

OBITUARIES

Shirley Mae Wease Hatfield

Shirley Mae Wease Hatfield, 82, of Elizabethtown, went home to be with the Lord on Thursday, Aug. 21, 2025. She was born July 28, 1943, in Glendale, to Shelby and Dorothy Robinson Wease.

She worked for Hardin County Board of Education for 21 years driving a school bus. She couldn't stand to see her kids go to school without her, so she became a school bus driver. After 21 years, she retired to stay home and keep her seven grandkids, which were her pride and joy. As the grandkids got older, she went to work for Transit Authority of Central Kentucky "TACK" and worked for three years until she found out she had lung cancer. Being the devout Christian she was, and her deep faith, she beat cancer three times. She was a fighter and never gave up. She was a long-time member of Valley Creek Baptist Church and attended faithfully until she started her cancer journey.

She was preceded in death by her parents,



Shelby Burton Wease and Dorothy Robinson Wease; her grandparents, Sam and Kate Wease and John and Rosabell Robinson; a brother, Arnold Lee Wease; and two nieces, Melissa Harper Meers and Brenda Sue Carter.

She is survived by her children, Steve Hatfield of Elizabethtown and Sherri Sallee and husband, Alan, of Elizabethtown; seven grandchildren, Emily (Jarret) Riggs of White Mills, Ashley Hatfield of Elizabethtown, Mallory (Nate) Prah of Hodgenville, Tyler (Amanda) Sallee of Eastview, Alecia (Izaak) Abrams of Bowling Green, Amber Hatfield of Elizabethtown and Anna

Hatfield of Elizabethtown; seven great-grandkids, Olivia, Addison, Isaac and Cooper Riggs, Piper and Kaylee Prah and Reagan Sallee; sister, Carolyn Meers; cousin, Barbara Morgan; sister-in-law, Fern Schur; two nieces, Linda Fowler and Veronica Wease Bigler; five nephews, Brian Meers, Joey Meers, Jon Eric Carter, Mike Schur and Shelby Wease; also several other family members and special friends.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Wednesday, Aug. 27, at Valley Creek Baptist Church with burial to follow in Elizabethtown Memorial Gardens.

Visitation is from 4 to 8 p.m. Tuesday and continues at 9 a.m. Wednesday until time of service at the church.

To express an online condolence and to light a candle of remembrance, go to trowbridgefh.com.

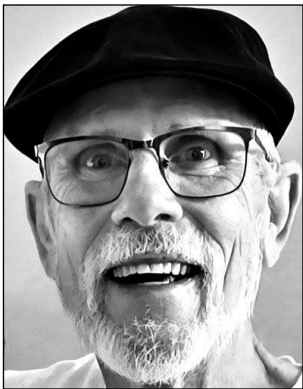
Trowbridge Funeral Home in Elizabethtown has been entrusted with the arrangements.

Patrick William Burns

Retired Col. Patrick William Burns, 70, of Guston, passed away Wednesday, Aug. 20, 2025, at Baptist Health Hardin in Elizabethtown.

Col. Patrick William Burns was retired from the United States Army. He was an avid motorcycle rider who also had a love for the outdoors. As a skilled hunter, he respected nature and often ventured into the wilderness to reflect and find peace. While his prowess on the golf course was equally notable, his zest for life shone through in the simplest of pleasures, like using his backpack leaf blower.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Harold and Margaret



Burns; and a granddaughter, Khloe Vann.

Mr. Burns is survived by his wife of 51 years, Christy Burns; two children, Ginny Vann (Tim) and Jared Burns (Angela); two grandchildren, Klayton Vann (Catie Banks) and Kenna Vann; three siblings, Coleen Northrop (Cliff), Mike Burns and

Marsha Langan (Tom); and a host of nieces, nephews, extended family, friends and his eight fur babies.

The funeral for Mr. Burns is at 1 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 27, in the chapel of Chism Family Funeral Home in Vine Grove with Pastor Jason Brock officiating. Burial with military honors will follow in the Fort Knox Post Cemetery.

Visitation is from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Wednesday at the funeral home.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Mayo Clinic to support Amyloidosis research.

Condolences may be expressed online at chism-familyfunerals.com.

Billy R. Reed



Billy R. Reed, 86, of Flaherty, passed away Wednesday, Aug. 20, 2025, at Carl M. Brashear Radcliff Veterans Center.

