

OBITUARIES



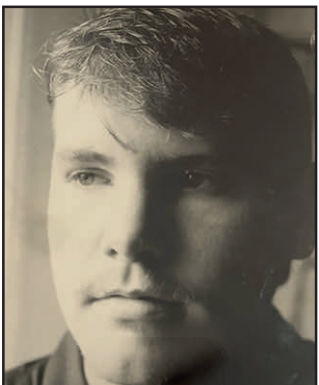
SANDRA BROWN
Sandra Hart Brown, 73, widow of Ronald Lee Brown, died Sunday, July 26, 2026, at the Ephraim McDowell Regional Medical Center.
Born June 13, 1953 in Norfolk, Virginia, she was the daughter of the late Jack and Juanita Hart.
She was of the Christian faith and a homemaker.
Survivors include: brother-in-law and sister-in-law, Doug and Judy Bagan of Harrodsburg.

No services are planned at this time. Burial will be at a later date in Woodlawn Cemetery in Norfolk, Virginia.
Alexander & Royalty Funeral Home, Inc. and Cremation Services are in charge of arrangements.



BETTY CARROLL
Betty Sanders Carroll, 85, wife of William Carroll, died Tuesday, July 21, 2026, at her residence.
Born May 9, 1941, in Harrodsburg, she was the daughter of the late Stanley Harvey and Lucille Price Sanders.
She was a member of Shakertown Baptist Church and a seamstress.
Survivors, in addition to her husband, include: three daughters, Terry (Kelly) Wasson of Burgin, Jeanie (Joe) Smith of Harrodsburg and Sharon Burton of Burgin; one son, Scott Carroll of Harrodsburg; one sister, Charlotte Jernigan of Winchester; 13 grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren with two soon to be born and several nieces and nephews.
She was preceded in death by one sister, Juanita Barkley.

Funeral services were held Wednesday, July 29, at the Alexander & Royalty Funeral Home Inc. and Cremation Services with Bro. Joe Smith officiating. Burial was in the Spring Hill Cemetery.
Pallbearers were Eric Masters, Josh Smith, Isaiah Smith, Ezra Smith, Malachi Quinn and Chase Hale. Honorary pallbearers were Levi Hale, Marsha Lyons, Betty White and Kage Quinn.



LONNIE CORNISH
Lonnie G. Cornish Jr., 52, died Wednesday, July 22, 2026, at the Mercy Health Clermont Hospital in Batavia, Ohio.
Born May 17, 1974, in Harrodsburg he was the son of the late Lonnie G. Cornish Sr. and the late Eugenia Carol Yocum Rogers.
He was a former Hitachi Security Guard.
Survivors include: step mother, Terry Cornish; two brothers, John (Tiffany) Rogers of Harrodsburg and Leslie Kain Rogers of Wellston, Ohio; three sisters, Lisa Cornish of Frankfort, Dena Cornish and Glenda (Chad) Gingrich of Elizabethtown and several nieces and nephews.
Graveside services will be held 11 a.m., Friday, Aug. 28, at the Ebenezer Church of Christ Cemetery.
Alexander & Royalty Funeral Home, Inc. and Cremation Services in charge of arrangements.



JOHN HELM
John Robert Helm, 76, husband of Rosemary (Bunnell) Helm, of Harrodsburg, hus-

band of Rosemary Bunnell Helm, died Wednesday, July 22, 2026, at the UK Medical Center in Lexington.
Born May 12, 1950, in Russell Springs, he was the son of the late James Henry and Hazel Lowvenia (De-feet) Helm.
He was a retired Kentucky Utilities EW Brown Plant employee and was a deacon and member of the Burgin Christian Church.
Survivors, in addition to his wife, include: one daughter, Wendy Helm (Leon) Benham of Harrodsburg; one son, Johnathan Michael Helm of Louisville; two brothers, James Henry (Teresa) Helm Sr. of Richmond and Roger Dean (LuAnn) Helm of Lexington; two sisters-in-law, Betty Steele of Michigan and Tina Prather of Harrodsburg; one grandchild; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by one sister, Susan Helm Young; two brothers-in-law, Jim Miller and Don Steele and one sister-in-law, Anne Miller.
Funeral services were held Monday, July 27, at the Ransdell Funeral Chapel with John Powell officiating. Burial will be held later in Camp Nelson National Cemetery in Nicholasville.
Memorial contributions are suggested to the Alzheimer's Association, 2808 Palumbo Drive, Ste. 205, Lexington, KY 40509.
Expressions of sympathy may be sent to the family at www.ransdellfuneralchapel.com.



