

OBITUARIES

Sandra Kaye Mayfield

Sandra Kaye Mayfield, 57, of Owensboro, ran into the arms of Jesus surrounded by her family on Wednesday, June 11, 2025 at Owensboro Health Regional Hospital. She was born July 26, 1967 in Daviess County to Brenda Chinn Evans and the late Kenneth Staples. Sandra worked as a registered nurse for Owensboro Health Regional Hospital and Vanderbilt University Medical Center. She was a member of First Free Will Baptist Church. Sandra enjoyed gospel music and Elvis. She was very giving and donated to a lot of charities. Sandra loved the Lord and always had her Bible by her side. She was an

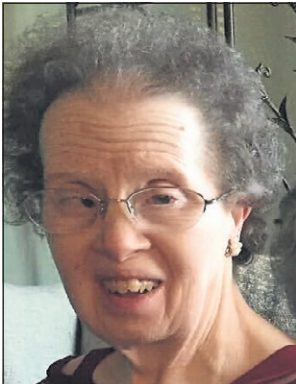


amazing “Miney” to her grandkids. In addition to her father, she was preceded in death by her first husband and the love of her life, Mark Nesmith. She is survived by a daughter, Sarah Petska (Jeremy); mother, Brenda Evans; grandchildren, Noah, Kenleigh, Madison, Mackenzie, and Rylie;

sister, Sheilah Gray (Charles); niece, Brittany; nephew, Alex; aunt, Betty Staples; numerous cousins; her best friends, Kathy Grant and Donna Blair; grand-pittie, Bojangles; and grand-kitty, Monkey. Private services will be held at a later date. James H. Davis Funeral Home and Crematory is in charge of her arrangements. Expressions of sympathy may take the form of donations to the Sandra Mayfield Memorial Fund, c/o Davis Funeral Home, 3009 Frederica Street, Owensboro, KY 42301. Online messages of condolence may be made at www.davisfuneralhome.com

Mary Geraldine ‘Gerry’ Hall

When God chose our family on February 24, 1947, with the birth of Mary Geraldine “Gerry” Hall to Floyd and Matilda Hall, He truly blessed us all. At the time of her birth, the doctors told her parents she would never walk or talk, and that the best course of action would be to give her up and place her in a home. We are thankful every day that her parents brought her home to be loved by her older siblings. They were proud and deeply involved in her life in every way. If you met Gerry anywhere, you would not forget her. She greeted you with a smile and a hug you could truly feel. Gerry loved the phone and always wanted your number—just so she could call and chat. She was involved with the Opportunity Center, where she learned independence, teamwork, and how to grow within her community. She was among the first to enter the workforce while living with a disability. Gerry proudly worked at Pinocchio’s Deli, then later at the Bingo Hall, where she eventually retired. Gerry had many interests over the years. She participated in Special Olympics, enjoyed bowling, making potholders, shopping, latch hook, and



listeningto music. But the greatest joy for our family was watching Gerry plan parties. We always looked forward to her “meetings,” where she would get us organized, pointing her finger and bossing us around to make sure we knew exactly what she wanted. Every Christmas, she gave everyone handmade potholders and calendars—always with her signature heartwarming smile. We will miss her deeply, but we find great joy in knowing she is reunited with her Mom and Dad and her brothers—Bev, Cotton, Clifford, and Muscles. She leaves behind her beloved sister, Wanda H. Weddle, and many nieces and nephews who feel Gerry taught them more about life than anyone else ever could. She is also survived by her best friends—Barbara and Mary—who were like sisters and who always knew just how to let Gerry have her way.

We would like to thank all the special people who touched Gerry’s life: the house staff at her home, the GRITS drivers, her church family, the Bingo Hall staff, her hairdressers, and so many more. Thank you, Gerry, for showing us how to love and how to accept all people with open arms. In Gerry’s memory, give a hug a day—with a smile. Memorial contributions can be made to The Opportunity Center at 1101 E Byers Ave, Owensboro, KY 42303, Special Olympics at 105 Lakeview Court Frankfort, KY 40601, or Hospice & Palliative Care of Western Kentucky at Hospice & Palliative Care of Western Kentucky. Services will be held at 1 p.m. on Saturday, June 14, 2025, at Haley McGinnis Funeral Home & Crematory. Burial will follow at St. Peter Cemetery. Visitation will be held from 11 a.m. until the time of service at the funeral home. Haley McGinnis Funeral Home & Crematory is honored and privileged to be entrusted with the care of Mary Geraldine “Gerry” Hall. Please leave condolence messages for the family and sign her virtual guestbook at www.haleymcginnis.com.

