

Letter to the Editor

April: National Child Abuse Prevention Month
Breaking the cycle of child abuse starts earlier than we think

By: Paula Garner, CEO, Maryhurst

In Kentucky, more than 14 of every 1,000 children will suffer abuse each year, nearly double the national average.

Not long ago, a young child in one of our partner schools was on the verge of being expelled from kindergarten.

Those behaviors weren't just disruptions in the classroom. They were warning signs of trauma and possible abuse or neglect that could have been ignored until the situation became more serious.

It would have been easy to label her as a problem. It would have been easy to give up. Instead, someone made the intentional choice to step in.

Through Maryhurst's Renewal program, our team worked closely with that child and her family, helping them access support, build trust, and restore stability at home.

That moment may seem small on the surface, but it represents something powerful. It shows what happens when a child is seen, supported, and given a chance to succeed.

At Maryhurst, our Residential program cares for some of the most vulnerable young women in our community.

And they deserve a community that fights for them just as hard.

The consequences of unmet needs show up in ways that shake an entire community. There are always warning signs, opportunities to intervene earlier, and adults who can step in to change the outcome.

That's why prevention and early intervention are at the heart of everything we do. Maryhurst is proud to serve as a trusted partner in keeping children and families safe across our community and Commonwealth.

That kind of community support provides the foundation for prevention.

One of the most important lessons I've learned in more than three decades of this work is that children are incredibly resilient. Even after trauma that no child should endure, they continue to hope, try, and look for someone who will believe in them.

It's built through trusted relationships with adults and communities who show up, stay involved, and support children when they need it most.

And that brings me back to the young child I mentioned at the beginning of this story.

Today, she's no longer on the verge of being expelled. She's learning, growing, and building confidence in herself. She has support around her. She has stability at home. And she has a future that looks quite different than it did just a short time ago.

Adults paid attention. The community stepped in. Someone chose to act.

Will you join us in this work? You can make a difference by volunteering your time, advocating for children and families, or supporting the programs that help keep kids safe.

Learn more about how to get involved at Maryhurst.org.

(source: https://kyyouth.org/the-latest-child-maltreatment-report-shows-kentuckys-high-rate-of-victims-persists/)



Paula Garner

General Fund receipts and Road Fund receipts for March 2026

General Fund receipts increased 6.2 percent, year-to-date down 0.4 percent
Road Fund receipts increased 6.0 percent, year-to-date down 0.5 percent

The Office of State Budget Director reported today that March's General Fund receipts grew 6.2 percent compared to March of last year.

The March revenue growth is compared to March of 2025, which was when the initial implementation of the Department of Revenue's new information technology system went into production.

Due to the timing of the go-live date for the new system, a portion of March receipts were processed in the month of April; therefore, revenues were partially understated in March 2025 and slightly overstated in April 2025.

Total revenues for the month were \$1,128.8 million, compared to \$1,062.6 million during March 2025. Receipts have now fallen 0.4 percent for the first nine months of FY26.

For the just-completed quarter, total General Fund collections grew 0.2 percent. Growth rates for the first three quarters of FY26 were -2.8, 1.4 and 0.2 percent.

The official revenue estimate calls for a 1.3 percent decline in revenue for the fiscal year. To meet the estimate, receipts can decline 3.6 percent over the last three months of the year.

State Budget Director John Hicks remarked: "Total General Fund revenues collected in March were \$1,128.8 million, a sum that is consistent with the trend established in the previous four March revenue totals. Sales and use taxes had a strong showing with a 16.3 percent increase, with the recognition that last March receipts may have been slightly understated. A clearer view of the current state of General Fund revenues will emerge next month when March and April can be combined and compared to sum of the two months from 2025."

Among the major accounts:

Sales and use tax receipts rose 16.3 percent for the month and have grown 5.9 percent year-to-date.

Combined corporation income and LLET tax receipts fell 21.6 percent as growth in LLET collections offset a drop in corporation income tax revenue. For the year, collections in these accounts have decreased 42.9 percent.

Individual income tax collections rose 6.1 percent in March. The three major components of the tax - withholding, estimated payments and net returns all rose. Collections have grown 4.9 percent through the first nine months of FY26.

Property tax collections declined 22.0 percent for the month but have grown 0.9 percent year-to-date.

Cigarette tax receipts rose by \$13.3 million for the month and have increased 2.3 percent year-to-date. Increased cigarette sales may be impacted by a recent tax increase in a surrounding state.

