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# Carter County Times

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CARTER COUNTY, KENTUCKY

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## Arrest made in Grayson hit and run

### Stephen Ray Ludwig arrested after striking a blind pedestrian

By: Jeremy D. Wells  
Carter County Times

Grayson police have made an arrest in a pedestrian hit and run incident captured on surveillance video last Wednesday morning. Stephen Ray Ludwig, 33, of Grayson, was arrested by Grayson PD on Thursday evening, on charges of first degree wanton endangerment, leaving the scene of an accident – failure to render aid or assistance, and operating a motor vehicle on a suspended or revoked operator's

license.

In the footage, which racked up more than 360,000 views on the City of Grayson Facebook page during that first day, an automobile operated by Ludwig can be seen striking a blind pedestrian crossing South Hord Street at the Main Street intersection. After striking the pedestrian, and knocking him over, the car can be seen reversing, and changing lanes, before speeding away. As the car backs up and flees the scene, the victim can be heard on camera yelling at the driver, "Are you serious?!?"

According to a release from the Grayson police department and Mayor Troy Combs's office, the visually impaired pedestrian was struck by Ludwig's 2003

See **HIT AND RUN** on A-3



Stephen Ray Ludwig (submitted photo)

## Getting muddy and rocking out

### Dirt Slingers promises family enjoyment

By: Charles Romans  
Carter County Times

If you're interested in off-roading, there's a new place in Carter County to go get muddy! Dirt Slingers Off Road Park, located at 3710 West US Highway 60, just west of Grayson, offers a wide range of entertainment for the entire family. It isn't just off-roading either, upcoming events include a battle of the bands, and karaoke contests. Other events at the

park, like off road barrel racing, uphill drag racing, off road course racing, and tug-of-war, draw crowds from across the region and beyond. The 700-acre park also has a large playground area with multiple play structures for children to enjoy themselves.

"There's a lot of trails and hill climbs," owner Morgan May said. "And a little bit of everything for everyone. There's mud, different trails with different difficulty levels, and we can accommodate everything from dirt bikes to rock bouncers. It doesn't matter if its rock crawlers, Jeeps, or side by sides, we can accommodate almost anything."

A lot of the riders are local

See **MUDDY** on A-3



(submitted photos)

## Sidewalks and empty lots

### Grayson council discusses project funding and property purchase

By: Charles Romans  
Carter County Times

Grayson City Council held a special meeting last Wednesday to discuss time sensitive business concerning the city, beginning with the ongoing sidewalk project. Mayor Troy Combs informed the council that he had a progress meeting with Bell Engineering the previous day.

"They are pretty much done," Combs told the council. "They just have a few more things to finish up, then they will be done

with Phase One and Phase Two of the project."

"I let them know that the city council wanted to proceed with Phase Three, and we were going to finance the money," Combs continued. "Originally the contractor told me that they could come back mid-October. Now he stated that he could come back mid-November. I don't see a problem with that other than that there is a little asphalt work needing to be done, and most asphalt places shut down by then. So, we will have to come up with something for that."

The change in timing, Combs said, would also necessitate a change in the financing, which in this case would mean there would be more time before financing would be needed, which would allow the council to 'shop around' for the best interest rate and potentially save taxpayer

money.

"I have some rates available today," Combs told the council. "But everyone is thinking the rates will go down in September. So, we could wait to see if those rates drop and resubmit our request."

The city is intending to finance \$180,000 for Phase Three of the sidewalk project. The rates Combs said he had been quoted from local lending institutions were 5.54 on a five-year note, and 4.5 on a six-year note.

Combs recommended to the council that the city wait to secure financing until the next phase of the project was set to begin. Councilman Dustin Burchett agreed with Combs' recommendation, and cited the possibility that those types of projects typically slow down

See **COUNCIL** on A-3

## Weekly arrests report

The following individuals were arrested and booked into the Carter County Detention Center over the past week. This list includes local arrests only. It does not include federal inmates being housed at or transported through the detention center.

- Gina Johnson, 53, of Grayson, arrested by Grayson PD, on two counts of non-payment of court costs, fees, or fines, arrested and booked August 18.
- Christian Mabry, 38, of Morehead, arrested by Kentucky State Police, for failure to appear, arrested and booked August 19.
- Jacob Holley, 21, of Grayson, arrested by Kentucky State Police, on a charge of second

degree manslaughter, arrested and booked August 19.

- Eddie Hale, 76, of Grayson, arrested by Grayson PD, on a charge of operating a motor vehicle under the influence of a substance, arrested and booked August 20.

- Jason Brewster, 41, of Olive Hill, arrested by Kentucky State Police, on charges of first degree possession of a controlled substance (cocaine), possession of drug paraphernalia, flagrant non-support, and failure to appear, arrested and booked August 21.

- Arron Bly, 23, address unavailable, arrested by Kentucky State Police, on charges of operating a motor vehicle under the influ-

ence of a controlled substance, possession of marijuana, failure to wear seat belts, and reckless driving, arrested and booked August 22.

- Stephen Ludwig, 33, of Grayson, arrested by Grayson PD, on charges of first degree wanton endangerment, leaving the scene of an accident – failure to render aid or assistance, and operating a motor vehicle on a suspended or revoked operator's license, arrested and booked August 22.
- Vickie Carroll, 39, of Ashland, arrested by Kentucky State Police, for failure to appear, arrested and booked August 22.
- Johnny Williams, 45, of Hitchens, arrested by Grayson PD, for non-payment of court costs, fees, or fines, arrested and booked August 22.

See **ARRESTS** on A-3



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### This Week's Obituaries

Jerry Sheridan Bryan, 62  
Chimila Michele Fraley Hargett, 57

Bertha Jane "BJ" McDavid, 93

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# LIFESTYLE



## Grill up a Juicy Lucy for Labor Day fun: A burger to make your holiday sizzle

Labor Day marks the unofficial end of summer, and there's no better way to celebrate than by firing up the grill and treating your friends and family to something truly special. This year let's skip the typical hot dogs and basic burgers and impress your family and friends with a crowd-pleasing classic straight from the heartland: Minnesota's Juicy Lucy burger.

The Juicy Lucy isn't just any burger -- it's a flavor-packed, molten-cheese-filled masterpiece. It's always a favorite that will

have your guests coming back for seconds (and maybe thirds). Hailing from the vibrant food scene of Minneapolis, this iconic burger has captured the hearts of locals and visitors alike. And the best part? It's quite affordable and easier to make than you might think, allowing you to bring restaurant-quality dining to your backyard without breaking the bank.

Why the Juicy Lucy? When it comes to holiday celebrations, especially ones as laid-back as Labor Day, we want food that's both fun and delicious. The Juicy Lucy fits the bill perfectly. Imagine biting into a perfectly grilled beef patty, only to discover a gooey, cheesy surprise hidden within. It's a burger that's as enjoyable to eat as it is to make -- and it's sure to be the talk of your gathering.

**Diva Tip:** For that irresistible molten center, only American cheese will do. This is one time I recommend the processed stuff! And to keep your Lucy juicy, opt for ground beef with at least 15% fat. Trust me, your taste buds will thank you. Remember, this isn't health food -- it's a holiday indulgence! We don't eat like this every day. At least, I hope you don't! Either way, eat two salads

next week for balance.

**MINNESOTA'S JUICY LUCY BURGER**

Yield: 4 burgers  
Total Time: 25 mins

1 1/2 pounds ground beef  
1 tablespoon Worcestershire sauce  
1 teaspoon black pepper  
3/4 teaspoon garlic salt  
4 slices American cheese (such as Kraft)  
4 hamburger buns, split  
Sliced pickles, for serving



celebrate Labor Day with an indulgent Juicy Lucy, because some flavors are worth the splurge! (Photo credit: www.JasonCoblentz.com)

In a mixing bowl, combine ground beef, Worcestershire sauce, pepper and garlic salt until well mixed. Form the mixture into eight thin patties, making half slightly larger than the other half.

Stack the cheese slices and cut them into four squares. Place one cheese stack in the center of each larger beef patty, then cover with a smaller patty. Roll the edges of the larger patty over the smaller one, tightly pinching to seal around the cheese. Seal tightly to avoid any cheese oozing out during cooking!

Heat your grill or a large skillet over medium heat. Cook the patties for about 4 minutes on each side, ensuring they are well-

browned. A meat thermometer inserted into the center should read at least 160 F (70 C). Serve on hamburger buns with pickles.

While Juicy Lucy purists may forgo condiments, feel free to customize your burger with your favorite toppings. Want to be a real rebel? Add some sauteed mushrooms and onions -- just don't tell the folks in Minnesota I suggested that!

This Labor Day, skip the expensive restaurant meal or basic burger and create your own unforgettable dining experience at home. The Juicy Lucy burger

is not only fun to make, but also a great way to save money while treating your family and friends to something special. After all, holidays are about making memories. And is there a better way to do that than with a sizzling, cheesy burger fresh off the grill? I think not.

\*\*\*  
Lifestyle expert Patti Diamond is the penny-pinching, party-planning, recipe developer and content creator of the website Divas On A Dime -- Where Frugal, Meets Fabulous! Visit Patti at www.divasonadime.com and join the conversation on Facebook at DivasOnADimeDotCom. Email Patti at divapatti@divasonadime.com  
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## Joyful Noise

# Persevere in faith

By: Pastor Naomi Mitchell  
for Carter County Times

To persevere is to hold firmly and steadily to our faith in God and to His Word despite obstacles or setbacks. It's not giving up! It is very important to run with patience and not give up no matter what. Hebrews 12:1, Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us.

**PREPATORY** -- Before we can run this race there are some things we must do. Lay aside every weight, and sin that doth so easily beset us: every weight that is, all inordinate affection and concern for the body, and the present life and world. The word tells us that we are to lay aside anything outside of or instead of God that you are willing to suffer for. Inordinate care (care that is excessive and unnatural without limitations) for the present life or fondness for it, is a dead weight upon the soul. It pulls it down when it should be pulling you up. It pulls it back when it should be pressing you forward.

Every sin that so easily besets us. Here it can mean impatience as the besetting sin of one person and covetousness as the besetting sin of another, pride, etc. Any sin that has the greatest advantage against us, by the circumstances we are in or our state of

mind. A besetting sin can mean one that is persistent, constantly in evidence or deeply rooted. Your besetting sin is the one you wrestle with most often, the one that gives you the most trouble. It's the one that keeps haunting you, threatening to control you, to hold you in bondage that you always fall victim to. Lay aside the things that hinder us both internal and external.

**PERFECTIVE** -- Run with Patience the race that is set before us. Christians have a race to run, a race of service unto the Lord, a race of sufferings, a race of obedience.

The 2024 Olympics just closed a few weeks ago. The contestants didn't start practicing a week before the Olympics. It had been a lifestyle and lifetime of discipline. They laid aside weights. They practiced for years, long and hard, through all kinds of sufferings and setbacks. They persevered no matter what. I'm sure there were times when they felt like giving up and felt there was no progress and that they had gone to the limit of their endurance many times. They didn't dive into that pool of water the distance of a three-story building with cowboy boots and a backpack on with their iPhone in their hand. No weights or distractions -- only focus and concentration at the race set before them with patience! They didn't hurry or rush through. They ran the race with patience and in the end it paid off.

**PATIENCE** is one of

the fruits of the Spirit. This race as a Christian must be run with patience (stay calm and keep going) and perseverance (not giving up). Resist all temptation and detest the thought of even turning aside. It is not those who start off fast and furious like the little rabbit, but slow and patient like the little turtle. Keep running your race with patience every day, one day at a time. Jesus has given you power to tread on serpents and scorpions. Step over anything that would fall into your path or tempt you to get out of the race. God has marked out the way -- both by the Word of God and the examples of the faithful servants of God, that great cloud of witnesses.

