

Berea swim team earns title.

Berea murder suspect appears in court.

Richmond Register

■ SATURDAY, JULY 18, 2026 | \$2.50 | richmondregister.com | Established 1891

Weekend

Madison County Grand Jury indicts bank shooting suspect

Attorney General pushing for death penalty

Blake Vickers
Richmond Register

Brailen Weaver — the suspect of a deadly bank robbery in Berea on April 30th — has been indicted by a Madison County Grand Jury on two counts of murder and one county of fleeing and evading. The announcement was made by Kentucky Attorney General Russell

Coleman, who said that he is seeking the death penalty for weaver. Weaver is accused of killing 35-year-old Breanna Edwards and 41-year-old Brian Switzer — both employees of U.S. Bank and parents — during the robbery. While state and federal prosecutors are collaborating, the Attorney General’s indictment is separate from the ongoing federal case. The case is was investigated by the Kentucky State Police, with Deputy Attorney General Rob Duncan and

Criminal Chief Rewa Zakharia presenting it for the Commonwealth. Madison County Attorney Jennie Haymond and Tom Lockridge will be prosecuting in the case. With Haymond serving in her capacity as Special Assistant Attorney General. Robyn Diez D’Aux, Director of the Office of Victims Advocacy, will be providing victims services. Back in Federal Court Weaver has been indicted by a Lexington-based Grand Jury on attempted armed bank robbery resulting in the deaths of two victims and two

counts of causing death with a firearm. On July 14, his council made a motion to reschedule a status hearing from July 22 to August 5. As that motion was granted, Weaver is now set to appear before Judge Claria Horn Boom at the U.S. Courthouse in Lexington that morning at 10:00 a.m.



BRILEN WEAVER

Fiscal Court questioned on geotechnical survey



BLAKE VICKERS — RR

Mary Kearns briefs the Madison County Fiscal Court about a geotechnical survey done on a proposed industrial site on Lexington Road, also known as the Carr Property.

Blake Vickers
Richmond Register

The Madison County Fiscal Court took questions on the upcoming industrial site on Lexington Road in a somewhat heated public comment section during the meeting on July 14. The site is located on 2494 Lexington Road, and is also known as the Carr Property. Last month a resolution passed by the Fiscal Court to approve of a grant application with the Kentucky Economic Development Cabinet by the Central Kentucky Business Park Authority in regards to the park. All but Magistrate Billy Ray Hughes voted yes on the resolution. “Whereas the Madison County Fiscal Court is engaged in acquiring the property on Lexington Road, which will leverage

\$18,952,500 in investment from the Commonwealth of Kentucky,” Deputy Judge Executive Jill Williamson said whilst reading the resolution during that June 23 meeting. “Whereas it is expected that the project will have a positive impact on the local economy and greater central Kentucky region. As the acquisition provides opportunity for the Central Kentucky Business Park Authority to create a regional business park to provide high quality businesses and well paying jobs.” The county will provide up to \$2,000,000 in funding for the site. During that July 14 meeting, Mary Kearns spoke during the public comment section. She led by thanking the court and

SEE GEO ON A7



BLAKE VICKERS — RR

City Commissioner Jim Newby said that he believes reinstated Planning and Zoning Director needs to apologize to the City Commission.

City gives tract of land to KSP for new police post, reinstates P&Z Director

Commissioner’s DUI charges not addressed

Blake Vickers
Richmond Register

The Richmond City Commission donated around 8 acres of land off 495 Duncannon Lane to the Kentucky State Police to build a new facility for KSP Post 7. It comes from the 189 acres of industrial park land the city owns in that area. “They’re building a brand new building. It’s state of the art. It gives us an entrance to our industrial park. Industry likes it because it puts public safety right where our industry is... it’s a win win for us and the state police,” City Manager Rob Minerich said of the move. KSP Post 7 is currently located on the Eastern Bypass, just beside Eastern Kentucky University’s campus. Mayor Robert Blythe reflected



BLAKE VICKERS — RR

Richmond Mayor Robert Blythe reflects on the history of Kentucky State Police Post 7 during the City Commission meeting on July 14.

on Post 7’s history in the community. “This is such a strategic opportunity for all of us. I remember as a kid when the State Police barracks... was out on West Main in a house. They moved, of course, there on campus.

It’s such a busy operation and you’ve got all the student activity. The campus has grown across the road and it’s just a different situation... I think

SEE PLANNING ON A2

