

OPINIONS

The opinion page does not reflect the views of the KyNewsGroup.

Scripture of the Week

Romans 12:2 Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect. (NLT)



By Sherry Brown

May we say hello to 2026 on the Calendar of life. Have you thought of what this new year will bring your way? I would like to encourage all readers to embrace this new and exciting year with the joyous thoughts of God and His kingdom wonders of new hope and glorious love in the light of His holy promises that always reveals everlasting truths that carries the soul into glorious light and the eternal blessed hope and sweet assurance of Jesus Christ

Encouragement That Takes You Higher  
Happy 2026!

righteousness and eternal goodness that cannot be diminished or nullified by any human or powers of wickedness. The glorious and invaluable presence of God in the heart of His children is a remarkable desire of richness that should be pursued with every awakening breath to the point that surpasses anything else on planet earth. I pray 2026 for all readers marks a driven quest and powerful passion to know the great big God of the universe in this wonderful new year of new opportunities and wealthy discoveries. The Spirit realm is where life began for humanity and it is where eternity will be

lived out forever and ever more. Remember this Jesus Christ brings blessed hope and salvation, the Devil brings deceptions and destructions. Lamentations 3: 20 My soul hath them still in remembrance, and is humbled in me. 21 This I recall to my mind, therefore have I hope. 22 It is of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. 23 They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness. 24 The Lord is my portion, saith my soul; therefore will I hope in him. 25 The Lord is good unto them that wait for him, to

the soul that seeketh him. 26 It is good that a man should both hope and quietly wait for the salvation of the Lord. KJV. A new year filled with new beginnings brings a joyous wonderment filling the heart with unhindered hope and new searching for greater spiritual insight where Jesus Christ is the powerful beaming and all-consuming light that destroys the deceptions of Satan's blinding ways. When stepping into the righteous light of truth in 2026 I pray the sweet fellowship of God overtakes your heart with the resounding clarity of Heaven's pure ways and holiness will become your driven passion for righ-

teous living and always having a powerful testimony of the miraculous visitations of God's mighty presence and Jesus Christ salvation lifestyle in the force of daily revival burning powerfully in your heart. God loves you so deeply and He longs to shine brightly in all hearts through the miracle of salvation. What a glorious spiritual dedication to have and hold within your heart in 2026 as you embrace the newness of life in Jesus Christ and watch Him make all things new for you but especially inheriting His blissful kingdom in Spirit and in truth. Glory be to God. Isaiah 43:19 Behold, I will do a new thing; now it shall spring forth; shall ye not

know it? I will even make a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert. KJV. A new year with new things springing forth is a glorious place to be and experiencing the heart of God in the unfolding of every new day truly is an explosive place to be and having a healthy frame of mind in the foundation of Jesus Christ will set the heart ablaze for more glorious revelations in the Supernatural life and powerful Word of God. May His Holy Word be your driven passion in all of 2026. Jesus Christ wants to be the center of your life and the center of your joy in 2026. Happy New Year to all.



By Cecil Lawson



Photo by Cecil Lawson  
This journey took me up a hillside to discover the source of a spring.

Just before Christmas, with some time on my hands, I took a little jaunt down into a nameless holler. It was one of those unseasonably warm days we've had, so I only had on flannel shirt. I slipped and tripped on the way down until I hit flat ground around the creek at the bottom. It was mostly silent and gray overhead, no birds or critters visible at mid-day. The creek gets little to no sunlight in the winter, but it remains green with thick moss on the fallen, decaying trees and rocks. Instead of trying to maneuver over the deadfall and vines, I followed the dry limestone creek bed to the spring. I discovered the spring several weeks before, and on this day it was still gushing after a recent rain. I decided to make my journey to visit its source up the steep hillside. It was no easy going through

the vines, fallen trees, and loose rock, but the slow ascent was revealing. The stream would run at an incline for several yards, then flow over a rock shelf, creating a little waterfall. I find the sound of running water soothing, so I took several pauses to just sit and listen. Eventually I found myself amidst car-sized boulders, and the surrounding hillside was finally impossible to walk. The spring stream gushed at an even higher rate than below. I really couldn't travel any further

