

Choosing A Wedding Location Requires Careful Consideration

Choosing a location to get married requires careful consideration. Some couples prefer to get married in their hometowns while others want to jet off to far-flung destinations.

According to The Knot 2025 Real Weddings Study, 60 percent of couples choose to get married where they currently live, 23 percent opt for a hometown venue, and 18 percent select a destination wedding.

The truth is there are many domestic and international spots that are prime locations for weddings.

The Knot says the French Riviera; Punta Mita, Mexico; Spain; Costa Rica; Portugal; and Greece are popular picks for destination weddings.

Union County Student Participating In Governor’s Schools For The Arts

The Kentucky Governor’s School for the Arts (GSA) has announced its 2025 class, marking the year the program has been welcoming student artists from across the Commonwealth.

Since 1987, more than 8,500 rising high school juniors and seniors have arrived on a college campus setting to immerse themselves in an arts intensive environment, with cross-discipline learning, special guest artist performances and the opportunity to access critical life-changing college scholarships.

The 2025 class will include 512 students from 72 different counties and be held at The University of Kentucky over two consecutive sessions throughout the summer. Each of the two sessions will be three weeks, with Session One taking place June 8 to June 28 and Session Two July 6 to

July 26. People who want to stay closer to home often opt for the Hudson Valley and the Catskills, New York, for a farm or ranch wedding, and the Rockies in Colorado for a mountain venue. According to Google data and the travel and lifestyle firm Holidu, Chicago is the most searched urban area for wedding venues over the past year, followed by Long Island, New York and Dallas, Texas. Other popular cities for getting hitched include San Diego, Las Vegas, Atlanta, and New Orleans.

Ultimately, wedding city location will depend on the couple’s budget and guests’ convenience.

July 26.

During the program, student-artists will be immersed in a rigorous schedule of daily seminars, creative projects, master classes and lectures. Instruction will be offered in nine disciplines: Creative Writing, Dance, Design, Drama, Film+Photography, Instrumental Music, Musical Theatre, Visual Art and Vocal Music.

Participating from Union County is: Chloe Mayes, of Union County High School, for Visual Art

“GSA creates opportunity and options for so many young artists across Kentucky,” said Jason Brooks, director of GSA. “These students engage with each other and educators in an art intensive environment, while establishing lifelong friendships and return home to inspire those in their own community.”

Agriculture Notes

Submitted by Katie Hughes

Union County Fair: Mark your calendar for the 75th Union Co Fair, Livestock Show is June 21, 2025 and Fair starts June 23-28,2025. Follow the Union County KY Fair Facebook page for more information.

Union County Hay Show: Hay Show Sponsored by the Union County Cattlemen’s Association will be June 23, 2025, at the Union County Fairgrounds from 9am to 11am. This is open to Union, Crittenden, Henderson and Webster County residents and the hay must be produced and baled on the farm of the exhibitor since Aug 1, 2024. The contest is free sampling. Haylage can be done at no cost. If you are unable to make it during the show you can bring your hay sample to the Union Co Ext office the week before show from 8am-4:30pm to be enter. BUT YOUR SAMPLE MUST BE CHOPPED (HAY PROBE) AND A FULL SANDWICH BAG OF THE SAMPLE. Classes: Alfalfa less than 10% grass, Grass, Red Clover less than 10% grass, Small Grain Hay wheat, Grass Hay less than 10% legumes, and Grass legume Hay over 30% legumes. For more information contact Katie at 270-389-1400 or at katie.n.hughes@uky.edu.

Fungal Infections Everywhere! We have seen lots of anthracnose on shade trees this spring causing leaf distortion and spotting. While unsightly, this grouping of fungal diseases do not typically cause long term damage to the trees they infect. However, since conditions are right for

anthracnose, we suspect lots of other fungal diseases have taken hold this spring that we won’t see the effects of until mid-summer. Here are some tips for preventing infections in your gardens. When choosing plants, prioritize disease-resistant varieties and inspect any transplants for signs of disease before introducing them to your garden. For seeds, consider those that have been treated with fungicide to give them a better chance of thriving. Planting in warm soil and Oak anthracnose. R. Koetter & M. Grabowski, University of Minnesota Extension ensuring proper spacing between plants are additional measures that can minimize stress and disease susceptibility. Crop rotation is an invaluable strategy, especially in smaller gardens. Changing what’s planted in a specific area every few years can prevent the buildup of soil-borne diseases. For crops that are particularly disease-prone, consider skipping their cultivation for a few years or growing them in containers separate from the garden. Maintaining a weed-free garden throughout the growing season is essential. Weeds can serve as hosts for pests and diseases, transferring them to your vegetable plants. Proper watering techniques can also make a significant difference; water at the base of plants to avoid wetting foliage, and if overhead watering is necessary, do so early in the day to allow leaves to dry. Avoiding mechanical injury to plants, such

