

OBITUARIES

CARLEA ANN RIDDLE



Riddle, and his wife, Sandy; her daughter, Lee Ann Ramey, and her husband, John; and her grandson, Taylor Scott Ramey. She shares a close bond with her brother, James "Jim" Michael Carpenter, all of whom reside in Owingsville. Additionally, her legacy extends to her nieces and nephews, including Kristin Toy of Grayson, Kentucky; William Carpenter and his wife, Mary, of Mt. Sterling; and Tommy Ray Riddle Jr. and his wife, Teresa, of Ewing, Kentucky. Leah also held a special friendship with Brenda Coyle (Rogie), Virginia McKenzie (Joe) and Harue Sano who was a foreign exchange student from Japan that stayed with Leah and Roger while attending Morehead State and never lost touch.

Carlea Ann Riddle, 81, affectionately known as Leah, passed away at her home in Owingsville, Kentucky on Thursday, March 5, 2026. She was born on March 3, 1945, in Covington, Kentucky to the late Carl D. Carpenter and Florence Smith Carpenter. Leah dedicated her life to education as an elementary school teacher, inspiring countless young minds throughout her career. Her passion for teaching was matched only by her commitment to her family and friends.

Leah was a graduate of Owingsville High School, and she furthered her education by obtaining both a bachelor's and master's degree in elementary education from Morehead State University. She was a proud member of the Owingsville First Church of Christ, along with Kentucky Retired Teachers Association and the Bath County Retired Teachers Association. Leah had a rich tapestry of interests that included reading, painting, crafting, and scrapbooking. She found joy in nurturing flowers and cherished the time spent traveling with her beloved husband, Roger, particularly enjoying trips to Pigeon Forge, TN.

Leah's family was her pride and joy. She is survived by her husband, Roger Riddle; her son, Ron

Funeral services were conducted at 11:00 AM Tuesday, March 10, 2026, in the chapel of the Michael R. Gray Funeral Home in Owingsville with Pastor Johnny Baber and Bro. Wesley Crouch officiating.

Burial followed at the Owingsville Cemetery.

Visitation at the Michael R. Gray Funeral Home in Owingsville was from 5:00 - 8:00 PM Monday.

Pallbearers were Taylor Scott Ramey, William Carpenter, Robbie Coyle and Rogie Coyle.

Honorary pallbearers were Jim Carpenter, John Ramey and Sandy Riddle.

The Michael R. Gray Funeral Home at 89 Slate Avenue in Owingsville cared for all the arrangements for Carlea Riddle.

To view the online memorial and sign the guest book, please visit www.mrgfh.com.

LODEMA FRALEY JONES



Lodema Fraley Jones, 92, of Morehead, KY, passed away February 25, 2026 at St. Joseph's Hospital in Tampa, FL. A devoted member of her community, Lodema lived a life marked by faith, service, and quiet dedication to others.

She worked for Kentucky Farm Bureau for more than 35 years, where she was known for her reliability, kindness, and steady professionalism. Her commitment to helping others extended well beyond her career. Lodema was a longtime member of Midland Church of God, where her faith was a guiding force throughout her life. She also generously volunteered at St. Claire

Hospital, offering her time and compassion to those in need. Lodema will be remembered for her gentle spirit, her unwavering work ethic, and the warmth she shared with everyone she met.

Lodema was the daughter of Burns and Austa Fraley of Midland, KY. She was also preceded in death by her husband, John M. Jones, and her daughter, Sherry Robinson of Morehead, KY. She is survived by her daughter, Beverly R. Russell of Paintsville, KY; her son, Michael L. Jones (Todd E. Rice) of Tampa, FL; her grandchildren, Susan Brannock (Matthew Brannock) of Georgetown, KY, Jennifer Roberts (Michael Roberts) of Paintsville, KY, Jason Roberson and Sean Roberson of Richmond, KY; her great-grandchildren, Rachael, Riley, and Reagan Roberts of Paintsville, KY; several nieces, nephews, cousins, and many close friends.

Services will be held at Midland Church of God on March 21, 2026, at 11:00 a.m. Rev. Bush Stevenson will be officiating.

JENNIFER KAY SMITH WELLS



Jennifer Kay (Smith) Wells, age 58, of Frenchburg, KY, passed away Monday, March 2, 2026, at her home. Born July 19, 1967, in Middletown, OH, daughter of Laurys Smith and Doris Egelston Smith. She was a loving wife, mother, daughter, sister, and grandmother. A member of the Tarr Ridge Church of God.

