

Obituaries

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James Auxier

James Ralph Auxier, 83, of East Point, died Wednesday, Sept. 30, 2026.

Funeral Services were held at 2 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 4, in the Jones-Preston Funeral Home Chapel with Richard "Bubby" Davis officiating. Interment followed in the Auxier Family Cemetery in East Point. The Auxier Chapter 18 DAV conducted full military honors.

Arrangements were under direction of Jones and Preston Funeral Home of Paintsville. The guestbook may be signed at www.jones-prestonfuneralhome.com.



Bartley Batten

Bartley Alan Batten, 68, of Stambaugh, died Thursday, Oct. 1, 2026.

A memorial service will be held at a later date.

Arrangements are under direction of Jones and Preston Funeral Home of Paintsville.

The guestbook may be signed at www.jones-prestonfuneralhome.com.



Lucy Gillispie

Lucy Marlene Gillispie, 62, died Wednesday, Sept. 30, 2026.

There will be no public viewing or funeral service at this time.

Arrangements are under direction of Phelps and Son Funeral Home of Paintsville.

The guestbook may be signed at www.phelps-sonfuneralhome.com.



Dorthea Hayden

Dorthea Lou Fannin Hayden, 71, died peacefully on Wednesday, Sept. 30,

2026.

She was born in Paintsville, April 13, 1955, to the late Marvin and Margaret Fannin.

She was preceded in death by her beloved husband, David Hayden; her parents; her son, Paul David Hayden; and her siblings, Martha Coleman, Randall Fannin, Marvin Junior Fannin, Wayne Fannin, Benjamin Fannin and Kenny Ray Fannin.

She is survived by her daughter, Lisa Arms (Roger), of Paintsville; her brothers, Curt Fannin (Sheri), of Sitka, Bryan Fannin (Mollie), of Paintsville, Roger Dean Fannin (Patricia), of Paintsville, and Scottie Fannin (Becky), of Little Rock, Ark.; her grandchildren, Dustin Hayden (Micha), Hope Hayden (Brandon), Dyllan Hayden and Daulton Hayden; and her five beloved great-grandchildren. She was deeply loved by her many nieces, nephews, extended family members and dear friends.

A memorial service celebrating her life will be held at a later date.

Arrangements are under direction of Phelps and Son Funeral Home of Paintsville.

The guestbook may be signed at www.phelps-sonfuneralhome.com.

This is a paid obituary.



Michael Keaton

Michael Allen Keaton, 61, of Keaton, died Wednesday, Sept. 30, 2026.

Funeral services were held at 2 p.m. Monday, Oct. 5, at the Christian Union Church in Keaton with Tim Salyer and Arthur Jenkins officiating. Interment followed in the Lakeview Memorial Cemetery in Staffordsville.

Arrangements were under direction of Jones and Preston Funeral Home of Paintsville.

The guestbook may be signed at www.jones-prestonfuneralhome.com.



Mary Minton

Mary Elizabeth Davis Minton, 75, of Hager Hill, died Thursday, Oct. 1, 2026.

Funeral services were held at 11 a.m. Monday, Oct. 5, in the Jones-Preston Funeral Home chapel with James Smedley officiating. Interment followed in the Minton Family Cemetery, Hager Hill.

Arrangements were under direction of Jones and Preston Funeral Home of Paintsville.

The guestbook may be signed at www.jones-prestonfuneralhome.com.



"Jim" Stapleton

Jimmy "Jim" Stapleton, 84, of Tutor Key, died Thursday, Oct. 1, 2026.

He was born in Johnson County, May 25, 1942, to the late Hansford Stapleton and Amanda Daniel Stapleton.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by three brothers, Curtis Stapleton, Ervin Stapleton and Clarence "Bear" Stapleton; two sisters, Vina Marie Stapleton and Esta Mae Price; one grandson, Zakary Gasparac; and his beloved dog, Coco.

He is survived by three sons, John David Stapleton (Nancye) and Clarence Roger Stapleton (Sheila), both of Tutor Key, and Jimmy Lee Stapleton, of Paintsville; three daughters, Rebecca Yvonne Runyon (Kelly) and Charolette Caudill, both of Tutor Key, and Debbie Gasparac (Neil), of Salyersville; 10 grandchildren, Amber Pennington (Shannon), John Mike Stapleton (Jennifer), Tiffany Hensley (Scott), Josh Stapleton (Christy), Emily Butcher (Neal), Cassandra Howard (Jay), Dawson Gasparac, Robert Smith (Haley), William Caudill (Nikki) and John David Smith (Melissa Hunt); 20 great-grandchildren; and a host of other family members and friends.

