The Licking Valley Courier

P.O. Box 187- West Liberty, Ky. 41472- Phone 606-743-3551
USPS Permit Number 312-040

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POSTMASTER: Send changes of address and all forms to the above address. The Licking Valley Courier is published on Thursdays 51 weeks a year. Periodicals postage paid at the West Liberty Post Office, West Liberty, Kentucky. Editor reserves the right to edit and/or omit all items submitted for publication.



Judge Executive Jim Gazay (center) at regional Wildfire Protection Planning initiative meeting.

Morgan County participates in GADD regional Wildfire Protection Planning initiative

MORGAN COUNTY, Ky. – Morgan County is participating in a regional effort to assess wildfire risks and identify opportunities to strengthen local wildfire preparedness through a new initiative led by the Gateway Area Development District (GADD).

The USDA Forest Service awarded GADD $200,000 through its Community Wildfire Defense Grant program to develop the region's first Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP). The plan will cover all five Gateway region counties and 10 municipalities, including Morgan County, and will feature an individual wildfire risk assessment for each county.

As part of the planning process, GADD held a kickoff meeting in Morgan County to gather input from local fire departments and emergency response personnel. The effort will examine historical wildfire activity, identify homes and infrastructure most vulnerable to wildfire, and evaluate areas where emergency crews may face challenges accessing fire locations.

GADD is working alongside local fire departments, emergency management officials, county representatives and the Kentucky Division of Forestry to combine wildfire data and mapping with firsthand knowledge from those responding to emergencies in their communities.

One of the primary benefits of developing the plan will be creating opportunities for future grant funding. By documenting wildfire risks, response challenges and equipment or training needs, the plan will help Morgan County and local agencies identify potential funding sources for projects that could improve wildfire preparedness and response capabilities.

Potential needs identified by local fire departments, including equipment, vehicles and additional training, may also help guide applications for separate funding opportunities.

Morgan County Judge-Executive Jim Gazay, who also serves on the Gateway Area Development District Board, is among the local leaders involved in the regional effort to strengthen wildfire preparedness and planning throughout the Gateway region.

The completed plan will provide Morgan County with a better understanding of its wildfire risks and help establish priorities for future mitigation and preparedness efforts.

CLASSIFIED ADS

RATE: 50¢ Per Word
$5 Minimum

MUST BE PAID IN ADVANCE

LICKING RIVER VIEWS — Mobile homes/houses/storage units for rent. Call 743-9993 or 606-495-5821.
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Public Notices

NOTICE OF SALE
COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
MORGAN CIRCUIT COURT
CASE NO. 25-CI-00039

McCOY FAMILY ENTERPRISES, LLC, PLAINTIFF
VS.
SELDON PORTER, A/K/A SHELDON PORTER; LEE PORTER; COUNTY OF MORGAN, KENTUCKY, DEFENDANTS

Pursuant to the Judgment and Order of Sale in the Morgan Circuit Court, entered on September 4, 2026, I shall offer for sale the property described herein at public auction on the Courthouse steps of the Morgan County Judicial Center in West Liberty, Kentucky, on the 2nd day of December, 2026 at or near the hour of 1:10 p.m., to the highest bidder on the following terms:

The aforementioned real estate shall be sold as a whole. The real estate shall be sold on a credit of thirty (30) days, with the privilege of the purchaser to pay for bid in cash in full, and if not paid in full then the purchaser shall make a cash down payment of at least ten percent (10%) of the purchase price to cover the costs of the judicial sale; and the purchaser shall execute a bond for the remainder of the purchase price, with good surety thereon, to be approved by the Master Commissioner of this Court, and bearing interest at the rate of 6% per annum from the date of the sale, until paid; additionally, a lien shall be retained upon the real estate to be sold herein, to secure the payment of the balance of the purchase price within thirty (30) days of the date of sale upon which execution may be levied by the Master Commissioner of this Court.

Description of the Property: Located at White Oak in Morgan County, Kentucky, and being Lot No. 5 of the Leed and Edna Bailey Estate. Beginning at the Licking River at a steel stake joining Lot #6; thence running Southwest to a steel stake; thence crossing the county road and running southwest to the top of the ridge at the steel stake; thence running east to a steel stake and joining Lot No. 4; thence down the hill to a stake; thence crossing the county road and the bottom to a steel stake at the Licking River, to the point of beginning.

Being the same property conveyed to Lee and Seldon Porter by deed dated May 6, 1985 and recorded in the Morgan County Clerk's office at Deed Book 145, Page 344.

NOTE: Only delinquent ad valorem taxes shall be paid from the sale proceeds. The Purchaser shall be responsible for payment of the taxes for the current year and thereafter.

Hon. John P. Thompson,
Master Commissioner
Morgan County, Ky.
C-11-12-3t
Pub. Nov. 12,19, 26

NOTICE OF SALE
COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
MORGAN CIRCUIT COURT
CASE NO. 25-CI-00143

KENTUCKY HOUSING CORPORATION, PLAINTIFF
VS.
ROBERT W. SNEDEGAR, A/K/A ROBERT W. SNEDEGER; POLLY SNEDEGAR, A/K/A POLLY SNEDEGER INDIVIDUALLY AND AS HEIR TO VIRGINIA L. LANDRUM;
RICHARD LANE; AND FARMERS AND TRADERS BANK, DEFENDANTS

Pursuant to the Judgment and Order of Sale in the Morgan Circuit Court, entered on October 12, 2026, I shall offer for sale the property described herein at public auction on the Courthouse steps of the Morgan County Judicial Center in West Liberty, Kentucky, on the 2nd day of December, 2026 at or near the hour of 1:15 p.m., to the highest bidder on the following terms:

The aforementioned real estate shall be sold as a whole. The real estate shall be sold on a credit of thirty (30) days, with the privilege of the purchaser to pay for bid in cash in full, and if not paid in full then the purchaser shall make a cash down payment of at least ten percent (10%) of the purchase price to cover the costs of the judicial sale; and the purchaser shall execute a bond for the remainder of the purchase price, with good surety thereon, to be approved by the Master Commissioner of this Court, and bearing interest at the rate of 5.50% per annum from the date of the sale, until paid; additionally, a lien shall be retained upon the real estate to be sold herein, to secure the payment of the balance of the purchase price within thirty (30) days of the date of sale upon which execution may be levied by the Master Commissioner of this Court.

