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## E'town woman vies for Miss Kentucky title

ANDREW CRITCHELOW The News-Enterprise 5 hrs ago

Elizabethtown woman Tara Curry will participate in the 2019 Miss Kentucky USA pageant in Lexington, taking place Jan. 26 and 27.

Submitted photo

A rekindled passion will result in an appearance at the 2019 Miss Kentucky USA pageant for Tara Curry of Elizabethtown.

Curry, 22, a full-time student at Western Kentucky University who hasn't competed in a pageant since she was 6 years old, will represent Elizabethtown on Jan. 26 in Miss Kentucky USA in Lexington.

Curry said she decided to end her long hiatus from pageants last year. She said she has several friends who are experienced with pageants who have helped coach her and that she has undergone a regular weightlifting and exercise regiment in preparation.

"I'm so excited to start competing again," she said. "I am always about trying new things and this was something I wanted to start again."

To enter the pageant, Curry said she had to apply online and participate in a phone interview with the pageant's director. She will compete among many other contestants from around the state in a preliminary pageant Jan. 26 and will move on to the finals Jan. 27 if she advances.

The final competition consists of interview, swimsuit and evening gown portions. Curry said around 31 competitors will take part in the finals.

The winner of the final competition will advance to compete in the Miss USA competition, which is May 21 in Shreveport-Bossier, Louisiana.

Curry said she hopes her participation in the pageant will allow her to be a role model for local girls.

“I love being a motivator,” she said. “Giving children something to look up to is really my main motivation.”

Regardless of the pageant’s outcome, Curry said she hopes pursue several other pageants in the future now that she has revisited her passion.

“I just love any new opportunity,” she said.

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