

COMMUNITY

Preparing Students for Success through Mentoring, Readiness and Wellness

ROWAN COUNTY SCHOOLS JOINS GEAR UP ELEVATE: UNLOCKING POTENTIAL FOR STUDENTS AND FAMILIES



Rowan County Schools is proud to announce our participation in GEAR UP ELEVATE, a transformati

What is GEAR UP? The Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs (GEAR UP) initiative is one of the na

tion's largest and most effective programs focused on increasing college and career readiness for students in underserved communities. Through this highly competitive grant program, KEDC has brought together a powerful partnership of K-12 schools, higher education institutions, state agencies, and community organizations.

Our Vision: ELEVATE

The overarching goal of KEDC'S ELEVATE GEAR UP project is to increase postsecondary access and success for underserved students by improving their social-emotional learning, academic achievement, and career development. Through early exposure

to college options, comprehensive academic support, and financial aid guidance, we aim to inspire and equip our students and their families to pursue higher education with confidence.

Rowan County Schools is one of twelve districts across eastern and central Kentucky selected to participate in this transformative initiative. Together, we will create lasting change in postsecondary access and success for our students. A Network of Support

ELEVATE brings together an impressive array of partners dedicated to student success. Our higher education partners include Morehead State Univer-

sity, Ashland Community & Technical College (ACTC), Hazard Community & Technical College (HCTC), Maysville Community & Technical College (MCTC), and Southeast Kentucky Community & Technical College (SKCTC).

We are also collaborating with vital statewide and national partners including the Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority (KHEAA), the Prichard Committee for Academic Excellence, NCCEP, Mastery Prep, WhyTry, Pathways, the Kentucky Writing Project, and the Kentucky Center for Mathematics. Each partner contributes unique expertise, mentorship, and resources to help our students thrive.

Three Strategic Goals

GEAR UP ELEVATE is built around three core objectives:

Goal #1: Increasing Postsecondary Expectations and Readiness. We will help students develop the academic skills, confidence, and mindset needed to succeed in college and career.

Goal #2: Improving High School Graduation and Postsecondary Enrollment Rates. Through targeted support and mentoring, we will guide more students across the graduation stage and into their next chapter.

Goal #3: Raising Knowledge of Postsecondary Options,

Preparation, and Financing. Students and families will gain crucial information about college choices, preparation strategies, and financial aid resources, removing barriers to higher education.

What ELEVATE Means for Our Students

Through GEAR UP ELEVATE, Rowan County students will benefit from:

• College and Career Exploration: hands-on experiences that help students discover their interests and potential career paths

• Financial Literacy Awareness: practical knowledge about managing money, understanding financial aid, and planning for college costs

• Increased Post-Secondary Enrollment: personalized support to help students take the crucial step from high school to college

• Increased Post-Secondary Completion: ongoing resources and mentorship to ensure students don't just start college, they finish it

Meet Our GEAR UP ELEVATE Success Coaches

At the heart of the ELEVATE program are dedicated Success Coaches who will work directly with 6th and 7th grade students, providing personalized guidance, mentorship, and support. Rowan County Schools is fortunate to have four ex-

ceptional Success Coaches leading this initiative:

- Chelsea Burton
- Casey Razor
- Jaiden McKenzie
- Deanna Kissick

These coaches will serve as trusted advisors and advocates for our students, helping them navigate the path to college and career readiness. Whether students need help exploring college options, preparing for standardized tests, understanding financial aid, or simply finding encouragement along the way, our Success Coaches will be there every step of the journey.

Growing Together

GEAR UP ELEVATE represents an extraordinary opportunity for Rowan County Schools. It's more than a grant: it's a commitment to our students' futures and a promise that with the right support, guidance, and opportunities, every student can achieve their dreams of higher education and career success.

For more information about GEAR UP ELEVATE and how your student can get involved, please contact your school counselor or visit the KEDC ELEVATE Website - elevategearup.kedc.org/

Together, we are elevating expectations, expanding opportunities, and empowering the next generation of Rowan County leaders.

UK HealthCare highlights 18 months of UK St. Claire integration, expanding care and workforce

After more than six decades of collaboration and 18 months as part of UK HealthCare, UK St. Claire's integration into the University of Kentucky health system continues to expand access to care, strengthen the health care workforce and help families across eastern Kentucky receive high-quality care close to home.

Over the past three years — which includes significant growth during the last 18 months — UK St. Claire has recruited 43 physicians and added nine specialty service lines, increasing access to high-demand care across its eight-county primary market. New services include endocrinology, infectious disease, nephrology, neurology, orthopaedic spine surgery, plastic and hand surgery, and vascular surgery.

“Integrating UK St.

