

OBITUARIES

Billy Fletcher

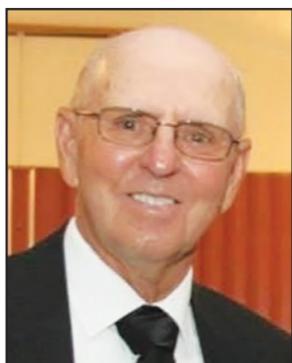
Billy Fletcher, age 84, of Columbia, KY, passed away on March 2, 2026, at the T. J. Samson Community Hospital in Glasgow, KY. Born on February 7, 1942, in Breeding, KY, Billy lived a life marked by his dedication to family, work, and community.

Billy had a diverse career, spending many years as a farmer and machinist at IMO. He was known not only for his hard work but also for his generous spirit, always prioritizing the needs and wants of his family over his own. Billy cherished the moments spent with his family and friends, particularly the time he devoted to his grandchildren, creating lasting memories together.

An enthusiastic individual, Billy enjoyed various activities including spending time at his sons' racing stables, farming, riding his motorcycle, horseback riding, and following horse racing. He was a member of the Glens Fork Nazarene Church and actively participated in the Adair County Cattleman's Association, contributing to the community he loved.

Billy is survived by his beloved wife, Anita Grider Fletcher, his children: Kim Barnett (Chad) and Kevin Fletcher (Tina), and his cherished grandchildren: Emily Ellis Burris (Ryan), Easton Ellis (Kathryn), Wes Fletcher (Ashley), Evan Fletcher (Emily), and Kisha Cooper (Thomas). His legacy continues with his great-grandchildren: Ellison and Callan Burris, Kaseton and Aleena Ellis, Jase, Kora and Kitt Cooper, along with Layla, Layne, Lincoln, Evelyne, and Eleanor Fletcher. He is also survived by his brother Charles Fletcher (Claudette), brother-in-law Doug Estes, and several nieces and nephews.

Billy was preceded in death by his parents, James Ervin



and Dorothy Ellen England Fletcher, as well as his siblings Sandra Estes and Bobby Fletcher and his wife Loretta. Funeral services will be 1:00pm Sunday, March 8, 2026, at Stotts-Phelps-McQueary Funeral Home with burial in the Haven Hill Cemetery. Visitation will be on Saturday from 4:00-8:00pm and will continue Sunday until time for the service at Stotts-Phelps-McQueary Funeral Home.

Bro. Todd Smith and Bro. Nick Sparks will be officiating.

Pallbearers will be: Easton Ellis, Evan Fletcher, Wesley Fletcher, Ryan Burris, Thomas Cooper, Ellison Burris, and Jase Cooper. Honorary pallbearers will be: Barry Smith, Steven Fletcher, Jerry Collins, J D Grider, Doug Aaron, Randy Bennett, Ronnie Bennett, Kitt Cooper, Layne Fletcher, Lincoln Fletcher, Callan Burris and Terry Aaron.

Billy Fletcher will be remembered for his loving nature, strong work ethic, and the joy he brought to those around him. His legacy will live on through the family he cherished and the countless lives he touched throughout his lifetime.

Stotts-Phelps-McQueary Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.

Vickie Lynn Fisher

Vickie Lynn Fisher, 69, of Columbia, Kentucky, died Monday, March 2, 2026, at her home.

She was born February 3, 1957, in Cincinnati, Ohio, to the late Chalmer and Mary Humphries Fisher. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by three siblings.

Survivors include: one daughter, Letisha Paris (Gary Crawford) of Columbia; one brother, Jackie Fisher of Florida; one sister, Sherry Yancy of Florida; five grandchildren: Gary Crawford, II, Dalton Crawford, Jessica Crawford, Krissy Crawford, Katie Haley and seven great-grandchildren.



Ms. Fisher requested Cremation and the family will hold a Celebration of Her Life at a later date.

Grissom-Martin Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.



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

Douglas Vaughn Hadley

Douglas Vaughn Hadley, age 52, of Columbia, Kentucky, passed away on March 2, 2026, in Fairplay, Kentucky. Born on December 20, 1973, in Adair County, he was a devoted father, grandfather, and loving family member who touched the lives of many throughout his journey.

Douglas was a proud graduate of Adair County High School. From an early age, he professed his faith in Jesus Christ, a guiding force that shaped his character and the way he interacted with others. His strong belief in faith and family remained central to his life.

A man of many interests, Douglas found joy in hunting and cherished the moments spent in the company of his loved ones, particularly his beloved grandson, Bennett. He embraced family gatherings and created lasting memories that will be held dear by those who knew and loved him.

