because we live where you live, our kids go to the same schools, and we have a vested interest in our communities. Retail power rates in the Tennessee valley are lower than those paid by over 80 percent of customers of the top 100 U.S. utilities and industrial rates are lower than those paid by over 90 percent of customers of the top 100 U.S. utilities.

National security is energy security and



Kentuckians are keenly aware of this with Fort Campbell along the Tennessee border. The Army post is one of the direct-serve customers in Kentucky who purchase their power directly from TVA and we are honored to serve those who serve our country.

My three terms as Lyon County judge-executive and service on the TVA board of directors have reinforced to me that TVA, working with partners in local communities is an

economic driver for our region. In the last fiscal year, TVA helped bring a projected 1,430 new jobs to Kentucky and helped keep 5,000 jobs in the commonwealth. Those are families who will have better opportunities close to home and communities that will become better places to live, work and play.

Those who know me know the lakes region of western Kentucky are close to my heart, and I’m proud of how TVA is helping families and communities there

preserve their history and culture.

A mission-driven mandate from Congress allows TVA to focus on the best interests of Kentuckians.

Whether you are near the lakes of the Jackson Purchase, on a farm in the Pennyrile, in a rapidly-growing Bowling Green, or along the Green River, we are all Kentuckians and TVA has been proud to power your home for over 90 years.

See our RIVER PROGRESS REPORT inside today’s edition.

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2025 Kentucky Football Schedule			
Saturday Aug. 30		Toledo Rockets Kroger Field, Lexington, KY	12:45pm ET SECN
Saturday Sep. 6		21 Ole Miss Rebels Kroger Field, Lexington, KY	3:30pm ET ABC
Saturday Sep. 13		Eastern Michigan Eagles Kroger Field, Lexington, KY	7:30pm ET ESPNU
Saturday Sep. 20		OFF	
Saturday Sep. 27		at 13 South Carolina Gamecocks Williams-Brice Stadium, Columbia, SC	3:30-8:00pm ET TV TBA
Saturday Oct. 4		at 5 Georgia Bulldogs Sanford Stadium, Athens, GA	12:00pm ET ABC or ESPN
Saturday Oct. 11		OFF	
Saturday Oct. 18		1 Texas Longhorns Kroger Field, Lexington, KY	6:00-8:00pm ET TV TBA
Saturday Oct. 25		24 Tennessee Volunteers Kroger Field, Lexington, KY	6:00-8:00pm ET TV TBA
Saturday Nov. 1		at Auburn Tigers Jordan-Hare Stadium, Auburn, AL	3:30-8:00pm ET TV TBA
Saturday Nov. 8		15 Florida Gators Kroger Field, Lexington, KY	3:30-8:00pm ET TV TBA
Saturday Nov. 15		Tennessee Tech Golden Eagles Kroger Field, Lexington, KY	1:30pm ET SECN+/ESPN+
Saturday Nov. 22		at Vanderbilt Commodores FirstBank Stadium, Nashville, TN	3:30-4:30pm ET TV TBA
Saturday Nov. 29		at Louisville Cardinals L&N Stadium, Louisville, KY	Time TBA ET TV TBA
Saturday Dec. 6		SEC Championship Mercedes-Benz Stadium, Atlanta, GA	4:00pm ET ABC/ESPN3

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..Battle Of The Birds continued from front page



a safety, a 50-yard touchdown pass from Robbins to Diego Torres, and a touchdown run by Josiah England. Although Graves County made a brief attempt to rally, senior Malik Kirby's interception in the

end zone followed by a touchdown enabled Mayfield to maintain their momentum. The Cardinals' defense was strong throughout, allowing only a late rushing touchdown by Kyl Ek Cole. However, the night



Photos by Jimmy Palmer Photography

was marked by a tragedy in the stands. Fortunately, no lives were lost, but the incident shook the community to its core. The immediate response from both Mayfield and Graves County was inspiring, as parents,

students, and fans came together, demonstrating resilience, compassion, and unwavering support for one another. This tragedy will not define the rivalry or the season; rather, it has strengthened the bonds within

the community. Looking ahead, Mayfield will travel to face the Christian County Colonels, while Graves County will host Paducah Tilghman. Both communities remain committed to attending games, honoring

traditions, and supporting their players. The Battle of the Birds embodies courage, hope, and the extraordinary resilience of a community that refuses to let tragedy overshadow its spirit.

Where in the World was Graves County Ag....

By:Graves County Schools

Italy of course! Or at least they were this summer. The second annual study abroad trip for Graves County Agriculture students took place over the summer with students taking in sites at Milan, Torino, Cuneo and more!

The Italy and France Food for Farming Tour captured the interests of 16 GC students. Along with their chaperones, they embarked on a journey that would truly be an experience they would never forget. Traveling abroad started as a dream for agriculture teacher Ms. Lyell. Now with the second trip under her belt, it's certain that the yearly excursion will take agriculture students all over the world.

On the trip, students explored the breathtaking

architectural masterpieces such as the Basilica di Superga, Palace of Torino, San Sebastian chapel and Castello Di Grinane Cavour.

In addition, students learned agriculture is vital in Italy just as it is in Kentucky. During their stay, operations at a beef farm, flour mill, and La Poina dairy, which is where they raise dairy cattle and sheep for the production of a specialty cheese called Castelmagno, were all processes students were able to experience. With so many amazing tours, students weighed in on what was their favorite or perhaps most eye opening encounter during their stay.

“The palace was my favorite place we visited because it had a lot of interesting back stories and the architecture was so pretty.” - Brooklyn



Johnson “My favorite structure we visited was the very first cathedral, the outside did not look like you wanted to go inside, it was big and yellow on the outside and kind of looked broken down. But once we went in it was so beautiful and the thought and design that went into it was amazing and so

creative.” - Braelynn Johnson While the sites were truly remarkable, the variety of delicious pastries, pastas and gelatos were equally

as amazing. Not only did students dine on some of the world's most delicious food, they were also able to try their hand in creating some dishes. From harvesting olives at the Azienda Agricola Ferrari and seeing olives turn to oil, to becoming chefs at restaurant Lostu where students made their own bread and

pasta...it's safe to say that no one went hungry on this trip! “My favorite meal was when we prepared our own meal at Lostu. It was fun, a

little hard at some points, but overall so fun and tasted even better because we made it ourselves,” said Johnson. It's true what they say...there is no place like home. However, GCHS principal, Ms. Janet, is grateful that students at GC have the opportunity to expand their education in a very hands-on way! This year, she even joined in on the fun. “The trip was totally amazing. Learning about the natural ways they farm and produce their foods

and the opportunity to eat so many Italian dishes were a couple of the highlights of the trip. This is such a great opportunity for students and family members that attend with them. GC has always had an amazing agriculture program, and I am excited to see that Ms. Lyell is so willing to continue to make the program a place where students gain hands-on experience and have once in a lifetime experiences,” stated principal, Ms. Janet Throgmorton. “It means so much to me that Ms. Lyell organizes these trips. I never thought I would be able to go to France and Italy when I was 16, and it feels good to know that we have people in our school who make that opportunity happen for the students,” stated Johnson.



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KENTUCKY AGRI-BIZ

Funding received to explore honey bee health and larval nutrition

By Wilbur Jackson
KPI Writer

LEXINGTON, Ky. — Clare Rittschof, Ph.D., an associate professor of entomology and a Bill Gatton Foundation Distinguished Professor at the University of Kentucky Martin-Gatton College of Agriculture, Food and Environment, has been selected for a prestigious research grant in the inaugural year of the Scialog: Neurobiology and Changing Ecosystems initiative.

This groundbreaking initiative is supported by a coalition of leading scientific

and philanthropic organizations, including the Research Corporation for Science Advancement, the Paul G. Allen Frontiers Group, the Paul G. Allen Family Foundation, the Frederick Gardner Cottrell Foundation, and The Kavli Foundation.

Rittschof and her collaborators received a \$66,000 award to pursue their project titled “Bee-ing aware: Monitoring honey bee larval nutrition, chemical exposure and neurobiological effects.” The goal of this research is to better understand how early-life nutrition and chemical

exposure influence the development, health, and long-term survival of honey bees—one of the most critical pollinators for global agriculture.

“While honey bees play a vital role in global food production, colony mortality rates in the U.S. are at historically high and unsustainable levels,” Rittschof explained. “Many factors like pollution and poor nutrition contribute to these losses, but their effects during early developmental stages are still poorly understood.”

The research team plans to use advanced high-throughput laboratory techniques to

analyze the nutrient-rich, jelly-like substance adult bees feed to larvae. By studying this “bee milk,” the team hopes to identify specific nutrients, plant chemicals, and pollutants present in hives across different environments.

This project is particularly innovative in its focus on the larval stage—a critical but often overlooked period in a bee’s life cycle. According to Rittschof, this stage is the primary “feeding stage,” making it essential to understand how diet quality and chemical exposure at this time shape bees’ health and capabilities as adults.

The team’s long-term

objective is to develop microsensors capable of detecting essential dietary components in real time. These tools could revolutionize how beekeepers, researchers, and agricultural experts monitor hive health, helping to identify and mitigate threats before they impact the entire colony.

“Hopefully our efforts will make it easier to collect these critical data and ultimately support pollinator health and food security,” said Rittschof.

For this project, Rittschof is collaborating with Ina Anreiter from the University of Toronto Scarborough and

Alexander Zestos from American University. Their work is part of a larger effort involving six cross-disciplinary research teams from the U.S. and Canada, all chosen for funding during the first year of the Scialog: Neurobiology and Changing Ecosystems initiative.

This research not only deepens scientific understanding of bee development and ecosystem health but also aims to offer practical tools and solutions to support pollinators—an essential component of sustainable agriculture and biodiversity.



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SEP 11

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*UK Land-grant Engagement
program preserves arts, culture
through disaster preparedness*

By Jennifer Elwell

LEXINGTON, Ky.—
When natural disasters strike—floods, tornadoes or fires—the damage is measured not just in infrastructure lost, but in the cultural memory that vanishes alongside it. Photographs, handmade quilts, historical archives and community art installations often represent the soul of a place and tell a profound story. In Kentucky, a unique partnership is working to protect that story.

Through a groundbreaking initiative led by the University of Kentucky, arts preparedness is emerging as a pillar of land-grant engagement. This collaborative

effort unites Kentucky Community Arts Extension, part of the UK Cooperative Extension Service, with the Department of Arts Administration in the UK College of Fine Arts, fostering a powerful alliance to equip arts and cultural organizations with essential tools for emergency planning and disaster response.

In 2024, the UK Office of Land-grant Engagement announced funding for multiple projects, focusing on community engagement. The goal was to expand collaborative efforts between UK and partners across the Commonwealth while addressing important public needs. The Arts Preparedness in Kentucky was one of the nine projects selected.

Connecting arts and emergency response

“After a disaster, people go back to find what is left,” said Melissa Bond, extension director for Community Arts and Economic Development with Blueprint Kentucky (formerly CEDIK). “The photos and heirlooms are what they try to find first. We all have something precious.”

Following several devastating natural disasters in Kentucky in 2021 and 2022, Bond envisioned the need for a statewide cultural heritage disaster response network.

She teamed up with Ruth Bryan, professor and archivist for UK Libraries, Leah Hamilton, assistant professor and arts emergency specialist in the UK College of Fine Arts, and several Kentucky arts organizations to launch the Kentucky Heritage Emergency Response Network (KHERN). Together, they formed a coordinated group that connects local needs with national expertise, delivering

see SOUL,
page B3

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Saturday, Sept 6, 2025

A photograph of the Wagon Wheel Outlet store exterior. The building has a rustic, wooden facade with a large gabled roof. To the left of the entrance, a callout bubble shows a soft-serve ice cream cone with the text 'FREE Ice Cream! First Saturday of Every Month!'. To the right, another callout bubble shows a cup of coffee and a donut with the text 'FREE REFRESHMENTS'.

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A photograph of a white self-serve ice cream machine with a dispensing arm and a container for toppings.

SOUL,
from page B2

hands-on recovery assistance, actionable preparedness training and vital resources for artists, cultural institutions and community members alike.

“Arts and culture represent the soul of a community,” Hamilton said. “We currently have an environment locally, state and nationally where emergency management frameworks don’t necessarily consider the role of arts and culture in disaster preparedness, in response and recovery.”

Looking through wet photos at a workshop

Workshop participants look through wet keepsakes in a salvage activity. Photo by Blueprint Kentucky.

The vision behind KHERN led to the Arts Emergency Preparedness in Kentucky program. KHERN experts provide real-time coordination and on-site support during emergencies, enhancing the program’s responsiveness. Several arts disaster relief resources are provided through the College of Fine Arts website, including an open-access emergency management resource guide developed by UK Libraries.

Extension offices: trusted community anchors

According to Hamilton and Bond, the success of KHERN and the Arts Preparedness program lies in its deep connection to Kentucky’s county-level Cooperative Extension

infrastructure. These offices—one in every county—serve as trusted hubs with long-standing relationships within their local communities. Eight of those counties have a dedicated community arts agent focused on leveraging arts and culture to provide local community economic development.

“The infrastructure of extension is what’s bringing national attention to KHERN,” said Hamilton. “Offices have built trusted relationships with their communities. Extension lets us ask, ‘What are your needs?’ and respond meaningfully.”

Make art safe workshop Kentucky

“Make Art Safe” was the theme of the Arts Preparedness workshop

see SOUL, page B12



Learning how to care for photos and documents following a flood or weather event is one of the hands-on activities the Arts Preparedness in Kentucky program is providing through Community Arts Extension.

Photo provided by Blueprint Kentucky.

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With its combination of a private dock slip, updated interior, and serene outdoor living spaces, this Kentucky Lake gem is ready for you to make it your own.

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Appliances & Extras: For Added Convenience, The Auction Includes A Haier Stainless Steel Mini Fridge—Great For A Shop, Dorm, Or Extra Storage At Home.

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Thoughts about the coming tribulation

By William F Holland Jr.
billyhollandministries.com

I rarely discuss end-time events, but I’ve been receiving emails with questions pertaining to the church being removed from the earth, the second coming of Jesus, and the antiChrist. The reason is simple why I avoid these topics, and it has to do with being unsure of my interpretations of them. I’m sure you are aware there are many opinions about eschatology with most Bible teachers and scholars being convinced they are correct. But, if all Bible passages were crystal clear, there would only be one Christian church and every follower of God would be in agreement without any strife or divisions. The purpose of this column is not a place to be controversial over

religious doctrines or stir up anger over political positions, but to present inspirational and encouraging messages to help us understand what God wants from us and what our responsibilities are to Him. On the other hand, we are not to be afraid to stand for truth due to fear of public criticism. Pastors face this every Sunday. Therefore, with so many important questions about our future, I’m curious like most of you about what is going to happen and hoping I will be able to discern the signs. Just let me say my personal views are not set in dogmatic concrete, but rather are possible scenarios and considerations.

I want to focus this week and next week about the antiChrist, but before we begin, I realize the rapture is a subject where many

Christians believe they will disappear any moment which is considered a “pre-tribulation” doctrinal position. Others claim the remnant believers will be taken up at the mid-point of the seven year period (1260 days), while still yet some are convinced the saints will remain on the earth throughout the tribulation and be removed when the trumpet sounds and Christ appears in the sky. At this time the dead are resurrected as Christ crushes the armies at Armageddon. Is the rapture a secret event, or does the entire world see Him and know what is happening? Is the day of the Lord a third return? I’m sure you have your own views and can use scriptures to prove your points. On a side note, we know the word rapture is not found in the Bible, and that John

Nelson Darby made the word popular in the 1830s. I find II Thessalonians chapter 2 interesting, as it has some interesting clues. Throughout history and even now millions of saints have been martyred for their faith including the original apostles and were not removed from persecution.

Whenever the Lord returns, knowing He is coming back for us is our greatest hope. I believe the message He is speaking to all of His children today is to be ready. Do not rest on the bed of comfort thinking that we will not have to suffer for our faith. Of course, this is a happy thought, but the love of many waxing cold and the strong delusion coming, the hatred for Christians will increase. Matthew chapters 24 and 25 and the book of Revelation, gives us critical information about

us facing stronger resistance. Several Old and New Testament passages are tied together to present a more complete understanding, but even with these puzzle pieces it’s still difficult to establish timelines. One component in the mix includes a coming world leader that will sweep the masses off their feet as he becomes the most powerful and influential person on the planet. In Revelation chapter 13, we read how this evil person who is possessed with Satan along with his partner the false prophet will perform such amazing miracles they will capture the minds and hearts of everyone who is not a member of God’s elect.

Verse 8 says, “All who dwell on the earth will worship the beast, whose names have not been written in the Lamb’s book

of life, the Lamb who was slain from the foundation of the world.” This statement causes me to wonder how any human could convince the entire world that he can be trusted? We can’t even find two people who agree on everything. In closing, if you have ever doubted your salvation, this is the hour to make sure you are born again. What if the rapture does not happen before the antiChrist takes control? If you are not saved, you will believe the mark of the beast is a good thing. Philippians 2:12 reminds us to seek out our own salvation with fear and trembling.

