

Blossoms and Blessings Festival is April 19

GREENSBURG ARTS COUNCIL

SPECIAL TO THE R-H

Don't let the price of eggs spoil your Easter plans! Green County Arts Council invites you to "Save the Date," Saturday, April 19 for a day of friends, family and fun at their "Blossoms & Blessings" Festival in downtown Greensburg.

Kicking off the springtime fun on Thursday evening, April 17, the Victorian House Bakery & Cafe will be hosting a Bunco

Night, offering delectable specials from their menu, while players vie for prizes. Look for registration coming soon on the Green County Arts Council FB page, \$10.

Saturday, April 19, fuel your family for the full day of festivities at Longhunters Coffee on the square in Greensburg. Serving a brunch from 8 to 10 a.m., there will be country ham, biscuits and gravy, hashbrown casserole, to name a few, all for \$15. Drinks would be extra.

A Springtime Flower Market with local vendors will be set up in the Heritage Gardens, featuring Caterpillar Crossing, Triple D Greenhouses, Central Farmers and more, for all your spring blossoms and décor needs.

Children of ALL ages will enjoy the FREE 9 Hole Putt Putt Mini Golf course, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., set up on Court Street. Pow Wow Parties will be creating free balloon characters for the kids and there are plans in

the works for an Easter Pageant in the Community Room. Look for the Easter Bunny to be in attendance for pictures, too. Also on Court Street between the Courthouses, will be a Jeep Car Show from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., with prizes for the entrants.

An Old-Fashioned Croquet Tournament, with cash prizes, will grace a lawn in Greensburg and be most entertaining for spectators. Sweet treats can be purchased at the Rotary Club's Bake

Sale, and Green County Homemakers will have a Cake Walk on the Courthouse lawn, where participants can win a delicious cake to take home for their Easter Dinner.

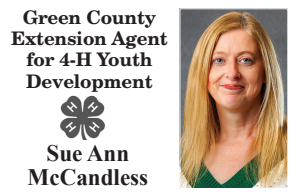
The Victorian House will be open to dine on Saturday also, starting at 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., when they invite everyone to their Community Easter Egg Hunt in the field behind.

The Green County Public Library will be open from 10 a.m. to Noon, offering a Seed Packet Giveaway. The

Green County Arts Council will also have an Information Booth at the Old Courthouse from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., to provide directions and information on all the Blossom & Blessings festivities going on in Greensburg.

Save the Date for Saturday, April 19 to enjoy Blossoms & Blessings, in beautiful small-town Greensburg. Just as sure as the yellow gowns of the daffodil dance across Buckner Hill each Springtime, y'all will have a good time.

Thrifting and upcycling: Extending the life of used items for a sustainable future



In a world characterized by fast fashion and the constant churn of consumer goods, 4-H advocates thrifting and upcycling alternatives. These practices save money and also significantly contribute to environmental conservation by extending the life of used items and reducing waste. Thrifting, the act of purchasing secondhand goods, and upcycling, the art of transforming old items into something new, form the cornerstones of a circular economy within the fashion and home industries.

Thrifting is not just about scoring a good deal; it's about being a conscious consumer. Believe it or not, many teens love the opportunity to shop at thrift stores. Here are some essential tips to make the most of your thrifting experience:

Set a Budget: Before

embarking on your thrift-store adventure, determine how much you're willing to spend. Knowing your budget will help you make wise choices and avoid impulsive purchases.

Invest Time: Thrifting often requires patience. You may need to visit multiple stores and locations to find the perfect item. Remember, treasure hunting can take time. Avoid Overspending: Thrifting should not be a splurge. Stick to your budget, and don't give in to the temptation of buying more than you need.

Use What You Buy: Only buy items you genuinely need and will use. Avoid accumulating more clutter in your life.

Inspect for Quality: Examine items for defects and wear, paying particular attention to high-stress areas and seams. You want to ensure that your finds are durable and will serve you well.

