

# The million dollar question: How much do you need to save for retirement?



## Financial Focus

**Allen Goldie**  
Goldie Financial  
Financial Advisor

According to a recent survey by Fidelity, Americans say they plan to have saved an average of more than \$1.4 million for retirement. Although reaching \$1 million is a very significant milestone, inflation unknowns, rising health care costs and longer life spans can make \$1 million saved for retirement seem inadequate. Retirement saving is less about reaching a specific account balance and more about the income your savings can generate once you

stop working. What really matters is whether your savings, combined with other sources like Social Security, can support your lifestyle month after month.

**Focus On Closing Your Retirement Income Gap**  
Many financial professionals recommend that you aim to replace 70%–80% of your preretirement income, though your needs may vary. Retirement income gap refers to the shortfall between the income you expect you'll need in retirement and the income your savings and other sources (like Social Security) are projected to provide. For example, if you estimate needing \$5,000 per month in retirement but your combined income sources are projected to generate \$4,000, your retirement income gap would be \$1,000 per month. Identifying this gap early allows you to adjust your plan — such as increasing contributions, delaying retirement or revisiting spending assumptions

— to help stay on track.

**Use A Retirement Needs Calculator**  
One of the best ways to estimate “how much is enough” is by using a retirement needs calculator, such as those provided by your retirement plan recordkeeper. These tools help translate your savings into a projected monthly income and identify potential gaps. Most calculators use a few key assumptions, including:

- Current age and retirement age
- Income and contribution rate
- Current savings balance
- Expected investment returns
- Inflation rate
- Estimated Social Security benefits
- How long you'll need income in retirement.

By adjusting these inputs, you can see how small changes — like saving 1% more or retiring a year later — can meaningfully impact your future income.

**Bringing It All Together**  
Rather than chasing a “magic” number, focus on building a plan that supports your future lifestyle. Regularly reviewing your progress, increasing contributions when possible and using planning tools provided by your plan recordkeeper can help you pursue your goals.

*(Editor's Note: Because of the possibility of human or mechanical error by Wealth Management Systems Inc. or its sources, neither Wealth Management Systems Inc. nor its sources guarantees the accuracy, adequacy, completeness or availability of any information and is not responsible for any errors or omissions or for the results obtained from the use of such information. In no event shall Wealth Management Systems Inc. be liable for any indirect, special or consequential damages in connection with subscriber's or others' use of the content.)*

## Vaught

from 3B



UK Athletics Photo  
**Larron Westmoreland liked the new UK coaching staff as soon as Will Stein and Jay Bateman started recruiting him.**

to the program and also want to help push each other to get even better this year.”  
\*\*\*  
When asked about the best shooters on this year's Kentucky basketball team, freshman guard Zyon Hawthorne immediately mentioned Iowa State transfer Milan Momcilovic — the nation's leading 3-point shooter last season. He also noted that any time junior Trent

See vaught 6B

# KSP announces traffic safety checkpoint locations

The Kentucky State Police would like to offer periodic reminders to drivers who travel our roadways. Our agency strives daily to ensure the safety of the motoring public. Some of these proactive measures include various roadside safety checkpoints and saturating known problematic areas in the district through general patrol tactics. The Kentucky State Police utilizes traffic safety checkpoints to promote safety for motorists using the public roadways and to provide a deterrent for those who violate laws contained in the Kentucky Revised Statutes. Other checkpoints by county are:

- Mercer County**
- US 127 and KY 1987
  - Talmage Mayo Road and Kirkwood Road
  - Kennedy Bridge Road and Chimney Rock Road
  - KY 152 and KY 33
  - US 68 and KY 1915
- Anderson County**
- US 62 Limits
  - US 62 Limits to 4 west
  - US 62 Limits Fox Creek RECC
  - US 62 at US 127 Intersection
  - US 62 at Limits Trailer

