

# OBITUARIES

## ESTHER C. SHETLER



E. Shetler and Martha C. (Hostetler) Shetler, maternal grandparents, Abe L. Miller and Amanda S. (Hershberger) Miller and maternal great-grandmother, Mary A. (Troyer) Miller.

Esther was preceded in death by one baby sister.

Services for Esther C. Shetler were held Monday, February 2, 2026, at 9:00 AM, at the home of Eli and Caroline Shetler.

Burial followed at the Slate Bend Amish Community Cemetery on Slate Bend Road in Owingsville.

The Michael R. Gray Funeral Home at 89 Slate Avenue in Owingsville cared for all the arrangements for Esther C. Shetler.

To view the online memorial and sign the guest book, please visit [www.mrgfh.com](http://www.mrgfh.com).

## JOYCE AMANDA JONES WILSON



Joyce Amanda Jones Wilson, 79, died Sunday, January 25, 2026, at Lexington Premier Nursing and Rehab in Lexington, KY. A proud native of Sharpsburg, KY, Joyce was born on October 30, 1946, to the late Smith “Buddy” Jones, Jr., and Mattie Florence Boyd Jones. Until her health failed, Joyce was an active and devoted member of Greater First Baptist Church, Sharpsburg, KY. She once served as a Junior Usher and was a member of the Missionary Society.

Joyce attended Bath County Schools and was later united in marriage to the late Thomas Wilson. Upon the passing of her sister, Phyllis Jones, Joyce and Tommy raised Phyllis’s two sons, Brian and Kevin Jones, as their own bonus sons. She was a homemaker for many years and was always in demand as a loving babysitter to many families in Sharpsburg, Mt. Sterling, and surrounding areas. After her husband’s death, Joyce moved to Lexington and worked as a nanny for many years.

In addition to her genuine love for children, Joyce was quite the diva who was always decked out in the latest colorful fashions, hairstyles, and jewelry. She was also an excellent cook and pastry chef known for her blackberry jam cakes, which

she often gave with love as prized Christmas gifts. Joyce’s considerable culinary skills resulted in her recipes being included in several local publications. Blessed with a pleasing personality, a great sense of humor, and the gift of gab, Joyce never met a stranger and was well-loved by her many special lifelong friends.

In addition to her parents and husband, Joyce was preceded in death by her sister, Phyllis Jones, brother-in-law Lewis J. Clemons, and bonus granddaughter Kiara Jones. She leaves a plethora of family and friends to cherish her memory, including her bonus sons, Brian Jones of Richmond, KY, and Kevin Jones of Carlisle, KY; brothers Charles “Smitty” Jones (Sue) of Nicholasville, KY; William “Billy” Jones (Jefello) of Dayton, OH; Robert “Bobby” Jones (Jennifer) of Lexington; and Quentin Jones of Lexington; sister-in-law Ruth Ann Clemons and special niece Theresa L. Clemons Bennefield (Samuel), both of Jacksonville, FL; and a bevy of bonus grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Joyce was also loved by a countless number of nieces, nephews, cousins, and dear friends.

Funeral services commence at 1:00 p.m. Saturday, February 7, at Greater First Baptist Church in Sharpsburg, KY, with visitation from 11:00 a.m. until time of service. Interment will be at Olive Hill Cemetery in Mt. Sterling. Arrangements are entrusted to Richardson Funeral Home in Owingsville, KY.

## MARY JO SWARTZ



Mary Jo Swartz, age 91, of Frenchburg, KY, went to the Lord Monday, January 26, 2026, at her home after an extended illness. Born October 29, 1934, in Frenchburg, KY, daughter of Moses and Bethel Terrell Ferrell. She was a devoted wife to Sam Swartz and a member of Bethel Baptist Church.

Mary Jo lived a life rooted in faith, love, and quiet devotion. A woman who deeply loved the Lord, she carried her faith into every part of her life, guiding her actions with grace and kindness. She retired from the Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services. Her family was her greatest joy, and she poured her heart into caring for them, always making space for laughter, comfort, and togetherness. Mary Jo was also deeply dedicated to supporting her husband in his service to Menifee County, standing faithfully beside him with strength, encouragement, and pride. An avid cook, she expressed her love through meals shared around the table, and as a devoted gardener, she found peace and purpose in nurturing growing things. Her legacy lives on in the faith she shared, the family she cherished, and the warmth she brought to all who knew her.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Mo-

ses and Bethel Ferrell; her husband, Sam Swartz; her son, James Norman Swartz; one sister, Phyllis Holland; and three brothers, Robert Ferrell, Gary Ferrell, and Marvin Ferrell.

