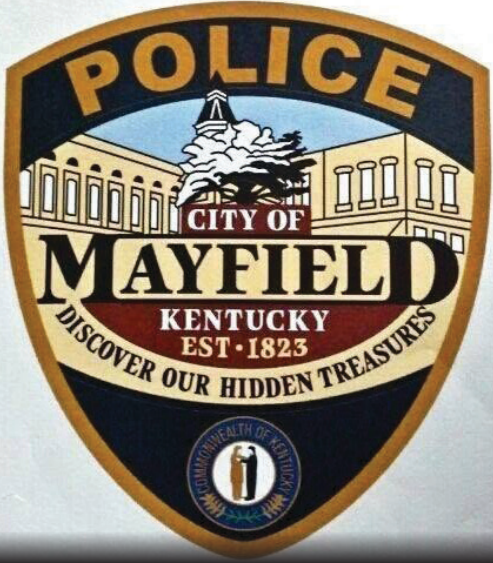


New Faces,
New Roles at
Mayfield PD



SEE BACK PAGE

Graves Co. deputies respond to standoff, serious crash and shooting incident

By: Laurna Pruett
KPI Writer

GRAVES COUNTY — Graves County sheriff’s deputies responded to several serious incidents in less than a week, including two standoffs and a collision that injured three people.

At approximately 5 p.m. Friday, Sept. 4, Deputy Zach Smith went to a Pritchett Road residence to investigate the reported harassment of a woman.

According to the sheriff’s office, 38-year-old Kyle D.

Staples initially gave a false name. After Smith confirmed his identity and learned of an active Fulton County felony warrant, Staples allegedly said he was not going to jail and pulled what appeared to be a semiautomatic handgun.

A brief standoff followed before Staples dropped the weapon and surrendered. The weapon was later identified as a BB pistol. Staples reportedly told Sheriff

See **POLICE** back of A Section

Injury Crash, Lawn Mower Stop Among Mayfield Police Reports

By: Laurna Pruett
KPI Writer

The Mayfield Police Department reported a three-vehicle injury collision and three unrelated arrests, according to Maj. Wes A. Kimbler.

Officers responded Sept. 4 to a collision at the intersection of Dick Castleman Bypass and Charles Drive. Police said Dawn Barnett, 51, of Murray, was traveling south in a Ford Fusion when she failed to slow as two vehicles ahead of her prepared to turn right onto Charles Drive.

Barnett’s vehicle struck a Dodge Dakota

driven by Jessica Hurst, 28, of Mayfield. The impact pushed Hurst’s vehicle into the rear of a Dodge Caravan driven by Rachel Jones, 54, of Arlington.

Barnett and Hurst were transported by Mayfield-Graves Fire/EMS to Jackson Purchase Medical Center for treatment of minor injuries. Burl’s Towing Service and Affordable Towing Service also assisted at the scene.

On Sept. 8, officers responding to a disturbance at a local

See **CRASH** back of A Section

Gear Up for Halloween Season at The Industrial Slaughterhouse

By: Ciro Astarita
KPI Writer

FANCY FARM, KY)— Halloween is approaching and Graves County has an interesting way of celebrating. The Industrial Slaughterhouse Freakshow Grand Opening will take place this year on September 18.

This event serves as a blending of a Haunted House Experience mixed with circus motifs and the traditions of yesteryear. This production is in the vein of similar events like Halloween Horror Nights at Universal Orlando Resort. Hosted at the old Brown Thompson Sausage Works building exists this unique seasonal tourist attraction with many secrets and stories to uncover. This former meatpacking building was the only federally inspected meat production facility in the area. Thompson Products were so popular that they were being shipped nationally to states as far as California in 1964. They were given the moniker “the big



The Industrial Slaughterhouse Freakshow Ad(2026)



Brown Thompson & Sons Print Ad(1965)

name in sausage.” Their company slogan was fitting as well... “Whole Hog Or None.”

Considering the location and the history behind the site, it seems to be a fittingly themed venue. To find more information and to buy tickets, visit their website at www.theindustrialslaughterhouse.com. Those wanting a special experience can attend on Blackout nights only on Sundays. Their website states “On BLACKOUT nights, the lights will be turned off and your group will be given a single glowstick to find your way through. If you wish to experience the attraction normally, please plan your visit for a Friday or Saturday.”

Friends Book Sale at GCPL Offers Bargains for Readers of All Ages

By: Laurna Pruett
KPI Writer

Book lovers will have an opportunity to stock their shelves without emptying their wallets during the semiannual Friends Book Sale at the Graves County Public Library.

A preview sale for Friends members will be held Thursday, Sept. 17, from 5 to 6:30 p.m. The sale will open to the public Friday, Sept. 18, from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Saturday, Sept. 19, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Anita Granier said

the sale is worth attending because shoppers will find a plentiful selection of books in excellent condition.

The inventory includes donations from library patrons as well as books released by the library during scheduled inventory reviews. Nearly new hardback books will be \$2, while library hardback discards and books on CD will be \$1. Paperbacks and music CDs will cost 50 cents, and young children’s books will be only 25 cents. DVDs



will be available for \$1. Special-edition and autographed books will be priced individually. With books covering nearly every genre, Granier said shoppers can find selections for themselves or purchase affordable gifts. “Children’s books are only 25 cents each,” she said. “You can fill a bag for your children or grandchildren.”

Book donations will be accepted through Monday, Sept. 14. The library is located at 601 N. 17th St. in Mayfield.

Fact Sheet: President Donald J. Trump Promotes Fair Competition in Livestock Markets and Expands Market Access for American Meat Producers

From: The White House, WASHINGTON DC, USA

SEPTEMBER 4

ADVANCING COMPETITION AND ACCOUNTABILITY: Today, President Donald J. Trump signed an Executive Order to support American producers’ ability to butcher, process, package, and sell their meat to consumers across state lines while maintaining the highest standards of food safety while avoiding being overcharged by monopolistic practices in the meat processing industry.

The Order directs the Secretary of Agriculture to prioritize investigations into potential violations of the Packers and Stockyards Act, increase federal resources for these investigations, and review existing policies under the Act to strengthen protections for producers and ensure effective deterrence.

The Order directs the Secretary of Agriculture to modernize meat inspections to focus on core safety, boost processing efficiency and technology, lower costs to add value for ranchers and consumers, and remove unnecessary and burdensome requirements that do not support essential food safety needs.

The Order directs the Secretary of Agriculture to create a “one stop shop” resource and coordinator position within the Department of Agriculture to expand federal licensing and connect producers to inspection options, provide additional resources and training for small and very small meat processors, expand interstate market access for eligible meat products, and streamline processes to increase State participation in the State Meat and Poultry Inspection Program, the Cooperative Interstate Shipment Program, and the Talmadge-Aiken Cooperative Inspection Program.

The Order directs the Secretary

See **MEAT** back of A Section

Associated Press journalists who witnessed Sept. 11 remember what they saw, 25 years later

By Joseph Frederick, David R. Martin And Leah Willingham
Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Karen Matthews was getting her 3-year-old daughter ready for pre-school in her Manhattan apartment on Sept. 11, 2001, when she heard a loud boom, unlike anything she'd ever heard before.

Holding her child, she went outside. Around her, people stared up at a gash in the north tower of the World Trade Center, smoke billowing from the building just blocks from her home.

“What did you see? What did you see?” people were asking one another. Matthews, an Associated Press reporter, began asking the same question, fumbling to get out her notebook and record what people had witnessed, all with her daughter still in her arms.

Matthews had planned to drop her daughter at school before working later to cover New York’s primary election. Instead, she and other AP journalists found themselves documenting the Sept. 11 attacks as they lived through them.

Twenty-five years later, they remember what they saw.

At first, no one knew what was happening. On her way outside, Matthews passed a woman in her building’s lobby with tears streaming down her face. Some people assumed a small plane had accidentally struck the tower.

Then she saw a “big fireball” erupt from the south tower as a second hijacked jet struck.

“I want to go to school, I want to go to school,” her daughter started crying.

“That’s when we all knew that we were under attack,” Matthews said.

Matthews started toward the preschool anyway, until she saw teach-



Pedestrians flee the area of New York’s World Trade Center in lower Manhattan on Tuesday, Sept. 11, 2001. (AP Photo/Amy Sancetta, File)

ers grabbing children and running north, many of them crying. She took her daughter upstairs, intent on getting her to a safe place, and put on Barney.

Then she heard two more impossibly loud roars — one tower collapsing, then the other. Nearly 3,000 people died in the World Trade Center, at the Pentagon, and on the four jets hijacked by al-Qaida militants.

Twenty-five years later, Matthews, now retired, still divides her life into before Sept. 11 and after.

“I’m not a really fearful person,” she said. “But you lose a sense of security when something like that happens.”

“I do think it helped to be part of telling the story of what happened,” Matthews said.

The camera becomes a wall

Lower Manhattan’s streets were filled with smoke and debris when Richard Drew got off the subway at Chambers Street and saw the burning twin towers.

His assignment that day had originally been to cover the opening day of Fashion Week — a whirlwind of glamour, models and runway shows.

He began taking pictures. Gray ash and soot

covered his clothes, face and cameras.

An emergency medical worker pointed up and said, “Look at that.” People were plummeting from the burning towers. “I don’t know whether they were jumping or they got forced out by the fire,” Drew said.

Drew photographed them. One image became known as “The Falling Man.” It shows a lone man falling headfirst, his body nearly aligned with the vertical lines of the towers. The photograph appeared in some newspapers the next day, but was rejected by other publications that worried readers would find it too upsetting.

Drew still thinks about the photograph — and the unidentified man in it — at least once a week.

“When I’m in a situation like September 11th, I go into professional photographer mode and I concentrate on whatever’s happening in front of me,” said Drew, who also photographed the 1968 assassination of Robert F. Kennedy.

He said his wife calls his camera a wall — a filter between the photographer and the reality they’re capturing.

“I guess I’m in denial

about whether those things really affected me,” he said.

The wheelchairs stayed empty

Dust from the pulverized towers was falling “like a snowstorm” when AP reporter Larry Neumeister made it to a hospital near ground zero that afternoon.

Doctors and nurses gathered outside. Lines of wheelchairs and gurneys waited at the entrance. Staff were preparing for a constant stream of injured survivors — potentially thousands, Neumeister said.

Then the hours passed. “It became clear nobody else was being brought in,” Neumeister said.

Around midnight, Neumeister walked by the World Trade Center site. A doctor told him: “You

either walked away from the site or ran away from the World Trade Center buildings when they fell, or you were gone. There was no in-between.”

Her training took over. Sept. 11 was supposed to be Amy Sancetta’s day off.

Then based in Ohio, the AP photographer had traveled to New York to cover U.S. Open tennis. But the tournament was over and she had the day to herself. Then her editor called: A small plane had hit one of the towers. She needed to go downtown.

As she gathered her gear, Sancetta realized she didn’t know where the twin towers were. She got into a cab and told the driver to get her as close as he could.

About a block and a half away, Sancetta was

photographing the south tower when it began to collapse.

“The weirdest thing that went through my head at the time was, it was kind of muscle memory, like shooting a basketball game,” she said.

When the cloud of debris came toward her, Sancetta ran into a parking garage. In a stairwell, she found a woman crying who had escaped from the towers and wanted to call her son. Sancetta hugged her and reached for her flip phone. Her hand was shaking. There was no signal. Sancetta took the son’s number and promised to call him.

When she emerged onto the street, everything was white, “like covered with snow, but not snow.” The screaming and pounding footsteps had given way to crying and whimpering. Loose-leaf office paper floated through the sky “like birds.”

“I wish I’d shot that,” Sancetta said. “I didn’t, but I can see it — I see it right now.”

Twenty-five years later, Sancetta held up a newspaper from Sept. 12 showing the burning towers she had photographed.

“NIGHTMARE,” the headline read.

Outside her windows now are woods. But she can still remember the sound of the tower collapsing — “just unearthly.”

“As a journalist, I’m glad I was there,” Sancetta said. “But as a human being, I wish I’d gone home on Monday.”

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Over 30,000 Kentuckians Now Have Access to Time-Saving Online Licensing Services with myDrive Accounts

Press Release

FRANKFORT, Ky. - Today, Gov. Andy Beshear announced that more than 30,000 Kentuckians have completed creating a myDrive online account, unlocking convenient drivers licensing services that can save them time and trips to a driver licensing office.

“We’ve made improving licensing a priority so that Kentuckians are spending less time waiting in line and more time getting where they need to go,” said Gov. Beshear. “By completing their myDrive registration, Kentuckians can save themselves trips to the licensing office and we can continue to see those average wait times drop even further.”

Team Kentucky encourages all drivers to sign up or complete account verification to access eligible online services, like changing an address, replacing an ID or renewing a license.

The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet’s (KYTC) new,

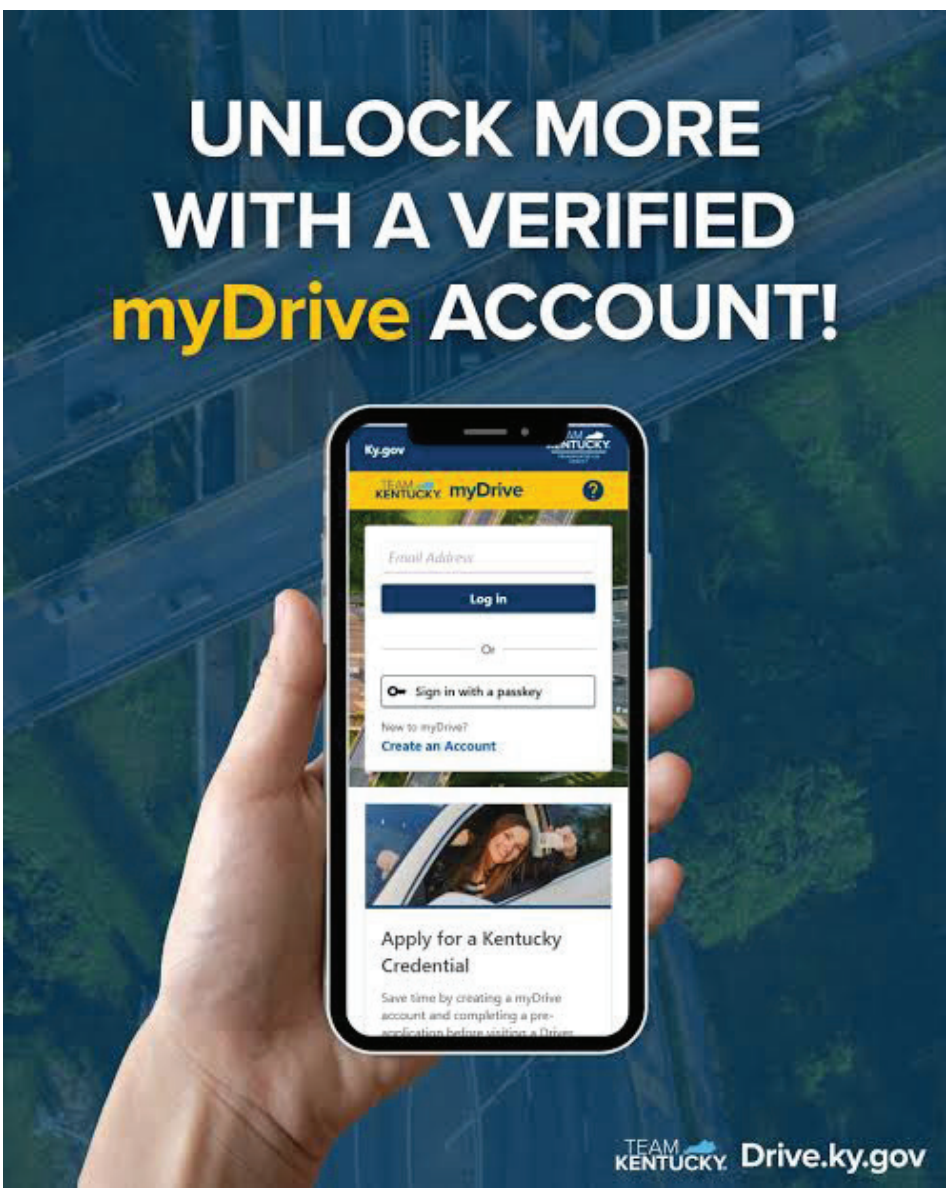
modernized driver licensing system, Kentucky Information Network for Driver Licensing, replaced the state’s 40-year-old backend system in June and expanded online service options available to Kentuckians at myDrive.ky.gov.

While more than 115,000 Kentuckians have created myDrive logins, about 26% have verified their accounts by linking their login to their driving record on file – a crucial step needed before using online services.

“With myDrive, Kentuckians have more convenient options to take care of licensing needs on their time, and we want to see more drivers enjoy the benefits of having an account,” said KYTC Secretary Rebecca Goodman.

“The system upgrade gives licensing staff modern tools to better serve Kentuckians as we commit to building a better service experience for years to come.”

To complete the verification process, a user will connect their account using a



“Letter ID” – a user-specific, multi-digit code that is mailed to the address on file or printed on the temporary ID document given to customers at the end of an in-office visit. A Letter ID can be requested:

When initially creating a myDrive account

By logging in to your

myDrive account

By visiting any Driver Licensing Regional Office

“Signing up for a myDrive account now is a smart step to save you time and trips later,” said Deputy Secretary Jeremy Slinker.

“Even if you aren’t due to renew for years, setting up a verified

online account early means you can quickly access online services like replacing an ID if you lose your wallet or updating a home address if you move.”

Licensing Improvements and Reduced Wait Times

myDrive accounts are the latest step Team Kentucky has

taken to improve the licensing experience. Those steps also include hiring 125 contracted full-time staff last year and launching a new line management and text check-in system that drastically cut office wait times when demand grew last year due to new vision screening requirements, REAL ID enforcement and new permit eligibility for 15 year olds.

Thanks to those efforts, average wait times at driver licensing regional offices statewide were just 9 minutes for walk-ins and 10 minutes for appointments in August, down from an average of 49 minutes for walk-ins and 25 minutes for appointments in Spring of 2025.

Kentuckians who require an office visit, like requesting a Kentucky license or REAL ID for the first-time, are encouraged to pre-apply on myDrive.ky.gov to save time during their visit. As of August, 50% of Kentucky IDs are REAL ID compliant.

ABSOLUTE LAND AUCTION

Beech Grove Rd, Ory Road, Farmington, KY 42040

Thursday, September 24th, 2026 - 6:00 PM CST

260 ACRES

SELLING IN 8 TRACTS & COMBINATIONS

AUCTION LOCATION: HARRIS AUCTION FACILITY – 3855 ST. RT. 45 N, MAYFIELD, KY 42066

Don't miss this outstanding opportunity to purchase approximately 260 acres located on Beech Grove Road and Ory Road in the Farmington area. The property will be offered in 8 individual tracts and combinations, providing buyers with the opportunity to purchase the acreage that best fits their needs. Whether you're looking for a smaller tract, a larger agricultural property, investment acreage, or the opportunity to combine adjoining tracts, this auction offers multiple possibilities.

ALSO SELLING IMMEDIATELY AFTER REAL ESTATE

CASE 140A Tractor

SN CT00954M with L745 Loader SN YHWLG5015 - 1,032 Hours, Firestone rear tires 18.4-38, 14.9-28 front tires.

REAL ESTATE TRACTS:

Tract 1	4.88 Acres
Tract 2	5.25 Acres w/Well
Tract 3	1.32 Acres
Tract 4	1.33 Acres
Tract 5	119.67 Acres
Tract 6	1.46 Acres
Tract 7	123.69 Acres
Tract 8	2.16 Acres (Located on Orr Road)

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ABSOLUTE REAL ESTATE & FARM EQUIPMENT AUCTION

Saturday, September 26th, 2026 | 10:00 AM

2142 Bethlehem Church Rd, Wickliffe, KY 42087

Home - Buildings Farm Equipment

392 ACRES

in 8 Tracts & Combinations

Estate of J.W. & Elena Pittman

PREVIEW DATE: TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15th 5:00-6:00 pm

392 ACRES - HOME - BUILDINGS - EQUIPMENT IN BALLARD CO.

Don't miss this opportunity to purchase a 392± acre farm near Wickliffe in Ballard County, Kentucky! The property features a 3-bedroom, 2-bath home with approximately 1,268 sq. ft. of living space and a 1,168 sq. ft. basement. Highlights include a spacious living room, eat-in kitchen, abundant cabinetry, covered porch/patio, mature trees, and a peaceful country setting. The basement offers flexible space for storage, hobbies, recreation, or a workshop. Farm improvements and substantial agricultural acreage complete this exceptional rural property.

Tract Details Include:

TRACT 1 - 8.58 Acres - Home, Barn, and Shop along Bethlehem Ch. Rd.

TRACT 2 - 21.59 Acres along Bethlehem Ch Rd

TRACT 3 - 46.58 Acres - Rural Tract

TRACT 4 - 59.74 Acres along Bethlehem Ch Rd

TRACT 5 - 27.38 Acres - Wooded acreage along Martin Road

TRACT 6 - 119.95 Acres with Multiple Ponds

TRACT 7 - 66.91 Acres along Martin Road

TRACT 8 - 41.62 Acres along Martin Road

PERSONAL PROPERTY SELLS IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING REAL ESTATE.

FARM MACHINERY - 2009 Intern'l Pro Star W/Pto Maxforce 13 Engine (131), Eaton Fuller 10 Speed Trans, Mileage 446,855, Pto Hrs 1,370, 22.5 Tires, VN 2HSCUSJR79C098581

1995 International 8100, Cummin M11 Engine (10.8l), Eaton Fuller 10 Speedtrans, Mileage 684,638, 22.5 Tires, VN 1HSHBAHN6SH210052.

1989 18' Miller Tilt Deck Pintle Hitch Trailer, 32,000 Lbs Capacity, Vn 10334845.

1995 Jerry James 6'X10' Tilt Trailer Vn 4bxul1019ss000560

1972 Domor Lowboy, Model Lba-25t, 50,000 Lb Cap, Vn 251117103.

Ford 7710 Series II 2wd Tractor - Dual 200 Loader, 2 Remotes, 540/1000 Pto,

Firestone Tires, 18.4-34 Rear Tires And 10-16 Front Tires; Approximately 3,192 Hours.

