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Carter County Times

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CARTER COUNTY, KENTUCKY

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Braving the storm

Court discusses replacing equipment and sleeping space for employees

By Charles Romans
Carter County Times

The weather outside has been the focus for most of us over the last two weeks. So, Carter County Judge Executive Brandon Burton began Monday night's fiscal court meeting by commending county road crews for their response to the recent snowstorm that blanketed the area with deep snow.

"I know it has been a tough

seven days for people in Carter County," Burton said. "It was a pretty rough storm we had, back-to-back, and I want to stress my gratitude and thanks to all of our Emergency Management teams."

Burton also thanked the fire departments, and everyone else involved in efforts to combat the storm, including the magistrates.

"Everyone assisted in efforts to battle the storm," Burton said. "We've helped people with getting food, getting them wood, and anything else we could do. Our road crew has worked seven days straight and I'm very proud of their hard work."

Burton said that the county knew they "had a fight on their hands" as the storm approached but added that it was not only county personnel that worked

See **STORM** on A-8



Carter County Fiscal Court (Photo by Charles Romans, Carter County Times)

Staying safe and warm

What to do when the power goes out

By Charles Romans
Carter County Times

The winter season blows in with an entirely new round of concerns. There are roads hazards, of course, from rain that turns to ice in freezing temperatures to the difficulty negotiating excessive snowfall. There is also the threat posed to the electric grid from either or both of these types of precipitations, and many area residents face a constant possibility of loss of electricity. But unlike in the summer when loss of power is more inconvenience than actual threat to health and safety, loss of electric in the frigid winter temperatures

escalate beyond inconvenience and into actual danger.

One very real risk in a power outage is the likelihood those affected may have also lost their primary, and quite possibly their only, source of heat. Many modern homes are heated by electricity or natural/propane gas furnaces. Heat pumps for electrical heating systems will of course not work without electricity, and even the blowers that circulate the heat in gas furnace systems require electricity to circulate the generated heat.

When homes equipped with these types of heat lose their electrical power supply, residents are forced to turn to supplementary or backup heat sources. These types of secondary heat sources include fireplaces, wood-burning stoves, kerosene heaters, and portable propane heaters.

See **WARM** on A-3



(Photo by Jeremy D. Wells, Carter County Times)

Windchill and overexertion

Stay safe while working in the cold

By Charles Romans
Carter County Times

Animals physically adapt to their environment. The average dog will, for instance, gain its 'winter coat' as the seasons turn, and then 'shed' as temperatures warm. Humans, however, though animals themselves, don't typically exhibit such radical physical changes based upon season or environment. Our hair grows at a relatively constant rate regardless of when or where we happen to be at any given time; and if we



(Photo by Jeremy D. Wells, Carter County Times)

need or desire a winter coat we must make or purchase one.

This means that we need to be more deliberate with how we

interact with our environment. In most cases failing to prepare

See **COLD** 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.

- Jesse Wilson, 42, of Olive Hill, arrested by Carter County Sheriff, on charges of first degree possession of a controlled substance (heroin), and first degree possession of a controlled substance (methamphetamine), arrested and booked January 5.
- Shawna Staten, 28, of Olive Hill, arrested by Carter County Sheriff, for failure to appear, arrested and booked January 5.
- Kenneth Wages, 42, of Grayson, arrested by Grayson PD, on charges of operating a motor vehicle under the influence of a controlled substance, no registration receipt, and failure

to produce an insurance card, arrested and booked January 9.

- Rodney Stephens, 46, of Olive Hill, arrested by Kentucky State Police, on two counts of failure to appear, arrested and booked January 9.
- Anthony Jordan, 47, of Grayson, arrested by Carter County Sheriff, serving a warrant for a parole violation, and on charges of first degree possession of a controlled substance (methamphetamine), operating a motor vehicle on a suspended or revoked operator's license, and failure to appear, arrested and booked January 9.
- John Fryer, Jr., 47, of Rush, arrested by Carter County Sheriff, on a charge of first degree possession of a controlled substance (drug unspecified), arrested and booked January 9.
- John Johnson, 53, of Grayson, arrested by Carter County

Sheriff, for failure to appear, arrested and booked January 9.

- Jalin Campbell, 21, of Mount Sterling, arrested by Grayson PD, on charges of theft by unlawful taking or disposition – automobile valued at more than \$10,000, and second degree burglary, arrested and booked January 9.
- Gregory Conn, 42, of Olive Hill, arrested by Carter County Sheriff, on charges of first degree criminal mischief, possession of burglary tools, first degree promoting contraband, prescription drugs in improper container, and third degree possession of a controlled substance (drug unspecified), arrested and booked January 10.
- Melissa Pennington, 40, of Hitchens, weekender, arrested and booked January 10.
- Todd Auer, 58, of Olive Hill, weekender, arrested and booked January 10.
- Christopher Woods, 38, of

See **ARRESTS** on A-3



This Week's Obituaries

Ronald Claude "RC" "Corky Davis, 84
Robert "Bob" Dudon, 78

Eric Duane Hall, 37
Glenis Ivan Henderson, 80

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LIFESTYLE



Master meal prep: The perfect poached chicken that saves time, money and dinner!

Here's what I know for sure, meal planning is the key to saving time, money and stress in the kitchen while ensuring your meals are nutritious and delicious.

This poached chicken technique is the ultimate meal-prep secret weapon -- it's cost-effective, versatile and guarantees tender, juicy chicken every time. Whether you need shredded chicken for tacos, sliced chicken

for salads or a flavorful broth for soups, this method gives you endless options for effortless, wholesome meals all week long.

How to Poach Chicken Perfectly Every Time

Here's the secret: The key is gentle, even cooking. Here's how to master poaching chicken: Take the chicken or chicken breasts out of the fridge to warm to room temperature before placing it in room temperature water. And then slowly bring the water just to a simmer, never to a full boil. Use a thermometer to track the temperature of the water, and keep it around 180 F to 190 F. It shouldn't boil! You must use a thermometer and set a timer. This is how you get the chicken to cook evenly and remain tender and juicy.

Diva Tip - This same technique works on whole chickens, and chicken breast with bone in and skin on.

POACHED CHICKEN BREASTS FOR MEAL PREP

Yield: 5 pounds chicken
Total Time: 45 minutes
5 pounds of chicken breasts, boneless, skinless
Water, enough to cover by 2 inches
1 tablespoon kosher salt, adjust as desired
Optional: aromatics like gar-

lic, onion, bay leaves, herbs or lemon

Place chicken in a large saucepan and cover with room temperature water, ensuring the meat is submerged by at least 2 inches. Add salt and aromatics for flavor.

Heat over medium until the water reaches 180 F, a gentle simmer. Cover with a lid and remove the pan from heat.

Let it sit for 15 minutes, until the thickest part of the chicken breast reaches 150 F with a meat thermometer.

Rest the chicken for 5 minutes before slicing, shredding or cubing.

Store cooked chicken in an airtight container in the fridge for up to four days or freeze for three months.

Why Poach a Whole Chicken?

It's economical and versatile. You'll get tender meat for salads, sandwiches and casseroles, plus a rich broth for soup or to elevate other dishes. Freeze any extra meat or broth for future meals.

POACHED WHOLE CHICKEN

Yield: 4 to 5 pounds
Total Time: 60 minutes
1 whole chicken, about 4-5 pounds
Water, enough to fully submerge



Perfectly poached chicken -- juicy, versatile and ready to star in your favorite dishes. (Photo credit: www.JasonCoblentz.com)

the chicken
1-2 tablespoons kosher salt, adjust as desired
Aromatics: 1 onion, 2 carrots, 2 celery stalks, 3 garlic cloves, fresh herbs and spices

Place the chicken in a large pot with water or broth, ensuring it's fully submerged. Add aromatics for a flavorful broth. Bring to a simmer over medium heat, 180 F to 190 F, then immediately reduce the heat to maintain a gentle simmer. Cook uncovered for about 60 minutes, skimming off foam and excess fat as needed. The chicken is done when the thickest part of the thigh reaches 165 F. Cool the chicken in the liquid for 30 minutes to retain moisture.

