

OBITUARIES

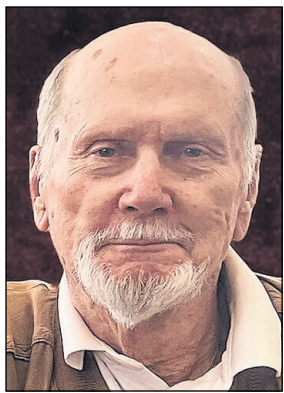
James Monroe Hall III

Born in Frankfort, Ky., on March 20, 1935, the second son of three to James Monroe II and Marcia Hall, James Monroe Hall III, of Plainfield, Ind., passed away at home on Sept. 22, 2026. Mr. Hall, formerly of Paris, Ill., was 91 years old.

Mr. Hall received an MS degree from the University of Kentucky in geology and was a member of the Kappa Alpha fraternity. Major James Monroe Hall RET, Army, 101st Airborne, served in Heidelberg, Germany, Korea, and Vietnam. Upon his honorable discharge, Mr. Hall moved to Paris, Ill., where he was VP of Sales at Illinois Cereal Mill (now Cargill). He also served on the Board of Directors there for 24 years.

He was involved in the Episcopal Church, Board of Education, Lake Land College, Sycamore Hills Country Club and Boy Scouts. After retirement, Mr. Hall moved to Indianapolis, Ind., where he enjoyed Colts football and, as a lifelong fan of opera and Broadway, attended many performances at Clowes Memorial Hall. He eventually settled in Plainfield, Ind.

He is survived by his wife, Judy, of Plainfield,



Ind., and his children, Carey Robinson, of Plainfield, Ind., James Monroe Hall IV (Lisa), of Brooksville, Fla., Blair Hall (Marie), of Spring Hill, Fla., and Kristen Hill (Tim), of Plainfield, Ind. He also has 11 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

At his request, no public services are planned. Donations can be made to Cats Haven 2603 N. College Ave, Indianapolis, IN, 46205, by check or PayPal at catshavenltd@sbcglobal.net. Cats Haven is the oldest cage-free, no-kill cat sanctuary in Indiana. Donations may also be made to Hoosier Veterans Assistance Foundation, Inc. (HVAF). HVAF is Indiana's largest non-profit provider of comprehensive services for veterans experiencing or at risk of homelessness.

Mary Lou Dowd, 88

Mary Lou Dowd, 88, of Russellville, KY, passed away on October 4, 2026, at the Hospice House in Bowling Green. Funeral services for Mary Lou Dowd will be conducted at 2 p.m. on Friday, October 9, at the Young Funeral

Home in Russellville. Burial will follow at the Memorial Gardens Cemetery in Russellville. Visitation will be Friday from 11 a.m. until the funeral hour at 2 p.m. Young Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.

Peggy Shelton, 68

Peggy Shelton, 68, of Auburn, KY, died on October 4, 2026. Visitation was on Wednesday, October 7, 2026, in

the chapel of Kirby Funeral Services in Russellville. Burial followed at Chandlers Chapel Cemetery.

Earl Bryan, 89

Earl Bryan, 89, died October 4, 2026. Funeral Services for Earl Bryan will be conducted at 1 p.m. on Thursday, October 8, 2026, at the Young Funeral Home Russellville Chapel. Burial will

follow at the Maple Grove Cemetery in Russellville. Visitation will be Thursday from 9 a.m. until the funeral hour at 1 p.m. Young Funeral Home Russellville Chapel is handling the arrangements.

Robert Wayne Insko, 56

Robert Wayne Insko, 56, of Russellville, died Sunday, October 4, 2026. Funeral services were conducted on

October 7, at Price Funeral Home, Inc. in Lewisburg. Burial followed at Arnold Cemetery.

Corey Romines, 24

Corey Romines, age 24, died September 26, 2026. Cremation was

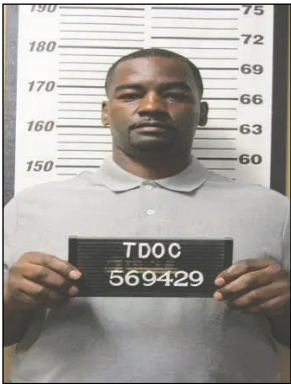
entrusted to Kirby Funeral Services in Russellville.

