

The Marshall Times

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CALVERT CITY RIVER FOLK FEST OCTOBER 2-3

By Blair Travis
City of Calvert City

CALVERT CITY - Bluegrass music, fall shopping and free family fun will fill Memorial Park Oct. 2-3 as Calvert City River Folk Fest welcomes residents and visitors to spend part of their fall break in Calvert City.

Organized by the City of Calvert City and Calvert Area Development Association, the two-day festival offers free admission, live music, arts and crafts vendors, petting zoo, food trucks and free inflatables. Families are encouraged to bring lawn chairs, gather with friends and enjoy a fall weekend in the park.

The festivities begin Friday, Oct. 2, with vendors, food trucks and free inflatables from 5 to 7 p.m. An open-stage jam will take place from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m., followed by a performance by the South Union Bluegrass Band at 7 p.m.

The celebration continues Sat-

urday, Oct. 3, from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., with a full day of music, shopping, food and activities for children.

Saturday's entertainment lineup includes:

11 a.m.: Square dancers
Noon: Rebecca Frazier Trio
1:30 p.m.: Darren Nicholson Band
3 p.m.: Josh Williams and Don Rigsby

4:30 p.m.: Darin and Brooke Aldridge

Arts and crafts vendors, food trucks and free inflatables will be available throughout Saturday's festivities, giving families plenty to enjoy between performances.

Vendor registration is open through Sept. 25. Interested vendors can click

here to register through Eventeny. Whether planning a fall break outing or a weekend close to home, visitors are invited to make Calvert City part of their plans. Browse the vendor booths, grab a bite to eat and settle in for an aft



CADA INTRODUCES CAROL CAPPS THINK PINK WALK AND TRIVIA NIGHT

By Blair Travis
City of Calvert City

CALVERT CITY - The Calvert Area Development Association is bringing a new experience to its long-running Carol Capps Pink Walk on Saturday, Oct. 10, at the Calvert City Civic Center with the addition of the first-ever Pink Trivia Night.

The evening will begin with the Carol Capps Pink Walk at 5 p.m. Participants will recognize cancer survivors, remember those who have died and honor those who continue their fight against breast cancer.

Community members may purchase personalized yard signs to recognize loved ones affected by breast cancer. "In Honor" signs are available for survivors and those currently fighting breast cancer, while "In Memory" signs will remember those who have died from the disease. The signs will be displayed along the Pink Walk route.

In Memory and In Honor Signs are \$10 each and must be ordered by Oct. 1.

Think Pink Trivia Night will begin at 6 p.m. and last approximately one hour. Trivia will be organized by the Marshall County Public Library

and will test participants' knowledge of music, science and a variety of other subjects.

Teams are encouraged to gather six friends, decorate their tables and bring their own food and drinks for the evening. Tables are \$100, with proceeds benefiting Kentucky CancerLink. The organization assists local individuals facing cancer by providing wigs, caps, hotel accommodations, food and other necessities that may not be covered by insurance.

"The Carol Capps Pink Walk has always been an important opportunity to raise awareness and bring our community together to support those affected by cancer," CADA President Brittany Story said. "We hope people will join us for the walk and stay for trivia. It is a fun new way to spend time together while raising money for a cause that directly helps individuals and families in our area."

A silent auction will also be held during the event. Businesses and individuals interested in donating an item may contact Story at brittanys@cfsvcs.com.

Community members are invited to participate in the walk, trivia night or both as Calvert City comes together to remember, celebrate and support those affected by cancer.

Calvert City mourns the loss of former Fire Chief Fred Ross

By Blair Travis
City of Calvert City

CALVERT CITY — Calvert City is mourning the loss of former Fire Chief Fred Ross, a longtime public servant whose leadership, dedication and commitment to the community spanned more than five decades.

Ross, 82, died Friday, Sept. 18. He served the Calvert City Fire Department for more than 50 years, including 25 years as fire chief.

"Fred was my fire chief," Mayor Gene Colburn said. "His commitment to this community was unwavering, and the safety and protection of our residents always came first. I saw firsthand the way he led the department. He knew what his firefighters needed, whether it was training, professional development, or simply encouragement to keep moving forward. He was a steady leader, and his commitment to the people of Calvert City was always a priority."

Ed Rendleman, along with a group of dedicated volunteers, helped organize the Calvert City Fire Department on Jan. 18, 1951, and went on to serve as fire chief. Years later, Rendleman's daughter, Sherry, began dating a man named Fred Ross, setting the stage for Ross's somewhat unconventional introduction to the fire service.

During one of Fred and Sherry's first dates, Fred was told it was time to meet her father. The conversation between Ed and Fred quickly turned from dating to the fire department. Rendleman made it clear that if Fred planned to keep seeing his daughter, joining the department would be strongly encouraged.

By the following Monday, Ross was in attendance at the fire department meeting.

Fred and Sherry eventually married, making Rendleman not only Ross's fire chief, but also his father-in-law. Ross joined the Calvert City Volunteer Fire Department in 1968. After serving under Rendleman, he later became fire chief, turning his future father-in-law's encouragement into a lifetime of service.

Retired Fire Chief Tim Davis, who succeeded Ross, said Ross's influence reached far beyond emergency response.

"He was a great teacher," Davis said. "I owe so much of what I know about the fire service to Fred and Ed, but Fred also taught me a lot about life. He believed that when you were a firefighter, you were held to a higher standard. You were expected to set an example for others. That was something he lived by and something he expected from the people who served with him."

Ross's leadership also left a lasting impression on those serving in the department today.

"Fred was a firm but fair chief," In-



terim Fire Chief Brett Norwine said. "When there was an incident, he was all business and he also had a way of making training and fire calls memorable. He introduced a lot of people to the fire service and helped shape the way many of us approach the job today."

Ross's service extended beyond Calvert City. He served two terms as president of the Jackson Purchase Firefighters Association and five years as a Kentucky Firefighters Association regional director. In 2015, he was inducted into the Kentucky Firefighters Association Hall of Fame.

Ross was also a U.S. Navy veteran and Navy Seabee who served during the Vietnam era and was later recalled to active duty during Operation Desert Storm. His life reflected a commitment to service, whether to his country, his fire department, or his community.

"Fred's legacy is bigger than the title he held," Colburn said. "It is in the firefighters he trained, the people he saved, the department he helped build and the example he left for those who came after him. We have lost a great leader, but what he gave to Calvert City will continue for generations."

The City of Calvert City extends its deepest condolences to the Ross family, current and former members of the Calvert City Fire Department, and all those whose lives were touched by Chief Ross during his many years of service.

FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS

Visitation for Ross will be held from 5 to 8 p.m. Friday, Sept. 25, at Calvert City United Methodist Church, 571 Oak Park Blvd. in Calvert City.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 26, at Calvert City United Methodist Church.

Fifth Avenue will be temporarily closed during the funeral procession to Calvert City Cemetery. The City Hall parking lot will be open for those who wish to gather and pay their respects as the procession passes.

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Teen drivers rewarded for safe habits during 12-week contest

By TOM LATEK
Kentucky Today

FRANKFORT, Ky. (KT) – First Lady Britainy Beshear joined state transportation officials and safety advocates Tuesday to reward the top five Kentucky Safe Teen Driving Challenge participants.

The winners demonstrated safe driving habits during the 12-week contest period aimed at improving driving behavior and enhancing highway safety. Cash prizes totaled \$10,000 from sponsors AAA Blue Grass, AAA East Central and Intoximeters.

The five teen winners were Brianna Frailey (1st place, \$3,000), Claire Lodge (2nd place, \$2,500), Abigail Beckman (3rd place, \$2,000), Zoey Tyrrell (4th place, \$1,500) and Haylee Emerson (5th place, \$1,000). The winners' ages ranged from 15 to



First Lady Britainy Beshear joined state transportation officials and safety advocates Tuesday to reward the top five Kentucky Safe Teen Driving Challenge participants. (FILE photo)

19 at the start of the challenge, which ran from April 24 to July 18.

“As the mom of two teenagers, nothing matters more than knowing they are safe, especially when they’re behind the wheel,” the First Lady said. “This contest is

a positive incentive for new drivers across the Commonwealth to be as safe as possible. Congratulations to our winners and thank you to every teen who took part in the challenge. Whether you walked away with a prize or not, thank you for making the

choice to help protect yourself and everyone on the roads.”

Overseen by the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet’s Office of Highway Safety, the challenge was powered by the Cambridge Mobile Telematics DriveWell Go app, which uses

smartphone data to measure speeding, hard braking, harsh acceleration and distracted driving. The app calculates scores and delivers personalized, regular feedback to drivers to help them improve habits along the way. More than 980,000 miles were

logged during the challenge, with 580 teen participants who met the thresholds of driving more than 100 miles and taking 30 trips during the contest. During the contest, many drivers reduced risky driving behaviors by at least 10%.

“This challenge is one of many efforts to promote safe driving behaviors that will last a lifetime and make our highways safer for everyone by preventing crashes,” said Transportation Secretary Rebecca Goodman. “Everyone who participated is truly a winner by getting valuable insights to help them become better, more confident drivers.”

Over the past three years in Kentucky, there have been more than 13,000 reported injuries and 197 tragic deaths resulting from crashes involving teenage drivers.

Kentucky general fund expected to grow 5.7%

By TOM LATEK
Kentucky Today

FRANKFORT, Ky. (KT) – The Consensus Forecasting Group (CFG), a panel of economists who offer their predications for state revenue, met Tuesday and predicted the General Fund will grow by 5.7 percent during the current Fiscal Year, but only 0.4 percent during FY 28.

The means state revenue will be an estimated \$16.894 billion, when FY 27 ends on June 30, 2027, and will reach \$16.955 billion for FY 28.

The official revenue estimate, issued in December 2025 by the CFG, called for a \$156 million revenue shortfall for the fiscal year that ended on June 30. However, largely due to an unexpectedly strong fourth quarter, revenue came in \$320.6 million more than originally forecast and exceeded the December 2025 estimate by \$476.6 million, indicating better than expected performance of Kentucky’s economy.

Surplus revenue in the General Fund is largely tied to the

sales tax and the individual income tax. For the year, sales tax receipts were 6.4 percent higher than the prior year. Performance of the sales tax improved in each quarter throughout FY26, with percentage growth of 3.9, 6.7, 7.2, and 8.0 percent, respectively for the four quarters.

Individual income tax receipts rose 4.6 percent in FY26 on the strength of estimated payments and net returns. Receipts for the year were \$247.3 million more than FY25 collections.

A strong fourth quarter, along with a better than forecast performance in both July and August, led to a call for the CFG to meet and issue a revised estimate, which they did on Tuesday, during a three hour long meeting.

The Office of State Budget Director prepares three scenarios for CFG members to consider when preparing their revenue forecasts, known as “Optimistic,” “Control,” and “Pessimistic,” which terms are self-explanatory, with “Control” being the

middle ground. The CFG can also develop their own outlook, independent of the three scenarios presented by the State Budget

Director’s office.

The CFG members unanimously agreed to adopt the “Pessimistic” revenue forecast, saying there is lots of

uncertainty because of current events taking place around the world.

If they would have gone with the Opti-

mistic scenario, that would have meant an additional \$196 million in revenue for FY 27 and \$158 million more the following year.

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McCracken County Board Approves LifeWise Programs at Three More Schools

PADUCAH, Ky. — The McCracken County Board of Education voted 3-2 Thursday to approve LifeWise Academy religious instruction programs at three additional district schools.

The programs were approved for Hendron Lone Oak and Lone Oak Elementary Schools and Reidland Intermediate School. The district previously approved LifeWise for Lone Oak Intermediate in September 2025 by a 4-1 vote.

LifeWise provides off-campus religious instruction during the school day for students whose parents choose to enroll them. The program is privately funded and operates outside school property. Kentucky Senate Bill 19, passed during the 2025 Regular Session, established a process for school boards to approve organizations providing “moral instruction.”

Seven community members addressed the board before Thursday’s vote, with speakers expressing both support and opposition. Concerns included volunteer security, the organization’s national structure and the loss of time in classes such as art and music for participating students.

Supporters emphasized that participation is voluntary and that volunteers undergo background checks required by the school system and state law.

“What I really appreciate about this program is that parents have a choice,” said Chris Newman, a LifeWise volunteer. “No one is being forced to do it.”

Board member Crystal Culp, who opposed the program’s initial adoption at Lone Oak Intermediate, presented arguments against expanding it. She said the district has incurred costs and administrative responsibilities associated with LifeWise, including legal work and managing student departures and returns.

Culp asked Board Attorney David Riley about legal expenses related to the program. Riley estimated the district had been charged approximately \$7,500.

“The cost to our district is real,” Culp said, citing administrative duties, logistical concerns, liability questions and the potential loss of educational opportunities in specials classes.

Culp also raised concerns about possible social division among students and the separation of church and state. She noted that several Kentucky school districts, including Warren County, Oldham County, Kenton County and Calloway County, have declined to adopt LifeWise.

Board member Tyler Parker strongly supported expansion. Parker said his daughter participated in LifeWise last year and enjoyed the program.

“This is a choice for parents,” Parker said. “They do not have to do this. They have the option to say no.”

Parker also pointed to LifeWise programs in nearby Graves County and Marshall County schools.

Board Chair Kelly Walker said she had heard strong support from constituents for providing the option. While she said it personally concerned her that students would miss art or music, she said the board’s decision focused on whether the district could operate the program logistically.

“We cannot vote based on the content of the program,” Walker said. “We are voting on whether the district can logistically do this.”

The 3-2 vote expands LifeWise programming to three more McCracken County schools.

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THURSDAY - DECEMBER 3rd. 2026



From Kentucky to Ireland: Fulbright researcher explores agricultural impacts on water quality

By Briana Fortunato
briana.fortunato@uky.edu

LEXINGTON, Ky.— Bill Ford, Ph.D., an associate professor in the University of Kentucky Department of Biosystems and Agricultural Engineering in the Martin-Gatton College of Agriculture, Food and Environment, specializes in hydrology and water quality. His research focuses on understanding how agricultural practices affect water as it moves through the landscape. In 2026, the Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program gave Ford the opportunity to approach those questions from a new perspective more than 4,000 miles away: in Ireland.

Established by Congress in 1946, the Fulbright Program is the U.S. government’s flagship international educational and cultural exchange program. The program supports students, scholars, teachers, artists and professionals from the United States and more than 160 countries in studying, teaching, conducting research and exchanging ideas. For university faculty and researchers, the Fulbright Scholar Program provides opportunities to build international connections, gain new perspectives in their fields and bring those experiences back to their students and

colleagues. From February through July, Ford worked with researchers at Teagasc, Ireland’s Agriculture and Food Development Authority. He was hosted by Per-Erik Mellander, Ph.D., a senior research officer in the Agricultural Catchments Programme (ACP).

During his time in Ireland, Ford worked primarily in rural areas, conducting agricultural research on farms, collaborating with scientists and farm advisors, and participating in outreach activities such as field days with students from Irish universities.

Ford’s project, “Advancing tools to manage phosphorus pollution in karst watersheds of Ireland,” focused on developing data-driven and process-based modeling tools to quantify the impacts of nutrient management on water quality in agricultural watersheds.

“Quantifying the impacts of agricultural practices on water quality is important because it has direct implications for food production, environmental health and human safety,” Ford said.

His choice of Ireland was intentional. Ford had already developed relationships with Irish researchers and explored opportunities to collaborate on research projects, mak-



Bill Ford and his children pose in front of Johnstown Castle, Ireland’s leading research center for soils and the rural environment where Ford conducted research during his Fulbright experience. Photo provided by Bill Ford

ing Ireland a natural fit for his Fulbright project. Teagasc’s ACP also has a world-renowned database of hydrologic and water-quality monitoring data collected at high temporal resolutions, providing valuable information for modeling.

