

THE NEWS-ENTERPRISE



SPORTS
SECOND-HALF SURGE
POWERS E'TOWN
PAST BARDSTOWN IN
REGION PLAY
A6



RECALL
GLASS FOUND IN SOME
CHICKEN PRODUCTS
DISTRIBUTED UNDER FIVE
BRANDS
A4



TODAY
T-Storm likely
71-58
COMPLETE REPORT,
A2

THURSDAY

MARCH 5, 2026 • SERVING HARDIN COUNTY SINCE 1974 • REACH SUBSCRIBER SERVICES AT 270-505-1770 • \$2

Convicted killer back in jail for parole violations

BY VICTORIA COX
PAXTON MEDIA GROUP

June 12, 2019, at South Otter Creek Road in Buffalo.

The man convicted of killing his wife and unborn child and setting their home afire to hide his crime was released from prison Dec. 1 but is again behind bars for violating terms of his parole.

Joshua Wolford, 39, was arrested Oct. 20, 2022, and charged with murder, domestic violence, related to a residential house fire that occurred



Joshua Wolford

Chasidy Wolford, 30, of Buffalo, was inside the residence at the time of the fire. The criminal complaint accused Wolford of killing his wife, thereby also killing their unborn child, and attempting to use the fire to conceal evidence.

Wolford had been arrested in June of 2019 and charged with one count of violating graves after digging up his late wife's ashes from what was intended to

be her final resting place at Victory Baptist Church Cemetery. He accepted a plea agreement the following March and was released. He was jailed again less than a year later after he violated conditions of release and was arrested for third-degree criminal trespassing.

Wolford was indicted by the LaRue County grand jury on Dec. 19, 2022, and charged with murder-domestic violence, first-degree arson, first-degree fetal homicide, abuse of corpse and tampering with physical evidence. Murder, arson and fetal homicide are Class A felonies that

carry a 20- to 50-year sentence in prison, or life imprisonment, per count, if convicted.

In December of 2023, Wolford was offered a plea agreement. In return for pleading guilty to amended charges of second-degree manslaughter, third-degree arson and third-degree fetal homicide, in addition to the original abuse of a corpse and tampering with physical evidence charges, the Commonwealth would recommend he serve a total of seven years.

The agreement reduced his charges from three Class A felonies

and two Class D felonies to two Class C felonies and three Class D felonies.

The offer was made in part to safeguard children. It included the condition that Wolford allow the domestic violence order against him involving his four minor children be extended and renewed continuously until his last child is older than age 18, court documents state. He also was prohibited, by the plea agreement, from having direct or indirect contact with Chasidy's family.

SEE JAIL/PAGE A4

History enthusiast loved, remembered by friends, family

Museum dedicates second floor to Elvin Smith Jr.

BY KODEE BRINEGAR
THE NEWS-ENTERPRISE

Friends and family remember Elvin Smith Jr. as a person who taught history by putting it in your hands.

A retired teacher at Lincoln Trail Elementary School, Smith was a history enthusiast and advocate for historical preservation, who died Sept. 14 at his home in Elizabethtown, and was celebrated Wednesday at the Hardin County History Museum.

"He loved people. He loved to hear their stories. He would be inspired by anybody that walked in here. He'd find out their story and then pass it on," Smith's wife Kathryn said at the event in his honor. "He never met a stranger. He would do anything for anybody. I think he saw his mission as making sure everybody else was OK, and he would just stand in the background."

Kathryn said Elvin was a very humble man and never wanted credit for anything. She saw a connection between his modesty and fact the dedication of the museum's upper floor as Elvin Smith Jr. Education Library and Gallery had to be postponed twice because of weather.

"I told the kids he had made it have snow and ice and everything to postpone this. This is the third time now. I said, 'Is he giving us a sign that he just doesn't want this big hullabaloo?' but he would be very proud," Kathryn said.

When Smith wasn't with his family, he would be at the museum in downtown Elizabethtown.

"But now tonight, I really do think that every one of these mannequins will come to life and will be telling their



KODEE BRINEGAR/The News-Enterprise

As they listened to stories Wednesday about the impact of the late Elvin Smith Jr., his wife, Kathryn Smith, left, and daughter Georganne Stepp were in tears. A retired teacher and history enthusiast was honored at the Hardin County History Museum.



