

OBITUARIES

Wilma Jean Moles

Wilma Jean "McLane" Moles was born April 15, 1944, in the Rogers Grove Community in Wayne County to late John W. McLane and Zella "Miller" Perkins. She passed away, August 12, 2025, at Lake Cumberland Regional Hospital at the age of 81 years.

She is survived by her son David (Geri) Crabtree; grandchildren Kala (Zach) Leonard, David (Julie) Crabtree, Jessica Crabtree, Rachel (Chris) Crabtree, Vanessa (Richard) Gibson and Jamie Honey; great-grandchildren Chloe Thomas, Ella, Elijah and Emilia Leonard, Syllisa, Brody and Remi Crabtree, Kaylee Carlson, Jaydon, Jasilynn, and Julyiah Houze, Caydance Robey, Emily Pitman, Hayden Honey, Siera and Cameron Gibson; great-grandchildren Kayden and Easton Houze, Grayson Young and Blakey Wesley.

She is also survived by sisters Sinda Keith, Linda Whitaker and Rosie Bell; brother Aaron Perkins. Along with a host of family and friends that mourn her passing.

In addition to her parents, John and Zella; she was preceded in death by her loving husband, Ernest Eugene



Moles; son Ulysses Kay Crabtree; daughter Gladys Darlene Taylor; grandson Derrick Thomas; sister Shirley Perkins Crabtree and brothers Billy Kay Perkins and James Edward Perkins.

Wilma was saved at an early age at Rogers Grove Baptist Church. She attended several churches in Wayne County until her sickness. She was a loving Mother, Grandmother, Sister and friend who will be sadly missed by all who knew her.

Funeral services were held Friday, August 15, 2025, at 1 PM at the Hickey Funeral Home Chapel with Bro. Mike SMedly officiating. Burial was in the Rogers Grove Cemetery.

Hickey Funeral Home in charge of the arrangements.

Regial Dobbs

Regial Dobbs was born December 23, 1946, and departed this walk of life Tuesday, August 12, 2025, reaching the age of 78 years. He was the son of the late Joe and Ester Dobbs.

He is survived by his wife Joyce Dobbs; son Scotty Dobbs (Sandy); daughter Sharon Trueblood (Chris Crabtree); grandchildren Kayla Dobbs, Cameron Dobbs (Michaela), Latisha Cooper (John), Amber Catron (Matt), Chelsey Wright (Timmy); great-grandchildren Natyli, Jaiden, Addisyn, Hazlea, Teegan, Hunter and Brayley Hall, Harper Dobbs, Makena and Aiden Cooper, Colton and Logan Catron; brothers Carter Dobbs (Margaret) and Wendell Dobbs (Zula); sister Vela Dobbs. Along with many other special nieces, nephews, cousins and countless other family members and friends that mourn his passing.

In addition to his parents Joe and Ester Dobbs; he was proceeded in death by his son Kenneth Dobbs; grandchild Jordan Dobbs; brothers Lorell and Odel Dobbs and sister Beulah Seivers.



He was a loving father, grandfather, brother and friend who will be sadly missed by all who knew him.

Funeral services where held Wednesday, August 13, 2025, at 1 PM at the Hickey Funeral Home Chapel with Bro. Eric Criswell and Bro. Denzil Jones. Burial will was in the Kidd-Rose Cemetery.

Hickey Funeral Home in charge of the arrangements.

Mary Rose Bell

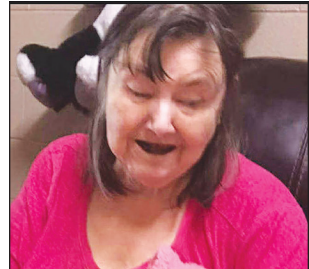
Mary Rose Bell, age 67, of Monticello, Ky, passed away Thursday, August 21, 2025, at Cumberland Nursing & Rehab in Somerset, Ky.

She was born July 16, 1958, in Monticello, Ky; the daughter of Maggie Mae (Shelton) Meredith and the late Obie Emerson Meredith.

She is survived by her mother, Maggie Mae Meredith; one brother, John Ted Meredith (Amber); and three sisters, Mazie Troxell (Jimmy), Daisy Floyd (James), and Carolyn Moore (Eugene); along with a host of family and friends who mourn her passing.

In addition to her father, Obie Meredith, she was preceded in death by her husband, Emerson Tirk Bell; and one brother, Donald Ray "Duck" Meredith.

Mary was saved at an early age and loved going to church. She enjoyed gardening and spending time with her



family. She will be sadly missed by all who knew her.

Funeral services were held Tuesday, August 26, 2025, at 1 pm at the Hicks-Vaughn Funeral Home Chapel with Bro. Gary Clark and Bro. Mike Huckaby officiating. Burial was in the New Sandusky Cemetery.

