



CLAIRE HICKS, APRN

Saint Joseph Health welcomes Hicks, APRN to Primary Care Team in Bardstown

BARDSTOWN – Saint Joseph Health welcomes Claire Hicks, APRN, to its team at Saint Joseph Medical Group – Primary Care in Bardstown. A Nelson County native and graduate of Thomas Nelson High School, Hicks is excited to be able to give back to her community.

“It’s a real honor to give back to the community that I grew up in and provide the same level of care I would want my loved ones to have,” she said. “I have a big heart. Ever since I was a little girl, I’ve always wanted to be a nurse. My mom’s a nurse and I’ve always had a passion to care for others.”

Hicks began her career as a bedside nurse, serving as a trauma/surgical ICU nurse at the University of Kentucky HealthCare, then moved her career back home as a staff nurse in the float pool at Flaget Memorial Hospital starting in 2023. It was then that she decided she would go back to school to seek her APRN credentials to serve as a primary care provider.

“My mamaw has been a very big inspiration for me, especially in the provider role,” Hicks said. Her grandmother suffered a massive stroke in 2018 and Hicks served as one of her caregivers when she was home on break from college. “I just loved taking care of her.”

She chose primary care

because she can see positive outcomes for patients, and also to be there with them at the end of life when needed.

“I really am passionate about the positive impacts I can make on patients. With primary care, you can make patient relationships and see it all the way through,” she said. “I can’t wait to have a patient where I can have a patient for 20 years.”

Hicks earned her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Eastern Kentucky University in May 2021, and her Master of Science in Nursing with a Family Nurse Practitioner focus from Northern Kentucky University, in October 2025.

She’s looking forward to caring for her community. “I am encouraged about empowering patients, having them feel supported and valued,” she said. “I treat patients as if they were my own loved ones.”

When she’s not in the clinic, Hicks enjoys exercising, cooking, being outdoors, watching sports – especially the UK Wildcat football team and the Cincinnati Bengals, and spending quality time with her family and friends. She played college soccer at EKU.

Claire Hicks, APRN, will see patients at Saint Joseph Medical Group – Primary Care, 4371 New Shepherdsville Road, Suite 210, in Bardstown. To schedule an appointment, call 502-350-1022.

Fort Logan OB services shift to Regional Medical Center

DANVILLE – After careful consideration, Ephraim McDowell Health has made the decision to move inpatient obstetric services at Ephraim McDowell Fort Logan Hospital (EMFLH) to Ephraim McDowell Regional Medical Center (EMRMC) effective February 16. This consolidation will best serve the needs of mothers and babies in our community, provide higher acuity services and reduce the need to transfer fragile newborns shortly after birth.

By concentrating our resources and services, Ephraim McDowell Health can strengthen and elevate

obstetric care at its flagship facility—enhancing clinical capabilities while reinforcing long-term sustainability. Ephraim McDowell Regional Medical Center’s high acuity, 18-bed unit offers the latest advances in obstetrics and neonatology care including a Level II Special Care Nursery.

The short, 15-minute distance between EMRMC and EMFLH preserves local access to high-quality obstetric care while strengthening the availability of advanced emergency interventions for patients and newborns.

Spring View Hospital announces West as new Director of Physical Therapy

LEBANON — Spring View Hospital is proud to announce the appointment of Kaleb West, DPT, as the new Director of Physical Therapy, reinforcing the hospital’s commitment to patient-centered rehabilitation services for the Marion County community.

West has been a valued member of the Spring View Hospital team since 2024, where he has played an integral role in helping patients regain mobility, strength, and independence. During his tenure, he has developed individualized treatment plans tailored to each patient’s needs and implemented therapeutic exercise

programs focused on improving functional outcomes and overall quality of life.

West earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Biology from Lindsey Wilson College in Columbia, Kentucky, in 2014. He went on to earn his Clinical Doctorate in Physical Therapy from East Tennessee State University in Johnson City, Tennessee, graduating in 2019. His strong educational background, combined with hands-on clinical experience, positions him well to lead and grow the Physical Therapy department.

