

Area Deaths

James Dale Yocum

James Dale Yocum, age 78, of Denniston, Ky., departed this life Monday, April 14, 2025, at his residence following an extended illness.

He was born Feb. 9, 1947, in Frenchburg, Ky., son of Charles Yocum and Elsie Kendrick Yocum.

He worked at A. O. Smith, Mt. Sterling, Ky., and was a U.S. Army veteran.

Survivors include his daughter, Gwenda & Gordon Trusty, of Denniston, Ky.; his siblings, Bobby Oris Yocum, Roger Paul and Cathy Yocum, and Marietta and Dennis Flannery, all of Denniston, Ky.



He was preceded in death by his parents, Charles and Elsie Kendrick Yocum; son, Ronnie Dale Yocum; and sister, Linda Faye Yocum.

Funeral services were conducted 1 p.m. Thursday, April 17, at Menifee Home For Funerals with Bro. Terry Wells and Bro. Dennis Flannery officiating. Burial followed in the Powers Cemetery, Denniston, Ky., with Menifee Home For Funerals, Funeral Director Randy Halsey, in charge of arrangements.

Military honors were conducted by Morgan Co. DAV Chapter 132 members.

Active pallbearers were Mike Helton, Greg Cole, Jacob Fugate, Larry Wells, Derek Yocum and David Yocum.

Honorary pallbearers were Curtis Ross, Steve Cornett, Jerry Ingram, Dale Seat, David Helton and Dean Brewer.

Rhoda G. Salman

Rhoda G. Salman, 88, of Branson, Mo., passed away peacefully on April 17, 2025, at 11:46 a.m. at Shepherd of the Hills Nursing Home, surrounded by her loved ones.

Born in West Liberty, Ky., she was the daughter of Alonzo F. Nickell and Dora Adams-Nickell.

Rhoda was one of nine siblings and was raised on her



family's farm.

She is survived by her four children, Martin Dingman, Donya Salman, Deana Dils and Dori Salman; twelve grandchildren; and numerous great-grandchildren.

Rhoda was a cherished member of her community, known for her volunteer work with Jesus Was Homeless. She was looking very forward to going home to be with her Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Interment will take place at Germany Cemetery in Beaver, Ohio. Memorial service details will be announced at a later date.

Parliamentary Law Month Proclamation April 2025

EDITOR'S NOTE

The following proclamation was submitted by Mary Alice Oldfield, a former school board member and educator. She is also a Professional Registered Parliamentarian.

...

Whereas, In this the birth month of Thomas Jefferson, author of the first American manual of parliamentary procedure in 1801, it is fitting that we honor him and reflect upon the importance of parliamentary procedure in democratic organizations;

Whereas, On this the eve of the birth month of Henry Martyn Robert, author of Pocket Manual of Rules of Order for Deliberative Assemblies, also known as Robert's Rules of Order, first published in 1876, it is a worthwhile time to honor him and to celebrate his contributions to the field of parliamentary procedure;

Whereas, Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised is the most widely recognized and used parliamentary authority in public and private organizations throughout the world;

Whereas, It is timely to reflect on the importance of parliamentary procedure in meetings in providing for civil discourse, protecting individual rights, ensuring fairness, and maintaining order;

Whereas, The National Association of Parliamentarians® has, by adoption of a standing rule, designated the month of April as Parliamentary Law Month;

Whereas, The National Association of Parliamentarians® is committed to educating leaders throughout the world in effective and fair meeting management through the use of parliamentary procedure; and

Whereas, The National Association of Parliamentarians® is globally recognized as the premier provider of parliamentary leadership whose mission it is to provide education and resources to enable efficient and democratic decision making through the effective use of parliamentary procedure; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That I, Alison Wallis, PRP, President of the National Association of Parliamentarians®, do hereby declare April 2025 as Parliamentary Law Month and call upon the districts, associations, units, and all members to observe the month with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities as a way to honor our rich legacy and bring our mission and vision into reality for current and future generations.

