

PLAN, CONTINUED FROM PAGE A2

While home values can go up and down, these increases show how property ownership can help build wealth over time.

One of the biggest benefits of owning a home is building equity. As homeowners make mortgage payments, they gradually reduce what they owe on their property. Over time, the home may also increase in value, adding to the owner's financial investment.

Unlike renting, where monthly payments go to a landlord, buying a home gives families the opportunity to work toward owning their property outright.

Real estate can also provide other opportunities. Some people purchase rental properties to earn extra income, while others invest in real estate without actually buying a home or building.

Of course, owning property comes with expenses. Property taxes, insurance, repairs and maintenance are all part of homeownership. Home values can also decrease, so buying property should always be a carefully considered decision.

For those thinking about purchasing a home, it is important to have a plan. Saving for a down payment, keeping debt under control, maintaining good credit and setting aside money for unexpected expenses can make homeownership more affordable.

It is also important to choose a home that fits comfortably within your budget rather than stretching your financ-

es too thin. Whether you already own a home, are thinking about buying your first one or are considering rental property, real estate can be one part of a strong financial plan.

Financial Planning Month is a good reminder that building financial security doesn't happen overnight. Making smart decisions today can help provide a more comfortable and secure future for you and your family.

Teaching Teenagers How to Manage Money

October is Financial Planning Month, and it's a good time to start teaching teenagers about money. Learning how to save and spend wisely at a young age can help them make better financial decisions as adults.

Whether teens earn money from a part-time job, receive an allowance or get money for birthdays and holidays, it's important to teach them how to manage what they have.

Here are a few simple tips parents and grandparents can use to help teenagers learn about money.

Start saving early. Encourage teens to save part of any money they receive. Even putting back \$5 or \$10 at a time can add up. Saving for something they really want, like a car or a special purchase, can help keep them motivated.

Teach them to budget. Help teenagers keep track of how much money they have com-

ing in and how much they spend. A simple notebook or an app on their phone can help them see where their money goes.

Explain wants and needs. There's a big difference between needing something and wanting something. Help teens understand that they don't have to buy everything they see, even if their friends have it.

Open a savings account. Take your teenager to a local bank or credit union and help them open a savings account. This gives them a chance to learn how banking works and watch their savings grow.

Talk about credit cards. Explain that credit cards aren't free money. Anything charged to a card has to be paid back, and interest can add up quickly if the balance isn't paid off.

Encourage them to earn money. Whether it's a part-time job, mowing yards, babysitting or doing odd jobs, earning their own money helps teenagers understand the value of a dollar.

Teach them to shop smart. Encourage teens to compare prices, look for sales and think before making a purchase. Sometimes waiting a few days can help them decide if they really want something.

Let them make mistakes. If a teenager spends all their money on something they later regret, don't rush to replace it. Use it as a chance to talk about making better choices next time.

Lead by example. Teenagers pay attention to how adults handle money. Let them see you saving, comparing prices and making decisions about purchases.

Teaching teenagers about money doesn't

have to be difficult. Everyday activities like grocery shopping, paying bills or saving for a family vacation can be good opportunities to talk about finances.

The most important thing is to start the conversation early.

Helping teenagers develop good money habits now can make a big difference when they're out on their own.

A little guidance today can help them build a stronger financial future tomorrow.

How Financially Prepared Are You? Take the Checklist Challenge!

My Financial Checklist



- ☐ Make a monthly budget
Know how much money comes in and where it goes.
- ☐ Build an emergency fund
Set aside money for unexpected bills, car repairs or medical expenses.
- ☐ Pay down debt
Work on reducing credit card balances and other high-interest debt.
- ☐ Save for retirement
Contribute to a 401(k), IRA or another retirement account if you can.
- ☐ Check your credit report
Look for mistakes and keep an eye on your credit.
- ☐ Review your insurance
Make sure your home, auto, health and life insurance fit your needs.
- ☐ Set savings goals
Plan for things like a home, vehicle, college or family vacation.
- ☐ Review your monthly bills
Look for subscriptions or services you no longer use.
- ☐ Plan for your family's future
Review beneficiaries, a will and other important documents.
- ☐ Talk to your family about money
Help children and teenagers learn to save and spend wisely.
- ☐ Keep important records organized
Know where to find insurance policies, financial accounts and other documents.
- ☐ Review your finances each year
Update your goals as your income, expenses and family needs change.

You don't have to have everything figured out to start making better financial decisions. Whether it's saving a little each week, paying off a credit card or planning for retirement, every step counts.

October is Financial Planning Month, but taking care of your finances should be something you think about all year long.

Start small, make a plan and stick with it. Your future self will thank you.

RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR THE FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF KSP TROOPER HAYDEN PHILLIPS

WHEREAS, Kentucky State Trooper Hayden Phillips passed away on Monday, September 28, 2026;

AND WHEREAS, law enforcement officers are charged with pursuing justice for all individuals; and performing the duties of a law enforcement officer with fidelity to the constitutional and civil rights of the public the officers serve;

AND WHEREAS, law enforcement officers swear an oath to uphold the public trust even though, through the performance of the duties of a law enforcement officer, the officers may become targets for senseless acts of violence;

AND WHEREAS, Trooper Phillips became such a target on September 28, slain in the line of duty;

AND WHEREAS, Trooper Phillips also previously served the Glasgow Police Department;

AND WHEREAS, Trooper Phillips' family are residents of Barren County, served by the Liberty Association of Baptists;

AND WHEREAS, Trooper Phillips' untimely passing causes a grief and burden to his survivors: for his family: his wife, Jordan, his three sons, Kason, Knox, Konnor, as well as mother Robin Phillips, and father Larry "Homer" Phillips, sister Heather Begley (Trooper Billy Begley), Nieces and Nephews: Bentley, John, Mia, Raley Grace, and for his many friends and colleagues in our area;

AND WHEREAS, Liberty Association of Baptists acknowledges that police officers and other law enforcement personnel, especially those who have made the ultimate sacrifice, should be remembered and honored;

AND WHEREAS, the churches of the Liberty Association of Baptists desire to express condolences and solemn appreciation to the family, loved ones and friends of Trooper Phillips and of each law enforcement officer who has made the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty;

NOW, BE IT RESOLVED in this, the 187th Annual Meeting of the churches of the Liberty Association of Baptists, gathered together at Poplar Spring Missionary Baptist Church on October 20, 2026, that we do hereby covenant together to pray for the family of Trooper Phillips; to support them in Christian sympathy as opportunity may arise, and to encourage the community at large to continue its support for both family and friends by openly publishing this resolution of support.

