

OBITUARIES

Dr. George O. Purvis, 79

CRESTWOOD — Dr. George O. Purvis, 79, of Crestwood, passed away peacefully on Sunday, May 18, 2025, surrounded by his loving family.

George was born on April 5, 1946, to George Elmo and Hally Pettigrew-Purvis in St Louis, Mo. George studied and graduated from Hannibal La Grange College, the University of Louisville and Washington University in Audiology & Speech Pathology, obtaining his doctoral degree from Kansas University.

Dr. Purvis dedicated his life to Veterans working at the VA for over 45 years. He served as Chief of Audiology at the Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Louisville, and taught Audiology at the University of Louisville.

Dr. Purvis proudly served as President, Chairman and Speaker on 30-plus boards and associations over his career and retirement, including the National ASHA (American Speech-Language-Hearing Association) and the State of California and Kentucky licensing board.

George met his



wife, Mary Elaine Harryman-Purvis, at the Freshman kickoff party at Hannibal La Grange College, and they were married for 57 wonderful years. George was an avid gardener, a talented singer and a devoted family man full of humor, who loved the Lord with all his heart. George enjoyed singing in Southeast Christian Church for many years.

Left to cherish the memory of George are his children, Jeff Purvis (Stephanie) of Crestwood and Shannon Lockard (Mike) of Norwood, Mass. George loved more than anything, being with his grandchildren, Abigail Purvis and Sam and Eli Lockard.

A private celebration of George's life will be held at a future date.

Edward J. Kalmey Jr., 86

PROSPECT — Edward J. Kalmey Jr. “Ed”, 86, peacefully joined His Lord in Heaven on Tuesday, May 13, 2025, after a decade of chronic health issues.

Ed never met a stranger, took genuine interest in others and contributed to multiple causes around the world. He leaves a huge void and will be greatly missed by many.

Ed graduated from Bellarmine University in 1961. He spent his entire career with Kraft Food until retiring to pursue other interests. These included Rotary International, spending time with family, backpacking with his son, plus his and Judy's worldwide travels.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Edward J. Kalmey Sr. and Margaret Gathof

Kalmey and his brother, Ken Kalmey.

Survivors include his loving wife of 64 years, Judy (Allen) Kalmey; children, Kim Anna (David), Kent Kalmey (Susan) and Karrie Kalmey-Kernen; seven grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; brother, Don Kalmey (Ann); long term caregiver and close family friend, Donna Cannon; and his constant sidekick, Winnie, their mini Goldendoodle.

A Celebration of Life is planned in July (to be announced).

In lieu of flowers, please donate to your favorite charity, give a smile, offer a helping hand or kind word to another. Be the ray of sunshine and hope that Ed was and will continue to be.



County EMS urges water safety

Launches ‘Water Watcher’ initiative as pool season starts

BY STAFF REPORT

LA GRANGE — With the end of the school year in sight, kids are counting down the days until swimming pools are open for the summer. For many of them, the wait ends this weekend.

As families get ready for summer fun, Oldham County EMS wants to remind parents that without proper safety precautions, pools can be dangerous, especially for small children. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) drowning is the number one cause death for children 1-4 years old in the United States.

“EVERYONE THINKS SOMEONE ELSE IS WATCHING THE KIDS”

Last summer, Oldham County EMS responded to two drownings involving children under the age of four. For Maj. John Luker, the operations officer for Oldham County EMS, that was two calls too many.

“That was tough for our crews. It’s just something

you never want to see happen,” Luker said.

The 36-year veteran paramedic has responded to countless calls involving young children over the years. He knows the heartbreak of those calls, and he knows how easily they can be prevented.

“Adult supervision is the most important way to prevent drowning. Most parents know that. But at a family gathering or party it’s easy to get distracted and suddenly no one is watching the kids,” Luker said. “There needs to be one designated adult assigned to supervising, because when there’s a group, everyone thinks someone else is watching the kids.”

“WATER WATCHER” INITIATIVE

Inspired to find a solution, Luker came across “Water Watcher” lanyards from the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) and brought the program to Oldham County. His goal is to distribute as many as possible this summer.

The lanyards are a physical reminder of who has been designated to supervise children. If that person needs to be relieved for any reason, the lanyard is handed off to another responsible adult to ensure someone is always giving their full attention.

The lanyards outline best practices to prevent drowning, such as regularly scanning the bottom of the pool, avoiding distractions, and keeping a phone close to call 911 in an emergency.

Approximately 500 tags are available at no cost at the following locations:

- Oldham County EMS (1101 New Moody Lane, La Grange)
- Baptist Health La Grange Emergency Department (1025 New Moody Lane, La Grange)
- Oldham County Health Department (1786 Commerce Pkwy., La Grange)
- Oldham County Public Library (La Grange: 308 Yager Ave., Crestwood: 6720 KY-146, Goshen: 3000 Paramount Way)
- Oldham County Fire Departments (Baldardsville: 4602 KY-53; La Grange: 309 N. 1st Ave.; North Oldham: 1660 KY-1793, Goshen; Pewee

Valley: 8607 Foley Ave.; South Oldham: 6310 Old Lagrange Rd, Crestwood; Westport: 6301 3rd St.)