Dr. Holland is a Christian minister, author, and community outreach chaplain. Ask for a free download of his song, “Intentions of the Heart” at psalmz103@gmail.com

YOU ARE NOT DUMB NOW

Bro. Brandon G. Bramlett
Bandana Baptist Church

“I am not dumb now,” she declared with delight. Helen Keller (June 27, 1880—June 1, 1968) experienced a life-changing breakthrough and uttered her very first sentence. A violent fever bedeviled Keller as a baby, confiscating her ability to speak, see, and hear. But thanks to her lifelong friend and teacher Anne Sullivan, Keller was introduced at ten-years old to the principal of the Horace Mann School for the Deaf in Boston, Sarah Fuller. Most are aware of

Sullivan’s tireless support for Keller, who remained by her side until she died in 1936, but fewer are familiar with the remarkable techniques this caring principal employed to help Keller speak.

Fuller gently placed Keller’s little hands in her mouth, allowing her to feel the sounds of consonants and vowels as Fuller’s jaw, tongue, and teeth moved. Keller then practiced speaking simpler words like mamma and papa, and after only seven lessons, she mastered the basics and murmured this

turning-point sentence. Profoundly inspired, she quickly mastered lip-reading through touch, “hearing” speeches from President Roosevelt and jokes by Mark Twain, and even deciphering what was on the radio from its vibrations. She diligently applied herself to all subjects, from arithmetic to zoology, and upon graduating college with special honors in English, she delivered her first public speech in 1913. Afterward, she embarked on transcontinental speaking tours, sharing her exhilarating turnaround story with

the world—all because a patient teacher named Sarah Fuller helped a mute woman speak.

This is precisely how the Holy Spirit operates in the hearts and lives of believers. Without the divine assistance of this Teacher, we are spiritually mute—unable to speak to God or about God to others. He teaches us how to pray when we cannot find the right words (Rom. 8:26), making the syllables of prayer natural to us. And He forms the gospel of Christ on our lips when fear makes us speechless. As Jesus promised, “And

when they bring you before the synagogues and the rulers and the authorities, do not be anxious about how you should defend yourself or what you should say, for the Holy Spirit will teach you in that very hour what you ought to say” (Luke 12:11-12).

“But when the Helper comes,” Christ assured, “whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, he will bear witness about me. And you also will bear witness” (John 15:26-27a). This does not

mean you will always speak on stages—it does mean that, through the empowerment of the Spirit, any location can be a pulpit to speak for Christ. When you submit to His power, the Holy Spirit will turn your silence into sharing—whether at the dinner table, the hospital room, the workplace cubicle, the local church, or the classroom. Thus, whenever you stammer in prayer or struggle to speak for Christ among others, remember: because of the Teacher-Spirit, you are not dumb now.

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Funeral Notice

Paid obituaries furnished to Kentucky Publishing Newspaper Group

Velda Sue Smith Phillips

Velda Sue Smith Phillips (Ved), passed peacefully at the home of her daughter, Lori, on _ Sunday August 18, 2025 in Cape Girardeau, MO. She was born In Livingston County on June 12, 1934, to Raymond and Katherine Smith.

She is survived by daughters Rhonda Ash (Chris) Paducah, Valerie Phillips (Shawn), Paducah, Lori (Steve), Cape Girardeau, MO, son Todd Daily Phillips, Duncan, SC, and chosen family members, Tony and Nancy Page of Paducah, KY. She’s lovingly remembered by seven grandchildren, Jessica Handley (Star), Lindsay Augustino (Jason), Whitney LeBlanc (Sam), Amber Carmack (Brian), Meagan Guyette, (Jim), Nick Augustino, and Alexis “B” Ash; and 11 great-grandchildren. Liberty Guyette, Shanice Handley, Jenay Handley Emma Karin, Parker Guyette, Gabriel Augustino, James Guyette, Scout Karin, Graysen Augustino, Jase Carmack, And Greer Augustino.

All who knew her will agree her joy was her grandchildren and great grandchildren. Her spirit was generous, compassionate, and she would have your back, no matter who you were at odds with. She had an impeccable green thumb and was able to pass on cuttings and seedlings she had nurtured from her grandmother. Rather than trust any of her girls with plants, during the cold winter, she would crowd them all into her home to keep them thriving. Summertime brought tabletops and counters filled with dozens of quarts of tomatoes, green beans, peaches, corn and other vegetables she and Pap would harvest from the farm in Livingston County. She was an avid reader and kept up to date with things going on in the world through the Paducah Sun and televised news. She was born in Livingston County, and although residing in Paducah most of her adult life, she made weekly treks back to ‘the county’ (referred to as ‘going up’) for hair appointments, visiting the family (Daily) farm, and stopping in to visit with her friend Katherine. A big highlight in the 60’s was grabbing Katherine and heading for downtown Paducah to take advantage of the sales on “Paducah Day”, a day long shopping event usually held on President’s Day. The day would start and end with laughter, and both found joy in their bond of friendship. She will always be remembered for her sense of humor and having the last word.... which was usually something funny. To recharge from all of her time with others, Mam could often be found “jammin”, as she would open the windows on cool days, crank up her music, and rock in her chair. Whether it was Chris Stapleton or Charlie Pride, Mam was singing every word.

Lovingly known as ‘Mam”, as each grandchild was born, mom and baby went directly to “Mam’s house” for a minimum of two weeks. From this time on, all the grandkids came to know there were no rules at Mam’s house. If the meal for Sunday dinner was fried chicken, and someone asked for roast beef, then a hearty roast was served up on a platter beside the chicken. Tubs of crayons, books, Disney movies and baby dolls filled every room, and no visit to Mam’s was complete without a trip to Tot n Teen. She had a heart for all children. On her dining excursions to Cracker Barrel, young children who just happened to be dining at the table next to her would often be the recipient of a small gift from the toy department.

Of the many charities she supported in particularly was the Native American Schools.

Known especially for her cooking, you could find friends and non-family members popping in around mealtimes to enjoy her cooking, knowing there would always be an invitation to stay, and there would always be enough. All the children can account that when going to a church potluck, you would be tasked with carrying in pans, bowls, and platters of enough food to feed not only her family but several. She was particularly welcoming of anyone at her table, from the UPS man to friends of her grandchildren, which resulted in a “family” net that was cast across the world.

Her trip to the Holy Land enriched her spirit of serving. She and her husband were large supporters of the Global Harvesters Foundation, Inc., a non-profit that collects

and distributes donations to missionaries, specifically supporting friends who were doing God’s work in Guatemala. They opened their home many times to missionaries traveling through the area, where she did their laundry and cooked meals for them. That dedication to serving was evident in the tireless effort they put in to cooking and cleaning in preparation for the Hurricane Campground Meetings at Tulu in Crittenden County. She worked behind the scenes with her husband for 16 years cleaning the church campground and helping to organize the kitchen for the religious services which would be held there for consecutive 10 nights.

During the holidays you could find boxes in array and the aroma of fudge for days as she prepared treats to deliver to the elderly or the needy. A lot of her kindness was directed at the elderly. She always related well to those who had lived their life and found themselves where they needed to call on someone for help. She could always be counted on to step in and help those who needed a pat on the back, food, wood to burn, or just something to brighten their day. Any given Sunday afternoon she could be found visiting or taking friends to visit someone in a nursing home facility.

She believed in giving her time and resources to those who really needed it. She and her husband raised their children in a home that fostered these actions, and their attitude of doing and giving has taken hold in each one.

A very heartfelt thank you to Crown Hospice of Cape Girardeau.

She was preceded in death by her, husband of 63 years, Rodney (Pap) Phillips, brother Bennie Smith, grandson, Wesley Augustino of Grand Rivers, KY. and beloved childhood friend, Katherine Lasher.

The family invites you to bid a fond farewell to Mam in a graveside service 2 p.m. Sunday August 24, 2025 at Hampton Cemetery, 967 Carrsville Rd, Hampton, KY 42047. The Rev. Dave Garrett officiating.

Expressions of sympathy may take the form of contributions to St. Jude Children’s Hospital,501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN. 38105, or The Alzheimer’s Association, www.alz.org.

Lindsey Funeral Home is handling all arrangements. Online condolences may be left at www.lindseyfuneral.com.

August 28, 2025 at Morgan’s Funeral Home with Bro. Bill Bruce and Bro. Dean Ray officiating. Burial in Blue Spring Church Cemetery.

Thomas Cleo Traylor, age 94, of Caldwell County, passed away Tuesday, August 19, 2025 at his home. Funeral services were Sunday, August 24, 2025 at Morgan’s Funeral Home with Bro. Patrick Yates officiating assisted by Bro. Jeff Boone. Burial in Old Beulah Cemetery in Hopkins County.

Jeffrey Sholar, age 66, of Princeton, passed away August 18, 2025 at his home. Private services were held.

Herbert Lee Boren, age 84, of Hazel, Kentucky, passed away, Tuesday, August 19,

2025, at his home. A funeral service was held Monday, August 25, 2025, at the J.H. Churchill Funeral Home & Cremation Services with Bro. Jordan Roach officiating. Burial in the Murray Memorial Gardens.

James Dale Morrison, age 82, of Murray, Kentucky, passed away on Thursday, August 21, 2025, at the Tristar Skyline Medical Center in Nashville, Tennessee. A funeral service was held Tuesday, August 26, 2025, at the J.H. Churchill Funeral Home and Cremation Services. Rev. Robert Brown and Rev. Anna Pinnegar officiating, with burial in the New Jenny Ridge Cemetery.

• CHRISTIAN •

Phyllis Ann Shields, age 82, of Hopkinsville, KY passed away Saturday, August 23, 2025, at Trigg County Hospital Funeral Services will be on Friday, August 29, 2025, at Maddux-Fuqua-Hinton Home at 12:00 PM with burial to follow in Green Hill Memorial Gardens.

David R. Abbott, 72, Antioch Road, Hopkinsville, KY passed away Tuesday, August 19, 2025 at Deaconess Gateway Hospital, Newburgh, IN Funeral services were Saturday, August 23, 2025 at Lamb Funeral Home with Paul Vaughn officiating. Burial in Peaceful Meadows Cemetery.

Donald James Kinmartin, 71, of Oak Grove, KY died at 8:58 p.m. Wednesday, August 20, 2025 at his residence. Funeral Services were Wednesday, August 27, 2025 at Dogwood Funerals & Cremations of Hopkinsville with Bro. Jim Gifford officiating.

Betty Jane Brewer Dulin, 69, Hopkinsville, passed away on Tuesday, August 19, 2025, in Nashville, TN. Funeral Service will be Saturday, August 30, 2025 at 12:00 PM at MT. Olive Baptist Church Hopkinsville. Burial at Foster Gardens Cemetery.

James Henry Cager, 79, Hopkinsville, passed away on Monday, August 18, 2025, in Hopkinsville, KY. Funeral Service was held Thursday, August 28, 2025 at Gamble Funeral Home. Burial at KVCW.

• CRITTENDEN •

Regina S. Cook, 69, of Marion, KY passed away August 18, 2025, at her home in Marion, KY. Memorial services were Friday August 22, 2025, at Marion First Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

Charles Ronnie Glore age 74 of Marion, KY passed away August 18, 2025 at his residence. As per Mr. Glore’s wishes, cremation was chosen. No services are planned at this time.

Raymond Everett Belt, 85, of Marion, Kentucky, passed away peacefully on August 20, 2025, at Salem Springlake Health and Rehabilitation Center. Funeral services were Wednesday, August 27, 2025, at 2 PM, at Lola Pentecostal Church. Burial in Lola Pentecostal Church Cemetery.

Charles (Doug) Curnel, 80, of Marion, KY. passed away peacefully at his home Wednesday, August 20, 2025. Funeral services were Saturday, August 23, 2025 in the chapel of Boyd Funeral Directors and Cremation Services. Burial at Salem Cemetery.

FUNERAL NOTICES continued

• FULTON •

Sarah Hicks, of Fulton, Ky. passed away Thursday, August 21, 2025 at her residence. A funeral mass was held Tuesday, August 26, 2025, at St. Edward Catholic Church in Fulton, Ky. with burial in Water Valley Cemetery.

Jerry Lynn Kell, age 78, of Fulton, KY passed away Tuesday, August 19, 2025, at Baptist Health of Paducah in Paducah, KY. Memorial services were Saturday, August 23, 2025, in Hornbeak funeral chapel.

• GRAVES •

Glenn H. McAlpin, age 86, of Mayfield passed away on Wednesday, August 20, 2025 at Ray and Kay Eckstein Hospice Care Center in Paducah, KY. Graveside services were Saturday, August 23, 2025 at Robbins Cemetery. James Stovall and Rev. Keith Allred officiating.

Howard Riley, age 86 of Mayfield, KY, passed away at 8:57 PM on Sunday, August 24, 2025 at Baptist Health Paducah. Funeral Services were Wednesday, August 27, 2025 at the Brown Funeral Home in Mayfield, KY with Rev. Billy Sizemore and Rev. Jerry Rollins officiating. Burial in the Miller’s Chapel Baptist Church Cemetery.

Norma Wyatt, age 76 of Mayfield, KY passed away at 12:40 PM Saturday, August 23, 2025 at the Countryside Center for Rehab & Nursing in Bardwell, KY. Graveside services were Wednesday, August 27, 2025 at the Liberty Cemetery with Rev. Mike Miller officiating.

Stephen Thomas “Leroy” Lamb, age 72 of Mayfield, passed away Saturday August 23, 2025, at 4:18 pm at his home after a brief battle with cancer. Funeral services for Steve “Leroy” Lamb will be held on Saturday, August 30, 2025 at 11:00 A.M. at the First Church of The Nazarene in Mayfield with Revs. Steve Melvin, Dave Dorn and Gregg Hussey officiating. Interment will follow in the Highland Park Cemetery.

Jensen Lynn Gream, age 75 of Mayfield, KY passed away on Friday, August 22, 2025 at the Ray and Kay Eckstein Hospice Care Center in Paducah, KY. Funeral Services were Tuesday, August 26, 2025 at the Brown Funeral Home in Mayfield, KY with Bro. Chris Kemp officiating. Burial with military rites in the Cuba church of Christ Cemetery.

• HENDERSON •

Larry Max Tittle, age 66, of Henderson, KY formerly of Mt. Vernon, IL, went to be with the Lord on Friday, August 22, 2025, at his home under the care of St. Anthony’s Hospice. A private burial will take place on Saturday, September 13, 2025, at East Hickory Hill Cemetery in Bluford, IL. A Celebration of Life for Larry will be planned for a later date.

Clifton Felker, age 68, of Henderson, KY, passed away on Sunday, August 17, 2025, at Deaconess Midtown Hospital in Evansville, IN. There will be no services at this time.

Donald Wayne Powell, 71, of Robards, passed on Thursday, August 21, 2025, at his home. Funeral services was held Monday, August 25, 2025, at 1:00 PM at Tomblinson Funeral Home, Sebree Chapel, with Bro. Mark Compton and Bro. Thornton Stanley officiating. Burial at Shady Grove Cemetery in Poole, KY.

• HICKMAN •

Alfred Austin “Bud” Goodrich, age 85 of Clinton, passed away Friday, August 22, 2025 at the Jackson Purchase Medical Center in Mayfield. A memorial service will be held at a later date. Brown Funeral Home in Clinton is in charge of arrangements.

• HOPKINS •

Drucilla Bowling Eaves, 83, of Providence, KY, peacefully transitioned from her Earthly dwelling on Friday evening, August 22, 2025, at Baptist Health Deaconess Hospital in Madisonville, KY. A funeral service for Mrs. Eaves will take place on Friday, August 29, 2025, at 2:30 PM at Marable Temple COGIC, with Elder Ira Hathaway to officiate. Visitation will take place from 12:30 to 2:30 PM directly before the service. Interment will be at the Cumberland Hill Cemetery.

Rita Lisa “Granny” Cartwright, 83, of Madisonville, KY, passed away on Monday, August 25, 2025, at Baptist Health Deaconess in Madisonville. A funeral service was held Wednesday, August 27, 2025, in the chapel of Harris Funeral Home with Pastor Josh Bumpus and Pastor Bill Bursztynski officiating. Burial at Odd Fellows Cemetery in Madisonville.

Virginia “Jenny” Laffoon, 49, of Hendersonville, TN, passed away on Thursday, August 21, 2025, at TriStar Medical Center in Hendersonville, TN. The funeral service will be held at 1 p.m. on Tuesday, August 26, 2025, in the chapel of Harris Funeral Home in Madisonville with Bro. Lon Lorton officiating. Burial to follow at Grapevine Cemetery in Madisonville.

Ellwanda Terry Hibbs, 94, of Madisonville, KY, passed away on Wednesday, August 20, 2025, at Ridgewood Terrace and Rehabilitation. A funeral service was held Saturday, August 23, 2025, in the chapel of Harris Funeral Home with Bro. Wayne Eastridge officiating. Burial at Odd Fellows Cemetery in Madisonville.

Anna Burns Bean, 77, of Madisonville, KY, passed away on Tuesday, August 19, 2025, at Baptist Health Deaconess in Madisonville. A memorial service will be held at a later date. Harris Funeral Home was entrusted with care.

Benjamin “Ben” Campbell, 63, of Madisonville, KY, passed away on Tuesday, August 19, 2025, at St. Thomas Hospital West in Nashville, TN. A private celebration of life will be held on Saturday, September 13, 2025. Military Honors will be conducted by MVETS Post #117. Harris Funeral Home was entrusted with care.

Danny Lee Harris, 78, of Madisonville, KY, passed away on Monday, August 18, 2025, at Baptist Health Deaconess. A funeral service was held Friday, August 22, 2025, in the chapel of Harris Funeral Home with Bro. Richard Clifton and Travis Goodman officiating. Burial at Odd Fellows Cemetery.

