

ECTC Pathfinder Academy registration is now open

ELIZABETHTOWN — Elizabethtown Community and Technical College will host Pathfinder Academy this summer for rising sixth through 12th-grade students. Held June 8-12, the week will feature fun-filled, hands-on learning activities in the fields of science, technology and crafts.

"Pathfinder Academy has class options for all middle and high school students," said ECTC Director of Advanced Manufacturing Accelerator Project and Pathfinder Academy Coordinator Eileen Worthington. "From crafty to technical, we're excited to offer a variety of fun, high-quality enrichment classes and allow students to explore their interests this summer."

Pathfinder Academy offers classes such as Cartoon Character Design, Computed Aided Drafting and Design, Robotics, Welding and Beginning Sewing, taught by ECTC faculty and staff members. Campers also will participate in financial literacy workshops presented by camp sponsor Abound Credit Union.

"As the leading Credit Union in Financial Education in Kentucky, instilling financial literacy in our younger generations is a core mission for Abound Credit Union," said Jake Darabos, Abound's Chief Finance and Administration Officer. "As we continue to pave the way for opportunities, the Pathfinder Academy is an incredible opportunity to make a memorable difference for Kentucky students."

Students may register for multiple classes. Advanced registration is required, and spaces are first-come, first-served. For more information, visit ectc.us/pfa or contact Eileen Worthington at eileen.worthington@kctcs.edu or (270) 706-8712.

Kentucky agriculture celebrates May as Beef Month

FRANKFORT — Kentucky cattle producers and industry representatives joined Kentucky Commissioner of Agriculture Jonathan Shell Monday as he signed a proclamation commemorating the month of May as Kentucky Beef Month.

"Through the hard work of our cattle farmers, Kentucky retains its distinction as the state with the largest beef inventory east of the Mississippi River with 862,000 head," Commissioner Shell said. "I join Kentuckians in recognizing the effort, diligence, and perseverance of this important agricultural sector as we celebrate May as Kentucky Beef Month."

The United States is the world's second largest producer of beef, primarily high-quality, grain-fed beef.

Kentucky ranks 14th nationally for total cattle inventory with 1.82 million head and 10th in the nation for beef cattle. According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service, Kentucky is home to 31,060 beef cattle producers of the 69,400 total farms in the state.

"Behind every flavorful bite is a story of care and commitment," said Kelly Baird, Kentucky Beef Council Director of Communications and Events. "This May, we're celebrating that delicious product and the people who bring it to our tables. What better way to celebrate our beef producers than behind the grill, explore recipes, cooking tips, and what raising beef looks like in Kentucky at kybeef.com."

January 2026 numbers for all cattle inventory are down

slightly from 2025, matching what's happening nationally. The U.S. beef cattle reached a 64-year low in 2025. Several factors including low calf prices, high costs, and drought across the county played a role in the declining inventory.

In contrast the lower number of beef cattle has created a higher market demand and driven up the sale prices for farmers. The tight national cattle supply and higher market prices will likely contribute to higher agricultural receipts for the state. The final agricultural cash receipts for 2024, the latest available, show the cattle and calves sector brought in \$1.5 billion, ranking it first for Kentucky commodities.

Cattle prices are expected to remain strong and

potentially peak, following a year of high demand in 2025. Tight supplies and strong demand drove the market for much of 2025 with Kentucky cattle prices up 20-30 percent from the previous year. It's predicted Kentucky's anticipated strong livestock sector could help maintain overall cash receipts above \$8 billion for 2025 with estimates of a record \$8.5 billion for 2026.



Public Hearing Notice: Proposed General Public Fare Increase

Central Kentucky Community Action Transportation Services (CKCATS) is proposing an update to its fare structure for General Public riders. This adjustment is intended to help maintain the safe and dependable service our community relies on for work, medical appointments, and essential needs.

We encourage all riders and community members to attend our upcoming public hearing to learn more and voice their opinions.

Hearing Date: June 3rd, 2026
Time: 1:00 pm EST
Location: CATS Conference Room, 328 Hood Ave. Lebanon, KY 40033

Detailed documents regarding the proposal are available for public inspection at our Central Office. Central Kentucky Community Action is committed to providing, upon request, reasonable accommodation including auxiliary aids and services necessary to afford an individual with a disability an equal opportunity to participate in all services, programs, and activities. To request material in an alternative format, such as braille, larger font, or other form, please call (800)242-8225. Language assistance is available at no cost.

Kentucky colleges show progress on higher education goals

FRANKFORT — Compared to previous years, Kentucky's students are more likely to graduate on time and pursue upper-level credentials, and fewer are borrowing to pay for college, according to a new report and data dashboard from the Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education (CPE).

The 2026 Progress Report: Progress Toward Kentucky's Statewide Strategic Agenda Goals, details higher education performance based on the most recent data available and shows strong indicators of improvement:

Total undergraduate enrollment increased by more than 10,000 students between the Fall 2024 and Fall 2025 semesters. This represents a 4.6% increase among Kentucky's public institutions and the Association for Independent Kentucky

Colleges and Universities (AIKCU) campuses.

First-to-Second-Year retention rates remained steady at both the public universities and the Kentucky Community and Technical College System (KCTCS) schools.

Graduation rates increased across the board, with a nearly 4 percentage point increase at KCTCS between the 2023-24 and 2024-25 academic years. Also, on-time graduation (four-year) rates at Kentucky's public universities showed strong gains, increasing 2.7% during the same time frame.

The number of undergraduate degrees and credentials earned in 2024-25 reflected a strong one-year improvement, with a 1.4% increase in bachelor's degrees awarded by Kentucky's public and AIKCU institutions and a 4.2% increase in certificates,

diplomas and associate degrees awarded by KCTCS.

