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# Carter County Times

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cartercountytimes.com

Vol. 5, No. 44

NEWS/ADVERTISING 606-225-1258

CARTER COUNTY, KENTUCKY

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2024

\$1.00 PER COPY

## Tolliver attorney moves to suppress evidence

Miller contends jailhouse interview was conducted illegally and inadmissible

By: Jeremy D. Wells  
Carter County Times

Attorney for Johnny Tolliver, Robert Miller contends that an interview with his client conducted by detectives with the Kentucky State Police (KSP) should be inadmissible as evidence because the detectives ignored Tolliver's clear request for an attorney. The detectives, however, state that they gave

Tolliver several opportunities to unequivocally invoke his right to an attorney – including reading him his Miranda Rights – after explaining to him that they were there to discuss a new set of allegations.

In recordings played in court last Friday, Tolliver, who was already incarcerated on a charge of second degree assault, can be heard entering an administrative room where KSP detectives David Foreman and Josh Lawson are waiting for him, before stating he should probably have his attorney present. Foreman can then be heard telling him that he has the right to have his attorney present, but that before that he wanted Tolliver to be aware that he was not present to discuss the assault case he was incarcerated

See TOLLIVER on A-8



Johnny Tolliver (submitted photo)

## School board discusses attendance

Hears strategies from Heritage staff on decreasing truancy

By: Charles Romans  
Carter County Times

Attendance is important to student success. That's the message the Carter County Board of Education heard when they met for their regularly scheduled meeting on October 21. The meeting was held at Heritage Elementary School in Hitchens, where fourth grade teacher Cailyn Albright addressed the board on the subject of atten-

dance. Albright discussed both the challenges and methods to improve such.

"Our main goal for attendance has always been not to punish students for not coming to school," Albright told the board. "Especially in elementary school, it's not always the student's fault and we realize that. But we also realize that it is important to give incentives to students to come to school and to reward those who do. Because school is supposed to be fun."

Albright told the board that Heritage was extremely proud of the fact that last month their attendance had raised to 95.57 percent average attendance.

"We actually led the district last month in attendance," Albright told the Board. "And we

See ATTENDANCE on A-3

## Ambulance board discusses transport issue

Doesn't qualify for opioid funding reimbursement

By: Charles Romans  
Carter County Times

The Carter County Emergency Ambulance Service Board met for its regularly scheduled meeting on October 21, to discuss regular business. The board heard from director Tim Woods who discussed ongoing grant applications, especially those concerning funds from the Opioid Abatement Fund. The challenges with those funds, specifically, Woods said, was that they were geared more toward abatement rather than treatment.

Grants awarded through the Opioid Abatement Fund (OAF)

have regulations that prevent the funds being used for anything other than abatement. Even if an agency to a large degree involves drug related services, such as responding to overdoses, those funds are not available to them unless they are providing an abatement service.

"There are so many restrictions," Woods told the board. "After talking to them I found out that I would have to create a drug related program to prevent people from getting on drugs. And not to recoup the money we have spent out because of drugs."

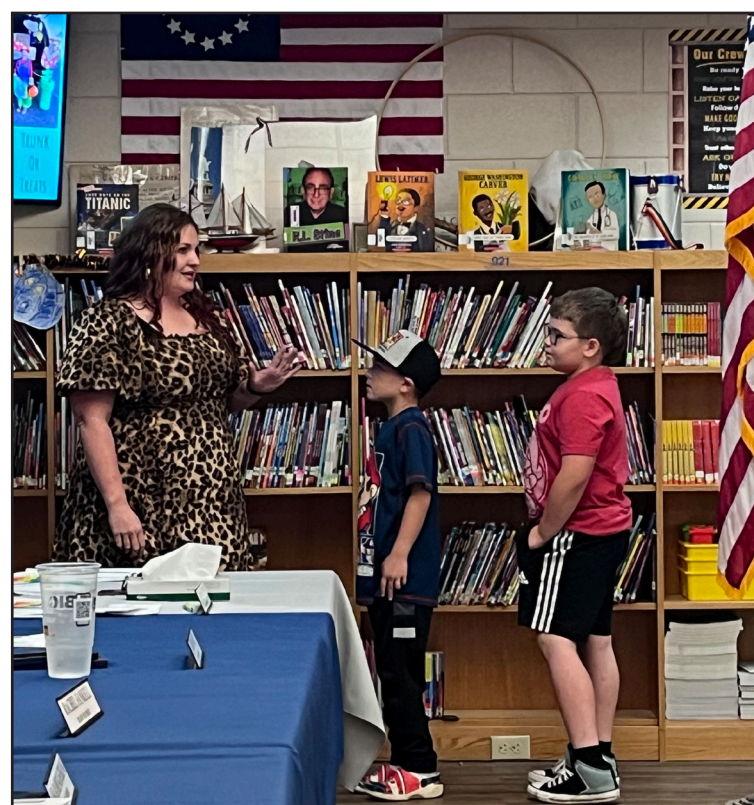
Woods said that in order for him to establish such a program it would require the hiring of additional personnel and other costs associated with such a program on the speculation that he would be able to recoup that investment from the OAF.

The Emergency Ambulance Board's inability to qualify for

those funds is a source of frustration, Woods said. Each month there are expenditures related to drug use such as emergency calls and treatment, some of which includes the use of Narcan, a medicine used to reverse opioid overdoses. There are groups that donate Narcan for emergency use. However, due to government regulations on the strength of dosage they are allowed to use, the ambulance service is unable to accept any donation of the life saving drug from other organizations such as drug treatment facilities.

Narcan isn't unique in this type of regulation. Other medicines such as insulin are also strictly regulated. In the case of an individual's death who had been on insulin, any remaining medication whether opened or not was not allowed to be used if donated or even purchased.

See AMBULANCE on A-3



Kindergarten Teacher Nicole Flaughter with Abel Simmons and John Flaughter. (Photo by Charles Romans, Carter County Times)

## 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.

- Billy Jordan, 42, of Grayson, arrested by Carter County Sheriff, on charges of first degree possession of a controlled substance (fentanyl), first degree possession of a controlled substance (methamphetamine), prescription not held in proper container, possession of drug paraphernalia, and two counts of failure to appear, arrested and booked October 21.
- Luis Tavera, 25, of Gallipolis,

- OH, arrested by Kentucky State Police, on charges of speeding 5 MPH over limit, reckless driving, following another vehicle too closely, operating a motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol, failure to produce an insurance card, no registration receipt, and possession of an open alcoholic beverage container in a motor vehicle, arrested and booked October 21
- William Caudill, 53, of Flatwoods, arrested by Boyd County Jail, on two counts of failure to appear, arrested and booked October 21.
- Garrick Pennington, 35, of Grayson, arrested by Carter County Sheriff, on charges of alcohol intoxication in a public

- place, first degree wanton endangerment – discharge of a firearm, second degree disorderly conduct, and third degree terroristic threatening, arrested and booked October 21.
- Charles Gilbert, 34, of Grayson, arrested by Grayson PD, on charges of third degree criminal trespassing, and two counts of failure to appear, arrested and booked October 22.
- Damon Barido, 22, of Grayson, arrested by Carter County Sheriff, on charges of driving on a DUI suspended license (aggravating circumstances), and operating on a suspended or revoked operator's license, arrested and booked October 22.
- Larry Burton, 65, of Hitchens, arrested by Kentucky State Police, on a charge of first degree possession of a controlled

See ARRESTS on A-3



### This Week's Obituaries

Jerry Franklin Clay, 71  
Dale Lee "Hollywood" Hicks, 77

Mary Ann Vance Kennedy, 72  
Donald Ray Stamper, 67

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# LIFESTYLE



## Divas ON A DIME By Patti Diamond

### Pâte à choux made easy: Add some pastry magic to Halloween and the holidays

If you haven't discovered the joy of making pâte à choux yet, let me introduce you to your new holiday best friend. This pastry dough is not only simple to master but incredibly versatile. Whether you're planning to whip up spooky cheese puff spiders to delight Halloween guests or elegant cream puffs for future holiday soirees, this dough has you covered.

Pâte à choux (pronounced "paht a SHOO") is the airy, hollow pastry behind classics like profiteroles, cream puffs and eclairs. It puffs up golden

and light, ready to be filled with whipped cream, custard or savory delights. You may not know it by its fancy French name, but you've probably tasted it before. Delicious, right?

But here's the fun part: Pâte à choux isn't just for sweet treats. With the addition of cheese and herbs, it turns into something magical for savory snacks like gougères (cheesy puffs). And with the holidays around the corner, this four-ingredient dough will quickly become your secret weapon in the kitchen. Savory or sweet, pâte à choux is perfect for impressing guests with minimal effort.

#### BASIC PÂTE À CHOUX RECIPE

Yield: 72 pieces  
Total Time: 90 minutes  
1/2 cup (1 stick) butter, cut into small pieces  
1/4 teaspoon salt  
1 1/4 cups all-purpose flour  
4 large eggs

Preheat your oven to 425 F and lightly grease two baking sheets.

In a saucepan, bring 1 cup water, butter and salt to a boil. Remove from heat, add the flour all at once, and stir quickly. Re-

turn to medium heat and stir until the batter pulls away from the sides -- about 2-3 minutes.

Transfer the batter to a stand mixer with paddle attachment and let cool for 10 minutes. Add eggs one at a time, beating until fully incorporated. The batter will smooth out by the final egg.

Drop or pipe teaspoon-size mounds of dough onto baking sheets, spacing them apart. Smooth the tops with damp fingers or a spoon.

Bake at 425 F for 10 minutes, then reduce to 350 F and bake for another 10 minutes until golden brown. Do not open the oven door during baking!

Remove from the oven and make a small slit in each puff to release steam. Return to the oven for 5 more minutes to dry out. Let cool on a rack.

Return the temperature back to 425 F and repeat with remaining batter.

Turn your pâte à choux into spooky cheese puff spiders for Halloween fun!

#### CHEESE PUFF RECIPE

Yield: 72 pieces  
Total Time: 90 minutes

One recipe Basic Pâte à Choux  
1/2 cup grated Parmesan  
1/2 teaspoon black pepper



These cheesy pâte à choux spider puffs are deliciously festive for Halloween. (Photo credit: www.JasonCoblentz.com)

1 teaspoon Italian seasoning  
Chow mein noodles  
Edible markers

Add Parmesan, pepper and Italian seasoning to the dough. Bake according to previous recipe. After baking, press eight crispy chow mein noodles into each puff for legs. Add dots for eyes using an edible marker. Arrange on a platter and enjoy these edible spiders!

Make-Ahead & Storage Tips: Pâte à choux freezes beautifully, making it a fantastic option for prepping ahead of holiday festivities. Cool the puffs completely, then freeze in an airtight con-

tainer or bag for up to 2 months. When ready to serve, simply reheat in a 350 F oven for 5-10 minutes to restore their crispness.