Claire into UK HealthCare strengthens our ability to advance the health of Kentucky,” said Eric N. Monday, executive vice president for finance and administration and co-executive vice president for health affairs at the University of Kentucky. “UK St. Claire plays a critical role in expanding access to high-quality care and opportunity across the Commonwealth.”

As part of UK HealthCare, UK St. Claire has expanded workforce development and education efforts. The organization now collaborates with all University of Kentucky health colleges to support clinical education and training opportunities and help build sustainable pipelines into high-demand health care careers.

“Here in Eastern Kentucky, that impact is

tangible,” said Donald H. Lloyd II, president and CEO of UK St. Claire. “Being part of UK HealthCare means more services, more physicians and the ability to care for our neighbors close to home while remaining connected to

the Commonwealth's flagship university.”

Through the Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education's Healthcare Workforce Investment Fund, UK HealthCare and UK St. Claire have supported approximately \$1.53

million in postsecondary workforce investments, including training for nursing, imaging and physician assistant programs and a recent

UK Healthcare cont. on pg. 6

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Legal Notice

Waltz Towing located at 6765 Cranston Rd, Morehead, KY 40351, will be auctioning off the following vehicles listed below.

James Zachary Raifsnider & Eagle Financial Services

2004 Infiniti I35

Vin #JNKDA31A14T205434

Todd Rinehart & Community Trust Bank Inc.

2013 Chevy Cruz

Vin #1G1PC5SB7D7216242

Rose Marie Bates & Eagle Financial Services

2005 Ford Freestar

Vin #2FMZA57665BA62256

The auction will be held on January 28, 2026 at 10:00 am.

If you have any questions you can call 606-776-4829.

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COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
21st JUDICIAL DISTRICT
ROWAN CIRCUIT COURT
DIVISION I

File No. 24-CI-90172

ANDY SLUSHER, ET AL

PLAINTIFF

VS:

NOTICE OF COMMISSIONER'S SALE

BILL JAMES SLUSHER, ET AL

DEFENDANT

By virtue of a Judgment and Order of Sale entered in the Rowan Circuit Court on December 19, 2025, I will expose for sale to the highest and best bidder, at the Rowan County Judicial Center, 700 West Main Street, Morehead, Kentucky, 40351, on Wednesday, January 21, 2026, at the hour of 10:00 a.m., the following property:

Two tracts of land located on Lower Craney Creek, bearing PVA Map ID 140-00-00-015.00, as follows:

TRACT I: 108-1/10 acres, more or less, being the same property conveyed to W.M.L Slusher et ux by deed dated May 30, 1916, and recorded on Deed Book 24, Page 295, of the Rowan County Records, but excepting the following out-sales:
(a) a tract of 8 acres, more or less, described in Deed Book 27, Page 133, of the Rowan County Records;
(b) a tract of 40 acres, more or less, described in Deed Book 32, Page 94, of the Rowan County Records;
(c) a tract of 15-½ acres, more or less, described in Deed Book 37, Page 408, of the Rowan County Records.

TRACT II: 20 acres, more or less, described in Deed Book 24, Page 408, of the Rowan County Records, and being the same property conveyed to Willie Slusher, by deed dated July 15, 1921, and recorded in Deed Book 44, Page 531, of the Rowan County Records.

Terms of the sale are as follows: (A) At the time of sale, the successful bidder shall either pay cash or make a deposit of 10% of the purchase price with the balance on credit for thirty (30) days. In the event the successful bidder elects to credit the balance, he shall post bond with acceptable surety for the unpaid purchase price bearing interest at the judgment rate from the date of the sale. The surety may be an individual who owns real estate in Kentucky who must be present at the sale, or an alternative type of surety. Alternative types of acceptable surety may be obtained by an email request to budsalyer4@gmail.com. A lien shall be retained by the Commissioner as security for the purchase price; (B) The purchaser shall assume and pay all taxes and assessments for the current fiscal year. (C) All other delinquent taxes and assessments for previous years shall be paid from the sale proceeds if properly claimed in writing and filed of record by the purchaser within ten (10) days from the date of sale; (D) The property shall otherwise be sold free and clear of any right, title and interest of all parties to the action and of their liens and encumbrances thereon, excepting easements and restrictions of record in the Rowan County Clerk's Office, and such right of redemption as may exist in favor of the United States of America or the Defendant(s); (E) For more particulars, reference is made to the records of the Rowan Circuit Clerk; (F) Bidders are advised to obtain a title examination; (G) Exceptions must be filed not later than ten (10) days following the filing of the Commissioner's Report of Sale; (H) Risk of loss for the subject property shall pass to the purchaser on the date of sale, and possession of the premises shall pass to the purchaser upon payment of the purchase price and delivery of deed; (I) Announcements made at the time of sale take precedence over any statement contained herein.

Anyone wishing to be added to a mailing list of future sales should send a request to budsalyer4@gmail.com.

B. R. Salyer
Rowan County Master Commissioner
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