

COMMUNITY

Legislative Update

Representative Richard White

10/4 reminds us to 'be on lookout' for child abuse and neglect

Across Kentucky, October 4 (10/4) has become a reminder to "be on the lookout" for child abuse and neglect and, most importantly, to remember that protecting children is everyone's responsibility.

The need for that reminder is real. According to the Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services, more than 144,000 Child Protective Services intakes were completed statewide during the 12-month period ending April 30, 2026. Of those, more than 55,000 met the criteria for a report, and more than 8,700 resulted in a finding of substantiated child abuse or neglect. Those substantiated cases involved more than 16,000

unique children.

Those numbers are difficult to read, but behind every number is a Kentucky child who deserves to be safe, supported, and given the opportunity to grow up in a loving home.

Child abuse does not always look the way we expect. It can involve physical or sexual abuse, neglect, emotional injury, or unsafe living conditions. Sometimes the warning signs are obvious. Other times, they are not. That is why awareness matters.

Kentucky lawmakers have continued working to strengthen Kentucky's child welfare system and better protect vulnerable children. During the 2026 Regular Session, lawmakers passed HB 778, a comprehensive child welfare measure that strengthened protections around foster care and adoption placements, expanded access

to certain child abuse records for appropriate entities, addressed substance-exposed infants, strengthened child fatality and near-fatality reviews, and increased protections for children harmed by controlled substances.

The legislature also enacted SB 17, which made changes to Kentucky's Court Appointed Special Advocate program and Kentucky CASA Network. CASA volunteers play an important role in advocating for children involved in the court system.

But government cannot do this work alone. Parents, grandparents, teachers, coaches, neighbors, church members, child-care workers, and other trusted adults all have a role to play. Sometimes protecting a child starts with simply paying attention.

Kentucky provides resources to help us do

that. The Cabinet for Health and Family Services offers KY PROTECT, which provides information about child abuse and neglect, training opportunities, data, and resources for families and communities.

Kentucky also provides training to help adults recognize and report abuse and neglect. The Kentucky Department of Education maintains a list of approved training programs, including free resources designed for educators and youth-serving organizations.

Most importantly, if you suspect a child is being abused or neglected, speak up. Kentucky law requires adults to report suspected child abuse. Reports can be made by calling 1-877-KYSAFE1, or 1-877-597-2331. In an emergency, call 911.

We cannot always know what a child is experiencing behind closed

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Star Theater Events

October 10

11:30 AM Cosmic journey

1:30 pm Unseen Universe

3:30 pm Laser: Ready Player One

October 24

11:30 AM Ancient skies ancient mysteries

1:30 pm Violent Universe

3:30 pm Laser: Frite Lite

Area

The Post Clinic, 15 Sterling Ave., Mt. Sterling, KY, offers free medi-

cal and dental healthcare services to all uninsured, under-insured, unemployed, and underemployed persons from all areas. To schedule an appointment or for more information, call 859-498-0231. Check out their website at www.postclinic.org

Disabled American Veterans Chapter 143 Serving Bath, Fleming, Menifee, Montgomery, and Rowan Counties Meeting every 3rd Saturday of the months at p.m. at the Salt Lick Fire Department

Rowan County Property Transfers

August 31 – September 14, 2026

Thomas J. Meadows and Elizabeth A. Meadows to Sunny Meadows Farm, LLC, tract on Sugarloaf Mountain Rd, no monetary consideration

Nancy Coble and William Coble to Nancy Coble, Lots 80 and 81 of Minnie Thomas Addition west of Morehead, no monetary consideration

Herbert Cochran and Mae Dell Cochran to David Kenneth Burnette and Patrina Mary Burnette, tract on Clay Lick tributary of the Licking River, \$5000

Kennie Allen Lyons to Timothy Darrel Blackburn and Melissa Lynn Blackburn, tract at 80 and 81 Hemlock Lane, \$239,000

Charlotte Hall to Clifford Matthew Lewis and Lyndsey L. Lewis, and Cliff L. Lewis and Angela Lewis, tract on waters of Bull Fork near Moore's Flat Road, \$310,000

Christopher T. Southworth and Sylvia Southworth to Marque Cole Moore, tract on North Fork of Triplett Creek, \$118,000

