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Carter County Times

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CARTER COUNTY, KENTUCKY

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City and county respond to weather hazards

Low temperatures render salt ineffective road crews say

By Charles Romans
Carter County Times

Both Carter County and the City of Grayson braced for a winter storm event that began around noon on Sunday. Various weather models predicted a broad range of snow and ice moving into our area with predictions ranging from an inch of snow and a quarter inch of freezing rain and ice, up to fifteen inches of snow and over

an inch of freezing rain. As of Monday morning, the area had received about a half inch of sleet and approximately seven inches of snow.

The City of Grayson declared a state of emergency due to the large amount of snow and hazardous conditions. Grayson Mayor Troy Combs said the city snowplows were out in force in an attempt to keep the streets as clear as possible. Combs posted on Facebook Sunday morning that the Grayson Police Department is prepared to conduct public safety efforts in case of power outages as well. Emergency Management directors Joanne and Roger Dunfee have organized a warming shelter to open at FCC Grayson on Pomeroy Street in downtown Grayson.

See **WEATHER** on A-3



Several inches of snow and ice shut down businesses and schools this week. (Photo by Jeremy D. Wells, Carter County Times)

Making good things happen

Local businesses key to economic growth

By Charles Romans
Carter County Times

Grayson Chamber of Commerce President Jill York believes that local businesses are the life's blood of the communities they serve. York served as president some twenty years ago when she owned and operated a print shop in downtown Grayson, Kentucky, and said that the chamber is as important now as it was then – perhaps even more so.

“What I am proud of our Chamber Directors making happen is partnering with more organizations,” York said. “The

Chamber can help make good things happen in the community through these partnerships. Specifically, Carter County Tourism and Grayson Tourism,” she continued. “These groups and others have worked really hard to bring businesses into our area and support them once they are here.”

York said that historically there were two types of chambers in small towns such as Grayson. The first type is one that works very hard to promote the area businesses through events, fundraisers, etc. Typically, this type of chamber of commerce shoulders much of the burden themselves, by default going into business itself to provide those things.

“This type of chamber is in the fair business, in the festival business, and really try to make things happen in the communi-

See **COMMERCE** on A-3



Jill York (file photo by Jeremy D. Wells, Carter County Times)

Clamping down

Olive Hill cracks down on alcohol taxes

By Jeremy D. Wells
Carter County Times

In the days before Christmas, a number of Olive Hill businesses opened to notices from the city that they were no longer allowed to serve or sell alcohol. Letters from Olive Hill police chief and alcoholic beverage control (ABC) administrator Bruce Palmer dated December 18 were distributed to the businesses on the morning of Thursday December 19, alerting

the impacted businesses of out of date alcohol licenses and/or unpaid monthly alcohol taxes.

Palmer, who recently took over the role of ABC administrator, noted in those letters – several of which were shared with the Carter County Times – that “the City of Olive Hill has been diligently operating under the belief that all necessary licenses and payments were up to date.” The letters then went on to spell out the deficiencies, whether they were out of date alcohol sales licenses, or the listed months of unpaid alcohol taxes.

Several of the businesses who felt the effects of the temporary ban told the Carter County Times that they had records of their

previous payments, and that they would be contacting the city with the evidence of those payments whenever they were able to gather it together. Several appeared to have done so by later that same afternoon, with others catching up with back payments of unpaid taxes in the following days.

Palmer said it wasn't what he hoped to do in his first days as the ABC administrator, but that a careful review of the records after taking over the office showed that most of the businesses selling alcohol in the city were behind on payments to some degree – with some several months delinquent.

Businesses were given until December 23 to begin the process of coming into compliance. After that date, Palmer said, he would be required to report the businesses to the state licensure

See **ALCOHOL** on A-4

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.

- Glenis Sorrell, 26, of Ashland, arrested by Kentucky State Police, for failure to appear, arrested and booked December 30.
- Johnny McDowell, 41, of Olive Hill, arrested by Kentucky State Police, for non-payment of court costs, fees, or fines, arrested and booked December 30.
- Heidi Houck, 60, of Grayson, arrested by Kentucky State Police, on charges of aggravated trafficking in narcotics (28 grams or more of fentanyl), possession of drug paraphernalia, and a probation violation (for a felony offense), arrested and

booked December 30.

- Leah Horton, 37, of Olive Hill, arrested by Kentucky State Police, serving a warrant for parole violation, and on charges of aggravated trafficking in narcotics (28 grams or more of fentanyl), and possession of drug paraphernalia, arrested and booked December 30.
- Jason Warren, 45, of Lucasville, OH, arrested by Greenup County Sheriff, on four counts of non-payment of court costs, fees, or fines, arrested and booked December 30.
- Jordan Ratcliff, 28, of Grayson, arrested by Kentucky State Police, on charges of aggravated trafficking in narcotics (28 grams or more of fentanyl), and possession of drug paraphernalia, arrested and booked December 30.
- Ryan McBride, 26, of Grayson, arrested by Grayson PD, on

charges of public intoxication on a controlled substance (excludes alcohol), menacing, and second degree disorderly conduct, arrested and booked December 31.

- Pamela Brown, 45, of Huntington, WV, arrested by Kentucky State Police, on charges of operating a motor vehicle under the influence of a substance, failure to wear seat belts, possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of marijuana, operating on a suspended or revoked operator's license, and failure to surrender revoked operator's license, arrested and booked December 31.
- Pamela Brown, 45, of Huntington, WV, arrested by Grayson PD, on charges of second degree wanton endangerment – police officer, operating on a suspended or revoked operator's license, and operating a motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol or substances, arrested

See **ARRESTS** on A-3



This Week's Obituaries

Robert "Bob" Hallmark, 80
Eileen Belle Cowger Hite 84

Edward John Messer, Sr., 87
William Joe Wilburn, 73

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LIFESTYLE



Time to reset: A zesty citrus salad to kickstart the New Year

Happy New Year! If you're anything like me, you might feel like you need a full-body cleanse just to shake off all the pumpkin spice and peppermint bark still lingering in your system. After all the holiday indulgence, it's the perfect time to hit the reset button with lighter, healthier meals. And what better way to start than with citrus? Lucky for us, it's citrus season! It's peak season for these tangy, vibrant fruits. They're at their juiciest and most affordable, making them ideal for a budget-friendly detox. One of my favorite ways to enjoy citrus is in a refresh-

ing winter citrus salad. It's a simple but satisfying combination of greens, citrus segments and a sweet and tangy vinaigrette that ties it all together. The dressing is a mix of orange juice, honey, a hint of mustard, apple cider vinegar and olive oil. It's so delicious, so easy to make ahead and keep in the fridge.

To prepare, I cut up a variety of colorful citrus the night before -- blood oranges, grapefruits, mandarins, cara cara oranges or whatever's on sale -- and store them in the fridge. When it's time to eat, I toss the citrus with greens, fresh mint or parsley, nuts like almonds or pistachios, and a sprinkle of pomegranate seeds. Sometimes I add grilled chicken or fish for a protein boost, but it's just as delightful on its own or as a side dish.

How to Supreme Fruit for Citrus Salad

For an elegant flair, slice 1/2 inch from the top and bottom of each citrus fruit, then stand them upright on a cutting board. Use a sharp paring knife to carefully slice away the peel and pith, following the curve of the fruit. Cut along each membrane to gently release the citrus sections, known as supremes, for a beautifully refined touch. Squeeze the juice

from the leftover citrus membranes into a measuring cup or small bowl to make the vinaigrette, recipe below.

WINTER CITRUS SALAD

Yield: 4 servings
Total Time: 20 minutes

- For the Dressing:**
- 4 tablespoons orange or mixed citrus juice
 - 1 lime, juiced and zested
 - 2 tablespoons apple cider vinegar
 - 2 tablespoons honey
 - 1 teaspoon Dijon mustard
 - 1 small clove garlic, minced or pressed
 - 1/4 teaspoon kosher salt
 - 1/4 teaspoon black pepper
 - 1/2 cup extra virgin olive oil

- For the Salad:**
- 6-8 cups lightly packed mixed greens
 - 2-3 navel oranges (or blood oranges or cara cara oranges), sliced into supremes
 - 1 grapefruit, sliced into supremes
 - 1/2 small red onion, thinly sliced
 - A handful of fresh mint or parsley, torn
 - 4 tablespoons pistachios (optional)
 - 1/2 cup pomegranate arils



Turkey Meatballs are the perfect bite-size crowd-pleasers for your holiday gatherings. (Photo credit: www.JasonCoblentz.com)

(optional)
Grilled chicken or fish (optional)

Make the dressing: In a small bowl or jar, whisk together the orange juice, lime juice, vinegar, honey, Dijon mustard and minced garlic. Season with salt and pepper. While whisking, slowly drizzle in the olive oil. Give it a taste and adjust the seasoning with more salt, pepper or a touch more honey if needed. Yield: approximately 1 1/3 cups.

