

# PUBLIC NOTICES

## COMBINED NOTICE NOTICE TO PUBLIC OF NO SIGNIFICANT EFFECT ON THE ENVIRONMENT AND NOTICE TO PUBLIC OF REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

May 13, 2026

Letcher County Fiscal Court  
156 Main Street, Ste. 107  
Whitesburg, KY 41858  
606-633-2129

These notices shall satisfy two separate but related procedural requirements for the activities to be undertaken by the Letcher County Fiscal Court

TO ALL INTERESTED AGENCIES, GROUPS, AND PERSONS:

### Request for Release of Funds

On or about May 29<sup>th</sup>, 2026, the Letcher County Fiscal Court will submit a request to the Department for Local Government for the release of Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) funds under Title 1 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (PL 93-383) to undertake the following project:

**Project:** 22D-036 Letcher County Fleming-Neon High School Apartments

**Project Description:** The Letcher County Fiscal Court has received CDBG-DR funds in the amount of \$4,800,000.00 to renovate and convert the former Fleming-Neon High School located at 344 Coal Ave, Fleming-Neon, KY 41840, to an apartment complex consisting of 18 affordable, energy efficient rental units. The property was acquired by HOMES, Inc. in 2022 with the intention of exploring housing opportunities for the Fleming-Neon community. The proposed project site is a vacant, 20,400 ft<sup>2</sup> two-story building. The site was a school building that was constructed in 1960. The proposed space will be renovated to create ten two-bedroom units and eight one-bedroom units for a total of 18 energy-efficient rental units. The site is currently serviced by pre-existing utilities, and it is not anticipated that significant modifications to water and sewer lines will be required.

**Location:** 344 Coal Avenue, Fleming-Neon, KY 41840

**Census Tract:** 21133950202

**HUD Funding:** \$4,800,000.00  
**Total Project Cost:** \$4,800,000.00

### Finding of No Significant Impact

The Letcher County Fiscal Court has determined that the project will have no significant impact on the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) (PL-91-190) is not required. An Environmental Review Record (ERR) respecting the within project has been made by *Letcher County Fiscal Court* which documents the environmental review of the project and more fully sets forth the reasons why such Statement is not required. This Environmental Review Record is on file at 156 Main Street Ste. 107, Whitesburg, KY 41858 and is available for public examination and copying, upon request, between the hours of 8 A.M. and 4:30 P.M. No further environmental review of such project is proposed to be conducted.

### Public Comments

All interested agencies, groups, and persons disagreeing with the ERR decision are invited to submit written comments for consideration by the Letcher County Fiscal Court to the Letcher County Fiscal Court, Judge Executive. Such written comments should be received at 156 Main Street, Ste. 107, Whitesburg, KY 41848 on or before May 28<sup>th</sup>, 2026. All such comments so received will be considered prior to authorizing submission of a request for a release of funds or taking any administrative action on the within project prior to the date specified on the proceeding sentence. Comments should specify which Notice they are addressing.

### Environmental Certification

The Letcher County Fiscal Court will undertake the project described above with Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) funds under Disaster Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2022 (Pub. L. 117-43) and Disaster Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2023 (Pub. L. 117-180). The Letcher County Fiscal Court is certifying to the state that Letcher County Fiscal Court and Terry Adams in his/her official capacity as Judge Executive consent to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to environmental reviews, decision making, and action; and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. The legal effect of the certification is that upon its approval, Letcher County Fiscal Court may use CDBG-DR funds, and the state and HUD will have satisfied their responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and related laws and authorities.

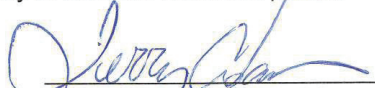
### Objection to Release of Funds

The state will accept objections to its release of funds and the Letcher County Fiscal Court's certification for a period of fifteen days following the anticipated submission date of May 29<sup>th</sup>, 2026 or it's actual receipt for the request (whichever is the later) only if they are on one of the following bases:

- The certification was not in fact executed by the Letcher County Fiscal Court Certifying Officer.
- The Letcher County Fiscal Court has failed to make one of the two findings pursuant to S58.41 or to make the written determination decision required by SS578.57, 58.53 or 58.64 for the project, as applicable.
- The Letcher County Fiscal Court has omitted one or more of the steps set forth at Subparts F and G for the preparation and completion of an EA.
- No opportunity was given to the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation or its Executive Director to review the effect of the project on a property listed on the National Register of Historic Places or found to be eligible for such listing by the Secretary of the Interior, in accordance with 36 CFR Part 800.
- The recipient or other participants in the development process have committed funds, incurred costs or undertaken activities not authorized by 24 CFR part 58 before approval of the release of funds and approval of the Environmental Certification by HUD or the State.
- Another Federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality.

Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedures (24 CFR Part 58, Sec. 58.76) and shall be addressed to the Department for Local Government, Office of Federal Grants, 100 Airport Road 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Kentucky 40601.

Objections to the release of funds on bases other than those stated above will not be considered by the state. No objection received after June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2026 will be considered by the state. Potential objectors should contact the Department for Local Government to verify the actual last day of the state Comment period.