“A major motivation for this project was to combine shared long-term datasets for watersheds here in Kentucky with those collected in Ireland for model development and testing,” Ford said.

Karst landscapes are a shared feature of Ireland and Kentucky, but their impacts on water quality are not well understood. Karst landscapes develop when water dissolves limestone and other soluble rocks, creating features such as caves, sinkholes, sinking streams and springs. Underground pathways can influence how quickly water and contaminants move

through a watershed, creating complex relationships between what happens on the land and what ultimately reaches waterways.

Ireland’s karst landscapes are less mature and have differing soil characteristics from Kentucky’s, giving researchers an opportunity to compare how these differences affect water movement and water quality. Agricultural and environmental policies in Ireland, including those related to fertilization and livestock stocking rates, also differ from those in Kentucky. These contrasts provide an opportunity to better understand agricultural watersheds by comparing landscapes with shared characteristics but different histories, climates and management practices, laying the groundwork for research with potential global impact.

Research outcomes

The collaboration has produced an empirical risk assessment tool using comparisons from the Kentucky and Ireland watersheds, among other global datasets. The tool was presented in June 2026 at the BIOGEOMON conference in Sweden. In addition, several articles from the work are currently in preparation for journal submission.

This work also has potential applications beyond the research community. In Ireland, agricultural and environmental policies, including those related to fertilization and livestock stocking rates, provide another area where the research could help inform water-quality management.

Although Ford’s Fulbright experience ended in July, the partnerships and research it helped establish are continuing. He plans

to return to Ireland to attend Catchment Science 2027, an international conference hosted by the ACP in Wexford that will bring together scientific presentations, panel discussions and contributions from farmers and other stakeholders.

He also plans to continue building collaborations in Ireland and throughout Europe while using the knowledge and data developed through the project to advance water-quality research at UK.

Ford acknowledges the Fulbright Commission in Ireland and Geological Survey Ireland for their support of the award and valuable opportunities to connect with fellow U.S. Fulbright scholars.

For Ford, the value of the Fulbright extends beyond the research findings themselves. His family traveled with him, and his children attended school there, allowing them to become part of the local community and experience a different culture and lifestyle firsthand.

“The Fulbright was a once-in-a-lifetime experience that I would highly recommend to anyone considering,” Ford said. “Personally, the program allowed my family and I to immerse in a culture and lifestyle that we could not have experienced with short-term visits.”

Abigail Barnes Brings 17 Years of Legal Experience Back to Smithland

Staff Report

For Attorney Abigail “Abbie” Barnes, returning to Smithland represents more than establishing a law practice—it is a return to where her legal career began.

Barnes, located at 100 West Adair Street in Smithland, Kentucky, has been practicing law for 17 years. Her practice focuses primarily on criminal defense and divorce cases, areas where she says being a strong advocate for her clients is one of the most rewarding parts of her work.

Barnes began her legal career as a public defender. That early experience gave her an opportunity to work directly with people facing difficult circumstances and helped shape her approach to practicing law.

“I enjoy being an



advocate and bringing justice for people,” Barnes said.

Her commitment to the profession extends well beyond meeting with clients and appearing in court. Barnes spends time researching cases and reading law every day, keeping up with the continually changing legal landscape.

She is licensed to practice law in both Kentucky and Southern Illinois. Over the years, she has also shared her knowledge and experience with other members of the legal profession, including speaking to

the McCracken County Bar Association.

Barnes said her career as an attorney has exceeded her expectations. While she did not come from a family filled with lawyers, she does have one family connection to the profession—her aunt was also an attorney.

After 17 years in the legal field, Barnes said returning to the Smithland area gives her a feeling of coming full circle. It is the community where she began her career, making her return especially meaningful.

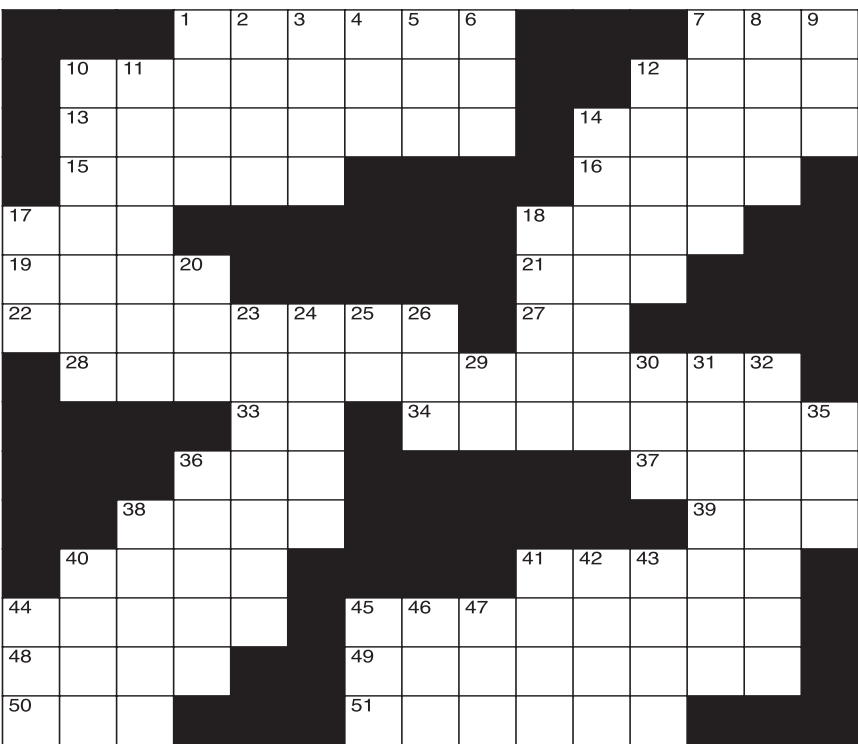
Barnes and her husband, James, live in the Smithland area. Today, she continues serving clients through her practice while bringing years of courtroom and legal experience back to the community where her professional journey began.

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Crossword Puzzle



CLUES ACROSS

1. A place for worship

7. Referee declaration

10. Torsos

12. Used to introduce something

13. Healing method

14. Takes to the sea

15. Make law

16. French coastal city

17. Hawaiian dish

18. Young of domestic cattle

19. Women’s undergarments

21. 60-minute intervals (abbr.)

22. One after another

27. It’s a hot topic these days

28. Folk band frontman
33. They precede C

34. Heavenly

36. Fiddler crabs

37. Major Hindu deity

38. Hebrew given name

39. Cost per mile

40. __ Romeo, car

41. Rural municipality in Manitoba

44. Narratives

45. “A tragedy had __ him”

48. Iranian city

49. Praises publicly

50. Founding Father Franklin

51. Herbal tea

CLUES DOWN

1. Indian unit of mass

2. “Tears in Heaven” singer Clapton

3. Part of a sailing vessel

4. Part of (abbr.)

5. Polynesian garland of flowers

6. Keyboard key

7. One who steals

8. Large oven

9. Former CIA

10. Idea

11. Solomon Islands capital

12. Afrikaans

14. Remove thatch

17. Television network

18. Jalen Brunson is one

20. Title of respect

23. Flowering trees

24. Occurring in a tube
25. Exists

26. Woman (French)

29. Expression of doubt

30. NHL legend Bobby

31. Accomplished

32. Makes slightly wet

35. National Assn. of Manufacturers

36. Not sated

38. Poe’s middle name

40. Swiss river

41. Rhythmic pattern in Indian music

42. “Shane” actor Ladd

43. Popular whodunit board game

44. Bar bill

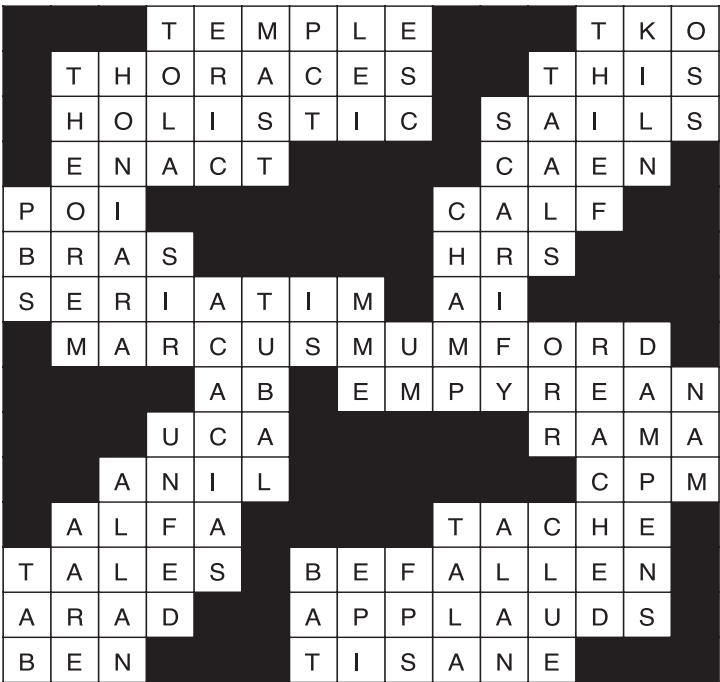
45. Ballplayer’s tool

46. Indicates near

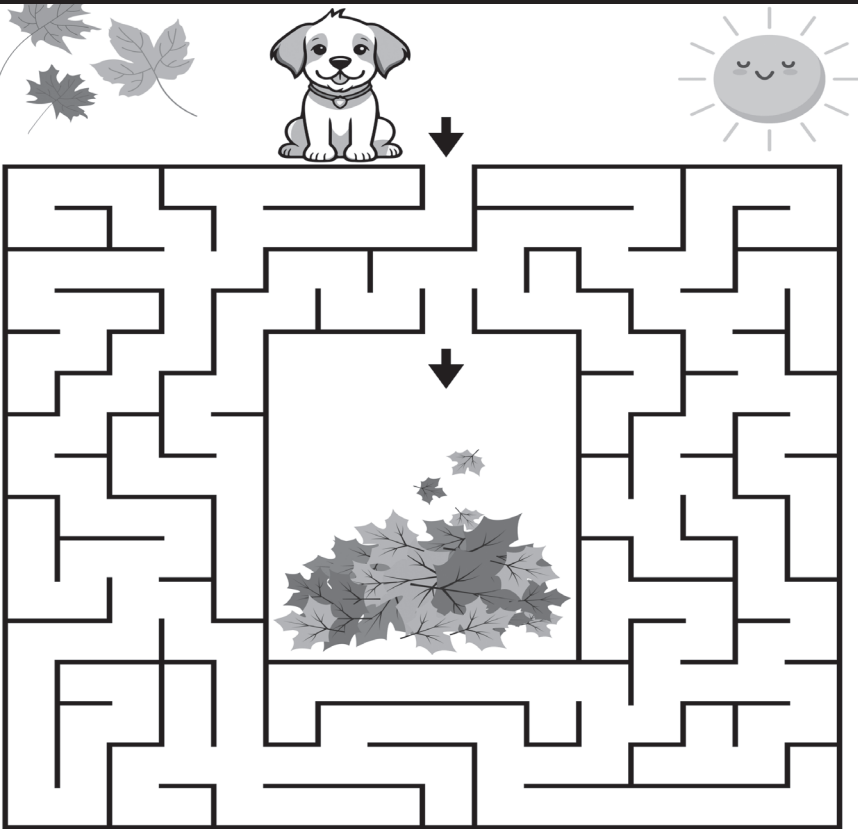
47. Feet per second

Puzzle Solutions on B14

PUZZLE SOLUTION



Maze Craze



Word Search

HUNTING & FISHING WORD SEARCH

F N G O Q U A R R Y G B R A U T Q Q N M
T I T C D S H I G M F I A B Q M D S D R Q
T W F I S A V E A P U I I G V K S F E C Q
D R D Y A N U H A B I T A T L E G B C O H
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G H I W M G I H U H P N H S L I B E K H
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Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

ANSWERS IN THE B SECTION WORDS

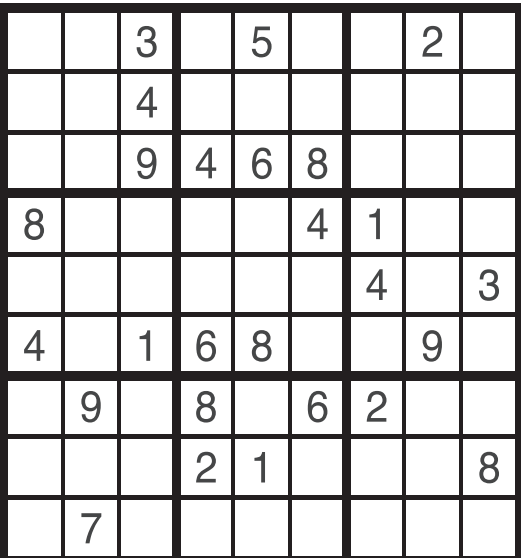
- ANGLER
- BAG LIMIT
- BAIT
- BLINDS
- BOBBER
- CAMO
- CAMOUFLAGE
- CASTING
- CATCH
- DECOY
- FLETCHING
- GAME
- HABITAT
- HARVEST
- LICENSE
- LURE
- NET
- POACHING
- QUARRY
- SCENT
- SEASON
- TACKLE
- TRACKING
- WILDERNESS

Sudoku Puzzle

How it Works:

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

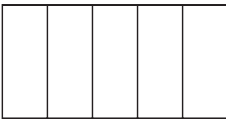
ANSWERS IN THE B SECTION



Word Scramble

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to hunting and fishing.

RFELI



Answer: Rifle

Guess Who?

GUESS WHO?

I am an actor born on September 22, 1987, in England. I was a talented choir singer as a child and was offered an opportunity to join a prestigious choir. I ended up playing a child villain in a series of films based on books about wizards. Most recently I reprised the role on stage.

Answer: Tom Felton

IF IT MATTERS TO YOU, IT MATTERS TO US. THANKS FOR READING!

Crypto Fun



Solve the code to discover words related to hunting and fishing. Each number corresponds to a letter. (Hint: 18 = I)

- A.

17 23 1 16

Clue: Wild animals hunted
- B.

25 13 8 5 20 9

Clue: Prize for an accomplishment
- C.

22 18 26 16 4 24 16

Clue: Document granting permission
- D.

16 19 14 18 5 1 16 4 25

Clue: Gear

Answers: A. game B. trophy C. license D. equipment

Coloring Fun

Color the picture in your favorite fall colors.



