

# WHAT'S *Happening!*<sup>TM</sup> in Oldham County, Kentucky



Spring/Summer 2019



## LA GRANGE FARMERS' MARKET and ARTISANS

Buy Local & Support Your Local Farmer

Saturdays, May 11-October 26 • 8 am-1 pm

Oldham County Courthouse Square  
La Grange, KY

Follow us on Facebook:  
La Grange Farmers' Market & Artisans or  
[www.lagrangefarmersmarket.com](http://www.lagrangefarmersmarket.com)



Third Friday of Each Month

on Walnut Avenue  
in Downtown La Grange

6:30-10 pm

Food Trucks • Craft Beer Tent  
Bring Your Lawn Chairs

**FREE!**

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## News in Oldham County



David Voegele  
Oldham County Judge/Executive

### High speed broadband

Even though there has been controversy in Frankfort about continuation of the state-wide project, Kentucky Wired has arrived in Oldham County! Beginning on U.S. 42 at the Trimble County line and continuing through Oldham County on Hwy 53 and Hwy 146 until it reaches Jefferson County at Anchorage, a total of 24 miles of county-owned fiber optic cable has

been either laid in the ground or strung on telephone poles.

Workmen installed additional fiber optic cable for the County as state-owned cable was being placed. Fiscal Court authorized \$340,000 for the project, half of which has been paid. The balance will be paid when 'the system goes live'.

While the future of high-speed internet service in the County has yet to be fully developed, it is the intention of Fiscal Court to facilitate the extension of access by either driving down prices from existing carriers or helping residents secure less-expensive service through additional franchise vendors.

### Major projects planned

In addition to new high speed broadband, the county has several other major projects in various stages of planning. These include remodeling and expansion of the Oldham County Courthouse, ramps

connecting the Louie Dampier Bridge to I-71, a new road in Oldham Reserve linking Eden Parkway with LaGrange Parkway, installation of a seawall along the Ohio River at Schamback Park at Westport, and remodeling the interior of the former Methodist Church building on Jefferson Street in LaGrange into additional Fiscal Court and community meeting space. More details about these plans will be forthcoming as progress is made.

### Census 2020 is fast approaching

For the past year, a committee headed by Deputy Judge Kevin Nuss, has been partnering with the U.S. Census Bureau to prepare Oldham County for the 2020 Census, which will begin in April of next year. The census, which takes place every 10 years, is intended to count everyone in the United States.

Everyone in Oldham County

must be counted. It is critical we get this right because the census serves as the basis for determining electoral representation in Frankfort and Washington and for the distribution of billions of dollars in federal funds.

More than \$675 billion in federal funding is distributed each year to communities across the country based on census data. In Oldham County, making sure everyone is counted will benefit funding for schools, roads, healthcare, senior activities, recreation and other services we all need and enjoy.

Even though it may seem like a ways off, the 2020 Census will be here soon. You can find additional information at [2020census.gov](http://2020census.gov). Lastly, the Census is hiring for various positions. Anyone interested in applying can do so online at [2020census.gov/jobs](http://2020census.gov/jobs) or by calling 1-855-JOB-2020.

*David Voegele*

## Leaders Don't Litter



Oldham County is adopting a program to reduce litter in our community. Litter is unsightly, harmful, and detrimental to public safety. Not to mention that it brings down home values. Inspired by Oldham County leadership in education, the Leaders Don't Litter campaign will raise awareness in an effort to reduce the act of littering while cleaning the community and environment.

### Pick the Parks

The first campaign event will be on **Sat. May 11, 10 am - noon** in all Oldham County parks.

Volunteers of all ages are needed at Wendell Moore Park, Briar Hill Park, Westport Park, Peggy E. Baker Park, The Glen Park, Morgan Conservation Park, Wilborn Park, Creasey Mahan Nature Preserve, and Belknap Park.

More information: 502/565-1007 or [leadersdontlitter@gmail.com](mailto:leadersdontlitter@gmail.com).

## Oldham County offers recycling services

**The Oldham County Recycling Center is located at 3943 Jones Drive across from Oldham County High School. This is a free drop-off facility, open from dawn to dusk, 7 days a week. Video-monitoring is used and enforced. All items dropped off become the property of Oldham County. If in doubt about any item, please call 565-1007!**

**For a complete listing of accepted items, not accepted items and items accepted by appointment only, please visit our website: [www.OldhamCountyKY.gov](http://www.OldhamCountyKY.gov).**

## John W. Black Aquatic Center

**Pool opens Saturday, May 25 at 12 Noon**

**Pool Hours:**

Monday-Saturday, Noon-7 pm;  
Sunday, 1-6 pm

**Admission Cost:**

Ages 2 & under - Free  
Ages 3-12 - \$5  
Ages 13-59 - \$6  
Ages 60 & up - \$4

**Season Pool Passes (For OC residents):**

Family (4 family members) - \$325  
Family (3 family members) - \$260  
Family (2 adults) - \$195  
Individual (ages 13 & up) - \$130  
Senior (ages 60 & up) - \$110

**Out of county pool passes add \$25.**

**Pool Party Rentals:** The Aquatic Center may be rented for parties on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday evenings. For fees and available dates, call 225-0656.

**Group Rates:** Civic, youth and non-profit groups of 15 or more receive a discounted rate of \$4 per person during regular pool hours. Reservations are required to receive group rates, so please call ahead.

**Water Fitness Classes:** A great workout in a relaxing, stress free environment! Classes meet Monday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday mornings from 10:30-11:15 am. \$4 per class. ("Silver Sneakers" participants, just swipe your card at the Community Center).

**Swim Lessons:** We offer swim lessons on a variety of days and times for anyone ages 3 & up. Six classes cost \$60. Call us for registration information.

**Swim Team:** The Oldham County "Piranhas" swim team is a member of the Louisville Swim Association. The season runs from late May through mid-July. E-mail: [ocpswimming@yahoo.com](mailto:ocpswimming@yahoo.com) to get involved.

**Dog Party:** Tuesday, September 3, 6:30-8:30 pm. Bring your dog to the Aquatic Center for a dip in the pool held on the last day of the Aquatic Center season. Only \$5 per pup, people are free! Immunization records from your veterinarian must be shown at entrance to enter pool area.