“Kaleb has demonstrated exceptional dedication to our patients and a strong

passion for rehabilitation excellence,” said Tonia McCarthy, Chief Nursing Officer. “His clinical expertise, leadership skills, and patient-first mindset make him a natural fit for this role. We are confident he will continue to elevate the care we provide.”

West shared his enthusiasm for stepping into the leadership role, saying, “I am incredibly excited and honored to lead the Physical Therapy team at Spring View Hospital. Our department is committed to helping patients reach their highest level of function, and I look forward to building on the strong foundation already in place while continuing

to serve our community with compassion and excellence.”

Vicki Park, Chief Executive Officer, also expressed her support for the appointment. “Kaleb’s commitment to quality care and his vision for physical therapy align perfectly with Spring View Hospital’s mission. We are thrilled to see him step into this leadership role and continue strengthening our rehabilitation services for the community we proudly serve.”

Outside of his professional role, West enjoys beekeeping, weightlifting, and kayaking, interests that reflect his active lifestyle and passion for wellness.

CITY OF SPRINGFIELD ORDINANCE # 2025-016

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SPRINGFIELD IN WASHINGTON COUNTY, KENTUCKY TO REGULATE ANIMALS

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that the health, safety and welfare of its citizens require the regulation of animals; and WHEREAS, KRS 65.8840 authorizes municipalities to adopt an ordinance for the abatement of nuisances, owner liability and enforcement procedures; WHEREAS, through the Establishment of a Code Enforcement Board through Ordinance 2025-012 in conjunction with this ordinance, Ordinance 2014-003 should be repealed in its entirety.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it ordained by the City Council of the City of Springfield as follows:

SECTION 1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this ordinance is to promote public health, safety, and welfare by regulating animals within the City.

