

# Senator David Givens’ Week 12 legislative update

Spring has arrived here in the Bluegrass State, and we find ourselves in the final stages of the 2024 Regular Session. With only a few legislative days remaining and sine die on the horizon, the Kentucky General Assembly remains fully committed to the important work of shaping the future of our commonwealth.

At the forefront of our legislative efforts are ongoing budget deliberations, where we meticulously allocate resources for the upcoming two-year biennial budget. This process demands careful consideration and thorough debate to ensure that every dollar is utilized wisely and responsibly for the betterment of all Kentuckians. Simultaneously, we are taking advantage of the

extended daylight hours by wrapping up final committee hearings and floor activity, pushing forward essential bills addressing a wide range of issues from education and health care to infrastructure and more.

The following bills were approved in the Senate this week:

## Transportation and Memorialization

SJR 58 designates a section of Kentucky Highway 293 within the city limits of Princeton as the "Chief Deputy Jody Wayne Cash Memorial Highway." Tragically killed in the line of duty on May 16, 2022, Chief Deputy Cash is remembered for his selfless dedication and servant's heart. The resolution aims to honor his memory by commemorating his contributions

through the naming of the designated highway.

## Agritourism

SB 101 expands the definition of agritourism to allow the public to view and participate in activities where animals are used to provide entertainment.

## Vapor Product Regulation

SB 344 introduces measures to oversee the sale and advertising of vapor products in Kentucky by mandating the creation of a directory listing approved vapor product manufacturers and products and requiring annual certification for compliance. Provisions include advertising restrictions to prevent the use of certain terms and depictions appealing to minors with fines for violations and seizure of

non-compliant products. Additionally, the bill establishes a dedicated enforcement fund, funded by fees, penalties, and enforcement actions, to support monitoring and regulatory efforts.

## Licensing and Regulation

HB 22: Removes physician oversight requirement for automated external defibrillators (AED) programs.

## Veterans and Military Affairs

HB 30: Creates Kentucky Service Members, Veterans, and their Families Suicide Prevention Program.

HB 86: Expands interment eligibility in Kentucky state veterans' cemeteries.

## Legal and Consumer Protections

HB 88: Strengthens consumer protections, transparency, and oversight in financial and real estate sectors.

HB 159: Grants health care providers immunity from criminal liability for health services-related acts.

## Healthcare and Insurance

HB 274: Allows pharmacists to administer vaccines to children under certain protocols.

## Transportation and Safety

HB 280: Specifies insurance coverage for delivery network companies.

## Government Procedures and Regulations

HB 478: Authorizes expansion of construction or demolition waste

sites under certain conditions.

HB 492: Mandates criminal background checks for employees with access to federal tax information.

## Local Governance and Economic Development

HB 581: Prohibits unfair zoning hindrances for retail filling stations.

Find more on these bills online at [Legislature.ky.gov](https://legislature.ky.gov) and visit [KYSenateRepublicans.com](https://KYSenateRepublicans.com) for news releases from the Senate Majority Caucus.

It is a privilege to represent you in Frankfort. Feel free to share your thoughts and stay connected throughout the session by reaching out to my office at (502)-564-8100 or via email at [David.Givens@lrc.ky.gov](mailto:David.Givens@lrc.ky.gov).

# Gilbert joins Kentucky House of Representatives

Rep. Courtney Gilbert, R-Hodgenville, officially joined the Kentucky House of Representatives this week.

Gilbert's swearing-in ceremony was held Monday in the Kentucky House chambers. Gilbert's sister Sen. Adrienne Southworth, R-Lawrenceburg, had the honor of swearing her sister into office.

Gilbert is looking forward to representing Kentucky House District 24 during the final days of the 2024

legislative session.

"I am honored to be your representative in Frankfort," Gilbert said. "This is a critical time of the legislative session for our district to have a voice in the statewide lawmaking process. I am grateful for the opportunity to fill this seat on your behalf."

