

# Mammoth Cave National Park to host “Echoes of the Past” genealogy and history event

Mammoth Cave National Park invites the public to attend Echoes of the Past, a special event designed to explore modern connections to the generations of people who once called the Mammoth Cave region home. The event will take place on Saturday, Sept. 27, 2025, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. CDT in the Rotunda Room of the Lodge at Mammoth Cave.

Attendees will have the chance to connect directly with historians, archivists, and genealogists, and explore tools that can help them trace their own family histories. Whether you have ancestral ties to the park or are simply curious about the region’s past, Echoes of the Past offers a meaningful opportunity to uncover personal connections to the history of Mammoth Cave and the communities that surround it.

“Echoes of the Past is more than a history event. It’s a chance for people to connect with the stories and history that shaped this landscape,” said Superintendent Barclay Trimble. “We’re proud to offer a space where community members and visitors alike can explore the deep cultural and genealogical ties to this region.”

This event is open to the public and no registration is required. Seasoned and aspiring genealogy enthusiasts alike are welcome to attend. Informative sessions will include:

Booth-style sessions at 10 a.m. and 12 p.m. where visitors can interact one-on-one with representatives from local historical societies and organizations. These experts will share research insights, help attendees identify genealogy resources, and connect them with local archives and specialists.

Guest speaker presentations at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. offering practical guidance and inspira-

tion for those interested in genealogy research and regional history.

Featured Guest Speakers:

11 a.m. — Sam Terry, IV : A native of Barren County, Kentucky, Sam Terry is a historian and author with deep roots in the region. He is the creator of Sam Terry’s Kentucky, a popular platform celebrating the state’s heritage, and has contributed to radio and podcast programs such as Think History and Uncommon History of the South. Terry has held leadership roles in several historical organizations and continues to lead educational tours and programs in his community.

1 p.m. — J. Mark Lowe : A professional genealogist and lecturer, Mark Lowe specializes in Southern U.S. records and has taught at major genealogy institutes across the country. He has contributed to television series like Who Do You Think You Are? and African American Lives 2 and is a past president of the Association of Professional Genealogists. His work is widely published, and he is recognized for his engaging and accessible approach to family history research.

In addition, National Park Service staff will offer demonstrations on how to access cemetery records and archival photographs from the park’s curatorial collection.

This event commemorates National Public Lands Day, a nationwide effort to honor and care for the lands we all share. In the spirit of this year’s theme Our Home Outdoors, visitors are invited to explore the many stories that have shaped Mammoth Cave National Park. Known around the world for its vast, interconnected cave system and natural wonders, the park is also a place of deep personal connection



▲ Photo | NPS  
A crowd gathers at a homecoming event held for previous park area residents in 1939.

— where generations of families once lived, worked, and built community.

For questions about the event, please contact us at [MACA\\_Info@nps.gov](mailto:MACA_Info@nps.gov) or 270-758-2180.

Mammoth Cave National Park encompasses 52,830 acres in south central Kentucky, commemorating the diverse geological, biological and historical features associated with the longest cave in the world. Learn more about the park at [www.nps.gov/mac](http://www.nps.gov/mac), and on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

About the National Park Service. More than 20,000 National Park Service employees care for America’s 430+ national parks and work with communities across the nation to help preserve local history and create close-to-home recreational opportunities. Learn more at [www.nps.gov](http://www.nps.gov), and on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and YouTube.

## Barren County Schools Announces Opioid Recovery Trust Grant to Expand “Resilience Factor” Family Support Program

Barren County School District is proud to announce that Shelly Thomas, Youth Services Center (YSC) Coordinator at Barren County High School, has secured an opioid recovery grant to expand the district’s Resilience Factor Program, a family-centered initiative supporting students and families impacted by the opioid crisis. The award comes through the Public School Districts’ Opioid Recovery Trust (PS-DORT), which recently announced funding to school districts nationwide to address addic-

tion’s impact on students and their families.

