

# Magnitude registers a 10.0 in the Stephen Foster

When it comes to technology, Churchill Downs uses only the finest equipment to record results of their races.

The timing of each race is expertly performed by Longines, the world-class Swiss watchmaker founded 194 years ago. They might think about adding the Richter magnitude scale as standard equipment after Steve Asmussen's Magnitude erupted in the Gr.1 \$2 million Stephen Foster Stakes. He left nothing but Churchill mud in his wake and firmly stamped himself as the frontrunner for 2026 Horse of the Year.

Frontrunner also perfectly describes his devastating high cruising speed, which is reminiscent of another champion, 1977 Triple Crown winner and HOY, Seattle Slew. Slew dared anyone to match his strides early. No one really could.

Such seems to be the case with Magnitude. We thought he may have been off his game after the wear and tear of winning



CHUCK HARPER

the Dubai World Cup back in March. There was also significantly more speed in the Foster until other top speed horses, Forged Steel and Navajo Warrior, scratched. Well, you don't become the most winning (11,466) trainer in North America because you can't get a horse ready for a top effort.

When Magnitude broke through the starting gate before the bell, I commented that they're all running for second. Jockey Jose Ortiz was able to harness Magnitude's exuberance, and he reloaded with no further issues.

It was the other four horses who had the problem. When the starting bell rang, he had already tipped his hand as to how he was going to beat them. I always chuckle

whenever I hear analysts say that Magnitude doesn't need the lead. That's like saying that Phillies slugger Kyle Schwarber would rather bunt.

Magnitude went right for the lead and down the back stretch with 38-1 longshot Willy D's helplessly in tow. Jose Ortiz hit the cruise control button in fractions of :23.4 :47.1, 1:10.4 and 1:35.1 for the mile. He finished up in a very sprightly 1:48.3 for the mile and an eighth on a track rated as muddy to win by a comfortable 1 1/4 lengths over a rallying Baeza, who broke very slowly and had to rally late. He definitely has some chronic gate issues that put him in bad positions he can't overcome. Mott has his hands full. Magnitude earned a career best 114 Beyer speed figure. It wasn't to be the revenge race that was anticipated between favored Sovereignty (3rd) and White Abarrio (4th).

The 2026 version of Sovereignty could not handle the 2025 version. The two fears for White

Abarrio manifested themselves. He's never liked racing on an off track and has had zero success at Churchill Downs. They were both victims of the brilliant ride by Jose Ortiz who seems to own the racing spotlight at the moment, especially at Churchill Downs. The Foster capped off a four-win day.

Three active trainers have had the HOY in their barns four times. If the 2026 HOY voting were to take place today, Steve Asmussen would become the only one with five. Curlin twice, Rachel Alexandra and Gun Runner in 2017. Speaking of Gun Runner, he finished 2nd to Arrogate in the Dubai World Cup but came back to win the Stephen Foster.

Asmussen is following that very same path. Magnitude had just too much for last year's HOY Sovereignty who is now 0-2 this year. Looks like Sovereignty will try the Whitney next at Saratoga. He had no excuses against Magnitude, who

was just the superior horse on the day. Asmussen has also pointed Magnitude for the Whitney, which will also attract the 4-year-old champion filly Nitrogen.

Don't be shocked if Godolphin decides to retire Sovereignty. "He was third choice on the morning line off winning the Dubai World Cup. It's validation of who we thought he was," Asmussen said. "He was very proud of himself this morning - and I think that the game has really come together for him, the understanding of what he's doing and the acceptance of, I can do this."

As for the spring and summer that Jose Ortiz is having, he won the Kentucky Derby on Golden Tempo, the Kentucky Oaks on Always a Runner and the Belmont, again, with Golden Tempo and now the Stephen Foster.

