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THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2025

CAMPBELLVILLE, KENTUCKY

\$2, VOL. 115, NO. 48

# Campbellsville U establishes new health colleges

**BY GERARD FLANAGAN**  
CU COMMUNICATIONS

Campbellsville University has announced the formation of the College of Health Sciences and College of Mental Health beginning with the Fall 2025 semester.

The College of Health Sciences has been formed to better prepare skilled professionals for today's dynamic healthcare landscape. The new college will unite CU's Allied Health programs, Division of Human Performance, School of Chiropractic and School of Nursing under one umbrella.

With the College of Health Sciences, CU is building an academic hub for healthcare education and innovation. This new college will enhance interdisciplinary learning, support evidence-based practice and strengthen workforce development in key areas of physical health and wellness. By aligning these programs under one college,

Dr. Trevor Foshang will serve as dean of the College of Health Sciences in addition to his role as dean of the School of Chiropractic.

"With the launch of the College of Health Sciences, Campbellsville

University is setting a bold course toward the future of healthcare education, one that is rooted in collaboration, innovation, and a truly integrative approach," Foshang said.

Other leaders in the College of Health Sciences are Dr. Michele Dickens, dean of the School of Nursing, Dr. Michelle Eastham, director of Allied Health, Dr. Lauren Willis, chair of the Division of Human Performance, and Dr. Erica Callahan, associate dean of the School of Chiropractic.

"By leveraging the deep expertise across each department, we will shape a holistic academic experience that

mirrors the interconnected nature of modern healthcare," Foshang said.

"This is more than a new division. It's a new way of thinking about how we care for individuals and communities."

According to Dr. Jeanette Parker, provost and vice president for academic affairs, both the College of Mental Health and the College of Health Sciences bring together strong programs with highly qualified faculty.

"This is a firm foundation for continuing to equip students to shape the world and for building new opportunities," Parker shared.

Parker added the formation of the

College of Health Sciences and College of Mental Health is a strategic move to expand CU's leadership and footprint in healthcare education and address growing societal needs.

"These colleges are created to equip students to meet needs in their communities by meeting the needs of students themselves and offering a variety of opportunities," she noted.

"Most exciting of all, by bringing together these strong programs and faculty, dreaming new opportunities is the next logical step. I can't wait

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## Closed for renovations

**Crews from Carmicle Masonry out of Danville wrap up a recent day of work at the rear of the Taylor County Public Library. The renovation and expansion project has led to the temporary closure of the library through Oct. 4. Some programming continues off site. Details are available at [tcplibrary.org/events](https://tcplibrary.org/events).**

Photos by BEN SHEROAN/  
Paxton Media Group



A rear entry way is beginning to take shape as work continues on the public library expansion project.



An illustration outside the Taylor County Public Library shows how architects anticipate the final project to look.

## State auditor has 5 findings in local report

**BY BEN SHEROAN**  
PAXTON MEDIA GROUP

The state auditor's office reported a series of findings in its examination of Taylor County government's financial controls including questions about timely disbursement of tax money collected on behalf of Campbellsville city government.

Made public last week, the report includes formal responses from Taylor County Judge-Executive Barry Smith regarding each finding in which he outlines corrective action underway.

The report said financial statements for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, misstated occupational taxes and net profit taxes collected on behalf of the city. Under an interlocal agreement, county government collects the tax for both governmental entities.

The audit findings said the fund was not included in fiscal court's fourth-quarter report and not budgeted in that quarter. The audit made recommendations about how the county treasurer records and reports this account.

The county response said the account historically had been considered a custodial fund and previous reviews by the state auditor had indicated no issues with how it was handled. It also noted that city government routinely audits the fund.

The audit also questioned 85 disbursements including eight items that were not advertised for bid as required by state law. That list includes food service at the jail, the purchase of two dump trucks and two culvert replacement projects.

Four other items were noted as not having required purchase orders and 33 had purchase orders dated after the invoice was issued, according to the summary.

The judge-executive said staff has been working to resolve the disbursement control procedures. Calling it "a work in progress," the official response went on to say the county expects new employees to improve the processes.

The auditor also recommended stronger internal controls to ensure receipts are processed daily and more timely deposits are made of money collected outside the county government offices. It specifically mentioned money collected at businesses for occupational taxes, tourism commission collection of transient taxes and parks department rental fees.

The audit also questioned the payroll revolving account, saying it was not properly reconciled and had a balance of \$8,449 at the close of the fiscal year.

Smith's response said a balance has existed since the COVID pandemic based on concerns about having adequate money on hand to meet payroll. The response offered an assurance that it would be immediately corrected.

Finally, the audit also cited inadequate controls over commissary and inmate accounts maintained at the Taylor County Detention Center.

In this case, the formal response was supplied by Jailer Hack Marcum who wrote that required financial statements will be turned over to the county treasurer in a timely manner and efforts will be made to make bank deposits daily.

Marcum's statement said a lack of staff makes segregation of duties in money-handling a challenge but said compensating controls would be implemented.

The state auditor's staff routinely reviews county government financial management and money controls and reports its findings to the public.

## Two indicted for criminal abuse of child

**BY CKNJ STAFF**

The grand jury returned indictments against two Campbellsville residents accused of first-degree of children age 12 or younger.

After reviewing information provided by Campbellsville Police Officer Ian McCullough, the August term of the grand jury chose to indict Rachel Gaskins and Gary W. Wright related to abusive acts that allegedly occurred on Dec. 27, 2024.

The formal indictment does not reveal details about the accusations. It simply cites the language outline in state law describing first-degree criminal abuse, which is a Class B felony.

If convicted, the sentence could include a jail term of 10 to 20 years.

Gaskins also was charged with first-

degree wanton endangerment, which is a Class D felony, and multiple misdemeanors regarding drug possession plus a charge of second-degree persistent felony offender.

Wright was charged with first-degree wanton endangerment as well as criminal abuse in his indictment.

In both cases, bond was set at \$25,000 cash.

Indictments are formal charges which indicate enough evidence exists, in the grand jurors' opinions, to proceed with the court case. An indictment is not proof of guilt and all defendants are presumed innocent until proven guilty.

Other indictments issued by the August grand jury session follow:

- Donald Gibbs of Campbellsville: first-degree burglary; fourth-degree assault,

- domestic violence with minor injury; violation of an emergency protective order; second-degree persistent felony offender.
- Joshua Simpson of Campbellsville: first-degree wanton endangerment, discharge of a firearm; first-degree criminal mischief; operating a motor vehicle under the influence; possession of an open alcohol beverage container in a motor vehicle; failure to maintain required auto insurance.
- Nathan A. Sallee of Campbellsville: first-degree wanton endangerment.
- Gregg Grady of Campbellsville: first-degree possession of controlled substance - methamphetamine; possession of drug paraphernalia.
- Donald Mull of Campbellsville: third-degree burglary; theft by unlawful taking,

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