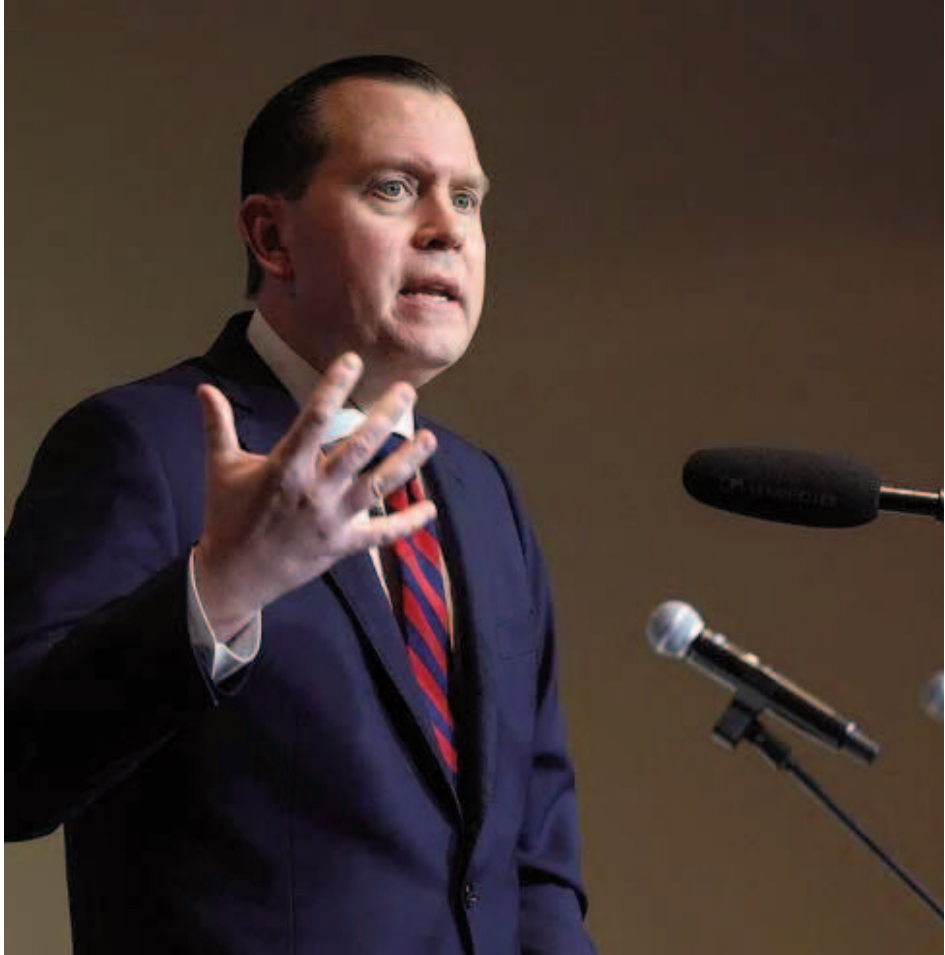
Coalition of states, including KY back protections for female athletes

BY TOM LATEK
KENTUCKY TODAY

FRANKFORT, Ky. (KT) – Kentucky Attorney General Russell Coleman is continuing his efforts to protect women as Congress considers landmark legislation on the future of college sports. Joining with more than a dozen other at-

torneys general, General Coleman is urging House and Senate leadership to maintain necessary protections for women’s privacy, safety and opportunities in S.4668, the Protect College Sports Act of 2026, before the bill heads to the President’s desk. “Men don’t belong in women’s sports—period,” Coleman said. “As the Attorney Gen-

eral and a father of two daughters, it’s my duty to keep men off women’s playing fields and out of their locker rooms.” In the letter, the attorneys general write: “Republican State Attorneys General have fought tirelessly to close all loopholes that allow men to participate in women’s sports, and we have prevailed in the courts. Twenty-seven states currently have laws that prohibit males from playing on women’s sports teams. It would be a grave disservice to the people of those states if we do not make clear that they, through their legislatures, remain empowered to enact and enforce such laws.” “To protect college sports, you have to protect women’s sports,” the attorneys general continue. “As Attorneys General, we have vigorously defended fairness in women’s sports and have successfully stood up for women’s opportunities, privacy, and safety. We understand this is a challenging problem, and we ask that you speak clearly to ensure that we can continue to en-



Attorney General Russell Coleman provides an update on legal action aimed at protecting families from online predatory businesses at the Faith and Public Policy Forum hosted by the Kentucky Baptist Convention. (Kentucky Today/Robin Cornetet)

force state laws that prohibit biological males from competing in female sports.” Coleman joined the Mississippi and Louisiana-led letter, along with attorneys general from Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Idaho, Kansas, Montana, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Carolina, South Dakota and Utah. Coleman has long championed protecting women’s sports. In 2024, he successfully led a coalition of his fellow AGs all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court to block the Biden Administration’s Title IX regulations. After President Trump was reelected, Coleman was invited to the White House to meet the U.S. Attorney General and discuss collaborations to protect women student-athletes. He also joined a multi-state coalition urging the NCAA to restore titles, awards and records to female athletes who competed against transgender competitors.

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- Home online bidding begins closing Saturday, October 3, @ 10:00 AM

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- Previews will be Saturday, September 19, from 2:00-3:30 PM
- Day of sale starting at 8:00 AM or by appointment

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PERSONAL PROPERTY BEGINNING AND ENDING DATES & TIMES

- Contents bidding begins on Tuesday, September 29, @ 6:00 PM
- Contents bidding begins closing on Tuesday, October 13, @ 6:00 PM

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Coalition of states, including Ky., back protections for female athletes

By TOM LATEK
Kentucky Today

FRANKFORT, Ky. (KT) – Kentucky Attorney General Russell Coleman is continuing his efforts to protect women as Congress considers landmark legislation on the future of college sports.

Joining with more than a dozen other attorneys general, General Coleman is urging House and Senate leadership to maintain necessary protections for women’s privacy, safety and opportunities in S.4668, the Protect College Sports Act of 2026, before the bill heads to the President’s desk.

“Men don’t belong in women’s sports—period,” Coleman said. “As the Attorney General and a father of two daughters, it’s my duty to keep men off women’s playing fields and out of their



Attorney General Russell Coleman provides an update on legal action aimed at protecting families from online predatory businesses at the Faith and Public Policy Forum hosted by the Kentucky Baptist Convention. (Kentucky Today/Robin Cornetet)

locker rooms.”

In the letter, the attorneys general write: “Republican State Attorneys General have fought tirelessly to close all loopholes that allow men to participate in women’s sports, and we have prevailed in the courts. Twenty-seven states currently have laws that prohibit males from playing on women’s sports teams. It would be a grave disservice to the people of those states if we do not make clear that they, through

their legislatures, remain empowered to enact and enforce such laws.”

“To protect college sports, you have to protect women’s sports,” the attorneys general continue. “As Attorneys General, we have vigorously defended fairness in women’s sports and have successfully stood up for women’s opportunities, privacy, and safety. We understand this is a challenging problem, and we ask that you speak clearly to ensure that we can continue to enforce state laws that prohibit biological males from competing in female sports.”

Coleman joined the Mississippi and Louisiana-led the letter, along with attorneys general from Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Idaho, Kansas, Montana, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Carolina, South

Dakota and Utah.

Read the letter at https://www.ag.ky.gov/Press%20Release%20Attachments/PCSA%20Letter.9.22.26%20FINAL_.pdf.

Coleman has long championed protecting women’s sports. In 2024, he successfully led a coalition of his fellow AGs all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court to block the Biden Administration’s Title IX regulations. After President Trump was reelected, Coleman was invited to the White House to meet the U.S. Attorney General and discuss collaborations to protect women student-athletes. He also joined a multi-state coalition urging the NCAA to restore titles, awards and records to female athletes who competed against transgender competitors.

UK scientists build most complete genetic map of the brown rat

By Jordan Strickler
jstrickler@uky.edu

Lexington, Ky.— University of Kentucky scientists at the Martin-Gatton College of Agriculture, Food and Environment (CAFE) have helped create a nearly complete genetic map of the brown rat, an animal that has helped researchers study human health and disease for more than a century.

Published in Cell Genomics, a new genetic map fills in parts of rat DNA that scientists previously struggled to read. By comparing the genomes of eight different laboratory rat strains, UK researchers are giving scientists a better way to see how the animals differ genetically.

Rats are especially important because they are larger than mice and have complex behaviors that make them useful for certain types of research, including studies of aging.

“One of the most powerful mechanisms in genomic evolution is the replication of small, gene-containing regions of the genome,” said Ted Kalbfleisch, Ph.D., professor in the Department of Veterinary Science at the Maxwell H. Gluck Equine Research Center, who was a part of the study.

Until recently, though, scientists had a less complete genetic map of the rat than they had for humans or mice.

One problem was

that some sections of DNA are extremely repetitive, like trying to put together a giant jigsaw puzzle in which thousands of pieces have nearly the same pattern. Older sequencing methods could identify many of the pieces but could not always determine exactly where they belonged.

Newer technology can read much longer stretches of DNA at once. Using these methods, the researchers produced what is called a telomere-to-telomere (T2T) genome assembly. Telomeres are structures found at the ends of chromosomes, so the term generally means researchers are trying to read a chromosome continuously from one end to

the other.

The result was a much more complete picture of the rat genome.

Sixteen of the rat’s 22 chromosomes were assembled from end to end without gaps. The new genome contained only seven remaining gaps, compared with 164 in an earlier high-quality rat genome. Researchers also added roughly 60 million DNA building blocks to the assembled chromosomes.

Seeing those previously hidden areas allowed the researchers to find genetic information that had been missed before. Using information collected from 19 different types of rat tissue, they identified dozens of possible new gene-coding sequences and previously unknown portions of genes.

“Once duplicated, either the original gene or the copy is free to change since there is still perform its function,” Kalbfleisch said. “Several rat genomes recently developed in our lab, which are very accurate and complete, have revealed many duplication events that are present in some strains but not others. The improved genome also revealed something unusual about the rat’s X and Y chromosomes, which help determine biological sex.”

In many mammals,

including humans and mice, small matching regions of the X and Y chromosomes contain genes and assist the chromosomes in pairing when sperm cells are produced. The researchers found that rats appear to accomplish this differently.

The matching region they identified contained repetitive DNA rather than protein-coding genes, providing scientists with another example of how sex chromosomes can evolve differently among species.

The researchers then went beyond studying one rat genome. They combined genome information from eight laboratory rat strains to create a pangenome — a collection of genome sequences from many individuals of the same species. By comparing these versions, scientists can see differences they might miss if they relied on only one genome.

Those comparisons revealed important differences in DNA regions linked to the immune system. Some regions varied greatly from one rat strain to another, which could help explain why different strains respond differently to disease.

That information could be valuable because of how often laboratory rats are used as models for human diseases. Knowing more precisely how one rat strain dif-

fers genetically from another may help researchers better interpret experimental results, choose the most appropriate animals for future studies and identify potential drug targets.

The researchers said the eight-strain pangenome is an important beginning, but it does not represent every brown rat. Adding genomes from a wider variety of rats could eventually provide an even more complete picture of the species’ genetic diversity and the genetic basis of many of the traits we study in rats to better understand their analogous human traits.

“These rats were selectively bred to mirror traits found in humans, such as hypertension, and the adverse effects of these traits such as stroke and organ disease,” Kalbfleisch said. “We can now take these very accurate genomes and compare them in a graph to reveal these duplication events or, as they are more commonly known, structural variants. This lets us study how these copies function differently across tissues and how they may create disease conditions or protect tissues from damage.”

Learn more about the Department of Veterinary Science at Martin-Gatton CAFE at vetsci.mgcafe.uky.edu.

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Livingston County
CO-OP Students



Thorough a partnership with Livingston Central High School, students Ireland Burns (Ledbetter) and Ty Williams (Smithland) are gaining valuable hands-on experience, developing real-world skills, and growing into tomorrow's leaders in the community. These students are working at the Livingston Court House and helping with the County Clerk's office with a variety of work responsibilities.

Photo provided to KPI Newspaper Group

Read your Bible & Pray every day

Ledbetter Senior Citizen's seek volunteers for 'Trunk or Treat' event

By Rhonda Foster
Livingston Ledger Writer

Ledbetter Senior Citizen's is seeking community volunteers to help with an upcoming Trunk or Treat event to be held at the Senior Citizen's building located at 2401 Rudd Spees Road in Ledbetter, Kentucky. Residents are encouraged to volunteer,

decorate a vehicle and help provide a welcoming Halloween activity for local families. The event will be held on Saturday, Oct. 24, from 9 a.m. This is a fun family event that allows kids to kick off Halloween a week early, If you would like to sign up to participate you may call 270-625-3972.

McDonald's plans \$8.5 billion modernization

STAFF REPORT

McDonald's plans to invest \$8.5 billion over the next decade to modernize its restaurants worldwide as the fast-food industry faces flat customer traffic and rising costs.

The company said improvements will include redesigned kitchens, larger play areas, delivery-order lockers and expanded use of artificial intelligence to improve order accuracy, inventory management and scheduling. McDonald's says



its AI-powered drive-thru system, Archy, can take orders in English and Spanish with about 90% accuracy.

The company also plans to expand hand-breaded chicken, introduce grilled chicken sandwiches

and wraps, and test items such as egg bites and protein-focused bowls.

McDonald's U.S. President Skye Anderson said consumers increasingly want smaller, protein-rich meals. The company also plans to maintain a focus on value as inflation and cost-of-living pressures continue.

U.S. franchisees will receive some rent relief and capital support to help cover the modernization costs.



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NOTICE TO 2026 COUNTY TAXPAYERS

The 2026 Livingston County Property Tax Bills will be mailed September 28th, 2026.
If you do not receive your bill within a reasonable amount of time,
please contact the Sheriff's Office, at 270-928-2122.

TAX BILLS WILL BE PAYABLE ON OCTOBER 1, 2026.

You may pay your tax bill in person at the Livingston County's Sheriff's Office at,
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When mailing payment, please include phone number if paying by check or money order.
If you want a PAID receipt by return mail, please include a self-addressed stamped envelope.

All payments can be mailed to the Livingston County Sheriff's Office
at P.O. Box 340, Smithland, KY 42081.

There is also a tax payment drop box after hours,
located at the west entrance of the County Building and Library.

You may also pay your tax bill ONLINE at www.livingstoncountyky.org/sheriff.php
Again, a convenience fee will be charged when using this method of payment.

THE 2% DISCOUNT PERIOD WILL BE IN EFFECT THROUGH NOVEMBER 1, 2026
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5% PENALTY: January 1, 2027 - January 31, 2027
21% PENALTY: February 1, 2027 - April 15, 2027

TAX COLLECTION OFFICE HOURS: MONDAY-FRIDAY 8:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.
If your tax bill should be paid by a mortgage company or new owner,
promptly forward to the party responsible for the bill.

In accordance with KRS 132.122 all delinquent tax bills will be transferred to the
County Clerk's Office at the close of business on April 15, 2027, with additional fees.

UK conference to showcase future of building with cross-laminated timber

By Jordan Strickler
jstrickler@uky.edu

Lexington, Ky.— Wood has been used to build homes and other structures for thousands of years. Now, new technology is allowing builders to use it in ways that would have been difficult to imagine just a few decades ago.

Chad Niman, forest products Extension specialist in the University of Kentucky Department of Forestry and Natural Resources says cross-laminated timber (CLT) is changing the way that structures are built around the U.S. and world, making it important to keep up with the development of this construction method to improve the health of our forests and buildings.

The UK Martin-Gatton College of Agriculture, Food and Environment will bring together experts from across the nation for the 2026 Regional Cross-Laminated Timber Conference, Oct. 12-14 at The Campbell House in Lexington.

The three-day conference will focus on CLT and other types of mass timber. CLT is made by compressing layers of lumber in alternating perpen-

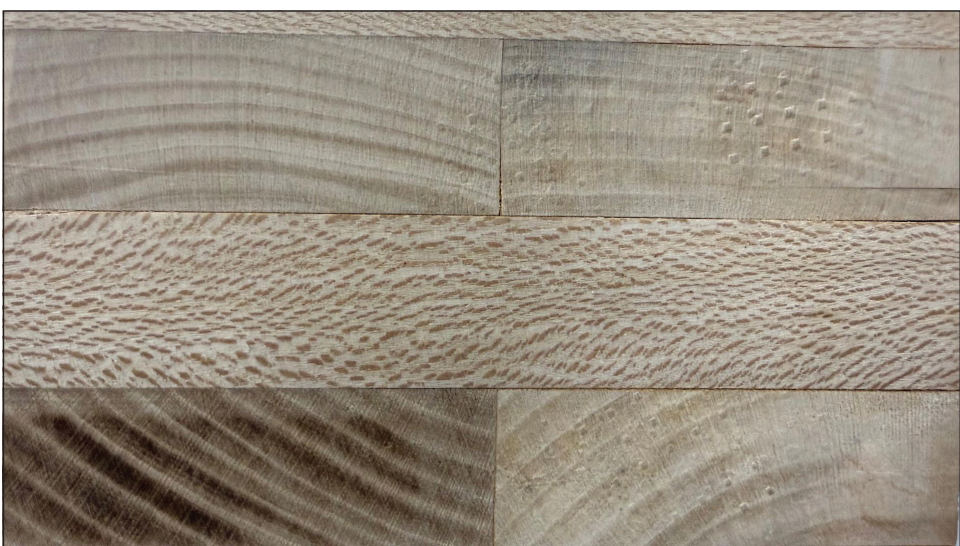
dicular directions and bonding them together. It is known for creating panels strong enough to serve as walls, floors and roofs.