Magical is the only way to describe the zone he's in. One concerning note on Golden Tempo is that he's been taken out of training due to an illness

which will knock him out of the Haskell. Trainer Cherie Devaux will point the Derby champ to the Travers instead. The Haskell is set to run on July 18 at Saratoga with the key contenders being Preakness winner Napoleon Solo, Tampa Bay Derby winner The Puma and Further Ado.

As the summer moves along with Breeders' Cup win-and-you're-in races, we'll take a short break and be back with all things Saratoga. We'll need to continue to keep an eye on Golden Tempo's situation, and the lead-up to the Mid-Summer Derby, the Travers Stakes.

The summer should be long and hot, and I'm looking forward to more eruptions between now and the Breeders' Cup at Keeneland. It wouldn't be a bad idea for the racing office at the Breeders' Cup to see if they could borrow that Richter scale from Churchill, especially if Magnitude shows up for the Classic.

## Game wardens increase patrols during holiday for boater safety

BY PAXTON MEDIA GROUP

The Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources plans to step up patrols on Kentucky's waterways during the Independence Day weekend, working to ensure everyone enjoys a safe and responsible boating experience.

The increased patrols July 3-5 are part of Operation Dry Water, a nationwide boating safety initiative that brings together game wardens and law enforcement agencies to increase awareness, enforce boating laws and reduce alcohol- and drug-related incidents and fatalities.

Alcohol and drugs impair judgment, balance, vision and reaction time for both boat operators and passengers. Environmental factors like sun, wind, noise, vibration and motion can worsen these effects and increase fatigue. Boaters are encouraged to stay sober and vigi-

lant to ensure a safe and enjoyable day on the water, the state news release said.

"All boating encounters, such as meeting and overtaking of vessels and obstacle avoidance, require time to perceive, evaluate, decide and act," said Capt. Jerrod Alley, the Kentucky boating law administrator for Kentucky Fish and Wildlife. "Intoxicants of any type slow each of those steps. An intoxicated operator is not an effective operator and, unfortunately, often only becomes aware of a dangerous situation after an incident occurs. Our goals as wardens are to educate the public, recognize dangerous actions on the waters and address those actions to prevent property damage, injury and death."

In addition to making sure there is a sober boat operator, boaters also should check to ensure that all safety equipment is on board, in good condition

and easy to access, the statement said. Many boating accidents become fatal when people fall overboard without wearing a flotation device.

Boaters can learn more about boating laws in the Kentucky Fishing and Boating Guide, the regulations summary booklet, available online at fw.ky.gov and wherever licenses are sold.

For emergencies, dial 911. For non-emergency assistance call 800-25-ALERT or contact a local law enforcement agency or nearest Kentucky State Police post. Marine channel 16 can be used to contact a local marina.

Operation Dry Water is an annual effort coordinated by the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators, headquartered in Lexington, in partnership with the U.S. Coast Guard and law enforcement agencies.



Photo provided by Mark Buerger

Justin Hale holds both of his gold medals that he won on June 24 at the Special Olympics USA Games.

## Crestwood's Hale wins three gold medals at the Special Olympics USA Games

BY WYATT SPARKMAN

Crestwood-native Justin Hale and Taylorville-native Carson Chaney earned a gold medal in the 4x50 yard

medley relay for Team Kentucky at the Special Olympics USA Games. Hale also won the 200-yard individual medley and the 50-yard butterfly. Chaney helped secure a

comeback win in the final leg of the relay to help Team Kentucky finish with a time of 2:35.25. The win gave Team Kentucky its second gold medal in the event, last in 2022.

## SOUTH

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found their guys, and they were done, like, 'sorry, bro.' It was a surreal moment for sure."

What piqued his interest about Louisville was gameday

visits and seeing the environment they play in. Dawson also really liked how real everything was, and there was nothing fake about his interactions with the school. Being so close to home, it's helped Dawson get acclimated to college while also being able to spend time with family.

