The MAYFIELD Free
# Graves guardian
October 23rd, 2026 *In GOD We Trust* Proudly Serving Mayfield & Graves County

## Graves County Sheriff's Office Announces Ninth Annual Cram the Cruiser Campaign

**Staff Report**




MAYFIELD, Ky. — The Graves County Sheriff's Office is teaming up with local Dollar General stores for the ninth annual "Cram the Cruiser" campaign, a community donation drive aimed at helping local families and individuals in need during the holiday season.

Beginning Nov. 1, 2026, law enforcement officers and community volunteers will collect donations of non-perishable food, toys and hygiene supplies to benefit several local organizations serving Graves County residents.

The campaign will support the Mayfield-Graves County Need Line, which assists individuals and families facing food insecurity. Donations of canned goods, boxed meals, pasta, rice and other shelf-stable food items can help replenish supplies and provide assistance to households struggling to afford groceries.

Toys collected during the campaign will benefit Community Christmas Connection, an organization that helps make the holiday season brighter for children and families. Contributions of new toys can help ensure more children experience the excitement of receiving gifts during Christmas.

The campaign will also collect hygiene supplies for local shelters. Items such as soap, shampoo, toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant and other personal care necessities can make a meaningful difference for individuals experiencing hardship or housing insecurity.

The annual effort highlights the importance of community partnerships and neighbors helping neighbors. By working with local Dollar General stores, the Graves County Sheriff's Office hopes to make donating convenient while encouraging residents to support organizations that provide essential services throughout the area.

As the holiday season approaches, local assistance programs often face increased demand for food, gifts and basic necessities. Community donation drives such as Cram the Cruiser help provide resources that organizations can distribute to people who need assistance.

Residents are encouraged to participate by purchasing an extra item during their regular shopping trips or gathering supplies to donate. Even modest contributions can add up when many members of the community work together toward a common goal.

Details about daily drop-off locations and the campaign schedule are available through the Graves County WatchDog. Residents can consult the page for information about where donations will be collected throughout the campaign.

The ninth annual Cram the Cruiser campaign offers Graves County residents another opportunity to demonstrate generosity and community spirit while helping local organizations serve families throughout the holiday season.

## Mayfield Marching Band sweeps Class 2A




**The Mayfield Cardinal Marching Band swept Class 2A at Saturday's Western Kentucky Tournament of Champions, hosted by Christian County High School, earning first place in band, guard and percussion. The band finished sixth in the finals among a field of 22 bands. Mayfield returns to Christian County this weekend for the KMEA Class 2A Quarterfinals, performing at 5:30 p.m. for a chance to advance to the state semifinals Oct. 31. Photo provided**

## Kentucky Releases Annual School Report Cards for Graves County and Mayfield

**Staff Report**

MAYFIELD, Ky. — The Kentucky Department of Education has released its annual school report cards for Graves County Schools and Mayfield Independent Schools, providing families and community members with information about school performance and student achievement.

The report cards offer a comprehensive look at how schools and districts are serving students across the Commonwealth. They include information about academic performance, student progress, graduation rates, attendance and other indicators used to evaluate educational outcomes.

For Graves County and Mayfield Independent Schools, the annual reports provide an opportunity for parents, educators and community members to review district accomplishments and identify areas where additional support or improvement may be needed.

School report cards are designed to make education data more accessible to the public. Families can use the information to better understand how schools are performing, while school administrators and educators can examine the results when making decisions about instruction, resources and student support services.

Academic achievement remains an important component of the reports, but the data also provide a broader picture of the educational experience. Factors such as student participation, progress toward learning goals and graduation outcomes can help communities understand the challenges and successes facing local schools.




The reports also encourage transparency and accountability by giving the public access to information about schools and districts. Reviewing the results can help parents engage in conversations with teachers and administrators about student needs, educational priorities and future goals.

For local districts, the annual release serves as a checkpoint in the ongoing effort to improve educational opportunities for students. School leaders can use the information to recognize successful programs, evaluate existing strategies and determine where changes may help students achieve stronger outcomes.

Residents interested in reviewing the results for individual schools or districts can visit the Kentucky Department of Education's official website at education.ky.gov and access the Kentucky School Report Card system.

The annual report cards provide Graves County and Mayfield families with another resource for staying informed about local education and following the progress of schools serving students throughout the community.

## First Hispanic Baptist Church to Acquire Mayfield Facility, Continue Temporary Housing Services

**Staff Report**

MAYFIELD, Ky. — First Hispanic Baptist Church is set to acquire a nonprofit facility on West Broadway in Mayfield, with plans to continue providing temporary housing services for people in need.

The planned acquisition will help maintain access to temporary housing in the Graves County community, where local organizations play an important role in assisting individuals and families facing housing challenges.

The facility has been used by a nonprofit organization to provide temporary housing services. With First Hispanic Baptist Church preparing to take ownership, the transition is expected to allow those services to continue at the West Broadway location.

Temporary housing programs can provide critical support for individuals experiencing homelessness, housing instability or other difficult circumstances. Access to a safe place to stay can help people work toward greater stability while seeking employment, securing permanent housing or addressing other personal needs.

Faith-based organizations have long contributed to community support efforts through charitable outreach, volunteer services and partnerships with other local agencies. The church's planned acquisition represents an opportunity to continue that type of assistance in Mayfield.

Maintaining the facility's housing services could also help preserve an existing community resource rather than requiring those who depend on temporary accommodations to seek assistance elsewhere.

The development comes as communities throughout Kentucky continue working to address housing needs and provide resources for vulnerable residents. Local nonprofits, churches and community groups often help fill gaps by offering services that connect people with shelter and other forms of assistance.

Additional details about the acquisition, the facility's future operations and the number of people it may serve were not included in the initial announcement.

The planned transition places First Hispanic Baptist Church in a position to continue an existing housing effort on West Broadway while supporting the broader community's work to assist residents facing difficult circumstances.

The continuation of temporary housing services could provide an important source of support for people in Mayfield who need a safe place to stay while working toward more permanent living arrangements.