Ronnie Gene Baldwin, 83, of Hanson, KY passed away peacefully on Friday, August 22, 2025 in Madisonville Kentucky. The funeral service was held Wednesday August 27, 2025 at Barnett-Strother Funeral Home and Crematory Madisonville Chapel with Matt Davis officiating. Burial at East Lawn Cemetery in Hanson, KY.

Earl Stewart Wells, 96, of Madisonville, KY, passed away on Wednesday, August 20, 2025, at Baptist Health Deaconess in Madisonville, KY. Graveside services were

Monday, August 25, 2025, at 11:00 a.m. at Odd Fellows Cemetery in Madisonville, KY, with Jeremy Wells officiating.

• LIVINGSTON •

Cynthia “Darleen” Pierce, 75, of Burna, passed away Saturday, August 23, 2025 at Mercy Health Lourdes Paducah. Funeral services will be Friday, August 29, 2025 at 1PM in the chapel of Boyd Funeral Directors and Cremation Services. Burial will follow in Pinckneyville Cemetery.

Rebecca Ann Tyner, 69, of Salem, KY, passed away on Monday, August 18, 2025, at Salem Springlake Health and Rehabilitation Center. Memorial services will be held at a later date.

• LYON •

Bro. Ronnie Fox, a devoted servant of God, passed away peacefully on August 23, 2025, at the age of 68 in Eddyville, KY. Funeral services were Wednesday, August 27, 2025 at Morgan’s Funeral Home with Bro. Mac Walls and Bro. Dean Ray officiating. Burial in Blue Spring Church Cemetery.

William R. White, known to friends and family as Ronald, peacefully passed away at his home on August 21, 2025. Funeral services were Sunday, August 24, 2025 at Morgan’s Funeral Home with Rev. David Fambrough and Rev. Bobby Noel officiating. Burial in the Fredonia Cemetery with military honors.

• MCCRACKEN •

Laddie Hudson Wood, 79, of Paducah, Kentucky passed away at 10:02 p.m. Monday, August 18, 2025 at Mercy Health Lourdes. Private burial will take place at Oak Grove Cemetery.

Alice Brantley, 77, of Marion, Illinois passed away at 6:14 a.m. on Wednesday, August 20, 2025 at Charter Senior Living in Paducah, Kentucky. Memorial services were held Saturday, August 23, 2025 at Milner & Orr Funeral Home of Paducah with Rev. Nate Hillenbrand officiating.

Cynthia Dianne Toon Williams, known affectionately as Cindy, passed away on Wednesday, August 20, 2025, at her home. Funeral services were Monday, August 25, 2025, at the Lone Oak Chapel of Milner & Orr Funeral Home with Rev. Mike Williams officiating. Burial at St. John Catholic Church Cemetery.

Terrie Lynn Westerman passed away on August 20, 2025, at the age of 57 years. A memorial service will be held at 1 P.M. on Saturday, August 30, 2025 at Bridge of Hope, 1575 Hwy 641 South, Paris, Tennessee. Visitation will be held from 11 A.M. until 1 P.M. with a short service and meal to follow.

Marlene Griffin, age 73, passed away on Thursday, August 21, 2025, at her home in Paducah, Kentucky. A memorial service is scheduled for 1:00 P.M. on Saturday, August 30, 2025 at Milner & Orr Funeral Home and Cremation Services of Paducah,120 Memorial Drive, with Carlin Brooks officiating.

Benny Rohn Fithen, known affectionately to friends and family as Ronny, passed away on August 22, 2025, at Baptist Health in Paducah, Kentucky. A funeral service was held Tuesday, August 26, 2025, at Milner & Orr Funeral Home of Wickliffe with Bro. Dee Hazelwood officiating. Burial at Old Bardwell Cemetery in Bardwell, Kentucky.

FUNERAL NOTICES continued

Carolyn Ann Collier Snow, passed away on August 22, 2025, at the age of 76. A funeral service was held Sunday, August 24, 2025 at the Paducah Holiness Church with Rev. T.L. Futral and Rev. Gaylon Cunningham officiating.

Jim Breidenbach, 63, of Paducah passed away at his home in Paducah on Tuesday, August 19, 2025. Services were Tuesday, August 26, 2025 from 4 to 7pm at Lindsey Funeral Home.

Tom Roberts, 77, of Paducah passed away on Monday, August 18, 2025, at Parkview Nursing & Rehab in Paducah. Memorial visitation was held Thursday, August 21, 2025, in the chapel of Lindsey Funeral Home. Private family burial at Columbus Cemetery.

Edwina June Stringer, 83, of Paducah passed away at 9:28 AM on Thursday, August 21, 2025 at her residence. Funeral services were Wednesday, August 27, 2025 at Hughes Funeral Home in Paducah with Jim Trimble officiating. Burial at Maplelawn Park Cemetery in Paducah.

Martha Ann (Freeman) Ramage, 96, of Paducah passed away peacefully at 10:48 AM on Tuesday, August 19, 2025 at Calvert City Convalescent Center in Calvert City. Graveside services were Friday, August 22, 2025 at Woodlawn Memorial Gardens Chapel in Paducah with Rev. Joe Hansen officiating.

• MARSHALL •

Jesse Lee Winkler, 34, of Gilbertsville, Kentucky, passed away on Saturday, August 23, 2025. There will be a private family graveside service held at a later date.

Jimmy Wayne Hendrick, 79, of Benton, Kentucky, passed away on Monday, August 18, 2025, at his place of residence. A Funeral service was held at Brewers United Methodist Church on Friday, August 22, 2025, with Bro. Josh Herndon officiating. Committal at Brewers Cemetery.

“Dusty” Forrest B. Downey Jr., passed

on Sunday, August 24, at the UK Medical Center in Lexington. A viewing was held Thursday, August 28, 2025, at Collier Funeral Home in Benton, Ky.

Farrel June Leneave, 91 of Terre Haute, Indiana (born in Benton) passed away Thursday, August 21, 2025, at Gibson Family Center for Hospice Care in Terre Haute, Indiana. A funeral service was held Monday, August 25, 2025, at 2:00 PM at the Collier Funeral Home Chapel with Rev. Mark Stephens officiating. Burial at the Benton Cemetery.

Billy “Doyle” O’Bryan, 82 of Benton, Kentucky passed away on Tuesday, August 19, 2025, at home in Benton, Kentucky. A funeral service was held Friday, August 22, 2025 at Collier Funeral Home Chapel with Bro. Steve Phillips officiating.

Tina Lynn Burnett, 65, of Benton, Kentucky passed away on August 18, 2025, surrounded by her loved ones. Family and friends celebrated the incredible woman she was on Thursday, August 21, 2025 at Collier Funeral Home, with interment following at Wilson Cemetery.

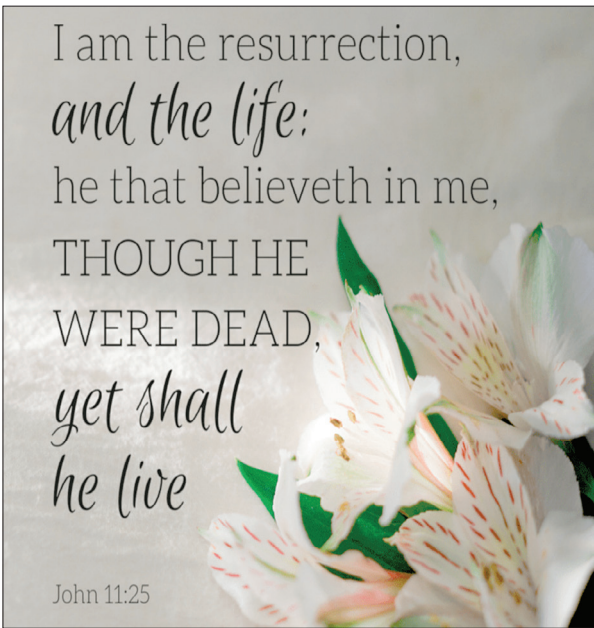
• TRIGG •

Ora Yvonne Leavell died on Thursday, August 21, 2025 at her aunt’s home in Hopkinsville, KY. Funeral Services will be held Saturday, August 30, 2025 at 11:00 a.m. at King’s Funeral Home. Visitation will be from 10:00-11:00 a.m. on Saturday, August 30, 2025 at King’s Funeral Home.

Orpha Ann Shamoon, 82, passed away Wednesday, August 20, 2025 at Jennie Stuart Medical Center in Hopkinsville, KY. A private memorial service will be held at a later date. King’s Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements.

Cynthia Marie Thomas, 68, passed away Wednesday, August 20, 2025 at Trigg County Hospital. A memorial service will be held at a later date. King’s Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements.

Donald Dale “Don” Hall, Jr., age 68, of



Cadiz, Kentucky, passed away on Friday, August 22, 2025, at Murray Calloway County Hospital in Murray, Kentucky. A memorial service will be held at a later date. Arrangements are being handled by Goodwin Funeral Home, Inc., 138 Main Street in Cadiz.

Nell Petty Vinson, age 94, of Cadiz, Kentucky, passed away on Friday, August 22, 2025, at Barkley Plantation in Cadiz. Arrangements are being handled by Goodwin Funeral Home, Inc., 138 Main Street in Cadiz, where the family will receive friends after 4:00 PM on Friday, August 29, 2025. Funeral services will be at Goodwin Funeral Home at 11:00 AM, Saturday, August 30, 2025, with Bro. Nick Clark officiating. Burial will follow in Vinson Cemetery.

• UNION •

Patty Jean (Banks) Holaday, age 86 went home to be with the Lord Wednesday, August 20, 2025 at 10:06 PM. The service was held Monday, August 25, 2025 at Whitsell Funeral Home in Morganfield. Burial in Odd Fellows Cemetery in Morganfield.

Johnny Mac Simpson, 86, of Morganfield, passed away on August 19, 2025. Funeral service was held Friday August 22,2025 at the Cumberland Presbyterian Church Sturgis, KY. Rev. Curtis Franklin officiating. Burial in Oak Grove Cemetery in Clay, KY.

To place a full obituary, including a photo, call 270-442-7389 for details and pricing. Obituaries and funeral notices should be received by 9 a.m. Wednesday for inclusion in that week’s paper.

Area SUPPORT GROUPS: Tornado survivor, Gambling, Celebrate Recovery, AA, NA, Grief

Tornado Survivor Support Group
Stronger Together! You are not alone. Join us on the 4th Thursday of each month, 5 p.m. at the Graves County Baptist Association, 1400 KY-303, Mayfield, KY. Call 270-247-7947 for more information.

GAMBLERS ANONYMOUS
Kentucky Council on Problem Gambling, Inc. KYCPG.org
On this website, visitors may learn about gambling addiction, determine whether they or someone they know may have a gambling problem, and obtain referral information to counselors or Gamblers Anonymous.
Connect with Gamblers Anonymous via phone: Lexington Hotline

Number: 855-2CALLGA (855-222-5542)
Louisville Hotline
Number: 855-2CALLGA (855-222-5542)

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https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7097833052

SUNDAY
Lexington, KY
6:30 PM EST, Zoom
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7097833052

CELEBRATE RECOVERY
• Grace United Methodist Church, Celebrate Recovery on Hwy 60 in LaCenter, Thursdays 7 p.m.

• Benton Campus, Celebrate Recovery
1001 Main Street, Ben-

ton, Tuesdays, 6 p.m.

• Murray Campus, Celebrate Recovery 915 Arcadia Cir., Murray, Thursdays, 6 p.m.

• Bardwell Campus, Celebrate Recovery Marris Valley Church St., Hwy 1181, Fridays, 6 p.m.

• New Life Community Church in Bardwell, Celebrate Recovery, 6:30 p.m.,Fridays. For all hurts, habits and hang ups. Celebrate Recovery is a safe place to find community and freedom from the issues that are controlling our life. Everyone welcome.

• Clinton First Baptist Church, Celebrate Recovery Mondays, 6p

• Grace Life Church, Celebrate Recovery
Graves County, Sunday

ton, Tuesdays, 6 p.m.

Nights, 6:30 p.m.

• Paducah Brown St. Club: Clean Living NA, Mon., Tue., Fri. 6 p.m.

• AA Meetings, Tuesday nights at 6 p.m. at 1st Baptist Church, 5th & Olive in LaCenter.

• AA Meetings, Friday nights at 6 p.m. New Covenant Community Church on Coffee Dr. in LaCenter.

• Arlington City Hall, AA Meetings, Tue. & Fri. 6 p.m.

• First United Methodist Church, AA Meetings, Mondays, 8 p.m.

• Turning Point Recovery Center, Paducah, (270) 444-3621
AA Meetings: Sun. 9

a.m., Sat., 9 a.m.
NA Meetings: Sun-Noon and 6 p.m., Mon-Noon and 6 p.m., Tue-6 p.m., Wed-Noon, Thur-6 p.m., Fri-Noon, Sat-Noon and 6 p.m.

• A Recovery Support Group called OVERCOMERS.
Christian Fellowship Ministries, 1343 US Hwy 68 East Benton, KY. Meeting are Tuesdays 6- 8 p.m. - Call to confirm meeting beforehand Jada McWilliams 270-205-5294 270-527-8369

Grief Share
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welcome to join in at any time. \$20 includes workbook
Monica L Rogers, facilitator, 270-705-2421
www.griefshare.org

Grief Support Group presented by Mercy Health Hospice, meets every Thursday at 3 p.m., at Mayfield First United Methodist Church’s Outreach Building at 316 South 8th St., Mayfield. Contact phone 270-415-3636 for information.

• Sober Hearts Ministry Friday at 7:00 p.m. at First Baptist Church in Barlow, KY
SoberHeartsFamily-Ministry@outlook.com
Facebook - Sober Hearts Family Ministry
- Text – (270)445-1008.

VICTORIOUS *Living* ...in a troubled world

How can pain help me?

By Teresa LeNeave
Leneave2@comcast.net

The Bible urges us to arm ourselves so we'll be able to withstand the tests and trials of this life. Every person on earth, knows the pain of weakness. The pain of brokenness. Of hard times. Apostle Paul seemed to think "arming ourselves" gets us through the tough times, but how do we do that? How do we get from pain to victory?

I admit, none of us like pain, but from pain we learn to avoid things that are harmful. Imagine how mutilated a child would be if they experienced no pain from a burn or a cut. Or, if no emotional pain was incurred from hurting others? The truth is: we learn from pain. We learn

to make better and safer decision. We learn to "arm" ourselves with someone stronger than we are.

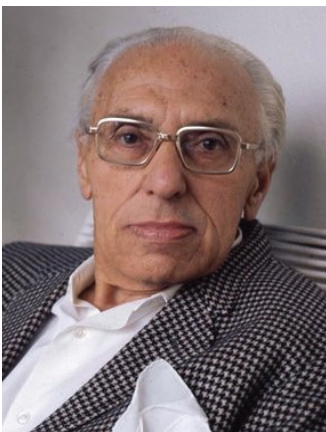
Paul knew something about pain. In fact, in 2 Corinthians 1:8, he wrote, "For we would not, brethren, have you ignorant of our trouble which came to us in Asia that we were pressed out of measure, above strength, insomuch that we despaired even of life...". Paul is talking about a weakness that is "so utterly burdened" beyond your strength that you lose all interest in continuing the battle. You're done. It's too tough. Too hard to go on.

But he goes on to say he learned through "being pressed beyond strength", that God

was his deliverer. Paul talked a lot about a weakness that helped him endure affliction, perplexity and despair for a purpose: "that the life of Jesus might be manifest in your body" (2 Cor. 4:8-11).

Paul thought we needed God's strength to endure insults without retaliation and suffering reproaches, without bitterness (2 Cor. 12:10). That's a high task, because our flesh doesn't like to suffer.

In all these hurtful and painful things, God promises to give us grace to stand and power to keep standing. In red letters you will read where God said, "My grace is sufficient" (2 Cor 12:9). Our weakness is good because without it



"You learn out of bitter experience, trial and error. Life teaches you that. As sincere as you all are, you can't learn it all in school."

- George Cukor -

we never experience the fullness of divine power. Our weakness is good because without it mercy is something we'd never understand. Our weakness is good because it demands our soul to look beyond itself for answers. To a higher being. To God.

Paul put it this way: 2 Cor 12:7-10
"So, to keep me from becoming conceited because of the surpassing greatness of the revelations, a thorn

was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to harass me, to keep me from becoming conceited. Three times I pleaded with the Lord about this, that it should leave me. But he said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.' Therefore, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me. For the sake of Christ,

then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong" (2 Cor. 12:7-10).

We don't want pain. We don't want despair or disappointment, but when we are weak, He is strong. He is our armor. "Let us not be weary in well doing; for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not" (Gal 6:9). Jesus is a rock in a weary land.



