

OBITUARIES

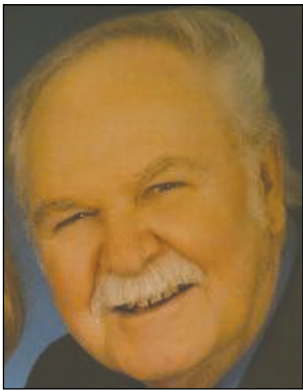
James 'Jim' Andrew Shumar, 85

LA GRANGE — James "Jim" Andrew Shumar, age 85, of La Grange, Ky. went to be with his Lord on Tuesday, Dec. 2, 2025.

He was born to the late

James A. And Margaret Hubichuck Shumar on July 21, 1940, in East Millsboro, Pennsylvania.

Jim was a devoted member of Immaculate Conception Catholic Church and involved in the American Legion Post 39. He was passionate about his Pittsburgh Steelers and had a patriot's heart, proud to be a US Army Veteran.



He is preceded in death by his loving wife of 59 years, Celeste Marie (Paquin) Shumar; and siblings, Margaret Johnson and John Shumar.

Left to cherish the memory of Jim are his children, Bill Shumar (Josie) and Joyce DiLonardo (Marc);

grandchildren, Jon (Monique), Angelo, Chelsea (Ben), Nick, Christen, Cassie and Stephen; great-grandchildren, Beckham, Morgan, Ainslee and Evelyn; and extended family and friends.

A Funeral Mass for Jim was held at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, 502 N 5th Ave. in La Grange, on Tuesday, Dec. 9, 2025, at 11a.m. Burial followed in Kentucky Veteran Cemetery Central in Radcliff, Ky.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made in Jim's name to the American Heart Association.

Heady-Radcliffe
Funeral Home & Cremation Services

Johnny C. Kelly, 74

Johnny C. Kelly, age 74, passed away on Nov. 28, 2025. He was the son of the late Gene Kelly and Vinney (Puckett) Kelly.

Johnny retired from Pegasus Trucking. He was a member of Westport Baptist Church.

He was preceded in death by a son, Jason Kelly; his first wife, Kathie Coffman Kelly; and wife, Patsy Fountain Kelly.

He is survived by his daughter, Heather; siblings,

David Kelly, Norma (Kelly) Evridge, Vera (Kelly) Louks, Mark Kelly and Robert Skaggs; and two nieces and four nephews.

Cremation was chosen. A Celebration of Life will be held at a later date.

Community Briefs

From staff reports

YOUNG PROFESSIONAL HOPE TO SPREAD CHEER THROUGH HOLIDAY EVENT

OC Future 1st Young Professionals for ages 21-41 invites you to kick off the holiday season with a night of fun, networking and community giving at their Holiday Cheers on Thursday, Dec. 11 from 5 to 7 p.m. at Kentucky Artisan Distillery Clubhouse, located at 6316 Old La Grange Road in Crestwood.

Enjoy drinks, pizza, and the chance to connect with other young professionals in the area while celebrating the season. The event will feature a food drive benefiting HighPoint Charitable Services, so please bring a canned good or non-perishable item to contribute. As a thank you for your generosity, you'll receive one free drink ticket.

OC Future 1st is a network of young professionals dedicated to fostering community engagement, career growth and personal development in Orange County. Through events like Holiday Cheers, Future 1st connects like-minded individuals and provides a platform for networking and positive impact in the local community.

For more information or questions, please contact Kara Sanders at the Oldham Chamber & Economic Development office at 502-222-1635.

PANCAKES WITH SANTA

Oldham County Parks and Recreation is hosting a Breakfast with Santa on Saturday, Dec. 13 from 9 to 11 a.m. at the John W. Black Community Center in Buckner. Enjoy pancakes, orange juice, a meet and greet with Santa with one free photo per child, holiday crafts, games and make your own candy cane with Just Be Clause. This is a free event, but organizers ask that you bring a new toy for needy kids in Oldham County.

