

# Community Calendar

The deadline for Community Calendar items is Noon Monday.

## Mentors & Meals

Looking for a supportive and enriching after-school program for your middle schooler? M&Ms is now enrolling for Fall 2025! This free program provides homework help, mentoring from caring high school and adult volunteers, and a healthy meal each day – equipping students with the tools they need to succeed in middle school and beyond.

Enrollment is also open for high school students (grades 9-12) who wish to serve as mentors and earn valuable volunteer hours. Space is limited, so don't wait! Learn more and enroll today at [www.mentors-meals.org/](http://www.mentors-meals.org/) get-involved by clicking on "Student Enrollment" or "Mentor Volunteer".

## Midway Toastmasters

Midway Toastmasters meets every Monday evening at Midway University from 6-7:15 p.m. We welcome visitors! For information, visit <https://midwaytm.toastmastersclubs.org>

## Parents of Addicted Loved Ones

Woodford County's Parents of Addicted Loved Ones (PAL) meets the first and third Monday of every month at 6:30 p.m. at Versailles Presbyterian Church, 130 North Main Street, in the conference room.

All are welcome to the meetings, including parents, relatives and friends who have a loved one in addition of drugs or alcohol. Come and find support and obtain a better understanding of your loved one.

For more information, contact Larry Blackford at 859-492-4075 or [lblackford.magistrate@gmail.com](mailto:lblackford.magistrate@gmail.com).

## Survivors of Suicide

The new Survivors of Suicide Loss support group will meet the first and third Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. at St. Andrew's Anglican Church. All are welcome. For more information contact [julieerrenner@gmail.com](mailto:julieerrenner@gmail.com).

## Versailles Kiwanis Club

The club's monthly meetings are held the fourth Tuesday each month at 11:30 a.m. at Callie's Homestyle Restaurant.

For membership inquiries, please contact club president William Downey at 859-351-4429 or [wkdowney5@gmail.com](mailto:wkdowney5@gmail.com).

## Woodford County Chamber of Commerce

On Monday, June 2 at 9 a.m., the retail council monthly meeting will be held at the chamber office, 126 S. Main Street.

On Wednesday, June 4 at 8:30 a.m., the Human Resources Roundtable, "Happy Financial Life = Happy

Work Life," will be held at the Chamber office, 126 S. Main Street.

Registration continues for the annual Kentucky Women's Conference to be held on July 18 at KCTCS. Go to: [business.woodford-countyinfo.com/community](http://business.woodford-countyinfo.com/community)

## Woodford County Democrats

Come meet the new executive committee at the meeting on June 5, 6:30 p.m. in the community room of the courthouse.

## WC Extension Homemakers Assn.

Hand to Hand: second Monday of the month at 10 a.m.

Busy Bees: second Monday of the month at 6 p.m.

Circle of Friends: third Thursday of the month at 6 p.m.

Patchwork: third Monday of the month at 6 p.m.

## Woodford Co. NAACP

We meet at 10 a.m. every second and fourth Saturday in the Woodford Library Community Room. Everyone is welcome.

## Woodford County Salvation Army Unit

The Woodford County Salvation Army Unit meets on the second Thursday of the month at Bluegrass Community Hospital at 11:30 a.m. in the second floor

conference room. The unit is always looking for new volunteers. Salvation Army helps with many community organizations such as Coats and Shoes for Kids, Bluegrass Community Action, Family Resource Centers and the Red Kettle campaign. Anyone is welcome to attend.

## Woodford County Republican Party

The Woodford County Republican Party meets the first Monday of every month.

Meetings will be held at 7 p.m. at Versailles Brewing Company, 513 Marsailles Rd.

## Woodford County Retired Teachers Assoc.

The Woodford County Retired Teachers Association will meet on Thursday, June 5, at 11 a.m., at the Woodford County Ag Resource Center, 184 Beasley Road, Falling Springs Center, Versailles. There will be a catered lunch and memorial service which will honor teachers and administrators who have passed away during the last year. Please RSVP by emailing [kathy.hogg@gmail.com](mailto:kathy.hogg@gmail.com) by May 29. All retired educators are welcome to attend.

## Woodford Theatre

Woodford Theatre presents The Wizard of Oz. Performances will be on May 30 and 31 at 7:30 p.m. and May 25, and June 1 at 2 p.m. Tickets can be purchased by visiting our box office Tuesday-Friday from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. or by calling 859-873-0648. You may also visit the Get Tickets tab on our website at [www.woodfordtheatre.com](http://www.woodfordtheatre.com).

## Reynolds to compete in Miss Kentucky competition



Turner Denise Reynolds, of Versailles, will compete in the 2025 Miss Kentucky competition, June 11-14 in Bowling Green. She currently holds the title of Miss Wayne County Area. Turner is the 24-year-old daughter of Jeremy and Keli Reynolds.

In May, she graduated from the University of Kentucky J. David Rosenberg College of Law. Previously, she obtained degrees in Communication Studies and Broadcasting from Western Kentucky University. For the talent portion of the competition, Turner will sing "Annie's Song." In recent years, Turner has completed extensive work with her community service initiative, "Balancing the Scales: Achieving Equal Access to Justice," where she advocates for greater accessibility to the legal system for disenfranchised minorities in the United States. Visit [www.misskentucky.org](http://www.misskentucky.org) if you would like to watch Turner compete for the job of Miss Kentucky!