Mr. Reed was retired from the United States Army, having served two tours in Vietnam. He was an avid University of Kentucky fan who enjoyed watching movies and driving.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Theresia Reed.

Mr. Reed is survived by three children, Dorise Reed of Ekron, Robert Reed and his wife, Wendy,

of Vine Grove and Kristina Dibble and her husband, Brian, of Elizabethtown; two grandchildren, Duncan Reed and Savannah Reed; and a host of

extended family and friends.

The funeral for Mr. Reed is at 12:30 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 28, in the chapel of Chism Family Funeral Home in Vine Grove. Interment with military honors will follow at Kentucky Veterans Cemetery-Central in Radcliff.

Visitation is from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Thursday at Chism Family Funeral Home.

Condolences may be expressed online at chism-familyfunerals.com.

LARUE COUNTY PROPOSES INCREASED TAX RATE

For the first time in more than a decade, LaRue County is planning to implement a 4% tax rate increase on real and personal property.

Meeting in regular session Aug. 12, members of the LaRue Fiscal Court were presented with two options for the Fiscal Year 2025-26 tax rates: they could either accept the compensating rate, which would produce similar revenue to 2024, or accept a 4% rate increase, which would generate 4% more revenue than last year.

A public hearing regarding the county's proposal to take the 4% rate was advertised and hosted prior to the regular meeting. It supplied no in-person, call-in or write-in comments from the community.

Finding no opposition to the proposal, the court proceeded as planned and conducted a first reading of the ordinance. The second reading – and official vote – of the 2025 tax rates is expected at the Aug. 26 meeting.

The proposed real property tax rate of 22.3 cents per \$100 in assessed value is expected to produce a total revenue of \$2,027,602; this is an increase of approximately \$150,000 over the revenue garnered in 2024 and does not include revenue generated from new property.

The tax rate for personal property also will rise, from 28.28 cents per \$100 in value to 28.54 cents. This is expected to generate \$419,501 – an approximate \$31,000 increase.

Motor vehicle and watercraft rates will remain unchanged at 25.15 cents, which will provide revenues of \$363,830 and \$10,852, respectively.

This is the first year in more than a decade the county has proposed to implement the 4% revenue increase. Reviewed tax rates reveal the court has not chosen to adopt the higher rate since at least 2013, and has instead predominantly accepted the compensating rate.

According to LaRue County Judge-Executive Blake Durrett, any revenue received in excess of last year's receipts is expected to be used to offset the general inflationary increase in expenses.

The tax rate for the public library also was accepted.

Marian Carlson, LaRue County Public Library director, offered the court an overview of the library's 2024 happenings, including 52,000 patron visits, circulation numbers exceeding 57,000, nearly 5,000 technology sessions, the hosting of 685 programs and the participation of 495 LaRue County children in Dolly Par-

ton's Imagination Library. Carlson also reported that the library board has decided to adopt the compensating rate of 5.4 cents for real property, 5.77 cents for personal property and 2.8 cents for motor vehicles.

A request from the Buffalo Fire Department asking the county to remove the opt-out option from its \$55 Fire Department Subscriber Fee – which is included in property tax bills and funds the local volunteer fire stations – was rejected. Instead of allowing individuals to take the fee off their property tax bills, the department proposed the county collect all fire dues and then allow the respective fire departments to issue refunds to those wishing to opt-out.

Discussion regarding the request included the fact that all county fire departments are volunteer, which means the fire houses are not constantly staffed and community members may have difficulty acquiring refunds. This mixed with a disclosure by the LaRue County Sheriff's Office that only 8 to 10% of taxpayers do not pay their dues, led the court to take no action on the request.

The next meeting of LaRue Fiscal Court is at 9 a.m. on Tuesday at the LaRue County Courthouse.

FUNERALS

Cheryl Ann Bolden, 73, of Radcliff, died Wednesday, Aug. 6, 2025. Graveside services with military honors is at 2 p.m. Monday at Iowa Veterans Cemetery in Adel, Iowa. Percell & Sons Funeral Home handled local arrangements.

Thomas Ward Davis, 69, of Radcliff, died Saturday, Aug. 16, 2025. The funeral is at 11 a.m. Friday at Percell & Sons Funeral Home in Elizabethtown with burial in Kentucky Veterans Cemetery-Central with full military rites. Visitation begins at 10 a.m. Friday at the funeral home.