God has set out proper limits and directions in His Word, the mark we are to run to and the prize we run for. Hebrews chapter 11, gives us a few names in the Hall of Faith as examples to follow. But there is no greater example than Jesus Christ our Lord. Hebrews 12:2 -- looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith. He is the beginning, perfecter, and rewarder of our faith, the great leader of our faith, the author of our faith. You can do this! Jesus paved the way! AMEN. SO BE IT.

*JOYFUL House of Prayer, 2519 Quicksand Road, (P.O. Box 856), Jackson, Kentucky 41339. Send Comments/Prayer Requests: Pastornaomi4god@gmail.com. FB: JoyfulHoprayer. Services: 10am Sunday and 6:30pm Thursdays. Radio Broadcast: WJSN 97.3 FM & WEKG 81.0 AM Sundays 1-2pm.*

# Ending the Summer with art

## Gallery announces August show

By Dan Click  
Carter County Times

The Grayson Gallery & Art Center, Inc. will present their end of summer art show, Lots of Fun in the Summertime, with a free opening reception for artists and the public on Friday, August 30 from 6 -- 9 p.m. Visitors are encouraged to dress for the hot



See ART on A-4

## Kentucky Dept of Agriculture Livestock and Grain Market Report

Compared to last week feeder steers and heifers sold 4.00 to 8.00 lower with exceptions 12.00 lower to 2.00 higher. Yearling steers were mostly 4.00 to 6.00 lower yearling heifers were steady to 5.00 lower. Demand was moderate to good for all feeder and yearling classes with best interest for weaned packages and groups of calves. Slaughter cows and bulls were unevenly steady, trending 2.00 to 4.00 lower up to 2.00 to 4.00 higher with good to very good demand.

Courtesy of <https://www.kyagr.com/> Week ending 8/24/24

STATE AVERAGES			
	<u>This Week</u>	<u>Prior Week</u>	<u>Last Year</u>
<b>Steers (M&amp;L 1-2)</b>			
350-400 lbs	293.46	312.61	249.12
400-450 lbs	296.93	295.87	249.62
450-500 lbs	286.40	294.94	247.35
500-550 lbs	281.43	285.31	242.50
550-600 lbs	270.13	282.13	237.24
600-650 lbs	257.91	271.73	231.93
650-700 lbs	249.77	263.38	228.55
700-750 lbs	237.79	249.49	228.47
750-800 lbs	234.10	241.17	209.02
800-850 lbs	234.87	240.42	230.28
850-900 lbs	229.99	223.61	207.82
<b>Heifers (M&amp;L 1-2)</b>			
300-350 lbs	267.12	277.19	227.77
350-400 lbs	270.90	272.30	230.48
400-450 lbs	260.42	271.04	230.36
450-500 lbs	254.76	267.22	227.81
500-550 lbs	246.65	254.33	225.82
550-600 lbs	243.63	250.68	222.25
600-650 lbs	227.45	238.38	210.97
650-700 lbs	224.44	233.48	214.97
700-750 lbs	212.52	227.49	187.85
750-800 lbs	213.81	209.07	213.58

WEEKLY COW SUMMARY			
	<u>Average</u>	<u>High</u>	<u>Low</u>
<b>Slaughter Cows</b>			
Breakers	126.00-149.50	135.00-170.00	118.00-136.00
Boners	120.00-149.50	134.00-183.00	110.00-168.00
Lean	100.00-146.00	120.00-161.00	70.00-126.00
<b>Slaughter Bulls</b>			
Yield Grade 1&2	140.00-187.00	160.00-197.00	120.00-160.00

**August 8, 2024** **Bowling Green, KY**

**SLAUGHTER GOATS: 145**

**Kids: Selection 1** 52 lbs 285.00. **Selection 1-2** 48 lbs 270.00. **Selection 2** 53 lbs 270.00; 72 lbs 260.00. **Selection 2-3** 49 lbs 227.50; 61 lbs 225.00.

**SLAUGHTER SHEEP: 527**

**Hair Breeds-Choice & Prime 1-2** 58 lbs 205.00; 60 lbs 250.00; 71-75 lbs 237.50-247.50; 86 lbs 192.50-205.00; 92 lbs 175.00; 114 lbs 170.00. **Choice 2** 58 lbs 205.00; 71 lbs 200.00; 87 lbs 200.00; 108 lbs 175.00; 110 lbs 175.00. **Wooled-Choice & Prime 1-2** 70 lbs 195.00; 134 lbs 182.50.

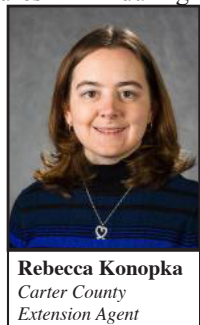
Week ending 8/24/24			
GRAINS			
	<u>This Week</u>	<u>Prior Week</u>	<u>Last Year</u>
<b>Corn</b>	3.31-3.66	3.41-3.88	4.28-5.36
<b>Soybeans</b>	8.64-9.58	8.92-10.01	13.37-14.33
<b>Red Winter Wheat</b>	4.13-4.52	4.38-5.09	4.78-5.72

## Extension Notes

AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES

# Help your garden weather a heatwave

After a brief break, scorching temperatures are back. Most gardeners know that plants can suffer under high summer heat. Most vegetables and native plants can withstand a periodic heatwave, but once the soil dries out in the top few inches, all plants can feel the stress. Some vegetables like beans and tomatoes



Rebecca Konopka  
Carter County  
Extension Agent

may delay producing fruit during hot weather but this is usually temporary. Here are some ways to help protect your plants!

A layer of mulch around your plantings can help hold moisture for those important surface roots and moderate the soil's temperature. A light-colored mulch like straw, pine needles or

grass clippings can help to reflect heat back and away from the plant's roots.

Water your plants in the early morning before the heat of day to prevent water loss to evaporation. If you use sprinklers, most of that water can be lost through wind drift and evaporation, so try to water on a calm morning. Hand watering gives you the best control and directs the water exactly where you need it. If you can, it is

See HEATWAVE on A-3

**Arrests** from A-1

•Richard Bryan, 63, of Wayne, WV, arrested by Kentucky State Police, on charges of operating a motor vehicle on a suspended or revoked operator's license, possessing a license when privileges are revoked, display of illegal or altered registration plate, failure to wear seat belts, improper registration plate, failure to register the transfer of a motor vehicle, and non-payment of court costs, fees, or fines, arrested and booked August 23.

•Jeffrey Blankenship, 45, of Morehead, arrested by Carter County District Court, weekender, arrested and booked August 23.

•Timothy Burton, 56, of Olive Hill, arrested by Carter County District Court, weekender, arrested and booked August 23.

•Bryan Adkins, 42, of Olive Hill, arrested by Carter County Sheriff, for failure to appear, and non-payment of court costs, fees, or fines, arrested and booked August 24.

•Elias Lopez-Pacheco, 32, of Grayson, arrested by Grayson PD, on charges of second degree assault – domestic violence, first degree wanton endangerment, intimidating a participant in the legal process, and third degree

terroristic threatening, arrested and booked August 25.

•Devon Branson, 41, of Vanceburg, arrested by Kentucky Fish and Wildlife, on two counts of failure to appear, arrested and booked August 25.

•Kielee Mulvaine, 38, of Lexington, arrested by Kentucky Fish and Wildlife, serving a warrant for parole violation, and two counts of failure to appear, arrested and booked August 25.

•Charles LeMaster, 63, of Grayson, arrested by Grayson PD, on charges of first degree possession of a controlled substance (heroin), first degree

possession of a controlled substance (methamphetamine), and possession of drug paraphernalia, arrested and booked August 25.

All of the charges listed are arrest charges only, and do not indicate an indictment or a conviction for the charges in question. All subjects are considered innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

Information is compiled from publicly available sources, but may not be comprehensive.

**Muddy** from A-1

to the tri county area, but many come from all over Kentucky, Ohio, and West Virginia, May said.

“We have had a lot of support from the area, but there have also been people come from Michigan and other states to ride the trails. But a lot of our bigger crowds come in from Ohio.”

Dirt sports have always enjoyed a robust following whether it be motocross, rock climbers, or specialty rigs, and enthusiasts can never get enough of the dirt, the mud, and the roar of engines straining through hazards or tearing

up earth as they surge toward the top of the next hill.

May said that it's his goal to provide the best experience possible and that he is constantly looking for more ways to improve Dirt Slingers Off Road Park and make it better for both competitors and spectators.

“We want everyone to have such a good time that they can't wait to come back,” he said.

May said that the park loves dirt sports, but it is more than just that.

“We've built a stage, a venue, to bring artists in for performances,” May

said. “We like to work with local and regional artists because there is a lot of talent in this area, and we like to help them out by having a place where they can perform.”

Dirt Slingers is currently looking for sponsors for their events, including a big event planned for Labor Day.

“The Off-Road Labor Day Bash event will run from August 30 through September 2, with camping, racing, and tug-of-war,” May said. “There will be a battle of the bands with twelve bands so far, and Train Wreck Ken-

ny from Outlaw Nation will be there.”

Complete information for the event is available on Dirt Slingers Facebook page, and they can be reached for more information or sponsorship by email at dirtslingersoffroad24@yahoo.com.

All ticket sales are sold at the gate with admission to the event at \$50 per machine for a weekend pass, \$20 event fee, and \$10 for concert ticket (Saturday night).

Contact the writer at [charles@cartercountytimes.com](mailto:charles@cartercountytimes.com)

**Council** from A-1

toward the end of the year and might not pick up again until early 2025. Other factors included the terms of the grant connected to the project, which only stipulated the work be completed by the end of 2025, and payment for the next phase not being required until that phase was well underway. After discussion, the council decided to delay financing

until a future date.

The next item discussed in the special meeting was a purchase agreement for the property at 201 Robert and Mary Avenue. The property is near the city building and could prove useful to the city, according to Combs, who provided the council with a tentative agreement.

“We saw that the property was up for sale and

spoke to some city council members who expressed an interest in the city purchasing it,” Combs said.

He told the council that he believed it was a good price for the property (\$37,000) but made them aware that what was listed was only that portion of land where an apartment building had burned down, and not any of the adjacent structures. The

adjacent property is owned by a different individual. That property owner told Combs he was not certain if he would be interested in selling. After discussion, the council voted unanimously to proceed with the property purchase.

Contact the writer at [charles@cartercountytimes.com](mailto:charles@cartercountytimes.com)

**Hit and Run** from A-1

Hyundai Accent at around 6:30 a.m. on Wednesday morning (August 21). The vehicle then immediately fled the scene.

Officer Zach Keesee with the Grayson police department responded at the scene, along with crews from Carter County Emergency Services. The

victim received minor injuries from the accident, and refused medical transport to the hospital, but was seen by a doctor later in the day.

After opening an investigation, officer Keesee received several tips from the public, as well as assistance from the Carter

County Sheriff's office. As part of his investigation Keesee canvassed the area for video surveillance, including the footage shared on the city's social media accounts.

On Thursday (August 22) Keesee interviewed two suspects and arrested Ludwig after receiving a

full confession.

Keesee is currently housed in the Carter County Detention Center on the charges in question, and his 2003 Hyundai Accent has been impounded as evidence.

Contact the writer at [editor@cartercountytimes.com](mailto:editor@cartercountytimes.com)

**Heatwave** from A-2

best to soak the soil directly beneath the plant and avoid getting the leaves wet. Soaker hoses are good for directing the water where it's needed most.

Watering in the morning also discourages slugs and fungal diseases. An evening dousing can leave the soil and foliage wet for longer periods of time and encourage snails, slugs and the spread of disease.

You may have to water container gardens two or even three times a day, depending on how large the container is and how much foliage is present. If they are small enough to be moved, shifting containers to a place where they can get partial shade will help manage the plants' stress, but some plants may not bloom as well when exposed to prolonged shady conditions.

During normal weather, young trees need at

least 10 gallons of water a week for the first three years directed toward their developing root systems. If you find yourself in a hot dry spell, provide your young trees and shrubs with more water. They are at their most susceptible during those early years. A tree bag contains a reservoir of water that is released slowly to the plant and can help keep the tree well-watered during the hottest spells. You'll only have to fill the bag occasionally rather than watering every few days. They can be purchased at most garden shops.