By Gary Miller
Outdoortruths.org

I've been riding a bicycle for about ten years now. It has been an enjoyable exercise that has allowed me to see new areas and to see old areas from a different perspective. Like any exercise, you have to mix up the routine to keep from being bored. For the past three months, my rides have almost exclusively been at my national park. The rides are short but difficult. I ride to the top of the

Pinnacle Outlook and back down. The whole trip is only seven miles. But the 3.5 miles to the top covers 1300 feet of elevation. To give you a little perspective, I noticed on a recent trip that on the way back down, I coasted for 2.25 miles. That's the fun part. The hard part is on the way up. It's also the most enjoyable and beneficial. Since I do this at daybreak, I've seen all kinds of animals including bears. And because

I'm on Park property, the deer are nearly tame. (I say "Good Morning" to them as I ride by) The main reason I decided this route was because I wouldn't have to be concerned about any traffic, and therefore my mind could focus on the things I preferred. Mainly an early morning dose of the Bible. There is one black preacher I've been listening to each time I make the climb. And boy has he been informative and entertaining. I



have loved listening to him. But here's what I have noticed. It's been how clear God has given me answers to many of my prayers. His words to me have been so clear when it comes to certain things. It's like the blend of His creation and His word, have pierced through my solitude and simplicity. Even the distractions are God-made. I have honed my listening, and my directions and decisions have become clearer. I'm reminded

of the days of my childhood, riding in the car with my father. If the weather was bad, he would always tell us kids to be quiet while he was driving. It seemed that what he heard affected what he saw. I always thought that was odd until I began to do the same thing. Even now, if I'm driving in bad weather, I move my seat up, lean in toward the windshield, and turn the music off. Evidently, what I hear determines what I see. As I

ride my bike, I understand it even more. What I have learned is this. If am to get God's perspective on my day, my difficulties, and my decisions, I must intentionally move myself to a place where He can most easily penetrate my spirit. And I must monitor what goes into my mind. For me, the perfect blend of His creation and His word, mixed with my willingness to climb with Him, has made the rest of the hours in my day feel like I'm coasting.

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University of Kentucky hosts international study abroad experience for UniLaSalle students, showcasing horse industry

LEXINGTON, Ky.— The University of Kentucky Martin-Gatton College of Agriculture, Food and Environment, with leadership from UK Ag Equine Programs and the Department of Animal and Food Sciences, recently partnered with France’s UniLaSalle — inviting a group of their students pursuing an Executive Master’s degree in Equine Science and Business (MESB) for a unique study abroad experience.

For 15 days, students engaged with more than 30 groups — ranging from industry groups and nonprofits to horse farms and academic and research units across UK’s campus, along with the broader

equine community in Central Kentucky.

The goal was to showcase Kentucky’s horse industry and UK’s land-grant mission, providing the international students valuable lectures, site visits and hands-on learning experiences while visiting the Commonwealth for the first time. Some of the site visits included the Defender Kentucky Three-Day Event, Keeneland and the Kentucky Derby.

“The master’s students from UniLaSalle brought great enthusiasm and curiosity, while the Kentucky horse community warmly welcomed them and excelled in creating insightful,

engaging educational experiences,” said Meghan Wulster-Radcliffe, director of strategy for equine initiatives at Martin-Gatton CAFE and lead program organizer. “Providing training for international students allows us to highlight the strengths of Kentucky’s horse industry while fostering global connections and academic collaborations that will support equine agriculture’s long-term growth and success.”

This year’s initiative marked this program’s return, which was originally developed and led by Laurie Lawrence, professor in the UK Ag Equine Programs and Department of Animal and Food Sciences at

Martin-Gatton CAFE, prior to being placed on hold during the COVID-19 pandemic.

“UK was selected this year as our host partner due to its strong leadership in equine research, education and extension, and the unparalleled breadth of the Lexington horse community,” said Camille Eslan, MESB educational coordinator at UniLaSalle.

Under the leadership of Wulster-Radcliffe and Eslan, relaunching this year’s program welcomed seven master’s students, two professors and an innovation development engineer from UniLaSalle. Organizers are planning to expand participation in 2026 and are exploring

adding UK student participation starting in 2027.

Partners, organizations and farms

Additional participants included Alltech, James B. Beam Institute for Kentucky Spirits, Bennie Sargent Quarter Horses, Blue Diamond Stud at Stonereath Farm, Defender Kentucky Three Day Event, Fayette Alliance, Godolphin at Jonabell Farm, Gluck Equine Research Center, Grey Ridge Farm, Hagyard Equine Medical Institute, Hallway Feeds, Jacobi Insurance, Keeneland, Kentucky Horse Park, Lakeside Arena, Maine Chance Farm,

Maplecrest Farm, Mill Ridge Farm, Olive Hill Sport Horses, Racing Surface Testing Laboratory, Sports Medicine Research Institute, Spy Coast Farm, Stable Recovery, Three Chimneys Farm, The Jockey Club, UK College of Health Sciences/ SMRI, UK Department of Agricultural Economics, UK Forage Extension Program, UK Department of Veterinary Science, United States Equestrian Federation (USEF) and World Equestrian Brands.

Learn more about UK Ag Equine Programs at <https://equine.ca.uky.edu> and the Department of Animal and Food Sciences at <https://afs.ca.uky.edu>

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UK students ‘grow in the workplace’ through John Deere internships

By Bailey Vandiver

LEXINGTON, Ky.— Each summer, University of Kentucky students gain valuable experience through internships. Jakayla Allen and Gabryele Carter, both agricultural economics seniors in the Martin-Gatton College of Agriculture, Food and Environment, interned with John Deere for the second time this summer.

Growing up in Middletown, Delaware, Allen would drive through rural areas, noticing the farmers, the cows, the John Deere tractors.

“I always had this invisible string tugging me toward agriculture,” Allen said. “So when I got the chance to study it, I said, ‘Yeah, let’s do it.’”

UK’s strong agriculture program also brought Carter from Delaware to Kentucky. After growing up in Smyrna, a rural area, Carter said she is always shocked when someone doesn’t know John Deere.

“I’ve grown up seeing the green tractors, so I just knew how big of an impact they have,” Carter said.

As UK students, Allen and Carter visited John Deere headquarters and learned of the opportunity to apply for internships.

Through her UK classes, Carter had become interested in the marketing side of agricultural economics. She decided to apply because she thought a John Deere internship would give her more exposure and experience.

After going through John Deere’s rigorous

interview process, Carter spent summer 2024 in Cary, North Carolina, as a turf production systems marketing intern. She traveled around the state and interviewed customers about a newly launched app.

At the end of the summer, interns pitch what they would like to do the following summer, if accepted again. Carter said she wanted to work in precision agriculture — which is exactly how she spent summer 2025 in Moline, Illinois.

Carter said it was really gratifying to come back for a second summer and encounter coworkers who were excited to have her back. She also appreciated knowing that, through her work, she is “leaving an impact on the company.”

Allen has worked both summers in Olathe, Kansas, first on the marketing side then in sales. This summer, as an aftermarket customer support intern, she helps dealers with the e-commerce process.

When Allen got to present to dealers and get their direct feedback last summer, it was a valuable experience that made her realize she wasn’t just doing busy work.

“They told me what value my project was actually going to add to their lives, so that was exciting,” Allen said. “This summer, I get to continue adding that value.”

Allen said that her internship experience has allowed her to “evolve and grow in the workplace.”

“John Deere is very open to making sure that you feel welcome and that you’re well taken care of,” Allen said. “They’re so willing to put you in touch with the right resources.”

To learn more about experiential learning opportunities for Martin-Gatton CAFE students, visit <https://students.ca.uky.edu/>.

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SOUL,
from page B3

in Boone County. Photo by Blueprint Kentucky. A day-long training was hosted in Boone County for regional arts and media professionals interested in enhancing the security of their business. University, extension and KHERN experts guided the cultural organizations through risk assessments and storage strategies, helping communities prepare for a crisis before it strikes. Another event was hosted in Paducah, which has experienced recent tornadoes and flooding. The Western Kentucky workshop offered hands-on demonstrations that showed how to salvage water-damaged photos, textiles, books and heirlooms. A planning workshop focused on emergency preparedness for community events and festivals was recently held at the Greenup County Extension Office. The workshop included a panel discussion of local emergency management and event planning professionals, as well as a tour of

Greenup County Public Safety’s Incident Command Post RV. The afternoon session equipped attendees with a practical workbook, resources and knowledge to implement safety and security strategies for their event. “They really wanted preparedness,” Bond said of the feedback she received from the workshops. “Many said it was the first time they had connected with their extension office, giving Extension the opportunity to follow up with additional services.” Hamilton, who coordinates the undergraduate and graduate arts emergency management certificate programs at UK, is taking these initiatives to the classroom. At the Whitley County Earth Day Festival, her students partnered with Bond and the community arts extension agent to work on emergency and safety planning for the event. Tree giveaways, hands-on activities and a bounce house helped draw families to the event that included a presentation about weather safety by the National Weather Service. “By integrating some preparedness steps—even passively—we help communities become safer without compromising celebration,” Hamilton said. Earth Day Celebration in Kentucky Arts emergency management students in the UK College of Fine Arts worked with the Whitley County Earth Day Celebration to enhance event emergency and safety planning. Photo by Blueprint Kentucky. National recognition and a forward-looking vision After receiving \$20,000 from the UK Office of Land-grant Engagement and attracting \$90,000 in combined funding from the National Endowment for the Arts and the Performing Arts Readiness project, KHERN is now formally recognized by the Alliance for Response and Kentucky’s Incident Management Team. The network was officially launched during UK’s Arts Emergency Management Conference last year, drawing national partners including FEMA, the Smithsonian and the National Endowment for the Arts. Still, Hamilton emphasizes that the network must stay true to its roots. “I really don’t want to get so formal that we don’t continue to serve like a mutual aid style network.” Her vision is that trained artists and conservators are deployed like first responders—whether to lead story circles, restore murals, salvage archives or provide creative refuge. “This is my dream,” Hamilton said. “That we can pay these people for their specialized knowledge and take them immediately into communities to do that work.” *Land-grant Engagement in action*

Arts emergency preparedness, through its multi-departmental and organizational collaboration, reflects the evolving role of land-grant universities in disaster recovery, cultural preservation and community development. Kentucky’s Community Arts Extension program is the largest in the nation, housed within a land-grant university’s Cooperative Extension system. Led by Bond, the program places arts agents in eight counties to spearhead creative placemaking, arts education, and cultural recovery initiatives. It’s a model that other states are now watching closely. Extension agents and university faculty are building partnerships across colleges and sectors—from arts and libraries to emergency management and public health. From salvaging family treasures to training artists and archivists for emergency response, Kentucky’s arts emergency preparedness initiative demonstrates the full spectrum of land-grant engagement—rooted in service, powered by collaboration and united by the stories communities cannot afford to lose. For more information and resources, visit <https://blueprintkentucky.ca.uky.edu/arts-disaster-recovery>. To find out more about how National Endowment for the Arts grants impact individuals and communities, visit www.arts.gov

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University of Kentucky student aiding the future of farming

By Jordan Strickler

Lexington, Ky.— University of Kentucky Martin-Gatton College of Agriculture, Food and Environment student Riley McLaughlin is learning how every handful of soil counts. As part of a study on the perennial grain intermediate wheatgrass, the agricultural ecosystem sciences senior is helping provide an important service to producers: increasing soil health.

To do this, she is working on the study under the tutelage of Hanna Poffenbarger, an associate professor in the Department of Plant and Soil Science (PSS). In her role, McLaughlin tracks soil health changes over time in intermediate wheatgrass plots and compares them to measurements taken in a conventional annual crop rotation. She is also evaluating a method to measure soil movement using mesh bags.

“I stitched together small bags with two layers of mesh,” McLaughlin said. “After we get two inches of rain, I pick them up, dry them and weigh the soil inside. The numbers tell us how much ground moved in

each field.”

McLaughlin’s project sits inside a three-year effort testing everything from plant breeding to grain flavor. Riley focuses on the soil-health side.

Why intermediate wheatgrass?

Unlike annual wheat, intermediate wheatgrass stays in the ground year after year. Its deep roots can be more than twice as long as those of common crops, helping anchor soil, add organic matter and feed helpful microbes that build stable soil structure. Researchers think these traits could reduce runoff, improve water infiltration during heavy storms and provide moisture reserves during drought. However, most data published so far come from states farther west.

“Kentucky’s climate and hills are different,” said plant geneticist Lauren Brzozowski, an assistant professor in the PSS, who is involved in the study. “We need local numbers before farmers can decide if intermediate wheatgrass fits their ground.”

That is where Riley’s research comes in. By monitoring soil changes



Riley McLaughlin, right, and plant and soil science associate professor Hanna Poffenbarger, left, stand in a research plot of intermediate wheat grass at North Farm.

Photo by Matt Barton

in Kentucky fields, her test gives a direct look at the potential of this crop in our region.

Early lessons

The team planted its first intermediate wheatgrass stands in fall 2023. In 2024 they harvested a small grain crop and then mowed the plants for forage. Riley placed 36 mesh bags — 18 in intermediate wheatgrass, 18 in soybeans — before

the spring rains of 2025. Even before completing year one, she has already seen less loose soil in the perennial plots.

“To understand the true impact, we’ll need to collect data over multiple years,” Poffenbarger said. “Riley’s method is low-cost, let’s us track soil movement without disturbing the crop, and it also gives a great hands-on lesson in field research.”

McLaughlin

is finishing her undergraduate while starting the first year of an accelerated master’s program. Fewer than 25 students are enrolled in the agricultural ecosystem sciences undergraduate major, which blends plant science, soils and economics.

Looking ahead

The research team will keep measuring harvest yields, grain

quality and soil changes through 2026. They are also partnering with several Kentucky farmers who are growing one-acre pilot plots to test combines and gauge market interest.

“Our best outcome is a new option that fits Kentucky fields,” Brzozowski said. “If Riley’s data show real erosion control and our baking tests show good flavor, growers could have another crop to rotate with winter wheat or use on steeper slopes.”

For McLaughlin, the project is already a win. This material is based upon work that is supported by the National Institute of Food and Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture, under award number 20243864042988 through the Southern Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education program under subaward number 00003818. USDA is an equal opportunity employer and service provider. Any opinions, findings, conclusions, or recommendations expressed in this publication are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the view of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

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Beef Bash 2025 provides education, research and fellowship for Ky’s cattle producers

By Jennifer Elwell

VERSAILLES, Ky.— The University of Kentucky Beef Integrated Resource Management team and the Kentucky Cattlemen’s Association are proud to host Beef Bash at the UK C. Oran Little Research Center (LRC) in Woodford County on Saturday, Sept. 20, 2025.

The event combines social, educational and industry interactions, offering something for everyone interested in beef and the Kentucky beef industry. The event moved to Saturday this year to encourage more youth participants.

“We have several sessions designed for hands-on experiences for kids interested in learning more about beef cattle,” said Les Anderson, professor and beef extension specialist in the Department of Animal and Food Sciences.

The staging area will be under the big tent near the Intensive Research Building.

“We will have live cattle demonstrations, research presentations, commercial and educational exhibits,” Anderson said. “Attendees will have opportunities to take various tours or can simply sit on a bale of straw and visit with university or industry leaders, commercial representatives or your fellow cattle producers.”

Several UK beef, forage and research specialists will be available for presentations and answering questions. Anderson also explained that Beef Bash visitors will learn about the farm’s 150-head cow herd due to calve in mid-September.

“Most of the cows are commercial Angus with some Hereford and Simmental influence,” Anderson said. “We’ll have several cattle exhibits to illustrate various management practices and discuss the breeding program.”

Additional educational topics include cooking demonstrations, beef cattle nutrition, forage management tips, incorporating precision agriculture in beef cattle systems and estrus synchronization

techniques.

Anderson also said that another crucial part of Beef Bash is to showcase the cutting-edge research conducted at the LRC to improve beef herds of Kentucky and beyond.

“This is a key opportunity to interact with our researchers and ask questions pertaining to their research,” Anderson said. “Our beef nutrition researchers are the best in the

world, and Beef Bash is an excellent opportunity to get a taste of the work that is being done here in Kentucky.”

Anderson said that visitors may register on-site, but

pre-registration is preferred by visiting <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/beef-bash-2025-registration-tickets-1478821267219> or by contacting their local county extension office at <https://>

extension.ca.uky.edu/county. Those with questions should contact Maggie Ginn at maggie.ginn@uky.edu.

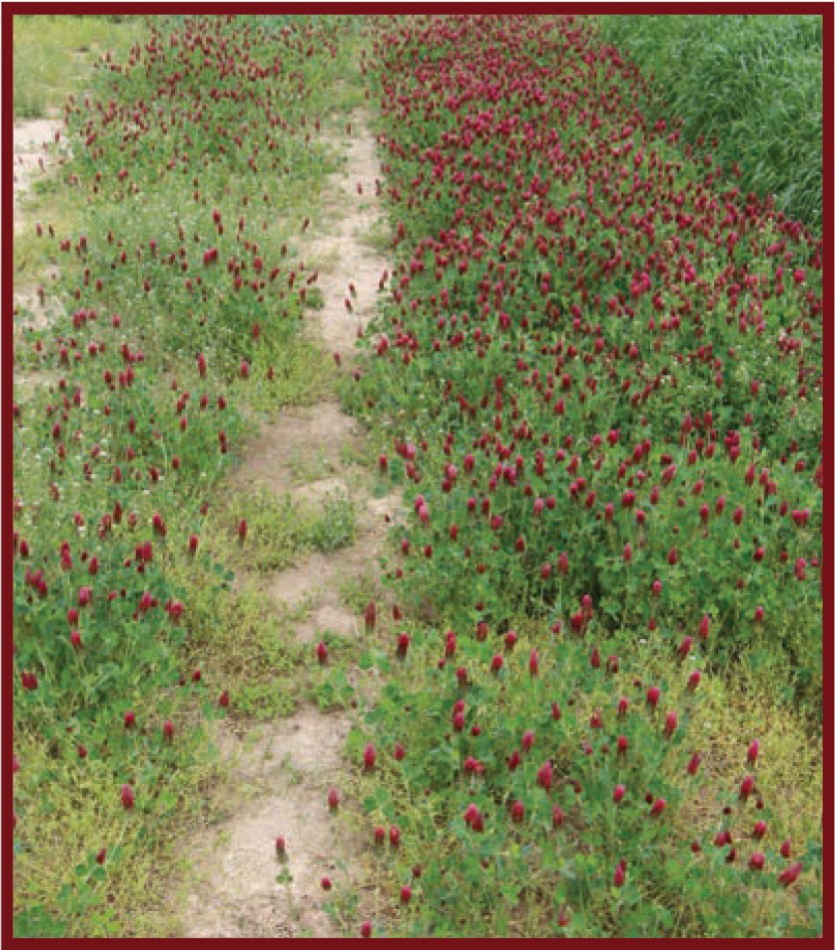
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‘Health halo’ effect? UK study suggests children’s cereal is trending towards lower nutritional quality

Considered to be a staple for many families at breakfast time, a new study suggests that cereals have become unhealthier in the past decade for children

By Christopher Carney

LEXINGTON, Ky.— Ready-to-eat (RTE) cereals, which are processed and packaged to be eaten directly from the box, are one of the most predominant breakfast choices among children in the United States. Although RTE cereals in many cases are marketed as a healthy option, a University of Kentucky researcher at the Martin-Gatton College of Agriculture, Food and Environment is investigating the changing nutritional profiles of children’s cereals and their potential impact on childhood nutrition and overall public health.