KIRK HEMBREE
Arthur Kirk Hembree, 56, died Saturday, July 25, 2026, at his home.
Born July 4, 1970, in Somerset, he was the son of Arthur Clarence Hembree of Harrodsburg and the late Lorene Lay Hembree.
He was the owner of a detailing shop, the Car Wash and was a member of Burgin Baptist Church.

Survivors, in addition to his father, include: one son, Tyler (Magen) Hembree of Lawrenceburg; one sister, Trina (Jeff) Sheets of Lexington; and two grandchildren.
Funeral services were held Wednesday, July 29, at Salvisa Baptist Church with Dr. Jason Clark officiating. Burial was in Spring Hill Cemetery.
Pallbearers were Chris Huff, Hadden Dean, Lamont Linton, Greg Lay, Randy Payne and Chris Hembree.
Alexander & Royalty Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.
Expressions of sympathy may be sent to the family at www.alexanderandroyalty.com.



DONNA MCKENZIE
Donna Kay McKenzie, 63, died Wednesday, July 22, 2026, at her residence.
Born Dec. 3, 1962, in Harrodsburg, she was the daughter of the late Maurice Thompson Sims and Margaret Jewell Savage Sims.
Donna enjoyed spending time with her family and friends.
Survivors include: one son, Christopher Wayne McKenzie of Harrodsburg; one daughter, Ashley Renee McKenzie of Harrodsburg; one brother, Ronnie (Kelly) Sims of Harrodsburg; three grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.
She was preceded in death by one brother, Paul Keith Sims and one sister, Karen Rena DeSpain.
Funeral services are today, Thursday, July 30, at 1 p.m. at Alexander & Royalty Funeral Home with Bro. Lynn Releford officiating. Burial is in the Spring Hill Cemetery.
Pallbearers are Justin Williams, Cole Smith, James Sims, Derek Whitis, Ralph Bays and Patrick Sims.
Visitation 11 a.m. until the hour of service at the funeral home.
Expressions of sympathy may be sent to the family at www.alexanderandroyalty.com.



ROY SIMPSON
Roy Lee Simpson, 74, died Tuesday, July 21, 2026, at the Baptist Health in Louisville.
Born July 26, 1951, in Harrodsburg, he was the son of the late Harley Kermit and Ida Jewell Holt Simpson.
He was of the Baptist faith and was a former Tarter Gate Company employee.
Survivors include: three daughters, Sara Bradshaw of Harrodsburg, MaKayla Simpson of Harrodsburg and

Libby Kemp of Wadsworth, Ohio; two brothers, Ricky Simpson of Frankfort and Mark (Lucy) Simpson of Willisburg; one sister, Judy Rimer of Lebanon; three grandchildren, Jensyn Bradshaw, Terrell Kemp and Lexi Kemp and several nieces and nephews.
He was preceded in death by one brother, Jody Simpson.
Funeral services were held Monday, July 27, at the Alexander & Royalty Funeral Home, Inc. and Cremation Services with Bro. Lynn Releford officiating. Burial was in the Spring Hill Cemetery.
Pallbearers were Eric Simpson, Michael Simpson, Tiffany Young, Molly Satterly, Andy Simpson and Josh Simpson.
Expressions of sympathy may be sent to the family at www.alexanderandroyalty.com.

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LEGAL NOTICE

In accordance with Chapter 65A.080 (2), KRS 424.220, of the Kentucky Revised Statutes, the financial report and supporting data may be inspected by the public at the Mercer County Conservation District Office located at 227 Morris Drive Harrodsburg, KY 40330, between the hours of 8:00 A.M. – 4:30 P.M. Monday through Friday. The Mercer Conservation District holds its regularly scheduled board meetings at 5:00 p.m. on the 2nd Tuesday of each month in the conference room at 227 Morris Drive. All meetings are open to the public. Our budget and audit reports can be accessed on the Department of Local Government website: <http://kydlgweb.ky.gov>

This advertisement was paid for by the Mercer County Conservation District using taxpayer's dollars.