Marcia Jean Mehock

Marcia Jean Mehock, 86, of Owensboro, passed away on June 5, 2025. She was born, on July 4, 1938, to the late John and Mary (Roy) Mehock. Marcia was a woman clearing the path for women’s progress. In 1958, she began working as a teller at Union Bank in Streator, Illinois, eventually retiring as Executive Vice President. Marcia was a lifelong member of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, in Streator, Illinois, from birth to 70 years of age, and went on to be a member of Peace Lutheran Church, in Owensboro, KY, where she has continued to grow in faith and fellowship for the last



fifteen years. She traveled the world, touring various countries in every continent except Antarctica — her last trip being in Africa. Marcia was a strong mentor for her only niece, Jane Semler, introducing her to an added view of life. She was guided daily following the teachings

of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Those left to cherish Marcia’s memory include her brother, Jack (Jackie) Mehock, her niece, Jane Mehock (Chris) Semler, and her great-nephews, Joe and Finn Semler. She is preceded in death by her parents. Private family services will take place at a later date. Haley McGinnis Funeral Home & Crematory is honored and privileged to be entrusted with Marcia Jean Mehock’s care. Please leave condolence messages for the family of Ms. Mehock and sign their virtual guestbook at www.haleymcginnis.com.

Shelia Jean Crouch

GREENVILLE — Shelia Jean Crouch, 54, of Greenville, died Wednesday, June 11, 2025 at 11:55 p.m. at her residence in Greenville. Ms. Crouch was born May 14, 1971 in Chicago, IL. She worked for Kroger as a manager. She is survived by her husband, Bruce A. Crouch; daughter, Alicia K. (Preston)

Watts; grandchildren, Maci K. Watts, Greyson A. Watts; sisters, Carolyn A. (Michael) Bumgardner, and Patricia G. (Aaron) Forshee; brother, James S. Hornsby; nephews, Austin Hornsby, Nathan Hornsby, and John Forshee; nieces, Caitlyn Traverso, Destiny Davidson, and Mikayla Bumgardner. Funeral services

will be Saturday, June 14, 2025 at 12 p.m. at Tucker Funeral Home in Central City with Carolyn Bumgardner officiating. Burial in Memorial Gardens Cemetery. Visitation will be Saturday from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the funeral home. Online condolences may be made at www.tuckerfuneralhomes.com.

FUNERALS FOR FRIDAY, JUNE 13, 2025

Guy, Carolyn, 99, died Tuesday. Service: 11 a.m. Saturday at Muster Funeral Homes, Calhoun Chapel. Burial will be in the Mt. Vernon Baptist Cemetery in McLean County. Visitation: 4 to 7 p.m. Friday and 9 a.m. until 11 a.m. Saturday at the funeral home. **Haycraft, Mary**, 87, died Friday, April 25. A funeral Mass will be held at 11 a.m., June 13, 2025, at the Carmel Home Chapel with same day visitation from 9 a.m. until the time of the service. **Kassinger, Dennis**, 70, died Friday. A memorial will be held on the family farm, Kassinger Lane, Hartford, KY 42347, on Saturday, June 14, 2025, at 12 p.m. Family and friends are welcome to come celebrate the life of Dennis.

Kirkman, William, 87, died Tuesday. Service: 12 p.m. on Friday, June 13, 2025 at James H. Davis Funeral Home and Crematory. Burial will follow in Pleasant Grove Cemetery. Visitation is from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. on Friday at the funeral home. **McIntyre, Bobby**, 75, died Tuesday. A graveside service will be held at 1 p.m. on Saturday, June 14, 2025 at Elmwood Cemetery with military honors by VFW Post 696. **Moorman, Joseph**, 75, died Tuesday, June 3. There will be a memorial service with military honors at 1 p.m. on Saturday, June 14 at Walnut Memorial Baptist Church with Pastor Jeremiah L. Parks officiating. Visitation will be from noon until the

time of the service. **Rice, William**, 88, died Tuesday. Service: 2 p.m. Friday at Gary’s Funeral Home in Greenville. Burial to follow in Greens Chapel Church Cemetery. Visitation: 10 a.m. until time of funeral on Friday at Gary’s Funeral Home. **Russell, Ralph**, 66, died Saturday. Visitation will be held at Cecil Funeral Home in Whitesville, KY from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. on Friday, June 13, 2025. A private burial will be held at Ralph Cemetery at a later date. **Shocklee, Terry**, 73, died Sunday. Service: 3 p.m. Saturday at Muster Funeral Homes, Livermore Chapel. Visitation: 1:30 p.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday at the funeral home in Livermore.

