4 Pages, Greensburg Record-Herald, Wednesday, September 13, 2023

Section

 
 High
 9.0.4
 87.8
 84.7
 79.6
 79.9
 76.2
 81.5

 Low
 61
 65.7
 67.3
 61.3
 57.9
 62
 63.1

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 Reporting period for each day runs from
midnight to midnight. Statistics from Kentucky Mesonet's Bengal Station.

## Senior Resource Summit set for September 22

Staff Writer

A Senior Resource Summit is scheduled for Friday, September 22 at the Taylor County Extension Office in Campbellsville. The time is 4 to 8 p.m. ET.

This program is designed to help answer questions and to provide information for

people who are growing older. This will address several of the situations that seniors tend to face as they age.

More than 20 vendors are expected to be on hand to help provide information. There will also be

several speakers at various times throughout the evening.

At 4:00 p.m. ET, at-

torney John Dotson will address How to Prepare for the High Cost of Growing Older.

Understanding a Hospital Stay Today is the topic at 5:00 p.m. ET. The speakers on this topic will be from Taylor Regional Hospital Care Management.

At 6 p.m. ET, there will be two different speakers. Embracing Life as We Age will be led by representatives from the Taylor County Extension Office and Understanding Hospice vs. Palliative Care will be led by Hosparus Health and Pallitus Health Partners.

At 7 p.m. representatives from Hometown Pharmacy and

Eastridge Phelps Pharmacy will lead the topic of Pharmacy 101: Everything You Need to Know About Pharmacy."

To RSVP for the afternoon or to get more information, please contact Jennifer Van Mersbergen at 270-403-2413 or email her

at jvanmersbergen@ hosparus.org.

In addition to the speakers and vendors, there will be door prizes, giveaways and refreshments.

The Taylor County Extension Office is located at 1143 South Columbia Avenue in Campbellsville.

## Reed: Legislature's work to eliminate individual income tax remains on track

Capitol Focus



State Rep. Brandon Reed

Last month, the state budget director released a very positive revenue report that showed the legislature's work to reform the state's budget and update Kentucky's outdated tax structure is working. For the third year in a row, we had more than a billion dollars left unspent, with revenue far exceeding

expectations. Thereportalsoproves that the individual income tax cut passed by the legislature last year is helping working men and women and benefitting our communities. That cut is expected to save Kentuckians \$625 million this year alone, while another cut will provide more relief in 2024. It is not all good news as emergency expenditures caused the state to miss the target for a cut in 2025. However, it looks like we will remain on track to eliminate the tax entirely and now have evidence that the tax cuts will not endanger necessary government programs. In other words, we may be slowing down to assess the situation, but you can be sure we are not losing our momen-

In 2022, lawmakers passed HB 8, a historic tax modernization package that included provisions to eliminate the state's individual income tax gradually over time. As the House Vice Chair of Appropriations

and Revenue, I under-

our state's savings account, designed to precondition was met and far exceeded as the leghistoric amount in the fund over the past few

means the state needed be bigger. to bring in around \$1.2 legislature appropri- plan is working. We are be considered.

conditions at the end of essary programs that the last two fiscal years. Kentuckians depend Since we met the triggers, I sponsored HB 1 during the 2023 Regular Session. The measure lowers the state's individual income tax to 4% as of January 2024 and codified the January 1, 2023 decrease from 5% to 4.5%. However, while the tax cuts, including we had a historic surplus of more than \$1.5 vetoed part of the bill. billion and strong state revenue, the state fell  $$435 \, million \, short \, of \, the$ 

stood the impact that goal required. From recutting income taxes viewingtheinformation could bring to Kentucki- provided by the budget ans, therefore I signed on director's office and our to HB 8 as a co-sponsor. own budget staff, we That measure required know one of the biggest that certain conditions contributing factors was be met before the tax emergency response could be decreased in spending after the horincrements of half a per-rific flooding in Eastern cent. The first condition, Kentucky and other sometimes called a trig- emergency spending by ger, requires our Budget the executive branch. Reserve Trust Fund to Emergencies require a have enough money in it state response, but we to equal 10% or more of will be reviewing the General Fund revenues spending to determine from the previous year. if the money was spent The budget reserve is appropriately. After all, we can look no further than the more than \$20 pare us for hard times million in emergency and opportunities. That funding used by the governor to set up field hospitals in Lexington and islature has placed a Louisville during the pandemic. They were built without evidence they were needed, and The second condition neither ever housed a requires the state's rev-single patient. We will enues to at least equal also continue our work state appropriations to craft another budget plus the cost of a 1% that places our state's reduction in the indi- needs before the wants vidual income tax rate. of those who believe In simple terms, that that government should

In the meantime, the billion more than the bottom line is that the ated for the fiscal year on track to eliminate that ended in June be- Kentucky's individual fore another tax cut can income tax, and we are doing so without The state met both endangering the necon. The plan was crafted thoughtfully and intentionally, and careful consideration was given to including the conditions in order to exercise an abundance of caution. Despite this fact, there were some who fought the governor when he

See Reed, page 2B



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