



CARLY DICK | The Mayfield Messenger

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Despite the freezing water temperature, the Kentucky Lake Ski Nuts take turns water skiing every New Year's Day.

Kentucky Lake Ski Nuts brave cold New Year's tradition

BY CARLY DICK
NEWS@MAYFIELD-MESSENGER.COM

New Year's Day brings about a host of traditions, superstitions, and resolutions that bring friends and family together.

In Paducah, the Kentucky Lake Ski Nuts have been partaking in a New Year's Day tradition that not many would dare to do in the winter — water skiing.

Each year members of the Kentucky Lake Ski Nuts brave the bitterly cold water, taking turns skiing a lap around a small lake.

This year, the ski nuts celebrated their 48th year skiing on New Year's Day.

Pat Coomes has been water skiing for 50 years, and has been skiing with the ski nuts on New Year's Day for 31 years.

"It's exhilarating. Climbing across the water, towed by the boat, it's a different feeling than anything else you can do," he said.

As part of the tradition, the ski nuts draw numbers to decide the order that they will ski. Once everyone has had their turn, they go inside to enjoy a large meal and watch videos of their New Year's Day performances.

Coomes said some people like him have participated in the tradition for decades, and others join for the same reason — to keep the

tradition alive.

"It's a tradition that started before I was a ski nut that I'm helping to carry on," he said. "It's not something that most people would do. It's cold."

The Kentucky Lake Ski Nuts originated in the summer of 1975, and Joe Burkhead has been a member since winter of 1975.

"I'm not technically an original, but there are no originals left, so I'm the closest to it," he said.

Burkhead said Jan. 1, 2025, was one of the coldest days they have braved since they started participating in the tradition.

"One year, we had to ski on the ice. The ice was about six or eight inches thick, and we had four wheelers out, skiing behind four wheelers on the ice,"

he explained.

Overall, Burkhead said he looks forward to New Year's Day every year for the sense of family and community it brings.

"A lot of us are big on tradition," he said. "We have fun. We'll go inside, and we'll feast out in a little while, and we'll watch some videos of the skiing today."

Coomes emphasized the close knit relationship of the ski nuts.

"We're not all family, but we come together as a family with all the events that we do," he said.

The Kentucky Lake Ski Nuts' hope is for more young people to join so they may maintain and carry on the traditions that started decades ago.

— Multi-platform Journalist



Technical Center STUDENT OF THE WEEK

Graves County's Wiggins to pursue electrician career

BY CARLY DICK
NEWS@TIMESLEADER.NET

Gabe Wiggins, a senior at Graves County High School, plans to follow in his father's footsteps and pursue a career as an electrician.

Wiggins was last week's Associated Contractors of Western Kentucky's Technical Centers Student of the Week.

Wiggins' interest in electrical work began at a young age, when he learned about the trade from his dad growing up.

"He's been an electrician for the Union for probably about 15 to 20 years," Wiggins said. "He's shown me the ropes for quite a while and taught me new things about it. That's kind of where I got my start."

Once Wiggins started taking electrical classes at the Mayfield/Graves County Area Technology Center, he said his knowledge of the subject grew exponentially.

"You learn a lot really quickly. Every day you can be doing something different, you'll pick up new things. And once you do it a few times, it comes pretty clearly, if you just pay attention and listen to it," he explained.

Wiggins' teacher at the tech center, Brad Tucker, said he is an outstanding student in class and always willing to learn.

"Gabe is a hard-working young man who is always willing to take on any task that is given to him," Tucker said. "He has a very good mechanical aptitude that translates to him being able to learn new skills quickly, as well as a logical mind that helps him figure out things that he hasn't been taught or seen before."

Wiggins had an electrical apprenticeship at Mid-South Electrical Contracting LLC during the summer of 2024. He said the experience prepared him to enter the electrical field after high school.

"It was really good experience. I learned a lot and picked up a lot of knowledge in the residential side, commercial, industrial, gotten quick about doing certain things," he said.

After graduation, Wiggins wants to pursue a position in the IBEW apprenticeship program to build a successful career as an electrician.



