

WILDLIFE: Modern gun deer season now in progress

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Licenses, tags and permits for the 2026-27 license year go on sale Dec. 1, 2025. The 2026-27 license year starts March 1, 2026. Hunters and anglers can take advantage of lower pricing by buying their 2026-27 licenses and permits before the anticipated increase in January.

Purchases may be made on the Kentucky Fish and Wildlife My Profile app, or online at fw.ky.gov.

For questions, the public may refer to the Kentucky Fish and Wildlife Licenses webpage or type "Licenses" into the search bar on the agency website. The Kentucky Fish and Wildlife Information Center can also be reached by phone at (800) 858-1549 or at by e-mail at info.center@ky.gov.

Modern gun deer season opened on Nov. 8

Deer hunters have been afield since September with the opening of archery and crossbow seasons, but modern gun deer season, Kentucky's biggest hunting season, opened last Saturday, Nov. 8. Lasting for 16 days, the season runs through Sunday, Nov. 23.

Kentucky is home to a bountiful herd of white-tailed deer, offering

many hunting opportunities and providing a sustainable source of lean protein for the table. Hunters harvested nearly 150,000 deer last year, with modern gun season accounting for the most deer harvested annually, providing an abundance of free-range and locally sourced wild venison for the table.

The Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources offers a wealth of resources to assist new and experienced hunters alike. Learn about public lands available for hunting, season dates, licenses needed and more by going online to fw.ky.gov and searching under the keywords, "Deer Hunting." View the 2025-2026 Fall Hunting and Trapping Guide online and download or print the guide as a resource to use in the



field.

Hunting licenses and permits may be purchased online at Kentucky Fish and Wildlife's website and at authorized license agents throughout the state. Licenses are available for residents and

non-residents, youth and senior/disabled. A statewide or youth deer permit is also required for all license types. For season dates, detailed license requirements and other hunting regulations, visit the Deer Hunting section of the department's website or view and download the 2025-2026 Fall Hunting and Trapping Guide.

Other important information:

- Valid proof

of hunter education certification is required for hunters born in 1975 or later. For new hunters without hunter education certification, a free one-year

exemption permit is available. This permit allows a person to hunt as long as they are accompanied in the field by an adult who is hunter education-certified or born before 1975. Learn more on the department's Hunter Education webpage.

• Kentucky is divided into four deer zones, based on the deer density in each region. Each zone may have different method restrictions and harvest limits for antlerless deer. Consult the hunting guide for more information on the zone you are hunting. Under Kentucky's statewide deer permit, hunters may take up to four deer — however, a hunter may take only one buck a year in the state, regardless of zone.

Immediately upon recovery of harvested deer, a hunter must fill out a harvest log consisting of game species, sex, county and date on the back of the hunting license or elsewhere and kept in their possession.

Before midnight, each harvest must be reported to Kentucky Fish and Wildlife, even if the hunter is license exempt. Hunters can report their harvest by calling the department's tel-echeck number at 1-800-245-4263, or by using the online My Profile portal at fw.ky.gov.

Cumberlands volleyball and soccer teams making push for NAIA tourneys

Volleyball Pats end 2025 regular season with undefeated record



■ By Trevor Sherman

The fall postseason is in full swing for student-athletes at the University of the Cumberlands, and three Patriot teams are currently hopeful of having the chance to compete for NAIA National Championship titles.

The UC volleyball team has been unstoppable this season, making history by achieving a perfect 32-0 record ahead of this week's Mid-South Conference Championship Tournament in Bowling Green. The volleyball Patriots' stellar performance this fall has earned them a bye in the first round of the conference tourney, which is slated to get underway with three quarterfinal round contests this Thursday, Nov. 13.

Cumberlands will face either Cumberland, TN or Bethel University on Friday for a spot in this year's MSC title game. A conference championship would earn them an auto-

matic bid to the 2025 NAIA National Championship Tournament.

Also coming into this week seeking a conference championship and an automatic berth to the NAIA Tournament was the UC women's soccer team. The Patriots (13-3-3) were scheduled to play Campbellsville Tuesday evening with this year's MSC title on the line. A final score was not available by press time, but additional details can be found online at www.cumberlandspatriots.com.

Finally, the UC men's soccer team came up short last week in the semifinals of their MSC Championship Tournament, falling to Cumberland, TN, 2-0.

The loss put the Patriots at 8-5-4 on the year, and has them hoping for a chance to be selected to compete in the NAIA Tournament.

For more information on NAIA National Championship events, go online to www.naia.org.

Whitley County Health Department hosting free holiday art contest

■ By Trevor Sherman

The Whitley County Health Department has announced they are hosting a holiday art contest with the hope that local artists will use their entries to show what they think a healthy and safe Whitley County should look like.

Artists of all ages who live, work or go to school in Whitley County are encouraged to participate. All entries must be original, and not contain copyrighted material such as cartoon and/or movie characters.

Entries are free, and can be dropped off at the Whitley County Health

Department, located at 368 Penny Lane in Williamsburg. The Health Department's hours of operation are 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Monday-Friday.

Contest entries should be submitted by Dec. 4. Each participant can submit only one entry, and entering means that the Whitley County Health Department is granted non-exclusive perpetual license to copy images of your art on their website, social media, publications, etc. for marketing purposes.

All artwork submitted will be judged in one of three categories — 6th grade and below, 7th-

12th grade, and adults 18 and older. Winners will be selected based on theme, technical skill, and originality. Acceptable techniques include: paint, drawing, collage, prints, sculpting and photography. Please make sure entries are no larger than 11x17 inches, and that they are under 20 lbs.

Top entries in the contest will be displayed at the Whitley County Health Department's Health and Safety Open House event on Dec. 12. For more information on either the art contest or the Open House, contact ashley.lawson@whitley-health.org.

Classifieds

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Whitley County Fiscal Court Fiscal Year Audit for 2023 Independent Auditor's Report

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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.

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 paragraph, the financial statement referred to above does not present fairly, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the financial position of the Whitley County Fiscal Court as of June 30, 2023, or changes in financial position or cash flows thereof for the year then ended.

Opinion on Regulatory Basis of Accounting

In our opinion, the financial statement referred to above presents fairly, in all material respects, the fund balances of the Whitley County Fiscal Court as of June 30, 2023, and their respective cash receipts and disbursements, and budgetary results for the year then ended, in accordance with the basis of accounting practices prescribed or permitted by the Department for Local Government described in Note 1.

Other Matters

Supplementary and Other Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statement taken as a whole of the Whitley County Fiscal Court. The Budgetary Comparison Schedules and the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards (supplementary information), as required by the audit requirements of Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance) and Schedule of Capital Assets (other information) are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the financial statement; however, they are required to be presented in accordance with accounting practices prescribed or permitted by the Department for Local Government to demonstrate compliance with the Commonwealth of Kentucky's regulatory basis of accounting and budget laws.

The accompanying Budgetary Comparison Schedules and Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards are the responsibility of management and were derived from and relate directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statement. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statement and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statement or to the financial statement itself, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the Budgetary Comparison Schedules and the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards are fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the financial statement as a whole.

The Schedule of Capital Assets has not been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statement, and accordingly, we do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on it.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated August 11, 2025 on our consideration of the Whitley County Fiscal Court's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is 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 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 Whitley County Fiscal Court's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

2023-001 The County Did Not Have Adequate Controls In Place To Accurately Report Amounts For Debt On The Fourth Quarter Financial Report

Respectfully submitted,
Tammy R. Patrick, CPA
Patrick & Associates, LLC
August 11, 2025