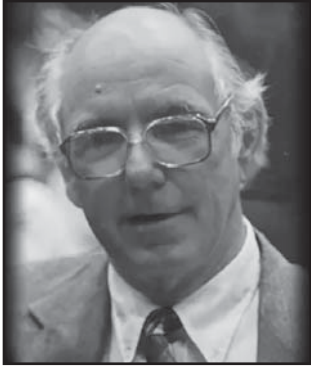
Funeral services were held at 1 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 4, in the Phelps and Son Funeral Home chapel. Burial followed in the

Stapleton Cemetery, Tutor Key, with Venny VanHoose officiating.

Arrangements are under direction of Phelps and Son Funeral Home of Paintsville.

The guestbook may be signed at www.phelps-sonfuneralhome.com.

This is a paid obituary.



James Stratton

James T. Stratton, 84, of Hager Hill, died Sunday, Oct. 4, 2026.

He was born in Floyd County, Oct. 12, 1941, to the late Clayton Stratton and Martha Canterbury Stratton.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by one sister, Bessie Sowder.

He is survived by his wife, Carol Combs Stratton, of Hager Hill; one daughter, Valerie Mace (Harry), of Hager Hill; three sisters, Patty Hornback, of Louisville, Dinah Warrix and Anna Tackett, both of Nicholasville, and one grandson, Harrison Mace.

Funeral services will be held at noon on Friday, Oct. 9, in the Phelps and Son Funeral Home chapel. Burial will follow in the Holliday Cemetery in Ary.

Arrangements are under direction of Phelps and Son Funeral Home of Paintsville.

The guestbook may be signed at www.phelps-sonfuneralhome.com.

This is a paid obituary.

MCCOOL

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Kentucky State Board of Elections website allows voters to review a sample ballot. A sample ballot can help voters familiarize themselves with the races and questions they will encounter before they arrive at the polls.

You can view the sample ballot for

your county by visiting, <https://web.sos.ky.gov/electionballots/>.

Our communities are strongest when citizens take an active role in the democratic process and take the time to understand the choices before them. I encourage every eligible Kentucky voter to make a plan to participate in this year's election. Check your registration, know your polling location, review your ballot,

and research the candidates and issues that will appear before you. Whether you vote on Election Day or take advantage of Kentucky's early voting options, taking the time to be informed helps ensure you are prepared to make your voice heard. Your vote is an opportunity to help shape the direction of your community and our Commonwealth. This November, exercise your right to vote, participate in

our democracy, and make your vote an informed one.

As always, I can be reached anytime through the toll-free message line in Frankfort at, 1-800-372-7181. You can also contact me via email at, Bobby.McCool@kylegislature.gov, and keep track through the Kentucky legislature's website at, legislature.ky.gov.



The Story Trail at Thealka Park
Have you visited The Story Trail at Thealka Park? It's a great fall activity for keeping body and mind active by reading the pages of a book as you walk. It is a cooperative effort between Johnson County Health Department, Johnson County Fiscal Court, and JCPL. The Story Trail is at Johnson County Park and Recreational Area (commonly known as Thealka Park) located at 2244 State Highway 581 in the community of Thealka.



JCPL Hours of Operation
Monday: 9:30 AM - 5:00 PM
Tuesday: 9:30 AM - 8:00 PM
Wednesday: 9:30 AM - 5:00 PM
Thursday: 9:30 AM - 8:00 PM
Friday: 9:30 AM - 5:00 PM
Saturday: 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Banned Books Week
October 4th-10th



Take this opportunity to read outside your comfort zone, whether in hard copy, eBook, or audiobook. The library has something for everyone!

Veterans Day

Salute to Service

Send us your information to be included in a FREE listing honoring your service. It's our way of saying "THANK YOU!"

- NOTE: If your submission ran with us last year, simply e-mail us, letting us know to publish your veteran again.
- We can accept information via e-mail at veterans@paintsvilleherald.com or drop it off at The Paintsville Herald office at 978 Broadway St., Paintsville or mail to PO Box 111, Paintsville, KY 41240.
- All material must be received by **Friday, October 30 at 5pm.**
- Only name, rank, branch and years of service and picture, if available, will be published.
- Must send phone number and address (NOT published, for verification purposes only).

DEADLINE: FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30