

2025 CUSTOMER APPRECIATION DAY

Friday, May 16th @ 11 a.m.

Parking lot at 106 S. Main Cross Street • Downtown Flemingsburg



Lunch provided by Fleming County Cattleman's Association



Bath County

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NEWS-OUTLOOK

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Thursday, May 01, 2025

May Day Festival and Parade scheduled for May 10

It's time for May Day!
The annual May Day Festival and Parade are scheduled for next Saturday, May 10.
Festivities get under way with vendors set up from 8 to 10 a.m. and vendors open at 10 a.m.
The Trade Days Trolley will run from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.
Games and giveaways begin at noon, including the infamous Outhouse races.
The May Day Parade returns to its traditional time at 1 p.m. Parade line-up is at Owingsville Elementary School at 12 p.m.

Floats this year with be judged and given cash prizes, \$100 for 2nd place, and \$200 for first place. This year's theme is "Women's Empowerment." To register your float, email Missbathcocomm@gmail.com.
All events are free to participate in. Contact Ian Corbin or the Owingsville Trade Days Facebook page if you are interested in being a vendor or participating in the Outhouse Race.
To find out update to date information, visit Owingsville Trade Days' May Day Festival & Parade Facebook event page.



Superintendent receives high evaluation from School Board

By Cecil Lawson
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Superintendent Steven Evans finished his fourth and final year at the Bath County School with high marks from the Board of Education during his annual evaluation delivered at Monday's regular April meeting.
School boards in Kentucky are required to conduct an annual evaluation

of superintendents according to a list of seven professional leadership standards and to use a four-tier rating system: exemplary; accomplished; developing; and growth required.
The Bath County Board evaluated Evans on three standards, strategic leadership, for which they gave him an Exemplary rating; Instructional leadership, Exemplary rating; and Human Resource leadership, Accomplished.
Board Chairperson Barbara Razor read a state-

ment regarding Evans evaluation: "As Superintendent of Bath County Schools, has prioritized establishing a clear shared vision that guides the work of all staff and which aligns with our district mission. He has supported principals into becoming instructional leaders by coaching and providing access to instructional resources and development opportunities. He has successfully pursued grant opportunities and engaged in long-term facility planning to ensure a safe,

modern learning environment. Our transportation, maintenance, and nutrition departments have made service improvements while operating within budget constraints."
Evans announced his resignation from the district at the December board meeting effective June 30. Board members conducted a superintendent search over the past few months and recently hired Dr. Michael Melton, who previously served in the district in various roles.

Fiscal Court members preview 2025-26 county budget

By Cecil Lawson
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Bath County Fiscal Court members got a Fiscal Year 2025-26 budget preview during a special-called meeting Tuesday morning.
Bath County Treasurer Julie Cline said the \$10.7 million county budget is about \$200,000 more than last year's budge total. This increase is accounted for by increases to the jail fund, 911 fund, and the new ambulance building project, which accounts for an additional \$260,000.
Cline said the county is also receiving additional amounts from various opioid settlement funds.
She said she is estimating modest increases in real estate and property taxes for this next year, and she expects the county's occupational tax to increase by \$115,000.

She added that some budget areas of concern include the jail bill, which is around \$1 million. She also transfers to the 911 fund were \$141,000 and to the waste management fund, \$56,000.
For the road department, Cline said she had spoken with Foreman Willie Vandalingham about what the department needs, and funds will be budgeted for a new salt truck and blade.
She also said they are budgeting for a new full-time road department employee in addition to two seasonal employees. She noted that road materials, especially road salt, went overbudget this year, so she is taking that into account for the new budget.
Cline also said she added 12 percent into the budget for increases in insurance.
Judge/Executive Frosty McKenzie discussed per-

sonnel expenses for the new judicial center once it is completed. The building is supposed to be completed on time by August, but additional time is needed to move furniture from the Annex to the new building, and McKenzie said that would take possibly to January to be fully operational.
He said the county will be responsible for benefits for court security officers at the new building, while the rest will be paid by the state's Administrative Office of the Courts.
Cline said there are lot of unknowns at this point, and it will be difficult to estimate the cost. McKenzie said he would set up a conference call with AOC personnel to discuss the matter. He said they would also contact Nicholas County, which recently opened their new judicial center, as well as Rowan County.
In other matters during the meeting, court members also:
- approved payment to Pettit Contracting for drilling and cribbing on Valley Road, \$78,109, with the state to be invoiced for reimbursement
- approved advertisement for bids for milling along Main Street in Sharpshburg, from Hwy 36 to the traffic light
- approved advertisement of a public hearing for use of County Road Aid, Monday, May 12, at 9 a.m. at the Courthouse Annex
- approved the hiring of Kyle McKenzie as Assistant Emergency Management Administrative Coordinator, to report as needed



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National Day of Prayer set for Thursday

Submitted by Anne Whitt

The entire community is invited to participate in observing the National Day of Prayer, Thursday, May 1, at noon on the Courthouse lawn.
Attendees may bring folding chairs or chance finding an empty bench. Freedom of faith has been protected in The USA since the First Amendment. National Day of Prayer has been observed on the First Thursday of May since Harry Truman designated the permanent day. The event is sponsored by the Bath Co Ministerial Association.



Photo submitted
Mayor Gary Hunt and wife Christina, Larry Barber, and 2023 Miss Bath County Abbie Lees at last year's National Day of Prayer service.



Photo by Wendy Whitt

Dylan Bjorkland speaks at the Good Friday service. He is scheduled to speak at the National Day of Prayer service May 1 at the Courthouse. Bjorkland is the senior minister at Christview Christian Church in Winchester.

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