Haleigh's Door

From Front

home, blending Gayheart's enthusiasm for Kentucky basketball with the accessibility improvements made for his daughter.

One particularly remarkable detail of the painting involved Kentucky's 2012 national basketball championship.

According to the story shared by Ethan Lamb, Pearson included the year 2012 in the artwork before the Wildcats had actually secured the national title.

Gayheart reportedly questioned the decision, jokingly asking the artist, "What if we don't win it?"

Kentucky ultimately captured the 2012 NCAA men's basketball championship under head coach John Calipari, defeating Kansas 67-59 in the championship game. The victory gave the Wildcats their eighth national title and added another layer of significance to the artwork.

Over time, the painted entrance became known throughout the family as "Haleigh's Door."

Its unusual combination of Kentucky basketball history and a family's determination to accommodate a child with special needs reportedly attracted television news coverage.

But the door's greatest importance was never its artwork or connection to a championship season.

It was the daughter whose needs had prompted its installation.

The Gayheart family endured devastating losses in the years that followed. Haleigh died in 2018, and the family lost their son in 2020.

Those tragedies transformed the meaning of the door even further. What had originally been a practical home modification became a treasured reminder of Haleigh and the years the family spent together.

When the time eventually came for Gayheart to move, he made one condition clear to the new homeowners: the door would not remain with the house.

For him, leaving it behind was never an option.

The door represented a connection to his daughter, preserving memories of the family's home and the effort made to ensure Haleigh could navigate it safely.

Eventually, Gayheart visited Ethan's Sports Cards & More and realized the shop could provide a fitting new home for the cherished piece.

The business, which deals in sports cards and memorabilia, recently purchased the door from him after learning about its history.

Rather than treating the artwork simply as another collectible, the shop decided to display it where customers could appreciate both its appearance and the story behind it.

The arrangement also created an opportunity for the door to become part of a new chapter in Kentucky basketball memorabilia.

Former University of Kentucky players who visit the shop have begun adding their signatures to the artwork, creating a growing collection of autographs on a piece that already carries considerable sentimental value.

For Gayheart, seeing the door displayed publicly and signed by former Wildcats has brought comfort.

According to the shop, he expressed how meaningful it was to know that others could see and appreciate the door that had once been part of his family's daily life.

"So now you have a special piece of my little girl, Haleigh's Door," Gayheart told the business.

Those words left a lasting impression on the shop's owners, who shared the story publicly to explain why the door holds such an important place in their collection.

In its announcement, Ethan's Sports Cards & More expressed gratitude to Gayheart for trusting the business with something so personal.

The shop also emphasized that every new autograph added to the artwork makes its story even more meaningful, connecting the family's memories with the continuing history of Kentucky basketball.

The door's journey illustrates how an everyday household feature can become an irreplaceable family keepsake.

What began as an effort to provide Haleigh with greater accessibility eventually became a symbol of her father's devotion. The hand-painted Wildcats imagery gave the door a distinctive identity, while the family's experiences gave it an emotional significance that cannot be measured in dollars.

Its connection to Kentucky's 2012 championship provides an additional historical element, particularly because the year was reportedly painted before the Wildcats claimed the title.

Now, as former Kentucky players continue to sign the door, the piece is developing a new legacy without losing the meaning behind its creation.

For customers visiting Ethan's Sports Cards & More, the artwork offers an opportunity to see an unusual piece of Wildcats memorabilia. For those who know its history, however, it represents something considerably greater.

It tells the story of a father who adapted his home for his daughter, an artist who helped turn a necessary modification into a celebration of Kentucky basketball, and a family that experienced profound loss.

Most importantly, it preserves the memory of Haleigh.

The shop has pledged to cherish the door and continue displaying it for visitors, ensuring that the story behind the artwork remains part of its identity.

As Lamb explained, the piece will forever be known by the name it received in the Gayheart family home.

Haleigh's Door.

And while its surface may continue to fill with the signatures of Kentucky basketball players, its most meaningful legacy will always be the little girl who inspired its creation.



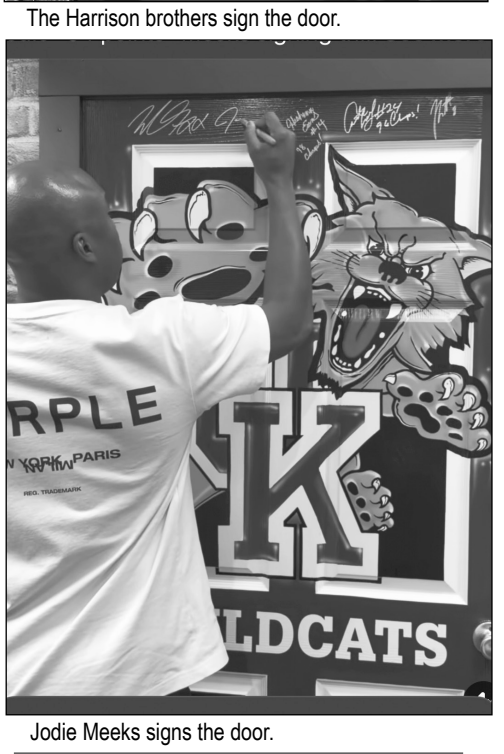
Willie Cauley-Stein signs the door.



Khalil Whitney was the first former UK player to sign the door.



The Harrison brothers sign the door.



Jodie Meeks signs the door.



Walter McCarty signs the door.



Antoine Walker signs the door.

Meet the Lions

From Front

portunity for the community to become familiar with this season's players while showing support for the student-athletes representing their school. Both the boys and girls teams will be featured during the evening, giving supporters a preview of the talent and enthusiasm surrounding the basketball programs.