## Academic News

### Cedarville University

Natalia Hattrick of Midway, was named to the Cedarville University's spring 2025 dean's list.



AT THE WOODFORD COUNTY FFA BANQUET Carson Probst and Faith Harris were awarded the C.O. Neel Agriculture Achievement Award sponsored by Ken and Brenda Reed. Pictured from left Carson Probst, Ken Reed, and Faith Harris. (Picture Submitted)



BUFORD-LANDMARK MASONIC LODGE NO 41's Jeremy Kifer presented Ayana "YaYa" Wilson with a \$1000 scholarship during the Senior Class Awards Ceremony on Monday, May 19. Wilson's resume included her membership in the National Honors Society, Beta Club, FCA, Track Team, NIA Club, Homecoming Queen and member of the National Cheerleading Championship Team. Wilson plans to pursue a degree in kinesiology/pre-physical therapy while cheering for the Georgetown College Tigers. Her late grandfather, William Beasley, was a member of Saint Paul Lodge No. 11 in Georgetown, Kentucky. (Photo submitted)

## Midway University's annual Spotlight Awards Dinner shone brightly

By SCOTT WHITE  
MANAGING EDITOR

The annual Spotlight Awards Dinner is a high point in Midway University's year, usually coming a week or so after the spring commencement ceremony. It is a time to celebrate the growth and future of the university. It also offers a chance for professors, administrators, alumnae and friends to visit before they scatter over the summer. And, to enjoy a live auction of donated items presided over by a horse sales auctioneer.

And, as President John P. Marsden says, the most important piece – honoring a person who has played a significant role at the university and someone whose career and contributions reflect the standards and principles of Midway.

This year's honorees were Dr. Constantine "Deno" Curriss, who received the Legacy Award, and Lisa Lourie, who was honored with the L.L. Pinkerton Vision Award.

According to the video presented prior to the presentation of the award, Curriss, who grew up in Williamstown in southeastern Kentucky, enjoyed a long, illustrious career in higher education administration, which included serving 10 years as the youngest ever president of a Kentucky university at Murray State. He went on to serve as president at the University of Northern Iowa followed by his residency at Clemson University. He finished his career leading the American Association of State Colleges and Universities.

This remarkable career began, though, at Midway Junior College (the university's predecessor) where he began his career as an instructor in 1965, and in two years was appointed vice president and dean of academic affairs, where he, "demonstrated his exceptional leadership and commitment to academic integrity," the narrator said. He remained to shepherd Midway to full accreditation at both the secondary and collegiate levels. In his acceptance remarks, he said, "One of his best memories was helping to establish the nursing program."

Curriss remained a part of Midway from the time he left through today. He provided valuable insight to administrators and served on the Board of Trustees from 1980 until he took emeritus status. He said one of his biggest accomplishments

at Midway was serving on the search committee that brought Marsden, and his transforming leadership, to the university.

Lourie, the Pinkerton Award recipient, is the owner and operator of Spy Coast Farm, located near the Kentucky Horse Park in Fayette County. The farm is renowned for its breeding, training and performance programs in the equestrian sport industry, particularly Grand Prix show jumpers.

Before pursuing her equine passion, Laurie had a notable career in nursing, including at the Center for Disease Control and Prevention and the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, working with AIDS patients. Her entry to equine was triggered by her then 8-year-old daughter's developing interest in horseback riding. This led to the creation of Spy Coast on Long Island, New York, before moving to Kentucky in 2009. The introductory video said, "Lisa's management style fosters a collaborative and nurturing environment, where both horses and staff thrive. Her ability to adapt and lead has been a driving force behind the farm's success."

Lourie is committed to equine education, offering internships and mentor opportunities. The narrator said, "She is paving the way for future leaders, particularly women, in the equestrian world. Her dedication to fostering talent is just one of the many reasons she is respected within the industry."

In her remarks, Lourie spoke with real pride about their programs with area high schools and Midway University as well as the success of the nursing program.

"I am so inspired by the Midway equine students who come to us ready to work at the fitness center, they really seem to enjoy their studies," she said. "This leads me to my final words of wisdom, enjoy your work. If you have chosen the right career path, no matter how difficult the task, believe in yourself . . . because the world is a much better place when you do."

About 350 attended the event. "The Spotlight Awards is an opportunity to raise money for student scholarships at a time we are experiencing our greatest expansion in school history," said Marsden. "We are thankful for the generous support from those who recognize we help open the doors of opportunity to young men and women who desire the educational experience that Midway University offers."



PRESIDENT JOHN MASRDEN presents the L.L. Pinkerton Vision Award to Lisa Lourie. (Photo by Scott White)



MIDWAY UNIVERSITY trustees Donna Moore, chair, and Belinda Metzger, vice chair. (Photo by Scott White)

## PUBLIC NOTICE

The Woodford County Courthouse and all Woodford County Government Offices, including the Solid Waste and Recycling Center, will be **CLOSED on THURSDAY, MAY 29, 2025 FROM 11:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.** for a mandatory county employee open enrollment meeting.

## Contact Information for the Sun

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