

‘Radar can’t see tornadoes. It can see circulation aloft when it’s likely a tornado is forming. If we wait to see the debris cloud from a tornado that’s on the ground to issue a warning, it’s much too late.’

NWS Warning Coordinator for North Little Rock, Dennis Cavanaugh, on the recent storms and the shifting of ‘tornado alley’

Other views

Memorial Day and the bond that endures

As May comes to a close, Americans pause on Memorial Day to reflect on the true cost of freedom. More than a long weekend or the unofficial start of summer, it is a sacred time to honor the men and women who gave their lives in service to our nation.



Matt Nunn
•
Senator

While Memorial Day began after the Civil War, its meaning is renewed each year by the quiet acts of remembrance in communities across the country: parents placing flags on graves, children learning the stories of heroes they never met, and neighbors gathering to remember those who never came home. These simple acts speak volumes.

Here in Kentucky, from the Appalachian hills to the banks of the Ohio, families have long sent their sons and daughters to serve. From Fort Knox and Fort Campbell to historic sites like Camp Zachary Taylor, our state has played a proud role in America’s defense.

Memorial Day also calls us to remember the families left behind—the Gold Star Families who carry the weight of loss long after the battles have ended. Their sacrifice continues at every empty chair, every quiet birthday, and every memory honored in silence.

Today, we owe them more than gratitude. We owe a promise to teach future generations the meaning of service, stand with military families, and live in a way that honors the freedom so many have died to protect.

Let us remember them not just with words but with actions—by caring for veterans, supporting military families, and preserving the liberties they gave their lives to defend. I encourage you to get out into the community this weekend and on Memorial Day and take part in remembering the sacrifices of all who have come before and the legacy they leave behind.

In closing, as we reflect on sacrifice and service, let us celebrate the promise of new beginnings. To the Class of 2025, congratulations on your achievement. As you embark on life’s next great adventure, we wish you success, happiness, and purpose. May you carry forward the values of courage, community, and commitment in all you do.

MATT NUNN represents the 17th Senate District, including southern Kenton County, northwestern Fayette County and all of Grant and Scott Counties.

From Our Pages

The following was pulled from the pages of the News-Graphic and other Georgetown newspapers:

ONE YEAR AGO:

—Yuko-En Japanese Garden hosted its first Bonsai exhibit as part of the Central Kentucky Bonsai Society’s (CKBS) Spring Exhibition.

FIVE YEARS AGO:

—WEDCO began rolling out COVID-19 testing in May 2020.

TEN YEARS AGO:

—Laura Wyly Johnson, Ph.D., was named vice president for student life at Georgetown College.

FIFTEEN YEARS AGO:

—A rare collection of 60 Mexican ceremonial dance masks were on display at the Georgetown & Scott County Museum.

—Compiled by Ashley McGee
Georgetown News-Graphic



Reflecting on the true meaning of Memorial Day

As the days grow longer and warmer, families across the Commonwealth are firing up the grill, heading to the lake, gearing up for neighborhood cookouts, and preparing for the unofficial kickoff of summertime. Before we get wrapped up in all the festivities this three-day weekend brings, let’s take a moment to reflect on what Memorial Day truly represents and why we observe this holiday.

Memorial Day is more than just a long weekend we get to enjoy—it is an occasion to honor the brave men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice and lost their lives defending our great nation.

It’s easy to take for granted what a tremendous privilege it is to live in the greatest country on Earth. But that privilege is only possible because of the courage, pride and sense of duty shown by generations of American service members, dating back to our fight for liberation from the British Crown. We observe Memorial Day each year in recognition of their sacrifice, and every second of it belongs to them. It is a time for us to show our gratitude and carry on the legacy of those who gave everything so that we could live in freedom.

The heroes who have fallen answered when duty called, knowing they might not return home. Some left behind families; others gave up their careers and dreams to serve. But they all did it out of love for their country and to defend the values that make America so remarkable. They didn’t join the fight for personal gain or money—but so we can raise our children in safe communities, worship freely without restriction and speak our minds without fear of consequence. That sacrifice is what

we should be celebrating on Memorial Day weekend.

Kentucky has a long history of being a driving force in our nation’s military strength. From the mountains of Eastern Kentucky to the riverbanks of Western Kentucky, the Commonwealth has raised generation after generation of fierce men and women who have stood on the front lines defending liberty. As home to Fort Knox and Fort Campbell, Kentucky plays a critical role in the training, deployment and support of our armed forces.

Military service isn’t just a tradition in Kentucky—for many families, it’s a rite of passage, a way of life, and an identity. Our communities are filled with veterans who carry not only the legacy of service but also the weight of sacrifice. For Kentuckians, Memorial Day carries deeply personal meaning because we know, firsthand, the cost of liberty.