**SUP Yoga**

Stand Up Paddleboard Yoga 11 am - Noon on selected Saturdays. Register at [www.endlesssummerpaddle.com](http://www.endlesssummerpaddle.com).

**For More Information**

Call 502/225-0655 or visit our website at [www.oldhamcountyky.gov](http://www.oldhamcountyky.gov).



## Parks and Recreation Programs and Events 502/225-0655

For our full schedule of activities and to print out registration forms, visit [www.oldhamcountyky.gov](http://www.oldhamcountyky.gov)

### UPCOMING PROGRAMS

**Archery Lessons:** Lessons taught by certified archery instructor, Gary Parsons, will be offered for children and adults 8 and up. Classes will meet once a week for five weeks at a total cost of \$55. There is no equipment to purchase for class.

**Ready, Set, Run! (Youth Running Program):** Trains kids ages 8-13 to participate in a 5K. Begins the week of April 16 and meets twice a week for 12 weeks. \$65 fee includes entry into the Firecracker 5K (July 6).

**Adult Coed T-ball League:** Sign up for newest activity! Great for company teams, church teams, or just a group of friends. Individuals are welcome to sign up as well and be placed on a team. Registration runs April 1 through May 28. League play begins June 11 and plays for 7 weeks on Tuesday evenings.

**U.S.S.S.A. Softball Leagues:** Men's & coed leagues. \$435 per team (includes USSSA sanction fee) includes a 10-game schedule plus a single-elimination tournament. League play begins the week of May 14.

**Beginning Youth Tennis Lessons:** For ages 6-12. Meet at the courts at Wendell Moore Park and Briar Hill Park. Morning classes: Meet twice a week for three weeks for \$48; Evening classes: Meet once a week for 6 weeks for \$48. Sessions start in June. Limited space available.

**Couch to 5K:** Meets Mon., Wed., & Fri. mornings from 6:30-7:30 am beginning May 6. \$30 fee includes a water bottle and entry into the Firecracker 5K on July 6 at Westport Park. Ages 16 & over.

### SPECIAL EVENTS

**WoodSongs Coffeehouse:** The home of Oldham County's "roots music" scene! John W. Black Community Center at 6:30 pm on April 18, June 1 & 2 (at Arts on the Green), September 17, October 18 & November 21.

**Mother/Son Dance:** May 10. Held at the John W. Black Community Center from 6:30-8:30 pm. Features a live DJ and prizes. \$15 per couple (add \$5 for each additional son). Tickets available by calling 225-0655.

**OCPR Down & Dirty Obstacle Mud Run:** May 18. For ages 7 & over. Come push yourself to the limit on our 5K mud run course that includes one dozen challenging obstacles. Registration fee includes an after party with a DJ and food trucks! Visit our website to sign up!

**July 4th Freedom Celebration**  
Wednesday, July 4. Afternoon pool games, evening entertainment and a spectacular fireworks display over the lake at 10 pm!

**Sprint Triathlon:** Aug. 24. USA Triathlon sanctioned! \$2,500 in cash prizes generously provided by Ironman! 400-meter pool swim, a 10-mile bike ride on a non-closed road course and a 3K run that includes firm

surfaces and cross-country segments. Pre-registration required.

**Rollin' on the River Food Truck**

**Festival:** Sept. 7. Food trucks, live music, craft beer, and demonstrations on the Ohio River! Join us at scenic Schamback Park in Westport for our first annual Food Truck Festival on Sept. 7 from 11 am-7pm.

**Breakfast with Santa:** Dec. 7. Bring the kids for an exciting visit with the big guy from the North Pole! Breakfast, make your own candy cane, holiday music, crafts, and games! Sat., Dec. 7 from 9-11 am at the John W. Black Community Center.



### 11th Annual Oldham County Parks 5K Run/Walk Race Series:

This is our 11th annual run/walk race series featuring your Oldham County Parks. Challenge yourself in these vastly different terrains:

- Earth Day 5K Run/ 2-mile Walk: Sat., April 20, 8 am - Morgan Conservation Park
- Firecracker 5K Run/ 2-mile Walk: Sat., July 6, 8 am - Westport Park -
- OC Environmental Authority Skeleton 5K Run/2-mile Walk: Sun., Oct. 6, 2 pm - Wendell Moore Park
- 360° Chiropractic Turkey Trotter 8K Run/4KWalk: Sat., Nov. 18, 8 am - Wendell Moore Park

### FACILITY RENTALS 502/225-0655

- The John W. Black Community Center is available for rental for almost any type of event. This clean, elegant, and affordable facility will create a lasting memory of your next event!
  - We also offer picnic shelter rentals at Wendell Moore Park in Buckner and Briar Hill Park in Crestwood. This very economical option provides a great space for a wide variety of events.
- Call Cathy at 502/225-0655 to book your event space today!

# The Houses of Oldham County Schools

Finding where you fit is often a daunting task when entering an unfamiliar community but that feeling isn't limited to new students. Several schools took this potentially anxious situation and turned it into a fun and engaging community-building opportunity. All of them have a unique approach that fits their individual school identity and philosophy but the common thread is community and citizenship.

When you walk into Locust Grove Elementary, you may notice the different lighthouse banners as you enter the school. Principal Andy Moore knew he wanted to implement a house system at his school a few years ago and after visiting The Clark Academy in 2016, he decided to model their houses after the system set up at Clark. To reinforce the school's mission to build leaders who will serve as a light to guide others, Moore researched lighthouses around the world. One lighthouse is Hercules, a war-battered, crumbling lighthouse in Spain. It represents strength, perseverance, and the ability to overcome conflict. There is Waugoshance lighthouse, another battered house that has withstood massive ice storms in Lake Michigan. There is a house representing the world's tallest lighthouse, Jeddah, as well as one of the smallest, Andros. The point is that it doesn't matter the size, shape, or origin – they all serve the same purpose and serve it well. Similarly, students may have different backgrounds, personalities, and attributes but they can all serve the basic function to shine light and help others find theirs.

There are six lighthouses at Locust Grove and students are sorted into houses during an assembly. Once sorted into a house, students remain in the same house during



*Locust Grove Principal Andy Moore sorts students and staff into houses with the help of a sorting hat.*

their tenure at the school. By having houses across grade levels, Moore hopes to inspire mentorships and an overall feeling of community and cooperation. Houses compete against each other for points throughout the school year and at the end of the year, the house with the most points will have their crest attached on the gym wall and their flag will fly at the top of the flagpole outside.

