

## Why traffic safety checkpoints are publicized

By Dennis K. Brown

If you've seen the accompanying story about traffic safety checkpoints in Lewis County, you may have wondered why law enforcement agencies announce the locations in advance.

The answer is simple: Kentucky law enforcement agencies are required to publicize traffic safety checkpoints before they are conducted.

The requirement stems from court rulings establishing that while traffic safety checkpoints are constitutional, they must be conducted under strict guidelines to protect the constitutional rights of motorists.

Police and sheriff's departments in Kentucky must use approved checkpoint locations, have supervisory personnel present, conduct only brief stops, and provide advance public notice of the checkpoints, among other

requirements.

The US Supreme Court ruled that traffic safety checkpoints are constitutional because the state's interest in protecting the public from impaired and unsafe drivers outweighs the brief inconvenience to law-abiding motorists.

However, the court also recognized that checkpoints must be conducted in a manner that protects motorists from unreasonable stops.

Without advance public notice and established procedures, a checkpoint could be challenged as an unreasonable seizure under the Fourth Amendment to the US Constitution.

Although many motorists know when checkpoints are scheduled, law enforcement officers continue to make arrests for impaired driving and other violations during the operations.

Sheriff Johnny Bivens said the purpose of publicizing checkpoints is not to help violators avoid detection, but to deter dangerous behavior before it occurs.

"If someone decides not to drive after drinking because they know deputies may be conducting checkpoints, then the program has already accomplished one of its primary goals," Bivens said.

Traffic safety checkpoints also provide deputies an opportunity to check for valid driver's licenses, vehicle registration, proof of insurance, child safety seat compliance, distracted driving violations and other issues that affect public safety.

### Fourth Amendment to the US Constitution

"The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated..."

## CHECKPOINTS

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reports are accepted.

"Our goal is simple," Bivens said. "We want to identify impaired drivers, remove them from our roads and help prevent crashes before they happen."

## COLLECTIVE

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commercial kitchen will provide licensed workspace for local food producers and entrepreneurs.

Beyond shopping, The Carter House Collective is designed as a community gathering place.

Regular programming will include craft nights, weeknight classes, a bi-weekly Open Mic and Writers Night hosted by Josh Rister, monthly Food Truck Fridays, and Coffee and Cameras photo walks through historic downtown Vanceburg.

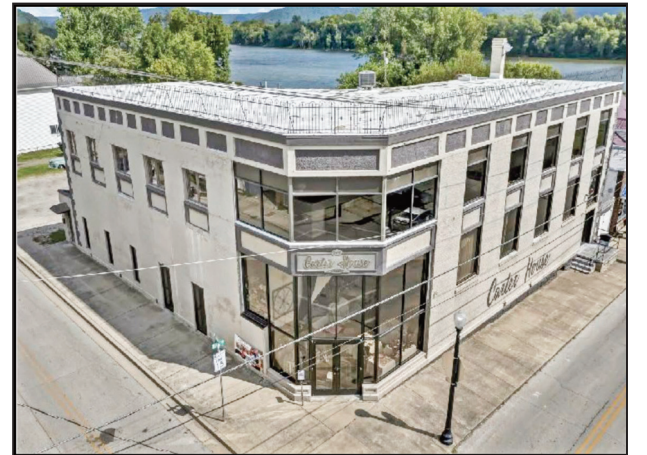
The opening comes during one of the busiest weekends of the year as visitors are expected in Vanceburg for the annual July Jubilee celebration.

Special events surrounding the opening begin Thursday evening with a Make Your Own Bouquet Night on the back deck. The following Friday, July 10, will feature the season's first Food Truck Friday alongside Open Mic Night and a bake sale fundraiser benefiting the Lewis County Middle School Roaring Cheer Boosters.

The Carter House Collective is another venture by Kangaroo Ridge Farms, which also created The Kentucky Coffee Trail. The statewide tourism initiative uses a digital passport to encourage travelers to visit independently owned coffee

The Lewis County Sheriff's Office will continue conducting traffic safety checkpoints and regular patrols throughout the county during the summer travel season and beyond.

Follow the QR code for a list of approved traffic safety checkpoint locations in Lewis County, or visit <https://bit.ly/44zVfDU>.



THE LEWIS COUNTY HERALD  
The historic Carter House will open as the Carter House Collective this weekend at the corner of Second and Main Streets in Vanceburg featuring more than 50 vendor spaces.

shops and downtown communities across Kentucky.

According to Kaus, visitors following the Coffee Trail have already introduced many first-time travelers to Vanceburg and Lewis County.

"People ask me, 'Why Vanceburg?' And I ask them, 'Why not Vanceburg?'" she said. "People are already coming, drawn in by The Kentucky Coffee Trail, and they leave surprised by what they find in this little river town. The Carter House Collective gives them one more reason to make the drive, and shows the people who live here that Vanceburg still has plenty of life left in it."

The opening also coincides with continued growth in Kentucky's tourism industry. According to state tourism offi-

cials, Kentucky recorded a fourth consecutive record year in 2025 with an estimated \$14.6 billion in economic impact as travelers increasingly seek authentic small-town destinations.

Vendor spaces remain available inside The Carter House Collective. Interested vendors may visit the business during the grand opening, email [thecarterhousecollective@gmail.com](mailto:thecarterhousecollective@gmail.com), or visit [thecarterhousecollective.com](http://thecarterhousecollective.com) for additional information.

The Carter House Collective is located at 12 West Second Street in Downtown Vanceburg (the corner of Main and Second streets).

Doors open at 9:00 a.m. Saturday, with the ribbon cutting scheduled for 11:00 a.m. during the city's July Jubilee celebration.

### Approved traffic safety checkpoint locations in Lewis County

- KY 8 at Firebrick.
- KY 8 west Garrison at Flag Point.
- Junction KY 59 and KY 344.
- Junction KY 377 and KY 344.
- KY 3311 (Montgomery Road) at Wright's Chapel.
- Junction KY 10 and KY 57 in Tollesboro.
- KY 59 approximately three miles south of Camp Dix.
- KY 59 at Emerson (KY 1662).
- Junction KY 59 and Lower Kinney Road at Camp Dix.
- KY 984 (Little Cabin Creek) approximately 1.5 miles from KY 57.
- Junction KY 8 and KY 57 at Concord.
- Junction KY 1306 (Kinney Road) and Skidmore Road.
- Junction KY 784 and KY 3311 (Montgomery Road).
- KY 984 (Junction of Little Cabin and Cabin Creek Road at concrete bridge).
- Junction KY 1068 (Laurel Road) and KY 59.
- Junction KY 8, KY 1306 and Garrison Lane.
- Junction KY 1237 and KY 989 in Burtonville.
- Junction KY 3020 (Ronald Reagan) and KY 8 at Black Oak.

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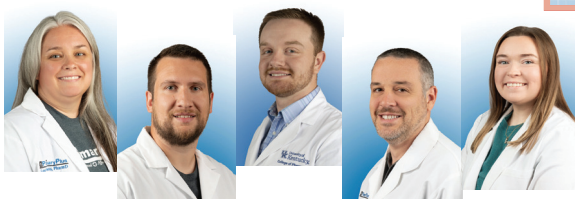
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Cardiology nurse practitioner **Kristy Turley, APRN**, specializes in the diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of cardiovascular diseases, including coronary artery disease, acute coronary syndromes, angina, valve disease, heart failure, and cardiac arrhythmias.

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