KODEE BRINEGAR/The News-Enterprise

Donald Smith, son of history enthusiast Elvin Smith Jr., talked about the enormous collection his father had built through the years during a ceremony Wednesday at the Hardin County History Museum.

story, and he will be down here listening to them," Kathryn said. "He is just someone that loved what he did every day. He would try to share that joy."

Smith's family was at the

center of Wednesday's celebration. He had two sons, Eddie and Donald Smith, and a daughter, Georganne Stepp, and was married to his wife, Kathryn, for 60 years. He also was a grandfather to Faith

Stepp, Jackson Smith and Will Smith.

"He was a consummate storyteller," Donald Smith said. "He just felt like that was the way to pass on history and educate others."

Donald said his father would accumulate pictures of old photos and various things in Hardin County, including former Lincoln Trail Elementary students.

"He would take pictures of historic landmarks around the county. He was honored to receive the Hardin County Schools Distinguished Alumni Award in 2006, and he was extremely proud to be a charter member and vice chairman of the Hardin County History Museum, when this opened in 2003," Donald said. "For him, the stories were a way to preserve history, a way to bring history to life for future generations. He enjoyed telling the story of the county by telling the story of the residents."

When trying to decide what

SEE HISTORY/PAGE A4



The Radcliff Head Start center is temporarily closed as the Community Action Council takes bids to make interior structural repairs.

Head Start center in Radcliff closed for repairs

BY THE NEWS-ENTERPRISE

The Head Start center in Radcliff is closed because of structural concerns resulting from heavy snow and ice during winter storm Fern. Officials say accumulated ice and snow on the building's roof necessitated the temporary closure.

The Central Kentucky Community Action Council Board of Directors is seeking requests for proposals for interior facility repairs to the facility at 788 S. Wilson Road in Radcliff.

"We are heartbroken by this development and the disruption it caused for our families," Head Start Director Jennifer Akin said in an announcement released by the agency.

The building was closed in the days following the

SEE HEAD START/PAGE A4

Local Scoutmaster to receive Silver Beaver status

BY GREG THOMPSON
THE NEWS-ENTERPRISE

Scoutmaster Chris Adams will be honored for his volunteer service at a dinner Saturday night in Louisville. He actually will have to leave another scouting event in order to attend.

Adams is being recognized with the 2026 Silver Beaver Award, the highest award a Boy Scouts Council can give to a volunteer in recognition of service.

"I'm really happy to get that," Adams said.

He is affiliated with the Lincoln Heritage Council, serving as scout master of Troop 233 in Elizabethtown. He serves as the committee chair for Cub Scout Pack 233, also in Elizabethtown, and is a former Scout himself.

"I started as a Cub Scout," Adams said. "I earned my Eagle Scout in 1988 and had been done with it."

Stepping away as a golf coach in 2014, Adams thought he was going to have a lot of free time on his hands.



Chris Adams will be presented the Silver Beaver award for the volunteerism in Scouting.

A single flyer, brought home by their oldest son, C.J., devoured all of that free time. The paper was about joining Cub Scouts. So with one parental signature, Adams was back in scouting.

"I started as assistant den leader that year - this was the fall of 2015," Adams said.

It wasn't long before Adams moved up, taking over for the den leader who got orders for Europe. The next inevitable step was that

SEE LOCAL/PAGE A4



6 84578 21100 8

2026, The News-Enterprise Corp.

INDEX

CALENDAR, A3
CLASSIFIEDS, A8
COMICS, A10
JAIL LOG, A2
OPINION, A5
PUZZLES, A9
SPORTS, A6-A8
WEATHER, A2

OBITUARIES

Joyce Ann Riggs Josephs, 81

PAGE A3

SINCE YOU ASKED

Results of The News-Enterprise online poll as of 5 p.m.

Wednesday.

Do you have a specialty license plate on any of your vehicles?

Yes: 41.3% • No: 58.7%

TODAY'S QUESTION: Were you ever a Scoutmaster?

COMMUNITY

Hardin County government begins Litter Hero recognition

A2

FIND US ONLINE:

