

Looking back to May 11, 2018

Written by Mary Ann Kearns

The following information was entered into the May 11, 2018, edition of The Ledger Independent:

Tourism director, Coast Guard on city agenda
Maysville has a new tourism director.

Lacy Holleran comes to the office with six years under her belt as assistant and later tourism director for Bracken County and Augusta. She brings with her what she called a “quirky enthusiasm” for the job.

Holleran lives in the Minerva Area and is anxious to begin her new job, she said Thursday after her appointment was revealed during Maysville City Commission meeting.

“I’m excited to bring my energy and put it to work for Mason County now,” she said.

Holleran was selected from a pool of candidates who applied for the position and replaces Suzie Pratt who resigned from the office last month. Her appointment was approved unanimously by commissioners and Mayor David Cartmell.

Also Thursday, commissioners agreed to provide office space for a US Coast Guard Auxiliary detachment in Maysville. The office space in the One Stop Center will be provided at no cost through November.

Thom McQueen, FC-55, flotilla commander of Northern Kentucky’s Flotilla 5-5, part of the Coast Guard Auxiliary, began efforts in July with an eye toward eventually placing a detachment in Maysville. He has enlisted the help of Auxiliant Steve Zweigart. During the meeting, McQueen presented Zweigart with an honorary Kentucky Admiral certificate from the commonwealth in recognition of his environmental efforts.

Community activist Bryan Helpenstein also addressed commissioners to offer thanks to Maysville Police officers for their handling of a situation recently involving someone on crystal meth.

Commissioners also heard complaints from a resident of Buckner Avenue concerning a body shop and the paint fumes the business generates.

The woman said she has three small children and two dogs and is concerned about the air her family must breathe when the shop is in operation, normally from 5 p.m. until early morning hours. She said she is even concerned about the effect of the fumes and chemicals on her vegetable garden.

The woman said she has contacted the Environmental Protection Agency and asked the city to do something.

City Commissioners Kelly Ashley said the city has been down this route before and was unable to get any results. City Manager Matt Wallingford said the city could also contact the EPA again.

Also Thursday, commissioners:

- Approved reports from city departments.
- Approved resolutions to send letters to ABC to allow liquor sales during Maysville Uncorked, Oktoberfest and Pig Out.
- Agreed to purchase fireworks from Rozzi for July 4 and New Year’s Eve celebrations at a cost of \$10,000.
- Authorized CDBG self-help grant applications.
- Accepted \$180,000 in Municipal Road Aid.
- Accepted floodwall mural project reimbursement.
- Approved the second reading of an amendment to the street sweeper ordinance deleting Houston Avenue from the schedule at residents’ request.
- Approved the second reading of an amendment to the garbage ordinance requiring residents who have furniture and/or trash that is placed for collection at times other than the normal pick-up day to dispose of the items within a 24-hour period or pay a fee for the cost of disposal by Public Works.

Quinn Minute: My frog drawing

Rix Quinn

In my long and unproductive life, I’ve encountered several disgusting things...and I’ve stepped in a few of them.

But few gave me more displeasure than dissecting a frog. This was a school requirement, and I dreaded it for weeks.

My biology teacher, however, seemed to enjoy watching us approach a big vat of formaldehyde, grab a pair of tongs, and fish out a long-deceased amphibian from the stinky liquid.

After this, we chose a partner,

then sat next to each other at a lab table. For the dissection, we would share a frog.

Following instructions on a large display in our textbook, we laid the frog on its back, and noticed this was not this frog’s first autopsy. The chest was already open, so we did our best to locate important organs by moving them around with a number two pencil.

We noticed the position of the heart, lungs, and other disgusting stuff. Each of us attempted to sketch what we saw on a blank sheet of paper.

We noted that some of the frog’s

front fingers were missing. Probably the result of a frog-to-frog competition.

We handed in our sketches. Mine looked a little like a goat....but not much.

The teacher gave my artwork an F-minus. I complained to her that nobody deserved below an F.

She told me that this one was so bad, it needed special recognition.

Why have fairy tales been so popular for so many years? Why do we remember them? Order Rix’s essay on this subject: FAIRY TALE WRITING SECRET

Attorney General Coleman launches Law Enforcement Peer Support Grant application

Submitted by the Kentucky Office of the Attorney General

FRANKFORT, Ky. (May 5, 2026) – Attorney General Russell Coleman announced today the AG’s Office is now accepting applications for the first-of-its-kind Law Enforcement Peer Support grant program in Kentucky.

Local law enforcement agencies can apply for up to \$5,000 to develop new or enhance existing peer support teams that address chronic stress and promote officer mental health. Eligible agencies and organizations can use the funding for expenses like overtime for peer support specialists, training and education for peer support and wellness, and equipment for the teams.

The Attorney General’s grant program will expand existing peer support services already available in the Commonwealth. Currently, statewide initiatives respond to critical incidents – like officer involved shootings – while the AG’s sub-grants will provide funding for consistent peer support to Kentucky law enforcement to address chronic stressors. Some large departments or regions already offer strong peer support programs, but other agencies, especially in rural communities, don’t have the resources needed to operate their own teams. Individual agencies or agencies working collaboratively, like the Northern Kentucky Law Enforcement Peer Support Team,

are eligible to apply.

