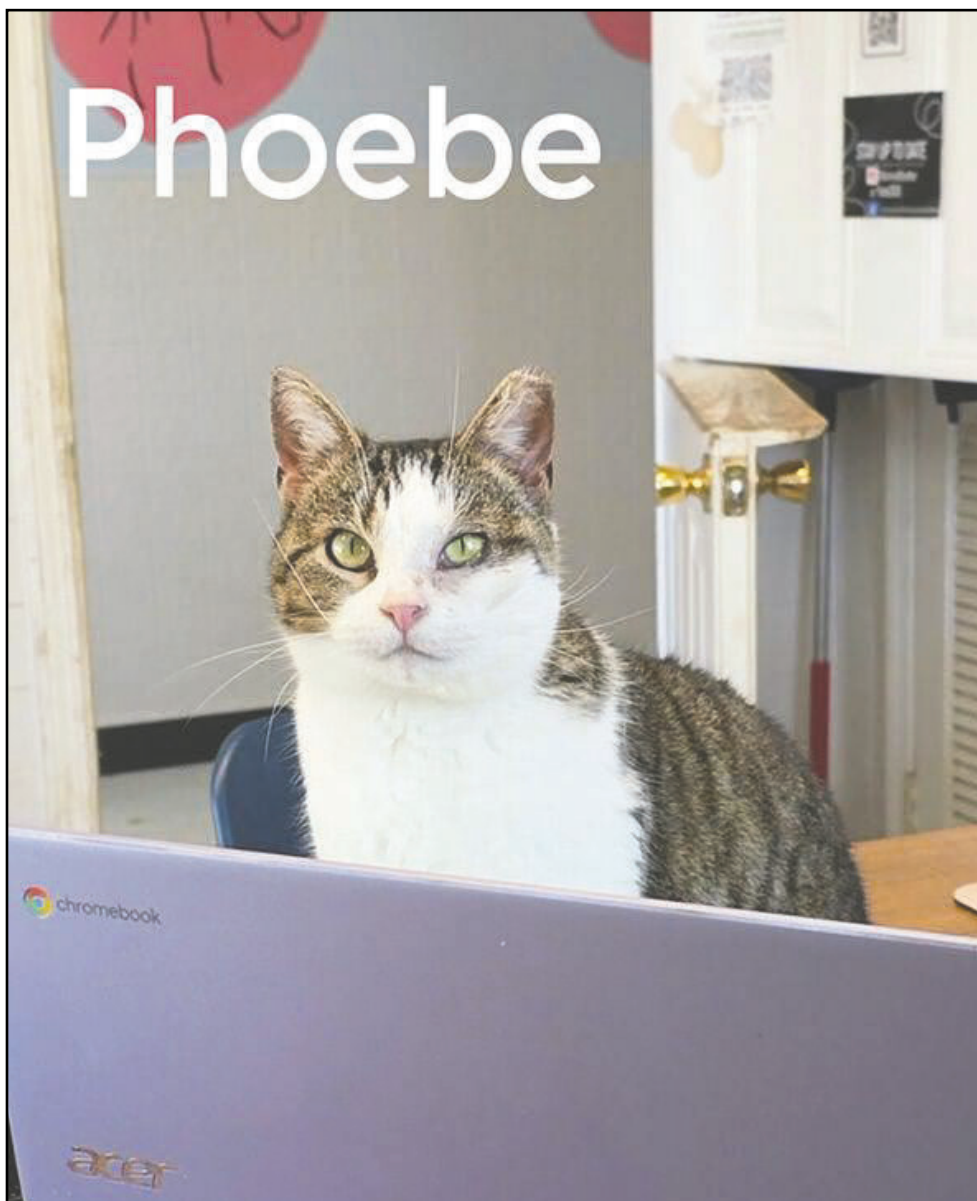


PLEAS FROM THE POUND



Mandy

Mandy is the total sweetheart package. At three years old and 50 pounds, this pit mix is friendly, loving, and ready for her forever family.



Phoebe

Say hello to Phoebe! At five years old, this sweet girl is all about cuddles, calm vibes, and endless love. She's ready to be the heart of her forever home!



Millie

This sweet, seven-month-old black kitty Millie is full of love and ready to find her forever home. She's gentle, playful, and can't wait to be your new snuggle buddy!



Koda

Koda is a handsome husky mix with striking blue eyes. At 53 pounds and four years old, he's ready to turn heads and find his forever family.

Julieanna Banks follows her dream

BY DEVON WILLIAMS
NEWS REPORTER

The revitalization of downtown Cynthiana continues as another small business will have its official ribbon-cutting Friday, April 17 at 6 p.m.

Following My Dream Shop, owned by the talented Julieanna Banks, will have its official opening the following day, Saturday, April 18 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The business will be in suite 4 on 120 S. Main St., known to locals as the 1812 building.

What's new to the Maiden City is not so new to outsiders ... Following My Dream Shop had its origin seven years ago in the city of Carlisle, just 16 miles east of Cynthiana. And owner Banks had been working her skills for years prior to that.

"I've been creative all my life," recalled Banks. "It's a God-given talent; I just picked it all up early."