Upcycling is a creative way to breathe new life into old items.

Here's how you can

start your upcycling journey:

Visualize the End Product: Before you begin upcycling, have a clear idea of what you want to create. Planning ahead will help you make the most of the materials at hand.

Prioritize Used Materials: Whenever possible, use materials from other old or unused items in your upcycling projects. This promotes a more sustainable approach.

Minimize Waste: Plan your project meticulously to utilize as much of the original item as possible, leaving little to no waste behind.

Set Realistic Goals: Don't bite off more than you can chew. Choose upcycling projects that match your skill level and resources to avoid unnecessary waste.

Make It Fun: Upcycling can be a great family project, fostering creativity, sustainability, and quality time. Involve your loved ones and enjoy the process.

Thrifting and upcycling are more than

just trends; they are powerful tools for creating a more sustainable and responsible future. By embracing these practices and sharing them with the younger generation through initiatives like 4-H, we can collectively reduce waste, lower our environmental impact and inspire a new wave of conscious consumers.

Senior 4-H members also have an opportunity to enter upcycle items in the fair. Classes include both clothing and non-clothing options. Pick up a copy of the criteria from the Extension Office. County class champions earn the right to advance to the Kentucky State Fair.

While these 4-H projects are for our youth, if you are an adult interested in upcycling or sewing, maybe you would like to consider volunteering to teach a class. We hope you

will consider sharing your passion with our youth.

More information on 4-H thrifting and upcycling programs, or how to volunteer, are available at the Green County Extension Office or contact Green County Extension Agent for 4-H Youth Development Sue Ann McCandless, by email at sue.ann.mccandless@uky.edu or call 270-932-5311.

Educational programs of Kentucky Cooperative Extension serve all people regardless of economic or social status and will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, ethnic origin, national origin, creed, religion, political belief, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, pregnancy, marital status, genetic information, age, veteran status, or physical or mental disability.

AARP Tax Prep is underway

Appointment required

The AARP Foundation Tax Program will be in Greensburg in the Green County Extension Office on Mondays until April 14.

The program funded by the AARP Foundation and the IRS is primarily for those over 65 and low to moderate income families, but is open to anyone whose tax return is in scope.

In "scope" means the counselors have been trained on these returns. Farmers and clergy are not included in scope.

It is by appointment only.

Call Brenda Cook at 270-932-7459 to make an appointment.

Put Your Tax Refund to Work



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Most of us probably don't enjoy preparing our taxes, but there's often a reward at the end — a tax refund. If you get a refund this year, how can you make the best use of it?

Of course, the answer depends somewhat on the size of your refund. Last year, the average tax refund was \$3,050, according to the Internal Revenue Service.

Whatever the size of your refund, though, you'll want to maximize its benefit. Here are a few suggestions:

- **Contribute to your IRA.** If you were to receive about \$3,000, it would go a long way toward funding your IRA for the year — but any amount would help. You still have until April 15, 2025, to contribute to your IRA for the 2024 tax year, but if you've already "maxed out" on it, you could use your refund for 2025. The annual contribution limit for a traditional and Roth IRA remains \$7,000, or \$8,000 if you're age 50 or older. And by getting an early start toward fully funding your IRA, you can reduce the pressure of having to come up with large amounts later in the year.

- **Build an emergency fund.** Your tax refund could help you start or expand an emergency fund. It's a good idea to keep up to six months' worth of living expenses in such a fund, with the money kept in a liquid, low-risk account, separate from the funds you use for your daily expenses. You might need to draw on this fund for unexpected expenses, such as a major home or car repair or a medical bill that's not fully covered by your health insurance. Without such an emergency fund in place, you might be forced to dip into your IRA or other retirement accounts to pay for these types of costs, and such a move could be expensive, resulting in taxes, penalties and lost opportunities for growth.

