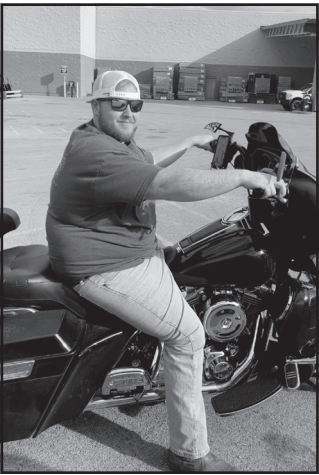


# OBITUARIES/COMMUNITY

## CHRISTOPHER BLAKE ADKINS



as extended family and many friends.

He was preceded in death by paternal grandmother, Judy Adkins.

Christopher was currently an employee of Prairie Farm Dairy, Inc. and was formerly a night shift manager for Walmart in Morehead. He attended Elliott County and Morgan County schools and graduated in 2021. He loved motorcycles and enjoyed fishing, kayaking, and spending time outdoors. Most of all, he loved his family and was looking forward to becoming a dad this year. As a teenager, Christopher was baptized at Laurel Gorge Enterprise Baptist Church.

Christopher was a special young man who would do anything to help anyone. He was respectful to others and always carried a happy spirit. His memory will be cherished and never forgotten. Christopher's love will live on through his child and in the hearts of his family, who will forever cherish his memory.

Funeral services will be held at 1 p.m. Monday, April 20, 2026, at Northcutt & Son Home for Funerals Memorial Chapel with Brother Bruce Davis officiating. Burial will follow in Horton Cemetery on Route 755 in Elliott County.

Pallbearers will be Hunter Adkins, Levi Adkins, Ronald Weddington, Jr., Caleb McDaniels, Chase Stephens, and Nathan Frisby.

Visitation will be from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. Sunday, April 19, 2026, at Northcutt & Son Home for Funerals, 400 Fraley Drive, Morehead, KY 40351. View memorial tribute or sign online guestbook at [www.northcuttandson.com](http://www.northcuttandson.com)

## MARK ALLEN OWENS



Mark Allen Owens, age 64, of Wildflower Lane, Morehead, passed away peacefully on Monday, April 20, 2026, at UK Medical Center in Lexington, following an extended illness.

Born November 18, 1961, in Mansfield, Ohio, he was the son of the late Buddie Owens and Ruth Pearl Peters Owens. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by seven siblings: Rev. Billy Ray Owens, Robert Owens, Margie Owens Burgy, Douglas Owens, Donald Owens, David Owens, and Frankie Wayne Owens.

Mark is survived by his devoted and loving wife of 43 years, Patricia "Trish" Combs Owens; a special daughter, Markie Adkins (Eddie) of Proctorville, Ohio; and a cherished grandson, Myles Adkins, who was the light of his life. He is also survived by one brother, Buddy Gene Owens of Columbia, South Carolina; four sisters, Vivian Caudill, Patty Jo Owens, Elaine Owens (Phil Cheesebrough), and Sherry Sloan (Joe), all of Morehead; along with several nieces and nephews, extended family members, and many dear friends.

For more than 35 years, Mark served as the manager of Tri-County Liquors and

had formerly worked for DAR Construction in Morehead. He was a 1980 graduate of Rowan County High School and a proud member of Morehead Masonic Lodge No. 654. Mark also enjoyed giving back to his community by hosting the Rowan County Christmas Golf Scramble.

He found great joy in playing golf, spending time at the lake, grilling out, and was well known for wearing shorts year-round. A devoted fan, he faithfully followed UK basketball and football. Above all, Mark was a true family man. He loved Christmas and cherished every moment spent with his loved ones, especially his role as "Pappy" to his grandson, Myles.

Mark's legacy of service, dedication, and integrity will live on in the hearts of all who knew and loved him. He will be deeply missed and fondly remembered.

Funeral services will be held at 1 p.m. Friday, April 24, 2026, at Northcutt & Son Home for Funerals Memorial Chapel with Rev. Brian Farmer officiating. Burial will follow in Clearfield Cemetery.

Pallbearers will be Jerry Peters, Jeff Peters, Tommy Jones, Jaret Peters, Todd Pratt, Mike Collins, Joe Sloan, and Phil Cheesebrough. Honorary pallbearers are Tom Fultz, Joe Collins, and Marcus Sabo.

Visitation will be from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday, April 24, 2026, at Northcutt & Son Home for Funerals, 400 Fraley Drive, Morehead, KY 40351.

View memorial tribute or sign guestbook at [www.northcuttandson.com](http://www.northcuttandson.com)

## RODNEY RAY "PETE" GOODPASTER



Rodney Ray "Pete" Goodpaster, age 71, of McBrayer Road, Clearfield, passed away peacefully on Sunday, April 12, 2026, at the home of his niece, surrounded by his family and his beloved Maltese, Latte.