Meal planning doesn't have to be complicated! To make it even easier, grab my free Meal Planning Tool Kit, available for a limited time on my website (divasonadime.com). It's packed with tools and tips to help you save time, money and stress in the kitchen.

Poached chicken is the ultimate multitasker in your kitchen -- juicy, versatile and practically effortless. Happy cooking!

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

Just a closer walk in 2025

By: Pastor Naomi Mitchell for Carter County Times

I remember years ago having an 8 track (lol) of Elvis Presley singing the song, "I am weak but Thou art strong; Jesus keep me from all wrong; I'll be satisfied as long as I walk, let me walk close to Thee." The refrain goes like this, "Just a closer walk with Thee, Grant it, Jesus, is my plea, Daily walking close to Thee, Let it be, dear Lord, let it be." The second verse, "Thro' this world of toil and snares, If I falter, Lord, who cares? Who with me my burden shares? None but Thee, dear Lord, none but Thee." The third verse says, "When my feeble life is o'er, Time for me will be no more; Guide me gently, safely o'er, To Thy kingdom shore, to Thy shore."

According to Wikipe-

dia, this song was written and published around 1885. The title and the words of this song allude to the Biblical passage from 2 Corinthians 5:7 which states, "We walk by faith, not by sight," and James 4:8, "Come near to God and He will come near to you." It is one of the most popular hymns played by brass bands. (I can just hear Pastor John Bunn playing his brass!) The song gained popularity both in print and in recordings during the 1940s.

Listening to your favorite artist sing this song, or just reading the lyrics, paints a clear picture of just how frail and fragile life can be and is sometimes. Truly, we need "just a closer walk" with the Lord every day. He is our strength and our joy. He knows us better than we know ourselves. He knows what we need even before

we ask. We can be truly satisfied if we walk with Jesus, knowing He is right by our side; or rather we are by His side.

The Word of God in 2 Corinthians 12:10 says, "Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong." God wants to increase our faith and dependence on Him to show us how much He loves us, and what He can do.

So, God, in His grace, mercy and love brings us to a point of weakness so that we have nothing left to do, but trust that He's got us. God was pressing Paul to have confidence in His strength through the fact of his weakness.

The weaker we are, the more dependent we become. God wants us to depend upon Him, so He will

bring us to the point of that dependence, not because He hates us, but because He loves us and wants to show us what He can and will do for us. The power of God is put on display when we get ourselves out of the way. A lot of times it's in desperation when we finally call out to God to help us. (Kendra Graham)

Let's make a choice to walk closely with the Lord every day. In 2 Corinthians

5:7, it says, "For we walk by faith, not by sight." Walking by faith simply means having an eternal perspective, so that we can feel at home in both worlds (temporary home and eternal home). Walking by faith, not sight means fixing our eyes on what is eternal. We fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.

Practice having a closer walk with Jesus every day. In Joel 3:10, he said, "...let the weak say I am strong." Begin to speak to yourself in the now of your cir-

cumstances and say, "I am strong." If you are feeling weak just remember you can do all things through Jesus who strengthens you. As you begin to walk closer to Him, then you can sing, "How great Thou art, how great Thou art?"

May the Lord bless you and guide you every day. Gods got it! Amen!

Comments/Prayer Requests: Pastornaomi4god@gmail.com. FB: Joyful hoprayer. JOYFUL House of Prayer; 2519 Quicksand Road, P.O. Box 856, Jackson, Kentucky 41339

Kentucky Dept of Agriculture Livestock and Grain Market Report

There is no comparison available with last week as most markets were coming off their holiday break. Winter storms this week brought 6-12" of snow, freezing rain, and ice creating dangerous road conditions causing many stockyards to close and severely restricting cattle movement to those that were able to open.

Courtesy of <https://www.kyagr.com/>

Week ending 1/11/25

STATE AVERAGES	This Week	Prior Week	Last Year
Steers (M&L 1-2)			
350-400 lbs	366.97	361.05	280.40
400-450 lbs	347.46	349.88	256.71
450-500 lbs	343.61	334.35	259.71
500-550 lbs	313.96	292.94	249.92
550-600 lbs	301.13	288.65	240.03
600-650 lbs	287.38	281.04	230.95
650-700 lbs	272.07	261.70	226.53
700-750 lbs	257.01	246.10	211.33
750-800 lbs	255.70	252.52	206.99
800-850 lbs	244.73	244.55	204.85
850-900 lbs	235.19	235.00	206.57
Heifers (M&L 1-2)			
300-350 lbs	313.28	302.10	219.22
350-400 lbs	304.13	305.02	219.23
400-450 lbs	300.63	271.53	217.51
450-500 lbs	304.11	283.08	216.12
500-550 lbs	271.24	263.59	210.95
550-600 lbs	266.63	260.51	207.73
600-650 lbs	254.14	230.45	199.70
650-700 lbs	251.53	233.06	196.33
700-750 lbs	231.63	206.23	183.31
750-800 lbs	234.98	212.53	184.26

WEEKLY COW SUMMARY

Slaughter Cows	Average	High	Low
Breakers	100.00-145.00	126.00-160.00	102.00-119.00
Boners	97.00-147.00	121.00-158.00	90.00-125.00
Lean	85.00-127.00	114.00-144.00	70.00-114.00
Slaughter Bulls	Average	High	Low
Yield Grade 1&2	131.00-162.00	161.00-195.00	120.00-147.00

Jan 09, 2025

Bowling Green, KY

SLAUGHTER GOATS: 48

Kids: Selection 1-2 70 lbs 295.00; **Selection 2** 66 lbs 252.50; 83 lbs 245.00; 115.00 lbs 185.00. **Selection 2-3** 46 lbs 260.00; 55 lbs 230.00; 62 lbs 255.00.

SLAUGHTER SHEEP: 577

Hair Breeds-Choice & Prime 1-2 55-59 lbs 332.50-335.00; 66-67 lbs 277.50-330.00; 74-75 lbs 297.50-302.50; 86-87 lbs 235.00-265.00; 115 lbs 215.00.
Choice 2 51-57 lbs 302.50-317.50; 68 lbs 297.50; 89 lbs 230.00; 127 lbs 195.00; 135 lbs 150.00. **Woolled-Choice and Prime 1-2** 75 lbs 320.00.

Week ending 1/11/25

GRAINS	This Week	Prior Week	Last Year
Corn	4.48-4.91	4.36-4.82	4.02-4.66
Soybeans	9.13-10.54	9.21-10.40	11.69-12.82
Red Winter Wheat	4.71-5.55	4.64-5.49	5.33-6.39

University of Kentucky Extension Notes

carter.ca.uky.edu

AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES

Start the year off right with good record-keeping practices

Record-keeping is not everyone's favorite activity, but with a little time, patience and a commitment to get it done, your financial life will be more peaceful.

Record-keeping tasks don't have to be difficult. Think of it as a way to keep

maintenance records for specific farm equipment and produce balance sheets, income statements and cash flow budgets.

For many livestock operations, a good time to start keeping records is when your veterinarian

comes to check your animals. Vets usually charge per head, so that data can help you develop a list of animals that need attention. You can use the same data to develop health histories of your animals, which will lead to more informed exams and diagnoses in the future.

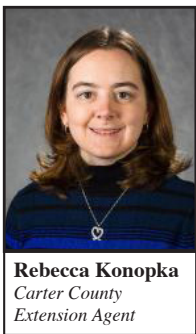
Make record-keeping a team effort for your family. Sit down and work on the records and budget together. Perhaps one person can read the information while another person types it into the software program or writes it in the ledger book. You won't become

overwhelmed if you do a little bit each day and don't save it all up for the end of the year. Year-end procedures also can feel more satisfying if you've done the work throughout the year. You can generate year-end reports with a few simple clicks and not have to sort through stacks of bills lying around the home or office.

The University of Kentucky College of Agriculture, Food and Environment's Department of Agricultural Economics has several tools online that could help with budgeting and decision-making. Visit <https://agecon.ca.uky.edu/budgets> to see what is available.

For more information about record-keeping and a variety of other farm management topics, contact the Carter County Cooperative Extension Service. Educational programs of the Cooperative Extension Service serve all people

See RECORDS on A-3



Rebecca Konopka
Carter County
Extension Agent

Arrests from A-1

Grayson, arrested by Kentucky State Police, for failure to appear, arrested and booked January 11.