Meanwhile, up the street, East Oldham Middle has a different take on house systems. Embracing their patriot heritage, their houses are named after the first four US presidents: Washington, Jefferson, Adams, and Madison. Within each house there are nine families comprised of students and faculty members. Families came together to decide on their moniker; some went with mythology, others went with Derby horses, and still others went with influential historical figures.

Principal Mark Robson was inspired to start a house system this school year after viewing a video where OCS middle school students shared their feelings about the middle school years. "Many of the students talked about insecurities,

bullying, and lack of connection," said Robson, "I knew then that it was time to start our house system."

East laid the groundwork for a house system a few years ago with their REACH (Remediate, Enrich, Advise, Character Build, House) program and while the original plan was to start the house component in a few years, Robson knew the time was now.

Every morning, students and staff spend 12 minutes with their families discussing a theme. A recent theme was "Perseverance" and family members shared stories on how they persevered through a difficult situation. Having the opportunity to talk, serve, and communicate within their family has helped strengthen bonds between students and staff. Slowly, East is embedding staff culture with student culture and forming a unique community.

Throughout the year, houses participate in competitions, community service, and assemblies. Robson believes that these house meetings, coupled with smaller family gatherings, will produce stronger, capable students who will

enter high school with confidence and life-long connections. "I want our students to leave here ready to take on high school," reflected Robson, "I hope they will still have a connection with us, but more importantly, I want them to be emotionally prepared for high school."

New to OCS this year is Dr. Dylan Smith over at North Oldham Middle and the first question he asked when he decided to take the helm was, "How do we get middle school students grounded in something bigger than themselves?"

Having seen the success of house systems in New Orleans and elsewhere, Dr. Smith decided to institute a house system at his new middle school. He knew firsthand the impact houses can have on school culture. "Middle school is such a unique transition for students," said Dr. Smith, "It's a time where students can sometimes get stuck in the minutiae and forget the world around them. I believe the house system helps bring them out of their shells and connects them to each other, across grades, and hopefully they start to see their connection with the community around them."

Named after the three roads that border the North campus; Churchill, Wellington, and Hampton are already making an impact at the school and on the community. In December, the houses raised money for Metro United Way. In addition to service projects such as this, the students participate in special lunches, house competitions, government, and small group discussions that center on character education, relationship building, and empathy towards others.

Meanwhile over at Oldham County Middle, students are

## HOUSES OF OLDHAM COUNTY SCHOOLS, continued

assembling in houses in a way that is unique to the Colonels. When Principal Alissa Richards decided to pull a group together and start a house system, she had three compass points in mind: Commitment to Learning, Culture, and Connections. She also wanted the houses to represent a positive affirmation for the students so each house means “pride” in a different language. Realizing that social and emotional components relate closely to excelling in academics, the school arranges many opportunities for the house families to get together for weekly competitions and resilience lessons, strengthening their bonds. There are 15 families within each house and they compete in school spirit, team building, behavior, and attendance. Instead of focusing on the negative, students earn points for positive behaviors.

Each family has at least one adult leader and family members know that their leader is always there for them. As Dr. Richards explained, “When we have hard days, our family leaders can say I chose you. Students start to realize they represent their families and they don’t want to miss family time.”

That connection has a positive impact on attendance. Students who were chronically absent last year are missing less school because they don’t want to let down their school family members. Students are watching out for each other and holding each other accountable.

“We want to teach them connection and resilience tools for a lifetime,” said Dr. Richards. And that is the ultimate goal of all four schools that have implemented house systems at Oldham County Schools.

## Arts Center summer camps combine fun and creativity into a learning opportunity

Let those lazy days of summer be transformed into days of fun and creativity at the Arts Center! If your child has an artistic talent that he or she is interested in deepening, or would like to explore a new interest for the first time, the Oldham County Schools Arts Center can fill their summer vacation with over 45 camp offerings for ages 4-18. Camps are offered in theatre, music, dance and visual arts. A camp is typically for one week and is a half day long, two camps can be combined to create a full day-camp experience. New this year, hours have been extended for early drop off and late pick up from 8:30 am-5:15 pm. Summer Camps at the Arts Center run June 10 through August 2.

The theatre department offers all-day Show in a Week camps along with half-day camps that focus on honing acting and auditioning skills, dabbling in comedy, improv, and theatre tech. For the musically inclined private

lessons and group strings classes are offered weekly along with group A capella Camp and beginner Ukulele Camp. Little dancers this year are in for a BIG treat, as in, Under the Big Top Dance and Acro or Disney Prince & Princess Dance Camps for Ages 4 through 10. Weekly dance lessons in ballet, tap and musical theatre are ongoing during the summer. New art camps this year include Brazilian Kites, Fairy and Dr. Seuss House Miniatures, Beach Week Art, Watercolor and Ink Technique, and Art Around the World. All of the favorites are still available including Pottery Camps, American Girl Art, Paw Patrol Art, Cartooning, Media Mania, Illustration and Skateboard Art.

The “All Community Summer Theatre” features auditioned casts from our community, ages 14 through adult. This summer’s musical will be *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* June 27, 28 & 29 at 7 pm. The summer play

*And Then There Were None*, recreated for the stage will be performed July 25, 26 & 27 at 7 pm. Community members interested in auditioning for these productions may contact the Arts Center. Auditions will be held May 1 and 2 from 6-9 pm. The Arts Center is able to offer the “All Community Summer Theatre” with the assistance of grant money and through ticket sales.

For more information about programming at the Arts Center and to register for camps visit [www.ocsartscenter.org](http://www.ocsartscenter.org) or call 502/241-6018.



## 2019 Pyramid Award Winners

The Oldham County Educational Foundation has a 30-year history of supporting students and teachers through a number of programs that have provided additional resources above what is available from the school district’s budget. Their mission is to elevate the educational experience in Oldham County Schools by raising funds from businesses, grants, and individuals. A cornerstone of the foundation includes the Pyramid Awards. Over the years, the Oldham County Educational Foundation has awarded over \$330,000 to more than 500 teachers through the Pyramid Awards program. This year, 70 proposals were submitted and 35 proposals were selected for 2019 Pyramid Award funding.

