



Tassanee Vejpongsa

Leon Smith, named the 2026 National Teacher of the Year, stands in front of his classroom at Haverford High School, in Havertown, Pa. on Monday, April 20.

Pennsylvania history teacher named national Teacher of the Year

BY HOLLY RAMER AND TASSANEE VEJONGSA
ASSOCIATED PRESS

HAVERFORD, Pa. — A high school history teacher in Pennsylvania who helps students look inward to find their strengths and outward to find community inside and outside the classroom has been named the 2026 National Teacher of the Year. Leon Smith, 46, has spent his entire 25-year career at Haverford High School, where he teaches Advanced Placement classes in U.S. history and African American studies. He describes himself as a “warm demander,” someone who sets high expectations while surrounding students with love and support. Often, that means recognizing hidden talents and bringing them to the forefront, he said in an interview Monday.

“An adult can tell you that they see something in you that maybe you didn’t see

in yourself,” he said. “I love to do that for students. When I see ambition, when I see talent, I let them know that so that they can hopefully pursue that goal and achieve their dreams.”

Smith starts each class with a community building exercise — on Monday, he asked his students to talk about a song that made them happy. One shared a track that reminded him of a family vacation. Another recalled music she listened to with friends before they went their separate ways. The exercise helped settle the students before the discussion shifted to a harder question: When, if ever, should the United States enter a war happening far away?

“We want to make sure that our students can think critically, that they have empathy, that they can understand the nuance and complexity that goes into making decisions,” he said. “My hope is that when they

leave my classroom, that they can be civically engaged, that they can make sure that they can create a society that they can be proud of.”

Smith also extends his teaching to outside the school, taking students to the state Capitol each year to engage with policymakers. That won him praise from the organization behind the award, the Council of Chief State School Officers, which also cited his emphasis on the inclusion of multiple perspectives in history.

As the Teacher of the Year, Smith will spend a year promoting the pivotal role educators play in shaping the next generation.

“They’ve moved societies. They have empowered activist movements. They’ve helped people to figure out what they want to do when they group up,” he said. “They’ve had a tremendous impact, and my hope is that people are inspired to join that legacy.”

ARCHERY

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a total of 1,536 shooters (including high school and middle school male archers).

The top score among elementary age shooters was a 274 by Avery Muntz of Southside Elementary.

Cedar Grove Elementary Team Score – 1,523
Place – 2nd Overall
Raymond led the way for Cedar Grove with that score

of 266. Following behind Raymond was 5th-grader Aubrey Bratcher with a 259. The team also had a 255 score from 4th-grader Jack Godbold.

Adding to the ‘team’ score was Parker Burden, a 5th-grader, with a score of 253 while 4th-grader Rhett Thornsberry had a score of 248. The sixth score for Cedar Grove was a 242 by 5th-grader Ariana Fultz. Because of the 2/2 rule, a 246 by 5th-grader Waylon Brutscher was not used. The team also got a 242 from 5th-grader Max

Odle. Also shooting for Cedar Grove in this event was Addelyn Fines with a 234 while James Felty had a 232 and Paisley Thornsberry a 228. The team also got a 220 from Bristol Morris while Halle Dever had a 207, Alaya Richards a 203 and Klara White a 195. Rounding out the Cedar Grove scores were a 183 by Kaylee Sparks along with a 163 from Brenley Grenwell, a 161 from Tristan Sparks and an 85 by Mason Reynolds.

NORTH

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with RBI singles before Burton had a two-run triple. Deitchman’s single drove home the final run of the game.

A week that had gone so well was dampened by a 9-5 loss on Saturday at Henry County.

“We were sloppy,” said Wise. “It was very disappointing.”

The Eagles made five errors, including three in the first two innings.

Starter Avery Hooper bore the burden of giving up nine runs in four innings; however, only two of the runs were

earned.

Wise didn’t know if the threatening weather led his players to believe they wouldn’t play the game. But he did know that with such poor defense, the Eagles are not going to beat many teams.

In the first inning, Burton singles, Hornback walked and both scored on Deitchman’s single.

The second inning saw Pendleton single, steal a base and score on Burton’s single.

The third inning had Deitchman get hit by a pitch and Egnor doubled with the first baseman being thrown out at the plate. Oliver’s sacrifice fly would score Egnor.

The final run came when

White, Pendleton and Burton all singled before Hornback drove home a run with a walk.

Wise hoped that the experience was a learning one for his team.

This week, the Eagles played Nelson County before entertaining Southern on Tuesday in a district game. On Wednesday, regional foe PRP would be the opponent.


