

## Graves Middle Archery Team makes solid showing at national championship



Graves County Schools

After winning first in the state in March, the Graves County Middle School Archery Team competed in the National Archery in Schools Program Championship in Daytona, Florida, against schools from 40 states and one Canadian province. Thirty-three archers competed and earned a team score of 3297, bringing home third place against 41 other middle school teams in the Bullseye competition. Nineteen archers competed in the 3D competition. A team score of 1595 earned them a placement of 11th out of 60 middle school teams. In addition, Elena Cole placed fifth individually in the championship out of 484 middle school girls. "Congratulations to all of our archers and their families on a successful archery season," Graves County Schools said on Facebook.

## Past president provides Rotary orientation to club members



Contributed photo

The guest speaker for the Monday Mayfield Rotary Club meeting was Amanda England, past president and membership/recruitment chair. She gave an overview of what Rotary is, what the organization does for the community and club service projects. She informed the club that there are many opportunities to be involved and participate in various club committees and activities. Pictured from the left are England and current Club President Lindsay Shankle.

## MEDIA

FROM PAGE B4

were able to use social media as a means to stay connected to their friends and their peers, which is really important. We want that connectivity," Moody said. "Where we see social media become problematic, and this is especially true for children who are already prone to anxiety or depression, but social media can exacerbate signs of anxiety and depression and other mental health issues like eating disorders that especially impact young girls, but impact a lot of young

people generally."

Young people tend to compare themselves to edited, polished images they see online, Moody said, which can also lead to depression and anxiety.

Cornett experienced this comparison; she was anxious about her clothes, the vehicle she drove, even where she was in life, all because she saw glamorized videos online that told her what her life should look like.

And bullying is also easier, especially with the rise of artificial intelligence that enables people to "post photos that are there that are not real, that are generated," Moody said.

Dunn, the Bowling Green teenager, believes the 24/7 nature of social media is a key part of the puzzle that makes bullying "widespread" and "almost unescapable."

"Social media did not invent bullying, but I feel like it kind of removed the final barrier for it going back generations," he said.

Social media keeps people keyed into connection or bullying long after school ends, he said, and it "penetrates every aspect of your life."

"A hurtful comment, a rumor, an embarrassing photo, all of those things kind of stay with you all day," Dunn said.

The algorithm system

doesn't help, said Aleah Stigall, 17. She described a spiral: If a person likes a video based on their mood, their feed will be filled with that content, which can be harmful in a depressive or anxiety episode.

"I could like a couple things, and then it's all I see," she said. "So, sometimes I really struggle with that."

Stigall, who just graduated from Boyle County High School and will attend the University of Kentucky this fall, started an educational initiative called "Disconnect to Connect: Let's Get Real."

She goes into schools and encourages students

to build connections offline because in 2019, she felt phones were already replacing human connection.

"I went to a sleepover with all my friends, and back in 2019 I didn't have a phone yet, so all of my friends had phones, so instead of doing all of the fun girly sleepover things, they just wanted to watch TikTok or make TikToks," Stigall said. "I really struggled with that. Especially as an only child, I was looking for an opportunity to get out of my house and spend time with my friends, and I just did not get that."

Moody, with Kentucky Youth Advocates, said

the concern for children is valid: Excessive screen times impact sleep and can cause social media addiction and other mental health issues.

"There's a lot of concerns, and especially with bills like House Bill 227, I think the aim there was to address those addictive features, put in some common sense protections," Moody said. "I think we also need to understand that a lot of the age verification processes and things of that nature are really hard to enforce, especially on the state level, if those platforms are willing to even adhere to state policy changes."

# NOTICE TO GRAVES COUNTY TAXPAYERS

Kimberly D. Gills, Graves County Clerk pursuant to KRS 424.130, announces that the 2025 Delinquent Real Property Tax Bills (Certificate of Delinquency) will be published in the Mayfield Messenger on July 15, 2026. The list of Certificates of Delinquency is also available for public inspection during the hours of 8:00 am - 4:30 pm Monday - Friday at the County Clerk's office located 1102 Paris Rd Suite 4 Mayfield, KY 42066. The list may also be inspected on the Software Management website. The Uniform Resource Locator of the website is [kydtax.smilic.us/dtaxlist.htm](http://kydtax.smilic.us/dtaxlist.htm). The tax sale will be held on August 11, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. All interested participants must register by the close of business on July 31, 2026. Please contact the County Clerk's office any time prior to the sale. **Please note: All payments must be received in the County Clerk's office prior to the tax sale listed in this advertisement. Payments received after the tax sale has been conducted will be returned without exception.** Some delinquencies – although they have been advertised – will be excluded from the tax sale in accordance with the provisions of KRS. 134.504(10)(b). If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the County Clerk's office at 270-247-1697.