### This year’s winners are:

Joan Laxton, Arvin Education Center  
Jessica Miller, Arvin Education Center  
Dayna Moore, Camden Station Elementary  
Allison Noe, Camden Station Elementary  
Mallory Davis, Centerfield Elementary  
Meaghan Goodwin, Centerfield Elementary  
Erin King, Centerfield Elementary  
Nicole Tschappat, Centerfield Elementary  
Nancy Robertson, Crestwood Elementary  
Ally Giesting, East Oldham Middle  
Jaclyn Green, East Oldham Middle  
Connie Morrison, East Oldham Middle  
Felicia Clause, Goshen Elementary  
Brooke Wiseman, Goshen Elementary  
Nancy Farmer, Harmony Elementary  
Sheri Tabor, Harmony Elementary  
Laurie Szabo, Kenwood Station Elementary  
Cristen Arvin, La Grange Elementary  
Amber DeWitt, La Grange Elementary  
Bethany Mader, La Grange Elementary

Sarah Hare, Locust Grove Elementary  
Morgan Waits Roberts, North Oldham High  
Elaine Dillard, North Oldham Middle  
Sarah Crisp, North Oldham Middle  
Kelly Fiorini, North Oldham Middle  
Allison Steineker, North Oldham Middle  
Allen Davis, Oldham County High  
Brooke Haysley, Oldham County High  
Leslie Nieport, Oldham County High  
Megan Cronin, Oldham County Middle  
Karen Putlak, OC Preschool  
Dr. Charles Bentley, South Oldham High  
Colleen Davis, South Oldham High  
Justin Romney, South Oldham High  
NixB Slider, South Oldham High



# Oldham County Cooperative Extension Service

## Teaching self-reliance skills since 1914

Oldham County Extension offers programs, clubs, diagnostic services, and research-based advice in three areas: 4-H Youth Development, Family & Consumer Sciences, and Agriculture & Natural Resources. Extension programs teach a wide variety of skills, all with the goal of producing successful families, farms, gardens, and businesses.

We offer many programs throughout the year — here's what's happening this spring and summer. Give us a call at 502/222-9453 or visit our website <http://oldham.ca.uky.edu/> for details on these and other services.

### U P C O M I N G P R O G R A M S

**Pesticide Safety for Gardeners:** April 9, 9 am

**Cooking Under Pressure:** April 17, 10 am or 6:30 pm

**Come Sew With Us – Aprons:** April 22, 3-8 pm

**Lawn Care:** April 23, 6:30 pm

**Backyard Streams:** April 27, 10 am

**Open House & Leader of the Year Recognition:** May 7, 5-7 pm

**Come Sew With Us – Pillows:** May 20, 3-8 pm

**4-H Gardening Academy:** June 6, 20, and 27, 1:30-3:30 pm

**Canning 101:** June 6, 6:30 pm or June 7, 10 am

**Kids Cooking Camp:** June 18-19

**4-H Camp:** July 22 – 26 (Camp fills quickly – register soon!)

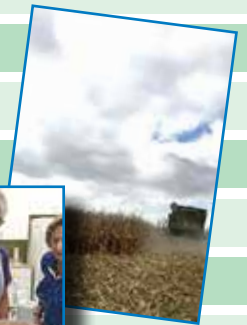
**Enter Exhibits for County Fair:** July 28

**Pasture Seeding & Management:** August 8, 6:30 pm

**Landscape Planting for Fall Interest:** August 15, 6:30 pm

**Theme Gardens:** September 4, 6:30 pm

**Oldham Co. Ag Connection:** September 19, 6:30 pm



### Oldham County Cooperative Extension Service



College of Agriculture,  
Food and Environment  
Cooperative Extension Service

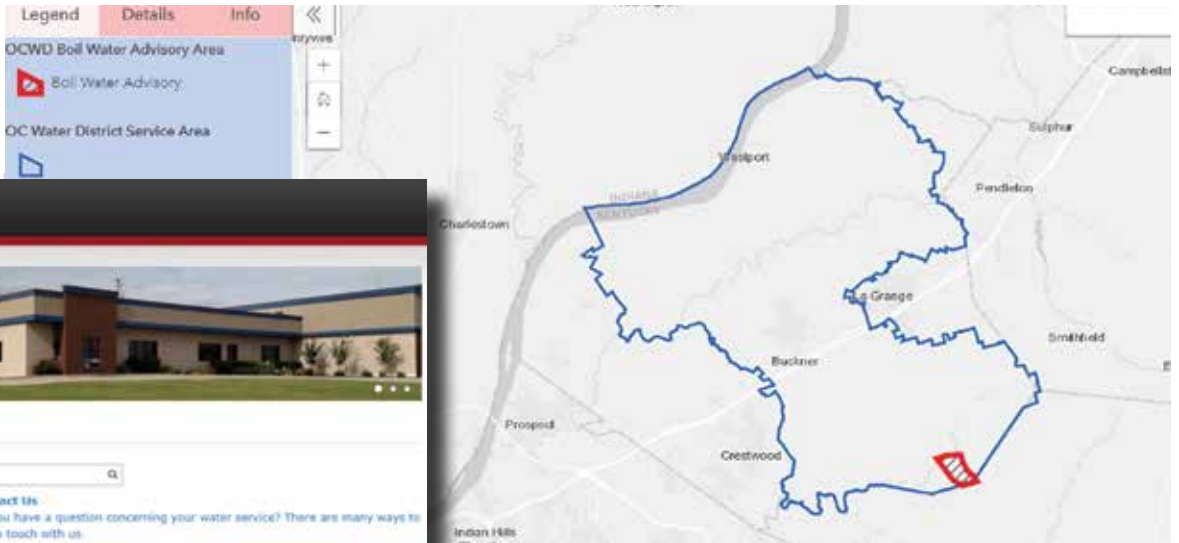


207 Parker Drive  
La Grange, KY 40031  
502/222-9453

*Educational programs of KY Cooperative Extension 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.*



## Oldham County Water – Bringing new improvements to your customer experience



When you're brushing your teeth, cooking dinner, or washing your clothes, you expect to have clean water coming out of the pipes and into your home. At the Oldham County Water District, we completely understand how much our customers count on us to provide clean, safe, and reliable water service. And we never take our role in the community for granted.

