

Nominations open for New Executives to Kentucky program

News Release

Leadership Kentucky is now accepting nominations for the New Executives to Kentucky program, which will take place on Wednesday, September 30, 2026.

New Executives to Kentucky is a one-day complimentary program designed to highlight signature Kentucky experiences and thought-provoking discussions about exciting opportunities in our Commonwealth. The program includes tours of Kentucky's signature bourbon and horse industries, along with discussions on Kentucky's economic outlook and public policy. This program is designed for senior-level executives,

and their spouses, who are new to living and working in Kentucky and have relocated from another state or country during the last three years.

In collaboration with the Cabinet for Economic Development, New Executives provides an immersive, exclusive, and unforgettable introduction to the Commonwealth of Kentucky, that is designed to introduce senior-level executives to Kentucky's history, economy, and other leaders who have roles in shaping its future. New Executives is an invitation-only event and is free of charge thanks to the generous support of these partners: LG&E-KU, US Bank, CHI St. Joseph Health, RunSwitch PR, Anthem, Brown-Forman,

KCTCS, Kentucky Historical Society, and Stites & Harbison.

If you or someone you know is interested in participating in New Executives to Kentucky, the nomination form is available online at www.leadershipky.org.

ABOUT LEADERSHIP KENTUCKY:

Leadership Kentucky, created in 1984 as a non-profit educational organization, brings together a diverse group of people who possess a broad variety of leadership abilities, career accomplishments, and volunteer activities to gain insight into complex issues facing the state. By fostering understanding of how the state's issues are interconnected, and by forging

new relationships among community and regional leaders, Leadership Kentucky graduates bring a fresh and informed perspective to their communities and companies, serving as important participants in the unified effort to shape Kentucky's future.

The Leadership Kentucky Foundation offers four unique programs: Leadership Kentucky, ELEVATE Kentucky (for young professionals), BRIGHT Kentucky (for Eastern Kentuckians) and New Executives to Kentucky (for senior level executives who have lived in the state for less than two years). For more information, please visit leadershipky.org or email lky@leadershipky.org.



STEVE ROARK

Mourning Doves have a gentle cooing song that many find very pleasant.

Mourning doves span the U.S. with distinct features

Steve Roark Cumberland Gap National Park

The mourning dove (*Zenaidura macroura*) is truly an All-American bird that can be found from coast to coast. It is brownish gray in color and around 1 foot in length with a wingspread of 20 inches. The dove has a long, slender tail that is white-bordered and a black spot behind the eye. The species is monomorphic, meaning the male and female look alike. Birds that show distinct differences between the sexes are classified as dimorphic.

Sound alone can identify this interesting bird, as their wings make a distinct whistling noise when in flight, especially at take-off. Their song is called a "perch coo" by bird nerds and consists of a series of five "coos", the second one rising and the remaining three falling in pitch. It is a mournful sound (hence the name), but to me it promotes a calm atmosphere in the quiet country.

Doves are ground feeders, and their favorite feeding places are fields, orchards, or other open, weedy areas where seeds can be gleaned easily. Adult

birds are strictly vegetarian, consisting of seeds from grasses, grains, and weeds, along with berries from pokeweed and other plants. The birds are not strong enough to scratch through crusted snow for food, so the northern residents migrate south. Here in Tennessee, many remain as winter residents and tend to gather in flocks to feed and roost.

The female mourning dove lays only two eggs at a time and normally raises two broods a year. The nest is a stick platform in trees, and they especially like nesting in evergreens. The incubation period is 13-15 days and is a task shared by both sexes, with the male taking the day shift. Young are fed by regurgitation, then gradually weaned to insects and finally to seeds.

Some interesting trivia about mourning doves includes the fact that they can drink water by sucking it in, whereas other birds must scoop up water in their beaks and tilt their head back to swallow. An old mountain name for the bird is "rain crow", referring to a belief that a lot of active cooing predicts rain.

Elena Ziehmer and her dogs Dunkin, Dewey, and Archie

By Jay Compton
Middlesboro News

The annual Tri-State Doggie Olympics was held on Saturday at the Kaitlyn DeVries Memorial Dog Park in Cumberland Gap.