Assemble the salad: Toss the mixed greens with some of the dressing, then spread them on a platter. Top artistically with citrus, red onion and fresh herbs. Sprinkle with pomegranate arils

and pistachios for added crunch. **To serve:** Drizzle the dressing over the salad and serve immediately. This salad is colorful, customizable and packed with Vitamin C. It's a bright, flavorful way to embrace healthier habits and make the most of citrus season. Here's to a fresh start -- and a New Year!

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 Praise and worship

By: Pastor Naomi Mitchell for Carter County Times

The words "Praise and Worship" are linked together so often that I wonder if many people really pay any attention to the difference between the two words. "Praise and Worship" has become as common a phrase as "salt and pepper," "peanut butter and jelly" or, "peas and carrots." We use the phrase "Praise and Worship" to describe a specific musical genre or the musical portion of the Sunday morning gathering. "Praise and Worship" is not a genre of music but two different, but related concepts.

Praise is a part of worship, and worship is much larger than singing songs of praise. Have you ever thought much about the relationship between the two distinct words "praise" and "worship" and why they are usually linked together in that order? The customary order is "Praise and Worship." This is the order in which these two events occur.

Praise always precedes worship. Until we praise God, that is, until we recognize and acknowledge how infinitely great and awesome He is, and until our hearts are filled with gratitude for all He has done for us, we will not worship Him, that is, we will not bow down before Him as our Lord and offer our lives in service to Him.

The acts of both praise and worship appear in Psalm 95, and they appear in that order. The psalmist begins Psalm 95 with an invitation to praise God. "Come, let us sing for joy to the Lord, let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation!" (Ps 95:1) We are invited to sing joyfully to the Lord, to shout triumphantly to the One who gives us victory. The psalmist goes on to invite us to "come before [the Lord] with thanksgiving; and extol Him with music and song" (vs 2). We are invited to continue our praise of God by offering Him thanks for all that He has done for us. In verses 3-5, the psalmist offers us

reasons as to why we are to praise the Lord. "For the Lord is the great God, the great King above all gods" (vs 3). He is greater than anyone or anything else. He is God. He is the King of all the earth. All of creation was crafted by Him and belongs to Him.

Worship The Lord. Once we acknowledge the unsurpassed greatness of our God and praise Him for who He is and what He has done for us, the psalmist invites us in verses 6-7 to worship the Lord. "Come, let us bow down in worship, let us kneel before the Lord our Maker" (vs 6). We are to bow down in worship before the King and Creator. As part of His creation, we are to kneel in reverence and obedience before Him because we belong to Him, and He is the One who tenderly cares for us and leads us as He sees best.

How do the final four verses fit with the first part of Psalm 95? The first seven verses are comprised of invitations and instructions from the psalmist.

He invites us to praise God (vs 1-2), instructs us on the reasons why we should praise Him (vs 3-5), and then he invites us to worship (bow before) Him and instructs on the reasons why (vs 6-7).

A Warning If We Don't Praise God. He warns us as to what will happen if we refuse to accept the invitations and instructions given to us in the first seven verses. He warns us not to "harden [our] hearts" or to test Him (vs 8-9). God advises us to remain firmly in His care and not to be prideful, stubborn, and insistent on doing things our own way.

"Praise and Worship" is

not a musical genre or just another inseparable pair of words. Praise is words that honor the Lord for who He is and what He has done, and worship is the ensuing attitude of humility, obedience, and willingness to submit to the King and Creator of the universe, the One who is infinitely greater than we are and loves us more than we can comprehend. We worship Him for who He is! PRAISE GOD! Engage, in praising our God. Recognize and audibly acknowledge to everyone how great He is. Sing, shout, and praise His holy name. Worship God! Then, make the conscience decision

to worship Him, to bow before Him and submit to Him in reverence, humility, and obedience.

JOYFUL House of Prayer, 2519 Quicksand Road, (P.O. Box 856), Jackson, Kentucky 41339. Send Comments/Prayer Requests: Pastornaami4god@gmail.com. FB: JoyfulHoprayer. Services: 10am Sunday and 6:30pm Thursdays. Radio Broadcast: WJSN 97.3 FM & WEKG 81.0 AM Sundays 1-2pm.

Kentucky Dept of Agriculture Livestock and Grain Market Report

There are no trends available as most markets were closed for the holidays.

Week ending 1/4/25

STATE AVERAGES			
	This Week	Prior Week	Last Year
Steers (M&L 1-2)			
350-400 lbs	361.05		278.09
400-450 lbs	349.88		262.96
450-500 lbs	334.35		255.85
500-550 lbs	292.94		249.79
550-600 lbs	288.65		241.81
600-650 lbs	281.04		231.79
650-700 lbs	261.70		224.37
700-750 lbs	246.10		213.64
750-800 lbs	252.52		208.92
800-850 lbs	244.55		202.26
850-900 lbs	235.00		204.19
Heifers (M&L 1-2)			
300-350 lbs	302.10		228.37
350-400 lbs	305.02		230.69
400-450 lbs	271.53		219.64
450-500 lbs	283.08		220.45
500-550 lbs	263.59	225.00	216.44
550-600 lbs	260.51		213.19
600-650 lbs	230.45		204.07
650-700 lbs	233.06		197.33
700-750 lbs	206.23		190.96
750-800 lbs	212.53		184.58

WEEKLY COW SUMMARY			
	Average	High	Low
Slaughter Cows			
Breakers	119.00-134.00	130.00-155.00	117.00-119.00
Boners	94.00-136.00	120.00-152.00	87.00-123.00
Lean	75.00-119.00	100.00-149.00	62.00-109.00
Slaughter Bulls			
Yield Grade 1&2	140.00-158.00	157.00-177.00	124.00-140.00

Dec 12, 2024 Bowling Green, KY

SLAUGHTER GOATS: 301

Kids: Selection 1 53 lbs 315.00; 74 lbs 290.00. **Selection 1-2** 93 lbs 255.00. **Selection 2** 48 lbs 257.50; 54 lbs 280.00; 68 lbs 255.00; 125 lbs 235.00.

SLAUGHTER SHEEP: 1,225

Hair Breeds-Choice & Prime 1-2 55-58 lbs 310.00-315.00; 67-69 lbs 245.00-275.00; 72-76 lbs 230.00-250.00; 87 lbs 192.50; 91-96 lbs 202.50-207.50; 109 lbs 195.00; 118 lbs 150.00. **Choice 2** 50-58 lbs 300.00-315.00; 67 lbs 287.50; 75-77 lbs 227.50-242.50; 90 lbs 190.00.

Week ending 1/4/25			
GRAINS	This Week	Prior Week	Last Year
Corn	4.36-4.82	4.33-4.76	4.16-4.67
Soybeans	9.21-10.40	9.10-10.23	11.85-13.08
Red Winter Wheat	4.64-5.49	4.76-5.30	5.50-6.42

Extension Notes

Don't get burnt - not all firewood is created equally

Fires in the fireplace or outside in the fire pit are intrinsically connected to our visions of nestling in for a long, comfy winter. Outside, let the winter bring its ice and snow if it wants. Inside, we could have a fire to snuggle up to. But not all firewood is created equally.

There are some important things to know before lighting and igniting just any old wood. Different species of trees provide different amounts of heat. Wood is made up of air and wood fiber, or cellulose. Since the cellulose burns, but not the air, look for the heaviest or densest firewood per unit volume. The best woods would be oak,

hickory and black locust. Yellow-poplar, silver and red maple are not as dense and will provide much less heat. On the other hand, they are great woods for starting a fire.

- Freshly cut wood contains a lot of water. Seasoned wood refers to wood that has been given the time for some or all of that water to evaporate. It usually takes between six and 12 months for wood to cure. If you burn it too soon, when it's still green, most of the heat generated will go into evaporating that water, rather than heating your room.
- Burning unseasoned wood can also be dangerous. A smoldering fire can cause a creosote buildup

in your chimney. Burning pine logs, with their heavy resin, can result in the same problem. Over time, that buildup can lead to a chimney fire.