U.S. Marshals arrest Kentucky murder fugitive in Tennessee

U.S. Marshals from Middle Tennessee and Eastern Kentucky, along with the Clarksville Police Department and the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office K-9 Unit, arrested a fugitive wanted for murder, domestic violence, tampering with physical evidence, robbery (1st degree), and kidnapping.

On Sept. 23, 2026, the Pineville Police Department responded to a call for service in the 300 Block of George Martin Drive, Pineville, Ky. Upon arrival, Pineville officers and the Bell County Coroner's Office determined that the deceased person was the victim of a homicide.

On Sept. 24, 2026, information was developed that the victim was also pregnant at the time of death, and, according to the State Medical Examiner's Office, there was no fetus in the victim's womb. While processing the scene, Pineville Police, Bell County Sheriff's Office, and Kentucky



DEMARCUS KENNETH JOHNSON-WRIGHT

State Police were able to recover what investigators and medical examiners believed to be fetal remains.

Through further investigation a suspect was identified as DeMarcus Kenneth Johnson-Wright. Johnson-Wright had an extensive violent criminal history and had several outstanding violent felony warrants out of Tennessee.

On Sept. 25, 2026, the Bell County District Court issued warrants for Johnson-Wright for robbery (1st

degree) and kidnapping (adult).

On Sept. 30, 2026, Bell County District Court issued additional warrants for murder—domestic violence and tampering with physical evidence. At that time, Pineville Police and BCSO requested the assistance of the United States Marshals Service Central Kentucky Fugitive Task Force—London Office in locating and apprehending Johnson-Wright.

U.S. Marshals later the same day developed information that Johnson-Wright was residing in the 200 Block of Timber Court Drive, Clarksville, Tenn. USMS and CKFTF requested the assistance of USMS Middle Tennessee Fugitive Task Force – Nashville Office, Clarksville Police Department, and Montgomery County Sheriff's Office K-9 Unit.

At approximately 11 p.m. CST, USMS, MTFTF, CKFTF, CPD, and MCSO arrested Johnson-Wright in

the 200 Block of Timber Court Drive, where he was then transported to Clarksville Police Department for an interview with BCSO and U.S. Marshals.

A search warrant was executed at the residence and materials relating to the case were recovered and seized by investigators. Johnson-Wright is currently being held in Tennessee, where he will await extradition back to Kentucky for his alleged crimes. The investigation into Johnson-Wright is currently ongoing.

"The United States Marshals Service is committed to the relentless pursuit of violent fugitives to ensure the safety of our communities. We appreciate the critical assistance provided by our law enforcement partners whose combined efforts led to the safe arrest of this violent fugitive," said in a statement by the USMS.

Auburn council approves debt restructuring, prepares water and sewer project for bids

BY DENISE SHOULDERS
NEWS-DEMOCRAT & LEADER

Auburn officials hope to put the city's water and sewer improvement project out for bid in October after completing the engineering plans for the project.

Mayor Mike Hughes updated the Auburn City Council on the project during its regular meeting Sept. 14, telling council members the engineering work has been completed.

The project was announced earlier after the city received grant funding to cover the majority of its cost.

As the city prepares for that project and several others, Hughes asked the council to authorize him to restructure payments on the city's Halls Prairie

loan and temporarily use money held in a certificate of deposit to provide additional cash flow.

Hughes said restructuring the loan would extend the repayment period while allowing the city to make payments toward principal rather than only interest.

He explained that several projects underway or approaching construction are grant-funded but require the city to pay expenses upfront before seeking reimbursement.

"It can take 30 to 60 days or longer for those reimbursements to get back to us," Hughes said.

Hughes proposed taking \$600,000 from the city's CD, leaving approximately \$200,000 in the account. He said the combination of restruc-

turing the loan and temporarily using the CD funds would give the city a financial cushion while it waits for grant reimbursements.

Councilman Claude Tisdale questioned whether the move could create financial problems for the city, saying he "didn't want the city robbing Peter to pay Paul."

Hughes said the proposal would not create additional debt.

"It's the same debt. We're just restructuring it," Hughes said. "The only thing that will change is the timing of the payment being due."

With Councilman Jeff Gregory absent, the council unanimously approved the action.

In other business, the council held the second

reading of an ordinance rezoning property at 232 Peterson Ave. from industrial to R-3 medium-density residential.

The Joint Cities-County Planning and Zoning Commission received the rezoning request from Walt Shifflett and recommended the city approve it.

The city also scheduled a public hearing for 2 p.m. Oct. 8 in the council chamber to consider its property tax rates.