Gilbert was elected to represent Green, Hart and LaRue Counties during a special election earlier this month.

Constituents may contact Gilbert at [Courtney.Gilbert@lrc.ky.gov](mailto:Courtney.Gilbert@lrc.ky.gov).

**Rep. Courtney Gilbert, R-Hodgenville, (left) is sworn into the Kentucky House of Representatives on Monday by her sister Sen. Adrienne Southworth, R-Lawrenceburg, alongside their parents.**



Photo submitted

# Solar eclipse is Monday, April 8; county prepares

## From page 1A

The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet expects at least 150,000 visitors to the path where the eclipse crosses several Western Kentucky counties.

Transportation officials are offering suggestions for spectators who plan to travel to observe this rare occurrence. They ask people to plan ahead, be prepared, drive smart, come early and stay late.

Plans are underway in cities located in Western Kentucky to commemorate this historic occasion.

The website [kentuckytourism.com](https://kentuckytourism.com) mentions the best locations to experience the total phase of the eclipse and their planned activities.

Paducah will feature watch parties, exclusive shopping deals, special "eclipse-themed" culinary delights for foodies, and appealing family activities.

Adding to this excitement, the town's National Quilt Museum has planned a special watch party on its spacious lawn, inviting everyone to lay out quilts and watch the eclipse in comfort. Also, they'll offer a hands-on quilt-making project inspired by the eclipse.

The City of Henderson welcomes residents and visitors to experience the event from viewing and picnicking spots at Audubon Mill and Red Banks Parks located along the Ohio River.

In addition, the beauty of the solar eclipse may be viewed at Audubon State Park.

Morganfield is gearing up for the 2024 eclipse with the Solar Eclipse Festival

at Morganfield's City Park, where one will be treated to live music, delightful family crafts, delicious food, and a celestial schedule featuring astronomers and storytellers.

Sturgis will partake in the celestial celebration at the Sturgis Airport's Eclipse Viewing Party. Guests to the family-fun viewing party will engage in delicious treats from a variety of food vendors, enjoy music by a live band, and have many inflatables, especially for kids.

The International Comanche Chapter planes will fly into the airport, with this event being at no cost to the public.

In Greensburg and Green County, the local school system will be an active participant in viewing this historic and rare event.

Will Hodges, Superintendent of Green County Schools said, "Green County Schools will take part in the unique learning opportunity on April 8. With a partial solar eclipse being visible to our community, astronomical concepts will come to life. We will replace our textbooks with a real-life example. It is always powerful to go beyond the classroom walls; hopefully, this experience will stir up the minds of the students in each school."

Also, the Green County Family Resource and Youth Services Centers are taking an active role in celebrating the eclipse.

Family Resource Center Coordinator Kaylea Stearman said, "Green County will be in the 95th percentile of the solar eclipse

on Monday, April 8th, 2024, and it is a very rare opportunity for our community to witness. As our schools play a vital role in educating our students, the Green County Family Resource Center will be providing all students and staff at the Green County Primary School and Green County Intermediate School with special eclipse glasses for safe viewing. I am hoping to create a life-long learning opportunity and memory for our students and staff."

According to Youth Services Coordinator Kelli Henderson, she said, "The Green County Youth Services Center is providing solar eclipse glasses for all students and staff at Green County Middle and High Schools and the staff at the Green County Area Technology Center."

The Green County Public Library is commemorating the occasion by sponsoring a number of activities.

GCPL Director Rebecca Pruitt said, "The Green County Public Library will host a solar eclipse program for children of all ages on Friday, April 5th at 10 a.m. There will be hands-on learning activities and information about safe viewing. Solar eclipse glasses are free and available now for pick up at the library."

Corey Houk, meteorologist/weather forecaster for WVLC-99.9 FM The Big Dawg said, "The 2024 total solar eclipse will be the last total eclipse even remotely close to Kentucky until 2078. We need a reasonably clear day with little to no clouds to experience the full effect of

the total eclipse here in Greensburg. The preliminary forecast for April 8th is mostly sunny with a few high clouds. Hopefully, this forecast will stand!"