SECTION 2. DEFINITIONS

- A. **Animal** – Any domesticated or wild creature, excluding humans.
- B. **Animal Control Officer** - all persons designated by the City as the primary enforcement officers of ordinances regulating animals and owners of animals, and for the enforcement of Sections of the Kentucky Revised Statutes.
- C. **Attack** - an unprovoked attack in an aggressive manner on a human.
- D. **Code Enforcement Board** - An administrative body created and acting under the authority of the Local Government Code Enforcement Act, KRS 65.8801 to 65.8839.
- E. **Exotic or wild animal** - any animal identified by the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources, the Kentucky Department of Agriculture, or Kentucky Revised Statutes as exotic, or inherently dangerous to human health and safety.
- F. **Fowl** - Any bird, domesticated or wild, customarily raised, kept, or used for the production of food, eggs, feathers, or for sport or exhibition purposes, which includes but is not limited to chickens, turkeys, ducks, geese, guineas, pheasants, pigeons, quail, and similar avian species.
- G. **Keeping or Harboring** - any person who shall allow any animal to habitually remain, lodge or be fed within his/her home, business, yard, enclosure or premises.
- H. **Livestock** - any domesticated or semi-domesticated animal typically kept for agricultural, breeding, dairy, meat, fiber purposes, including but not limited to cattle, horses, mules, donkeys, goats, sheep, swine, llamas, alpacas, and any poultry such as chickens, roosters, ducks, turkeys, or geese. The term does not include household pets such as dogs, cats, rabbits kept indoors, or similar companion animals.
- I. **Owner** - Any person who owns, keeps, possesses, controls, or harbors an animal or has it in his/her care, or permits it to remain on or about premises owned or occupied by him/her.
- J. **Property Owner** - A person, association, corporation, partnership or other legal entity having a legal or equitable title in real property.
- K. **Registered Vicious Dog** - A vicious dog for which registration certificate has been issued by the Springfield Police Department after there has been delivered to the Springfield Police Department a registration application for that dog, on a form designed by the City, which shall be signed by the owner(s) of the dog which is the subject thereof, under the penalties of perjury, and which shall include:
 - 1. The name, address, age and social security number of each possessor and owner of the vicious dog that is the subject thereof; and
 - 2. The address of the property where the vicious dog that is the subject thereof is harbored; and
 - 3. A complete identification of the vicious dog that is the subject of the registration, including, without limitation, genus and species, name, gender, color, breed and any distinguishing physical characteristics thereof, along with two (2) color photographs of the vicious dog.
 - 4. Documentary evidence of: (i) all vaccinations required by law; (ii) the removal of reproductive organs by spaying, neutering or otherwise.
 - 5. A certificate of insurance from an insurance company authorized to conduct business in Kentucky, that the owner of the registered vicious dog is insured thereby against liability for all injuries and damages caused by the registered vicious dog, with single occurrence limits of no less than \$100,000.00, which will continue until the City is notified of the termination or expiration thereof.
- L. **Restrained Vicious Dog** - A vicious dog which is always either:
 - (a) Securely confined and restricted to private property in which either the owner or custodian thereof has some legal ownership or occupancy interest, by either:
 - a.i. A building inhabited by either the owner or custodian of the vicious dog; or
 - a.ii. A visible fence which conforms to all of the other requirements of all other City ordinances, and which is constructed of materials of sufficient height and strength to prevent the vicious dog from penetrating or going over or under the fence, and in which each entrance and exit is controlled by a gate that automatically closes, latches and locks; or
 - a.iii. A vicious dog cage; or
 - (b) Muzzled to prevent biting, and leashed to an adult with a chain of no more than three (3) feet in length, and a minimum tensile strength of 300 pounds.
- M. **Vicious or dangerous animal** - any animal that attacks or attempts to attack, bites or attempts to bite or physically injures human beings, domestic animals or livestock without provocation or that has a known propensity, tendency or disposition of unprovoked attacks on human beings or domestic animals, causes injury or endangers the safety of human beings or domestic animals or has been trained to engage in any dog fighting. Any animal that without provocation has attacked a human being or other animal shall be presumed vicious or dangerous for purposes of this Chapter. This definition shall not apply to dogs used by law enforcement officers in the performance of their duties.