We take pride in providing you clean water and great customer service, which is why we're always working to improve your customer experience. We've been working on improvements to our website that will help you stay better informed about your water service.

### How to get the most from our new website

Our new and improved website offers you quick access to tools and information you can access around the clock. Visit us online at <http://www.oldhamcountywater.com/> to:

- See a water outage/alert map to find out if your address has been affected
- Learn what to do if a boil water advisory has been issued
- Sign up for new service
- Pay your bill online
- Enter the customer service web portal with 24-hour access to your water use history, billing information, and payment history
- Update your customer contact information

Our goal is to provide you as much information as possible in a way that is convenient for you. If you're really interested in learning more about your water service, we've even provided links to public water rules and regulations!

### Be in touch. Be informed.

We hope you'll visit the new and improved Oldham County Water website, and when you do, one of the

most important things you can do is click this button...

#### Update Customer Contact Info

You count on us to provide you with important information about your water service. But our ability to inform you of a water service outage or boil water advisory is limited if we don't have accurate contact information for you. By updating your customer contact information, you help us give you important information faster.

Even though we post outage information or a boil water advisory immediately on our website, the fastest way of reaching you may be by phone or text. We want to make sure you are aware when there may be

disruptions to your water service or if a boil water advisory has been issued.

So, please update your contact information by providing a telephone number where we can most easily reach you. We do not sell or share our customers' contact information with any outside organizations. We only use your contact information to be in touch with customer service communications.

### We're here for you!

Our customers are our number one priority, and we've created these website improvements to make you better informed. Take a look around the website, and if you have any questions at all, please feel free to contact us.

## Oldham County Water District



- By phone: 502/222-1690
- By email: [ocwd@oldhamcountywater.com](mailto:ocwd@oldhamcountywater.com)
- In person: 2160 Spencer Court, LaGrange, KY 40031
- Online: <http://www.oldhamcountywater.com/>

## Meet the new Director: Jessica Powell



**Jessica Powell**  
Director  
Oldham County  
Public Library

Hello Oldham County! I've enjoyed spending the last few months getting to know the staff at the Library. They are so talented and dedicated! It is wonderful to come onboard to a team with such creativity. I have also enjoyed getting to know the folks in the LaGrange Rotary Club, the Healthy Oldham Coalition, and the Education Taskforce. There are many exciting things are happening in our Oldham County communities and I feel

fortunate that I can participate alongside such kind and friendly people.

I am already looking forward to my first summer reading program with the Library, which serves thousands of children through June, July and August. It is one of the largest of its kind in the entire state. Oldham County Public Schools have been great partners in helping the Library build and grow a program that keeps kids engaged with learning

all summer long. In fact, assessments have shown that students who participate in the summer reading program can halt the summer slide learning loss!

One of my favorite parts of being a librarian is getting out into the community to meet the people we serve. Please let me know if I can visit your meeting to introduce myself and share our pride in our library with your group!

## Upcoming special events

### SUMMER READING PROGRAM KICK-OFF

Saturday, June 1

11 am- 2 pm

Main Library, LaGrange

The summer reading program is starting with a bang at our annual kick-off extravaganza! Drop in to sign up for the children's, teen, or adult programs. Learn about upcoming events and enjoy family friendly activities. We'll have music, Honey Hill Petting Zoo, activities from the Kentucky Science Center and more!

### PAINTING PARTY

Monday, April 29

6:30 pm

Main Library, LaGrange

Come enjoy a relaxing evening painting in a no-stress environment. Learn new techniques for your art and how art can influence mental health. Materials are provided at this free program for adults. Registration is required. Sign up online at [www.oldhampl.org](http://www.oldhampl.org).



## New at the Library: STEAM Crates

These science, technology, engineering, art and mathematic educational tools are available for checkout for 7 days at a time. Each kit features a book and guided activities on a specific subject. They are geared towards elementary aged students and are an excellent way to encourage multiple types of literacy and science based learning. Ask about STEAM Crates at your library today!





## MONTHLY PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS



**A CUP OF KINDNESS:** Relax at the Library while learning about the good work non-profit organizations are doing to serve Oldham County! This program meets on the 4th Tuesday of the month at 10 am, at the Main Library. Each session features a different service group, and participants will have an opportunity to work on a project to help support the work that group does.

**BOOK BINGO:** Play bingo with a Twist at the Main Library, on the 4th Friday of each month at 10 am. Learn about books from different genres while filling up your card, and take some home some new books to enjoy. Registration is required, sign up online.

**MAKER NIGHTS:** Explore your creative side with a different activity each month. Maker Nights are the 3rd Tuesday of each month and take place in the Lab at Main. Projects range from vinyl cutting, 3d printing, jewelry creation, sewing, and more. Instruction and materials are provided. Sign up online.



**LIBRARY LUNCH HOUR:** Join staff at the Main Library for a free lunch and activity on the third Friday of the month! Learn about new technology and materials available to patrons. Registration is required.

**AND MORE!** Programs and special events happen daily at your library. In the last fiscal year, the Oldham County Public Library offered 991 programs attended by 55,032 individuals. Don't miss out on the fun! Make sure to visit [www.oldhampl.org](http://www.oldhampl.org) to see everything that's happening at the Main, South Oldham, and Mahan Libraries for all ages.

### Oldham County Public Library



**Director:** Jessica Powell  
502/222-9713  
[Jessica.powell@oldhampl.org](mailto:Jessica.powell@oldhampl.org)

#### LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Jennifer Proud, *President*  
Virginia Snell Brown, *Vice President*  
Amanda Ross, *Secretary*  
David Lee Hutchinson, *Treasurer*  
Lonnie Hardin, *Member*

#### •Main Library

308 Yager Avenue, LaGrange, KY 40031

#### •South Oldham Public Library

6720 W. Hwy 146, Crestwood, KY 40014

#### •Mahan Public Library

12505 Harmony Landing Rd.,

## Oldham County landowners and students recognized at awards banquet

The Oldham County Conservation District's 38th Annual Awards Banquet was held on February 28 at the John Black Community Center. Each year, the District recognizes teachers, students and landowners that make significant efforts to promote conservation of the County's natural resources. The awards and banquet are sponsored in part by the Kentucky Farm Bureau Federation.