- If you're seasoning your own wood, cut it first to a length that fits your fireplace, remove the bark, and split the logs for faster drying. Stack it off the ground in an open area with good airflow. Pallets make a good base for this. Air dry it for a minimum of six months.
- If you are buying your wood from a vendor, ask what tree species the wood comes from and how long it has been seasoned. Wood that has been properly seasoned has a gray, weathered appearance and large cracks in the ends of the logs. Even if you've bought

See FIREWOOD on A-3



Rebecca Konopka
Carter County Extension Agent

Arrests from A-1

and booked January 1.

- Christopher Sanders, 31, of Highland Heights, arrested by Kentucky State Police, on three counts of failure to appear, arrested and booked January 2.
- Bryant Bowling, 47, of Grayson, arrested by Carter County Sheriff, for failure to appear, arrested and booked January 2.
- Joshua Lawhorn, 35, of Grayson, arrested by Kentucky State Police, for failure to appear, arrested and booked January 2.
- Brendan DeLuca, 34, of Grayson, arrested by Carter County Sheriff, on a probation violation (for a technical violation), arrested and booked January 3.
- William Church, 52, of Webbville, arrested by Carter County Sheriff, for failure to appear, arrested and booked January 3.

- Phillip Lowe, 35, of Flatwoods, arrested by Carter County District Court, on a probation violation (for a technical violation), arrested and booked January 3.
- Christopher Chidester, 34, of Morehead, arrested by Carter County Sheriff, for failure to appear, arrested and booked January 3.
- Travis Upshaw, 40, of Greenwood, MS, arrested by Grayson PD, charges of reckless driving, no license not in possession, no registration receipt, receiving stolen property valued at \$10,000 or more, failure to register transfer of motor vehicle, and improper registration plate, arrested and booked January 3.
- Tyler Sincell, 27, of Sandy Hook, arrested by Grayson PD, on charges

of one headlight, no registration receipt, and operating a motor vehicle under the influence of a substance, arrested and booked January 4.

- Eric Hannah, 34, of Grayson, arrested by Kentucky State Police, on charges of operating a motor vehicle under the influence of a substance, no registration receipt, no registration plates, possession of drug paraphernalia, operating on a suspended or revoked operator's license, improper display of registration plates, failure to register transfer of motor vehicle, and failure to maintain required insurance, arrested and booked January 4.
- Russell White, 55, of Denton, arrested by Grayson PD, on charges of operating a motor vehicle under the influence of

alcohol, and no registration receipt, arrested and booked January 5.

- Christina Oprezedek, 25, of Olive Hill, arrested by Carter County Sheriff, on charges of endangering the welfare of a minor, alcohol intoxication in a public place, and leaving the scene of an accident – failure to render aid or assistance, arrested and booked January 5.

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.

Weather from A-1

The American Legion Family Willard Post 342 has prepared to open their facility, Combs said, and added that he will be available at all times. He can be reached over messenger or phone for assistance or to report non-emergency issues at (606)315-5357, but for emergencies those in need should dial 911.

Warming shelters are only opened after there is a major power outage.

Emergency Management Director Joanne Dunfee said that when the State of Kentucky issued a State of Emergency Declaration, the City of Grayson followed suit.

“We spoke with Ben James at First Church of Christ,” Dunfee said. “We asked if we could use his facility, and he graciously said yes.”

Dunfee said they performed opening preparations, which included setting up 30 cots, but added that they had resources to accommodate 82 people if necessary. The shelter is set to serve Grayson and the surrounding area, Dunfee said.

Dunfee said that the emergency conditions could extend beyond the time of the snowfall itself. Road crews are out and working, she said, but given the low temperatures you can't depend upon being able to get out. In the event of a widespread power outage, the shelter will open, but people should take extreme care if they are forced to make use of it. Dunfee urges everyone to stay safe, and check for current updates on road conditions

and other issues through emergency management's social media profiles, such as Facebook.

Carter County Judge Executive Brandon Burton said on Monday that, so far, the county is managing to ride the storm out.

“Right now, we are holding our own,” Burton said. “We haven't had any tree problems yet, and the guys are out working on our roads trying to get things treated.”

“So far we have no power outages in Carter County,” Burton added. “The Willard American Legion set up a warming station in case we needed it, but so far, we haven't. But our emergency management team is active, so if anyone has an emergency, they can dial 911.”

Burton said the frigid

temperatures work against road clearing, due in part to the fact that salt is ineffective once temperatures drop below 18 degrees.

“We are working on it, but we might be a week away from getting everything under control. We didn't get as much freezing rain as they were calling for, and that has helped us as far as not bringing down a lot of trees. But there is about a half inch of icy crust on everything that is really heavy and hard to push.”

“It's been tough, but we've been blessed so far,” Burton said, even though it might be hard to look at it that way. “And we'll get through it.”

Contact the writer at charles@cartercountytimes.com

Commerce from A-1

ty.”

The other type of chamber, York said, fills a more support and service-oriented role.

“I'm really proud to say that our chamber is transitioning to the second model,” York said. “We are becoming more service-oriented and dedicating our resources to our member's support. And we have moved into more of those leadership positions so that now we can partner with groups like the tourism commissions. We no longer have to ‘turn all the cranks’ to make something wonderful happen in the community.”

“Our community has a lot of great organizations,” York said. “And we can lend our expertise and manpower to those organizations to make things happen and bring about what we feel our citizens

expect.”

The goal of the chamber, York said, is to bring together small businesses like a family.

“It's important to think of our small businesses in the way we would think of family because no small business goes it alone,” York said.

Every small business requires collaboration, she said.

“If you want to start a business, you will need a lot of people to make that happen. You are going to need to go to your bank, your small business center to build a business plan, and you'll need an attorney to help you set up your paperwork and licenses. And that might just be the start of what you'll need.”

“The wonderful thing about the Chamber of Commerce is that we have already located all those

people and more,” York explained. “And our chamber members support one another, so members are able to refer you to other members who can provide for your other needs.”

York said that the chamber of commerce champions all entrepreneurs and businesses in Carter County whether or not they are chamber members.

“But quite frankly being a member does have its benefits. We are your ‘local tribe’ and we understand your struggles if you are in business. And we are here to help however we can.”

The chamber model of businesses communicating with one another has a direct benefit to the resident consumer as well, York said. Chamber businesses communicate in a B2B (business to business) model which not only

helps them but allows them to offer a wider variety of goods and services to the public.

“One business might not offer a service or goods you need, but they know which business in the area does and they can refer you to that business,” York said. “And of course consumers can always visit our social media sites where they can easily find a list of member businesses and what they offer.”

The collaborative efforts of local business and groups such as the tourism commissions are just another benefit of shopping small businesses, York said. And it allows local businesses and resident consumers to be an active part of their own economic growth.

Contact the writer at charles@cartercountytimes.com

Firewood from A-2

seasoned wood, storing it correctly—stacked off the ground and covered with a tarp to protect it from rain—will prevent the wood from reabsorbing water.

- Be aware, too, of unwanted visitors that can hitch a ride on your firewood. Buy firewood near the location where you plan to burn it. Moving infected firewood long distances (especially ash)

can spread invasive species, such as the emerald ash borer, a destructive species that originated in Asia. You likely won't see the adult borers, which are three-eighths to one-half-inch long and very narrow. But larva and eggs could be out of sight inside the logs.

However, you plan to enjoy utilizing firewood this season, stay safe and enjoy their embers.

Contact your local Carter County Extension office for more resources, tips and information. Educational programs of the Cooperative Extension Service serve all people regardless of economic or social status and will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, ethnic origin, national origin, creed, religion, political belief, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender

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

CALENDAR

- **1/8: AT&T Hybrid Customer Service and Sales Call Center Hiring Event @ 10 a.m.** | 826 East Park Dr, Grayson
- **1/8: Girl Scouts meeting @ 5:30 p.m.** | Carter County Public Library - Grayson
- **1/13: Quilts for Veterans Sew Days @ 9 a.m.** | Carter County Extension Education Center | For questions call 606-474-6686
- **1/13: Homeschool group meeting @ 12 p.m.** | Carter County Public Library - Grayson
- **1/13: Game Night @ 5 p.m.** | Carter County Public Library - Olive Hill
- **1/13: Carter County Fiscal Court @ 6 p.m.** | Carter County Courthouse
- **1/13: Ag Advancement Council @ 6 p.m.** | Carter County Extension Office
- **1/14: Extension Council & District Board meeting @ 10 a.m.** | Carter County Extension Office
- **1/14: Grayson Area Chamber of Commerce meeting @ 12 p.m.** | Johnny's Pizza
- **1/14: Grayson City Council @ 5:30 p.m.** | Grayson City Hall
- **1/14: Homeschool group meeting @ 6 p.m.** | Carter County Public Library - Olive Hill
- **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

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

Callie is a one-year-old female mixed breed. She weighs 37 pounds, is very friendly, and walks on a leash. Callie has already been spayed, and is up to date on her shots. Stop by the Carter County Animal Shelter and meet her or call 475-9771 for more information.

