

New U.S. Citizens sworn in at Mammoth Cave National Park



▲ PHOTO | SUBMITTED
Naturalization Ceremony. Mammoth Cave National Park, April 24, 2025

Special to the Hart County News-Herald

MAMMOTH CAVE, KY. – Mammoth Cave National Park and U.S. Citizen and Immigration Services welcomed twenty-nine new citizens of the United States during a naturalization ceremony held inside Mammoth Cave on Thursday, April 24. The ceremony took place at an area known as “The Methodist Church,” and was overseen by United States District Court

Magistrate Judge, H. Brent Brennenstuhl.

“It was a distinct privilege to welcome our newest citizens to the United States in the remarkable setting of Mammoth Cave,” stated Superintendent Barclay Trimble. “This unique underground environment not only highlights the beauty and richness of our nation but also reflects the collective heritage we all cherish.”

The new citizens hail from 12 different

countries around the world, but now reside in throughout the Western Kentucky region. Becoming a new citizen is a voluntary process which requires each individual to meet eligibility requirements and go through a ten-step naturalization process that includes written applications, tests, and personal interviews.

The new citizens were accompanied to the ceremony by members of their families

who supported them through their citizenship journey.

The naturalization ceremony is an annual event held within Mammoth Cave. The Hart County High School Junior Reserve Officers’ Training Corps (JROTC) presented the colors during the ceremony, and Mammoth Cave National Park Guide, Hillary Sward, preformed the National Anthem on trumpet for the audience.

Wilson to Leave Hart County for New Job with State 4-H Office

By **Mary Beth Sallee**
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Hart County 4-H Agent Julia Wilson has accepted a new position as the Extension Specialist for Youth Work & Life Readiness, Health & Wellbeing, and Healthcare Workforce Initiatives with the State 4-H Office. She will officially begin this new role on June 1, and her last day as the Hart County 4-H Agent will be May 30.



▲ PHOTO | HART COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE WEBSITE
Julia Wilson’s last day as the Hart County 4-H Agent will be May 30.

“I’ve really enjoyed my time in Hart County and am incredibly thankful for the connections I’ve made with local youth and families,” Wilson said. “Being known as ‘the 4-H lady’ when I walk into schools has truly been one of the highlights of my career. While I’m excited to step into a new role at the state level - supporting agents and youth development programs across the state - I’m not saying goodbye completely. My daughter will continue to be an active 4-H member here in Hart County, so I’ll still be around and involved in local

activities as a parent.”

In her new role with the State 4-H Office, Wilson will be working with Advancing Kentucky Together, 4-H Beyond Ready, and ensuring young people across the Commonwealth have the opportunity to be healthy, productive, and engaged wherever life takes them.

A Farewell Party for Wilson will be held on Tuesday, May 13 from 3 p.m. until 5 p.m. at the Extension Office in Munfordville. At this time, there is no estimate for how long it will take to hire a new 4-H agent for Hart County.

•WILLIAMS

Continued from page A1

Miegon Hatchett, and his brother, DeAndre Williams, were on hand to offer their support and congratulations.

Representing Campbellsville-Harrodsburg was the coach, Zach Freeman. Freeman was thrilled to have Williams and spoke of the potential the Caverna senior has.

“Russell is a very talented young man, and we are glad he chose to come to our school and become a Pioneer,” Coach Freeman said. “Russell has so much potential. We look forward to his arrival and him making our school his next home for academics and basketball.”

Williams began by thanking God for blessing him to be in this situation to pursue his dream of playing collegiate basketball.

“I’d like to thank my mom, my brother, and my girlfriend for supporting me on my journey,” Williams said. “I appreciate all of you, thanks

for coming, and go Pioneers.”

Williams also thanked his coaches and all the teachers and his teammates for their support and for “pushing me to be all I could be.”

In an interview after the signing, Williams called his teammates his brothers.

“I wouldn’t be where I’m at without my brothers,” he said. “They (his teammates over the last four years) pushed me everyday in practice in basketball and football. I will miss them all.”

Williams said being at Caverna was like “being a part of one big family.”

“I just want to stay humble,” he said. “I want to do my best in college as a player and a student. I will work hard and try to be a good teammate in college just like I did here.”

Williams began playing basketball at CHS as a freshman during the 2021-22 season.



▲ PHOTO | T. WAMPLER, JPI SPORTS
Russell Williams’ mother, Miegon Hatchett, left, and his brother, DeAndre Williams, right, were on hand to offer their support to Williams on the day he signed his letter of intent to play basketball at Campbellsville-Harrodsburg.



▲ PHOTO | T. WAMPLER, JPI SPORTS
A special cake was a part of the celebration at Caverna High School last week when Russell Williams signed his letter of intent to play collegiate basketball at Campbellsville-Harrodsburg and become a Pioneer.

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REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

In accordance with 7 CFR 1780.39, Caveland Environmental Authority is accepting Statements of Qualifications for engineering services, including, but not limited to preliminary engineering, planning design, construction administration, and inspection. Caveland Environmental Authority received funding to expand the wastewater treatment plant.

You are invited to submit a proposal to be received no later than 10:30 a.m. local time on May 23, 2025. Your proposal should be submitted to David Peterson, Caveland Environmental Authority, 508 S. Dixie Highway, Cave City, KY 42127.

This Request for Qualifications consists of the following attachments, which can be obtained by contacting David Peterson by email at david@ceawater.com; or by calling Caveland Environmental Authority at 270-773-2887. TTY: 1-800-648-6056 (for hearing and speech impaired only).

Attachment A - Problem Statement
Attachment B - Scope of Work
Attachment C - Project Schedule
Attachment D - Contract Type
Attachment E - Proposal Contents
Attachment F - Factors for Award/Evaluation of Criteria

The Contract will be awarded to the responsible offerer whose proposal is determined to be the most advantageous to Caveland Environmental Authority. The factors to be considered and the method to be utilized in the evaluation of the qualifications and selection of the engineer are set forth in Attachment F.

Caveland Environmental Authority does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, or disability and provides, upon request, reasonable accommodation including auxiliary aids and services necessary to afford an individual with a disability an equal opportunity to participate in all services, programs and activities.

Caveland Environmental Authority reserves the right to reject any or all submissions, waive minor informalities, or request additional information if necessary.

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