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Carpenter receives 12 years

Pleads guilty to attempted murder of officers

By Jeremy D. Wells
Carter County Times

Christopher Carpenter entered a change of plea last Thursday (October 2), ending a case that started last June after the 35-year-old Olive Hill man turned himself in to an Olive Hill police officer following an incident involving Grayson police.

Carpenter pleaded guilty and was sentenced to a total of

12 years on charges including two counts of attempted murder of a police officer, two counts of wanton endangerment of a police officer, and single counts each of resisting arrest and first degree fleeing or evading police. A seventh charge, of theft of identity – a Class D felony – was bargained down to a misdemeanor charge of giving a police officer false identifying information.

After accepting the change of plea Circuit Court Judge Rebecca Phillips found Carpenter guilty and sentenced him to five years each on the two counts of wanton endangerment, six months on the charge of resisting arrest, another five years on the fleeing

See CARPENTER on A-3



Christopher Carpenter appears before Judge Rebecca Phillips last week. (Photo by Jeremy D. Wells, Carter County Times)

Raiders reign over the Wildcats

Yoak claims all-time rushing crown

By Brayleigh Boggs
Carter County Times

It was a night to remember at Wildcat Field as the East Carter Raiders rolled into Bath County and left no doubt who was in charge. The Raiders dominated from the opening whistle, delivering a powerful 41-6 victory over the Wildcats, and along the way, Landon Yoak (20) made history by becoming East Carter's all-time leading rusher.

Right from the opening

kickoff, East Carter showed why they've been such a force this season. Caleb Hall (21) caught the ball at the 24-yard line and set the Raiders up with excellent field position. Yoak wasted no time turning that opportunity into big yards, powering through the Wildcats' defense with the kind of physicality and vision that has made him a standout all year. Even when a fumble threatened to disrupt the momentum, the Raiders were quick to recover and keep the drive alive.

On a crucial third-and-eight, Yoak exploded through the line for a 23-yard run that electrified the crowd and set up East Carter deep in Bath County territory.

See RAIDERS on A-8



Landon Yoak (20) runs the ball. (Photo by Brayleigh Boggs, Carter County Times)

Planning against disaster

First responders from across county meet to discuss strategies

By Charles Romans
Carter County Times

Disasters strike, leaving devastation in their wake. First responders are dedicated to providing assistance to those reeling from all too unpredictable circumstances, placing themselves in harm's way to help those in need. Fire, police, ambulance, and other local departments train



Informational displays from Shoes 4 Kids and the Grayson Utilities Commission are presented to Grayson City Council. (Photo by Charles Romans, Carter County Times)

constantly to provide the relief only they can, and part of that training is to project and plan for worst case scenarios and how

best to respond and save lives. Grayson Emergency Man-

See DISASTER on A-3

Weekly arrests report

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

- Kearston Miller, 35, address unavailable, arrested by Carter County Sheriff, for failure to appear, arrested and booked September 28.
- Anthony Jordan, 48, of Grayson, arrested by Kentucky Department of Corrections, on a probation violation (for a felony offense), arrested and booked September 29.
- Chastity Ramsey, 33, of Grayson, arrested by Carter County Sheriff, on a charge of endangering the welfare of a minor, arrested and booked September 30.
- Claude Duncan, 57, of Grayson,

- arrested by Olive Hill PD, on charges of failure to appear, operating a motor vehicle on a suspended or revoked operator's license, and failure to maintain required insurance, arrested and booked October 1.
- Wanda King, 54, of Morehead, arrested by Carter County Sheriff, on a charge of theft by deception – including cold checks, arrested and booked October 1.
- Patrick Talley, 46, of Flatwoods, arrested by Olive Hill PD, on charges of second degree disorderly conduct, menacing, and resisting arrest, arrested and booked October 1.
- Donna Hampton, 63, of Morehead, arrested by Kentucky State Police, on charges of possession of marijuana, first degree possession of a controlled substance (methamphetamine), operating a motor vehicle under

- the influence of a controlled substance, no registration receipt, and failure to produce an insurance card, arrested and booked October 1.
- Boyd Salyers, 50, of Grayson, arrested by Kentucky State Police, on charges of driving on a DUI suspended license – second offense (aggravating circumstances), and operating a motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol, arrested and booked October 1.
- Mark Cox, 58, of Olive Hill, arrested by Olive Hill PD, on charges of failure to appear, one headlight, operating a motor vehicle on a suspended or revoked operator's license, failure to maintain required insurance, no registration plates, and no registration receipt, arrested and booked October 2.
- Robert Cornett, 57, of Olive Hill, arrested by Kentucky State Police, for failure to appear, arrested and booked October 2.