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

Take the keys

Don't risk it.

No matter how “fine” they feel, if they've been drinking don't let them drive. It could cost them their license or their life. Never drink and drive. Always buckle up.

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

Pay YOUR way.

Member FDIC **Equal Housing Lender**

cbgrayson.com **Commercial Bank of Grayson**

Alcohol from A-1

authority.

While some of the businesses criticized the approach as “a hammer” when something more akin to a polite knock on the door would have been sufficient, Palmer noted that the language of the letter was taken directly from the state.

City council members

also noted that the approach worked, with up to 85 percent of the delinquent taxes and fines paid by the same afternoon, according to the city council source.

Contact the writer at editor@cartercountytimes.com

East Kentucky Power Granted Approval for Solar Facilities

Proposed solar projects to be built in Marion and Fayette Counties

FRANKFORT – The Kentucky Public Service Commission (PSC) has granted East Kentucky Power Cooperative (EKPC) Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCNs) for the construction of two proposed solar power facilities. The CPCNs will allow EKPC to construct a 96 megawatt facility in Marion County (Northern Bobwhite Solar Project), north of Lebanon, Kentucky and east of Highway 55. Also, EKPC will construct a 40 megawatt facility in Fayette County, Kentucky (Bluegrass Plains Solar Project) south of Interstate 64 and north of Winchester Road (US 60), approximately 3.2 miles from Clark County.

The PSC held an evidentiary hearing on the matter in October, receiving testimony in the matter.

The hearing was open to the public, included public comments at the beginning of the hearing, and a video of the proceeding can be found on Commission’s YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/@KYPSC>. The PSC has found that these projects meet the statutory criteria, as set by the Kentucky General Assembly, that the facilities are necessary to ensure reasonable rates and services for Kentucky electric customers and will not result in wasteful duplication of services. Additionally, the PSC required EKPC to take appropriate mitigation measures to minimize any effects on surrounding properties during construction and operation. Additional documents and information can be found at <http://psc.ky.gov/case/viewcasefilings/2024-00129>.

The PSC is an independent agency attached for administrative purposes to the Energy and Environment Cabinet. It regulates more than 1,500 gas, water, sewer, electric and telecommunication utilities operating in Kentucky and has approximately 90 employees.

Adams warns of scam against Kentucky businesses

Scammers Targeting Uniform Commercial Code Filers

FRANKFORT — Secretary of State Michael Adams is warning those with Uniform Commercial Code (UCC) filings against a new scam that tries to sell UCC-1 records that are available online for free.

“My Office does not solicit Kentuckians to purchase records, or charge exorbitant fees,” said

Adams. “Beware of any third-party solicitation to purchase documents from our Office.”

This recent scam from “KY UCC Statement Service” asks debtors listed on the UCC-1 finance statement to send \$98 to receive a copy of their UCC financing statement form. UCC records, along with most records on file with the Secretary of State, are available for free or at little cost to the public on the Secretary of State’s website.

Suspected fraudulent mailings may be reported to the Attorney General’s Office.

Go Radio gets new website

Same content with a new look and design

Staff report
Carter County Times

If you haven’t been over to the WGOH/WUGO Go Radio website for a while, you might consider giving it a gander. They’ve updated it with a newer, more modern and streamlined look, but with the same functionality. You can check out the time, temperature, and date right from the banner, and find out more about the radio station’s history and pro-

gramming. You can also find their contact information, check out local obituaries, read the text of local newscasts, and stream any of their stations.

You can also follow links to download the Go Radio App for Apple or Android, and tune in from your mobile device, no matter where you are.

It’s also a great way to tune in to all the local sports coverage advertised here in the pages of the Carter County Times. Just navigate over to <https://wgohwugo.com> and give it a look.

Contact the writer at news@cartercountytimes.com

OBITUARY

Edward John Messer, Sr. 1937 – 2025



Edward John Messer Sr., age 87, of Olive Hill, Kentucky, passed away Friday, January 3, 2025, at UK-St. Claire Medical Center in Morehead, Kentucky.

He was born Sunday, October 17, 1937, in Scioto County, Ohio, a son of the late Proctor and Helen McClanahan Messer.

Ed proudly served his country in the United States Marines. He was of the Apostolic Faith and loved going to church. He was a avid hunter, fisherman, knife collector and loved spending time with his family.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his loving wife of 61 years, Donna Jean Day Messer; one son, Mark Messer and one brother, Joseph Messer.

Ed is survived by one

son, Edward John (Shawna) Messer Jr. of Grayson, Kentucky; four daughters, Debra Jean (Stephen) Crank of Minford, Ohio, Carrie Lynn (David) Johnson of Rootstown, Ohio, Terrie (Michael) Loflin of Winston Salem, North Carolina, Shelby (Dwight) Riley of Grayson, Kentucky; 15 grandchildren; 34 great grandchildren, along with many other family and friends that will sadly miss him.

Funeral services will be held 1 p.m., Saturday, January 11, 2025, at Globe Funeral Chapel, 17277 West US Hwy 60, Olive Hill, Kentucky, with Brother Rick Crank officiating. Burial will follow in the Olive Hill Memorial Park in Olive Hill.

Friends may visit after 11 a.m., Saturday, January 11, 2025, until the service hour at Olive Hill, Kentucky.

Military Honors will be conducted at the graveside by American Legion Post 138.

Ed’s grandsons will serve as pallbearers.

Globe Funeral Chapel in Olive Hill, Kentucky is honored to serve the family of Edward John Messer.

William Joe Wilburn 1951 – 2024



William Joe Wilburn, age 73, of Grayson, Kentucky, passed away Tuesday, December 31, 2024, at Princeton Hospital in Princeton, West Virginia.

He was born September 3, 1951, in Denton, Kentucky, a son of the late William Thomas and Nell Moore Wilburn.

Joe proudly served his country in the United States Army. He enjoyed going to church, fishing, loafing and spending time with his family and friends.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his loving wife of 47 years, Glenna Nadine Robirds Wilburn and one sister, Naomi Cantrell.

Joe is survived by one daughter, Kimberly Denise (Randy) Workman of Kenova, West Virginia; 1 granddaughter, Grace Workman; two brothers,

Waldo Jay (Carol) Wilburn of Grayson, Kentucky, Larry Moses Wilburn of Argilite, Kentucky; two sisters, Rosemary (Denver) Prater of Grayson, Kentucky, Beverly (Larry) Sturgill of Hitchens, Kentucky, along with many other family and friends who will sadly miss him.

Funeral services were held 11 a.m., Friday, January 3, 2025, at Grayson Funeral Home and Cremation Service, 49 McCoy Road, Grayson, Kentucky with Brother Denver Prater and Brother Joey Nelson officiating. Burial followed in Kentucky Veterans’ Cemetery Northeast in Grayson, Kentucky.

Friends visited from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m., Thursday, January 2, 2025, and after 9 a.m., Friday, January 3, 2025, until the service hour at Grayson Funeral Home.

Military Honors were conducted at the graveside by Kenova American Legion Post.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to your favorite Veterans’ charity.

Grayson Funeral Home and Cremation Services is honored to serve the family of William Joe Wilburn.

Robert "Bob" Hallmark 1944 – 2024



Robert “Bob” Hallmark, age 80, of Grayson, Kentucky, passed away December 30, 2024, surrounded by his loving family.

He was born September 18, 1944, in Clark County, Kentucky, a son of the late Eugene and Nuna Eldridge Hallmark.

Bob retired from Clayton Homes with 35 years of service. He enjoyed going out to eat with his friends, restoring old S-10 pickup trucks, cooking, sitting with his wife eating popcorn and watching tv.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by three sisters, Donna, Sue and Debbie.

