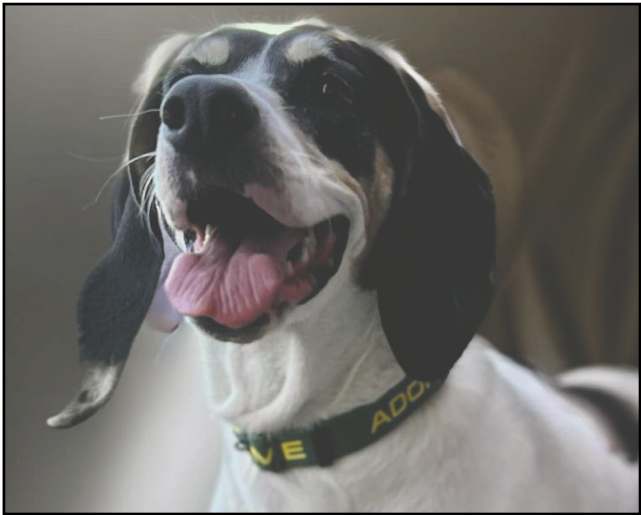


PET OF THE WEEK



Meet Alice! She is a hound who is affectionate, friendly, gentle, and smart. She is housetrained, up-to-date on all vaccinations, and is spayed. She will be good in a home with children and other dogs. She is looking for her forever home with someone to love her. She is ready to be out of the shelter and hopes you give her a chance. Applications are available for download on the Simpson County Animal Shelter website, or if you are interested in learning more about other animals at the shelter, please call 270-586-3125 or visit the shelter at 2194 Kenneth Utley Drive.



Meet Scout! He is a beautiful boy who is learning how to be well behaved thanks to his foster mom. He is about three years old. He came to the shelter with a pure, sweet heart, but clearly a human had never loved him enough to work with him. He is almost ready to be declared housetrained. He has a burst of excitement and play every day then he appreciates the chill life. Scout is learning some basic commands and leash walking. He is a social dog and did very well on dog park excursions. He is being fostered by a family who has two dogs and young children. He is a perfect gentleman and gentle with the children. Scout would likely run with a cat who encourages him to run after it, otherwise he's been neutral with cats he's been exposed to. He should live well with cats, especially dog savy cats. Applications are available for download on the Simpson County Animal Shelter website, or if you are interested in learning more about other animals at the shelter, please call 270-586-3125 or visit the shelter at 2194 Kenneth Utley Drive.

VOTE

FROM PAGE A1

on the community, environment, and economy. "No valid statutory exception under KRS 61.810(1) justified the closure, as the matter did not involve pending litigation, personnel issues, or narrowly tailored economic development negotiations," Bush said.

Bush goes on to state that following the closed session, the commission reconvened in open session and immediately conducted a first reading of the amendments, with no prior public notice of the specific language or opportunity for review and comment. "Later that same day, after the meeting, city attorney W. Scott Crabtree emailed the proposed amendments and a cover letter to the Franklin Planning and Zoning Commission (via Carter Munday), with copies to Jamie Powell, Dale McCreary, me, and others," Bush said. "The cover letter explicitly stated that 'on Aug. 25, 2025, the City Commission approved a motion to recommend a text amendment to the P&Z regulations.' It further noted that the same materials had been sent to Carter Munday and Bob Link that day, indicating rapid dissemination immediately following the meeting without public involvement."

According to the minutes of the City Commission's Aug. 25 regular session, a motion was made by Commissioner Powell and seconded by Commissioner Stewart to recommend the proposed text amendment, as presented, to the Franklin Planning & Zoning Regulations, expanding the uses of the Heavy Industrial District (I-2) to include advanced technology centers, data centers, and power generation. The motion carried four to one, with Dixon, Powell, McCreary, and Stewart voting yes, and Bush voting no. The minutes also state a public hearing is required prior to approval of the text amendment.

Bush's complaint states this sequence of closed-session review, immediate first reading in open session, and same-day post-meeting distribution raises

serious concerns about the transparency of the process, "suggesting that deliberation and consensus occurred privately, rendering the public actions perfunctory."

"This incident follows a pattern of similar issues, as noted in recent attorney general opinions involving our commission, finding violations for non-exempt closed discussions on banking matters," Bush claims. This decision referenced by Bush was rendered in answer to a complaint filed on July 17 in which the AG's office agreed with Bush that a violation of the Kentucky Meetings Act by the Franklin City Commission took place at a special called meeting on June 2 when discussing "ratification of changes and signatures for German American Bank accounts" during a closed session.

Regarding resolution of the Aug. 25 zoning matter, Bush requests that pursuant to KRS, a written response from Dixon be received within three business days of receipt of the initial complaint and provide acknowledgement of the violations and a commitment to conduct all future policy deliberations in open session, as well as participate in mandatory OMA training.