Michaela Kelsey to Christopher Wade Kelsey, tract 13 of Haldeman Heights addition and tracts 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, and 73 of Haldeman Heights on Ridge Avenue, per terms of decree of dissolution

James Mitchell Fultz and Jody Ann Fultz to Pat E. Nally, two pieces of real estate on Quisenberry Road, \$68,000

Jessica R. Elliott to

John D. Elliott, property on Licking River, per terms of decree of dissolution

Jessica R. Elliott to John D. Elliott, tract on Licking River and tract on US 60, per terms of decree of dissolution

Jessica R. Elliott to John D. Elliott, tract on Rock Fork Road, per terms of decree of dissolution

Jamie R. Stamper to Amy J. Stamper, tract on

waters of Dry Creek, per terms of decree of dissolution

Jamie R. Stamper to Amy J. Stamper, tract on Wildflower Lane near KY 801, per terms of decree of dissolution

Andrew Hogge and Michaela Hogge, and Rebecca Hogge and Michael Hogge, to Kiki Djali, Lot 16A in The Lakes at Hickory Pointe, \$265,000

Larry L. Lambert and Patricia Lambert to

Braxton Ward Caldwell and Shanae Marie Caldwell, property address, 109 Fallen Timber Branch, Clearfield, \$55,000

Sam Carpenter and Rachel Carpenter, Co-Trustees of the Judith Carpenter Irrevocable Trust, to Jordan Carpenter Hess, parcel on Dan Hollow Road, \$275,000

William Crawford and Kayla Crawford to John Riley and Belinda Ri-

ley, property address, 75 Pebble Creek Road, \$20,000

Kevin Jones and Sandra Glover to Wilma Combs Ball and Carl Thomas Ball, property address, 1300 Rodburn Hollow Road, \$179,000

Cody Lee Lowe to Cody Lee Lowe and Ash-

Transfers
cont. on pg. 11

NOTICE

The Rowan County Board of Education will host a Public Forum regarding the District Facility Plan on Tuesday, October 13th at 5:30 PM. This Forum will be followed immediately by a meeting of the Local Planning Committee at 6:00 PM. Both meetings will be held at the Central Office at 551 Viking Drive, Morehead, KY 40351.

Published in the Rowan County News on 10.01 & 10.08 of 2026

ORDINANCE SUMMARY
ORDINANCE NUMBER 18:2026

An Ordinance of City of Morehead, Kentucky setting the 2027 Motor Vehicle and Watercraft Tax Rate for the City of Morehead, Kentucky and Amending Code of Ordinances, Title 9 General Regulations, Chapter 94 Ad Valorem Tax, Section 94.06 Motor Vehicle and Watercraft Tax Rate Assessment was given first reading on Monday, September 28, 2026 and second reading on Friday, October 2, 2026. Said Amendment amends Sections 94.06 Motor Vehicle and Watercraft Tax Rate Assessment as follows:

\$ 94.06 MOTOR VEHICLE AND WATERCRAFT TAX RATE ASSESSMENT.

The [2026] 2027 motor vehicle and watercraft tax rate for the city is hereby established at twenty-two cents (\$.22) per one hundred dollars (\$100.00) of assessed valuation.

The full text of this Ordinance may be reviewed by any interested citizen at the Administrative Offices Building, 314 Bridge Street, Morehead, Kentucky, Office of the City Clerk, Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The undersigned Attorney at Law, licensed to practice in Kentucky, hereby certifies that the foregoing Ordinance Summary was prepared by the undersigned in accordance with the requirements of KRS 83A.060(9) and constitutes a general summary of the essential provisions of the Ordinance.

This the 5th day of October, 2026.