UPCOMING GAMES

*Friday, April 24 – Elizabethtown, 5:30 p.m.

*Saturday, April 25 – at Fairdale, 11 a.m.

*Monday, April 27, Collins, 6 p.m.

*Tuesday, April 28, at Bullitt East (district game), 6 p.m.



LEGAL NOTICE

CITY OF SHEPHERDSVILLE, KENTUCKY
SUMMARY OF
ORDINANCE 026-008

AN ORDINANCE OVERRIDING THE BULLITT COUNTY JOINT PLANNING COMMISSION'S RECOMMENDATION TO AMEND THE BULLITT COUNTY/CITY ZONING ORDER AND THE BULLITT COUNTY/CITY ZONING MAP AS AMENDED, CHANGING THE ZONING OF 8.89 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, LOCATED AT 758 OLD PRESTON HIGHWAY, IN THE CITY OF SHEPHERDSVILLE, BULLITT COUNTY, KENTUCKY, ALSO KNOWN AS PARCEL 037-000-00-017 FROM AG AGRICULTURE TO I-L INDUSTRIAL.

SPONSORED BY: COUNCIL MEMBER BONNIE ENLOW
CO-SPONSORED BY: COUNCIL MEMBER JENNIFER MENDEZ
COUNCIL MEMBER FAITH PORTMAN

SECTION ONE: Sets forth that the Bullitt County Joint Planning Commission held a public hearing on February 12, 2026, Docket No. 2026Z-10, and based on the testimony and evidence presented at that hearing, recommended that the Bullitt County/City Zoning Order and the Bullitt County/City Zoning Map be amended to change the zoning of 8.89 acres, more or less, located at 758 Old Preston Highway, also known as parcel 037-000-00-017 (“Subject Property”), from AG Agriculture to I-L Industrial.

SECTION TWO: Sets forth that the City Council held a public hearing on March 9, 2026.

SECTION THREE: Sets forth the findings of fact, including that Subject Property is currently zoned AG, that the Future Land Use Map designates the Subject Property to be zoned Commercial, that the requested map amendment is not in agreement with the Comprehensive Plan, and that no evidence was presented to justify a change.

SECTION FOUR: Sets forth that the City Council OVERRIDES the recommendation of the Bullitt County Joint Planning Commission to amend the Bullitt County/City Zoning Order and the Bullitt County/City Zoning Map, changing the zoning of the Subject Property.


SECTION FIVE: Sets forth that the Bullitt County/City Zoning Order and the Bullitt County/City Zoning Map shall NOT be amended to change the zoning of the Subject Property.

SECTION SIX: Sets forth the severability clause.

SECTION SEVEN: Sets forth the repeal of prior ordinances in conflict with this ordinance.

SECTION EIGHT: Sets forth the publication requirement.

SUMMARY PREPARED BY:
KATHERINE DOZIER, CITY ATTORNEY



LEGAL NOTICE

CITY OF SHEPHERDSVILLE, KENTUCKY
SUMMARY OF
ORDINANCE 026-006

AN ORDINANCE OVERRIDING THE BULLITT COUNTY JOINT PLANNING COMMISSION'S RECOMMENDATION TO AMEND THE BULLITT COUNTY/CITY ZONING ORDER AND THE BULLITT COUNTY/CITY ZONING MAP AS AMENDED, CHANGING THE ZONING OF 0.754 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, LOCATED AT 327 STEVEN DRIVE, IN THE CITY OF SHEPHERDSVILLE, BULLITT COUNTY, KENTUCKY, ALSO KNOWN AS PARCEL 046-NW0-05-002 FROM R-1 RESIDENTIAL TO I-L INDUSTRIAL.

SPONSORED BY: COUNCIL MEMBER BONNIE ENLOW
CO-SPONSORED BY: COUNCIL MEMBER JENNIFER MENDEZ
COUNCIL MEMBER FAITH PORTMAN

SECTION ONE: Sets forth that the Bullitt County Joint Planning Commission held a public hearing on February 12, 2026, Docket No. 2026Z-08, and based on the testimony and evidence presented at that hearing, recommended that the Bullitt County/City Zoning Order and the Bullitt County/City Zoning Map be amended to change the zoning of 0.754 acres, more or less, located at 327 Steven Drive, also known as parcel 046-NW0-05-002, (“Subject Property”) from R-1 Residential to I-L Industrial.

SECTION TWO: Sets forth that the City Council held a public hearing on March 9, 2026.