He has already had a full

semester at Louisville, and he gives a lot of credit to the academic team for helping him get acclimated to the school schedule easier. On the football field, Dawson was injured in February and has battled his way back to get into workouts but having an extra semester with the team has allowed him to transition to

the summer better than most freshmen, especially knowing the playbook.

"It's the playbook for sure. I'm so glad I graduated early, so I can be ahead of the other guys on the playbook, because I couldn't imagine going in right now and trying to learn everything, and everyone already knows what

they're doing," Dawson said. "You're just trying to play catch up. That would have been a nightmare. Getting there early and learning the playbook early, everything helped a ton, but that's really the main focus is the playbook, knowing what you're doing, because if you don't know what you're doing,

you're not going to play." Sams believes Kentucky is a high school football state. He's seen the talent grow over the last decade. He hopes that Dawson is able to take pride that he was able to help open the door for Division I programs to look at South

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# LEGAL NOTICE

**CITY OF RIVER BLUFF**  
ORDINANCE NO. 1, SERIES 2026-2027

AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE CITY OF RIVER BLUFF, KENTUCKY, ANNUAL BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2026 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2027, BY ESTIMATING REVENUES AND RESOURCES AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE OPERATION OF CITY GOVERNMENT.

WHEREAS, an annual budget proposal and message has been prepared and delivered to the City Commission; and  
WHEREAS, the City Commission has reviewed such budget proposal and made necessary modifications,  
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF RIVER BLUFF;  
SECTION 1: The annual budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2027, is hereby adopted as follows:

Resources Available	General Fund	Road Fund	Drainage Fund
Fund Balance Carried Forward	\$ 380,769	\$ 81,162	\$ -
<b>Estimated Revenues:</b>			
Property Taxes	\$ 75,000	\$ -	0
Insurance Surcharge Premiums	\$ 85,000	\$ -	0
Interest	\$ 100	\$ 45	0
Licenses & Permits	\$ 2,200	\$ -	0
Intergovernmental Revenues	\$ 500	\$ 5,700	0
	\$ 162,800	\$ 5,745	\$ -
<b>Total Resources Available</b>	<b>\$ 543,569</b>	<b>\$ 86,907</b>	<b>\$ -</b>
<b>Appropriations</b>			
General Government	\$ 102,420	\$ -	\$ -
Sanitation	\$ 40,000	\$ -	\$ -
Street Repair	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Drainage Repair	\$ 14,050	\$ -	\$ -
Snow Removal	\$ 15,000	\$ -	\$ -
<b>Total Appropriations</b>	<b>\$ 171,470</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>
<b>Excess of Resources over/under Appropriations</b>	<b>\$ 372,099</b>	<b>\$ 86,907</b>	<b>\$ -</b>

FIRST READING: April 28, 2026  
SECOND READING: June 23, 2026

Adopted this 23rd day of June, 2025

CITY OF RIVER BLUFF

Bryan J. Dillon, Mayor  
ATTEST: Lynn Grossman, Commissioner

# LEGAL NOTICE

**PROBATE NOTICE**  
**ADMINISTRATION has been granted to the following:**

Suelma L. Hoffman 3604 Smith Ln LaGrange KY 40031 having been appointed Administratrix on May 26, 2026, in the estate of Jesse Joe Hoffman Jr 3604 Smith Ln LaGrange KY 40031. Deceased. Attorney Robert D Walker II 11921 Brinley Ave Ste 202 Louisville KY 40243.

Katelyne Walz 557 Barbour Road Glasgow KY 42141 having been appointed Administratrix on June 2, 2026, in the estate of Billy Randall Stinnett 8751 W Highway 22 Crestwood KY 40014. Deceased. Attorney James P Dilbeck 8005 Lyndon Centre Way Suite 201 Louisville KY 40222.

Sherry Lynn Bitely 7404 Sunset Lane Crestwood KY 40014 having been appointed Executrix on June 2, 2026, in the estate of Orsemus Durward Bitely III 7404 Sunset Lane Crestwood KY 40014. Deceased. Attorney James Theiss 209 N First St LaGrange KY 40031.