- Jerry Foster, 44, of Grayson, arrested by Grayson PD, on charges of operating a motor ve-

hicle under the influence of alcohol, and failure to register the transfer of a motor vehicle, arrested and booked January 11.

- Trynten Wolfe, 21, of Bluff Dale, TX, arrested by Grayson PD, as

a fugitive (warrant not required), arrested and booked January 12.

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.

Cold from A-1

is more an inconvenience than an actual problem. Being 'cold' isn't the same as freezing. When temperatures are low but above the freezing point, most of us can suffer through not being comfortably warm. But when temperatures dip below that freezing point there are precautions we all must take when being outdoors for an extended period of time. And at that point the temperature is a major factor in every activity.

Two major things to consider at low winter temperatures are wind chill and exertion based distress. Wind chill is often a more important factor than the actual temperature reading on the thermometer. And exertion based distress is something we all need to guard against because all too often it happens without warning, especially during activities such as clearing driveways, feeding animals, and cutting firewood.

According to the National Weather Service (NWS), "Wind Chill is a

term used to describe what the air temperature feels like to the human skin due to the combination of cold temperatures and winds blowing on exposed skin." Exposed skin radiates heat away from the body as a natural cooling process; however, cold and quickly blowing wind accelerates that process and can actually drain body heat. If enough body heat is drained from exposed flesh the result can be frostbite. The National Weather Service provides a chart that shows the time required for temperature and windchill on exposed skin to result in frostbite.

"For example, a temperature of 0°F and a wind speed of 15 mph will produce a wind chill temperature of -19°F. Under these conditions, exposed skin can freeze in 30 minutes," the NWS notes.

Exertion based distress is a danger whenever we are exposed to cold temperatures while performing strenuous activities for any appreciable amount of time without proper precau-

tions. The most common culprit is shoveling snow covered driveways and walkways, though any strenuous outdoor activity can cause exertion based distress. The body is already somewhat compromised by using more resources to maintain body core temperature, and the activity can exacerbate this causing more loss of heat, while the person performing the activity might 'feel' warm.

Outdoor activities are particularly challenging to certain groups during the winter months. According to the American Heart Association, "The impact of snow removal is especially concerning for people who already have cardiovascular risks like a sedentary lifestyle or obesity, being a current or former smoker, having diabetes, high cholesterol or high blood pressure, as well as people who have had a heart attack or stroke. People with these characteristics and those who have had bypass surgery or coronary angioplasty simply should

not be shoveling snow." These types of activities have been shown to increase blood pressure while also constricting the coronary arteries, which is a recipe for a cardiac event. Those who think they might be bypassing the effects and dangers by using mechanical means such as snow blowers should rethink those thoughts because the American Heart Association studies show that using snowblowers carry virtually the same risks as manually shoveling snow.

There are of course times when these outdoor activities cannot be avoided. But anyone, even healthy and relatively active individuals with no health issues should be aware of the dangers. Work slowly, take frequent breaks, and if using a shovel remember to push the snow rather than lift it.

Contact the writer at charles@cartercountytimes.com

Bringing reliable service home

Cellphone carrier offers guarantee

By Charles Romans
Carter County Times

If anyone knows about the troubles of keeping a steady cell connection, it's someone who is from a rural area. It's a problem that's plagued all carriers. But it's one that AT&T says they're committed to

fixing. Not only is AT&T taking its commitment to its customers to the next level, the news was brought home to the region by Carter County native Krista Kouns.

Kouns grew up in Grayson and attended East Carter. She worked her way up through the ranks at AT&T to her current position as Director of Retail Sales for a large portion of Kentucky and parts of Indiana, and said it is a 'full circle' moment to

be able to bring the news to her hometown. Though her office is in Lexington, she said that Carter County will always be considered home.

Kouns said the new guarantee from AT&T is more than a promise; it is a renewed commitment to their customers. She describes it as a promise to take action when AT&T customers have problems and includes what most consumers of any product want more of – customer

service. "As we look at our customer base, and this is all across the industry, nearly half of the customers have skepticism regarding their carriers," Kouns said.

Kouns said that AT&T has talked for years about having the best connectivity in America.

"And when you talk about this, then this promise had to

See *CELL PHONE* on A-6

Warm from A-1

Each of these secondary heat sources have their individual cautions and dangers and should be used cautiously to mitigate safety risks as much as possible. Certain types of heat carry the risk of fumes inside a residential area and others can become a fire hazard if not used properly.

Fireplaces were once common as the primary heat sources in homes, though now they have been relegated to an almost aesthetic addition. The same could be said for wood-burning stoves, though both can provide a good source of heat for a home. Some issues that need to be addressed are the age and condition of the chimney or pipes, respectively. Have they been cleaned recently? Has the chimney been maintained and used

regularly? Is the venting for each in good condition? Many home fires have resulted in catastrophe due to obstructed, old and worn, or damaged chimneys and piping.

Kerosene heaters have been used for decades as a viable backup source of emergency heat, but they do not come without their own unique hazards. NASD (National Ag Safety Database) has a complete list of safety procedures for the use of kerosene heaters including operating the heater in a room with an open door to the rest of the house. If that is not possible, make sure to open a window about an inch in the room where the heater is set up to allow the venting of fumes and pollutants generated by the heater. Always follow manufacturer's instruc-

tions and make certain the adjustable wick is set properly. And always follow manufacturers recommend cleaning and maintenance instructions.

Portable propane heaters are a popular source of heat both indoors and outdoors, but it is important to realize that those two types of heaters are not interchangeable. Outdoor heaters should never be used indoors because they lack an oxygen switch that monitors the level of carbon monoxide these types of heaters generate. Outdoor heaters are designed to be used in open air settings with the assumption that byproducts of the flames, such as smoke and carbon monoxide, will be vented away. Indoor gas heaters are manufactured with an oxygen switch that monitors the byproduct

gases and will shut the heater off if those levels approach an unacceptable limit.

The watchwords for any secondary sources of heat are safety and preparation. Examine fireplaces and wood burning stoves before they are needed, or better yet have a professional check them out in early fall before the weather turns cold. Have kerosene heaters serviced by professionals to determine they are in proper working order and never use anything except clear kerosene as a fuel source. And check the specifications on any existing gas heaters or those that might be purchased to determine if they are rated for indoor use.

Contact the writer at charles@cartercountytimes.com

Records from A-2

regardless of economic or social status and will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, ethnic origin, national origin, creed, religion, political belief, sex, sexual orientation,

gender identity, gender expressions, pregnancy, marital status, genetic information, age, veteran status, or physical or mental disability.

Upcoming Events:

- Ag Advancement Council – Monday, January 13th @ 6:00 PM
- Extension Council & District Board Meetings - Tuesday, January 14th @

- 10:00 AM
- Small Ruminant Quality Assurance Training – Friday, January 24th @ 10:00 AM – Please register by calling 474-6686.

CALENDAR

- **1/16: Grayson Book Club @ 6 p.m.** | Carter County Public Library - Grayson
- **1/16: Olive Hill Area Chamber of Commerce meeting @ 6 p.m.** | Giovanni's Pizza
- **1/17: Sit and Sew @ 9 a.m.** | Carter County Extension Education Center | For questions or to RSVP call 606-474-6686
- **1/18: Friends of the Library meeting @ 5 p.m.** | Carter County Public Library - Olive Hill
- **1/20: Quilts for Veterans Sew Days @ 9 a.m.** | Carter County Extension Education Center | For questions call 606-474-6686
- **1/20: Homeschool group meeting @ 12 p.m.** | Carter County Public Library - Grayson
- **1/20: Carter County EMS Board Meeting @ 4 p.m.** | Carter County EMS Station
- **1/20: Carter County Board of Education @ 6 p.m.** | Carter County Board of Education office
- **1/21: Homeschool group meeting @ 6 p.m.** | Carter County Public Library - Olive Hill
- **1/21: Olive Hill City Council @ 6 p.m.** | Olive Hill Senior/Community Center
- **1/22: Olive Hill Book Club @ 5:30 p.m.** | Carter County Public Library - Olive Hill
- **1/24: Small Ruminant Quality Assurance Training @ 10 a.m.** | Carter County Extension Office | Call 474-6686 to register
- **1/27: Quilts for Veterans Sew Days @ 9 a.m.** | Carter County Extension Education Center | For questions call 606-474-6686
- **1/27: Homeschool group meeting @ 12 p.m.** | Carter County Public Library - Grayson

Have an event to add to the calendar?
Email info to advertise@cartercountytimes.com

ONESTOP[®]
PARTS SOURCE
OLIVE HILL AUTO PARTS
670 E Tom T Hall Blvd, Olive Hill
606-286-8788



Pet of the Week

Charlie is a male shepherd mix, around eight months old. Charlie is very playful, and loves attention. 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.

