



Photo by Terry Prather
Green Dot banners are placed on utility poles along West Second Street in Maysville.

Looking back to Sept. 21, 2018

Written by Mary Ann Kearns

The following information was entered into the Sept. 21, 2018, edition of The Ledger Independent:

Local Green Dot gains national attention
Maysville's embrace of the Green Dot program is bringing it national recognition.

Women's Crisis Center's Christy Burch and Melissa Greenwell have been invited by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to speak about our 'Making Maysville a Green Dot City' Initiative during a national webinar.

During the webinar, the pair will share how the local community became engaged in becoming a part of the program, Greenwell said.

"Green Dot was born and initiated for a college campus and is based on the belief that the greatest power is in the bystander," Greenwell explained. "We took this philosophy into our local faith-based communities and from there it only made sense to take it to the community level. We, as a community define our community norms and decide what we will and will not accept here. If we are setting community norms, we needed community input."

"Becoming the first Green Dot City in the nation is the goal of our community group," Greenwell added. "Christy Burch, Women's Crisis Center's executive director and myself as the Buffalo Trace director will be using the national platform of this webinar to show other communities across the country the steps we took to use this program to prevent interpersonal violence, while we engaged the community to become a part of the solution."

The webinar is scheduled for Oct. 24.

"We are thrilled to have this opportunity to share concept of a community approach," Greenwell said.

The Green Dot program involves training people and developing environments to shift cultural norms away from violence. Green Dot equips bystanders to be reactive and proactive in creating a safer community. It presents people with real-life situations of power-based, personal violence and options for how to address them.

Topics which will be discussed during the webinar by Burch and Hunter include:

- Discuss how to apply the CPSTF recommendation for primary prevention interventions to reduce perpetration of intimate partner violence and sexual violence among youth.
- Understand how to access resources from the HHS, Office on Women's Health.
- Learn about technical packages from CDC's Division of Violence Prevention.
- Describe how the Coalition Against Domestic Violence in Indiana created safer environments and promoted nurturing relationships through programs like Safe Quilts.
- Describe how Maysville, implemented the Green Dot program to prevent partner and sexual violence while engaging the surrounding community to become part of the solution.

For more information on the webinar, visit <https://www.wccky.org/>.

Quinn Minute – Nursery rhyme re-visit

by Rix Quinn

As I get older, I try to learn something every day. That's not always possible, because some days I just watch reruns.

I'm not alone in this mission. My friend Lucas spent months trying to read deeper meanings into old nursery rhymes.

For instance, "Incy Wincy Spider climbed up the water spout. Down came the rain, and washed the spider out. Out came the sun, and dried up all the rain. And Incy Wincy Spider climbed up the spout again."

Lucas claims this is about perseverance. Spider is determined to get to the top.

My question is: Why would this arachnid keep re-climbing? Thirst? Higher quality insects to trap at the top? Better access to the web?

Here's one of my favorites: "A wise old owl sat in an oak. The more he heard, the less he spoke. The less he spoke the more he heard. Why aren't we all like that wise old bird?"

Seriously, this is great advice. Yesterday in the cafeteria, I listened. Here's what I heard.

Two older golfers discussed a difficult sand trap. At the next table, a group of ten gathered to hear their company's income report.

Then, amidst this drudgery, two twenty-somethings sitting next to me – obviously dating – talked about their upcoming weekend in detail. Much like the owl, for the

first two conversations I didn't give a hoot.

But that last dialog was so spicy I fell out of my chair trying to hear. I just told the couple I had a balance problem.

Want another nursery song? "If you're happy and you know it clap your hands. If you're happy and you know it, and you really want to show it, if you're happy and you know it clap your hands."

I tried this walking downtown last Saturday. Any time I suddenly felt happy, I started clapping.

This attracted two other clappers with alternative rhythms, a harmonica player, a juggler, and a dog that walked on its back legs.

We open next Thursday night at the civic center.

Ward named new Dean at Shawnee State University

Submitted by Cindi Remy
Chief Communications Officer

PORTSMOUTH, OH –Dr. Tony Ward has been named Interim Dean of the College of Health and Human Services. Dr. Ward has been with SSU for over 25 years, and previously served as Program Director of Athletic Training Education and Exercise Science.

"I am honored and grateful for the opportunity to serve as Interim Dean of the College of Health and Human Services. After nearly 26 years at Shawnee State University, this institution has become an important part of my professional life, and I am deeply committed to its students, faculty, and staff," said Ward. "I look forward to working collaboratively with the talented faculty and staff within the College to build on our strengths, support student success, and continue preparing graduates to make a meaningful impact in their professions and communities."