See ARRESTS on A-3



This Week's Obituaries

Mary Magelane Evans Clark, 92
Ray Dearl McCoy, 94

Dolores Owens Shaffer, 99

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LIFESTYLE



Fall's most delicious shortcut: Pumpkin ravioli in a snap

Is it time for all the pumpkin things? I hope you said yes, because I have a scrumptious pumpkin recipe -- pumpkin ravioli! But let's make it easy. Rather than fresh pasta, we'll use wonton wrappers, canned pumpkin and a simple two-ingredient sauce.

Imagine tender ravioli stuffed with pumpkin ricotta, bathed in sage-scented butter, and topped with crispy sage leaves and candied pecans and pepitas. This is comfort food at its finest.

This recipe uses canned pumpkin, but you could use fresh pumpkin, butternut or acorn squash. A 15-ounce can holds just shy of 2 cups of squash. If you have 1 3/4 cups cooked, pureed squash, you're in business.

This creation is topped with irresistible candied pecans and pepitas. This is optional but highly recommended, as ravioli benefits from the crunchy contrast in texture. Any combination of nuts or seeds can be candied using this easy technique, even sunflower seeds.

I suggest you start by making the candied nuts. If you choose not to candy the nuts, you can simply add them to the browned butter sauce, and it'll still be great.

CANDIED NUTS

Yield: 3/4 cup | Total Time: 10 mins

- 3/4 cup nuts/seeds, chopped
- 1 1/2 tablespoons butter
- 1/4 cup sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon kosher salt

Toast nuts in a dry skillet over medium heat until fragrant. Push nuts to the outside of the skillet and melt butter in center. Coat nuts with butter, sprinkle with sugar and stir constantly until caramelized, about 5 minutes. Transfer to parchment to harden. Cool then break apart.

PUMPKIN WONTON RAVIOLI

Yield: 4 to 6 servings | Total Time: 40 mins

Filling:

- 2 tablespoons butter
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 2 tablespoons shallot or sweet onion, minced
- 1 tablespoon fresh sage, minced
- 1 (15 ounce) can pumpkin puree
- 1/2 cup ricotta
- 1/4 cup Parmesan
- 1 tablespoon brown sugar
- Pinch nutmeg
- 1 pkg. (14 ounce) wonton wrappers
- 1 egg, beaten

Melt butter in a skillet over medium-high heat. Saute garlic and shallot until fragrant, add sage. Stir in pumpkin. Reduce heat, add ricotta, Parmesan, brown sugar and nutmeg. Simmer for 5 minutes to thicken but keep it moving so it doesn't burn. Set aside to cool.

To fill ravioli: Beat egg with a splash of water for egg wash. Wonton wrappers dry out quickly so keep them covered with a damp towel. Using your finger, paint the egg mixture over all four edges of the wrapper. Place 1 tablespoon of the pumpkin mixture in the center. Lay a second wrapper over the filling, lining up the edges. Press to seal the wrappers together, pressing out any air bubbles. Crimp with a fork to seal. Repeat with remaining wrappers. Keep covered until



Pumpkin ravioli with sage and candied nuts: A seasonal twist that's both cozy and elegant. (Photo Credit: www.JasonCoblentz.com)

ready to boil.

Boil ravioli in batches until they float. Serve with browned butter, sage leaves, and candied nuts.

BROWNEB BUTTER WITH SAGE

Yield: 1/2 cup | Total Time: 35 mins

- 1/2 cup butter
- 15-20 sage leaves

Melt butter over medium heat until foaming and golden brown, 5-8 minutes. Add the sage leaves and let them sizzle for a couple of minutes. Remove the now crispy sage leaves to a paper towel to drain. Remove butter from the heat.

