

Kentucky native part of Thunderbirds team

Durbin is the squadron's public affairs officer

BY KEITH LAWRENCE
MESSENGER-INQUIRER

Capt. Hannah Durbin, public affairs officer for the U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds, will return to Kentucky this weekend when the squadron highlights the Owensboro Air Show on Saturday and Sunday. The Richmond native attended Model Laboratory School, which Mark Calitri, president of the Owensboro-Daviess County Convention & Visitors Bureau, attended years earlier. In advance of this weekend's air show, Calitri conducted an online interview with Durbin. She told him that with the Thunderbirds, "I lead a team of seven, and we're

responsible for the team's strategic communication, marketing, recruiting and outreach. We manage, promote and share the Thunderbird brand across the country and online." Durbin said she's excited about being back in Kentucky. "Many of the team have never been, so I can't wait to show them my home state and everything that makes it special," she said. Durbin said, "I learned about the Air Force Academy my junior year of high school and was able to visit during their summer seminar program that summer." She said, "After being accepted during my senior year, it was a huge leap of faith to leave home and go. I didn't have any military members in my life at the time and I was scared. Luckily, I had some phenomenal mentors who saw before I did that it was a great fit for me." Durbin said, "I couldn't

be more thankful for the Air Force and the opportunities it has provided. I've lived in four countries and visited more than 40, spending a lot of time learning from our allies and partners around the world. I've always been adventurous, but the Air Force continues to be the greatest adventure, constantly opening doors that I didn't even know existed." She said she tells young people to "dream big and take the leap. You can only grow by stepping outside of your comfort zone." Durbin said, "I think, for most people, even if the Air Force isn't your forever career, you will leave it a better, more well-rounded human who is prepared to work hard, serve, and succeed throughout life's challenges. Especially as a young person, it can provide stability, guidance, and critical skills early in life." When people watch the

Thunderbirds in action this weekend, she said, "I hope you leave inspired to work hard and surround yourself with people who push you to be the best version of yourself." Durbin said, "You'll see six jets flying through the air inches apart, but it takes a team of 130 other members to make it all happen. We all show up as our best every day because the team depends on it. It's amazing what a team of motivated individuals can do, and that can apply to anyone at any stage of life." Keith Lawrence, klawrence@messenger-inquirer.com

At right: Pictured right is Kentucky native Capt. Hannah Durbin, public affairs officer for the U.S. Air Force's Thunderbirds. Durbin, who is from Richmond, is returning to her home state for this weekend's Owensboro Air Show.



37 members enrolled in new Leadership Owensboro class

BY KEITH LAWRENCE
MESSENGER-INQUIRER

The Greater Owensboro Chamber of Commerce's 45th class is one of the largest ever. The program started in 1981 with 30 members. This year's class has 37. Dave Kirk, Chamber president, said, "Leadership Owensboro is one of the oldest chamber talent programs in the commonwealth and I'm proud of our team for continuing to innovate and grow the program. We're also grateful to the employers and business owners for their investment into our community's leadership." The program runs from this month through June with full-day

sessions each month, covering topics including economy and innovation, education, healthcare, local government, justice, human needs and services, arts and culture and philanthropy. Kirk said class members are immersed in behind the scenes learning, community activities and meaningful discussions. Julia Kimbrell Brooks, director of talent programs, said, "Leadership Owensboro is an opportunity to step outside of your day-to-day role and gain a deeper understanding of the people, organizations and issues that shape our community." She said, "Through meaningful conversations, hands-on experiences and connections with commu-

nity leaders, class members are challenged to see Owensboro from new perspectives and think about how they can make a meaningful impact." Class members are Adam Wallace, Southern Star Central Gas Pipelines; Alexandria Haire, Wright Implement; Alondra Johnson, CASA of Ohio Valley; Amanda Bolen, Owensboro Riverport Authority; Anthony Jones, Independence Bank; Ashlee Berry, The Opportunity Center; Blake Templeton, True North Treatment Center; Brad Maglinger, Custom Audio-Video; Captain Brannon Pendergraft, Owensboro Fire Department; Brittany James, Owensboro Health; Brooke Arnold, RiverValley

Behavioral Health. Brooke Hagan, Daviess County Fiscal Court; Carltez Hampton, H.L. Neblett Center; Cassie Campbell, Owensboro Innovation Academy; Ceary Crisp, Owensboro Community and Technical College; David Rudd, UniFirst Corporation; Gary Clark, Owensboro Health; Isaac Settle, Owensboro Museum of Science and History; Deputy James Hicks, Daviess County Detention Center; Jessie Schartung, St. Benedicts Homeless Shelter; Joel Ciccio, Moore Automotive; John Janes, Southern Star Central Gas Pipelines. Katie Blan, Greater Owensboro Chamber of Commerce; Sgt. Kelsey Skaggs, Daviess Coun-

ty Sheriff's Office; Kim Wells, Green River Area Development District; Lauren McCarty, Bryant Corp.; Leeanne Musick, Musick Studios; Lt. Luke Hardy, Owensboro Police Department; Micheal Leach, Owensboro Municipal Utilities; Nee Kpaw, Fern Terra; Nicki Feher, RiverValley Behavioral Health; Preston French, SKY Engineering; Sarah Cox, Brescia University; Savannah Daniels, Big Rivers Electric Corp.; Scott Sims, Kentucky Wesleyan College; Tony Krampe, German American Bank; and Tony Pisano, Regional Water Resource Agency.