LAY A WREATH TO REMEMBER

Join in a time of remembering, honoring and teaching at Valley of Rest Cemetery in La Grange for the local Wreaths Across America annual event. There will be a ceremony at 10 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 13 followed by a time for families and volunteers to lay a wreath, flag or penny at our local veterans' graves.

PETER FOREE CHAPTER DAR ANNOUNCES SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Each year the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) awards multiple scholarships to students showing dedication to the pursuit of higher education. DAR awards scholarships for students pursuing an education in history, economics, law, political science, medicine, nursing, occupational and physical therapy, elementary and secondary education, chemistry, math, science and English.

To celebrate the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence in 2026, the DAR will award a one-time \$25,000 scholarship to 10 college or graduate students studying American History.

Applicants must be citizens of the United States and must attend an accredited college or university in the United States. DAR chapter sponsorship is not required. For most scholarships, DAR membership is not required.

The DAR scholarship application portal is open now until 11:59 p.m., Jan. 31, 2026. For more information on scholarships offered and application requirements, please visit the DAR website at dar.org/national-society/scholarships/general-info.

The Peter Foree Chapter encourages local students to apply.

Comprehensive plan takes tour of local government bodies

BY GRANT GERSTNER

The Oldham County Comprehensive Plan — an extensive document outlining the expected and, for some, desired development of the county in the future — has been making its rounds to all of the local legislative bodies for an update, as required by state law every five years.

As explained by Oldham County Planning and Development staff, the comprehensive plan serves as a guide for future development and, as outlined in state law, is a mandatory prerequisite for having a county-wide zoning ordinance — i.e. local land use laws.

While the Oldham County Fiscal Court conducted its first reading on Nov. 4 and has been holding off on the second reading to ensure County Attorney D. Berry Baxter is in attendance, many others are discussing and approving the plan, including members of the public.

LA GRANGE

The La Grange City Council narrowly approved the comprehensive plan in a 4-3 vote on Dec. 1 after a long discussion on whether or not the plan should use strict verbiage like “shall” instead of suggestive language like “should,” “encourage” or “promote.”

The discussion was started by citizen Barry Laws, who expressed that the comprehensive plan is “a brochure” and should use more strict language to ensure development is held to a high standard.

Laws cited a sentence from the “Environment” subsection of the “Plan Elements” section: “The placement of additional fill material in the floodplain should be discouraged.” Laws argued that changing “should” to “shall” allows for more enforcement and makes the plan more meaningful.

Laws also mentioned that the “Goals and Objectives” need to be more easily measurable so that, when the plan is looked at in the future, the next plan can better continue what has been achieved and address what has not been achieved.

City Attorney Beach Craigmyle contended that the comprehensive plan is intended to be a guide, not another set of laws or restrictions, as that is the objective of the zoning ordinance.

“[The goals and objectives] give our legislators ... the idea when you do enact laws, when you do enact things like the data center regulations ... make sure you believe that they adhere to these goals and objectives. This gives you [as legislators] some basis for rational thinking ...

“Every time somebody challenges a law, people want to know what the reasons are that you made this law or that you voted against this law — these are your reasons ...”

Planning and Development Director Ryan Fischer added that the goals and objectives are often cited by both developers and members of the public to argue both for and against certain developments.

When it to a vote, councilors Jason Taylor, Laura Taylor and Trey Kamer were the only votes against approving the comprehensive plan.

COUNTY GOVERNMENT

While the Oldham County Fiscal Court has their second reading and public hearing regarding the comprehensive plan scheduled for their next meeting on Dec. 16, some citizens used the public comment portion of the Dec. 2 meeting to express their thoughts.

“As state statute provides, I believe it would be in the best interest of the county to seek an extension on the development of the 2025 comprehensive plan ...” said citizen Jennifer Towell, who recommended that the county hire a consultant to review the comprehensive plan.

Towell also highlighted one section of state

statute surrounding comprehensive plans — that they “shall be interrelated and each element shall describe how it relates to each of the other elements.”

“This is a major missing part in the plan that is presented. There is no correlation or indication of how the separate elements relate and support one another. In fact, oftentimes throughout the plan, they contradict one another ...