Alison Wallis, PRP
NAP President

Confirming experts' fears

Measles continues to spread

April 15 — The number of confirmed measles cases in the United States so far this year has reached 712, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

The resurgence of the virus is cause for concern as "it is preventable ... and has been considered eliminated from the U.S. since 2000," according to Devi Shastri in an article for the Associated Press.

Measles is a viral infection that has no direct treatment. The illness can be indicated by a fever, runny nose, cough, watery eyes and a rash.

While Texas has the majority of cases at 505, there have been reports of measles in 25 states, according to the CDC.

"The multi-state outbreak

confirms health experts' fears that the virus will take hold in other U.S. communities with low vaccination rates and that the spread could stretch on for a year," wrote Shastri.

According to Shastri's report, cases spread easily in communities with low vaccination rates and that the best way to avoid measles is to get vaccinated.

Even though the disease doesn't have a direct cure, the article explains that most children do recover. However, "infection can lead to dangerous complications such as pneumonia, blindness, brain swelling and death."

So far, three people have died from measles this year, according to the CDC.

Ky. expected to be epicenter for cicadas

By Tom Latek, Kentucky Today

LEXINGTON, Ky., April 20 — Kentucky will be the epicenter for the emergence of Brood 14 of 17-year periodical cicadas this spring, which have been designated the "Bourbon Brood" by University of Kentucky Martin-Gatton College of Agriculture, Food and Environment entomologists.

Periodical cicadas have appeared in western Kentucky counties over the past few years, but the largest emergence area for 2025 will occur across most of central and eastern Kentucky.

According to Jonathan Larson, assistant extension entomology professor at UK Martin-Gatton CAFE, the 17-year periodical cicadas emerge from the soil to molt into their flying, adult form in late April to early May, much earlier than annual cicadas.

"We will begin seeing this brood of cicadas when the soil warms to the mid-60s, about the same time you start to see iris blooms," Larson said. "A lot of people hate them, but I hope they will learn to appreciate them as periodical cicadas are such a rarity."

Larson explained that the periodical cicada nymphs live in the soil, feeding on the sap of tree roots. They count their feeding cycles to know when to emerge and prepare for molt. Not all cicadas appear in the correct year; those that do not are referred to as stragglers.

Cicadas are not harmful to humans, pets or wildlife, as they do not bite or sting. While some may compare cicadas to locusts, Larson said they do not swarm and cause massive plant damage. Adult cicadas feed on sap with little impact to the plant.

Local wildlife, such as snakes, foxes and turkeys, will benefit from the extra protein provided by the cicadas. Although Larson mentioned that the surge in cicada numbers won't immediately boost the population of predatory animals in high-emergence areas, it will likely lead to increased feeding activity, so he advises people to be aware.

In addition to the many nymph exoskeleton shells left behind on tree trunks and nearby objects, the adult male cicadas' sound will be difficult to avoid.

Female cicadas will bore their ovipositor into young, tender tree or shrub branches and deposit 200-600 eggs. While using insecticides may be less costly, Larson said the safest and most effective way to prevent tree and shrub damage is by using cicada netting, which prevents females from laying their eggs, especially on smaller or new trees.

Other entities can soon renew Ky. driver's licenses

By Tom Latek
Reprinted From
Kentucky Today

FRANKFORT, Ky., April 9 — Most legislation passed by the General Assembly during the 2025 session will take effect on June 27, including a measure enacted to increase the number of locations where Kentuckians can renew their standard driver's license.

Provisions of House Bill 161 were included within another measure, Senate Bill 43, to allow third-party entities to issue standard driver's license renewals, as part of an ongoing effort to make driver licensing services more accessible for Kentuckians living in all 120 counties.

"I am proud to have collaborated with our colleagues in the Senate to get this important piece of legislation across the finish line this session, which makes the process of renewing a standard driver's license easier and more accessible for all Kentuckians," said Rep. Chris Freeland, R-Benton, the sponsor of HB 161.