Through the business, Banks works with her hands as a custom furniture artist who does custom furniture makeovers for customers looking for repair. She also does makeovers to flip and sell, with a designated gift-shop area. It's also a place for workshops, where Banks helps individuals to create memorable objects — mixed media painting pots, painting tennis shoes, making picture frames, barn quilt and custom sign workshops and all things creative.



Devon Williams

Following My Dream Shop will officially open this weekend.

In addition to the customs, there's a propagation plant exchange station at the shop where Banks explores her love for plant life.

"We wanted to share our plant love ... it's a bring one, take one and share the love kind of thing," explained Banks. "It's a wall set-up with propagated plant babies and you can bring in a plant baby from home, exchange it and take one home."

The sign above the door

says it all: creative workshops, custom painted furniture and handcrafted decor. And as Banks gave all credit to God, she sees the whole business through the lens of faith.

It's a family business, where Banks is helped by her husband Adam and mother Diane Morford.

"I'm really super excited to be a part of the Cynthiana small business community," exclaimed Banks.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

On Tuesday, April 7, the City of Cynthiana Board of Commissioners gathered for their first meeting of the month.

After a call to order and quick invocation, the meeting began with presentations by three separate visitors: Carla Fortner proposed a budget for the 2026 Witches Day Out; Phillip Kelley received funds of \$4,000 from the board for 2026 Bike Night; and the Harrison County Archery Team visited (LaVada Faulkner and Coach Jeff Fryman, Sarah Fryman and Cecil Hess) to give updates on their upcoming competitions (Nationals in May and KHSAA at the end of April) as well as talk about their juggernaut season.

After the three presentation, the meeting shifted to a quick discussion of legals with City Attorney John Lair.

LEGALS

The only matter to discuss in legals this week was the decision to suspend Jordan Fletcher for three days without pay for insubordination and unexcused absence effective April 13, 14 and 15. This was done after the board went into Executive Session to discuss employment of a

specific individual per KRS 61.610(1)(f).

MAYORS REPORT

-Mayor Isaac Dailey noted that House Bill 546 passed, which will help the city out and includes money for road repair, something desperately needed after a difficult winter season.

-Dailey also updated the board on some statistics on housing: 52% percent of Cynthiana is rent or occupied housing and 18% of housing in Cynthiana was built before 1939, above the state average. "So we have a stock of older homes here, and I'll just say a lot of rental properties. There's definitely a goal to prioritize redevelopment and preservation in our older homes and to continue vitalization downtown."

In regard to revitalization and development, Mayor Dailey stated that the city is looking to expand the population to 8,100 over a 20 year time frame. After his usual Virgie Report of recently attended meetings, Dailey shifted the meeting to the commissioners around him for their reports.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

-Commissioner Mark

Mattmiller of Public Finance made a motion to pay bills, which carried. He gave an update on money in the bank: In the bank, the General Fund balance is \$79,274, water and sewer \$321,197 and municipal road aid \$178,870.

-Commissioner Roger Slade of Fire Safety and Emergency Services made a motion to authorize to offer employment to an individual firefighter recruit, contingent upon successful completion of all pre-employment requirements, which passed. Slade made another motion to authorize to change job title of Randy Crawford from part-time telecommunicator to full-time telecommunicator, which passed.

-Commissioner David Conner of Public Utilities and Works made a motion to authorize to accept the resignation of Matthew Baker effective April 16, 2026, which carried. Conner made another motion to authorize to accept the resignation of Jimmy O'Hara effective April 3, 2026, which carried.

The next City of Cynthiana Board of Commissioners meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 21, at the Board of Education office.

WEEKEND

FROM PAGE A1

big comedic moments and a studio backdrop. Concessions will be offered by the HCHS

culinary students to make people comfortable. There will also be a photo-op area for audience members to take memorable pictures.

Tickets are \$12 at the door. Shows are Friday, April 17, and Saturday, April 18, at 7 p.m. and Sunday, April 19, at 3 p.m.



PAXTON MEDIA GROUP
101 East Pike Street,
2nd floor
Cynthiana, KY 41031

Periodical postage paid at Cynthiana, KY Post Office

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: Cynthiana Publishing Co., 101 East Pike Street, 2nd floor Cynthiana, KY 41031.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES:

Digital one year in-county subscription \$25.44
Digital one year out-of-county subscription \$45
In-county one year subscription (print and digital): \$44.51
Out-of-county one year subscription (print and digital): \$85.00
EZ Pay rates differ.

NSPS-141-440 Published every Thursday and Friday at The Cynthiana Democrat

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Cynthiana Democrat welcomes letters to the editor.

Letters must be signed & include

- a daytime phone number for confirmation.
- Unconfirmed letters will not be published.
- Unsigned letters will not be published.
- Phone numbers are not published.
- We reserve the right to deny publication of letters and to edit letters for brevity and style.
- Letters should be limited to 300 words.

The deadline for letters to the editor is 5 p.m. Monday.

Send letters to:

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101 East Pike Street, 2nd floor, Cynthiana, KY 41031

Letters may also be emailed to bsmith@cynthianademocrat.com. However, if email is used, the sender should call 859-234-1035 to confirm that the letter was received.

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