Shade cloth, which comes in varying thicknesses, can help protect plants that are withering under the sun's rays. Support it above or to one side of the plants, which will shelter them like a porch protects us from the

strongest sunlight. Tree branches with leaves can also be placed over plants to provide shade.

Now is not the time to cut your lawns short. Mow them to at least a three-inch height. That way, the grass blades will provide shade for their own roots and help hold in soil moisture. Avoid fertilizing lawns and gardens during heatwaves, because roots' capacity for taking up nutrients are reduced during hot weather. You'll just be wasting your money. Most Kentucky lawns are comprised of bluegrass and tall fescue. Once established, both of these species can withstand quite a bit of drought.

Many cool-season crops are planted in August, but the late summer heat can be hard on young transplants. Again, shade cloth can come in handy. Or plant them under more

mature plants, so they can benefit from the shade the larger plant throws.

For more information about how to weatherproof your lawn and garden, contact the Carter County office of the University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service.

**Upcoming Events**

- Little Sandy Beekeepers Meeting – Tuesday, September 3rd at 6:30 PM-Speaker: Dr. Amanda Skidmore, KY State Apiarist; Topic: Introduction & Native Plants for Bees
- Hike & Learn – Friday, September 6th @ 1:00 PM – Grayson Lake US Army Corp of Engineers; Hike Focus: Appalachian Folklore
- Extension District Board Meeting – Tuesday, September 10th @ 10:00 AM

# CALENDAR

- **8/28: Olive Hill Farmer's Market @ 8 a.m.** | Save-A-Lot parking lot
- **8/28: Olive Hill Book Club @ 5:30 p.m.** | Carter County Public Library - Olive Hill
- **8/29: Grayson Farmer's Market @ 2 p.m.** | Carter County Extension Office Shed
- **8/30: Final Friday @ 6 p.m.** | Grayson Gallery and Art Center
- **8/31: Olive Hill Farmer's Market @ 8 a.m.** | Save-A-Lot parking lot
- **8/31: Grayson Farmer's Market @ 9 a.m.** | Carter County Extension Office Shed
- **9/2: Quilts for Veterans Sew Days @ 9 a.m.** | Carter County Extension Education Center | For questions call 606-474-6686
- **89/2: Homeschool group meeting @ 12 p.m.** | Carter County Public Library - Grayson
- **9/2: Olive Hill Farmer's Market @ 3 p.m.** | Save-A-Lot parking lot
- **9/2: Carter County Tourism @ 5:30 p.m.** | Carter Caves State Resort Park
- **9/2: Rattlesnake Ridge Water District Board Meeting @ 4 p.m.** | Rattlesnake Ridge Water District office
- **9/2: Pop-Up Farmer's Market @ 6 p.m.** | Friendship & Chapel House parking lot
- **9/2: Homeschool group meeting @ 6 p.m.** | Carter County Public Library - Olive Hill
- **9/2: Little Sandy Beekeepers Association @ 6:30 p.m.** | Carter County Extension Office | Speaker: Amanda Skidmore, Stae KY Apiarist; Topic: Introduction & Native Plants for Bees
- **9/4: Olive Hill Farmer's Market @ 8 a.m.** | Save-A-Lot parking lot

**Have an event to add to the calendar?**  
Email info to [advertise@cartercountytimes.com](mailto:advertise@cartercountytimes.com)

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**OLIVE HILL AUTO PARTS**  
670 E Tom T Hall Blvd, Olive Hill  
606-286-8788



## Pet of the Week

Buster is a three-year-old male boxer mix, who loves attention! He's currently the longest resident of the shelter and ready to go to his forever home. His \$100 adoption fee includes rabies vaccination and being neutered. Stop by the Carter County Animal Shelter and meet him or call 475-9771 for more information.

Shelter hours are Monday through Friday 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. and Saturday by appointment.

**You aren't the only potential victim**



**Think of others**  
Never drink and drive. Always buckle up.

A message from the City of Grayson and the Grayson ABC office

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Art from A-2

weather and make plans for a festive evening with fellow artists and arts advocates. Over 40 pieces of original art in various mediums will be on display, with most for sale. Awards and announcements will take place at approximately 7:45 p.m., during which four awards with a \$50 cash prize, or equivalent purchase prize, will be pre-

sented as follows: People's Choice, by popular vote; GGAC Board Choice; the Pen Lady Award; and the Brandon Click Memorial Award. Catering by Laura will provide light refreshments. Entertainment, starting at 6:30 and continuing throughout the evening until closing time, will be by the band From the Hills. The musicians,

who have been performing together for many years, consist of Bill Byerley, lead vocalist; Andy Mayo, vocals, guitars; Jay Mabry, guitars, back-up vocals; Jamie Cain, bass; and Jason Webb on drums. Check them out on their Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/fromthehill-sband/about>. Coming up at the

GGAC will be a special, dual-artist exhibit featuring Sydney Kendrick and Shayla Nicole Moore, with an opening reception set for September 27. October will bring the annual Halloween show on October 25 (Octoberfest weekend in Grayson) and November will wrap up the year's monthly Final Fridays shows with an open-to-all

works exhibit on November 29.

This evening will also be a fundraiser for the Chuck Robertson Project, winners of the Huntington Blues Society's Blues Competition. Donations at the door will be encouraged to help with traveling expenses for their trip to Memphis, TN to compete in the International Blues

Competition. In December, during Grayson Hometown Holidays, the gallery will be presenting a special gospel music show along with another look at November's artwork.

Contact Dan Click, GGAC director via email: [graysongallery@gmail.com](mailto:graysongallery@gmail.com) and look for them on Facebook.

## Some of the poorest Kentuckians pay the highest power bills because their houses leak energy

Advocates urge Kentucky Power to promote efficiency, weatherization, heat pumps instead of building a power plant

By: Liam Niemeyer  
The Kentucky Lantern

Investor-owned Kentucky Power faced strong criticism last year when it asked to increase its electricity rates in response to "historic" economic decline among the 20 Eastern Kentucky counties it serves.

The Kentucky Public Service Commission (PSC) ultimately slashed the proposed rate hike by over two-thirds, approving a 5.66% increase in residential bills. But as part of that decision, Kentucky Power

agreed to collaborate with a coalition of consumer and renewable energy advocacy groups on ways to help ratepayers reduce their electricity bills by making their homes more energy efficient.

Kentucky Power ratepayers already paid the state's highest average residential electricity bill at \$187 a month before last year's rate increase, and the area the utility serves includes some of the poorest communities in the

state and the entire country.

Advocates and the utility met over recent months, but the coalition of groups is disappointed in what Kentucky Power has proposed and plans to urge the PSC to push the utility to be more ambitious with its energy efficiency offerings. These groups say energy efficiency programs could offer home upgrades that households could repay through monthly utility bills while they save electricity and money.

Byron Gary, a Kentucky Resources Council attorney representing the groups, said much more could be done "to cut down on the suffering of folks in Eastern Kentucky as well as the continued reliance on fossil fuels."

He said the groups hope robust energy efficiency offerings could also reduce the utility's power demand and, the groups hope, dissuade the utility from building a new natural gas-fired power plant that

ratepayers would bear the costs of.

"The cheapest kilowatt hour is the one you don't have to produce in the first place," Gary said.

Kentucky Power spokesperson Sarah Nusbaum in a statement said the utility is surprised and disappointed by the criticism "especially from groups we would have expected to support energy efficiency programs."

Nusbaum said the utility's  
See ENERGY on A-8

## OBITUARY

### Bertha Jane "BJ" McDavid 1931 – 2024



BJ McDavid, 93, died August 22 at her home in Grayson. Born on February 19, 1931, in Beetle, Kentucky to parents Opal and Ada Bryant Fultz, Bertha Jane arrived with red hair and a fiery, yet fun, disposition to match.

BJ's gracious and friendly manner combined with a wicked sense of humor, made her a charming friend who delighted in finding little ways to bring joy to people. She was most happy in seeing them laugh and happily pulled many a person onto the dance floor to truly enjoy a great tune.

Fiercely independent and rarely idle, she was in near constant motion whether in her garden, her home or at work. She adored jobs that brought her close to people, enjoying time working at the Carter Caves Gift Shop, the jewelry counter at Maloney's and as office supervisor at East Carter County Memory Gardens. During the coal boom years of the 1970s, she ran her own coal trucking company, coordinating the drivers and the hauls.

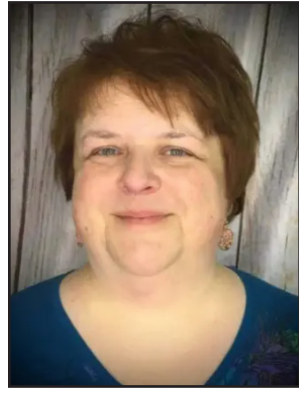
She solidly believed that the secret to tackling life was to get up every morning, have a cup of coffee and get yourself ready to face the day. For BJ, that meant perfect hair, makeup and a colorful ensemble so she was set for whatever was going to happen. She was then ready to shop, visit friends and direct the lives of the four generations of her

family, whom she dearly loved. BJ was a faithful member of the Bayless Memorial Presbyterian Church. In addition to her parents, BJ was preceded in death by her husband, Gene McDavid, her son Steven Michael McDavid, her sister Lois Vivian McDavid, two brothers, Raymond Fultz and John Fultz and son-in-law Donald P. Malone. She is remembered with love and delight by her daughter Rita Malone, Grayson; her stepson Steve "Jude" (Christy) Stafford, Lake City, Fla., by her grandchildren Donald (Jill York) Malone, Grayson; Avery Anna (Jason Milstead) Malone, Zebulon, NC; Ashley McDavid Brown, Covington, Ky.; William (Lynn) McDavid, Knoxville, Tenn.; and Gavin Malone, Grayson. She is forever cherished by great-grandchildren Luis (Alison) Martinez, Aedan Milstead, Breck Brown, Zara Brown, Jacob McDavid and Gabriel McDavid and by her great-great-grandchildren Emma, Eli and Ella Martinez.

Funeral services were 2 pm Sunday, August 25, 2024 at the Bayless Memorial Presbyterian Church with Pastor Josh Akers officiating. Burial followed in the East Carter County Memory Gardens. Visitation was from 6-8 pm Saturday at the Malone Funeral Home in Grayson and after 1 pm Sunday at the church until the service hour. Condolences may be sent to the family at [www.malonefuneralhome.com](http://www.malonefuneralhome.com)

Serving as BJ's pallbearers were Donald Cooke, Blake Cooke, Luis Martinez, Norman Shaffer, Hubert Johnson and John Jordan. In lieu of flowers memorials are suggested to; Bayless Memorial Presbyterian Church, 108 E 2nd St., Grayson, KY 41143.

### Chimila Michele Fraley Hargett 1967 – 2024



Chimila Michele (Fraley) Hargett, age 57, of Olive Hill, Kentucky, passed away Monday, August 19, 2024, at her residence, surrounded by her loving family and friends.

Chimila was born August 1, 1967, in Boyd County, Kentucky. She was the daughter of the late Benjamin Webster Fraley and Clotine (Withrow) Fraley, who adopted her at three weeks of age.

Chimila is survived by her husband of 25 years, Jimmie Darrin Hargett, whom she married on October 9, 1999.

Chimila was a graduate of West Carter High School and obtained her bachelor's degree in Accounting from Morehead State University. She worked full time for over 34 years, most recently as the City Clerk/Treasurer for the City of Olive Hill.

As an only child, Chimila complained that she would never be an aunt or have nieces or nephews. All that changed when she decided to find her birth family in 1995 and join the Hargett family in 1999. Chimila found that she was born to Warnie Justice and Barbara Jean (Hogan) Justice Kitchen, and that she had a few siblings and nieces and nephews.