The complaint also requests that a press release be issued to all local and regional media outlets within a 50-mile radius of Franklin and that Dixon read the press release out loud during a public meeting. Bush also requests a video of Dixon's reading be posted to the City of Franklin's social media platforms in a permanent format.

Bush also calls for voiding the first reading of the amendments and rescheduling with full public notice and input opportunities.

"If the response is unsatisfactory or not received timely, I intend to appeal to the Office of the Kentucky Attorney General," Bush said. "Transparency is essential to maintaining public trust in our government."

Beverly Bragg can be reached by emailing bbragg@franklinfavorite.com.

OBITUARIES

Wanda Lou Lile

Wanda Lou Lile, age 73, of Franklin, Ky., passed away on Sunday, Oct. 5, 2025, at 10:18 a.m. at the Woodburn Nursing and Rehab Facility in Woodburn, Ky.

Visitation began from 4 p.m. until 8 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 8, and from 6 a.m. until 11 a.m. on Thursday, Oct. 9, at Gilbert Funeral Home & Crematory, Inc. Funeral services began at 11 a.m. on Thursday at the funeral home, with burial to follow in the Greenlawn Cemetery in Franklin, Ky.

Wanda was born July 24, 1952, in Franklin, Ky., to the late John Henry Davis and the late Freddie Mae (Payne) Davis. She was preceded in death by her daughter, Christy Renee Hicks.

She is survived by a grandson, Trenton Hicks (Ashley Pruett) of Russellville, Ky.; a granddog, Rusty; four cousins, Malinda Draper, Jo Giddens, Jane Pyles, and David Draper; and a stepsister, Sandy Dillard of Franklin, Ky.

Wanda was a member of the Macedonia General



Baptist Church. She was a graduate of the Franklin-Simpson High School class of 1970; she was also a member of the Franklin-Simpson High School Marching Band. She retired after 40 years from the Kendall Company/Berry Plastics and also worked at the Dollar Market for a few years. She was an avid UK Basketball fan and was a former member of the Franklin-Simpson High School Marching Band Booster Club.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Gilbert Funeral Home & Crematory. The website is www.gilbertfhonline.com. The Facebook page is Gilbert Funeral Home & Crematory, Inc. The obituary phone line is 270-586-8844.

Sally Katherine Pedigo

Sally Katherine Pedigo, 87, of Franklin, Ky., passed away on Saturday, Oct. 4, 2025, at a care home in Cotentown, Tenn.

Funeral services were held on Tuesday, Oct. 7, at 11 a.m. at Gilbert Funeral Home & Crematory. Burial

followed in the Sulphur Spring Cemetery in Simpson County, Ky. Visitation began at the funeral home on Monday, Oct. 6, from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. and on Tuesday, Oct. 7, from 6 a.m. until the time of the service.

GOODNIGHT NOOK

BY SAVANNAH MOHR

Be sure not to go ghost on the library this week! We have tons of hauntingly good fun planned. On Saturday, Oct. 11 at 11 a.m., visit us for Boot Scootin' with Dr. Pulliam. Whether you're a beginner or experienced dancer, you'll be moving like a ghost rider in the sky at this country line dancing class geared toward mature teens and adults. Then, from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., remember to join us for our monthly Paint Over Canvas class to create a pumpkin and sunflower still life. If you haven't pre-registered for this paint class, there's still time! Just visit us at the front desk or call us at 270-586-8397 to claim your spot. You'll have another chance to sign up and get crafty on Monday, Oct.

13, at 3:30 p.m. for Décor on a Dime, where you'll create a crushed glass ghost canvas. Both of these arts and crafts classes are also for mature teens and adults, but on Friday, Oct. 17, at 10 a.m., little ghouls from the ages of three to five are invited to come in for Laugh & Learn, a one-hour pre-k "playdate" where we'll tell stories, sing songs, make crafts, and more! Next Saturday, Oct. 18, at 11 a.m., feel free to join us for our other dance class, Line Dancing with Louise, and move to the beat of a variety of music.

Looking for some wholesome stories for your little ones? Check out one of our five-minute collections, like our new "5 Minute Little Critter Stories," "5 Minute Bible Stories," or "Curious George's 5-Minute Stories," the perfect, easy read-alouds right before bedtime.

For older kids, we recommend Anna Crowley Redding's "The Danger Files: Real-life Disasters." Using case files full of firsthand accounts, critical facts, do-at-home experiments, and clues, readers can become disaster detectives and determine for themselves what happened during some of the most dramatic disasters in history and why. Lastly, be sure to see our brand-new puzzle collection! Add a little extra challenge to family game night with puzzles ranging from 300 to 1000 pieces. Whatever kind of book or game you're looking for, be sure to visit the library to see what we have in store!

