

OBITUARY

Jacob Marshall Binion

Jacob Marshall Binion, 38, of Owensboro died Jan. 29, 2026. He was born on Nov. 14, 1987, in Alabama.

Jacob was a creative soul with a curious mind and a generous heart. He had a deep love for music and expressed himself through multiple instruments, finding joy in both creating and sharing sound with others. Jacob also enjoyed the imagination and camaraderie of playing Dungeons & Dragons, where his wit, storytelling, and sense of humor truly shined. A natural conversationalist and thinker, he hosted two podcasts, Discord Radio and Trailer Park Socrates, where he explored ideas, culture, and everyday philosophy with authenticity and insight. Even in passing, Jacob's kindness and selflessness endured, as he gave the ultimate gift of life through the donation of his heart.

Those left to cherish his memory include his children, Dylan and

Keela-Jean Binion; his mother, Jackie Binion; siblings, Beau (Tanya) Holloway and Casey (Chelsea Rednour) Binion; his aunts and uncles, Nick (Laura) Binion, Mike (Paula) Binion, Janel (Rob) Morris, Rob (Andrea) Morris, Chris (Maria) Morris, and Mike (Shelia) Morris, and his niece, Harley Holloway, and nephews, Samuel Stark and Miles Binion.

A visitation will take place on Saturday, Feb. 7, 2026, from 11 a.m. until 3 p.m. in the fellowship hall at Life Community Church.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Jackie Binion to assist with the needs of Jacob's children.

Haley McGinnis Funeral Home & Crematory is honored and privileged to be entrusted with the care of Jacob Marshall Binion. Please leave condolence messages for the family of Mr. Binion and sign their virtual guestbook at www.haleymcginnis.com.

POLICE REPORTS

The following list was compiled from reports to area law enforcement agencies:

Owensboro Police Department

- Savannah S. Lee, 27, of the 90 block of West Second Street was charged Wednesday with second-degree assault (domestic violence).
- Christopher G. Ray, 30, of the 2200 block of Citation Avenue was charged Wednesday with first-degree trafficking in a controlled substance (meth), first-degree possession of a controlled substance (meth) and driving under the influence.
- James R. Smith Jr., 57, of the 7200 block of Donald Avenue was charged Tuesday with driving under the influence.
- Eva E. Spencer, 37, of the 1700 block of McConnell Avenue was charged Wednesday with first-degree possession of a controlled substance (meth).
- Brittani L. Tutt, 28, homeless, was charged

Tuesday with first-degree trafficking in a controlled substance (meth), first-degree possession of a controlled substance (cocaine) and first-degree possession of a controlled substance (hydrocodone).

- Keith Wiltfang, 33, of the 400 block of Graham Lane was charged Monday with theft by deception (cold checks) over \$1,000.

- Air conditioner parts and copper worth \$3,000 was reported stolen Tuesday from a home in the 3200 block of Christie Place.

Daviess County Sheriff's Office

- Anthony R. Carman, 36, of Lewisport was charged Wednesday with first-degree possession of a controlled substance (meth).

Kentucky State Police

- Tom D. Montgomery, 69, of the 4400 block of Scotty Lane was charged Tuesday with driving under the influence.

TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is Thursday, Feb. 5, the 36th day of 2026. There are 329 days left in the year.

TODAY IN HISTORY: On Feb. 5, 2020, the Senate voted to acquit President Donald Trump in his first impeachment trial. Most senators expressed unease with Trump's pressure campaign on Ukraine that prompted the impeachment, but just one Republican, Mitt Romney of Utah, broke party ranks and voted to convict. In 2021, the Senate acquitted Trump in a second trial for allegedly inciting the violent Jan. 6 siege of the Capitol.

ALSO ON THIS DATE: In 1917, the U.S. Congress passed the Immigration Act of 1917 over President Woodrow Wilson's veto, an act that severely curtailed Asian immigration and mandated immigrant literacy testing.