The Jim Claypool Art Contest is open to all Oldham 1st through 5th graders. This year's County winner was Whitney Weferling from Harmony Elementary School. The Conservation Writing Contest is open to students in 6th-12th grade with this year's County winner being Lila Norris from St. Aloysius School. The contest focuses on a different conservation theme each year. This year's theme was "Soil – Diggin' It." Steve Blanford, KY State Soil Scientist, was this year's guest speaker and gave an entertaining presentation. He also set up an inflatable "soil" tunnel with fun facts for guests to read. The contest is made possible through a partnership between Kentucky Farm Bureau Federation and the Kentucky Association of Conservation Districts. Entries from local winners will go on to be judged against approximately 63,000 others from across the state.

Elizabeth "Paige" Martin from Oldham County High School was the recipient of the H. Glenn Watson Conservation Scholarship. The scholarship is presented in memory of Glenn Watson to a graduating senior who, like Glenn, has volunteered in the community to help others. Tanya Watson was in

attendance to present the award this year.

Recognized for exceptional conservation efforts and care of the land was Mark Osborne, Twin Lakes Farm, as Outstanding Cooperator. The award recipient must implement the best management practices with long-term conservation efforts on land they own or manage. As an Outstanding District Cooperator, this individual's efforts in protecting the fragile resources of soil, water, woodland or wildlife resources are often modeled by others in the community.

Dr. Kenneth Schmidt was selected as Master Conservationist, the top honor awarded in the state to deserving landowners. The Master Conservationist Award is the highest recognition presented to private landowners by a local Soil and Water Conservation District for individual land stewardship efforts. Less than two percent of private landowners or farmers are recognized as Master Conservationists. To qualify for this award, the landowner must have completed over 90 percent of their soil and water conservation plan for the land under their control. In doing so, almost all, if not all of their land-based natural resources are protected from serious degradation and are managed for sustainability. Their conservation practices and management techniques are those to be modeled and are often emulated by others seeking to achieve similar levels of success.

**Congratulations  
to all!**



**Whitney Weferling** –  
*Harmony Elementary  
County Winner-Art*



**Lila Norris** –  
*St. Aloysius School  
County Winner-Writing*



**Mark Osborne** –  
*Outstanding Cooperator (rt)  
with Greta Steverson, NRCS*



**Dr. Kenneth Schmidt** –  
*Master Conservationist (rt)  
with Greta Steverson, NRCS  
and Jon Bednarski, Board  
Chairman*



**Paige Martin (lt)** –  
*H. Glenn Watson Scholarship  
Recipient with Tanya Watson  
and Bert Pearson*

### Oldham Co. Soil & Water Conservation District



700 W. Jefferson St., Suite A • La Grange, KY 40031  
phone: 502/222-5123 • fax: 502/222-7570  
email: oldhamswcd@gmail.com

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/Oldham-County-Conservation-District-156478851194067](http://www.facebook.com/Oldham-County-Conservation-District-156478851194067)

## Introducing our new Soil Conservationist

We are excited to announce the recent hire of Curtis Coombs as Soil Conservation Technician. Curtis grew up on a local farm and has an agricultural degree from UK. Curtis will be assisting producers with the implementation of NRCS Best Management Practices through state and federal cost-share programs. Curtis will also be available to assist all county residents with the technical knowledge needed to sustain the natural resources of soil, water, woodland and wildlife. This position was made possible through a partnership between the Oldham Co. Conservation District, Henry County Conservation District and the Natural Resource Conservation Service.



*Curtis Coombs family*

**ATTN:  
PRODUCERS!!**

**The next funding  
cycle deadline for  
the State Cost  
Share program is  
May 31.**

**GET YOUR  
APPLICATION  
IN NOW!**

## Oldham KY Tourism & Conventions

### Oldham Tourism continues to uncover more hidden treasures!

Do you or someone you know have a unique hobby, rare collection, cool skill, a fabulous garden, historic home or farm? Do you have a rare heirloom collection handed down for generations that is currently in storage? Oldham Tourism is on the hunt for more buried treasure in Oldham County!

I know of a man in a very rural area who boasted for years that he had the largest Corvette collection in the United States. After being reminded that there was a Corvette Museum (so his ravings could not possibly be true), an unbeliever flew five states to see this "collection" for himself. After much research and communication with Corvette, sure

enough, this man had the largest collection of Corvettes... in the WORLD! His collection included models that were produced only once. He, indeed, owned more than the famous Corvette Museum!

If you or someone you know in Oldham County has a fabulous hidden gem, please email us. Include your name and phone number, the name of the "gem keeper" with their city and phone number, as well as photos if possible.

*If you or someone you know in Oldham County has a unique hobby, rare collection, fabulous garden, historic home or other hidden gem, please email us.*



### Oldham KY Tourism & Conventions



*Kim Buckler Hydes  
Executive Director*

Oldham KY Tourism & Conventions  
7204 Highway 329, #101 (across from Starbucks)  
Crestwood, KY 40014 • 502/222-0056  
Kim Buckler Hydes, Executive Director  
Director@TourOldham.com



Your Own Backyard Oldham County (residents)  
Tour Oldham County KY (visitors)

## Community Health Needs Assessment and Health Improvement Plan completed

The Oldham County Health Department recently completed the Community Health Needs Assessment and the Community Health Improvement Plan for 2019-2022 through the dedicated work of

the Coalition for a Healthy Oldham County. The complete report with resources can be found at [www.coalitionforahealthyoc.com](http://www.coalitionforahealthyoc.com).

Thank you to Coalition members, community volunteers

and organizations who are invested in creating a community where individuals have the ability to pursue a safe, healthy and independent lifestyle! Oldham County's Health improvement plan includes op-

portunities for personal engagement, freedom from tobacco, alcohol and substance dependence and abuse, mental health awareness and solutions to prevent obesity related illness by making healthy food choices.

### Growing great kids in Oldham County!

#### Preparing for a healthy start, school readiness starts at birth

- **71% of kindergartners in OC are on track and ready for school (2018).**

**HANDS-** An evidence-based home visitation resource to support family stability during the first years of the child's life. Call 502/222-3516 for more info!