“They can be used to build schools, apartments, campus buildings, hotels, airport terminals and many other large structures, even skyscrapers,” Niman said.

The conference will bring together researchers, architects, engineers, builders, forest industry professionals and others interested in how mass timber could change construction while creating new markets for wood and diminishing lumber demand.

For the Bluegrass State, the subject is especially important because much of the state is covered by hardwood forests. One topic has particular importance for Kentucky: finding new uses for hardwood trees that currently have limited markets.

“The state tree, the tulip poplar, was the first hardwood species added to the standard for CLT,” Niman said. “Researchers at UK and other universities are studying whether additional hardwood species that currently



Cross-laminated timber can be used to build schools, apartments, campus buildings, hotels, airport terminals and many other large structures. Photo by Martin-Gatton CAFE.

have lower commercial value could someday become part of a growing mass timber industry.”

Patricia Layton, strategic advisor for Clemson University’s Wood Utilization + Design Institute and professor emerita of forestry, will give a keynote presentation on CLT and wood design. Layton has spent much of her career working with forestry, wood products and sustainable construction and is responsible for catalyzing CLT advancement in South Carolina and beyond.

Other speakers hail from Michigan State University, Virginia Tech, West Virginia University, Clemson University and Wood-Works, among other organizations. Their

presentations will cover subjects ranging from structural engineering and building codes to market growth and the use of hardwoods in CLT.

Jeffrey Stringer, professor emeritus in the UK Department of Forestry and Natural Resources, will discuss the potential for benefiting white oak regeneration by using other underused hardwoods in CLT.

“Creating higher-value uses for some of these trees could provide another market for woodland owners while encouraging active forest management,” Niman said. “At the same time, producing construction materials closer to where they are used could keep more of the economic

benefits within forested communities.”

Participants will have opportunities to discuss what is needed to grow the CLT market across Kentucky and the surrounding region. A Tuesday afternoon panel and roundtable focuses on market development and allows attendees to share ideas, concerns and experiences.

The conference begins Monday, Oct. 12, with registration and a regional planning meeting. An optional evening event includes a tour and tasting at Buffalo Trace Distillery followed by dinner.

Tuesday, Oct. 13, contains presentations examining mass timber from several angles. Speakers will discuss how the

material is designed, tested and used in buildings, along with construction codes, engineering, markets and addressing the challenges that can slow wider adoption.

On Wednesday, Oct. 14, participants can take part in an optional bus tour to Cincinnati Public Radio’s headquarters in Cincinnati. The building is a real-world example of mass timber construction, using CLT and other engineered wood products throughout its structure. Built in only 34 days, it showcases the incredible rapid construction timelines of CLT buildings.

Conference registration is \$450. The optional Monday evening dinner and tasting and Wednesday CLT building tour each cost an additional \$100.

The conference will be held at The Campbell House, 1375 S. Broadway in Lexington. Registration, hotel information, the complete agenda and speaker information are available through the Kentucky Mass Timber conference website. Any specific questions can be directed to Chad Niman at Chad.Niman@uky.edu.

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UK neurologist’s research may ID hidden brain cancers

By TOM LATEK
Kentucky Today

LEXINGTON, Ky. (KT) – A University of Kentucky neurologist is proposing a new diagnostic roadmap that could help doctors identify hidden brain cancers earlier and prevent patients from undergoing months of treatment for the wrong condition.

In a paper published in the *Journal of the Neurological Sciences*, Dr. Jagannadha “Jay” Avasarala, in the UK College of Medicine Department of Neurology, describes a workflow that adds cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) liquid biopsy to the evaluation of certain patients with suspected autoimmune encephalitis. Autoimmune encephalitis occurs when the immune system mistakenly attacks the brain, causing symptoms that can include mem-



UK neurologist Jay Avasarala’s research could help doctors identify hidden brain cancers earlier. (UK photo)

ory and behavioral changes, seizures and altered consciousness. Diagnosing the condition can be difficult because some cancers affecting the brain and central nervous system can cause similar symptoms and even look like inflammation on brain imaging and spinal fluid testing. Avasarala says current diagnostic ap-

proaches are primarily designed to identify antibodies associated with autoimmune encephalitis, rather than cancer. When antibody testing is negative — known as seronegative autoimmune encephalitis — an underlying tumor can sometimes go undetected. Research cited in the paper illustrates the potential consequenc-

es. In the largest multicenter study of autoimmune encephalitis misdiagnosis, brain tumors accounted for 9.5% of misdiagnoses, and patients waited a median of 16 months before receiving the correct diagnosis. One in five patients in the study experienced complications from immunotherapy they did not need.

“This is designed to save lives,” Avasarala said. “We need to recognize when the underlying problem may be cancer and use the tools available to find what might otherwise be missed.” Avasarala’s proposed approach uses liquid biopsy to look for genetic and molecular signs of

cancer in CSF, the fluid surrounding the brain and spinal cord. Because CSF is often already collected through a spinal tap when patients are evaluated for autoimmune encephalitis, additional molecular testing could provide another way to search for cancers that conventional testing may miss. Avasarala identifies five warning signs that should prompt doctors to consider liquid biopsy testing. They include unusual symptoms in patients who test negative for known antibodies, unclear MRI findings, failure to respond to initial treatment, a current or previous cancer diagnosis, and inflammatory spinal fluid when conventional testing for cancer is negative. The tests themselves are not experimental. Some can return results within hours.

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Meet the 2026 candidates & Lions Club Pancake Breakfast

set for
October
10th

By Blair Travis
City of Calvert City

Calvert City folks can start their Saturday with breakfast and then hear directly from local candidates as two separate community events take place Saturday, Oct. 10, at the Calvert City Civic Center. The Calvert City Lions Club will host its traditional Pancake Breakfast from 7 to 10 a.m. The breakfast will include pancakes, bacon and sausage for \$10 per person. Children

younger than 6 may eat free with a paying adult. “The pancake breakfast has been a long-standing tradition for the Calvert City Lions Club and is something we look forward to hosting for our community,” Lions Club President Jeremy Powell said. “It gives us a chance to spend time with our neighbors while supporting the work our club does throughout the year. We appreciate everyone who continues to come out and support this tradition.” Following the breakfast, the Calvert Area Development Association (CADA) will host **Meet Your 2026 Candidates** beginning at 10

a.m. at the Civic Center. The candidate forum is a separate event from the Lions Club Pancake Breakfast, and there is no fee to attend the forum. Candidates for Calvert City mayor and county commissioners, Marshall County judge-executive and Marshall County Board of Education candidates have been invited to participate. “Hosting Meet Your Candidates allows members of our community to hear directly from the people seeking to represent them,” CADA President Britany Story said. “Our goal is to provide an organized, welcoming setting where residents can learn more about the candidates, their



priorities and their perspectives before heading to the polls in November.” Each participating candidate will have up to five minutes to address attendees and share information about themselves, their priorities, and their reasons for seeking office. CADA is also accepting

questions from members of the community to help guide the forum. Residents may submit questions through the Calvert Area Development Association Facebook page prior to the event. Submitted questions may be used during the forum to give candidates an opportunity to

address topics that are important to local residents. The **Calvert City Lions Club Pancake Breakfast** will be held from **7 to 10 a.m.** Saturday, Oct. 10, at the Calvert City Civic Center. Breakfast is \$10 per person, with children younger than 6 admitted free with a paying adult. **Meet Your Candidates**, hosted separately by the Calvert Area Development Association, will begin at 10 a.m. at the Calvert City Civic Center. Admission to the candidate forum is free and open to the public.

KENTUCKY
NEWS BRIEFS

Upcoming Harvest Moon
Paddle Events

Harvest Moon Paddle
at Kentucky Dam Village

- Date & Time:** Saturday, September 26, 2026, at 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM
- Venue:** Kentucky Dam Village State Resort Park (Kayak Boat Launch), Gilbertsville, KY
- Description:** Paddle under the glowing harvest moon with beautiful lake views in a relaxing evening experience. All skill levels are welcome. You can bring your own kayak or use first-come, first-serve Tennessee Riverline kayaks.
- Cost/Tickets:** Free to join if you bring your own equipment; check the Kentucky Dam Village Facebook Event for updates on kayak availability.

Full Harvest Moon Paddle #2
at Barren River Lake

- Date & Time:** Sunday, September 27, 2026, launching at 6:30 PM (return between 8:00 PM – 8:30 PM)
- Venue:** Barren River Lake State Resort Park (Campground Cove), Lucas, KY
- Description:** Join a park naturalist for a sunset and moonrise paddle while learning fun moon facts around the lakeshore. Canoes, paddles, PFDs, whistles, and glowsticks are provided. Advance registration is required by 5:00 PM on the day of the program.
- Cost/Tickets:** \$20.00 per person.
Call 270-646-2151 to register.

South Marshall Elementary Gym named in honor of longtime Custodian Robert Phillips

Staff Report
Marshall County Daily

HARDIN, KY — The gymnasium at South Marshall Elementary will now bear the name of a man who spent more than two decades caring for it. The Marshall County Board of Education voted unanimously Tuesday night to name the gym in memory of longtime custodian Robert Phillips, who served the district for more than 20 years, the majority of them at South Marshall. Principal Brad Darnall brought the recommendation to the board. Phillips’ son, Brandon, was in attendance. Darnall told the board Phillips was far more than a custodian. To generations of students and staff, he said, Phillips was simply “Mr. Robert” — a fixture of the school known for his laugh, his sense of humor and the practical jokes he never seemed to run out of. More than anything, Darnall said, he was known for the relationships he built. The choice to name the gymnasium after Phillips carries extra weight because of his love for basketball. He took pride in keeping the gym floor



Photo courtesy of Marshall Schools

clean and polished, and he made a habit of checking in with students about how their games went, watching when he could. Phillips retired shortly before his death. Darnall said the school expected his retirement to be a quieter chapter, not a final one. “We expected that retirement would simply mean seeing him a little less often,” Darnall said. “We fully expected him to come back through the doors to visit, tell a story, pull a prank, talk basketball, or give someone a hard time. We never imagined we would be saying goodbye so soon.” Darnall said Phillips’ impact

on South Marshall can’t be measured in years worked or tasks completed. “His legacy is found in the generations of students who remember him, the coworkers who considered him family, and the countless stories that still begin with, ‘Do you remember when Robert...?’” Darnall said. School officials say naming the Robert Phillips Gymnasium is a lasting tribute to a man who gave decades of himself to South Marshall Elementary. Future students may never get to know Mr. Robert personally — but his name, and the game he loved, will remain part of the building he cared for.

Murray State Athletics unveils Price Family Videoboard

(MURRAY, Ky.) – Murray State Athletics has unveiled the Price Family Videoboard, a new center-hung display that will be installed inside the CFSB Center as part of the ongoing renovation of the home of Racer Basketball. The board ranks among the 10 largest basketball-specific videoboards in the country. It is named for the Price Family in recognition of their long-standing support of Murray State Athletics and the Murray community. The university says the display will be a signature feature of the arena, improving game presentation, giving fans more ways to engage and creating new revenue opportunities. The four-sided board will be 60% larger than the current display. Each panel measures 18.5 feet tall by 25.5 feet wide, and the system packs in more than 10 million pixels for live video, replays, stats, graphics, sponsor content and in-game entertainment. Four underbelly displays, each 6.5 feet by 10 feet, will give players, coaches and fans in the lower rows and courtside a better view. A winch system will let crews raise and lower the board to fit daily operations and the variety of events held at the arena. Murray State President Ron Patterson said the renovation is



an important investment in the university, its students and the broader Murray State community. He called the videoboard a highly visible centerpiece of that work. Vice President and Director of Athletics Nico Yantko said the board matches what school leaders envisioned when planning began. “This technology will completely change how we tell the story of Racer Basketball inside the arena,” he said. Dr. Matt Price said Murray State basketball has been part of his family’s story for generations. “We hope the Price Family Videoboard helps create unforgettable experiences for years to come,” Price said. The renovation will also add new ribbon boards and LED tables throughout the arena, creating a

more connected digital environment and giving the production team more flexibility with content. Formetco, the company behind the installation, said the arena will have more than 12.8 million pixels of LED technology overall, including 226 linear feet of ribbon displays and scorer’s tables. “This is far more than a scoreboard upgrade,” said Jeff Huffman, Formetco’s director of collegiate sports partnerships. He said the project will be recognized nationally and could serve as a model for other schools. The videoboard joins other work underway at the arena, including new premium offerings throughout the facility.

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Partnership aims to plant thousands of churches in South Asia

By **CHIP HUTCHESON**
Kentucky Today

The association will hold its annual meeting Monday at Edgewood Baptist Church, and IMB missionary Mitch Engelhart (his pseudonym) and Bro. Vee, a church planter in South Asia, will tell their story of how God is working in that region of the world. “We will respond by showing our commitment to adopt church planters and then we will pray for each other,” said John Franklin, associational mission strategist.

“God is on the move in this location, and there is a unique opportunity in this mo-

ment to reach people who walk in darkness to see a great light (Jesus),” Franklin added. “We as an association are seeking to join God in His work and the opportunity before is an unusual partnership.

“Mitch has a passion in teaching and making disciples who make disciples, and churches who plant churches who then plant churches. His intersection with Bro. Vee’s life in 2018 has greatly multiplied the number of churches being planted.”

Also, Franklin said the IMB is resourcing them with software that allows them to track, communicate

and strategize with reaching the nation where they are located.

“We have the opportunity to partner with brothers and sisters around the world. God is doing stuff, people are coming the Christ and they are willing to pay the price,” Mitch said.

He tells of a church planter who entered a village but was told to leave by a local resident. When the planter refused, his leg was broken. He recovered and then returned to the same village on his bicycle, and people there broke his other leg. “That kept him from doing anything,” said Mitch — at least

for a while. Network partnerships responded to buy him a motor bike, “so he now goes more places than ever before. Those are the people we are trying to engage. We want to give the nations as an inheritance to Jesus,” Mitch said.

Mitch and his family have been on the mission field since 2004, says that South Asia “is a harvest field. It is time to bring in the harvest — areas that were not receptive now are receptive. People are interested and there is spiritual openness in many countries.”

The Christian County Association has commitments

to fund about 5,000 church plants. Franklin said the goal is to have churches adopt enough church planters that as many as 10,000 churches can be planted in the next 10 years. Thus far one of the churches in the association has adopted 50 church planters, another church adopted 20 and a church that normally runs 17 people in worship has adopted five church planters — all in an effort to take the gospel to unreached people groups.

The IMB defines a people group as unreached when less than 2% of its population is evangelical Christian (UPG). A

people group is unengaged when no evangelical church-planting strategy is being implemented among them (UUPG).

The IMB has identified 3,150 people groups that remain unreached and unengaged. Of the 3,150 unengaged unreached people groups, less than 400 have populations exceeding 100,000.