Established in 2021 and led by Coordinator Shelly Thomas, the Resilience Factor Program connects at-risk students and their families with mental-health counseling, life-skills education, individualized family support plans, and community engagement projects. The expanded program will continue monthly family meetings, counseling, and case management in partnership with local providers, and practical trainings such as

financial literacy and Narcan/CPR/AED, while also removing barriers like transportation and access to basic needs.

**About PSDORT:** The Public School Districts’ Opioid Recovery Trust was created following national opioid litigation resolutions to invest directly in public schools. In its latest round, the Trust announced more than \$24 million in up to \$500,000 awards across dozens of districts to expand special education, mental-health, and recovery supports that keep students on track.

CITY OF CAVE CITY, KENTUCKY  
ORDINANCE NO. 25-6-8

AN ORDINANCE TO REDUCE BLIGHTED, VACATED OR ABANDON PROPERTIES IN CAVE CITY, KENTUCKY

IT APPEARING THAT:

**WHEREAS**, especially in the central business district there are several buildings unused, unoccupied and ill-kept, and

**WHEREAS**, the City is committed to clean up and eliminate blighted, vacated or abandoned properties.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY ORDAINED**, by the City of Cave City, Kentucky, as follows:

Section 1. Abandoned Urban Property is established as a separate classification of real property for the purpose of *ad valorem* taxation. As used herein, an “Abandoned Urban Property” means any vacant structure or vacant or unimproved lot or parcel of ground located within the boundaries of the City that has been vacant or unimproved for a period of at least one (1) year and which:

- Because it is dilapidated, unsanitary, unsafe, vermin infested or otherwise dangerous to the safety and welfare of persons, is unfit for its intended use; or
- By reason of neglect of lack of maintenance has become a place for the accumulation of trash and debris, or has become infested with rodents or other vermin; or
- Has been tax delinquent for a period of at least three (3) years; or
- Is located within a development area established under KRS 65.7049, KRS 65.7051 and KRS 65.7053.

Section 2. The rate of *ad valorem* taxation levied upon Abandoned Urban Properties is \$ .75 on each \$100.00 of assessed value.

Section 3.

A. The Code Enforcement Officer shall determine each year which properties located within the City are Abandoned Urban Properties, and shall prepare and furnish a list thereof to the City Clerk and the Barren County Property Valuation Administrator prior to January 1st of each year.


B. Except as otherwise provided in division (C) of this section, a property classified by the Code Enforcement Officer as Abandoned Urban Property as of January 1st shall be taxed as Abandoned Urban Property for such tax year. If the owner repairs, rehabilitates, or otherwise returns the property to productive use so that the property is no longer Abandoned Urban Property, the owner shall notify the City, by and through it Clerk and if it finds the property is no longer Abandoned Urban Property, it shall notify the Barren County Property Valuation Administrator to strike the property from the list of Abandoned Urban Properties as of the succeeding January 1st.

C. No later than May 1st of each year, the Code Enforcement Officer shall mail, by regular first-class mail, to the owner(s) of each Abandoned Urban Property, as those name(s) are listed in the records of the Property Valuation Administrator, a notice that the property has been classified as Abandoned Urban Property. The owner of any Abandoned Urban Property who believes that the property has been incorrectly classifieds may appeal said classification to the Code Enforcement Board. Such appeal shall be in writing and shall be made no later than June 1 of that year. The Code Enforcement Board shall afford the owner the opportunity for a hearing. If the Code Enforcement Board finds that the property was incorrectly classified as Abandoned Urban Property, it shall cause the property to be removed from the list of properties so classified.

Section 4. All ordinances or parts thereof in conflict with this ordinance shall be and hereby are, repealed to the extent of said conflict.

Section 5. Any section or provision of this ordinance that is declared by a Court of appropriate jurisdiction to be invalid for any reason, shall not affect or invalidate the remainder of this ordinance.

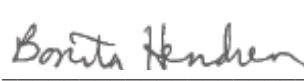
Section 6. This ordinance shall take full force and effect upon publication as required by law.

  
MAYOR, CITY OF CAVE CITY

First Reading  
Date: 25-8-6  
For: 5  
Against: 0

Second Reading  
Date: 8-11-25  
For: 6  
Against 0

ATTEST

  
CITY CLERK