John Deere 2940 2wd Tractor - Approx. 612 Hours, 1 Remote, 18.4-34 Rear Tires - 10 -16 Front Tires; Code 294st, S/N 3606091; Engine Type 635901-03, Engine S/N 430106cd.

Case 850g Bulldozer - Long-Track, 6-Way Blade; Model 850g, S/N Jjg0217994; Blade No. 19057981.

John Deere 1550 PowerTill Seeder - 8' Unit, 3-Point Hitch; S/N 000272n.

10' Pull-Behind Rotary Cutter/Bush Hog - Model 3210, S/N 12-10558.

MISCELLANEOUS - Husqvarna EZ 5224 Zero-Turn Mower - Approx. 699 Hours, Kohler Engine; Model 966038301, S/N 095005161; Engine S/N 3923208623.

Ditch Witch Trencher - 3-Wheel Trencher With Approx. 5' Trenching Cap. And Wisconsin Gas Engine; S/N 1189023; Misc. 3-Point Hitch Equip.

FARM, SHOP & HOUSEHOLD ITEMS - 1,000-Ga Water Tank, Fuel Tanks, 2" Black Plastic Pipe, Pipe Racks, Metal Racks, Square Tubing, Flat Metal, Angle Iron, Shop Tools, Buffalo Drill Press, Shop Vise, Toolbox, Ladders, Hand Tools, Garden Tools, Shelving, Hardware, Tires, Amana Refrigerator, Amana Washer & Dryer, Refrigerator, Kitchen Table & Chairs, Living Room Furniture, Bedroom Furniture, Dressers, Chests Of Drawers, Bedroom Sets

REAL ESTATE TERMS: The property will be offered in 8 individual tracts and combinations. Tracts 1 thru 6 will not be combined with Tracts 7 & 8. Only contiguous tracts will be combined. A 10% Buyer's Premium will be added to the final bid and included in the deed transaction sale price. 15% as down payment on the day of the auction with balance in cash at closing on or before 30 days. The down payment may be in the form of cashier's check, personal check, or corporate check. YOUR BIDDING IS NOT CONDITIONAL UPON FINANCING, SO BE SURE YOU HAVE ARRANGED FINANCING, IF NEEDED, AND ARE CAPABLE OF PAYING CASH AT CLOSING Make Inspections Prior To Date Of Sale. Closing shall take place on or before 30 days from auction date. All 2026 ad valorem taxes will be prorated at closing. The property will be sold by a new survey, buyer will be responsible for 50% of the survey cost. PERSONAL PROPERTY TERMS: A 10% Buyer's Premium Will Be Added To The Final Bid And Included In The Sales Price. Full Settlement Date Of Sale. Check Or Cash Only.

REAL ESTATE TERMS: The property will be offered in 8 individual tracts, or as a whole property. The property will be sold in the manner resulting in the highest total sale price. A 10% Buyer's Premium will be added to the final bid and included in the deed transaction sale price. 15% as down payment on the day of the auction with balance in cash at closing on or before 30 days. The down payment may be in the form of cashier's check, personal check, or corporate check. YOUR BIDDING IS NOT CONDITIONAL UPON FINANCING, SO BE SURE YOU HAVE ARRANGED FINANCING, IF NEEDED, AND ARE CAPABLE OF PAYING CASH AT CLOSING Make Inspections Prior To Date Of Sale. Closing shall take place on or before 30 days from auction date. All 2026 ad valorem taxes will be prorated at closing. The property will be sold by a new survey, buyer will be responsible for 50% of the survey cost. PERSONAL PROPERTY TERMS: A 10% Buyer's Premium Will Be Added To The Final Bid And Included In The Sales Price. Full Settlement Date Of Sale. Check Or Cash Only.

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Women in the Humanities:

Steinem, Hughes, & Martin



Ms. Vol 1, No. 1 released on July 1, 1972
(Sourced from The Smithsonian Institution)

By **CIRO ASTARITA**
KPI Writer

(MURRAY, KY)– Recently, we lost a powerful and influential female figure in US writing and journalism. Her name was Gloria Steinem. She passed away at the age of 92. Steinem has several notable achievements and many accolades across her storied career, including her time as a columnist for New York magazine. Some of her notable achievements are interviewing John Lennon of Beatles fame for Cosmopolitan Magazine(1964),

founding the magazine ‘Ms.’ with Dorothy Pitman Hughes featuring Super Woman on the front cover(July 1st, 1972), and influencing a massive amount of women in the second half of the 20th Century. Whether that impact was for better or worse may depend on your political inclination, but it is without question that her life has directly affected every modern woman. Before entering the public eye as a notable female icon and activist, she served as the director of a CIA funded organization known as the Inde-



Delita Martin’s work on view at Murray State University. Photo by **Ciro Astarita**

pendent Research Service from 1958 to 1962. Their mission was to promote anti-communist sentiments and was established to counter Soviet influence on American youth during the Cold War. This was preceding the Cuban Missile Crisis and following the beginning of the Space Race. After leaving the Independent Research Service, she began a career in journalism and pursued activist efforts alongside her friend Dorothy Pitman Hughes. These two women led multiple civil rights movements and founded

organizations like the Women’s Action Alliance. They spent many years speaking and lecturing around the United States, setting an example of how a shared belief & interest can bring people together... regardless of race. Their shared efforts eventually lead to the publication Ms. Magazine in 1972 which featured prominent art of Wonder Woman. Steinem wanted Wonder Woman on the cover as a response to DC Comics’ announcement that the character would lose her powers. In Steinem’s frustra-

tion, she sought to spotlight this iconic character of popular culture by featuring Wonder Woman’s history and impact on the world. This publication was credited by many for reviving Wonder Woman comics. DC Comics would later publicly reverse the decision. Hughes passed away on December 1, 2022 and Steinem passed on September 2, 2026. Delita Martin–a professional artist and printmaker who recently spoke at Murray State University– is continuing the dialogue these women started in the late 60’s

through her practice. Martin is currently based in Huffman, Texas where she works on creating large scale prints dealing with themes of identity and navigating the current landscape as a woman of color. Her art comments on women’s role in society by piecing together signs and symbols to convey a deeper, nuanced message. Her work can be viewed on the Clara M. Eagle Gallery on the 6th floor of the Fine Arts Center at Murray State University until October 27, 2026.

Kincaid Mounds Historic Site Archaeology Field Day

By **Sheila Richey**
KMSO

The Kincaid Mounds Archaeological Site was a large Native American town occupied from AD 1050 to 1450. During this time, a dozen large and many small mounds were built. The site is a National Historic Landmark and Illinois Historic Site and, a large portion of which is under the management of the Illinois Department of Natural Resources. There is an observation and interpretation area with interpretive panels providing information on the Historic Site. The Kincaid Mounds Support Organization, whose

members volunteer their services for the preservation and management of the site, will host a Field Day on Saturday, October 10, from 9:00 to 3:00 pm. There will be artifacts on display, information tables, and formal programs offered at 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. The 10:00 a.m. program will be given by Dr. Paul Welch, retired Chair and Associate Professor of Anthropology Southern Illinois University Carbondale. The 1:00 pm program will be presented by Dr. Brian M. Butler, retired Director of the Center for Archaeological Investigation at Southern

Illinois University Carbondale. Part of the presentations, which is optional, includes a walking tour to Mound 8; hiking shoes are recommended. If you have an artifact that you would like more information on, bring it to the program. An archaeologist will be available to help identify the artifact and its use. No artifacts will be bought or sold at the program. The program is free of charge and there will be restroom facilities, but no refreshments sold. The Kincaid Mounds are located approximately 10 miles east of Brookport, Illinois, along the Ohio

River Scenic Byway. From Interstate 24, take the Metropolis/Brookport Exit, travel east on US 45 towards Brookport and before entering Brookport, turn left on Unionville Road. Go 6.25 miles through

Unionville to New Cut Road. At New Cut Road turn right (south) and travel 3.6 miles to Kincaid Mounds Road, turn left (east) on Kincaid Mounds Road and go .6 mile to the observation platform. GPS

location 37° 4’47.10”N 88°29’25.53”W. More information on the Kincaid Mounds Historic Site can be found at www.kincaidmounds.com or Facebook-Kincaid Mounds Support Organization.



ORDINANCE NO 02-2026 CITY OF GRAND RIVERS, KENTUCKY	
ANNUAL TAX RATES	
AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE ANNUAL TAX RATES	
WHEREAS , the City of Grand Rivers annually sets tax rates based upon the 2026 tax roll assessment for the assessment of taxes; and	
WHEREAS , the City of Grand Rivers has reviewed the proposed tax rates as based upon calculations provided by the Pennyrite Area Development District,	
NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF GRAND RIVERS, KENTUCKY AS FOLLOWS:	
SECTION 1: Annual Tax Rates: The annual tax rates, based upon the current assessment, for real and personal property in the City of Grand Rivers shall be:	
Real Property Tax Rate	.263
Personal Property Tax Rate	.3833
Inventories	.3833
SECTION 2: Discount and Penalty: All taxes due as set forth herein shall be subject to a discount of two percent (2%) for all tax bills paid on or before November 30, 2026. All taxes due as set forth herein shall be subject to a flat penalty of ten percent (10%) if paid after December 31, 2026 and an additional monthly penalty of one-half of one percent (0.5%) for all bills paid after February 1, 2027.	
SECTION 3: Governmental Revenue: All revenue received from taxes as set forth herein is for governmental purposes for the operation of City government.	
SECTION 4: Severability and Enactment: All ordinances, orders, resolutions, motions or parts thereof insofar as some may be in conflict herewith are repealed.	
This ordinance shall be published and take effect thereafter.	
Date of First Reading of Ordinance: August 11, 2026	
Date of Second Reading of Ordinance: September 9, 2026	
Date of Publication of Ordinance:	
Ordinance published in: Livingston Ledger	
Ordinance Referenced: Minutes Book , Page	

Heisman hopefuls Manning and Sayin to face off when No. 1 Ohio State meets No. 4 Texas in Austin

By Joe Reedy
AP Sports Writer

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — Arch Manning’s 2025 Heisman Trophy campaign started and ended with a rocky season-opening loss at Ohio State.

Over in the Buckeyes’ huddle, Julian Sayin’s first career start launched a standout season that found him, not Manning, among the Heisman finalists last December.

Those two face off again Saturday when No. 1 Ohio State (1-0) meets the No. 4 Longhorns (1-0) in Austin. The blockbuster rematch could very well set the narrative for both players and teams for the rest of the season.

After struggling against Ohio State, Manning evolved from a shaky passer to a starring one some now project as the possible No. 1 pick in the 2027 NFL draft. Sayin grew from game manager to team leader in taking the Buckeyes to the College Football Playoff. He also projects as a likely first round pick if he enters the draft after this season.

The runup to the rematch has spent a lot of time looking back at where the two quarterbacks started and how far they’ve come come in the year since the Buckeyes roughed up the Longhorns.

Manning would rather look ahead.

“Not a lot of good memories from a year



Texas quarterback Arch Manning (16) scrambles against Texas State during the first half of an NCAA college football game in Austin, Texas, Saturday, Sept. 5, 2026. (AP Photo/Eric Gay)

ago,” Manning said this week. “I’m hoping to have a good game this week ... I feel like I’m a year better.”

Manning grew through painful start

Manning’s first season as the full-time starter was far from the bust some were calling it by midseason. He was getting punished behind an offensive line that couldn’t protect him. Manning took a beating from the Buckeyes and it shaped the national opinion about the latest prodigy from the Manning football family.

Eventually the spotlight moved on. Instead of torching Manning, it shifted somewhere else as Texas started grinding out wins. Manning was maturing. The

Longhorns went 7-1 to finish the season and pummeled Michigan in the Citrus Bowl.

“He went through the battles and struggles,” of last season, Texas’ preseason All-America tackle Trevor Goosby said.

Manning starred in the bowl game, passing for 221 yards and running for 155 more. His 60-yard touchdown run was the highlight of the game. In a season where Texas started No. 1 then fell out of the rankings after a 3-2 start, the Longhorns finished 12th.

The Longhorns quickly turned their eyes to the Ohio State rematch on home turf. Texas coach Steve Sarkisian built a powerhouse offensive lineup through the

transfer portal, adding playmakers Cam Coleman at receiver and Hollywood Smothers and Raleek Brown in the backfield.

Manning passed for 305 yards and four touchdowns in a season-opening 59-7 win over Texas State. His only blips were a first-half interception and a trip, fall and faceplant in the pregame sprint out of the smoky stadium tunnel. The blooper video quickly made the rounds on social media.

“It’s hard to see in that smoke,” Manning joked. “It was good to get my first hit before the game started, get ready to roll.”

Ohio State coach Ryan Day can see the difference in Manning from a year ago.

“You watched last year as Arch played, he got better and better and better,” Day said. “He’s really improved and give him a lot of credit for putting the work in.”

Sayin seized his moment in 2025 and is among Heisman contenders again

Sayin was a five-star recruit out of high school. But his name isn’t Manning, so he wasn’t the star going into the Texas matchup last season. Manning’s name is still likely the first one mentioned this week and his endorsement deals are likely to pop up regularly on game-day TV commercials.

But Sayin carries his own heavy load of playoff and Heisman expectations into Sat-

urday.

Sayin passed for 3,610 yards and 32 touchdowns with eight interceptions last season and his 77% completion rate ranked third in NCAA history. He won the Shaun Alexander National Freshman of the Year award and finished fourth on the Heisman ballot. He is the only player among last season’s top four finalists to return this year.

In the Buckeyes’ season opener, Sayin passed for 320 yards and three touchdowns and ran for a score in a 56-3 win over Ball State.

He’ll get tested Saturday by Texas All-American edge rusher Colin Simmons, a crowd in excess of 100,000 and late summer Texas heat that could have temperatures still in the 90s by the 6:30 p.m. local kickoff time. An Alabama native, Sayin should be able to hack the Southern heat.

“As a quarterback you have to stay even-keeled and be the calm in the storm,” Sayin said this week.

Sarkisian said he expects both quarterbacks to be at the top of their game Saturday night.

“You see the level of confidence both guys are playing with. What you notice is the presence in the pocket and the confidence in using their legs,” Sarkisian said. “Should be pretty high-level

Tackett joins NFHS in consulting role while completing duties as KHSAA Commissioner

Staff Report

LEXINGTON — Julian Tackett, who recently announced his retirement as commissioner of the Kentucky High School Athletic Association (KHSAA), effective later this year, is joining the NFHS on a consulting basis while finishing his duties as KHSAA commissioner and assisting the KHSAA Board of Control in their leadership transition.

In early 2027, the plan is for Tackett to transition to a full-time leadership position with the NFHS as Associate Executive Director – Operations & Technology.

Tackett’s initial work with the NFHS during the remainder of 2026 will be focused on the NFHS technology area. During this time, he will work closely with NFHS Executive Director Davis Whitfield and the NFHS Information

Technology team as the NFHS accelerates its efforts to support and assist the 51 state associations.

Once he transitions to his full-time administrative position as Associate Executive Director – Operations & Technology in early 2027, Tackett’s responsibilities will include – beyond technology strategy and leadership – the NFHS rules-making process, NFHS Holdings, Inc. management; the NFHS membership insurance program; the NFHS awards program; and oversight of NFHS office facilities.

“Julian Tackett brings a unique combination of leadership, institutional knowledge and technological expertise to this role,” Whitfield said. “His decades of service to Kentucky and the NFHS, including leadership on numerous NFHS committees and chairing the NFHS Strategic Planning

process, have given him a deep understanding of both state association and NFHS needs. His work in developing and overseeing an in-house technology platform – and guidance in transitioning that platform to a more modern system to help their member schools – demonstrates his ability to turn innovation into practical solutions. His depth of knowledge, work ethic, experience and skill set make Julian uniquely qualified—and the perfect person—to lead this important work for the NFHS.”

“I am excited about this challenge to assist our 51 member associations and work and assist the extremely talented staff at the NFHS in those efforts,” Tackett said. “I will be forever indebted to the KHSAA schools for the opportunity to work on their behalf, as well as to the outstanding

team members of the KHSAA staff and the more than 130 past and present Board members. I truly have been blessed.”

Tackett announced his retirement early last week while serving in his 17th year as KHSAA commissioner and 42 years overall on the association’s administrative staff. He is currently the longest-tenured administrator in the 51 NFHS-member state associations.

Tackett began his career at the KHSAA in 1984 as Sports Information Director and held that position until 1991 when he was named Business Affairs Director (1991-95), followed by promotions to Assistant Commissioner (1995-08), Executive Assistant Commissioner (2008-10), and Commissioner (2010-present).

Under Tackett’s guidance, the KHSAA has enjoyed the greatest expansion

and growth of opportunities for the student-athletes across the Commonwealth in its 109-year history with the addition of sports and sport activities including Bowling (2012), Competitive Cheer (2012), Archery (2013), Bass Fishing (2013), Field Hockey (2014), Unified Sports Opportunities in Track (2015), Dance (2017), Esports (2018), Indoor Track & Field (2024), Boys and Girls Lacrosse (2025), Boys Volleyball (2025), and the adoption of Pickleball and Girls Flag Football beginning with the 2027-28 schoolyear.

Tackett also oversaw the Association’s development of the first-ever statewide radio network for the Boys and Girls Sweet 16® and the development of its first-ever public website. In addition, he guided the KHSAA’s governance efforts regarding middle school athletics

beginning in 2013 and helped increase the number of licensed sports officials by creating the Junior Officials program (14-17-year-olds) in 2023-24.

Tackett’s list of accomplishments at the national level is just as impressive, having served on numerous NFHS committees such as the Strategic Planning (chair), Football Rules (chair), Baseball Rules, Basketball Rules, Records, Hall of Fame Screening (chair), Technology (chair), Sports Medicine, and NFHS Network (chair). He has given many presentations at the NFHS Summer Meeting, National Athletic Directors Conferences, and dozens of other conferences, commencement ceremonies, and local group meetings.

Kentucky Signature Industries Career Fair set for October 1st

The fair, which started as an equine-centered event 17 years ago, is now in its fourth year as a combined event. It serves students from all UK colleges and is open to Lexington community members.

By **GRACE SOWARDS**
grace.sowards@uky.edu

LEXINGTON, Ky.— Each year the University of Kentucky Martin-Gatton College of Agriculture, Food and Environment hosts a career fair to promote Kentucky’s signature industries: equine, distilling and agribusiness. This year’s fair will take place Oct. 1 from 2-5 p.m. at the UK Gatton Student Center Ballrooms.

Registration is open for employers and job seekers via Handshake. The fee for business organizations is \$250 and \$50 for non-profit, government, start-up or craft organizations. The fair is open to all job-seekers, not UK students exclusively. Last year, over 400 participants

representing 76 UK majors, 12 UK colleges and 12 external universities attended the fair.

“Seeing distillers coming to campus to network with our students and the community is truly one of the highlights of my year,” said Ilka Balk, James B. Beam Institute for Kentucky Spirits associate director and event co-organizer. “Many of the recruiters are graduates themselves and it’s incredibly rewarding to watch them come back to recruit more talent like themselves every year.”

Savannah Robin, lecturer of career and professional development at Martin-Gatton CAFE and event co-organizer, has been involved in the fair

since its inception in 2009.

“Having the unique opportunity to partner with the Beam Institute and re-design this event as the Signature Industries Career Fair has given it a new life for our students,” Robin said. “Last year’s addition of agribusiness really helped to elevate both the excitement around the event and the growth. We are excited to continue growing and providing our students with opportunities to connect with employers and industry leaders.”

Learn more or register for the fair via Handshake. For external participant registration and other questions, reach out to KYSignatureCareers@uky.edu.



Fair attendees will gain valuable experience interacting with industry professionals. There will also be a headshot station for job-seekers to take advantage of.

Ford announces plans for \$1 billion paint shop in Louisville

By **TOM LATEK**
Kentucky Today

FRANKFORT, Ky. (KT) – Ford Motor Co. has announced plans to build a new \$1 billion state-of-the-art paint shop at the Kentucky Truck Plant in Louisville.

This will replace the facility’s existing paint shop and further modernize Ford’s largest U.S. manufacturing plant.

“From our past to our present and our future, Ford is a central part of Kentucky’s story, which continues to show the world that American manufacturing remains strong,” said Gov. Andy Beshear. “Today’s announcement highlights Ford’s longstanding commitment to our state and to our workforce, and I am grateful to Bill Ford, Jim Farley and the

entire Ford team for this investment. With announcements like this and the help of the dedicated Kentuckians who make the Kentucky Truck Plant a success, I know our future is bright.”

The announcement builds on Ford’s recent investments across the commonwealth, including approximately \$2 billion for the transformation of the Louisville Assembly Plant into the future home of Ford’s new Universal EV Platform and approximately \$2 billion at Ford Energy Systems in Glendale, which will manufacture battery energy storage systems. The Kentucky Truck Assembly plant in Louisville is Ford’s largest and most profitable U.S. manufacturing plant, where a truck rolls

off the assembly line every 45 seconds.

“For more than a century, Ford and Kentucky have grown together, and we’re investing to ensure that relationship remains strong for generations to come,” stated Jim Farley, Ford President and CEO. “These investments demonstrate our confidence in Kentucky’s workforce, our commitment to American manufacturing and our belief that the future of mobility and energy will be built right here in the United States.”

Ford’s roots in Kentucky date back to 1913, when the first Model T rolled off the production line in Louisville. The company’s extensive presence in Kentucky includes more than 11,500

employees, with the commonwealth also home to over 6,000 Ford retirees.

Beyond its manufacturing facilities, Ford and its employees are committed to supporting local

organizations, educational programs, environmental efforts and community initiatives, helping to strengthen the vitality of the communities where its employees live and work.

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New Faces, New Roles at Mayfield PD

By: **Laurna Pruett**
KPI Writer

The Mayfield Police Department is marking several personnel changes, including two retirements, a promotion and the addition of a new school resource officer.