Ravioli are easy but a bit

time-consuming. Enlist a buddy to make it fun. Makes a wonderful first course or main dish. Two to three ravioli is ample as an appetizer; four to six make a satisfying dinner portion.

Lifestyle expert Patti Diamond is the penny-pinching, party-planning, recipe developer and content creator of the website *Divas On A Dime -- Where Frugal, Meets Fabulous!* Visit Patti at www.divasonadime.com and join the conversation on Facebook at [DivasOnADimeDotCom](https://www.facebook.com/DivasOnADimeDotCom). Email Patti at divapatti@divasonadime.com

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Joyful Noise Salt?

By Pastor Naomi Mitchell for *Carter County Times*

In Matthew 5:13 Jesus uses the metaphor of salt to describe the Christian's function in the world, saying, "You, are the salt of the earth." In Jesus's Jewish culture salt had three uses—all of which apply here.

First, salt was used as a seasoning for food (Job 6:6). As a seasoning, the right amount of salt can draw out the full flavor and true taste of the food it seasons. Too much salt masks the flavor. If there is no salt, then the food is tasteless. But just a little salt enhances the flavor greatly. When Jesus told his disciples that they are the salt (seasoning) of the earth he is telling them that though there are few of them, their godly lives

will draw out the good in the world around them. It is important for believers to remember that they are not called to be a majority. They are called to fulfill their function as salt. Godly living then salts the earth. It is an invitation for others to "taste and see that the Lord is good" (Psalm 34:8).

Second, salt was used as a preservative. In the days before refrigeration, salt kept food from spoiling before it could be consumed. As a preservative, the Old Testament uses salt as a metaphor for endurance, signifying the covenant between God and his people, or his lasting covenant with King David. When Jesus told his disciples that you are the salt (the preservative) of the earth, he was telling them that their godly lives are the seasoning that preserves the goodness in society.

Third, Moses taught that salt was the key

ingredient for the incense that burned before the altar. The incense was perfume, whose aroma was to be "salted, pure, and holy." (Exodus 30:34-35). Likewise, the faithful lives of Jesus's followers are salt that is used to become the "fragrance of Christ to God among those who are being saved and those who are perishing" (2 Corinthians 2:14-16). Moreover, the righteousness of Jesus's followers that does not conform to the world's standards salts their living sacrifice and signifies their covenant with God (Mark 9:49-50; Romans 12:1-2).

As salt, Jesus's disciples are to be all three of these things. They are to be the seasoning that draws out what is good. They are to be the preservative that keeps what is good. And they are to be an ingredient in the altar's incense that signifies what is holy and pleases God. But if the salt

See *JOYFUL NOISE* on A-4

Ask Daryl: Your Professional Organizer

Fall Decor

This is the time for the season's decorations to come out in all their glory. Pumpkins, ghosts, and fall leaves adorn our front porches and yards. We love this time of year and show off our displays with pride.

Decorating is fun. We have saved past items and bought new items. We

even begin buying ahead in preparation for Christmas. We look for decorations on sale and occasionally spend a little more to get that very special thing that will stand out in our neighborhood.

This is also the time to think about how to store those decorations when the winter season rolls around. Now, I know I have ad-



Daryl Ashley Guest Columnist Confusion Solution

dressed this topic before, but I can't stress enough how saving space will make it so much easier the next time fall is upon us.

Just think how simple it would be to unpack the decorations from last year, repurpose or donate some, and make more room to store the new ones that we will inevitably buy for this year. Try to avoid buying new storage by reusing the ones from last year.

Save some space and enjoy the season.

It's as simple as that! Send your questions and comments to me at info@confusionsolution.com

Kentucky Dept of Agriculture Livestock and Grain Market Report

Compared to last week feeder steers and heifers were mixed again this week with markets reporting from 5.00 lower to 4.00 higher. Demand was moderate to good for feeders and yearlings. Slaughter cows and bulls sold mostly steady with moderate to good demand.