on foot. I shimmied myself over the rocks (if you can imagine someone my size shimmying), and I eventually found myself a relatively flat place to sit. The area was covered with thick vines and underbrush, and I couldn't further trace the spring, at least not without a machete – or a chainsaw. I was a few dozen yards from the top of the ridge, so I just enjoyed my seat and the view below me and across the holler. As I settled into silence, I heard crows

cawing to one another on the opposite ridge. A light breeze pushed through the holler. Instead of retracing my steps, I followed a path laid by our deer neighbors through a thick cedar forest. A slight shelf runs along that side of the holler, which the deer and other critters use. Cedar and other evergreens tend to dampen sounds, so it was a silent trip through the trees, which caressed and combed my arms and head, leaving needles

down my shirt and on top of my head. The cedars eventually thinned, and I emerged in a dense thick-et which soon led back to my entry point into the holler. The journey completed, I made my way back home. I feel fortunate once again to have a new stretch of countryside to explore. I miss the woods I grew up with, but there's always another new trail to find and follow.

Notice of Noncompliance

Pursuant to KRS 65A.040, the Kentucky Department for Local Government hereby gives public notice that as of December 2, 2025, Owingsville/Bath County Recreation, Tourism & Convention Commission is in violation of Kentucky Law for failure to comply with the reporting requirements of KRS 65A.020. The last known point of contact for Owingsville/Bath County Recreation, Tourism & Convention Commission is Kenny Williams, who may be reached at (606) 674-6361 and/or PO BOX 639 OWINGSVILLE, KY 40360. The last known Board Members are: Anthony Miller, Davey Moore, Tamela Porter, Kenny Williams, Ambie Kilburn, Barry Fryman, Randy Stull. The district was noncompliant with FY2023 - Audit Every 4 Years. The Auditor of Public Accounts has been notified and state funding for this entity will be withheld until further notice. Department for Local Government encourages this entity to comply with the law.

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY  
CLAUDETTE FAUDERE  
BATH COUNTY CIRCUIT CLERK

Notice of Final Settlements filed in Bath District Court:

NAME OF ESTATE: Lois Plymale  
NAME OF EXECUTOR/ADMINISTRATOR: Martha Chapman  
DATE FILED: 1/5/26  
Any exceptions to final settlements must be filed within 30 days from date said settlement was filed in Bath District Court.

NAME OF ESTATE: Winfred Ward  
NAME OF EXECUTOR/ADMINISTRATOR: Estill Joe Ward  
DATE FILED: 1/5/26  
Any exceptions to final settlements must be filed within 30 days from date said settlement was filed in Bath District Court.

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COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY  
CLAUDETTE FAUDERE  
BATH COUNTY CIRCUIT CLERK

Administration Has Been Granted by The District Court of Bath County Upon the Following Fiduciary Appointments:

DECEASED: Roger Watkins Sr.  
ADDRESS: 9198 Richlan Rd, Sharpsburg, KY 40374  
FIDUCIARY: Sarah Jones  
ADDRESS: 160 Walters Lane, Mt. Sterling, KY 40353  
DATE OF APPOINTMENT: 12/16/25  
CREDITORS MUST FILE CLAIMS BY: within 6 months  
ATTORNEY: Hon. Leah Hawkins  
ADDRESS: 40 Broadway Mt. Sterling, KY 40353

DECEASED: Ruth Hewitt Vice  
ADDRESS: 108 Smoot Drive, Owingsville, KY 40360  
FIDUCIARY: Matthew Vice  
ADDRESS: P.O. Box 213, Owingsville, KY 40360  
DATE OF APPOINTMENT: 12/16/25  
CREDITORS MUST FILE CLAIMS BY: within 6 months  
ATTORNEY: Hon. Paula Richardson Barber  
ADDRESS: P.O. Box 1169, Owingsville, KY 40360

