

Natalie Stewart Competes in the Ironman World Championship in Hawaii

By Nila Harris, *Falmouth Outlook*

Last year, Natalie Kelsch Stewart, formerly of Pendleton County, competed in the Ironman Chattanooga and earned a slot this year in the 2025 Ironman World Championship--Kona. "Qualification requires top placement at Ironman races worldwide, making Kona the culmination of a season's worth of grit, strategy, and elite performance," according to ironman.com. On October 11, 2025, Stewart took part in the challenging competition, facing temperatures near 90 degrees and competing with more than 1,600 women from all over the globe.

When preparing for the race, Stewart trained around 15 hours per week. "I wake up around 4:45am to swim, bike, and run," explained Stewart. She would even spend time in the sauna to prepare her for the Hawaiian heat. All this while working full-time as a dentist at her dental practice in Mason, OH, caring for her two children, and spending time with her husband.

"The women-only championship showcases the fiercest competition in long-course triathlon. The race covers a brutal 140.6 miles: a 2.4-mile ocean swim in Kailua



After the ocean swim, Natalie begins the bicycle leg of the Ironman competition.

Bay, a 112-mile bike ride through the barren, wind-swept lava fields to Hawi, and a full marathon along the coastal Queen Ka'ahumanu Highway, finishing on Ali'i Drive," stated ironman.com.

Stewart's mother Phyllis Kelsch of Foster, accompanied Stewart, her husband, and their children to the competition. Kelsch talked about the challenging conditions and courses with "waves that they had to swim in were difficult to navigate". She also described how Kona went "all out hosting this event" and loved hearing the various dialects and seeing the flags blowing in the wind from the

many countries represented. "I am so thankful I could go and support Natalie and help with the grandchildren. She has such grit and perseverance, and the hours upon hours of training shows how committed she is in competing. I'm so very proud of her."

Stewart stated that the Ironman World Championship has been a goal of hers since she began triathlon a few years ago. Her next competition will be the Precision Fuel & Hydration Ironman 70.3 World Championship in Marbella, Spain on November 9th.



Natalie finishes the event with a marathon.

Brooksville City Council

Brooksville City Council met in regular session Thurs., Sept. 11 at 6:30 p.m. Mayor Hester presided. Council members present: Tim Boyd, Sarah Carl, Karen King, Sara Fryman, Melinda Kurtz. Absent: Roger King. Personnel present: City Clerk/Treasurer Sandra Reynolds and Police Chief Arnold Dodge. Guests: Jamison French with Buffalo Trace and Christian Shroll.

Minutes of previous meeting were accepted as presented upon motion of Councilperson Kurtz, second by Councilperson Boyd. Vote unanimous.

2nd Reading of Ordinance #25-02 pertaining to the use of red and blue lights on the City Police Cruiser was accepted upon motion of Councilperson Boyd, seconded by Councilperson Carl. Vote unanimous.

2nd Reading of Ordinance 2025/T1 setting 2025 tax rates was accepted upon motion of Councilperson Fryman, seconded by Councilperson Karen King. Vote unanimous.

2nd Reading of Ordinance 2025-T2 setting tax rates for vehicle and watercraft was accepted upon motion of Councilperson Carl, seconded by Councilperson Fryman. Vote unanimous.

1st Reading of an Ordinance adopting state-

ments and obligations for an updated comprehensive plan was accepted upon motion of Councilperson Kurtz, seconded by Councilperson Karen King. Vote unanimous.

1st Reading of an Ordinance pertaining to hours of sale for malt beverage retail sales within the City limits of Brooksville was accepted.

Gas and water tap fees were discussed. Council agreed unanimously to raise tap fees for both water and gas to \$850. Anything over 5 ft. a fee of \$200 per 100 feet.

Sara Fryman submitted her resignation as Councilperson due to purchasing a home and moving outside the city limits. Vote unanimous.

Filling of vacant council seat was discussed. Councilperson Carl moved to appoint Christian Shroll to fill the vacant council seat for the remainder of the current term. Motion was seconded by Councilperson Boyd. Vote unanimous. Official Oath of Office as required by Section 222 of the Constitution of KY was administered to Christian Shroll by Mayor Craig Hester.

