



From the Press Box

By Bill Tom Stone

District week is upon us, and both the softball and baseball teams are playing some of the best ball of the season. They both play the Raceland Rams at Russell this week. On Monday, May 18, the baseball Lions will match up against the Rams in Russell, with the first pitch scheduled for 6:00 p.m. Then, on Tuesday, the Lady Lions will take on the Lady Rams at 7:30 p.m. on the Russell softball field. Both games are win-and-advance or lose-and-go-home contests. We wish both teams good luck in the district tournament. But now, let's look at last week and see how the teams ended the regular season.

The Lady Lions played two games this past week and ended the season on an upbeat note. They started the week by traveling to Ashland Blazer to play on Tuesday, May 12. Ashland has the highest RPI (Ratings Percentage Index, which is a formula-driven index that tries to measure your strength of schedule based upon your record, your opponent's record, and your opponent's opponent's record. If you love math, this formula is for you.) in the region and is one of the favorites to be in the regional finals. Our Lady Lions played well but came home with a 10-0 loss. Then, on Thursday, May 14, they faced off against the Lady Royals in the final game of the season. There was a good crowd on hand, and they said goodbye to three seniors who will be missed next year. They are Jerra Lucas, Kiya Noble, and Grace Switzer. The team defeated Mason County by a score of 5-2. We hope to take a good crowd up to Russell on Tuesday, May 19, to see the Lady Lions play the Lady Rams. Good luck, ladies.

The Lions finished up the season by hosting East Carter on Monday, May 11. The Raiders were just on top

of their game and defeated the Lions by a score of 13-4.

This was the last home game for three seniors who put it on the line for their team this year. Those three were Braxton Egbert, Cameron Farris, and Matthew Lung. Then the Lions finished up the season with three road games. On Tuesday, May 12, they traveled to take on one of the top teams in the 10th Region, the Montgomery County Indians, and lost by a score of 10-0. Then, on Thursday, May 14, they traveled to Olive Hill to play the Comets and lost 13-4. They ended the regular season at Estill County on Friday, May 15. Estill is a tough team from the 14th Region, but the Lions played with them well; however, they ended up losing by a score of 8-0. They finished the regular season with a record of 8-24 but feel confident that the competition they faced this year has them ready for district play. They will face off against the Rams at Russell on Monday, May 18, at 6:00 p.m. If you can make it out, the team would appreciate it.

Coach Wes Bloomfield and his team attended the Class 2A Region 6 Track Meet in Maysville on May 12. This event determined who would advance to the state track meet. The format for Class 2A is that the top two finishers from the seven regions are automatic qualifiers, and then there are 10 at-large invites based on scores.

Alex Russell finished second in the 100-meter, 200-meter, and 400-meter events at the regional meet and posted personal records in all three events. This punched his ticket to state in all three events. He hopes to place in the top eight at state and earn some hardware. Currently, he has the 12th-best time in the 100-meter and the sixth-best time in both the 200-meter and 400-meter events. The KHSAA Class 2A State Championships will be held on May

22 at the University of Kentucky.

Other scoring performances in the regional meet included Olivia Price, who finished sixth in the triple jump, and Teegan Trombley, who placed third in discus. Teegan missed an at-large bid by just inches. We wish Alex good luck at state this week.

You have only a week left to go out and see some great Little League games. The kids are having a great time, and this summer rite of passage is coming to a close for many of them. Another summer will be logged into their memories and recalled years from now when they run into old teammates and coaches. Those who know me know that I'm a football nut, but there is something special about America's pastime that makes me a little nostalgic.

Coach Stamm is encouraging boys to come out for the football team, as he feels that the only obstacle between a good and bad season is having enough players. For years, when we have 35 to 40 players, our record is decent, but when the numbers are down, so is our record. Encourage young men to come out. They will have a great time and learn skills like teamwork, discipline, and hard work. All of these will help make your young man a better adult.