- **Contribute to a 529 plan.** If you have children or grandchildren and you'd like to help them further their education someday, you might consider investing in a 529 education savings plan. With a 529 plan, earnings and withdrawals are federally tax free, provided the money is used for qualified education expenses. Based on where you live, your 529 plan may provide state tax benefits, too. (It is possible, though, that 529 withdrawals could affect financial aid packages, depending on who owns the account.) A 529 plan can be used to help pay for college, accredited trade school programs, some K-12 expenses and even to help repay some student loans.

- **Pay down debts.** Your tax refund may give you a chance to reduce your debt load. But which debts should you tackle first? You could follow the "snowball" method by paying off the smallest of your loans or debts as quickly as possible. Or you could choose the "avalanche" route by making minimum payments on all debts and using extra funds — such as your tax refund — to pay off the debts that carry the highest interest rates. Either method could help you save money in the long term.

It's not often that you receive a financial windfall such as a tax refund — so think carefully about how you can maximize its benefits.

Edward Jones

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor. Edward Jones, Member SIPC

ACCEPTING BIDS

Greensburg United Methodist Church is accepting bids for mowing, weed-eating, landscaping such as trimming shrubs, and spraying for weeds beginning April 1-October 31, 2025. Please send your bid to GUMC, 111 W. Court Street, Greensburg, KY 42743 or bring to the church MWF between 9:00a.m.-1:00pm CT.

PUBLIC HEARING

Please be advised that the Greensburg Planning & Zoning Board will conduct a Public Hearing to be held in the Council Chambers of City Hall, Thursday, April 3rd, 2025 at 4:30 pm CT. for the purpose of obtaining public comments regarding amendments to the Greensburg Zoning Ordinance. A copy of the proposed amendments with full text is available for public inspection at Greensburg City Hall 110 W. Court St., Greensburg, KY 42743 during normal business hours.

All interested persons are invited to the hearing to submit verbal or written comments. Any person(s) who cannot submit written comments or attend the public hearing, but wishes to submit comments, should call City Hall at (270) 932-4298 by 4 pm CDT, April 3rd, 2025.

PUBLIC HEARING

Please be advised that the Greensburg Planning & Zoning Board will conduct a Public Hearing to be held in the Community Center, Thursday, April 3rd, 2025 at 4:30 pm CT. The Greensburg Planning and Zoning Board has received a request to reclassify zoning parcel located on Tunnel Lane (property recorded in the Green County Clerk's Office in Deed Book 251 PG 315, Plat Cabinet 3 Slide 339), from Commercial District to R-2 (Low-Moderate Density Residential). The Public Hearing is for remarks concerning the zoning reclassification. This property is currently zoned C-1 (Commercial District), and is located within the incorporated boundaries of the City of Greensburg. The Zoning Map; outlining the proposed amendment will be available for review on the above date.

INVITATION TO BID

Notice is given hereby that:

GREEN COUNTY FISCAL COURT

Will accept bids for lawn care/maintenance of the Green County Courthouse and PVA Office for:

MOWING AND WEED-EATING

The Green County Fiscal Court will be accepting sealed bids for the mowing and weed-eating of the Green County Courthouse and PV A office lawns. For a more detailed description, please contact the County Judge-Executive's office at 270-932-4024.

The format of such sealed bid must indicate a bid price for each mowing/trimming of the entire lawn area at the premises. Proof of \$1,000,000.00 liability insurance policy must be provided by the winning bidder prior to signing a contract.

Sealed bids in an envelope marked "Green County Courthouse Mowing Bid" must be received at the Office of County Judge/Executive John H Frank, Green County Courthouse, 203 W. Court Street, Greensburg, KY 42743 by 4:00 PM Central Time on Friday, April 4, 2025. Bids received after that time will not be accepted. **Bids will be opened during the April 17, 2025 Regular Called Fiscal Court Meeting, at 9:00 AM Central Time.** Interested parties are invited to attend.

The County shall award the contract to the lowest and best bidder. The County reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive any informality in any bid received and in the bidding process.