OBITUARIES

Rosetta 'Rose' Atchison, 83

Brunswick, Ga.

Rosetta 'Rose' Atchison, age 83, of Brunswick, passed away Aug. 2, 2026, at Pruitt Health & Rehabilitation in Brunswick, Ga.

Services to celebrate Rose's life will be held Saturday, Aug. 29, 2026, 11 a.m., at La Grange Baptist Church, • 1139 Commerce Parkway • in La Grange, Ky. There will be a visitation for family and friends, one hour prior to service time.

Rose was born Oct. 17, 1942, in Pine Knot, Ky. to Emma Kelly Maddux. She had lived in La Grange, Ky. all her life, with her adoptive parents George Thomas and Mary Bell Curtis, until moving to Brunswick in 2021. Rose retired from Clayton & Lambert Steel Manufacturing, and La Grange Water Company. Rose was a devout Christian, a member of Dehaven Baptist Church, then La Grange Baptist Church of La Grange Ky. Rose was a member of the Ladies Sunday School Class and served on the Coffee Club Committee at La Grange Baptist Church. She was a member of the Oldham County Homemakers' Association, enjoyed crafting, quilting and spoiling her grandchildren.

Rose is survived by her son, Tom McDonald (Jonetta) of Brunswick, Ga.; daughter-in-law, Amiee McDonald of Louisville, Ky.; stepsons, Rick Atchison (Carol) of Jeffersonville Ind. and Robert Atchison (Yulie) of Prospect, Ky.; her brother, Robert E. Maddox (Mary) of Huntsville, Texas; grandchildren, Saranne Blayne McDonald, Madison Rose McDonald, Kyle Atchison, Kristopher Atchison, Amy Van Cleave, Dustin Van Cleave (Lauren), Caleb Atchison, Owen Atchison and Josh Atchison. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Richard T. Atchison; a son, Troy Milton McDonald; brothers, John Maddux, Sr., Paul E. Maddux, Edward Maddux and George Alan Jackson; a sister, Betty Snowden; and several nieces and nephews.

Special thank you to Katrina Chapman, Amanda Dooley, Pam Herndon, the nurses and staff of Pruitt Health and Rehabilitation Services and Pruitt Hospice.

Please have floral arrangements delivered to La Grange Baptist Church. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions are requested to La Grange Baptist Church, 1139 Commerce Parkway, LaGrange, KY, 40031.

Chapman Funeral Chapel & Crematory of Brunswick, Ga. have been entrusted with the arrangements.

Gloria Gover, 92

Gloria Gover passed away Aug. 14, 2026, following a stroke. She was born on Sept. 3, 1934, in Horse Branch, Ky., to Gabe and Mabel Arnold.

She was preceded in death by husband, John T. Gover.

She is survived by her children, Sandy Donnelly (Mike), John A. Gover (Julie) and Suzanne Wright (Rick); seven grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Court of Appeals to hear oral arguments Aug. 27 in La Grange

BY ERA STAFF

FRANKFORT – The Kentucky Court of Appeals will convene Thursday in La Grange to hear oral arguments in civil cases on appeal from Circuit Courts in Jefferson and Madison counties.

The proceedings are open to the public and will take place at 10:30 a.m. EDT and 1 p.m. EDT in Courtroom D of the Oldham County Judicial Center, 100 W. Main St.

Nearly all cases heard by the Kentucky Court of Appeals come to it on appeal from a lower court. If a case is tried in Circuit Court or District Court and the losing parties involved are not satisfied with the outcome, they may ask for a higher court to review the correctness of the trial court's decision.

Some cases, such as criminal case acquittals and divorces, may not be appealed. In a divorce case, however, child custody and property rights decisions may be appealed. Cases are not retried in the Court of Appeals, and only the record of the original court trial is reviewed, with attorneys presenting the legal issues to the court for a decision.

Fourteen judges, two elected from each of seven appellate court districts, serve on the Court of Appeals. The judges are divided into panels of three to review and decide cases, with the majority determining the decision. The panels do not sit permanently in one location but travel throughout the state to hear cases.

At 10:30 a.m. the court will hear Jessica Anderyt v. Norton Healthcare, Inc. — a civil, hostile work environment/retaliation case out of Jefferson Circuit Court.

The case began after an employee was sexually harassed by a patient and reported it to their employer, but was dissatisfied with the response. After later being fired for absenteeism, the employee claims she was actually terminated as retaliation for reporting harassment and complaining about the employer's failure to address concerns.

