

OBITUARIES

Kenneth Galloway
McReynolds

Kenneth Galloway McReynolds, 91, of Lewisburg, Ky., passed away on Monday, Feb. 24, 2025, at Western Kentucky Veterans Center in Hanson, Ky.

He was born Monday, March 13, 1933, the son of the late Curtis McReynolds and the late Myrtle Galloway McReynolds.

He was the husband of the late Wilma Taylor McReynolds.

He was a farmer and a lifelong member of Lewisburg Cumberland Presbyterian Church and was an elder at the church for over 50 years.

Kenneth also honorably served his country in the United States Army.

Surviving are two daughters, Judy White of Hansen, Ky., and Dana Howard of Lewisburg, Ky.; two grandsons, Eric (Nicole) White of Yuba City, Calif., and Kenton (Hayley) Howard of Auburn, Ky.; two granddaughters, Kirsten (Jesse) Webb of Madisonville, Ky., and Kaitlyn (Cameron) Levis of Bowling Green, Ky.; four great-grandsons, Connor White of Yuba City, Calif., Bennett Webb of Madisonville, Ky., Daniel Webb of Madisonville, Ky., and Beckett Levis of Bowling Green, Ky.; and two great-granddaughters, Tori White of Yuba City, Calif., and Lizzie White of Yuba City, Calif.

In addition to his wife, Kenneth was preceded in death by his son, Kenny McReynolds; grandson, Marcus White; sister,



Betty McReynolds; sister, Susan Johns; brother, Robert McReynolds; brother, James McReynolds; brother, Thomas McReynolds; brother, Paul McReynolds; and brother, David McReynolds.

A funeral service will be at 3 p.m. on Saturday, March 1, at Price Funeral Home, Inc., located at 252 E. Green St., Lewisburg, with Bro. Gary Ball officiating. Interment will be in Lewisburg Cemetery. Pallbearers will be Kenton Howard, Cameron Levis, Jesse Webb, Eric White, Keith Taylor, and Mac Johns. Honorary pallbearers will be Hugh McReynolds, Barry McReynolds, Mike McReynolds, Gene McReynolds, Neal McReynolds, and Kevin McReynolds.

The family will receive friends from 12 p.m. until the time of the service on Saturday, March 1 at Price Funeral Home, Inc.

There will be another visitation from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 2, at the funeral home.

Memorial contributions can be made to St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105, or stjude.org.

Envelopes will be available at the funeral home.

Linda Keeton Crafton

Linda Keeton Crafton, 80, of Russellville, Ky., passed away on Wednesday, Feb. 19, 2025, at Creekwood Nursing and Rehab in Russellville, Ky.

She was born Saturday, Aug. 12, 1944, the daughter of the late Willie Keeton and the late Loubell Shelton Keeton.

She was the wife of the late James Crafton.

She worked at Emerson Electric for many years.

After her retirement, Linda worked for Logan County School District in the school cafeterias.

She also attended Second Baptist Church in Russellville, Ky.

She is survived by her daughter, Tammy Scott of Russellville, Ky.; son, Terry (Carmon) Crafton of Russellville, Ky.; sister, Lillie Griffin of Russellville, Ky.; two grandsons, Ethan Cole (Kelsey) Porter of Mo. and Hunter (Candace) Crafton of Lewisburg, Ky.; two great-granddaughters; two great-grandsons;



and several nieces, nephews, and cousins.

She was preceded in death by her sister, Pauline “Polly” Markham.

A funeral service will be at 2 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 23, at Price Funeral Home, Inc., located at 252 E. Green St., Lewisburg, KY, with Bro. Larry Chapman officiating.

Burial will be in Wiley’s Chapel Cemetery.

The family will receive friends from 9 a.m. until the time of the service on Sunday at Price Funeral Home, Inc.

Pallbearers will be Cole Porter, Hunter Crafton, Jeff Simmons, Richard Holloman, Terry Stratton, and Grandy Jackson.

Ronnie Wayne Franklin Sr.

Ronnie Wayne Franklin Sr., 78, of Lewisburg, Ky., passed away Feb. 22, 2025.

A celebration of life service will be held on Feb. 28 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at Price Funeral

Home, where family and friends will gather to honor his memory. After the visitation, there will be a private burial at Kentucky Veterans Cemetery West.

Addilyn Grace Hutcheson, 9, of Lewisburg, passed away on Sunday, Feb. 23, 2025, at her home.

A Celebration of Life was held on Wednesday, Feb. 26, at 2 p.m. at New Hope General Baptist Church with

Elizabeth ‘Liz’ Ann Duncan

Elizabeth “Liz” Ann Duncan, 62, of Russellville, Ky., passed away on Sunday, Feb. 23, 2025, at her home.

Funeral services will be held on Friday, Feb. 28, at 3:30 p.m. at the

Young Funeral Home Russellville Chapel with Bro. Arno Kranz officiating. Visitation will begin at the funeral home on Friday, Feb. 28 from 11 a.m. until time of service.

Cameron Hendley and Bro. Jonathan Skipworth officiating. Burial followed in the Arnold Cemetery. Visitation began at the

church on Wednesday, Feb. 26 from 10 a.m. until time of service. Price Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements.

Addilyn Grace Hutcheson

Supporting local newspapers puts community first

BY JANE ASHLEY PACE

Every county in Kentucky has one local business that has been there longer than any other, most more than a century — while some are even closing in on two centuries. In many of these counties, that business is their local newspaper.

