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OBITUARIES

Freddie Gail Majors

GREENVILLE — Freddie Gail Majors, 71, of Greenville died Monday, June 1, 2026 at Owensboro Health Muhlenberg Community Hospital in Greenville. Mr. Majors was born in Muhlenberg County on June 22, 1954 to Herman and Virginia Majors. He was a self-employed construction worker for Majors Construction Company and of the Baptist faith.

He is survived by his daughter, Megan Gayle Majors Price.

Funeral services will be private. Tucker Funeral Home in Central City is in charge of arrangements. Online condolences can be made at www.tuckerfuneralhomes.com.

Maung Myint

Maung Myint, 54, of Owensboro, passed away on Wednesday, June 3, 2026 while under the care of Hospice of Western Kentucky. He was born in Myanmar. Maung was employed at Tyson Foods.

He is survived by two daughters, Nan Khin San Win and Nann Nann; nephew, Yan Htway of Kent, Washington.

Funeral services will be held at 12 p.m. on Saturday, June 6, 2026 at James H. Davis Funeral Home and Crematory. Viewing is from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. on Saturday at the funeral home. Burial at Pleasant Grove Cemetery at 11 a.m. on Saturday, June 13, 2026.

Online messages of condolence may be made at www.davisfuneralhome.com.

Caleb Josiah Milem, 18, of Owensboro, passed away Sunday, May 31, 2026 in Marshall County, KY. He was born January 8, 2008 in Kunming City, Yunnan Province, China and met his family on September 19, 2009. Caleb came home to America on September 30, 2009.

He attended Heritage Christian School and graduated from Excel High School in January 2025. Caleb had recently enrolled at Kentucky Welding Institute and was scheduled to begin training in August 2026. He was a beloved son and brother and will be dearly missed by many.

James Michael Mattingly, 39, passed away on June 1, 2026. Michael was born on May 19, 1987 in Owensboro to the late Michael Anthony Mattingly and Valerie Lambert Head. He was a mechanic for Tally's Towing and a member at Hopewell Baptist Church. Michael was a talker who never met a stranger. He loved the outdoors, racing and anything with wheels and motors. He liked barbecuing, smoking meat, and jeeping. Michael was a jack of all trades, building

BEECH CREEK — Darrell Ray Fleming, 88, of Beech Creek, died Tuesday, June 2, 2026, at Heartford House in Owensboro, Kentucky. Mr. Fleming was born Aug. 17, 1937 in Dunmor, Kentucky. He was retired from SuperValu, and he was of the Baptist faith.

Caleb Josiah Milem



Caleb was preceded in death by grandparents, Arthur and Phyllis Milem of South Point, OH and Anita McBride of Owensboro. He is survived by his parents, Dr. Charles and Dawn Milem of

Owensboro; brothers, Charlie Milem of Louisville, KY and Christian Milem of Cincinnati, OH; sisters, Catherine Milem of Louisville, KY and Corrianna Milem of Owensboro; grandfather, David McBride of Owensboro; aunts and uncles, Tony and Beth Draeger, Marty McBride and Kelly McBride, all of Owensboro, Tom and Beth Wack of Nicholasville, KY and Elaine Milem of Lancaster, KY; and cousins, Bekah West, Hannah Blanton, Hannah Milem, AJ Draeger, Eliza Wack and Layne Kretzer.

The funeral service for Caleb will be held at 11 a.m., Saturday, June 6, 2026, at Pleasant Valley Community Church. Burial to follow in Resurrection Cemetery. Visitation at Glenn Funeral Home and Crematory will be Friday from 3 until 7 p.m. and Saturday from 9 until 10:30 a.m. The Saturday visitation is at the funeral home.

Memorial contributions may be made to Care Net of Owensboro, 425 E. 18th St, Owensboro, KY 42303.

Memories and condolences for Caleb Josiah Milem may be shared with the family at www.glenncares.com.

James Michael Mattingly



pole barns, fixing garage doors and welding. Above all else, Michael loved his wife and children; he loved

anything that involved his girls.

Michael was preceded in death by his father.

In addition to his mother and step-father, Patrick Head, Michael is survived by his wife of 16 years, Nicole Mattingly and their children, Hadley, Chloe and Sophia; his sister, Tabatha (Danny) Roberts and his step-sister, Laura (Kevin) Sanders and several nieces, nephews and cousins.

