

Lewis County officials present monthly reports

By Dennis K. Brown

Lewis County officials presented their monthly reports during the May meeting of Lewis County Fiscal Court.

Sheriff Johnny Bivens filed his department activities from April 14, 2025 through May 12, 2025.

- Citations 43
- Subpoenas Served 3
- Domestic Related Calls 48

- Civil Summons Served 43

- Arrests 7
- Cases Open For Investigation 3
- Accident Investigations 16

- Criminal Summons 4
- Prisoners Transp. to Secure Facility 0 miles
- Juveniles Transported 225 miles

- DVOs and EPOs 4
- Court Security Hours 655.5
- Prescription Deliveries 0

- Auto Inspections 83
- Funeral Escorts 6
- Concealed Carry Permits 6

- Miscellaneous 34
- Taxes Collected: Property \$62,883.01

- Franchise \$93,077.06
- Total \$155,960.07
- Stolen property recovered: SO-25-030 2023 Camper \$50,000.00

- 911 Coordinator Pam Jordan submitted a monthly report for the Lewis County E-911 Dispatch Center.

The center received the following calls for service in April:

- Sheriff 249
- Vanceburg PD 91
- EMS 157
- Coroner 4
- Air Evac 3
- Lewis County FD 18
- Garrison FD 22
- Vanceburg FD 9
- Black Oak FD 8
- Firebrick FD 5

- Lewis County 2 FD 7
- Tollesboro FD 18
- Camp Dix FD 7
- EMA 14
- Total Calls 612
- 911 Wrecker Log April: Mullin's 0
- McCann's 0
- W KY 8 6
- Ginn's 0
- G&H 3
- Thayer's 4
- Clark's 6
- Crawford's 0
- Bradford's 0
- Director of Lewis County Ambulance Service District, Michael Byble, gave his report.

- Total Lewis County Dispatched calls for EMS: 157
- Patients who opted to go POV: 0
- Total Lewis County Ambulance Dispatched calls: 148

- Total LCEMS Run Forms: 152
- Transported Patients: 111
- Hospitals: SOMC 76, UK-St. Claire 5, UK-KDMC 1, Meadowview 25, Fleming County 2, to landing scene 2.

- Average Response Time (all shifts): 13:30, 42% were below 8:00 minutes.
- Runs By District: Vanceburg 52, Tollesboro 26, Black Oak 6, Firebrick 2, Lewis County 27, Camp Dix 5, and Garrison 28, and out of county 0.

- April highlights: Added 2nd 24hr Truck, BLS at this time.
- All Paramedics have been hired for ALS.

- Had a meeting with Dr. Bentz our Medical Director and just waiting for a DEA form for ALS.
- Met with MCA Billing for updates.

- Road Supervisor David Goodwin submitted his road maintenance report for the month.
- Goodwin said 1,241.83 tons of gravel and stone, and

- 6.24 tons of hot/cold patch had been hauled by the county. Debris: 900 ton/Holly.

- Roadways Graveled/Repaired: Holly x8, South Bane x2, Rock Run, Ribolt Epworth x2, Swearingen x3, McCleese Hollow, May Hol-

- low, Wills, Mud Lick, Black John, Old St. Rd., Garrad, Scaffold Lick x2, Payton, River Rd., Upper Twin, A. Dyer, Union Hill, Old Rankin Rd. x3, Hazel, Fly Branch, and Bill Chain.

- Roadways Ditched: Little Holly and Lambert Br.
- Blacktop/Gravel Patching: Laurel and Old Trace.

- Roadways Mowed/Brush/Trees: Holly x8, Scaffold Lick x3, Bill Chain x2, Ribolt Epworth x2, Brackman, Rock Run, Happy Hollow, Payton, and Old Dam Rd.

- Pipe Installed/Repaired: Lambert Br., Little Holly, River Rd., Upper Twin, Rose Mountain, Scaffold Lick, Straight Fork, Thurman Lane, and Rose Mountain.

- Solid Waste Coordinator Roger Lewis gave his report: Performed all regular Coordinator duties.

- Sent out letters, received several phone calls and completed several site visits concerning complaints and nuisances.
- Still taking in recycle materials.

- Hauled a load of tires to Porter's Tire consisting of 118 tires.
- We're still picking up cardboard from most of the businesses in Vanceburg and in the county.

- Received several tires.
- Pickers have picked 47 miles of road and have collected 620 bags of trash and nine tires, one couch, one chair, and two mattresses.

- Roads that have been picked are Rt. 1306, Rt. 3311, Rt. 1149, McDowell Rd.,

- Rock Run, Lower Kinney Rd., and Rt. 8.

