

# Ag Learning Center to be dedicated

By Tom Marshall  
Senior Advocate  
writer

There will be a ribbon cutting and dedication of the new Clarence W. Crabtree Agriculture Learning Center at the school district’s Chenault Farm Saturday, Aug. 9.

The ceremony will be at 5 p.m. The farm is located at 2130 Camargo Road.

The name of the learning center was recommended by the Chenault Agriculture Advisory Committee. They wanted to honor Crabtree, a former high school ag teacher “due to his legacy within the ag dept., school programs and community,” Superintendent Matt Thompson said.

The board of education approved the request.

Hinton Mills will provide food. Guests are invited to tour the facility and the adjoining farm following the ceremony.

Thompson encourages the public to attend the dedication and take a tour.

“The school district owns a working farm that is used to teach



Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

Clarence W. Crabtree Agriculture Learning Center

2130 CAMARGO ROAD | MT. STERLING, KY 40353

**SATURDAY | AUGUST 9, 2025 | 5:00 PM**

Please join Montgomery County Schools as we celebrate the ribbon cutting and official naming of the Clarence W. Crabtree Agriculture Learning Center.

Hinton Mills will provide food. Guests are invited to tour the facility and the farm following the ceremony.

Kindly RSVP by scanning the QR code.



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our kids within numerous agriculture pathways,” Thompson said. “It is a shining example of the competencies embedded in our Montgomery County Profile of a Learner and serves as a great example of why the Montgomery County agriculture program is a model across the state.”

The original learning center/showbarn was destroyed in an ice storm in 2021 and there was intent to rebuild it, Thompson said.

Then COVID struck and supply chain issues were causing construction costs to skyrocket, he said.

After several attempts to reach a settle-

ment with the insurance company the costs continued to rise, Thompson said.

“No one ever intended or wanted it to take as

long as it did, but now we are ready to show off the Clarence W. Crabtree Agriculture Learning Center,” he said.

**NOTICE**

Frontier Housing is submitting an application for the Housing Preservation Grant from USDA Rural Development. A statement of activities will be available until August 1, 2025.

**For further information call Frontier Housing at 606-784-2131 ext. 255.**



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## CASE

Continued from Page A1

Two parts of the vehicle left at the collision scene allegedly matched up to this front end damage, according to the citation.

Salas was taken to Saint Joseph Mount Sterling Hospital for a blood draw, the results of

which were pending, the citation said.

When troopers arrived, Salas was allegedly passed out in the back seat and upon exiting was reportedly unsteady on his feet and his eyes were watery and blood-shot, according to the

citation.

Salas reportedly admitted to operating the vehicle, getting into a collision, leaving his car in Sharpsburg and claimed he had not consumed alcohol beverages when he arrived at Fogg Pike before law enforcement’s arrival, the citation said.

## GIBSON

Continued from Page A1

Knox, where he trained troops on Bradley and M1 Abrams tanks in the Army Reserves.

He was called to active duty to do training for soldiers who went off to fight in Desert Storm, Spoonamore said.

Gibson viewed teaching and the military as a way to give back to others, Spoonamore said.

Gibson viewed liberty and freedom as two core values, he said.

His service extended to the churches he at-

tended, most recently Living Water Church in Mt. Sterling.

Gibson and his wife both contributed to the children’s and music ministries at the churches they attended, Spoonamore said.

In lieu of flowers, the family asked the public to consider giving to the church at [www.lwclife.com](http://www.lwclife.com).

Superintendent Matt Thompson issued a statement concerning Gibson’s death.

“Our thoughts and prayers go out to the family and friends of Rodney Gibson,”

Thompson said. “Mr. Gibson was a long time teacher with Montgomery County Schools and positively impacted so many students.”

Survivors include his daughter, Kristi Gibson Spoonamore (Chris); granddaughter, Sophie Grace Spoonamore; and many nieces and nephews.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his wife, Doris Tackett Gibson; and a son, Chadwick Dale Gibson.

His full obituary appeared in last week’s Advocate.

## Hunter ed day Aug. 2

Kentucky’s fall hunting season begins mid-August, and the Kentucky Dept. of Fish and Wildlife Resources is hosting a special statewide “Hunter Education Day” to help prepare new hunters for a safe and successful experience in the field.

The dept. will offer 20 in-person Hunter Education classes and live-fire range days at convenient locations across Kentucky on Saturday, Aug. 2.

This annual educational opportunity is held in August in conjunction with National Shooting Sports Month when additional attention is brought to shooting sports to grow the pastime in communities across the nation.

The dept.’s Hunter Education training class includes hunter ethics, wildlife conservation and identification, field care of game, first aid, firearm safety, archery and muzzleloading. In

an in-person course, the last session will include a written test and a live-fire exercise. In an online course, the live-fire exercise will be available at a department-provided range day.

In addition to Hunter Education Day, Kentucky Fish and Wildlife offers both in-person and online education options, as well as in-person range days, throughout the year across Kentucky. To learn more about these Hunter Education opportunities and to register, visit the dept.’s Hunter Education webpage.

All in-person courses and range days are open to participants who are at least 9 years old and are offered for free, but registration is required for each session. Registered participants are provided necessary equipment at no charge for use during testing at the ranges. Online hunter education courses are offered by partnering organiza-

tions, and some require a fee.

In most cases, to legally hunt in Kentucky all hunters born on or after Jan. 1, 1975, and ages 12 or older, are required to have successfully completed a one-time hunter education course and have an un-expired hunting license appropriate for their hunting activity. Species-specific permits in addition to an annual hunting license are required for hunting deer, wild turkeys, bear, bobcats and sandhill cranes. Hunter education credentials issued by other states are valid in Kentucky. Licenses and permits may be purchased through the department’s license sales portal or through licensed retail vendors across the state.

For more information about Kentucky Fish and Wildlife, as well as hunting dates and regulations, visit [fw.ky.gov](http://fw.ky.gov).



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