The study “Nutritional Content of Ready-to-Eat Breakfast Cereals Marketed to Children,” was published in JAMA Network and supported by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the National Institute of Food and Agriculture. Led by Shuoli Zhao, assistant professor in the Department of Agricultural Economics and one of The Bill Gatton Foundation Early-Career Professors, the study examined packaging, and trends in the nutritional composition, of new children’s RTE cereals introduced in the U.S. market from 2010 to 2023.

In general, a significant increase in fat, sodium and sugar, as well as a large decrease in protein and dietary fiber per serving, was found. Furthermore, the study found high levels of added sugar with a single serving exceeded 45% of the American Heart Association’s daily recommended limit for children. To Zhao, this shift in nutritional quality potentially contributes to an

increased risk of childhood obesity and decreased long-term cardiovascular health.

“Breakfast is a critical meal for children, impacting their level of physical energy and ability to mentally concentrate, thus learn, for the majority of the day,” Zhao said. “If a common breakfast choice like RTE cereal is trending towards lower nutritional quality, as our study suggests, it potentially makes it harder for parents to ensure their children are getting a healthy start to the day.”

The “health halo” effect

The health halo effect happens when people perceive a product as healthier than it might actually be. It’s often due to a single positive labeling or marketing that makes claims about the product, but with little or no evidence.

Some examples of these messages include “New Formula”, “Even Better”, “Tastier” or “New and Improved.” Thus, a cereal box’s repackaging or relabeling can influence a consumer’s behavior — making the decision to choose healthier options increasingly difficult for families.

These messages, while indicating improvements related to product novelty and taste, may not align with genuine health optimization, such as lowering sugar or increasing fiber, according to Zhao.

“While there’s a demand for healthier foods, how this is marketed and perceived through labeling is key,” Zhao said. “Children’s cereals often highlight the addition of more vitamins. For some consumers, this creates a ‘health halo’ effect that appeals to time-strapped

parents, even if the product’s core nutritional content — like sugar or sodium — is not optimal.”

“Our findings contribute to a broader discussion about the overall food environment that children are exposed to right now,” Zhao said. “Working families may often have limited bandwidth and time when grocery shopping, which leads to unintended

see **HALO**,
page B22



Shuoli Zhao looking at cereals at a local grocery store. Photo courtesy of Shuoli Zhao.

Portrait of Christopher Carney

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Lake waterfront Lindal Cedar Home on wooded lot with private dock! Open floor plan with panoramic views. Vaulted ceilings, open balconies, 2 living areas & 2 dining areas perfect for entertaining. 2 car garage, large deck. 5 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. Fully furnished & move in ready. \$749,900 Call Carla Bridges REMAX Realty Group at 270-559-8425.

401 E 12th St., Benton Charming and spacious 2,240 sq. ft. home. Immaculate property centrally located in Benton on a well landscaped corner lot. 3 Bedroom / 2 Bath. Expansive basement includes interior and exterior entrances. Workshop with additional outbuilding with concrete flooring for mower etc. \$269,900 Call Carla Bridges REMAX Realty Group at 270-559-8425

CAMPERS FOR SALE

2019 Shasta Oasis 30ft Camper One slide out. Good Condition. \$13,000.00. 270-827-9482. Or 270-827-8139

Camper For Sale. 2019 Heritage Glen 26.5 ft

2 Doors 1 slide out Sleeps 6. Rent Free Till Nov. 1 2025. Lot included on Tenn. River. \$13000.00. Call 270-554-5559

BOATS FOR SALE

2008 20 ft. Crestliner 1950 SF series, easy load trailer,175 HP Mercury motor, canopy, travel cover, 2 fish finders, radio FM/AM, much more, garage stored, valued at \$15K, sell for \$14,500.

270-665- 0010 / leave a message.

AUTOS FOR SALE

2002 GMC Envoy, runs good, fair tires. \$5,900.00. Call 270-853-5333

2007 Red Chevy Avalanche Truck, needs transmission and frame rusted.Selling truck for parts. \$3000. Please call 270-217-4980

2017 GMC Sierra Denali Crew Cab pickup, 99,000 miles, loaded, Beautiful truck, \$23,500. Please call... 270-519-3674 or 270-519-1254

1986 Chevrolet 4 x 4 Pickup, wrecked but a/c works \$2,000 cash or OBO. 327 Motor and 3 speed transmission out of 1980 Impala \$1,000 cash or OBO. Call 270-804-5399.

2015 Mercedes E-350 104,000 miles, Light grey Real nice vehicle, drives real nice. \$13,000 OBO call 270-493-2176

2020 Chevy Silverado; 78,600 miles; good condition. 270-210-2870 or 270-853-4108 tfn

2020 Chevy Equinox. A-1 shape New Tires. 48,000 miles. \$16,000.00 Price. Call 270-462-3829

2010 Black Honda Fit Sport 4 door hatchback. Excellent mechanical condition minor cosmetic damage clear title \$4999.00 OBO Cal 812-631-3921

GOLF CART FOR SALE

2019 EZGO Goldcart 48V. Flame Red with Black seating. very good condition in Salem, Ky

area 5,800.00. Call 812-483-1116 (tfn)

LAWN MOWERS

John Deere 72" belly mower. Excellent condition \$500 270-519-3315.

8N Ford Finished Mower & Tractor. Running and in good condition. \$1,800 or best offer. Call Call 270-534-4197 tfn

FARM EQUIPMENT

1996 8570 MF Combine Big motor, 30' GH, SCH Knife & drive, Maurer bin ext, flotation rears, second owner. C-Tech maintained. Approx. 3,000 hrs \$50,000 OBO. 419-615-0950

1987 John Deere Combine 7720 Titan 2, 4 wd, long auger, 30.5 x 32 tires, always kept inside shed. \$14,000 OBO 270-254-0318 3.2 Prong Hay Fork \$150; B275 Diesel International project tractor \$1,250. Call 731-487-7062.

JD 7720, 4WD 30.5x32 tires,long auger, \$12,000 OBO. Call 859-608-4942 (tfn)

KillBros Seed Tender w/ plastic auger \$2,000, 1985 M & W 375 Wagon \$2,200 309-275-0524. (tfn)

1953 Farmall Cub Woods Belly Mower. to ad for 1950 8n Ford Tractor \$1250.00. 270-832-1281

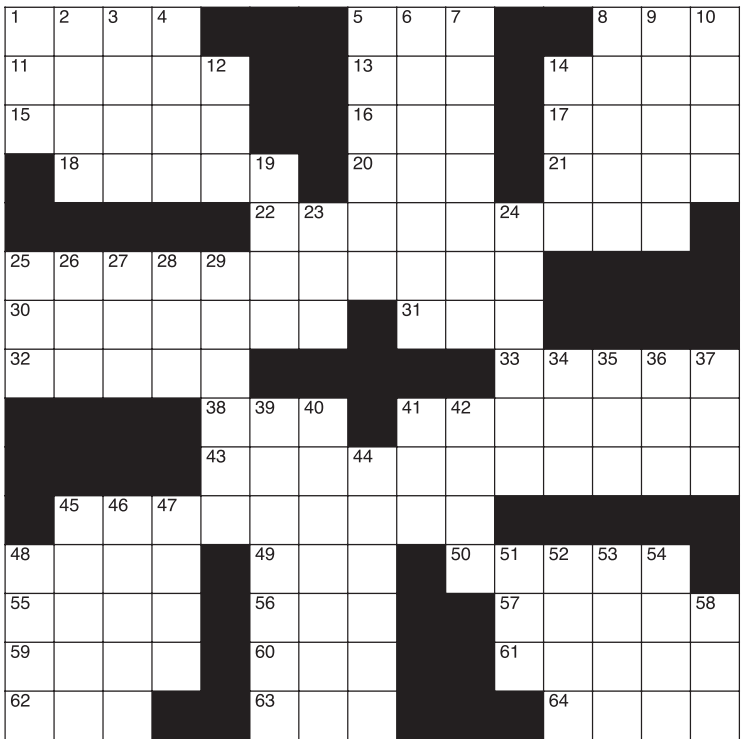
FARM EQUIPMENT FOR SALE

1950 8N Ford tractor \$1,250.00, Call 270-832-1281.

BAND SAWS FOR SALE

Different band saws for sale. BEST offer 270-334-3278.

Crossword Puzzle



CLUES ACROSS

1. Taxis

5. Space Systems Command

8. Plant seed by scattering

11. Alliances

13. Fiddler crabs

14. Heroic tale

15. Yemen capital

16. Misleading gesture

17. Cain and __

18. Simple shoe

20. Hundredweight

21. Children’s toy in the snow

22. Gets rid of

25. Free of deceit

30. Performed a dance

31. Chinese philosophical principle

32. Exaggerated

33. Refrain from inflicting
38. A doctrine

41. Can be subdued

43. A place to bathe

45. Land used for pasture

48. Curved piece of iron

49. Automobile

50. Fencing sword

55. Breezes through

56. Child

57. NBA legend Iverson

59. Horsley and Iacocca are two

60. Midway between northeast and east

61. Spiritual leader of a Jewish congregation

62. U.S. leader during much of WW2

63. Lair

64. Fibrous material

CLUES DOWN

1. Home of “60 Minutes”

2. Expression of sorrow or pity

3. __ fide: legitimate

4. Immune response

5. Assistance and support

6. Glared

7. Spanish saloon

8. Pitch black

9. S-shaped lines

10. Statistical test

12. __ Paulo, city

14. Graduation garb

19. A way to record

23. Not good

24. Weather events

25. A pituitary hormone

26. Jamie Foxx film

27. Rocker’s accessory

28. One point east (clockwise) of due north
29. One who obtains pleasure from another’s pain

34. Consume

35. Licensed for Wall Street

36. Sick

37. Israeli city __ Aviv

39. Removed the husk

40. Mass of rocks and sediment

41. Two-year-old sheep

42. Area units

44. Prison overseer

45. Walked

46. Wartime escort aircraft carrier

47. Tax

48. 50 percent

51. Swiss river

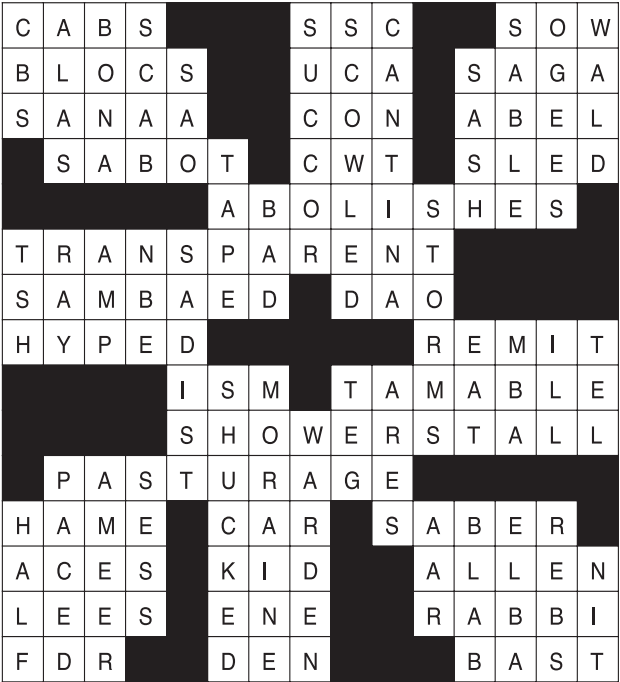
52. Tattle

53. Actor Idris

54. Resist authority (slang)

58. Egg of a louse

PUZZLE SOLUTION



Coloring Fun

Fall is coming!



Word Search

STATE FAIR WORD SEARCH



Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

WORDS

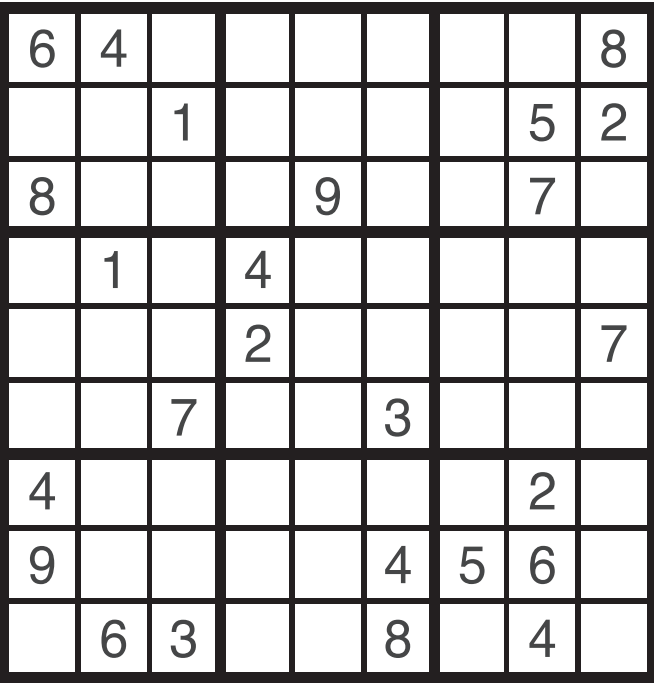
- BLUE RIBBON
- BOOTH
- CAROUSEL
- CORN
- CORN DOG
- COTTON CANDY
- DEEP-FRIED
- ENTRY
- FAIRGROUNDS
- FERRIS WHEEL
- FIREWORKS
- FUNHOUSE
- FUNNEL CAKE
- GRANDSTAND
- JUDGES
- MUSIC
- NACHOS
- PARADE
- RACES
- RODEO
- STAGE
- TICKETS
- TRACTOR
- WRISTBAND

Answers on Classified Page

Sudoku Puzzle

How it Works:

Sudoku puzzles are fomatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle! Good Luck! **Answers on Classified Page.**



Word Scramble

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to state fairs.

CTNSEOT



Answer: Contest

Guess Who?

GUESS WHO ?

I am an actor born in New York on August 26, 1980. I was raised in a small apartment with six siblings, and studied ballet at the School of American Ballet. I starred in many films as a child, notably playing the main character in a popular Christmas movie.

Answer: Macaulay Culkin

HALO,
from page B16

suboptimal decisions in food choices. Under such conditions, what cereals are available on supermarket shelves and who provides them is also important. The responsibility

probably lies on both sides.”

Going forward, Zhao hopes that his research prompts further discussion with the food industry about which groups in society have the responsibility for creating and

choosing healthier cereal options for children. “Hopefully, this research can encourage a conversation where the food industry stakeholders can join in contributing and creating healthier food options for children,” Zhao said.

Learn more about the Department of Agricultural Economics at <https://agecon.ca.uky.edu> and The Bill Gatton Foundation gift at <https://alumni.ca.uky.edu/bill-gatton-foundation>. This material is based upon work that

is supported by the U.S. Department of Agriculture under award number 2024-67023-42730 and by the National Institute of Food and Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture, under award number 2024-67023-42550. Any opinions, findings,

conclusions or recommendations expressed in this publication are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the view of the Department of Agriculture.



ABSOLUTE AUCTION

MONTE AND BARBARA PECK HOME & LIVING ESTATE

★ SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 6th, 2025 ★ @ 10:00 A.M.

★ 127 AUDUBON DRIVE, PADUCAH, KY 42001

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TERMS OF AUCTION: **REAL ESTATE TERMS:** 15% good faith deposit due on day of sale with the balance due in 45 days. 10% buyer premium added to final bid and included in the total contract price. **PERSONAL PROPERTY PAYMENT TERMS:** Cash, credit card, or check day of sale with proper ID. 10% buyer premium added to final bid. **DIRECTIONS** From I 24 Paducah Exit 7: Take Alben Barkley Drive going toward town, turn at first left on Audubon. House is third to last house on left. Signs posted.

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KATS Soil Properties Workshop is Sept. 16 in Richmond

By Jennifer Elwell

RICHMOND, Ky. — The Kentucky Agriculture Training School (KATS), a program spearheaded by the University of Kentucky Martin-Gatton College of Agriculture, Food and Environment and the Cooperative Extension Service, is hosting a hands-on soil properties workshop, Sept. 16, 2025, at Eastern Kentucky University’s Meadowbrook Farm in Richmond.