Bob is survived by his loving wife of 16 years, Debbie Bush Hallmark;

four sons, Robert (Jessica) Hallmark Jr. of Hamilton, Ohio, James (Lana) Hallmark of Berea, Kentucky, Robert “Bobby” Hallmark of Johnson City, Tennessee, Billy Elliott Hallmark of Austin, Texas; two daughters, Teresa Hallmark of Hamilton, Ohio, Morgan Hallmark of Johnson City, Tennessee; 31 grandchildren; 15 great grandchildren; one brother, Don Chapman of Newport, Kentucky; very special friends, Charlotte Stephens and Missy Carroll, whom he loved and adored, along with many other family and friends who will sadly miss him.

Funeral services were held 1 p.m., Saturday, January 4, 2025, at Grayson Funeral Home and Cremation Service, 49 McCoy Road, Grayson, Kentucky with Brother Kyle Burchett officiating.

Friends visited after 11 a.m., Saturday, January 4, 2025 until the service hour at Grayson Funeral Home.

Grayson Funeral Home and Cremation Services is honored to serve the family of Robert “Bob” Hallmark.

Carter County Times

www.cartercountytimes.com

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Friday, January 10 East Boys Vs Morgan Co.

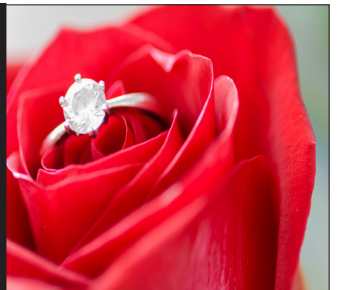
The Guns, Gold & Cash Pregame show begins at 7:04 p.m. on WGOH
100.9 FM

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



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MALONE

FUNERAL HOME

325 Malone Ln.
Grayson, KY 41143
(606) 474-5126

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

Let it snow

By Jeremy D. Wells
Carter County Times

As I sit here, watching the snow quickly pile-up on the back porch table (and dream of tomorrow's inevitable bowl of snow cream), I'm thankful for the large, unsightly propane tank gracing our side yard.

I wasn't so thankful earlier this year when our stove decided to suddenly quit heating up. The range top still worked, and we have an air fryer/toaster oven. But Thanksgiving and holiday meals were on the horizon, and my wife eats way too many pizzas for any of those to be long term options.

We had said before that when our stove went out we were going to replace it with a gas range – heating soup and boiling water for coffee on a kerosene heater during a power outage makes it easier to assert such things.

We'd also talked sporadically about putting in some supplemental propane heat – being stuck in a single sealed off bedroom with two bored and hyperactive children bouncing around said kerosene heater does that. What we hadn't hoped for, or counted on, was needing to do both at once.

No, in our grand scheme we'd add on the propane heat when we had the extra money and time to do the work. Then, later, when we needed to replace or were ready to upgrade the oven, we'd trade out the electric range for a gas powered range and oven.

That, of course, isn't how it happened. The stove quit working. We made do. We decided to go ahead and replace the electric stove with a gas one. This meant getting someone out to run gas lines. And, if you're having gas lines run anyway, it's probably best to go ahead and order your gas heater and decide where you want it installed. (That was our thinking anyway.)

Of course, getting Lowe's delivery schedule to line up with the schedule for the propane installation was nearly impossible, and we were requiring on Lowe's to haul off the old stove when they brought the new one. This meant we had several days where we were forced to use tabletop induction burners to heat water for coffee, or fry eggs for breakfast, while we waited.

Inconvenient? Yes.

Worth it? Absolutely.

While we watch this snow pile up, I can rest secure knowing that no matter what happens with the weather, or the power, my family will stay warm. We will be able to put hot food in their stomachs. They'll be able to enjoy the common areas, in comfort – even if they end up having to do without tablets and electronic devices for a day or two.

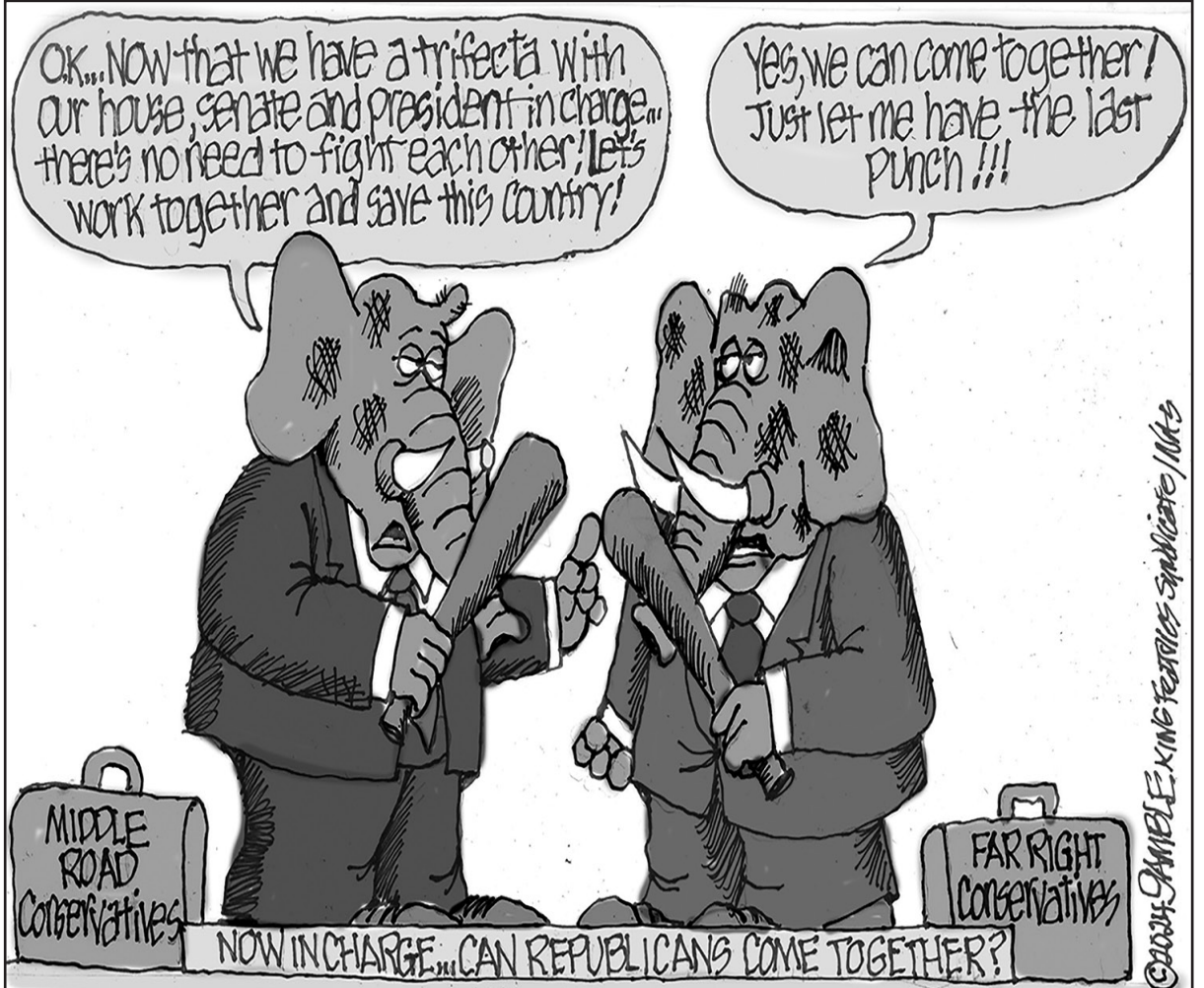
We may not need it at all. But I've been on the other end of that, and I'll take having and not needing over the needing and not having any day of the week.

If you're reading this, you've probably already made it through the worst of the snow – though if your power is out, you might still be waiting for repairs, and using this newspaper for kindling. But, as our experience this spring points out, it's never too late or too early to start planning for the worst that winter can throw at us.

After we make it through this snowfall, think about what you needed most and had the least access to. Is it heat? If so, will propane heat work for you? Or are you in a place where it's hard to get a tank to? If that's the case, would a wood-burning stove work better for you? Or do you need electricity to keep an oxygen machine running through the night?

If electricity is a priority, is an emergency generator enough to get you through the inclement weather? Or do you want to make your electrical infrastructure upgrade part of a bigger energy efficiency and independence plan, with solar panels and storage batteries part of your budget?