Born October 11, 1954, in Mount Sterling, Kentucky, he was a son of the late Dolph Goodpaster and Geneva Carroll Vice.

Rodney is survived by two brothers, Bobby Hunter of Middletown, Ohio, and Dolph Goodpaster, Jr. of Clearfield; three sisters, Wanda Sue Branish of Fredericksburg, Virginia, Vonda Baker of Middletown, Ohio, and Donna Wootten of Florida; a beloved young man whom he considered family, Blake Chandler Moore; his

pride and joy, his Maltese, Latte; several nieces and nephews; and a host of extended family and friends.

Rodney proudly served his country in the United States Marine Corps and was a self-employed carpenter. He enjoyed watching UK basketball and spending time with his family. Rodney had a free spirit, and when he loved, he loved deeply. He will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved him.

A memorial service will be held at 3 p.m. Saturday, April 25, 2026, at Northcutt & Son Home for Funerals Memorial Chapel with Pastor Andy Lands officiating. Immediately following the service, Morehead American Legion Post 126 will present full military honors at the funeral home.

Visitation will be from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, April 25, 2026, at Northcutt & Son Home for Funerals, 400 Fraley Drive, Morehead, KY 40351.

View or sign the online guestbook at [www.northcuttandson.com](http://www.northcuttandson.com).

### LEGAL NOTICE COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY ROWAN CIRCUIT COURT DIVISION I CASE NO.: 23-CI-90165

FREEDOM MORTGAGE CORPORATION (Plaintiff) vs. RONNIE D. THOMPSON, ET AL. (Defendant)

**OFFICIAL NOTICE TO: Unknown Heirs of Ronnie D. Thompson (Defendants)**

I have been appointed as Warning Order Attorney by the Rowan Circuit Court, Morehead, Kentucky, to notify you about the nature and pendency of the above-referenced legal action that was filed against you by Freedom Mortgage Corporation regarding property located in Rowan County, Kentucky. Please be advised that you should enter your appearance in this case and/or file an Answer to the lawsuit, or a default judgment may be granted as requested in the Complaint previously described herein.

Please be advised that I do not represent you in this case and have only been appointed by the Court to contact you and put you on notice of this lawsuit. Please contact me or the attorney for the Plaintiff, Hon. Lori Leach, Phone: (513) 492-2015.

Megan Hughes Richmond, Attorney at Law  
603 West Main Street  
Morehead, Kentucky 40351  
PH: (606) 784-2033/ FAX: (606) 674-6090

Published in the Rowan County News on 04.23.26

Allison Ball  
Auditor of Public Accounts

### Independent Auditor's Report

The Honorable Harry Clark, Rowan County Judge/Executive  
The Honorable Matt Sparks, Rowan County Sheriff

Members of the Rowan County Fiscal Court

### Report on the Audit of the Financial Statement

#### Opinions

We have audited the accompanying Statement of Receipts, Disbursements, and Excess Fees - Regulatory Basis of the Sheriff of Rowan County, Kentucky, for the year ended December 31, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statement.

#### Unmodified Opinion on Regulatory Basis of Accounting

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statement presents fairly, in all material respects, the receipts, disbursements, and excess fees of the Rowan County Sheriff for the year ended December 31, 2024, in accordance with the basis of accounting practices prescribed or permitted by the Commonwealth of Kentucky to demonstrate compliance with the Commonwealth of Kentucky's regulatory basis of accounting and budget laws as described in Note 1.

#### Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles

In our opinion, because of the significance of the matter discussed in the Basis for Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles section of our report, the financial statement does not present fairly, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the financial position of the Rowan County Sheriff, as of December 31, 2024, or changes in financial position or cash flows thereof for the year then ended.

#### Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS), the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* (GAS), issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, and the *Audit Program for County Fee Officials* issued by the Auditor of Public Accounts, Commonwealth of Kentucky. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statement section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Rowan County Sheriff and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

#### Basis for Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles

As described in Note 1 of the financial statement, the financial statement is prepared by the Rowan County Sheriff on the basis of the accounting practices prescribed or permitted by the laws of Kentucky, to demonstrate compliance with the Commonwealth of Kentucky's regulatory basis of accounting and budget laws, which is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The effects on the financial statement of the variances between the regulatory basis of accounting described in Note 1 and accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, although not reasonably determinable, are presumed to be material and pervasive.

#### Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statement

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of this financial statement in accordance with accounting practices prescribed or permitted by the laws of Kentucky to demonstrate compliance with the Commonwealth of Kentucky's regulatory basis of accounting and budget laws. Management is also responsible for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of a financial statement that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Rowan County Sheriff's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

#### Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statement

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statement as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and, therefore, is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS and GAS will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal controls. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statement.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS and GAS, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statement, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statement.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Rowan County Sheriff's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statement.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Rowan County Sheriff's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we have identified during the audit.

#### Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated February 18, 2026, on our consideration of the Rowan County Sheriff's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, grant agreements, and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, in considering the Rowan County Sheriff's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Based on the results of our audit, we have presented the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Responses, included herein, which discusses the following report finding:

2024-001 The Sheriff Did Not Repay The State Advancement Timely

Respectfully submitted,  
Allison Ball  
Auditor of Public Accounts  
Frankfort, KY

Published in the Rowan County News on 04.23.26

### MOREHEAD UTILITY PLANT BOARD SPRING FLUSHING SCHEDULE

In accordance with the Kentucky Administrative Regulations, 401 KAR 8:020 SECTION 2, 13a:

"To protect public health, a distribution system may be thoroughly flushed at least twice a year, usually in the spring and fall. The purpose of systematic flushing is to reduce turbidity created from the scouring of accumulated sediment within the water lines."

The Morehead Utility Plant Board (MUPB) will be conducting annual spring flushing of distribution lines the weeks of May 4th through May 8th and May 11th through May 15th. Hydrants throughout the system will be flushed to remove normal sediments that can collect over time. Please check for discolored water before doing laundry, washing dishes or other uses. If your water is discolored, run your faucet until it clears. If you need further information, please contact the MUPB at 606-784-5538.

Below is a schedule of the dates and areas that flushed:

- Monday May 4th - Morehead Water Treatment Plant - KY 519**  
Farmers, Lakeview Heights, Pleasant Valley, KY 801 S., Green Valley Acres, Hill n Dale and Pretty Valley Subdivision.
- Wednesday May 6th - West of KY 32 N**  
Green St., Clearfield St., West Sun St., Heritage Place, Old Flemingsburg Rd., and Crestview Estates.
- Friday May 8th - East of KY 32 and US 60**  
Main St., First St., Tolliver Addition, City Park, Rodburn School, Criqueside Trailer Park and surrounding areas.
- Monday May 11th - Second St. Area**  
Allen Ave., Knapp Ave., Bays Ave., Lyons Ave., Wilson Ave., Fifth St. and surrounding areas.
- Friday May 15th - East of KY 32 North**  
Second St., to Interstate Mobile Home Park, Holiday Estates, Bartlett Hollow, Meadowood, Pinecrest, Trademore Shopping Center and surrounding areas.

The MUPB takes this opportunity to thank you for your patience and cooperation in this matter.

Published in the Rowan County News on 04.23 & 04.30 of 2026

## ALL YOU CAN EAT



## Sausage, bacon, coffee, milk and juice

Sponsored by Bethel/Sharpsburg Volunteer Fire Department

April 25, 2026

7:00 am - 11:00 am

@ Sharpsburg Station

\$8.00/person

Selling chances on a Henry Golden Boy .360 Buckhammer caliber rifle

\$5.00/ticket or 6 for \$25.00 Drawing Aug. 8, 2026

Call 859-473-0968 for tickets

## Legislative Update cont. from pg. 4

a proactive postsecondary admissions program requiring KDE to share all incoming seniors with state universities. Colleges and universities must adopt a common application with minimum admission standards and notify every Kentucky senior of their KEES award, eligible institutions, and application instructions.

HB 398 would protect consumers from rate spikes by allowing utility companies to recover the future costs of decommissioning, removing, and salvaging electric generating plants, as well as depreciation expenses, through rates spread over the asset's useful life rather than when the plant is retired.

HB 510 would establish a standardized "pause in procedure" process that must be followed when concerns arise during organ procurement that could affect a patient's medical status or eligibility.

HB 518 would update statute to require the development of standardized electronic forms for net profits, gross business receipts, and payroll occupational taxes by a broad advisory committee representing local governments, tax professionals, and business organizations to develop uniform forms and instructions, ensuring consistency and clarity for businesses operating in multiple tax districts.

HB 778 would strengthen child welfare by barring foster, relative, or adoptive placements in homes with registered sex offenders, improving information sharing with schools and agencies, and enhances child fatality reviews, ensuring children in state custody are placed in safe, supportive environments tailored to their needs.

HB 781 would expand the education and training requirements within the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) to promote stronger workforce participation and employment outcomes.

As always, I can be reached anytime through the toll-free message line in Frankfort at 1-800-372-7181. You can also contact me via email at [Richard.White@kylegislature.gov](mailto:Richard.White@kylegislature.gov) and keep track through the Kentucky legislature's website at [legislature.ky.gov](http://legislature.ky.gov).