In addition to both sets of her parents, Chimila was preceded in death by her "second Mom" and aunt Oveda (Withrow) Messer, and her son, Mark Allen Messer; one sister, Barbette Lee Justice, and two brothers, Robert Clifton Justice and James Stephen Justice as well as many other aunts, uncles, cousins and nephews.

In addition to her husband, Chimila is survived by her mother-in-law, Elsie Gay Hargett of Olive Hill, Kentucky; one sister, Robin (Dale) Webb of Waterloo, Ohio; one brother, Warren 'Buddy' Justice of Florida; a brother-in-law,

Dennis (Kathy) Hargett of Olive Hill, Kentucky; two sisters-in-law, Kimberly Hargett of Olive Hill, Kentucky and Melissa Justice of Loganville, Georgia; three uncles, Ivan (Judy) Withrow of Findlay, Ohio, Jack (Bobbie) Withrow and Claude Messer, all of Morehead, Kentucky; two special cousins from her childhood, Eric (Karianne) Withrow of Cincinnati, Ohio and Jason (Kathy) Withrow of Dexter, Michigan; and one special young cousin, Ethan Withrow, Of Morehead, Kentucky who filled such a special spot in her and Darrin's hearts.

Other survivors include more aunts, uncles, cousins, and other relatives; but especially important to Chimila; 10 nephews and nieces, Andrew (Erin) Justice of Chattanooga, Tennessee, Samuel Justice of Loganville, Georgia, Fred (Michelle) Webb of Pedro, Ohio, Chris (Kristy) Webb of Kitts Hill, Ohio, Travis (Savannah) Hargett of Georgetown, Kentucky, Zachary Hargett and Andrew Hargett, both of Olive Hill, Kentucky; Monica Webb of Waterloo, Ohio, Stacy Hargett of Olive Hill, Kentucky and Kelli (Kurt) Hargett-Taylor of Louisville, Kentucky; as well as 18 great, and four great-great, nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held 11 a.m., Saturday, August 24, 2024, at Globe Funeral Chapel, 17277 West US Hwy 60, Olive Hill, Kentucky, with Brother Clifford "Tippy" Price officiating. Burial followed in the Hargett Cemetery on Greasy Creek in Olive Hill, Kentucky.

Friends visited from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m., Friday, August 23, 2024, and after 9 a.m., Saturday, August 24, 2024, until the service hour at Globe Funeral Chapel.

Eric Withrow, Jason Withrow, Ethan Withrow, Andrew Justice, David Jessie, Andrew Hargett, Zachary Hargett and Travis Hargett served as pallbearers.

Olive Hill Mayor, Olive Hill City Police Department and Olive Hill Firemen served as honorary pallbearers.

Globe Funeral Chapel is honored to serve the family of Chimila Michele (Fraley) Hargett.

### Jerry Sheridan Bryan 1961 – 2024



Jerry Sheridan Bryan, age 62, of Ashland, Kentucky, passed away Wednesday, August 21, 2024, at Kings Daughter Medical Center in Ashland, Kentucky.

He was born November 18, 1961, in Boyd County, Kentucky, a son of the late Forest Owen and Dorothy Adkins Bryan.

Jerry loved dancing, riding in his rail buggy, spending time with family and friends and his father-in-law, who was his best buddy. He also loved spending time with two very special friends, Clarence Thompson II,

Everett Thompson and his dog Bentley.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by one daughter, Jamie Leigh Bryan and one sister, Karen Collins.

Jerry is survived by his loving wife of 18 years, Kim Henry Bryan; two daughters, Jamie (Lamont) Hughes, Kayleigh Carter, all of Ashland, Kentucky; nine grandchildren; one great-grandchild; two brothers, Kenneth (Deb) Bryan, Terry (Salina) Bryan all of Ashland, Kentucky; three sisters, Sharon Allen, Susan Akers, both of Ashland, Kentucky, Debra Fox of Ironton, Ohio, along with many other family and friends who will sadly miss him.

Memorial services will be held from 3 p.m., to 5 p.m., Saturday, August 31, 2024, at Crum Chapel, Blackburn Avenue, Ashland, Kentucky.

Grayson Funeral Home & Cremation Services is honored to serve the family of Jerry Sheridan Bryan.

### Carter County Times

[www.cartercountytimes.com](http://www.cartercountytimes.com)

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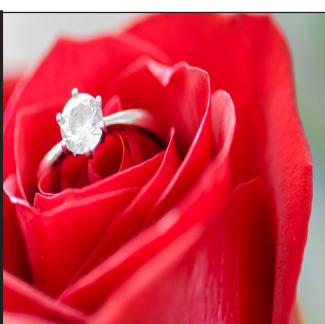
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# OPINION

EDITORIALS | LETTERS | COLUMNS | COMMENTARY

**First Amendment:** Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

## AS WE SEE IT

### Back to school and road safety

School is back in session. That means more morning traffic, including the return of school buses to our roadways. That also means all of us need to be a little more patient, and a lot more careful.

Planning to leave a little earlier is one good step, especially if you have to be somewhere during those morning hours before school is in session, or in the afternoon when parents are doing pick-up.

According to the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB), the hours before and after school are the most dangerous times for students on the road.

The truth, though, is that in an accident with a school bus, it's more likely to be you that doesn't make it than the children. According to the NTSB "less than one percent of all traffic fatalities involve students" riding buses, and 70 percent of deaths in bus-related crashes are the occupants of other vehicles.

It also means being more aware of the reduced speed limit in school zones, keeping your eyes open for walkers in town, and watching for kids waiting on the bus out in the country.

In Grayson, new turn lanes in front of Prichard Elementary – as well as a morning police presence – should help alleviate congestion there. But drivers still need to be aware of the traffic and, if you can't be late, plan to leave earlier or find alternate routes.

Back to school traffic safety also means paying attention to buses when they are loading and unloading, and stopping when they have their flashers on, and their stop sign out. According to data from an NTSB blog, the American School Bus Council reports that nearly two thirds of school bus loading and unloading fatalities are caused by vehicles attempting to pass a bus.

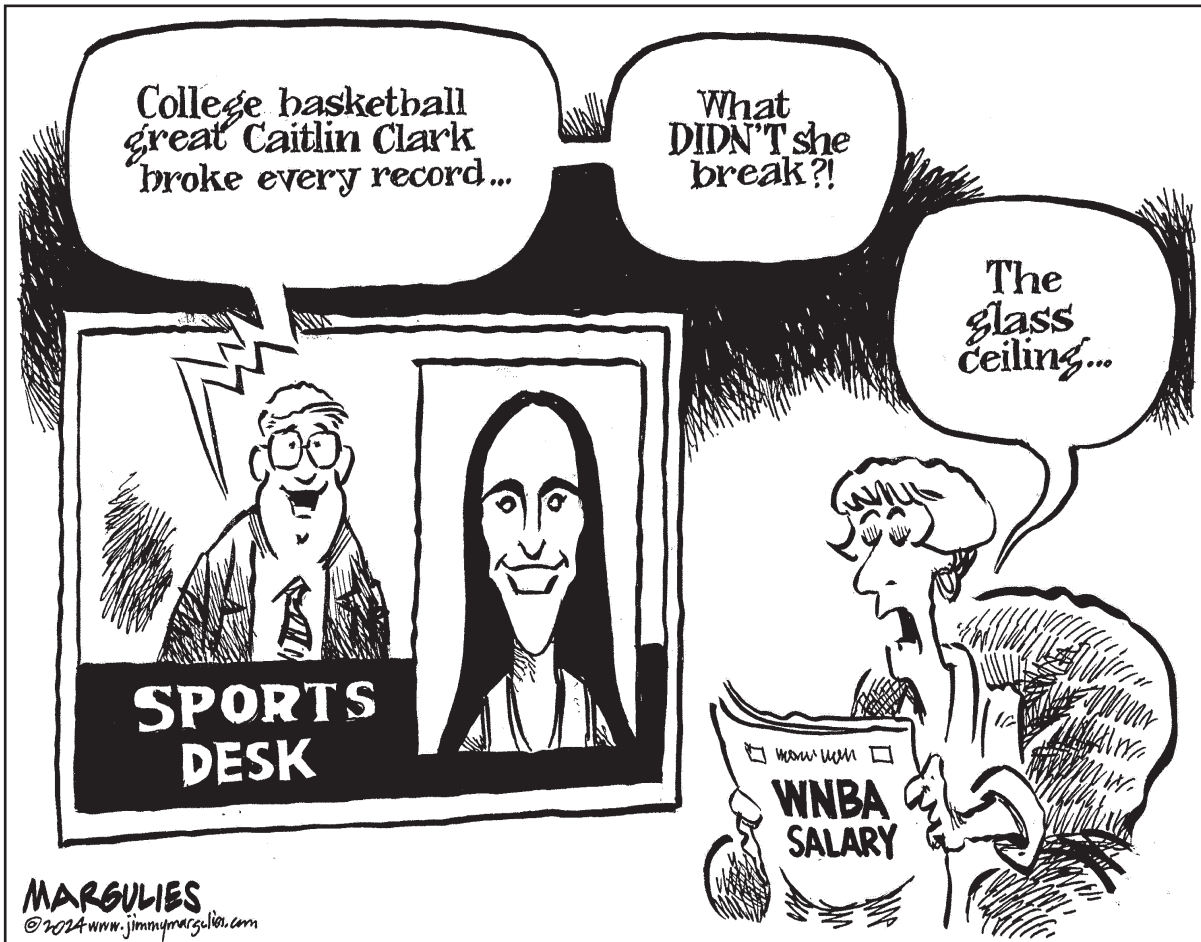
Never, ever pass a bus that's loading or unloading, no matter which direction you are going.

As the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) reminds drivers: yellow flashing lights indicate the bus is preparing to stop for loading or unloading, red flashing lights and an extended stop arm indicates the bus has stopped and children are getting on or off, and even when lights aren't flashing drivers should watch for children – particularly in the hours before and after school.

Another thing to be aware of is student drivers. If you drive near the high schools, or stop at one of the gas stations on the route there, be mindful of student drivers as well. We all know young drivers are often more prone to accidents than more experienced drivers, but Kentucky has one of the highest teen driver death rates in the nation. According to an analysis of NHTSA statistics from 1982 to 2020 the commonwealth had more than 71 deaths per 100,000 people for teen drivers.

So, slow down. Leave early. Watch the speed limit. Watch for buses. Watch for walkers. And be aware of all the cars on the road around you – particularly those driven by teenagers trying to avoid a tardy slip.

Any driver, young or old, can be prone to distraction, but none of us want to be the reason a young person doesn't make it to class.



### Great song, trip to seashore set new direction for writing and life

Reprinted by request from 2018

Choosing a new direction for my personal column has been on my mind for several weeks and today I'm happy to report that the task has been accomplished.

Thanks to "I Hope You Dance", a great song by country singer Lee Ann Womack and my family's ninth annual trip to the beach at North Carolina's Outer Banks, my future ramblings in this space should be in a very different tone.

Four powerful lyrics of her song from 2000 influenced my decision, including:

"I hope you still feel small when you stand beside the ocean." "I hope you never lose your sense of wonder." "May you never take one single breath for granted". "Promise me that you'll give faith a fighting chance".

Without warning, the line about feeling small by the ocean came to me in a flash as I stood watching the breakers come ashore in the Atlantic Ocean at Corolla, N.C.

Songwriters Tia Sillers and Mark Sanders were reading my mind when they penned that impressive line.

More than 60 years after seeing the ocean for the

first time in South Carolina, I'm still awestruck by its majesty and power.



**Keith Kappes**  
Columnist  
Carter County Times

Womack's song encourages us to love unconditionally, to be people of strong faith, to have the courage to make hard decisions and to never become too sophisticated to appreciate the wonders of nature.

My new goal with this column is to be more active and creative in sharing good things that hopefully inspire or uplift us.

This may seem to be a lofty, unrealistic objective but I am determined to give it a

try. Too often I'm asking myself these days if this is still the free country of my birth and if anyone gives a damn about what happens to the USA going forward.