Week ending 10/4/25

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

Steers (M&L 1-2)	This Week	Prior Week	Last Year
350-400 lbs	421.87	447.91	291.45
400-450 lbs	415.45	420.94	277.64
450-500 lbs	413.47	410.96	279.31
500-550 lbs	380.97	385.26	270.81
550-600 lbs	371.42	374.95	263.48
600-650 lbs	353.43	356.95	252.65
650-700 lbs	344.19	347.49	242.70
700-750 lbs	341.14	341.34	237.81
750-800 lbs	338.65	345.60	237.70
800-850 lbs	341.30	326.80	224.43
850-900 lbs	316.75	331.33	225.36
Heifers (M&L 1-2)	This Week	Prior Week	Last Year
300-350 lbs	382.44	384.72	252.58
350-400 lbs	394.92	394.54	258.00
400-450 lbs	369.68	375.83	245.53
450-500 lbs	363.87	365.41	242.44
500-550 lbs	353.71	357.56	237.91
550-600 lbs	343.40	345.05	232.03
600-650 lbs	327.77	330.38	228.14
650-700 lbs	323.57	322.28	223.15
700-750 lbs	298.92	307.50	208.76
750-800 lbs	299.60	293.75	215.56

WEEKLY COW SUMMARY			
	Average	High	Low
Slaughter Cows			
Breakers	141.00-168.00	154.00-179.00	131.00-159.00
Boners	139.00-170.00	154.00-197.00	120.00-159.00
Lean	110.00-169.00	140.00-175.00	90.00-149.00
Slaughter Bulls			
Yield Grade 1&2	173.00-205.00	188.00-217.00	145.00-189.00

Sep 25, 2025		Bowling Green, KY	
SLAUGHTER GOATS: 156			
Kids - Selection 1	55 lbs 335.00; 69 lbs 315.00;	Kids Selection 2	50-53 lbs 227.50-315.00; 70-73 lbs 225.00-305.00; 85-88 lbs 265.00-330.00.
SLAUGHTER SHEEP: 931			
Hair Breeds-Choice & Prime 1-2	53-58 lbs 325.00; 66 lbs 255.00; 75-78 lbs 225.00-255.00; 89 lbs 205.00; 90 lbs 205.00; 110.00-115.00 lbs 190.00-195.00.	Choice 1-3	51 lbs 285.00. Wooled-Choice & Prime 1-2 80 lbs 225.00; 109 lbs 215.00; 115 lbs 230.00; 137 lbs 245.00; 153 lbs 195.00.

Week ending 10/4/25			
GRAINS	This Week	Prior Week	Last Year
Corn	3.66-4.27	3.72-4.26	3.73-4.84
Soybeans	8.87-10.14	8.94-9.96	9.27-10.20
Red Winter Wheat	4.77-5.46	4.77-5.22	4.78-5.37

Extension Notes

University of Kentucky College of Agriculture, Food and Environment Cooperative Extension Service carter.ca.uky.edu

Planting bulbs this fall

Fall is the time to think about all those flowers we

associate with spring: daffodils, crocus, and other easy-to-grow flowering bulbs. If you aren't growing any spring-flowering bulbs in your landscape, you are missing out on some easy-to-grow plants that provide early color to your garden.

These bulbs are planted in fall because it corresponds to the end of their natural dormancy. Most of these plants begin root growth in fall, followed by a cool stratification period necessary for proper flower development and then shoot growth in late winter and early spring.

No matter which bulbs you select, remember that the largest bulbs will produce the greatest show next spring. However, smaller bulbs will still produce some flowers, and these may be the best choice for mass planting or naturalizing. Avoid any bulbs that feel lightweight as these may have severely

dried during storage.

It's important to plant flowering bulbs at the proper depth, so inquire about plant depth at the nursery or follow the label directions. A light application of bone meal fertilizer at planting is often recommended, though probably

not necessary. Most bulbs do not need fertilization until growth emerges in the spring. When you see plants emerging, apply 1 to 2 pounds per 100 square feet of a complete fertilizer (like 10-10-10).

Once flowering occurs, remove the faded blooms, but don't remove the foliage. The leaves produce sugars and other compounds necessary for the bulb to overwinter and bloom again the next spring. Most bulbs will enter dormancy in late spring or early summer and will renew growth, starting with the root system in the fall.