There being no other business, Councilperson Boyd moved to adjourn.

Bracken Fiscal Court

A regular meeting of the Bracken County Fiscal Court was held Wednesday, September 24, 2025, for the purpose of transacting any business properly presented by the established agenda. Presiding: Tina K. Teegarden, Judge Executive. Present: David Kelsch, Danny Holleran, Debbie Mayfield, John Scott, Craig Miller, Sandy Ruf, Kevin Jarrells, Heather Brumley.

Let the record reflect that the Court Members received a copy of any Transfers and Vendor Claims and a copy of the Financial Statement.

Upon Motion of Debbie Mayfield, second by Danny Holleran. Yes Votes: David Kelsch, Danny Holleran, Debbie Mayfield, John Scott, Kevin Jarrells, Judge Teegarden, Sandy Ruf. Abstained due to absence: Craig Miller, Heather Brumley.

The court approved the minutes of the September 10, 2025, meeting.

Road Department Update - Road Supervisor Stacey Florer gave an update. They have been blacktopping, cutting tree limbs, putting in new culvert pipes, doing some work in front of the salt barn.

Animal Shelter Expansion Update - Magistrate Miller stated the architect just emailed this morning stating he was ready to meet so he is hoping to meet with him later this week.

Judicial Center Contract Employee Maintenance - Judge Teegarden stated in email discussions with AOC, they were able to advertise the mowing, weed eating, landscaping, and snow removal

without a bond requirement. AOC is updating their facilities operations manual and contracts 2025 this year and they couldn't answer Judge Teegarden's questions as to the types of bonds and how much, so they stated they will just approve without that. She went over their insurance requirements vs ours with them and they were fine with that and stated they could move forward with advertising that in the newspaper.

Craig Miller made the motion to start the process with AOC for a maintenance contract position for \$52,000 annually. Debbie Mayfield second it. Vote unanimous.

Ordinance 15-05 RE: Encroachment Permits - Tabled.

Discussion of County Owned Lots Donated Over The Years - Judge Teegarden stated PVA Florer and she had done some work in the past where the county was given some properties that are random all over the county. There is a gentleman that has been coming in the office for several months because there is an old county lot next to his property that is mostly covered in water. Judge Teegarden stated she does not see a use for the county at this particular property. She would like to go ahead and review all county properties and make a decision as to whether the county wants to hang on to these, surplus them, put them up for auction etc. She will bring the information to the next court meeting because this gentleman is wanting to purchase the lot that is next to his property.

Department of Agriculture Spay and Neuter Grant - Judge Teegarden stated she got an email that we received this grant again for the animal shelter for \$2,000 for the spay and neuter grant. The court needs to approve the contract with them. The money will not be received until January.

Motion for approval made by Sandy Ruf, second by Heather Brumley. Vote unanimous

Full-time Dispatch Hire - Judge Teegarden stated this is for a full-time dispatcher. Magistrate Mayfield stated herself, Magistrate Ruf and Tanisha Stitt interviewed on Mon., Sept. 22 for the full-time dispatch position. Jonathon McConnell is a local resident; he met all the requirements, and they feel like he will be a good fit for the dispatch team. Magistrate Mayfield would like to make a recommendation to hire Mr. McConnell at the current rate of pay for a non-certified dispatcher at \$14.66 an hr. with benefits pending preemployment screening.

Motion for approval made by Debbie Mayfield, second by Sandy Ruf. Vote unanimous.

Transfers/Vendor Claims - Following approved: General Fund Budget Transfer; Dispatch 911 Fund Budget Transfer; General Fund Vendor Claims; Jail Fund Vendor Claims; Dispatch 911 Fund Vendor Claims

Other Business -

*Smart 911 - Mag-

istrate Jarrells stated some people can't hear the sirens when you are down in the hills. He asked if there is anything the county can look into to alert people. Judge Teegarden stated smart 911 will send a text and call you. You do have to login every once in awhile so that when they do an update you can make sure all your check marks are still marked for all the notifications you would like to have. She stated its helpful to create a profile, that goes straight to dispatch, and you can record any medical or health conditions you may have. Magistrate Jarrells asked Judge Teegarden to put that on the Judges page so that it can be shared.