In 1918, more than 200 people were killed during World War I when the Cunard liner SS Tuscania, which was transporting over 2,000 American troops to Europe, was torpedoed by a German U-boat off the coast of Ireland.

In 1971, Apollo 14 astronauts Alan Shepard and Edgar Mitchell stepped onto the moon's surface in the first of two lunar excursions.

In 1973, services were held at Arlington National Cemetery for U.S. Army Col. William B. Nolde, the last official American combat casualty in the Vietnam War before a ceasefire took effect.

In 1993, President Bill Clinton signed the Family and Medical Leave Act, granting workers up to 12 weeks

of unpaid leave for family

emergencies.

In 1994, white separatist

Byron De La Beckwith

was convicted in Jackson,

Mississippi, of murdering civil

rights leader Medgar Evers in

1963 and was sentenced to life

in prison.

In 2008, an outbreak of

87 tornadoes fired up across

nine states, killing 57 people in

Arkansas, Tennessee, Kentucky

and Alabama during a span of

12 hours. One Arkansas twister

left a 122-mile path of damage

along the ground.

In 2017, Tom Brady led one

of the greatest comebacks in

NFL history, highlighted by a

spectacular Julian Edelman

catch that helped lift New

England from a 25-point

deficit against the Atlanta

Falcons to the Patriots' fifth

Super Bowl victory, 34-28; it

was the first Super Bowl to end

in overtime.

In 2023, Beyoncé won her

32nd Grammy to become the

most decorated artist in the

history of the award.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS:

Tony-winning playwright

John Guare is 88. Football

Hall of Famer Roger Staubach

is 84. Film director Michael

Mann is 83. Racing Hall of

Famer Darrell Waltrip is 79.

Actor Barbara Hershey is

78. Actor-comedian Tim

Meadows is 65. Actor Jennifer

Jason Leigh is 64. Rock

musician Duff McKagan (Guns

N'Roses) is 62. Golf Hall of

Famer Jose Maria Olazabal

is 60. Actor-comedian Chris

Parnell is 59. Actor Michael

Sheen is 57. Country singer

Sara Evans is 55. Actor-singer

Darren Criss is 39. Actor Henry

Golding is 39. Soccer star

Neymar is 34.

TVA reports higher revenue, sales growth in first quarter

BY PAXTON MEDIA GROUP

The Tennessee Valley Authority reported \$3 billion in operating revenues on about 40 billion kilowatt-hours of electricity sales for the three months ending Dec. 31, with revenue up 4.4% compared to the same period last year, according to a news release from TVA.

Electricity sales increased about 4% year over year, driven primarily by weather impacts and growth in the data processing, hosting and related services sector, the release said.

TVA President and CEO Don Moul said in the release that the results

reflect both financial performance and TVA's role in national energy and technology growth.

Fuel and purchased power expenses rose \$25 million compared to the same period last year, primarily due to higher market prices and increased demand, the release said. Operating and maintenance expenses declined \$56 million, driven mainly by Inflation Reduction Act tax credits recorded during the quarter.

Depreciation and amortization expense increased \$14 million, while interest expense rose \$29 million, reflecting higher balances and rates

on long-term debt, according to the release.

TVA reported net income of \$266 million for the quarter, up from \$125 million a year earlier, primarily due to higher operating revenues.

"TVA delivered a solid start to fiscal year 2026, supported by growing power demand and financial discipline," TVA Chief Financial Officer Tom Rice said in the release.

The release said TVA continues to invest in new generation and transmission as part of what officials described as one of the most significant investment periods in the utility's history.

House approves bill that would allow smoking in cigar bars

BY LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH COMMISSION

FRANKFORT — A bill that would allow certain businesses to operate as a cigar bar advanced off the House floor on Tuesday.

Rep. Chris Lewis, R-Louisville, said House Bill 194 creates "a narrow exemption" in the law that would allow the smoking of cigars in what the bill defines as a cigar bar.

"If you don't want to be exposed to cigar smoke in a public place where smoke-free laws currently exist, nothing in this bill changes your ability to maintain that separation," Lewis said on the House floor.