Is your family ready for this?

Don't risk it.

DUIs are expensive and may cost you your license or your life. Never drink and drive. Always buckle up.

A message from the City of Grayson and the Alcoholic Beverage Control Office

Bank like a local, no matter where life takes you.

Commercial Bank of Grayson
Here for a century, here for you.

cbgrayson.com

Member FDIC LENDER

Flannery Named Chair of Local Government Committee

FRANKFORT – Representative Patrick Flannery of Olive Hill is the new Chair of the Kentucky House's Local Government Committee, House Speaker David Osborne announced this week.

"I am honored to have the opportunity to serve in a role that directly affects our local community," said Flannery. "As Chairman of this committee, I look forward to working with local officials both at home and across the commonwealth to ensure that the needs of both our communities and local governments are met."

Local Government Committee members consider legislation that deals with the officers, organization, governing, and financing of city and county governments. Committee members are also responsible for how state laws address the administration of public works and public safety programs.

"As someone with firsthand experience in local government, Representative Flannery more than meets the unique needs that this committee requires," said Speaker Osborne. "This committee has a critical duty, as local governments impact the daily lives of Kentuckians

across the commonwealth more than any other level of our democratic institutions. Whether the issue concerns cities or counties, rural or urban – I am confident that under his leadership the committee will be efficient and effective in its care for our communities and local governments."

According to the National Conference of State Legislatures, a committee chair "serves as the parliamentary head of a committee. The chair sets the committee's agenda, determining when—or in many states, whether—bills will be considered."

In addition to leading the committee, Flannery will also serve as a member of the Judiciary, Licensing, Occupations, and Administrative Regulations; and Natural Resources and Energy committees.

The 2025 Regular Session will convene on Tuesday, January 7 and legislators will meet for 30 legislative days before adjourning by March 29. Kentuckians can keep up to date with legislative activity by visiting legislature.ky.gov or following @KYHouseGOP on Facebook, Twitter, and most major social media outlets.

Legislative update

FRANKFORT— The 30-day session is underway, and Frankfort is alive with the energy and purpose that come with shaping the future of our commonwealth. Every time I return to the Capitol, I am reminded of the trust placed in us by the people of Kentucky. It's an honor to serve as your voice, to work hard, and to lead with principles that reflect the needs and values of District 18. Frankfort stands as a symbol of both our history and the opportunities we have to create a better future.

The first week of any session moves quickly, and this year is no exception. We've spent much of our time swearing in newly elected and reelected members, organizing committees, and debating the rules that guide how we do our work. Standing before the Senate to take my own oath was a moment of humility and resolve. I'm proud to continue

serving District 18 and am committed to using this time to advocate for solutions that make a real difference in the lives of Kentuckians.



Robin L. Webb
Senator
State of Kentucky

One of the week's key moments was the adoption of the Senate Rules, a set of guidelines that determine how we debate, deliberate, and ultimately decide on legislation. These rules are critically important because they shape the fairness and transparency of our legislative process. Among the changes this year is a provision allowing significantly altered bills to be introduced and voted on the same day, with little notice.

This raises valid questions: How can legislators fully understand the impact of a bill if it's changed at the last minute? How can the public trust the process if they don't have time to weigh in? While I

See LEGISLATIVE on A-6

OBITUARY

Ronald Claude "RC" "Corky" Davis

1940 – 2025



Ronald Claude "RC" "Corky" Davis, age 84, of Olive Hill, Kentucky, passed away Wednesday, January 8, 2025, at his cabin on the family farm, surrounded by his loving family.

He was born Wednesday, August 7, 1940, on Smith Creek in Carter County, Kentucky, a son of the late William Elza Davis and Virginia Texanna Clough Davis Hilderbrand.

RC started his own successful plumbing business at the age of 30, establishing himself as a master plumber and much sought-after plumbing contractor in the tri-state area. He was loved by many and respected by all that knew him.

Ronnie lived life fully, enjoying the simple pleasures, such as fishing, building and creating things, writing and telling stories and tinkering with broken machinery. He loved his family well and inspired each of them to also live full and rewarding lives.

He was a member of Globe Christian Church, of which his grandparents were original founders. His relationship with God was very personal and he found the Divine mostly in the quiet places of his life.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded

in death by his step father, Allen Hilderbrand; two brothers, John Elza Davis and William Garner Davis; one sister, Verna Fern Davis; one son in law, Richard Waller; two sisters in law, Edith Davis and Rowena Hilderbrand.

Ronnie is survived by his loving wife of sixty-five years, Mary Short Davis; two daughters, Peggy Waller and Ronetta (Jeff) Brown both of Olive Hill, Kentucky; six grandchildren, Clint Davis, Corena McRoberts, Larry Holbrook, Charles Holbrook, Jaelyn Waugh and Nicholas Alcorn; eleven great grandchildren; two great great grandchildren; one brother, Dale Hilderbrand of Olive Hill, Kentucky; one sister, Joy (Don) Craft of Morehead, Kentucky, along with many other family and friends who will sadly miss him.

Funeral services will be held 2 p.m. Friday, January 17, 2025, at Globe Funeral Chapel in Olive Hill, Kentucky with Brother Dale Collinsworth officiating. Burial will follow in the Davis Family Cemetery in Olive Hill, Kentucky.

Friends may visit after 11 a.m. Friday, January 17, 2025, until the service hour at Globe Funeral Chapel in Olive Hill, Kentucky.

Clint Davis, Nicholas Alcorn, Jeff Brown, Dale Hilderbrand, Chase Stephens, and Scott Lambert will serve as pallbearers.

Bill Perry, Larry Mynhier, Charles Holbrook, Larry Holbrook and Joe Lambert will serve as honorary pallbearers.

Globe Funeral Chapel in Olive Hill, Kentucky is honored to serve the family of Ronald Claude "RC" "Corky" Davis.

Robert "Bob" Dudon

1947 – 2025



Forrest Visteon in Indianapolis, Indiana as a Quality Engineer.

Bob is survived by his loving wife of 32 years, Brenda Joy Pennington Dudon of Grayson, Kentucky; a step daughter, Sandra (Greg) Messer of Linton, Indiana; 2 grandsons Nickolas (Shannon) Messer, Louisville, Ky; Zackary Messer, Linton, Indiana; and 2 great grandchildren, Paytin Messer, Louisville, KY, and Macie Messer of Ashland, Kentucky.

Bob is also survived by his two brothers, John (Michelle) Dudon, Mooresburg, Tennessee; and Eddie Dudon of Brookville, Ohio; as well as a host of nieces, nephews, and cousins who will miss him dearly.

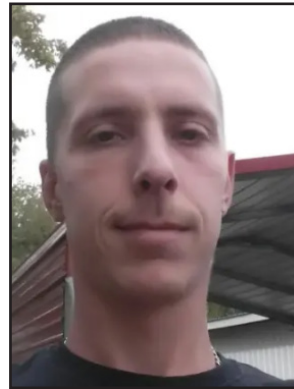
Bob was preceded in death by his loving and loyal cat Smokey.

Burial will follow at a later date in the Pennington Cemetery.

Grayson Funeral Home and Cremation Services is honored to serve the family of Robert "Bob" Dudon.