You never know when the need for the things you've invested in may arise, but I can promise you'll never regret making improvements that will keep you, and your family, safe, warm, and secure – no matter what weather Mother Nature throws at us.



Pardoning all of the Jan. 6 rioters could become a recipe for disaster

Was President-elect Donald Trump being serious each time on the campaign trail when he promised to issue presidential pardons to each of the more than 1,500 persons charged with crimes for the assault on the U. S. Capitol on Jan. 6, 2021?

He takes office as our 47th president in less than two weeks and we'll soon know if his specified "Day 1" timetable is a firm date or just more campaign rhetoric to motivate his MAGA voters.

That bold pledge undoubtedly appeals to families with grudges against the criminal justice system on the local, state or federal levels.

Trump said recently on national television that, in his opinion, "those people have suffered long and hard. And there may be some exceptions to it. I have to look. But, you know, if somebody was radical, crazy."

Frankly, I don't believe there is any way humanly possible for him to keep all of the commitments he has made to take bold action on so many issues on the day he receives his oath of office.

More than 1,250 persons have pleaded guilty or been convicted after trials in connection with the Jan. 6 riot and more than 650 of them receiving prison time ranging from a few days to 22 years.

Upwards of 140 police officers were injured when the rioters stormed the Capitol to protest the election of President Joe Biden. Several officers were beaten with their own weapons and sustained permanent injuries.

One official described it as "likely the largest single day mass assault of law enforcement" in American history. That is a dreadful but accurate observation in a nation founded on the rule of law.

House Democrats, who led the drive to impeach Trump over Jan. 6, have warned us that the wholesaling of presidential pardons for the rioters could have "far-reaching consequences, both for the rule of law and the security of the country."

Some key members of the extremist groups Oath Keepers and Proud Boys were convicted of seditious conspiracy and sentenced to prison terms. Were they merely exercising their right of peaceful assembly or were they trying to overthrow our government?

In this and other important matters facing our nation, Mr. Trump must keep in mind that he was elected to be our president... not our king!



Keith Kappes
Columnist
Carter County Times

Keith Kappes can be reached at keithkappes@gmail.com

Holes in the water

When you embark on a 16-hour road trip with someone, you accept certain risks. What if your musical tastes clash? What if your pit stop schedules don't align? And, if you're traveling with my friend Dustin, what if you question every belief you've ever held?

Dustin is the kind of friend everyone needs—like me, he can converse with a fencepost about anything. This makes trips to baseball fields seem shorter for us and, for our wives, provides respite from being said fenceposts. Our friendship is strong enough to venture into those so-called forbidden territories like politics and religion. Dustin, however, holds a doctorate in philosophy, which means sooner or later, he's citing Origen, Pythagoras, and Plato. Meanwhile, I'm left feeling like the kid who can identify which paste tastes best.

That said, Dustin has never encountered one philosopher under whose guidance I studied extensively: Tim McMurtrey. Known to most as "Mac," or "Coach Mac" if you were within earshot, he wore many hats in our school system. During my high school years, he coached both the basketball and golf teams, and I had the good fortune—depending on the day—to play on both for all four years.

Coach Mac had a unique way with words. Some of his wisdom was straightforward: "Druen, don't ever dribble again." Others were quasi-inspirational:

"There are over a billion Chinese people who don't give a rat's behind what you all do tonight." And then there were the grammatically head-scratchers: "Play to win, not not to lose."

But the one saying that stuck with me through the years came out whenever someone began feeling too self-important or threatened to take their so-called talents elsewhere. Coach Mac would say, "If you want to know how important you are, fill a glass with water, stick your finger in, and then pull it out. As long as that hole stays, that's how long you'll be missed."

It's a humorous line, but it's steeped in truth. And it applies to nearly every role in life. Whether you're an athlete or an actor, a politician or a painter, your contributions—while valuable—are rarely irreplaceable. That's not to diminish personal achievement; it's simply to remind us that few accomplishments are truly unique.

Pride made the list of the seven deadly sins for good reason. When we start believing we're more important than others or that our actions carry more weight, that's when things unravel. It's fine to be proud of your work, but—channeling Coach Mac here—don't let being proud turn into pride.

I recently watched an old interview where a police officer was teased for eating a donut. His response was brilliant: "There are only six people in the world who care about your weight—and those are your

See WATER on A-8



Tommy Druen
Guest Columnist
Carter County Times

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.

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.

Gov. Beshear provides update on state's response to Winter Storm Blair

FRANKFORT – On Monday, after declaring a state of emergency Saturday ahead of Winter Storm Blair, Gov. Andy Beshear provided an update on the state's ongoing emergency response.

The Governor urged as many Kentuckians as possible to stay off roadways – especially today – to give transportation and utility workers the best opportunity to clear roads and restore power before extremely cold temperatures arrive tomorrow.

"The good news is we are not aware of any major injuries thus far. We also haven't had any reports that we've lost anybody right now. And for a state that's been through tornadoes, flooding, polar plunges and so much more, we were ready for this. So, thanks to everyone out there doing their part – like our media and meteorologists and a lot of others," Gov. Beshear said. "We had a lot of prep time, but there is still a lot of work to do. And the best thing people can do is stay home, stay safe."

The Governor continues to thank all the emergency response, transportation and utility personnel as well as Kentucky National Guard members who left their families to help others during the storm.

Key Weather Updates

- Still in the midst of a very significant winter weather event.
- Had 6 to 8 inches of snow followed by at least half an inch of ice across many parts of Kentucky, more than was originally expected.
- A half-inch of ice can and has brought down tree limbs and power lines.
 - About 93,400 people without power, but the number is constantly fluctuating.
 - Local utility companies are working to restore power as quickly as possible.
- Expect another 1-to-3 inches of snow today across much of the state.
- While about 2,300 Transportation Cabinet staff are working to clear the roadways, the level of ice means almost every single road is icy.
 - Drivers are urged to check traffic conditions before traveling at GoKy.ky.gov.
 - Please do not call 911 for road conditions.

Those lines need to remain open for emergency calls.

- Wind gusts up to 30 mph are expected today, which makes repairing utility lines dangerous.

"The bottom line is – we've got one day to try to get power back to as many Kentuckians as possible before the wind chill gets down close to zero," said Gov. Beshear.

State highway crews continue to clear roads ranging from wet or slushy along Kentucky's southern borders to snow-packed along the I-64 central corridor and northern river counties.

"While we've made progress, this storm's not over, and our hard-working crews remain out in force to keep roads passable for all Kentuckians as we expect more snow today," said Transportation Cabinet Secretary Jim Gray. "They're doing a great job, and you may see bare pavement, but please don't let your guard down – it's icy and slick, and the best way to stay safe is to stay home. If you must be out, make sure to slow down, buckle up and leave a safe space between other vehicles."

Warming Centers

Counties with the most power outages have warming centers open. Those include Anderson, Bullitt, Clark, Fayette, Floyd, Hardin, Henderson, Johnson, Meade, Spencer and Union. This list is subject to change, and Kentuckians in need may contact their local emergency manager for further assistance.

"We're working with local officials to get the word out to those who have lost power and have medical devices that need to run. We need those folks to be moving toward a warming center," Gov. Beshear said. "If you don't have power by midday today – you need to be looking at finding a warming center or location that has power."

Director of Kentucky Emergency Management Eric Gibson, addressing Kentuckians seeking a warming shelter, said, "If you are in need of assistance, know that your first call would be to your local emergency management official. They're working very long hours to make sure your community is

CLASSIFIEDS

PUBLIC NOTICES

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

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
CARTER CIRCUIT COURT
CASE NO. 24-CI-00227

PENNYMAC LOAN SERVICES, LLC PLAINTIFF
VS. NOTICE OF SALE
CHRISTOPHER CALDWELL; DEANNA PURSLEY; UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF CHRISTOPHER CALDWELL; UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF DEANNA PURSLEY; COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY, CARTER COUNTY; CITY OF GRAYSON, KENTUCKY DEFENDANTS

Pursuant to the Judgment and Order of Sale in the Carter Circuit Court, entered on November 11, 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 9:30 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 3.25% 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: 401 Bradford St., Grayson, KY. (For Legal Description see LSOT: Deed Book 455, Page 213, Carter County Clerk's Office.)

Map/Parcel ID Number: 104-70-05-007.00.