CPR SAVES LIVES; FREE CLASS AVAILABLE

In addition to having a designated supervisor, Luker recommends swimming lessons for kids and CPR training for all adults — especially if you have a pool at home.

“We’ve noticed that a lot of drownings can occur when a child is visiting someone else’s pool. For example, the homeowner’s family may all be strong swimmers, but a friend coming over might not be,” Luker said. “If at least one adult on site knows CPR, they can keep a child alive until help arrives.”

OCEMS and Baptist Health La Grange offer a free, monthly CPR class specially designed for infants and children. Registration is available at events.baptisthealth.com/la-grange.

“We want everyone to have a good time this summer. We want kids to enjoy going to the pool. The key to doing that is for parents to make water safety and supervision their top priority.”

Commission begins budget approval process

BY GRANT GERSTNER EDITOR

The Crestwood City Commission conducted the first reading of its proposed budget for the upcoming fiscal year, spanning from June 30, 2025, to July 1, 2026.

Mayor Jim Kramer presented the most notable differences between the current and upcoming budget, saying that the city expects a total revenue increase of \$500,000 due to insurance premiums and rental income.

Rental incomes would have been higher, Kramer said, if the Oldham County Court system did not plan to move from its temporary location in Crestwood to the freshly renovated courthouse in La Grange in the coming months.

In expenses, the most notable difference is a \$500,000 increase in property maintenance, which is mainly due to the further improvements to the Crestwood Mercantile building that the commission approved a \$667,467 bid for at its last meeting.

Other notable changes are a \$50,000 increase in snow removal, a \$25,000 increase in road maintenance and a \$100,000 increase in memberships and dues.

Kramer said that the increase in memberships and dues will allow for the commission to purchase more Flock cameras as well as other memberships with organizations like the Kentucky League of Cities or the National League of

Cities, for example.

The budget has a forecasted surplus of about \$167,000, Kramer said.

In other news, the commission heard from Oldham County Police Commander Major Scott Wolf, who reported that, during April, there were 432 neighborhood checks, area checks and business checks.

“That means that officers are patrolling through all hours of the day and night, checking neighborhoods and businesses for anything suspicious or out of order that [may require] investigation,” said Wolf.

He also reported that there were 19 collisions, 15 of which had no injuries and two of which were hit-and-runs. Also, there were seven runs for suspicious persons, five runs for suspicious vehicles and seven thefts reported — one from inside of a vehicle and one theft of a vehicle itself.

Regarding vehicle break-ins, Wolf said: “If residents can make themselves as hard of a target as possible by not leaving things in view through the windows, by not leaving valuables in their cars, by not leaving a gun in their car — especially in plain view — by leaving the car locked, by not leaving keys the car it is a tremendous help in preventing some of this stuff before it happens.”

Wolf also said that Crestwood residents are welcome to submit house watch requests while they are on vacation and to visit oldham-countypolice.com to file a request.

In other news, the commission heard the following reports

• Kramer reported that the city’s final past due audit has been submitted, received and accepted by the state.

• Maples Park representative Jody Smiley reported that there are plans to install banners in the downtown area that she hopes to be up by Memorial Day, Allen Lane Band and a car show will be held at Maples Park on May 16 and Arts on the Green will be held at Maples Park on June 14 and 15.

• City Engineer William Marshall reported that, during the excavation to start installing the truck overhead mast arm on the railroad crossing near Maples Park, bedrock prevented digging to the necessary depth and will likely require a new location.

• City Attorney Laura Stoess reported that she is working on updating the city’s ethics ordinance and that a webinar on ethics will be held at 3 p.m. on June 10.

• Commissioner Joan Bryant reported that she is hoping to schedule a community trash collection sometime during the fall and that the fence rental business may provide fencing for the event free of charge as a public service.

The Crestwood City Commission’s next meeting is scheduled for 7:30 p.m. on June 11, where the second reading and public hearing of their proposed budget will be conducted.

PACC hosts annual women’s event

Scott receives 2025 Strong Woman Leader award

BY JANE ASHLEY PACE PUBLISHER

Prospect Area Chamber of Commerce (PACC) held their annual Strong Leadership Strong Women conference May 21 at the Hunting Creek Country Club in Prospect.

Speakers for the event included Tonya Lowe, owner and founder of Keep it Spicey and Blondie and Jim’s Bistro; Jennifer Jacobs, State Farm owner and agent; Dee Dee Taylor, founder and CEO of 502 Hemp Wellness Center; and Attica Scott, a former Kentucky State Representative and

director of special projects at Forward Justice Action Network.

The day closed with the annual 2025 Strong Woman Leader Award, given to Scott for her decades of community service and leadership. In addition to serving in Frankfort and her current role, Scott has served on Louisville Metro Council, taught at Jefferson County Community and Technical College and Bellarmine University and served on numerous nonprofit boards.

To learn more about PACC, visit prospectarea-chamber.org.



Attica Scott, right, receives the 2025 Strong Woman Leader Award from former recipient Dee Dee Taylor.

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