



LAKES FUNERAL HOME

**Dallas Johnson**

Dallas Johnson was born March 27, 1956 in Jackson County and departed this life Tuesday, May 30, 2017 at his residence in Sand Gap, being 61 years of age. He was the son of the late Vernon & Mae (Mays) Johnson.

Dallas is survived five children, Angela Richie and her husband Chester of Hazard, Ronald Johnson, Dallas Ray Johnson and his wife Amanda, Vernon Johnson and his wife Jeanie and Josh Johnson and his wife Peggy all of Sand Gap.

He is also survived by two brothers, Danny Johnson of Sand Gap and Ricky Johnson of Nicholasville and by three sisters, Barbara Taylor of Waneta, Patty Lainhart of Sand Gap and Margaret Bicknell of Madison County. Dallas was blessed with a host of grandchildren.

In addition to his parents, Dallas was also preceded in death by two children, Tiffany Johnson and Robert Johnson and by a brother, Dale Johnson.

Funeral service will be 1:00PM Friday, June 2, 2017 at Lakes Funeral Home with Bro. Mark Horn officiating. Burial to follow in the Johnson Cemetery. Pallbearers were Josh Callahan, Ronald Wayne, Josh, Dallas Ray, Vernon & Ronald Johnson. Honorary pallbearers were Jeff Gilliam, Austin & Andrew Johnson.

Lakes Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.



**Beshear: Scam Alerts Update – 9,300 Signed Up, 6,500 Informed, 160 Community Partners Onboard, Nearly \$1 Million Returned**

Beshear urging more Kentuckians to sign up for alerts to better protect family, neighbors

FRANKFORT, KY. (May 30, 2017) – A year after launching Scam Alerts, Attorney General Andy Beshear announced that his office is collaborating with more than 160 partners across the state on Kentucky’s first continuous, comprehensive push to protect seniors from scams.

Beshear announced today that his newest partners are the Alzheimer’s Association, Greater Kentucky-Southern Indiana Chapter and the Bluegrass Council of the Blind.

Working with various partners, Beshear’s office has signed up over 9,300 citizens for Scam Alerts direct messaging alert system; hosted more than 100 scam prevention presentations across the state – directly reaching more than 6,500 Kentuckians; and received more than 800 scam-specific complaints.

Through his office’s mediation services, nearly \$880,000 has been returned to Kentuckians from more than 4,800 consumer complaints and reports submitted to Beshear’s office, which includes the 800-plus victims of scams.

Beshear said one of those victims was an Elizabethtown resident who had fallen victim to an IRS scam and who his office helped recover more than \$50,000.

“While my office strives to help each and every victim of a scam who reaches out, we have more work to do because scammers grow more and more sophisticated in their cons, making it difficult but not impossible for my office to return money to victims,” Beshear said.

On the day Beshear was sworn into office, Beshear created the Office of Senior Protection.

A year ago, it launched a comprehensive campaign to better protect seniors through scam notification, education, community partnership and seeking justice for seniors defrauded by scams.

From that campaign grew Scam Alerts, a system that allows his office to send text message or email alerts to those signed up for the service when new and trending scams are reported to his office. Each alert includes tips on how to spot and avoid the scam, and information on where to report any occurrences.

Signing up for Scam Alerts, Beshear said, is a proactive step everyone can take to become aware of the types of scams on the rise throughout Kentucky and the nation.

Last week, Beshear warned of a scam targeting Kentucky families and seniors who are seeking to save money on their prescription drugs.

Nationally, more than 3 million consumers were conned out of \$765 million. Seniors lose nearly \$37 billion a year to elder financial abuse.

At almost every scam awareness event, Beshear said he hears from at least one person who has lost money over the years to a scammer.

Beshear said working with a variety of organizations such as congregations, grocers, banks, neighbors and families who, like him, want to protect their members, has helped scam awareness grow throughout the Commonwealth.

Beshear is currently working with such partners as AARP Kentucky, Kentucky Council of Churches, Kentucky Bankers Association, Kroger, Better Business Bureau, UK Cooperative Extension Services, the United States Postal Inspection Service, Fayette County Sheriff’s Office and Jefferson County Sheriff’s Office.