Surviving are her daughter, Debbie Wells (Jerry), and her son, Tim Swartz (Lana), both of Frenchburg, KY. Four grandchildren, Sam Wells (Leigh), Toby Wells (Erin), and Drew Swartz (Paige), all of Frenchburg, KY, and Trey Swartz of Madison, WI. Seven great-grandchildren, Cali Wells, Maci Wells, Andi Wells, Emmi Wells, Carsyn Wells, Luke Wells, and Sunday Swartz, all of Frenchburg, KY; a sister, Barbara Lykins of Owingsville, KY, and many beloved family and friends. A special thank-you is extended to Stacey White and her care team for the love and care shown during Mary Jo’s illness.

Funeral services will be at 1:00 pm, Wednesday, February 4, 2026, at Menifee Home For Funerals with Bro. Tim Rhodes officiating. Interment in the Gibbs Cemetery, McCaussey Ridge, Frenchburg, KY. Visitation, 11:00 am, Wednesday, February 4, 2026, at Menifee Home For Funerals, Frenchburg, KY: Randy Halsey, Funeral Director.

Active pallbearers are Sam Wells, Toby Wells, Trey Swartz, Drew Swartz, Eddie Harris, and Larry Smallwood. Honorary pallbearers are Gary “Skip” Ferrell, Cody Wolf, Rick Smallwood, Marlene Wilson, and Brenda Noble.

In lieu of flowers, please send donations to the Menifee County Senior Center, 68 Old Campus Rd., Frenchburg, KY 40322.

### COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY BATH CIRCUIT COURT DIVISION II ACTION NO. 25-CI-90109

COMMUNITY TRUST BANK, INC.

PLAINTIFF

v. NOTICE OF COMMISSIONER'S SALE

TOY AUTO GROUP, ET AL

DEFENDANTS

By virtue of a Judgment and Order of Sale entered in Bath Circuit Court on November 19, 2025, to raise the sum of \$88,476.31, interest, fees, and the costs of sale, I will expose for sale to the highest and best bidder at the Courthouse door, in Owingsville, Bath County, Kentucky, on Saturday, February 7, 2026, at the hour of 12:00 p.m., the following described property: Property Address: 825 Main St., Sharpsburg, Ky 40374 PVA Map Number: 004-10-03-002.00

BEING THE SAME PROPERTY conveyed to Toy Auto Group, LLC, from James William Tapp and Charlene Fay Tapp, dated January 20, 2021, of record in Deed Book 253, Page 435, Bath County Clerk's Office. This property is sold subject to all real estate taxes, easements, and off-sales of record; and reference is hereby made to the office of the Bath County Clerk.

The terms of the sale shall be ten (10%) percent cash or check at the time of sale and the balance on credit of thirty (30) days with privilege of the successful bidder to pay in full at the time of sale. The successful bidder requesting credit must execute bond with approved surety bearing interest at the rate of twelve (12%) per annum from date of sale until paid, which bond shall have the full force and effect of a Judgment and should execution be issued thereon, no replevy shall be allowed. A lien shall exist and shall be retained by the Commissioner on the property sold as security for the purchase price.

/S/ Earl Rogers III  
Hon. Earl Rogers III, Master Commissioner  
Bath County  
Campbell, Rogers & Stacy, PLLC  
Attorneys at Law  
154 Flemingsburg Road  
Morehead, KY 40351  
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### COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY BATH CIRCUIT COURT DIVISION II ACTION NO. 25-CI-90118

KENTUCKY HOUSING CORPORATION

PLAINTIFF

v. NOTICE OF COMMISSIONER'S SALE

JOHN N. BACH III ET AL

DEFENDANTS

By virtue of a Judgment and Order of Sale entered in Bath Circuit Court on November 10, 2025, to raise the sum of \$226,274.47, interest, fees, and the costs of sale, I will expose for sale to the highest and best bidder at the Courthouse door, in Owingsville, Bath County, Kentucky, on Saturday, February 7, 2026, at the hour of 12:00 p.m., the following described property: Property Address: 3886 Stepstone Road, Owingsville, Ky 40360 PVA Map Number: 025-00-00-037.00

BEING THE SAME PROPERTY conveyed to John N. Bach, III and Devin L. Richards by Deed from Highley Properties, LLC, dated August 22, 2023, of record in Deed Book 261, Page 574, Bath County Clerk's Office.