Eric Duane Hall

1987 – 2025



Kentucky; one brother, Matthew Paul Hall of Mansfield, Ohio; sister-in-law, Amy Perry Hall; paternal grandparents, Luster and Shirley Hall of Shiloh, Ohio; maternal grandmother, Noreen Hammond of Mansfield, Ohio; father-in-law, Rod Hall of Zanesville, Ohio; mother-in-law, Carmen (Ronald) Fleming of Olive Hill, Kentucky; several nieces and nephews, along with many other family and friends that will sadly miss him.

As we say goodbye to Eric we hold onto the warmth and light he brought into this world.

Funeral services were held 1 p.m., Sunday, January 12, 2025, at Globe Funeral Chapel, 17277 West US Hwy 60, Olive Hill, Kentucky, with Brother Jason Lewis officiating. Burial followed in Tackett Family Cemetery in Elliott County, Kentucky.

Friends visited from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., Saturday, January 11, 2025, and after 11 a.m., Sunday, January 12, 2025, until the service hour at Globe Funeral Chapel.

Carter Hall, Logan Simmons, Corbett Dale Brown, Matthew Hall, Rod Hall, Rodney Hall, Jordan Greisheimer, and Hayden Hall served as pallbearers.

Canaan Hall and Thomas Hall served as honorary pallbearers.

Globe Funeral Chapel in Olive Hill, Kentucky is honored to serve the family of Eric Duane Hall.

Glenis Ivan Henderson

1944 – 2025



Glenis Ivan Henderson, age 80, of Olive Hill, Kentucky, passed away Monday, January 6, 2025, at Elliott County Nursing and Rehabilitation in Sandy Hook, Kentucky.

He was born Saturday, November 11, 1944, in Elliott County, Kentucky, to the late Norman and Sibyl Roe Henderson.

Glenis enjoyed working

with his tools and knives, playing horseshoes and spending time with his family.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by two brothers, James Lee Henderson and Donnie Henderson.

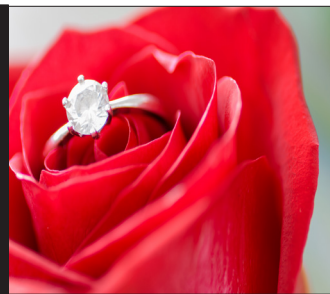
Glenis is survived by one sister, Shirley Holbrook of Olive Hill, Kentucky, along with many other family and friends who will sadly miss him.

Graveside services will be held 2 p.m., Thursday, January 16, 2024, at Boggs Cemetery in Elliott County, Kentucky with Brother Elijah Wagoner officiating.

Globe Funeral Chapel in Olive Hill, Kentucky is honored to serve the family of Glenis Ivan Henderson.

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Carter County Times

www.cartercountytimes.com

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Grayson, Kentucky

Thursday, January 16
East Girls vs Morgan Co.
The Guns, Gold & Cash Pregame show begins at 7:04 p.m. on WGOH 100.9 FM.

Friday, January 17
West Girls vs Elliott Co.
The Guns, Gold & Cash Pregame show begins at 5:35 p.m. on WUGO 99.7 FM

Monday, January 20
West Boys vs Elliott Co.
The Guns, Gold & Cash Pregame show begins at 7:04 p.m. on WUGO 99.7 FM

Also listen on wgohwugo.com and on the Go Radio Grayson app.

Country Gold & Bluegrass
WGOH
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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.

Guest Editorial

Why does Kentucky GOP leadership fear public debate and scrutiny?

Kentuckians elect lawmakers to ask questions that supermajority would rather not hear

By Teri Carter
Kentucky Lantern

After Republican legislators voted overwhelmingly for rules changes on the first day of the 2025 General Assembly to make it easier for their supermajority to end floor debates and rush to a final vote on controversial bills, Senate President Robert Stivers pronounced with aplomb that reporters in the chamber would focus on the debate happening in front of them instead of instances when Republicans and Democrats work together.

"They want to write about division," Stivers said of the press corps. "They want to write about dissension. ... Every day, I want to look at the people who write the stories, who speak the language, who go on the TVs and the radio to talk about all the positives that this body leans on, not the negatives that they want to sell advertising and get advertising dollars for."

There is nothing quite like listening to the most powerful lawmaker in the Kentucky legislature whine about the documentation of obvious division that observers are witnessing in real time with their own eyes and ears.

I don't gamble, but if I were a betting woman I'd say Stivers' remarks are simply a ploy to distract from the reason for the dissension, which is House and Senate leaders shoving through rule changes to stifle robust discussion on the floor, in view of the public, and give themselves the ability to move immediately to a final vote on controversial bills.

Nice try. What all of this means for Kentucky voters who sent our representatives to Frankfort is this: If your representative has questions they would like answered in a public forum (the House floor, the Senate floor) before a bill is passed, too bad.

Remember that these are the same lawmakers who voted themselves a raise in 2022, with Floor Leader Damon Thayer asking, yet again in 2024 via SB 350, for another raise.

For the record, I am not against potential raises because lawmakers now spend more time year-round on state business, and better pay would potentially attract better candidates who are not independently wealthy and/or fancy lawyers who can afford to give up or abandon their day jobs to work for us.

But why would we pay them more to have less public debate on consequential legislation?

In fact, why are we paying their salaries and weeks upon weeks of travel expenses — Stivers and Osborne included — to be in Frankfort if the supermajority refuses basic debate?

Bills big and small already remain a mystery to lawmakers across the aisle and to the general public because bills are not pre-filed. Bills can already hit the House and Senate floor for a vote at warp speed. And since there is such a huge GOP supermajority, Republicans can easily pass their bills when it comes time for a vote.

The issue is not reporters reporting what they witness in the chamber. The issue is that the new rules significantly stifle public debate, and Stivers knows the public will be livid.

Let us not follow his red bouncing ball of distraction.

Why is leadership so fearful of public debate and scrutiny? That's the main question Stivers needs to answer.

Does he not believe his bill sponsors are capable of answering basic questions about the laws they are proposing?

Why is GOP supermajority leadership seemingly afraid to manage floor debates and allow questions from lawmakers WE THE VOTERS sent there to ask?

Originally published online at <https://kentuckylantern.com/2025/01/13/why-does-kentucky-gop-leadership-fear-public-debate-and-scrutiny/>

The views of guest contributors do not necessarily reflect the views of the Carter County Times, its staff, or editorial board, but are chosen in the spirit of encouraging thoughtful debate and consideration on various issues of local, state, regional, or national interests.

Carter County Times

Members of the Editorial Board

Nicole Wells, publisher

Jeremy Wells, editor Keith Kappes, columnist



Don't be surprised when our next president privatizes the postal service

Before I share new thoughts, be aware that the Dec. 18 edition of the Carter County Times didn't reach my mailbox in Morehead for 23 days.

That's a distance of 35 highway miles on I-64, from Mile Markers 172 to 137. But some genius planner in the U. S. Postal Service also made that newspaper travel to and from Charleston, West Va., adding 160 miles.

I'm waiting for someone to explain how it makes sense for westbound mail from Kentucky to go to and from West Virginia in the opposite direction.

You readers who follow my commentaries know that I have suggested twice in recent months that the once reliable Post Office Department (it's old name in history) has been mismanaged into a bureaucratic disaster.

However, recent comments by President-elect Donald Trump have given me hope that help might be on the way. He said last week that it could be time to "privatize" the postal service.

I hope that means the mission of the USPS will be outsourced to a company like UPS or FedEx, both of which are highly profitable corporations in the delivery business. Or that the USPS can be managed like those companies.

To further illustrate that drastic change is needed, here are some examples of what we postal patrons can expect in 2025 if the USPS trudges on in its current structure.

As it continues to lose billions of dollars annually and its once-efficient delivery service basically has gone to hell, here's what the USPS is planning to do to us this year.

Prices will be increased on most, if not all services, including Priority Mail, Priority Mail Express, USPS Ground Advantage and Parcel Select.

The "Forever" stamps for first class mail went up twice last year and nine times in the last eight years to reach today's price of 73 cents. That figure, however, could change after July 1. In 2007, those stamps cost 41 cents.

Official delivery time goals have been restated so waiting for our mail likely will take longer.

Finally, I hope you discover this commentary in your mailbox before Easter.



