

Hornets & Lady Hornets Headed for the 16th District Tournament

PAGE TEN



Givens Bill Clears Committee 10-0 MEASURE MODERNIZES KENTUCKY LEGAL NOTICE RULES STORY, PAGE FOUR



The Herald-News

AN EDMONTON-HERALD NEWS AND JOBE PUBLISHING, INC. PARTNERSHIP

©COPYRIGHT, THE HERALD-NEWS, 2009

WEEK: FEBRUARY 18, 2026

75¢

VOL. 143 NO. 13

State Report Tallies Tens of Millions in Media, Travel and Event Costs



▲ PHOTO | KENTUCKY AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS
State Auditor Allison Ball presents a recent review of executive branch spending to the House Appropriations and Revenue Committee on Feb. 10.

JOBEnews.com

Kentucky executive branch agencies spent more than \$39 million on advertising and communications and millions more on travel, conferences and contracted services in the 2025 fiscal year, according to a report released by Allison Ball, Kentucky Auditor of Public Accounts, on Feb. 10.

Governor Andy Beshear disputed some of the findings a day after the report

was released in a Team Kentucky update after a press member asked about the findings, likening it to a "political attack."

The report lists \$39,055,133.96 in advertising expenditures and notes that every executive branch entity maintains some form of communications staff. Payments included \$2,488,789.77 to

REPORT
CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO

Senate Bill 7 Advances to Offer Accessible Driver's Licensing Services Across Kentucky



JOBEnews.com

Kentuckians seeking more convenient access to driver's licensing services may get additional options in 2027, thanks to Senate Bill 7 (SB 7), legislation

recently passed by the Kentucky Senate. The bill aims to alleviate the burden on residents, particularly those in rural areas, who currently face

LICENSING
CONTINUED ON PAGE THREE

Rescind the Vote

BY PJ MARTIN
EDITOR | THE HERALD-NEWS

The Metcalfe County Fiscal Court held its regular meeting on Thursday, February 12, with the following attendees: Judge/Executive Larry Wilson, Magistrates Ronnie Miller, Daniel Bragg, Harvey Hawkins, and Kevin Crain, County Attorney Sharon Howard, and Treasurer/Fiscal Court Clerk Page Edwards.

Also in attendance were Financial Officer Connie Taylor, Occupational Tax/ABC Admin. Lorrie Gilpin, Emergency Management Director Adam Bennett, Solid Waste Coordinator Kim Jandt, Road Supervisor Chris Compton, and Herald-News editor PJ Martin. Judge Wilson declared a quorum present, and the agenda was adopted following



▲ PHOTO | PJ MARTIN
Magistrates Ronnie Miller and Daniel Bragg, as Bragg explained his thoughts on buying equipment.

motions by Bragg and Crain.

The minutes from the January 22 meeting were approved after motions by Hawkins and Bragg. When Judge Wilson asked for any discussion, Miller said, "Yeah! On the 5th paragraph down on the fireworks celebration...

I'd like to rescind that motion."

This was very unusual and caught most in attendance by surprise. Judge Wilson responded, "Why?"

Edwards explained, "The thing about it is they were needing to know because they

have to pay upfront and get that scheduled. Well, do you mind if we ask why you changed your mind?"

Miller replied, "Well, it's a lot of money, and I wasn't really thinking that day. Sometimes

RESCIND
CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO

Who will be the 2026 Educator of the Year & Educator Idol?

BY KIM HARWOOD
E-M CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

In the year 2002, the Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors voted to establish an Annual Metcalfe

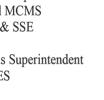
County Educator of the Year Award to be presented at the Annual Senior Celebrity Banquet held in the spring. The Chamber accepts nominations from

the public. A selected committee reviews and selects the recipient. The honored educator and his/her family will be guests of the chamber at the banquet.