In closing, I would encourage everyone to go out and vote. This is not a game, but a responsibility if you call yourself a citizen of the United States. We take many of the liberties and rights we have in this country for granted, but please don't take this one for granted. Go vote.

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All Year Long In
THE LEWIS
COUNTY HERALD

Legislative Update

State Representative Patrick Flannery



There are many paths to a bright future for graduates

With graduation season upon the Commonwealth, many Kentucky students are preparing to walk across the stage, receive their diplomas, and step into their next chapter. Whether it be high school, technical school, or college graduation, these ceremonies are the celebration of a student's hard work, perseverance, and strength. They pushed through everything life threw their way, and were able to cross the finish line. Regardless if they thrived or barely survived, each student still walks across the same stage.

Graduation means the closing of one chapter, and the beginning of another. While this season is often filled with excitement, for some graduates it can also bring uncertainty about what lies ahead and an excess of tough decisions. For many, they will decide to leave home in order to seek a higher education or an employment opportunity.

For years, students have been faced with the rhetoric that there is only one path to success: earning a four-year college degree and starting a career thereafter. While higher education remains an important option, it is not the only road to a fulfilling, successful, and financially stable future. In Kentucky, we are fortunate to live in a state that recognizes and values many different pathways to opportunity.

The Kentucky Community and Technical College System (KCTCS) offers students a practical, affordable, and highly respected way to begin building careers in fields that are essential to our economy. From advanced manufacturing and healthcare to information technology and skilled trades, KCTCS equips students with the tools they need to enter the workforce quickly and often with little to no debt.

Kentucky's skilled trades programs, apprenticeships, and workforce training opportunities are also very important to our economy. Welders, electricians, plumbers, HVAC technicians, heavy equipment operators, construction workers, and carpenters are not only in demand, they are the backbone of our state's growth.

Across the Commonwealth, construction projects continue to transform our communities. New schools,

roads, hospitals, housing, and economic development sites lay the foundation for Kentucky's future. These projects do more than create loud noise and traffic issues; they create good-paying jobs, strengthen local economies, and improve quality of life for generations to come. These projects cannot happen without skilled workers.

As Kentucky continues to attract new businesses and make strategic investments in infrastructure, the need for trained, dependable workers has never been greater. Good-paying careers are available right now, many of them without requiring a traditional four-year degree.

For graduates who may feel pressure to have every detail figured out, I want to offer this encouragement: your path does not have to be like anyone else's.

Success should not be measured by whether you attend a university, enroll in technical school, begin an apprenticeship, join the workforce, or choose military service. Success should be measured by your willingness to work hard and continue learning.

Kentucky needs teachers and engineers, but we also need welders and linemen. We need nurses and entrepreneurs, but we also need builders and mechanics.

Every role matters and every path leads to a purpose.

To the graduates of the Class of 2026: this is your time. You do not need all the answers today. Take the next steps with confidence and explore your options. Be open to opportunities you may not have considered. Your future may look different than you imagined and it may be even better because of it.

In closing, I would like to offer a piece of advice that guided me through many seasons of life; focus on what you can control. Not getting into your first-choice school or narrowly missing out on a job opportunity may feel discouraging but these setbacks do not define your future. The way you carry on will.

The Commonwealth is counting on your generation to help build what comes next. Whether that means building bridges, businesses, communities, or dreams, know this: your work will matter. Congratulations, graduates. Kentucky's future is bright because of you.

As always, I can be reached anytime through the toll-free message line in Frankfort at 1-800-372-7181. You can also contact me via email at Patrick.Flannery@kylegislature.gov and keep track through the Kentucky legislature's website at legislature.ky.gov.

THE LEWIS COUNTY HERALD

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Subscription Rates:

Lewis County - \$25.00 (tax included)
All other KY counties - \$30.00 (tax included)
All other states \$35.00 (tax included)
Single Copy - \$1.00

Periodical Postage will be paid at Vanceburg, KY
LEWIS COUNTY HERALD PUBLISHING COMPANY, INC.