Keith Kappes
Columnist
Carter County Times

Keith Kappes can be reached at
keithkappes@gmail.com

Recognition where it's due: Arts and culture edition

When I gave up technical writing, moved home to Kentucky, and returned to journalism, I knew that one of the things I wanted to focus on was highlighting Appalachian arts and culture. Too often when the national media focuses on Appalachia — and particularly Kentucky — it's to shine a spotlight on the negatives.

The poverty.
The addiction crisis.
The environmental and physical dangers of coal mining.

If it isn't coal mines, moonshine, and pill mills, it's the jokes about toothless hillbillies and marriage between cousins. And it's true, all those things happen here. (Though they obviously aren't unique to here.)

But if you listened to the national news, especially during the early years of the opioid crisis, you'd have thought that "hillbilly heroin" was the new defining feature of our region. On top of all the old stereotypes, now we were all junkies. Just another reason to write the region off and sweep it and its people under the rug.

I knew we were more than that, though. And I wanted to be a part of highlighting the talented writers, musicians, artists, and the amazing natural beauty and opportunities our area has to offer.

So, imagine my delight when I came home to eastern Kentucky and took a job in Grayson to find that not only was I going to be able to write about those

things, but that we had someone in the city who was already doing the hard work to help highlight, promote, and sustain the very things I wanted to write about.

I'm speaking, of course, of Mindy Woods-Click.

Click was recently elected to the role of secretary for Grayson Tourism. This isn't a new affiliation for Click though, who just completed a stint as Chair of the group. She has, in fact, filled several positions in this organization which she helped start. From

the Sports Park to any of the various tourism supported seasonal events, if Grayson Tourism has been involved, Mindy's fingerprints are in there somewhere.

But it isn't just tourism that has benefited from her attention. Mindy serves, and has served, in integral roles with the Board of the Carter County Public Library, the Chamber of Commerce, and — along with her husband Dan — The Grayson Gallery and Art Center. Under her guidance and leadership, the Grayson branch of the library secured significant grant funding for a necessary repair of the library roof. She and Dan have also worked to bring a Main Street program back to Grayson, and through the Grayson Gallery they've given venue and voice not only to visual and performance artists, but also to local musicians and writers — serving as sponsors for my Holler Down the Holler poetry slam from its inception until Covid-19 (and my

See *RECOGNITION* on A-8



Jeremy D. Wells
Editor
Carter County Times

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.

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.

Legislative from A-4

understand there may be reasons for this change, we have a responsibility to ensure that our process remains open, transparent, and reflective of the people we represent. Trust is the foundation of our work, and we cannot afford to lose it.

Despite the challenges, I'm encouraged by the work we've already started. This week, I filed Senate Bill (SB) 58, a piece of legislation that's designed to provide real support to Kentuckians with disabilities and their families.

SB 58 is a straightforward but impactful solution. It allows members of our state-administered retirement systems to designate a special needs trust as the beneficiary of their retirement benefits. This means families can plan for their loved ones' futures without jeopardizing critical supports like Medicaid or Supplemental Security Income.

Special needs trusts are an essential tool for families caring for disabled loved ones. They make sure funds are available for therapies, equipment, or other needs while protecting access to programs that make everyday life possible. Updating our retirement laws to allow these trusts is a small change that will make a big difference for many families, giving them the security to plan effectively.

Over the years, I've spoken to many families who are deeply worried about what will happen to their children or dependents with disabilities when they're no longer there to provide care. SB 58 offers a way to ease that burden. It's about giving families peace of mind while also being smart about how we manage public resources. Solutions like these—practical and compassionate—are exactly what we need to

focus on.

For many Kentuckians, the winter weather has hit hard, and I want to take a moment to thank the men and women who have been working around the clock to keep our communities safe. Road crews and tow truck drivers have been out clearing snow and ice to make travel safer for all of us. First responders are answering the call, no matter the weather. And utility workers are working around the clock to restore power and keep the lights on. These are the unsung heroes of our communities, and I'm grateful for their dedication. As adverse conditions continue, check on your neighbors and help where and when you can!

As we wrap up this first week, the General Assembly will pause for three weeks. This is a time for committees to organize, for legislators to refine and advocate bills, and for all of us to return to our districts

to connect with the people we represent. Listening to the voices of constituents is what gives meaning and direction to the work we do in Frankfort. When we reconvene on February 4, it will be with renewed focus and determination to deliver real results for the people of Kentucky.

For more information about my legislative work, or to share your thoughts, scan the QR code at the top of the page with the camera on your mobile device to visit my official legislative home page. KET coverage and archived coverage of proceedings can be watched online at www.ket.org/legislature.

If I can assist you, you can contact me by email at SD18@cm.kylegislature.gov or call the General Assembly Message Line at 1-800-372-7181. Kentuckians with hearing loss can use Kentucky Relay by dialing 711.

Kentucky State Police investigates fatal collision on US 23 in Boyd County

CATLETTSBURG – Kentucky State Police (KSP) Post 14 responded to a two-vehicle collision on US 23 near Crider Road in Boyd County. The crash occurred on January 10, 2025, at approximately 08:46 A.M.

The preliminary investi-

gation revealed that a 2021 Jeep Gladiator, operated by Henry Birchfield, 59, was traveling north on US-23 when he disregarded a traffic control device and struck a 2017 Hyundai Sonata operated by Jordan Huff, 23.

Mr. Huff was pro-

nounced deceased at the scene by the Boyd County Coroner's office. Mr. Birchfield was taken to Saint Mary's Hospital and treated for his injuries.

KSP Post 14 Troopers were assisted at the scene by the Boyd County Sheriff's Office, Catletts-

burg Fire Department, Boyd County EMS, and the Boyd County Coroner's Office. This incident remains under investigation by Detective Nathan Carter.

Feb. 1 deadline to apply to ACTC Nursing Bridge program cohort

ASHLAND – The deadline to apply for the LPN to ADN Transition (Bridge) program at Ashland Community and Technical College (ACTC) is fast approaching. Applications must be submitted by Feb. 1, 2025.

Once prerequisite courses have been com-

pleted, students can finish the program in just 12 months. The program will begin May 2025 and end in May 2026.

To apply, candidates must provide proof of an active LPN license in good standing and have a global GPA of 2.5 or higher. Applicants must also take the

LPN to RN HESI entrance exam before the application deadline and achieve selection points in at least one area to be considered for selection.

Prospective students are encouraged to meet with their assigned advisor to ensure they meet all admission requirements,

complete necessary prerequisites, and discuss ways to enhance their chances of being selected. For more details, visit <https://ashland.kctcs.edu/education-training/info/adn-bridge.aspx>.

For additional questions, contact Terri Ratliff at terri.ratliff@kctcs.edu.

Cell Phone from A-3

come through for our customers," she said. "It's a 'talk the talk and walk the walk' deal," she said, adding that AT&T is bringing both to their customers.

"It's the connectivity our customers can depend on, the deals that you want and need, and the prompt friendly service you deserve," Kouns said. "And if we fall short of that, we are going to make that right."

Kouns said AT&T has empowered their entire workforce to commit to these new promises to experience the new AT&T guarantee. The company has dedicated upward of 750 million dollars to identify and determine how to correct potential problems to their network in our region caused by numerous common factors including geography, forestry, powerlines, etc.

On the front lines of AT&T service, technicians can input an address with GeoLink and discover what that local network looks like and how it operates.

"Managing this wireless network is challenging," Kouns said. "And we want to do it better."

Part of that, she said, is mapping out where you use your service and giving you a clearer picture of how that service will operate.

"Sometimes that means if we can't keep you connected, that results in bill credits," Kouns said. "Sometimes these bill credits will be automatic. If there is a network interruption, we are going to fix it fast. But if your service is out for over an hour, that means you are automatically going to get a bill credit."

"You don't even need

to call us," Kouns added. "Your credit will be automatic. And that is just one example of the things we are doing differently."

Investing in the service it provides its customers has improved the AT&T network overall, Kouns said, and that investment has brought them to the current promise they are making to their customers.

"We are the first and only carrier that offers a guarantee like this for wireless and fiber networks," she noted.

Kouns said that this is all part of AT&T's commitment to focus on being proactive and putting the customer first.

