

LOCAL NEWS

Saint Joseph Health welcomes Jennifer Shelton

Shelton, APRN, joins Family Medicine Team in Berea

Mary Branham
Market Director

BEREA, Ky. – Saint Joseph Health has announced that Jennifer Shelton, APRN, has joined Saint Joseph Medical Group – Primary Care in Berea. Shelton, a native of Richmond, said her decision to pursue medicine was shaped by her experience seeing nurses care for her mother in her final days.

“My mom died when I was 19,” she said. “I saw

how caring the nurses were and I wanted to be a part of that.”

Shelton began her career in medical coding and billing, then earned her nursing degree from Eastern Kentucky University in 2015. Her nursing career has taken her through cardiology and surgical/endoscopic services, first at Baptist Health in Lexington then at Saint Joseph Berea. In 2019, she decided to focus her career on fami-

ly medicine and returned to ECU, where she earned her Master’s in Nursing Science–Family Nurse Practitioner in May 2022.

“Family medicine provides a great diversity, as far as patient population,” she said. “I enjoy being able to make a difference in people’s lives. You can grow with your patients and see the changes they’ve made in their lives ... you can see you have made a difference in how they are going to live.”

Shelton enjoys getting to know her patients, but stresses they are in the driver’s seat.

“I’ve always said the patient is the center of



JENNIFER SHELTON, APRN

care,” she said. “You can come up with any plan, but if you haven’t taken into account your patient’s goals, you, and they, are not going to get very far.”

Outside of medicine, Shelton enjoys spending

time with her partner and family, as well as their two Australian Shepherds. She also enjoys embroidery and quilting.

Shelton is accepting patients at the family medicine practice at Saint Joseph Berea, 305 Estill St. 4th Floor, Berea, KY. To make an appointment, call 859-986-2343.

Saint Joseph Health, part of CommonSpirit Health, is one of the largest and most comprehensive health systems in the Commonwealth of Kentucky with 100 locations in 20 counties, including hospitals, physician groups, clinics, primary care centers, special-

ty institutes, home health agencies and an ambulatory Care Center. The hospitals in Saint Joseph Health are Flaget Memorial Hospital, Saint Joseph Berea, Saint Joseph East, Saint Joseph Hospital, Saint Joseph Jessamine, Saint Joseph London, Saint Joseph Mount Sterling, and Women’s Hospital at Saint Joseph East. In total, the health system serves patients in 35 counties statewide.

This is a public notice that the automobile posted will be sold on **May 4, 2026** for storage and towing fees. Vehicle is located at **Classic Towing 611 S Keeneland Dr Richmond, KY 40475.** Make/Model- **Chevrolet Silverado 2 019 White** VIN# **3GCUYBEFXKG105338** Owner- **Justin Crockett 91 Wright Circ. Franklin, GA 30117** Lien Holder- **GM Financial PO Box 1510 Cocksaysville, MD 21030**

One-time spending plan paves way for ECU medical school and more KY education projects

MCKENNA HORSLEY
Kentucky Lantern

Eastern Kentucky University is set to get about \$50 million to move it closer to accreditation for a future osteopathic medicine school.

The university has been seeking the financial support from the Kentucky General Assembly for a few years. Before lawmakers adjourned last week for the veto period, they unveiled \$1.7 billion in one-time spending over the biennium in House Bill 900.

The package includes \$42 million in the 2026-27 fiscal year for ECU to put in an escrow account required to accredit the medical school and \$8 million in the 2026-fiscal year for associated start-up costs.

Sarah Baker, a spokesperson for ECU, said in a statement to the Kentucky Lantern that the university is “grateful” for the support from lawmakers, calling it an investment that “marks a critical step toward meeting accreditation requirements and advancing planning efforts.”

“With these funds in place, ECU will continue working through the accreditation process while refining academic, operational and facility plans,” ECU said. “The university remains focused on preparing to launch a program that will help

address Kentucky’s physician shortage, particularly in rural and underserved communities.”

Baker added that ECU is continuing to pursue funding for a Center of Health Innovation, “which would house 3,000 students pursuing healthcare degrees, including the osteopathic medical program, nursing, occupational therapy and numerous other medical programs.”

“EKU looks forward to continued collaboration with state leaders as this project moves into its next phases,” Baker said.

If another piece of legislation gains final passage when lawmakers return to

Frankfort later this month, ECU would be directed, along with the University of Louisville and University of Kentucky, to study possible solutions to Kentucky’s physician shortages and how to explore and expand health care opportunities. UofL and UK have estab-

lished medical schools.

What would be in the final version of HB 900 was unclear throughout the legislative session, as the House and Senate passed one-page versions with sparse details about what projects would be funded. The final version

is 58 pages and currently on Democratic Gov. Andy Beshear’s desk.

Should he issue a veto on any legislation, the Republican-controlled General Assembly has the numbers to easily override it.

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Richmond Utilities
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Richmond Utilities Announces Silent Fleet & Equipment Auction
Richmond Utilities will be conducting a silent auction for surplus fleet vehicles and equipment. This auction presents an opportunity for the public to purchase a variety of utility vehicles and equipment at competitive prices.
All items will be sold “AS IS”, with no warranties or guarantees expressed or implied. Interested bidders are encouraged to inspect items prior to submitting their bids.
Vehicles and equipment may be inspected at 537 Tates Creek Avenue on April 15th and 16th from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. and 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. each day.
Sealed bids must be submitted in person at the following location:
300 Hallie Irvine Street, Richmond, KY 40475
Bids must be received by 11:00am on Tuesday April 28th 2026. Late submissions will not be accepted.
Bidders are responsible for all applicable taxes, transfer fees, and removal of purchased items from the property. Payments will be made payable to Richmond Utilities – certified check or money orders will only be accepted.
Richmond Utilities reserves the right to refuse any and/or all bids.

Item #	Year	Make	Model	VIN Number
1	2000	Ford	F-450 (4x4)	1fdx46f1yed98510
2	2008	Chevrolet	Silverado (2x4)	2gcek190781311272
3	2010	Dodge	Dakota (4x4)	1d7ce3bk3as151067
4	2001	Ford	F-350 (4x4)	1fdwf36f21ed06200
5	2005	Ford	F-150 (4x4)	1fttrf14w85kf13678
6	1990	Chevrolet	C7H042	1gbj7h1pxj202012
7	2012	Chevrolet	Silverado 1500	1gcnpcpea0zc124826
8	2006	Chevrolet	Silverado 3500 (4x4)	1gchk39d76e138893
9	2006	Chevrolet	Silverado 3500 (4x4)	1gchk34c56e137977
10	2006	Chevrolet	Silverado 2500	1gchr24u36e114038
11	2007	Chevrolet	Silverado 1500 (2x4)	18cec14c875237778
12	1998	GMC	C8500	18dp7h1j8wj511096
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