Green County Emergency Management Director Bill Hargan indicated the organization's Facebook page will provide information about the eclipse on a daily basis.

He said, "We have a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity coming up April 8 in our community to observe the rare event of a solar eclipse. Even though Green County will only be in the partial eclipse zone, precautions have to be taken when viewing the eclipse. Proper eye protection will be necessary to look toward the sun. Eclipse glasses must be ISO-

approved with the number 12312-2 inside the frame. Make sure there are no scratches or damages to the glasses."

The EM Director shared his personal experience while observing the solar eclipse in 2017. He said, "In the middle of the day in Greenville, Kentucky, working as the Assistant Director of the

Red Cross Response Team, I witnessed the streetlights coming on, the birds not making a sound, and the crickets starting to chirp. It was amazing."

The next total solar eclipse in the United States, according to the website [nationaleclipse.com](https://nationaleclipse.com), will occur on Tuesday, August 23, 2044, some 20-plus years into the future.

Greasy Creek Baptist Church is soliciting bids for Custodial Services for the Church. Bid documents and information may be obtained by contacting: Kenny Dixon 270-405-1812; Larry Clark 270-299-5167; Margaret Tucker 270-299-5303; or Dennis Tobin 270-590-6818. Sealed bids must be submitted by April 10, 2024.

Greasy Creek Baptist Church is soliciting bids for mowing services for the 2024 season. Mowing is for both the church property and the cemetery. Bid documents and information may be obtained by contacting: Kenny Dixon 270-405-1812; Larry Clark 270-299-5167; Margaret Tucker 270-299-5303; or Dennis Tobin 270-590-6818. Sealed bids must be submitted by April 10, 2024.

**ACCEPTING BIDS**

The Green County Board of Education will be accepting sealed bids for misc. surplus property. All items will be sold as is with no warranty or guarantee. Items may be reviewed by scheduling an appointment at 270-932-6601 and speaking with Zachary Leftwich, Director of Finance.

Bid specifications for all surplus items listed above can be picked-up at Green County Board of Education Central Office at 402 E. Hodgenville Avenue, Greensburg, KY 42743 and must be returned by April 10, 2024 at 1:00pm central. All bids will be publicly opened at 1:05pm central on April 10, 2024 in the Green County Board of Education Conference Room.

**INVITATION FOR SEALED BID**

The Green County Fiscal Court is currently accepting sealed bids for the purchase of the following items of surplus property:

- 2017 Ford F-750 dump truck #2, reserve of \$40,000.00
- 2014 6105-M John Deere tractor, no reserve
- 2004 Ford F-350 diesel pickup truck, no reserve
- 2017 Ford F-350 pickup truck, reserve of \$22,500.00
- 2003 Ford Crown Vic (brown & tan), no reserve
- 2003 Ford Crown Vic (white), no reserve
- 2010 Dodge Charger (white), no reserve
- Exmark zero-turn mower, 2,237 hours, no reserve
- Exmark zero-turn mower, 2,828 hours, no reserve

Bids will be accepted in the Green County Judge/Executive's Office, 203 West Court Street, Greensburg, until Monday, April 15, 2024 at 4:00 PM, Central Time. Bids will be opened at a regular called Fiscal Court meeting on Thursday, April 18, 2024 at 9:00 AM, Central Time. Sealed bids must be marked on the envelope as to the item you are bidding on.

All sales are final and are made on an "as is", "where is" basis. No returns. All items become the responsibility of the buyer at time of awarding bids. Items must be removed from their location by Friday, April 26, 2024. The property shall be awarded to the highest and best bid, and Green County Fiscal Court reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

Please contact the office of the Green County Judge/Executive, John H. Frank for specifications or any questions at 270-932-4024.