as from gardening tools or rough handling, can prevent openings for pathogens. Furthermore, refraining from working in the garden when plants are wet can reduce the spread of diseases. By taking these steps, gardeners can effectively manage plant diseases. This approach not only protects the garden from the myriads of pathogens waiting to attack but also leads to a bountiful and healthy harvest. Source: UK Exclusives, “Effective strategies to prevent plant diseases in your garden,” Rick Durham, Extension Professor, Department of Horticulture, 2024 Educational programs of the Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service serve all people regardless of economic or social status and will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, ethnic origin, national origin, creed, religion, political belief, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, pregnancy, marital status, genetic information, age, veteran status, or physical or mental disability.

-- PUBLIC NOTICE --

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY
FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

Proposed Flood Hazard Determinations for the City of Sturgis, Union County, Kentucky, Case No. 24-04-3552P. The Department of Homeland Security’s Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) solicits technical information or comments on proposed flood hazard determinations for the Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM), and where applicable, the Flood Insurance Study (FIS) report for your community. These flood hazard determinations may include the addition or modification of Base Flood Elevations, base flood depths, Special Flood Hazard Area boundaries or zone designations, or the regulatory floodway. The FIRM and, if applicable, the FIS report have been revised to reflect these flood hazard determinations through issuance of a Letter of Map Revision (LOMR), in accordance with Title 44, Part 65 of the Code of Federal Regulations. These determinations are the basis for the floodplain management measures that your community is required to adopt or show evidence of having in effect to qualify or remain qualified for participation in the National Flood Insurance Program. For more information on the proposed flood hazard determinations and information on the statutory 90-day period provided for appeals, please visit FEMA’s website at <https://www.floodmaps.fema.gov/fhm/BFE-Status/bfe-main.asp> , or call the FEMA Mapping and Insurance eXchange (FMIX) toll free at 1-877-FEMA MAP (1-877-336-2627).

6/25c

Family and Consumer Sciences Notes

Submitted by Shea Heady

FCS Happenings:

*We’ve been busy here at the extension office! Earlier this month we hosted the “World’s Greatest Baby Shower” for new and expectant mothers. There was a great turnout and participants left with some valuable baby care information and fantastic gifts that were provided by some very generous sponsors in the community. We can’t wait to do it again next year.

*There is now a regularly scheduled program for children ages 2-5 called Laugh and Learn that focuses on kindergarten readiness skills. We do crafts, read a book, sing songs and have a healthy snack. This program is held on the third Monday each month at 10:00am---please come join us for the fun! This class is FREE!

*Starting Tuesday, June 24th we will be having cardio drumming class. This is a fun exercise class to get your heart pumping. This is a FREE class that will be held every Tuesday at 9:00am at least through July. Spots are limited, please call the extension office to sign up.

I hope everyone is off to a great summer and has some fun things planned. Here are some tips on traveling with kids.

Traveling with Children this Summer

Traveling with children is different from traveling alone or with other adults. Here are a few tips to help you prepare for fun trips with your children.

Before you go: Talk about the trip. Start with a conversation about where you’re going, why, who you’ll see, and what you hope to experience. Explain how you’ll travel — car, plane or train — to help build excitement and ease anxiety.

Identify potential challenges.?Prepare your children for differences in routines or environments. If you’re traveling during hot weather or hiking through nature, discuss safety concerns like drinking water, staying on the trail, and avoiding unfamiliar plants. The goal is to build awareness, not anxiety.

Set behavior expectations. Remind children how to behave in different settings: visiting grandparents, eating in restaurants, or sitting next to a sibling. Simple reminders like, “We keep our hands to ourselves,” or “We don’t ask for candy

at the store,” work for all ages. Even adults use this — like telling yourself you’re not going to buy anything not on your list. Speaking expectations out loud helps build self-control.

Get kids involved in packing. Let kids help create a short, simple packing list. It teaches organization and builds excitement. Be patient — they’ll need help.

Entertainment options. Travel is a great time to connect. Start with conversation, then move to games: travel bingo, coloring books, 20 questions, cards, karaoke. Screens are fine, but books, puzzles and word searches are great alternatives.

Plan for delays. Travel with kids typically takes longer. Add 30 to 45 minutes for every 3 hours on the road. Plan pit stops so kids can move, snack and use the bathroom. While this can add time to your travels, it makes for happier travelers.