For more information on planting spring-flowering bulbs this fall, visit

the Carter County Cooperative Extension Service.

Educational programs of the Cooperative Extension Service serve all people regardless of economic or social status and will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, ethnic origin, national origin, creed, religion, political belief, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expressions, pregnancy, marital status, genetic information, age, veteran status, or physical or mental disability.

Upcoming Events:

- The Olive Hill Farmer's Market is located in the Save-a-Lot parking lot and is open on Wednesdays & Saturdays at 8:00 AM. The Grayson Farmer's Market will be open on Saturdays at 9:00 AM and is located in the shed behind the Extension Office.
- Small Ruminant Workshop – October 9th from 5:00-8:00 PM @ Lawrence County Extension Office – Call 474-6686 to register.
- Hike & Learn – October 17th – Details TBA



Rebecca Konopka Carter County Extension Agent

Arrests from A-1

- Heather Suarez, 42, of Olive Hill, arrested by Kentucky State Police, on two counts of failure to appear, arrested and booked October 3.
- Timothy Hammons, 41, of Grayson, self-surrender, weekender, arrested and booked October 3.
- Michael Porter, 42, of Olive Hill, self-surrender, charges unavailable, arrested and booked October 3.
- Danny Adkins, 68, of Olive Hill, arrested by Grayson PD, on charges of no registration plate, operating a motor vehicle

- under the influence of a substance, no registration receipt, operating a motor vehicle without an ignition interlock device, driving on a DUI suspended license – third offense (aggravating circumstances), failure to produce an insurance card, and failure to wear seat belts, arrested and booked October 4.
- Jeffrey Potts, 66, of Olive Hill, arrested by Kentucky State Police, for failure to appear, arrested and booked October 4.
- Tiffany Triplett, 42, of Wheelwright, arrested by

- Kentucky State Police, for failure to appear, arrested and booked October 5.
- Tina Scappaticcio, 50, of Olive Hill, arrested by Carter County Sheriff, on charges of theft by deception – including cold checks, and first degree criminal possession of a forged instrument, arrested and booked October 6.
- Nathaniel Stephens, 28, of Grayson, arrested by Grayson PD, on charges of operating a motor vehicle under the influence of a substance, leaving the scene of an accident – failure to render aid

- or assistance, failure to notify clerk of address change, and license not in possession, arrested and booked October 6.

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.

Carpenter from A-1

or evading charge, and 12 years each on the two charges of attempted murder. Carpenter was sentenced to 90 days on the amended count of giving false identifying information. All of the charges were set to run concurrently, for a total sentence of 12 years.

Due to the length of the sentence handed down, the court chose to waive court costs. Likewise, the court didn't recommend any fines, and no restitution was required.

Because he was

sentenced on charges that include violent crimes, Carpenter will be required to serve at least 85 percent of his sentence – more than 10 years – before being eligible for release.

Carpenter's ordeal began in the early morning hours of June 10, 2024, when Grayson police attempted to pull him over, resulting in an officer-involved shooting and one of a pair of officers being transported to the hospital after being struck by Carpenter's fleeing vehicle.

According to reports

from the Grayson PD, what began as a routine stop escalated when – after a second officer arrived on scene – Carpenter attempted to flee, striking the first officer with his vehicle. That was when the second officer reported firing several rounds into the vehicle before Carpenter was able to flee the scene.

The police advised the public at the time that Carpenter was considered "armed and dangerous," and further advised them not to approach

him if seen, but to call 911 or otherwise contact authorities – however a weapon was never recovered in the case. Carpenter surrendered to Olive Hill police early the next morning, and was booked into the Carter County Detention Center where he remained incarcerated while the legal process played out.

Contact the writer at editor@cartercountytimes.com

Disaster from A-1

agement Director Roger Dunfee addressed a gathering of first responders last month (September 18) and discussed the need for advance planning in every community.

"In the case of a real, catastrophic incident in Carter County or the City of Grayson, we need to manage our resources," Dunfee said.