“You have completely eliminated the business and industry section of the comprehensive plan and there is absolutely zero financial data or research that has been presented — that alone is required by state statute ...”

“I feel that green space on the map needs to be further defined ...” said Mary Lowry, Chair of the Oldham County Conservation District Board. “There is quite a difference between agricultural land and conservation ...

Lowry also echoed Towell in the plan's lack of an “economic or business section as per statute.”

“I think it would be prudent if roads that are known to be changed in the foreseeable future should be reflected in the mapping — how does one know if you buy property and want to build a house about the implications of future planned road changes?”

Lowry also called for the Red Pen Landfill near Pewee Valley to be clearly shown on the “Future Land Use Map” and called for a 3-acre minimum for parcels to utilize septic wastewater disposal.

PEWEE VALLEY AND CRESTWOOD

Both the Pewee Valley City Council and the Crestwood City Commission have completed their first readings and plan to conduct their second readings in the coming weeks.

The Crestwood City Commission conducted their public hearing during their first reading, though no comments from the public were made.

The commission plans to schedule a special meeting to conduct the second reading before the end of the year, as the commission does not have a regular meeting in December.

The Pewee Valley City Council plans to have their second reading at their next meeting on Jan. 7 at 6:30 p.m.

OTHER LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS

In other news, the Oldham County Fiscal Court approved a recommendation to reduce the erosion control surety for section 1 of the Middlebrook subdivision by 50%, for a total reduction of \$14,250.

Erosion control sureties are funds from developers that are held by the county government to ensure construction complies with erosion regulations.

The court also approved a renewal of county employees' benefits for 2026, which saw a 49.9% increase in price due to a high claim year — over \$1 million in claims, according to Human Resources Director Tina Shaaf.

By using the same insurance plan with a higher deductible, the increase was lowered to 34.7%, but it will be absorbed by the county and no rate increase will be passed to county employees.

In a 5-2 vote, the La Grange City Council approved a resolution accepting the Commerce Parkway traffic study completed by QK4, Inc. that was presented to the council in June as a guide for future development along the Commerce Parkway corridor.

Councilors Laura Taylor and Jason Taylor opposed due to disagreeing with the implementation of roundabouts included in the traffic study.

The council also approved the appointment of Jason Parker, owner of Parker's Seasoning, to the La Grange Tourism Commission.

The La Grange City Council's next meeting is scheduled for Jan. 5 at 6:30 p.m.

OFFICER

FROM PAGE A1

“Officer Schnoble stated the vehicle had hit him and was continuing south bound on [Highway 53],” the citation reads.

The nearby officer soon stopped the vehicle in front of Dairy Queen, observing the car's “cracked drivers side mirror.”

The driver, 29-year-old Joanna Hernandez, “had a strong odor of alcohol from her breath and was unsteady on her feet” and refused any field sobriety tests, the citation says.

Hernandez was then placed under arrest, but “would not

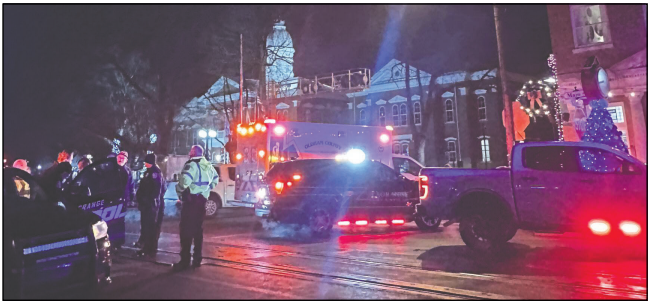


Photo by Jane Ashley Pace

Officers and Oldham County EMS are pictured gathered near the Highway 53 and Main Street intersection after Officer Allen Schnoble was struck by a car while directing traffic for the annual Light Up La Grange event.

go into the back of the police car and resisted [officers'] attempts.” Eventually, she was “assisted” into the cruiser and transported to the Oldham

County Detention Center.

At the detention center, Hernandez refused sobriety tests until a blood- search warrant was obtained and

executed at 10:10 p.m. As of press time, the results are not available.