Sgt. David Harrison and Officer Brant Shutt recently

retired after years of dedicated service to Mayfield and its residents.

Following Harrison’s retirement, Officer Tyler Simpson was promoted to sergeant effective Aug. 1. Simpson, a U.S. Navy veteran who has served with the department for eight years, will help lead the third-shift patrol.

The department also welcomed

Officer Alyssa Taylor, a certified officer with six years of law enforcement experience. Taylor previously spent four years serving as a school resource officer. She has been assigned to Mayfield Middle School, where she will work with students and staff while helping maintain a safe school environment



POLICE from Front Page

Jon Hayden that he initially wanted Smith to shoot him but changed his mind because the deputy had treated him fairly during previous encounters.

Staples was charged with theft of identity, menacing and resisting arrest. He was also arrested on the Fulton County warrant.

“Deputy Smith exercised a lot of restraint during the incident and acted in a professional manner, which is a credit to his profession and character,” Hayden said.

The following morning, Smith investigated a two-vehicle collision on KY 97, approximately two miles south of Mayfield.

Authorities said Jessie Davis, 36, of Lynnville, crossed into the southbound lane for an unknown reason and collided with a pickup truck pulling a trailer. The truck was driven by Gerald Skaggs, 56,

of Campbellsville. Anita Skaggs, 66, was a passenger.

Davis was flown to a Nashville-area medical center with serious injuries. Gerald and Anita Skaggs were transported to Mercy Health-Lourdes Hospital in Paducah.

Deputies were called to another standoff at approximately 8:20 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 9, after receiving reports of an altercation and gunshots at a mobile home park on Toy Circle, off KY 534 near Symsonia.

Deputies and Kentucky State Police troopers determined that Todd A. Hutson, 39, of Symsonia, had allegedly assaulted two people and fired a .45-caliber semiautomatic handgun. One shot was reportedly fired near a victim’s head.

Hutson retreated into a nearby mobile home and refused commands to come outside, according to the sheriff’s office. After a standoff lasting approximately two hours, officers



Kyle Staples

entered the home at 10:13 a.m. with a felony arrest warrant.

Hutson allegedly continued refusing commands and attempted to flee before being apprehended. He was charged with fourth-degree assault, wanton endangerment involving the discharge of a firearm, menacing and resisting arrest.

Both Hutson and Staples were initially taken to the Graves County Restricted Custody Center before being transferred to out-of-county detention facilities. Charges are allegations, and defendants are presumed innocent unless proven guilty.

CRASH from Front Page

park made contact with A’Darreon Kendrick, 19, of Clarksville, Tennessee. Police said a records check revealed an active warrant. Kendrick was arrested on a Todd County bench warrant for failure to appear.

In a separate incident, officers stopped Bruce Lunch, 71, of Mayfield, after reportedly seeing him operating a lawn mower on the

roadway. Police alleged Lunch was under the influence of alcohol. He was charged with obstructing a highway and operating a motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol, second offense.

Officers also stopped a vehicle near West College and South Ninth streets for an alleged traffic violation. The driver, Greybin Villanueva, 27, of Mayfield, was arrested after officers determined he was

allegedly under the influence of alcohol.

Villanueva was charged with failure to dim headlights, careless driving, no operator’s license, failure to produce an insurance card, operating a motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol, first offense, and possession of an open alcoholic beverage in a motor vehicle.

All charges are allegations, and those charged are presumed innocent unless proven guilty in court.

MEAT from Front Page

of Agriculture to establish a “Strengthening Processing for U.S. Ranchers” loan program to help small and regional processors continue their operations, expand their footprint, and increase diversity of animal proteins being processed.

EXPANDING MARKET ACCESS FOR U.S. MEAT PRODUCTS: To strengthen the national food supply chain and foster competition, the Administration is expanding domestic market access for U.S. ranchers while maintaining food safety protections.

Record-low beef herd size from the Biden Administration’s war on cattle that pursued radical climate activists’ misguided policies has strained America’s slaughter and processing infrastructure.

President Trump is committed to promoting fair competition in livestock and meat markets, protecting producers and small processors from unfair, deceptive, or monopolistic

practices, and expanding legitimate market opportunities for American-raised livestock and meat products.

State-inspected small processors are currently unable to sell their products outside of their own state without heavy regulatory approval. This action ensures greater interstate market access for eligible meat products while maintaining the highest standards of food safety that help make U.S. born, raised, harvested, and processed food the best in the world.

As Americans eat more beef than ever, increasing competition in the marketplace and sustaining processing capacity for ranchers is essential, particularly in light of consolidation in the processing industry and reduced capacity and options for ranchers.

Over 40 years ago, the four largest beef packers accounted for 36 percent of all purchases of steers and heifers. Today, that has increased to 85 percent.

The United States is the world’s largest consumer of beef by volume and ranks second globally in per capita beef consumption,

underscoring beef’s importance to the American diet.

As Americans eat more beef than ever, it is necessary and appropriate to ensure that the supply of beef products will be sufficient to meet U.S. demand at affordable and reasonable prices.

Small and very small processors deserve unique focus, which is recognized by the work of the USDA Small Processors Action Plan, funding to reduce the costs of inspection, and the SPUR program.

Strong slaughter and processing food-safety standards preserve America’s reputation for world-leading food quality. The Trump Administration has advanced this effort by establishing new federal–state cooperative agreements, such as in Georgia, and increasing state reimbursements—strengthening food safety while expanding market opportunities for ranchers, including sales across states lines.

FIGHTING FOR AMERICA’S RANCHERS: Since Day One, President Trump and his Administration have worked and delivered for America’s

ranchers and farmers – the backbone of our Nation’s economy and food supply.

The Department of Agriculture expanded its Remote Grading Pilot Program to total 92 facilities in 34 States, helping many small- or mid-sized processors access official grading.

President Trump’s Working Families Tax Cuts put more money in ranchers’ pockets each year, made the industry more attractive for investment, and boosted profitability for ranchers now and into the future.

In October 2025, the Trump Administration announced new actions to fortify the American beef industry, reinforcing and prioritizing the American rancher’s critical role in the national security of the United States. Earlier this week, the Department of Agriculture announced its Ranchers First Initiative, building off of these actions to rebuild the great American beef industry, including revitalizing regional processing.

In December 2025, President Trump signed an Executive Order to stop price fixing, anti-

competitive behavior, and foreign influence that drives up grocery prices and threatens the security of America’s food supply.

In January 2026, the Department of Agriculture launched its new “Product of the USA” label for meat, poultry, and eggs that are born, raised, harvested, and processed all in the United States to ensure marketing protection and benefits for American producers.

In March 2026, the Department of Agriculture provided \$20 million in reduced overtime and holiday inspection fees for small processors.

In June 2026, the Department of Agriculture launched the Small Processors Action Plan and opened a fourth round of the Meat and Poultry Processing Expansion Program with \$60 million to expand American processing capacity.

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Murray State has growth in enrollment

By TOM LATEK
Kentucky Today

MURRAY, Ky. (KT) – Murray State University officials say their preliminary 2026 fall semester enrollment data shows growth and momentum for the 2026-27 academic year, which began on Aug. 18.

Based on University data as of September 8, this year’s entering freshman class of 1,523 students is the third largest over the past decade (a 2.2 percent increase over last fall’s freshman class) and holds the highest average high school GPA in the past decade. The University also reports experiencing an increasing

number of entering freshmen who are residents of neighboring states such as Illinois, Tennessee, Missouri and Indiana.

Enrollment in the University’s Racer Academy dual credit program for high school students indicates a 13.6 percent increase from the previous year.

Murray State’s overall current enrollment of 9,982 students shows a 1.1 percent rise from last fall. Student credit hours are ahead of last year at this time as well. Students come from 49 states, 54 countries and 114 Kentucky counties, and 40 percent are first genera-



Murray State campus.

tion college students. Student progression and success metrics also reflect continued positive momentum. The University’s first-time, full-time freshmen retention

rate has risen to 80.4%, with a persistence rate of 92% for first-time freshmen. “These preliminary results are very encouraging and reflect the positive

momentum we are seeing at Murray State University,” President Dr. Ron K. Patterson said. “I am especially grateful to our enrollment management team for their tremen-

dous work and commitment to recruiting and supporting our students, as well as to our faculty, staff, students, alumni, community partners and the entire Racer family who continue to support our recruitment initiatives. These results demonstrate the strength of our collective efforts, and this is truly an exciting time to be a Racer. We remain focused on providing an exceptional experience for our students to succeed and thrive.” The official 2026-27 final enrollment report will be completed later this fall.



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FG0617  SEP 24 2013 John Deere 544K wheel loader	YA4225  SEP 17 2019 RAM 5500HD rollback truck	DZ4561  SEP 15 2006 John Deere 770D motor grader	E04497  SEP 24 2016 Vermeer D24x40 Nav S3 directional boring unit	FT6159  SEP 24 2007 International WorkStar 7400 sewer jetter truck

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(270)443-5923

Kentucky measles outbreak expands

By TOM LATEK
Kentucky Today

FRANKFORT, Ky. (KT) – The number of confirmed measles cases in Kentucky continues to rise, according to the Kentucky Department for Public Health (KDPH), part of the Cabinet for Health and Family Services.

Back on August 27, there were a total of 29 cases for the year, 25 of them during the ongoing outbreak. As of Monday morning, that number has risen to 43, with 39 in the current outbreak.

The KDPH dashboard says all 43 cases

involve individuals who are unvaccinated, or whose vaccination status has not been determined. Nine cases involve children who are under five years of age, 18 of them are ages 5-17 and the other 16 are 18 years old or older. Three of the patients have required hospitalization.

Breaking down the number of confirmed cases by county, Christian County has had 17 and Trigg reports seven. There were five each in Barren and Washington counties, four in Jessamine County, two apiece in Caldwell and Owen counties and one case

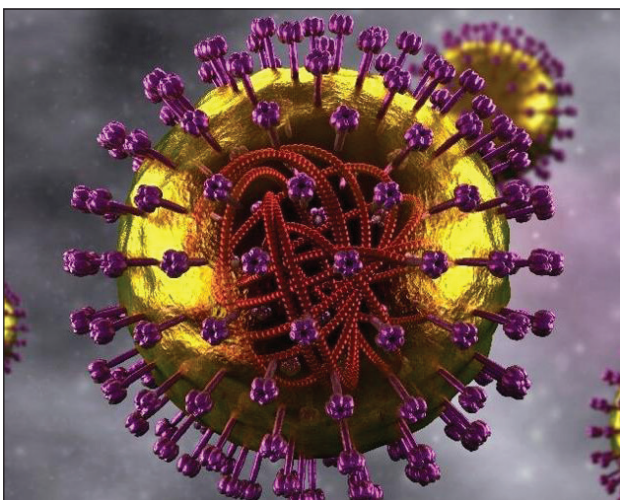


Photo of the virus that causes measles from the National Foundation for Infectious Diseases.

in Todd County.

The illness onset date includes four cases in January, eight in July and 31 in August. No onset dates have

been reported yet in September.

CHFS Secretary Dr. Steven Stack, who was formerly the Commissioner of Public Health, says measles is extremely contagious. “One person in an unvaccinated community would spread it to about 18 other people. In very strong contrast, if you are immunized, and everyone else in this room is immunized, I will not get the disease, 97 out of 100 times. That’s how effective the vaccination is.”

He continues to urge everyone to get vaccinated.

“These vaccines are safe, they are proven, and in fact, they led to the United States in the year 2000 being declared as a measles elimination country.

Because of the real horrible guidance causing harm to people all over the country, now the CDC has on its website a prepared for measles webpage.”

The KDPH dashboard, which tracks cases back to 2011, shows no cases up to 2018, two cases in 2019, none from 2020 to 2022, two in 2023, none in 2024, 13 in 2025 and this year’s 43.

“We now have the most measles cases in Kentucky in more than 35 years and the highest nationwide two years in a row,” Stack added.

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‘Comeback to Complete’ helps adults identify path back to college, graduation

By **TOM LATEK**
Kentucky Today

VERSAILLES, Ky. (KT) – The Kentucky Community and Technical College System (KCTCS) has launched a systemwide effort to welcome back former students and help them earn a degree, diploma or certificate to help them reach their educational and career goals.

“Comeback to Complete” is designed to connect former students with resources that recognize prior coursework and relevant experience, explore credential options and address barriers to completion. The program helps

students identify a clear path back to college and toward graduation.

The need for that work was highlighted in a recent Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education report, A State-Level Framework for Re-engaging Adult Learners, which found that 43,375 Kentucky adults ages 25 and older left a public college or university between spring 2018 and fall 2024 without re-enrolling at an in-state institution.

“Students leave college for many reasons, often with the intention of returning,” said Cristy Null, Comeback to Complete coordinator. “Needs change and priorities shift, but



Comeback to Complete gives us an opportunity to welcome them back, recognize what they have already accomplished and develop a plan to achieve their goal.”

The program supports Kentucky’s 60x30

goal to have 60% of working-age Kentuckians earn a postsecondary degree or credential by 2030 and advances KCTCS’ strategic focus on student access, retention and success.

Comeback to Complete also builds on

broader statewide efforts to re-engage adult learners. A Council on Postsecondary Education pilot already underway at Bluegrass Community and Technical College, Elizabethtown Community and Technical College and Jefferson Community and Technical College focuses on adults who left college without a credential after earning significant college credit. Together, these efforts reflect a shared commitment to helping more Kentuckians return to college, complete credentials and strengthen the state’s workforce.

“Comeback to Complete gives Kentuckians

a pathway to build on the progress they have already made and turn that work into a credential with lasting value,” said Dr. Phil Neal, KCTCS executive vice president and provost. “By returning to complete a degree, diploma or certificate, former students can create new opportunities for themselves and their families while helping meet Kentucky’s growing need for a highly skilled workforce.”

Former KCTCS students interested in returning can learn more, review their options and connect with Comeback to Complete at <https://kctcs.edu/comeback-to-complete>.

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CALDWELL

Barbara Ann Armstrong, 83, passed away on September 5, 2026, at the Calvert City Convalescent Center. Funeral services were held Wednesday, September 9, 2026, at 2:30 at Lakeland Funeral Home with Bro. Chuck Ladd officiating. Burial followed in the Macedonia Cemetery.

Jerry Wayne Fraliex, age 76, of Princeton, passed away Saturday, September 5, 2026 at Deaconess Henderson Hospital. Funeral services were held at 11:00 am Wednesday, September 9, 2026, at Morgan’s Funeral Home. Burial followed in Fredonia Cemetery.

Bobbie Ann Payne Hall, passed away on September 5, 2026, at Tradewater Health and Rehab. Visitation will be from 11 am to 1:00 PM Monday, September 14, 2026 at Morgan’s Funeral Home. Funeral services will be 1:00 PM Monday, September 14, 2026 at Morgan’s Funeral Home with Bro. Danny Sherrill.

Eugene Ellis “Papaw” Meadows passed away on September 8, 2026, at the age of 68. There will be a memorial meal at Northside ROC building in Princeton, KY. It will be held on Saturday, September 19, 2026 at 1 PM.

CALLOWAY

Brian A. Maynard, 43, of Murray, passed away on Saturday, September 5, 2026 at Anna Mae Owen Residential Hospice House. A memorial service honoring Brian was held at 5:30 PM on Thursday, September 10, 2026 at Journey Church, 2314 Brinn Road, Murray, KY 42071. Jerry Green and Robbie Rudolph officiated.

Steve Copeland, age 66 of Murray, KY passed away at 8:54AM Saturday, September 5, 2026 at Baptist Health Paducah. A private Celebration of Life will be held at a later date. Brown Funeral Home in Mayfield in charge of arrangements.

Judy Lynn Crawford, 58, of Wingo, passed away peacefully on September 4, 2026, at Murray Hospital, surrounded by her family and loved ones. Imes Funeral Home is entrusted with caring for her family.

LCDR Robert Laughlin McAllister, 71, of Murray, passed away on Friday, September 4, 2026 at his home. There are no events scheduled at this time. Imes Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Donna Ruth Counce, age 65, of Springville, Tennessee, passed away Friday, September 4, 2026, at her home. A funeral service was held at 2:00 p.m., Wednesday, September 9, 2026, at the New Concord Church of Christ, 21 Artesian Drive, New Concord, KY 42076, with Russ Crosswhite officiating. Burial followed at the Hillcrest Memorial Gardens in Paris, Tennessee.

Brittany Janee Overby, age 42, of Murray, Kentucky passed away on Friday, September 4, 2026, at the Vanderbilt Medical Center in Nashville, Tennessee. A funeral service was held at 11:00 a.m., Thursday, September 10, 2026, at the J.H. Churchill Funeral Home & Cremation Services with Bro. Sammy Cunningham officiating. Burial followed in the Murray City Cemetery.

Hubert Larry Suiter, age 87, of Murray, Kentucky, passed away Saturday, September 5, 2026, at the Anna Mae Owen Residential Hospice House in Murray, Kentucky. A graveside service will be held at 1:30 p.m., Friday September 11, 2026, at the Elm Grove Cemetery with Bro. Brett Miles officiating. Visitation will be held from 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., Friday September 11, 2026, at the J.H. Churchill Funeral Home & Cremation Services.

Sally M. Lovett Rogers, age 87, of Murray, Kentucky, passed away Sunday, September 6, 2026, at the Marshall County Hospital. A funeral service will be held at 1:00 p.m., Saturday, September 12, 2026, at the J.H. Churchill Funeral Home & Cremation Services. Bro. Danny Pruitt will officiate, and entombment will follow in the Murray City Cemetery. Visitation will be held from 10 a.m. till 1 p.m., Saturday, September 12, 2026, at the J.H. Churchill Funeral Home & Cremation Services.

Minda Jane Scarbrough, age 68, of Murray, Kentucky, passed away Saturday, September 5, 2026, at her home on her actual birthday. Services are pending at this time. Online condolences can be made at, www.jhchurchill.com.

JoLee Gordon Clark passed from this life on Thursday, September 3, 2026, at the age of 103 in Murray KY. A funeral service was held at 3:00 p.m., on Sunday, September 6, 2026, at the J.H. Churchill Funeral Home & Cremation Services with John Dale officiating. Burial followed in the Friendship Church of Christ Cemetery.

Aubrey Moore, Jr., 95 of Murray, Kentucky, passed away Tuesday, September 8, 2026, at his residence. Funeral services will be conducted Monday, September 14, 2026, at 2:00 p.m. in the chapel of the Blalock-Coleman Funeral Home in Murray, KY with John Dale officiating. Burial will follow the service in the Murray City Cemetery, Murray, KY. Friends may visit with the family on Monday, September 14, 2026, between the hours of 12:00 noon and 2:00 p.m. at the Blalock-Coleman Funeral Home, 713 S. 4th St., Murray, KY 42071.

CARLISLE

Peggy Ellen Wood, 77, of Wingo, Kentucky, passed away on September 7, 2026, at Clinton-Hickman ICF and peacefully entered her eternal home, where she now rests in the presence of her Lord and Savior. A funeral service will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, September 12, 2026, at Milner & Orr Funeral Home of Bardwell, with Bro. Jim Rundles officiating. Visitation will be held from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Friday, September 11, 2026. Visitation will also be held from 10:00 a.m. until the service time of 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, September 12, 2026, at Milner & Orr Funeral Home of Bardwell.

CHRISTIAN

Emily Taylor (Workman) Trela, age 22 of Maryville, TN, went to be with her Lord and Savior on September 4, 2026, after a car accident. A celebration of Emily’s life will be held on September 11, 2026 at Emmanuel Baptist Church in Tuscaloosa, AL. Burial will follow on September 12, 2026 at Powell Cemetery in LaFayette, KY.

Bruce K. Anderson, 87, of Hopkinsville, KY died at 5:03 a.m. Thursday, September 3, 2026, at Jennie Stuart Medical Center. Private family services will be held at a later date. Hughart, Beard & Giles Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements.

David H. Story, 64, Peyton Street, Russellville, KY passed away Thursday, September 3, 2026 at Jennie Stuart Medical Center, Hopkinsville, KY of natural causes. Funeral services were held at 1:00 p.m. Thursday, September 10, 2026 at Lamb Funeral Home with Terry Hancock officiating. Burial followed in Peaceful Meadows Cemetery.

Janice Marie Wagoner, 75, of Crofton, Kentucky died at 9:06 p.m., Saturday, September 5, 2026 at her home in Crofton. Funeral services were held at 1:00 p.m., Wednesday, September 9, 2026 at Dogwood Funerals & Cremations of Crofton with Rev. Brian Neighbors officiating. Burial followed in Judges Chapel Cemetery.

CRITTENDEN

Linda G. (Williams) Lewis, 84, of Cave-In-Rock, IL went to be with her Lord and SaviorSeptember 3, 2026 at Carbondale Memorial Hospital surrounded by family and close friends. Services were held at 1 PM Sunday September 6, 2026 at Hardin County Funeral Service in Rosiclare, IL with interment in Cave Hill Cemetery.

Thomas John Hawthorne - December 12, 1939 ~ September 8, 2026 (age 86) - An obituary is not available at this time for Thomas John Hawthorne. Myers Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Peggy Oelan McReynolds age 88 of Marion, KY passed away September 4, 2026 at Princeton Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, Princeton, KY. Graveside funeral services were held Tuesday, September 8, 2026 at 1 PM at Mapleview Cemetery with burial to follow. Myers Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Peggy Oelan McReynolds.

Aaron Thomas Fritts age 47 of Marion, KY passed away September 3, 2026 at Deaconess Midtown Hospital in Evansville. Funeral services are scheduled for 2PM Saturday, September 12, 2026 at Myers Funeral Home with burial in Sugar Grove Cemetery. Visitation begins at 10AM and continues until the service time.

Tiffany Ann Little, 48, of Marion, Ky passed away Thursday, September 3, 2026, at her home. Tiffany and her family chose cremation. Memorial services will be held at a later date in Oregon. Arrangements are under the direction of Boyd Funeral Directors and Cremation Services in Salem.