Franklin said he is hopeful that the partnership model of the association can be mirrored by other associations in the U.S. in working with indigenous church planters.



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You just never know what you'll find at Between Friends

By **GREG LENEAVE**
KPI Publisher

There's an old saying that one person's "I don't need that anymore" can be another person's "Well, look what I found!"

That pretty much sums up a trip to Between Friends Consignment.

I recently stopped by to see what was happening, and according to owner Brenda Thompson, there's plenty happening. "We're staying busy and we are fully staffed," Brenda told me.

And if you've ever been around a busy consignment shop, you know "busy" can mean a whole lot of moving things around.

The seasons are changing, and the store is changing right along with them. New racks of clothing are steadily making their way onto the sales floor, while Halloween, Thanksgiving and Christmas merchandise is beginning to find its place throughout the store.

The funny part is, the merchandise doesn't seem to stay put for very long.

"People are buying quicker than we can put things out!" Brenda said.

Now, that's a good problem for a store owner to have.

More Than You Might Expect

If you haven't been to Between Friends lately, you may be surprised at what you'll find.

This is what many folks would call an upscale consignment store, and the furniture selection certainly makes that clear.

There are dining-room tables and chairs, including a dining set with six chairs and a hutch. There are other dining-room sets, too, along with king-size bedroom furniture, couches, attractive office chairs and plenty of other pieces for the home.

And then there's the baby equipment.

I have to admit, I didn't realize Between Friends carried so much of it. High chairs, strollers, swings, infant car seats and other baby necessities can be found among the merchandise.

That's one of the things I like about a place such as this: You can walk in looking for one thing and walk out having found three

things you didn't know you needed.

Of course, whether you actually needed those three things is another question entirely.

And Yes, They Have Plenty for the Men

One thing that deserves a little extra attention is the men's section.

It's doing quite well, and apparently

the gentlemen have caught on to the fact that Between Friends is worth checking on a regular basis.

Thompson says many men follow the store and come in once or twice a week to see what's new.

And I can understand why.

Just the other day, a gentleman spotted a Burberry coat origi-

nally valued at around \$2,000. The consignment price? \$600.

Now, I'm no expert on men's fashion, but I do know that when a \$2,000 coat has been marked down to \$600, you probably want to at least stop and take a look.

Thompson also encourages shoppers to keep an eye on the store's Facebook page. From time to time,

the store runs special sales that offer an additional percentage off already discounted prices.

In other words, that \$600 coat might be worth watching.

A Little Something Sparkly

Then there is the jewelry.

If you're anything

Continued on page 3

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Continued from page 2

like me, jewelry is one of those things that somehow manages to catch your eye even when you weren't planning to look.

The jewelry and silver collection at Between Friends is always worth a peek, and occasionally there are gold pieces available as well. Those pieces are thoroughly checked by an expert before being offered for sale.

Brenda recently told me, "We unloaded three carts full of jewelry today."

Three carts.

Folks, that's not a jewelry box. That's a jewelry expedition.

So, if you enjoy looking for a special piece, you might want to take your time around those cases.

And Don't Forget the Walls

Back over in the home section, you'll find plenty of wall art, including collectible pieces and more current styles.

Some have the kind of look you might see at Hobby Lobby or Kirkland's, but here's the part that may make you smile: many are priced 25% to 35% less.

That's enough savings to make a person stand there and admire the artwork just a little longer.

Behind the Scenes

While customers see the merchandise coming and going, there's also plenty happening behind the scenes at Between Friends.

The store recently updated its computers and software, and Thompson says the new system is making a real difference.

For consignors, that means getting their items processed and onto the sales floor more quickly. The new system makes the process much more effi-

cient when consignors come in to showcase their goods, helping the staff get those items entered and out on the floor faster.

And in a store where Brenda says people are buying things faster than they can put them out, faster is definitely better!

You Just Never Know

And isn't that really the charm of a good consignment shop?

You never quite know what will be sitting on the shelf when you walk through the door.

One day it might be a beautiful din-

ing-room set. The next day it could be a piece of jewelry, a baby stroller, a holiday decoration, a men's designer coat or the perfect piece of artwork for that empty spot on your living-room wall that you've been staring at for six months.

And if Brenda is right — and I suspect she is — you'd better not think about it too long.

Because while you're standing there saying, "I wonder if I should get that..."

somebody else may already be saying,

"I'll take it."

So, the next time you're out and about, stop in at Between Friends.

Take a look around.

You might find exactly what you came for.

Or, as is often the case with a good consignment shop, you might find something you didn't even know you were looking for.

And around here, that's half the fun.

Between Friends Consignment is located at the Hannan Plaza next to the Dollar Tree and Kroger in Paducah.

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 **Find us on Facebook: Between Friends Consignment**

BALLARD

Dunie Woods, 80, of Paducah, KY, passed away peacefully at her home on September 21, 2026. A private burial will be held at a later date at Bethel Cumberland Presbyterian Church Cemetery.

Stanley Ralph Kee, a cherished husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, and friend, passed away peacefully on September 16, 2026, at his home, surrounded by his loving family. A private family graveside will take place at a later date.

CALDWELL

Bobby Ross Yates, 86, of Providence, passed away on Friday, September 18, 2026, at Deaconess Gateway Hospital in Newburgh, IN. Funeral services were held at 1:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 22, 2026, at Morgan’s Funeral Home. Burial followed in Cedar Hill Cemetery in Princeton.

Brenda Carolyn (Horning) Young, 84, of Princeton, passed away on Wednesday, September 16, 2026, at Princeton Nursing and Rehabilitation. Funeral services were held at 1:00 p.m. on Monday, September 21, 2026, at Morgan’s Funeral Home. Burial followed in White Sulphur Cemetery in Princeton.

Linda Lou Poindexter, 72, peacefully entered into the presence of her Lord and Savior at 6:30 a.m. on September 21, 2026, at Princeton Health & Rehab, just three days after her 72nd birthday. Family and friends were invited to gather for visitation on September 24, 2026, from 11:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. at Northside Baptist Church, 101 Dawson Rd., Princeton, Kentucky 42445. The funeral service followed at 1:00 p.m. at the church, with Dr. Kevin Harris officiating. A graveside service followed at Freeman Cemetery, Freeman Rd., Cadiz, Kentucky 42211, also with Dr. Kevin Harris officiating.

Daniel Todd Oliver, of Princeton, born May 22, 1970, passed away on September 20, 2026, at the age of 56. Visitation will be held Monday, September 28, 2026, from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at Goodman Funeral Home, 1032 West Main Street, Princeton, KY 42445. Visitation will resume on Tuesday, September 29, 2026, from 12:00 p.m. until 1:00 p.m. at Goodman Funeral Home. The memorial service will begin at 1:00 p.m., followed by a graveside service at Cedar Hill Cemetery. Bro. Dan Swartz and Bro. Bobby Noel will officiate.

CALLOWAY

Diana Elizabeth Smith, 79, formerly of Murray, Kentucky, passed away peacefully on September 20, 2026 at Signature Healthcare of Bowling Green. A graveside service was held at 2:30 PM on Thursday, September 24, 2026 at Temple Hill Cemetery. Her family welcomed visitors from 12 PM – 2 PM on Thursday, September 24, 2026 at Imes Funeral Home, 311 North 4th Street, Murray, KY 42071. Imes Funeral Home is entrusted with caring for her family.

Anita Grace Crouch, 56, of Murray, passed away on Saturday, September 19, 2026 at TriStar Centennial Medical Center in Nashville, TN. The funeral service for Ms. Crouch was held at 3 PM on Tuesday, September 22, 2026 at Imes Funeral Home, 311 North 4th Street, Murray. Brother Glen Cope officiated. Her family welcomed visitors from 1 PM – 3 PM on Tuesday, September 22, 2026 at Imes Funeral Home, 311 North 4th Street, Murray, KY 42071.

H.B. “Slim” Shelton, 86, of Murray, passed away on Wednesday, September 16, 2026 at Vanderbilt University Medical Center in Nashville, TN. He would say to us all, “Remember Papa Loves You”. Per his wishes no services will be held. Imes Funeral Home is entrusted with caring for his family.

Joan Patricia Adams, age 87, of Murray, Kentucky, passed away on Friday, September 18, 2026, at Alive Hospice in Nashville, Tennessee. A memorial service will be held at 12:00 p.m., Friday, September 25, 2026, at the First Presbyterian Church of Murray,

Kentucky with Rev. Brittany Sutherland officiating. Visitation will be held from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., Friday, September 25, 2026, at the First Presbyterian Church of Murray, Kentucky.

Elizabeth S. Douglas, age 85, of Murray, Kentucky, passed away on Tuesday, September 22, 2026, at the Passion and Purpose HomeCare Assisted Living for our SENIORS in Almo, Kentucky. Arrangements are currently incomplete at the J.H. Churchill Funeral Home & Cremation Services.

Richard Euing Towery, age 90, of Murray, Kentucky, passed away on Monday, September 21, 2026, at the Anna Mae Owen Residential Hospice House in Murray, Kentucky. Arrangements for Mr. Towery are currently incomplete at the J.H. Churchill Funeral Home and Cremation Services.

Paula Rene Outland, age 62, of Murray, Kentucky, passed away on Friday, September 18, 2026, at the Anna Mae Owen Residential Hospice House in Murray, Kentucky. Arrangements are currently incomplete at the J.H. Churchill Funeral Home & Cremation Services.

Herbert William Comstock, age 83, of Murray, Kentucky passed away on Friday, September 18, 2026, at the Anna Mae Owen Residential Hospice House. There will be no public services or visitation scheduled at this time. Online condolences can be made at, www.jhchurchill.com.

Mary A. Conner, age 73, of New Concord, Kentucky, passed away on Wednesday, September 16, 2026, at the Anna Mae Owen Residential Hospice House in Murray. Private family services will be held at a later date.

Vivian Starr Lewellyn, age 78, of Murray, Kentucky, passed away on Wednesday, September 16, 2026, at her home. A private family celebration of life will be held at a later date. Online condolences can be made at www.jhchurchill.com.

Gerald Lewis Wilkins,78, of Hardin, Kentucky, passed away Friday, September 18, 2026, at Spring Creek Nursing and Rehabilitation in Murray, Kentucky. Filbeck-Cann Funeral Home of Milner & Orr is handling the arrangements. There are no services scheduled at this time.

Ronald N. Crouse, 85, of Dexter, KY, passed away Tuesday, September 22, 2026, at his home. Arrangements are incomplete at this time at the Blalock-Coleman Funeral Home & Cremation Services, Murray, KY.

Bobby Joe Latimer, 89, of Union City, TN, formerly of Hazel, KY, passed away Monday, September 21, 2026, at Magnolia Ridge Care and Rehabilitation in Union City. Arrangements are incomplete at this time at the Blalock-Coleman Funeral Home & Cremation Services, Murray, KY.

CHRISTIAN

William “Geno” Lancaster, age 69, of Hopkinsville, KY, passed away on Monday, September 21, 2026, at Jennie Stuart Health of natural causes. The family has chosen cremation with a Celebration of Life Service to be held at a late date. Maddux-Fuqua-Hinton Funeral Home has been entrusted by the family to handle the arrangements.

Wanda Corley Guier, born November 18, 1939, in Christian County, Kentucky, passed away Thursday, September 17, 2026, at her son’s home in Cincinnati, OH, at the age of 86. Graveside Services will be at Hale Cemetery at 1:30 PM on Friday, September 25, 2026, with Rev. Andrew Harrison officiating and burial to follow. Visitation will be at Maddux-Fuqua-Hinton Funeral Home on Friday, September 25, 2026, from 11:00 AM until 1:00 PM. Maddux-Fuqua-Hinton Funeral Home has been entrusted by the family to handle the arrangements.

Glenda Elgin Hensley, age 90, was born, raised, and passed away peacefully at her home on Wayne

Elgin Road surrounded by her family on Wednesday, September 16, 2026, of natural causes. Funeral Services were at 2:00 PM on Sunday, September 20, 2026, at Maddux-Fuqua-Hinton Funeral Home with Rev. Brent Crabtree officiating and burial to follow in Hawkins Cemetery.

Theresa “Terri” Knight, age 62, of Hopkinsville, passed away on Wednesday, September 16, 2026, at Trigg County Hospital of natural causes. Funeral Services will were at 8:00 PM on Sunday, September 20, 2026, at Maddux-Fuqua-Hinton Funeral Home.

Kim Cline, 61, of Cerulean, KY died at 12:43 a.m. Thursday, September 17, 2026, at Alive Hospice in Nashville, TN. Funeral services were at 2:00 p.m. Tuesday, September 22, 2026, at Hughart, Beard & Giles Funeral Home. Burial will follow in Ancestral Haven Memorial Gardens.

Joey W. Cathcart, 50, Ovil Road, Hopkinsville, KY, passed away Thursday, September 17, 2026 at Jennie Stuart Medical Center, Hopkinsville, KY of natural causes. Funeral services were held at 10:00 a.m. Monday, September 21, 2026 at Lamb Funeral Home with Rev. Buddy Weatherford officiating. Burial followed in Ebenezer Cemetery.

Ann C. West, 89, of Hopkinsville, KY died at 10:51 p.m. Wednesday, September 16, 2026 at Baptist Health Deaconess Madisonville. Funeral services will be 12:00 p.m. Saturday, September 26, 2026 at Dogwood Funerals & Cremations of Hopkinsville with Bro. Ethan Watson officiating. Burial will follow in Riverside Cemetery. Visitation is from 10:00 a.m. until the service hour. Dogwood Funerals & Cremations of Hopkinsville is in charge of the arrangements.

Richard Hogan Mitchell, 59, of Hopkinsville, KY died at 8:16 a.m. Wednesday, September 16, 2026 at his residence. No service will be held. Dogwood Funerals & Cremations of Hopkinsville is assisting with the arrangements.

GRAVES

Lloyd Dee Andreasen, age 76, of Mayfield, KY passed away Monday, September 21, 2026 at the Green Acres Healthcare in Mayfield, KY. A memorial service is scheduled for 1:00 PM Saturday, September 26, 2026 at the Northside Baptist Church in Mayfield, KY. Rev. Forrest Ivy will officiate. A memorial visitation will be held from 11:00 AM Until 1:00 PM Saturday September 26, 2026 at the Northside Baptist Church.

Pansy Murdock Whitlow, age 97, of Mayfield passed away on Thursday, September 17, 2026 at Green Acres Healthcare in Mayfield, KY. Funeral services for Mrs. Pansy Murdock Whitlow were at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, September 19, 2026 at Byrn Funeral Home in Mayfield, KY. Rev. Spence Pate will officiate. Interment followed at Beech Grove Cemetery.

Roger Lee Klapp, 73, of Palmersville, Tennessee, passed away surrounded by family on September 14, 2026, in Paducah, Kentucky. Per Dad’s wishes no formal service will be held. A gathering to celebrate his life will take place later this fall. Byrn Funeral Home in Mayfield, KY is in charge of arrangements.

Fredrick Eugene “Fred” McDaniel, of Mayfield, KY. and formerly of Centralia, IL. Passed away on Sunday, September 20, 2026 at the Jackson Purchase Medical Center in Mayfield. Funeral services for Fred McDaniel will be held at 2:00 P.M. Sunday, September 27, 2026 at the Brown Funeral Home in Mayfield with Steve May officiating. Interment will follow in the Highland Park Cemetery. Friends are invited to call at the Brown Funeral Home in Mayfield after 12 noon Sunday. Military graveside rites will be conducted by the American Legion Post # 26.