Dunfee said that several years ago, when local first responders turned up in the wake of the West Liberty tornado, the area resembled nothing less than a war zone.

"That city was devastated," Dunfee said.

That level of destruction, he explained, left the residents in need of everything; basics such as food, clothing and, in many cases, shelter as well.

"We took some supplies and helped do damage assessment," Dunfee told the assembled first responders. "And we saw firsthand

how West Liberty and Morgan County were not prepared for that."

The devastation, he said, left residents there dependent upon agencies and individuals from all over the state for help. There had been no real plan, he said, established for that type of catastrophic event.

Dunfee said that when he and wife Joanne took over emergency management for the city, one of the things many people told them was that at least they did not need to plan for a tornado response. They were told, he said, "that the hills and the mountains will protect us." But, sadly, the events in West Liberty proved that to be a short-sighted philosophy.

"The State of Kentucky, through Kentucky Emergency Management, said that the local emergency management (agencies) needed to start making

plans ahead of time," Dunfee said. "So, one of the things that we have done that has been recommended by the state is to have a plan set up ahead of time, and to have mutual aid agreements with different organizations, so that we will be ready to help each other in an emergency."

To this end, Grayson Emergency Management has established procedures, protocols and a distribution management plan. The plan establishes C-PODs, or Commodity Points of Distribution where emergency commodities can be dropped off and stored. The plan also establishes staging areas where the equipment necessary to load, unload, and maneuver commodities will be secured and guaranteed to be available. The plan also allows for individuals to be recruited and trained to provide the necessary staffing for the management of the distribution plans.

"Unforeseen disasters may not be preventable," Dunfee said. "But the ability to respond and recover is aided by thoughtful preparation."

Commodity Points of Distribution outlined in the plan include the old Ralph's Building in Grayson, the Carter County Road Department, and Wilson's Martial Arts in Olive Hill. Staging areas include Wood's Brothers Shopping Center, the semi parking lot behind Love's, and the parking lot at Wilson's. Alternate Emergency Operations Center include MOU, KCU, and the Carter County Courthouse.

For more information about the City of Grayson's disaster preparedness, residents can email Dunfee at rdunfee-gem@gmail.com.

Contact the writer at charles@cartercountytimes.com

CALENDAR

- **10/8: Olive Hill Farmer's Market @ 8 a.m.** | Save-A-Lot parking lot
- **10/8: Girl Scouts meeting @ 5:30 p.m.** | Carter County Public Library - Grayson
- **10/9: Guided Hike @ 1 p.m.** | Laurel Gorge Cultural Heritage Center
- **10/9: Grayson Farmer's Market @ 2 p.m.** | Carter County Extension Office Shed
- **10/9: Small Ruminant Workshop @ 5 p.m.** | Lawrence County Extension Office | Call 474-6686 to register
- **10/11: Olive Hill Farmer's Market @ 8 a.m.** | Save-A-Lot parking lot
- **10/11: Grayson Farmer's Market @ 9 a.m.** | Carter County Extension Office Shed
- **10/13: Quilts for Veterans Sew Days @ 9 a.m.** | Carter County Extension Education Center | For questions call 606-474-6686
- **10/13: Open Art Studio @ 10 a.m.** | Grayson Gallery & Art Center
- **10/13: Olive Hill Farmer's Market @ 3 p.m.** | Save-A-Lot parking lot
- **10/13: Game Night @ 5 p.m.** | Carter County Public Library - Olive Hill
- **10/13: Carter County Fiscal Court @ 6 p.m.** | Carter County Courthouse
- **10/14: Grayson Area Chamber of Commerce meeting @ 12 p.m.** | Location TBD
- **10/14: Building Club @ 4 p.m.** | Carter County Public Library, Olive Hill
- **10/14: Grayson City Council @ 5:30 p.m.** | Grayson City Hall
- **10/15: Olive Hill Farmer's Market @ 8 a.m.** | Save-A-Lot parking lot

Have an event to add to the calendar?

Email info to advertise@cartercountytimes.com

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Pet of the Week

Pete is a mixed breed, believed to be about one-year-old, and is currently the longest resident at the shelter. This good boy gets along well with other dogs, and walks on a leash. His \$100 adoption fee includes rabies vaccination and being neutered. Stop by the Carter County Animal Shelter and meet him or call 475-9771 for more information.