SECTION 3. PROHIBITED CONDUCT

- A. No owner shall allow any animal to run at large within the City pursuant to KRS 258.295.
- B. Animals shall not be allowed to create excessive noise, odor, or disturbances that interfere with the peace and comfort of neighbors.
- C. No owner shall permit their animals to destroy or damage public or private property.
- D. No owner shall crop a dog’s ears, except a licensed veterinarian.
- E. No owner shall permit an unleashed animal anywhere in the City other than on a lot or parcel of real estate:
 - a. In which the owner or custodian of the unleashed animal has an ownership or possessory interest; or
 - b. Upon which the unleashed animal has been authorized by someone who has an ownership or possessory interest in that lot or parcel of real estate.
- F. No owner shall be permitted to have:
 - a. Any ownership, possession or control in the City by anybody of any vicious dog that isn’t always both a registered vicious dog and a restrained vicious dog with a financially responsible owner.
 - b. The keeping or harboring of any animal or fowl which by frequent or habitual howling, yelping, barking, crowing or making of other noises shall greatly annoy or disturb a neighborhood.
 - c. Any animal for which an owner is unable to exercise proper care and control of as to prevent the following action by the animal: excessive, continuous, or untimely barking or howling; molesting passersby through any means, including growling, chasing, jumping upon or barking; chasing vehicles; attacking other domestic animals; trespassing on school grounds; trespassing on private property; or damaging property of any nature.
 - d. Any unimmunized dog for rabies.
 - e. Any animal they own, harbor or keep who has bit any person on any premises owned or occupied by another person.
 - e.i. If any animal should bite any other person besides the person who keeps, harbors or owns the animal, the owner, keeper or harborer shall be deemed to have violated this Section and the animal may be immediately subject to impoundment and/or quarantine.
 - e.ii. It shall be the duty of any person who owns, keeps or harbors any animal within the city limits to immediately report to the Washington County Health Department the name and address of all humans known to have been bitten in any way by any animal owned, kept or harbored by them, and they shall further report such information as required by the Washington County Health Department as may be helpful in rabies control.
 - f. Any Exotic animal.
 - g. Any wild animal.
 - h. Any Fowl, with the exclusion of chickens, which shall only be allowed under the following conditions:
 - h.i. A maximum of four (4) chickens per household may be kept outdoors only, so long as the Owner satisfies the following conditions:
 - h.i.1. The chickens are housed in a humane and aesthetically pleasing coop with a covering that will not allow for the chicken to fly away or escape;
 - h.i.2. The chickens are maintained in a sanitary condition that does not cause odors for adjoining property owners;
 - h.i.3. Chickens must always remain on the Owner’s property;
 - h.i.4. Chickens may not be kept on any parcel that is a duplex, multi-family or apartment residences and may not be kept on property where there are commercial or industrial uses; and
 - h.i.5. Roosters are not allowed under this exception.
 - h.ii. Nothing herein shall prohibit the keeping of fowl or livestock for a legitimate agricultural purpose on a tract of land containing at least (5) five acres.
 - h.iii. Registration and Documentation of the agricultural exemption: To claim agricultural exemption, the property owner must:
 - h.iii.1. Register the property with the City Clerk as an agricultural operation within thirty (30) days of commencing agricultural activities or within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this ordinance, whichever is later;
 - h.iii.2. Provide evidence of commercial agricultural activity, which may include:
 - h.iii.2.a. Agricultural exemption for property tax purposes (Section 170) from the Washington County Property Valuation Administrator;
 - h.iii.2.b. Sales receipts or invoices from livestock sales, egg sales, or other agricultural products;
 - h.iii.2.c. Documentation of participation in USDA farm programs;
 - h.iii.2.d. Federal income tax returns (Schedule F) showing farm income or loss, if requested by the Code Enforcement Officer;
 - h.iii.2.e. Other documentation satisfactory to the City Clerk demonstrating bona fide commercial agricultural operations.
 - h.iii.3. Renew registration annually by January 31st of each year at no charge.

SECTION 4. CARE AND TREATMENT

- A. Animals must be provided with adequate food, shelter, and water.
- B. No person shall keep an animal in conditions that constitute cruelty or neglect.
- C. No person shall place any poisonous substance which may be harmful to any animal as described in this chapter in any location where it may be readily found and eaten by an animal.

SECTION 5. CIVIL OFFENSE

A violation of any provision of this Ordinance shall constitute a civil offense. Each day that a violation continues shall be considered a separate civil offense. Enforcement and penalties shall be administered in accordance with KRS 65.8801-65.8839 and any other applicable provisions of Kentucky law.

SECTION 6. ENFORCEMENT

Enforcement of this ordinance shall be the responsibility of the City of Springfield Code Enforcement Board and the City of Springfield Code Enforcement Officer.

SECTION 7. SEVERABILITY

The provisions of this ordinance are severable. The invalidity of any provision shall not affect the validity of any other provision.

SECTION 8. REPEAL OF PRIOR ORDINANCES

City Ordinance 2014-003, along with all other ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith, is hereby repealed.

SECTION 9. EFFECTIVE DATE

This ordinance shall become effective upon its second reading, passage, and publication as required by law.

	YES	NO
Daniel Bishop	X	
Joann Ellery	X	
Michael Hale		
Carolyn Hardin		
John Pettus	X	
Lance Smith	X	

First Reading: December 8, 2025
Second Reading: January 13, 2026
Published in the Springfield Sun: January 21, 2026

ATTEST:

/s/ Jessica Hart, City Admin./ Clerk

/s/ Chris Essex, Mayor

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