SECTION THREE: Sets forth the findings of fact, including that Subject Property is currently zoned R-1, that the Future Land Use Map designates the Subject Property to be zoned Medium Density Residential, that the requested map amendment is not in agreement with the Comprehensive Plan, and that no evidence was presented to justify a change.

SECTION FOUR: Sets forth that the City Council OVERRIDES the recommendation of the Bullitt County Joint Planning Commission to amend the Bullitt County/City Zoning Order and the Bullitt County/City Zoning Map, changing the zoning of the Subject Property.


SECTION FIVE: Sets forth that the Bullitt County/City Zoning Order and the Bullitt County/City Zoning Map shall NOT be amended to change the zoning of the Subject Property.

SECTION SIX: Sets forth the severability clause.

SECTION SEVEN: Sets forth the repeal of prior ordinances in conflict with this ordinance.

SECTION EIGHT: Sets forth the publication requirement.

SUMMARY PREPARED BY:
KATHERINE DOZIER, CITY ATTORNEY



LEGAL NOTICE

CITY OF SHEPHERDSVILLE, KENTUCKY
SUMMARY OF
ORDINANCE 026-005

AN ORDINANCE OVERRIDING THE BULLITT COUNTY JOINT PLANNING COMMISSION'S RECOMMENDATION TO AMEND THE BULLITT COUNTY/CITY ZONING ORDER AND THE BULLITT COUNTY/CITY ZONING MAP AS AMENDED, CHANGING THE ZONING OF 5.976 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, LOCATED AT 327 STEVEN DRIVE, IN THE CITY OF SHEPHERDSVILLE, BULLITT COUNTY, KENTUCKY, ALSO KNOWN AS PARCEL 046-NW0-05-004 FROM B-1 HIGHWAY BUSINESS TO I-L INDUSTRIAL.

SPONSORED BY: COUNCIL MEMBER BONNIE ENLOW
CO-SPONSORED BY: COUNCIL MEMBER JENNIFER MENDEZ
COUNCIL MEMBER FAITH PORTMAN

SECTION ONE: Sets forth that the Bullitt County Joint Planning Commission held a public hearing on February 12, 2026, Docket No. 2026Z-07, and based on the testimony and evidence presented at that hearing, recommended that the Bullitt County/City Zoning Order and the Bullitt County/City Zoning Map be amended to change the zoning of 5.976 acres, more or less, located at 327 Steven Drive, also known as parcel 046-NW0-05-004 (“Subject Property”), from B-1 Business Highway to I-L Industrial.

SECTION TWO: Sets forth that the City Council held a public hearing on March 9, 2026.

SECTION THREE: Sets forth the findings of fact including that Subject Property is currently zoned B-1, that the Future Land Use Map designates the Subject Property to be zoned Commercial, that the requested map amendment is not in agreement with the Comprehensive Plan, and that no evidence was presented to justify a change.

SECTION FOUR: Sets forth that the City Council OVERRIDES the recommendation of the Bullitt County Joint Planning Commission to amend the Bullitt County/City Zoning Order and the Bullitt County/City Zoning Map, changing the zoning of the Subject Property.


SECTION FIVE: Sets forth that the Bullitt County/City Zoning Order and the Bullitt County/City Zoning Map shall NOT be amended to change the zoning of the Subject Property.

SECTION SIX: Sets forth the severability clause.

SECTION SEVEN: Sets forth the repeal of prior ordinances in conflict with this ordinance.

SECTION EIGHT: Sets forth the publication requirement.

SUMMARY PREPARED BY:
KATHERINE DOZIER, CITY ATTORNEY



LEGAL NOTICE

CITY OF SHEPHERDSVILLE, KENTUCKY
SUMMARY OF
ORDINANCE 026-007

AN ORDINANCE OVERRIDING THE BULLITT COUNTY JOINT PLANNING COMMISSION'S RECOMMENDATION TO AMEND THE BULLITT COUNTY/CITY ZONING ORDER AND THE BULLITT COUNTY/CITY ZONING MAP AS AMENDED, CHANGING THE ZONING OF 25.565 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, LOCATED AT 349 STEVEN DRIVE, IN THE CITY OF SHEPHERDSVILLE, BULLITT COUNTY, KENTUCKY, ALSO KNOWN AS PARCEL 037-000-00-010 FROM AG AGRICULTURE TO I-L INDUSTRIAL.