GRAVES

Elizabeth “Libby” Ann Suiter, age 82, of Hickory passed away on Tuesday, September 8, 2026 at Clinton Place in Clinton, KY. Graveside services for Mrs. Elizabeth “Libby” Ann Suiter will be 2:00 p.m. on Friday, September 11, 2026 at Pottsville Church of Christ Cemetery. John Puckett will officiate. Interment will follow. Visitation will be 11:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. on Friday at Byrn Funeral Home in Mayfield, KY.

Larry Dale Gregory, 80, of Farmington, KY, passed away on Monday, September 7, 2026, at Skyline Medical Center in Nashville, TN. A funeral service was held at 11:00 AM on Thursday, September 10, 2026, at Byrn Funeral Home in Mayfield, KY, officiated by Rev. Ben Stratton and Beau Barrett. Interment followed at Farmington Cemetery.

James Steven Shelton, age 75, of Hickory passed away on Wednesday, September 2, 2026 at Jackson Purchase Medical Center in Mayfield, KY. A private burial for Mr. James Steven Shelton was held at Highland Park Cemetery. Byrn Funeral Home in Mayfield, KY is in charge of arrangements.

Luther Laws, age 83 of Wingo, KY passed away at 1:22 AM Tuesday, September 8, 2026 at his residence. he family will receive family and friends at Luther and Martha’s home from 4:00 PM until 6:00 PM on Friday, September 11, 2026. Expressions of sympathy may take the form of contributions to: J.U. Kevil Memorial Foundation, 1900 S. 10th St., Mayfield, KY 42066.

Vincenta Perez Hernandez, age 34 of Mayfield, KY passed away on Friday, September 4, 2026 at the Ray and Kay Eckstein Hospice Care Center in Paducah, KY. Funeral Services will be held at 1:00 PM until 9:30 PM on Saturday,

FUNERAL NOTICES continued

September 12, 2026 at the Iglesia Nueva Jerusalem Church with Pastor Erick Perez officiating. Burial will follow at a later date in Aguacatan Huehuetenanango, Guetemala.

Kathy J. Smith, age 69 and a resident of Murray, passed away at 7:10 P.M. Thursday, September 3, 2026 at the Ray and Kay Eckstein Hospice Center in Paducah. Funeral services for Kathy were held on Tuesday, September 8, 2026 at 2:00 P.M. at the Brown Funeral Home in Mayfield. Bro David Little will officiate.

Richard “Ricky” Wilson age 71 of Hickory, Ky. passed away on Thursday September 3, 2026 at his residence. Funeral arrangments are pending and will be published when they are known. The Brown Funeral Home in Mayfield, KY is in charge of the arrangements.

HICKMAN

Robert E. “Bobby” Jones, age 71, of South Fulton, Tennessee passed away Monday, September 7, 2026, at the Jackson-Madison County Hospital in Jackson, Tennessee. Funeral services for Mr. Bobby Jones will be held at 2PM Friday, September 11, 2026, at the Hornbeak Funeral Chapel in Fulton with burial to follow in the Obion County Memorial Gardens. Visitation will be held at the funeral home from 12 Noon Friday until the hour of service.

Dorothy Snow Mullins passed away peacefully on September 3, 2026, at Van Ayer Nursing Home in Martin, Tennessee. She was 96 years old. Funeral services for Dorothy Snow Mullins were held at 1 PM Monday, September 7, 2026, in our funeral chapel with burial to follow in the Little Obion Cemetery.

Laura Beth Henderson, age 59, of Tiptonville, TN and formerly of Hickman, KY passed away Wednesday, September 2, 2026 at her residence. Funeral arrangements are incomplete at this time. Hornbeak Funeral Chapel-Hickman is in charge of arrangements.

LYON

Fredia Mae Johnson, age 98 of Princeton Ky, passed away on Saturday, September 5, 2026 at Princeton Nursing and Rehabilitation in Princeton, Ky. Graveside services were held on Thursday at 1:00 pm September 10, 2026 at Kuttawa Cemetery in Kuttawa with Rev. Jimmy Jones officiating.

Hylan Stone, age 73 of Princeton Ky, passed away on Wednesday, September 2, 2026 at his residence in Princeton, Ky. Details are pending.

In Loving Memory of **Tannah Lynn Gibbs**. There are people who pass through this world, and then there are people who leave it forever changed. My precious Tannah, was one of those rare souls. At just 19 years old, Tannah taught more about love, faith, courage, and grace than most people learn in a lifetime. Visitation was held from 12:00 noon till 2:00 pm at Kuttawa Independent Church in Kuttawa Kentucky, Friday September 4, 2026. Tannah’s Memorial service was at 2:00 pm Friday with Rev. Jed Ramey officiating.

MARHSALL

Sara Lynn Hart, 89, of Benton, Kentucky, peacefully passed away at the Charter Senior Living Memory Care of Murray, Kentucky, on Sunday, September 6, 2026. Visitation will be held Saturday, September 12, 2026, at Filbeck and Cann Life Celebration Center from 2:00 pm until 4:00 pm. A celebration of life service will be held at 4:00 pm Saturday, September 12, 2026, at Filbeck and Cann Life Celebration Center.

Denise Alice Baker, 89, of Benton, Kentucky, passed away on Tuesday, September 8, 2026, at Lakeway Nursing and Rehabilitation. Visitation will be from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM on Friday, September 11, 2026, at the Life Celebration Center of Filbeck-Cann, 1003 Poplar Street, Benton, KY 42025. A funeral service will be held at 1:00 PM on Friday, September 11, 2026, at the Life Celebration Center of Filbeck-Cann. Burial will follow at Mullinax Cemetery.

Timothy “Timmy” Garris, 46, of Goldsboro, North Carolina, passed away unexpectedly on Friday, September 4, 2026, in Eddyville, Kentucky. Visitation will be held from 11:00 AM to 12:00 PM on Saturday, September 12, 2026, at the Life Celebration Center of Filbeck-Cann, 1003 Poplar Street, Benton, Kentucky 42025. Funeral services will be held at 12:00 PM on Saturday, September 12, 2026, at the Life Celebration Center of Filbeck-Cann.

William “Billy” Earl Fennel, 58 of Gilbertsville, Kentucky passed away on Tuesday, September 8, 2026, at his residence. here are no services at this time. All arrangements are being handled by Collier Funeral Home and Cremation Services, located at 211 West 5th Street Benton, KY 42025. 270-527-3141.

Charles Lawrence Wallace, age 68 of Calvert City, KY passed away Monday, September 7, 2026, Marshall County Hospital in Benton, KY. Visitation will be held between the hours of 12:00 p.m. and 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, September 13, 2026 at Collier Funeral Home, 211 W. 5th Street, Benton, KY 42025.

McCRACKEN

Barry Morris Graziano, 55, of Paducah, Kentucky, passed away on September 7, 2026, surrounded by the love of his family. Funeral services will be held on Saturday, September 12, 2026, at 9:00 am at the Lone Oak Chapel of Milner & Orr Funeral Home, with an Entombment to follow at Woodlawn Memorial Gardens.

Janet Ruth Heflin Duncan, 76, of Paducah, Kentucky, passed away on Monday, September 7, 2026, at her residence. Private graveside services will be held at the Fairdealing Cemetery. There will be no visitation. Milner & Orr Funeral Home of Paducah is in charge of arrangements.

Debra Lynn Ruley, 62, of Paducah, Kentucky, passed away on September 6, 2026. A graveside service will be held at 1:00 PM on Friday, September 11, 2026, at Woodlawn Memorial Gardens with Rev. Bob Martin officiating. Visitation will be held from 11:00 AM until 12:30 PM on Friday, September 11, 2026, at the Lone Oak Chapel of Milner & Orr Funeral Home. The Lone Oak Chapel of Milner & Orr Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

G.W. Crisp, age 85, of Paducah, Kentucky, passed away on Friday, September 4, 2026, in Paducah. Funeral services were held at 1:00 pm on Tuesday, September 8, 2026, at Bethel Cumberland Presbyterian Church in Kevil, with Bro. Drew Gray officiating. Burial followed at the Bethel Cumberland Presbyterian Cemetery.

Kimberly N. Brueck, passed away on September 3, 2026, in Paducah, Kentucky, at the age of 65, surrounded by her family and friends at her home. Memorial services were held at 5:30 p.m. Thursday, September 10, 2026, at the Salt & Light Community Church with Rev. Jeff Russell officiating.

Vicki Sue Kalberer Sherretz, 69, of Paducah, Kentucky, passed away at her residence on Thursday, September 3, 2026. A celebration of Vickis life was held at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, September 9, 2026, at Milner & Orr Funeral Home of Paducah.

Alta Geraldine Dickerson, 83, of Paducah

passed away on Sunday, September 6, 2026 at Parkview Nursing and Rehab. Graveside services will be held at 10:00am on Friday, September 11, 2026 at Maplelawn Park Cemetery with Rev. Kristie Stuckel officiating.

Larry Dean “T-WOOD” Thistlewood, age 65, of Paducah, Kentucky, passed away on Saturday, September 5, 2026, at Mercy Health-Lourdes Hospital. Funeral services will be at 1:00pm on Saturday, September, 19, 2026, at Lindsey Funeral Home with the Bro. David Godfrey officiating. Burial will follow at the Beechwood Cemetery in Mounds, IL. Friends may visit the family from 11:00am to service hour on Saturday at the funeral home.

Billy Ray May age, 71, of Gilbertsville, Kentucky passed away early Thursday morning September 3, 2026 surrounded by loved ones. Lindsey Funeral Home is honored to serve the May Family.

Mary Ann Alexander, 81, of Paducah, KY passed away Wednesday, September 2, 2026 at Mercy Health Hospital. Graveside services will be Tuesday, September 15, 2026 at 2pm with Rev. Jim Greenwell officiating.

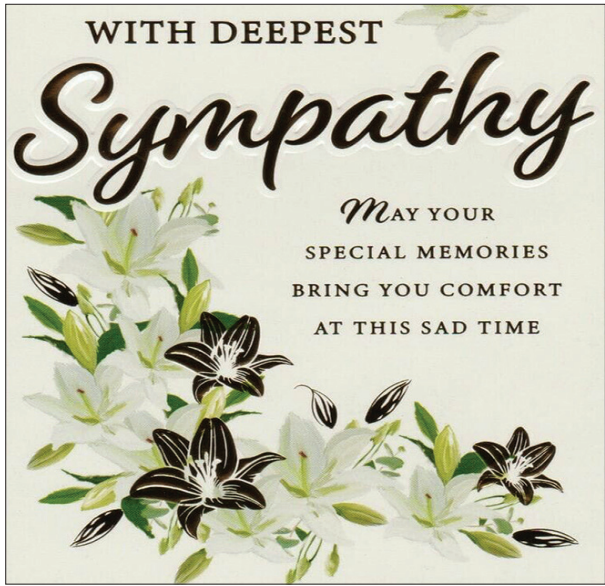
Javarro “Peco” Freeman of Paducah, passed away on Saturday, September 5, 2026. Funeral services have been scheduled for Saturday, September 19, 2026, 12 noon at Greater Lincoln Heights Missionary Baptist Church, Family will receive friends at the church on Saturday from 11:00 a.m. until the funeral hour. More details forthcoming.

TRIGG

Kevin Javier Montalvo - April 27, 1989 - September 2, 2026 - There will be no services for 37 year old Kevin Javier Montalvo of Hopkinsville, KY. King’s Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements.

Martha Ann Boren Hinton, age 78, of Cadiz, Kentucky, passed away on Monday, September 7, 2026, at Vanderbilt University Medical Center in Nashville, Tennessee. Funeral services will be at Goodwin Funeral Home at 11:00 AM, Saturday, September 12, 2026 with Jerry Crunk and Steve Kirby officiating. Burial will follow in Boren Cemetery.

Charlotte Ann Noel Wagner, age 88, of Cadiz, Kentucky, peacefully went home to be with her Lord and Savior on Sunday, September 6, 2026. Funeral services were held at Goodwin Funeral Home, 138 Main Street in Cadiz, at 1:00 PM, Wednesday, September 9, 2026, with Bro. Ronnie Sivells officiating. Burial followed in Trigg Memory Acres.



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.

West KY Sports

TOP 10 RANKINGS BY CLASS

Class 1A	Class 4A
1. Raceland	1. Boyle County (Danville)
2. Pikeville	2. Corbin
3. Sayre	3. Covington Catholic (Park Hills)
4. Middlesboro	4. Paducah Tilghman
5. Bethlehem	5. Highlands (Fort Thomas)
6. Hazard	6. Ashland Blazer
7. Louisville Holy Cross	7. Spencer County (Taylorsville)
8. Kentucky Country Day	8. Boyd County (Ashland)
9. Paintsville	9. Elizabethtown
10. Covington Holy Cross	10. Logan County (Russellville)
Class 2A	Class 5A
1. Lexington Christian Academy	1. Scott County (Georgetown)
2. Owensboro Catholic	2. Woodford County (Versailles)
3. Beechwood	3. Pulaski County (Somerset)
4. Mayfield	4. Owensboro
5. Belfry	5. Atherton (Louisville)
6. Somerset	6. Bowling Green
7. Danville	7. West Jessamine (Nicholasville)
8. Caldwell County	8. Cooper (Union)
9. Monroe County	9. Collins (Shelbyville)
10. W.E.B DuBois	10. North Laurel (London)
Class 3A	Class 6A
1. Christian Academy-Louisville	1. Trinity (Louisville)
2. Lexington Catholic	2. Manual (Louisville)
3. Murray	3. Frederick Douglass (Lexington)
4. Lloyd Memorial	4. South Warren (Bowling Green)
5. Lawrence County	5. St. Xavier(Louisville)
6. Glasgow	6. Male (Louisville)
7. Rockcastle County	7. Madison Central(Richmond)
8. Bardstown	8. George Rogers Clark (Winchester)
9. Central	9. Eastern (Louisville)
10. Russell	10. Ryle(Union)



The McCracken County boys' golf team qualified for the Boys' All-State Tournament hosted by the Kentucky Golf Coaches Association and set to be held Saturday, Sept. 12-Sunday, Sept. 13 at the University Club of Kentucky in Lexington. The McCracken County team, consisting of Jack Farmery, Evan Hack, Brently Gregory, Peyton Courtney and Cooper Webb, scored a total of 640 points out of a max 700 to qualify for the statewide event. *(Photo Courtesy of McCracken County High School)*

BOY'S HIGH SCHOOL SOCCER

Mustangs upend Blue Tornado

Staff Report

PADUCAH — McCracken County pushed past rival Paducah Tilghman 3-1 in a 1st District boys' soccer match on Tuesday, Sept 8.

Following the win, McCracken County improved to 5-5-1 overall.

Paducah Tilghman

slipped to 6-4-1 overall after suffering the loss.

Maks Hazel, Eli Riley and Kaden McKenzie each scored one goal for the Mustangs. As part of a diverse offensive attack for McCracken County, McKenzie and William O'Neill distributed one assist apiece.

The win allowed McCracken County to sweep Paducah Tilghman in the two boys' high school soccer teams' annual 1st District series. McCracken County topped Paducah Tilghman 7-1 in another 1st District match played on Thursday, Aug. 20.



The 2026 McCracken County cross country seniors are pictured. Several McCracken County runners are excelling in the 2026 high school cross country season. *(McCracken County High School)*



TempsPlus, Inc. - Employment Services and Graciela Fabian sponsored the warmup shirts for the Mayfield girls' soccer team. *(Photo Courtesy of Mayfield High School)*



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Murray State baseball program welcomes four new additions to staff

Staff Report

MURRAY — Murray State baseball head coach Dan Skirka has announced four additions to the Racer coaching staff ahead of the 2026-27 season. Gordon Cardenas joins the program as pitching coach, Luke Howard as an assistant coach, Mark Riggins as special assistant to the pitching coach and Nico Azpilcueta as a Baseball Operations Graduate Assistant.

“I’m thrilled with what these four bring to our program,” Skirka said. “They have very different experiences, backgrounds and skill sets that our student-athletes will be able to tap into and really develop. All four are going to add real value to what we’re building here, and our guys are going to be better for being around them every day. I can’t wait to get to work with them this fall.”

Cardenas arrives after two seasons as pitching coach at Indiana State, where the Sycamore staff improved year over year in wins, velocity, earned run average, WHIP and strikeouts and produced multiple All-MVC selections. He previously worked with the pitching staff at Southern Indiana, where the group cut its earned run average and walks while increasing strikeouts during the 2024 sea-

son and Gavin Parson earned Ohio Valley Conference Freshman of the Year honors. Cardenas also spent two seasons as pitching coach and recruiting coordinator at Lake Land College and two years as an assistant at Purdue Fort Wayne. He pitched collegiately at Hawaii, Fullerton College, Auburn and Marshall, leading Auburn with a 2.70 earned run average as a junior.

Howard returns to Murray State, where he served as an assistant coach in 2008, following eight seasons as head coach at Ouachita Baptist. He compiled a 194-179 record with the Tigers and guided the program to two NCAA Division II Tournament appearances, including a 2022 run that produced a first-round upset of top-seeded Central Missouri. His 2023 club went 37-19 and finished as the Great American Conference regular-season runner-up. Howard coached 29 All-GAC selections, six all-region honorees and two All-Americans during his tenure, and he previously spent seven seasons at King University after beginning his career at Cincinnati.

Riggins comes home to his alma mater after more than 40 years in professional baseball. A 1979 Murray State graduate and four-year letterman, he signed

with the St. Louis Cardinals out of college and later served as a Major League pitching coach for the Cardinals, Chicago Cubs and Cincinnati Reds. Riggins spent 12 seasons as the Cardinals’ pitching coordinator and held the same role with the Cubs and Reds, overseeing pitching development across entire organizations. He studied biomechanics at the American Sports Medicine Institute in Birmingham, Alabama, and worked alongside 13 members of the Baseball Hall of Fame during his career.

Azpilcueta joins the staff after completing his playing career at Troy in 2026, after being a part of the Trojans runs to the 2026 Men’s College World Series. He earned All-CAA First Team and ABCA/Rawlings All-Region First Team honors at Stony Brook in 2025, when he led the Coastal Athletic Association and ranked 24th nationally with 20 home runs while adding 61 RBI and a 1.101 OPS. Azpilcueta was an ABCA/Rawlings Pacific Association First Team All-American at Ohlone College in 2024 and began his career at Saint Mary’s. Ahead of the 2026 season, Azpilcueta was named to the NCBWA preseason First-Team All-American Team by NCBWA.



Ballard Memorial senior volleyball player Liyah Holman recorded her 100th career block and was recognized prior to the Lady Bombers’ match versus Christian Fellowship on Tuesday, Sept. 8.
(Ballard Memorial High School)

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

Lakers level Pilots

Staff Report

MURRAY — Fulton County couldn’t battle back from behind as Calloway County pulled away to win 56-8 in a non-district game on Friday, Sept. 4.

Following the loss, Fulton County dropped to 1-2.

As a result of the win, Calloway County improved to 2-1.

The Pilots were forced to play from behind in each quarter.

Quarterback Matthew Briedwell led Calloway County to the win. Briedwell thrived through the air, completing 10 passes for 268 yards and six touchdowns.

Hunter Haugh

emerged as Calloway County’s leading receiver. Haugh hauled in four receptions for 125 yards and three touchdowns.

Chipping in through the air for Calloway County, Brayden Winchester added two receiving touchdowns while Jackson Wyatt contributed one receiving touchdown.

Brayden Tupper paced Calloway County on the ground, rushing 15 times for 139 yards and two touchdowns.

Fulton County was held to 124 yards of total offense. Quarterback Preston Smith paced the Pilots offensively. Smith completed nine passes

for 71 yards. Eiyzhek Wilson accounted for Fulton County’s six points, returning a kickoff for a touchdown.

Defensively for Fulton County, Rashaud Houston recorded a team-high six tackles.

Calloway County is scheduled to visit Ballard Memorial for its next game on Friday, Sept. 11. The Calloway County-Ballard Memorial game is slated to kick off at 7 p.m.

Fulton County is scheduled to visit Vienna (Ill.) for its next game on Saturday, Sept. 12. The Fulton County-Vienna game is slated to kick off at 1 p.m.

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

Paducah Tilghman notches fourth straight win over Mayfield

Staff Report

MAYFIELD — Paducah Tilghman defeated Mayfield 40-17 at CFSB War Memorial Stadium on Friday, Sept. 4.

With the win, Paducah Tilghman moved to 3-0.

As a result of the loss, Mayfield dropped to 2-1.

The Blue Tornado amassed 452 yards of total offense. Paducah Tilghman piled up 272 rushing yards. The Blue Tornado rushed 40 times for 272 yards and three touchdowns. Through the air, Paducah Tilghman passed for another 180 yards and three

touchdowns.

Isaac James led Paducah Tilghman on the ground, rushing 19 times for 202 yards and one touchdown.

Aiding Paducah Tilghman on the ground, Ja’Aubrey Sherrill rushed 10 times for 49 yards and two touchdowns.

Quarterback Xavier Isable paced Paducah Tilghman through the air, completing 14 passes for 180 yards and three touchdowns.

Sherrill, Avery Thompson and Jaden Powell each hauled in one touchdown reception for the Tornado.

Mayfield finished with 279 total yards.

The Cardinals rushed for 145 yards.

Gray Robbins and Josiah England supplied one rushing touchdown apiece for the Cardinals.

Providing a lift on special teams for Mayfield. Jason Melendez booted a field goal.

Paducah Tilghman is scheduled to host Madisonville-North Hopkins for its next game on Friday, Sept. 11.

In another game scheduled for Friday, Sept. 11, Mayfield is due to visit McCracken County.

The kickoff time for each upcoming game is 7 p.m.



Paducah Tilghman won the 2A, Section 1 Boys’ Soccer Championship on Thursday, Sept. 3. Determined Paducah Tilghman edged Calloway County 3-2 in penalty kicks to win the sectional title. Paducah Tilghman is scheduled to meet Christian Academy-Louisville in the 2A Boys’ Soccer State Tournament at Nelson County on Saturday, Sept. 12.
(Paducah Tilghman High School)

Kentucky Fish and Wildlife provides recap of recently amended regulations

Staff Report

FRANKFORT — In accordance with KRS 150.025, the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources is providing updated information about proposed fish and wildlife-related regulation amendments that have received final legislative approval and are now in effect.