CITIZENS SERVING ON THE MERCER COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT ARE:

Chairman: Tony Best, 2314 New Dixville Road, Harrodsburg, KY 40330
Vice-Chairman: Paul Campbell, 2250 Talmage-Mayo Road, Harrodsburg, KY 40330
Secretary/Treasurer: Dale Heise, 1535 Perryville Road, Harrodsburg, KY 40330
Member: Stephen Bailey, 1162 Paradise Camp Road, Harrodsburg, KY 40330
Member: Zack Ison, 1225 Lexington Road, Harrodsburg, KY 40330
Member: Ian Thomas, 630 Balden Lane, Harrodsburg, KY 40330
Member: Brooks Peavler, 921 Bellows Mill Road, Harrodsburg, KY 40330

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storage systems, or other specialized computing hardware for the storage, processing, transmission, or distribution of data, together with associated cooling, power, and back-up generation infrastructure. Examples include facilities used for cryptocurrency mining (including bitcoin mining), artificial intelligence training or processing, and cloud computing.”
Section 2 says the moratorium will take effect immediately upon passage and shall remain in effect for 12 months from the effective date...or until the Fiscal Court adopts permanent data center regulations, whichever occurs first.”
“The Fiscal Court may terminate the moratorium earlier by subsequent ordinance, or extend it only upon a further finding of continued necessity.”
The ordinance does not apply to any data center application that was complete or accepted for filing before the effective date. The ordinance goes into effect after the second reading.
Magistrate Tim Darland moved to give the ordinance its first reading, seconded by Magistrate Kevin Hicks; Darland's motion passed unanimously.
Attorney W. Henry Graddy of W.H. Graddy and Associates in Versailles represents “We Are Mercer County,” the local group that opposed the construction of a data center. At Tuesday's meeting, Graddy said he was speaking “in strong support” to give the county time “to do this right.”
Graddy said the group wants to work with the county to enact a moratorium.

“We want to give time, we hope, for Burgin to rejoin planning and zoning,” the attorney said.
Graddy said Woodford County is considering a ban on data centers, while Lexington-Fayette County is considering a ban on hyperscale data centers. It should be noted that data centers have also begun testing these moratoriums. On Monday, the Lexington Herald-Leader reported that Kentucky Industrial Alliance Inc. has filed two separate lawsuits against Cave City, which enacted a yearlong data center moratorium in May, just nine days after the developer submitted documents to the planning commission outlining a 600-acre, 1.2-gigawatt artificial intelligence and cloud computing campus.
Earlier in the meeting, Magistrate Susan Barrington said her front porch was a mile and a half from the proposed hyperscale data center site. Barrington said her district, District 4, which includes Burgin, “is under attack” by two data centers, one hyperscale, within two miles of each other.
Barrington said Mercer County needs a moratorium “without a doubt.”
“I have pondered this for a long time, you all,” she said. Barrington said megaprojects would change District 4 forever.
“This needs our very best effort,” Barrington said. “We should leave no stone unturned.”
Not everyone seemed taken with the ordinance.
“This is a moratorium?” Bethany Heffner Corea posted on the What's Happening Mercer County, Ky Facebook

page.
“Months of public pressure, and Fiscal Court produced a one-page prop that excludes Burgin, requires no studies, and appears designed to be tossed aside the moment Planning & Zoning's ordinance is adopted,” Corea posted.
“They did the absolute bare minimum, slapped ‘moratorium’ on it, and called it leadership,” said Corea, a volunteer with “We Are Mercer County.”
The Harrodsburg-Mercer County Joint Planning and Zoning Commission will resume its public meeting on the proposed data center ordinance at 5 p.m. on Thursday, July 30, at the Campbellsville University Harrodsburg Campus gymnasium.
In other business, the Mercer County Fiscal Court:
• Hired Corey Strauss as a full-time transport officer with a starting salary of \$45,000. Garland Christopher, who was

named interim jailer at the last fiscal court meeting, said Strauss has been working part-time with the jailer's office since April. The part-time position will be posted.
• Recognized the retirement of Lee Lyons after 32 years of service with the county road department.
• Officially accepted the Mercer County Conservation District's Annual Financial Report for Fiscal Year 2025-2026.
• Voted to pay 50 percent of the cost—\$2,500—for the Greater Mercer County Ethics Board to hire an attorney. The ethics board has retained the legal services of Sturgill, Turner, Barker and Moloney PLLC.
The next meeting of the Mercer County Fiscal Court will be Tuesday, Aug. 11, at 10 a.m. at the Mercer County Fiscal Courthouse (207 West Lexington Street). For more information, visit mercercounty.ky.gov.

Planning started for Mackville Festival

Mackville Boosters
Maria Wheeler & Barbara Best
Guest Columnist
Greetings from Mackville! We enjoyed a hot meal and played bingo this past Wednesday.
Rook is postponed until

the fall this year.
The Mackville Harvest Homecoming is set for Saturday, Sept. 19. Come one, come all! Volunteers are need for this event. Please contact Donna Harmon at 859-612-5630 if interested in volunteering.
Mackville sympathies go to the family of Mary Lavon Devine, Peggy Reynolds and David Waldon were added to the prayer board.