I have reached the point where I'm sick and tired of seeing and hearing self-serving, vicious character assassins who dominate the 24-hour news cycle and/or social media.

They don't respect anything or anyone, regardless of religious or political affiliation or economic position. And I intend to give them the attention they deserve...none!

Keith Kappes can be reached at  
keithkappes@gmail.com

### Dog, ponies, and the price of groceries

Now that the dog and pony show of both the RNC and the DNC is over, wouldn't it be prudent to ask: do you feel any better? The whooping cries of "the bad guy is wearing red, or the liar is wearing blue" have faded into the back pages while new scandals poise themselves for media fodder. But really, take a moment: do you feel like the American system believes in investing in your success?

The American psyche is exhausted once again as the mudslinging of the election cycle is upon us. For another two and a half months, we're lucky enough to get endless quotes about the other side's incompetence, about how a scandal is brewing in the other camp, about how the other sycophant has their nefarious claws at ready to launch into the back of anyone just out there trying to get their bills paid.

And that's where the rub starts: paying your bills. As wages stagnate, we need accountability when we run our cards through the machine. Do politicians care about the price of Doritos? No, they care about donors padding their pockets – on both sides.

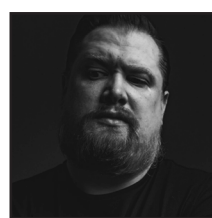
How can someone at a podium look Americans in the face and talk about prosperity as a country when a brown paper sack of groceries consisting of little less than eggs, bread, lunch meat, and some odds and ends cost as much as a light bill? Why is it that when we fill up for gas, we're the ones who get the shaft because there was an outage or there was a shuffle in the c-suite, so once again, the buck is passed to the

consumer as profits soar. Right now, oil companies and most grocery stores are racking in those dollars. Shouldn't we address this for the crime it is? Kroger made 2.2 billion – with a B – in profits last year. Walmart wasn't so far behind with their profit margins, either. Some of the folks reading this may have visited a food pantry because they had to choose between putting gas in the car or buying a box of shells and cheese for dinner – because putting that gas in the car at least got them to work where the cycle continues to spin out of control.

If we're going to punch the ticket for these hucksters, ask them why the community center is asking for us to donate when those state funds should reflect our interests. Why aren't the roads fixed, and why is a state job so hard to get when so much needs to be updated? I mean, have you seen the bridges and tunnels? Across America, our infrastructure is crumbling, and the reason we never got a decent package to put blue-collar people on the job site is partisan fighting like it always is. We deserve affordable gas, to not go broke back-to-school shopping, and to be able to make dinner without pinching pennies.

If you're going to vote, don't look at a ticket like the other choice has the plague, but ask yourself, how does my vote affect working-class people? Instead of just lamenting these problems, push for policies that ensure fair wages and corporate accountability.

See *GROCERIES* on A-6



**Robert Dean**  
Guest Columnist  
Carter County Times



Tune in this Friday, August 30, to hear the East Carter vs Rowan County game. Coverage begins at 7:35 PM on 1370 AM & 100.9 FM WGOH.

All games can also be heard on [wgohwugo.com](http://wgohwugo.com) and the Go Radio Grayson App.



## Carter County Times

Members of the Editorial Board

Nicole Wells, publisher

Jeremy Wells, editor Keith Kappes, columnist

## Policies

### General

Advertisers should check their ad the first time it runs. The Times shall not be liable for any typographical errors or for failure to publish an ad or errors in publication except to the extent of the cost of the ad for the first insertion. Adjustment for errors is limited to the portion of the ad wherein the error occurred. The Times reserves the right to reject any advertisement and submitted editorial copy, and reserves the right to edit any copy submitted for publication. Corrections will be made at the discretion of the editor.

### Circulation

A one-year in-county subscription costs \$26.00 plus tax. Due to additional mailing fees, any subscriptions mailed out of county will cost \$52.00 plus tax.

### Letters & Opinion

The Times welcomes all letters to the editor.

Letters should be limited to 300 words or less. Letters should focus on issues that affect the community as a whole, and not personal or business disputes.

Letters must include a verifiable address, along with the phone number and signature of the writer. Letters submitted via e-mail need only include a phone number in lieu of a signature.

Letters, columns and cartoons do not necessarily reflect the views of the Times or EK Newsgroup, LLC.

General interest guest columns are welcome. For details email [editor@cartercountytimes.com](mailto:editor@cartercountytimes.com).

### Deadlines

The deadline for news copy and letters to the editor is noon on Monday prior to publication. The deadline for display and classified advertising is 5 p.m. on Monday prior to publication.

# CLASSIFIEDS

## PUBLIC NOTICES

**COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY  
CARTER CIRCUIT COURT  
CASE NO. 23-CI-00431**

**LAKEVIEW LOAN SERVICING, LLC** PLAINTIFF  
**VS.**  
**NOTICE OF SALE**

**ASHLIE L. HUTCHINSON, KENDALL C. HUTCHINSON, CARTER COUNTY, AND DISCOVER BANK** DEFENDANTS

Pursuant to the Judgment and Order of Sale in the Carter Circuit Court, entered on July 2, 2024, I shall offer for sale the property described herein at public auction on the Courthouse steps of the old Carter County Courthouse, 300 West Main Street in Grayson, Kentucky, on the **4th day of September, 2024 at or near the hour of 2:05 p.m.**, to the highest bidder on the following terms:

The aforementioned real estate shall be sold as a whole. The real estate shall be sold on a credit of thirty (30) days, with the privilege of the purchaser to pay for bid in cash in full, and if not paid in full then the purchaser shall make a cash down payment of at least ten percent (10%) of the purchase price to cover the costs of the judicial sale; and the purchaser shall execute a bond for the remainder of the purchase price, with good surety thereon, to be approved by the Master Commissioner of this Court, and bearing interest at the rate of 6.00% per annum from the date of the sale, until paid; additionally, a lien shall be retained upon the real estate to be sold herein, to secure the payment of the balance of the purchase price within thirty (30) days of the date of sale upon which execution may be levied by the Master Commissioner of this Court.

**Description of the Property:** 800 Huffs Run, Grayson, Kentucky 41143. (For Legal Description see LSOT: Deed Book 396, Page 236, Carter County Clerk's Office.)

**Map/Parcel ID Number:** 07-00-00-046.00.

**NOTE:** Only delinquent ad valorem taxes shall be paid from the sale proceeds. The Purchaser shall be responsible for payment of the taxes for the current year and thereafter.

Honorable John P. Thompson  
Master Commissioner  
Carter County, Kentucky

**COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY  
CARTER CIRCUIT COURT  
CASE NO. 24-CI-00107**

**VANDERBILT MORTGAGE AND FINANCE, INC.** PLAINTIFF  
**VS.**  
**NOTICE OF SALE**

**JAMIE SUE HALE; ERNEST RICHARD SEAGRAVES; CARTER COUNTY, KENTUCKY** DEFENDANTS

Pursuant to the Judgment and Order of Sale in the Carter Circuit Court, entered on July 2, 2024, I shall offer for sale the property described herein at public auction on the Courthouse steps of the old Carter County Courthouse, 300 West Main Street in Grayson, Kentucky, on the **4th day of September, 2024 at or near the hour of 2:00 p.m.**, to the highest bidder on the following terms:

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**Description of the Property:** 305 Spring Hill Drive, Grayson, Kentucky 41143. (For Legal Description see LSOT: Deed Book 458, Page 133, Carter County Clerk's Office.)

**Map/Parcel ID Number:** 072-00-00-005.32.

**NOTE:** Only delinquent ad valorem taxes shall be paid from the sale proceeds. The Purchaser shall be responsible for payment of the taxes for the current year and thereafter.

Honorable John P. Thompson  
Master Commissioner  
Carter County, Kentucky

**COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY  
CARTER CIRCUIT COURT  
CASE NO. 23-CI-00360**

**U.S. BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY, BUT SOLELY AS TRUSTEE OF LSF11 MASTER PARTICIPATION TRUST** PLAINTIFF  
**VS.**  
**NOTICE OF SALE**

**TIMOTHY W. STEPHENS; ALISA K. STEPHENS; COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY, DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE, DIVISION OF COLLECTIONS** DEFENDANTS

Pursuant to the Judgment and Order of Sale in the Carter Circuit Court, entered on July 2, 2024, I shall offer for sale the property described herein at public auction on the Courthouse steps of the old Carter County Courthouse, 300 West Main Street in Grayson, Kentucky, on the **4th day of September, 2024 at or near the hour of 2:10 p.m.**, to the highest bidder on the following terms:

The aforementioned real estate shall be sold as a whole. The real estate shall be sold on a credit of thirty (30) days, with the privilege of the purchaser to pay for bid in cash in full, and if not paid in full then the purchaser shall make a cash down payment of at least ten percent (10%) of the purchase price to cover the costs of the judicial sale; and the purchaser shall execute a bond for the remainder of the purchase price, with good surety thereon, to be approved by the Master Commissioner of this Court, and bearing interest at the rate of 4.8750% per annum from the date of the sale, until paid; additionally, a lien shall be retained upon the real estate to be sold herein, to secure the payment of the balance of the purchase price within thirty (30) days of the date of sale upon which execution may be levied by the Master Commissioner of this Court.

**Description of the Property:** 1250 Beech Street, Grayson, KY 41143. (For Legal Description see LSOT: Deed Book 229, Page 695, Carter County Clerk's Office.)

**Map/Parcel ID Number:** 04-70-08-005.00.

**NOTE:** Only delinquent ad valorem taxes shall be paid from the sale proceeds. The Purchaser shall be responsible for payment of the taxes for the current year and thereafter.

Honorable John P. Thompson  
Master Commissioner  
Carter County, Kentucky

## State on track to see the next individual income tax cut in 2026

Six years ago Kentucky's individual income tax was 6%. While that seems like a low number, consider that the average Kentuckian worked the first three full weeks of January, 15.6 work days to be exact, just to pay their annual individual income tax.



**Patrick Flannery**  
Representative  
State of Kentucky

While taxes are a necessary function of government if we are going to fund law enforcement, build roads, and fund education, it is important that our tax system supports rather than hinders people's well-being. After all, taxes should not be a burden that stifles the aspirations of individuals or communities. With this in mind, the legislature lowered the income tax to 5% in 2018 as part of a major tax modernization.

Four years later, after navigating the pandemic and the shutdown, in 2022 lawmakers passed HB 8, a historic tax modernization package that included provisions to eliminate the state's individual income tax gradually over time. That measure required that certain conditions be met before the tax could be decreased in increments of

half a percent, including language that requires the Budget Reserve Trust Fund to have enough money in it to equal 10% or more of General Fund revenues from the previous year. The measure was vetoed by Governor Andy Beshear, but the veto was later overridden by the House and Senate. As a result of HB 8, the individual income tax was lowered to 4.5% in 2023, and 4% in January of this year. These cuts left more than a billion dollars a year in Kentucky paychecks, right where they belong.

While we did not meet the conditions necessary to cut the tax again in January 2025, mostly because of emergency-related spending, we now have evidence that the provisions of HB 8 work to not only lower taxes, but protect funding for the programs Kentuckians rely on. And economists were very optimistic about reaching the necessary triggers this year.

On August 21, members of the Interim Joint Committee on Appropriations and Revenue received notification that the conditions required to

lower the state's personal income tax to 3.5% in January 2026 have been met, clearing the way for lawmakers to consider doing so during the 2025 Regular Session.

Of course, we have not arrived here by accident. The legislature worked to strengthen the state's revenue policies, including efforts to reduce debts and liabilities like those associated with public pensions; limit borrowing; and place an historic amount of money in the budget reserve. At the same time, we have provided record funding for K-12 public education (even after inflation) and devoted billions to roads, broadband, and water lines in every county.

Lawmakers have implemented a budget philosophy that, similar to the approach Kentuckians must take in their own personal finances, emphasizes living within the state's means in order to ensure the reserve remains strong. As a result, investments in the fund have risen from zero less than 15 years ago to more than \$5 billion.