Under this legislation, third-party entities wishing to issue standard driver's license renewals must apply to and receive approval from the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet. A third-party entity could include AAA offices, insurance offices,

Community Bulletin Board

Local addiction support meetings are listed

The following is a listing of self-help/addiction support meetings in Morgan County:

- New Purpose-AA-Tuesdays, 6 p.m. Index Community Center, 1749 W. Main Street, West Liberty, KY 41472.

- Might as Well-NA-Sundays, 3 p.m. Index Community Center, 1749 W. Main Street West Liberty, KY 41472.

- Celebrate Recovery Thursday, 6 p.m. United Methodist Church, 237 Prestonsburg St., West Liberty, KY 41472.

For more information or to reach out 24/7 Please call 6067432107

All meetings are open to the public.

Regular Morgan Co. Fiscal Court meetings 4th Thursday of month

Regular monthly meetings of the Morgan County Fiscal Court are held on the fourth Thursday of each month at 6 p.m., at the county government building located at 450 Prestonsburg St. All meetings are open to the public. Judge Executive Jim Gazay and magistrates encourage citizens to attend.

Airport Board to meet first Tuesday of month

The West Liberty-Morgan County Airport Board meets the first Tuesday of each month upstairs City Hall located at 565 Main St., in West Liberty.

Kiwanis Club monthly evening meetings

The West Liberty Kiwanis Club will host a monthly evening meeting the fourth Monday of each month. Meetings will be at 5 p.m. in the Commercial Bank Community Room. Club members invite the public to attend.

Wrigley SBDM Council meetings

Wrigley Elementary SBDM Council meetings will be held the fourth Tuesday of each month at 5:00 p.m.

TF

Morgan Central SBDM Council meetings

Morgan Central Elementary School SBDM meetings will be the third Monday of the month at 4:30 p.m. Thank you.

MCMS Advisory Council meetings

The MCMS Advisory Council will meet on the following dates at 8:00am in the YSC. Dates are subject to change for program purposes. September 20th, November 15, January 17th, March 20th, and May 15th.

or other government agencies that wish to participate and are approved by the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet.

"With only 34 driver licensing regional offices across the state, many Kentuckians, particularly those in rural areas, are forced to travel long distances to renew their driver's licenses," Freeland added. "The passage of this legislation marks an important step toward increasing accessibility to these services by giving local entities the opportunity to offer them closer to home."

Those Kentuckians wishing to change their standard driver's license to become REAL ID compliant will still be required to visit one of the driver licensing regional offices, since a REAL ID will be required starting May 5, to be admitted past airport security checkpoints for U.S. commercial air travel, or to visit federal facilities that require a passport of REAL ID, such as the White House or military bases.

BREAD AND CAKE

Better bread with water than cake with trouble.

— Russian proverb

Kellacey-Peyton Cemetery Notice

The Kellacey Petyon Cemetery is one of the most beautiful cemeteries you will find out in the country. All donations to help keep it in that condition are appreciated. It gets mowed and trimmed every two weeks, weather permitting. Each mowing is \$100. Send donations to Chris Peyton, 14 Peyton Lane, West Liberty, KY 41472, or contact Chris Peyton at 606-725-4349 or 606-794-0035.

Henry Cemetery Notice

Anyone with loved ones buried in the Henry Cemetery at Index who would like to help with the upkeep any send donations to Gail Dewitt, 1489 Peyton Ridge Rd., West Liberty, KY 41472.

Coffey-Sheets Cemetery Notice

Those wishing to make donations for the upkeep of the Coffey-Sheets Cemetery should mail them to Amber Standafer, 6075 Liberty Rd., West Liberty, KY 41472. Thank you.

Keeton Family Cemetery Notice

We are accepting donations for the mowing and upkeep of the Keeton Family Cemetery located at the end of Joe Jenkins Road off Old KY 172. If you would like to donate, please contact Ronnie Keeton at 606-743-4011. We would appreciate any donations.