Janice Carol Embry, 66, of Guston, died Wednesday, Aug. 20, 2025. The funeral is at noon EDT Tuesday at Grace Baptist Church in Ekron with burial in the church cemetery. Visitation is from 4 to 8 p.m. EDT Monday at Alexander Funeral Home in Irvington and continues at 10 a.m. Tuesday at the church.

Betty J. Horton, 78, of Munfordville, died Thursday,

Aug. 21, 2025. The funeral is at 1 p.m. CDT Sunday at Sego Funeral Home in Munfordville with burial in Little Flock Cemetery. Visitation is from 3 to 8 p.m. CDT Saturday and continues at 9 a.m. CDT Sunday at the funeral home.

David Roy Routon, 71, died Monday, Aug. 11, 2025. Visitation is from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. today at Brown Funeral Home in Elizabethtown with a graveside service at Lebanon Junction Cemetery. Brown Funeral Home is handling arrangements.

Deloris Elaine Snyder, 83, of Sonora, died Tuesday, Aug. 19, 2025. The funeral is at 1 p.m. Saturday at Manakee Funeral Home in Sonora with burial in Sonora Cemetery. Visitation resumes at 9 a.m. today at the funeral home.

Carolyn Faye Metcalf Spalding, 77, Bardstown, died Sunday, Aug. 17, 2025. The funeral is at 11 a.m. today at Barlow Funeral Home in

Bardstown. Visitation resumes at 9 a.m. today at the funeral home.

Kelly Brooke Nelson Spraggins, 40, of Fort Knox, died Tuesday, Aug. 14, 2025. The funeral is at 2 p.m. today at Muldraugh Baptist Church with burial in Kentucky Veterans Cemetery-Central in Radcliff. Visitation resumes at noon today at the church. Bruington-Jenkins-Sturgeon Funeral Home is handling arrangements.

Dale Streicher, 85, of Vine Grove, died Friday, June 13, 2025. A celebration of life is at 1 p.m. Aug. 30 at Chism Family Funeral Home in Vine Grove.

Debra Marie Thompson, 70, of Shepherdsville, died Wednesday, Aug. 20, 2025. A celebration of life is at 2 p.m. Saturday at Holy Chapel of God in Shepherdsville. Visitation begins at 11 a.m. Saturday at the church. Hardy-Close Funeral Home is handling arrangements.

SUBMIT AN ITEM

To submit an event for the Community Calendar, send information, including name, date, place and a short edition of the event along with a point of contact,

to calendars@thenewsenterprise.com. Items for inclusion are civic and club meetings and community and public events.

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New York tour bus crash on interstate highway leaves multiple people dead and others injured

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

PEMBROKE, N.Y. — A tour bus returning to New York City from Niagara Falls with 52 people crashed and rolled Friday on an interstate highway, killing and injuring multiple passengers, police said.

The bus apparently lost control on Interstate 90 near Pembroke, about 25 miles east of Buffalo. People inside were ejected as the windows shattered.

"At this time we have multiple fatalities, multiple entrapments and multiple injuries," said Trooper James O'Callaghan, a spokesperson for the New York State Police, adding that children were on board.

The bus was traveling eastbound when it went into the median and ended up in a ditch on the right side of the road, O'Callaghan said. Most passengers were of Indian, Chinese and Filipino ethnicity, he said.

"The driver is alive and

well. We're working with him. We believe we have a good idea of what happened, why the bus lost control," O'Callaghan said without elaborating.

The Mercy Flight medical transport service said its three helicopters and three more from other services transported people from the crash site. Hospitals in the region said they evaluated or treated more than 40 people. Injuries ranged from head trauma to broken arms and legs.

Two people who needed surgery at Erie County Medical Center in Buffalo were expected to recover, said Dr. Jeffrey Brewer, chief of surgery.

"It's a full-size tour bus. Heavy amount of damage," O'Callaghan said. "Most people I'm assuming on the bus did not have a seat belt on, that is the reason why we have so many ejected people on this bus."

In response to a bus crash in New York in 2023, a state law requires seat belt use

on charter buses built on or after Nov. 28, 2016. The age of the bus in Friday's crash wasn't immediately known.

The New York State

Thruway Authority said a lengthy stretch of the roadway had been shut down in both directions and drivers were being urged to avoid the area.



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