According to official reports, state revenue appears to be holding strong. General Fund receipts for Fiscal Year 2024 (FY24), which ended June 30,

totaling \$15,571.3 million, exceeding FY23 total revenue by \$423.6 million, or 2.8%. Road Fund revenues totaled \$1,874.6 million, \$121.3 million, or 6.9% greater than the FY23 total. That forecasted surplus was appropriated to the Biennial Highway Plan in the 2024 legislative session.

In addition, investment income is continuing to grow into a major General Fund revenue source. The state made \$300 million in FY24 and \$150 million in FY23 because of higher investible balances and favorable rates of return.

Of course, we will continue to monitor state revenue and spending as we prepare for the 2025 Regular Session and consider enacting the next tax cut. However, with Kentuckians paying more to put gas in their car and food on their table, knowing that we are on track for another cut is powerful.

As always, I can be reached anytime through the toll-free message line in Frankfort at 1-800-372-7181. You can also contact me via e-mail at Patrick.Flannery@lrc.ky.gov and keep track through the Kentucky legislature's website at legislature.ky.gov.

As I made my way through the fairgrounds, I was struck by the dedication and enthusiasm of the Future Farmers of America members from our district. These young individuals represent the future of Kentucky agriculture as they participated in the youth livestock events. They carry the skills, knowledge, and values passed down through generations, and their presence at the fair is a powerful reminder of the continuity of our agricultural heritage. Each of these young people brings pride to their communities, and their participation in the fair ensures that the lessons of the past will continue to inform the future of Kentucky farming.

A particularly moving part of the fair was the Sunshine Class, an event designed to provide young people with special needs the opportunity to participate in the show ring. This year, the class was supported by a partnership with Special Olympics Kentucky, which broadened its reach and impact. Watching these young participants, guided by 4-H

and FFA sheep exhibitors, was a deeply humbling experience. It highlighted the importance of creating spaces where everyone in our community can feel valued and have the chance to shine. The Sunshine Class stands as a prime example of how we can come together to support one another, regardless of the challenges we face.

My role as a board member of the Kentucky Exposition Foundation allows me to support efforts that nurture the youth of our state, and promote the agricultural and tourism sectors that are so vital to Kentucky's prosperity. The foundation's work is critical in preserving the traditions we hold dear, while also looking forward to the future. By supporting events like the Kentucky State Fair, we ensure that these traditions continue to thrive and provide a strong foundation for the generations to come.

While the breakfast stands as a reminder of the enduring connections between Kentucky's agricultural community and the broader society, where such acts of generosity play a significant role in sustaining our communal bonds. During the Agriculture Committee meeting, we turned our attention to the forthcoming enhancements to the Kentucky Exposition Center. The first phase of this project involves a \$180 million investment in a new 350,000 square-foot facility. This expansion is crucial for maintaining Kentucky's status as a leading destination for agricultural events, and it demonstrates our commitment to supporting the industries that have long been the backbone of our state's economy. I was proud to attend the groundbreaking while at the fair. It ensures that our infrastructure meets the needs of modern agriculture while continuing to honor the traditions that

have shaped Kentucky's identity. Holding legislative meetings at the fairgrounds this year was a deliberate decision that brought our work into the heart of the communities we represent. It allows us to engage more directly with the people who shape the character of our state.

One of the noteworthy events at the fair is always the Kentucky Farm Bureau's annual Kentucky Country Ham Breakfast. This gathering has long been a cornerstone of the fair, which embodies the values of community, generosity, and tradition. This year, the grand champion ham fetched an astounding \$10.5 million, with the winning bid placed by my good friends Kelly Craft and her husband, Joe.

role that agriculture and tourism play in our collective identity. As we move forward, the Kentucky State Fair will always be a place where we come together to honor our past and shape the future of our communities and our state. If I can assist you, feel free to email me at Robin.Webb@LRC.KY.GOV or call the General Assembly Message Line at 1-800-372-7181. Kentuckians with hearing loss can use Kentucky Relay by dialing 711.

The theme, "120 Years, 120 Counties," perfectly encapsulated the spirit of our commonwealth and emphasizes the essential

### NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION

The Carter County Emergency Ambulance Service District, at a meeting held on August 19, 2024, enacted the following Resolution:

A RESOLUTION APPROVING A LEASE WITH THE COMMERCIAL BANK OF GRAYSON FOR THE FINANCING OF THE ACQUISITION OF TWO AMBULANCES; PROVIDING FOR THE PAYMENT AND SECURITY OF THE LEASE AND DEPOSITS TO A SINKING FUND; AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF VARIOUS DOCUMENTS RELATED TO SUCH LEASE; AND MAKING CERTAIN DESIGNATIONS REGARDING SUCH LEASE.

It is hereby certified that the foregoing ordinance provides for approval of a lease in the principal amount of approximately \$324,000 for financing the acquisition of two ambulances (collectively, the "Project") and provides a general obligation pledge to assess sufficient taxes to comply with the obligations to pay lease payments. The full text of the section relating to the pledge to levy and assess a tax to pay the lease obligation is:

"Section 2. General Obligation Pledge. Pursuant to the Constitution of the Commonwealth and Chapter 66 of the Kentucky Revised Statutes, as amended (the "General Obligation Statutes"), the obligation of the District created by the Lease shall be a full general obligation of the District and, for the payment of the Lease Payments, the full faith, credit, and revenue of the District are hereby pledged for the prompt payment thereof. During the period the Lease is outstanding, there shall be and there hereby is levied on all the taxable property in the District, in addition to all other taxes, without limitation as to rate, a direct tax annually in an amount sufficient to pay the Lease Payments on the Lease when and as due, it being hereby found and determined that current tax rates are within all applicable limitations. The tax shall be and is hereby ordered computed, certified, levied, and extended upon the tax duplicate and collected by the same officers in the same manner and at the same time that taxes for general purposes for each of the years are certified, extended, and collected. The tax shall be placed before and in preference to all other items and for the full amount thereof provided, however, that in each year to the extent that the other taxes or revenues of the District are available for the payment of the Lease Payments and are appropriated for such purpose, the amount of such direct tax upon all of the taxable property in the District shall be reduced by the amount of such other taxes or revenues so available and appropriated.

There is hereby established, or it is acknowledged that there has heretofore been established, with the Lessee a sinking fund (the "Sinking Fund"), which is hereby ordered to be continued and maintained as long as the Lease shall remain outstanding. The funds derived from the tax levy hereby required or other available taxes shall be placed in the Sinking Fund and, together with interest collected on the same, are irrevocably pledged for the payment of all obligations issued under the General Obligation Statutes and all Tax Supported Leases, as defined in the General Obligation Statutes, including the Lease herein authorized, when and as the same fall due. Amounts shall be transferred from the Sinking Fund to the Lessor at the times and in the amounts required by the Lease."

Reference is hereby made to the full text of the Resolution, a copy of which is on file at the offices of the District, 12 Crossbar Road, Grayson, Kentucky 41143, for a complete statement of its provisions and terms.

*/s/ Jerry Horn*  
Administrator

Carter County Emergency Ambulance Service District

Looking to buy, sell or trade?

Having a yard sale?

Looking to hire or trying to find work?

**Post it in the CLASSIFIEDS!**

Contact advertise@cartercountytimes.com

### PUBLIC NOTICE

The Carter County Fiscal Court will have a second reading amending the Hazmat Cost Recovery Ordinance #859, changing the costs of several expenses such as, but not limited to: Equipment and Personnel Costs including: Emergency Management or Hazardous Materials Response Team, Fire Department, Emergency Medical Service, and Law Enforcement. The meeting will be held on September 9, 2024, at 6:00 PM in the Fiscal Court room. A copy of the proposed ordinance with full text is available for public inspection at the office of the County Judge/Executive during normal business hours.

### Groceries from A-5

Ask tough questions and demand real answers. Too many politicians promise a 'better tomorrow' while ignoring the urgent needs of today - don't be fooled by promises of a new park for the kids in a few years. Those groceries ain't gonna buy themselves.

*Robert Dean is a journalist living in Austin, Texas. His work has been featured in MIC, Consequence of Sound, Houston Chronicle, and The Austin American Statesman, among other places. Grab his book of essays "Existential Thirst Trap" at your favorite bookseller.*

## Legislative update

FRANKFORT— The 120th Kentucky State Fair offered an opportunity to reflect on our commonwealth's rich heritage. The theme, "120 Years, 120 Counties," was a tribute to each county's unique contributions to Kentucky's identity. Holding legislative meetings at the fairgrounds this year was a deliberate decision that brought our work into the heart of the communities we represent. It allows us to engage more directly with the people who shape the character of our state.



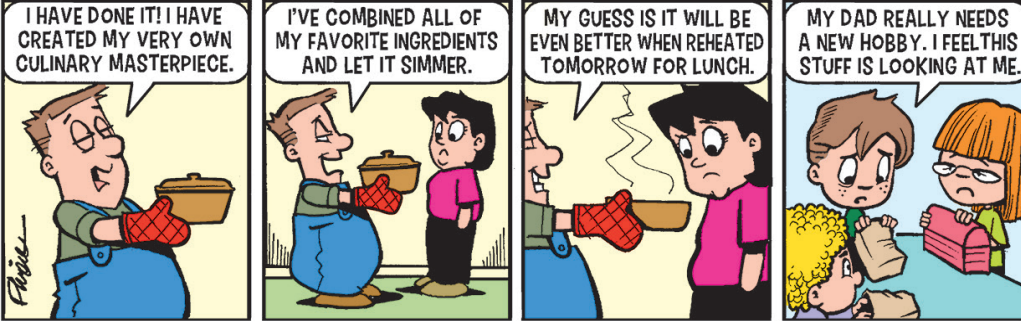
**Robin L. Webb**  
Senator  
State of Kentucky

One of the noteworthy events at the fair is always the Kentucky Farm Bureau's annual Kentucky Country Ham Breakfast. This gathering has long been a cornerstone of the fair, which embodies the values of community, generosity, and tradition. This year, the grand champion ham fetched an astounding \$10.5 million, with the winning bid placed by my good friends Kelly Craft and her husband, Joe.

role that agriculture and tourism play in our collective identity. As we move forward, the Kentucky State Fair will always be a place where we come together to honor our past and shape the future of our communities and our state. If I can assist you, feel free to email me at Robin.Webb@LRC.KY.GOV or call the General Assembly Message Line at 1-800-372-7181. Kentuckians with hearing loss can use Kentucky Relay by dialing 711.