"We are here to set the bar and change the industry," Kouns said. "Our customers deserve that. They deserve a promise that we will keep getting better. No other carrier has offered this kind

of guarantee. We are the leaders in the converged community, and we have our customers' backs. This promise, this guarantee, is a commitment that we will deliver on that... And if we fall short of that, we will take action to make it right."

As part of the promise for both the prompt action and friendly customer service, Kouns touched on one aspect that people in our region do not like about any problem-solving activity – dealing with automated services. You won't have to deal with that sort of button pushing and hoop jumping moving forward, she said.

"When you call in you will speak with a friendly tech expert within five minutes or get a scheduled call back from a friendly tech expert at a time you choose," Kouns said. "Our customers deserve the best,

CLASSIFIEDS

PUBLIC NOTICES

**COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
CARTER CIRCUIT COURT
CASE NO. 23-CI-00270**

U.S. BANK TRUST COMPANY, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE, AS SUCCESSOR-IN-INTEREST TO U.S.BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR RESIDENTIAL ASSET SECURITIES CORPORATION, HOME EQUITY MORTGAGE ASSET-BACKED PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2006-KS4 PLAINTIFF

VS.

NOTICE OF SALE

JACK LESLIE; CAROL LESLIE; COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY, CARTER COUNTY; CURD, NEWTON & ASSOCIATES, INC.; KENTUCKY FARM BUREAU MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY A/S/O ZEBEDEE ENIX DEFENDANTS

Pursuant to the Judgment and Order of Sale in the Carter Circuit Court, entered on November 19, 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 **24th day of January, 2025 at or near the hour of 9:45 a.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 3.6876% 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: 2207 Hwy. 1662, Olive Hill, KY 41164. (For Legal Description see LSOT: Deed Book 235, Page 395, Carter County Clerk's Office.)

Map/Parcel ID Number: 005-00-00-013.01.

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. 21-CI-00108**

MID SOUTH CAPITAL PARTNERS, LP PLAINTIFF

VS.

NOTICE OF SALE

DONALD KEITH CLAXON; SHARON CLAXON; APEX FUND SERVICES C/F CERES TAX RECEIVABLES; UNKNOWN SPOUSE, IF ANY, OF DONALD KEITH CLAXON; UNKNOWN SPOUSE, IF ANY, OF SHARON CLAXON; BERNICE CLAXON; COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY, COUNTY OF CARTER DEFENDANTS

Pursuant to the Judgment and Order of Sale in the Carter Circuit Court, entered on December 3, 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 **24th day of January, 2025 at or near the hour of 9:35 a.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 12% 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: 2909 Huff's Run, Grayson, KY 41143. (For Legal Description see LSOT: Deed Book 172, Page 738, Carter County Clerk's Office.)

Map/Parcel ID Number: 16-00-00-104.00.

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. 23-CI-00347**

CARRINGTON MORTGAGE SERVICES, LLC PLAINTIFF

VS.

NOTICE OF SALE

MELISSA R. KOUNS; ARNOLD LEE KOUNS; LEND-MARK FINANCIAL SERVICES, INC.; CHARLES WILLIAM COLEMIRE DEFENDANTS

Pursuant to the Judgment and Order of Sale in the Carter Circuit Court, entered on December 3, 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 **24th day of January, 2025 at or near the hour of 9:40 a.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 3.6876% 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: 465 Paradise Hill, Grayson, KY 41143. (For Legal Description see LSOT: Deed Book 96, Page 520, Carter County Clerk's Office.)

Map/Parcel ID Number: 04-50-12-005.00.

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

and that is what we are working to give them." *Contact the writer at charles@cartercountytimes.com*

AUCTION

Online Auction. Lots begin closing @ 6p on 1/20. Preview: 1/20, 10a-12n. Pickup: 1/22, 10a-2p. 101 Mike & Barbs Place, Wurtland, KY. John Deere 4500 tractor with loader and grader blade, John Deere zero turn mower, 16ft utility trailer, brush hog, john boat, oak table and chair, bar stools, Blenko glassware, artwork, china cabinet, Fenton glassware, carnival glassware, McCoy cookie jar, signs, lamps, cuckoo clock, Hitachi TV, books, records, outdoor furniture, outdoor grills, tools and Lots More! Terms: 15% BP. Full terms online. Joe R Pyle Auctions. Joe R Pyle, KY Lic # 256149. Charlotte Pyle, KY Lic # 259252. 304-592-6000. www.joerpyleauctions.com

associate degree in Civil Engineering Technology. The Cabinet will award up to 10 scholarships to students attending Big Sandy Community & Technical College.

The Construction Management Scholarship
See SCHOLARSHIPS on A-8

Team Kentucky invites students to apply for transportation scholarships

Eligible students are encouraged to apply by Feb. 1

FRANKFORT – The next generation of future transportation industry leaders is encouraged to help build our New Kentucky Home by applying for a coveted state-sponsored engineering or construction-management

scholarship. Three higher education scholarships are offered for current or upcoming Kentucky university and college students who apply by Feb. 1, 2025.

"As a dad, it's important to me that I lead an education-first administration," said Gov. Andy Beshear. "These scholarships will ensure education and career opportunities for our talented youth here in Kentucky and open doors to a meaningful career as a state employee."

Up to 25 scholarships will be awarded for the

2025-2026 academic year in civil engineering, engineering technology and construction management by the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC). The annual scholarship comes with a paid summer job and guaranteed employment with KYTC upon graduation. Current college students as well as upcoming freshmen are eligible.

"These scholarship programs have a long legacy of excellence by developing some of the most talented staff who are

making a real difference in their communities to improve transportation and to make lives better for fellow Kentuckians," said KYTC Secretary Jim Gray.

More than 2,000 students have received \$20 million from the Civil Engineering Scholarship Program since it began in 1948.

The Civil Engineering Scholarship is for students focusing on a four-year engineering degree who attend the University of Kentucky, University of Louisville, Western

Scholarships from A-6

is for students focusing on a four-year construction management degree at Northern Kentucky University, Eastern Kentucky University, Western Kentucky University, Morehead State University or Murray State University. A limited number of scholarships will be offered, and they will be worth up to \$59,200 (also ranging from \$7,200 to \$7,600 per semester).

All three types of scholarships include summer employment and job placement at KYTC after graduation. Scholarship recipients agree to work for KYTC for a year for every year they received the scholarship. Former scholarship recipients have held top management positions at KYTC including multiple deputy secretaries, state highway engineers, chief district engineers and

branch managers.

KYTC Deputy State Highway Engineer John Moore applied as a senior in high school after learning about the program at the University of Kentucky E-Day in 1992. He graduated with a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from the University of Kentucky in 1997 and a master's degree in civil engineering in 2003. In his role at KYTC, John is re-

sponsible for the divisions of construction, materials, construction procurement, equipment, traffic operations and maintenance. He has also had the privilege of leading emergency response efforts like debris removal after the 2022 eastern Kentucky flooding and overseeing Kentucky's recent deployment mission to North Carolina to help communities recover from Hurricane Helene flood

damage.

"The engineering scholarship was a game-changer for me, providing the financial support I needed to focus on my studies and pursue my passion for engineering," Moore said. "It paved the way for a rewarding career where I now have the privilege of improving infrastructure and sometimes going outside my lane to help tackle unexpected needs

that make a real difference in the lives of others every day."

Scholarship recipients will be notified in April. For applications or to learn more information about these scholarships and other educational opportunities, please visit <https://transportation.ky.gov/Education/> or call (502) 782-4970.

Leadership Kentucky now accepting nominations for Class of 2025 participants

FRANKFORT — Leadership Kentucky is now accepting nominations and applications for the Leadership Kentucky Class of 2025.

Leadership Kentucky connects a diverse group of leaders with a variety of career accomplishments and volunteer activities to gain insight on complex issues facing Kentucky. In

a series of seven monthly, three-day sessions held at various locations throughout the state, participants will meet with Kentucky leaders and explore the state's resources and opportunities.

"We are excited to welcome nominations for the Leadership Kentucky Class of 2025. Our curriculum advances strong leaders,

equips them with knowledge about the importance of each region of our state, and paves a path of success for the Commonwealth," said Janice

Way, President and CEO of Leadership Kentucky. "Year after year we see the positive impact Leadership Kentucky has on leaders from every corner of the Bluegrass State.