Whether you're baking up spooky cheese puff spiders or whipping out elegant holiday hors d'oeuvres, get creative, and let the choux-nanigans begin! (Sorry! I couldn't resist.)

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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](http://www.divasonadime.com) and join the conversation on Facebook at [DivasOnADimeDotCom](https://www.facebook.com/DivasOnADimeDotCom). Email Patti at [divapatti@divasonadime.com](mailto:divapatti@divasonadime.com)

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### Joyful Noise

# Jesus is the way

By: Pastor Naomi Mitchell for Carter County Times

In John 14:6 Jesus saith unto him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me."

Jesus is the WAY. Do you feel like you have lost your way? Or maybe you feel like you have been climbing up the rough side of the mountain for a long season. Sometimes it may feel like the boat is getting ready to sink out there on the stormy sea. Many are standing at the crossroads right now and don't know

which direction to go.

Jesus said, "I am the way." The word "way" can mean the course of human conduct, the manner of life which one lives, or a traveled road, a path, or a direction. Jesus is simply saying, "follow me."

Ezra 8: 21 - Then I proclaimed a fast there, at the river of Ahava, that we might afflict ourselves before our God, to seek of him a right way for us, and for our little ones, and for all our substance. Jesus is the way for you and your children, your home and your career. The Bible says to ask for wisdom in all

things, in every area of our lives.

Psalms 1:6 - For the Lord knoweth the way of the righteous: but the way of the ungodly shall perish. Choosing the right way is the guaranteed formula for success and prosperity.

Ecclesiastes 11:5 - As thou knowest not what is the way of the spirit, nor how the bones do grow in the womb of her that is with child: even so thou knowest not the works of God who maketh all. We are fearfully and wonderfully made. God say, "I know the plans I have for you, not of evil, but plans

to prosper you and give you an expected end."

Isaiah 26:7 - The way of the just is uprightness: thou, most upright, dost weigh the path of the just. Follow Jesus always in all things. The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord.

Jeremiah 6:16 - Thus, saith the Lord, "stand ye in the way and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls." But they said, "we will not walk therein." You will find true rest for your soul when you get back on the old paths, which is the good way. The old paths are tried and true and they

have weathered the storms of life.

Matt 7:13-14 - Enter ye in at the straight gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat; because straight is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it. There is only one way to get to heaven and that is through Jesus. He is the door to the sheepfold. There is no back entrance into heaven.

2 Peter 2:2 - And many shall follow their pernicious ways; by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of. (Pernicious means: cor-

rupt, damaging, dangerous, deadly, destructive, evil, hurtful, etc.)

Maybe someone has told you to "get out of the way" for whatever reason. Today, I am telling you to "get in the way" with Jesus. You will win every time! AMEN. SO BE IT.

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



## Extension Notes

University of Kentucky College of Agriculture, Food and Environment Cooperative Extension Service

[carter.ca.uky.edu](http://carter.ca.uky.edu)

## Winter crop cover can improve garden soil

No matter how small your garden is, it can play an important role in absorbing carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and temporarily locking it in the soil. There are a number of ways you can improve on this natural cycle, but at this time of year, the best way is through a cover crop.

Soil left bare over the winter months is susceptible to weed growth, erosion that can wash away valuable nutrients and a loss of carbon into the atmosphere. Soil nitrogen left over from this year's crop is subject to leaching due to fall and winter precipitation. Planting a fast-growing cover crop can help prevent these problems. The term crop in this context may be misleading. These plants are not meant to be harvested. Instead, they add important nutrients, promote beneficial bacterial growth and stabilize the soil.

Easy and effective cover crops that can be planted at this time of year include annual ryegrass, hairy vetch, red clover and winter rye.

Annual ryegrass and winter rye are particularly effective as late-season cover crops. They germinate quickly and are an effective barrier against

weeds. Grasses, however, do not capture nitrogen in their root system, so consider pairing rye with a legume, such as red clover or hairy vetch.

Hairy vetch and red clover work well as a cover plant, whether paired with rye or by themselves. Being legumes, they are excellent at fixing nitrogen in the soil. They are also prolific enough to reduce weeds and prevent erosion. In the spring, their blossoms will attract bees to your garden. If you worry about hairy vetch or clover reseeding in your lawn - though they're pretty plants and would add biodiversity and important nutrients - just cut them back before they bloom.

Come spring, you have two options. You can turn over your cover crop into the soil, allowing your vegetables or flowers to benefit from the nutrients it will slowly release. Or you can cut it back and let it die naturally, planting directly into the crop and using it as a mulch to continue to suppress weed growth and supply nutrients to your garden. Depending on which cover you plant, this may be easier said than done, because some, particularly grasses, are difficult to directly sow

or plant into.

Grasses have a densely packed root system, which make them difficult to till or turn over. If your garden is particularly small or you're gardening in raised beds, rye might not be your best option. However, vetch and clover both have root clumps which are easily dug up and turned over or planted between. Be sure to terminate the cover crop before allowing the plants to go to seed.

For more information, contact the Carter County office of the UK Cooperative Extension Service.

#### Upcoming Events

- The Grayson Farmer's Market is open on Saturdays from 9:00 AM until noon. The market is in the shed behind the Extension Office. The Olive Hill Farmer's Market is in the Save-a-Lot parking lot and is open on Saturdays and Wednesdays at 8:00 AM and Mondays at 3:00 PM until sell out each day.
- Beginning & Small Farmer School - Friday, November 1st from 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM @ Morehead State University Farm Arena Classroom - Call 474-6686 to register.
- Little Andy Beekeeper Association - Tuesday, November 5th @ 6:30 PM; Topic - Baking with Honey & Using a Refractometer

## Kentucky Dept of Agriculture Livestock and Grain Market Report

Compared to last week, feeder steers and heifers sold unevenly steady. Market trends ranged from 5.00 lower to 6.00 higher with instances sharply higher. Demand was good to very good with active buyer participation showing best interest for weaned packages. Yearlings were trending up to 6.00 higher with limited comparisons. Slaughter cows sold mostly 2.00 to 5.00 higher and slaughter bulls were steady to 3.00 higher with good demand.

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

Week ending 10/19/24

STATE AVERAGES			
Steers (M&L 1-2)	This Week	Prior Week	Last Year
350-400 lbs	310.05	288.19	266.52
400-450 lbs	294.65	293.68	249.79
450-500 lbs	283.96	280.83	248.27
500-550 lbs	272.58	274.11	245.04
550-600 lbs	268.23	263.93	240.15
600-650 lbs	254.08	249.96	241.21
650-700 lbs	249.89	242.13	234.80
700-750 lbs	240.11	240.62	222.60
750-800 lbs	238.83	232.14	229.24
800-850 lbs	227.68	241.25	227.88
850-900 lbs	225.85	238.42	225.58
Heifers (M&L 1-2)	This Week	Prior Week	Last Year
300-350 lbs	268.70	257.05	227.69
350-400 lbs	264.33	254.08	220.41
400-450 lbs	258.93	248.81	222.86
450-500 lbs	248.59	248.11	220.32
500-550 lbs	242.91	238.19	213.20
550-600 lbs	237.74	234.45	214.36
600-650 lbs	229.23	225.98	211.03
650-700 lbs	223.98	224.26	211.10
700-750 lbs	215.15	214.10	207.00
750-800 lbs	208.06	212.62	205.12

WEEKLY COW SUMMARY			
Slaughter Cows	Average	High	Low
Breakers	111.00-137.50	123.00-149.00	102.00-119.00
Boners	109.00-139.50	122.00-157.00	102.00-123.00
Lean	90.00-131.50	107.00-153.00	100.00-119.50
Slaughter Bulls	Average	High	Low
Yield Grade 1&2	158.00-167.00	185.00-190.50	144.00

Oct 10, 2024 Bowling Green, KY  
**SLAUGHTER GOATS: 227**  
**Kids: Selection 1** 54 lbs 315.00; 70 lbs 290.00. **Selection 1-2** 82 lbs 260.00.  
**Selection 2** 53 lbs 300.00; 67 lbs 285.00; 113 lbs 210.00.  
**SLAUGHTER SHEEP: 525**  
**Hair Breeds-Choice & Prime 1-2** 60 lbs 265.00; 70-75 lbs 207.50-235.00; 82-83 lbs 185.00-207.00; 91 lbs 200.00. **Choice 2** 50-58 lbs 270.00-275.00; 49 lbs 225.00; 75 lbs 217.50; 85 lbs 195.00; 108 lbs 160.00. **Good & Choice 2-3** 68 lbs 242.50; 58 lbs 252.50; 63 lbs 232.50; 73-76 lbs 210.00-217.50.

Week ending 10/19/24			
GRAINS	This Week	Prior Week	Last Year
Corn	3.49-4.15	3.62-4.09	4.31-4.97
Soybeans	8.59-10.16	9.01-10.18	11.60-13.14
Red Winter Wheat	4.80-5.37	4.81-5.51	5.28-6.23

Arrests from A-1

substance (methamphetamine), arrested and booked October 22.

- Christopher Huntsman, 40, of Grayson, arrested by Kentucky State Police, on charges of first degree trafficking in a controlled substance (two or more grams of methamphetamine), and engaging in organized crime, arrested and booked October 22.
- Timothy Imes, 60, of Grayson, arrested by Kentucky State Police, on charges of failure to wear seat belts, operating a motor vehicle under the influence of a substance, failure to produce an insurance card, no registration receipt, possession of marijuana, possession of an open alcoholic beverage in a motor vehicle, possession of drug paraphernalia, and possession of synthetic drugs, arrested and booked October 22.
- Nathan Metcalf, 31, of Ashland, arrested by Grayson PD, on a charge of third degree rape, arrested and booked October 23.
- Dianna Martin, 24, of Olive Hill, arrested by Kentucky State Police, on charges of third degree possession of a controlled

substance – drug unspecified, possession of marijuana, and possession of drug paraphernalia, arrested and booked October 23.

- Billy Lunsford, 67, of Olive Hill, arrested by Kentucky State Police, on charges of operating a motor vehicle under the influence of a substance, failure to wear seat belts, careless driving, no registration receipt, failure to produce an insurance card, and third degree possession of a controlled substance – drug unspecified, arrested and booked October 23.
- Douglas Roberts, 46, of Ashland, arrested by Kentucky State Police, for failure to appear, arrested and booked October 24.
- Bobby Harris, 19, of Catlettsburg, arrested by Carter County Detention Center, on a probation violation (for a felony offense), arrested and booked October 24.
- Jacqueline McClurg, 41, of Olive Hill, arrested by Kentucky State Police, on three counts of failure to appear, arrested and booked October 24.
- Joseph Carter, 36, of Sandy Hook, arrested by Kentucky State Police, for

failure to appear, arrested and booked October 24.