The family requests that expressions of sympathy

take the form of donations to the James Michael Mattingly Memorial Fund, c/o Cecil Funeral Home, P.O. Box 6, Whitesville KY, 42378. Donations may be made online at cecilfuneralhome.com or envelopes will be available at the church.

A funeral service will be held on Friday, June 5, 2026 at 1 p.m. at Hopewell Baptist Church. Visitation will be at the church from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Messages of condolence may be left online at www.cecilfuneralhome.com

Darrell Ray Fleming

He is survived by his son, Randy Fleming; his daughter, Vickie Bradley; his granddaughters, Holly Cummings, and Darci Walker; his great-granddaughters, Madison Walker, and Sophia Cummings; his great-grandson, Bradley Walker; his sisters,

Geraldine Williams, and Elna Moss; and his brothers, Marvin (Burr) Fleming, Larry Fleming, and Barry Fleming.

Funeral services will be Saturday, June 6, 2026, at 11 a.m. at Tucker Beechmont Funeral Home in Beechmont, with Bro. Tom Carroll, Bro. Derrick

Benton, and Bro. Darrin Benton officiating. Burial in Mud River Union Cemetery. Visitation will be Friday from 5 to 8 p.m., and Saturday after 8 a.m. at Tucker Beechmont Funeral Home. Online condolences may be made at www.tuckerfuneralhomes.com.

FUNERALS

Adams, Norman, 86, died Tuesday. Service: 12 p.m. Saturday at Glenn Funeral Home and Crematory. Burial: follows at Calhoun Cemetery. Visitation: 4 to 7 p.m. Friday and 11 a.m. until time of service Saturday at the funeral home.

Burch, Mary, 86, died Friday. Mass: 10:30 a.m. Saturday at St. Benedict Cathedral, 1328 Lincoln Ave., Evansville. Visitation: 9:30 a.m. until time of mass Saturday at the church.

French, Wanda, 77, died Sunday. Service: 11 a.m. Friday at Gary's Funeral Home in Greenville. Burial: follows at Browder's

Church Cemetery in Madisonville. Visitation: 5 to 8 p.m. Thursday and 9 a.m. until time of service Friday at the funeral home.

Fuchs, Deborah, 73, died Sunday. Service: 12 p.m. Friday at James H. Davis Funeral Home and Crematory. Burial: follows in Owensboro Memorial Garden. Visitation: 3 to 7 p.m. Thursday and 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Friday at the funeral home.

Harmon, Craig, 74, died Sunday. Visitation: 3 to 5 p.m. Thursday at Glenn Funeral Home and Crematory.

Harper, Levi, 91, died Monday. Service: 1 p.m. Friday at Pond

Run Baptist Church in Echols, KY. Burial: follows in Pond Run Baptist Church Cemetery. Visitation: 10 a.m. until time of service Friday at the church.

Howard, Michael, 68, died Monday. Service: 11 a.m. Friday at Muster Funeral Homes, Calhoun Chapel. Burial: Slaughters Cemetery in Webster County. Visitation: 2 to 7 p.m. Thursday and 9 to 11 a.m. Friday at the funeral home.

Howe, Milbra, 75, died Thursday. Service: 12 p.m. Thursday at James H. Davis Funeral Home & Crematory. Visitation: 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Thursday at the funeral home.

Payne, Thomas, 85, died Monday. Service: 10 a.m. Thursday at Glenn Funeral Home and Crematory. Burial: Owensboro Memorial Gardens. Visitation: 9 a.m. until time of service Thursday.

Smith, Darla, 67, died Friday. Service: 2 p.m. Wednesday at Geary Cemetery in Horse Branch, KY.

Zimmerman, Elizabeth, 103, died Thursday, May 28. Service: 12 p.m. Friday at Glenn Funeral Home and Crematory. Burial: follows in Rosehill Cemetery. Visitation: 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Friday at the funeral home.

State board allows optometry grads to practice without passing national exam

BY DEBORAH YETTER
KENTUCKY LANTERN

The state board that oversees Kentucky's optometrists is standing by its decision to allow optometry graduates who haven't passed all parts of a required national licensure exam to provide eye care.

Despite mounting criticism, the state board will allow those optometrists to keep practicing while it works to resolve licensure deficiencies, Dr. Mary Beth Morris, president of the Kentucky Board of Optometric Examiners, told a legislative panel last month.

"Protecting the public remains the board's highest priority," Morris said of new regulations which give improperly licensed optometrists until early next year to meet testing requirements. "We believe this represents a thoughtful and measured response to a very unusual and complex situation."

