

Wira Graduates from University of Kentucky

Cecilia James Wira, daughter of Ellen Linville Wira and granddaughter of Ann Linville and the late Jim Linville of Bracken County, recently graduated from the University of Kentucky with a Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education and a minor in Criminology.



Throughout her four years at UK, Cecilia maintained a perfect 4.0 GPA. She served as a College of Education Student Ambassador for three years and held the position of Vice President of School and Community Partnerships, contributing to both campus life and the broader community.

Cecilia will begin her teaching career this fall at Brenda Cowan Elementary School in Lexington.

submitted

ACEHA to Host Open House/Museum Preview



Augusta College Echo Hall Association will host an open house and preview of the museum at Echo Hall on Saturday, July 4 from noon to 4 p.m. Historian James M. Prichard of Louisville will speak at 1 p.m. in Baker Hall, the main room at Echo Hall. Echo Hall is located at 205 Frankfort Street in Augusta. Prichard received his B.A. and M.A. in History at Wright State University in Dayton, Ohio. Following his tenure as Research Room Supervisor at the Kentucky Department of Libraries and Archives (1985-2008), he worked in the Special Collections Department at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville from 2013 to 2022.

In addition to writing the Frankfort Heritage Press book *Embatled Capital: Frankfort During the Civil War* (2014), he has contributed essays to the following scholarly works: *Virginia at War: 1863, Confederate Generals in the Western Theater volumes 2 and 4, Kentuckians in Gray, Kentucky Encyclopedia, The Encyclopedia of Louisville, Biographical Dictionary of the Union, Heidler's Encyclopedia of the American Civil War, The World Encyclopedia of Slavery, and Confederate Generals in the Western Theater*, as well as *Civil War Times, North and South, and True West* magazines.

The museum dedicated to Augusta's history is located in the north wing of the building. Echo Hall is one of the last remaining structures from historic Augusta College and was saved from demolition by a group of concerned citizens who met and formed ACEHA.

The event is free and open to the public.

submitted

Kentucky Summer EBT Available for Families

According to the group Feeding Kentucky, there are roughly 214,000 children (21.1% of the population) in Kentucky who are food insecure. Thankfully, each county has resources to provide assistance to those children, and school systems throughout the state play a key role in making sure they are fed.

Even though school is now out for the summer, there are additional programs in place to help make sure children have the meals they need. One of those programs is Kentucky Summer EBT. This federal program supports families who lose access to meals when school is out for the summer. It provides them with \$120 in extra grocery benefits. Many eligible children are automatically enrolled in Summer EBT through other programs they already participate in.

But, some eligible families will need to apply. Families can visit kysebt.ky.gov and help make sure their children receive the food they need this summer.

Meadowview Regional Medical Center Celebrates Dr. Rhonda Sims for Receiving SANE Award

Meadowview Regional Medical Center and Fleming County Hospital are proud to announce that Dr. Rhonda Sims, RN, DNP, MSN, MS, LNC, SANE-A/P, FN, VT, has been honored with the Fonetta A. Elam Award. Presented by the Kentucky Association of Sexual Assault Programs, this prestigious statewide award recognizes exemplary clinical supervision and mentorship for those working to address sexual violence.

Dr. Sims, who has served as a Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) and Forensic Nurse for Fleming County Hospital for 24 years and Meadowview Regional Medical Center for 20 years, was nominated anonymously for her tireless dedication to the field. The award was presented in a special



Pictured left to right are Rhonda Sims, RN, DNR, MSN and Lori Droege, Green Dot Coordinator.

ceremony in Frankfort, highlighting her role in training the next generation of forensic nurses now practicing across Northern Kentucky and Lexington.

Beyond her 24/7 on-call availability for the

ERs at both facilities, Dr. Sims is a recognized expert at the state level. She serves on multiple statewide committees and has authored essential policies for state and local law enforcement regarding sexual assault,

domestic violence, and strangulation assessment.

In addition to her clinical expertise, Dr. Sims provides a unique form of healing through her "canine therapy support" volunteer services. For over 12 years, Dr. Sims and her two Border Collies - certified through the Alliance of Therapy Dogs Inc. - have visited staff and patients at both MRMC and FCH, providing comfort and emotional support to the frontline healthcare teams and those in their care. "I am incredibly humbled to receive this award," said Dr. Sims. "Serving these communities for over two decades has been my life's work. Whether I am providing forensic examinations or walking the halls with my dogs, my goal has always been to support the health and safety of our neighbors and to ensure the nurses following in my footsteps are prepared to do the same."

submitted

Augusta Board of Education

Augusta Independent Board of Education met May 14, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. Board Members Present: Laura Bach, Matthew McCane, Chasity Saunders, Bob Snapp, and Mike Taylor.