As preparations continue for the upcoming season, the event will also serve as an opportunity to bring students, families and fans together in support of the Lions and Lady Lions.

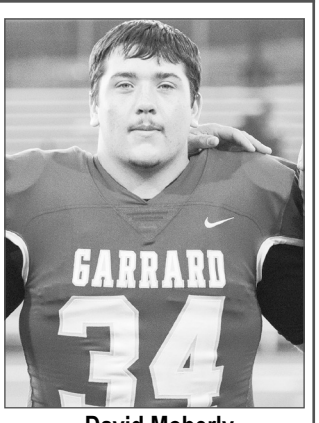
Community members are encouraged to attend Friday's event and help welcome both teams to the court as they look ahead to the 2026–2027 basketball season.

Garrard County High School

Athletes of the Week



Ryan Noe
Football



David Moberly
Football

Garrard County High School

SPORTS SCHEDULE

Week of November 19th - November 27th, 2026

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Nov. 20	Meet The Lions	H	7:00 p.m.
Nov. 24	Lexington Catholic High School	H	7:30 p.m.
Dec. 1	Thomas Nelson High School	A	7:30 p.m.
Dec. 4	Bryan Station High School	H	7:30 p.m.
Dec. 5	McCreary Central High School	H	4:30 p.m.

BOYS BASKETBALL

Nov. 19	Casey County High School	A	7:30 p.m.
Nov. 23	Pulaski County High School	A	7:30 p.m.
Dec. 1	Washington County High School	A	7:30 p.m.
Dec. 4	Wayne County High School	A	7:30 p.m.
Dec. 8	Somerset Christian School	A	7:30 p.m.

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Commonwealth of Kentucky, Garrard District Court - Probate No. 26-P-00111, Notice to Creditors In Re: Estate of Katherine Sowder, Deceased

Notice is hereby given that by order of the Garrard District Court, Lancaster, KY in probate number 26-P-00111 dated October 19, 2026, Amber Sowder was appointed Executor of the estate of Katherine Sowder.

All claims against the estate of Katherine Sowder, deceased, must be presented to Amber Sowder, 2111 Jessamine Station Road, Wilmore, KY 40390, Executor of the Estate of Katherine Sowder or to the Attorney Johnny O. Bolton, P.O. Box 611, Lancaster, KY 40444 within 6 months after October 13, 2026.

/s/Bethany Denny
Circuit Clerk
Garrard District Court
Garrard Justice Center
54 Stanford Street
Lancaster, KY 40444

Commonwealth of Kentucky, Garrard District Court - Probate No. 26-P-00112, Notice to Creditors In Re: Estate of Ronald Jason Watkins, Deceased

Notice is hereby given that by order of the Garrard District Court, Lancaster, KY in probate number 26-P-00112 dated October 5, 2026, Barbara Watkins was appointed Administrator of the estate of Ronald Jason Watkins.

All claims against the estate of Ronald Jason Watkins, deceased, must be presented to Barbara Watkins, 202 Doty Heights, Apt. D-1, Lancaster, KY 40444, Administrator of the Estate of Ronald Jason Watkins within 6 months after October 5, 2026.

/s/Bethany Denny
Circuit Clerk
Garrard District Court
Garrard Justice Center
54 Stanford Street
Lancaster, KY 40444

On November 9, 2026 Judge Bill Oliver approved the tendered settlement of the Estate of Michael Hounshell for advertising. The advertisement will be published and the settlement will come on for hearing for final acceptance on December 10, 2026 at 1 p.m.

On November 13, 2026 Judge Bill Oliver approved the tendered settlement of the Estate of David Baker for advertising. The advertisement will be published and the settlement will come on for hearing for final acceptance on January 7, 2027 at 1 p.m.

POSTED

We positively will not permit fixed hunting of any character, fishing, dogs or trespassing on our farms/ properties.

Any violations will be prosecuted.

First Property Listing $2.00 per week or $51 per year for posted list.

Addition Property Listings $1.00 per week or $10.00 per year

- David Walton, 10 acres at 580 Ross Road
- Sutton Farm, Ledford Lane
- Duncantown Cemetery, Waterworks Road
- Sam Bass Farm, 482 Leavell Ridge Road
- Michael & Dana Carrier, 2539 Kelly Ridge Road
- Danny & Judy Browning's property at end of Conn's Lane
- Carolyn Sparks property at 5252 Lexington Road
- Paul Black Farms, Hwy. 1355 (Sugar Creek Road)
- Paul And Suzanne Wells at 4129 White Lick Road, Paint Lick
- Tammy Fowler, 749 Nina Ridge Road
- Mike and Pam Fathergill, 111 Lynnwood Drive
- Chris and Joy Fathergill, 317 Richmond Street
- Mary Alice (Paul) Drew, 810 Carry Nation Road Property
- Kathy Tuggle & Paula Tudor - Jim Clark Road
- David M. and Rose Walker, 1163 Wolf Trail Road
- The Kenton Property, 795 and 719 C Valley Drive, Berea
- Grover Drew Farm, Carry Nation Road.
- Doug and Anna Graves, 319 Richmond Road, Loop 2
- The Brenda Farms, 4870 Harmons Lick Rd & Hamilton Valley Rd
- Vockery property on Polly's Bend Road
- Hugh and Amy Johnson, 6198 Lexington Road
- Dale Marie Hellard - Barbara French & William Randall Causey Farms at 2178 Hamilton Valley Road, 2636 Hamilton Valley Road And 1454 Hamilton Valley Road
- Frank and Altheia Rice, 390 Leavell Ridge Road, 372 Leavell Ridge Road and Rice Farm at Three Forks,
- Norma McFadden Property, 9700 Nicholasville Road
- Deborah Kelly property at 472 Hobert Estes Road