- Lonnie Henderson, 66, of Olive Hill, arrested by Kentucky State Police, on charges of possession of marijuana, and non-payment of court costs, fees, or fines, arrested and booked October 24.
- Kayla Carver, 31, of Olive Hill, arrested by Rowan County Detention Center, on a charge of flagrant non-support, and failure to appear, arrested and booked October 25.
- Craig Fryer, 36, of Rush, arrested by Kentucky State Police, serving a warrant for a parole violation, and on charges of possession of drug paraphernalia, two counts of first degree trafficking in a controlled substance (two or more grams of methamphetamine), and two counts of cultivating marijuana (five or more plants), arrested and booked October 25.
- David Hill, 39, of Olive Hill, arrested by Carter County Sheriff, on a charge of contempt of court – libel/slander – resistance to order, arrested and booked October 25.
- Tyler Meeks, 29, of Rush, arrested by Grayson PD, on charges of speeding

10 MPH over limit, and operating a motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol, arrested and booked October 27.

- Danielle Perry, 30, of Grayson, arrested by Carter County Sheriff, on two counts of failure to appear, arrested and booked October 27.
- Johnny Lee, 38, of Grayson, arrested by Carter County Sheriff, for failure to appear, arrested and booked October 27.
- Jessica Young, 40, of South Point, OH, arrested by Bath County Sheriff, on charges of first degree wanton endangerment, and theft by unlawful taking or disposition of items valued at more than \$500 but less than \$1,000, arrested and booked October 27.

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.

Attendance from A-1

also had 148 kids that had perfect attendance.”

Albright said those students were entered into a drawing to receive gift cards from Poppa John’s Pizza.

She said that in order to reach the 95.57 attendance rate there were school wide incentives. One such incentive was a friendly competition with Prichard Elementary for best attendance, with the principal of the losing school agreeing to serve lunch at the other school. Albright said Heritage won the competition, and the principal of Prichard graciously ‘paid off’ the friendly wager. Also included in the incentives was a competition between

the grades at Heritage, with the winner earning extra recess.

Fourth grade teacher Holly Jones also addressed the board and gave further information on what the school was doing to engage their students and improve attendance.

“Some of the things we did during the month of September to encourage attendance were Hat Day, Pajama Day, and other fun days,” Jones said.

“As a classroom,” Jones continued, “every day there is perfect attendance we earn stickers. All those charts are hanging in the cafeteria, so every day they can check them and see how close they are to

earning rewards. And we give rewards for every fifteen days there is perfect attendance.”

Both Albright and Jones emphasized the importance of attendance and engagement, and that every single day a student is in class is another opportunity for that student to learn. Engagement is also a crucial component of a child’s education because the more engaged a child is, the more they are able to learn.

As part of that engagement, Heritage encourages the students themselves to share what they believe motivates them. Jones shared a video with the board of various students

telling what motivated them. Among the reasons shared were personal satisfaction, extra recess and other prizes, and lunch.

Another motivation for the students, from the students themselves, was family nights at the school. Three Heritage students, John Flaughter, Abel Simmons, and Sophia Villaseñor, addressed the board themselves during the meeting and spoke about playing games, crafts, and other benefits of the family nights.

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

Ambulance from A-1

The medicine in question cannot even be reinspected and reissued, Woods said, but according to current law must be destroyed.

Another issue Woods brought before the board was the growing number of calls he has received for transport of patients who use wheelchairs. Most transportation of individuals in wheelchairs requires

a special vehicle which the ambulance service does not currently operate.

“I have had people call the office for wheelchair transport, and I have had to turn them down,” Woods said.

Resolving the issue, Woods said, would necessitate the purchase of a wheelchair van. He said he was currently looking into

the cost and availability of such a vehicle due to the growing need in Carter County. Medical transportation is a part of the services the board offers. But in order to legally transport individuals who require the use of a wheelchair – and for those individual’s insurance to cover the cost – the vehicle must qualify for such transportation

under current regulations.

Woods said that he has not completed the necessary research on the wheelchair van, but when he does he will present an analysis of cost to the board.

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

# AP Decision Notes: What to expect in Kentucky on Election Day

By Fatima Hussein Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Kentucky voters will weigh in on five dozen races across the state in the Nov. 5 general election, including for president, U.S. House, state Legislature, state Supreme Court and two constitutional amendments.

Six candidates appear on the presidential ballot in Kentucky, including Democratic Vice President Kamala Harris

and Republican former President Donald Trump. Eight electoral votes are at stake. Kentucky voted for the candidate who won the White House for a forty-year stretch from 1964 to 2004 but has favored the Republican candidates in the last six presidential elections.

Counties begin tabulation of absentee ballots on the morning of Election Day, but no results may be released until after polls close. The state has two poll closing times, 6 and 7

p.m. ET because the state straddles the Eastern and Central time zones, but overall polls close at 6 p.m. local time.

In Kentucky, many counties release vote returns in a single, complete report. The largest counties are Jefferson, Fayette and Kenton. The state has mandatory recount provisions but they do not apply in the presidential election.

The Associated Press doesn't make projections and will declare a winner only when it has deter-

mined there is no scenario that would allow the trailing candidates to close the gap. If a race hasn't been called, the AP will continue to cover any news-worthy developments, like candidate concessions or declarations of victory. In doing so, the AP will make clear it hasn't declared a winner and explain why.

Here's a look at what to expect in the 2024 election in Kentucky:

**Election Day**  
Nov. 5.  
See ELECTION on A-6

# CALENDAR

- **10/30: Olive Hill Farmer’s Market @ 8 a.m.** | Save-A-Lot parking lot
- **10/31: Grayson Farmer’s Market @ 2 p.m.** | Carter County Extension Office Shed
- **10/31: Olive Hill Trick or Treat @ 6 p.m.** | Olive Hill Community
- **10/31: Grayson Trick or Treat @ 6 p.m.** | Grayson Community
- **11/1: Sit and Sew @ 9 a.m.** | Carter County Extension Education Center | For questions or to RSVP call 606-474-6686
- **11/1: Beginning & Small Farmer School @ 10 a.m.** | MSU Farm Arena Classroom | Call 606-474-6686 to register
- **11/1 & 11/2: Death of a Gangster Murder Mystery Dinner @ 6:45 p.m.** | Carter Caves State Resort Park | Call 286-4411 ext. 1 to make a reservation
- **11/2: Olive Hill Farmer’s Market @ 8 a.m.** | Save-A-Lot parking lot
- **11/2: Grayson Farmer’s Market @ 9 a.m.** | Carter County Extension Office Shed
- **11/4: Quilts for Veterans Sew Days @ 9 a.m.** | Carter County Extension Education Center | For questions call 606-474-6686
- **11/4: Homeschool group meeting @ 12 p.m.** | Carter County Public Library - Grayson
- **11/4: Olive Hill Farmer’s Market @ 3 p.m.** | Save-A-Lot parking lot
- **11/4: Carter County Tourism @ 5:30 p.m.** | Carter Caves State Resort Park
- **11/5: Rattlesnake Ridge Water District Board Meeting @ 4 p.m.** | Rattlesnake Ridge Water District office
- **11/5: Pop-Up Farmer’s Market @ 6 p.m.** | Friendship & Chapel House parking lot
- **11/5: Homeschool group meeting @ 6 p.m.** | Carter County Public Library - Olive Hill
- **11/5: Little Sandy Beekeepers Association @ 6:30 p.m.** | Carter County Extension Office

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## Pet of the Week

Trixie is a female mixed breed, believed to be around seven months old. She’s very playful, and loves attention. Trixie has a \$100 adoption fee, which includes rabies vaccination and being spayed. 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.

**Can you pass this test?**

**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

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# Legislative update

FRANKFORT—As we inch closer to the 2025 Regular Session of the Kentucky General Assembly, we take a moment to reflect on the work being done now in interim joint committee meetings in Frankfort. These meetings cover a range of issues that will likely shape the future of our state, including topics like child care, workforce participation, and addressing shortages. This past week has been especially busy, and I'm proud of the progress we've made.

In the October meeting of the Interim Joint Committee on Families and Children, we tackled several pressing issues related to child care in Kentucky. Many counties in east Kentucky are considered child care deserts, where access to adequate care is severely limited. It was great to see Kristen Collins, the new CEO of the Appalachian Foundation, at the meeting. Her insights into the challenges and potential solutions facing our communities were invaluable, and I know the foundation is in capable hands.

The Department for Community Based Services (DCBS), represented by Commissioner Lesa Dennis and Andrea T. Day, provided an update on recent policy changes intended to stabilize child care funding. One of the key issues discussed was the growing number of child care deserts in Kentucky, with over 50 counties identified as having fewer than three children per available child care slot. This geographical disparity in access is one of the greatest barriers to families seeking affordable, high-quality care. The Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP) saw fluctuations in participation, with approximately 22,936

families and 38,867 children enrolled as of October 2024.



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

Kentucky Youth Advocates (KYA) highlighted the urgent need for increased support to the child care workforce, which is struggling due to low wages and workforce shortages. They reported that 98% of the child care workforce is female, with a significant portion nearing retirement age or younger than 30. This workforce is crucial to our economy, and they are not paid a living wage, putting them at risk of leaving the profession. This is something we must address moving forward.

As we focus on these legislative priorities, it's important to remember that Election Day is just around the corner. Here are some key dates to keep in mind: In-person excused absentee voting is October 28-30, early in-person no excuse absentee voting will be held from October 31 to November 2, and Election Day is Tuesday, November 5. Make sure to plan ahead and exercise your right to vote. For polling location details or voting options, visit govote.ky.gov.

I'm also proud to announce that the Kentucky Lawyer's Assistance Program (KYLAP) was featured in the latest edition of Bench and Bar, our profession's publication. Serving on the KYLAP Commission has been one of the most rewarding experiences of my legal career. Our profession is often stressful and isolating, and no matter what challenges arise, personally or professionally, KYLAP is here to help. I love giving back to the profession that has given me so much.

As always, I encourage you to stay informed and reach out with any questions or concerns. Together, we will build a stronger, more prosperous

See UPDATE on A-6

# OBITUARY

## Jerry Franklin Clay 1953 – 2024



Jerry Franklin Clay age 71, of Rush, Kentucky, went home to be with the Lord, October 21, 2024, at Kings Daughter Medical Center in Ashland, Kentucky, surrounded by his loving family.

Jerry was born March 12, 1953, in Boyd County, Kentucky, to the late Clarence and Donna Jean William Clay.

He enjoyed hunting and spending time with his wife, grandson and two great-granddaughters.

He was preceded in death by one daughter, Melissa Clay Wilburn and three brothers, Danny Clay, Randy Clay and Mike Clay.