“Most people will see three to four traumatic events in their lifetimes. Law enforcement officers see approximately 140 such events in their careers, with those policing in urban areas being exposed to more than 400 traumatic events during their time on the street. To fulfill our duty to support Kentucky law enforcement, we have a responsibility to safeguard their mental as well as physical health. This Peer Support Grant Program is a critical step to do just that,” said Attorney General Coleman. “Our goal is to kickstart a new focus on supporting the men and women who protect our families every day.”

Next week is the annual

National Police Week, where Americans across the country pause to honor the courage and sacrifice of men and women of law enforcement and to pay tribute to those killed in the line of duty. Tragically, more than 100 law enforcement and corrections personnel died by suicide in 2025, including two in Kentucky.

Chiefs, Sheriffs and other interested law enforcement leaders can find more information by reviewing the Notice of Funding Opportunity here. The online application will close on June 15, 2026.

The AG’s Peer Support Grant Program is made possible through a grant from the nonprofit, bipartisan Attorney General Alliance.

Attorney General Coleman, Dependable Power First KY coalition deliver letter supporting EPA regulatory rollbacks

Dependable Power First KY

FRANKFORT, Ky. (May 8, 2026) — Attorney General Russell Coleman joined the Dependable Power First Kentucky coalition in delivering a letter this week to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Lee Zeldin expressing strong support for the EPA’s efforts to roll back harmful regulations that would undermine Kentucky’s affordable and reliable electricity supply.

The letter was signed by more than 20 Kentucky leaders and organizations, including AG Coleman, major electric utilities, electric cooperatives, industrial customers, local officials and economic development organizations — reflecting a broad conviction that environmental regulations must be reasonable, not extreme.

“Kentucky ratepayers and industries benefit from some of the lowest retail electricity rates in the region, due in large part to a resource mix anchored by coal and natural gas which provide more than 90 percent of Kentucky’s electricity,” the letter noted. “While we support an all-of-the-above energy strategy, coal remains the backbone of a reliable, resilient and secure electricity grid in Kentucky.”

The coalition emphasized the critical importance of policy decisions being grounded in observed system performance, not theoretical assumptions that fail

to account for dispatchability, fuel security and real-world operating conditions.

In their letter, the group specifically thanked Administrator Zeldin for his efforts to repeal the Mercury Air and Toxics Standards (MATS) that would have imposed significant compliance burdens even though effective emission controls are already widely deployed across the coal fleet.

They also cited a recent Energy Ventures Analysis study that found continuing to operate existing coal plants is significantly more cost-effective than replacing them with new renewable generation. Additionally, they noted how analysis from Winter Storm Fern in January showed that coal-fired generation played an indispensable role in maintaining grid reliability under stress.

“Kentucky’s economic future, continued development and public safety depend on maintaining access to affordable and dependable electricity,” the letter concludes. “We strongly support your efforts to craft balanced, durable policies that protect the environment while recognizing the essential role dispatchable resources play in preserving the reliability and affordability that have long defined Kentucky’s electricity grid.”

The Dependable Power First Kentucky coalition’s full letter to EPA Administrator Zeldin can be viewed here: bit.ly/EPAletterMay2026

Kentuckians urged to buckle up ahead of Memorial Day travel

Submitted by Marla Marrs

Kentucky Transportation Cabinet Office of Highway Safety

FRANKFORT, Ky. (May 07, 2026) – During the “Click It or Ticket” enforcement campaign, running May 11 to May 31, Kentuckians are reminded to buckle up and properly secure children in car or booster seats to keep themselves safe throughout the year.

“Buckle up every trip, every time. It’s a simple action that can save lives,” said Gov. Andy Beshear. “It only takes two seconds, and those two seconds could save your life. We want every Kentuckian to make it home to their family and loved ones.”

The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet’s (KYTC) Office of Highway Safety (KOHS) is joining law enforcement around the commonwealth and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) in the annual federally funded high-visibility

seat belt enforcement effort that spans the Memorial Day weekend.

According to the KOHS, of the 664 roadway deaths last year in Kentucky, 423 were killed in motor vehicle crashes, and 49% of them (209) were either not wearing a seat belt or were not properly restrained in a car seat or booster seat. Four of the 423 deaths were children ages 9 and younger. One of the four was improperly restrained.

“Buckling up should be second nature – not just for drivers, but passengers too,” said KYTC Secretary Rebecca Goodman. “It’s a small step that can make a big difference and help prevent fatalities on our roadways.”

More than 121 law enforcement agencies throughout Kentucky have participated in the KOHS Click It or Ticket “Local Heroes” initiative to reinforce this message. Localized public service announcements (PSAs) feature officers, deputies and

Troopers in counties with low seat belt usage rates and/or a high number of unrestrained motorist-involved crashes. The PSAs will air during the Click It or Ticket campaign beginning Memorial Day weekend. In areas without a county-specific PSA, statewide versions will air featuring various law enforcement agencies throughout the state.

According to NHTSA, when worn correctly, seat belts reduce the risk of death by 45% for front-seat vehicle occupants and by 60% for pickup truck, SUV and minivan occupants. Properly fastened seat belts contact the body’s strongest parts, such as the chest, hips and shoulders. A seat belt spreads the force of a crash over a wide area of the body, putting less stress on any one part, and allows the body to slow down with the crash, extending the time when the occupant feels the crash forces.

Visit kyhighwaysafety.com for more information.



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