The following summarizes provisions that relate to or affect Kentucky Fish and Wildlife and the services the agency provides to hunters, anglers, boaters and the public at large. These include new or amended regulations clarifying wildlife damage control and landowner designee processes, reducing duplicative permitting requirements at Otter Creek Outdoor Recreation Area and Peabody Wildlife Management Area, establishing procedures for seized wildlife held as evidence and strengthening waterway safety requirements.

Chapter 2 – Game
301 KAR 2:176 Wildlife
causing damage and
landowner designee
process (Deer Control
tags, deer destruction
permits and landowner
designee)

This administrative regulation establishes the requirements for the issuance of wildlife control tags and destruction tags and establishes the requirements for the landowner designee appointment process.

The amendment

retitled the administrative regulation from “Deer control tags, deer destruction permits and landowner designee” to “Wildlife causing damage and landowner designee process,” removed all references to “deer” specifically and replaces it with the general term “wildlife” as the department recognizes other species can cause damage to landowners and farmers. It also provided better clarification on approval and denial parameters for tag issuance and updated definitions. Effective June 4, 2026

Chapter 3 – Hunting and Fishing

301 KAR 3:012 Public
use of Otter Creek
Outdoor Recreation Area

This administrative regulation establishes requirements for the use of the Otter Creek Outdoor Recreation Area.

This amendment outlined an exemption for the shooting range permit required in 301 KAR 3:015 with the purchase of an annual or daily Otter Creek Outdoor Recreation Area Entry permit and also removed the definitions section since Chapter 3 has a definition regulation. This amendment was necessary to comply with the provisions in 301 KAR 3:015 and ensure the public was not over charged for permits to participate in activities on the Otter Creek Outdoor Recreation Area.

Effective June 4, 2026

NOTE: Kentucky Fish and Wildlife operated the 2,261-acre property from 2011 to 2026. The property was transferred to Meade County Fiscal Court on July 1, 2026. Deed language solidified the department's public access and available acreage for hunting and fishing (with no net loss in public access or available acreage; KRS 150.0241) in perpetuity. Kentucky Fish and Wildlife continues to operate and maintain the property's rifle, pistol and archery target shooting ranges. A shooting range permit, free with any annual hunting or fishing license by checking the applicable box on the department's License Sales webpage, is required to use the range.

301 KAR 3:013 Peabody
Wildlife Management
Area use requirements
and restrictions

This administrative regulation establishes a permit for public use of the Peabody Wildlife Management Area and places necessary restrictions on its use by the public.

This amendment outlined an exemption for the shooting range permit required in 301 KAR 3:015 with the purchase of a Peabody Wildlife Management Area use permit and

also removed the definitions section since Chapter 3 has a definition regulation. The amendment was necessary to comply with the provisions in 301 KAR 3:015 and

ensure the public is not over charged for permits to participate in activities on the Peabody Wildlife Management Area. Effective June 4, 2026

Chapter 4 – Wildlife
301 KAR 4:112. Holding
and Preservation of
Seized Wildlife

This new administrative regulation establishes a program for individuals who contract with the Department to become impoundment agents to be permitted to hold and maintain seized wildlife that are evidence in criminal actions until the case is adjudicated. The Department does not have facilities or staff to care for wildlife that might be seized as evidence in criminal actions for the violations of KRS Chapter 150.

This regulation is necessary to assist in the effective administration of the statutes as any living wildlife seized or brought under control pursuant to KRS 150.105 or KRS 150.120 as part of a criminal action must be maintained as evidence until final adjudication or a court orders the wildlife's release or destruction. The regulation provides a mechanism for the Department to maintain chain of custody for the evidence while providing for the needs of wildlife. Effective June 4, 2026

Chapter 6 – Water Patrol

301 KAR 6:001 – Definitions

This administrative regulation establishes definitions for terms

used in 301 KAR Chapter 6 and is necessary to avoid confusion when interpreting the meaning of terms used in 301 KAR Chapter 6. By providing definitions for the terms used in 301 KAR Chapter 6, misinterpretation of the regulations should be minimized. The amendment contained additional terms that are to be utilized in conjunction with other Chapter 6 amendments. Effective June 2, 2026

301 KAR 6:015 Boat and motor restrictions

This administrative regulation limits the size of boats and motors on small lakes for safety reasons and to minimize interference with other users and is necessary to protect the safety of individuals boating on these small lakes. 301 KAR 6:015 is the recodified regulation 301 KAR 1:015, and the amendment addressed restrictions for electric outboard motors, including the size at which electric motors must follow the same idle speed restrictions as internal combustion motors. The definition section was deleted to be added in the “definitions” regulation for Chapter 6 as well. Effective June 2, 2026

301 KAR 6:020 Boating
safety equipment

This administrative regulation establishes the requirements for legal boating safety equipment in Kentucky. The amendment set

forth requirements for when and how the manufacturer-installed engine cut-off switch shall be used and maintained by a motorboat operator. The amendment was necessary to ensure waterway safety requirements are in place that promote the waterway safety of the citizens of the Commonwealth and to address the specific hazards associated with potential incapacitation or ejection of an operator while a boat is underway. Effective June 2, 2026

301 KAR 6:030 –
Waterway safety
requirements

This administrative regulation prohibits certain unsafe practices on the waterways of the Commonwealth.

The amendment removes references to a repealed statute, clarifies that personal flotation devices must be approved by the U.S. Coast Guard and requires operators of motorized vessels to minimize their wake when approaching law enforcement or public safety vessels displaying flashing lights. The changes conform the regulation to language used in other Chapter 6 regulations and address safety concerns for the public and law enforcement and public safety personnel while operating on the waters of the Commonwealth. Effective June 4, 2026.

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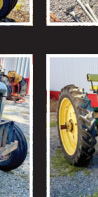
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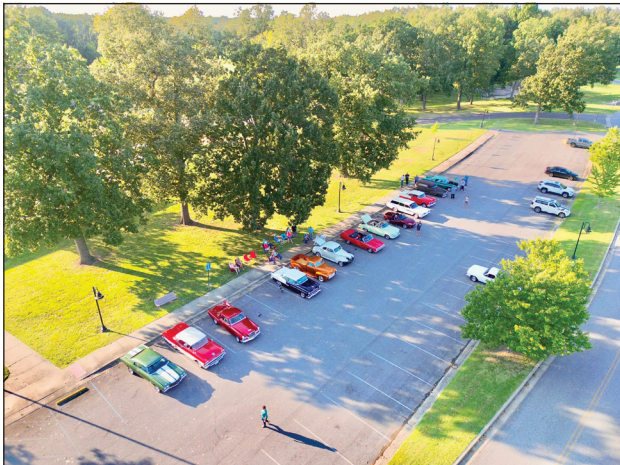
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River Tin Street Rods ‘Drag the Gut’:

Cars and Guitars to follow



Classic Cars in Paducah, KY.
(Photo by *Ciro Astarita*)



Aerial view of River Tin Street Rods Cars.
(Photo by *Noah Hopkins*)



Map of ‘Drag the Gut’ Route in Paducah, KY.
(Graphic by *Ciro Astarita*)

By *Ciro Astarita*
KPI Writer

(PADUCAH, KY)– A lost tradition has been revived in McCracken County. The growing interest in hot rods is pervasive, and the River Tin Street Rods are bringing the heat. The River Tin Street Rods Car Club drove from Noble Park to Bob’s Drive-In on August 21st, driving from one end of town, passing through the art district, driving

down the riverfront, and eventually landing at Bob’s Drive-In on the South-East side of Paducah. They met at the Noble Park Pool Parking Lot at 5:30PM before eventually departing at 6:00PM. The original ‘Drag the Gut’ route originates at the 19th hole on Park Avenue which is no longer in existence. That location is now where the Kroger Supermarket is, just

west of Noble Park. The route went past Dairy Queen, then South on Joe Clifton Drive to Broadway. It continued through the flood wall to use Kentucky Ave, then returning to Cardinal point, where drivers would stop and visit, have an ice cream at Dairy Queen or go back to the 19th hole. The present day reenactment of ‘Drag the Gut’ uses a different route to

avoid traffic lights and congestion. The starting point is the Noble Park Swimming Pool Parking Lot, exiting the park on the east side onto H.C. Mathis Dr, then turning east on Park Ave, turning south on Fountain Ave to return to Broadway. This is a “Rally point” to have all participants together, then cruise side-by-side down Broadway. They then went through

the floodwall, out to Kentucky Ave, then from 6th Street South to Broad St, before turning onto Bridge St on the way to Bob’s Drive-In. Following River Tin Street Rods D’Ville Unplugged at Draffenville Plaza on Thursday September 10 at 6:00PM, there will be several important car related events. One of the major events coming up very soon is Paducah Cars and Guitars on

Saturday September 19 and October 17. Vehicle registration begins at 3:00PM with the public being welcomed at 4:00PM. The events end at 8:00PM. For more information about cars and guitars, visit their Facebook or their website at carsandguitarspaducah.com. For updates on the River Tin Street Rods’ future events, please visit their Facebook.

Stein wants SEC debut to be ‘loudest game in the history of Kentucky football’

By *KEITH TAYLOR*
Kentucky Today

LEXINGTON, Ky. (KT) — Kentucky coach Will Stein wants Kroger Field to be loud and proud when the Wildcats host No. 12 Alabama on Saturday in the Southeastern Conference opener for both teams.

“We have to make this the loudest game in the history of Kentucky football,” Stein said Tuesday. “That’s my goal for our fans. The loudest it has ever been, and we need them to be at their best. Like I want people in the stands for pregame. Let’s have 65,000 watching us warm up... When the ball is kicked, everybody in their seats, cheering as loud as they humanly can. I want people’s voices hoarse when they leave here. All right, they got to take off

work on Monday because they can’t talk. That’s what. That’s how loud I want this place to be.” Stein and the Wildcats (1-0) face a daunting task, considering past history between the two conference foes. Kentucky has won just two games against Alabama, the last of which ended a 75-year losing streak in 1997. Since then, the Crimson Tide have won eight straight over the Wildcats.

While Stein wants a loud crowd, he doesn’t want to get tangled up in the emotional aspect of the contest. “I think emotions get you beat. I think it’s about playing each play and being really dialed in and focused. We want our fans to be emotional. We don’t want us as players or



Kentucky football coach Will Stein speaks to the media on Monday at Kroger Field. (Keith Taylor/*Kentucky Today*)

coaches to be emotional.” Kentucky opened the Stein era with a 45-13 win over Youngstown State and will have a full roster intact in the conference opener. “Getting a win was huge, but coming out healthy as a team, I thought, was very beneficial as we move forward into confer-

ence play,” Stein said. “I’m expecting us to be at full strength for this game, which is really exciting as well for us as a team.” One of those players will be defensive back Alex Afari, who has made 31 starts in his career and recently won a court case for a fifth season. “(We’re) planning on ramping up his work-

load this week and playing him as much as we can,” Stein said. **TIES TO THE TIDE** Kentucky offensive lineman Olaus Allen played for the Crimson Tide for three seasons and played in all 15 games, most of which were on special teams. He also split time on the offensive line.

“He’s been a great addition to our team,” Stein said. “He’s a great leader. He’s vocal. You know, he’s obviously got position flex, which is huge on the offensive line. I thought he played a really good game (in the opener).”

PROVEN PLAY-CALLER Stein is very familiar with the Alabama offense and coach Kalen DeBoer, who

“wins everywhere he goes.” He’s also aware of Crimson Tide offensive coordinator Ryan Grubb. “is extremely creative,” Stein said. “I’ve stolen a lot of plays from coach Grubb. He does a really good job with that unit. He’s been in the NFL. He did an excellent job too at Washington and Fresno State - all those spots.” Grubb coached at Seattle and was on the Seahawks’ staff as the team’s offensive coordinator before joining DeBoer’s staff at Alabama in 2025. Gametracker: No. 12 Alabama at Kentucky, 3:30 p.m., Saturday. TV: ABC: Sean McDonough, Greg McElroy, Katie George. UK Radio Network: Tom Leach, Jess Piccoro, Dick Gabriel.

VICTORIOUS

Living...in a troubled world

THE EVIDENCE WITHIN:

FAITH DEMANDS AN OUTWARD CHANGE

By Teresa LeNeave
leneave2@comcast.net

The Bible warns of deception and reveals how deception can be recognized.

In his second epistle, the Apostle John issued a stark warning to the early Church: “Do not be deceived. False teachers are everywhere.” According to the text, the defining mark of these deceptive figures is not that they abandon religious work entirely, but that they deny a core Biblical truth: that Christ has come in the flesh.

These individuals often continue to operate within religious structures, filling the role but entirely miss-

ing the true mission. Their work operates under the spirit of the Antichrist, subtly shifting focus away from the physical incarnation of Jesus. This foundational truth is reinforced in Hebrews 10:5, which declares, “A body hast thou prepared me.”

If the ultimate proof of true faith is acknowledging that Jesus Christ came in human flesh, believers must confront a vital question: What does it mean for Christ to dwell within our flesh today?

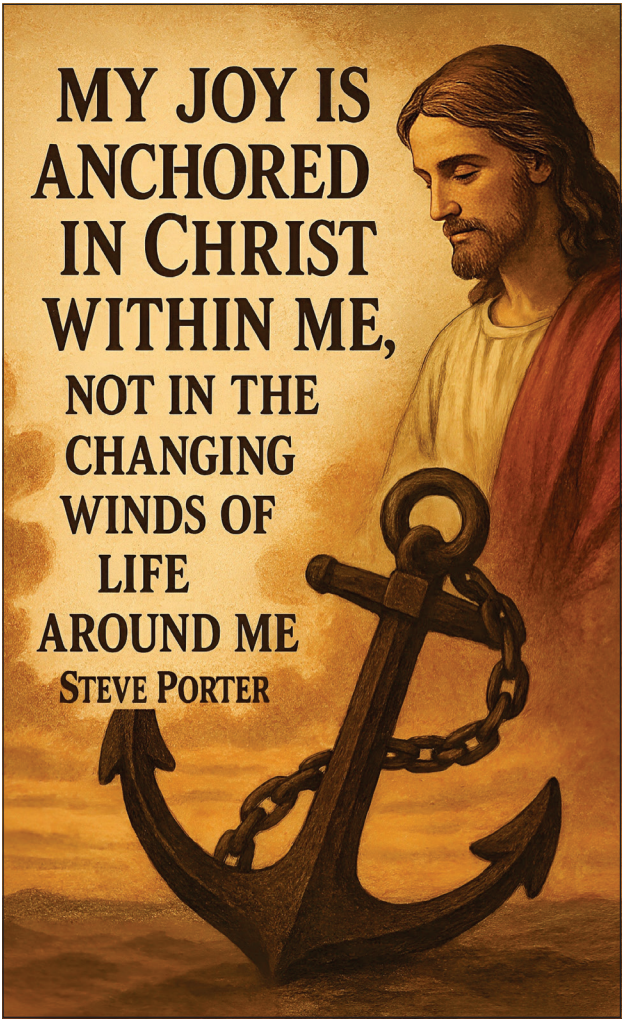
The scriptures outline a clear reality: an inward spiritual transformation must produce visible,

outward evidence. According to 2 Corinthians 4:10-11, the life of Jesus is meant to be made manifest daily in the physical bodies of believers. The New Testament frequently reinforces this concept of tangible change, describing believers as “His workmanship” (Ephesians 2:10) and the very “temple of the Lord” (1 Corinthians 6:19).

Despite human shortcomings or feelings of inadequacy, biblical doctrine assures believers that they “are complete in Him” (Colossians 2:10). The texts emphasize that a sovereign Creator takes what is broken or empty and

refashions it into a new creation (2 Corinthians 5:17).

This identity brings a deep sense of peace to the struggling soul. The Gospel message concludes not with human striving, but with divine selection. As recorded in John 15:16, Jesus reminds His followers: “Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you.” The ultimate purpose of this divine choice is for believers to live transformed lives that bear lasting spiritual fruit. Apostle Paul called it, “Christ in me, the hope of glory” (Colossians 2:27). Accepting Christ as your Savior has deep and lasting benefits.



The last time I mowed my grass, I think it had reached about 10 inches tall. It didn’t look that bad, but I had let it go. The time before that, I mowed but didn’t take time to weedeat. And the bushes around my house need a little shaping. A few of them need elimination. There are some holes in my yard as well. They have appeared where trees used to be – trees that had been cut down. Now the roots have rotted and left some unwanted cavities that need to

be filled.

I had planned to clean the garage so I could get at least one car in there, but I put that off for another, more suitable time. The same goes for my storage shed. I have been meaning to do an extreme makeover on it for the last couple of years. Add shelves and hangers and replace the door.

Maybe it will happen this year.

Maybe not.

The fence needs staining. It’s looking a little sun-parched. I need to replace a few boards as

well. I’m not sure when I’ll get to that. And let’s not talk about the inside of my house. There’s enough there to keep me busy for months. Blinds hung. Doors painted. A few pieces of tile replaced where they have released their hold from my kitchen counter.

Age and atrophy go hand in hand.

And what goes for a house of brick and mortar goes also for a house of skin and bones.

And that’s why I went fishing..

Gary Miller has

written Outdoor Truths articles for 23 years. He has also written five books which include compilations of his articles and a father/son devotional. He also speaks at wild-game dinners and men’s events for churches and associations.

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For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. - Romans 3:23 Repent, turn away from your sin. - Acts 3:19; 1 John 1:9

B - Believe Jesus Died for Your Sins
For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only son, that WHOEVER believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life. - John 3:16

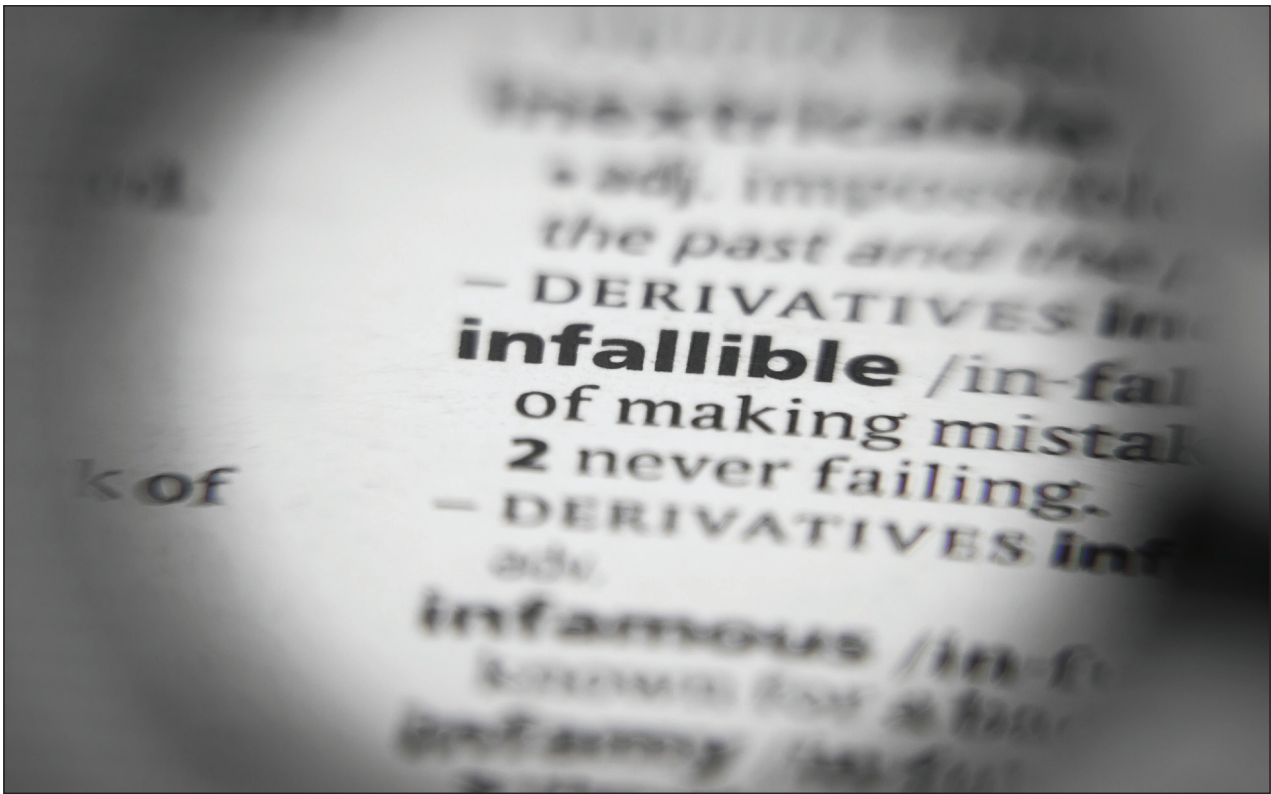
C - Confess Jesus is Lord
If you confess with your mouth “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead you will be saved. - Romans 10:9

The infallible Word or man’s imaginations?

By William F Holland Jr.
billyhollandministries.com

The common thread of Christianity pertaining to the understanding of the Bible is that everyone who declares by faith to be born again has free access to the Holy Spirit to help them discern what it means. At the same time, we must also consider that, with human free will, each individual has the opportunity to form their own opinions. It’s common and normal for Christians to have the confidence to voice their own interpretations, even if it’s rejected by their fellow brothers and sisters. Yes, the majority immediately condemns biblical and spiritual views that do not line up with mainstream theology as the errors of a novice or, even worse, a heretic. Multiply this among the billions of believers, and we have what is known as a divided, confused, and hostile world of religiosity.

Christians are taught that the Bible contains the infallible words of God exactly as he guided approximately 40 human writers to record them within a period of around 1500 years from Moses to the early church. If you are a traditional Christian, most likely you embrace this doctrine that promises God



personally breathed and inspired divine truth through the minds and hands of His messengers. And it has been preserved without any alterations since the day they were written? Or do you wonder about errors, embellishments, personal worldviews and opinions mixed in between the lines?