The Board Meeting was called to order followed by the Pledge of Allegiance & Mission Statement.

Staff & Student Recognition: •Retirement of Mr. Rick Saunders, Bus Driver/Maintenance; •2026 MCTC Pathfinder of the Year Recipient, Mrs. Brandi Brewer, Guidance Counselor/Food Service Director; •Academic Achievers: Jasper Miller acceptance to the Governor's Scholar Program and Claire Elliott as an alternate. Hayden Taylor being selected to attend 2026 NCCEP/GEAR UP National Youth Leadership Summit in Washington, D.C.; •Amazing Shake Top 5 Winners: 1st Place - Delaney Kelsch (8th Grade), 2nd Place - Jase Holleran (7th Grade), 3rd Place - Benjamin Gill (8th Grade), 4th Place - Bethany Smith (8th Grade), 5th Place - Jay Bryant (5th Grade).

Items Reviewed by the Board with No Action Taken were: •Multipurpose Educational Gymnasium Facility Progress Update; •Principal's Report; •Superintendent's Report;

•Personnel; •Attendance; •Enrollment; •Citizens; •Board Members.

Items Approved by the Board were: •Approved Agenda; •Approved Monthly Budget Report; •Approved 2026-2027 Tentative Budget; •Approved 2026-2027 Salary Schedules; •Approved Purchase of New District Vehicle; •Approved First Reading Amendments to 03.1231 Certified and 03.2231 Classified Personal Leave Board Policies; •Approved Momentum Construction Pay Application; •Approved

Monthly Facilities Report; •Approved Business and Consent Items: Previous Meeting Minutes, 2025-2026 Amended Calendar, FY26 Audit Contract, 2026-2027 MCTC MOU Agreement, 2026-2027 KEDC Cooperative Membership Agreement, 2026-2027 School Activity Fund Principal's Combining Budget, Surplus Items, Trip Request, Bills, and Treasurer's Report; •Approved Adjournment.



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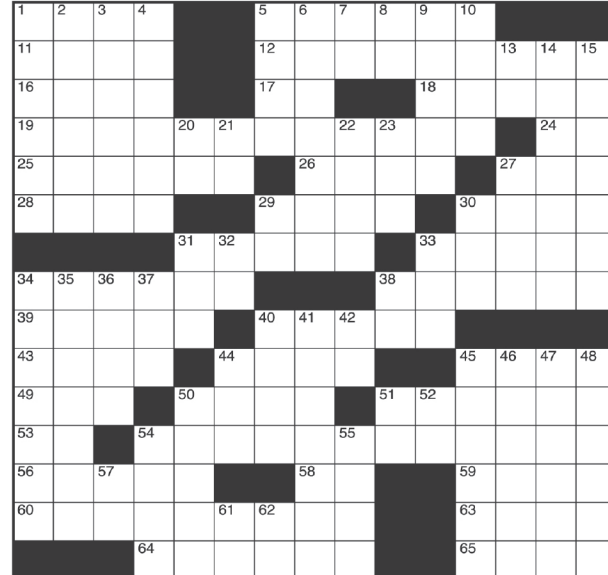
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June 25th Crossword Puzzle

CLUES ACROSS

- Egyptian bull-god
- A young canine
- Cologne
- Fictional British P.I.
- Midway between northeast and east
- A place to shop
- Minneapolis suburb
- Single lens reflex
- NY Mets great Tommie
- Informal loan clubs
- Habitual twitching
- Holm oak
- Willing to consent or submit
- In an early way
- Made possible
- Language in Ghana
- Relating to one's birth
- Deep-bodied fishes
- Defunct European currency
- Small American songbird
- One from L.A.
- After tenth
- Hillside
- Red deer
- Partner to "oohed"
- Indian musical pattern
- Israeli city __ Aviv
- Golden peas plant
- Breezed through
- Midway between east and southeast
- Frameworks
- Danish krone
- Fall back
- Influential Korean leader

CLUES DOWN



- Bridge building degree
- Expression of sorrow or pity
- Large, stocky lizard
- Turkish leader title
- Nag
- Blank
- Closely woven cotton fabric
- A nice shot in golf
- Away from wind
- Evergreen shrub genus
- Large African antelope
- Something you receive
- Satisfy
- Wet dirt
- No longer here
- Writing utensil
- Ribonucleic acid
- Consume food
- Licensed for Wall Street
- Alternative forms of a gene
- Buddy
- We all do it
- Chicken

- No seats available
- Yearned to possess
- Ineffectual
- Explosive
- Turkish title
- Worn near the foot
- Impatient
- Set an example for others
- Actor Pitt
- Instrument of torture
- Swiss river
- Grayish white
- A way to print
- Storied college hoops program
- Midway between south and southeast

Answers to 6/18/26 puzzle.





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