DECEASED: Virginia Smith  
ADDRESS: 1512 Bethel Ridge Rd, Sharpsburg, KY 40374  
FIDUCIARY: Jacqueline Smith Watson  
ADDRESS: 9676 Veterans Memorial Hwy, Sharpsburg, KY 40374  
DATE OF APPOINTMENT: 12/16/25  
CREDITORS MUST FILE CLAIMS BY: within 6 months  
ATTORNEY: Hon. Kim Price  
ADDRESS: P.O. Box 1189, Owingsville, KY 40360

DECEASED: Michael Craig Downs  
ADDRESS: 10334 E. Hwy 36, Olympia, KY 40358  
FIDUCIARY: Thelma Joyce Downs  
ADDRESS: 10334 E. Hwy 36, Olympia, KY 40358  
DATE OF APPOINTMENT: 12/16/25  
CREDITORS MUST FILE CLAIMS BY: within 6 months  
ATTORNEY: Hon. Kim Hunt Price  
ADDRESS: P.O. Box 1189 Owingsville, KY 40360

DECEASED: William Barger  
ADDRESS: 54 Cleos Corner, Owingsville, KY 40360  
FIDUCIARY: Jennifer Barger  
ADDRESS: 54 Cleos Corner, Owingsville, KY 40360  
DATE OF APPOINTMENT: 12/02/25  
CREDITORS MUST FILE CLAIMS BY: within 6 months  
ATTORNEY: Pro-Se  
ADDRESS: N/A

DECEASED: Karen Gail Leach  
ADDRESS: 745 Nixon Rd., Sharpsburg, KY 40374  
FIDUCIARY: Alvin Leach  
ADDRESS: 745 Nixon Rd, Sharpsburg, KY 40374  
DATE OF APPOINTMENT: 12/02/25  
CREDITORS MUST FILE CLAIMS BY: within 6 months  
ATTORNEY: N/A  
ADDRESS: N/A

DECEASED: Kenneth Rose  
ADDRESS: 58 Goodpastor Rd., Salt Lick, KY 40371  
FIDUCIARY: Robert Dean Rose  
ADDRESS: 584 Old Mill Stream Lane, Shepherdsville, KY 40165  
DATE OF APPOINTMENT: 12/02/25  
CREDITORS MUST FILE CLAIMS BY: within 6 months  
ATTORNEY: Hon. Kim H. Price  
ADDRESS: 100 North Court St. P.O. Box 1189 Owingsville, KY 40360

DECEASED: Linda Sturdivant Combs  
ADDRESS: 347 Woods Lane, Salt Lick, KY 40371  
FIDUCIARY: Ambie Kilburn & Hillary Lewis  
ADDRESS: P.O. 356 Salt Lick, KY 40371 127 Lewis Ln., Salt Lick, KY 40371  
DATE OF APPOINTMENT: 12/09/25  
CREDITORS MUST FILE CLAIMS BY: within 6 months  
ATTORNEY: Ira Kilburn  
ADDRESS: P.O. Box 356, Salt Lick, KY 40371

NAME OF ESTATE OF MINOR: Elizabeth Corant  
ADDRESS: 36 W. Tunnel Hill, Owingsville, KY 40360  
NAME OF FIDUCIARY: Zachary & Jamie Corant  
ADDRESS: 36 W. Tunnel Hill Rd., Owingsville, KY 40360  
DATE OF APPOINTMENT: 12/16/25  
DATE OF CLAIMS TO BE FILED: Within 6 months  
NAME OF ATTORNEY: Hon. Miles Meehan, Mineer Vines Injury Lawyers, PLLC  
ADDRESS: 325 W. Main St. Suite 210, Lexington, KY 40507

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THE ROOFER

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Upcoming Auction Sun. Jan. 18th Ripley Appox 100 Guns

Winterfest

The Mt. Pisgah Church and Morehead Area Churches will host Winterfest at the Morehead Conference Center, January 19th – 23rd featuring Calvin Ray Evans, Brian Bauer, Mike Blanton and Evidence, The Yates Family and Garret and Kailee Fitch. Service time each evening will be 7:00 p.m. Questions, contact Tim Eldridge at (606) 776-3436. Everyone is welcome to attend. Pastor, Adam Cooper.