When it comes to believing the Bible as perfect truth versus seeing the writings as religious philosophy and folklore, to be honest, I’ve come to a point in my walk that I’m tired of arguing with other Christians about Biblical interpretations. When I was a young student, I thought I could win any debate about Christianity and religion, and like most

of you, I’ve always believed my views were correct. However, we cannot change someone’s mind about their doctrines and creeds unless these two things are involved: The Holy Spirit is intervening, and the truth seeker is sincerely praying that God will transform their conscience by the renewing of their minds.

People rarely change what they believe because their opinions and convictions are rooted deep within the core of their being. Have you ever argued with someone about the Bible and finally had to agree to disagree? This not only includes the angry discord between traditional Christians, but in

today’s modern world we now have a growing movement called the agnostic theist. This is someone who believes in God but sees the Bible as a collection of passed-down, exaggerated oral stories and personal biased philosophies that are not necessarily based on proven facts. This way of thinking allows for belief in the perfect God of creation while maintaining skepticism about legalistic dogma and the exclusive “my way or the highway” attitudes and demands from dictatorial churches.

These are the seekers that have way more questions than answers, and have separated from those who they consider are afraid to use their intelligence and real-

ize that much of the content is not literally accurate. They refuse to accept a compilation of ancient religious dialogues, visions, and stories from human writers as divine revelation simply by faith. Many are asking: “Is the Bible God’s word top man, or man’s word about God?” If God’s word is infallible and the Holy Spirit gives each follower perfect understanding, explanations, and interpretations, why why is there so much arrogance, antagonism and caustic attitudes? If God is broadcasting, evidently many are on the wrong channel. Agnostic theism emphasizes prayer and personal experiences with God rather than becoming entangled in the chaos

of intolerant chur-chianity. This is not to be confused with secular agnosticism that does not believe in the existence of any God, along with the supernatural being unknown and unknowable.

Traditional followers argue that if portions of the Bible are not correct, how can anyone know what is true? For example, if someone is convinced there is no possible way the story of Noah and the Ark actually happened, then what else has been embellished or even fabricated? Does it matter that accuracy and credibility may have been lost through years of oral storytelling? Some may believe they can put their trust in God and live for Him without trusting the scriptures, but if the Bible is truly God’s perfect word, it is the most important communication from God to mankind the world has ever known. If every word is God-breathed, we must cherish it, obey it, and trust it. If the written Word IS God, and we dismiss it as inaccurate, isn’t this doubting God Himself.

Dr. Holland is an ordained minister, chaplain, and Christian author. Read more about LIVING ON PURPOSE at billyhollandministries.com

THE OLD LIGHTHOUSE

Bro. Brandon G. Bramlett
Bandana Baptist Church

The old lighthouse may be crumbling, but it continues to beam guiding light across the stormy sea. The Hooper Island Lighthouse in Chesapeake Bay has been steering seafarers since 1901, but many people think it’s time for the old beacon to retire to the junkyard. What used to be a brilliantly towering cylinder of hope

is now a worn out and rusty hunk of metal. However, according to the Washington Post, the lighthouse isn’t going anywhere since it remains as an “active aid to navigation for the U.S. Coast Guard.” Even though it is old and frail, it still has a pivotal purpose: lighting the way.

Similarly, all Christians are called to be a lighthouse for sinners sailing in the dark-

ness of depravity. The “children of light” are commanded to radiate the light of the glory of Christ in order to direct wayward sinners to the “Father of lights” (cf. 1 Thess. 5:5; James 1:17). As Jesus said, “Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and

it giveth light unto all that are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven” (Matthew 5:14-15).

The harsh elements of life will eventually cause you to rust and wither away, but this is your eternally significant purpose as long as you remain standing. The “outer

self” is wasting away, and it’s not as vigorous as it used to be (cf. 2 Cor. 4:16). Indeed, you will fade like flowers of the field, and your radiance will dim with time (Isaiah 40:7). Moreover, with each passing day, you are closer to the dust from which you came (Eccl. 12:7). But, as long as God keeps you upright in the world’s waters, your critical mission is to shine gospel light

to those who grope in the darkness of sin (cf. 2 Cor. 4:6).

“O God, from my youth you have taught me, and I still proclaim your wondrous deeds. So even to old age and gray hairs, O God, do not forsake me, until I proclaim your might to another generation, your power to all those to come” (Psalm 70:17-18).

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FOR RENT

\$1,299 per month SINGLE FAMILY 3 BR, 1 Bath, Living Room, Kitchen, Utility Room. Central Heat & Air. Storage Shed. Located in CALVERT CITY. 1 month security deposit. 1 year lease. 270-709-0955

20 by 40 3 room office with bath. 13th and Jefferson st. Paducah Ky.

\$1200.00 per month call 270-210-4666

Remodeled building for lease for business. Great location, excellent condition. 2607 Jackson St. Paducah. Two offices. \$1,100 monthly. Jim Lewis Remax Realty Group 270-519-0309

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

4 White Pine Place, Paducah, KY 42003. MLS #: 26018542 \$420,000 Let's talk special. This home has spacious rooms. very functional floor plan. Garage has additional space for storage or lawn mowers. Upstairs has a fairly large, floored room for storage as well as a full guest suite. Split bedroom floorplan. Deep backyard. This home is a must see home. Call Ron Hughes at RE/MAX Realty Group 270-519-7898. (TFN)

5825 Oaks Road, Paducah, KY 42003. MLS #: 26021078 \$550,000, Unique property - Approximately 75 acres with about 30 to 40 acres tillable and the rest wooded. Great combination of home, 3 outbuildings, tool shed, barn and land for variety of uses. Use house as home or hunting lodge. Great property for living, hunting, farming and or horses. Call Ron Hughes at RE/MAX Realty Group 270-519-7898. (TFN)

Awesome beautiful 2 Large lots! Brand New Home built just across

GRAVE PLOTS

One cemetery plot in Woodlawn Cemetery in Paducah. \$2,000. In the Garden of the Good God. Call 270-243-9051 (TFN)

FOR SALE One Grave Lot at Maplelawn Cemetery. \$800.00 Or Best Offer Call 270-558-3414

2 GRAVE SITES at Woodlawn Memorial Garden. In the Christus area. \$3,800. 270-559-8781

2 burial plots in Woodlawn Memorial or Mur-

ray Memorial gardens. Regular price \$3900.00 each, will sell for \$900.00 each, Call Dan Edwards at 270-873-9182

2 Cemetery Lots (side by side) Located at Woodlawn Memorial Cemetery (in The Garden of the Good Shepard). 6965 Old Hwy 45, Paducah, KY. \$5,000 for both lots 2702-519-5449 or 270-841-5001.

For Sale 1 Vault in Brookhaven Memorial Park, last one in the chapel. Holds 2 caskets. \$7,000.00. Call 270-556-0524

3 possibly 4 Grave Plots Woodlawn Memorial Gardens Paducah Ky. Trinity Garden section. Normally \$3700.00 each. Will sell for \$2500.00 each Call 270-970-0678

2 side by side vaults in Woodland Memorial Cemetery in Lone Oak, front view, 2nd row from bottom by chapel. \$10,000 total. 561-351-9174 (tfn)

STORAGE UNIT SALE

Storage Unit Sale. 3919 Cairo Rd., Paducah. May 8th 9-3:00 pm. Closed Noon-1:00. Tools, TV, Kewpie Dolls, Prom

dresses, Karaoke Items. Rain Cancels. (5/8/26)

PETS FOR SALE

BORDER COLLIE PUPPIES, "working Parents" Best farm dogs, great pets, excellent service dogs. Negotiable price & deliverable. Shots, Dewormed. Also Mlnis and 2 Chichuauha's. Call 573-414-4601 or 573-979-5373

For Sale, Sleep Number Plus, Twin Long ILE 360 smart bed frame flex fit, 360 remote, Call 270-556-0524 TFN mattress pad, 2 fitted sheet sets \$5,000.00

the street. Great area on Barkley Lake. Over 1 acre, year round view of Barkley Lake! 1 mile to BRR Marina! \$64,000.00 MLS # 121914. CALL Jennifer Palmer Realty at 270-519-9000. (tfn)

135 Allegheny Road • Gilbertsville, Kentucky • \$1,399,900 - MLS # 130868. This Incredible Customer Built 2015 property is amazing! Across the road 1,000 yards from KY Dam Village State Park, Dam, Marina, Restaurant/ Lodge. 2,000 yards from the Golf course! Less than 2 miles to Aviation Airfield, & I-24/69. 5 total bedrooms, 4 full baths, 2 half baths, 2 laundry areas & 3 gas log fireplaces! Vaulted & Cathedral ceilings. Detailed woodwork & moldings, polished marble, w/unique characteristics! Expansive Living room open to kitchen/breakfast area. Primary suite offers a custom tiled bath, heated floor & walk-in closet! Covered patio w/ wood burning FP. In-ground pool, privacy fence & gated concrete drive w/ ample parking, 2 1/2 car garage has apartment, extra lot & huge PRIVACY FENCE! CALL Jennifer Palmer Realty at 270-519-9000

27 Paradise Point Road • Gilbertsville, Kentucky • \$369,000 – MLS # 122709. 3 beautiful lots, over 1/2 acre sitting up HIGH on a hill with a SPECTACULAR BREATHTAKING VIEW OF KY LAKE in Cambridge Shores Subdivision! Build your Dream Home! Magnificent Stunning view of KY Lake! Enjoy all the amenities that Cambridge Shores has to offer. This quiet KY Lake neighborhood is the perfect place to call home! CALL Jennifer Palmer Realty at 270-519-9000

718 Marina Village Dr., Grand Rivers, Kentucky • \$610,000 – MLS # 130701. Beautiful Custom Built 3 bed 3 & 1/2 bath 2006, looks like a new Home sitting on 2 private lots in Prestigious

Gated Marina Village Subdivision! Hardwood Floors,9 ft ceilings , many updates, large family room open to Kitchen! 2 Bedrooms on main level & one HUGE bedroom up. All bedrooms have a full bath. Kitchen has custom cabinetry! NEW HEAT/AIR UNITS IN 2023. Upstairs-2019. NEW DECK, 4 car garage heated & cooled, Storm Shelter, ALL FURNITURE, DECOR, TABLEWARE, BEDDING, LIGHTHOUSE PICTURES, Towels STAY PLUS NEW flooring that has not been installed. Take a golf cart ride to Grand Rivers, World Famous Patties Restaurant, antique shops & more! CALL Jennifer Palmer Realty at 270-519-9000

643 Whitney Dr., Paducah, Kentucky • \$425,000.00 - MLS # 137569. Unique 3 bedroom 3 full bath West End home located in the desirable Pines Subdivision loaded with captivating character! Impressive living room features gas log fireplace , very tall valuted ceiling & large stylish windows for plenty of light. Kitchen has plenty of cabinets, island, breakfast area, and pantry. Excellent primary bedroom with spacious bath, jacuzzi tub, double vanity, walk-in closet, surround sound, balcony overlooking deck & backyard. Ample storage space throughout the home. New refrigerator & microwave in 2026. Massive deck perfect for entertaining! Beautiful yard, trees and landscaping. Well insulated home so utility bills are low. Convenient to the mall area, I-24 and downtown Paducah. Underground Dog fence. CALL Jennifer Palmer Realty 270-519-9000

1875 St Rt 384 Mayfield, Ky \$312,000.00. MLS#: 26019260. Beautiful Absolutely Private home on 2.5 impressive acres with 4 bedrooms and 3 full baths! Extremely well built ! Only 5 miles to I-69 and Mayfield. Large updated kitchen with gorgeous tile, corian coun-

tertops and abundant cabinetry. Quality bar stools stay plus all appliances. All 3 full baths are updated with extra nice tile and countertops. There are 2 large living areas. Kitchen open to Living room. Utility room. Primary bedroom and bath separate from other bedrooms ! NEW paint , blinds and appliances since 2019. NEW roof in 2020. 2 car attached carport and 2 car detached garage. Large metal barn 80 x 32 great for any animals, hay, equipment storage, RV and more! It does have a few stalls in it. Door is 11 FT 7 in tall. Land is rolling and lays pretty. Plenty of road frontage. Paved driveway. Geothermal HVAC. Appraisal done in March of 2026 available upon request. Seller is providing a one year home warranty at closing ~~ APHW.com Utility room or Guest bath would make great storm shelter! CALL Jennifer Palmer Realty 270-519-9000

2836 James Sanders Blvd., Paducah, KY. MLS #134672. High traffic location, Approximately 3+ acres off exit #4 I-24 on James Sander's BLVD between Texas Road House and Academy Sports. Great location for commercial development. Approximately 450 feet of road frontage, level, with all utilities. \$2,450,000, Carla Bridges @ REMAX at 270-559-8425

6330 Burchell, Paducah, KY. MLS #136950. Premier custom home in one of Paducah's most prestigious neighborhoods, The Grove, privately set on a cul-de-sac. Grand entry, open kitchen with butler's pantry, spacious living room with fireplace, office, craft room, and luxurious primary suite with his and hers baths and sitting area. Enjoy a large, covered porch with outdoor kitchen, screened porch and 3 car garage. Upstairs offers 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, playroom/bedroom and bonus room. The walkout basement includes 2 bedrooms, full

kitchen, family room, patio, storage, mechanical room and concrete safe room. Elevator serves all floors. French country exterior, stone/brick/extensive landscaping and circle drive. \$1,595,000. Contact Carla Bridges @ REMAX at 270-559-8425

500 S 17th • Paducah, KY 42003 Commercial/ Industrial - \$1,399,000 MLS Number • 125918 • 18,900 sq. ft. Outstanding professional office building in the heart of Paducah featuring approximately 15,600 sq. ft. of office space with 26 private offices, 4 bullpens, 2 conference rooms, kitchen/breakroom, 2 IT rooms, 3 laboratory rooms, multiple work areas, and storage closets along with 2300 sq. ft. warehouse area. Also has an approximately 1000 sq. ft. detached storage building. Contact Carla Bridges @ REMAX at 270-559-8425

1114 Broadway, Paducah, KY. MLS #132732. Excellent opportunity for a client in need of a nice office building in midtown Paducah, centrally located in the heart of Paducah's business district with high traffic location. Dual access from Broadway and Kentucky Avenue. Current tenants are expected to move by late fall. \$459,900. Contact Carla Bridges @ REMAX at 270-559-8425

For Sale By Owner! 20 acres in Calloway County, Ky 000 Hale Road, Murray, KY 42071. 5 miles northwest of Murray, Ky. 50 miles from Paducah, near Kentucky and Barkley Lakes. Minutes away from Murray State University. Easy access to hwy 80. All tillable, currently in crops. WKRECC Electric, Natural gas available. Call or Text 270-293-2064. Price \$350,000.00

House For Sale Ranch style, 3 bedroom, 2 full baths, Cedar siding. Sits on 6 acres. 116 Darnell Rd. Benton 42025. Call 270-404-6972 for appointment.

100 Acres sold all together. Livingston County, near Elementary school. store, fire department. Can be used for residential or commercial. 10 miles from Ky Lake 270-210-6697 (tfn)

4 Adjacent 1 acres lots in Peninsula Subdivision on Lake of Egypt. Great year round fishing with no carp, barges, or big boats. 50 minutes from Paducah. \$29,995 for all four. Might divide into 2

parcels. Call owner 314-239-6676.

Large Ky Lake lot Mature trees, utilities, restricted to new construction or double wide. \$24,900. 270-970-8000 (tfn)

Beautifully and totally renovated condo in exciting Lower Town, Paducah, KY. Stainless steel and granite kitchen, original wood floors, two master suites with attached baths. Carport with storage. 2/3 -2,140 sq. ft. \$247,500. (972) 816-8766 (tfn)

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

1.6 acres with hookups septic and well. 2357 State Rt 384 Mayfield Ky. \$20k FIRM 270-564-6774 (TFN)

5.75 Acres, Paradise Haven. I-77 & Hwy 52. Bland County VA. Hunting and surveyed, septic tank and well permits. Wooded and cleared building sites with roads. Taxes under \$200.00 per year. \$69,000.00 Ph. 270-226-2908 (tfn)

6,970 sq. ft. Commercial Retail lot with a 3,400 sq. ft. Building. 50' x 140' Lot Size. Built in 1983. 409 Court Street, Wickliffe, KY. MLS #: 26017434. \$149,000. The building was recently a pharmacy. Across for the courthouse one way, across from FCB Bank the other way. Great location! Shelving can stay or seller will remove. For more info call Betty Higdon Century 21 Service Realty at 279-519-6991 (TFN)

FARM FOR RENT

For rent pasture grazing for cattle in McCracken County, available now. 270-519-3567

CAMPERS FOR SALE

2021 JAYCO JayFlight SLX, 195 RB Travel Trailer (21-foot) Never been lived in. Bath tub - Show-er combo. Closet, Queen size bed, Refrigerator, Microwave, 2-Burner Stove, Electric Awning, Radio & TV Hookup, Fold-Out stairs, Storage, 2-Water Tanks. KEVIL

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For sale Pop camper 2001 Coleman Grand Tour Utah; \$3,000. 270-519-7849 TFN

BOATS FOR SALE

REDUCED 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 \$12,000. 270-665-0010 / leave a message.

14' Polar Craft Boat, Like new motor, electric start, trailer 1 fuel can, Minko-ta trolling motor, canopy, fish finder, battery. Benton Ky \$5,500.00. OBO 815-236-9455 (TFN)

AUTOS FOR SALE

For Sale. 2009 Mercury Milan 82000 miles. Bought August 2024 for commuting to work. No longer needed. Last Service June 2025 78,500 miles New Tires June 2025 78,800 miles. Price \$7500.00. Call 615-430-7544.

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

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.

REDUCED 2010 Black Honda Fit Sport 4 door hatchback. Excellent mechanical condition minor cosmetic damage clear title \$4,500.00 OBO Cal 812-631-3921

GMC Yukon, 2 Wheel drive, 2010 ,has third row seating, 120,xxx miles, perfect condition, good tire tread. \$9,800. TEXT with serious inquiries only 270-519-3962 Text ONLY

1991 Chevyrolet Silverado 350 V8, 4 speed transmission, long wheel base, 2 door, garage kept, excellent shape, 206,000

Sudoku Answers								
5	7	8	2	4	1	9	6	8
9	6	2	7	8	8	7	9	1
8	4	1	5	9	6	2	7	8
8	9	7	6	2	5	1	8	7
1	8	6	7	7	9	8	2	5
2	5	7	1	8	8	6	9	7
7	8	9	8	6	7	5	1	2
7	2	5	9	1	7	8	8	6
6	1	8	8	5	2	7	7	9

Word Search Answers								
W	H	A	N	I	S	B	E	S
O	H	A	O	O	C	H	O	P
I	A	A	E	N	R	I	W	R
S	B	C	I	N	N	O	A	V
R	N	O	H	O	I	S	E	A
C	R	S	O	N	N	I	W	W
P	N	O	W	B	I	A	I	W
S	N	T	Y	A	A	E	I	Z
C	H	O	B	H	H	W	R	O
I	W	R	I	H	O	V	E	S
I	R	A	N	A	S	C	A	V
I	N	N	A	H	H	E	O	V
V	A	L	N	O	O	D	W	B
O	T	A	V	R	R	I	A	O
S	N	V	N	O	C	J	A	O
R	I	N	S	I	Y	C	V	I
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- (2) Jersey Heifer Calves
- (1) Jersey Bull Calf

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Pequea Manure Spreader, Reliable Hochstetler Farm Wagon, New Idea Hay Loader, Tractor-Type Hay Rake On Steel Wheels, Crossroads Cultivator, Pioneer Tooth Harrow, Pioneer Forecart, Pioneer Grader Blade, Pioneer Potato Plow, Fertilizer Spreader On Wheels, Hay Spear On Wheels, Stalk Cutter, Double Disk, Soilmaster Riding Plow, McCormick No. 7 Hay Mower, McCormick No. 7 Hay Mower (To Rebuild), McCormick No. 9 Hay Mower (For Parts), John Deere Corn Planter, Single Garden Disk, Pull-Type Lime Spreader, Hammer Mill, Hay Trolley, Hay Hook, Approximately 70' Hay Track, Triple Trees, Double Trees, Single Trees

SHOP TOOLS & WOODWORKING

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HOUSEHOLD • ANTIQUES & PRIMITIVES

Gem Pac Wood Cook Stove, Three-Door Wood-Fired Bake Oven/Cook Stove, 40+ Cast Iron Skillets And Pots, (3) Cast Iron Kettles, 50+ Oil Lamps, Corelle Dishes, Stainless Cookware, Singer Sewing Machine, Dry Sink, Several Dressers, Wood Box, Several Wall Clocks, A Large Collection Of Canning Jars, And Maytag Wringer Washers.

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Mossberg .410 Gauge Pump Shotgun, (11) Case XX Pocket Knives, Fighting Rooster Knife, Assortment Of Collectible Knives, And 60+ Zippo Lighters

HOUSEHOLD • ANTIQUES & PRIMITIVES

Gem Pac Wood Cook Stove, Three-Door Wood-Fired Bake Oven/Cook Stove, 40+ Cast Iron Skillets And Pots, (3) Cast Iron Kettles, 50+ Oil Lamps, Corelle Dishes, Stainless Cookware, Singer Sewing Machine, Dry Sink, Several Dressers, Wood Box, Several Wall Clocks, A Large Collection Of Canning Jars, And Maytag Wringer Washers.

COINS

(3) 2013 Proof Quarter Sets, (2) 2012 Proof Quarter Sets, (2) 1999 Proof Quarter Sets, 1984 Proof Coin Set, 2008 Presidential Dollar Proof Set, 25 Silver Quarters, 50 Silver Dimes, 6 Silver Half Dollars, 11 Forty-Percent Silver Half Dollars, 75+ Buffalo Nickels, (4) V Nickels, 18 Susan B. Anthony Dollars, 35 Bicentennial Half Dollars, 40 Bicentennial Quarters, 20 Indian Head Cents, 500+ Wheat Cents, 1914 Canadian Silver 5-Cent Piece, 1944 Australian Silver Florin, 1943 Australian Silver Shilling, 1942 Australian Silver Sixpence, 1943 Australian Silver Threepence, (4) Canadian 80% Silver Coins, (2) Canadian 50% Silver Quarters, And Assorted Foreign Coins

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LOCATION: Yellowbird Lane Lot 184, Murray, KY 42071



1.53± ACRE WOODED RESIDENTIAL LOT

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Situated in a beautiful wooded setting, this property offers the opportunity to build your dream home, lake-area getaway, or retirement residence while enjoying the amenities and natural surroundings of one of the area's established waterfront communities. The wooded lot is situated at the end of a cul-de-sac, offering an attractive setting for a future homesite.