Susie Brown, age 75 of Wingo, KY passed away on Friday, September 18, 2026 at 8:06 PM at Baptist Health of Paducah. Funeral Services will be held on

FUNERAL NOTICES continued

Saturday, September 26, 2026 at 1:00 PM at the Brown Funeral Home in Mayfield, KY with Rev. R.B. Mays, Rev. Spence Pate, and Rev. Doug Kineman officiating. Burial will follow in the Wingo Cemetery. Friends may call from 4-7 PM on Friday, September 25, 2026, and after 11:00 AM on Saturday at the Brown Funeral Home in Mayfield, KY.

Robert “Dale” Towery, age 68, of Mayfield, KY, passed away at Baptist Health Paducah on September 16, 2026. Funeral Mass will be held at 11:00 AM Tuesday, September 22, 2026, at St. Jerome Catholic Church in Fancy Farm, KY, with Fr. Darrell Venters officiating. Burial will follow in St. Jerome Cemetery.

HICKMAN

Glynn Wayne Watson, age 81 of Clinton, passed away Saturday, September 19, 2026 at Jackson-Madison Co. General Hospital in Jackson, TN. Funeral services for Glynn Watson were held Thursday, September 24, 2026 at 1:00 PM at the Brown Funeral Home in Clinton. Burial followed in the Zion Cemetery.

LIVINGSTON

Grant Shuecraft, 32, of Salem, Kentucky, passed away Sunday, September 20, 2026. All services will be private. Condolences may also be left online at [boydfuneraldirectors.com](#).

Shelby V. (Vaughnel) Bebout, 87, of Fredonia, KY, passed away on September 19, 2026, at the Linda E. White Hospice House, Evansville, IN. Funeral services will be held Saturday, September 26, 2026, 11:00 am (visitation 10:00 am) at Boyd Funeral Home, Salem, KY, with Roger Jones officiating. Burial will follow at Union Cemetery, Marion, KY. Food and fellowship will follow at Pentecostals of West Kentucky Church, Fredonia, KY.

Charles “Captain Bill” W. Berlin, 79 of Grand Rivers, Kentucky passed away on Thursday, September 17, 2026, at Southgate Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Metropolis, Illinois. There are no services planned at this time. All arrangements are being conducted by Collier Funeral Home and Cremation Services, located at 211 West 5th Street Benton, KY 42025. 270-527-3141.

LYON

Twilla Joan Neil, 90, of Kuttawa, Kentucky, passed away on Friday, September 18, 2026, at Lake Barkley Health and Rehab in Kuttawa. Funeral services will be held at 1:00 PM on Friday, September 25, 2026, at King Lynk Funeral Home in Fort Madison, Iowa. Burial will follow at Hillcrest Memorial Park.

Janet R. Jenkins, 61, of Kuttawa, Kentucky, passed away September 16, 2026, in Calvert City following a long illness. A memorial service was held at the Kuttawa Beach Small Pavilion on September 19 at 5:00 p.m.

Penny Lou Dublin, age 64 of Eddyville, died at 4:30 pm Wednesday, September 16, 2026 at her home in Lyon County. A memorial service will be held at a later time. Dunn’s Funeral Home is charge of arrangements.

MARSHALL

Teddye Combs Thompson, passed away on December 22, 2025, on her 80th birthday, in Tallahassee, Florida. A graveside memorial will be held at 2:00 PM on Thursday, October 8, 2026, at the Benton Cemetery. To share a memory or leave a message for the family, please visit Teddye’s Tribute Wall at [www.filbeckandcann.com](#).

Linda Collie, 85, of Shepherdsville, Kentucky, passed away on Tuesday, September 15, 2026. A memorial visitation will be held from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM on Saturday, September 26, 2026, at the Life Celebration Center of Filbeck-Cann, 1003 Poplar Street, Benton, KY 42025. Burial will follow at Marshall County Memory Gardens.

Franchesica “Franny” Humphreys, 46, of Calvert City, KY, passed away on Sunday, September 20, 2026 at Deaconess Gateway Hospital in Newburgh, IN. Her family welcomed visitors from 4 PM – 6 PM on Thursday, September 24, 2026 at Imes Funeral Home, 311 North 4th Street, Murray.

Catherine Ada McArtor, 90, of Benton, Kentucky, passed away on September 17, 2026, at Calvert City Nursing and Rehabilitation. There are no local services being held. Visitation will be held from 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM on Saturday, September 26, 2026, at Herman H. Lohmeyer in Springfield, Missouri. Funeral services will be held at 3:00 PM on Saturday, September 26, 2026, at Herman H. Lohmeyer Funeral Home in Springfield, Missouri. Burial will follow at Hazelwood Cemetery.

Fred Ross, 82 of Calvert City, Kentucky passed away on Friday, September 18, 2026, at Baptist Health in Paducah, Kentucky. Funeral Services will be Saturday, September 26, 2026 at 11:00 am at the Calvert City United Methodist Church with Rev. Dr. John Purdue officiating. Burial to follow at Calvert City Cemetery with Military Rites and Fire Firefighter Last Call. Visitation will be Friday, September 25, 2026 from 5:00 pm until 8:00 pm at Calvert City United Methodist Church, located at 571 Oak Park Blvd, Calvert Coty, KY 42029.

McCRACKEN

Jo Ann Tilley Dortch, age 83, of Paducah, died at home on Sunday, September 20, 2026. There will be a Celebration of Life at the 1857 Hotel in Paducah, KY on Friday, October 2, from 5:00-8:00 PM.

Doris “MeMaw” Harding, age 80, of Boaz, Kentucky, passed away at 8:40 a.m. Friday, September 18, 2026 at Vanderbilt Hospital, Nashville, Tennessee. Services were held at 1:00 p.m. Wednesday, September 23, 2026 at the Lone Oak Chapel of Milner & Orr Funeral Home with Rev. Gary Cruse officiating. Burial followed at the New Concord Baptist Church Cemetery in Melber, Kentucky.

Charolette Marie Jones, age 73, of Paducah, Kentucky, passed away peacefully in her home on September 17, 2026, leaving behind a legacy of faith, love, and devotion that will be cherished by all who knew her. Funeral services were held on Wednesday, September 23, 2026, at 1:00 p.m. at Milner & Orr Funeral Home of Paducah. Burial followed the service at Marshall County Memory Gardens.

Robert “Bob” Dowell Sr., age 87, of Paducah, Kentucky, passed away on Thursday, September 17, 2026, at Deaconess Midtown Hospital in Evansville, Indiana. A Memorial Service will be held at 1:00 pm on Tuesday, September 29, 2026, at Milner & Orr Funeral Home and Cremation Services of Paducah, with Pastor Mickey Brown officiating.

Caroline Jeanne Hendrickson, 80, of Paducah, went to be with the Lord on September 16, 2026. A private family service will be conducted by Milner & Orr Funeral Home and Cremation Services of Paducah. A December memorial will be held at Abels Funeral and Cremation Service (Engelkes Chapel), 509 4th St, Grundy Center, IA 50638, and later, an inurnment with her husband at Arlington National Cemetery in Arlington, VA.

Iris Argo, 90, of Paducah passed away on Monday, September 21, 2026, at her residence. She will be cremated per her wishes. Online condolences may be left at [www.lindseyfuneral.com](#).

Bud Webb, 79, of Ledbetter passed away on Sunday, September 20, 2026, at his residence. He will be cremated per his wishes. Lindsey Funeral Home is honored to serve the Webb family.

Debra Ann Dean was born January 4, 1967. She passed peacefully at home, like she would have wanted on September 17, 2026. Friends visited with the family Tuesday 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. September 22, 2026 at Lindsey Funeral Home. With memorial services at 7 p.m at the Lindsey Funeral Home.

Joe Robert Ford, 78, of Paducah, passed away on Friday, September 18, 2026, at Parkview Nursing and Rehabilitation in Paducah. A memorial service was held at 12:00 noon on Wednesday, September 23, 2026, at Hughes Funeral Home in Paducah with Bro. Dennis Lawrence officiating.

TRIGG

Barbara Suzanne Stevenson Dulin, 71, of Cadiz, Kentucky went to be with her Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ on September 16, 2026. Funeral Services were held at 10:00 a.m., Monday, September 21, 2026 at Concord Baptist Church with Rev. Ty Meacham and Rev. Gary Lambert officiating. Burial followed in Ridgetop Cemetery in Crofton.

Rachel Sellers, 87, of Trigg County, passed away on Friday, September 18, 2026, at home surrounded by family and friends. Visitation is on September 25th at the Gamble Funeral Home in Hopkinsville. Funeral Service is being held on September 26th at All Nations House of Prayer, Hopkinsville, KY at Noon. Burial will be on September 28th in Kentucky Veterans Cemetery West at 10 a.m.

Candy M Crump, 58 of Cadiz, KY, passed away on Monday, September 21, 2026 at Ray & Kay Hospice Care Center. Mrs. Crump will be cremated per her wishes. Online condolences may be left at [www.lindseyfuneral.com](#).

Hugh Douglas Wallis, age 102, of Fort Wayne, Indiana, passed away on Saturday, September 19th, 2026, at Morning Star Village in Rockford, Illinois. Graveside services with full military honors will be held on Saturday, October 3, 2026, at 11:00 AM, at Trigg Memory Acres, King’s Chapel Road, Cadiz, Kentucky. Goodwin Funeral Home, 138 Main Street in Cadiz, is in care of the arrangements.

George C. Southwick, age 81, of Cadiz, Kentucky, went home to be with his Lord on Sunday, September 20, 2026, at Murray Calloway County Hospital in Murray, Kentucky. Services will be at Goodwin Funeral Home, 138 Main Street in Cadiz, on Tuesday, September 29, 2026. Visitation will be held from 10:00 AM until12:00 PM. Memorial service will follow at 12:00 PM, with Bro. Geoff Baggett and Bro. Matt Shown officiating. Committal service with military honors will take place at 2:00 PM at Kentucky Veterans Cemetery West in Hopkinsville.

Vivian Burcham Futrell, age 96, of Cadiz, Kentucky, passed away Friday, September 18, 2026, at Christian Health Center in Hopkinsville, Kentucky. A funeral service for Mrs. Futrell was held at Goodwin Funeral Home, at 11:00 AM Tuesday, September 22, 2026 with her son, Bro. Robert Futrell officiating. Burial will follow at Futrell - Skinner Cemetery in Trigg County, Kentucky.

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. Pikeville	1. Highlands
2. Raceland	2. Boyle County
3. Sayre	3. Covington Catholic
4. Middlesboro	4. Corbin
5. Bethlehem	5. Paducah Tilghman
6. Louisville Holy Cross	6. Ashland
7. Kentucky Country Day	7. Logan County
8. Paintsville	8. Johnson Central
9. Covington Holy Cross	9. Spencer County
10. Campbellsville	10. Nelson County
Class 2A	Class 5A
1. Owensboro Catholic	1. Scott County
2. Beechwood	2. Pulaski County
3. Lexington Christian Academy	3. Woodford County
4. Mayfield	4. Owensboro
5. Belfry	5. Atherton
6. Somerset	6. Bowling Green
7. Danville	7. Apollo
8. Caldwell County	8. West Jessamine
9. W.E.B. DuBois	9. Madisonville-North Hopkins
10. Prestonsburg	10. Collins
Class 3A	Class 6A
1. Christian Academy-Louisville	1. Trinity
2. Lexington Catholic	2. Frederick Douglass
3. Murray	3. Saint Xavier
4. Lloyd Memorial	4. Manual
5. Lawrence County	5. Madison Central
6. Glasgow	6. South Warren
7. Central	7. George Rogers Clark
8. Rockcastle County	8. Male
9. Bourbon County	9. Bullitt East
10. Russell	10. Bryan Station



The 2026 McCracken County Hall of Heritage and Hall of Fame inductees are pictured. (Photo Courtesy of McCracken County High School)



Marshall County golfers CeCelia Ray, Charlee Murphy and Kelli Roberts have qualified for the first round of the KHSAA Girls' Golf State Tournament. (Photo Courtesy of Marshall County High School)



Marshall County finished runner-up in the 2026 KHSAA Region 1 Boys' Golf Tournament. (Photo Courtesy of Marshall County High School)



The McCracken County girls' soccer team honored its seniors on Monday, Sept. 21. (Photo Courtesy of McCracken County High School)



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Paducah Tilghman is pictured prior to leaving to compete in the 2A Volleyball State Tournament. (Photo courtesy of Paducah Tilghman High School)

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

Cardinals roll past Rockets

Staff Report

MARION — Mayfield rolled past long-time rival Crittenden County 56-7 in a Class 2A, District 1 game on Friday, Sept. 18.

The Cardinals improved to 4-1 after notching the win.

The Rockets dropped to 1-4 overall after suffering the loss.

Quarterback Gray Robbins led Mayfield to the win. Robbins completed seven passes for 215 yards and four touchdowns.

Aiding Mayfield through the air, Ash-

ton Flint and Carson Price added one passing touchdown apiece.

Karsen Neely emerged as Mayfield’s leading receiver, reeling in two receptions for 71 yards and two touchdowns.

As part of a balanced aerial attack for Mayfield, Flint, Brayden Milliken, Drew Milliken and Elijah Morris each hauled in one touchdown reception.

Mayfield rushed 14 times for 146 yards and two touchdowns.

Josiah England paced Mayfield on

the ground. England rushed six times for 114 yards and two touchdowns.

Briar Overstreet paced Mayfield defensively, recording seven tackles, four tackles for losses and one sack.

Providing a lift in Mayfield’s secondary, Gabriel Morris and Anderson Smith each recorded one interception.

Mayfield is scheduled to host Caldwell County for another Class 2A, District 1 game on Friday, Oct. 2.



The Calloway County girls’ soccer seniors are pictured after the Lady Lakers shut out Graves County 8-0 on Monday, Sept. 21. The Lady Lakers won on senior night. (Photo Courtesy of Calloway County High School)



The McCracken County girls’ soccer team honored its seniors on Monday, Sept. 21. (Photo Courtesy of McCracken County High School)

Murray State Athletics announces formation of Racer Sports & Entertainment, LLC

Staff Report

MURRAY — On Friday, Sept. 18, the Murray State University Board of Regents approved the institution moving forward with the creation of new auxiliary enterprises, paving the way for the formation of Racer Sports & Entertainment, LLC, a University-affiliated auxiliary enterprise designed to manage assets, develop new commercial capabilities and create long-term value for Murray State.

The new enterprise will operate with commercial agility that will further current efforts to maximize new revenue opportunities, enhance the fan experience, and strategically position Racer Athletics in the rapidly evolving landscape of intercollegiate athletics.

“Our responsibility is to build a sustainable operating model that allows Racer Athletics to thrive in today’s world and for many years to come,” said Murray State University President Dr. Ron Patterson. “In support of the University’s mission of academic and athletic excellence, Racer Sports & Entertainment is about creating long-term value and competitive advantages through innovation, partnerships and responsible commercial growth while enhancing the overall experience of our students and community.”

Racer Sports & Entertainment will focus on strategic investments, revenue generation and licensing, real estate development including private/public partnerships, premium hospitality,

entertainment programming including concerts and festivals, media, digital content and intellectual property commercialization, and innovative corporate partnerships. The enterprise will also build Murray State Athletics’ Name, Image, and Likeness (NIL) infrastructure to support student-athlete entrepreneurial development, giving them a competitive advantage in the marketplace.

Racer Sports & Entertainment will also support Racer Entertainment Village, a vibrant live-work-play-cheer destination designed to serve the campus, community, and visitors year-round that will fuel regional economic growth.