The employee claims the Jefferson Circuit Court misstated the law in jury instructions by defining an adverse employment action from the standard set forth in the 2004 Kentucky Supreme Court decision in Brooks v. Lexington-Fayette, as opposed to a newer federal standard in the 2006 U.S. Supreme Court decision in Burlington-Northern v. White.

The judge from Jefferson County is Hon. Eric Joseph Haner. Attorneys for appellant are Robyn Rochelle Smith and Sarah Eleanor McGeeney. Attorneys for Appellee are Jeremy Stuart Rogers, Alina Klimkina and Donna King Perry.

At 1 p.m., the court will hear Bluegrass Regional Recycling Corporation, ET AL. v. Lorie S. Farthing, Administratrix of the Estate of John Dylan Farthing, ET AL. — an interlocutory appeal concerning the Madison Circuit Court's denial of qualified official immunity

The underlying case concerns the death of an individual under the supervision of Bluegrass Regional Recycling (BRC). BRC operates a re • entry center designed to facilitate the reintegration of inmates into society and asserts that its employees' actions fall within the protections of qualified official immunity.

The judge from Madison County is Hon. Cole Adams Maier. Attorney for appellants is Jeffrey Charles Mando. Attorneys for appellees are Gregory Allen Belzley and Michael Faulkner Euba.

Court of Appeals Judges Kelly Mark Easton, Allison Jones and Will Moynahan will hear arguments. Judge Easton will preside in the Jefferson case and Judge Moynahan in the Madison case.

Links to case briefs can be found at kcoj.info/COAAug20

Coroner investigates man who died in police custody

BY ERA STAFF

The Oldham County Coroner's Office is investigating the death of a man who died Thursday while in Henry County Sheriff's Office custody.

Henry County Sheriff Keith Perry told the Era that a minor pursuit began in Henry County just before 9 a.m. Aug. 20 with speeds approximately 50 mph before the driver pulled over. Two additional deputies responded to the scene.

The man was taken into custody, briefly taken to the Henry County Sheriff's Office, where Perry spoke with him, and taken to the Baptist Health La Grange hospital for a blood draw test, Perry said.

The blood draw was taken and the man was released from the hospital. A deputy then took the man to the Oldham County Detention Center. When pulling in to the jail's sally port, the man groaned and slumped over, according to Perry.

Perry said that medical staff on hand at the jail administered Narcan, an anti-opioid overdose nasal spray, before the man was taken to the hospital. He was pronounced dead after resuscitative efforts failed at the hospital.

Kentucky State Police and the Oldham County Coroner's Office are investigating the incident, according to Perry.

A release from the Oldham County Coroner's Office identified the man as 36-year-old Devin Combs of Henry County.

"The Oldham County Coroner's office is responsible for determining the cause and manner of death in cases where the deceased is in custody of law enforcement," the release from the coroner's office states.

"Mr. Combs was transported to the Kentucky State Medical Examiner's office for forensic examination and the investigation is ongoing. Assisting agencies are the La Grange Police Department and Kentucky State Police."

Further details have not yet been released.

DISPUTE

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Planning and Development Director Ryan Fischer went through each of the changes requested by members of the court after their original denial of the regulations in January.

As previously reported, the Study Review Committee — a group of five Planning and Zoning Commission members who are typically the first body to review and forward new regulations for approval — made some changes, but denied others.

Namely, the committee denied the request to bar data centers from locating in Industrial Park District zoned areas and the request for adding a section that would force the developers and owners to bear the burden of decommissioning the structure if it were to become vacant.

Those same measures were again denied by the Planning and Zoning Commission in June before the regulations were forwarded to the fiscal court once more.

During the public hearing on Aug. 18, several residents again asked the court to bar data centers from Industrial Park District zones areas — and all "light industrial" zoned areas in general — stressing that they believed data centers belong in heavy-industrial areas.

Other residents claimed that the regulations were ambiguous and inconsistent, and others still asked for further restrictions to be added. Many of those who spoke emphasized their concerns over data centers' power usage.

Voegele gave a brief presentation during the hearing, showing a map of all of the properties in the county that have industrial or commercial highway district zoning — the only zoning classifications where a data center would be allowed, if the proposed regulations were approved.

He pointed out one specific, 275-acre property with heavy-industrial zoning located off Highway 146 in La Grange — the largest industrial property in the county, according to Voegele — the former home of Anaconda Wire and Cable Company and current home of Stainless Steel Midwest.