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Western Shores is a residential waterfront community designed to combine the natural beauty of Kentucky Lake with an impressive collection of recreational and community amenities. With more than 110 homes and approximately 14 miles of roads, Western Shores offers a lake-community lifestyle while remaining convenient to Murray and the surrounding area.

Community amenities include:

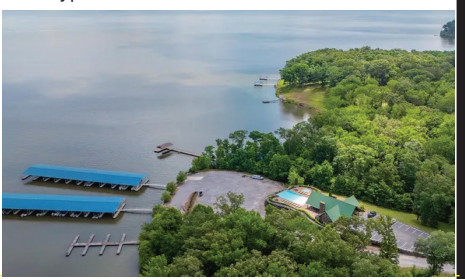
- Covered community boat docks
- Infinity swimming pool
- Hot tub
- Community pavilion
- More than 3 miles of walking trails
- Community ponds
- Approximately 14 miles of paved roads
- Beautiful wooded surroundings
- Access to the Kentucky Lake lifestyle

The Western Shores Property Owners Association documents identify community facilities and common areas that include amenities such as a community pool, boat dock, boat launch, trails, pavilion, piers, ponds and picnic area. Property ownership is also associated with membership rights and responsibilities in the Western Shores Property Owners Association.

PROPERTY HIGHLIGHTS

- Yellowbird Lane Lot 184, Murray, KY 42071
- 1.53± Acres
- Wooded Residential Building Lot

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Paducah firefighters carry forward courage, commitment of Sept. 11 responders

A large fire is burning inside a wooden structure, possibly a stage set or a building under construction. Thick black smoke is rising from the fire, filling the upper half of the frame. Two firefighters are visible in the foreground, wearing helmets and carrying air tanks. They are spraying water onto the fire from the left side. A person is visible inside the structure, possibly a mannequin or a person in a costume. The scene is outdoors on a paved area, with a yellow traffic cone visible on the right. In the background, there is a grey wall and some trees.

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Prepared to answer the call

Training, teamwork and community partnerships strengthen Ballard County’s emergency response

By Laurna Pruett
KPI Writer

As the nation pauses to remember the lives lost and the first responders who answered the call on Sept. 11, 2001, the anniversary also provides an opportunity to recognize those who continue serving their communities today.

In Ballard County, protecting lives and property requires emergency management, fire departments, law enforcement, emergency medical services and other agencies to work together—often under difficult and rapidly changing conditions.

Ballard County Emergency Management Director Travis Holder said the county has a variety of departments and resources that can be put into action immediately, depending on the type and severity of an

emergency. “Emergency Management, fire departments, law enforcement, EMS and other local agencies can quickly begin response operations,” Holder said.

The response does not end when the immediate danger has passed. Local resources and community partners are also available to help meet the needs of displaced residents and begin the recovery process.

The working relationships among Ballard County’s emergency agencies are strengthened through their regular responses to fires, motor vehicle crashes, medical calls, severe weather and other incidents. Holder said that familiarity helps departments coordinate their efforts when a larger emergency affects the county.

“Many of our

volunteers and responders are cross-trained and have experience working alongside multiple agencies,” he said. “Our departments communicate and work together to provide an organized and effective response.”

Preparation for an emergency begins long before a call is received. Holder said departments continually evaluate their equipment, training and procedures to find ways to improve the services they provide.

Local agencies participate in training opportunities and upgrade equipment as funding becomes available. Keeping pace with changing technology, response techniques and safety practices helps prepare personnel for emergencies ranging from everyday calls to large-scale disasters.

“Staying current with new technology,



Travis Holder

techniques and best practices helps ensure our responders are prepared for a wide variety of emergencies,” Holder said.

Medical emergencies, motor vehicle crashes, fires and severe weather are among the incidents Ballard County responders are most likely to encounter. Although many calls may be considered routine, emergency personnel must also be ready when an incident becomes larger or

more complex. “Our staff and volunteers train regularly to ensure they remain familiar with current response techniques, equipment and safety procedures,” Holder said. “This ongoing training helps responders remain prepared to handle both routine emergencies and larger, more complex incidents.”

Residents also have an important role in helping emergency personnel do their jobs safely. Holder said one of the most helpful things people can do during an emergency is avoid the incident area and give responders the room they need to work.

“Emergency scenes often involve numerous responders, vehicles and moving parts, and unnecessary traffic or bystanders can delay operations and create additional hazards,” he said.

Residents should also follow directions from emergency officials and obtain information from trusted sources. Preparing a basic household emergency plan before disaster strikes can help families respond more safely and calmly when faced with severe weather, a fire or another crisis.

The events of Sept. 11 demonstrated extraordinary courage, sacrifice and cooperation among first responders and emergency agencies. More than two decades later, those lessons remain important in communities across the nation.

In Ballard County, preparedness continues through training, communication and partnerships among the people who stand ready to respond whenever the call comes.

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– Ralph Waldo Emerson, poet

“Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord.”

– Psalm 33:12

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Veterans and families invited to breakfast Sept. 12

By Lurna Pruett
KPI Writer

American Legion Auxiliary Unit 3 in LaCenter will host a breakfast for area veterans and their family members Saturday, Sept. 12.

A full breakfast buffet will be served from 9 to 10 a.m. at American Legion Post 3, located at the Ballard County Fairgrounds, 152 Fairground Drive in LaCenter. A business meeting will follow the breakfast.

The gathering will also offer an opportunity to learn more about the American Legion and American

Legion Auxiliary,
two organizations
dedicated to
supporting veterans,
active-duty military
members and their
families.

Anyone interested in becoming involved, sharing resources, building connections and helping carry the organizations' mission forward is encouraged to attend.

New memberships and membership renewals are now being accepted for the 2026-27 fiscal year for both the American Legion and the American Legion Auxiliary.



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COURAGE,
from page 1

helps ensure they are ready for the wide range of emergencies they may face while also allowing them to respond as safely and effectively as possible. Although

firefighters prepare for large-scale emergencies and complex rescues, one of the most common dangers they encounter begins in an ordinary place — the kitchen.

Kyle said unattended cooking is the most common local fire hazard. His advice to residents is straightforward: “Never leave anything cooking unattended.”

Cooking fires can develop quickly, particularly when grease or other flammable materials are involved. Staying in the kitchen and closely watching food while it cooks can prevent a small mistake

from becoming a life-threatening emergency.

As the community remembers the firefighters who gave their lives on Sept. 11, Kyle said their willingness to accept personal risk for the sake of others remains an enduring lesson for today’s emergency responders.

“While we strive to be as safe as we can be while doing the job, there are inherent risks that you have to take,” Kyle said. “Knowing that there is risk, accepting that risk and going anyway is the example they gave and should be taken to heart by all responders today.”



Stephen Kyle





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Barlow firefighters face manpower, water challenges

By Laurna Pruett
KPI Writer

BARLOW — When a structure catches fire, Barlow City firefighters may be battling more than flames. Limited manpower and the lack of nearby fire hydrants can make rural fires especially difficult and dangerous.



LaDoy Owens

Barlow City Fire Chief LaDoy Owens said the number of firefighters available often depends on the time of day and which volunteers can leave their jobs or other responsibilities.

“As a volunteer department, we rely heavily on automatic mutual aid from other departments throughout the county to provide additional manpower for rural, as well as many in-city, structural fire responses,” Owens said.

Water supply presents another serious challenge. Because many rural areas do not have fire hydrants, neighboring departments use tankers and engines to shuttle water to the scene.

“Maintaining a

continuous water supply is critical to the safety of interior firefighters,” Owens said. “A loss of water during an interior operation can have potentially fatal consequences for those operating inside the structure.”

While dependable equipment is important, Owens said trained volunteers remain a department’s most valuable resource.

“Without people, all the equipment in the station is useless,” he said. “Whether it is daytime or nighttime, when the tones drop, someone has to respond.”

Becoming a certified volunteer firefighter requires a substantial commitment. The first certification level includes

approximately 115 hours of training, while the second brings the total to roughly 300 hours. Owens said the training gives volunteers valuable skills and an opportunity to make a lasting difference.

“A fire department is only as strong as the people willing to answer the call,” Owens said. “We need members of our community who are willing to step forward, commit the time required to train and serve their neighbors when they need help the most.”

The department is also applying for a grant to help fund a new fire station. According to Owens, the existing station does not have running water for its bathrooms, showers



for firefighters to remove dangerous contaminants after a fire or adequate washing facilities for protective gear.

If the grant is approved, the new station would provide firefighters with a safer place to train, prepare for

emergencies, clean their equipment and recover after calls.

“We are servants,” Owens said. “By God’s grace, we humbly do the best we can to serve our neighbors during some of the worst moments of their lives.”

Ready When Every Second Counts

Carlisle County strengthens emergency response through planning, technology and regional cooperation

By Laurna Pruett
KPI Writer

In a rural county, emergency preparedness is not measured solely by the number of ambulances, rescue vehicles or responders available. It is also measured by how well agencies know one another, how quickly they can organize and whether they know where to turn when an emergency grows beyond their local resources.

For Carlisle County Emergency Management Agency and EMS Director Joshua Glover, preparation means knowing what the county has, understanding what it may need and building relationships before disaster strikes.

“Being a small county actually helps us in some ways because most of our responders already know each other and have worked together before,” Glover said.

If a major emergency occurred today, Emergency Management would coordinate with

Carlisle County EMS, local fire departments, law enforcement, River County 9-1-1, the Carlisle County Fiscal Court and other local agencies.

Depending on the situation, the county could deploy ambulances, fire and rescue equipment, law enforcement officers, emergency management personnel and drones. Drones can assist with missing-person searches and damage assessments while providing responders with a better view of an incident without placing them in unnecessary danger.

Glover said Carlisle County’s size also means local resources could become stretched during a major or prolonged emergency. When more personnel or equipment are needed, the county can request mutual aid from surrounding counties and seek assistance from regional and state agencies.

“A big part of being prepared is knowing what we have available, knowing who we can call when we need help

and training together before an emergency happens,” he said.

Communication and organization become especially important when several agencies respond to the same incident. River County 9-1-1 manages dispatch and communications, while EMS, fire departments and law enforcement fulfill their individual responsibilities at the scene.

Emergency Management helps coordinate the overall response and secures additional resources when necessary. During a larger incident, agencies can establish an Incident Command System to organize personnel, determine priorities and ensure everyone is working toward the same goal.

Carlisle County has also continued investing in the equipment and training needed to strengthen that response.

Carlisle County EMS recently received approximately \$544,000 through the Rural Health Transformation Grant. A portion of that



Joshua Glover

funding will be used to begin a Community Paramedicine Program. The funding will also allow the department to update training equipment and provide more realistic, hands-on simulations.

“We hope some of these training improvements will benefit not only Carlisle County but responders throughout our region,” Glover said.

Although new equipment gives responders additional capabilities, Glover said it is only useful when personnel know how to operate it confidently under pressure.

“Equipment is important, but we also have to make sure our people are trained and

comfortable using it when the time comes,” he said.

Severe weather remains one of Carlisle County’s greatest emergency threats. The county may face tornadoes, severe thunderstorms, flooding, winter storms, extreme heat and other weather-related dangers.

Responders must also remain prepared for structure fires, serious vehicle crashes, medical emergencies, hazardous-material incidents, missing persons, power outages and other events that require several departments to work together.

Residents can make that response safer and more effective by preparing their households before an emergency occurs. Glover encourages families to create an emergency plan, identify where they will shelter during severe weather and keep medications and basic supplies readily available.

Households should also have more than one way to receive weather warnings

and emergency information. During an emergency, residents should listen to local officials, take warnings seriously and stay off the roads when travel is discouraged.

People should avoid damaged areas, obey barricades and never attempt to drive through flooded roadways.

“The more prepared our residents are, the more our responders can focus on the people who need help the most,” Glover said.

As communities reflect on the lives lost and the sacrifices made on Sept. 11, Carlisle County’s responders continue the daily work of preparing for events they hope will never happen. That readiness is built through training, improved equipment and cooperation—not only within the county, but across the region.

For Carlisle County, being prepared means recognizing the challenges of serving a rural community while making certain that, when every second counts, help is ready to move.

A children’s book that shaped a generation:

The Man Who Walked Between the Towers

By **Ciro Astarita**
KPI Writer

Children born around and after September 11th do



The Man Who Walked Between the Towers by Mordicai Gerstein (2003)

not remember a world before foreign attackers on domestic soil was considered a real threat by many. Now, we live in a very

different world. Well before 9/11, there was a french stunt performer named Phillipe Petite(1949-Present) who dared to do something no one else in the world would even conceive. In August 1974, a rope was installed between the top of the World Trade Center Buildings. Petite walked between the towers around 1,350 feet above ground and performed for about 45 minutes. He did this illegally. Following the spectacle, people were amused and even inspired. However, many felt Petite should be punished. Richard Kuh–the New York County District Attorney at the time–dropped all charges. He did this under one condition...he must perform a free aerial

show for children in Central Park. Petit obliged and it was so. Many years later, Petit’s story was immortalized in the children’s book titled ‘The Man Who Walked Between the Towers’(2003) written and illustrated by Mordicai Gerstein. Just one year after publishing his book,

Gerstein received a 2004 Caldecott Medal for his illustrations. This award is given to the previous year’s most distinguished children’s book. His book was widely available at Scholastic Book Fairs across the United States throughout the 2000’s and 2010’s and continues to be

an entry point for youth to understand such a tragic event. Discussing difficult subjects with kids can be challenging for parents. Literature is one of the best ways youth can be exposed to complex themes and topics in an appropriate way.



Philippe Petit: ‘I didn’t plan to cross eight times.’ Photograph: Alan Weiner/AP

Who are first responders and what do they do?

When an emergency happens, people often look for someone who can help. Whether it is a house fire, a traffic accident, a medical emergency or a severe storm, first responders are among the first people called to protect lives, provide assistance and bring order to difficult situations.

First responders are trained professionals and volunteers who respond to emergencies. The most familiar first responders are firefighters, police officers and emergency medical personnel. Other emergency workers, including 911 dispatchers, search-and-rescue teams and emergency management officials, also play important roles in helping communities during times of crisis.

Firefighters do much more than fight fires. They respond to house fires,

vehicle accidents, hazardous-material incidents and other emergencies. Firefighters rescue people, provide first aid, operate specialized equipment and help prevent fires through inspections and public education. Many firefighters are also trained as emergency medical responders.

Firefighters may work in dangerous conditions, including smoke, extreme heat and unstable buildings. They must rely on training, teamwork and specialized equipment to protect themselves and others. Volunteer firefighters are especially important in many communities, where they answer emergency calls while also working regular jobs and caring for their families.

Police officers help protect people and maintain public safety. They respond

to accidents, crimes, dangerous situations and calls for assistance. Officers may provide first aid, direct traffic, secure emergency scenes, assist with evacuations and help connect people with other emergency services. Their work often involves making quick decisions while keeping others safe.

Police officers also investigate crimes, protect important locations and help communities prepare for emergencies. Their presence can help prevent dangerous situations and provide reassurance when people feel frightened or uncertain.

Emergency medical personnel, including emergency medical technicians (EMTs) and paramedics, provide medical care when someone is sick or injured. They assess patients, give emergency treatment, help stabilize serious conditions and transport people to hospitals when

needed. Their training allows them to begin important medical care before a patient reaches the emergency room.

EMTs and paramedics respond to many different calls, including falls, breathing problems, injuries and other medical emergencies. They must remain calm, communicate clearly and make careful decisions while providing care.

911 dispatchers are another essential part of the emergency response system. When someone calls 911, dispatchers gather information, determine what help is needed and send the appropriate responders. They may also provide instructions to callers while help is on the way.

Dispatchers must listen carefully and remain calm, even when callers are frightened or confused. Their ability to gather accurate information helps emergency

crews arrive with the right equipment and assistance.

First responders often work together. At a serious accident, for example, police may secure the scene, firefighters may help remove someone from a damaged vehicle and medical personnel may provide treatment. Each group has a different responsibility, but their shared goal is to protect life and reduce harm.

First responders also prepare for emergencies before they happen. They participate in training, practice emergency plans, inspect equipment and educate the public about safety. Their preparation helps communities respond more effectively when unexpected events occur.

Their work can be challenging, unpredictable and demanding. Yet every day, first responders answer calls for help and serve their

communities with courage, skill and compassion. They remind us that when emergencies occur, we are not alone.

Communities can support first responders by learning basic safety skills, keeping emergency numbers available, following evacuation instructions and showing appreciation for their service. A simple thank-you can mean a great deal to the people who spend their days helping others.

First responders are an important part of every community. Their dedication, training and willingness to serve help make neighborhoods safer and stronger. Whether responding to a major disaster or a single call for assistance, they play a vital role in protecting lives and helping people through difficult moments.

Preparedness begins before the sirens sound

Graves County emergency manage says residents, responders and community partners all have a role

By **Laurna Pruett**
KPI Writer

When disaster strikes, emergency responders move toward the danger—but they cannot face it alone.

In Graves County, a large-scale response can involve firefighters, law enforcement officers, medical personnel, road crews, schools, churches, nonprofit organizations and ordinary residents. Emergency Management

Director Tracy Warner said the county’s strength lies in bringing those resources together while encouraging families to prepare before help is needed.

“Take action before the storm,” Warner said. “Make sure you have a plan, so when something occurs, you and your family will know what to do.”

If a major emergency happened today, Graves County could immediately

call upon its nine volunteer fire departments, the Mayfield Fire Department, Mayfield-Graves County EMS, the Graves County Sheriff’s Office, the Mayfield Police Department and Kentucky State Police.

The Graves County Road Department, Mayfield Public Works and Kentucky Transportation Cabinet could assist with transportation and debris-



Tracy Warner
related needs. Graves County Schools, Mayfield Independent Schools and Northside

Baptist Christian School could also become part of the response, along with the county’s churches and nonprofit organizations.

Coordinating those agencies is one of Emergency Management’s primary responsibilities. Warner said her office gathers information from throughout the county to develop a clearer picture of the emergency and the

resources needed. If conditions warrant, a local declaration of emergency can be filed with Kentucky Emergency Management. Decisions involving requests for mutual aid, additional equipment and personnel can then be discussed and coordinated through the local Emergency Operations Center. Communication

see **SIRENS**,
page 8

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SIRENS,
from page 7

is critical when numerous departments are working across a widespread disaster area. Each Graves County volunteer fire chief recently received a radio capable of communicating with other responding agencies during an emergency. The radios were purchased through Independence Bank’s Tornado Relief Fund.

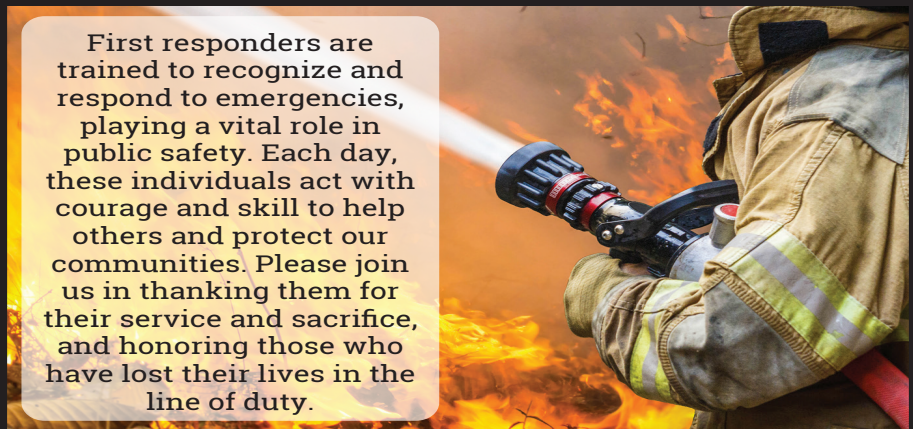
Departments have also added specialized rescue tools. All Graves County volunteer fire departments received grain-bin rescue equipment, while Mayfield-Graves County Fire and Rescue upgraded the motor on its swift-water rescue boat, improving its ability to operate in rough conditions. The rescue squad also partnered with the Graves County Sheriff’s Office to purchase a drone. Warner said it has

already been used in several types of situations, providing responders with an aerial view that can assist with searches, assessments and other emergency operations. Training ensures personnel can use those resources effectively. Emergency agencies must meet minimum training requirements, but Warner said many responders go beyond what is required. Their preparation includes

hazardous-materials awareness and operations, driver training, CPR, first aid and the use of automated external defibrillators. Graves County has faced flooding, severe thunderstorms and tornadoes, but Warner said her responsibility is to consider an even greater threat. “As an emergency manager, I plan for the worst-case possibility, which in our area would be an earthquake,” she said.

Residents can further assist responders by reserving 911 for life-threatening emergencies. During a recent storm, fallen trees blocked numerous roads across Graves County. Emergency crews worked to clear those routes so ambulances, firefighters and law enforcement officers could reach people facing immediate danger. Agencies have continued cleaning up damage left by the storm.

before the next emergency occurs. “There are several organizations that need your help,” she said. The anniversary of Sept. 11 is a solemn reminder of the courage shown by first responders and of the extraordinary impact people can make when they unite in service. In Graves County, that spirit is reflected not only in the professionals and volunteers who answer emergency calls, but also in the schools, churches, organizations and residents prepared to stand beside them.



First responders are trained to recognize and respond to emergencies, playing a vital role in public safety. Each day, these individuals act with courage and skill to help others and protect our communities. Please join us in thanking them for their service and sacrifice, and honoring those who have lost their lives in the line of duty.



