

# COMMUNITY/OBITUARIES

## Kentucky State Police Post 8 Trooper Recognized for Heroic Efforts

A Kentucky State Police (KSP) Post 8 trooper has been nationally recognized for his courage and decisive actions that saved a woman's life during a domestic violence situation in eastern Kentucky.

KSP Post 8's Trooper Paul Thomas has been named a regional finalist for the 2025 IACP/Motorola Solutions Trooper of the Year Award. The honor, presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) in partnership with Motorola Solutions, recognizes troopers and provincial police officers who demonstrate exceptional bravery, leadership and service.

"Trooper Thomas demonstrated extraordinary courage and professionalism in an incredibly dangerous situation," KSP Post Commander Bobby King said. "His quick actions and willingness to put himself in harm's way saved a life. We are proud to see him recognized on a national level, and this honor reflects the dedication and bravery our troopers show every day."

On Jan. 28, 2025, Rowan County dispatch received multiple 911 calls reporting a woman had been stabbed and was being held at knifepoint by a suspect in Morehead. Callers reported the suspect threatened to kill the victim and any responding officers.

Trooper Thomas responded alongside officers from the Morehead Police Department. They went to the home's front door, announced themselves, and heard the victim pleading for help. When the suspect refused commands and the threat became imminent, the officers forced entry through a barricaded door on an ice covered porch.

Inside, officers found the victim trapped in an overturned recliner. The suspect knelt behind her with a knife. Ignoring repeated commands, he continued to restrain her. Trooper Thomas moved to pull the suspect off the victim and saw the knife positioned at the victim's neck.



Recognizing the immediate threat to the victim's life, Trooper Thomas fired two rounds, striking the suspect, ending the attack. Officers pulled the victim to safety while Trooper Thomas rendered aid to the suspect. EMS transported both individuals; suspect later died and the victim was treated and released.

Trooper Thomas is one of four regional finalists from across the United States selected for the 2025 award. This year's finalists represent agencies including the Kansas Highway Patrol, Kentucky State Police, South Dakota Highway Patrol and the Virginia State Police. All four finalists were honored during the IACP State and Provincial Police Division Mid-year Meeting on March 12, 2026, in Boston, Massachusetts. Virginia State Police Trooper John Winebrenner was announced as the 2025 Trooper of the Year during the meeting.

"I am deeply honored to have been selected by the International Association of Chiefs of Police and Motorola Solutions as one of four finalists for the Trooper of the Year Award and to have had the opportunity to attend the Midyear Ceremony," Trooper Thomas said. "It was truly a privilege to stand on stage alongside the other outstanding finalists who represent the very best of law enforcement. I am grateful for the recognition and proud to represent the Kentucky State Police."

Trooper Thomas' nomination highlights the life-saving work Kentucky State Police troopers perform daily and his actions reflect the agency's core values. Visit the KSP website to learn more about the agency's core values.

## JAMES CHRISTOPHER "CHIRS" MATTOX



James Christopher "Chris" Mattox, 55, of Georgetown, Ohio, went to be with our Lord and Savior on Friday, March 20, 2026, at The Jewish Hospital-Mercy Health in Cincinnati.

Born in Flemingsburg on December 3, 1970, he was the son of Martha Hill Sutfin and the late James "Jimmy" Mattox.

Chris lived much of his life on the Gulf Coast of Central Florida before moving to Georgetown to settle down with the love of his life, Jenene Ward. They built a beautiful life together of laughter and joy, spending their days gardening, renovating their home, and socializing with their close friends and neighbors. A talented carpenter by trade, Chris enjoyed working with his hands and serving the community with his workmanship. Chris was active in the recovery community in Florida, often taking

leadership and mentorship roles in those spaces. A regular attendee of several churches throughout the years, Chris was a man of deep faith, which led many people to Christ.

Chris is survived by his wife and soul mate, Jenene Ward; his loving mother, Martha; his son, Tristan Mattox, his four daughters, Rhianon Robinson, Kimber Chaisson, Jolene Hollandsworth, and Carissa Mattox. He also leaves behind six grandchildren, Margot, Laurel, Carson, Brooklyn, Dane, and Rozy; and his three beloved Huskies, Alice, Chewy, and Bruno.

Chris joins his father, James as well as his paternal grandparents, Jessie & Calvin Mattox; and his maternal grandparents, Minnie & Leroy Hill in Heaven.

The funeral service will begin at 2 p.m., Saturday, March 28, 2026, at Boone Nickell Funeral Home with Bro. Bush Stevenson officiating.