POLICE REPORTS

The following list was compiled from reports to area law enforcement agencies: **OWENSBORO POLICE DEPARTMENT** • Johnny L. Puckett, 40, homeless, was charged Thursday with fleeing or evading police, 2nd degree (on foot), possession of marijuana, possession of a controlled substance, 2nd offense (meth), drug

paraphernalia (buy/possess) and criminal trespassing, 3rd degree. • Latosha D. Barrett, 45, of the 2900 block of Wandering Lane, was charged Wednesday with possession of synthetic drugs (first offense). **DAVIESS COUNTY SHERIFF’S OFFICE** • William T. Keeling, 21, of the 3200 block of

Wandering Lane, was charged Tuesday with possession of matter portraying sexual performance by minor under 12 years of age, possession of matter of sexual performance by minor age 12 to 17 (first offense), distribution of matter portraying sexual performance by minor under 12 years of age, distribution of matter of sexual performance by minor age 12 to 17 (first offense).

Auditor will soon investigate Fayette County Public Schools

BY MCKENNA HORSLEY KENTUCKY LANTERN

Republican State Auditor Allison Ball announced her office would begin a special investigation of Fayette County Public Schools following public scrutiny of a proposed tax increase. She announced the investigation Tuesday morning. Last week, Republican Attorney General Russell Coleman’s office said the school district’s board failed to give proper public notice before voting to increase occupational taxes within the district. “Upon review of publicly available information, as well as listening to concerns from parents and other constituents, I have determined that my office will conduct a special examination of the Fayette County Public School District,” Ball said in her statement. In May, the FCPS board voted 3-2 to approved an occupational tax increase of 0.25% to take effect in January. The board approved a \$848 million proposed budget with the tax increase that would cost residents an average of \$13 more per month, local media outlets reported. Following the attorney general’s opinion, FCPS initially planned to reconsider

the tax proposal during a June 23 meeting. However, board chair Tyler Murphy said FCPS would pause the proposal, according to the Lexington Herald-Leader.



Ball’s investigation received praise from Republican state Sens. Amanda Mays Bledsoe, Jared Carpenter, Donald Douglas, Greg Elkins, Matt Nunn and Steve West. They all represent parts of Fayette County. Mays Bledsoe previously requested the attorney general’s office review the matter. In a joint statement released shortly after Ball’s announcement, the senators said they are “committed to the success of our public education system and to standing with the dedicated teachers who serve our students” and have “heard from many constituents who are deeply concerned about Fayette County Public Schools, particularly regarding district spending and the board’s recent occupational tax vote, which was determined to be unlawful.” The senators said that decisions of the school district carry “educational consequences” as well as “regional economic and workforce implications.”

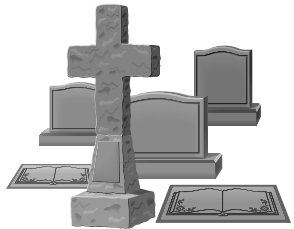
“Transparency, honesty, and community engagement are essential,” the senators said. “The district must practice these principles, not merely talk about them. A deeper, independent review could clarify how taxpayer dollars are being spent, identify areas for improvement, and help restore public confidence in the district’s leadership. “We believe in our schools, we support our teachers, and we believe accountability, openness, and trust are the foundation for moving forward. If the board seeks to rebuild its image in the eyes of the public, we ask board members and district leadership to support an independent review.” The issue isn’t completely partisan. Democratic Rep. Anne Gay Donworth, of Lexington, addressed the board during its May 27 meeting to express concern about the transparency behind the tax proposal. Dia Davidson-Smith, a spokesperson for FCPS, said in a statement Tuesday afternoon that the school district “is committed to continuous improvement and, above all, student success.”

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