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

safe, and they are working hand in hand with your judge executive and your local police and sheriff's departments. If you need additional information, please contact us we will do our very best to provide the information and help you need."

On Saturday, the Governor activated units of the Kentucky National Guard to stand ready to respond. State transportation workers also prepared to act, and local emergency management officials worked to open needed warming centers. The Governor also activated the state's emergency operations center and implemented the state's price gouging laws to protect Kentuckians from overpriced goods

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

and services as they clean up and recover from the storm. Consumers should report price gouging to the Office of the Attorney General.

For additional pre-

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

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Kentucky Public Service Commission ("PSC") will conduct a public hearing in Case No. 2024-00243 beginning at 9:00 a.m. Eastern Standard Time on Tuesday, January 28, 2025 at its offices at 211 Sower Boulevard, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601, for the purposes of cross-examination of the witnesses of Kentucky Power Company and taking evidence on the issues in PSC Case No. 2024-00243 regarding Kentucky Power Company's application to approve the renewable energy purchase agreement for solar energy resources between Kentucky Power Company and Bright Mountain Solar, LLC. This hearing will be streamed live and may be viewed on the PSC website, psc.ky.gov. Public comments may be made at the beginning of the hearing. Those wishing to make oral public comments may do so by following the instructions listed on the PSC website, psc.ky.gov.

paredness tips, visit kyem.ky.gov. To read more about the state of emergency, click here.

If you, or someone you know, is dealing with the emotional distress of

compounding traumatic weather events, please call or text the Disaster Distress Helpline at 800-985-5990.

TikTok creators left in limbo while awaiting decision on potential platform ban

By Jonathan Landrum Jr. and Haleluya Hadero
Associated Press

Will TikTok be banned this month?

That's the pressing question keeping creators and small business owners in anxious limbo as they await a decision that could upend their livelihoods. The fate of the popular app will be decided by the Supreme Court, which will hear arguments on Jan. 10 over a law requiring TikTok to break ties with its Chinese-based parent company, ByteDance, or face a U.S. ban.

At the heart of the case is whether the law violates the First Amendment with TikTok and its creator allies arguing that it does. The U.S. government, which sees the platform as a national security risk, says it does not.

For creators, the TikTok doomsday scenarios are nothing new since President-elect Donald Trump

first tried to ban the platform through executive order during his first term. But despite Trump's recent statements indicating he now wants TikTok to stick around, the prospect of a ban has never been as immediate as it is now with the Supreme Court serving as the final arbiter.

If the government prevails as it did in a lower court, TikTok says it would shut down its U.S. platform by Jan. 19, leaving creators scrambling to redefine their futures.

"A lot of my other creative friends, we're all like freaking out. But I'm staying calm," said Gillian Johnson, who benefited financially from TikTok's live feature and rewards program, which helped creators generate higher revenue potential by posting high-quality original content. The 22-year-old filmmaker and recent college graduate uses her TikTok earnings to help fund her equipment for projects

such as camera lens and editing software for her short films "Gambit" and "Awaken! My Neighbor."

Johnson said the idea of TikTok going away is "hard to accept."

Many creators have taken to TikTok to voice their frustrations, grappling with the possibility that the platform they've invested so much in could soon disappear. Online communities risk being disrupted, and the economic fallout could especially be devastating for those who mainly depend on TikTok and have left full-time jobs to build careers and incomes around their content.

For some, the uncertainty has led them to question whether to continue creating content at all, according to Johnson, who says she knows creators who have been thinking about quitting. But Nicla Bartoli, the vice president of sales at The Influencer Marketing Factory, said the creators she has interact-

ed with have not been too worried since news about a potential TikTok ban has come up repeatedly over the years, and then died down.

"I believe a good chunk think it is not going to happen," said Bartoli, whose agency works to pair influencers and brands.

It's unclear how quickly the Supreme Court will issue a decision. But the court could act swiftly to block the law from going into effect if at least five of the nine justices deem it unconstitutional.

Trump, for his part, has already asked the justices to put a pause on the ban so he could weigh in after he takes office. In a brief — written by his pick for solicitor general — Trump called the First Amendment implications of a TikTok ban "sweeping and troubling" and said he wants a "negotiated resolution" to the issue, something the Biden administration had pursued to

no avail.

While waiting for the dust to settle in Washington, some creators are exploring alternatives ways to promote themselves or their business, encouraging users to follow them on other social media platforms or are investing more time producing non-TikTok content.

Johnson says she is already strategizing her next move and exploring alternative opportunities. While she hasn't found a place quite like TikTok, she's begun to spend more of her time on other platforms, such as Instagram and YouTube, both of whom are expected to benefit financially if TikTok vanishes.

According to a report by Goldman Sachs, the so-called creator economy, which has been fueled in part by TikTok, could be worth \$480 billion by 2027.

Because the opportunity to monetize content

exists across a range of platforms, a vast amount of creators have already diversified their social media presence. However, many TikTok creators have credited the platform — and its algorithm — with giving them a type of exposure they did not receive on other platforms. Some say it has also boosted and provided opportunities for creators of color and those from other marginalized groups.

Despite fears about the fate of TikTok, industry analysts note creators are generally avoiding making any big changes, like abandoning platform, until something actually happens.

"I'm anxious but also trying to be hopeful in a weird way," said Brandon Hurst, who credits TikTok with rescuing his business from obscurity and propelling it into rapid growth.

A year after joining Tik-

■ **TikTok** from A-6

Tok, the 30-year-old Hurst, who sells plants, said his sales doubled, outpacing the traction he'd struggled to gain on Instagram. He built his clientele through the live feature on TikTok, which has helped him sell more than 77,000 plants. The business has thrived so much that he says he now employs five people, including his husband and mom.

"For me, this has been my sole way of doing business," Hurst said.

Billion Dollar Boy, a New York-based influencer marketing agency, has advised creators to download all of their TikTok content into a personal portfolio, which is especially important for those who post primarily on the platform, said Edward East, the agency's founder and

group CEO. This can help them quickly build their audiences elsewhere. Plus it can serve as a resume for brands who might want to partner with them for product advertisements, East said.

But until the deadline of Jan. 19 comes around, East said creators should continue to post regularly on TikTok, which has 170 million month U.S. users

and remains highly effective in reaching audiences.

If the Supreme Court does not delay the ban, as Trump is asking them to do, app stores and internet service providers would be required to stop providing service to TikTok by Jan. 19. That means anyone who doesn't have TikTok on their phone would be unable to download it. TikTok users would con-

tinue to have access, but the prohibitions — which will prevent them from updating the app — will eventually make the app "unworkable," the Justice Department has said.

TikTok said in court documents that it estimates a one-month shutdown would cause the platform to lose approximately a third of its daily users in the U.S. The company

argues a shutdown, even if temporary, will cause it irreparable harm, a legal bar used by judges to determine whether to put the brakes on a law facing a challenge. In under three weeks, Americans will know if the Supreme Court agrees.

Biden visits makeshift memorial in New Orleans where attack began that killed 14 and injured 30

By Colleen Long
Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — President Joe Biden on Monday visited a makeshift memorial at the site of the deadly New Year's attack in New Orleans, holding a moment of silence before meeting with grieving families and attending a prayer service.

Biden and first lady Jill Biden made their first stop in the city Monday evening at a memorial that sprung up on city's famous Bourbon Street, where the attack began last week when an Army veteran drove a truck into revelers, killing 14 and injuring 30 more.

Flowers and messages had been left at the base of more than 14 crosses erected on the sidewalk in the French Quarter. After Jill Biden placed white flowers at the memorial, she and the president stood in silence and bowed their heads.

Joe Biden crossed himself, and the the couple headed to the historic St. Louis Cathedral nearby, where the president was expected to have a private meeting with the families of those killed and attend an interfaith prayer service.

The visit is likely to be the last time Biden travels to the scene of a horrific crime as president to console families of victims. He has less than two weeks left in office.

"I think what you're going to see this president do today is show up for the community, be there for the community in the hardest time," White House press secretary Karine Jean-Pierre told reporters aboard Air Force One on the way to Louisiana. She went on, speaking about Biden's own understanding of loss, and said, "He believes this is also an important part of the job that he believes he needs to do as president."

It's a grim task that

presidents perform, though not every leader has embraced the role with such intimacy as the 82-year-old Biden, who has experienced a lot of personal tragedy in his own life. His first wife and baby daughter died in a car accident in the early 1970s, and his eldest son, Beau, died of cancer in 2015.