*Magistrate Brumley asked how the Senior Center was going since the director stepped down. Judge Teegarden stated she believes its going well and that the Quarter Corner Store has reopened. Judge Teegarden does want to update everyone in that she did receive notice from the cabinet in Frankfort that they have cut funding, this will cut the home delivered meals out completely. This is going to severely impact Bracken and Robertson as we had a large number of hot meals being delivered to homes. They can still come into the senior center and eat on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Adjourn - Motion to adjourn made by Danny Holleran, second by Kevin Jarrells. Vote unanimous.

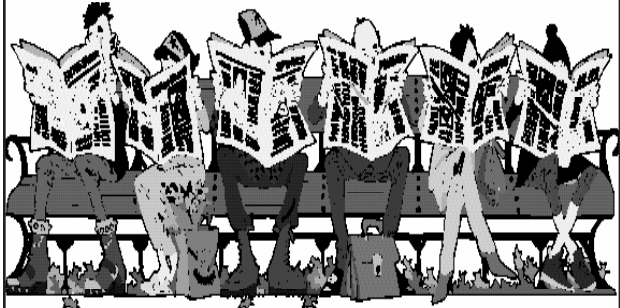


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BRACKEN COUNTY FARM BUREAU
Annual Fruit Sale

FRESH FRUIT	
• Clementines; Sunkist 1/2 Bushel.....	\$47.00
• Clementines; Sunkist 1/5 Bushel.....	\$23.00
• Navel Oranges, 4/5 Bushel	\$43.00
• Navel Oranges, 2/5 Bushel	\$26.00
• Navel Oranges, 10 Pounds	\$18.00
• Red Grapefruit, 4/5 Bushel.....	\$36.00
• Red Grapefruit, 2/5 Bushel.....	\$22.00
• Hamlin Oranges, 4/5 Bushel.....	\$31.00
• Hamlin Oranges, 2/5 Bushel	\$20.00
• MINI Grand Slam Gift Box, 1/5 Bushel	\$20.00
• Grand Slam Gift Box, 2/5 Bushel	\$33.00
• MINI Holiday Gift Box, 2/5 Bushel	\$20.00
• Holiday Gift Box, 2/5 Bushel	\$33.00
• Premium Gift Box, 2/5 Bushel	\$33.00
• Mixed Citrus Box, 2/5 Bushel.....	\$34.00
• Apple/Pear Combo, 2/5 Bushel.....	\$33.00
• Pineapples, Del Monte Gold 8/per box.....	\$27.00
• Pear Box, 2/5 Bushel.....	\$39.00
• Pear Box, 4/5 Bushel.....	\$63.00
NUT PRODUCTS	
• Peanut Gift Pack, (6 packs per case)	\$82.00
• Chocolate Nut Gift Pack, (6 packs per case)	\$106.00
• Gourmet Honey Roasted Mixed Nuts 6/20 Oz. Tins per case	\$90.00
• Caramel Corn with Nuts 6/20 Oz. Tins per case	\$71.00
• Harvest Mixed Nuts, 12/16 Oz. Cans per case.....	\$92.00
• Whole Cashews, 12/16 Oz. Cans per case	\$133.00
• Mixed Nuts, 12/16 Oz. Cans per case	\$103.00
• Pecan Halves, 12/16 Oz. Bags per case.....	\$137.00
• Milk Chocolate Pecans, 12/12 Oz. Cans per case	\$120.00
• Southern Fried Skinless Peanuts, 12/16 Oz. Cans per case.....	\$57.00
• Brittle Bites, 12/12 Oz. Cans per case	\$62.00
• Honey Roasted Pecans 12/8.5 OZ. Cans per case	\$97.00
• Butter Toffee Peanuts, 12/12 Oz. Cans per case	\$66.00
• Chocolate Covered Peanuts, 12/12 Oz. Cans per cs.	\$75.00
• Honey Krunch Peanuts, 12/12 Oz. Cans per case	\$57.00
• Almonds (Roasted & Salted) 12/9 Oz. Cans per case	\$70.00

All Orders must be submitted to the
Bracken County Farm Bureau Office no later than
Friday, October 24, 2025.
Payment in advance is requested to make delivery easier.
735-2408
132 Woodward Avenue • Brooksville