The family has requested that in lieu of flowers, expressions of sympathy take the form of donations to Mary Rose Bell Memorial Fund, c/o Hicks-Vaughn Funeral Home.

Hicks-Vaughn Funeral Home of Monticello, Ky in charge of the arrangements.

Ralph Phipps

Ralph Phipps, age 66, of Monticello, Ky, passed away Sunday, August 24, 2025, at his home.

He was born May 22, 1959, in Monticello, Ky; the son of Claude Phipps Jr and Mildred (Guffey) Phipps.

He is survived by his wife, Rosemary (Neal) Phipps; one son, Jason (April) Phipps; one daughter, Heather (Justin) Piercy; five grandchildren, Destiny (Erick) Montoya, Cody (Emily) Phipps, Jacob Piercy, Hailey Piercy and Jordan Piercy; four great-grandchildren; his mother, Mildred Phipps; two sisters, Elissa Phipps and Lenora De-Hay and his sister in law, Shelia (Chris) Davis and their girls, Kaylyn and Taylor Davis that he thought of as his also.

He was proceeded in death by one brother Steve Phipps and his father Claude Phipps Jr.

He accepted Christ at



age 10 and was baptized at Rectors Flat Baptist Church. He will be greatly missed by family, friends and all who knew and loved him.

Funeral services were held Wednesday, August 27, 2025, at 11 am at the Hicks-Vaughn Funeral Home Chapel with Bro. Steve Bennett officiating. Burial was in the Old Charity Cemetery.

Hicks-Vaughn Funeral Home of Monticello, Ky in charge of the arrangements.



We express our deepest sympathy to those who have recently lost loved ones.

Standards and Assessment Process Review Committee meets virtually Sept. 9th

KRS 158.6453 calls for the Kentucky Department of Education to implement a process for reviewing all academic standards and aligned assessments. The schedule calls for one

or two content areas to be reviewed each year and every six years thereafter on a rotating basis.

At 11 next Tuesday morning, the commissioner shall subsequently

provide a report to the SAPRC summarizing the process and the resulting recommendations. After receiving the commissioner's report, the standards and assessment process

review committee shall either concur that stakeholders have had adequate opportunity to provide input on standards and the corresponding alignment of state assessments or find the

input process deficient. The SAPRC is comprised of the commissioner of education or designee as a nonvoting member and nine voting representatives of public schools,

of whom at least two shall be parents of public-school students, appointed by the governor and confirmed by the senate.

Somerset Community College Receiving \$6 Million

Last week, Governor Beshear and Congressman Harold Rogers announced nearly \$26 million to help support education, tourism and economic development in Kentucky's Appalachian region. Fifteen recipients in 11 counties, including Pulaski County are receiving the funds as part of the Abandoned Mine Land Economic Revitalization (AMLER) Program. When completed, the projects are expected to retain or create more than 3,500 jobs and train up to 1,200 Kentuckians annually.

Projects receiving funding will expand quality health care throughout the region, improve drinking water and wastewater treatment facilities, enhance high-tech training and employment opportunities, and support economic development and

tourism. Infrastructure improvements will serve 240 businesses and more than 17,000 households. Community wellness projects will treat 900,000 people annually, and tourism projects are expected to bring nearly 110,000 new visitors to the region each year.

Congressman Rogers, who championed the program as chairman of the House Appropriations Committee, has overseen \$1 billion in federal funding go toward AMLER since 2016, of which more than \$253 million has been awarded for more than 100 projects.

"These grants are investing in strong projects that will support economic growth and stability in our coal communities," said Congressman Rogers. "We are fast-tracking projects that will create new jobs and improve tourism,

health care, education, emergency services and infrastructure in southern and eastern Kentucky. Our best days are ahead of us and these projects ensure that we are on the right path for innovation and revitalization."

The projects selected for funding through the \$25.95 million 2025 AMLER grant funding include the Somerset Community College Career and Technical Education Training Complex. SCC has been selected to receive \$6 million to develop a career and technical facility supporting workforce training programs like construction, HVAC, welding, automotive and diesel technology, electrical technology, and industrial maintenance. AMLER funds will be used for equipment purchases and classroom furnishings. As a result, the college anticipates a 20% increase in

student enrollment and credentials earned within three years of completion.

"We're excited and thankful to be a recipient of this AMLER grant," said Dr. Carey Castle, president and CEO of Somerset Community College. "The College will be able to focus on upgrading

our programs with new equipment and furniture for our new Technical Building at the Laurel campus in London. Our goal is to make this building a centerpiece for business and industry in Southeast Kentucky, and by bringing in the latest training tools to match our business

and industry partners' needs, we will be able to train future employees at a level exceeding their expectations. Our Technical Building brings a new look to the historical Interstate Coal Company and a new pathway for the students and communities in our region."

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Bro. Greg Wells
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