Megan Hughes Richmond, City Attorney

Published in the Rowan County News on 10.08.26

ESTATE AUCTION +++

Rt. 52 Ripley, Oh. 45167

Sun. Oct. 11th 10:00

8 Tractors- Cat Backhoe- Excavator- Implements- Tools & More!!!

Cat 416C Backhoe 4x4- Komatsu 33 Excavator- RK 25 4x4 w/Loader & Backhoe Attachment (98 Hours Like New 1 Owner)- JD 2630- NH 1710- 5' Tiller- 5' Finish Mower- Quick Attach Post Driver- Cat 2 Quick Hitch- Woods 3pt. Backhoe Attachment Lawn Roller- '98 Blue Bird Bus w/5.9 Cummings- Used Shaver Out Door Wood Furnace- '97 Cherokee 30' Camper w/Slide Out- Honda 50R- Troy Built Snow Blower- IR 60 Air Comp (Like New)- Fork Ext.- Honda Rancher- Polaris Sportsman- JD Zero Turns & Other Mowers-

4 IH Farmall Tractor Collection Incl. Super M-TA- Super H- Super C- IH 140- 314 IH Pull Type 3 Plows W/Hyd & Rear Wheel-

Tables Full of Hand & Power Tools- Generators- Air Compressors- Elec. Grease Gun- Hitches- Skid Full of Hyd. Tools-

New Building Material & More!!!

Decorative Gates & Various Steel & Alum. Fence Panes- Vinyl Picket- Treated Privacy- Kitchen Cabinet Sets- Tons of Water Proof Vinyl Flooring- Int. Knotty Pine Doors- Huge Load of Trim Direct From Manufacture- Stair Parts- Rolls & Sheets of Insulation- Pallets of Nails & Screws- Way to Much To List- Come out Mon- Sat. 10:00-2:00 For Preview-

Estate of Michael Osborne

Case# 2026 1121

Village of Ripley-Village of Neville- RULH School Dist & More!!!

Call if You Have Items To Add

We Sell at You Place or Ours!

All Sold As Is- 1st Time writing a Check Bring Bank Letter of Guarantee-

Announcements made day of Sale take precedence over any printed material.

4% if paying by CC.- Items may be picked up Later- Absentee Bids Welcome

Towler's Auction Service Inc.

Randy Myers Auctioneer | 513-315-4360 | Towlersauctioninc.com

PROBATE FINAL SETTLEMENT FOR THE
MONTH OF SEPTEMBER 2026

CASE NUMBER: 26-P-19
ESTATE OF: JOHNNIE ELLINGTON
FIDUCIARY: TIMOTHY FULTZ PO BOX 283 MOREHEAD KY 40351
MICHEALA HOWARD SMITH 399 ELLINGTON CEMETERY ROAD MOREHAD KY 40351
ATTORNEY: PAUL STOKES 129 EAST MAIN STREET, SUITE 201 MOREHEAD KY 40351
DATE OF Hearing: NOVEMBER 13, 2026

Published in the Rowan County News on 10.08.26

COUNTY TAXPAYER'S NOTICE

The 2026 rowan county property tax bills will be mailed out during the last week of October. You should receive your bill(s) within the first week of November. If you choose to mail in your payment, please include the Bill number(s) on your check. To better serve you and others in a timely manner we request that you have your tax bills with you when paying in person. If you would like a paid receipt(s) returned to you, please enclose a self-addressed and postage paid envelope. You can also pay, view and/or obtain a copy of your property tax bill online at www.rowancountysheriff.net

If your property tax bill is paid by a mortgage company or a new owner, please forward it to the responsible party promptly.

Tax Collection Schedule:	
2 % Discount	11/01/26 – 11/30/26
Face Amount of bill	12/01/26 – 12/31/26
5 % Penalty	01/01/27 – 01/31/27
21% Penalty	02/01/27 – 04/15/27

**** We have a walk-up window on the parking lot side of the building. There is also a drop box (checks only) at the front entrance of the building for your convenience ****

Published in the Rowan County News on 10.08.26

ORDINANCE SUMMARY
ORDINANCE NUMBER 19:2026

An Ordinance of City of Morehead, Kentucky setting the 2026 Real and Personal Property Tax Rates for the City of Morehead, Kentucky and Amending Code of Ordinances, Title 9 General Regulations, Chapter 94 Ad Valorem Tax, Sections 94.03 Rates and 94.05 Payment of Taxes was given first reading on Monday, September 28, 2026 and second reading on Friday, October 2, 2026. Said Amendment amends Sections 94.03 Rates and 94.05 Payment of Taxes as follows:

\$ 94.03 RATES.