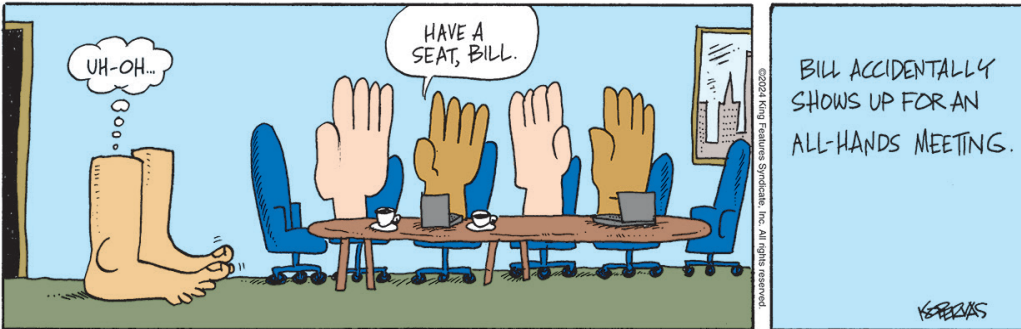
### Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



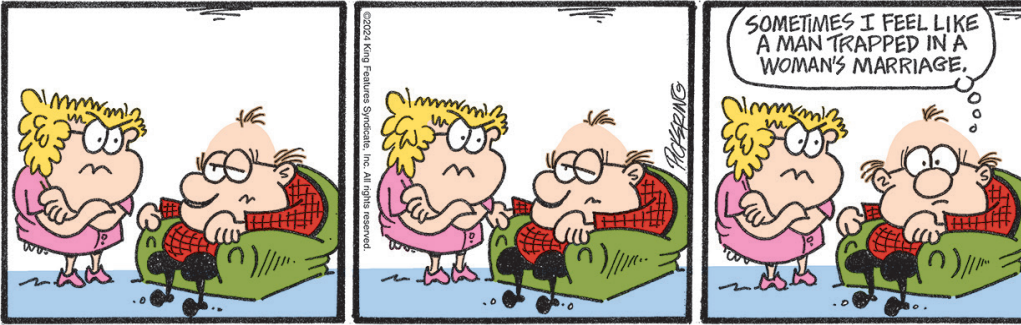
### Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



### The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



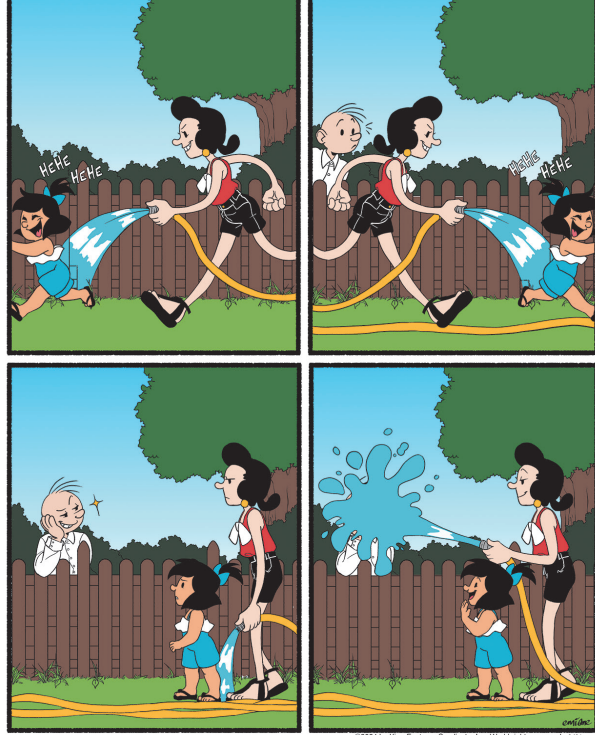
### TIGER

by BUD BLAKE



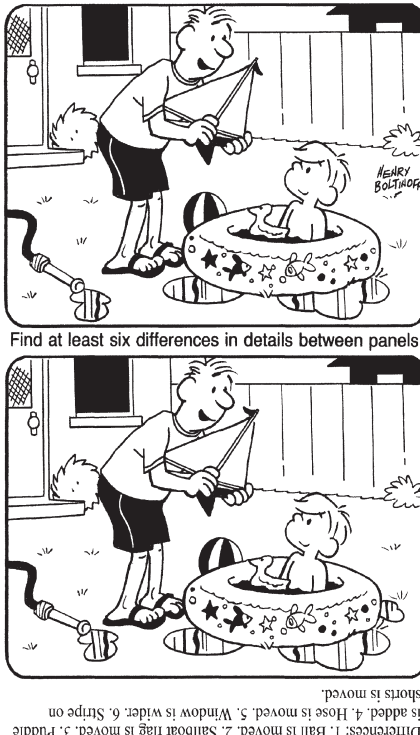
### OLIVE

By Emi Burdge



### HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



### Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



### CryptoQuip

This is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.

Clue: M equals S

JUC HOR AOVJRM, UVRM HZL  
MQHLRM DVFFVZ YARFM YZ  
ZVBRIM HZL FVBYRM?  
AURC'OR QIVA LRBYDRM.

### SCRAMBLERS

Unscramble the letters within each rectangle to form four ordinary words. Then rearrange the boxed letters to form the mystery word, which will complete the gag!

Gloss **ENSHI**    
Root **RIGONI**    
Clear **CUDLI**    
Infect **SNOOPI**    
**TODAY'S WORD**

"When I want your \_\_\_\_\_, I'll demand it."

### Even Exchange

by Donna Pettman

Each numbered row contains two clues and two 6-letter answers. The two answers differ from each other by only one letter, which has already been inserted. For example, if you exchange the A from MASTER for an I, you get MISTER. Do not change the order of the letters.

- |                    |             |                 |             |
|--------------------|-------------|-----------------|-------------|
| 1. Sunny day cap   | B _ _ _ _ _ | Bard's poem     | S _ _ _ _ _ |
| 2. Goofy           | _ I _ _ _ _ | Who Harry met   | _ A _ _ _ _ |
| 3. Unadorned       | _ _ _ _ N   | Tartan print    | _ _ _ _ D   |
| 4. Brandish        | W _ _ _ _   | Concede         | Y _ _ _ _   |
| 5. Klondike driver | _ _ _ _ H   | Assemble        | _ _ _ _ T   |
| 6. Clothes room    | _ _ _ _ T   | Nearer          | _ _ _ _ R   |
| 7. Hut             | _ _ A _ _   | Electrical jolt | _ _ O _ _   |
| 8. Meddle          | _ A _ _ _   | Bad humor       | _ _ E _ _   |
| 9. Las Vegas bet   | W _ _ _ _   | Fervent         | E _ _ _ _   |
| 10. Law officer    | _ _ _ _ C   | Gracious        | _ _ _ _ T   |

### GO FIGURE!

The idea of Go Figure is to arrive at the figures given at the bottom and right-hand columns of the diagram by following the arithmetic signs in the order they are given (that is, from left to right and top to bottom). Use only the numbers below the diagram to complete its blank squares and use each of the nine numbers only once.

DIFFICULTY: ★★

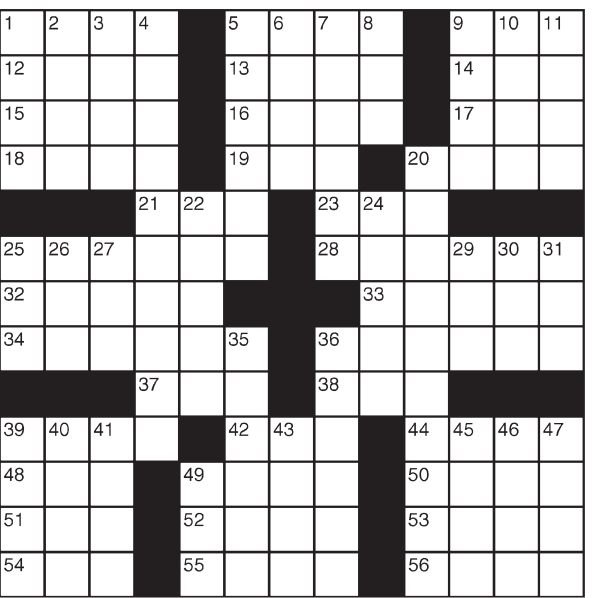
★ Moderate ★★ Difficult  
★★★ GO FIGURE!



### King Crossword

#### ACROSS

- 1 Costa —
- 5 Crib cry
- 9 Gal. fractions
- 12 Colorado resort
- 13 Russian river
- 14 Motor City labor org.
- 15 Alike (Fr.)
- 16 Eyelid woe
- 17 Lyricist Gershwin
- 18 Santa's runway
- 19 Sly chuckle
- 20 Per person
- 21 British verb ending
- 23 Right angle
- 25 Exaggerated pride
- 28 Affliction
- 32 Look of disdain
- 33 Edition
- 34 Agreed silently
- 36 Goddess of wisdom
- 37 Half of bi-
- 38 Mont. neighbor
- 39 Army transport
- 42 Cagers' gp.
- 44 Till bills
- 48 Internet address
- 49 Eye drop



- 50 Bryant of hoops fame
- 51 Three, in Rome
- 52 Saharan
- 53 Japanese noodle
- 54 Computer key
- 55 Pixels
- 56 Cooped (up)
- 5 Urges dogs on snow
- 6 Museo display
- 7 Chaos
- 8 Ginger —
- 9 Witticism
- 10 Poi base
- 11 Trade
- 20 #1 Elvis Presley song
- 22 Ambulance sound
- 24 Non-clergy
- 25 QVC alternative
- 26 Popular card game
- 27 Nap site
- 29 Enzyme suffix
- 30 Press for payment
- 31 Verily
- 35 Moolah
- 36 Prizes
- 39 Burlap fiber
- 40 Messes up
- 41 Power co. supply
- 43 Lure
- 45 Central point
- 46 Black, in verse
- 47 Dispatched
- 49 Smidgen

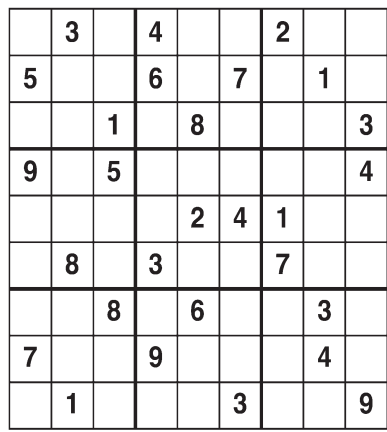
#### DOWN

- 1 KOA patron
- 2 Shakespeare villain
- 3 Pisa farewell
- 4 Super-motivated

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### Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle



Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

#### DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆◆

◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging  
◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

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### WORD LADDERS

Can you go from SWAMP to PLUMB in 6 words? Change one letter for each rung in the ladder.

SWAMP

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

PLUMB

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### Trivia test

by Fifi Rodriguez

- TELEVISION: Who was host of the "Good Eats" cooking show?
- GEOGRAPHY: Which nation's nickname is "Land of Fire and Ice"?
- MUSIC: What was the title of Madonna's first Top 10 hit?
- MOVIES: What does the acronym AT-AT refer to in the "Star Wars" movie series?
- LITERATURE: Which famous entertainer started a children's book-giving program called the Imagination Library?
- ANIMAL KINGDOM: Which bird's eye is larger than its brain?
- U.S. CITIES: Which U.S. city's nickname is The District?
- HISTORY: In which modern country is the ancient civilization of Babylon located?
- GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: How many articles are in the U.S. Constitution?
- AD SLOGANS: Which rental platform's slogan is "Belong anywhere"?

- Answers
- Alton Brown.
  - Iceland.
  - "Borderline."
  - All Terrain Armored Transport.
  - Dolly Parton.
  - Ostich.
  - Washington, D.C.
  - Iraq.
  - Seven.
  - Airbnb.

### OPINION

Today's Word

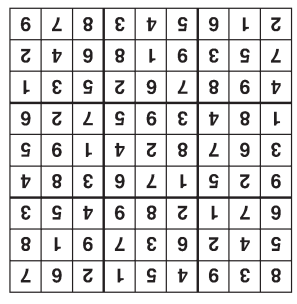
1. Shine; 2. Origin; 3. Liquid; 4. Poison; solution

### SCRAMBLERS

Answer  
SWAMP, STAMP, STUMP, STUMP, PLUMB, PLUMB

### WORD LADDER

Answer  
SWAMP, STAMP, STUMP, STUMP, PLUMB, PLUMB



Answer

### Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

### CryptoQuip

Answer

Why are towels, hoses and spades common items in novels and movies? They're plot devices.

### Even Exchange

Answers

- Bornet, Sonnet
- Closest, Closer
- Shack, Snock
- Plain, Plaid
- Wager, Eager
- Muster, Mustier
- Police, Polite
- Wield, Yield
- Wager, Eager
- Police, Polite

### GO FIGURE!

Answers

14, 6, 18, 1, 3, 9, 13, 2, 5, 2, 22, 8, 7, 4, 19

### Even Exchange

Answers

- Bornet, Sonnet
- Closest, Closer
- Shack, Snock
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## Energy from A-4

goal is to gauge interest from ratepayers in the new program offerings that could then lead to those programs being ramped up and expanded.

The ratepayers who pay the highest bills

During a hearing over Kentucky Power's rate case last year, then-PSC Chairman Kent Chandler honed in on data provided by the utility that showed Kentucky Power's poorest ratepayers had, on average, the highest electricity usage compared to the utility's average residential customer. That high usage leads to high bills.