Jerry is survived by his

loving wife of 53 years, Audrey Griffith Clay; 1 grandson, Jerry Wilburn; 2 great-granddaughters, that were the love of his life, Isabella Wilburn and Destiny Wilburn one brother, Rick Clay of Ashland, Kentucky; one sister, Brenda (Joe) Fraley of Rush, Kentucky and a host of family and friends who all mourn his passing.

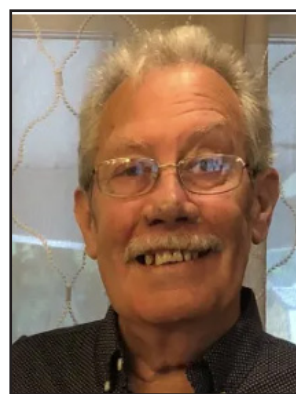
Funeral services were held 12 noon, Friday, October 25, 2024, at Grayson Funeral Home and Cremation Services, 49 McCoy Road, Grayson, Kentucky, with Pastor Jerry Foster officiating. Burial followed in East Carter Memory Gardens.

Friends visited after 10:30 a.m., Friday, October 25, 2024, until the service hour at Grayson Funeral Home.

Jerry Wilburn, John Clay, Richie Fraley, Logan Boyles, Dustin Marshall and Chandler Marshall served as pallbearers.

Grayson Funeral Home and Cremation Services is honored to serve the family of Jerry Franklin Clay.

## Dale Lee "Hollywood" Hicks 1947 – 2024



Dale Lee "Hollywood" Hicks, age 77, of Globe, Kentucky, passed away Sunday, October 20, 2024, at Community Hospice Care Center in Ashland, Kentucky.

He was born Sunday, June 15, 1947, in Carter County, Kentucky, to the late Everett Anderson and Gertrude P'Simer Hicks.

Dale was preceded in death by his loving wife of 42 years, Connie Hamilton Hicks; four brothers, Tennyson Hicks, Chalmer Gene Hicks, Cleo Anderson Hicks, Ivan Hicks; five sisters, Thelma King Mitchell, Wanda Kegley, Carla Sue Bond, Bonnie Bond and Sharon Cutright.

Dale was a member of Globe Christian Church, and a member of Labors Local 1445 in Cattlesburg, Kentucky for 37 years and worked for Carter County Board of Education for 11 years. He enjoyed history, reading and watching UK Basketball (the earlier years), discussing politics and spending time with his family.

Dale is survived by two

sons, Jerry Hicks (Jerry Neff) of Flemingsburg, Kentucky, J.D. (Leanne) Hicks of Ironton, Ohio; one daughter, Tania Lambert (Pat Ferry) of Upper Tygart, Kentucky; three grandchildren, Jessie Lambert, Chloe Lambert, Zaylin Willis (Meghan); one great-grandson, Fischer Willis; one brother, Gary (Debbie) Hicks of Olive Hill, Kentucky; one sister, Rita (Joey) Bond of Olive Hill, Kentucky, along with many other family and friends who will sadly miss him.

Funeral services were held 2 p.m., Sunday, October 27, 2024, at Globe Funeral Chapel, 17277 West US Hwy 60, Olive Hill, Kentucky, with Brother Jared Salyers and Brother David Rayburn officiating. Burial followed in Garvin Ridge Cemetery.

Friends visited from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m., Saturday, October 26, 2024, and after 1 p.m., Sunday, October 27, 2024, until the service hour at Globe Funeral Chapel.

C.E. Bond, B. J. Bond, Jared Salyers, Tyler Salyers, Logan Brummage and Jacob Shafer served as pallbearers.

In lieu of flowers, make all contributions to Community Hospice Care Center in Ashland, Kentucky.

Globe Funeral Chapel in Olive Hill, Kentucky is honored to serve the family of Dale Lee "Hollywood" Hicks.

## Mary Ann Vance Kennedy 1952 – 2024



Mary Ann Vance Kennedy, age 72, of Grayson, Kentucky, passed away October 18, 2024.

Mary was born May 23, 1952 to the late Curtis Vance St. And Ada Lee Midkiff Vance in Logan County, West Virginia.

She spent the last 10 years taking care of her loving husband and spending time with her grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband of 28 years, Mark G. Kennedy and one brother, Everett

Vance.

Mary is survived by her children, Jamie (Tiffany) Miller of Newburgh, Indiana, Crystal (Shawn) Sapp of Rogersville, Tennessee, Marcada (Kody) Bond of Greenup, Kentucky; one stepson, Mark Anthony Kennedy of Webbville, Kentucky; eight grandchildren, Ella, Remy, Kaenon, Grayson, Harper, Tyler, Chase and Haily; 3 great-grandchildren, Liam, Dawson, and Brooklyn; three brothers, John (Lill) Vance of Mt. Gay, West Virginia, Curtiss (Patty) Vance Jr. Of Logan County, West Virginia, Micheal Vance of Mt. Gay, West Virginia, and a host of family and friends who all mourn her passing.

A private family service will be held at later date.

Grayson Funeral Home and Cremation Services is honored to serve the family of Mary Ann Vance Kennedy.

## Donald Ray Stamper 1957 – 2024



Donald Ray Stamper, age 67, of Olive Hill, Kentucky, passed away Monday, October 21, 2024, at UK-St. Claire Hospital in Morehead, Kentucky.

He was born Monday, May 27, 1957, in Carter County, Kentucky, to the late Roy Estill and Ina Clo Cline Stamper.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his wife of 35 years, Tracey Lynn Byrd Stamper; one son, Jesse Ray Stamper and one brother and sister-in-law, Billy Ray and Kay Stamper.

He enjoyed watching tv, sitting on porch with his neighbor, being outdoors, taking care of his clients and spending time with his niece and nephew.

Donald is survived by one special nephew, Brian; one special niece, Angela; 3 special great-nephews, Eli, Tucker and Turner, along with many other family and friends who will sadly miss him.

Funeral services were held 11 a.m., Saturday, October 26, 2024, at Globe Funeral Chapel, 17277 West US Hwy 60, Olive Hill, Kentucky, with Brother Kenny Binion officiating. Burial followed in Loomis/Boggs Cemetery.

Friends visited after 10 a.m., Saturday, October 27, 2024, until the service hour at Globe Funeral Chapel.

Family and friends served as pallbearers.

Globe Funeral Chapel in Olive Hill, Kentucky is honored to serve the family of Donald Ray Stamper.

**Thanks for coming to visit me at the Fall, Y'all Festival.**

*Willie*  
**Willie Davis**

**Have big news to share?**

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**HIRING Contract Bookkeeper**

Carter County Tourism Commission  
Location: Carter County, Kentucky  
Job Type: Contract, Hourly (10-30 hours per month)  
Compensation: \$20.00 per hour

**Job Summary:**  
The Contract Bookkeeper for Carter County Tourism is responsible for managing the financial aspects of the organization, including budgeting, incoming receivables, expense documentation, and financial requests related to local events and grants. This role requires precise bookkeeping, timely financial reporting, and collaboration with the commission on grant management.

**Key Responsibilities:**

- Receivables and Payables Management:
  - Track incoming funds from tourism activities and grants.
  - Process payments related to tax collection from lodging and camping.
  - Regularly reconcile bank accounts and financial records.
- Budgeting and Financial Reporting:
  - Assist in the development and maintenance of the annual budget for Carter County Tourism.
  - Prepare regular financial reports for the commission and fiscal court.
  - Monitor budget performance and analyze variances.
- Event and Grant Management:
  - Support financial aspects of ongoing sponsorships for local events.
  - Manage the financial components of one-time grants awarded to events or initiatives.
- Ensure compliance with grant requirements, including documentation and reporting.
- Record Keeping and Compliance:
  - Maintain accurate financial records for all transactions.
  - Ensure compliance with applicable laws and regulations in all financial operations.
  - Collaborate with external auditors or accountants as needed for the annual audit.
  - Submit required reports to the Kentucky Department of Local Government.
- Ongoing Support:
  - Assist with additional financial tasks as assigned by the commission.

**Qualifications:**

- Proven experience in bookkeeping or financial management.
- Familiarity with budgeting, accounts receivable, and accounts payable.
- Knowledge of grant management and sponsorship accounting is advantageous.
- Proficiency in accounting software (e.g., QuickBooks, Excel).
- Strong organizational and time management skills.
- Ability to work independently and meet deadlines.

**Preferred Certification:**

- Certified Public Accountant (CPA) is a plus.

The Carter County Tourism Commission is an equal opportunity employer. We encourage applications from all qualified individuals.

**Application Timeline:**  
Please submit cover letter and resume to the Carter County Tourism Commission for consideration by November 1, 2024.

Carter County Tourism Commission  
c/o Office of the Judge Executive  
300 W Main Street  
Grayson, KY 41143  
[cjjudgeexecutive@gmail.com](mailto:cjjudgeexecutive@gmail.com)

**Carter County Times**  
[www.cartercountytimes.com](http://www.cartercountytimes.com)

Published every Wednesday by the  
**EK Newsgroup, LLC**

Office of Publication:  
120 Comet Dr, Olive Hill, KY 41164  
News/Advertising: 606.225.1258;  
[editor@cartercountytimes.com](mailto:editor@cartercountytimes.com)

ISSN: 2692-420X | USPS Publication #23470  
POSTMASTER: Please send Change of Address Form 3579 to:  
Carter County Times,  
PO Box 803, Olive Hill, KY 41164  
Periodicals Postage Paid at: Post Office, Olive Hill, KY 41164

Single issue price: \$1.00 plus tax  
Annual in-county subscription price: \$26.00 plus tax  
Annual out-of-county subscription price: \$52.00 plus tax

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# OPINION

EDITORIALS | LETTERS | COLUMNS | COMMENTARY

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

## AS WE SEE IT

### Happy Halloween

When I was a kid growing up in the 1980s, one of the things we always looked forward to each fall was crossing the river to Portsmouth and visiting the Jaycee's Haunted House.

As a kid I didn't understand the role of the Jaycees or the Chamber of Commerce. I didn't appreciate that, by crossing that river, coming from out of state, visiting the attraction, and stopping to pick up footers and ice cream from the little dairy bar on Second Street, we were helping them achieve their mission of promoting local businesses. I might have vaguely known there was some kind of charitable fundraising involved with the haunted house itself – hosted inside an empty warehouse near the railroad tracks on Portsmouth's east end. But I didn't care about any of that.

What I cared about was being scared, but not looking like too much of a chicken in front of my older cousin and his much cooler friends.

What I cared about was having fun. And the Jaycees provided it.

Now, as far as I know, Portsmouth doesn't even have a Jaycees associated with their Chamber anymore. And unless they've brought it back recently (and I'm just out of the loop) they definitely don't host a haunted house.