Flatwoods Cemetery Notice

Well, it's mowing season again. Please send your donations so we can keep the cemetery looking good. Make checks payable to Flatwoods Cemetery and mail to Marilyn Gunnell, 4461 Hwy. 705, West Liberty, KY 41472. Thank you.

Perry Cemetery annual meeting slated May 1st

The annual meeting for the Perry Cemetery on Dry Branch Road at Blairs Mill, Ky., will be 6 p.m. Thursday, May 1, at the cemetery. If the event of rain, the meeting will be held at the Oak Hill Church of God fellowship hall.

Morgan Central PTCO meetings scheduled

Morgan Central Elementary School PTCO meetings will be the third Monday of the month at 6 p.m. in the cafeteria. Meetings are open to the public.

Morgan Central SBDM Council meetings

Morgan Central Elementary School SBDM meetings will be the third Monday of the month at 4:30 p.m. Thank you.

Free Tire Disposal for local farmers

The Morgan County Conservation District in partnership with the Morgan County Fiscal Court is offering a free tire disposal program for farmers only within Morgan County.

Tires should be delivered to the Morgan County Transfer Station at 150 County Garage Road, West Liberty, Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. 4:30 p.m.

Farmers who participate in the program are required to call the Morgan County Conservation District at 743-3194 ext. 101 and speak to Donna Leach to confirm their farm number and tire dimension requirements prior to tire drop off.

Disposal is limited to 10 tires per farmer per farm number. Typical tires accepted are tractor tires, farm equipment tires, (trailers, buggies, etc.) and not to exceed 18.4 x 34 inches.

Morgan County farmers will bear no expense for disposal while funds are available.

TF

Bentley Cemtery Notice

Anyone with loved ones buried in the Bentley Cemetery on Stacy Fork who would like to help with upkeep should send donations to Randy Robinson, 3440 Hwy. 844, Cannel City, KY 41408. Thank you.

McClain Cemetery Notice

Those who wish to contribute to the mowing and upkeep of the McClain Cemetery, located on Hwy. 172 behind the church, are urged to send donations to Larry Joe McClain, 140 Henry St., West Liberty, KY 4147. Phone: 606-743-7335. All donations are greatly appreciated.

Elisha Smith Cemetery Notice

The Smith Creek Valley Church is accepting donations to mow the Elisha Smith Cemetery on Smith Creek Hill. Donations can be made to the church during meeting times or sent to Michael Smith, 88 Camp Branch Rd., Hazel Green, KY 41332, or call 606-662-4207 for more information. Thank you and God bless.

Wrigley SBDM Council meetings

Wrigley Elementary SBDM Council meetings will be held the fourth Tuesday of each month at 5:00 p.m. TF

East Valley Elem. Site Base meetings slated

East Valley Elementary's regularly scheduled Site-Base Decision Making meetings will be the second Thursday of each month at 4 p.m., in the school's conference room.

New rule could mean more logging, destruction in Boone Forest, groups warn

By Beth Musgrave
Leington Herald Leader

A new directive from federal agricultural officials could mean more logging and destruction of natural habitats in Kentucky's 708,000-acre Daniel Boone National Forest, environmental groups warned this week.

U.S. Department of Agriculture Secretary Brooke Rollins issued a memorandum Friday to issue an "emergency situation determination" on 112 million acres of forest land, which would make it easier for the U.S. Forest Service to circumvent certain environmental rules.

The Daniel Boone National Forest is included in the emergency order. The forest includes 708,000 acres in 21 Kentucky counties.

The emergency orders memo "will empower the U.S.

Forest Service to expedite work on the ground and carry out authorized emergency actions to reduce wildfire risk and save American lives and communities," according to a U.S.D.A. press release.

The U.S. Forest Service is part of the agricultural department.

The memo comes a little more than a month after President Donald Trump ordered the federal forest service to boost timber production by 25% on March 1.

Rollins said the new directive would help tamp down forest fires by reducing red tape and regulations so more forest land could be cut.

"Healthy forests require work, and right now, we're facing a national forest emergency. We have an abundance of timber at high risk of wildfires in our national forests," Rollins said.

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