"Those customers that are likely least able to afford their bill, relative to the average residential customer, have the highest bill, is that right?" Chandler asked Kentucky Power President Cynthia Wiseman during the hearing.

"I would presume that's true," Wiseman replied.

Bills are significantly higher for those whose incomes are low enough to qualify for federal assistance through the Low Income Home Energy Program (LIHEAP), a federally funded program that helps low-income people afford utility bills.

The average monthly electricity consumption for all Kentucky residential ratepayers in 2022 was 1,094 kilowatt-hours, according to the Energy Information Administration. But the data presented by Chandler showed electricity consumption for Kentucky Power ratepayers was higher than that average — significantly higher for those receiving LIHEAP assistance.

During the winter months when electricity consumption peaks for Kentucky Power, the Eastern Kentucky utility's ratepayers who take part in LIHEAP on average use more than 2,500 kilowatt-hours per month. Multiply that consumption by Kentucky Power's average residential rate —

approximately 16 cents per kilowatt in 2022, among the highest in the state — and you get monthly electricity costs north of \$400. During some months the past three winters, roughly 20% of Kentucky Power ratepayers who take part in LIHEAP have used more than 4,000 kilowatt-hours of electricity, according to Kentucky Power data provided to the PSC. Wiseman during a November 2023 PSC hearing mentioned some ratepayers' monthly electricity usage has gone as high as 6,000 kilowatt-hours.

A major reason cited by Kentucky Power leadership for such high electricity consumption: Many homes need better insulation and better, more efficient heating sources.

Disagreement after a collaboration

That's where energy efficiency programs and "weatherizing" a home can play a role in reducing electricity usage and electricity bills. Chris Woolery, a residential energy coordinator for the nonprofit Mountain Association supporting economic development in Eastern Kentucky, said that kind of work can include better insulation, air sealing a home and installing energy-efficient heat pumps to warm a household.

Many Kentuckians, Woolery said, have types of resistance heat such as electric furnaces and baseboard heaters, or they use space heaters.

"That is some of the most expensive and inefficient heat that you can buy," Woolery said, saying switching people to use heat pumps is key. "When a utility can invest in getting people off of resistance heat, they can often save so much money in peak demand, generation or power purchase costs that it offsets the investment."

A focus on improving Kentucky Power's energy efficiency programs

is something that state government officials, nonprofit housing builders, consumer advocacy and renewable energy groups and Kentucky Power all collaborated on in a series of stakeholder meetings.

The meetings were characterized as "mutually beneficial" by Barry Nolen, a customer and distribution services manager with Kentucky Power, in testimony filed before the PSC.

Kentucky Power is proposing to add additional funding for an existing program that helps ratepayers get energy efficiency upgrades through home air sealing, new insulation, new doors, new windows and new lighting. The federal Weatherization Assistance Program is what facilitates those upgrades, but oftentimes homeowners who need that help are deferred or denied it because of damage or structural issues to a home.

If there's a roof leak, for example, newly installed insulation could be destroyed by water damage. That's where the federal Weatherization Readiness Fund comes in to support ratepayers making home repairs necessary before making energy efficiency improvements. Kentucky Power is also offering additional funding for a federal fund, up to \$1,000 for 60 homes over three years.

But advocates that collaborated with Kentucky Power say while the new investments are appreciated, they still don't meet the scale of the need among Kentucky Power's ratepayers.

"It must be in the thousands, if not the tens of thousands of homes that need improvements in Kentucky Power's territory," said Andy McDonald, vice-chair of the solar energy advocacy group Kentucky Solar Energy Society. "We appreciate that Kentucky Power is aware of this issue and concerned

about it" but that the program "is not in proportion to the need."

The groups also see potential for going further with new programs the utility could offer. The groups point to a type of program called Inclusive Utility Investment (IUI) where individual households could receive energy efficiency upgrades to their home in exchange for a charge on their bill, potentially saving money on their bill while the utility still recoups their investment. They also point to the potential of replicating a program offering home battery storage systems.

McDonald shared with the Lantern a consultant report from the Vermont-based consulting firm Energy Futures Group that showed the amount of investment in energy efficiency programs Kentucky Power would be proposing is much lower than what other utilities offer and lower than what Kentucky Power itself has invested in the past. The PSC in 2018 scrapped almost all of Kentucky Power's energy efficiency programs stating the "high levels of spending" on the programs couldn't be justified.

Nusbaum, the Kentucky Power spokesperson, said in her statement the utility was focused on programs that were "proven and cost-effective to customers" and that the utility didn't believe an IUI program "would provide benefits that would outweigh the cost to our customers."

Nusbaum also said they determined the amount of funding for the Weatherization Readiness Fund through consultation with community action agencies in the state that administer such help, an investment level the utility believes is "impactful for customers" while also being mindful of what ratepayers will have to pay on their bills to implement such programs.

"We worked hard to de-

velop this proposal to help our customers," Nusbaum said. "Some of the good work we felt was accomplished to make this happen, we did with some of the groups criticizing the current proposal. It's disappointing to hear negative feedback and opposition from these stakeholders, especially since this opposition can delay or even prevent the important [demand side management] benefits these programs will provide for our most vulnerable customers."

Worries over fossil fuels These disagreements over energy efficiency come as Kentucky Power is seeking more power generation, some of it potentially through additional fossil fuels. The prospect concerns advocacy groups that the cost of building, for example, a new natural gas-fired power plant would fall on ratepayers.

"We're really excited that they're starting new programs, but we're just disappointed that the scale is not enough to affect that [natural gas] peaker plant that's proposed," Woolery said. "Every one of those investments is so meaningful to the families that received them, but in the grand scheme it's going to take a whole lot more to offset the need, right?"

Kentucky Power currently only has one natural gas-fired power plant and it's unclear if the utility will have access to electricity generation from a West Virginia coal-fired power plant beyond 2028. Kentucky Power is a subsidiary of American Electric Power based Columbus, Ohio.

As of now, that leaves the utility having to purchase the rest of its power from the regional electricity grid operator PJM, which can expose the utility to potentially paying higher power prices compared to producing it on its own. The PSC scolded Kentucky Power last year for having

insufficient in-house power generation available during a December 2022 winter storm, forcing the utility to pay exorbitantly high electricity prices from PJM as much of the South and Midwest faced a power demand crunch.

Kentucky Power leadership in an energy planning document filed to the PSC last year wrote its "preferred plan" for the future was to add to its energy portfolio a 480-megawatt natural gas-fired power plant along with 700 megawatts of new wind power, 800 megawatts of new solar power and 50 megawatts of electricity battery storage. The utility also put out requests to purchase up to 1,800 megawatts of fossil fuel-fired and renewable energy last year.

Nusbaum, the utility spokesperson, in her statement said while energy efficiency programs are an important part of addressing future energy needs, it can not "alone cannot fully address all of them."

Woolery framed the energy efficiency programs as a choice Kentucky Power has to make: invest in a "really risky path" of adding a natural gas-fired power plant amid uncertainty over how greenhouse gas emissions will be regulated, or invest in a "virtual power plant." He said that means investing in energy efficiency in homes, rooftop solar, household battery storage that can reduce the future energy demand — and the potential for a new natural gas fuel-fired power plant — the utility is considering.

"It just seems like the smart play, the play that's going to make more jobs, going to save more money, going to create less risk and uncertainty is to invest in ourselves, to invest in our communities," Woolery said.

# Bath County man wins big at Cave Run Bingo

A Bath County man has won the "Queen of Hearts" Raffle sponsored by the Morehead Optimist Club as part of their Cave Run Bingo gaming activities. Robin McVey, from Olympia, came to Cave Run Bingo on Friday, August 23rd for his usual evening of bingo fun. That night was his lucky night when his ticket was drawn for a chance to find the "Queen of Hearts" on the board with only eight (8) cards remaining. When he picked card #14 and found the "Queen of Hearts" underneath he won 70% of the \$14,834 jackpot and took home \$10,384.

The other 30%, rounded to \$4,450, will be deposited in an endowment fund created by the Optimist Club to fund scholarships for Rowan County students at Morehead State University.

The "Queen of Hearts" is a progressive raffle using a deck of cards laminated facedown on a board and numbered. Players purchase a chance for \$1 during bingo sessions and at the end of the night, one ticket is drawn and that individual picks a card, trying to find the Queen. If the Queen is not found, the jackpot rolls over to the next night and continues until someone finds the

card. The lucky winner receives 70% of the total jackpot and the Optimist Club donates 30% to a predetermined group, this time their own endowment to assist Rowan County students through scholarships at Morehead State University.

The Morehead Optimist Club was established in 1964 and focuses primarily on activities for the youth of Morehead and Rowan County. They operate Cave Run Bingo in Farmers, KY to fund a variety of youth programs and for the last several years have donated more than \$175,000 annually to various programs.

"We have been very blessed to be able to fund youth programs at the level we have," said Club President Bill Redwine. "The COVID-19 shutdown impacted our revenues quite significantly, for a period but we are now back up and running almost to pre COVID levels," Redwine added.

Cave Run Bingo is located at 6950 US 60 West in Farmers, Kentucky and is open every Friday and Saturday night. Doors open at 4:30 p.m. and bingo begins at 7:00. The facility is a non-smoking/vaping facility with smoke breaks included in the schedule



(Submitted photo)

each night.

For more information about the Optimist Club, please contact President Bill Redwine at (606)356-0666 or by email at more-

headoptimistclub@gmail.com. Weekly meetings are held during the lunch hour every Tuesday at Mr. Gatti's in Morehead.

# West Carter loses to Pike Central

## Comets run out of steam in second half

By Jeremy D. Wells  
*Carter County Times*

West Carter started off strong, going into halftime with an 8 point lead over the Pike Central Hawks on Friday, and starting the second half with another touchdown to take the score to 14-0. But in the final quarter the fatigue of playing both defense and offense, and Pike Central's deep bench, got to be too much for the Comets, who ended up losing the game by a single touchdown after a big Pike County

comeback in the last 15 minutes of play.

Senior Dwaylon Dean (RB, LB) scored the Comets' first touchdown, dodging and weaving through the Pike Central defensive line for a total of 132 rushing yards on the evening. With a third down and five to go, and two minutes left in the first quarter, Dean bulldozed his way through the Hawks' defense to put the Comets on the board. Junior Hayden Hall's (QB, DB) successful two-point conversion took the score to 8-0, where it would stay until the second half when junior Kadin Thompson (WR, DB) gave the Comets their second touchdown on a long reception, taking the score

to 14-0.

Pike Central's frustration with the strong Comets defense nearly helped West Carter add more points to the board, as penalties — including a brief on-field scuffle — led to yardage gains for the home team.

But the Hawks' deeper bench helped them stage a comeback in the final quarter. A touchdown four minutes into the fourth quarter took the score to 14-6, and another touchdown and successful two-point conversion tied the game up. On Pike Central's next possession, they put another six points on the board, with less than two minutes left in play, taking the score to 14-20.

That's where it would stay, despite West Carter's best attempts to pull ahead.

West Carter already has a small team, with most of their roster playing both offensive and defensive positions. But injuries whittled that number down even further, contributing to the team's fatigue.

"We ended up with a pretty small roster over the course of the game injury wise," coach Daniel Barker said. "I think our guys played to exhaustion. They gave everything they had. We just ran out of gas."

Barker said the team has a bye-week coming up.

"So, we're going to focus on getting healthy," he said, and come back strong for Estill County on



Dwaylon Dean runs the ball for West Carter. (Photo by Jeremy D. Wells, Carter County Times)

September 6.

Estill County took on East Carter last week, losing to the Raiders in a 36-0 game.

East Carter plays again this Friday, at Rowan County. You can tune into that game on WGOH 1370 AM and 100.9 FM, at 7:35 p.m. Or listen live on the

Go Radio Grayson app. Contact the writer at editor@cartercountytimes.com