

April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month

MADISONVILLE – April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month, and CASA OF MIDWEST KENTUCKY is raising awareness of the need for more dedicated members of the community to step up and become CASA volunteers, and help end child abuse and neglect, through supporting children and their families.

- Events in April include:
- CASA Coffee Sleeves in area coffee shops (decorated by students from Muhlenberg County Schools)
 - Proclamations and pinwheel planting: Muhlenberg County Fiscal Court -April 16 4:00 p.m.
 - Wear Blue Day -April 17 - join in, snap a picture and post to our Facebook or Instagram page.
 - CASA Champions for Children No Show Breakfast Can't attend the breakfast? You can still be a Champion for Children.
 - <https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/peer-to-peer/casa-champions-for-children-no-show-breakfast>
 - Blue Sunday - April 26 -Faith-Based Observance of Child Abuse Prevention. Churches can request information packets to share with their congregations.

CASA volunteers, or Court Appointed Special Advocates, are everyday people from all walks of life who are recruited and specially trained to advocate for children in foster care and provide a consistent, reliable adult presence for them during a difficult time in their life.

"CASA volunteers ensure the abused and neglected children they serve have their needs met," said Daphne Maddox, Executive Director of CASA OF MIDWEST KENTUCKY. "Foster care is only a temporary solution to the problems at hand. We need to create long-term support networks that work to care for families, make reunification a possibility, and help break the cycle for the next generation. Children's safety is paramount!"

CASA volunteers are assigned to one child or sibling group to advocate for their best interest in court, in school and in other settings. They get to know the child and everyone involved in their life, such as their parents and other family members, foster parents, therapists, caseworkers and teachers, in or-

der to develop a realistic picture of the child's unique situation. They engage those important to the child and family to build a network of support around them, so that the family has access to support and resources after the case ends. They make recommendations to the judge overseeing the child's case, with the goal of ensuring that the child is safe and the family has the resources, support and healthy relationships needed to heal.

Midwest CASA served 104 children in 2025, which means there are still over 600 children who need someone to advocate for them. This April, consider stepping up to make a difference by partnering with CASA by becoming a CASA Volunteer, a monthly donor or a Friend of CASA. Visit the www.midwestcasa.org/volunteer website for more information.

If you want Pinwheels for your office call 270-245-5112 - we have a limited supply to offer.

To register for the Champion for Children's breakfast, visit: <https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/casa-champions-for-children-breakfast> We are excited about this new opportunity for individuals and businesses to partner with CASA to help us serve more children.

There is always a need for more CASA volunteers," said Maddox. "By becoming a volunteer, you can take your efforts beyond just awareness, and do your part to help support children and families in crisis right here in our community."

"We at CASA of Midwest Kentucky always hope for the day when CASA, foster care and a national month dedicated to child abuse prevention are no longer needed because all children are growing up safe, secure and supported with their families," said Maddox. "Until then, we will continue to seek more members of the community to join our growing movement so that we can provide a CASA volunteer for every child who needs one."

April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month. If you see abuse, report it to 1 (800) 252-5400 if a child's life is in danger, call 911. For more information on CASA, visit midwestcasa.org or call 270-245-5112.



Students at South Elementary had a special visitor. Mr. Jimmy Fleming brought his seven day old calf to wrap up Agriculture week. Students learned facts about the calf and the cows on Mr. Fleming's farm. (Photo submitted)

Meetings

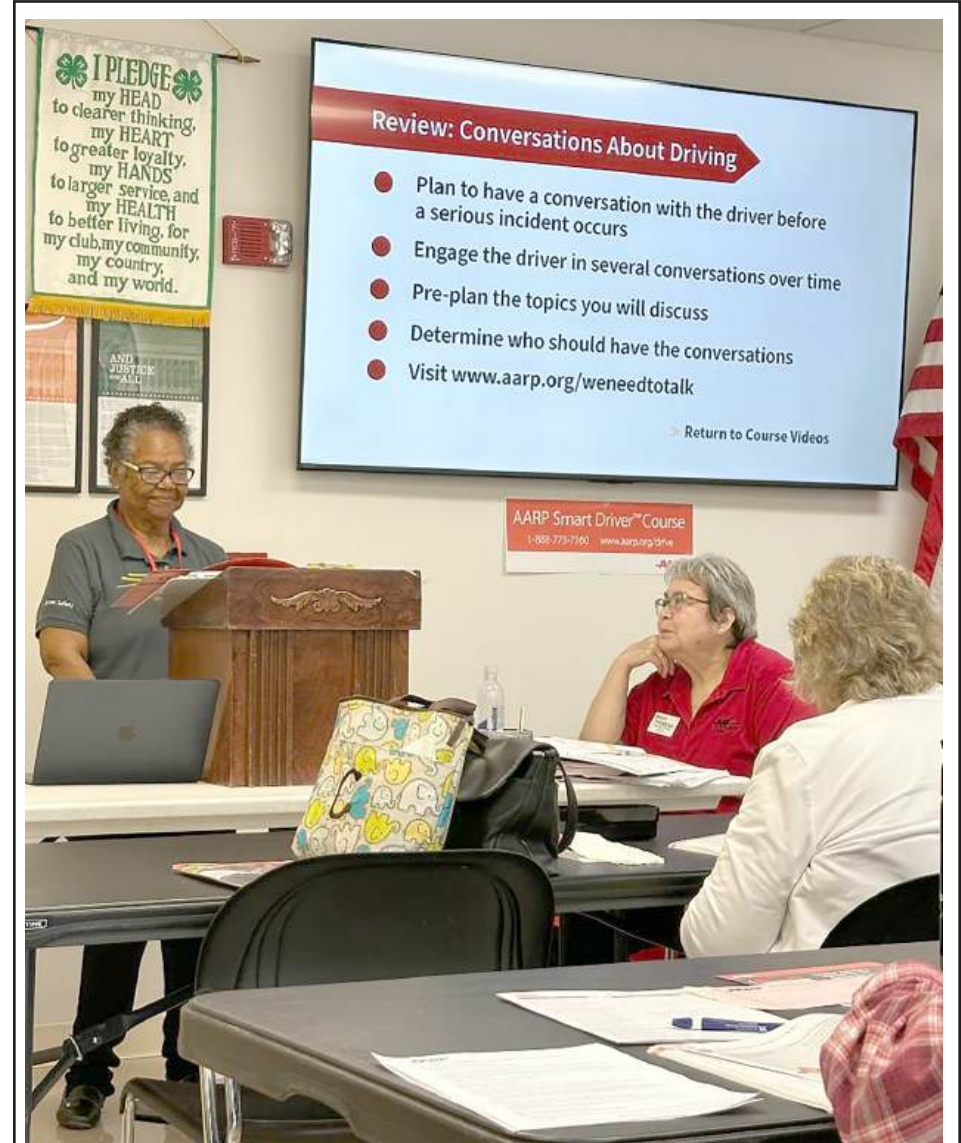
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE. [For Year 2026]