(A) The city tax rate for real property is hereby fixed at [36-3] 35.60 cents per one hundred dollars (\$100.00) of assessed valuation for the tax year [2025] 2026.

(B) The city tax rate for personal property is hereby fixed at [69-47] 65.04 cents per one hundred dollars (\$100.00) of assessed valuation for the tax year [2025] 2026.

\$ 94.05 PAYMENT OF TAXES.

All taxes paid prior to [December 1, 20254] December 1, 2026, shall be discounted at the rate of two percent (2%) of the tax bill; all taxes paid on or after [December 1, 2025] December 1, 2026 and prior to [January 1, 2026] January 1, 2027, shall bear the net amount of the tax bill; and all taxes not paid before [January 1, 2026] January 1, 2027, shall bear a penalty of eight percent (8%) per annum. A property lien will be filed with the Office of Rowan County Clerk against each property tax bill that remains unpaid as of [April 15, 2026] April 15, 2027; the expense for the filing and release of the lien will be added to the property tax bill.

The full text of this Ordinance may be reviewed by any interested citizen at the Administrative Offices Building, 314 Bridge Street, Morehead, Kentucky, Office of the City Clerk, Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The undersigned Attorney at Law, licensed to practice in Kentucky, hereby certifies that the foregoing Ordinance Summary was prepared by the undersigned in accordance with the requirements of KRS 83A.060(9) and constitutes a general summary of the essential provisions of the Ordinance.

This the 5th day of October, 2026.

Megan Hughes Richmond, City Attorney

Published in the Rowan County News on 10.08.26

BE BERRY ENTERPRISE

WE DIG. WE BUILD. WE GET IT DONE.

☒ LICENSED & INSURED

☒ QUALITY WORK

☒ RELIABLE LOCAL SERVICE

SERVICES INCLUDED:

- SEPTIC INSTALL AND REPAIRS
- WATERLINE WORK
- DEMOLITION

CALL OR TEXT 606-210-0822

SERVING FLEMING COUNTY AND SURROUNDING AREAS

PROBATE ADVERTISEMENTS FOR THE
MONTH OF SEPTEMBER 2026

CASE NUMBER: 26-P-133
DECEASED: KENNETH TERRELL
ADDRESS: 846 GREEN STREET MOREHEAD KY 40351
FIDUCIARY: LEISA KIDD 245 SOUTH MILL ROAD CLEARFIEL KY 40351
KIM ROYSE 95 GRANDVIEW ROAD MOREHEAD KY 40351
DATE OF APPOINTMENT: SEPTEMBER 2026
CREDITORS MUST FILE CLAIMS BY: MARCH 2027

CASE NUMBER: 26-P-135
DECEASED: HILDRETH VIRGINIA ROE
ADDRESS: 115 STATE HIGHWAY 504 MOREHEAD KY 40351
FIDUCIARY: MARY SLOANE
ADDRESS: 251 HIGHWAY 504 OLIVE HILL KY 41164
DATE OF APPOINTMENT: SEPTEMBER 2026
CREDITORS MUST FILE CLAIMS BY: MARCH 2027

CASE NUMBER: 26-P-136
DECEASED: ELIGE RANDOLPH SR.
ADDRESS: 45 DEHART LANE MOREHEAD KY 40351
FIDUCIARY: SHONDRA RANDOLPH
ADDRESS: 45 DEHART LANE MOREHEAD KY 40351
DATE OF APPOINTMENT: SEPTEMBER 2026

CASE NUMBER: 26-P-139
DECEASED: JONATHAN CONKRIGHT
ADDRESS: 613 WEST MAIN STREET MOREHEAD KY 40351
FIDUCIARY: ETHEL MILLER
ADDRESS: 724 DOGWOOD LANE WINCHESTER KY 40391
DATE OF APPOINTMENT: SEPTEMBER 2026
CREDITORS MUST FILE CLAIMS BY: MARCH 2027

Published in the Rowan County News on 10.08.26

FISH FRY

Lakeview Community Church

will be hosting a Fish Fry

October 9

4:00 – 7:00

All you can eat

Fish, drinks, sides and dessert

The Best Fish Anywhere!

Everyone is welcome

The cost is \$15 a plate for adults

\$7.50 for children 12 years old and younger.