This property is sold subject to all real estate taxes, easements, and off-sales of record; and reference is hereby made to the office of the Bath County Clerk.

The terms of the sale shall be ten (10%) percent cash or check at the time of sale and the balance on credit of thirty (30) days with privilege of the successful bidder to pay in full at the time of sale. The successful bidder requesting credit must execute bond with approved surety bearing interest at the rate of twelve (12%) per annum from date of sale until paid, which bond shall have the full force and effect of a Judgment and should execution be issued thereon, no replevy shall be allowed. A lien shall exist and shall be retained by the Commissioner on the property sold as security for the purchase price.

/S/ Earl Rogers III  
Hon. Earl Rogers III, Master Commissioner  
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### COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY BATH CIRCUIT COURT DIVISION I ACTION NO. 25-CI-90088

ROCKET MORTGAGE LLC FKA QUICKEN LOANS, LLC FKA QUICKEN LOANS, INC.

PLAINTIFF

v. NOTICE OF COMMISSIONER'S SALE

CHARLES A. BURTON, ET AL

DEFENDANTS

By virtue of a Judgment and Order of Sale entered in Bath Circuit Court on September 18, 2025, to raise the sum of \$159,068.70, interest, fees, and the costs of sale, I will expose for sale to the highest and best bidder at the Courthouse door, in Owingsville, Bath County, Kentucky, on Saturday, February 7, 2026, at the hour of 12:00 p.m., the following described property: Property Address:721 Swampy Hollow Rd., Owingsville, Ky 40360 PVA Map Number: 057-00-00-005.01

BEING THE SAME PROPERTY conveyed to Charles A. Burton by Deed from Adine H. Auerbach, dated March 26, 2018, of record in Deed Book 245, Page 642. This property is sold subject to all real estate taxes, easements, and off-sales of record; and reference is hereby made to the office of the Bath County Clerk.

The terms of the sale shall be ten (10%) percent cash or check at the time of sale and the balance on credit of thirty (30) days with privilege of the successful bidder to pay in full at the time of sale. The successful bidder requesting credit must execute bond with approved surety bearing interest at the rate of twelve (12%) per annum from date of sale until paid, which bond shall have the full force and effect of a Judgment and should execution be issued thereon, no replevy shall be allowed. A lien shall exist and shall be retained by the Commissioner on the property sold as security for the purchase price.

/S/ Earl Rogers III  
Hon. Earl Rogers III, Master Commissioner  
Bath County  
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### COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY BATH CIRCUIT COURT DIVISION II ACTION NO. 25-CI-90046

PEOPLES BANK OF KENTUCKY, INC.

PLAINTIFF

v. NOTICE OF COMMISSIONER'S SALE

BRYON R. BENTLEY, ET AL

DEFENDANTS

By virtue of a Judgment and Order of Sale entered in Bath Circuit Court on November 10, 2025, to raise the sum of \$108,881.13, interest, fees, and the costs of sale, I will expose for sale to the highest and best bidder at the Courthouse door, in Owingsville, Bath County, Kentucky, on Saturday, February 7, 2026, at the hour of 12:00 p.m., the following described property:

Property Address: 333 Old River Rd., Salt Lick, Ky 40371  
PVA Map Number: 181-00-00-013.04

BEING THE SAME PROPERTY conveyed to Bryon Bentley by Deed from Bryon Bentley as Executor of the Estate of Larry V. Bentley, dated August 12, 2009, of record in Deed Book 221, Page 707.

This property is sold subject to all real estate taxes, easements, and off-sales of record; and reference is hereby made to the office of the Bath County Clerk.

The terms of the sale shall be ten (10%) percent cash or check at the time of sale and the balance on credit of thirty (30) days with privilege of the successful bidder to pay in full at the time of sale. The successful bidder requesting credit must execute bond with approved surety bearing interest at the rate of twelve (12%) per annum from date of sale until paid, which bond shall have the full force and effect of a Judgment and should execution be issued thereon, no replevy shall be allowed. A lien shall exist and shall be retained by the Commissioner on the property sold as security for the purchase price.

/S/ Earl Rogers III  
Hon. Earl Rogers III, Master Commissioner  
Bath County  
Campbell, Rogers & Stacy, PLLC  
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