By March of 2027, all optometrists in Kentucky will be required to have passed all three parts of a standard national exam to obtain or renew a license — although regulations allow those who got waivers to substitute an online, multiple choice test for

an in-person test of clinical skills for Part 3 of the exam.

But the National Board of Examiners in Optometry, which administers the three-part licensure exam, disagrees with the plan, saying that the board's latest "emergency regulation" allows optometrists with invalid licenses to continue to treat patients in Kentucky. It also objects to the substitution for Part 3, which tests candidates' skills in diagnosing and treating patients in an actual clinical setting.

Dr. James Campbell, president of the national board, said it was a difficult decision to publicly criticize the Kentucky board for its actions to exempt optometrists from national licensure requirements.

"Ultimately, we have been compelled to speak up on behalf of patient protection," Campbell said at the hearing. "Silence just wasn't an option."

The national board also criticized the state board for operating secretly and refusing to detail reasons for a series of actions meant to address the licensure problems after they were exposed last year.

In October, the Kentucky Attorney General found

the board violated state law by agreeing to waive licensing requirements at board meetings rather than enacting a change in state regulations, requiring public notice.

From 2020 through 2023, 21 optometry school graduates were awarded licenses to practice despite not having passed one or more parts of the three-part national exam.

Among them was Dr. Hannah Ellis, daughter of former optometry board president Dr. Joe Ellis, a prominent Kentucky optometrist who resigned in December amid the board's investigation into the matter.

Hannah Ellis also is being sued for allegedly causing permanent eye injury to an adult patient. Court records show a Marshall County man has filed a lawsuit alleging Ellis caused permanent and severe damage through a laser eye surgery procedure in 2023.

In a reply, Ellis has denied any wrongdoing or allegations of negligence.

The case is set for trial in April 2027.

The national board — which last year, questioned the board about the 21 optometrists licensed

through waivers — this year identified nine more such cases, as first reported by WAVE News, a Louisville television station.

The state board has refused to release any information about optometrists it has identified who got testing waivers. It denied an open records request for all communications with optometrists licensed without passing all parts of the exam, saying the information was "preliminary."

However, the national board in a letter last year to the state board listed the 21 optometrists who got waivers and Jan. 15 sent a second letter to the board listing nine more optometrists who had one or more parts of the exam waived. Copies of those letters were obtained through an open records request.

Among the latest nine licensed optometrists who got waivers are two who on seven separate attempts failed Part 1 of the test — which focuses on science and medicine and is considered the most rigorous. A third licensee failed it six times, according to score reports obtained through an open record request.

The national board allows a candidate to take

POLICE REPORTS

The following list is compiled from reports from area law enforcement agencies:

Owensboro Police Department

- Emily A. Bise, 21, homeless, was charged Tuesday with first-degree possession of a controlled substance (meth).

- Laura B. Mitchell, 45, of the 8800 block of Kentucky 56 was charged Tuesday with theft by unlawful taking over \$10,000.

- Justin D. Roe, 34, of Maceo was charged Tuesday with first-degree possession of a controlled substance (meth).

- An iPhone and case worth \$1,000 was reported stolen Tuesday from the 2000 block of West Fourth Street.

- A Chevrolet Silverado sustained vandalism damage Tuesday in the 3900 block of Fogle Drive.

- A tool bag and tools, a quilt and clothing worth \$250 were reported stolen Sunday from a rental storage facility in the 500 block of East 19th Street.

- A riding lawn mower sustained vandalism damage Tuesday in the 2300 block of Secretariat Drive.

Daviess County Sheriff's Office

- Kristie R. Gentry, 42, of Providence was charged Wednesday with first-degree possession of a controlled substance (meth) and tampering with physical evidence.

- A tractor was reported stolen Tuesday from the 7800 block of Boteler Road.

- A package containing fuel injectors worth \$2,600 was reported stolen Tuesday from the 7800 block of Curdsville-Delaware Road.

Kentucky State Police

- Jacqueline M. Alvey, 59, of the 1300 block of West Seventh Street was charged Tuesday with first-degree possession of a controlled substance (menth) and convicted felon in possession of a firearm.

- Craig A. Butterworth, 45, of the 0-100 block of River Road was charged Tuesday with driving under the influence.

- Matthew A. Hartley, 43, homeless, was charged Tuesday with convicted felon in possession of a firearm.

- Tristan C. Peech, 27, of the 200 block of Irene Avenue was charged Tuesday with first-degree strangulation (domestic violence related).

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