Savannah Mohr is the social media and events coordinator for the Goodnight Memorial Public Library, located at 203 S. Main St., Franklin.

EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

2025 SIMPSON COUNTY HAY BALE TRAIL

It is time for the 2025 Simpson County Hay Bale Trail. Create a display for the 2025 Simpson County Hay Bale Trail with your favorite cartoon character in mind. All entries must be located in Simpson County and must be visible from a city, county, or state roadway and cannot limit vehicle visibility in any way or cause an obstruction to traffic. The deadline to submit an entry is midnight, Oct. 11. A completed entry form and a digital photo must be submitted via email to tourism@franklinky.info. Please specify Hay Bale Trail in the email subject line. Any entries received after midnight on Oct. 11, 2025, will not be accepted for entry in the contest. Paper entries will be accepted at 105 West Cedar Street or by mail at Simpson County Tourism Commission, PO Box 737, Franklin, KY 42135. This is a family-friendly event. All winners will be announced on Oct. 17 on the Franklin-Simpson Tourism Facebook page. For more information, contact the Franklin-Simpson County Tourism at 270-586-3040.

OCT. 1-31 Logan County Tourism's Haybale Trail

Logan County Tourism's 10th Annual Haybale Trail begins on Oct. 1 and runs through the month. For more information, you can call 270-726-1678 or email logankytourism@att.net.

OCT. 9 Cemetery Tour

The Cemetery Tour, a Tobacco & Heritage Festival event, begins at 5 p.m. in Maple Grove Cemetery in Russellville. For more information, please contact the Logan County

Chamber of Commerce at 270-726-2206 or www.tobaccofest.org.

OCT. 11 Fall Vendor Event

The Farmer's Market will be hosting its annual Fall Vendor Event on Oct. 11. Scan the QR code to register as a vendor on the Franklin-Simpson Farmers Market Facebook page. Please DO NOT pay anyone that may reach out for payment. Payment will only be accepted at the Extension Office. Please call 270-586-4484 with any questions.

Paint Over Canvas

Remember to pre-register for the next Paint Over Canvas class at the Goodnight Memorial Library on Saturday, Oct. 11, from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Freshen up your fall decor with a pumpkin and sunflower still life. There's limited space available, so be sure to sign up soon at the library.

OCT. 12 Brother James Harrison to Preach

Brother James Harrison from Days Cross Roads Missionary Baptist Church will preach at Eastside Missionary Baptist Church at 214 East Street in Franklin on Sunday, Oct. 12, at 6 p.m. Everyone is welcome.

OCT. 14 A Civil War Duel

On Tuesday, Oct. 14 at 6:30 p.m., Stuart W. Sanders will present a program entitled "A Civil War Duel" at the regular meeting of the Simpson County Historical Society at the History Center at 207 N. College Street in Franklin. Sanders is the director of research and publications at the Kentucky Historical Society, where he oversees the agency's library, the Register of

Celebrating local journalism

National Newspaper Week is Oct. 5 through Oct. 11.

Since 1940, Newspaper Association Managers has sponsored and supported this week-long promotion of the newspaper industry in the U.S. and Canada.

This year, David T. Thompson, executive director of the Kentucky Press Association, reminds us that newspapers play a vital role in informing, empowering, and uniting our communities.

Thompson says local journalism is the heartbeat of informed communities, and it brings stories to light that national outlets often overlook—stories about school board decisions, city council debates, neighborhood events, and local heroes. "In a world increasingly shaped by global headlines and social media noise, reconnecting with local news is vital for civic engagement, accountability, and community resilience," says Thompson in his recent weekly KPA update entitled "On Second Thought."

A journalist is simply defined as a person who writes about factual events for a living.

As such, community journalists write about factual events that happen locally in the communities they cover. This local reporting is important for several reasons:

- * First, it provides citizens

with information they need to make decisions in their everyday lives, from voting to attending town hall meetings.

- * It also allows for government transparency by holding elected officials and local governments accountable for their actions, both good and bad. Oftentimes, community journalists uncover corruption or negligence that directly impacts the communities these officials have agreed to serve.

- * Additionally, the local press fosters a sense of community connection and belonging by highlighting stories that resonate on a personal level, such as feature articles, sports stories, and coverage of community events.

- * Local media supports small businesses through advertising and partnerships, which in turn strengthens the local economy.

American journalist Arthur Sulzberger, Jr., is credited with saying, "Newspapers cannot be defined by the second word—paper. They've got to be defined by the first word—news."

Thus, when a community newspaper dies, so does a reliable source of local information.

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