UK soil specialists Edwin Ritchey and John Grove, joined by Kentucky’s USDA-NRCS state soil scientist Steve Blandford, will discuss water and nutrient retention and delivery by examining three soil pits, each with different profile properties.

“This training will cover many fundamentals necessary for producing a successful crop,” said Ritchey.

Specific topics discussed will include profile properties such as soil texture, soil structure, nutrient distribution, soil organic matter and plant-available water. Classroom discussions after lunch will cover topics like soil test values, comparisons of laboratory results and recommendations, and how different management practices influence soil health parameters.

This training is open to farmers, crop consultants, students and anyone interested in learning about soils and their impact on agriculture and natural resource conservation.

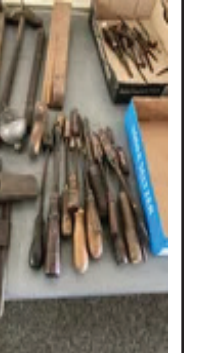
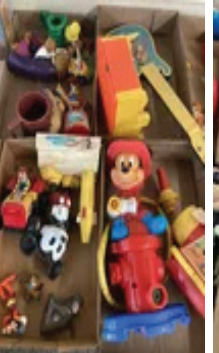
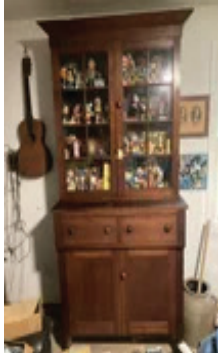
Pre-registration is required at <https://katssoilpropertiesrichmond2025.eventbrite.com/> and will be open until Sept. 9. The class size is limited to 30 participants. Certified Crop Advisor CEU credits will be available: 4.5 Soil and Water Management and 1 Nutrient Management.

For more information and questions, contact Lori Rogers at lori.rogers@uky.edu or 270-365-7541 Ext 21317.

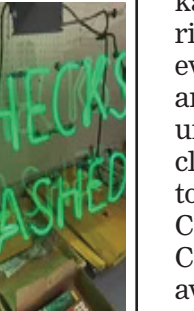
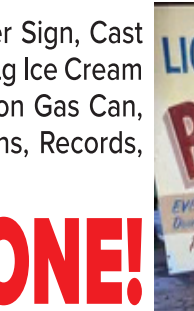
To learn more about KATS, visit <https://kats.ca.uky.edu>

SATURDAY AUGUST 30 PARTIAL LISTING OF ITEMS:

16 pane Jackson Press cabinet, and 9 pane Jackson Press cabinet, Secretary, Roll Top Desk, Large Weaved basket, 1976 Case 444 tractor (like new). Lots of Disney items! Star Trek items, Lunch Box, Mr. potato Head, Mr Peanut, Mickey Mouse clock, toothbrush, bubble gum machine, Smokey Bear Clock, Wooden Charter Board, All kinds of Mickey Mouse toys, Goofy Windup Toys, M & M Guys, Minnie Mouse Items, Donald Duck Items Pinocchio items, Wind Up Clown, Tobacco Items, Cast Iron, #14 Cast Iron Skillet, Lanterns, Seven Dwarfs, Corgi Airplane, The X Files, Star Wars Items, Chief Paints Sign, Picasso Prints, Pictures, Small Banjo, Queen City Hatchet, Small Draw Knives, Several Draw Knives, Coopers Knife, Stanley Wood Planes, Bed Rock Plane, Planes with Wood Handler, Vise, Old Drill Bits, Squares, Drills with Wood Handles, Old Level, Files, C Clamps, Stanley# 62, #3 #6, #8, Jack Panes #2 #110, #105, #102, #140, Bailey #7, #5, #5.5, #4.5, #4 Coffin Plane, Diamond Edge Plane, Wood Jack Plane, Keen Kutter Transitional Plane.



MONDAY, SEPT. 1ST PARTIAL LISTING OF ITEMS:



Vintage Clocks, Open Signs, Neon Signs, Dr Pepper Sign, Cast Iron Horse Pc, Camel Sign, Old Tire, Tobacco Items, Lg Ice Cream Sandwich Drink Sign, Show Case, Old Can, Marathon Gas Can, Tractor Sign, John Deere Cast Iron, Coca Cola Signs, Records, and Much More.

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Portrait by Matt Barton

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August 18th, 2025

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Bidding Closes
September 1st, 2025
Soft Closing Starts @5pm

Seller:
Terry Eller

5%
Buyer's
Premium

Pickup On
Tuesday, Sept. 2nd from 12-6pm
Wednesday, Sept. 3rd from 12-6pm

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FARM EQUIPMENT AUCTION

COMING IN DECEMBER 2025

LOCATION: 1010 Skyline Drive, Hopkinsville, KY
roederauctioncompany.com

TRACTORS | GRAIN CARTS | HARVEST EQUIPMENT | PLANTING EQUIPMENT | ROTARY MOWERS
HAY RAKES | FORAGE EQUIPMENT | COMBINES HARVESTERS | RIPPERS | TILLAGE EQUIPMENT



2020 JOHN DEERE 6155R • \$155,000

2020 JD 6155R TRACTOR, IVT TRANS, C/H/A, MFWD, 540/1000 PTO, 3 SCV, 3PT WITH TOP LINK, 683 HOURS, 420/80R46 REAR DUALS, 380/85R30 FRONT TIRES, SN1L06155RHLP960224



2012 JOHN DEERE 7215R • \$97,500

MFWD, 4528 HRS, 420/30 FRONT TIRES, 480/46 REAR DUALS, 4 SCV, 540/1000 PTO, 20 SPEED POWER QUAD, 43 GPM HYD PUMP, 15,000# HITCH, S/N 1RW7215RECA007261



2013 JOHN DEERE 7200R • \$97,500

MFWD, 3398 HRS, 420/30 FRONT TIRES, 480/46 REAR DUALS, 4 SCV, 540/1000 PTO, 20 SPEED POWER QUAD, 59 GPM HYD PUMP, 15,000# HITCH, S/N 1RW7200RCDA015677



2014 JOHN DEERE 7230R • \$88,500

MFWD, 5628 HRS, 480/50 REAR DUALS, 4 SCV, E23 TRANSMISSION, 59 GPM HYD PUMP, *WINDSHIELD CRACKED*, S/N 1RW7230RPES082871



2015 JOHN DEERE 6125M • \$59,500

MFWD, C/H/A, 4103 HRS, 14.9-24 FRONT TIRES, 18.4-34 REAR TIRES, JD H260 LOADER W/ BUCKET, 3 SCV, 540/1000 PTO, 24 SPEED POWER QUAD, LHR, S/N 1L06125MCEG815340



1994 CASE IH 7220 • \$54,500

2WD, C/H/A, 5467 HRS, 14L-16.1 FRONT TIRES, 460/85R42 REAR DUALS, 3 SCV, 540/1000 PTO, 19 SPEED TRANSMISSION, S/N JJA0055595



2020 JOHN DEERE 708C • \$49,500

2020 JD 708C CORN HEAD, KNIFE ROLLS, HYDRAULIC DECK PLATES, HEADER HEIGHT SENSORS, ROW SENSE, S/N 1H00708CCLX810095



KUBOTA L6060HSTC • \$47,500

KUBOTA L6060 HSTC TRACTOR, MFWD, C/H/A, 207 HRS, 9.5-16 FRONT TIRES, 14.9-26 REAR TIRES, KUBOTA LA1055 LOADER W/ BUCKET, 1 SCV, 540 PTO, S/N KBUL5FHCLM8B50714



JOHN DEERE 4960 • \$44,500

JOHN DEERE 4960 TRACTOR, MFWD, C/H/A, 8468 HRS, 18.4-26 FRONT TIRES, 520/42 REAR DUALS, 3 SCV, 1000 PTO, 15 SPEED POWERSHIFT



2010 CASE IH FLX4520 • \$42,500

4607 HRS, 750/50R26 FRONT TIRES, 1050/50R32 REAR TIRES, NEW LEADER G4 BED, BELT OVER CHAIN, RAVEN CONTROLLER, LIGHT BAR, AG LEADER MONITOR, S/N YSTC24723



2018 JOHN DEERE 640FD • \$39,500

2018 JOHN DEERE 640FD FLEX DRAPER PLATFORM, FLIP OVER REEL, S/N 1H0640FDHJ0801317



J&M 1151 GRAIN CART • \$34,500

J&M 1151 GRAIN CART, 1000 PTO, ROLL TARP, 68X50.00-32 TIRES, S/N 6072

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Mississippi and Ohio River Confluence

Paducah’s Four Rivers Legacy: *How History Shaped a Modern Barge Industry*

By **Laurna Todd**
KPI Writer

Paducah, Kentucky, is more than just a river town—it is a strategic crossroads where four major waterways converge: the Ohio, Mississippi, Tennessee, and Cumberland Rivers. This geographic advantage has shaped the region’s identity for nearly two centuries, transforming it into a hub of commerce and industry that remains vital to the U.S. economy today.

The Origins: A River Town on the Rise
Founded in the early 19th century, Paducah quickly became a transportation and trade center thanks to its location at the confluence of the Ohio and Tennessee Rivers. In the era before railroads dominated the landscape,

rivers were the primary highways for goods and people. Steamboats became a common sight along the riverfront, carrying cotton, timber, livestock, and other goods to markets across the South and Midwest.
By the mid-1800s, Paducah’s river access made it an essential link in the nation’s expanding trade network. During the Civil War, its location was considered so strategic that Union forces occupied the city to control river traffic. The rivers were not just a means of transportation—they were lifelines for military logistics, commerce, and regional development.

Industrial Growth and the Barge Era

see **LEGACY**,
page B8

The importance of waterways to the local economy and the role of key industry players

By **Laurna Todd**
KPI Writer

Waterways remain one of the most powerful economic engines in the United States, and nowhere is this more evident than in Western Kentucky. The Mississippi, Ohio, and Tennessee rivers serve as critical freight corridors, enabling the movement of bulk commodities such as coal, grain, petroleum, and construction materials across the country. Unlike highways or rail systems, the inland waterway network offers unmatched efficiency. Barges can transport massive loads using significantly less fuel, which not only reduces transportation costs but also alleviates traffic congestion and minimizes environmental

impact. This advantage positions river transport as an essential part of the supply chain for both domestic and international markets.

Paducah, Kentucky—strategically located at the confluence of major rivers—has become a central hub for this activity. Its ports and terminals support thousands of jobs in logistics, manufacturing, marine services, and ancillary industries. Small towns along these waterways experience a direct economic boost, as river commerce creates opportunities for local businesses, contractors, and service providers.
The success of this sector depends heavily on companies

see **IMPORTANCE**,
page B7

How inland waterways drive economic growth in western Kentucky

By **Laurna Todd**
KPI Writer

PADUCAH, KY — Inland waterways are more than scenic backdrops for Western Kentucky—they are lifelines for the region’s economy. Anchored by the Ohio, Tennessee, Mississippi and Cumberland rivers, the inland marine industry serves as a

major transportation network that moves goods efficiently and cost-effectively while reducing environmental impact.

An Economic Engine for Jobs and Trade
The inland waterway system fuels job creation across a wide range of industries. From barge operators and dock workers

to engineers and maintenance crews, thousands of skilled workers keep the marine sector running. Inland ports, such as the Paducah-McCracken Riverport, function as vital logistics hubs, attracting businesses, supporting warehousing operations, and strengthening the region’s role in national and global trade.

Critical for Agriculture and Industry
Agriculture and mining—two of Western Kentucky’s most important sectors—depend heavily on river transport. Commodities like grain, fertilizer, coal, and gravel flow through the

see **WATERWAYS**,
page B4

ABSOLUTE AUCTION

SATURDAY, SEPT. 27 @ 10:00 A.M.

Selling the Hubert Mosby Estate, consisting of Wreckers, Roll Back Truck, Antique & Classic Cars, Equipment & Tools of A & M Towing. Mr. Mosby was in the towing business over 50 years. & the Estate would like to the thank the customers & employees for their years of business & loyalty. Come plan to spend the day at this Auction of NO BUYER’S PREMIUM! LIVE ONLINE BIDDING AT www.equipmentfacts.com. Visit www.bunchbrothers.com for more information.

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Lisa Wilson, RE Broker • Email: Lori@bunchbrothers.com • bunchbrothers.com

The history of the William E. Straight



Info provided by Jason Straight

In 1993, Charles Straight came off the river to start his own company.

In June 2012, the Straight family jumped on the opportunity to purchase three additional boats to add to their growing fleet. They thought it only fitting to name the boats after the founders of the company, and so was christened The M/V Janice E. Straight, M/V William E. Straight and the M/V Charles L. Straight.

In January 2016, the William was involved in a collision in Memphis, TN. The boat was struck in the stern by another vessel and ultimately sank. It was brought to the company’s shipyard at Calvert where she started undergoing a rebuild.

During that time she was involved in a tragic accident that resulted in the deaths of two contract workers on site and one of our own employees.

Following this incident, the decision was made to continue its rebuild.

She has now been out running for over two years and has really set the standard for refurbished boats. The William E. Straight operates on the Lower MS River between St. Louis and New Orleans.



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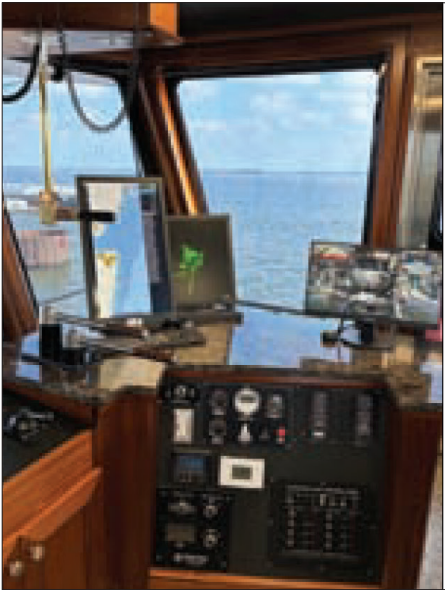
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Hines Furlong Line takes delivery of new towboat

First in a series of six from Eymard Marine

By Bob Shelton

Hines Furlong Line Inc., a prominent inland marine transportation company with corporate headquarters in Nashville, Tennessee, and an operations base in Paducah, Kentucky, has taken delivery of a new towboat: the “mv. Sun Valley”. The vessel, built by Eymard Marine Construction & Repair Inc. on the Harvey Canal near New Orleans, marks the first in a series of six identical towboats being constructed for Hines Furlong.



A view from the wheelhouse of the mv. Sun Valley, Hines Furlong Line’s newest towboat.



The mv. Sun Valley on sea trials on the Harvey Canal in Harvey, La.
Photos courtesy of Hines Furlong

This latest addition to Hines Furlong’s growing fleet has already been placed into operation through a bareboat charter agreement with Southern Devall, a major player in the Gulf Coast marine transportation sector. The charter aligns with the vessel’s design purpose: to support operations in the Gulf Coast tank barge trade and fleeting services—areas that demand reliability, maneuverability,

and endurance.

Design and Capabilities

Designed by Entech Designs, LLC, the “mv. Sun Valley” is a 1,600-horsepower vessel with dimensions of 67 feet, 6 inches in length and 28 feet in beam, featuring a hull depth of 9 feet, 6 inches and a design draft of 7 feet, 9 inches. The pilothouse stands tall, providing an eye level of 29 feet, 10 inches—an

essential feature for optimal visibility during barge handling operations. Below deck, the vessel is equipped with robust tankage capacity to support extended service durations. It can carry 18,400 gallons of fuel, 4,360 gallons of potable water, 435 gallons of lube oil, and 277 gallons of gear oil. This fuel and fluid capacity ensures the “mv. Sun Valley” can operate efficiently for extended periods without the need for frequent resupply—crucial in the demanding tank barge sector.

Built for Endurance

With the vessel expected to work in the harsh and often corrosive Gulf Coast environment, Eymard Marine incorporated a number of stainless-steel components into its construction. These enhancements boost the boat’s resistance to corrosion, reduce maintenance demands, and contribute to a longer service life—an investment in both durability and operational uptime.

see **TOWBOAT**,
page B4

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The mv. Sun Valley features a fully equipped galley and four bunkrooms with double bunks.

TOWBOAT,
from page B4

A Nod to the West

The naming of the “mv. Sun Valley” carries personal significance for company owner Kent Furlong and his family, referencing the scenic mountain resort town in Idaho known for its outdoor recreation and natural beauty. This personal connection also sets the tone for the names of future vessels in the series.

The next vessel under construction, the “mv. Sawtooth”, is scheduled for completion in October. Like its sister ship, the *Sawtooth* will offer 1,600 horsepower and be available for bareboat charter. It is named after Idaho’s Sawtooth Mountain Range, continuing the Idaho-inspired theme.

A Growing Fleet

The delivery of the “mv. Sun Valley” reflects Hines Furlong Line’s commitment to expanding and modernizing its fleet to meet growing demand in the inland and coastal marine transportation sectors. As the first of six vessels from Eymard Marine, it represents a significant investment in the company’s future—and in the future of barge logistics across the Gulf Coast region.

The ongoing partnership between Hines Furlong, Eymard Marine, and Entech Designs showcases a successful collaboration in American maritime engineering, construction, and operations. As additional vessels like the “mv. Sawtooth” come online, they will further strengthen the company’s position in a highly competitive market.



The mv. Sun Valley’s 1,600 hp, comes from a pair of Mitsubishi S6R2 Tier 3 engine supplies by Laborde Products.

WATERWAYS,
from page B1

waterways to reach markets across the country and overseas. With each barge capable of carrying the equivalent of 70 truckloads, the system dramatically lowers transportation costs while reducing highway congestion and infrastructure wear.