Hughes said the amount of revenue generated could change, but he anticipates the tax rate will remain relatively close to last year's rate.

Denise Shoulders can be reached by emailing dshoulders@newsdemocratleader.com.

COMMUNITY EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

THROUGH DEC. 15 Fall Burning Restrictions
The Fall burning restrictions are now in effect until Dec. 15. Burning is prohibited between 6 a.m. and 6 p.m.

OCT. 9 THROUGH 11 Fall Camp Meeting at Red River Meeting House
The annual Fall Camp Meeting at Red River Meeting House is Oct. 9-11. Brian Heitzman is preaching Friday evening, Oct. 9, at 7 p.m. The auction is Saturday at 1 p.m., followed by history lessons with Naomi Operia and Lilly Hunter. Robert Operia preaches on Saturday evening at 7 p.m. Steve Vann leads Sunday sacrament at

10 a.m. on Oct. 11. All are welcome. Admittance is free. Self-guided cemetery tours are available all weekend. If you have any questions, please call Dreama Ruley at 270-586-7632.

THROUGH OCT. 10 Tobacco Festival Activities
The annual Tobacco Festival kicked off on Sept. 26 with activities for everyone, leading to the grand finale parade on Oct. 10. Contact the Logan County Chamber of Commerce for more information on any of the events.

OCT. 10 Patriot Memorial Unveiling and Dedication
The Colonel Benjamin

Logan Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution is holding an unveiling and dedication ceremony at the Logan County Justice Center at 1:30 p.m. for its Patriot Memorial. Everyone is welcome to attend as 93 Revolutionary War patriots and seven widows who settled in Logan County without their husbands are honored.

Adairville Fire Department Fundraiser
The Adairville Fire Department is holding a fundraiser on Oct. 10 at the station, 11070 Nashville Road, Adairville. Dinner starts at 5 p.m., with the auction to follow at 6 p.m. Hamburgers, hot dogs, and sides will be served.

Logan County Genealogical Society closed
Logan County Archives and Genealogical Society will be closed Oct. 10 due to the Tobacco & Heritage Festival.

Free Dump Day
Logan County's Free Dump Day is scheduled for Oct. 10. Logan County residents can dispose of items at the transfer station, located at 55 Pleasant View Dr., Auburn. You are limited to one load containing trash, furniture, construction debris, and electronics, and it must be covered. They will not accept tires, Freon-containing appliances, paint that has not dried out, hazardous chemicals, or car batteries.

Voting opens for 11th annual Logan County Hometown Haybale Trail

Voting is now open for the 11th annual Logan County Tourism Hometown Haybale Trail, running Oct. 1-31.

Community members can cast votes for their favorite displays in each category on the Logan County-Tourism Facebook page through Oct. 15. Winners, determined by a combination of public Facebook votes and judges' decisions, will be announced Oct. 16 on Facebook.

H=Home, B=Business, N=Nonprofit

RUSSELLVILLE CITY AREA
Service One Credit Union-540 E 4th Street, "The Very Hungry Caterpillar"-B

Logan County Tourism-Corner of 4th Street, "Duncan's Drug Store Signs" Logan Co. Chamber & LEAD-Corner of 4th Street, "250 Sweet Years"-N Logan County Jr. Conservation Board-253 Hopkinsville, "Older Model Tractor"-N

HWY 431 SOUTH/NASHVILLE RD
Community Health

Centers of Western Kentucky-1497 Nashville St.-"Big Bird & Cookie Monster"-B

Creekwood Nursing Facility-107 Boyles Dr-B-"Sunday @ Grandma's" where the coffee was hot, the porch was cozy & memories were made"-B

OFF OF BYPASS
Darrell Fulcher-1556 Pin Oak Dr-"Hay Owl"-H

HWY 79 NORTH/MORGANTOWN RD
Vickie & Tony Steenbergen-3571 Morgantown Rd., "Pumpkin Scene"-H

68/80-AUBURN AREA
Champion Petfoods-12871 Bowling Green Rd., "Jesse James"-B

LEWISBURG AREA
Pleasant Union General Baptist Church-5529 Deerlick Rd, Lewisburg-"Halleluiah, the King is Alive"-N Lewisburg School-750 Stacker St, Will-hay Nelson The Nelson Family-2658 Beechland Rd., "Hap-Hay 250th Birthd-Hay-Haymerica"-H

Susan Forsyth-2385 Toy Springs Rd, Lewisburg-"Dolly Parton & Willie Nelson"-

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