Though the proper power lines for a data center are not located near the property, Voegele said that with the proposed regulations' 1,000-foot setbacks from residential property, "it came out to about 6 acres in the middle of that property left that could accommodate a data center …

"I bring this up because we don't have anywhere in this county [for a data center] …" Voegele said. "If you think that farmland is going to get rezoned, that's a different battle altogether."

Voegele later showed satellite photos of a data center in Jeffersontown, located at 12901 Plantside Drive. "It's not an obnoxious looking building — it's a nice looking building. We were in that building. It was something that could fit on Commerce Parkway, but not under the rules we're proposing here."

After the public hearing, Magistrate Kevin Woosley then made a motion to deny the proposed regulations and hire a consultant to "teach us how to write the proper regulations on data centers," he said. Magistrate Michael Logsdon seconded the motion.

Magistrate Kevin Jeffries expressed concern over possible litigation. "Let's get something in place," he said. "If we discover there's some problems with it, we can always bring it back."

County Attorney D. Berry Baxter agreed, saying that Jeffries' concern is "well-founded in that the moratorium was for the purpose of us getting regulations in place.

"I'm not saying we're going to get sued. The argument would be that we have essentially utilized the moratorium process to enact zoning regulations, which is inappropriate."

Baxter also said that Woosley's motion was well-founded, but "the question becomes the timing of that," he said. "… The argument gets to be that we are intentionally treading water."

Magistrate Chris Haunz added that finding a consultant may be difficult. He said that, each of the multiple times he has toured a data center, he has asked "who a data center consultant is," but "they don't exist — they exist on two sides: pro and against.

"So where are we going to find somebody that's in the middle ground that going to advise us?" Haunz said.

"We don't need to rush into this," Logsdon countered. "We can take this slow and get it right or come back and do it again. I don't understand the hurry rush on this."

After a few additional comments, the matter was brought to a vote that ended in a 5-4 decision — Voegele as well as magistrates Brent Likins, Jeffries and Haunz opposed.

SPECIAL-CALLED MEETING, NEW FIRST READING

In the days following the decision, the Era was notified of a special-called meeting on Aug. 24 to conduct a new first reading of the proposed regulations. In an interview with the Era prior to the meeting, Voegele said that he believed Woosley's motion "left Oldham County a sitting duck."

Voegele said that the court's moratorium on data centers is now 13 months old. "In my opinion, we've reached the point where the moratorium is no longer effective ..." he said. "[It's] effectively expired — the terms of the moratorium have been met."

As to whether a new first and second reading — effectively a new ordinance — could still occur after Woosley's motion had already passed, Voegele said that there is "no issue on that." He also said that he believed one magistrate "may have been confused about the motion" when voting.

Voegele said that, before Woosley motion, he put together a recommendation to change part of the regulations' classification of data centers to where those with a power capacity of 10 megawatts or less would be classified as "Medium" and those above 10 megawatts would be "Large."

Initially, the difference in classification started at 50 megawatts.

Voegele also confirmed that he is not aware of any incoming or pending data center applications, and does not think a data center will attempt to locate in Oldham County. "Unless the state comes up with something," he said, referencing the Kentucky State Reformatory property.

"At that point, it's probably a different ball game anyway because that's their property and we're not in control of it."

Just as the Aug. 24 special-called meeting was called to order, Magistrate Stephanie Hawkins attempted to make a motion to adjourn the meeting "based on the optics of this meeting appearing to circumvent the court's decision six days ago." Woosley seconded, and applause ensued.

Voegele disregarded the motion, and went on to conduct the first reading. He said that "nothing will be finalized until the Planning Commission agrees on a set of regulations, holds another public hearing, and returns to fiscal court with regulations for a second reading.

"I will insist that this process be expedited."

He also said that he has selected six "qualified individuals" to serve on a committee to review and select a data center consultant. The members include Stewart Robinson, Jamie Hillegonds, Eric Pullen, Dave Johnson, Deputy Judge Executive Kevin Nuss and Planning and Development Director Ryan Fischer — all of which served on the task force to initially help write the regulations.

After Voegele called for a motion to adjourn the meeting, one attendee

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105 S. Walnut, La Grange KY 40031
502-222-7183
Publisher: Jane Ashley Pace - publisher@oldhamera.com, 502-222-7184
Editor: Grant Gerstner - editor@oldhamera.com, 502-839-1688
Sports Editor: Wyatt Sparkman - sports@oldhamera.com, 502-219-6338
Advertising Representative: Barbara Duncan - advertising@oldhamera.com, 502-222-7185
Obituaries: obits@oldhamera.com

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