The criteria for the Metcalfe County Educator of the Year Award stated that the award must be

EDOL
CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO

Edmonton-Metcalfe County Chamber of Commerce
25th Annual Metcalfe County
Educator of the Year Award
2026 Nomination Form



2002 Recipient Becky Nunnally, EES
2004 Recipient Gay Garrett, MCHS
2006 Recipient Ronnie Smith, MCHS
2008 Runell Clemmons, EES
2010 Rita McMurry, Principal Sixth Grade Center
2012 Anita Love, MCHS
2014 Bennie Stephens, Secondary Instruction
2016 Jenny Stotts-Lundy, MCES
2018 Kelly Shaw, MCHS High School
2020 Dawn Harbison, MCHS
2022 Scott Roach, MCHS
2024 Lesley London, MCMS

2003 Recipient Carol Perkins, MCMS
2005 Recipient Kelly Bell, Principal MCMS
2007 Allen Trotter, Principal MCMS
2009 Grant Landrum, NME & SSE
2011 Jay White, SSE
2013 Byron Jeffries, previous Superintendent
2015 Betty Branstetter, MCES
2017 Allyson Davis, MCES
2019 Dr. Benny Lile, Superintendent
2021 Kim Coleman, MCES Guidance Counselor
2023 Lynn Hawking, MCHS
2025 Bryant Stockton, MCHS

The following is a list of criteria for selecting Educator of the Year:
1. Be a full-time employee in the Metcalfe County School System.
2. Possess the ability to inspire a love of learning in students of all backgrounds and abilities.
3. Ability and willingness to work cooperatively with fellow professionals.
4. Ability to work effectively with a variety of public agencies in the community.
5. Desire to keep abreast of current educational theories and practices.
6. Ability and willingness to make contributions to the field of education, and
7. Provide the encouragement and support necessary to ensure each student's maximum level of achievement as a student, family member, and member of society.

Nominee's Name _____

School _____

Your name (optional) _____

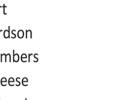
Why do you feel this individual should be the Metcalfe County Educator of the Year? (May use additional paper)
Please see the attached explanation _____

Please return form to: Edmonton-Metcalfe County Chamber of Commerce
PO Box 42
Edmonton, KY 42129

If you have questions, please call the chamber office at 432-3222 or email metchamb@scrc.com
Please feel free to add additional information on an attached page.

Deadline for entry: March 16, 2026

Edmonton-Metcalfe County Chamber of Commerce
19th Annual Metcalfe County Educator Idol Award
2026 Nomination Form



Previous Award Recipients:

2008 Cortez Butler
2010 Susan Chambers
2012 James Howard Young
2014 Connie Scott
2016 Mrs. Ruth Butler
2018 Ruby Shirley
2020 Howard Bruce Keel
2022 Kay Harbison
2024 Linda Branstetter

The following is a list of criteria for selecting Educator Idol of the Year:
1. Be a retiree of the Metcalfe County School Systems
2. Award not given posthumously.
3. Recipients of the Metcalfe County Educator of the Year Award are not eligible for this award.

Nominee's Name _____

School _____

Your name (optional) _____

Why do you feel this individual should be the Metcalfe County Educator Idol of the Year? (May use additional paper)
Please see the attached explanation _____

Please return form to: Edmonton-Metcalfe County Chamber of Commerce
PO Box 42
Edmonton, KY 42129

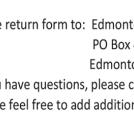
If you have questions, please call the chamber office at 432-3222 or email metchamb@scrc.com
Please feel free to add additional information on an attached page.

Deadline for entry: March 16, 2026

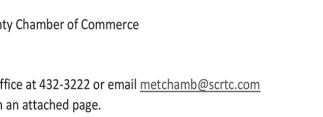
DISCOVER OUR
DIGITAL COPY AT

JOBEnews.com

Subscribe online
or call 270-432-3291



Follow us online



EDMONTON
TIRE & AUTO
270-432-4007
202 W. STOCKTON STREET • EDMONTON, KENTUCKY

WE ARE OPEN
MONDAY-FRIDAY
6:00 AM - 5:00 PM
SATURDAY
6:00 AM - NOON

24
HOUR
PAY AT
THE PUMP

WE DO:
• OIL CHANGES
• BRAKES • TIRES
• MINOR REPAIRS