Description of the Property: 31 Kaden Drive, Ezel, Kentucky 41425. (For Legal Description see LSOT: Deed Book 253, Page 560, Morgan County Clerk's Office.)

Map/Parcel ID Number: 007-00-00-018.04.

NOTE: Only delinquent ad valorem taxes shall be paid from the sale proceeds. The Purchaser shall be responsible for payment of the taxes for the current year and thereafter.

Hon. John P. Thompson,
Master Commissioner
Morgan County, Ky.
C-11-12-3t
Pub. Nov. 12,19, 26

NOTICE OF SALE

Commercial Bank will offer for sale at public auction the following:

• 2015 Chevrolet Tahoe Black, VIN # 1GNSCBKC9R302403.

The sale will be conducted at the Commercial Bank branch at Index, Ky., on Saturday, Dec. 19, 2026, beginning at 10 a.m. the items may be inspected by prospective purchasers between the hours of 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. any day between now and the date of the sale by contacting Robert Martin, collections officer, at 606-743-3195.

These items will be sold as is and the terms will be cash. The seller reserves the right to bid and to reject any and all bids.

Robert Martin
Collections Officer
Commercial Bank
C-11-26-3T

Medicare Open Enrollment runs thru Dec. 7th

Medicare Open Enrollment is here! Starting on October 15, 2025, people on Medicare are able to compare their prescription drug plans and/or Medicare Advantage plans, to ensure that they are getting the best, most affordable coverage available in 2026. Most people that compare their plans during Medicare Open Enrollment save significant money. But do not delay, for Medicare open enrollment closes on December 7, 2025.

The Medicare SHIP Program, a non-profit organization provides comparison assistance at no charge to you. Medicare SHIP does NOT sell or endorse any insurance company. We are here to help you make informed decisions with regards to your Medicare needs. Additionally, our program can screen you for money-saving benefits and help you to apply for help to lower your medication and Medicare premium costs each month. Call the Medicare SHIP Program at 1-866-516-3051 or visit lablaw.org/medicare to find out more and to get information.

Outdoor burning laws are in effect through Dec. 15

FRANKFORT, Ky., Oct. 2 – Wildfire hazard season began Oct. 1 in Kentucky andKentuckians are reminded that outdoor burning restrictions will be in place Oct 1-Dec. 15) throughout the commonwealth.

The Commonwealth of Kentucky's outdoor burning law prohibits burning between the hours of 6 a.m. and 6 p.m. local time, if the fire is within 150 feet of any woodland, brushland, or fields containing dry grass or other flammable materials. These restrictions are in effect every fall (Oct. 1 – Dec. 15) and spring (Feb. 15 – April 30) to help prevent wildfires.

The Division of Forestry (KDF) responds to 850 to 1,000 wildfires annually across the state. Studies show that 99% of wildfires in Kentucky are caused by human activity. Arsonists start over half of the wildfires, and the second leading cause is debris fires that escape. If a fire escapes from the burning of debris, immediately contact the nearest or local fire department.

Kentucky has more than 12 million acres of forests, nearly half the state. Those forests are the foundation of a major economic force in the commonwealth. In 2024-2025, Kentucky's forest products industry contributed $20 billion to our economy and provided more than 28,000 jobs.

To help prevent wildfires and protect your family, neighbors, and firefighters, KDF recommends the following precautions:

Avoid burning debris during fire hazard seasons and during dry, windy conditions. Outdoor burning is illegal between 6 a.m. and 6 p.m. in or within 150 feet of any woodland, brushland, or fields with dry grass.

Incorporate "Firewise" practices around homes and communities in forested areas. Remove leaves, debris, and firewood from around homes and structures to reduce fuel for wildfires and to help firefighters access your property. Creating a defensible space also includes trimming overhanging branches, spacing out shrubs, and keeping grass mowed short—these steps protect your home and your neighbors. For more tips, visit https://www.firewise.org/

Report suspected arson to the nearest Kentucky State Police Post or call the Target Arson Hotline at 800-27-ARSON.

Contact your local fire department or county judge/executive's office for questions regarding local burn bans. Residents should call the Division for Air Quality at (502) 564-3999 to learn about other specific regulations before burning anything.

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MORGAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

JOB OPENING

The Morgan County Sheriff's Office would like to announce a job opening for the position of Morgan County deputy sheriff. Candidates must be at least 21 years of age, posses a high school diploma, and demonstrate an average computer skill proficiency. Interview resumes are required.

Applications will be available at the Morgan County Sheriff's Office until December 14th, 2026. The completed forms can be dropped off at Morgan County Sheriffs office during regular business hours or mailed to the following address: MCSO P.O. Box 305, West Liberty, KY. 41472.

The Morgan County Sheriff's office is an equal opportunity employer and prohibits discrimination and harassment of any kind. MCSO employment decisions are based on individual qualifications without regard to race, color, age, religion or belief or any status protected by laws of the commonwealth of Kentucky.