- Boyle County**
- Old US 127 at Airport Road
  - KY 37 / 4 miles south of Junction City
  - White Oak Rd and Phillips Ln
  - Lebanon Rd and Scrubgrass Rd
  - KY 34 at the Boyle\ Garrard line
  - US 68 and Lebanon Rd
  - KY 954 at Copper Creek Road
  - KY 1295 at the Madison / Garrard line
  - US 27 at Gilberts Creek
  - KY 152 and KY 753
  - Old Danville Rd and Cathole Bend
  - Papermill and Forks Church
  - Rogers Rd and Polly's Bend
  - Mt Hebron Rd and Burdette Knob Rd
  - Sugar Creek Rd and Jack Turner Branch
- Jessamine County**
- KY 1980 (Ashgrove

- BG Parkway 5 West to 16 West
- Broadway Limits east of US 62 and US 127
- Industrial Rd from the four way Stop to the Railroad tracks
- Ninevah Road at Lanes Mill Road

- Logana Pike and Chrisman Mill Rd
- Union Mill and Tate's Creek Rd
- Keene Road and Keene Troy Pike

The intent of a traffic safety checkpoint is to provide for a high visibility, public safety service, focusing on operator impairment, vehicular equipment deficiencies (confirming appropriate registration and insurance of vehicles) and the valid licensing of drivers. Other violations of law and/or other public safety issues that arise will be addressed. These checkpoints will allow the Kentucky State Police the opportunity to periodically concentrate its efforts in checking for violations of Kentucky traffic and regulatory laws that will ultimately increase the safety of the citizens within the Commonwealth. Post 7 serves the following counties: Madison, Clark, Estill, Lee, Owsley, Jackson, Mercer, Boyle, Lincoln, Garrard and Jessamine. For more, visit [kentuckystatepolice.org/post-7checkpoints](http://kentuckystatepolice.org/post-7checkpoints).

# TITANS HOST WRESTLING CAMP



**The Harrodsburg Herald/Wesley Bird**  
**On the Mat**  
The Mercer County Titans wrestling team hosted a two day beginner camp for boys and girls K-12 July 30-31. The camp included basic techniques instruction, games, a cookout and ended with some fun on inflatables.

**Pictured left:** Freshman Eric Kelly helped River Matthew learn a half nelson technique on Kenny Cecil Friday, July 31.

**Pictured below right:** Freshman Malachi Kord taught Lincoln Kord a pinning maneuver on Michael Lay Friday, July 31.

**Pictured below left:** Mercer Wrestling Head Coach Brandon Sellers demonstrated a half nelson with Freshman Jaycee Hampton Friday, July 31.



## ANNOUNCEMENT OF POSITION

The Mercer County Fiscal Court is accepting applications for a Part-Time Transport Officer. A complete list of qualifications and job description are available upon request at the Mercer County Judge Executive's Office. Applications are being accepted through 8/12/2026 at 4:00pm EST/3:00pm CST. Applications should be delivered to Mercer County Fiscal Court, Human Resources, Samantha Peyton at 207 W. Lexington Street, Harrodsburg, KY 40330, or submitted online at <https://mercercounty.ky.gov/departments/Pages/Human-Resources.aspx>

**THE MERCER COUNTY FISCAL COURT IS AN  
EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER  
AND DRUG FREE WORKPLACE. M/F/D**



## MERCER CO. TAXPAYERS NOTICE

The 2026 Oil, Gas and LSG bills for Mercer County will be due and payable beginning on September 1.

**2% discount: August 1 - August 31**  
**Face Amount: before September 30**  
**5% Penalty: before October 31**  
**10% Penalty + 10% Sheriff's Add-on Fee: after October 31**  
Payments made during the 10% penalty period, November 1 - December 31, are subject to an additional 10% add-on sheriff's fee. Under provisions of House Bill 262, the Sheriff's Office will be required to transfer all unpaid tax bills to the County Clerk's Office at the close of business on May 15, 2027. The County Clerk will then add on additional fees and interest.

REMEMBER: WE ARE LOCATED IN THE OLD GATEWAY BUILDING, ACROSS FROM THE LIBRARY, AT 207 W. LEXINGTON ST., HARRODSBURG, KY 40330. Our mailing address is P.O. Box 126, Harrodsburg, KY 40330. Our office hours are 8:00AM to 4:30PM Mon. thru Fri. We have a drop box on the front of the building, between the Sheriff's Office entrance and the steps leading to Sims Funeral Home, that can be used for tax payments.

**ERNIE KELTY - SHERIFF OF MERCER COUNTY**