But for those of us of a certain age, from those communities adjacent to the Ohio River, the group will forever be associated with the Halloween holiday.

Halloween is no less popular today than it was when I was a kid. Probably more so, to be honest.

Fans of the holiday, and spooky things in general, keep the Halloween spirit alive all year long.

Events like FearFest draw fans of the macabre from not just across the river, but from across the country and beyond to visit, eat, shop, and enjoy their stay in Kentucky.

It's something that Carter Caves used to do as well, with their Haunted Trail – an institution that will probably someday evoke the same nostalgia in certain segments of Gen Z that the Jaycees Haunted House does in my Gen X cohorts today.

The closure of the Haunted Trail, coinciding as it did with the covid-19 pandemic and tightening requirements on social distancing, was understandable. Combine the pandemic restrictions with the work that goes into organizing such an event, even in a good year, and keeping the whole thing fresh and compelling season after season, and I could see how it might even have been a relief to organizers to finally let it go and take a break.

But the community lost more than just a fun activity with the suspension of the haunted attraction

Carter Caves lost an important opportunity to market the park, bringing folks out for the fun and frights, for sure. But then bringing them back again to enjoy the fall foliage during the day time. Or the wildflowers and greenery come the following spring.

The community also lost a great source of fundraising and food donations to combat childhood hunger.

Then there are the restaurants and gas stations and convenience stores across the county who lost resources from visitors who used to stop and purchase fuel or food or caffeinated beverages for the drive back home.

I'm not sure of the exact numbers (though I am sure that Carter County Tourism has the figures available somewhere), but if I recollect properly the number of visitors the Haunted Trail drew from communities outside Carter County wasn't insignificant.

By every possible measure, the Haunted Trail was a positive event for the county's people and its business community – the kind of thing people looked forward to all year long.

If it truly is gone, never to return to Carter Caves, we understand. It's a lot of work, and a lot to ask anyone to take on.

But we also can't help but cross our fingers and hope that, if Carter Caves is out of the haunted attraction business, perhaps some other organization can step into the void, organize an amazing fundraiser, and bring visitors back to Carter County; to build the kind of Fall holiday memories that will last today's children for a lifetime too.

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**"We see Climate Change making wildfires and storms more dangerous... So what do we pretend to do about it?..."**

## Why are Trump's dedicated voters ignoring Kentucky's historic values?

Election day is next Tuesday and it's time to ask and answer some tough questions about why so many Kentuckians are hardcore supporters of former president Donald Trump.

For example, Kentucky has long been considered a pro-military state with two large military installations – Fort Knox and Fort Campbell – and a proud tradition of voluntary service in uniform.

Yet, Donald Trump says our soldiers, airmen and sailors are "suckers and losers" and that applies especially to those who have been held by our enemies as prisoners of war, including the late U.S. Sen. John McCain.

That's something to think about for families who visit the graves of loved ones killed on active duty in the service of our nation or those like my brother-in-law whose life was shortened because of wartime injuries.

If you respect and appreciate law enforcement officers and other first responders, how could you give your vote to a man who defends his thousands of supporters who overpowered Capitol police on Jan. 6, 2021, injuring 140 of the officers?

Don't be surprised if the Ku Klux Klan makes a comeback under a new Trump Administration because of his white supremacist statements and his hate campaign against immigrants, legal and otherwise.

I don't know about you, but my ancestors came to this country long ago as immigrants from England and Germany. For someone who lived in New York City for so many years, the MAGA candidate apparently never read that inscription on the Statue of Liberty, especially this part:

*"Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free."*

As a proud Kentuckian who wants to believe that most folks are basically honest and truthful, how could I vote for someone who continues to lie about the results of the 2020 election? At least 54 legal challenges were made over alleged irregularities, yet all were dismissed, some by Trump-appointed judges.

But, as a student of history, the scariest thing about Donald Trump for me is how much he and his loyalists sound and act like the thugs who took over Germany in the 1930's and tried to conquer the world. They accused political opponents of being "the enemy within" and used the military against their citizens.

I want my grandchildren to grow up in this free country, not in a dictatorship.



**Keith Kappes**  
Columnist  
Carter County Times

Keith Kappes can be reached at [keithkappes@gmail.com](mailto:keithkappes@gmail.com)

## Inside and outside

I have been going to different pop culture conventions for over a decade, and I have never been disappointed. This is honestly surprising to me because I never even went to many concerts growing up. Maybe the appeal is because you can see celebrities from your favorite movies and television shows, or maybe it's because there are so many vendors selling both the new and latest things while also offering 'throwbacks' to a different time in your life. Or maybe it's the people who, just like you, are trying to have a good time.

Then again, maybe it's all of those things. And more. Yeah, that's it. There are too many moving parts to those things to pick out any one aspect as the defining 'what I like' about pop culture conventions after all. And I have been incredibly fortunate to have seen, at least to a degree, most of those parts.

When I first started going to these conventions it was simply so my daughter could get a picture with Matt Smith from the BBC Television series Doctor Who. But from the beginning I enjoyed the ambience of it all, or the 'vibe' so to speak. It was a complete and pleasant shock to me, for instance, to see thousands of people shoved into a limited space with everyone wanting something and no one being rude.

I actually had a Dalek (one of the metallic shelled bad guys from Doctor Who) roll up behind me and in a robotic voice apologize for bumping into me. If

you've ever seen the show, you can appreciate the irony – Daleks are short on manners and long on 'exterminating.' Of course, this particular Dalek had been constructed by a very creative and talented fan of the show because he really wanted to take part in all of the wonderful chaos these things generate. And he wasn't the only one.

Conventions are definitely a place where people can go 'all in.' And it doesn't matter what type of convention it is. People dress up as movie and television characters, dress their kids up, and even family pets. I once saw a family of 'Deadpools' (from Marvel Comics and the movies) with momma and papa Deadpool pushing a baby Deadpool in a stroller, all with a chihuahua Deadpool in tow. And from all indications – including people stopping them to take pictures – everyone was having a good time. Which is what it's all about after all.

Like I said, I have been doing this for a long time from all different angles. I have been an attendee, just buying my ticket like everyone else and enjoying it from the floor. I have been media, interviewing celebrities and attendees alike. I even went to a couple and set up a booth as a vendor. And there have been several times that I have spoken in the seminars conventions are known for. But this year I truly went behind the scenes, in the belly of the beast, so to speak.

This year I volunteered at ScareFest in Lexington.

See *INSIDE* on A-6



**Charles Romans**  
Reporter  
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](mailto:editor@cartercountytimes.com).

### Deadlines

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

**Update** from A-4

Kentucky for future generations. Wishing everyone a Happy and Safe

Halloween! If I can assist you, feel free to email me at Robin.Webb@kylegislatre.

gov or call the General Assembly Message Line at 1-800-372-7181. Kentuckians with hearing

loss can use Kentucky Relay by dialing 711.

**Election** from A-3

**Poll closing time**

6 p.m. and 7 p.m. ET. Kentucky covers two time zones, so half the state will start reporting results while voters in western counties are casting ballots until 6 p.m. CT (7 p.m. ET).

**Presidential electoral votes**

8 awarded to statewide winner.

**Key races and candidates**

President: Harris (D) vs. Trump (R) vs. Shiva Ayyadurai (Independent) vs. Robert Kennedy Jr.

(Independent) vs. Chase Oliver (Libertarian) vs. Jill Stein (Green).

Ballot measures: Amendment 1 (require citizenship to vote) and Amendment 2 (allow state funding for non-public education).

**Other races of interest**

U.S. House, state Senate, state House and state Supreme Court.

Past presidential results 2020: Trump (R) 62%, Biden (D) 36%, AP race call: Tuesday, Nov. 3, 2020, 7 p.m. ET.

**Voter registration and turnout**

Registered voters: 3,548,136 (as of Oct. 11, 2024). About 43% Democrats, 47% Republicans and 5% other.

Voter turnout in 2020 presidential election: 60% of registered voters.

**Pre-Election Day voting**

Votes cast before Election Day 2020: about 77% of the total vote.

Votes cast before Election Day 2022: about 23% of the total vote.

Votes cast before

Election Day 2024: See AP Advance Vote tracker.

**How long does vote-counting take?**

First votes reported, Nov. 3, 2020: 6:16 p.m. ET.

By midnight ET: about 98% of total votes cast were reported.

*Associated Press writers Rebecca Reynolds and Maya Sweedler contributed to this report.*

**Inside** from A-5

The ScareFest Weekend is one of the largest Horror Conventions in the United States. It celebrates everything in the horror genre of entertainment from movies and television to video games and other media. They do a great job bringing in celebrities and celebrity reunions, where they will bring in most if not all of the main cast of those shows and offer Q&A panels and photo ops, so fans get to meet their favorite celebrities. They also bring in popular paranormal celebrities from television and other media.

And I got to be a (mostly invisible) part of all that.

It was exhausting, exasperating, and incredibly fun. There was a lot of checking the big screen televisions set up all over

Central Bank Center that ran a looped feed of panel and photo times to make sure they were working. The escalator became my constant companion as I went up and down the different levels to check other audio and video equipment. And I never would have thought in a million years when I first saw the movies that I would be escorting the monsters from the Hellraiser movie franchise up and down that same escalator. Ironically, we passed someone dressed as Pin Head going up the escalator as we were going down. Really, you can't make this up.

It was a lot of work, because it takes a lot of work behind the scenes to make sure that attendees never see how much work it takes, so they can just fo-

cus on having a great time. But it was also a lot of fun because seeing how the trick is done doesn't really spoil the trick. Honestly, it just makes the trick more impressive if for no other reason than you see just how much can go wrong and doesn't. Or gets fixed before most people even notice. I definitely recommend the experience.

But you know, I guess I am as big a fan as anyone else. This year when my wife and I found out that David Naughton (the lead from American Werewolf in London) was going to be at ScareFest, I thought it would be a great idea to dress up as a werewolf and give him a Dr. Pepper. In case you don't remember or didn't know, Naughton was also the guy singing 'I'm a Pepper' in one of

the first Dr. Pepper commercials. (Don't ask why I already owned a werewolf costume.)

Well, it worked out great. Naughton was a good sport about it and even took pictures with me. I got his autograph, and we talked a lot about werewolves and soft drinks. I also got to discuss why the original Fright Night movie was terrifying with the director and some of the cast and got to hear the experiences of multiple people who have played Leatherface in the Texas Chainsaw Massacre. Good times; and surprisingly not terrifying at all.

*Charles Romans can be reached at charles@cartercountytimes.com*

# The hidden health risks of the digital age

Social media platforms have become an integral part of our daily routines in today's digital age, especially for our youth.