Infrastructure Investments Secure the Future

Federal investments in locks, dams, and modernization projects help sustain the reliability of these critical trade routes. These upgrades ensure that goods continue to move seamlessly, protecting the economic stability of the region. The Paducah-

McCracken Riverport Authority plays a key role in promoting these improvements, advocating for development that keeps Western Kentucky competitive in the global marketplace.

A Foundation for Long-Term Growth

Inland waterways are not just part of Western Kentucky’s geography—they are a powerful economic driver that supports growth, trade, and opportunity. Continued investment in infrastructure and industry partnerships promises even greater returns in the years ahead, ensuring that the region remains a leading hub for inland marine transportation.



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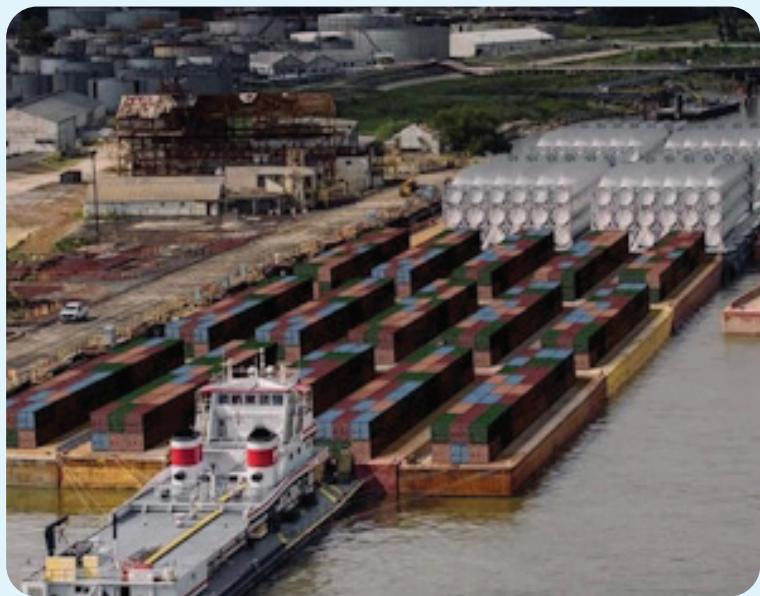


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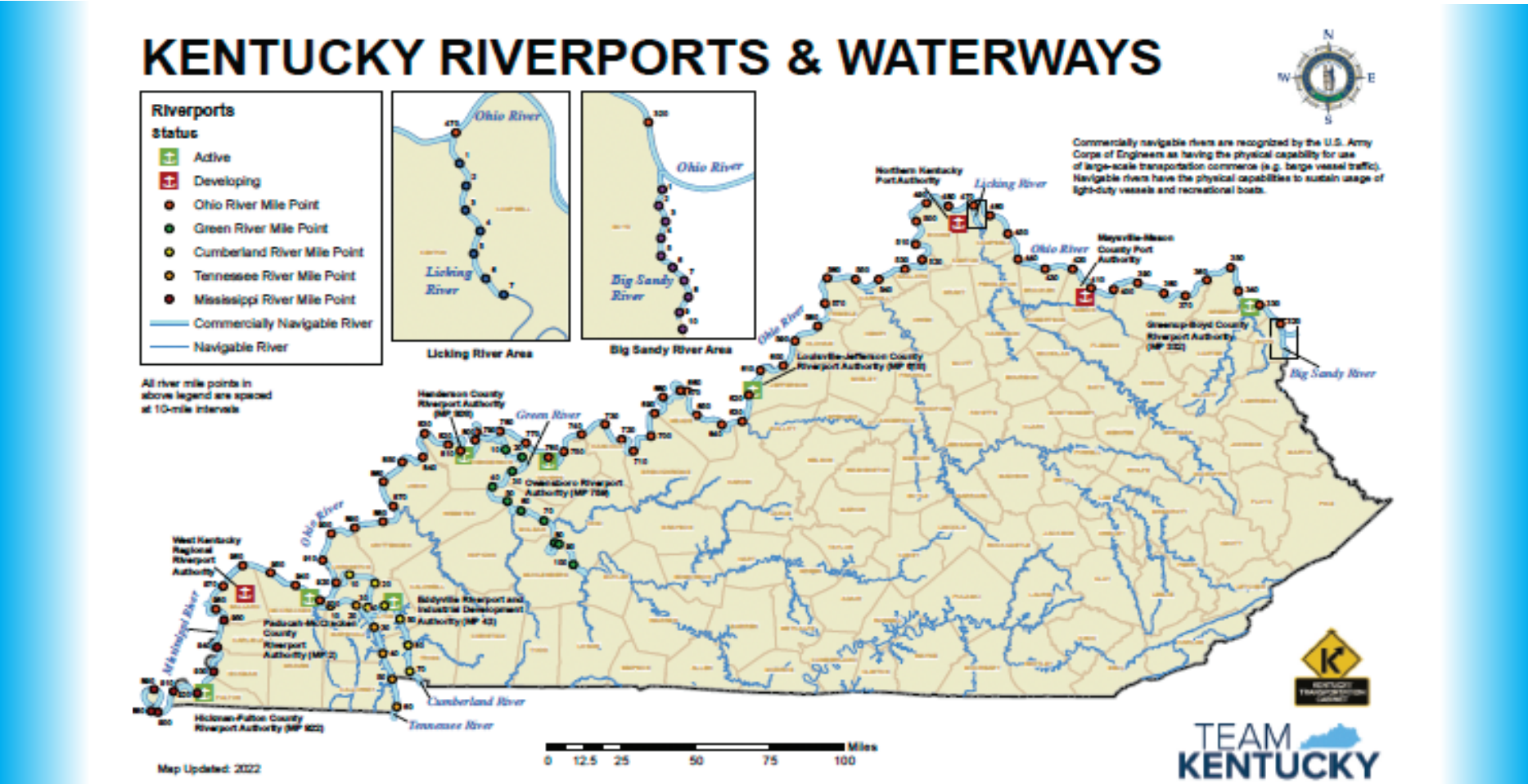
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Paducah, Kentucky - stock photo

IMPORTANCE,
page B1

that keep the waterways active and efficient. James Marine Inc. delivers critical repair and maintenance services for barges and towboats, ensuring the reliability and safety of vessels operating on the rivers. Ingram Barge, one of the largest inland marine transportation companies in the nation, moves millions of tons

of cargo annually, linking regional producers to markets across the globe. Economy Boat Store plays a unique role by supplying vessels in transit with everything from fuel and groceries to parts and equipment, enabling continuous, uninterrupted operations.

Collectively, these companies form the backbone of a thriving river economy. Their investments in innovation, infrastructure,

and workforce development not only sustain existing operations but also position Western Kentucky as an attractive location for future industrial growth. By maintaining a competitive and sustainable inland waterway system, these key players ensure that the region remains a vital link in the national and global economy—today and for generations to come.

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LEGACY
page B1

The 20th century ushered in a new era for river transport with the rise of the barge industry. Unlike the steamboats, barges offered the capacity to carry massive quantities of cargo—grain, coal, petroleum, and construction materials—more efficiently and at a lower cost than rail or truck transport.

Paducah emerged as a central hub for these operations. Its proximity to multiple rivers, including access to the Mississippi, positioned it as a gateway for goods moving from the Midwest to the Gulf of Mexico and beyond. The completion of locks and dams further enhanced navigability, making inland waterways a dependable mode of transport even during low-water seasons.

World War II and Postwar Expansion

World War II marked another turning point for Paducah’s river economy. The demand for steel, coal, and petroleum

skyrocketed, and the inland waterways became critical to supplying America’s war machine. After the war, barge companies expanded operations, investing in fleets and infrastructure to meet growing demand from agriculture, energy, and manufacturing sectors.

The 1950s and 1960s saw a surge in economic activity tied to river transport, with Paducah becoming home to shipyards, repair facilities, and a skilled workforce specializing in marine engineering. The region also attracted federal investment in navigation infrastructure, securing its role as a long-term transportation hub.

Today’s River Economy

In modern times, Paducah’s river heritage continues to power economic growth. The inland waterways remain one of the most efficient, cost-effective, and environmentally friendly methods of freight transportation. Each barge can carry the equivalent of 70 truckloads, reducing congestion

on highways and minimizing fuel consumption.

Companies based in the region provide essential services that keep the river economy moving. Barge operators, logistics firms, and marine service providers ensure goods flow smoothly from Kentucky to markets across the globe. These industries support thousands of local jobs and drive investment in infrastructure, education, and workforce development.

A Legacy with a Future

Paducah’s history with the rivers is a story of adaptation and resilience. From steamboats to barges, from the Civil War to the global marketplace, the city has leveraged its location and ingenuity to remain at the forefront of inland navigation. As new technologies and infrastructure projects continue to modernize the river system, Paducah stands as both a guardian of a proud legacy and a leader in shaping the future of America’s inland waterways.

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Hometown brother duo leads new sports medicine & orthopedics practice

(PADUCAH, KY) — Baptist Health Medical Group (BHMG) has expanded orthopedic care in western Kentucky with the launch of its Sports Medicine service line. This specialty will be led by two brothers; Luke Beggs, MD, PhD, and Jake Beggs, PA-C. The Beggs’ offer advanced, nonoperative orthopedic and sports medicine care for athletes and active individuals with no referral needed.

Both graduates of Heath High School, the Beggs brothers, are thrilled to bring their expertise home to serve the Paducah community. “This is more than a job, it’s a dream realized,” said Luke Beggs, MD, PhD, with BHMG Sports Medicine. “My brother, Jake, is an experienced orthopedic PA, and the chance to work together has been a dream of ours for a while now. We’re excited to use our unique skills and training to help our friends, family and neighbors stay active and healthy.”

Dr. Beggs specializes in diagnosing and treating orthopedic and sports-related conditions, including joint injuries, arthritis, and fractures. He also offers ultrasound-guided injections and platelet-rich plasma (PRP) therapy, an innovative

treatment popular among professional athletes. Jake Beggs focuses on sports medicine, athlete recovery, nonsurgical orthopedics and nutritional counseling, ensuring a well-rounded approach to patient care.

“We view every patient as an athlete in the sport of life,” said Dr. Beggs. “Our goal is to optimize movement, prevent injuries, and help people regain function so they can keep doing what they love.”

They treat conditions such as ankle sprains, knee injuries, tendinitis, stress fractures, and other sports-related issues in both youth and adult athletes.

In addition to injury treatment, the Beggs brothers emphasize exercise as the most effective tool for injury prevention and longevity, especially for aging adults.

“A strong body is a resilient body,” said Dr. Beggs. “Exercise is the best way to prevent injuries and maintain mobility, no matter your age.”

For more information or to schedule an appointment, call 270.415.4825.

About Baptist Health Paducah
Baptist Health Paducah is a regional medical and referral



center serving about 200,000 patients a year from four states. With more than 1,300 employees and 364 physicians, it offers more than 40 points of care with a full range of services, including cardiac and cancer care, diagnostic imaging, women’s and children’s services, surgery, emergency treatment, rehabilitation, and more. It has the region’s first heart center and only accredited chest pain center and certified stroke center with 24/7 neurohospitalist coverage, as well as Paducah’s only comprehensive cancer center and Level 3 Neonatal Intensive

Care unit. Baptist Health Paducah has a network of healthcare providers for patients in western Kentucky and southern Illinois — from Baptist Health Medical Group physician offices to Baptist Health Urgent Care and Occupational Medicine locations.

The hospital is also designated Pathway to Excellence® for excellence in nursing services by the American Nursing Credentialing Center. It opened in 1953 as Western Baptist Hospital and changed its name in early 2013, along with other facilities in Baptist Health, the largest not-for-profit healthcare systems in Kentucky.

Home improvement repairs don’t have to break the bank

By Lurna Todd

Tackling home improvement projects doesn’t have to drain your wallet. Whether you’re remodeling a kitchen, updating a bathroom, or adding a fresh coat of style to any room, Surplus Sales in Paducah makes the process affordable and stress-free. With a wide selection of quality products at unbeatable prices, homeowners can find everything they need without overspending.

One of the standout features of Surplus Sales is the knowledgeable team. Employees are not just there to sell—they’re there to guide you. From selecting the right materials to matching your personal style, the staff is ready to help you make informed decisions that ensure your project turns out exactly as you envision.

Remodeling doesn’t have to be complicated. The key is knowing your style and letting the experts help with the next steps. Surplus Sales in Paducah makes it easy to navigate the options, whether you’re looking for cabinetry, flooring, or other home essentials. Their hands-on approach ensures that even first-time remodelers feel confident in their choices.

By combining affordability with expertise, Surplus Sales proves that home improvement is not just for the pros. With the right guidance and smart purchases, transforming your home can be both enjoyable and cost-effective. So, pick your style, let Surplus Sales guide you, and watch your remodeling dreams become reality—without breaking the bank.



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Ballard County pushes forward with major development projects and economic growth initiatives

By **Laurna Todd**
KPI Writer

Ballard County, KY – Ballard County leaders are making significant strides to position the community for long-term economic growth and improved quality of life. Recent infrastructure projects, industrial development, and strategic planning highlight the county’s commitment to progress and prosperity, according to Todd Cooper, Ballard County Judge Executive.

Major Development Projects Underway

In partnership with the Ballard Fiscal Court, Ballard Industrial Development Authority (IDA), and the city of Wickliffe, the county has completed infrastructure work on the 72-acre Haynes property. This project, which includes road construction and water/sewer extensions, lays the groundwork for a future industrial growth in Wickliffe.

Additionally, the Fiscal Court and Wickliffe officials are collaborating with the West Kentucky Regional Riverport Authority (WKRRRA) to establish Wickliffe as an active riverport. This designation would make the port eligible for federal and state grant opportunities. Engineering, surveying, and design work are also underway for a second potential riverport site on private property south of Wickliffe.

Looking ahead, the Fiscal Court and IDA have secured a 150-acre option on KY 286 east of Wickliffe for future growth opportunities. In the city of Barlow, infrastructure enhancements have recently been completed, including the installation of a walking



trail along U.S. 60 to improve pedestrian access to the Senior Center and local businesses. Plans for housing and retail development at the site are currently in the design phase.

In Kevil, a 40-acre site is under consideration for housing development, with the Fiscal Court, IDA, and city officials working closely on engineering and design plans.

Attracting Businesses and Supporting Local Economy

Since its creation in 2018, the Ballard IDA has been a key player in driving local economic development. Its mission centers on supporting existing businesses, sustaining jobs, and attracting new opportunities while keeping the local tax burden as low as possible to maintain a business-friendly environment.

“The lower our local tax rates, the more vibrant our business community remains,” Cooper stated. The Fiscal Court has also

extended grants and financial assistance to local businesses during and after the pandemic and continues to support housing development with small grants for home construction and remodeling.

In a strategic move to enhance healthcare access, the city of Wickliffe and the IDA board recently purchased the historic Dr. J.M. Hunt property to ensure long-term medical care availability in southern Ballard County.

Riverport Development: A Game-Changer

“We hope any new riverport business will come alongside our agribusiness community and farmers to help them grow and reduce their costs,” Cooper explained. Current riverfront employers like Pilot-Thomas, JMI, ADM, and Traylor Brothers already provide approximately 175 jobs, and officials believe new business activity will only add to this momentum.

Quality of Life and Future Plans

A series of community improvement projects are scheduled for 2025, focusing on recreational spaces, emergency shelters, and transportation infrastructure. Highlights include

- **Bandana:** Upgrades to the storm shelter on Stevens Street and plans for a long-term emergency shelter at Bandana Baptist Church.
 - **Barlow:** Expansion of walking trails and partnership efforts to improve the boat ramp at Mounds City Landing.
 - **Blandville:** Redevelopment of the historic courthouse site into a park and picnic area following community feedback
 - **LaCenter:** Rails-to-Trails walking and biking path, upgrades to fairgrounds, ballpark improvements, and a new heli-pad for medical emergencies.
 - **Wickliffe:** Extension and widening of the Mississippi River boat ramp.
 - **Gage:** Long term shelter at Bethel Church
 - **Lovellsville:** inspections through the city, looking to partner with a local church for potential outdoor playground equipment installation
- Other long-term initiatives include exploring the development of a county fishing lake, which would be stocked annually by the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources.



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Baptist Health Paducah earns Vascular Testing Reaccreditation from the Intersocietal Accreditation Commission (IAC)

[PADUCAH, KY] — Early detection of life-threatening heart disorders, stroke and other diseases is possible through the use of vascular testing procedures performed within hospitals, outpatient centers and physicians’ offices. Cardiovascular diseases are the No. 1 cause of death in the United States. On average, one American dies every 34 seconds of cardiovascular disease – disorders of the heart and blood vessels. Stroke, a disorder of the blood supply to the brain, is leading cause of death and the leading cause of disability in the country, with nearly 800,000 strokes occurring annually.

“Achieving reaccreditation from the IAC reinforces the high standards our team brings to vascular testing each and every day,” said Elisha Richardson, Director of Cardiovascular Services at Baptist Health Paducah. “This recognition reflects our ongoing commitment to clinical excellence, advanced technology, and the safety and well-being of every patient we serve.”

There are many factors that contribute to an accurate diagnosis based on vascular testing. The training and experience of the technologist performing the procedure, the type of equipment used and the quality assessment metrics each facility is required to measure, all contribute to a positive patient outcome. IAC accreditation is a “seal of approval”

that patients can rely on as an indicator of consistent quality care and a commitment to continuous improvement.