**Preventative Services for Healthy Beginnings-** Family Planning, STD Care, Cancer Prevention, Prenatal Care, Teen

Services and Immunizations for adults and children.

**WIC-** Provides supplemental food package with nutritional counseling, breastfeeding support and infant formula. Pregnant women, infants and children under five years of age are eligible based on income.

**School Readiness-** Ages & Stages Developmental Screening will track your child's progress and measure communication skills, gross motor,

fine motor, problem solving and personal/social skills. Parents connect to fun and free learning opportunities in the community through local partners like the OC Library system, the OC Early Childhood Council. For more information, call OCHD or visit: [www.kyreadyforschool.com](http://www.kyreadyforschool.com).

*ASQ is sponsored by Oldham County Metro United Way and supported through KY Help Me Grow.*



### FREE from Tobacco, Alcohol and substance dependence and abuse!

- **84% of adults in OC are tobacco free!**
- **Alcohol impaired driving was significantly higher in OC (43%) than all of Kentucky (28%).**

**Freedom from Smoking-** Quitters WIN! Join our Freedom from Smoking class, Tuesday evenings, 6-7 pm. Douglas E., Crestwood says "I wanted to quit and was finally convinced that I couldn't do it on my own. The class gave me a definite program to follow, along with the support of others and free nicotine replacement products. I haven't smoked in 16 months!"

**Coalition for a Healthy Oldham County-** Join us once a month for a mid-day lunch and learn with other community members. The coalition is in year five of the Drug Free Communities project, implementing strategies to prevent and reduce all forms of substance abuse including alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs.



### Community physical activity/nutrition

- **95% of OC adults have access to exercise opportunities!**
- **11% of OC residents report eating at least five or more servings of fruits and vegetables per day.**

**Community Challenge Walk 2019-** Join us in 2019! Oldham County participants walked the most steps in 2016 and again in 2018 winning the coveted gold cup!

**Diabetes Prevention Program-** Beginning April 8 on Monday evenings, 6-7 pm. Call Carry at 502/222-3344 for more information. Online Diabetes Resources can be found on the OCHD website.

**Nutritional Counseling-** OCHD's registered dietician is ready to help!

**G0365-** If you are a member of the KY Employee's Health Plan (KEHP), OCHD offers free biometric screenings!

#### Oldham County Health Department



1786 Commerce Pkwy., LaGrange, KY 40031  
502/222-3516 phone; 502/222-0816 fax

Monday and Wednesday: 7:30 am-4:30 pm  
Tuesday and Thursday: 7:30 am-6 pm  
Friday: 7:30 am-4 pm

# Youth use of electronic cigarettes, including JUUL, is skyrocketing

In Oldham County, the number of 10th and 12th grade students reporting use of electronic cigarettes in the past 30 days has almost doubled since 2016.\*

- 18% of 10th graders report using electronic cigarettes in the past 30 days.
- 28% of 12th graders reporting using electronic cigarettes in the past 30 days.

Parents be aware and be informed, be proactive and be protective. Talk, they listen.

For more information about electronic cigarettes and JUUL devices, please visit Operation Parent's online webinar at the link below:  
<https://register.gotowebinar.com/recording/8241007169005372162>

*\* 2018 KIP Student Survey*



**Oldham County students' use of electronic cigarettes is rapidly on the rise.**

## FACTS ABOUT ELECTRONIC CIGARETTES

- One JUUL Pod has as much NICOTINE as One Pack of Cigarettes
- Nicotine is as addictive as heroin
- Nicotine use primes the teen brain for addiction to other drugs, including alcohol, marijuana and opioids



### Vision:

The Coalition for a Healthy Oldham County's vision is to create and sustain an engaged community where individuals have the ability to pursue a safe, healthy and independent lifestyle including opportunities for recreation and freedom from substance abuse.

# Free Health Risk Assessments provide valuable snapshot of health risks

Being health aware isn't just about eating well or staying active. It's also about knowing your potential risks. Baptist Health's free health risk assessments (HRA) are used to provide you with an evaluation of your health risk today, five years down the road, 10 years down the road, or for a lifetime.

The risk assessments can identify a variety of potential health issues ranging from knee and hip pain to a healthy weight range or heart health and include assessments for breast, colon and lung cancer as well.

## What is a HRA?

A Health Risk Assessment (HRA) is a questionnaire to estimate your personal health risk and identify your risk factors for a certain condition, illness, or disease. The assessment will also tell you what you can do to lower your risk in the future. Each quiz takes less than five minutes and provides you with valuable information to discuss with your physician.

## What Health Risk Assessments (HRA) are available?

- **Breast Cancer:** Over the course of a lifetime, one in eight women will be diagnosed with breast cancer. Are you at risk?
- **Lung Cancer:** This quick lung cancer risk assessment can help you identify your lung cancer risk factors and determine if a lung cancer screening is recommended for you.
- **Colorectal Cancer:** The risk of colorectal cancer increases

dramatically with age. Take our colorectal cancer risk assessment to estimate your personal risk of developing colon and rectal cancer.

- **Heart Health:** Have you ever wondered how healthy your heart is? This quick heart health risk assessment can compare your actual age to your heart's biological age, as well as calculate your risk of developing cardiovascular disease.
- **Knee & Hip:** Wondering what your knee and hip pain means? Or what you can do to alleviate that pain? Take this knee and hip assessment to find out how well your joints are functioning and how joint pain affects your quality of life.
- **Stroke Assessment:** Strokes are the leading cause of serious, long-term disability in the United States. Take our stroke risk assessment to estimate your personal risk of having a stroke, and identify your stroke risk factors and how to improve them.

## What information do I need to complete the HRA?

The Health Risk Assessment (HRA) starts with general background questions and proceeds on to ask about symptoms you are having and pre-existing conditions. Many of the HRAs will ask you to know or estimate screening results such as blood pressure or cholesterol levels. If you cannot estimate or do not know the answers, don't worry, you will still be provided an overview that will help identify risk factors



**KNOW YOUR POTENTIAL RISKS.**

Take a free health quiz to discover how healthy your heart is, find out your personal stroke risk or to assess your cancer risk.

