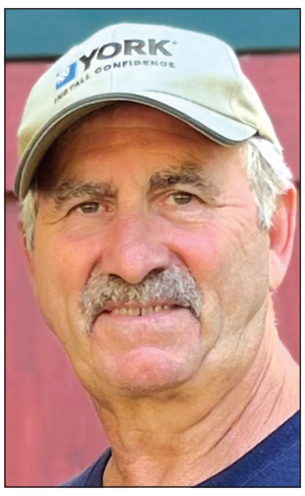
OBITUARIES

Rocky Lane York



Rocky Lane York, 70, passed away September 6, 2026, in Cincinnati, OH. He was born April 26th, 1956, in Russell County, to the late Samuel and Myrtle (nee Hill) York.

He was a loving husband to his wife, Priscilla (nee Murphy) York, and father to his children, Melissa Dawn (Will) Kendrick, Dustin Lane (Heather) York, and Bryan Matthew (Hillary) York; dog dad to his beloved pet "Buddy"; grandfather and "Papa Rocco " to Bryen, Sydney, Noah, Jaryn, and Braden. He was a brother to the late Earlene (Marshall) Coffey, Elvis, Eugene (Judy), Preston, Dean (Del), the late Phillip (Kay), Wayne, and Carol (Danny), all from Russell County.

He moved to Cincinnati, OH, and worked for Coca-Cola Company as a Production Supervisor. He was very creative. His hobbies included woodworking and cooking for family and friends. He was very proud of that. He also enjoyed horse racing for entertainment. In retirement, he took up party planning, and he built a house and was very happy there and very proud of his accomplishment.

He was a determined, strong, loving, and caring man. He always said "I don't have problems; I only have solutions"

We love you Rocky and you will be terribly missed <3

We know you are in Heaven with the Lord now.

Sheldon R. Hadley

Sheldon R Hadley, 69, Jamestown, passed away Thursday, August 27, 2026 at Continue Care Hospital, Corbin.

Cremation was chosen.

A celebration of life was held 4:00 pm Saturday September 12, 2026, at the Creelsboro Christian Church.

Lois Marie Holt Meece

Lois Marie Holt Meece, 88, Glens Fork, passed away Saturday, September 5, 2026, at Fair Oaks Health and Rehabilitation, Jamestown.

Funeral services were held 1:00 pm Monday, September 7, 2026, at Bernard Funeral Home, with Brother Brayden Smith, officiating. Burial followed in Crockett Cemetery.

An online guestbook is available at www.bernardfuneralhome.com.

Susan Holder

Susan Holder, 74, Russell Springs, passed away Tuesday, September 8, 2026, at University of Kentucky Medical Center, Lexington.

A celebration of life will be held at 3:00 pm Wednesday, September 23, 2026, at Bernard Funeral Home. Inurnment will follow in Russell Springs City Cemetery.

An online guestbook is available at www.bernardfuneralhome.com.

ORDINANCE NO. 2026-04

AN ORDINANCE LEVYING THE ANNUAL AD VALOREM TAX ON REAL PROPERTY, MOTOR VEHICLES, AND MOTOR BOATS AND OTHER PERSONAL PROPERTY FOR CITY PURPOSES IN THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF RUSSELL SPRINGS, KENTUCKY FOR THE YEAR 2026.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RUSSELL SPRINGS, KENTUCKY:

SECTION I: An ad valorem tax as set forth herein below is hereby levied on all lands, improvements and personal property, tangible and intangible, held or owned by any person, firm, company, corporation or association in his, her, their or its name or as fiduciary or agent and subject to taxation under the laws of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, including all property and franchises heretofore and hereinafter assessed by the Russell County Property Valuation Administrator.

SECTION II: Motor Vehicles and Motorboats

An ad valorem tax rate of $.1700 cents on each $100 (one hundred dollars) of assessed valuation of motor vehicles and motorboats subject to taxation under the laws of the Commonwealth of Kentucky is hereby levied for city purposes.

SECTION III: Real Property

An ad valorem tax rate of $.139 cents on each $100.00 (one hundred dollars) of assessed valuation of real property subject to taxation under the laws of the Commonwealth of Kentucky is hereby levied for city purposes.

SECTION IV: Other Personal Property

An ad valorem tax rate of $.139 cents on each $100.00 (one hundred dollars) of assessed valuation of personal property subject to taxation under the laws of the Commonwealth of Kentucky is hereby levied for city purposes.