President Abraham Lincoln once said, “A nation that does not honor its heroes will not long endure.” That is what Memorial Day is all about. When we take a step back to reflect on why we celebrate this holiday, we reaffirm the principles that so many soldiers died protecting. In making an intentional effort to instill in the next generation the values these men and women fought for, we keep those beliefs alive and woven into the fabric of our society. Preserving the liberty they died for is among the most patriotic acts we can perform as Americans to honor their memory.

As we honor Memorial Day, let’s remember that every cross in a veterans cemetery, every name carved into a war memorial, and every folded flag represents more than just a fallen

soldier. Each tells an epic tale of self-sacrifice, devotion and unconditional love for this great nation. Scattered across the country are veterans cemeteries filled with men and women who believed America was a country worth dying for. These symbols remind us that our freedom comes at a cost that should never be taken for granted or forgotten. They are eternal markers that our liberty was purchased with blood, patriotism and an unbreakable loyalty to our flag.

I believe it is our duty as lawmakers to commemorate the memory of the heroes we have lost not only on the last Monday of May, but through the legislation we support, the values we defend and the commitment we make to fostering a country that is strong, free and worthy of their sacrifice. With every vote we cast, we must strive to preserve the ideals they died protecting, so their loss is never in vain. Though it is a debt we can never fully repay, that is how we ensure their legacy lives on in the soul of our country.

So this Memorial Day, as we gather with loved ones in celebration, honor the legacy of those who made the ultimate sacrifice by flying your American flag high, attending a local parade, teaching your children the meaning of this day and saying a prayer for the families who carry the burden of loss. Most of all, remember that the freedom we enjoy is not free.

Finally, to every Kentuckian who has worn the uniform—and to every family who has known the weight of loss—your sacrifice will never be forgotten. Thank you. May God bless our fallen heroes, may God bless their families, and may God forever bless the United States of America.

VANESSA GROSSL represents the 88th House District which includes parts of Scott County.



Vanessa Grossl
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State Representative

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Editor’s Note: Letters to the Editor are the expressed opinions of the writers and not necessarily the opinions of the News-Graphic.

Mayor and council continue status quo

To the Editor,

The annexation vote for the 182 acre Ball Homes development at the Southwest intersection of McClelland Circle and Paynes Depot road was close. Karen Tingle-Sames, Todd Stone, and Michael Crisp voted against it.

Reasons the annexation

should have been denied at this time are that appropriate growth management processes for our community simply aren’t in place. Better communication and implementation oversight is needed regarding: impact fees, affordable housing strategy, preservation of Scott County rural character, balanced city/county interlocal funding agreements for urban services such as police and fire, a financial planning process for upkeep of infrastructure and buildings as they age, quality of life focus including activities for kids, addressing the administrative

failure of not allowing time to schedule a public hearing before city council to fully and officially discuss projects prior to annexation, and identifying an inspiring vision of where our community ultimately wants to go.

Ball Homes recognized concerns regarding growth management and was nervous about how the council would vote. It tried to explain that it doesn’t view itself as driving development. Rather it follows the market and rules of what it’s allowed to do. It’s interested in communicating and working with the city about

things like public services and affordable housing. However it admitted there haven’t been meaningful conversations with the city about these topics and the current proposed development doesn’t meet definitions of affordable housing.

It was a great opportunity for the council to delay the annexation in order to catch up on lagging initiatives and to negotiate with Ball Homes about improvements. A revised development plan could have been worked out in the coming months that would have served as a better model moving forward. Two more votes were all

that were needed.

Sadly however the mayor and several council members continued the status quo pattern of timidly rubber stamping annexation and development requests placed before them without challenge. There’s an appearance of a lack of interest in and understanding of city planning and legal process issues. Their votes once again missed the boat of creativity and leadership and failed to heed citizen concerns about growth management.

Dan Holman
Georgetown

Corrections

About your newspaper

Write us

Georgetown News-Graphic will be glad to correct any errors that appear in the newspaper or clarify any statements that are unclear. The correction or clarification will appear on Page 6. To request a correction or clarification, 502-863-1111 between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., and ask for Ashley McGee.



Georgetown News-Graphic (ISSN 1072-9305 periodicals postage paid Georgetown, Ky.) is published two times weekly, on Tuesday and Friday, from its office at 1481 Cherry Blossom Way, Georgetown, Ky 40324. Postmaster: Send address changes to Georgetown News-Graphic P.O. Box 2168, Georgetown, KY 40324. All-access subscription rates are \$95.00 annually, \$55.00 for six months and \$40.00 for three months. Call for out-of-county rates. Our office may be reached by telephone at 502-863-1111, by fax at 502-863-6296 or by e-mail at news@news-graphic.com.

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