Dr. Ward is a previous Shawnee State University

Board of Trustee's Distinguished Teaching Award recipient and served as the University Faculty Senate President from 2019-2022.

"As Interim Dean, Dr. Ward will lead the continued expansion of enrollments in several premier programs on campus, at the Chillicothe site, and online. He will play an important role in ensuring our nursing programs have capacity to meet growing workforce demand throughout south central Ohio," said Shawnee State University President Eric Andrew Braun. "Dr. Ward will also work to develop new collaborations with SSU athletics to provide experiential learning for students and better support our transition to NCAA Division II."

Dr. Ward earned his doctorate in Educational Leadership with an emphasis in Health Science from the University of the Columbians and his Master's in Health and Physical Education and Bachelor's in Athletic Training from Marshall University.

ARC Welcomes Darren Stapleton as Vice President of Business Development

Submitted by Vanessa Keeton
VP of Marketing

ASHLAND, Ky. — Sept. 18, 2026 — Addiction Recovery Care (ARC) has named Darren Stapleton vice president of business development. He brings more than two decades of leadership experience, including a 26-year career with the Kentucky State Police.

Stapleton will oversee ARC's community liaison team to strengthen relationships with community partners, increase awareness of ARC's programs and services and connect individuals and families with available resources.

"People need to know where they can turn," Stapleton said. "I'm looking forward to getting out in the communities, meeting people, listening to what they need and helping make those connections. There's a lot of opportunity ahead,

and I'm grateful to be a part of it."

During his Kentucky State Police career, Stapleton held a variety of leadership roles, ultimately serving as major and East Division director. He led teams, developed partnerships, managed operations and made strategic decisions in complex, high-pressure environments.

"I'm excited to work alongside a team that is focused on helping people and strengthening the communities we serve," Stapleton said. "I've spent much of my career building relationships, working with people, and finding ways to bring teams together. I'm looking forward to bringing that experience to this role and helping people better understand the resources and opportunities ARC has available."

Stapleton also worked in human resources at Pikeville Medical Center, where he gained experience

in organizational leadership, team development and relationship management.

"Darren brings a unique combination of leadership experience, community relationships, and a genuine desire to help people," Randy Hunter, CEO of ARC, said. "As ARC continues moving forward, building strong relationships in the communities we serve is more important than ever. Darren will be an important part of that work, and we're excited to have him on the team."

Stapleton joins ARC as the organization works to strengthen community partnerships across Kentucky.

"We're moving forward, and we're bringing more good people with us who are ready to do the work," Hunter said. "Darren is one of those people, and we're glad he's here."

Tennessee murder suspect caught in Kentucky

Tom Latek
Kentucky Today

MONTICELLO, Ky. (KT) — A man wanted in connection with a May homicide in Tennessee was arrested Thursday in Wayne County following a months-long search involving federal, state and local law enforcement agencies.

The U.S. Marshals Service, working with several other agencies, arrested

Jesse Wayne Phillips on Thursday in Monticello. Phillips was wanted on a second-degree murder charge in Pickett County, Tennessee, and had been placed on the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation's Most Wanted List.

The case stems from a May 27 shooting in Pall Mall, Tennessee.

Pickett County sheriff's deputies responded to the 1000 block of Parker Road after receiving

reports of a shooting. When deputies arrived, they found Christopher Yates suffering from a gunshot wound.

Yates was transported to a hospital, where he was pronounced dead.

The TBI subsequently identified Phillips as a suspect in the shooting, and Pickett County authorities obtained a warrant charging him with second-degree murder.

The U.S. Marshals Service Middle District of Tennessee Nashville Office took over the fugitive investigation June 10.

Since then, investigators pursued numerous leads while working with the U.S. Marshals Service Central Kentucky Fugitive Task Force London Office, TBI, Kentucky State Police, Clinton County Sheriff's Office

and Wayne County Sheriff's Office.

Authorities said the investigation produced significant information about Phillips' whereabouts during the week of Sept. 14.

On Thursday, U.S. Marshals and other law enforcement agencies, including the Kentucky State Police Special Response Team, located Phillips in the 7700 block of Kentucky 1546 in Monticello and took him into custody.

Following the arrest, authorities executed a search warrant at the location and seized multiple firearms as part of the ongoing investigation.

Phillips was taken to the Pulaski County Detention Center, where he is being held without bond while awaiting extradition to Pickett County.

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