The event is presented each year by the LMU College of Veterinary Medicine and the coordinated by Kirsten Langa, Danielle Wood, and Abigail Witmer. All proceeds go directly to support local animal shelters.

An ongoing obedience competition started at 10 a.m. and there was a silent auction table. Adorno's Food Truck was set up on site and pet portraits were available throughout the day.

There was a dog show with prizes awarded for several categories including best dressed, waggiest tail, golden oldies and best trick.

In the Best Dressed category, first place went to Elena Ziehmer and her dogs Dunkin, Dewey, and Archie, who finished first second and third, respectively.

In the Waggiest Tail category, first place went to Morgan McCormick and her dog Cypress; second place went to Bella



JAY COMPTON/CLAIBORNE PROGRESS

Alayna leads her dog Boone through the obstacle course during the agility competition at Saturday's Tri-State Doggie Olympics.

Stork and her dog Finley; and third place went to Sophie Pepper and her dog Remi.

The Golden Oldies winner was Kallyn Jarrett and her dog Willa, Sophie Pepper and her dog Remi placed second and Hannah Mullins and her dog Pepper placed third.

The Best Trick winner

was Amanda Wolf and her dog Ellie Mae, second place went to Malia Jones and her dog Zyanya and third place went to Sophie Pepper and her dog Remi.

An agility competition was also held on an obstacle course set up at the dog park. There were divisions for beginners, intermediates and

advance dogs.

Please let me know if you need anything else and thank you again!!

Kirsten Langa, Danielle Wood, and Abigail Witmer Doggie Olympics Coordinators LMU-CVM

PINE

Continued from 1A

2004.

While the upgrades are underway, guests can still enjoy hiking trails, miniature golf, amphitheater, golf course, playground and pool. Cottages will remain available to book while the park is under construction.

"Pine Mountain has welcomed generations of visitors, and these upgrades will guarantee that the park will be here for generations to come," Kentucky State Parks Interim Commissioner Mark Kellen said. "These upgrades will preserve the park's historic charm while adding the modern amenities today's traveler expects."

Beshear recently announced that Kentucky State Parks generated \$1.1 billion in economic impact

in 2024, supporting 8,600 jobs and helping fuel economic growth across the state.

During the 2024 legislative session, Gov. Beshear signed legislation releasing \$71 million for capital construction projects, including improvements to Pine Mountain State Resort Park and projects throughout the Parks system, such as building system upgrades, accommodation improvements and recreational amenity enhancements. He also signed another measure, allocating over \$66 million for upgrades to various state parks.

This year, Beshear announced that 2025 was the best year on record for tourism, the fourth consecutive record-breaking year, generating \$14.6 billion in economic impact and supporting 96,993 jobs.

Bell County Tourism Director Jon Grace said Pine Mountain is a huge asset for the area and while the closures that come with the renovations present challenges, the work is welcomed.

"I'm glad that the state is investing in parks like this because they're such an integral part of our tourism economy, and it's great to see," Grace said. "Obviously, it might come with some challenges, but that's something that we're going to hit head on and do our best to work with while it's going on."

Located in Bell County,

Pine Mountain State Resort Park is one of Kentucky's original state parks, established in 1924. The mountaintop resort features 30 lodge rooms, 11 cottages, nine cabins, 12 miles of hiking trails, the Laurel Cove Amphitheater, an 18-hole golf course and other outdoor recreation opportunities.

For more information on Kentucky State Parks, visit parks.ky.gov. Kentucky is home to 44 state parks, including 17 resort parks and 13 golf courses.

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MIRACLE

Continued from 1A

seen with several lacerations to her forehead, face, and nose. Her eye was swollen shut, and she had a broken arm and finger.

The woman stated she and Miracle Jr. argued when he became enraged, grabbed a baseball bat, and beat her with it. She stated she was able to get away when Quinlan went into the kitchen; she ran from the house to her car and left. Quinlan, in the light blue truck, fled the

scene when the victim was pulled over. The woman was later flown to UT Hospital for treatment of serious injuries.

After a social media post was made by law enforcement looking for Miracle, he was found the next day and arrested on Highway 72 in Hulen by Bell County Sheriff Sgt. Austin Poindexter.

Miracle Jr. had been indicted after being accused of beating his cousin with a baseball bat during an argument.



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This project is funded under a grant contract with the Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services.