Hernandez is charged with second-degree assault, police officer, a class C felony; leaving the scene of an accident/failure to render aid or assist with death or serious physical injury, a class D felony; operating a motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol under an alcohol concentration of .08 or more, second offense, aggravating circumstances, a class B misdemeanor; and resisting arrest, a class A misdemeanor.

Hernandez is being held at the Oldham County Detention Center on a \$90,000 cash bond, and was arraigned on Dec. 8. Soon after the incident, Officer

Schnoble was transported to the hospital by Oldham County EMS with “possible ligament damage to his shoulder and arm,” the citation reads.

According to La Grange Police Chief Greg Collett, Schnoble has an upper-body injury and is, as of press time, waiting to see a specialist.

When asked if the police department will close the intersection during future events on Main Street, Collett said that forcing traffic through side streets could easily cause other problems — a collision on a nearby side street occurred a few hours prior to Schnoble being struck.

Further, Collett said that if an incident occurred on the interstate, tractor-trailers would likely travel on Highway 53,

which could cause more issues on side streets or could cause a hazard in crossing the railroad tracks on Main Street.

When asked about comments on social media claiming that the officers' police lights affected visibility, Collett noted that the lights are used to signify that officers are in the area and to tell drivers to proceed with caution.

He also said that some of the new cruisers the department will be using soon have features that may help in situations where officers have to direct traffic outside of their vehicles.

Collett concluded by requesting that drivers be cognizant of officers directing traffic and to always use caution around people on foot in the roadway.

Auction

**December 13, 2025
12:00 Noon
2005 Chevrolet
Malibu**

VIN: 1G1ZS52F85F292820

Owned by:

McKenna K. Lively
1310 Cedar Springs Pkwy.
LaGrange, KY 40031
**Don Hedges Towing
3201 W. Hwy. 146
La Grange, KY 40031**

Sold "as is"

No warranty, no title

Reserve minimum bids

Auction

**December 13, 2025
12:00 Noon
2021 Ford F-250**

VIN: 1FT7X2B67MED96976

Owned by:

Mike Albert, LTD
10340 Evendale Drive
Cincinnati, OH 45241
**Don Hedges Towing
3201 W. Hwy. 146
La Grange, KY 40031**

Sold "as is"

No warranty, no title

Reserve minimum bids

Auction

**December 27, 2025
12:00 Noon
2005 Honda
Accord**

VIN: 1HGCCM56495A073010

Owned by:

Gregory A. Rivera Fraticelli
8302 Preston Hwy. Unit 2
Louisville, KY 40219
**Don Hedges Towing
3201 W. Hwy. 146
La Grange, KY 40031**

Sold "as is"

No warranty, no title

Reserve minimum bids

Auction

**December 13, 2025
12:00 Noon
2008 Chevrolet
Cobalt**

VIN: 1G1AK18F087347739

Owned by:

Yuleni Hernandez Morales
233 Buck Creek Road, Apt # 301
Simpsonville, KY 40067-5623
**Don Hedges Towing
3201 W. Hwy. 146
La Grange, KY 40031**

Sold "as is"

No warranty, no title

Reserve minimum bids

The Oldham Era

OldhamEra.com

Your News Since 1876.

**105 S. Walnut, La Grange KY 40031
502-222-7183**

Publisher: **Jane Ashley Pace** - publisher@oldhamera.com, 502-222-7184

Editor: **Grant Gerstner** - editor@oldhamera.com, 502-839-1688

Sports Editor: **Wyatt Sparkman** - sports@oldhamera.com, 502-219-6338

Advertising Representative: **Barbara Duncan** - advertising@oldhamera.com, 502-222-7185

Obituaries: obits@oldhamera.com

POSTMASTER: Send corrections to: The Oldham Era, 105 S. Walnut, La Grange KY 40031. Periodicals postage paid at La Grange KY 40031 - USPS 407-700.

Subscription: The Oldham Era is published every Thursday.

Digital only subscription: **\$25.44**

In-county print and digital subscription: **\$44.51**

Out-of-county print and digital subscription: **\$85.00**