

LOCAL NEWS

White Hall Park stockings bring fresh catches to Madison County

Brycen McWilliams
Richmond Register

White Hall Park, a popular outdoor destination off Exit 95, which is a hub of activity for local anglers, is preparing for fishing season, thanks to a series of fish stockings by Kentucky Fish & Wildlife. The park's pond, known for its scenic beauty and recreational appeal, has seen a couple of stocking events over the past few weeks, with more planned for the near future.

On February 25th, the pond was stocked with 1,200 rainbow trout, delighting anglers eager to test their skills on freshly released fish. Just a few days later, on March 2nd, the Kentucky Department

of Fish and Wildlife added another 1,200 catfish to the pond, further enriching the fishing experience for visitors.

Looking ahead, White Hall Park is scheduled to receive another stocking of 1,500 rainbow trout on March 17th, promising more opportunities for families and seasoned anglers to enjoy the waters. These ongoing stockings underscore the park's commitment to providing quality fishing opportunities throughout the season.

The park, located in Madison County, offers amenities such as walking trails and picnic areas, making it a perfect spot for a day of outdoor recreation. Visitors are reminded that



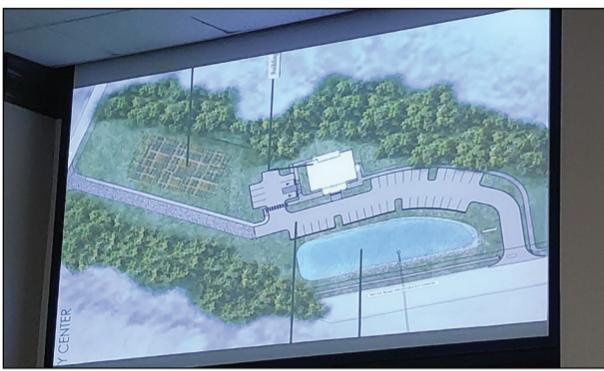
RR FILE PHOTO

In 2014, Five-year-old Daniel Bauer of Richmond, sister Kacie, 1 1/2, and father Danny feed bread to catfish in the pond at White Hall Park.

a valid Kentucky fishing license is required to fish in the pond, available online at <https://app.fw.ky.gov>.

With its recent and upcoming stockings, White Hall Park contin-

ues to be a prime location for fishing enthusiasts in the region, offering fresh catches and outdoor fun for all ages right here in Madison County.



JEMI CHEW | RR

City Administrator Shawn Sandlin gave a presentation on the Farristown Community Center at Tuesday night's Berea City Council meeting.

Berea City Council hears update on Farristown Community Center

JEMI CHEW
Richmond Register

BEREA – Construction of the new Farristown Community Center, which will honor the African American heritage of the neighborhood, will likely begin in July.

The project started four years ago and was given \$750,000 from the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) with some matching funds from the city.

City Administrator Shawn Sandlin said that the Bluegrass Area Development District just released the funds that will go toward project bids. The bidding process consists of different contractors submitting proposals to obtain construction contracts.

Once a deal is secured, construction of the center will begin, with an estimated timeframe of eight months to one year for completion.

Councilmember Jerry Little asked for the projected cost, to which Sandlin replied that they would have a better idea after the bids begin, especially because he did not want to influence the bid prices contractors might give.

The center will be located between Mayde and Menelaus Rd and will have a garden, meeting spaces, a warming kitchen (for reheating precooked food), as well as artifacts and memorabilia preserving the African American history of the area.

Aaron and Jamie Banther from Our Land of Promise, a nonprofit aimed at honoring African American heritage in Berea, will be curating the items for the community center. They want it to be an interactive experience and are planning to include wall murals, photos, and oral histories of descendants that lived in the community.

Additionally, the center will have to be utilized by at least 51% of low to moderate income families as per the conditions of the grant. Sandlin said that the logistics of how that will be implemented will still need to be discussed.

Other items discussed:

Council voted to approve a \$2000 contract between the city and Rick Terrill to obtain overflow parking for the Berea Craft Festival. Councilmember Ronnie Terrill abstained from the vote as Rick Terrill is his son. According to the city's ethic ordinances, this is allowed under the conditions that this decision is publicly disclosed and is in the best interest of the public because of price, limited supply, or other specific reasons. Council has had this same contract for the previous three craft festivals at a cost of \$1500. The \$500 increase is for the extra field space the city is using to make another exit so that crossing the road to the Indian Fort Theater is safer. This contract will last for another three years for a total of \$6000.