- I have inspected the work the pickers have done and they're doing a good job.

- Animal Control Officer reported 10 animals picked up; one dropped off; zero rescued; one reclaimed (\$140.00); two adopted (\$40.00); one tag (\$5.00); three donations (\$136.00); and 59 calls received. 27 dogs remained at the shelter at the end of the month.

- Emergency Management Director Dennis Brown gave his report.

- The Lewis County Alert System continued to gain followers. It was activated 25 times in April to notify residents of wind advisories, severe thunderstorm warnings, flood watches, road closure, flood watch, and freeze warning. A phishing alert was also sent out to county employees through the system. The alert system allows notifications to our residents through text, email, voice (telephone), Twitter, and the Smart 911 App. Targeted alerts can notify small groups (specific county offices/ groups/employees). Lewis County Alerts has more than 5,600 subscribers.

- Worked with Vanceburg Fire on the smoke alarm partnership with Red Cross to provide units to area residents. Will continue working with all departments making this program available countywide.

- Pursuing grant for locator/tracker devices for residents who may wander (Alzheimer's/dementia).
- Pursuing grant funding for water rescue kits/medic kits for first responders.

- Completed necessary paperwork with KYEM as required.
- Participated in continuing education for EMA.

- Participated in continuing training for Red Cross Volunteer position.
- Planning CERT/preparedness trainings for local school/student groups.

- Participated in county-wide test of outdoor sirens. (April 3, 2025)
- Working with Kinetic/Windstream on project to switch PSAP from copper to fiber connection. (Fiber and term panel have been installed, switchover has been delayed due to storms.) Working through possible issues with system router.

- Placed EOC on Standby Status during April 3-4 weather event.
- Participated in interview with WSAZ-TV for weather

- event preparedness. (4-2-25)

- Attended EMPG/LEPC training in Frankfort. (4-16-25)
- Addressed Heroes training at LCHS. (3-18-25)

- Maintaining EMS office hours Mon.-Fri.
- Assisted with PIO releases following April 23 traffic incident involving school bus. (4-23-25)

- Responded to motor vehicle incident at Quincy. (4-22-25)
- Responded to injured hiker incident on trail near Waring Cemetery. (4-22-25)

- Responded to motor vehicle incident on Kinney Road. (4-23-25)
- Met with T-Mobile representatives on first-responder offerings. (4-24-25)

- Met with officials for preliminary grant discussions for EOC complex. (4-21-25)
- Working with Tollesboro Fire to improve communication link between Dispatch and Tollesboro Fire's radio repeater and outdoor warning siren. (Siren tech also involved in project.)

- Attended online CSEPP training session and discussion on PIO KWS.
- Working with Christian Appalachian Project to restore Operation Sharing Program in the county (was discontinued during COVID).

- Completed implementation of Starlink communications capabilities for first responders/Lewis County Health Department. Mobile

- and EOC internet backup capability. (LCHD Grant)

- Participated in Kentucky Qualification System – PIO certification training.
- Participated in Broadband Improvement review discussions with providers and local officials to finalize county plan.

- Assisted Carter County with damage assessments following severe weather.
- Assisted FEMA in newspaper, radio, and social media PSA distribution to Kentucky media in severe weather affected (declared) areas.

- Worked with AK and Windstream to restore 911 telephone service multiple times.
- Assisted LCSO with traffic control and scene photography for various incidents.

- Attended Area 7 Meeting at Morehead.
- Telephone conference with Area Director Jason York to discuss training and reporting practices. Multiple telephone conferences concerning weather and damage assessments.

- County treasurer Penny Lee reported the total of all county funds for the month of April had a beginning balance of \$3,344,579.58 and an ending balance of \$3,142,260.12. Receipts for the month totaled \$316,896.05 while disbursements totaled \$519,215.51.

- The next regular meeting of Lewis County Fiscal Court will be at 3:00 p.m. June 9, 2025.

**Lewis County Central Elementary School
Special Called SBDM Meeting
Date: Wednesday, June 4, 2025
Time: 3:30 p.m.
Location: Lewis County Board of Education
Conference Room**

- I. Call to Order.
- II. Closed Session Pursuant to KRS 61.810 (f) Interviews/Discussions which might lead to the appointment an individual employee.
- III. Return from Closed Session and Report Action(s) If Any.
- IV. Adjournment.

Public Notice 22c

**Lewis County Central Elementary School
Special Called SBDM Meeting
When: Thursday, June 5, 2025
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Where: Lewis County Board of Education
Conference Room**

- I. Call to Order.
- II. Closed Session Pursuant to KRS 61.810 (f) Interviews/Discussions which might lead to the appointment an individual employee.
- III. Return from Closed Session and Report Action(s) If Any.
- IV. Adjournment.