During your trip: Stick to routines. Try to maintain regu-

lar meal, nap and bedtime schedules. It may take creativity, but it is worth the effort.

Let kids take the lead. Invite your children to make decisions: “Which trail should we take?” or “What do you want to see first?” This builds confidence and keeps them engaged.

Safety. Carry a few basics — water, snacks, flashlight and a small first-aid kit.

Expect meltdowns. They happen, no matter how prepared you are. Expecting a few tough moments helps you stay calm and respond with patience.

After your trip: Reflect together.Ask your family: What did you love most? Least? What are you glad we did? What would you do again? What will you remember most? These moments build connection and help shape future trips.

Source: David Weisenhorn, Ph.D.; Specialist for Parenting and Child Development

- PUBLIC NOTICE -

REQUEST FOR STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS

In accordance with 7 CFR §1780.39, and KRS 45A.740, the City of Sturgis, Kentucky, is accepting Statements of Qualifications for engineering services, including, but not limited to, planning, design, construction procurement, construction administration, inspection, and preparation of a preliminary engineering report for the following drinking water projects:

I. Groundwater Treatment Plant Construction Project: WRIS # WX21225069

II. Water Line Improvements Project: WRIS # WX21225067

Statements of Qualifications will be accepted by the City of Sturgis until 10:00 AM, local time, on Tuesday, July 8, 2025, at the address listed below. Proposals should be sealed and marked on the envelope “City of Sturgis – Statement of Qualifications.” Each firm should submit five (5) copies of the statement, and each statement shall be no more than 15 pages in length.

Qualifications will be evaluated and ranked by the City of Sturgis based on the following criteria.

1. Experience and qualifications

25

2. Past Performance

25

3. Capacity for performance

25

4. Willingness to meet time & budget requirements

10

5. Familiarity with locality and project

5

6. Location/Proximity to project

5

7. Women and Minority Firms

5

100 points

Statements of Qualifications will be evaluated on the basis of written materials; therefore, it is not necessary that a representative of the firm attend the evaluation meeting. The city may request an interview with firms at a later date. After the close of evaluations, the city will contact the highest-ranking firm and enter negotiations. The City will negotiate scope and fee for each project separately in accordance with KRS 45A.750 and 2 CFR 200.320(b)(2)(v). If negotiations fail, the City will terminate discussions and begin negotiations with the next-ranked firm. Once a firm has been selected, all unsuccessful candidates will be promptly notified.

Statements of Qualifications will be evaluated and ranked on the basis of the following considerations:

1. Experience or technical expertise of the firm with regard to the type of services to be provided and projects of a similar nature.

2. Past record of performance on contracts with the locality and other clients, including quality of work and timeliness.

3. Capacity of the firm to work within time limitations, taking into consideration the current and planned workload of the firm.

4. Willingness to meet time and budget requirements for each project.

5. Familiarity with the locality of the project (program) requirements.

6. Location/proximity to the project.

7. Inclusion of women and minority firms with the proposed project.

Statements of Qualifications should include the following information:

1. The experience and qualifications of the firm and the individual(s) to be assigned to the project.

2. Description of past record of performance with the locality, if applicable, and description of past record with other clients in the development of similar projects utilizing public funding assistance. Include the name and number of a contact person for each referenced project.

3. The firm’s capacity for performance. Describe the timeframe for services to be provided and staffing consideration such as availability, workload, etc. Indicate availability and any restrictions for attendance at any onsite meetings or presentations.

4. Description of the degree of familiarity with locality.

5. A map of the firm or organization’s location and how close it is to the project.

6. A listing of women and minority firms that will be involved with the project.

Sources of project funding may include, but not be limited to, USDA Rural Development, Water Loan and Grant Funds, Community Development Block Grant, Delta Regional Authority, municipal bonds, and KIA SRF Funds.

The City of Sturgis will adhere to the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 3 and Section 109 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 in the implementation of this project.

No person shall be excluded from participation in, denied benefits of, or subjected to discrimination in the implementation of this program on the grounds of race/ethnicity, color, religion, sex, disability, national origin, familial status, gender identity and sexual orientation.

Attention is particularly called to the requirements as to conditions of employment to be observed under the contract, Section 3, Segregated Facilities, Section 109, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, E.O. 11246, the Anti-Kickback Act and Section 504 requirements.

The City of Sturgis reserves the right to reject any and all responses submitted.

All Statements of Qualifications should be addressed in a sealed envelope to:

City of Sturgis - Statement of Qualifications

Attn: Mayor Billy Adams

P.O. Box 98

Sturgis, KY 42459-0098

“EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY”