

Legals (continued from A4)

neighboring destinations and expand the area’s reach. • Actively participate in regional and state tourism associations such as the Kentucky Travel Industry Association, Kentucky Association of Convention and Visitors Bureau. • Stay informed on state-level tourism trends, policies, funding opportunities, and Destination Development • Continuously identify opportunities to expand tourism infrastructure, improve visitor experiences, and extend tourist stay. Operations Oversee Commission-owned properties and investments along with the daily operations of the Manchester Tourism Office • Manage and support part-time staff, as well as volunteers. • Ensure high-quality public engagement, visitor support, and event production • Serve as the custodian of the Tourism Commission Records. Marketing & Promotion • Develop and execute marketing strategies across digital, print, and social platforms to promote Manchester and regional assets. • Oversee the creation of tourism content, event promotion, and storytelling that aligns with brand identity. • Represent Manchester at travel shows, conventions, and tourism events in and around the region and state. Financial & Grant Management • Prepare and manage the annual budget in partnership with financial committee and alignment with strategic goals. • Research, apply for, and administer local, state, federal, and private grants to support tourism and infrastructure growth. What We’re Looking For • A deep appreciation for Southeastern Kentucky and a genuine passion for showcasing its culture, communities, and natural beauty through tourism. • Proven commitment to tourism, hospitality, destination marketing, Strong leadership and organizational skills with the ability to manage multiple priorities. • Excellent communication, collaboration, and public speaking abilities. • Financial management experience, including budgeting and management. • Marketing and content creation experience, especially for tourism or destination marketing. • Additional Requirements • Ability to work evenings, weekends, and holidays as needed • Willingness to travel for meetings, industry events, and regional initiatives • Must possess and maintain a valid driver’s license • Must reside in the Manchester/Clay Co area or be willing to relocate within a reasonable timeframe upon acceptance of the position. • Drug test, background check will be required as well as other duties as needed or assigned by Manchester Tourism Commission Board. Manchester Tourism Commission is an equal opportunity employer. Salary commensurate with experience. To Apply Send a cover letter, resume, and at least three references to: Manchester Tourism Commission PO Box 864 Manchester, KY 40962 No phone calls Resumes must be postmarked no later than July 31, 2026, to be considered for the position.

Nearly 1,000 Facebook comments send clear message: Clay Countians want a public pool or water park

MANCHESTER — What began as a simple question on *The Manchester Enterprise’s* Facebook page has turned into one of the largest community conversations of the summer. On July 9, the Enterprise asked readers, “Does Manchester/Clay County need a water park?” Within days, over 100,000 viewers had weighed in, and while opinions differed on whether the county/city/tourism should build a traditional public swimming pool, a full-scale water park or something in between, one thing became abundantly clear. Clay Countians overwhelmingly believe it’s time to invest in aquatic recreation. The discussion mirrored another recent Enterprise Facebook post asking whether Clay County needed a data center, which generated thousands of comments and ultimately prompted city leaders to adopt a temporary moratorium while the issue could be studied. This time, however, the response was remarkably unified.

Families want something to do
One of the most common themes throughout the discussion centered on giving children and families more opportunities close to home. Whitney Johnson summed up what many parents expressed. “We definitely need stuff like this. It would also possibly draw more people and it would open up jobs for teenagers. I think it’s all around a great idea.” Lashay Roark echoed the sentiment. “Kids need things to do besides getting bored and getting into trouble. I am 100% for improving the county & the community.” Many commenters said children currently have few recreational options during the summer outside of the splash pad or traveling to neighboring counties.

Keep local dollars at home
Economic development became another recurring theme. Residents repeatedly pointed out that families already spend hundreds—even thousands—of dollars every summer at pools and water parks in Williamsburg, wLondon, Somerset, Corbin and beyond. Melissa Estep wrote, “Why take our business out of town to enjoy the summer... make it reasonable so everyone can enjoy the water park.” Kathy-Trevor Smith agreed. “Then when we drive far away like that we eat out of town & get gas out of town as well. It’s a major tourist attraction.” Madison Maggard believed the impact could extend beyond admission fees. “Think of how many surrounding areas then would come to our town just for this then would probably stop at a gas station or restaurant. Clay County would thrive.”