The number of graduate-level degrees and credentials earned from Kentucky's public and AIKCU institutions surged by more than 1,800, a 9.5% increase.

"These results show that when institutions focus strategically on student success, it works," said CPE President Aaron Thompson. "Our public universities, KCTCS and AIKCU campuses are making great strides in implementing innovative and holistic services that support both our students and state goals. That's exactly what the strategic agenda is designed to drive."

In addition to student performance metrics, the Council also tracks affordability trends affecting Kentucky's students and their families. According to the report,

six out of 10 undergraduates attending Kentucky's public institutions now graduate debt free, and among those graduating with debt, the average amount has decreased 4.9% from 2024 to 2025.

However, amounts of unmet financial need — the total cost of attendance minus all grants and scholarships — could threaten Kentucky's progress in student debt reduction. Amounts of unmet financial need increased by more than \$1,600, representing a 29% jump.

This rise is driven primarily by increasing inflation rates affecting costs. In addition to

economic factors, higher education also experienced a 3% drop in net General Fund appropriations per full-time enrollment (FTE) when comparing FY25 to FY26.

"This growth in unmet need is concerning — it reflects that current economic pressures are outpacing our affordability efforts, despite Kentucky ranking near the top nationally in financial aid provision," said Thompson. "CPE is committed to partnering with institutions, state policymakers and our communities to expand affordability solutions that keep higher education accessible to all Kentucky students."

YARD SALE

May 22, May 23
8AM-5PM

94 Fairfield Rd, Coxs Creek

Toys, toddler bed, stroller, clothes, household items, too much to name.
Rain Cancells

NELSON COUNTY MASTER COMMISSIONER'S NOTICE OF SALES

By virtue of Judgment and Order of Sale entered in the Nelson Circuit Court in the cases listed below, the following properties located in Nelson County, Kentucky, shall be sold at the courthouse door in Bardstown, Nelson County, Kentucky, on Wednesday, May 27, 2026, at 9:00 A.M., E.S.T., and being more particularly described as follows:

1) 1609 Highview Church Road, Bloomfield, KY 40008
Deed Book 579, Page 699, PVA #84000-00-004.03
Vanderbilt Mortgage and Finance, Inc. v. Steven Louis Dial, et al.
Civil Action No. 25-CI-00752

2) 121 Venetian Way, Bardstown, KY 40004
Deed Book 491, Page 172, PVA #45000-00-046
John Becker v. Barbara Dixon, et al.
Civil Action No. 25-CI-00373

3) 1007 South Coxs Creek Drive, Bardstown, KY 40004
Deed Book 517, Page 285, PVA #43000-00-082.70
Kentucky Housing Corporation v. Erika Donahue, et al.
Civil Action No. 22-CI-00465

4) 105 Devers Court, Bardstown, KY 40004
Deed Book 605, Page 90, PVA #54S20-03-009
Kentucky Housing Corporation v. Dalton B. Hedges, et al.
Civil Action No. 26-CI-00056

5) 224 Guthrie Drive, Bardstown, KY 40004
Deed Book 539, Page 368, PVA #55W00-04-014
Kentucky Housing Corporation v. Randall James Longino, et al.
Civil Action No. 25-CI-00631

6) 2669 Clarktown Road, New Haven, KY 40051
Deed Book 511, Page 588, PVA #49ML2-05-003
Monarch Holdings, Inc. v. Rosie Stuckey, et al.
Civil Action No. 22-CI-00227

At the time of sale the successful bidder shall either pay full cash or make a deposit of 10% of the purchase price. If, as the successful bidder, you only pay 10% down, you must have a Kentucky Bank to act as unconditional surety on the remaining 90% of the purchase price, plus interest at the state rate, which must be paid within 30 days of the Sale date. (The necessary surety form can be obtained at the Master Commissioner's office). The Surety **MUST BE PRE-APPROVED** by the Master Commissioner's office no later than 12:00 noon on the Friday immediately preceding the sale date to secure the unpaid balance of the purchase price. A Loan Officer from the pre-approved Kentucky Bank must sign the surety bond at the sale. In the event the successful bidder is the Plaintiff, then in lieu of the deposit that Plaintiff shall be allowed to bid on credit up to the judgment amount.

The property shall be sold free and clear of all parties named in the above-styled action, but subject to the following: any lien not included in the suit, recorded easements, rights of way, any facts which an inspection or accurate survey might reveal, and zoning regulations of Nelson County, Kentucky. The buyer will be responsible for ad valorem taxes for the current year (year Judgment is entered) and all future years. The Master Commissioner does not obtain title inspections or investigate for further liens on the property. Delinquent ad valorem taxes may be paid if identified, however the Master Commissioner does not warrant payment of these amounts. A detailed itemization of expenses paid is filed by the Master Commissioner once the funds are received from the purchaser. It is the purchaser's obligation to review these payments to confirm what taxes were identified and paid. The purchaser is responsible for title inspection and/or any additional liens not named in the Judgment and Order of Sale. It is recommended that a title search be performed **prior** to the sale.

The purchaser may take possession of the property pursuant to the terms of the judgment. If the judgment does not make provision for possession the buyer may seek possession of the property through the court system after payment of the full purchase price. The Master Commissioner does not have ability to grant access or possession of the property.

The Plaintiff, the Court and the Commissioner shall not be deemed to have warranted title to any purchaser. Said property is sold subject to the Judgment and Order of Sale in this case which shall be reviewed carefully prior to purchase.

Bidders will be prepared to promptly comply with the above terms.

This 5th day of May, 2026.

MICHELLE BUCKLEY SPARKS

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