Council approved the Fiscal Year 2026 amended budget.

Councilmember Little asked about funding to fix Johnson Road. Sandlin said they are planning to apply for a grant and in the meantime, they will move the water in the ditches and create shoulders so that the road is safer to drive on.

The next Berea City Council meeting will be held on March 17 at 6:30 p.m. The first reading of the zone change for Walmart's potential relocation at exit 77 will most likely be on the agenda.

Contact Jemi at jchew@richmondregister.com or 859-624-6695 for story tips or events.

Madison County officials report distemper case in local wildlife

Special to the Register

Madison County Animal Care & Control, in coordination with the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources and the Madison County Health Department, is notifying the public of a confirmed distemper case in a skunk in Madison County in February 2026.

Distemper is caused by a virus and often occurs in raccoons, gray foxes, coyotes, and skunks. Common symptoms in infected animals include respiratory distress, coughing, sneezing, watery discharge from the eyes and nose, crusty footpads, and diarrhea. Infected animals may also convulse, tremor, stagger, have chewing fits, become emaciated, and lose their fear of people.

The virus is not transmissible to people.

However, wildlife feces may contain parasites that can infect people, especially small children, and can cause serious illness. Care should be taken when cleaning up wildlife droppings to avoid contact with skin and mucous membranes.

Distemper can infect unvaccinated dogs. Madison County Animal Care recommends taking the following steps if you suspect an infected animal, and to protect your pets from the virus:

Do not attempt to handle or capture any sick wildlife.

If you see a skunk or other animal that may be sick, contact a permitted nuisance wildlife control operator through the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife at app.fw.ky.gov/nuisancecontrol. Local animal control

officers are not authorized to handle wildlife or animals suspected of infection.

Ensure your dog's vaccinations are up to date. The canine distemper vaccine will protect pets that may come into contact with an infected animal.

If you feed pets outdoors, do not leave food outside unattended for long periods. Pet food can attract wildlife and increase the risk of disease transmission.

If you come in contact with, or get bitten or scratched by a wild animal, call the Madison County Health Department at 859-623-7312, or a local health provider to report a possible exposure.

For wildlife nuisance concerns, contact the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife.

For issues involving domestic animals, contact

Madison County Animal Care & Control, 859-624-4744.



The City of Richmond is requesting proposals for a benefits, payroll and training software application. Proposals should include integration and annual cost and are due no later than **Monday March 16th at 1:00 pm.** Please send to **Richmond City Hall, Attn: Lisa Cassity, 239 W. Main St. Richmond, KY 40475.** Any questions can be directed to **Janet Townsend at jtownsend@richmondky.gov.**

PUBLIC NOTICE:

Please take notice that the Housing Authority of Richmond, Kentucky, pursuant to KRS 424.130 CFR Part 880 et seq, and all other applicable law, will accept comments from the public on **March 30, 2026 at the hour of 10:00 am.**

The aforesaid comments will be heard at the Housing Authority's Main Office having a street address of 429 Smith Village, Richmond KY 40475.

The purpose of this meeting is to explain to interested members of the public as well as Housing Authority residents the 2026 Annual Plan and the proposed use of capital fund improvements.

The public notice is for the purpose of receiving comments from the public regarding the matters which are to be addressed. The information to be reviewed during the public hearing is available at the Housing Authority's main office located at 429 Smith Village, Richmond KY 40475.

Dollar General Partners, a Kentucky general partnership, 100 Mission Ridge, Goodlettsville, TN 37072, hereby declares its intention to apply for an NQ Retail Malt Beverage Package License no later than March 6, 2026, for Dollar General Store No. 31827 at 2041 Irvine Road, Richmond, KY 40475. Dollar General Partners will be acting by and through its general partners, DG Strategic VI, LLC, whose officers are Zachary J. Brining, CEO and Emily C. Taylor, Secretary and CFO, and DG Promotions, Inc., whose officers are Zachary J. Brining, CEO, Donny Lau, CFO, Emily C. Taylor, Executive VP and Secretary and William Steiger, VP, Tax, all with a mailing address of 100 Mission Ridge, Goodlettsville, TN 37072. Any person, association, corporation, or body politic may protest the granting of the license by writing the Department of Alcoholic Beverages, 500 Mero Street 2NE33, Frankfort, KY 40601, within thirty (30) days (pursuant to KRS 243.430) of the date of legal publication.