“As the world of intercollegiate athletics continues to evolve, successful institutions will think differently about how they generate resources to compete at the highest level and Murray State will be leading the way,” said Vice President and Director of Athletics Nico Yantko. “Racer Sports & Entertainment represents a transformational step forward for our University, bringing together

entrepreneurial thinking, commercial expertise, and the Racer spirit, to create new opportunities that directly bolster the future of Murray State Athletics. We are grateful to Dr. Patterson and to the Board of Regents for allowing us to further invest in student-athlete success and programming, in championship-level facilities, and in the fan engagement and experience.”

The new enterprise builds upon Murray State Athletics’ broader strategic vision, which includes the department’s historic \$100 million capital campaign, Leading The Pack, investments in modern facilities and premium fan experiences, organizational transformation through professional front-office leadership, and a continued commitment to competitive excellence.

Additional information regarding governance, strategic initiatives, and partnership opportunities for Racer Sports & Entertainment will be announced in the coming months, along with updates on the progress of Racer Entertainment Village.

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JUSTIN MASON, AGENT: 270.439.8019

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Annual meeting of KHSAA Delegate Assembly held

Staff Report

LEXINGTON — The annual meeting of the Kentucky High School Athletic Association (KHSAA) Delegate Assembly was held at the Central Bank Center on Thursday, Sept. 17. The KHSAA

Delegate Assembly voted on 13 proposals. The results from the voting are located online at <https://ly.khsaa.org/mdwq>. Proposals passing start through the regulatory approval process, the first step of which is the KHSAA November

Board of Control meeting. The KHSAA Board of Control conducted its second regularly scheduled meeting of the 2026-27 academic year on Wednesday, Sept. 16. The KHSAA was organized in 1917 and is the agency

designated by the Kentucky Department of Education to manage high school athletics in the Commonwealth. The Association is a voluntary nonprofit 501(c) (3) organization composed of 290 member schools, both public and non-

public. The KHSAA crowns 74 team and 275 individual champions at 48 state championship events; funds catastrophic insurance coverage for its nearly 120,000 rostered member school student-athletes, provides coaching education

and sports safety programs for more than 12,000 coaches, and licenses and facilitates the distribution of training material for over 4,000 contest officials.

Kentucky Fish and Wildlife fall auction set for Oct. 5

Staff Report

FRANKFORT — The Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources will host a live auction to sell surplus items and confiscated hunting and fishing equipment on Monday, Oct. 5. Registration opens at 7:30 a.m. (ET), and the auction of surplus property and confiscated items will begin at 9:30 a.m. (ET). The auction will be held outdoors,

rain or shine, on the department’s headquarters campus at 1 Sportsman’s Lane in Frankfort. A complete list of items available for sale is provided on the department’s Surplus and Confiscated Items Auction webpage, including a large selection of boats, boat trailers and motors. Titles and registrations will be available on the day of the sale. Items are sold as-is and will not

be available for hands-on inspection prior to the sale. Under state law, only qualified Kentucky residents may bid on confiscated items. Some items will require a criminal background check. Accepted forms of payment include cash, check, certified check, credit card or debit card. Final pricing will include a buyer’s premium and surcharge for credit or debit card use. Checks over \$5,000

will require a bank letter guaranteeing payment. Under state law, Kentucky Fish and Wildlife may conduct auctions as necessary to sell surplus and confiscated property. Surplus items include equipment and materials no longer needed by the agency. All confiscated items are obtained through court order and as the result of a violation of fish and wildlife laws. By law, proceeds

from Kentucky Fish and Wildlife auctions are directed into the department’s fish and game fund and subject to auditing by the state Auditor of Public Accounts. The fund is used for the department’s normal operating expenses including fish and wildlife conservation and related recreation programs across the Commonwealth. Parking will be limited to designated areas on the Kentucky

Fish and Wildlife campus. Game Farm Road west of the upper and lower sportsman’s lakes will be restricted to residential traffic only on the day of the auction. Portable restroom facilities will be available to the public. For more information, visit the department’s website at fw.ky.gov, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. (ET) weekdays, excluding holidays.

KHSAA Board of Control conducts second meeting of 2026-27 academic year

Staff Report

LEXINGTON — The Kentucky High School Athletic Association (KHSAA) Board of Control conducted its second regularly scheduled meeting of the 2026-27 academic year on Wednesday, Sept. 16. During the meeting, the Board approved the revised bowling alignment for the 2026-27 academic year. The staff and Board had been reviewing that alignment and gathering data due to the consolidation of bowling centers

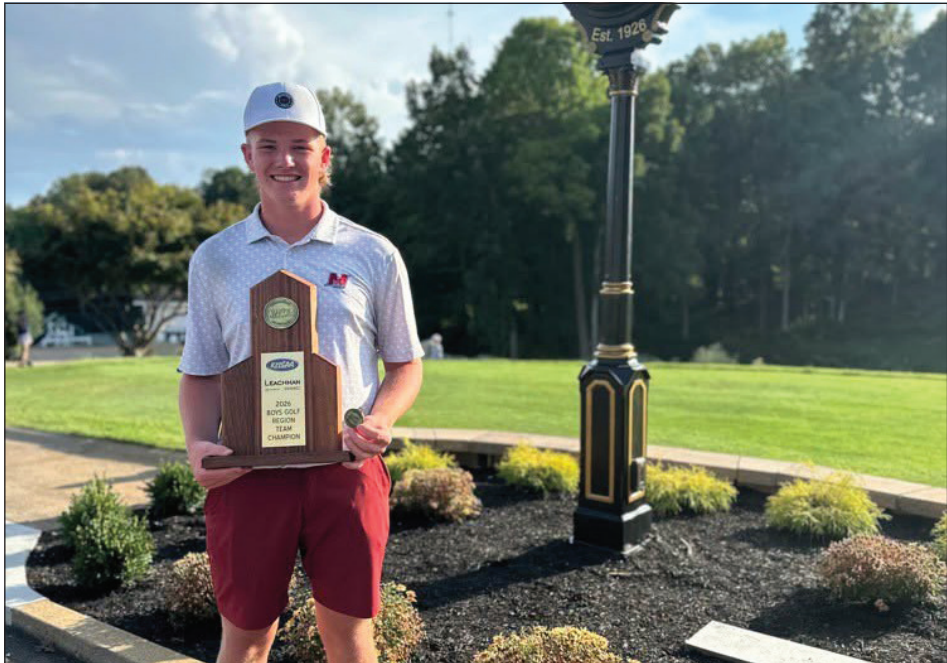
since 2020, as well as to balance regional tournament fields by team count. The staff will be sending out the new alignment in the coming days. The Board also approved final parameters for the basketball shot clock, including special resets for defensive fouls and for the defense kicking the ball. These parameters should be used during games this year, when the shot clock is in effect, and will be the standard for the mandatory option year of 2026-

27. These parameters will be placed in the competition rules. The Board heard several requests concerning district and regional realignment as part of its public comment session, including: Buckhorn High School addressed the Board and requested a move from the 54th District to the 55th District, and for Cordia to move from the 53rd District to the 54th District to balance the district alignment within the 14th Region. Floyd Central

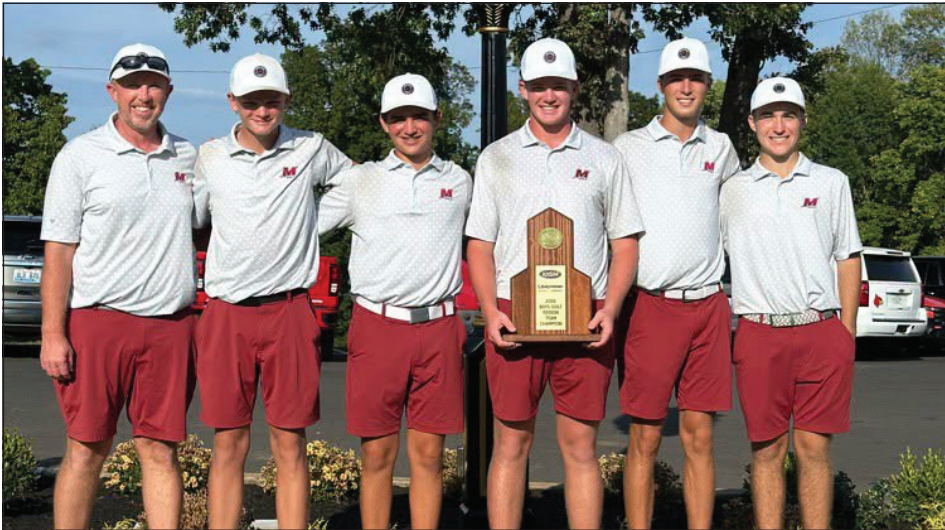
requested that the Board realign the 58th District by moving Lawrence County to the 57th District, where it was a member for several years, and by moving one of the current members of the 57th District to the 58th District. Fort Knox is seeking a move from the 5th Region to the 6th Region due to logistical changes and base ingress and egress. Meade County is seeking to move from the basketball 3rd Region to the

5th Region, citing its location as the sole 3rd Region school in the Eastern Time Zone as the primary reason for its request. No action was taken on these public comments, which will be further discussed at the November meeting, when all impacted schools will have an opportunity to provide feedback. The Board’s consideration of these requests is part of the ever-changing landscape of district and regional alignment processes. The Board also: Approved the

contract extension with Teall Properties Group as the Corporate Partner Sales and marketing entity for the Association, as well as managing the KHSAA novelty proposal solicitation program. Approved the Board of Control goals and objectives for the year, which define areas of focus in many cases outside the scope of normal business, and the development of which are required under 702 KAR 7:065.



McCracken County golfer Brently Gregory won the 2026 KHSAA Region 1 Boys’ Golf Individual Championship. Gregory shot a 69 in the regional tournament.
(Photo Courtesy of McCracken County High School)



McCracken County won the KHSAA Region 1 Boys’ Golf Championship at Rolling Hills Country Club on Monday, Sept. 21. Jack Farmery, Evan Hack, Brently Gregory, Peyton Courtney and Cooper Webb comprised the winning team, posting a score of 290. Gregory shot a 69 and won the Region 1 individual title. Another McCracken County golfer, Evan Hack, shot a 71 and finished runner-up.
(Photo Courtesy of McCracken County High School)

Murray Tigers turn back Eagles

BOYS’ HIGH SCHOOL SOCCER

Staff Report

MURRAY — Murray defeated Graves County 3-1 in a 2nd District boys’ soccer match on Tuesday, Sept. 22.

With the win, Murray improved to 11-1-2.

As a result of the loss, Graves County dropped to 2-9-1.

Henri Acreman-Nyamwla led Murray

to the win, scoring two goals for the Tigers.

Aiding Murray’s offensive attack, Oliver Rosa netted one goal.

Chipping in

offensively for the Tigers, Micah Wyatt and Elias Houck pushed out one assist apiece.

Goalkeeper Cole Morris paced Murray defensively, limiting

Graves County to one goal. Morris recorded three saves.

Anthony Velazquez scored Graves County’s lone goal.

Defensively for Graves County,

goalkeeper Allan Garcia allowed three goals and recorded 13 saves.

‘No looking back’ Cats focus on South Alabama following first SEC win

By KEITH TAYLOR
Kentucky Today

LEXINGTON, Ky. (KT) — Kentucky is starting over. Sort of.

Coming off a 31-21 road win at Texas A&M, coach Will Stein doesn’t want the Wildcats (2-1) to dwell on the very recent past going into Saturday’s contest against South Alabama. Kentucky will be a heavy favorite, but Stein wants his team to look ahead and added the Wildcats have “plenty to improve” on three games into his first season.

“We are truly like a one-play, one-game, mentality-type team,” Stein said Tuesday. “There’s really no looking back anymore. The past happened. We won. That was great. (We) got a conference win and now it’s about now. I think this team can be as good as we want it to be, but it’s still going to take work

and improvement and obviously staying healthy.”

Stein liked the way the Wildcats prepared for their first road game at College Station, a week after a second-half letdown in a 45-17 loss to No. 8 Alabama on Sept. 14.

“The biggest thing about (last week’s) win — it’s our first conference win,” Stein said. “I think that’s huge. We’re 1-1 now in the SEC. It’s really hard to get road wins, no matter where you coach, no matter what league you’re in (and) that was really big to get on the road.

“(It was a) direct correlation with how we practice. There’s no fluke about it. We practice hard, we play hard. We practice physical, we play physical. We make plays in practice, we make plays in the game. Credit to our players.”

South Alabama (2-1) is coming off a 41-36 win over Ohio and is known to control the clock. The Jaguars are averaging 200 yards rushing in their first three games and had the ball for 38 minutes per game.

“They’re very physical,” Stein said. “They have good players. They’re confident. I have a ton of respect for Major Applewhite. I’ve never worked with him, but we kind of crossed paths a little

bit when I was at Texas as working for Tom Herman.”

SAY, CHEESE?

Stein doesn’t want the Wildcats to get caught up in the early success of heaping praise from fans and colleagues.

The surprise loss dropped the Aggies to No. 23 in the latest Associated Press Top 25 poll. Kentucky received 98 votes, two away from breaking

into the Top 25 for the first time this season.

“I’ve got the rat poison up right now - a lot of rat poison,” Stein said. “It’s a classic coaching term. Don’t eat the cheese.”

CONNECTIONS

Stein and South Alabama defensive coordinator Todd Orlando worked on the same staff at Texas and the Kentucky coach has a “ton of respect for Todd.”

“He’s been at Texas, he’s been at USC and he’s been multiple stops,” Stein said. “He’s an elite coach. I’ve been with him and I’ve worked with him. I’ve seen it firsthand. He’s super confident, pressure driven, but a really good football coach (and a) great guy. The players love playing for him.”

Stein also worked alongside South Alabama special teams coordinator Tommy Perry at UTSA.

“He’s another really good coach,” Stein said. “He brings a lot of unique looks (on) special teams and does a great job of coaching all those units.”

Gametracker: South Alabama at Kentucky, 12:45 p.m. Saturday. TV: SEC Network (Dave Neal, Cole Cubelic, Tori Petri). Radio: UK Radio Network (Tom Leach, Jeff Picoro, Dick Gabriel).

VICTORIOUS *Living* ...in a troubled world

Faith does not require us to pretend that everything is fine when it is not

By Teresa LeNeave
leneave2@comcast.net

How is it that two people see the same thing, but don't see the same thing?

In Numbers 13:17–33, Moses sent twelve spies into the land of Canaan. His instructions to the twelve spies were, “Check out the people to see if they are strong, weak, few or many. Check out the land to see if it’s good or bad; see if it’s fat or lean. Also, check out the timber and bring back some of the fruits so I can see what it’s like” (my paraphrase).

These twelve men saw the same people, the same crops, the same giants, the same land and the same number of trees growing in Canaan. They all saw the same opposition. Yet, when they returned, they gave two very different reports.

Ten of the spies focused on the size of the people and the strength of the opposition. In detail, they described the giants and emphasized how

difficult the land would be to conquer. “Everything there is big! they reported. One thing to notice here is “words have power to build or tear up”. As a consequence of their report, fear and doubt spread throughout the camp.

Numbers 13:32 (NIV) says, “They spread among the Israelites a bad report about the land they had explored.” Fear spread because of their words.

Two spies, Joshua and Caleb, saw the same circumstances; the same giants; the same fortified cities and came back with a completely different report. The Bible says Caleb silenced the people and said, “Let us go up at once, and possess it; for we are well able to overcome it” (Numbers 13:30).

Caleb was not pretending that the problems did not exist. He did not say, “The giants aren’t really that big,” or “The opposition isn’t that tough.” He acknowledged the reality of what they



were facing, but he saw the opposition from a completely different perspective.

