

The Best Christmas Pageant Ever returns to Lebanon

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After a ten year hiatus from the stage at the Kentucky Classic Arts (KCA) at Centre Square in Lebanon, The Best Christmas Pageant Ever returns. In the play this church reopened their doors and prepared for their annual, and hopefully routine, Christmas Pageant.

To give a rundown of this show, it involves the worst kids in town, the Herdmans. These kids decide this is their year to join the Christmas Pageant. The Herdmans are bullies to say the least, and with their bad habits and attitudes, there is a possibility this year's pageant is the worst one yet.



JENNA GEORGE/The Lebanon Enterprise

Bob Bradley, (played by Owen Wright), and Grace Bradley, (played by Jovie Bell), converse in their dining room about this year's Christmas pageant possibly going awry.

This show is put on by two casts, the first weekend already wrapping up, but leaving one more for attendees to go see.

Even if someone has seen the play before, the upcoming cast brings a new atmosphere to the show itself. Each



JENNA GEORGE/The Lebanon Enterprise

The Herdmans fight over the baby Jesus doll in the church's Christmas pageant rehearsal, while this years director Mrs. Bradley, attempts to de-escalate the situation.

member of the show brings their own special talents and quirks.

"We try and pick shows

that showcase all the kids in one way or another," said Nannie Hill, the education director at Kentucky Classic

Arts. "It's important for these kids to be included in a group, to have each other and work together to get an end result."

December 11-13 the performances will begin at 7 p.m. sharp, while the Saturday matinee will begin at 2 p.m. The recommended payment for entry is \$10 per ticket, but overall it is pay what you can. All the profits will be going directly back into the theatre program.

"We wanted to give back to the community, we want everybody to be able to experience the gift of theatre at Christmas," said Hill. "We know that sometimes this time of year money is tight, and we wanted to showcase this out to the community so everyone can see this show."

WHY

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does Carmel have?

Over 150 and counting. Carmel has been going whole hog with it since the 1990s. The population is only about 100,000. Carmel was named the second wealthiest city in the Midwest. The city is very affluent and they chose roundabouts in their highway construction.

Will lived in Noblesville, another suburb of Indianapolis, same thing. Roundabouts everywhere. Will and wife Stephanie recently moved to another suburb called McCordsville. Same thing.

I figured Will would be a good person to ask why roundabouts are used to replace the traditional stop and go red lights we're so used to. Here's what He told me:

"Roundabouts are generally designed with improv-

ing safety and traffic flow in mind."

"A crash diagram of a typical signalized intersection (red lights) has 32 potential crash incident locations, including head on and angle (T-Bone) crashes. Vehicles can enter these (red light) intersections at high rates of speed depending on what the posted speed limit for that roadway is."

"Roundabouts force the driver to slow down when entering the intersection.

The counterclockwise traffic pattern lowers the theoretical potential crash incident locations from 32 to 8, which include only sideswipe and rear end crashes (both theoretically at lower speeds). At the end of the day, these designs can be great benefits to travelers when used properly. In the instance of a crash, I would rather get a call from a family member or friend with a damaged rear end then get a call from the coroner stating a member

was hit head on."

I'm not certain how many deaths we have had at our intersections like Highway 555 and 150, Highway 150 and Bloomfield Road or even Highway 555 and Lincoln Park Road but I know there have been some and a lot of other accidents there as well. If we had had roundabouts there is a possibility the deaths would not have occurred and some of the non-lethal accidents as well.

I'm rounding the corner

to 70 in a few years and I don't really like change but it didn't take me long to manage roundabouts when Cindy and I visited Will and Stephannie.

Also, if it wasn't a good idea then why do the rich folk of Carmel, who have used them for over 30 years and have over 150, not push back and quit installing them. Instead, again, they have embraced roundabouts whole hog.

Something to think about.

JUDGE

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where he pleaded not guilty to the charges.

Browning pleads not guilty
James Browning pleaded not guilty to two counts of first-degree sodomy, victim under 12 years of age, first-degree sexual abuse, victim less than 12 years of age, intimidating a participant in a legal process, and first-degree wanton endangerment. Browning had a pretrial conference set for Jan. 22, 2026, at 1:00 p.m., and a jury trial scheduled for April 28, 2026, at 8:30 a.m.

Blanford pleads not guilty
Charles Josh Blanford, 45, the man accused of four counts of first-degree rape, entered a plea of not guilty and had a pretrial conference set for Feb. 5, 2026, at 1:00 p.m. and a jury trial scheduled for April 28, 2026, at 8:30 a.m.

Blanford and his father, Charles W. Blanford, 73, both of Loretto, were indicted by a November Grand Jury. The younger Blanford was indicted on four counts of first-degree rape, four counts of first-degree sodomy, and four counts of first-degree sex abuse.

Bowman has new pretrial conference date set
William R. Bowman had his

Jan. 8, 2026, pretrial conference remanded and a new one set for Feb. 5, 2026, at 1:00 p.m. Bowman is charged with first-degree unlawful transaction with a minor, illegal sex act under 16 years of age, procuring or promoting the use of a minor by electronic means, and third-degree rape.

Other cases:

• Monique Shilling-Parks is incarcerated in Virginia and had a sentencing date set for Feb. 5, 2026, at 1:00 p.m. She is charged with two counts of first-degree possession of a controlled substance, first offense (methamphetamine), and convicted felon in possession of a firearm.

SEN

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residents of LaRue, Marion, Nelson, Spencer, and Washington Counties to participate. Responses will help inform legislative priorities throughout the 2026 session. The survey is intended only for constituents who live within the district. Residents who are unsure of their legislative district may use the "Find Your Legislator" tool available at [Legislature.ky.gov](https://legislature.ky.gov).

"Each year before the legislative session begins, I want to seek feedback from constituents on important topics and policy issues," Higdon said. "This survey is especially important to me, as the 2026 Legislative Session will be my final session representing the great people of the 14th Senate District. With this being a budget session, which also requires a new two-year state road plan, I hope everyone will take a moment to share their thoughts.

Constituents may also

contact the senator's office directly to share their views or leave a message for any lawmaker during the session using the General Assembly Legislative Message Line at 800-372-7181.

Additional information lines include:

Bill Status Line: 866-840-2835,

Meeting Information Line: 800-633-9650,

Meeting Line en Español: 866-840-6575, and

Hearing and Speech Impairment Message Line: Kentucky Relay Service 711.



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