Postmaster, send address corrections to:
336 Lions Lane, Vanceburg, KY 41179

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THE LEWIS COUNTY HERALD is published weekly at
336 Lions Lane, Vanceburg, KY 41179

THE LEWIS COUNTY HERALD

Office Hours: Mon., Tues., Thurs., Fri. 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

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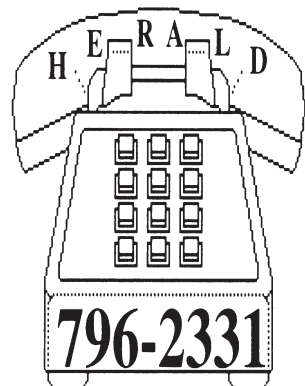
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MEMORIAL DAY HOLIDAY DEADLINE NOTICE

THE LEWIS COUNTY HERALD office will be closed Monday, May 25. The office will reopen on Tuesday, May 26.

All advertising, articles and photos must be in the office by Noon, Thursday, May 21, to be published in the May 26 edition.

Any advertisement or articles received after the deadline will be placed in the June 2, 2026, edition.

Lewis County Schools

Advertisement for Contracted Physical Therapy Services

On behalf of the Lewis County Schools Board of Education, physical therapists or entities that have available physical therapists are invited to submit a proposal for physical therapy services within the district for the 2026 – 2027 school year. Our school district consists of 4 elementary schools, 1 middle school, and 1 high school:

- Garrison Elementary
- Laurel Elementary
- Lewis County Central Elementary
- Tollesboro Elementary
- Lewis County Middle School
- Lewis County High School

Historically, our past need and contract for Physical Therapy in Lewis County Schools indicated the need for physical therapy services 1 day per school calendar week.

Interested parties shall deliver a proposal on or before Thursday, June 1st, 2026 by 4:00 PM EST to:

Lewis County Schools
RFP: Physical Therapy
Attn: Jeff Aulick, Superintendent / Traci Evans, DoSE
251 Lions Lane
Vanceburg, KY 41179
Phone: (606) 796-2811

Proposals received after the above noted date and time will not be accepted. A representative or group of representatives will be selected to undertake the work at the discretion of the local board. The final selection of Physical Therapist(s) will be made by the Lewis County Schools Board of Education. The RFP can be found on the district website: www.lewis.kyschools.us or a copy can be requested by calling the phone number above.

Public Notice 20,21c

NOTIFICATION OF DESTRUCTION OF STUDENT SPECIAL EDUCATION RECORDS LEWIS COUNTY SCHOOLS

May 12, 2026

In accordance with the state and federal regulations implementing the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEIA), this is to inform you of our intent to destroy personally identifiable information related to special education services maintained in Lewis County School District special education records.

If you wish to maintain this information for your personal records, you need to notify us upon receipt of this notice; otherwise, the information will be destroyed on June 4, 2026.

Please be advised that the records may be needed by the student or the parent(s) for social security benefits or other purposes.

Records to be destroyed are as follows:

- Individual Education Plan (IEP)
- Evaluation Reports
- Test Protocols
- Notifications of Meetings
- Notices of Action
- Review of Existing Data Summaries
- All other personally identifiable information within the Special Education file*

The reason for destruction of the above listed items is because they are no longer needed to provide educational services, as it has been more than three (3) years since this individual has received special education services from the Lewis County School District.

The district may maintain a permanent record, without time limitation, of a student's name, address and phone number, his/her grades, attendance record, classes attended, grade level completed, and year completed.

The school is required to maintain records for a minimum of three (3) years from the date the child no longer received special education and related services.

Copies of records in the future will be offered to graduating students and will be maintained for three (3) years.

You may contact Traci Evans at the Lewis County Board of Education office at 606-796-2811 or at PO Box 159/251 Lions Lane, Vanceburg, KY 41179, for further information.

Sincerely,
Traci Evans
Director of Special Education
Lewis County Schools

Public Notice 20,21c