Jobs for local teenagers
Another topic mentioned repeatedly was employment. Laura Ann said proper maintenance would be key but added, “It would be a great job opportunity for students as well.”

Amber Saylor noted simply, “Not to mention the summer jobs that would be available for the teens.” Several residents also suggested lifeguard positions, concessions and maintenance jobs could provide valuable work experience for local high school and college students. **Memories of Beech Creek**
Perhaps no subject generated more nostalgia than the former Beech Creek swimming pool. Dozens of residents recalled spending nearly every summer day there growing up. Pat Roof remembered, “We rented the community center and pool for family reunions and kids had a blast! Why not open it back up?” Sarah Beth Sester wrote, “The pool was such a huge part of our childhood... it would be amazing to see it opened back up.” Others suggested reopening the existing location instead of constructing an entirely new facility.

More than just a swimming pool
While some residents said a traditional public pool would be enough, many envisioned something larger. Ideas included:
• Lazy rivers
• Wave pools
• Water slides
• Toddler splash areas
• Indoor domes for year-round swimming
• Swim team facilities
• Swimming lessons
• Rental pavilions
• Family picnic areas
Some even proposed locating the project on Elk Mountain, while others preferred rebuilding at the former Beech Creek location. **Not everyone agreed**
Although support was overwhelming, a handful of residents urged caution. David Martin reminded readers, “As with anything of that nature, the taxpayers must be willing to fund it.” David Phillips added, “My property tax is already too high.” Others stressed that maintenance, insurance, security and long-term operating costs would determine whether such a project could succeed.

A conversation worth having
While a Facebook discussion is not a scientific poll, nearly 1,000 comments provide a remarkable snapshot of public opinion. The conversation revealed residents thinking beyond simply building a pool. Many viewed the idea as an investment in quality of life, youth recreation, tourism and economic development. Whether Manchester and Clay County ever pursue a public pool, aquatic center or destination-style water park remains to be seen. But if the response to The Manchester Enterprise’s question is any indication, the community has spoken loudly. For many residents, the desire isn’t just for a place to swim. It’s for a place where local families can make memories without leaving Clay County.

Woman charged with strangulation after alleged domestic assault in Manchester



TINA MASSEY

MANCHESTER — An alleged domestic disturbance at a Wayne Street residence Sunday night resulted in a Manchester woman being charged with first-degree strangulation and fourth-degree assault, according to an arrest complaint.

Tina Massey, 44, of 227 Wayne St., Manchester, was arrested following the incident, which was reported at approximately **11 p.m. Sunday**.

According to the arrest complaint, officers responded to a residence on Wayne Street after receiving a report of a physical altercation between two females. Upon arrival, officers spoke with 81-year-old Irene Rowlett, who alleged that her son’s girlfriend, Tina Massey, was intoxicated and had been involved in an altercation with her son, James Saylor.

Rowlett told officers that during the argument, Massey returned to her bedroom and began kicking and punching the door. After gaining access to the room, Rowlett alleged Massey grabbed her by the neck, pushed her

against a wall and began choking her.

The responding officer reported observing that Rowlett’s shirt collar had been ripped and that she had red marks on her neck. Police also noted a large hole in the bedroom door, muddy shoe prints on the door and several items scattered across the floor of the residence.

Officers also interviewed James Saylor, who stated he and Massey had been arguing and that she was intoxicated when the confrontation turned physical. The officer reported observing a large scratch on Saylor’s face, blood coming from his cheek and additional scratch marks on his chest.

According to the complaint, Saylor told officers Massey had left the residence with family members before police arrived. He also advised that Massey lived at the residence with his mother and two children, who were present during the incident.

Police later located Massey at **2365 South U.S. Highway 421**. According to the complaint, officers detected the odor of alcohol on her person and believed she appeared intoxicated. When asked what had happened, Massey reportedly told officers, “**I don’t remember,**” and was unable to provide a statement regarding the incident.

Massey was arrested and lodged in the Clay County Detention Center on charges of **first-degree strangulation (domestic violence-related)** and **fourth-degree assault (domestic violence), minor injury**.

The charges are allegations, and Massey is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty in a court of law.

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