Public Notice 22c

NOTIFICATION OF DESTRUCTION OF STUDENT SPECIAL EDUCATION RECORDS LEWIS COUNTY SCHOOLS

May 28, 2025

In accordance with the state and federal regulations implementing the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEIA), this is to inform you of our intent to destroy personally identifiable information related to special education services maintained in Lewis County School District special education records.

If you wish to maintain this information for your personal records, you need to notify us upon receipt of this notice; otherwise, the information will be destroyed on June 13, 2025.

Please be advised that the records may be needed by the student or the parent(s) for social security benefits or other purposes.

- Records to be destroyed are as follows:
 - Individual Education Plan (IEP)
 - Evaluation Reports
 - Test Protocols
 - Notifications of Meetings
 - Notices of Action
 - Review of Existing Data Summaries
- All other personally identifiable information within the Special Education file*

The reason for destruction of the above listed items is because they are no longer needed to provide educational services, as it has been more than three (3) years since this individual has received special education services from the Lewis County School District.

The district may maintain a permanent record, without time limitation, of a student's name, address and phone number, his/her grades, attendance record, classes attended, grade level completed, and year completed.

The school is required to maintain records for a minimum of three (3) years from the date the child no longer received special education and related services.

Copies of records in the future will be offered to graduating students and will be maintained for three (3) years.

You may contact Doug Mobley at the Lewis County Board of Education office at 606-796-2811 or at PO Box 159/251 Lions Lane, Vanceburg, KY 41179, for further information.

Sincerely,
Doug Mobley
Director of Special Education
Lewis County Schools

Public Notice 22,23c

Mayor Blankenship welcomes Miss Kentucky

By Brenda S. Bear

On Monday, May 19, Mayor Blankenship had the pleasure of welcoming Miss Kentucky Chapel Tinius to town. Chapel is on a mission to visit all 120 counties in Kentucky during her reign. As of this week, she has already visited 109 – leaving just 11 to go.

Rooted in a deep family legacy – she's the proud granddaughter of two World War II veterans – Chapel has channeled her passion into a powerful Community Service Initiative: Operation Gratitude: For the Fallen,

For the Fighting, For the Veterans. As part of this effort, she's partnered with Honor Flight Kentucky to create the Youth Ambassador Program, which empowers young Kentuckians to recognize and appreciate the sacrifices of our veterans. Through heartfelt letters, community projects, and awareness campaigns, Chapel is showing the next generation that gratitude can – and should – be turned into action.

“When I began competing in the Miss America opportunity, I realized I wasn't just stepping into a crown –

I was stepping into a legacy of service,” Chapel shared. “I may not have worn the uniform myself, but I've dedicated my time to honoring those who have ... It's our duty as citizens to respond with unwavering gratitude, awareness, and support.”

We were proud to share with Miss Chapel our Military Hero Banners, a tribute that now includes nearly 300 Lewis County veterans. Her next stop: Bracken County, as she continues her statewide journey of service and remembrance.



LEWIS COUNTY HERALD

Vanceburg Mayor Blankenship welcomes Miss Kentucky to town.



LEWIS COUNTY HERALD

Miss Kentucky Chapel Tinius visits Veterans Memorial Park.

Upcoming events at The Barn at 4C Farm

Herald Report

The Clemons Family is happy to announce several upcoming events at their facility, The Barn at 4C Farm. These events are open to the public! Their wonderful facility is located just a few miles north of Tollesboro on KY 57, located at 7130 KY 57, Vanceburg, KY 41179. Their facility is available as a wedding venue, corporate event center, etc., a delight to visit, and worth the trip!

On Saturday, June 13, 7:00 p.m., Brian Free and Assur-

ance will be performing live at the facility, providing their Gospel Music to the masses. A freewill offering will be accepted in lieu of admission.

On Saturday, July 5, the second annual Fun, Food & Fellowship Event will be held at The Barn at 4C Farm at 6:00 p.m. The group Satisfied will provide Gospel Music. Meat and drinks (Alcohol Not Permitted) will be provided, but attendees are encouraged to bring a side dish to share. A Cornhole

Tournament will take place, so practice to sharpen your skills in the upcoming weeks!

On Saturday, August 16, a gospel concert will be held on the grounds. The group Gold City will be presenting their music at 6:00 p.m! A freewill offering will be accepted in lieu of admission.

Again, these events are open to the public at large, at The Barn at 4C Farm, 7130 KY 57, on the east side of KY 57 just a few miles north of Tollesboro.