

# GRAYSON COUNTY NEWS



## SPORTS

COUGAR TENNIS ENJOYS STRONG START TO REGION TOURNEY

Page B1

\$2 • VOLUME 145 ISSUE 19

GRAYSON COUNTY'S FULL-COVERAGE COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

# GCHS graduation policy to remain unchanged for 2026

BY MATT LASLEY  
GRAYSON COUNTY NEWS

After hearing from more than a dozen speakers regarding whether to change the school district's high school graduation policy ahead of this year's ceremonies, the Grayson County School Board proposed updating the policy starting with the 2026-2027 school year, leaving the Class of 2026 Grayson County High School (GCHS) commencement unaffected.

The school board's current graduation policy states that only students who attend and complete all 12 trimesters of coursework are permitted to walk the main graduation line.

However, during a special-called meeting Thursday, April 30, the school board proposed changing the policy beginning with the 2026-2027 school year to say that students would be "expected" to complete 12 full trimesters, but students who complete all Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) and board graduation requirements may be permitted to participate in traditional commencement ceremonies regardless of whether they completed these requirements early. Those requirements would be to complete 26 mandatory credits.

Recently, a survey was circulated among the class of 2026 asking if they would be in favor of allowing early graduates to participate in the

traditional graduation ceremony, which will be held Friday, May 29 at 7 p.m. A separate ceremony for early graduates is scheduled for Sunday, May 31 at 3 p.m.

At last Thursday's meeting, speakers were invited to share their opinions on the matter, and 14 signed up to do so. Of those 14, nine spoke against changing the policy and five spoke in favor of changing it.

The first speaker, current GCHS senior Maryn Evans, said she responded to the survey in favor of allowing early graduates to participate.

"12 years — this diploma, which they have already earned and we

SEE GCHS/PAGE A3



Matt Lasley | Grayson County News

Grayson County High School Assistant Principal Tannan Pohlman speaks against changing the district's graduation policy during last Thursday's special called school board meeting.



Matt Lasley | Grayson County News

Jimmy Johnston displays some of the plants he purchased at this year's Plant Fair & Spring Fling.



Matt Lasley | Grayson County News

Members of the Grayson Springs DAR chapter greet a visitor to their booth during Saturday's Plant Fair & Spring Fling. Their backdrop commemorating America 250 was designed by DAR member Melinda Baum.

# Master Gardeners ring in spring with 17th Plant Fair

BY MATT LASLEY  
GRAYSON COUNTY NEWS

The Master Gardener Association of Grayson County celebrated the season with its 17th annual Plant Fair & Spring Fling, held this past Saturday at the

Grayson County Cooperative Extension Service.

38 flower, craft, and food vendors set up to showcase their wares for a large crowd at the event, which takes place every year on the first Saturday in May.

"It just brings everybody here to

get ready for spring," said Master Gardener Association Treasurer Leanne Clemons.

The Master Gardener program is a volunteer management and outreach program of the Grayson County

SEE PLANT/PAGE A3

# Leitchfield adopts panhandling, solicitation ordinance

BY MATT LASLEY  
GRAYSON COUNTY NEWS

The Leitchfield City Council on Monday held and approved the second and final reading of its ordinance regulating panhandling, begging, charitable and political solicitation.

Leitchfield City Attorney Earlene Wilson provided the second reading of the ordinance during the city council's regular meeting Monday evening.

To address safety concerns, the ordinance will restrict several activities related to panhandling, including aggressive panhandling; panhandling within 20 feet of areas with heightened personal security concerns, such as public parking, access to building entrances, public events, venues, public accommodations, or commercial businesses;

panhandling within 20 feet of areas with personal privacy concerns, such as automated teller machines or financial institutions, school buildings or playgrounds, entrances to public restrooms, or on private or residential property after first being asked to refrain from panhandling or solicitation by the property owner; and panhandling in areas with heightened public safety concerns, such as the traffic or travel lane of

any public street, highway, or interstate.

Passive panhandling, begging, charitable and political solicitation would be permitted in areas of sidewalks and other areas not prohibited by the ordinance.

Those found guilty of violating the ordinance may be fined up to \$250 for each day of violation.

In other business, the city council:

- Received an update from Planning/Zoning Administrator Tyler Harrell regarding the comprehensive plan, for which a public hearing was held last month. At the hearing, the Planning Commission approved sending the recommended plan to the city council. Harrell recommended taking no action Monday to allow the council members time to review the plan.
- Held the first reading of a telecommunications ordinance creating a 10-year franchise agreement with Unity.
- Voted to declare two 2014 Dodge Chargers, three computer monitors, and three cameras owned by the Leitchfield Police Department (LPD) as surplus.
- Authorized the LPD to apply for a mini-grant through Owensboro Health Twin Lakes Medical Center for AED purchases.

# 4-H livestock returning to Grayson County Fair

BY GRAYSON COUNTY NEWS

The Grayson County Fair Board this week announced the return of 4-H livestock to the Grayson County Fair for the first time in more than 25 years.

The addition marks a renewed commitment to celebrating agriculture and educating the community about its vital role in everyday life, officials said in a press release.

On Saturday, Sept. 5, local 4-H youth livestock exhibitors will showcase their animals in the livestock barn near the pavilion. Fairgoers are invited to visit

SEE 4-H/PAGE A3



Submitted

Luke Taylor and his family at the 2025 National Junior Santa Gertrudis Show in Oklahoma.



## OBITUARIES

Mary Patricia "Patsy" Scott  
Charles Douglas Sheroan  
Paul W. Witten

A4

## GET SOCIAL

What's your take on today's news? Go to [gcnewsgazette.com](http://gcnewsgazette.com) and visit us on Facebook to share your thoughts.

## WHAT'S INSIDE

CLASSIFIEDS B5  
FAITH B4  
EDITORIAL A5  
SPORTS B1



## WEATHER

HIGH, 75  
LOW, 54  
Partly Cloudy

TWO YEARS IN A ROW!

# One of America's Top 100 Rural Hospitals



RURAL & COMMUNITY  
TOP HOSPITAL 2026  
CHARTIS



Owensboro Health  
Twin Lakes Medical Center