**Patrick Flannery**  
Representative  
State of Kentucky

While social media platforms can foster connections, creativity, and offer a space for everyone to have a voice, they also pose very real and significant dangers to our children. Since October is recognized as Cybersecurity Awareness Month in Kentucky, it's the perfect opportunity to discuss the risks social media poses to our children, health, and education.

Young individual's mental health is severely affected by social media, as several studies have shown. Children who spend a significant amount of time online are more likely to suffer from depression, anxiety, and low self-esteem. Spending excessive time on social media platforms has also been linked to diminishing attention spans, poor academic performance, worsening mental and physical health, and psychological issues. In short, we become dumber, more impatient,

and sicker.

However, its not their fault. Social media platforms have mastered the art of curating intentionally addictive algorithms that are designed to elicit this exact behavior. In order to maximize profit through user engagement, social media companies employ the world's greatest developers who design these platforms in a way that makes it psychologically difficult to log off, and nearly impossible to stay gone for long. Young children have a limited capacity for self-control, making the ability to resist social media an unfair fight. There is no natural stopping point, break, or 'end' to a social media feed, creating an endless cycle of content. Users are constantly fed personalized media and advertisements that are tailored to their every interest, creating a feedback loop that reinforces their engagement.

Recognizing the compounding negative effects that social media has on children, Kentucky Attorney General Russell

Coleman filed a 125-page lawsuit against TikTok earlier this month. In the lawsuit, Coleman claims that, "TikTok intentionally manipulates the release of dopamine in Young User's brains and causes them to use TikTok in an excessive, compulsive, and addictive manner that harms them both physically and mentally." Kentucky has now joined over a dozen states who have also filed lawsuits against the company, citing similar claims. With social media's pervasive influence, the fight to protect our children from its dangerous effects is a nationwide battle. The well-being of our youth must come before corporate profits, and Kentucky is sending this message loud and clear.

The impact of social media use on children's physical health could not be clearer. Excessive time online leads to a sedentary lifestyle that contributes to obesity, poor posture, and a decline in overall physical fitness. Kentucky is grappling with above average childhood obesity rates among other health issues tied to the overconsumption of digital media.

The mental health im-

plications of social media on children are equally concerning. Social media platforms host users from different walks of life, all over the globe. There is no limit to the kinds of content, lifestyles, or behaviors that children may be exposed to while online before it is age appropriate. To an impressionable child, social media can fuel low self-esteem, anxiety, and depression. As the mental health crisis among young people across the nation worsens, experts are increasingly pointing to social media as the main contributing factor.

During the 2024 Legislative Session, the General Assembly passed House Bill 278 in response to the growing threats that our children face every day. HB 278 addresses growing concerns surrounding social media's impact on children by mandating that social media platforms implement stricter age verification processes. The bill also establishes an avenue for entities to be held civilly liable for promoting harmful or inappropriate content without age verification. House Bill 278 is a proactive approach to safeguarding children from

# CLASSIFIEDS

**PUBLIC NOTICES**

**PUBLIC AUCTION NOTICE**

The Commercial Bank of Grayson will offer at Public Sale the following vehicles to satisfy the indebtedness due under the terms of a security agreement.

**1985 GMC Brigadier, Dump Truck, White, Mileage 400,000, (Motor blown up) VIN#1GDM9C10FV500197**

**2013 Dodge Charger, White, 4 door, Mileage 158,507, VIN#2C-3CDXBG2DH610296**

**2012 Ford Fusion, Blue, 4 door, Mileage 93,316, (Rebuilt Title) VIN#3FAHP0HA2CR135809**

**2005 Nissan Titan, White, 4 door, Mileage 190,778 VIN#1N6AA07B25N500080**

**2009, Chevy Silverado, Black, 4 door, Mileage 247,921 (Motor blown up) VIN#3GCEK-23M19G145728**

Public Auction will be held on **Friday, November 8, 2024, at 3:00 PM** at **COMMERCIAL BANK, OLIVE HILL BRANCH, 155 TOM T. HALL BLVD., OLIVE HILL, KY.**

Seller reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

Announcements made the day of the sale will take precedence over any printed material.

Terms will be cash.

For more information, please contact Tina Knipp at (606) 475-4150

**LEGAL NOTICE**

Carter Co. Case No. 24-CI-00449  
A complaint has been filed in the Circuit Court of Carter County, Kentucky, by First National Bank of Grayson against Nathaniel Dixon and Julia Holbrook (his spouse), Lori P'Simer and Scotty P'Simer (her spouse), Sunshine Lands and Adam Lands (her spouse), the Unknown Heirs of Joyce A. Dixon, the Unknown Spouses of Unknown Heirs of Joyce A. Dixon, and Carter County Kentucky.

I, Patrick D. Trent, represent no one in this action. Rather, I have been appointed by the Court as "Warning Order Attorney" for the Unknown Heirs of Joyce A. Dixon and the Unknown Spouses of Unknown Heirs of Joyce A. Dixon, to publish this message to inform the above-named Defendant(s) of the pendency of this case. I further advise that: (a) you may acquire additional information about this matter by consulting with the Carter County Circuit Court Clerk about this case, and; (b) that if you are an interested party and take no action within fifty (50) days from October 15th, 2024, a judgment may be entered against you.

All interested parties are welcome to contact my office at (606) 738-6437 with any additional questions. Thank you.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

Pursuant to KRS 117.383(8), to validate the accuracy and fidelity of the vote tabulation, the Carter County Board of Elections will conduct a hand-to-eye audit of the votes cast in one randomly selected race from ballots tabulated by one randomly selected scanner on November 7th, 2024.

The Secretary of State will randomly select the race and scanner to be the subject of the audit on November 6 and notify the county that same day.

This audit will take place at 9am in the Fiscal Court room of 300 W Main Street Rm Grayson, KY 41143.

The public may observe the audit.

**JOBS**

**KEDC is hiring** a part-time Adult Education instructor for Carter and Elliott County. Bachelor's degree and strong math teaching skills required; prior teaching experience preferred. Pay commensurate with education and experience. Send resume to jobs@kedc.org

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

Looking to buy, sell or trade?  
Having a yard sale?  
Looking to hire or find work?  
**Post it in the CLASSIFIEDS!**  
Contact advertise@cartercountytimes.com

the dangers of free-reign internet access, and creates a balance of the benefits of social media with the need to safeguard our youth.

The negative impacts of social media also extend into children's education. The prevalence of short form content and the culture of instant gratification have contributed to reduced attention spans, making it difficult for kids to concentrate in class. Adding to this struggle are constant push notifications from social media platforms, urging kids to log back on, further disrupting their ability to concentrate on what's going on in the classroom. This makes it increasingly difficult for students to engage in their education.

Knowing all that we do about the negative side effects of social media, it is important for parents to have a conversation with their children about its impacts. Reducing screen time, setting boundaries for social media use, and encouraging hobbies outside of the digital world can help mitigate its negative effects on children's men-

tal and physical wellbeing as well as their academic performance. Further, by delaying unmonitored social media access until children are of an appropriate age, kids can develop a balanced and healthy relationship with social media early on that will benefit them long-term.

While the advancements of the digital age are remarkable, they come with serious responsibilities. It is our job to protect children from the negative effects of social media, but it is not an easy one. This is a collective effort that requires strong legislation, parental accountability, and widespread awareness. As we continue to revel in the latest technological advancements, we must keep the well-being of the next generation in mind.

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

# People opt out of organ donation programs after reports of a man mistakenly declared dead

By Lauran Neergaard  
AP Medical Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Transplant experts are seeing a spike in people revoking organ donor registrations, their confidence shaken by reports that organs were nearly retrieved from a Kentucky man mistakenly declared dead.

It happened in 2021 and while details are murky surgery was avoided and the man is still alive. But donor registries in the U.S. and even across the

Atlantic are being impacted after the case was publicized recently. A drop in donations could cost the lives of people awaiting a transplant.

"Organ donation is based on public trust," said Dorrie Dils, president of the Association of Organ Procurement Organizations, or OPOs. When eroded, "it takes years to regain."

Only doctors caring for patients can determine if they're dead -- the law blocks anyone involved with organ donation or

transplant. The allegations raise questions about how doctors make that determination and what's supposed to happen if anyone sees a reason for doubt.

Key is ensuring "all doctors are doing the right tests and doing them well," said Dr. Daniel Sulmasy, a Georgetown University bioethicist.

**An alleged near miss**

The 2021 case first came to light in a congressional hearing last month, with unconfirmed details in later media reports -- allegations that a man who'd

been declared dead days earlier woke up on the way to the operating room for organ-donation surgery and that there was initial reluctance to realize it.

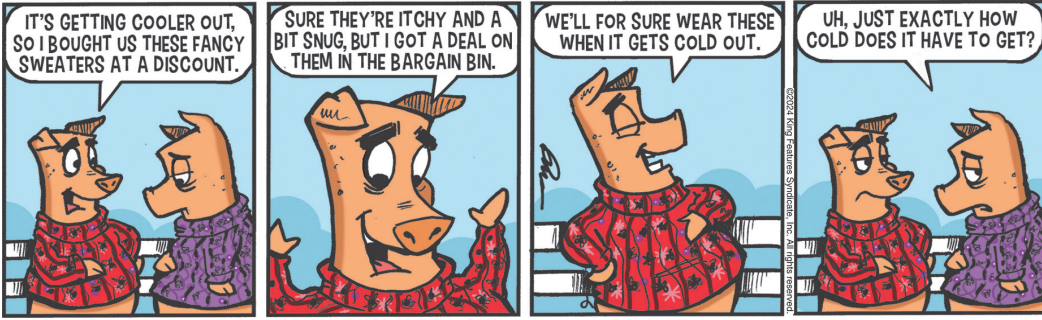
The federal agency that regulates the U.S. transplant system is investigating, and the Kentucky attorney general's office said it is "reviewing the facts to identify an appropriate response." A coalition of OPOs and other donation groups is urging that findings be made public quickly and the public

*See DONATION on A-8*

**Friday, November 1**  
**West Carter vs Paintsville**  
The Guns, Gold & Cash Pregame show begins at 7:04 PM on 99.7 WUGO, wgohwugo.com, the Go Radio Grayson app and audio on TV Channel 14 on the Grayson cable system.