Beshear will speak at noon Wednesday, May 31 to the Owensboro Rotary Club with South Central Bank in Daviess County. Bank tellers statewide are working with Beshear’s office to recognize the warning signs of scammers and financial elder abuse to better protect their customers.

Kentuckians interested in receiving Scam Alerts can text the words KYOAG Scam to GOV311 (468311), or visit [ag.ky.gov/scams](http://ag.ky.gov/scams) to sign up with your mobile phone number or email address.

To report scams to the Office of the Attorney General call 888-432-9257 or file a consumer complaint online.

**One in Three Adults in Rural Areas Have Arthritis**

FRANKFORT, Ky. (May 31, 2017) – As part of the 52 Weeks of Public Health campaign, the Kentucky Department of Public Health (DPH), within the Cabinet for Health and Family Services (CHFS), is emphasizing the negative impact of arthritis on people who live in rural areas.

A recent report by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) showed that one-third of adults in rural areas have arthritis, and that more than one-half of that population is limited in their daily activities by the condition. In Kentucky, more than one million adults have doctor-diagnosed arthritis and more than half (570,000) of those with arthritis live in rural parts of the state. Furthermore, 45 percent of rural working age adults report that arthritis limits their ability to work.

“Many senior centers, local health departments, the University of Kentucky Center of Excellence on Rural Health and YMCAs offer proven exercise and self-management programs that help relieve arthritis pain,” said Teri Wood, principal investigator on the CDC Arthritis grant for DPH. “Our program is always seeking local organizations already serving rural populations, including churches, county extension agents, veterans’ service organizations, health care clinics, and community centers that might be able to collaborate to make the small-group versions of these low-cost programs more available.”

Throughout the planned 52 Weeks of Public Health promotion, DPH will spotlight a specific public health issue.

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 You may also email them to [sue@thejacksoncountytimes.com](mailto:sue@thejacksoncountytimes.com)

**Beshear Calls for Tougher Restrictions on Ringless Robocalls**

Kentuckians need protection from unwanted, costly scam and robocall messages

FRANKFORT, KY. (June 6, 2017) – Today, Attorney General Andy Beshear announced he joined with attorneys general from Massachusetts and New York to urge the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to crack down on the national onslaught of robocall messages and oppose ringless robocalls.

In the joint comment letter sent last week, Beshear, AG Healey and AG Schneiderman oppose a petition requesting ringless robocalls, which deliver voicemails to consumers without causing their phones to ring, be exempt from consumer protections under the Telephone Consumer Protection Act (TCPA).

In the petition filed by All About the Message, ringless robocalls would be exempt from the protections arguing that they should not be considered “calls.”

The attorneys general contend that this exemption further opens the floodgates to more harassing calls and messages.

“Protecting Kentuckians from the constant barrage of unwanted scam and robocalls is an ongoing priority of my office,” said Kentucky Attorney General Andy Beshear. “We must strengthen the protections to our citizens, not clear the way for costly, unwanted calls.”

“Massachusetts residents already face a constant barrage of harassing, intrusive and unwanted robocalls,” said Massachusetts Attorney General Maura Healey. “Granting companies a free pass to push ringless voice messages to consumers’ phones just adds more robocalls and causes significant financial harm to those who are charged for checking their messages.

“New Yorkers are already the victims of countless unwanted phone solicitations,” said New York Attorney General Eric Schneiderman. “The federal government has a basic responsibility to protect American consumers. That certainly doesn’t mean making it even easier for companies to spam them costly, unsolicited, ringless robocalls.”

The purpose of the TCPA is to protect consumers from unwanted and intrusive calls. The FCC’s Robocall Strike Force reports that robocalls are the number one source of complaints it receives, with consumers receiving an estimated 2.4 billion robocalls per month in 2016.

The letter points out that these ringless robocalls prevent consumers from blocking unwanted messages with many of the latest call blocking apps for mobile phones. In addition, whether they ring or not, robocalls can impose significant costs on consumers, especially those with prepaid cell phones or limited minutes who are charged for checking their messages. Consumers with limited size voicemail boxes may miss important messages when their voicemail is clogged with unwanted messages.