Contributed photo

Gabe Wiggins, a senior at Graves County High School, wants to pursue a position in the IBEW apprenticeship program to build a successful career as an electrician.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: FIDUCIARY APPOINTMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE BY THE GRAVES DISTRICT COURT AS FOLLOWS:	
DEC. 3, 2024	CHARLEY WALLACE JR. 136 BELAIR DRIVE, MAYFIELD, KY 42066, ADMINISTRATRIX FOR THE ESTATE OF MARILYN WALLACE, 136 BELAIR DRIVE, MAYFIELD, KY 42066, ATTY. HON. DAVID HARGROVE, P.O. BOX 315, MAYFIELD, KY 42066.
DEC. 2, 2024	FREDA THOMPSON, 1219 DUNAWAY LANE, BOAZ, KY 42027, ADMINISTRATRIX FOR THE ESTATE OF WANDA WITTY, 1219 DUNAWAY LANE, BOAZ, KY 42027, ATTY. HON. DAVID HARGROVE, P.O. BOX 315, MAYFIELD, KY 42066.
DEC. 3, 2024	S. BOYD NEELY, III, 504 GOLF CLUB LANE, MAYFIELD, KY 42066, EXECUTOR FOR THE ESTATE OF BETTY ELLEGOOD, 139 DODSON ROAD, MAYFIELD, KY 42066.
DEC. 4 2024	TAMMY CRITTENDON, 3730 WINGO ROAD, WINGO, KY 42088, ADMINISTRATRIX FOR THE ESTATE OF LINDA CRITTENDON, 10331 ST. RT. 45 SOUTH, MAYFIELD, KY 42066. ATTY. HON. MELINDA M. ORMSBY, P.O. BOX 888, MAYFIELD, KY 42066.
DEC. 4, 2024	MARIANNE CUNNINGHAM, 5343 ST. RT. 45 SOUTH, MAYFIELD, KY 42066, EXECUTRIX FOR THE ESTATE OF JAMES KILCOYNE, 121 MESA DRIVE, MAYFIELD, KY 42066, ATTY. HON. BRYAN WILSON, P.O. BOX 708, MAYFIELD, KY 42066.
DEC. 6, 2024	HEATHER NEWTON, 260 ORCHARD VIEW DRIVE, PADUCAH, KY 42001, ADMINISTRATRIX FOR THE ESTATE OF PAUL JAMES DOWDY, 1929 ST. RT. 944, WINGO, KY 42088.
DEC. 6, 2024	PENNY BOWLIN, 871 TWIN HILL ROAD, MAYFIELD, KY 42066, EXECUTRIX FOR THE ESTATE OF ALICE F. CASH, 739 TWIN HILL ROAD, MAYFIELD, KY 42066, ATTY. HON. JESSE WRIGHT, P.O. BOX 454, MAYFIELD, KY 42066.
DEC. 6, 2024	LARRY LINN WHITT, 10387 STATE ROUTE 131, SYMSONIA, KY 42082, EXECUTOR FOR THE ESTATE OF LINDA LOU WHITT, 10387 STATE ROUTE 131, SYMSONIA, KY 42082, ATTY. HON. RICHARD W. JONES, 414 MAIN STREET, MURRAY, KY 42071.
DEC. 6, 2024	TERRY CREASON, 69 JOHNNIE ROAD, MAYFIELD, KY 42066, ADMINISTRATOR FOR THE ESTATE OF BETTY ROSE HOLLAN, 495 MILLERS CHAPEL ROAD, MAYFIELD, KY 42066. ATTY. HON. BRYAN WILSON, P.O. BOX 708, MAYFIELD, KY 42066.
DEC. 12, 2024	MICAH W. BROWN, 3244 STATE ROUTE 58 WEST, MAYFIELD, KY 42066, EXECUTOR FOR THE ESTATE OF MISTY M. BROWN, 3244 STATE ROUTE 58 WEST, MAYFIELD, KY 42066. ATTY. HON. JESSE WRIGHT, P.O. BOX 454, MAYFIELD, KY 42066.
DEC. 13, 2024	BONNIE BAKER, 4125 ST. RT. 339 W, WINGO, KY 42088, EXECUTOR FOR THE ESTATE OF JOHN KEY, 4071 ST. RT. 339 W, WINGO, KY 42088, ATTY. HON. DAVID HARGROVE, P.O. BOX 372, MAYFIELD, KY 42066.