**Get started.**



**COMMUNITY HEALTH FAIR**  
Wednesday, May 22  
7 am - 2 pm  
Baptist Health Atrium  
**FREE**  
Registration not required

that can be controlled like diet and exercise, as well as those that are not controllable like family history.

## How do I get the results of the HRA?

You will have to fill out required information such as your first and last name, zip code, and email address. All of this information is kept private, according to the privacy policy you agree to upon beginning the HRA.

## Where can I find the HRAs?

The free HRAs can be found on the home page of the Baptist Health La Grange website at [BaptistHealth.com/LaGrange](http://BaptistHealth.com/LaGrange). In addition, Baptist Health La Grange will host its free Community Health Fair on Wednesday, May 22 from 7 am to 2 pm in the hospital's Atrium. Registration is not required.



**Baptist Health La Grange**

**BAPTIST HEALTH**  
LA GRANGE

**Patient Information:** 502/222-5388  
**Physician Referral:** 502/222-3627

## “Backyard” stream maintenance

Streams can be a wonderful addition to any residential, commercial, and industrial property. However, many property owners may not be certain how to maintain these streams. If you are one of these property owners, this article will shed some light on how to evaluate and repair your “backyard” stream.

The first step is to determine if your stream requires maintenance. The following list will help you assess your stream:

1. Is your stream mowed right to the edge of the streambank?
2. Does your stream have steep or near-vertical banks?
3. Does your stream have exposed and eroding soils?

If you answered “yes” to any of the above questions, you should consider conducting maintenance on your stream. The following things

can be done to repair your stream:

1. Establish a no-mow zone along stream banks and let vegetation grow.
2. Plant trees, shrubs, and other native plants in the no-mow zone.
3. Grade stream banks to a 3:1 slope (180 or 33.5%) or less.
4. Install erosion control measures to stabilize stream banks.

For additional information regarding this topic please attend the “Backyard Streams” class scheduled for Saturday, April 27th. You can also contact the Oldham County Engineering Department, Oldham County Cooperative Extension Service, or visit the following websites:

- <http://www.uky.edu/bae/backyardstreams>
- <http://oldham.ca.uky.edu/>



*Examples of streams that need maintenance. Note the steep stream banks and eroded soils.*

### Spring activities that help protect Oldham County streams:

- Test your soil before applying fertilizers. Apply only those fertilizers that are needed. Free soil test vouchers are available through the Oldham County Conservation District.
- Create a No-Mow Zone (a wide buffer) along rivers, streams, and creeks.
- Plant native trees, shrubs, and plants in No-Mow Zones or along stream banks.
- Dispose of yard clippings, leaves, and fallen branches properly to keep them out of rivers, streams, creeks, roadside ditches, and drainage swales.
- Pick up pet waste before it rains. This will keep harmful waste out of Oldham County waters and storm sewers.

## Meet the new Watershed Coordinator



*Becca Trueman*

Becca Trueman joined the Engineering Department as Oldham County’s Watershed Coordinator

last December. Becca is a Connecticut native and spent most of her life in New England, where she focused her studies on environmental science and began her career in conservation, agriculture, and natural resources protection. Becca is new to KY but has a longstanding passion for community development and all things environmental. She is thrilled for the opportunity to help grow the

Curry’s Fork Watershed Program with the citizens of Oldham County.

### Why Curry’s Fork Watershed?

Curry’s Fork is listed as a first priority stream by the Kentucky Division of Water, meaning that the waters are impaired and do not meet water quality standards. As part of a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency grant through the Kentucky Division of Water, Oldham County Fiscal Court performed a detailed study of the Curry’s Fork streams in order to develop a watershed plan, which addresses sources of pollution and identifies solutions for cleaning up Curry’s Fork streams. Thanks to additional federal grants, Oldham County Fiscal Court is now implementing key initiatives in the

plan and working to improve our water for future generations.

### What it means to be a Watershed Coordinator.

Being a watershed coordinator means working to restore and protect water resources. But this is only possible through collaboration with those who have interest and influence in the water quality of the watershed. In the past several years, projects in Curry’s Fork have included septic system repair, green infrastructure, and stream enhancement and restoration. Practices like these help reduce pollution, slow runoff, and repair stream health and function. Help from local professionals is essential to this program, however the most important piece to the

watershed puzzle is involvement of local citizens.

This is your water, your land, and your home. And as watershed coordinator, my goal is to help support and facilitate change in ways that make the most sense for your watershed.

**Get involved!** Whether you have never heard of this program or have been involved since the beginning, I’d like to hear from you. Contact me directly or come say “hi” at a future event. Check out the Oldham County Website or our Facebook page for more information on our program and upcoming events!

### Contact:

Becca Trueman, 502/222-1476 or [rtrueman@oldhamcountyky.gov](mailto:rtrueman@oldhamcountyky.gov).

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## Oldham County Fiscal Court



# Forest Friends Playground at Creasey Mahan Nature Preserve



**If you would like to contribute  
to extend the special needs  
playground at Creasey Mahan  
Nature Preserve, please visit:  
[www.creaseymahannaturepreserve.org](http://www.creaseymahannaturepreserve.org)**

One of the jewels of our county is the Creasey Mahan Nature Preserve. Since 1975, Creasey Mahan Nature Preserve, a public charity, has provided a beautiful 170-acre park-like destination for the entire community. Last year, the park served 48,000 visitors.

The Nature Preserve offers the new Thrive Forest School preschool program, summer camps, school field trips, a two-acre Woodland

Garden, family-friendly areas, recreational fields, nine miles of wooded trails, and native grasslands and creeks for everyone to enjoy.

A wonderful new feature is an ADA-accessible playground. Opened in 2017 with interesting and fun pieces of playground equipment, children in wheelchairs and with special needs are now able to play alongside friends and family members.

This year, an attempt is underway to raise funds to install a 25-foot tall tower, with three slides and other play areas, including a climbing wall. Once completed, this nature-themed playground will contain over 13,000 square feet of FUN with oversized creatures (a newt, turtles, frogs and birds), and it is sure to entice families from our entire county.

Financial assistance in any amount to help extend the special

needs playground will be deeply appreciated. Creasey Mahan Nature Preserve is open to the public every day, free of charge, from dawn to dusk.

Sincerely,

*David Voegele*

Oldham County Judge Executive