Chris will be laid to rest in Goddard Cemetery.

Visitation will be 1 p.m., until the hour of service at 2 p.m., Saturday, at Boone-Nickell located at 150 West Water Street in Flemingsburg.

Friends may offer online condolences at [www.boonenickellfuneralhome.com](http://www.boonenickellfuneralhome.com)

## BRENDA FAYE GRAY JONES



Brenda Faye Gray Jones, a beloved mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, and cherished member of her community, passed away peacefully on March 22, 2026, in Ewing, Kentucky at the home of her son. Born on November 2, 1944, in Fleming County, Kentucky, Brenda lived a life marked by dedication, warmth, and a steadfast commitment to those she loved.

Brenda's career as a respiratory therapist at Fleming County Hospital demonstrated her compassionate nature and deep care for the well-being of others. After her retirement, she continued to be known for her entrepreneurial spirit as the proud owner and operator of Jones Grocery in Hilltop—an accomplishment that stood as a testament to her hard work and dedication to her community.

Beyond her professional life, Brenda was a treasured member of Hilltop Community Church, where her faith was an anchor and source of comfort. Some 30 years ago Brenda and two others using their own money, bought the Hilltop church at auction and reopened it. She also found joy in the simple pleasures of life, often spending time enjoying yard sales—moments that allowed her to connect with friends and neighbors and celebrate the small treasures of everyday living.

Brenda is survived by her loving family. She leaves behind one son, Paul "Todd" Jones, together with his wife Lau-

ra, of Ewing; one daughter, Lori Jones (Jimmy Gray), also of Ewing. Her legacy is further enriched by her beloved grandchildren—Derrick Jones (Myranda), Savannah Martin ( Zack), Tyler Jones (Brittany), Amber Jones (Arron), Chase Hughes, Brady Hughes (Charity) and Jessica Price. Also, sixteen great-grandchildren.

Her life was one of deep love and connection, but it was also marked by loss. Brenda was preceded in death by her devoted parents, Samuel and Jennie Irene Gray; her husband of more than six decades, James Paul Jones, whom she married on November 23, 1962; one son, James Ricky "Rick" Jones; three brothers, Clinton Gray, Herbert Gray, and Ricky Gray; and two sisters, Cleta "Dot" Earlywine and Wanda Lou Jolly. The memories she created with them remain dearly held in the hearts of all who knew her.

Services to honor Brenda's life will be held at the Michael R. Gray Funeral Home in Flemingsburg, Kentucky. Visitation is scheduled for Tuesday, March 24, 2026, after 5:00 p.m.

Funeral services will be conducted at 11:00 a.m. Wednesday, March 25, 2026 in the chapel of the Michael R. Gray Funeral Home in Flemingsburg with Brother H.E. Gray and Rev. Larry Ingram officiating.

Brenda will be laid to rest next to her husband Jim in the Elizaville Cemetery.

All her grandchildren will serve as casket bearers. Her great-grandchildren will service as honorary casket bearers.

All arrangements for Brenda Faye Gray Jones and family are under the care and direction of the Michael R. Gray Funeral Home in Flemingsburg, 405 South Main Cross Street, Flemingsburg, Kentucky 41041.

## GEORGIANNA "GEORGIA" SLOAN



Georgianna "Georgia" Sloan, 87, of Flemingsburg, passed away Saturday, March 21, 2026, at her residence.

Born in Cincinnati, Ohio on October 17, 1938, she was a daughter of the late Anthony John Rascov and the late Viola Fryman Rascov.

Georgia was the co-owner of Sloan's Paint and Wallpaper for 46 years and had worked for U. S. Shoe in Flemingsburg. She was a member of the Flemingsburg Christian Holiness Church.

She is survived by her husband of 69 years, George Edward Sloan; her three children, Crystal (Pat) Doyle of Flemingsburg, George E. "Jay" (Betty) Sloan, Jr. of Clearwater, Fla., and Harold (Melanie) Sloan of Cincinnati, Ohio; her six grandchildren, Nathan Johnson, Tiffany Collins, Trace Sloan, Lilly Sloan, Joshua Sloan, and Jared Sloan; and her eight

great grandchildren. She is also survived by four of her siblings, Janet Rascov, Mary Vaughn, Tony Rascov, and Michael Rascov; along with many nieces, nephews, extended family members and friends.

In addition to her mother Viola and her father Anthony, Georgia was preceded in death by her sister, Joyce.