Baptist Health Paducah located in Paducah, KY has been granted a three-year term of accreditation by the Intersocietal Accreditation

Commission (IAC) in Vascular Testing in the area(s) of Peripheral Arterial Testing, Peripheral Venous Testing, and Extracranial Cerebrovascular Testing. This latest accreditation awarded to Baptist Health Paducah demonstrates the facility’s ongoing commitment to

providing quality patient care in vascular testing. Accreditation by the IAC indicates that Baptist Health Paducah has undergone an intensive application and review process and is found to be in compliance with the published Standards thus demonstrating a commitment to quality patient care in vascular testing. Comprised of a detailed self-evaluation followed by a thorough review by a panel of medical experts, the IAC accreditation process enables both the critical operational and technical components of the applicant facility to be assessed, including representative case studies and their corresponding final reports.

###

About Baptist Health Paducah Baptist Health Paducah is a regional medical and referral center serving about 200,000 patients a year from four states. With more than 1,300 employees and 364 physicians, it offers more than 40 points of care with a full range of services, including cardiac and cancer care, diagnostic imaging, women’s and children’s services, surgery, emergency treatment, rehabilitation, and more. It has the region’s first heart center and only

see **BAPTIST HEALTH**,
page B12



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What workers in McCracken County need to know about filing workplace injury claims in Kentucky

By Andrew Leonard, Esq.

In this article, you will discover:

What you should do immediately after a workplace injury in Kentucky

How workers' compensation works for Kentucky employees

When you should seek medical treatment for your work-related injury

What Steps Should You Take Immediately After A Workplace Injury In McCracken County, Kentucky?

Immediately after a workplace injury in Kentucky, you should:

Prioritize your health and safety by seeking medical attention, even for minor injuries

Report the injury to your employer as soon as possible

Document everything related to the incident

File your workers' compensation claim
Consider consulting with a Kentucky workers' compensation attorney to understand your overall rights in the claims process

How Does The Workers' Compensation System Work For Injured Employees In Kentucky?

In Kentucky, the workers' compensation system provides medical and wage replacement benefits to employees who experience work-related injuries or illnesses. Employers are generally required to carry workers' compensation insurance, and employees are typically covered under the system.

In most cases, because the workers' compensation



A worker helps an injured coworker in a warehouse, representing a workplace injury claim.

insurance compensates you, you give up your right to sue your employer.

How Long Do You Have To File A Workers' Compensation Claim In Kentucky After An On-The-Job Injury?

In Kentucky, workers' compensation claims for on-the-job injury must generally be filed within two years from the date of the accident or within two years from the cessation of voluntary income

benefit payments, whichever is later.

When Is The Right Time To Seek Medical Treatment For A Work-Related Injury In Kentucky?

In Kentucky, the right time to seek medical treatment for work-related injuries is as soon as reasonably possible after the injury occurs. While there isn't a strict deadline, delaying treatment can jeopardize your workers' compensation claim.

Specifically, if too much time passes,

it might be difficult to prove the injury was work-related. Prompt reporting and seeking medical care also ensure you receive the necessary treatment to support your claim.

When Should You Hire A Kentucky Workers' Compensation Attorney After Getting Hurt At Work?

In Kentucky, it's generally recommended to hire a workers' compensation attorney as soon as

you realize your claim may face challenges or when you're unsure about the process.

Even if your claim is initially accepted, early involvement allows the attorney to guide you through the process, prevent mistakes, and address potential issues such as claim denials or inadequate settlement offers before they escalate.

What Is One Thing You Wish Every Worker Knew Before Filing A Workplace Injury Claim?

A critical piece of information for any worker considering a workplace injury claim is that reporting the injury promptly is crucial in most instances. Waiting too long can negatively impact your ability to receive benefits.

Still Have Questions? Ready To Get Started?

For more information on workplace injury claims in McCracken County, KY, a free initial consultation is your next best step. Get the information and legal answers you are seeking by calling (270) 817-7221 today.



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BAPTIST HEALTH,
from page B11

accredited chest pain center and certified stroke center with 24/7 neurohospitalist coverage, as well as Paducah's only comprehensive cancer center and Level 3 Neonatal Intensive Care unit. Baptist Health Paducah has a network of healthcare providers for patients in western Kentucky and southern Illinois — from Baptist Health Medical Group physician offices to Baptist Health Urgent Care and Occupational Medicine locations.

The hospital is also designated Pathway to Excellence® for excellence in nursing services by the American Nursing

Credentialing Center. It opened in 1953 as Western Baptist Hospital and changed its name in early 2013, along with other facilities in Baptist Health, the largest not-for-profit healthcare systems in Kentucky.

About IAC
The IAC is a nonprofit organization in operation to evaluate and accredit facilities that provide diagnostic imaging and interventional-based procedures, thus improving the quality of patient care provided in private offices, clinics and hospitals where such services are performed. The IAC provides accreditation programs for vascular testing, echocardiography,

nuclear/PET, MRI, diagnostic CT, dental CT, carotid stenting, vein treatment and management, vascular interventional, cardiac electrophysiology and cardiovascular catheterization. The IAC programs for accreditation are dedicated to ensuring quality patient care and promoting health care and all support one common mission: Improving health care through accreditation®. Committed to its mission through a rigorous peer review process, the IAC has granted accreditation to more than 14,000 sites since its inception in 1991. To learn more about IAC, visit intersocietal.org

Carlisle County invests in growth, infrastructure, and future quality of life

By Lurna Todd
KPI Writer

Carlisle County Judge Executive Greg Terry says the future looks bright for his community, thanks to recent infrastructure projects, park improvements, and long-term economic development plans that aim to create jobs and improve residents' quality of life.

“It’s important to us to invest in the lives of our children—they are the future of Carlisle County,” Terry said in an interview highlighting the county’s progress.

Major Projects Underway

One of the most notable recent projects is the construction of a 5+ acre lake in Carlisle County's park, funded through a Land and Water Conservation Grant. While work on the site continues, the county plans to partner with the Kentucky Department of

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through its Fishing
in Neighborhoods
(FINs) program.

"This lake brings so many opportunities to families and children," Terry said. "We hope to incorporate fishing programs through the schools or 4-H."

The lake project is part of a larger park enhancement initiative, which also includes a new playground structure and a concession stand for local sports leagues.

Carlisle County is also working on a major water line improvement project for the Milburn Water District, which will add new water lines and a water tower. The new system will serve residents and the Carlisle County School System—one of the few public schools in Kentucky without its own dedicated waterline source.

*Economic
Development and
Business Growth*

To attract new businesses and support local economic growth, Carlisle County participates in WAVE (West Kentucky Alliance for a Vibrant Economy), an organization focused on expanding opportunities in underserved regions.

Terry also highlighted the county's involvement with the Kentucky Great River Road Organization (KYGRRO), which promotes industry and tourism in the Four River Counties. "KYGRRO focuses on the tourism aspect of economic development and helps showcase what local businesses and organizations have to offer," Terry explained.

*Future
Infrastructure and
Quality-of-Life
Projects*

Looking ahead, Carlisle County has several major initiatives in the works. Plans include:

- Regional Water District: A long-term goal to

connect Arlington
and Cunningham
residents.

New Sanitation Plant: The county is seeking funding to replace its 30-year-old facility with a plant twice the size, opening the door for new industry and business development.

*Community
Paramedicine
Program:*

A free program
through the county

ambulance service offering health services such as blood pressure checks, weight checks, and glucose monitoring.

The Role of the
Wickliffe Riverport
Terry sees the
Wickliffe Riverport
as a key component
in Carlisle County's
economic future.

“Our county sits at the confluence of the Mississippi and Ohio Rivers,” he said. “Riverports are economic

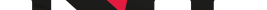
multipliers. With a riverport eight miles away, a major interstate within 30 minutes, and rail access in the county, the potential for growth is unlimited.”

Terry believes the riverport would bring significant job creation and attract new business to Carlisle County and beyond. “Wow—what an investment this would be for not only Carlisle County but all of Western Kentucky.”

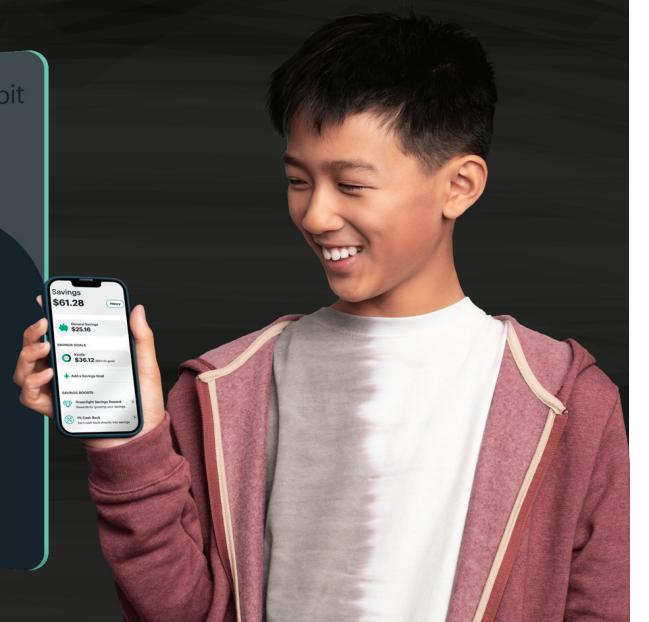
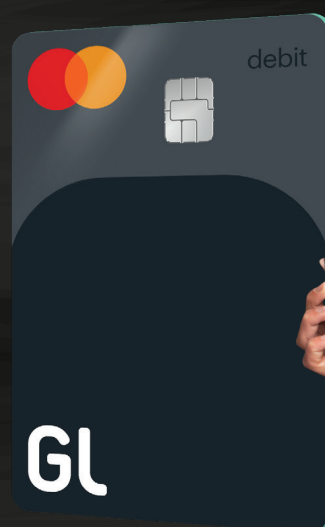
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WKRECC donation supports economic development

(Mayfield, Ky.)
— West Kentucky Rural Electric Cooperative Corporation (WKRECC) recently donated \$15,000 to Graves County Economic Development (GCED) to support its mission to retain, expand and attract quality manufacturing, distribution, and service industries to Graves County. The money is earmarked to support GCED’s recruiting and marketing efforts.

“Graves County Economic Development provides an essential service to Mayfield and Graves County. Solid economic development marketing and recruiting strategies are critical in bringing good employers to our community,” said WKRECC



Photo: A \$15,000 donation from West Kentucky Rural Electric Cooperative Corporation (WKRECC) will be used to help Graves County Economic Development (GCED) support existing businesses in the community as well as to recruit new businesses to the area. WKRECC President & CEO David Smart (left) and WKRECC Board Member Jed Clark (right) present the check to GCED President Jason Lemle (middle).

President & CEO David Smart. “West Kentucky RECC is proud to support the GCED staff as

they strive to bring a better quality of life to Mayfield and Graves County.” “WKRECC works

hard to support and provide reliable service to its members, its community, and economic development,” said Jason Lemle, President of Graves

County Economic Development. “We greatly appreciate the leadership and engagement on our board and throughout the region. This investment supports

GCED in our mission to support business and industry through product and talent development initiatives.”

WKRECC also provides technical support to GCED and WKRECC Planning & Applications Engineer Ricky Binkley serves on the GCED board of directors.

About Graves County Economic Development

Graves County Economic Development began in 1981, becoming the driving force behind expansion and development opportunities in the community. It continues to foster strong relationships with existing businesses and attracts new industry to grow in Graves County. There are 44 industrial businesses in Graves County that employ 2,300 people in the community.

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Money moves that matter:

How Judd Malone Helps 20-Somethings Avoid the Top 5 Financial Mistakes

By Laurna Todd

Your 20s are full of life changes—starting a career, moving out on your own, and managing money without much experience. It’s a time when financial missteps are common, but with the right guidance, you can avoid costly mistakes and set yourself up for long-term success. Edward Jones financial advisor Judd Malone can help you navigate these challenges with a personalized plan tailored to your goals.

1. Not Saving for Retirement Early
Many young adults delay investing because retirement feels far away. Judd can show you how starting small—through a 401(k), IRA,

or other investment vehicles—can harness the power of compound growth, making your future contributions work harder for you.

2. Living Beyond Your Means
Overspending is easy with credit cards and buy-now-pay-later services. Judd can help you create a realistic budget that still allows room for fun while keeping debt under control.

3. Skipping an Emergency Fund
Without savings, unexpected expenses can cause serious setbacks. Judd can help you set up a step-by-step plan to build a three-to-six-month safety net, starting with manageable monthly contributions.

4. Ignoring Your Credit Score
A healthy credit score impacts everything from loans to housing. Judd can provide strategies to improve and maintain your score by managing debt wisely and monitoring credit reports for accuracy.

5. Not Setting Clear Financial Goals
Whether you dream of buying a home, starting a business, or traveling the world, Judd can help you define those goals and map out a practical plan to reach them. Your 20s are the perfect time to build smart money habits. With Judd Malone and Edward Jones by your side, you can avoid common pitfalls and create a strong financial foundation for the rest of your life.

Eddleman graduates from GSBC

BOULDER, COLO. – Citizens Deposit Bank is proud to announce the graduation of Rob Eddleman from the Graduate School of Banking at Colorado (GSBC), a nationally recognized leadership development program for community bankers. Eddleman completed a rigorous 25-month curriculum designed to prepare rising leaders to make bold, strategic decisions that benefit their institutions and communities.

Eddleman was among 175 students honored during a graduation ceremony held July 24 on the University of Colorado Boulder campus. GSBC’s Annual School Session, hosted each July, immerses students in three consecutive years of classroom learning paired with six real-world intercession projects. Each student’s final project addresses a strategic opportunity



or challenge unique to their organization, bringing immediate value back to the communities they serve. GSBC’s modern curriculum reflects the evolving needs of today’s community banks and is taught by industry-leading faculty. Coursework spans four core areas: Financial Management & Strategy, Innovation & Engagement, Leadership & Culture and Lending. The program culminates in a hands-on bank management

simulation where students lead a virtual institution through shifting market conditions and competitive pressures.

About the Graduate School of Banking at Colorado
The Graduate School of Banking at Colorado (GSBC) is the nation’s premier school for community bank leadership and strategy. Since 1950, GSBC has educated more than 8,000 alumni and serves approximately 600 bankers and regulatory professionals annually through its flagship graduate school and year-round executive programs. With a focus on real-world application, expert faculty and a commitment to the future of community banking, GSBC delivers an unmatched educational experience. Learn more at www.GSBCColorado.org.



Saturday
09.13.25 -
09.20.26

100 W. State Line St. Fulton, KY

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Saturday, September 13
Pistol Shoot: 8:00am - Fulton PD | Range Park Rd. | Reg. at 7:30
Beauty Pageant Registration 9am - Fulton High School
Kids Day 11am-2pm - Pontotoc Park
Photo Contest Entry Dropoff All Week - Pontotoc Park | 10am - 4pm
Banana Soiree 6pm - The Meadows Hotel

Sunday, September 14
Photo Contest Entry Dropoff 1pm - 5pm Pontotoc Park

Monday, September 15
Ladies' Night | 6pm
Photo Contest Entry Dropoff 9am - 5pm - Pontotoc Building

Tuesday, September 16
Bake Off 9am - 4:30pm - Fancy Fannie's | Judging @ 5pm
The Amazing Banana Race Scavenger Hunt 5:30pm - Unity Park | Ages 12-18, Individual or Groups
State Line Dance 6pm - Under the Twin City Sign
Faith & Family Night Activities 4pm - Pontotoc Park
Community Meal 5pm - Pontotoc Park | Presented by Tyson Foods
Chalk Art | 5:30-7:30 - Unity Park
Kiddie Parade | 6pm - Parade Route
Banana Cabana | 5pm-9pm - Pontotoc Park
Faith & Family Night Entertainment 7pm - Unity Park
Provided by Local Churches & the Ministerial Alliances

Wednesday, September 17
Senior Activities | 9am - Pontotoc Park
Fulton's Got Talent | 7pm - Unity Park
Hot Wheel Derby | 5pm - FCB Bank
Vendors | 9am - All Day - Vendor Row
Banana Cabana | 5pm - 9pm - Pontotoc Park
Twin Cities' Got Talent | 7pm - Unity Park

Friday, September 19
Carnival | Varies - Unity Park
Health Fair | 9-11am - Fulton Baptist Church
Music Friday | 6pm - Unity Park
Vendors | 9am - All Day - Vendor Row
Kids Activities Open | 4pm - 10pm
Banana Cabana | 5pm - 9pm - Pontotoc Park
Entertainment Starts 4pm - Unity Park
4:30pm - Marissa Luna
6pm - Performances by
Impersonators of Shania Twain, Tim McGraw, Dolly Parton, Garth Brooks | 8:30pm - Kelsey Hart

Saturday, September 20
Car Show | 8am - Lake Street
Cornhole Contest | 9am - Fulton Farmer's Market
Banana Brawl | 11am - Pontotoc Park
Banana Eating Contest | 10am - Pontotoc Park
Doggy Pageant | 2pm - Pontotoc Park
Dunking Booth | 11am - TBA
Grand Parade | 4pm - Parade Route
Music Saturday 6pm - Unity Park
7pm - Matt Boone Band
8:30pm - Rodney Atkins
Vendors | All Day - Vendor Row
Banana Cabana 11am-10pm - Pontotoc Park

Hope to see you there!!



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