Surviving are her devoted husband, Tracy Wells. Mother Doris Egelston Smith. Loving son Silas (Payton) Ingram and daughter Amy Wells. eight special grandchildren: Georgia Ingram, Tobias Ingram, Ella Rae Ingram, Alex Spence, James Wells, Jaylynn Wells, Daymin

Wells, and Josh Wells. Brother: Timothy (Donna) Smith. Special niece: Maggie (Cody) Ferrell. Special nephew: Tanner (Ariel) Smith. Special great-niece: Teagen Smith. Special great nephew: Parker Smith. Special great-nephew Landon Ferrell. Host of family and friends.

Preceded in death by her father Laurys Smith, son Christopher Wells, special sister-in-law Linda Smith, and special uncle Kenneth Egelston.

Funeral services will be at 2:00pm on Saturday, March 7, 2026, at Menifee Home. For Funerals with Rev. Jimmy Daulton speaking words of comfort to family and friends. Burial in Smith Cemetery, Tarr Ridge Rd., Frenchburg, KY. Visitation, 12 noon Saturday at Menifee Home for Funerals, Frenchburg, KY. Randy Halsey, Funeral Director.

Pallbearers: 1. Silas Ingram, 2. Jordan Chester, 3. Jamie Brooks, 4. Tim Shroust 5. Tanner Smith, 6. Tyler Terrell, 7. Jordan Brown, 8. Tim 'Cobb' Smith. Honorary pallbearer: Darrell Wells

Emergency Road Aid Funds Awarded to Bath County for \$48,800

The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet announced last week that Bath County will receive \$48,800 in County Road Aid emergency funds for drainage structure repair on North Little Flat Ledford Road (CR 1385)

The repairs will make travel safer for motorists, pedestrians, school buses and other vehicles that rely upon North Little Flat Led-

ford Road.

"The Transportation Cabinet is pleased to approve this request for funding to provide assistance to Bath County to repair and maintain safe connections in the community," said Transportation Secretary Jim Gray.

The Bath County Fiscal Court is responsible for administering the work.

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NOTICE OF RESOLUTION GRANTING FRANCHISE

By virtue of RESOLUTION 2026-3 heretofore passed by the City Council of Owingsville, Kentucky, KENTUCKY UTILITIES COMPANY has been awarded an electric franchise. Said franchise is more particularly described and fully defined in an ordinance granting and creating the same, the full text of which is available for inspection in the office of the Owingsville City Clerk, 19 Goodpaster Avenue, Owingsville, Kentucky. The ordinance by title and summary is as follows: Ordinance 6-2025. AN ORDINANCE CREATING A FRANCHISE FOR THE ERECTION, LAYING AND MAINTENANCE OF ELECTRIC FACILITIES AND APPURTENANT FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT IN, ALONG AND ACROSS THE PUBLIC WAYS, ROADS, STREETS, ALLEYS AND OTHER PUBLIC PLACES IN THE CITY OF OWINGSVILLE, KENTUCKY; FOR FURNISHING AND SELLING ELECTRICITY BY MEANS OF SAID FACILITIES; AND PROVIDING FOR THE SALE OF SAID FRANCHISE.

Melissa Berry, Owingsville City Clerk

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NOTICE OF RESOLUTION GRANTING FRANCHISE

By virtue of RESOLUTION 2026-2 heretofore passed by the City Council of Owingsville, Kentucky, Delta Natural Gas Company, Inc. has been awarded a natural gas franchise. Said franchise is more particularly described and fully defined in an ordinance granting and creating the same, the full text of which is available for inspection in the office of the Owingsville City Clerk, 19 Goodpaster Avenue, Owingsville, Kentucky. The ordinance by title and summary is as follows: Ordinance 2-2026 - AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF OWINGSVILLE, KENTUCKY, AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 2-2016, PROVIDING FOR THE CREATION OF A FRANCHISE FOR THE OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF A NATURAL, MANUFACTURED, AND/OR MIXED, GAS DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM WITHIN THE CITY OF OWINGSVILLE, KENTUCKY, DEFINING THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS THEREOF AND PROVIDING FOR A BID PROCEDURE THEREFORE.

Melissa Berry, Owingsville City Clerk

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