The funeral service will begin at 1 p.m., Thursday, 26, 2026, at the Flemingsburg Christian Holiness Church with Rev. Jay Sloan and Rev. Clint Stricklen officiating.

Burial for Georgia will be private.

Visitation will be from 11 a.m., until the hour of service at 1 p.m., Thursday at the church located at 130 Foster Street, Flemingsburg, Kentucky 41041.

In place of flowers, please consider a donation in memory of Georgia to the Flemingsburg Christian Holiness Church (C/O Regina Rose, 6147 Morehead Road, Flemingsburg, Kentucky 41041).

Boone-Nickell Funeral Home is caring for Georgia and her family.

Friends may offer online condolences at [www.boonenickellfuneralhome.com](http://www.boonenickellfuneralhome.com)

## Morehead Adult Baseball League sign ups

The Morehead Adult Baseball League is now holding player sign-ups for its 2026 season.

Fee is \$15. Games will be on Sundays at the Rowan County Senior

High School baseball field.

To sign up or for more information, call or text Chuck Mraz, 606-336-2772, or Tom Lewis, 606-584-2431.

**Thoroughbred Monument and Marker**  
 813 Delaney Road  
 Ewing, KY 41039  
 Kenny Hunt 606-776-4133  
 Tyler Carpenter 606-748-7348

*Price Brothers Funeral Home*  
 (606) 267-2481 Elizaville, KY

*Hutton Funeral Home, Inc.*  
 Hillsboro, Kentucky • (606) 876-2401

**Office Hours:**  
**Monday 8:30-noon**  
**Thursday 8:30-3:30**  
 115 S. Main Courthouse, Flemingsburg, KY 41041

**Flemingsburg GAZETTE**  
 606-845-9211

*Boone Nickell Funeral Home*  
 150 West Water Street  
 FLEMINGSBURG  
 Ph.: (606) 845-2231  
**Winston Grannis**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
 Budget hearing regarding proposed use of County Road Aid And Local Government Economic Assistance Funds

A public hearing will be held by Fleming County Fiscal Court at the regular meeting on April 14, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. for the purpose of obtaining citizens comments regarding the possible uses of the County Road Aid (CRA) and Local Government Economic Assistance (LGEA) Funds. All interested persons in Fleming County are invited to the hearing to submit oral or written comments on possible uses of the CRA and LGEA Funds. Any person (s), who cannot submit written comments or attend the public hearing but wish to submit comments, should call the Office of the County Judge/Executive at 845-8801 by April 10, 2026 so that arrangements can be made to secure their comments.

*Published in the Flemingsburg Gazette 03.25.26*

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

The second reading of a proposed ordinance #26-1446 amending the Fleming County Budget for Fiscal Year 2025-2026, to include unanticipated receipts in the Dispatch fund:

DISPATCH 76-4504 911 GRANT 118,091.31

Totalling \$118,091.31 and increasing expenditures in the following:

DISPATCH 76-5145-399 PHONE SYSTEM UPDATE GRANT 118,091.31

Totalling \$118,091.31 will be held Tuesday, April 14, 2026 @ 9:00 a.m. at the Fleming County Courthouse. A copy of the proposed ordinance with full text is available for public inspection at the Office of the County Judge Executive during normal business hours.

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**Public Notice of Surplus Sale**

The Fleming County Fiscal Court has declared and authorized surplus vehicles to be sold by online public auction conducted by Chuck Marshall Equipment Auctions, 4565 Maysville Rd, Flemingsburg, Kentucky. Online bidding commences on March 20, 2026 until April 1, 2026 at [www.chuckmarshallauctions.com](http://www.chuckmarshallauctions.com). Direct link page: <https://www.chuckmarshallauctions.com/hs-timed-auctions/listings/upcoming-auctions/equipment/all>

The vehicles may be inspected at Chuck Marshall Auctions, 4565 Maysville Rd, Flemingsburg, KY prior and during the online bidding from 9:00 AM until 5:00 PM eastern time Monday-Friday. All sales will be final and sold 100% AS IS and WHERE IS with no warranty expressed or implied by the Fleming County Fiscal Court. The Fleming County Fiscal Court reserves the right to reject any and all bids. Questions may be directed to the Fleming County Judge/Executive, 100 Court Square, Flemingsburg, KY 41041. (606)845-8801. Items to be auctioned: 2009 Ford Crown Victoria VIN 2FAHP71VX9X117817, White, Mileage: Unknown.

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