"I've been there. There's nothing you can really say to somebody that's just had such a tragic loss," Biden told reporters Sunday in a preview of his visit. "My message is going to be personal if I get to get them alone."

Biden often takes the opportunity at such bleak occasions to speak behind closed doors with the families, offer up his personal phone number in case people want to talk later on and talk about grief in stark, personal terms.

In addition to the meeting with families, Biden hoped to visit with first responders in New Orleans,

according to Jean-Pierre.

The Democratic president will continue on to California following his stop in New Orleans. With a snowstorm hitting the Washington region on Monday, Biden's trip began with Air Force One starting its takeoff from inside a large hangar instead of on the tarmac as thick snow covered the ground at Joint Base Andrews and snowplows worked to clear the runway.

In New Orleans on Jan. 1, the driver plowed into a crowd on Bourbon Street. Fourteen revelers were killed along with the driver. Shamsud-Din Jabbar, who steered his speeding truck around a barricade and plowed into the crowd, later was fatally shot in a firefight with police.

Jabbar, an American citizen from Texas, had posted five videos on his Facebook account in the hours before the attack in which he proclaimed his support for the Islamic

State militant group and previewed the violence that he would soon unleash in the French Quarter.

Biden on Sunday pushed back against conspiracy theories surrounding the attack, and he urged New Orleans residents to ignore them.

"I spent literally 17, 18 hours with the intelligence community from the time this happened to establish exactly what happened, to establish beyond any reasonable doubt that New Orleans was the act of a single man who acted alone," he said. "All this talk about conspiracies with other people, there's not evidence of that — zero."

The youngest victim was 18 years old, and the oldest was 63. Most victims were in their 20s. They came from Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, New York, New Jersey and Great Britain.

Louisiana Sen. Bill Cassidy, a Republican,

was asked on "Fox News Sunday" what the city was hoping for from Biden's visit.

"How can we not feel for both the families of those who die but also those who've been injured in their families?" he asked.

"The best thing that the city, the state, and the federal government can do is do their best to make sure that this does not happen again. And what we can do as a people is to make sure that we don't live our lives in fear or in terror — but live our lives bravely and with liberty, and then support those families however they need support."

Jean-Pierre said Monday that Biden was directing additional resources to help New Orleans with major upcoming events, including Mardi Gras and the Super Bowl, with both events being assigned the highest level of federal support for security measures.

McDonald's is the latest company to roll back diversity goals

By Dee-Ann Durbin
AP Business Writer

Four years after launching a push for more diversity in its ranks, McDonald's is ending some of its diversity practices, citing a U.S. Supreme Court's decision that outlawed affirmative action in college admissions.

McDonald's is the latest big company to shift its tactics in the wake of the 2023 ruling and a conservative backlash against diversity, equity and inclu-

sion programs. Walmart, John Deere, Harley-Davidson and others rolled back their initiatives last year.

McDonald's said Monday it will retire specific goals for achieving diversity at senior leadership levels. It also intends to end a program that encourages its suppliers to develop diversity training and increase the number of minorities in their own leadership ranks.

McDonald's said it will also pause "external surveys." The Chicago burger

giant didn't elaborate, but several other companies, including Lowe's and Ford Motor Co., suspended their participation in an annual survey by the Human Rights Campaign.

McDonald's rolled out a series of diversity initiatives in 2021 after a spate of sexual harassment lawsuits filed by employees and a lawsuit alleging discrimination by a group of Black former owners of McDonald's franchises.

"As a world-leading brand that considers inclu-

sion one of our core values, we will accept nothing less than real, measurable progress in our efforts," McDonald's Chairman and CEO Chris Kempczinski wrote in a LinkedIn post at the time.

But McDonald's said Monday that the "shifting legal landscape" after the Supreme Court decision and the actions of other corporations caused it to take a hard look at its own policies.

In an open letter to employees and franchisees,

McDonald's senior leadership team said it remained committed to inclusion and believes a diverse workforce is a competitive advantage. The company said 30% of its U.S. leaders are members of underrepresented groups, up from 29% in 2021. McDonald's previously committed to reaching 35% by the end of this year.

McDonald's said it has achieved one of the goals it announced in 2021: gender pay equity at all levels of the company. It also said

it expected to achieve a goal of having 25% of total supplier spending go to diverse-owned businesses by the end of the year.

McDonald's said it would continue to support efforts that ensure a diverse base of employees, suppliers and franchisees, but its diversity team will now be referred to as the Global Inclusion Team. The company said it would also continue to report its demographic information.

Stay tuned: 2025 regular session convenes January 7

The General Assembly convened on Tuesday, January 7 at Noon.

Our convening is set by the Kentucky Constitution, which requires that we begin session on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in January. The Constitution, after an amendment passed 24 years ago, also establishes that in odd years we have 30 legislative days to complete our work before we must adjourn by midnight on March 30.

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



Patrick Flannery
Representative
State of Kentucky

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.

While the legislature can only take official action like passing laws during session, lawmakers use the time between sessions to study issues and work with stakeholders to prepare. Lawmakers met

throughout the summer and fall to consider issues that will be addressed with legislation during the 2025 Regular Session. Presentations included several bills that will be filed when the legislature convenes, as well as information on other issues and updates on laws already passed as lawmakers monitor how they are implemented. In addition to committee work, special task forces have discussed housing and labor shortages, the skyrocketing use of Artificial Intelligence, and the governance of the state's largest school system.

Since lawmakers addressed the budget last session, they will be free to consider a number of other issues this year. Our legislative agenda is shaping up to include additional

efforts to lower the state's income tax, get Kentuckians working, increase access to affordable health care, protect Kentucky children, honor our veterans, and help strengthen our communities. All of these are important if we want to continue making Kentucky the best place to live, work, and build a life. If you are interested in following along, please visit the legislature's website and email me to be added to a list for regular updates.

One of my favorite duties as a legislator is welcoming visitors and school groups to Frankfort. These tours serve as a great reminder of why I serve this community, and provide folks from our community with a firsthand appreciation of their state capitol building and

capital city. If you have a school group or civic organization that would like to come visit, I hope you will let me arrange the tour of the Kentucky State Capitol, Thomas D. Clark Kentucky History Center, or the Military History Museum. I also have some resources for groups that cannot make the trip — including a video tour and activity books.

If you are not able to visit in person, we use a variety of tools to keep the legislature's work accessible and transparent. For decades, Kentucky Educational Television (KET) has televised committee meetings and the work we do on the House Floor. In addition, the legislature now offers a YouTube channel and broadcasts live from all committees,

including those that KET is unable to cover. To access the KET and YouTube coverage, visit www.legislature.ky.gov and click on the Live Coverage box. You may also go directly to them via www.ket.org and KY LRC Committee Meetings on YouTube.

The Legislative Research Commission (LRC) is the legislature's administrative arm and maintains a helpful, information-packed website. It contains every bill and resolution, schedules, contact information, and information about the legislative process. I regularly refer to LRC publications, which provide research information on a variety of issues and can also be downloaded from the website.

■ **Water** from A-5

palbearers."

The same could be said for the roles we play in society. Run for office. Climb the corporate ladder. Treasure your trophies and accolades. But at the end of the day, recognize that you're likely the only one who truly cares. When you're gone, the hole in the water doesn't linger.

That said, it's entirely

possible to leave a lasting impact—one that reverberates far beyond your immediate actions. Start by showing up for your family, not just physically but emotionally. Be present during the moments that matter, whether it's a simple dinner conversation, a milestone celebration, or a time of hardship. That foundation can positively

impact generations. Similarly, support your friends in ways that go beyond the surface. Listen with intention, celebrate their victories as if they were your own, and stand by them in their struggles.

Beyond personal relationships, work to build community by engaging with those around you. This doesn't have to mean

grand gestures; it can be as simple as attending local events, volunteering for a cause you believe in, or lending your skills to help a neighbor in need. Foster connections by finding common ground, even with those whose perspectives differ from your own. Ultimately, it's these acts—of showing up, supporting, and connecting—that leave

a legacy. They matter not just in the here and now but in shaping a world we want to endure long after we're gone.

As Reverend Billy Graham put it: "The greatest legacy one can pass on to one's children and grandchildren is not money or other material things accumulated in one's life, but rather a legacy of

character."

The sooner we embrace the fleeting nature of our "holes in the water" and set aside our egos, the more likely we are to accomplish something truly worth remembering.