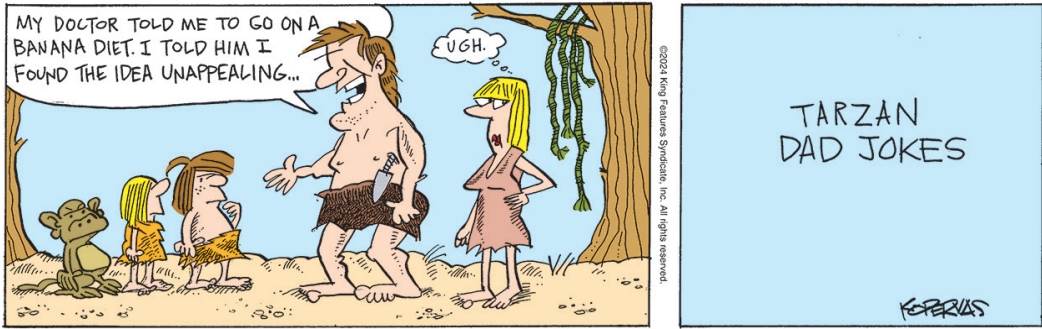
# Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



## Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



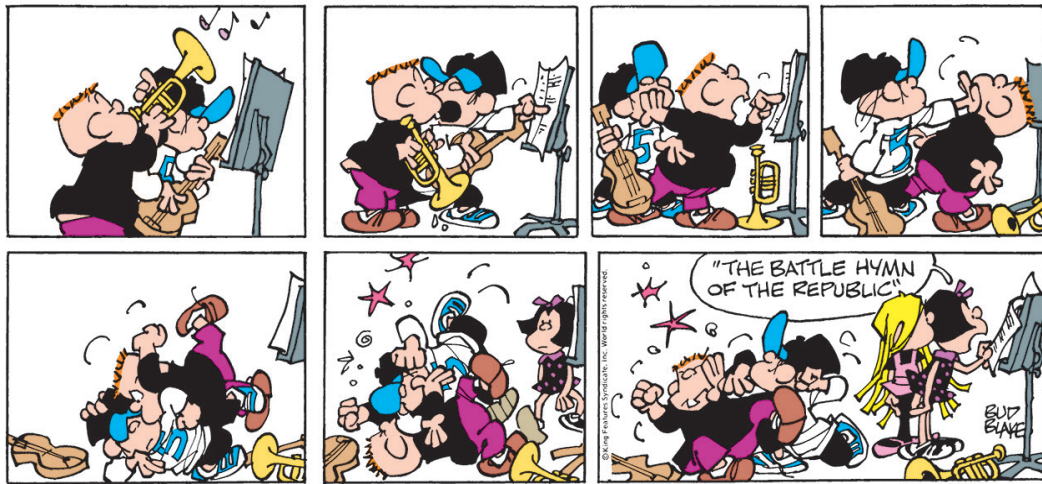
## The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



## TIGER

by BUD BLAKE



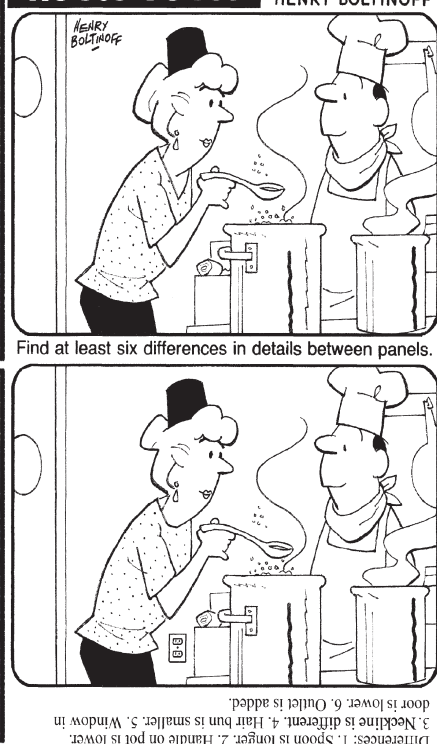
## OLIVE

By Emi Burdage



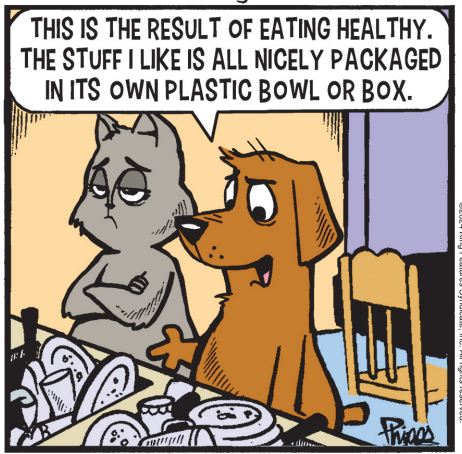
## HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTIHOFF



## Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



### CryptoQuip

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

Clue: X equals M

D MRHGLRM DM VBO VHCSZAJGY  
 VRZC XBSZYZDCZ PZTBXZ  
 OZTAZMBAU HJ OMBMZ. ORZ'O  
 BYPADLRM VDMR XZ!

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# King Crossword

**ACROSS**

1 Fringe benefit  
 5 "Humbug!"  
 8 Rocky out-crop  
 12 Jai —  
 13 Swelled head  
 14 Valentine border  
 15 Cooking area  
 17 Gray's subj.  
 18 Wedding setting  
 19 Riyadh residents  
 21 Pride parade letters  
 24 GI entertainers  
 25 Ganges wrap  
 28 Incursion  
 30 "Tasty!"  
 33 Actress Thurman  
 34 Orchestral strings  
 35 Director Ang  
 36 Prohibit  
 37 Gas co., for one  
 38 Printer's blue  
 39 Corn core  
 41 Cruising  
 43 Drag  
 46 New York's — Island  
 50 Pundit's piece  
 51 Causing annoyance

**DOWN**

1 Brazilian rubber  
 2 Mideast airline  
 3 Harangue  
 4 Capital of Rwanda  
 5 Wager  
 6 Past  
 7 Beer ingredient  
 8 Santa —  
 9 Not by design  
 10 "Superfood" berry  
 11 Understands  
 16 Work unit  
 20 German car name  
 22 Author Harte  
 23 Shire of "Rocky"  
 25 Long lunch?  
 26 Docs' org.  
 27 Cattle farm workers  
 29 Misfortunes  
 31 — culpa  
 32 Gents

54 Stallion's mate  
 55 Flightless bird  
 56 Revise  
 57 Org.  
 58 Trench  
 59 Pixels

8 Santa —  
 9 Not by design  
 10 "Superfood" berry  
 11 Understands  
 16 Work unit  
 20 German car name  
 22 Author Harte  
 23 Shire of "Rocky"  
 25 Long lunch?  
 26 Docs' org.  
 27 Cattle farm workers  
 29 Misfortunes  
 31 — culpa  
 32 Gents

34 Rubik's brain-teaser  
 38 Phoned  
 40 From days of yore  
 42 "A mouse!"  
 43 "Brave New World" drug  
 44 IRS employees  
 45 Get ready, briefly  
 47 Chic beach resort  
 48 Monogram pt.  
 49 Pvt.'s superiors  
 52 Parisian pal  
 53 Fanatic

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## Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

3			2					5
	9			1				7
		1			7	6		
		4			5	8		
	2			8	3			4
7			9				1	
9					1		3	
		8		7				1
6		4				9		

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

**DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK:** ♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging  
 ♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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## Trivia test

by Fifi Rodriguez

- MOVIES: Who was the only actor to receive an Oscar nomination for work in a "Star Wars" movie?
- GEOGRAPHY: What is a body of land with water on three sides called?
- U.S. PRESIDENTS: In 1960, which two candidates participated in the first televised presidential debate in 1960?
- FOOD & DRINK: What type of flower produces vanilla bean pods?
- MUSIC: What was the name of blues musician Stevie Ray Vaughn's first Fender Stratocaster?
- SCIENCE: What type of gas is absorbed by plants?
- LITERATURE: What is the name of the submarine in "Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Seas"?
- TELEVISION: What is Clair Huxtable's profession in "The Cosby Show"?
- ANATOMY: What is a more common name for the sternum?
- ART: Which European city houses the Rijksmuseum?

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- Answers**
1. Alec Guinness
  2. A peninsula
  3. John F. Kennedy and Richard Nixon
  4. Orchid
  5. Number One
  6. Carbon dioxide
  7. Nautlius
  8. Lawyer
  9. Breastbone
  10. Amsterdam

## WORD LADDERS

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

BLANK

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

BRIDE

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**SCRAMBLERS**

1. Tremor; 2. Plush; 3. Titles; 4. Lame

**SOLUTION**

Today's Word  
**SMILE**

Answer  
 WORD LADDER  
 BLANK, BLINK, BRINK  
 BRING, BRINE, BRIDE

**King Crossword**

Solution time: 24 mins.

**Answers**

PERK BAH CRA G  
 ALTA R EGO LACE  
 RAN G E T O P AN AT  
 AL T A R S A U D I S  
 S A R I R A I D M M  
 S C H L E P E L L I L E E  
 B A N U T I L C Y A N  
 C O B A S E A  
 S C H L E P E L L I S  
 P E D R A N K L I N G  
 M A R E E M U E D I T  
 A S S N S P I T

**Weekly SUDOKU**

Answer

3	4	7	2	6	8	1	5	9
2	9	6	5	1	4	3	8	7
8	5	1	3	9	7	6	4	2
6	1	4	7	2	5	8	9	3
7	2	9	1	4	8	3	7	6
5	8	3	9	4	6	2	1	5
9	7	8	5	1	4	3	6	2
4	3	8	6	7	9	5	2	1
1	6	5	4	3	2	2	9	7

**SCRAMBLERS**

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

Shake **MORTER** \_\_\_\_\_

Lavish **SHLUP** \_\_\_\_\_

Labels **LETTIS** \_\_\_\_\_

Injured **MEAL** \_\_\_\_\_

**TODAY'S WORD**

"I \_\_\_\_\_ every once in a while just to throw them off guard."

## Even Exchange

by Donna Pettman

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

- Enthusiasm \_\_\_ D \_\_\_ Day for tree planting \_\_\_ B \_\_\_
- Complete travesty \_\_\_ A \_\_\_ Air \_\_\_ One \_\_\_ O \_\_\_
- Where walls meet \_\_\_ R \_\_\_ Trumpet kin \_\_\_ T \_\_\_
- Beauty's suitor \_\_\_ E \_\_\_ TNT explosion \_\_\_ L \_\_\_
- Billfold W \_\_\_ Pavlova's dance B \_\_\_
- Mommy's partner \_\_\_ D \_\_\_ Groovy \_\_\_ N \_\_\_
- More solidified \_\_\_ I \_\_\_ Agriculturalist \_\_\_ A \_\_\_
- Maritime \_\_\_ A \_\_\_ Belly-button \_\_\_ E \_\_\_
- Ship's load C \_\_\_ No. Dakota's largest F \_\_\_
- Rainforest \_\_\_ N \_\_\_ Multi task \_\_\_ G \_\_\_

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## GO FIGURE!

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

**DIFFICULTY: ★★**

★ Moderate ★★ Difficult  
 ★★★ GO FIGURE!