SPONSORED BY: COUNCIL MEMBER BONNIE ENLOW
CO-SPONSORED BY: COUNCIL MEMBER JENNIFER MENDEZ
COUNCIL MEMBER FAITH PORTMAN

SECTION ONE: Sets forth that the Bullitt County Joint Planning Commission held a public hearing on February 12, 2026, Docket No. 2026Z-09, and based on the testimony and evidence presented at that hearing, recommended that the Bullitt County/City Zoning Order and the Bullitt County/City Zoning Map be amended to change the zoning of 25.565 acres, more or less, located at 349 Steven Drive, also known as parcel 037-000-00-010, (“Subject Property”) from AG Agriculture to I-L Industrial.

SECTION TWO: Sets forth that the City Council held a public hearing on March 9, 2026.

SECTION THREE: Sets forth the findings of fact including that although the Future Land Use Map designates the Subject Property for Industrial use, the proposed map amendment is not in agreement with the Comprehensive Plan as a whole due to inadequate access, infrastructure, transition, buffering, and the Plan’s intended south-to-north sequencing of coordinated industrial development. The Council further found that even consolidation would not resolve these deficiencies, that the Subject Property, alone or consolidated, cannot be developed in the south-to-north pattern contemplated by the Comprehensive Plan, and that rezoning would create a fragmented industrial pocket with inadequate buffering and transitions to adjacent residential uses.

SECTION FOUR: Sets forth that the City Council OVERRIDES the recommendation of the Bullitt County Joint Planning Commission to amend the Bullitt County/City Zoning Order and the Bullitt County/City Zoning Map changing the zoning of the Subject Property.


SECTION FIVE: Sets forth that the Bullitt County/City Zoning Order and the Bullitt County/City Zoning Map shall NOT be amended to change the zoning of the Subject Property.

SECTION SIX: Sets forth the severability clause.

SECTION SEVEN: Sets forth the repeal of prior ordinances in conflict with this ordinance.

SECTION EIGHT: Sets forth the publication requirement.

SUMMARY PREPARED BY:
KATHERINE DOZIER, CITY ATTORNEY



LEGAL NOTICE

CITY OF SHEPHERDSVILLE, KENTUCKY
SUMMARY OF
ORDINANCE 026-004

AN ORDINANCE OVERRIDING THE BULLITT COUNTY JOINT PLANNING COMMISSION'S RECOMMENDATION TO AMEND THE BULLITT COUNTY/CITY ZONING ORDER AND THE BULLITT COUNTY/CITY ZONING MAP AS AMENDED, CHANGING THE ZONING OF 14.03 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, LOCATED AT OLD PRESTON HIGHWAY SOUTH, IN THE CITY OF SHEPHERDSVILLE, BULLITT COUNTY, KENTUCKY, ALSO KNOWN AS PARCEL 046-000-00-026D FROM AG AGRICULTURE TO I-L INDUSTRIAL.

SPONSORED BY: COUNCIL MEMBER BONNIE ENLOW
CO-SPONSORED BY: COUNCIL MEMBER JENNIFER MENDEZ
COUNCIL MEMBER FAITH PORTMAN

SECTION ONE: Sets forth that the Bullitt County Joint Planning Commission held a public hearing on February 12, 2026, Docket No. 2026Z-06, and based on the testimony and evidence presented at that hearing, recommended that the Bullitt County/City Zoning Order and the Bullitt County/City Zoning Map be amended to change the zoning of 14.03 acres, more or less, located at Old Preston Highway South, also known as parcel 046-000-00-026D (“Subject Property”), from AG Agriculture to I-L Industrial.

SECTION TWO: Sets forth that the City Council held a public hearing on March 9, 2026.

SECTION THREE: Sets forth the findings of fact, including that although the Future Land Use Map designates the Subject Property for Industrial use, the proposed map amendment is not in agreement with the Comprehensive Plan as a whole due to inadequate access, infrastructure, transition, buffering, and the Plan’s intended south-to-north sequencing of coordinated industrial development. The Council further found that even consolidation would not resolve these deficiencies, that the Subject Property, alone or consolidated, cannot be developed in the south-to-north pattern contemplated by the Comprehensive Plan, and that rezoning would create a fragmented industrial pocket with inadequate buffering and transitions to adjacent residential uses.

SECTION FOUR: Sets forth that the City Council OVERRIDES the recommendation of the Bullitt County Joint Planning Commission to amend the Bullitt County/City Zoning Order and the Bullitt County/City Zoning Map changing the zoning of the Subject Property.

SECTION FIVE: Sets forth that the Bullitt County/City Zoning Order and the Bullitt County/City Zoning Map shall NOT be amended to change the zoning of the Subject Property.

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KATHERINE DOZIER, CITY ATTORNEY