Newspapers are the heartbeat of every community in Kentucky. We exist to inform, to raise awareness, to build community, to be the voice of those that can’t always speak for themselves, to cover local government and hold local officials accountable, to help local businesses grow, to enact change, to celebrate achievements and to archive our community’s history.

Our Founding Fathers felt so strongly about the importance of newspapers and the role we play in communities that we are the only profession explicitly named in the Constitution of the United States of America.

There are three ways in which newspapers have effectively carried out some of our most important roles — covering local government, keeping officials accountable, keeping citizens informed and helping transparency exist: public notices, open meetings and open records.

Without these three in place, knowing how your tax dollars are being spent, what bids are available and being rewarded, what decisions your elected officials are making for you, when meetings are being held,

and what new ordinances are being considered would not be as easily accessible.

There are currently two bills, HB368 and SB218, that seek to remove legal notices from newspapers and place them on government websites. Websites that are run by the government themselves. What could go possibly wrong with that?

When a legal ad is placed in a newspaper, it is placed in the local newspaper, dated and cannot be changed after the fact. In addition, it is placed on a website managed by the Kentucky Press Association where all legal notices in Kentucky can be found easily — kypublicnotices.com.

HB368 and SB218 seek to have entities, including county and city governments, place public notices on their own websites, yet many have only one employee, if any, and can’t even keep their current websites updated. I found one city website in my area that hadn’t been updated with meetings or ordinances since 2020. Two others had very little information; none of the council members were current, and the monthly meeting time listed was listed wrong.

Officials have said they would create their own statewide website for all notices. I would argue that they are going to spend a lot more money creating a website we have already created and maintained successfully. Right now, paid legal notices are currently a very small part of county and city budgets — only

0.16%.

So why change? Is this what is really best for the community?

In counties of 80,000 or more, a bill was passed in Kentucky to change the rules of public notices due to the cost of the larger newspapers. Yet, many of those counties, including Boone, Campbell, Fayette, Kenton, Madison and Warren, have decided that newspapers are still the best way to get their notices out and have continued to place them in newspapers despite the change.

Regardless of the county size, public notices should be posted by a third party, and with a newspaper in almost every county (and statewide website already in place), it just makes good, common sense.

Besides the concerns I’ve already addressed, while legal notices are not the only revenue that keep newspapers going — it is a part of it, and some smaller, rural counties will probably lose their local newspaper if this bill is passed. A community without a local newspaper is a community without a heartbeat, and countless studies have shown in news desserts across this country that there will be negative, long-term effects for the community. No, it is not the job of the legislature to keep newspapers running, but why are they so against doing

something that maintains transparency and, at the same time, would hurt some of the oldest local businesses in this state?

I’m not blind to the criticism of the media and think that cable news networks have hurt our industry as a whole. I was trained that a journalist is to cover the facts and to try and keep any biases out. I think your local newspapers do a pretty darn good job at still doing that.

Your local newspaper employees are not pushing an agenda. We are actively involved and serving in our communities. We live, work, play and volunteer right alongside our community members. We take our role very seriously, and that includes publishing your public notices.

Any bill that seeks to change how public notices are handled or diminishes public meetings or public records is going to be harmful to the community and your local newspaper in the long run. I urge you to stand up with your local newspaper and help us keep these three in place.

Jane Ashley Pace is the immediate past president of the Kentucky Press Association. She is publisher of the Oldham Era and Henry County Local and regional advertising manager for Paxton Media Group, owner of the New Era.

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LEGAL NOTICE
The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet

In accordance with KRS 176.051, Kentucky’s noxious weed law, the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet will control noxious weeds on state-owned right of way at the request of the adjoining property owner. The noxious weeds named in this law are Johnson grass (Sorghum halepense), Canada thistle (Cirsium arvense), Cutleaf Teasel (Dipsacus laciniatus) Nodding thistle (Carduus nutans), Common teasel (Dipsacus fullonum), Poison hemlock (Conium maculatum), Marestalk (Conyza canadensis), Amur Honeysuckle (Lonicera maackii), Multiflora Rose (Rose multiflora) Japanese knotweed, (Polygonum cuspidatum), Spotted Knapweed (Centaurea stoebe) and Kudzu (Pueraria montana).

Persons who own property adjacent to state right of way and who are involved in eradication efforts on their property can submit a written application to the highway district office in their area. Contact information can be found at transportation.ky.gov/DistrictPages

PETS OF THE WEEK

Meet Russell! He is a Mountain Curr/Lab mix and about a year and a half. This sweet boy is full of energy and needs a big yard to run in. He would be a dream for an active family. With his energy level, not a lot of dogs tolerate him very well. If there are other dogs in the house, please set up a meet and greet to make sure everyone gets along. Russell is fully vetted, microchipped, neutered, and heartworm negative! More information is available on the animal Shelter website and Facebook page. If you are interested in learning more about other animals at the shelter, please call 270-726-2186, or visit the shelter at 1230 Morgantown Road, Russellville.



Meet Angel! She is a Bully mix and is 6 months old. She is incredibly sweet and loving. When we get her out of her kennel, she immediately wants to be loved on and if you sit down she will crawl right into your lap. Since Angel is a puppy, she will need some training. More information is available on the animal Shelter website and Facebook page. If you are interested in learning more about other animals at the shelter, please call 270-726-2186, or visit the shelter at 1230 Morgantown Road, Russellville.