SECTION V: All of such taxes above shall be paid to the City Clerk/Treasurer and shall be due and collectible by December 31, 2026. All taxes received by November 30, 2026, will receive a 2% discount, and all taxpayers whose taxes are not paid on or before December 31, 2026, shall be deemed delinquent, and shall pay in addition to the amount of taxes due a penalty of twelve (12%) percent and said penalty shall be collected in the same manners as the taxes due. Further, all delinquent taxes will be published in the local newspaper as "Delinquent Taxes".

SECTION VI: The City shall not mail out a property tax bill that has an amount due of $10.00 (ten dollars) or less.

SECTION VII: The City Clerk/Treasurer is hereby authorized to collect said taxes and penalties.

SECTION VIII: The ad valorem tax is levied for the purpose of paying officers and employees of the City of Russell Springs, expenses of the Fire Department, Police Department, Street Maintenance and Improvements, construction as well as the current expenses of the City and shall be paid into the General Fund of the City.

SECTION IX: The Russell County Assessment of Property situated within the City of Russell Springs is hereby adopted as the City Assessment for the City Ad Valorem Taxes for the year of 2026.

SECTION X: Any unpaid tax as herein provided for shall remain a lien against the property in favor of the City of Russell Springs until paid.

SECTION XI: The Ordinance becomes effective upon adoption and publication according to law.

/s/ Eddie Thomas, Mayor
/s/ Christopher Ramsey, City Clerk/Treasurer

529 education savings plans: More flexible than you think

Planning for your child's education can feel overwhelming, but a 529 education savings plan offers a powerful way to build a financial foundation for their educational future.

One in 4 parents currently invests in a 529 plan, according to 2025 research by Edward Jones and Morning Consult. Perhaps it's because of the tax benefits — earnings are generally tax free if the money is used for qualified educational expenses. Or perhaps it's because of their flexibility.

Types of education. While most people know 529 plans can help cover college and university tuition, these versatile accounts can also pay tuition for vocational and trade schools, making them suitable for students pursuing careers in skilled trades like plumbing, electrical work or culinary arts. Additionally, some apprenticeship programs qualify for these funds. And even K-12 tuition expenses are covered, up to $10,000 per year for private, public and religious elementary and secondary schools.

Beyond tuition. Withdrawals from a 529 plan can move beyond tuition and cover the cost of room and board for students enrolled at least half-time. They can help pay for books, computers and qualified educational supplies. And a big surprise for some: A 529 plan can help with student loan repayment up to $10,000 per beneficiary.

Who can contribute. Fortunately, 529 plans welcome contributions from anyone — parents, grandparents, other family and friends. Contributions are treated as gifts to the beneficiary, so most contributors will want to stay within the annual nontaxable gifting limit (which for 2025 is $19,000 for individuals or $38,000 for married couples filing jointly).

Interestingly, 1 in 5 parents would prefer for their child to receive 529 contributions as gifts from loved ones, making these accounts perfect for birthdays, holidays and other special occasions.

Multiple children. If you have multiple children, you have options in how you structure your 529 savings. You can maintain separate accounts for each child or use one account for all your children.

Unused funds. You may be concerned about what happens if your child doesn't use all the money. Fortunately, these accounts offer numerous penalty-free options. You can easily change the beneficiary to another qualifying family member, including siblings, nieces, nephews, grandchildren or even yourself as the account owner.

You can also roll funds to another family member's existing 529 plan. If your child receives a scholarship, you can withdraw up to the scholarship amount without penalty (though you'll pay income tax on a portion of the money). The IRS allows an option to roll up to $35,000 into a Roth IRA for the beneficiary if certain requirements are met. You should consult with your tax advisor on this 529/Roth IRA rollover issue.

State options. It's important to note that 529 plans vary from state to state, and you're not limited to your home state's plan. However, it's smart to examine your home state's offerings first, as many provide special incentives like tax breaks for residents.

When comparing plans, consider factors such as tax benefits, fees, investment options and ease of use. A good financial advisor can help you navigate these choices and identify the plan that makes the most sense for your family's specific situation and goals.

529 education savings plans offer flexibility and tax advantages that help make them an excellent tool for education planning. With their expanded uses and multiple options for unused funds, they can help provide families with both security and adaptability in preparing for their children's educational futures.