Joseph M Rollins 5950 Amherst Drive #A305 Naples FL 34112 having been appointed Executor on June 2, 2026, in the estate of Joseph John Rollins 1006 Rollingwood Lane Goshen KY 40026. Deceased. Attorney Larisa E Gilbert 9200 Shelbyville Road Suite 103 Louisville KY 40222.

Mamie Finewood 5325 Highcrest Drive Crestwood KY 40014 having been appointed Executrix on June 2, 2026, in the estate of Mary M Jones 1306 Woodcreek Drive LaGrange KY 40031. Deceased. Attorney Virginia L Harrod PO Box 128 New Castle KY 40050.

Jacinda McKinney 1715 First Street Palacios TX 77465 having been appointed Executrix on June 9, 2026, in the estate of Catherine E Knoch 5306 Manor Court Crestwood KY 40014. Deceased. Attorney Arthur E White III PO Box 12 Crestwood KY 40014.

Heather E Rochet 6500 Payton Lane Crestwood KY 40014 having been appointed Administratrix on June 9, 2026, in the estate of Donald Ray Smith 4307 Wendy Hill Drive Crestwood KY 40014. Deceased.

Jeffrey K Newbery PO Box 86 Westport KY 40077 having been appointed Executor on June 16, 2026, in the estate of Marie M Newbery 8315 Covington Ridge Cutoff Westport KY 40077. Deceased. Attorney Jillian M Sauer 7500 W Hwy 146 PeeWee Valley KY 40056.

Jeffrey Wayne Adamson 4015 Brownlee Road Louisville KY 40207 having been appointed Administrator on June 16, 2026, in the estate of Evelyn Marie Adamson 1902 Covey Trace Road LaGrange KY 40031. Deceased. Attorney Elbert Alvin Fletcher 11603 Shelbyville Road Suite 3 Louisville KY 40243.

Jeffrey Wayne Adamson 4015 Brownlee Road Louisville KY 40207 having been appointed Administrator on June 16, 2026, in the estate of Buford Adamson Jr 1902 Covey Trace Road LaGrange KY 40031. Deceased. Attorney Elbert Alvin Fletcher 11603 Shelbyville Road Suite 3 Louisville KY 40243.

Kris Kenneth Diehlman 6513 Park Pl Crestwood KY 40014 having been appointed Executor on June 16, 2026, in the estate of Melvin Kenneth Diehlman 2317 Spann Lane LaGrange KY 40031. Deceased.

Kevin Day 1736 Cherry Lane Shelbyville KY 40065 having been appointed Administrator on June 23, 2026, in the estate of Deborah Day 3904 Martha Circle Crestwood KY 40014. Deceased. Attorney Virginia L Harrod PO Box 128 New Castle KY 40050.

Sheinea Doram 165 Roydon Rd New Haven CT 06511 having been appointed Administratrix on June 23, 2026, in the estate of Eustace Doram 2208 Morgan Ridge Ct LaGrange KY 40031. Deceased.

**CLAIMS AGAINST ESTATES MUST BE FILED BY CREDITORS WITHIN SIX (6) MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF APPOINTMENT OF FIDUCIARY.**

Settlements in the following matters having been filed and approved are scheduled for hearing on July 16, 2026, Oldham District Court. Exceptions to the following settlements must be filed with Oldham District Court, 100 W Main Street LaGrange KY 40031.

Estate of: Mallory-Taylor Family Cemetery, Trust	Estate of: Olivia Morris
Estate of: Sherry Kay Cox	Estate of: Justin Farmer
Estate of: Donald Lee Ensor	Estate of: Rex Edward Myers
Estate of: Charles A Osborn Jr	Estate of: Martha M Williams
Estate of: Jimmy Mitchell Jr	Estate of: Addison Hudgins