DEC. 13, 2024	SHANNON JACKSON, 10515 ST. RT. 45 S, WINGO, KY 42088, ADMINISTRATOR FOR THE ESTATE OF TERRIEL JACKSON, 10515 ST. RT. 45S, WINGO, KY 42088, ATTY. HON. ROYCE BUCK, P.O. BOX 721, MAYFIELD, KY 42066.
DEC. 13 2024	JAMES WILLIAMS, AND JASMINE WILLIAMS, 238 ST. RT. 1241, MAYFIELD, KY 42066 GUARDIANS FOR THE ESTATE OF JOLIE WILLIAMS A MINOR.
DEC. 17, 2024	SONDRA JONES, 218 GALEN ROAD, SEDALIA, KY 42079, ADMINISTRATRIX FOR THE ESTATE OF GALEN JONES, 218 GALEN JONES, SEDALIA, KY 42079, ATTY. HON. KENNETH ANDERSON, P.O. BOX 7002, PADUCAH, KY 42002.
DEC. 17, 2024	MICHAEL BURNETT, 320 PHIPPS STREET, PADUCAH, KY 42001 AND MARK BURNETT, 580 ST. RT. 945, MAYFIELD, KY 42066, CO-EXECUTORS FOR THE ESTATE OF MARY VINIARD, 580 ST. RT. 945, MAYFIELD, KY 42066, ATTY. HON. DAVID HARGROVE, P.O. BOX 310, MAYFIELD, KY 42066.
DEC. 18, 2024	KENNETH MAYNARD, 988 WRATHER ROAD, ALMO, KY 42020 EXECUTOR FOR THE ESTATE OF BETTY MAYNARD, 623 WORKS ROAD, FULTON, KY 42041, ATTY. HON. REBECCA REYNOLDS, 405 B MAPEL ST., MURRAY, KY 42071.
DEC. 18, 2024	GAYLA ELLIOT, 2753 LEWIS ROAD, MAYFIELD, KY 42066, ADMINISTRATOR FOR THE ESTATE OF MICHAEL J. ELLIOTT, 2763 LEWIS ROAD, MAYFIELD, KY 42066, ATTY. HON. MELINDA ORMSBY, P.O. BOX 888, MAYFIELD, KY 42066.
DEC. 18, 2024	DEANNA PEEVYHOUSE, 131 BUNNY LANE, MARTIN, TN 38237 EXECUTRIX FOR THE ESTATE OF NINA GILBERT, WEAKLEY COUNTY, TN, ATTY. HON. RICHARD MAJOR, JR, 203 E. MOULTON ST, HICKMAN, KY 42050.
DEC. 27, 2024	CURTIS SHULTZ, 131 LAMB DRIVE, SEDALIA, KY 42079, EXECUTOR FOR THE ESTATE OF DOROTHY SHULTZ, 5561 ST. RT. 97, MAYFIELD, KY 42066, ATTY. HON. REBECCA REYNOLDS, 405 B MAPLE STREET, MURRAY, KY 42071.
DEC. 27, 2024	DAVID BURGESS, 2201 OLMSTEAD COURT, LEXINGTON, KY 40513, EXECUTOR FOR THE ESTATE OF WANDA BURGESS, 3611 ST. RT. 80 W, MAYFIELD, KY 42066, ATTY. HON. J. PAUL BRADFORD, 300 BROADWAY, PADUCH, KY 42001.
DEC. 30, 2024	DONNA VAN BUREN, 826 MAPLE AVE., MAYFIELD, KY 42066, ATTY. HON. REBECCA REYNOLDS, 405 B MAPLE ST., MURRAY, KY 42071.
DEC. 30, 2024	JONATHAN MORRIS, 6295 HIGH ROAD, SEDALIA, KY 42079, EXECUTOR FOR THE ESTATE OF THOMAS MORRIS, 2471 ST. RT. 94 WEST, WINGO, KY 42088, ATTY. HON. GERALD BELL, 1304-B CHESTNUT STREET, MURRAY, KY 42071.
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE FOLLOWING FIDUCIARY ESTATES HAVE FILED FINAL SETTLEMENTS. THE SETTLEMENTS MAY BE REVIEWED IN THE CLERKS OFFICE. ANY PERSON DESIRING TO FILE EXCEPTIONS TO A FINAL SETTLEMENT MUST DO SO WITHIN 10 DAYS OF THIS ADVERTISEMENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE KENTUCKY REVISED STATUTES.	
TRACY GRIFFIN, GUARDIAN FOR THE ESTATE OF JAYDEN GRIFFIN, A MINOR.	
VICTOR RAMIREZ, GUARDIAN FOR THE ESTATE OF KAREN RAMIREZ, A MINOR.	
GCS JON HAYDEN, SUBSTITUTE ADMINISTRATOR FOR THE ESTATE OF ELIZABETH SCHEEL, ATTY. HON. MELINDA ORMSBY.	