Faith does not require us to pretend that everything is fine when it is not. If you have cancer, you have cancer. If your kids are in trouble, they are in trouble. If you don't have enough money to pay your bills, you don't have enough money to pay your bills. Those are facts, but faith allows us to acknowledge

what we see while refusing to let what we see have the final word over what God says.

The Bible tells us, “Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs” (Ephesians 4:29 NIV).

Words can spread fear, doubt, and discouragement, or they can build faith, courage, and hope.

Focus on what God says about the situation. This does not mean we deny the giants. It means we refuse to make the giants bigger than God. That’s what we do sometimes: we MAKE the giants bigger than they really are. The more we talk about how big they are, they bigger we see them. Caleb’s words did not remove the giants, nor did it eliminate the opposition. But his words revealed

where his confidence was placed, and they called the people to trust God.

Let us be people who acknowledge reality without surrendering to fear. The only way to do that is believe what the Bible says on the topic. Let us speak words that build others up. Let us remember what God has said, trust His character, and allow His Word, not our circumstances, to have the final word.

OUTDOOR
Truths

By Gary Miller
Outdoortruths.org

Deer season is here. A few states have already opened, and the others are just around the corner. I am not prepared for this. I mean really, I am not prepared. I have put off hanging stands and setting up blinds. And I only have a few cameras out. The good news is that over the years

my hunting habits have changed. I usually wait until late October before I get serious about getting into the woods. Of course, a beast on camera will change that every time. But without that, I am satisfied to wait until cooler temperatures and greater odds of seeing a big buck. I will, however, get

those cameras out, and stands up, this week. Hunting the same property for years cuts the preparation time down significantly. And just knowing more than I did several years ago helps me narrow down the details I need to get everything set up just the right way. I say all of this to say, I'm not panicking. I will lean on what I've learned from the skilled hunters who influenced me in the past. I think about those individuals a lot. Not only the individuals who influenced me in the hunting world, but those who influenced me in other areas of my life as well. Not

all influence was good, but even that guides me to be and do things differently.

Influence is something we carry with us wherever we go. Like purpose, influence is always our passenger. For a follower of Christ, it is not just something we acknowledge, it is something we are responsible for. Jesus said we are to be salt and light to the world around us. Concerning light, He said this. “Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.” Paul and Peter also used the analogy of being a light. The point is

this. While every person's influence is automatic, for the Christian ours is to be intentional. If not understand correctly, this can be a heavy burden because the Christian is no less flawed than the non-Christian. However, the point is not to claim goodness as we do our good works, but to point to the One who gives us the reason to attempt them. We are not called to convince people we are good. We are called to live in such a way that even through our imperfections, people can see something of the goodness of God. Christian influence is not pretending we

have it all together. It is allowing the way we live, fail, repent, love, forgive, and keep following Jesus, to point people beyond us to the One who influences us. Gary Miller has written Outdoor Truths articles for 24 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. Stay updated on Outdoor Truths each week by subscribing at Outdoortruths.org

Do we see our need for God’s refining fire?

By William F Holland Jr.
billyhollandministries.com

God has always been disappointed when someone is more concerned with what they want to do than what He requires of them. Since mankind fell in the garden, our carnal nature has been persuading and influencing our decisions and specializes in the skills of compromising and justifying. Self-deception is common, and only a few realize our highest responsibility is to obey Him. Many believe that God is real and accept His blessings of love and forgiveness, but do not care about being accountable. Those who are serious about knowing God will develop a spiritual awareness that can discern if He is pleased with them. Do you know He is pleased with you?

There is an unpopular verse found in Revelation 3:16 where the writer relays what Jesus thinks about the church at Laodicea.

“So then, because you are lukewarm and neither cold nor hot, I will spew you out of my mouth.” We realize parables and analogies are common within the Bible, and we interpret this metaphor as relating to the attitudes and intentions of the heart; no one likes cold French fries or lukewarm coffee. He was saying their minds were in a state of being lackadaisical, apathetic, and lethargic. Spewing us out does not sound good. This letter to Laodicea is the harshest, but wait, it’s not just pertaining to this certain group; God is warning all Christians about the dangers of backsliding that can happen when we ignore His demands and willingly surrender to the temptations of sin.

I’ve heard a lot of sermons on these seven letters found in Revelation chapters 2 and 3, but it’s critical that we do not only comprehend this as a history lesson. Many church mem-

bers might see this as someone else being more religious than spiritual without examining their own heart to discern if maybe this message is also being directed to them personally. Let us not forget that God was speaking to members of an established Christian church who were supposedly followers of Jesus and His teachings. There is no beating around the bush about His disappointment. He does not want His church or the Christian life to become a comfortable social club. This was a materialistic, selfish, and arrogant dead church, and sadly this lukewarm indifference is definitely happening today. He is calling for His people to walk holy as He is holy, filled with the power of the Holy Spirit, and manifesting His nature and character.

The Lord continues to be more specific, using cutting words such as “wretched, pitiful, poor, blind, and naked.” Their lukewarm

faith had become hypocritical. The lifeless atmosphere of the services was the result of a lack of enthusiasm and passion for Christ in their minds and hearts. They were caught up in the love for the world, and it’s very possible some individuals had not been genuinely converted and were just pretending to be Christians. It’s not an exciting topic, but there is such a thing as people who practice a form of religion, but their conscience is one of self-righteous complacency. They claim to be taking up their cross and following Jesus, and being renewed by allowing their minds to be transformed, but their hearts are far from Him. Their game-playing might be deceiving everyone around them, but God can clearly see they are impostors.

So how can we as Christians keep from falling into deception and spiritual coldness? We must realize there

are dark forces trying to distract us from Jesus. If we choose to follow our fleshly desires and always place our relationship with Jesus on the back burner, we will remain lukewarm and backslidden. Only when we realize that we are being attacked through the entanglement of carnality, and then take the steps to remove these snare traps from our mind and conscience, can we press forward with making Christ our highest priority. Developing an awareness of God’s constant presence is the key to becoming a wise and powerful soldier for the Lord who is not wishy-washy, but will stand strong and faithful in times of persecution.

A common defense of being lukewarm is that it does not matter. This is a lie! Being backslidden is a huge deal. When we lose our love and passion to pray for others, when we stop repenting and no longer feel

convicted by the Holy Spirit, we are in serious danger. Becoming spiritually numb causes us not to care about how our sins are offending God. We are forgetting the negative impact our halfhearted attempt to follow Christ has on everyone. If demonstrating God’s character and accomplishing His will is not our highest purpose, what is? Accepting Christ is not all there is to salvation; it’s just the beginning. Being saved provides a privilege to serve, worship, and know Him. Yes, our Creator is long-suffering toward the lukewarm, and forgiveness is available, but we must see our desperate need for His refining fire and cry out to Him to cleanse and transform us into what He requires us to be.

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

BETTER TO COME CLEAN

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He vanished beneath the covering of moonlit shadows. He frequently halted during his midnight flight, waiting until the wind whipped sand to conceal his footprints. Whenever the night breeze failed to conceal his sandal impressions, he swept the evidence away with a wispy branch. He laid low in ditches, hid within caves, and painstakingly obscured his trail to evade capture by trackers intent on bringing justice to his blood-stained hands. As John Steinbeck tells this fictional story in his novella,

The Pearl, any reader can see what the murderer, Kino, cannot: evil deeds cannot be erased by erasing the evidence.

Likewise, this is what the Author of Scripture wants believers to see in the

non-fiction story of King David’s intricate cover-up of his abominable adultery with Bathsheba in 2 Samuel 11. Upon discovering that she was pregnant with his ill-conceived child, David hid his dirty laundry rather than simply coming clean. He hastily summoned her husband, Uriah, anticipating that he would spend the night with his wife after many long days of war, leading everyone to believe that the child was his (vv. 6-8). When that scheme failed, David concocted another by getting Uriah drunk, expecting that he would stumble home intoxicated and lay with her (vv. 12-13). Unable to conceal his wickedness, David finally devised a hitman scheme to eliminate Uriah, disguising his death as a mere wartime casualty—and for extra protection, he married Bathsheba to fool the masses

into believing that her pregnancy was not the result of his animalistic lust (vv. 14-27).

David covered his tracks, but he could not clear his conscience. The longer he kept skeletons in his closet, the more his bones ached from misery. He later admitted, “For when I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long. For day and night Your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer” (Psalm 32:3-4). Once Nathan the prophet rebuked him (2 Samuel 12:1-15), David brought his sin into the light and confessed, “Against You, You only, have I sinned and done what is evil in Your sight, so that You may be justified in Your words and blameless in Your judgment” (Psalm 51:4).

Confession of sin is always better than

covering it up. The Scripture promises, “If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness” (1 John 1:9). When a Christian sins,

the most unwise and futile course is to hide it from the Lord whose eyes are everywhere (Prov. 15:3). The greatest solution for the guilty is to come clean in confession and cast oneself upon the arms

of a merciful God who dwells with the contrite (Isaiah 57:15). There is no soul-healing in sin-hiding; as the Puritan Richard Sibbes succinctly said, “What we hide God will never cure.”

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

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shape, 206,000 miles. \$11,000.00 OBO call Margaret A. Moore 270-875-3126

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27 ft Car Hauler Car-go Trailer. Used once, 2-7,000 lb axels, 4,000 lb rear door ramp, Call for extras 303-775-0310, \$11,300 (tfn)

For Sale: 2025 Diamond Trailer - 7' x 14', Enclosed, Fold Down Back Door, Side Walk-In Door, Tandem Axle, Electric Brakes, \$4,500. Call Don: 386-559-7004

Adult Trike W/ Electric Battery for sale \$450.00. 1 Year Old. Call 270-331-2527.

FARM & LAWN EQUIPMENT

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

REDUCED 1987 John Deere Combine 7720 Titan 2, 4 wd, long auger, 30.5 x 32 tires, always kept inside shed.

\$11,000 OBO 270-254-0318 3.2 Prong Hay Fork \$150; B275 Diesel International project tractor \$1,250. Call 731-487-7062.

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

1950 8N Ford tractor \$1,250.00, Call 270-832-1281. W0.5x32

King Kutter Bushhog 48" w/ PTO Connector, Like New. \$900 OBO. Benton, KY. 815-236-9455 (TFN)

MISC. FOR SALE

For Sale: New and Used Christmas Toys and Tools. Rosanna's Place Salem Ky. Thurs -Fri. 8-4. Sat. 8-1

Goodman 4 ton central heat & air split unit, hardly used. Call thomas 270-247-7589. (tfn)

Roofing supplies left over a job. GAF shingles, under lay, edging, nails. Retail value \$700. Your cost for lot \$250 cash and carry. 270-559-8467

Hunting equipment, trophy deer heads, tools, household horse and Indian items, thousands of like new items priced to sell. Traders Mall Flee Market June 13th

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270-887-6523

OWNER: ELAM ZIMMERMAN
965 Pembroke Fairview Road
Pembroke, KY 42266

ONLINE ONLY REAL ESTATE AUCTION

Bidding Open **NOW!** • Closes: **Friday, October 16, 2026 @ 10:00 AM**

LOCATION: 645 STARR HILL ROAD, PADUCAH, KY 42003

CALL FOR PRIVATE VIEWING



The Company has Been in Operation Since 1913!

FULLY OPERATIONAL MEAT SHOP

COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE • EQUIPMENT INCLUDED



This is an exceptional opportunity to purchase the Ross Meat Packing property—an established, fully operational meat shop situated on a 1.453± acre lot in Paducah, Kentucky.

PROPERTY FEATURES

- 1.453± acres
- Restaurant building approx. 24.5'×28.5'
- Smokehouse
- Two BBQ pits
- Two 10'×10' walk-in freezers
- One 8.5'×18' walk-in cooler
- One 8'×16' walk-in cooler
- Upgraded electrical system in 2021
- Portion of the roof replaced in 2023
- Existing beef and pork grower relationships
- Income-producing commercial property
- Fully operational working meat shop

COMMERCIAL-GRADE EQUIPMENT INCLUDED

- Hobart meat bandsaw
- Hobart meat tenderizer
- Hobart mixer/grinder
- Toledo scale
- Crane scale
- VacMaster equipment
- Additional commercial-grade appliances and equipment used in the operation

All listed equipment and appliances are included with the real estate and will not be offered separately.

TRANSITION ASSISTANCE

Current management is willing to remain involved during a transition period to help facilitate a smooth transfer of operations to the new owner.

REAL ESTATE TERMS: A 10% buyer's premium will be added to the final bid price & included in contract price. A 15% deposit is due day of auction, balance due in 30 days. The property is being sold on an "AS IS, WHERE IS" basis, and no warranty or representation, either express or implied, concerning the property is made by the Seller or Auction Company. Each potential bidder is responsible for conducting his or her own independent inspections investigations, inquires, and due diligence concerning the property. The property will be sold by the deed.

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 Maxxforce 13 Engine (13l), 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 360609l; Engine Type 63590l-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 000272zn.

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

MISCELLANEOUS - Husqvarna E2 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, 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:** A10% 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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MICHAEL HARRIS
PRINCIPAL BROKER
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KL# 252972 | KY Broker# 198374

Phone: 270-247-3253 Toll Free: 800-380-4318

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Pet of the Week



Meet Mollie, this week’s pet of the week. Mollie is a 1 1/2 year old super mutt. Mollie has been with us longer than any other animal in our shelter. She has been with us since December of last year. She is super energetic

and playful. She can be dog particular. Mobile is spayed, micro chipped and up to date on all vaccinations. Mollie’s adoption fee is only \$25. We would love to see her find her furever home before she hits the 1 year

mark of being in our shelter.
For more information please contact:
McCracken County Humane Society
4000 Coleman Road,
Paducah, KY 42001
(270)443-5923

Christian Co. payroll clerk found guilty of time theft offenses

By Tom Latek
kentucky Today

FRANKFORT, Ky. (KT) – Kentucky Attorney General Russell Coleman announced on Tuesday that prosecution by his Office will send a former city payroll clerk in Christian County to prison. Late Monday evening, a Christian County jury delivered guilty verdicts against Hailey Bamford, 40, of Fort Campbell. Bamford was found guilty on one count of Abuse of Public Trust (a Class D Felony punishable by one to five years in prison) and three counts of Tampering with Public Records (also a Class D

Felony). Bamford was hired as the payroll clerk for the city of Oak Grove in January 2022. According to charges filed in Christian Circuit Court, Bamford altered her hours to reflect both regular and overtime hours she did not work from May 2022 through October 2023. Bamford’s overpayments varied from \$100 to \$1000. The jury recommended Bamford serve a sentence of one year imprisonment and to be required to pay restitution to the City of Oak Grove. Following the return of the verdict, Bamford was remanded by the judge into the custody of the Chris-

tian County Sheriff’s Office. “Public servants all share the same responsibility to be stewards of the public trust,” Coleman said after the trial. “The defendant abused that trust and will now face the consequences of her actions.” The Kentucky State Police conducted the investigation of the case, while Assistant Attorneys General Barbara Maines Whaley and Jennifer Hall prosecuted the matter on behalf of the Commonwealth. Bamford is scheduled to have her formal sentencing on Wednesday, November 18, at 1:00 p.m.

MCCRACKEN COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY
UPCOMING EVENTS!

BBQ ON THE RIVER
SEPTEMBER 24-26th

PETSMART ADOPT JOY EVENT
SEPTEMBER 26th
10AM - 2PM

BLESSING OF THE PETS @ MCCHS
OCTOBER 3rd
11AM - 2PM

MCCHS
4000 Coleman Rd | Paducah, KY 42001

Visit: mccrackenhumane.org

SHELTER HOURS:
MON-SAT 10:30AM - 3:30PM
CLOSED SUNDAYS

Humane Society

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