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Preparing responders also involves attending to details that may seem small until an emergency begins. Vehicles must be fueled, chainsaws need to be in working order and teams require food, water and other supplies to remain in the field. “Responders have to take care of themselves and their families before they can help others,” Warner said. That same principle applies to the public. Warner encourages residents to maintain enough food, water, medications, first-aid materials and other necessities to care for themselves for at least three days. Families should develop a plan in advance rather than waiting until severe weather or another emergency is already underway.

Every unnecessary call or avoidable trip into a damaged area can pull limited resources away from those who need them most. Preparing ahead, following official instructions and remaining clear of affected areas allow responders to concentrate on saving lives and protecting property. Warner also encourages residents to consider serving their communities

Disaster response begins with trained personnel and dependable equipment. Community resilience, however, begins much earlier—with a plan, a willingness to help and the understanding that preparedness is everyone’s responsibility.



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How to honor first responders

This Friday marks the 25th anniversary of the 9/11 terrorist attacks. The attacks on September 11, 2001 remain the deadliest terror attacks in world history, claiming more than 2,900 lives and causing countless injuries and long-term health problems for tens of thousands of civilians and first responders.

The 25th anniversary of 9/11 will no doubt evoke responses that span the emotional spectrum. Sadness may dominate such responses, but the anniversary of 9/11 also is a great time to reflect on the efforts of first responders. First responders played a vital role on 9/11, and many lost their lives and/or suffered long-term health consequences resulting from their selfless efforts to save innocent victims of the attacks.

In the two decades since the 9/11 attacks, first responders have continued to make countless sacrifices to ensure their communities are safe and peaceful places to call home. The 25th anniversary of 9/11 is a great time to recognize the efforts of first responders and honor them for all they do.

• **Donate to local fire departments.** According to the U.S. Fire Administration, 54 percent of active firefighting personnel are volunteers. Many of those volunteer firefighters work for underfunded departments that are in need of financial support. Donating to such departments is a great way to show first responders how much their efforts are appreciated. Donations may be used to purchase new equipment, upgrade existing facilities, provide vital training, and/or improve response times, the latter of which can increase the likelihood that firefighters make it through calls safe and sound.

• **Back legislation to support wounded first responders.** Many first responders suffer significant mental and physical injuries while on the job. Various nonprofit organizations help wounded first responders who may need to make modifications to their homes or purchase costly equipment to get through their daily lives. But nonprofit organizations cannot go it alone in support of wounded first responders. Citizens can do their part by promoting and voting for local, state and national legislation that makes it easy for wounded first responders to get

the help they need, when they need it.

In addition to urging local politicians

see **HONOR** page 10



Thanks to all of our community's first responders and emergency workers for being exceptional people, and for sharing your skills, courage and dedication with all of us. **Your willingness to step up to the plate and protect others fills us with admiration and gratitude.**



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THANKS TO OUR FIRST RESPONDERS

To the amazing emergency workers, firefighters, and law enforcement who help when we need it most, thank you for your courage and commitment to saving lives!

“In every act of bravery, first responders light the way for others to follow.”





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HONOR, from page 9

to support such legislation, private citizens can utilize social media to promote proposals and other efforts to support wounded first responders. Many 9/11 first responders are still fighting for government-backed support to treat injuries suffered 25 years ago, and a vocal citizenry can be a strong asset in

their fight and the fight of countless others in need of help.

• *Commit to supporting first responders year-round.* The 25th anniversary of 9/11 will call attention to the efforts of first responders on that day 25 years ago as well as the countless times since then that these brave men and women have served their communities. But first responders deserve vocal, year-

round support. Make a concerted effort to thank policemen, firefighters, EMTs, nurses, and doctors in your community whenever you interact with them, and urge others to follow suit.

First responders play a vital role in communities across the globe. The 25th anniversary of 9/11 can serve as a catalyst for communities to express their support for first responders.

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First responders are trained to recognize and respond to emergencies, playing a vital role in public safety. Each day, these individuals act with courage and skill to help others and protect our communities.

Please join us in thanking them for their service and sacrifice, and honoring those who have lost their lives in the line of duty.

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– RICHARD K. SCHACHERN

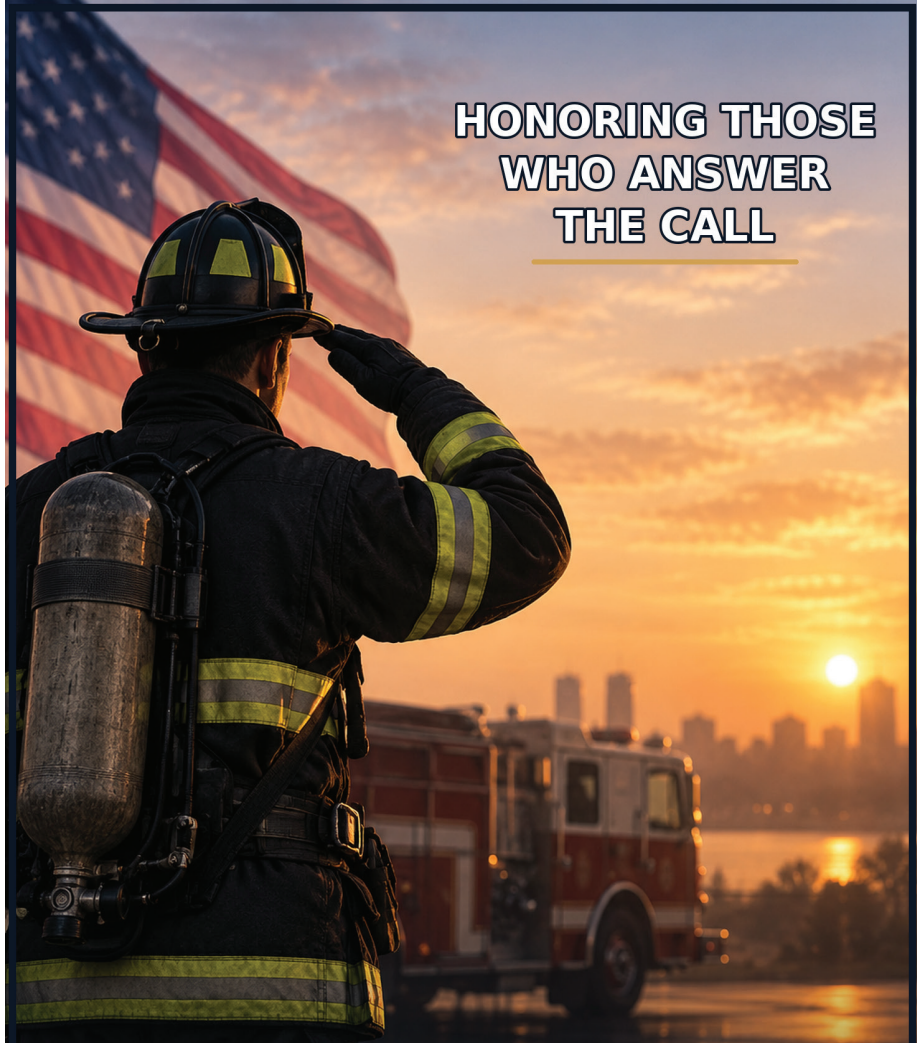
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The role EMS workers play in your community

Every community has its unsung heroes. Without the contributions of selfless individuals whose efforts often go unnoticed, thriving communities would not be as safe, welcoming or successful.

EMS workers are among the most important individuals in a community. The contributions of these individuals, many of whom work as unpaid volunteers, are invaluable and worthy of recognition. Making an effort to understand the role EMS workers play is a great first step toward showing them how much they're appreciated.

What is EMS?

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's Office of EMS notes that Emergency Medical Services, or EMS, is a system that provides emergency medical care. The Office of EMS also notes that EMS does not exist in isolation, as it is integrated with other services and systems with the goal of maintaining and enhancing the health and safety of a community and its residents. This is why EMS services, though they vary from community to community, may be based in fire departments, hospitals, independent government agencies, or nonprofit corporations.



What duties do EMS workers perform?

Because EMS is a system, EMS workers wear a range of hats. The Office of EMS notes that

the responsibilities and services EMS workers provide may include:

- Incident recognition
- Access 911
- Dispatch
- First responder
- Basic life support
- Advanced life support
- Air/ground transport
- Emergency department services

- Specialty care
- Patient rehabilitation
- Prevention and awareness
- Public education

When do EMS personnel interact with their communities?

Many people only encounter EMS workers during medical emergencies when they are most in need of help. That underscores the vital role EMS workers play in public health and safety and just how integral they are in instances that could escalate into life-or-death situations.

Recognition of the roles EMS workers play is a great way to show support for these often unsung community heroes.

**Thank You
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The importance of first responders

When an emergency strikes, first responders are often the first people we look to for help. Firefighters, police officers, emergency medical technicians (EMTs), and paramedics play a vital role in protecting lives, providing assistance, and helping communities recover from unexpected situations. Their work is essential to the safety and well-being of people in every community.

First responders are trained to act quickly and make important decisions under pressure. Firefighters respond to fires, vehicle crashes, and other emergencies, working to rescue people and protect property. Police officers help maintain public safety, respond

to dangerous situations, and assist people in need. EMTs and paramedics provide medical care at the scene of an emergency and during transportation to a hospital.

Their work extends far beyond major disasters. First responders answer calls involving medical emergencies, accidents, fires, and other situations that require immediate attention. They may help someone experiencing a medical crisis, respond to a traffic collision, or assist a family whose home has been damaged. In each situation, their goal is to protect lives and provide the help people need.

First responders also spend time preparing for

emergencies before they happen. Training exercises, safety inspections, public education programs, and community events help them remain prepared. Their knowledge and experience can also help residents learn how to prevent accidents, respond to emergencies, and protect themselves and others.

Being a first responder requires courage, dedication, teamwork, and compassion. These professionals often work long hours, including nights, weekends, and holidays. They may miss important family occasions or face difficult circumstances while helping strangers. Despite

see **IMPORTANCE**,
page 14



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"A hero is someone who has given his or her life to something bigger than oneself."

— Joseph Campbell

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IMPORTANCE,
from page 13

these challenges, they continue to serve because they understand the importance of their work.

First responders also provide reassurance during frightening moments. Their presence can help people feel safer and remind communities that help is available when it is needed most. Whether responding to a serious accident or helping a family through a difficult situation, their service can make a

lasting difference.

Supporting first responders is an important responsibility for everyone. Learning basic safety skills, keeping emergency contact information available, following safety rules, and treating emergency personnel with respect are simple ways to show appreciation. Communities can also support local departments through fundraisers, volunteer opportunities, and public recognition.

It is equally important to remember that first responders

are people who experience stress, fatigue, and difficult emotions. Offering understanding and support can help them continue their demanding work.

First responders are an essential part of every community. Their service, sacrifice, and commitment make a lasting difference. They deserve our gratitude not only during emergencies, but every day. By recognizing their contributions and supporting their work, we help build safer, stronger, and more caring communities.

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Future generations will inherit

Twenty-five years after the attacks, a young Kentuckian’s white Navy cap stands as an example of what one generation owes the next

American Airlines Flight 77 was over eastern Kentucky when hijackers likely took control on the morning of Sept. 11, 2001. They turned the plane south, then east toward Washington.

At the Pentagon, Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Edward Earhart, 26, of Morehead, was working on a day he was supposed to be off. A colleague needed help, so he came in.

Earhart’s work had little in common with the images most Americans associate with war. He was an aerographer’s mate who helped Navy ships find safe routes around sea ice. An iceberg appeared on his computer screen saver. After his funeral, coworkers signed his white Navy cap and gave it to his family. The cap is now part of the National September 11 Memorial & Museum’s collection.

That cap offers a way to see past the scale of Sept. 11, which can flatten individual lives into one enormous national tragedy. Earhart did not report to the Pentagon expecting to enter history. He went because someone needed him.

Twenty-five years later, that distinction matters. The museum estimates that 100 million Americans have no living memory of the attacks. Those who do often remember small, precise things: the room where they first heard, the television they watched or the person



Sen. Jason Howell



they called. Younger Americans have none of that. They know Sept. 11 only through what others choose to tell them.

Pearl Harbor made this passage before it, from a day that millions remembered to a history later generations received. Sept. 11 is now following that path.

Memory itself cannot be handed down. What can be passed along is an honest account that keeps the people inside it. The story belongs to Americans who were not yet born just as surely as it belongs to those who watched it unfold.

It also extends well beyond the smoke and wreckage. This year, the 9/11 Memorial’s anniversary commemoration will include a seventh moment of silence. Six mark the times when the planes struck, the towers fell and Flight 93 crashed. The seventh, observed after the reading of names, honors those who later died

from 9/11-related illnesses. It has no corresponding minute on the clock. That part of the toll accumulated quietly over years.

By late 2001, the 101st Airborne Division’s 3rd Brigade had deployed from Fort Campbell to Afghanistan. Thousands of Kentucky National Guard soldiers and airmen would mobilize in the years ahead. Those deployments reached far beyond the people in uniform. Kentucky families planned around departures, endured months apart and waited for news from far away. Children grew older between homecomings. The television coverage eventually ended; the effects on those households did not.

That, too, belongs to the history later generations will inherit. The date alone cannot carry it.

We will not always be here to explain why Sept. 11 matters.

The date will remain, and so will the familiar footage. The people are easy to lose, but they are the most important thing we must treasure.

“Never forget” cannot mean repeating two words every September. It means remembering the names, the lives they lived and what followed those terrorists’ attack, and carefully preserving that story.

Someday, no living American will be able to begin, “I remember where I was.” When that day comes, the record should show

more than how the buildings fell. It should also preserve the signed white cap of a 26-year-old Kentuckian who went to the Pentagon because a fellow service member needed help.

###

Sen. Jason Howell, R-Murray, represents the 1st Senate District, including Calloway, Crittenden, Fulton, Graves, Hickman, Lyon, and Trigg Counties. He co-chairs the Interim Joint Committee (IJC) on

Agriculture and the Tobacco Settlement Agreement Fund Oversight Committee. He is also vice chair of the Legislative Oversight and Investigations Committee. Howell also serves on the IJC’s on Banking and Insurance; Economic Development and Workforce Investment; Licensing, Occupations, and Administrative Regulations; and Tourism, Small Business, and Information Technology.

“September 11 was, and remains, above all an immense human tragedy... a challenge to the values of freedom, tolerance and decency.”

— TONY BLAIR

A cheap charger could cost more than a new phone

By Laurna Pruett
KPI Writer

Replacing a lost or damaged phone charger with a low-cost option may seem harmless, but poorly made or incompatible chargers can cause expensive damage—and create a potential safety hazard.

Technicians at Mike’s iFix, located at 3125 Lone Oak Road, Suite A, in Paducah, said they have seen firsthand what can happen when consumers use cheap or incompatible chargers.

“These can range from excessive heat and damaged charging ports to premature battery wear and, in more serious cases, damage to charging components on the phone’s motherboard,” the repair shop explained. “A quality charger should properly regulate the power being delivered to the device.”

A charger that fails to properly control that power may harm the battery, charging port or internal components.



Damage may happen gradually, making it difficult for the owner to realize the charger is the source of the problem.

Warning signs can include a phone or charger becoming unusually hot, intermittent or inconsistent charging, unusually slow charging or repeated “accessory not supported” messages. A buzzing sound, electrical odor or battery that suddenly begins

draining faster than normal may also indicate trouble.

“Frayed cables, loose connectors and chargers that become extremely hot should be replaced immediately,” Mike’s iFix advised.

Consumers should choose a charger made by the device’s manufacturer or a reputable third-party product carrying certification from a recognized independent safety-testing organization.

Suspiciously low prices, missing manufacturer information, misspelled packaging and the absence of a recognized safety certification may indicate a counterfeit or poorly made product.

Where a device is charged also matters. Phones and tablets should be placed on a hard, open surface where heat can escape. Charging a phone on a bed, couch or underneath

a pillow can trap heat next to material that could burn.

Chargers should also be kept away from water and flammable objects. Devices should not be handled with wet hands while plugged in, and charging electronics should not be left unattended for extended periods.

Mikel Scott of M. Scott Electric said homeowners can add another layer of electrical protection

by having a surge protector installed at the home’s main electrical panel. This type of equipment can help protect electronics throughout the home from voltage surges and reduce reliance on multiple plug-in devices. It should be installed by a qualified electrician.

However, even whole-home surge protection cannot make a damaged or poorly manufactured charger safe.

Mike’s iFix said spending a little more for a quality charger is minor compared with replacing a phone that may cost anywhere from \$300 to \$2,000 or more. The greatest loss, however, may not be the device itself.

When a phone fails, irreplaceable photographs, messages and other memories stored on it can also be lost.

Saving a few dollars on a charger may feel like a bargain, but when expensive technology, personal memories and household safety are at stake, the cheapest choice could become the most costly.

Creative ways to boost health

Gym memberships, fitness classes and exercise equipment can add up, but staying active doesn’t have to strain your budget.

Walking, home workouts and community programs can provide inexpensive ways to:

- Build strength
- Improve balance
- Support overall health

FREE OR LOW-COST OPTIONS

Start by checking programs available in your community:

Senior centers may offer:

- Free or low-cost exercise classes
- Walking groups
- Other activities for

older adults

Recreation departments, parks, faith communities and nonprofit organizations may offer similar programs.

Public libraries may provide:

- Exercise videos
- Equipment
- Information about local fitness programs
- Some Medicare Advantage and Medicare Supplement plans include fitness benefits at no additional cost.

Programs such as SilverSneakers and Renew Active may provide eligible members with:

- Access to participating fitness

centers

- Exercise classes
- Online workouts

Benefits vary by plan and location, so check with your insurer to see what’s available.

WORKING OUT AT HOME

Home exercise can be an inexpensive option, especially for people with limited transportation or



when weather makes outdoor activity difficult.

Online videos and streaming programs offer routines such as:

Low-impact aerobics

- Strength exercises
- Balance exercises
- Flexibility exercises

Many activities require little or no equipment:

- Walking or dancing can provide aerobic

activity.

Wall pushups and other body-weight exercises can help strengthen muscles.

Resistance bands, light hand weights or household items can add resistance to some exercises.

A sturdy chair can provide support for certain movements.

Choose activities appropriate for your abilities.

Increase your activity gradually.

USING TECHNOLOGY

Free and low-cost digital resources can make it easier to exercise at home.

Health plans, community organizations and

fitness programs may offer:

- Live classes
- On-demand classes
- Online workouts
- Apps can help users: Find workouts Schedule activity Track progress

When choosing an online workout:

- Look for programs appropriate for your fitness and mobility level.
- Choose instructors who demonstrate modifications when needed.

The goal isn’t to follow the trendiest routine.

The goal is to find safe, affordable activities you’ll actually want to keep doing.

What to do about wellness over 50

Reaching one’s fiftieth birthday in optimal health is an accomplishment to be proud of. The hard work required to be healthy in midlife includes adhering to a nutritious diet and exercising regularly. Once individuals cross the threshold and enter their 50s, they can look to some additional strategies to maintain their physical and mental well-being for decades to come.

• **Get a pet.**

Many people 50 and older qualify as “empty nesters,” a term applied to adults whose children have grown up and moved out of their homes. Some empty nesters experience a phenomenon known as “empty nest syndrome,” which the Mayo Clinic notes can be marked by feelings of sadness or loss. Pets can help people over 50 with no children at home overcome feelings linked to empty nest syndrome. In 2018, the University of Michigan National Poll on Healthy Aging found that 86 percent of pet owners felt their pets make them feel loved while 73 percent said their pets provided a sense of purpose. Pets also can ensure individuals over 50 stay physically active and provide opportunities to connect with other people.

• **Prioritize learning.**

Whether it’s taking music lessons, going back to school or mastering a new hobby, learning has a profound effect on aging brains. For example, a 2013 study published in the journal Psychological Science found that memory function is improved by engagement in demanding everyday tasks. That study reported that people who learned new skills experienced

greater memory improvement than people who only socialized or participated in activities that were not as cognitively engaging.

• **Make an effort to improve balance.**

Various factors contribute to a decline in balance as adults age. For example, a decline in muscle mass that begins when people are in their 30s is a normal part of aging. Over time, that natural decline affects strength and agility.

Balance exercises can be a valuable component of a fitness regimen that help individuals reduce their risk for falling as they advance through their 50s and into their 60s and 70s. That’s a significant benefit, as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports that one out of every three adults age 65 and older experiences a fall each year, and as many as 30 percent of those falls lead to serious injury.

• **Embrace your inner socialite.** Socialization is important for people of all ages, including individuals 50 and over. A recent study from researchers at Michigan State found that valuing friendships was a strong predictor of health and happiness among older adults.

Opportunities to socialize with friends may increase as people navigate their 50s and children move out or become more independent. Individuals can take advantage of opportunities to socialize whenever possible.

Various strategies can help people maintain mental and physical wellness as they make their way through their 50s and beyond.



A life WELL LIVED
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A collection of various custom headstones and monuments, including a large rectangular one for PARKER, a smaller one for REBECCA H., a large one for BROWNING, a large one for Martin, a large one for HAMBRICK, and a large one for ANDERSON. Each monument is decorated with flowers.

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A photograph of a woman with long brown hair and a man wearing a blue shirt and a black baseball cap with "VETERAN" written on it. They are both smiling.

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THANK YOU FIRST RESPONDERS!

A graphic of the American flag, with the stars and stripes represented by horizontal bars of different colors (blue, white, red, yellow, green, black).

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Ways to Thank and Show Your Support for Our Community's First Responders

- 1 Say thanks to a first responder, in person or on social media.
- 2 Send a handwritten note expressing your gratitude to a local department or agency.

Continued on page 19

COURAGE IN EVERY CALL

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Continued from page 18

Parents and teachers can help kids create handmade thank-you cards to deliver to first responders.

- 3 Have breakfast or lunch delivered to a local department or agency, enlisting neighbors or coworkers to help finance the gesture.
- 4 Consider making a donation to a local fire, EMS or police department, or to an organization that supports first responders and their families.
- 5 If you own a business, consider offering a courtesy discount for first responders!



Every day, hundreds of thousands of men and women protect and serve, often putting their own lives at risk.

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