Under HB 194, a business would only be permitted to operate as a cigar bar if 25% of the business's gross annual income is derived from the sale of cigars, pipe tobacco, related accessories or the rental of humidors. Additionally, the business must hold a valid quota retail drink license.

The bill would give local governments the ability to enact an ordinance to require cigar bars receive a special permit to operate. Local governments may also exempt cigar bars from the quota retail drink license requirement.

To address health concerns, Lewis said HB 194 would require cigar bars to provide a smoke-free location for deliveries and signage warning potential customers of exposure to cigar and pipe tobacco smoke.



Rep. Chris Lewis, R-Louisville, speaks on House Bill 194, which would allow cigar bars in Kentucky, on the House floor.

Cigar bars that share a physical wall or a common, enclosed air space with any other structure would be required to implement measures to ensure smoke does not pass into smoke-free areas, Lewis added.

The bill also would prohibit anyone under the age of 21 from entering the business.

Rep. Adrielle Camuel, D-Lexington, asked Lewis to clarify how HB 194 might impact local smoke-free ordinances.

Lewis said there is nothing in the legislation that would allow smoking in bars, restaurants, bowling alleys or anywhere public where current smoke-free ordinances are in place.

"This doesn't prevent any municipality from creating a new smoke-free ordinance, but it would not allow them to ban a cigar bar," he added.

The House voted 69-24 to send HB 194 to the Senate.

Rep. Anne Gay Donworth, D-Lexington, said she was voting "no" on the legislation because her district is against it.

"I do want to thank the bill's sponsor. I think this is a much better version than what we passed last year, having the 25% margin for cigar sales," Donworth said. "I am a no purely because my district has a very, very popular indoor smoking ban."

Rep. Al Gentry, D-Louisville, voted "yes" on HB 194. He said although he isn't a smoker, he supports others' right to do it.

"I voted 'yes' on the bill because I am a proponent of freedom and accountability," he said. "Cigar smoking is legal, so if we want to have a confined space for those individuals to come together and do that, that is their choice."

Affordable housing bill passes

BY LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH COMMISSION

FRANKFORT — A bill that would enable religious institutions to build small-scale affordable housing units advanced from the House Local Government Committee on Tuesday.

Rep. Michael Sarge Pollock, R-Campbellsville, is the primary sponsor of the bipartisan legislation, House Bill 333.

Pollock said the Sisters of Loretto, a Catholic women's organization, reached out to him and Sen. Jimmy Higdon, R-Lebanon, about a plan to renovate an empty structure into short-term housing.

"The conversation created an opportunity to share their story, and their input made it clear there is both a need and opportunity here in Kentucky," Pollock added.

Pollock said the legislation would implement additional safeguards to prevent clustering or large-scale development on properties that are owned prior to Jan. 1, 2021.

Additionally, HB 333 would expand a religious institution's ability to operate modest-sized homeless shelters, including cooling or warming centers, in industrial zoned areas, Pollock added.



Rep. Michael Sarge Pollock, R-Campbellsville, speaks on House Bill 333, an affordable housing bill, during Tuesday's House Local Government Committee meeting.

lock added. These facilities would be required to follow health and safety regulations.

Pollock told the committee the bill matters because homelessness is a real issue in Kentucky, and more affordable housing options can help.

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he said.

Rep. Sarah Stalker, D-Louisville, is a co-sponsor of the legislation. During a discussion on the bill, Stalker said she is under the impression the legislation will have a positive impact on the property tax base.

"I want to make sure that other folks are clear, and that I am clear on this, that the property tax base will only be impacted in a positive manner because of this bill," she said. "Meaning that if somebody had a building they were no longer using, or sitting on a church property — they were not paying taxes on that. Whereas if they renovate that and now we have affordable housing, they will be paying into that the tax base. Is that correct?"

Pollock said Stalker was correct.

The House Local Government Committee voted unanimously to send HB 333 to the House floor for consideration.

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