Keith Lawrence, klawrence@messenger-inquirer.com

Unitarian Universalist hosting prayer vigil for Sept. 11

BY THE
MESSENGER-INQUIRER

The Unitarian Universalist Church, located at the corner of Cedar Street and Parrish Avenue in Owensboro, in partnership with Non-violent Owensboro, will be hosting a September 11 prayer vigil from 6:30 to 8 p.m. on Friday in

the church's sanctuary. This the 19th year for the vigil, and it functions by offering a prayer for peace by people of different practices every 10 minutes, and then a silent observation time in between prayers. Organizer Dr. Claudia Ramisch said, "It opens

and closes with a song, and I offer a few pastoral remarks before the closing song. It offers us a chance to bring together many different ideas on peace and to meditate in the midst of the difference...as the evening progresses, the quiet deepens and offers its own peace."

CAMPUS

FROM PAGE A1

lung cancer in 2004, donated \$500,000 to the facility in honor of his parents. The 38,000-square-foot facility contains radiology, chemotherapy and radiation treatment services, a pharmacy, various cancer treatment specialists, social workers and counselors, researchers and physician offices for "one-stop care." The plan calls for medical oncology, hematology, infusion and patient resources to move to the main hospital campus, to a cancer wing on the hospital's eighth floor. "There's plenty of space in the hospital," said Owensboro Health Director of Marketing Brian Hamby. "We're confident there is plenty of space and the possibility, the opportunity, to expand capacity and hours in the future." An Owensboro Health fact sheet says: "The goal will be to move and replicate other services as well. The team has identified space and is partnering with the (hospital) foundation for funding of a dedicated Patient Resource Center that will house support groups, care navigation, social work, counseling and nutrition support." Jason Collins, vice president of clinical support operations, said bringing most cancer treatment into the hospital means patients will be able to receive services that were unavailable at the Mitchell Memorial center, such as blood transfusions. Currently, if there is a medical emergency at the Mitchell Memorial center, the staff calls 911 for an ambulance to transport the patient to the main campus, Collins said. With the transition, a patient with an

emergency can be treated by a response team and with all of the hospital's resources, Collins said. If an oncologist or other cancer care specialists have to consult with physicians from different fields about a patient's care, everyone involved will be under one roof at the hospital, Gregonis said. The main campus also offers other services not available at the Breckenridge Street location, such as hospitality suites for family staying with a patient and valet parking, Collins said. Hamby said radiation treatment will remain at Breckenridge Street because of the difficulty and expense of moving those services to the main hospital. Having radiation treatment remain at Breckenridge Street keeps "the service in a familiar place," Hamby said. With most of the cancer services on one floor at the hospital, the hope is to increase the number of patients the cancer physicians can treat. "It gives us the potential to expand hours" and the number of patients seen, Collins said. Currently, about 60 patients are seen daily at Mitchell Memorial. Some of the details, such as the design of the eighth floor, will be worked out in consultation with the Mitchell Memorial staff. Gregonis said: "One of the things we know is the community is passionate about this. They are as passionate about cancer care as we are. We are committed to (providing) the same exceptional care we do now." Collins said of the move to the main campus: "We do want this to be a special place for patients. We really want to continue that same feeling at Mitchell Memorial Cancer Center at Owensboro Health Regional Hospital."

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Agenda Daviess Fiscal Court

Daviess County Fiscal Court will meet at 5 p.m. Thursday at the Daviess County Courthouse. The agenda includes the following items:

- Hear 2026 tax rates for the Daviess County Public Library
- Hear 2026 Tax Rates for the Daviess County Extension District
- Consider approving minutes of August 27, 2026, Daviess County Fiscal Court meeting
- Consider approving all claims for all departments
- Consider approving memorandum of agreement between Daviess County Fiscal Court and the City of Owensboro for funding a Juvenile Drug and Mental Health Court
- Consider approving contract with The Eric Group for production services at Yellow Creek Park (Halloween)
- Consider approving funding request from RiverPark Center, Inc.
- Consider approving

facility use agreement with the Owensboro Sportscenter for the November 2026 general election

- Consider accepting proposal by Special Inspection Services, LLC for testing and inspection services (structural, site materials and laboratory) for the Daviess County Detention Center
- Consider accepting proposal by CTL Engineering of Kentucky, Inc. for testing and inspection services (soil only) for the Daviess County Detention Center
- Consider declaring the following as surplus

inventory and transfer as follows: Three (3) disc golf baskets and one (1) police pursuit vehicle to Daviess County Public Schools

- Consider approving change order 01 for Bid No. 2526-76: Yellow Creek Park restroom project
- Consider awarding RFQ No. 2627-18: Shooting clay targets (Parks)
- Consider promoting Lee Blanton to engineer effective Sept. 13, 2026 (Fire Department)
- Other business to be brought before the Daviess County Fiscal Court
- Public Comments
- Comments by Daviess County Fiscal Court

Lottery Numbers

Wednesday's lottery numbers:

Kentucky
Midday Pick 3: 7-8-5
Midday Pick 4: 5-3-5-0
Evening Pick 3: 1-4-4
Evening Pick 4: 1-2-5-9
Cash Ball 225: 4-12-13-25;
The Cash Ball was 22
Millionaire For Life: 2-25-54-55-57
The Millionaire Ball was 2

Indiana
Midday Daily 3: 1-0-1
Super Ball was 1
Midday Daily 4: 6-4-1-2
Super Ball was 1
Evening Daily 3: 3-3-5
Super Ball was 8
Evening Daily 4: 7-6-3-5
Super Ball was 8
Cash 5: 18-23-26-29-40
Lotto: 9-18-23-27-30-38
Powerball: 9-40-42-55-65;
The Powerball was 23
The Power Play was 2

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