Coal severance tax collections fell 17.6 percent in March with collections of \$6.1 million. Collections have decreased 1.3 percent through the first nine months of the fiscal year.

Income on investments fell with \$14.0 million posted in March 2026 compared to \$24.2 million in March 2025.

Road Fund receipts for March totaled \$151.7 million, a 6.0 percent increase compared to March 2025 levels. Year-to-date receipts have decreased 0.5 percent. Road Fund collections declined 2.0 percent in the just completed quarter after growing 0.1 percent and 0.3 percent in the first two quarters. The official Road Fund revenue estimate calls for revenues to decrease 1.0 percent for the fiscal year. Based on year-to-date tax collections, revenues can fall 2.4 percent for the remainder of FY26 and still meet the estimate.

Among the accounts, motor fuels rose 1.3 percent, motor vehicle usage revenue grew 18.8 percent, and license and privilege receipts decreased 1.0 percent.

PUBLIC NOTICES

Public Notice

Notice is hereby given that Sarah Dennis was appointed by the Clinton District Court on April 6, 2026 as Administratrix of the Estate of Jonathon Charles New, deceased. Any and all persons having claims against, or owing sums to, said estate are required to present same, properly proven and verified according to law, to the office of the Clerk, Clinton District Court, Albany, Kentucky and to: Sarah Dennis, 865 Highway 1808, Monticello, Kentucky 42633 or to Hon. Gary A. Little, Attorney at Law, P.O. Box 68, Albany, Kentucky 42602, within six (6) months from the above date.

Kentucky Fish and Wildlife hiring game wardens
Application period now open for 2026 recruit class

The Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources is currently accepting applications to fill game warden positions in multiple counties.

Applications will be accepted through May 7, 2026. Applicants must be 21 years old and possess a valid driver's license. The online application must be completed to be considered. To apply, visit the Game Warden Recruit posting on the Kentucky Personnel Cabinet Careers webpage on the department's website (personnel.ky.gov).

Those who meet initial screening criteria must next pass a physical fitness test, swimming test, oral interview, psychological and drug screen, polygraph, background review and medical evaluation to be considered for selection.

Applicants should frequently check their email, including junk mail folders after the job posting closes. An initial email to applicants will include important, time-sensitive information, and recipients will be required to respond by a specific date. Applicants will also be notified via email regarding the physical fitness and swim test scheduling.

Selected applicants not already Peace Officer Professional Standards (POPS) certified will undergo 20 weeks of basic training at the Department of Criminal Justice Training in Richmond. In addition to basic training, all selected applicants undergo another 14 weeks of training in the Kentucky Fish and Wildlife Academy before being placed with a field training officer for a final 12 weeks of on-the-job training.

Kentucky's game wardens are sworn law enforcement officers with statewide jurisdiction who enforce all laws of the commonwealth. Their primary mission is to enforce hunting, fishing and boating laws to help conserve Kentucky's fish and wildlife resources for present and future generations and to ensure public safety for the state and its waterways for all to enjoy.

New game wardens are expected to be assigned to the following counties upon completion of this year's academy: Allen, Barren, Bourbon, Breckinridge, Carter, Greenup, Henderson, Jefferson, Logan, Meade, Monroe and Morgan.

Fish, wildlife or boating violations can be reported to Kentucky Fish and Wildlife by calling 1-800-25-ALERT. In an emergency, or when there is an urgent need for law enforcement, calling 9-1-1 remains the best course of action.

Anonymous tips also can be made by texting "KFW-LAW" along with a message to 847411 (tip411), or through the KFWLaw app. The free app can be downloaded from the Apple iTunes App Store and Google Play Store.



Accepting applications for: Clinton Terrace Apartments
107 West Water Street
Albany, KY 42602
606-387-4212
62 years of age or older; Handicapped/Disabled regardless of age
1 Bedroom Apartments
Monthly rent based on adjusted family income
\$21 fee for credit and criminal background check
Specially designed for mobility impaired persons
Coin-operated laundry facilities on site
Income restrictions apply
TDD 1-800-648-6056 (Speech & Hearing Impaired)

Clinton County News
Covering Albany and Clinton County since 1949
www.clintonnews.net
116 North Washington St. - Albany, Kentucky 42602

Clinton County News
GROWING OUR COMMUNITY TOGETHER
Authentic Albany CLINTON COUNTY
Loyal to Local
SHOP ALBANY