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Gaddie named CU Director of Agriculture

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Primary election ballot positions are released

GO DRAGONS!

DALE CURRY
STAFF WRITER

Candidate positions on the ballot for the 2026 Primary election in Green County were determined last week in a draw at the Green County Clerk's office. Five contested Republican races are on the ballot for the May 19, 2026, election. No Democrat filed for any position that is being voted on in the Primary.

The draw for the ballot position looks like this:

County Judge-Executive
James Bonta
John Frank

County Court Clerk
Jessica Shofner Baker

Sheriff
Robbie Beard

Property Valuation Administrator
Sean Curry

County Attorney
Russell W. Goff

Surveyor
Brian Ferguson

Jailer
Tommy Pepper

Coroner
David Taylor

Magistrate—District 1
Andrew Parson

Magistrate—District 2
Tim Darnell

Magistrate—District 3
Raymond "Dick" Stillwell
Garrett Wesley Milby
Brian O. Jackson
Nicholas C. Redner
Jason "Farmer" Milby
Heather Moss.

Magistrate—District 4
Andrew Scott
Humphrey
Andrew Hedgespeth
Terry F. Aaron
Johnny Simpson

Magistrate—District 5
Vernon "Tinker" White
Charles Judd

Constable—District 1
Albert Lee Ray
George Ratcliff

Constable—District 4
James W. Adkins

Constable—District 5
Jerry L. Davis

The names of people running for positions of Greensburg Mayor, Greensburg City Council and Green County School Board do not appear on the Primary Ballot but instead will be voted on in the General Election on November 3, 2026. Those names will be listed after the Primary Election is over as according to Green County Clerk Jessica Baker, it is easy to confuse voters by listing the candidates now when they are not voted on in the primary.

There are several elections that involve more than just Green

County voters, even though the local voters will have a part in determining the winners.

The Kentucky House of Representatives, District 24, consisting of Green, Hart and LaRue counties is being contested.

Republicans
Ryan Dale Bivens
Steven T. Caven

Democrat
Johnny Pennington

U. S. House of Representatives Second District
Republicans
S. Brett Guthrie
Joshua M. Ferguson
G. "Shay"
Perry-Adelmann

Democrats
William Dakota Compton
David S. Hatfield
Hank Linderman
Megan Windfield

See **Ballot**, page 10A



Photo by Dale Curry

Green County's mascot had some fun during the games against Caverna last week. The Dragon provided lots of laughs with the crowd as well as the Caverna Colonel.

Slinker appointed Transportation Cabinet's deputy secretary

Gov. Andy Beshear announced that he has appointed Jeremy Slinker as deputy secretary for the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet, working alongside Secretary Jim Gray and Deputy Secretary Mike Hancock.

Slinker, who previously served as director of Kentucky Emergency Management for Gov. Beshear, will have as his main focus improving processes at Driver Licensing Regional Offices.

"I'm honored and humbled to continue

servicing the Commonwealth of Kentucky in this new role," said Slinker. "There's been significant process made in driver licensing processes, but we can always be better, and I'm dedicated to continuously improving. We'll continue to deliver strong results by being innovative."

In 2025, following new legislation requiring vision screenings for all license and permit renewals, Real ID enforcement and legislation that made 15-year-olds eligible for driver's



Jeremy Slinker was appointed as deputy secretary for the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet on January 8, 2026.

permits, Driver Licensing Regional Offices faced higher demand for in-person appointments and walk-in visits for licensing services.

To meet this new demand, the state hired 125 new, contracted full-time team members at these offices, launched a new line-management and text check-in system, opened a fifth location in Louisville and continued hosting popup events in counties without a regional office.

See **Slinker**, page 10A

KSP conducts double death investigation

STAFF REPORTS

Kentucky State Police Post 15 is investigating a deadly shooting that occurred last Wednesday in Metcalfe County, near Green County.

On Jan. 14 at 9:35 a.m., KSP Post 15 Troopers and detectives were requested to respond to a report of a shooting incident on Shady Grove Wickerville Road in Metcalfe County. The preliminary inves-

tigation found a female identified as Doris June Huffman, 83, of Hardyville, deceased inside the residence from an apparent gunshot wound. Ms. Huffman was pronounced deceased at the residence by the Metcalfe County Coroner. Ms. Huffman's husband, Vander Huffman, 87, of Hardyville, was also located inside the residence, with life-threatening injuries.

See **Death**, page 10A

AAA: Winter weather increases crash risk

Tips and suggestions to help motorists stay safe on slippery roads

According to research by the AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety, about 46 percent of all crashes involving bad weather take place during the colder months. Snowstorms, bad weather, and slop-

py road conditions are a factor in nearly half a million crashes and more than 2,000 road deaths every year. And the winter months can be an especially busy time for dead batteries, flat tires, and vehicle extractions. With colder weather in the forecast, AAA East Central advises motorists to take precautions to avoid deadly crashes and reach their destination safely.

"This time of year, the preventative steps you take today can go a long way toward protecting you throughout the winter season," says Lynda Lambert, safety advisor, AAA East Central. "Weather conditions that lead to black ice, heavy snow, and slick roads mean

that motorists need to be prepared, slow down, and not take any unnecessary chances."

AAA offers the following tips for driving in winter weather:

Stay Home. This is the number one way to avoid a crash in the winter.

Leave Early. Run-

ning late to work leads to anxiety which can cloud judgment and possibly lead to risky driving behaviors.

Slow down. Accelerate, turn, and brake as gradually and smoothly as possible. This will help maintain control in rough conditions.

Don't tailgate. Normal following distanc-

es of three to four seconds on dry pavement should be extended to a minimum of five to six seconds when driving on slippery surfaces. The extra time will provide additional braking room should a sudden stop become necessary.

See **Weather**, page 8A



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