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**Even Exchange**

ANSWERS

1. Ador. Arbor
2. Force. Force
3. Corner. Cornet
4. Navel. Navel
5. Beast. Blast
6. Daddy. Dandy
7. Force. Force
8. Navel. Navel
9. Cargo. Fargo
10. Jungle. Juggle

**Go Figure!**

ANSWERS

5 - 4 + 6 = 7  
 7 + 8 ÷ 3 = 5  
 + + + + +  
 1 + 2 × 9 = 27  
 12 = 6

## Tolliver from A-1

for, but a new case.

Foreman testified that he felt Tolliver's initial invocation was a reflexive action because he, "knew he (Tolliver) was familiar with the criminal justice system." He said he also felt Tolliver might be invoking an attorney he had retained or been assigned to in that case, rather than any attorney that might be retained or assigned for the new case.

Foreman also said that Tolliver acknowledged and waived his Miranda Rights — a statement which drew visible protestation, in the form of an aggressive head shake of "no" from Tolliver.

When questioned by Miller, Foreman didn't deny that one of the first things Tolliver did was ask for an attorney. However, he said that the tape needed to be listened to in its entirety and in context to recognize that Tolliver was given further opportunities to invoke his rights before discussing the new allegations against him. This was a point Judge Rebecca Phillips seemed to agree with, indicating that she would need to listen to the full tape before rendering judgement on the sup-

pression of the interview. Commonwealth attorney Brandon Ison made a motion, enjoined by Miller, to introduce the entire recording into evidence.

Foreman also acknowledged that at one point in the interview he told Tolliver that the evidence they had against him was, "so overwhelming, it won't matter if you decide to speak to us or not." But he said he didn't think he asked Tolliver any questions relating to the allegations until after reading him his rights, "because I wanted this to be totally legal," noting that his intent was not "to be coercive" but to inform Tolliver of the charges against him.

Those charges — which include 16 counts of use of a minor under 16 in a sexual performance, 16 counts of possessing or viewing matter portraying a sexual performance by a minor, 13 counts of first degree sexual abuse of a victim under 12 years of age, and one count of first degree sexual abuse — were based on evidence found on a cell phone belonging to Tolliver.

Miller next questioned Sgt. Lawson regarding evidence from the search

of the phone, which he was also seeking to suppress. Miller asked Lawson if he had looked at any of the photos or video evidence on the phone prior to obtaining a search warrant, and the former detective testified that he had not. As Lawson explained it, at some point after Tolliver was jailed on assault charges two other uniformed KSP officers were called to a residence where Tolliver's then girlfriend lived. She showed at least one of the reporting officers some of the disturbing images she'd found on Tolliver's phone before surrendering it to the officers. Lawson said they placed the phone in evidence, filed the required reports, and that he did not view it until after they had obtained a search warrant.

Those two officers, Hartsell and Sparks, had not been subpoenaed for the suppression hearing and so were not able to testify directly, and Lawson said he was not aware if they had viewed the images beyond what Tolliver's girlfriend showed Officer Sparks before he asked if she would be willing to surrender the phone. Lawson's testimony indicated

that the phone did contain images of children being exploited. Miller also asked if Lawson believed those were actual images of exploitation, and not "dramatic" or staged images, and Lawson said the photos appeared to depict actual acts.

Miller had also subpoenaed the mother of one of the victims in this case, but failed to call her to testify after hearing Lawson's testimony about custody of the phone. This action drew a brief admonition from Judge Phillips, who warned Miller that excluding the mother from the proceedings, on grounds that she might testify as a witness, and then failing to call her put the court at risk of violating the victim's rights under Marsy's Law. Kentucky's victims' rights legislation guarantees victims certain constitutional rights, including timely notice of any proceedings, and the opportunity to be present at and heard in all such proceedings, amongst other rights.

The judge didn't make any rulings on the requests for suppression at the time of the hearing.

In other action in Phillips' courtroom on Friday,

Kimberly Blevins was sentenced on charges of third degree sodomy and first degree sexual abuse. Blevins had previously entered an Alford plea of guilty to a single count of each charge, with the Commonwealth dismissing a second sodomy charge and three other counts of sexual abuse. She was sentenced to five years of conditional discharge, under the supervision of a probation officer, and ordered to undergo sex offender treatment. In addition, she will be required to have her name recorded on the sexual offender registry for the rest of her lifetime. She was ordered to surrender herself at the detention center by November 18, and advised not to try to remove her ankle monitor device herself, but to wait for law enforcement to do so. If she reoffends or violates any terms of her agreement within the five year period of her probation she will have to serve the full remainder of her sentence. She was also ordered to have no contact with the victim or his family.

"Remember," Phillips advised her before dismissing Blevins, "the registra-

tion obligation is forever."

Phillips also accepted a change of plea from Anthony Garvin, who was sentenced to a total of eight years on numerous trafficking charges. Garvin was sentenced to six months on a charge of trafficking in less than eight ounces of marijuana, and eight years each on three other cases of trafficking in heroin. The eight years sentenced in the other cases will all run concurrently, as will the six months, for a total sentence of eight years. Garvin must serve at least four years of his sentence before becoming eligible for parole.

James Wolfe also entered a change of plea on his trafficking and organized crime charges, with his charge of trafficking in methamphetamine reduced to possession — which carries a penalty of one to three years — and charges of engaging in an organized criminal syndicate dismissed. Wolfe will remain in custody until a bed is available in a treatment program.

Contact the writer at editor@cartercountytimes.com

## Donation from A-6

withhold judgment until then, saying any deviation from the industry's strict standards would be "entirely unacceptable."

### Opting out

Donate Life America found an average of 170 people a day removed themselves from the national donor registry in the week following media coverage of the allegations — 10 times more than the same week in 2023. That doesn't include emailed removal requests or state registries, another way people can volunteer to become a donor when they eventually die.

Dils' own organ agency, Gift of Life Michigan, usually gets five to 10 calls a week from people asking how to remove themselves from that state's list. In the last week, her staff handled 57 such calls, many mentioning the Kentucky case.

### Meanwhile in France

Unlike the voluntary

U.S. donation system, French law presumes all citizens and residents will be organ and tissue donors upon death unless they clearly opt out.

After the reports from Kentucky reached France, the number joining that nation's donation refusal registry jumped from about 100 people a day to 1,000 a day in the past week, according to the French Biomedicine Agency.

Dr. Régis Bronchard, an agency deputy director, said the spike "reflects anxiety, incomprehension among the general public" that could have "catastrophic consequences."

### What's supposed to happen before donation

Doctors can declare two types of death. What's called cardiac death occurs when the heart stops beating and breathing stops, and they can't be restored.

Brain death is declared when the entire brain per-

manently ceases functioning, usually after a major traumatic injury or stroke. Ventilators and other machines keep the heart beating during special testing to tell.

Only about 1% of deaths occur in a way that allows someone to become an organ donor — most people declared dead in a hospital will quickly be transferred to a funeral home or morgue.

But most organ donations are from brain-dead donors. Only after that declaration does the donor agency assume responsibility for the deceased, looking for potential recipients and scheduling retrieval surgery — while typically nurses at the hospital where the person died continue care to ensure equipment properly maintains their organs until they're collected.

What if something goes wrong?

The donor agency and transplant surgeons arriving to retrieve organs must check records of how death was determined. Anyone — donor hospital employees, donor agency staff or surgeons — who sees anything concerning is supposed to speak up immediately.

"This is extremely rare," Dr. Ginny Bumgardner, an Ohio State University transplant surgeon who also leads the American Society of Transplant Surgeons, said of the Kentucky case.

In operating rooms "the whole process stops" if someone sees a hint of trouble, and independent doctors are called to double-check the person really is dead, Bumgardner said. In her 30-year career, "I've never had a case where the original declaration was wrong."

Georgetown's Sulmasy agreed problems are infrequent. But he said there's wide variation in what tests different hospitals perform to determine if someone's brain-dead, whether they're

a potential organ donor or not. Doctors are debating whether to add additional test requirements.

Stricter criteria could "assure the public that we have done enormous due diligence before we determine that somebody's dead," he said. It could help "to get people to stop ripping up their organ donor cards."

— John Leicester, the AP's chief correspondent in Paris, contributed to this report.

## Funding dispute stalls Kentucky law meant to help adults caring for young relatives

By Bruce Schreiner  
Associated Press

FRANKFORT (AP) — Child welfare advocates cheered when lawmakers passed a bill last spring to support adults willing to step up to care for young relatives who endured suspected abuse or neglect.

Their joy has turned to frustration as the new law, which was supposed to take effect in July, became entangled in a funding dispute that has stalled its implementation. The underlying issue is whether the state can get the millions of dollars needed to carry out the law's intent.

Kentucky Auditor Allison Ball said Wednesday her office intends to answer that question.

"We're going to do everything that we can to figure out the facts that you need to know... so this can be implemented," Ball told a legislative panel.

An estimated 59,000 Kentucky children are in what's commonly called kinship care — when a child is living with relatives or close friends instead of their parents.

The measure is intended to fix what advocates say was a flaw in the support system. The new law gives relatives considerably

more time to apply to become foster parents for their young relatives, and thus eligible for payments to help support the children already in their care.

"The intent of this bill is to give a caregiver time to take care of the immediate needs of the child and then some time to research and learn about placement decisions," said Norma Hatfield, president of Kinship Families Coalition of Kentucky.

The state Cabinet for Health and Family Services praised the bill for seeking to help children in bad situations. But Democratic Gov. Andy Beshear's administration says it brought up its annual price tag — approximately \$20 million — well before the bipartisan measure won final passage in late March. Beshear signed the measure but warned that lawmakers still had not approved the necessary funding. The administration says it can't implement the law without that money.

"Lawmakers had the opportunity to deliver the funding during the session but chose not to," Beshear spokesperson Crystal Staley said in a statement. "It is simple: The state cannot implement programs and policies if we don't have

the funding needed to do so."

Republican state Sen. Julie Raque Adams, the measure's lead sponsor, has said she thought changes to the bill had resolved funding concerns. Now, as the dispute deepens, she and other lawmakers have urged the cabinet to pursue federal funding or tap into existing state sources.

Republican state Rep. Samara Heavrin lashed out at the Beshear administration for the delay in carrying out the law, calling it troubling and frustrating. She said she hopes the auditor's review resolves the delay.

The auditor told lawmakers that her office will look into whether state or federal dollars are available to put the new law into action. Ball, a Republican, said she wants to make it a collaborative process with the Democratic governor and the cabinet.

Democratic state Rep. Sarah Stalker raised the prospect of lawmakers reopening the current two-year state budget to provide the funding to implement the law.

"I am 100% in support of funding this," she said. "This is incredibly important."

★★★

# ELECTION DAY IS NOV. 5.

## BUT YOU CAN VOTE EARLY.

VOTE EARLY AND IN-PERSON

### OCT. 31 - NOV. 2

★★★ FIND OUT WHERE AND HOW AT

# GOVOTE.KY.GOV

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