The Muhlenberg County Board of Elections meets regularly at 8:15 AM on the first Tuesday of each month in the Fiscal Courtroom on the 2nd floor of the Muhlenberg County Courthouse located at 100 S Main Street, Greenville. Changes to meeting date, time or location are posted on the Fiscal Courtroom door and elevator of the Muhlenberg County Courthouse in advance of any cancellation/rest.

- **CELEBRATE RECOVERY** meets every Sunday at 4 p.m. at Second Baptist Church, 217 West Depot Street in Greenville. The meal is at 4 p.m., large group worship at 5 p.m. and small group sharing time at 6:30 p.m. Nursery provided.
- **AL-ANON** (Clean Slate) is a support group for family and friends of those who have been impacted by alcoholism. The group meets at 7:30 p.m. Thursdays at Greenville United Methodist Church Coffee Shop, 144 Main Street.
- **BREAK THE CYCLE RECOVERY MEETING** directed by True-North Treatment Center is held every Thursday evening at 7 p.m. at Righteous Souls Ministry, 701 Temple Road in Central City.
- **THE GREENVILLE TOURISM COMMISSION MEETING** will be held on the second Monday of each month at 4:30 p.m. at 125 S Main Street in Greenville.
- **THE MUHLENBERG COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT MEETING** will be held on the first Thursday of every month at 7 p.m. at the district office, 340 Dean Road in Greenville.
- **THE MUHLENBERG COUNTY WATER DISTRICT BOARD MEETING** will be held on the fourth Monday of each month at 1 p.m.
- **MUHLENBERG COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARIES BOARD MEETING** will be held on the third Thursday of the month from 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. at Harbin Memorial Public Library 117 S. Main Street in Greenville.
- **THE WARM HEART QUILTERS** will meet on the fourth Tuesday each month January through October at 9 a.m. at First Presbyterian Church, 158 S. Main St. in Greenville.
- **2026 MUHLENBERG COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION** Meeting Dates: April 16, May 21, June 18, July 16, August 20, September 17, October 15, November 19, December 17, all meetings will be held at 5:30 p.m. Work Session Dates: April 7, July 9, October 1, all meetings will be held at 5:30 p.m.
- **MUHLENBERG COUNTY FISCAL COURT** would like to notify the community that the regular Fiscal Court meetings scheduled for April have been rescheduled. The April meetings will now be held on the following dates: Thursday, April 16, 2026 – 4:00 p.m. and Thursday, April 30, 2026 – 4:00 p.m. Both meetings will take place at the Muhlenberg County Fiscal Courtroom.
- **FRIENDS OF LAKE MALONE STATE PARK** will meet the third Thursday of each month.
- **PARADISE PARK REGIONAL INDUSTRIAL AUTHORITY, INC.**, 50 Career Way, Central City, KY will host quarterly meetings on the following dates: June 18, 2026, September 17, 2026, December 17, 2026.

Happenings

• The Drakesboro Alumni Banquet will be held Saturday, May 9, 2026 at the Muhlenberg County Senior Citizens Center, 55 Career Drive, Powderly, Ky. 42367. Doors will open at 4:30 p.m., Dinner Service Beginning at 5:30 p.m., Honor Classes will be served first with continuous serving of other attendees as seating is available. Cost - \$25 per person or \$45 per couple with advanced reservations or \$30 per person at door, RESERVATIONS RECOMMENDED PLEASE. Call or Text Judy LaFlare at 270 543-4339 or email lafarej@comcast.net to make your reservation or send check payable to Drakesboro Alumni Association, P.O. Box 62, Drakesboro, KY 42337. HONOR CLASSES 1946, 1956, 1966, 1976 and 1986. All former graduates, teachers, students of Drakesboro Schools Invited and Welcome



On March 24, 2026, the Muhlenberg County Retired Teachers Association (MCRTA) hosted an AARP Smart Driver Course at the Muhlenberg County UK Extension Office. The course lasted four hours and was presented in an interactive classroom format. Twenty-one local community members attended, focusing on refreshing their driving knowledge and learning updated safety techniques. Participants reviewed essential topics such as defensive driving, managing challenging road conditions, and new vehicle technologies. Those who completed the course became eligible for an auto insurance discount in Kentucky, making the session both informative and beneficial for all who attended. (Photo submitted)

SEND YOUR MEETINGS & HAPPENINGS TO: EDITOR@KY-LEADERNEWS.COM

We Appreciate Our Readers
& We Need Your Support!