  
Judge Executive, Terry Adams  
156 Main Street, Ste 107  
Whitesburg, KY 41848

**Read And Respond To  
Mountain Eagle Legal Ads!**

## Families and friends

# Weather can't make up its mind one day warm the next day cold

By ROSE BALLARD

Hello again everyone!  
Happy Mother's Day. I really hope everyone had a great day.

It was a quiet day at first, except for lots of phone calls, then my children and grandchildren stopped by at different times.

My granddaughter Jennifer Gray brought me beautiful flowers, along with a card.

It was getting late, I knew my daughter Kay and her husband Clarence Gray had a busy day with their family. As I was getting tired, here comes Kay along with my granddaughter Jodi Davidson and of course my four-year-old great-granddaughter Rylee Kay Davidson. Rylee is so beautiful as always.

Kay brought me a beautiful bouquet of flowers, and a card. Jodi and Rylee Kay each got me beautiful

cards also.

My daughter Angie Wiederhold called, asking if she and my grandson Bennie could stop by later, of course, I said yes.

## Southern Ohio

My son Keith Ballard had somewhere to go. Here Keith comes home, bringing me beautiful yellow flowers.

Yes, I had a very Happy Mother's Day.

Thanks everyone.

I am very sorry I didn't have a column in last week's paper. I found out one thing, you can't control when you feel good or bad.

The weather still can't make its mind up, as we will be still having a mixture of temperatures. One day you have heat, the next day it is cold.

Old Time Fiddlers had a small group of musicians; however, the music was

great. My feet were swelling, so I left our group a little early. That is the first for me.

Please keep my granddaughter Jennifer Lynn Gray in your prayers, as she will be having surgery.

Carcassonne Community Center held its square dance; a good crowd was there.

Hello Mike and Marcia Caudill, I hope to see you before wintertime.

Hello Jim Haynes, give those twins a hug from me. I bet they are growing.

Hello Bernice, Chuck, Mike and Blaze Grubb.

Bernice, I miss heading for the mountains, and us being wild women as we traveled across the mountain to Wise, Va.

Well, it is getting time to get this on its way.

Until next time.

Rose Ballard, 9110 Lawrenceburg Rd., Harrison, Ohio 45030



Celestial Shuler, center, poses with her 2026 Pathfinder Award during a presentation at Letcher County Central High School alongside, from left, Wendy Wright, Shuler and Kim Maynard, joined by the SKCTC Pathfinder mascot.

## SKCTC honors Celestial Shuler with 2026 Pathfinder Award

Southeast Kentucky Community & Technical College recently recognized Celestial Shuler of Letcher County Central High School as the college's 2026 Pathfinder Award recipient, honoring her outstanding dedication to helping students identify college and career pathways and prepare for success after graduation.

The Kentucky Community and Technical College System Pathfinder Award is presented annually to one outstanding high school teacher or counselor in each of KCTCS's 16 college service areas. Recipients are recognized for encouraging students to pursue

postsecondary education, helping students identify career goals, providing mentorship and maintaining meaningful support throughout the college and career exploration process.

Shuler serves as the GEAR UP Senior College and Career Navigator at Letcher County Central High School, where she works closely with students to explore career options, navigate college opportunities and prepare for life after high school.

Wendy Wright, respiratory care program director at SKCTC said Shuler has also been a strong partner to Southeast, regularly encouraging students to explore the college's programs and helping coordinate campus tours, events and orientation experiences.

"More importantly, she builds meaningful relationships with students and supports them every step of the way," Wright said. "Her passion for students, dedication to their futures and partnership with Southeast make her incredibly deserving of this recognition."

Pathfinder Award recipients are selected based on their commitment to supporting students through mentorship, college and career guidance and continued encouragement throughout the postsecondary planning process.

As Southeast's Pathfinder Award recipient,

Shuler will also advance to the statewide KCTCS Pathfinder competition. One overall statewide winner will be selected, and a student from the winning educator's school will receive a scholarship.

Shuler was formally recognized during a presentation at Letcher County Central High School alongside Southeast recruiter Kim Maynard and the KCTCS Pathfinder mascot.

### Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

9	6	4	1	2	7	8	5	3
1	5	2	3	8	9	6	7	4
3	8	7	6	4	5	2	9	1
2	7	3	4	5	1	9	8	6
4	1	8	9	7	6	5	3	2
6	9	5	2	3	8	4	1	7
5	4	9	7	6	3	1	2	8
7	2	1	8	9	4	3	6	5
8	3	6	5	1	2	7	4	9

### Weekly SUDOKU

6			7					3
5						6	7	
		7	6		5			1
2					1	9	8	6
		8	9	7	6	5	2	
6	9	5			8			
		9					2	
		1			4	3		5
8		6	5	1	2			

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 3x3 box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

### DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging  
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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## ESTATE SALE

**Friday, May 15,  
Saturday, May 16,  
9a.m. – 3 p.m.  
12453 Highway 7 N**

**Deane, KY 41812**

Massive 2-day sale of vintage furniture, home décor, collectables, linens, knives, tools, DVDs/VHS, and much more.

Cash or Venmo only. Bring help to load heavy items.

**864-238-6034**