Each program graduate returns to their community with a renewed focus on service and support."

Leadership Kentucky Class of 2025 will begin in June at the historic Boone Tavern in Berea and will travel to Pikeville, Paducah/Eddyville, Louisville, Bowling Green/Ft. Campbell, Northern Kentucky, and Lexington. Each

session will cover topics ranging from business and economic development, arts and tourism, natural resources and environment, social justice, education, healthcare, agriculture, and government.

If you or someone you know is interested in being a member of the Leadership Kentucky Class of 2025, the nomination form

is available online at www.leadershipky.org.

Potential applicants will receive full application instructions via e-mail once nominated. All Leadership Kentucky Class of 2025 applications will be due by March 1, 2025.

Recognition from A-5

growing responsibilities as a father and newspaper editor) put that event on an extended hiatus.

Mindy and Dan have also been instrumental in mentoring and encouraging the next generation of leaders in eastern Ken-

tucky, eagerly sharing the lessons they've taken from programs like the Brushy Fork Institute associated with Berea College and continuing to learn, network, and serve as powerful ambassadors for all the wonderful things

Carter County and eastern Kentucky have to offer the state and the region. And, when she's faced criticism — as anyone involved with the public inevitably will — she's handled it with the level of grace and aplomb I can only aspire to.

When I started this new series for the opinion page I titled the first installment, "Recognition where it's due." And when it comes to supporting and promoting our art, culture, literature, and all the amazing beauty of place and spirit

that make me proud to call eastern Kentucky my home, I can't think of anyone else more deserving of that recognition.

So, thanks Mindy. We see you. We appreciate you. And our community is demonstrably better for

your involvement in it.

Jeremy D. Wells can be reached at editor@cartercountytimes.com

Storm from A-1

to keep roads clear and people safe. Private individuals also turned out to help with the effort, using their own trucks and tractors. There were also people who volunteered in the effort by fixing food for those fighting the storm. Burton said those individuals worked hard as well and said that he couldn't say thank you enough to the people of Carter County.

On another storm related issue, the court

discussed the possibility of creating a space for 911 emergency personnel that have become stranded while working their shifts to keep others safe. Some 911 employees were not able to return to their homes because of the foul weather, and one employee attempted to sleep in their car. The court discussed creating temporary sleeping quarters for these employees so that they would not have to face hazardous conditions attempting to

return home only to face the same or perhaps worse conditions returning for their next shift.

"We are looking into maybe making a space downstairs in the courthouse," Burton said. "And tomorrow we are going to purchase a couple of cots in case we get more of the same type of weather."

Burton said the plan was to establish a temporary response for this winter season and then to prepare better for future

countywide emergencies that would inhibit travel so that the safety of those providing such necessary service could be maintained.

The court also discussed one of the road graders being down in the wake of storm snow removal. The grader in question has had numerous problems in the past, including transmission problems and a seized-up emergency brake. These two issues, combined with wiring

problems, necessitated the council discussion as to whether it would be more economically feasible to continue repairing the grader or to replace it with a new piece of equipment with a warranty that would cover such repairs. The currently disabled grader's warranty has expired, and the court plans to discuss the repair versus replacement issue after a mechanic inspects the grader on Tuesday, January 14, and provides an estimate of

what those repairs would cost.

In other action, the court discussed the County Clerk's Budget for 2025, the Treasurer's Financial Report, approved claims and transfers, and accepted department reports. The court also went into Executive Session to discuss litigation and personnel, but no action was taken at that time.

Contact the writer at charles@cartercountytimes.com

Congressman Rogers applauds Social Security Fairness Act being signed into law

WASHINGTON, DC — U.S. Rep. Harold "Hal" Rogers (KY-05), Dean of the House cosponsored and voted for the Social Security Fairness Act, which was passed by Congress in the final months of 2024, ensuring millions of Americans will begin receiving larger Social Security payments. On Sunday,

President Biden signed the legislation into law.

The law eliminates the reductions on Social Security benefits for public employees who were entitled to public pensions from work not covered by Social Security. It specifically repeals the flawed Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) and Government

Pension Offset (GPO), giving retirees the benefits they earned while working in the private sector.

"This new law is a historic win for nearly three million American workers who have paid into Social Security, namely retired police officers, firefighters, teachers and postal workers, among others. It

adds confidence to their ability to afford retirement and enjoy the life that they worked hard for," said Congressman Rogers.

"I have cosponsored this bill for many years and tirelessly pushed for its passage, so I applaud my colleagues in the House and Senate for getting the bill over the finish line and

onto the President's desk."

Beneficiaries will receive an average of \$360 more each month, as a result of the new law.

The Social Security Administration created a webpage to help beneficiaries understand more about the changes. The SSA encourages individuals to update their current mailing

address and direct deposit information. Visit ssa.gov for more information.

For more information about Congressman Rogers' work in Washington and at home in Kentucky, visit halrogers.house.gov and follow him on social media.

The 2025 Regular Session convenes

"I do solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of this Commonwealth, and be faithful and true to the Commonwealth of Kentucky."

All one hundred members of the Kentucky House took this oath as we officially convened the 2025 Regular Session on January 10. The oath itself is just 30 words, but they held great meaning as Chief Justice of the Kentucky Supreme Court Debra Lambert delivered them and meant so much as men and women from across the state gathered to consider both the opportunities and challenges facing our Commonwealth. The legislature has spent the last six months prepar-

ing for the session and we are excited to get to work on your behalf.

Because this is an odd-year, this a short session and it is divided into two parts. With the first week behind us, we adjourned on Friday until we reconvene in early February for the remaining 26 legislative days. I am happy to report that we hit the ground running during our first week and I am proud to report on the work we have already accomplished.

On Thursday, members of the House voted overwhelmingly to pass HB 1, legislation that would lower the state's individual income tax another half a percentage point to 3.5% in 2026. Lawmakers have already cut the individual

income tax by a third, from 6% to 4% today. While the work to make Kentucky's tax code more competitive began more than six years ago, this latest step was put into motion with the passage of HB 8 in 2022. That bill lays the groundwork to eliminate the individual income tax entirely, but includes preset triggers that must be met before the legislature can move to decrease the tax in half a percentage point increments. These triggers ensure that the tax cuts do not endanger funding for state programs and agencies. HB 1 now heads to the Senate, where it is expected to pass when we return in February.

In addition to HB 1, members of the House Health Services Committee held an information-only meeting to discuss the impact of the Hospital Rate

Improvement Program (HRIP). The program was passed by the legislature in 2019 and updated in 2021 with the intention of increasing the state's Medicaid reimbursement rate to hospitals at no cost to our budget. Low reimbursement rates are an ongoing issue with Medicaid, as the rate is often significantly less than the standard reimbursement and even the actual cost of the medical care. Simply put, it allows the state to draw down more federal money.

According to testimony, HRIP provides Kentucky hospitals with \$2.2 billion in annual funding by paying closer to the average commercial rate for Medicaid services. Members also discussed the federal hospital transparency rules requiring hospitals to publicly post pricing for shoppable and

common services. Finally, members considered several Administrative Regulations, differing two related to community mental health center behavioral health services.

I am eager to continue working for the people of our district and make Kentucky a state where people wish to live, grow businesses, and raise families. In addition to filing and passing legislation, legislative committees also began meeting. I am pleased to share that I will be serving as Chair of the Local Government Committee, as well as a member of the Licensing, Occupations, and Administrative Regulations, Judiciary, and Natural Resources and Energy committees.

We already know that this will be a historic session, as it is the last session in the State Capitol

Building for several years.

The entire campus is undergoing renovations aimed at maintaining the facility's historic integrity while making it safer and more accessible for those who work and visit. The project also incorporates modern technology. Since the Kentucky Constitution also requires that all sessions be held in the state capital (except in case of war, insurrection, or pestilence, may I add), next session we will meet in a temporary facility on the Capitol campus.

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 email at Patrick.Flannery@kylegislature.gov and keep track through the Kentucky legislature's website at legislature.ky.gov.



Patrick Flannery
Representative
State of Kentucky