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Court sentences suspect in chase-collision to 40 years

BY GRANT GERSTNER
EDITOR

Tymetrius D. Walter was sentenced to 40 years in prison on July 1 for charges regarding the 2023 police chase-collision in Crestwood that killed 10-year-old Jake Luxemburger.

As previously reported, the 26-year-old took a plea deal on June 8, namely amending his murder charge to vehicular homicide, a class B felony. The deal also dismissed one count of first-degree wanton endangerment, two misde-

meanors and a traffic violation.

The additional charges Walter was convicted of are receiving stolen property worth \$10,000 or more, first-degree assault, first degree wanton endangerment, and first-degree fleeing or evading police.

According to Commonwealth Attorney Courtney T. Baxter, state law determines that Walter will be eligible to go before the Kentucky Parole Board after he has served 85% of his 20-year

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Photo by Grant Gerstner

Tymetrius D. Walter, 26, was sentenced to 40 years in prison on July 1 after taking a plea deal in the case surrounding the 2023 police chase-collision in Crestwood that killed 10-year-old Jake Luxemburger. Walter will be eligible to go before the Kentucky Parole Board after serving 17 years.

Board enters agreement for new arts center

New facility slated for front of Clore Station in Crestwood

BY GRANT GERSTNER
EDITOR

Recently-obtained Oldham County Board of Education records have revealed further details on the board's plans to build a new arts center amid budding Crestwood development Clore Station, including information on the site, planned facility and the agreements between the board and developers.

As previously reported, the board unanimously voted to accept a 4.57-acre land donation from Carla C. Jones on June 8 and announced the intent to build a "New Creative and Performing Arts Center" on the property, according to school board documents.

The land sits at the western corner of Veterans Memorial Parkway and Dovefield Drive and is part of Clore Station, a mixed-use neighborhood development that broke ground on its first phase earlier this year.

An April 21, 2025, email to Clore Station representative Clay Jones,

Oldham County Schools Director of Facilities Brent Bohannon estimated that the "gross building footprint" would be 47,000 square feet, including:

- A 450-seat main theatre with a stage, technical lighting and a control room;
- A black box studio with "120-seat flexible space;
- Dedicated suites for drama, dance, music and visual arts;
- A wood shop with 1,500 square feet of functional woodworking equipment;
- Classrooms, multi-purpose rooms, offices, concessions, gallery spaces and support areas.

Bohannon also stated that the facility will use all LED lighting as well as a geothermal HVAC system for energy efficiency, and he estimated that facility will have a total connected power load of 395 kilowatts.

As to what will happen to the current arts center facility located at 7105 Floydsburg Road in Crestwood, the board is not sure, according to a comment Board Member Suzanne Hundley made on the district Facebook post announcing the project.

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Photos by Jai/Michael Anderson

The gravestone of Petter Parker (1775-1881), is pictured on July 1. He was enslaved in Shelby County for around 70 years before being deeded to his owner's son, John Washington Berry. Parker was a deacon and a carpenter who lived in Louisville and after the Civil War, he was involved in the land dedication for the Historic African American Cemetery.

Volunteers clean up historic Black cemetery

BY JAI/MICHAEL ANDERSON
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LA GRANGE — On the junction of Third and Fourth Avenue lies a plot of land that is rich in history. Its appearance may not have always reflected its significance, but local groups are working to change that.

Established in June 1889, the La Grange Historic African American Cemetery memorializes over 110 people; its first burial was in 1849.

It served as the only burial ground for most African Americans in the area until well into the 20th century, said Nancy Theiss during a tour of the cemetery.

Theiss is the executive director of the Oldham County History Center, which has played a key role in documenting the cemetery.

From 2000 to 2010, the center logged over 18,000 graves across more than 200 cemeteries in Oldham County. Dot Caracco and Bill Younger led the effort alongside around

10 volunteers. Their work helped identify every person buried in the African American cemetery, many of whom were formerly enslaved.

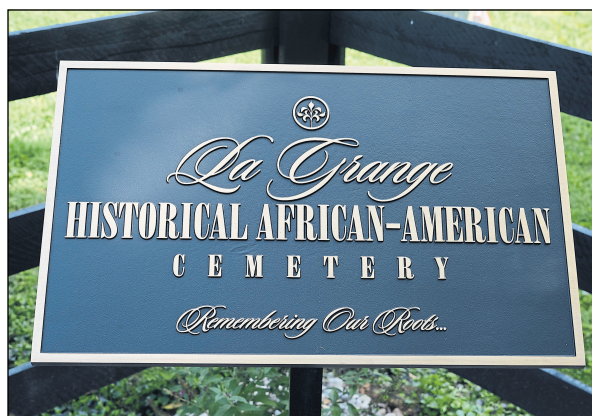
Theiss, who grew up during segregation, said the county's history of slavery is inseparable from the burial ground; she didn't expect to become so ingrained in it, she said.

"Growing up in Oldham County, we never talked about slavery," said Theiss. "But when I got into the Oldham County history records...it's all about slavery."

Theiss said Oldham had the 11th highest population of enslaved people in Kentucky. Records indicate that they made up almost one-third of Oldham's total population in 1860. Acknowledging that history was a key point on Theiss' tour on June 30.

She said the history center has documents dating farther back than the Civil War, revealing all the cemetery's families and their associated

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The new sign for the Historic African American Cemetery, created by Demetrius Booker.



Volunteers placed mini American flags throughout the graveyard.

Court OKs \$839K in budget transfers to end fiscal year

BY GRANT GERSTNER
EDITOR

The Oldham County Fiscal Court unanimously approved \$839,270 in budget transfers at a June 29 special-called meeting in order to end the 2025-2026 fiscal year with a balanced budget.

Though little discussion occurred during the meeting, Chief Financial Officer Stan Clark clarified the reasoning behind some of the more notable transfers, such as \$576,000 from a "Building Remodel" line item to "Capital Vehicles."

Clark said that the funds covered the purchase of 10 police vehicles that were originally planned to be purchased as part of the 2026-2027 fiscal year budget, but were purchased ahead of time due to an expected price jump of about \$2,000 per vehicle that came into effect on July 1.

Clark further stated that the cost of fully outfitting the vehicles, which will be complete this month, is included in the

current budget.

The second largest budget transfer was \$76,000 from a "Rail Underpass" line item to "Currys Fork 2022." Clark said that work on Curry's Fork — a stream with a sizable watershed on the eastern side of the county — was originally intended to be finished in the 2024-2025 budget, but took until 2025-2026.

The county also received \$53,260 in revenue for the work, according to Clark.

The next largest transfer was \$33,000 from the "Maintenance Staff" line item to "Capital Improvements," which Clark clarified was to cover the cost of an irrigation system at the Oldham County Courthouse.

In other news, the court also had a discussion regarding semi trucks parked along I-71, especially near the rest areas in Crestwood.

Judge Executive David Voegele spurred the conversation, bringing up the

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