



Women's Division winners



Men's Division winners (Reader submitted photos)

Results from Bluegrass Fast Draw's April competition

The Bluegrass Fast Draw Club held its April monthly competition on April 26 at the club's home range, 117 Madison Street, Beaver Dam.

Shepherdsville; 2nd place, Sassy Sparrow, aka Holly Sims, from Hartford; 3rd place, Ladybug, aka Gabriella Casteel, from Hartford.

Ladies Division, Top 3: 1st place, Ms Cisco, aka Paula Sissel, from

Shepherdsville; 2nd place, Johnny James, aka John Casteel, from Hartford; 3rd place, Bobtown Red, aka Robin Russell, from Russellville; 4th place, Kid Cisco, aka Pat Sissel, from Shepherdsville; 5th place, Run Fat Man Run, aka Andrew McFarlin, from Hendersonville, Tenn.; 6th place, Rowdy Rog, aka Roger Sims, from Hartford; 7th place, Speedy, aka Wayne Miller, from Beaver Dam.

Men's Division, Top 7: 1st place, Shane, aka James Casteel, from Horse Branch; 2nd place, John Casteel, from Hartford; 3rd place, Bobtown Red, aka Robin Russell, from Russellville; 4th place, Kid Cisco, aka Pat Sissel, from Shepherdsville; 5th place, Run Fat Man Run, aka Andrew McFarlin, from Hendersonville, Tenn.; 6th place, Rowdy Rog, aka Roger Sims, from Hartford; 7th place, Speedy, aka Wayne Miller, from Beaver Dam.

Fastest time for the ladies was Ladybug with a 0.560.

Fastest time for the men was Run Fat Man Run with a 0.335.

Have you ever wondered how it would be to step back in time to face the gunfighters of the Old West, like Billy the Kid or Jesse James? You can now find out in the sport of Cowboy Fast Draw. For more information, contact James Casteel at 270-256-1215 or at bsjwcast@aol.com; John Casteel at 270-256-7212 or jlcasteel@live.com; or visit cowboyfastdraw.com.

Fiscal court receives Award for Community Excellence



At the Tuesday fiscal court meeting Gradd Director Joanna Shake presented the fiscal court with a 2020 Award for Community Excellence. Ohio County had received a traveling trophy for one year, this will be the permanent one. (Photo submitted)

Kentucky Fish and Wildlife reminds public to leave baby wildlife alone

With spring in full swing, more people are encountering young wildlife as they venture outdoors. The Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources is reminding the public to avoid interfering with young wildlife, even if they seem to be alone. While these animals may appear vulnerable, the mother is likely nearby.

"It's common for wildlife rehabilitators to receive animals that are thought to be orphans. In reality, they were fine before someone with good intentions stepped in, trying to help in the wrong way," said Dr. Christine Casey, wildlife veterinarian with Kentucky Fish and Wildlife.

Spring is a busy time for many species. Rabbits start nesting as early as February and continue throughout the summer, with mothers returning to the den at dawn and dusk to feed their young. Newly hatched songbirds are often seen on the ground, learning to fly. By April, mother black bears and their cubs have emerged from their dens, with cubs growing more active and exploring their surroundings. Late spring marks the peak of deer fawning season, during which fawns often stay motionless and hidden for their first month of life, only beginning to follow their mothers once they are strong enough.

"Wildlife parents will often leave their young in a safe spot while they go off to find food, sometimes even in places that are more developed, because they know their offspring will be safe there. Almost always, the parent is nearby and will come back to take care of them," Casey said.

People can help young wildlife thrive by:

- Observing them from a distance
- Securing trash cans and avoiding leaving food or other attractants outside
- Keeping children and pets away to prevent potential injury or leaving a scent trail that may attract predators
- Checking a property or site for the presence of young animals before mowing or commencing outdoor projects

Under state law, it is illegal to remove young wildlife from the wild. Only state-permitted wildlife rehabilitators can care for orphaned or injured wildlife in Kentucky. A list of approved wildlife rehabilitators, searchable by county and animal type, is available on the department's website. Kentucky Fish and Wildlife does not accept orphaned or injured animals.

Possessing wildlife is only permitted in very limited cases and is strictly regulated by state and federal laws, both to protect wildlife populations and public health. In Kentucky, it is illegal to keep high-risk rabies carriers, such as raccoons, skunks, bats, coyotes and foxes, as pets.

These animals are common carriers of rabies, which can cause symptoms in infected individuals, such as uncoordinated movement (e.g., stumbling, falling over), excessive drooling and aggression. Rabies can be transmitted to people through bites, scratches or saliva entering the eyes, nose, mouth or open cuts. If left untreated, rabies is fatal.

If a person is bitten by a wild animal, they should immediately contact either their healthcare provider or their county public health department for guidance. To protect pets from rabies, ensure they are up-to-date on vaccinations and prevent contact with wildlife.

Kentucky Fish and Wildlife encourages the public to report animals showing signs of rabies by calling 1-800-858-1549 or reporting observations online. For more information on caring for injured or orphaned wildlife, visit the department's website at fw.ky.gov.

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Source: The Kentucky State Study 2023: Conducted by Coda Ventures, Base: Total adults and total newspaper readers reading ads, multiple responses