



GEORGETOWN News-Graphic

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BEST OF THE BLUEGRASS/FESTIVAL OF THE HORSE

Chili cook off kick-starts events Thursday

By Jack Thomas
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Best of the Bluegrass-Festival of the Horse returns this weekend, with a mixture of familiar events and new features. Festivities begin Thursday, Sept. 4 at 6 p.m. with the Fireman's Chili Cookoff. The event will be set up along Main Street starting at

Mulberry Street, with an \$8 entry benefitting Toys for Tots, according to a promotional flyer. A stretch of Main Street and other roads will close beginning Thursday at 2 p.m., said Dylan Marson, Georgetown-Scott County Tourism Communications Manager. "Road closures for Best of the Bluegrass-Festival of the Horse will ... con-

tinue through Sunday Sept. 7, with roads opening (back up) at 9 p.m.," Marson said. "Signage for (road) closures will be posted at the 460 water tower, Paris Pike/Cherry Blossom and Main Street." Food and craft vendors, music perfor-

mances, and Georgetown Community Hospital's Colt & Filly Parade follow on Friday, an event schedule states. "Georgetown Community Hospital's Colt & Filly Parade will feature our community's youth as they celebrate everything that shines bright in the state of

Kentucky," Marson said. "As a reminder, there are no horses in this parade." Street entertainment, Grand Parade of Horses, and music headliner JD Shelburne will all be featured on Saturday. Sister-city representatives from Tahara, Japan will serve as Grand Marshals for the Grand Parade of Horses, Marson said. The festival concludes

Sunday, with Scott County Humane Society's Pet Parade, a musical Youth Showcase, and Paws in the Pool at Suf-foletta Family Aquatic Center, the schedule reads. "First held in the 1980s, this festival has run annually since, making 2025 its 44th year," Georgetown-Scott County Tourism Director Lori Saunders said.

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Best of the Bluegrass-Festival of the Horse special section inside.

GEORGETOWN SCOTT COUNTY MUSEUM



NEWS-GRAPHIC PHOTO BY JACK THOMAS

Scouts of Scott County exhibit on display at museum

Georgetown Scott County Museum Director Ruthie Stevens and Student Assistant Caleb Gagel observing a Girl Scouts SWAPS, or "Special Whatchamacallits Affectionately Pinned Somewhere," part of a new

Scouts of Scott County exhibit. Memorabilia, including images, handbooks, and uniforms, were donated by members of area Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts troops, and will remain on display through Sept. 20.

SCOTT COUNTY FISCAL COURT

SPV ordinance knocked down in tight vote

By Jack Thomas
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Scott County Fiscal Court denied an ordinance on street-legal special purpose vehicles (SPVs) in a close vote after back-and-forth discussion among magistrates. Following a second reading of the proposed ordinance at a fiscal court meeting Thursday, Aug. 28, magistrates voted 5-to-3 against passing the ordinance into

'If you don't like them or whatever, don't buy one. In my view, voting against this is infringing on people's right to pursue happiness.'

Rick Hosteler
Magistrate

county law. Magistrates Rick Hosteler, Rob Jones, and Ryan Pratt voted in favor of allowing SPVs on county roads within ordinance requirements.

However, Magistrates Chad Wallace, Kelly Corman, Dwayne Ellison and David Livingston voted in opposition, joined by Judge Executive Joe Pat Covington, preventing

a tie. Magistrates took firm stances both in favor of and opposition to the ordinance. Those who choose to operate SPVs are not infringing on the rights of others, Hosteler said. "If you don't like them or whatever, don't buy one," he said. "In my view, voting against this is infringing on people's right to pursue happiness." "It's about your

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SCOTT COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

New Victim Advocate will contribute to growing program

By Jack Thomas
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Scott County Sheriff's Office (SCSO) has hired a new victim advocate to assist community members in need of care. Victim Advocates offer a range of assistance: filing protection orders, attending court hearings, and sometimes providing basic needs like food and shelter, SCSO Victim Advocate Natalie Painter said. She also refers victims to community resources to further fulfill their needs. "My role, whenever any of our detectives or deputies are called out to a situation, whether it's domestic violence or non-domestic violence, suicides, drug overdoses – anything that might have a victim that really needs some care – I will reach out to those victims, talk to them, get a sense of what their needs are," Painter said. Born and raised in Lexington, Painter attended the University of South Carolina with a passion for helping others, she said. "Once I graduated with a degree in sociology, I came back (to Kentucky) and I took a job at the Fayette



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Natalie Painter.

County Commonwealth Attorney's Office," Painter said. "I was the victim advocate over there, further along in the court process ... working with victims in court and going through trials." "I really wanted to be involved earlier in the process," she said. "By the time the commonwealth attorney's office gets cases, it's usually been at least a month or two since whatever the incident is happened. I really wanted to be involved right at the beginning to be able to help those victims right from the get-go." Working for SCSO allows Painter to lend a helping hand to victims from day one, she said. "I can be involved as long as they are in those (civil) systems," Painter said. "If a vic-

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Coming up:
Fireman's Chili Cook Off
Thursday @ 6 p.m.



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