He is survived by his parents, Jerald Dwight and Catherine Hadley of Columbia, Kentucky; his son, Chase Hadley and his wife Danika of Jamestown, Kentucky; and his grandson, Bennett Hadley, along with a granddaughter on the way. Douglas is also remembered by his siblings, Emily Hadley Roach



and her husband Jason of Alabama, Ruth Ann Hadley, and Elizabeth Gail Hadley, both of Fairplay, Kentucky. In addition to his immediate family, Douglas leaves behind several nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles, and cousins, all of whom will carry his memory in their hearts.

In this time of sorrow, we celebrate Douglas's life, a life marked by love, faith, and passion for the great outdoors. He will be profoundly missed but will live on in the stories shared and the love that he cultivated among his family and friends.

In honoring Doug's wishes, cremation was chosen and no services are scheduled at this time.

Stotts-Phelps-McQueary Funeral Home in charge of the arrangements.

Industrial Growth and Recreation on the Radar at Brief Council Meetin

By Mig Feuser

The Columbia City Council wrapped up its regular meeting Monday night in record fashion, concluding business in just ten minutes — but not before taking action on zoning, mayoral compensation, long-range planning, street paving and future development projects.

Mayor Pamela Hoots called the meeting to order and quickly moved to the second reading of Ordinance 920.121, amending the Columbia zoning regulations and the official zoning districts map.

"This is the second reading of Ordinance 920.121, an ordinance amending the Columbia Zoning Regulations and Columbia Official Zoning District's map. All those in favor?" Hoots said. The measure passed unanimously.

Council members then heard the first reading of Ordinance 230.30(b), which amends Ordinance 230.30(a) establishing compensation for the office of mayor. "This is the first reading of Ordinance 230.30, parentheses B, amending Ordinance number 230.30A establishing compensation for the office of mayor," Hoots said. As a first reading, no vote was required.

The council also adopted an updated statement of goals and objectives for the Columbia Comprehensive Plan — a document intended to guide the city's growth and development. "It's not done every year," Hoots noted. City attorney Mike Harris explained the update was overdue. "It's supposed to be done every five. Ours has not been updated in many years," Harris said. "So the Planning and Zoning Board has [worked] with the Lake Cumberland Area Development District, and it is complete. So I just need a motion to adopt it." The council approved the update unanimously.

During mayor's announcements, Hoots outlined a list of streets proposed for spring paving: Parkway, Manor Drive, Sunny Hill Drive, Garrett Street, Hughes Street, part of Progress Drive, Pittman Street and Travis Street. She asked for permission to advertise for bids, which the council granted without opposition.

Hoots also updated the council on the former Synergy building property, noting that notice has been posted and the current occupants are scheduled to vacate by May 1. "We already have several interested parties, a lot from — some from out of county — that are very interested in this building," she said. "We will start the process there and we'll keep you all informed about everybody and everything so you'll know. But we will be starting that process. And I think it's going to be good. I think we'll have something good to go there."

Another topic drawing discussion was the possibility of developing a sports complex in Columbia. Hoots said several residents have approached City Hall about the idea. "There is no grants available for land," she explained. "There's various grants available for a sports complex. And I just wanted to ask and see what y'all's feeling was to send a letter to see if EDA would be willing to give us any type of land on the far side — not where they're developing — but on the other side where they're not developing, that we could possibly start a process there."

Hoots said the concept could include improvements at the Cloverleaf baseball fields, potentially adding an indoor basketball facility and a soccer field, reflecting growing interest in youth soccer within the community. She acknowledged the project would likely take several years to complete. Council members agreed to move forward with a request, approving the mayor's proposal to explore the option with the Economic Development Authority.

Following the meeting, Larry Walker, chairman of the Economic Development Authority of Adair County, provided an update on ongoing industrial development efforts on the south side of Columbia. "Mayor, the EDA is developing the south side," Walker said. "Since we do not receive money from the city, we have obtained grants from the state and matched them with funds the EDA received from the pipeline company in lieu of building a road across the pipeline right-of-way."

Walker said that over the past year, the EDA has constructed

an entrance from Hwy. 55 to the south access road, paved the southside access road and extended a water line to the more than 50-acre industrial site. Sewer service and a lift station had previously been installed. Grant funding was secured through the Kentucky Economic Development Finance Authority, with the goal of improving industrial sites and making them development-ready.

"We now have an attractive industrial park that should

enhance our efforts to recruit industrial prospects," Walker said. "The EDA has worked hard to get the park developed with all utilities in place."

Though brief, Monday night's meeting highlighted both routine city business and long-term planning — from updated zoning and comprehensive goals to paving projects, industrial recruitment and the early stages of a potential sports complex for Columbia's future.

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