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



CITY OF GRAYSON

Throughout the months of October and November, the Grayson Police Department will be conducting safety check points throughout roadways within the city limits, at pre-approved locations.

Nightmares and nightcaps

Scarefest returns to Lexington

By Charles Romans
Carter County Times

The Scarefest Weekend returns to Lexington, October 17-19, filling the Central Bank Center with all things terrifying on the big and small screen. The popular horror convention is one of the largest in the country, and this year marks seventeen years bringing fans of horror and the paranormal together. This year fans can look forward to seeing Freddy Kruger himself, Robert Englund, as well as celebrities from other popular movies such as The Lost

Boys and Grimm.

Scarefest Media Director Wes Forsythe has been with the show since the beginning, and said Scarefest keeps growing every year.

"I'm not going to stick my neck out and say we are the biggest horror convention," Forsythe said of the Scarefest Weekend. "But I am fully confident in saying we are in the top five."

Forsythe also offered a little insight into why people seem to be so fascinated with horror and other things macabre.

"Going to horror conventions like Scarefest or going to a haunted house is no different than going on a rollercoaster," Forsythe said. "We (humans) are on the top of the food chain, and there

aren't many things that keep us on our toes. Fear isn't programmed into us anymore, so we seek out that emotion because most of us don't experience it every day."

Experiencing fear vicariously through horror movies and horror television shows lets us experience the emotion of fear and the accompanying adrenaline rush from the safety of the movie theater or our own comfortable homes, Forsythe said. And people love to come to horror conventions because there is the added benefit of being able to peek behind the mask of popular horror characters like Leatherface from Texas Chainsaw Massacre or see the real face of the actor under the special effects makeup of

Freddy Kruger from the A Nightmare on Elm Street movies.

"You get to step back and remember that these are actors on the screen," Forsythe said. "Some of them might be better suited to be the villain in a horror movie, although that could be hype as well." Forsythe said that horror actors seem to really love their fans no matter how violent and 'evil' their on-screen characters happen to be, and genuinely bond with them.

The attraction of horror conventions, Scarefest Weekend in particular, goes beyond movie and television celebrities, however. There are a lot of things to do and see beyond meeting your fa-

See *SCAREFEST* on A-4

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Joyful Noise from A-2

becomes tasteless and loses its saltiness it does none of these things. Pure sodium chloride does not spoil. In the time of Jesus, it is likely their salt contained compounds other than sodium chloride. If their salt came from the Dead Sea, and it was like today's salt, it might have been less than half sodium chloride. If left in humidity, the sodium chloride could dissolve, leaving behind salts other than sodium chloride. What would remain would not serve the function that sodium chloride serves, as it would not have the proper flavor.

When Jesus rhetorically asks, "how can it be made salty again?" he is saying, "there is no way to fix spoiled salt." You (his followers) are it (v 13). If you (his followers) lose your saltiness you become useless to serve as salt. You (his followers) are no longer good for anything except for one thing, to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men

Scarefest from A-3

favorite actor or paranormal personality. Cosplay – fans dressing up as characters from film and other media – is an extremely popular aspect of the weekend, Forsythe said.

"Cosplay is a great byproduct of the fan convention. Everyone loves Halloween," he said. "And horror conventions give you a chance even if it isn't close to Halloween like Scarefest, to celebrate your favorite holiday."

"You get to be someone else," Forsythe said. "Everyone enjoys that once in a while. And there are some people that really enjoy the attention cosplay gives them. And that goes from someone who chooses a simple costume to those who go all out. They like people to notice who they are portraying, and they love for people to stop them and ask to take pictures with them. If I had to put my finger on my favorite part of conventions, it would be seeing what people come up with."

Another popular thing with horror convention fans are special effects, Forsythe said.

"And a really interesting thing is that most horror fans overall prefer what you would call practical effects over special effects."

Fans, he said, will love movies that might not be stellar simply because the practical effects like make-up are really good.

"They want the monster to be 'in the room'," he said. "They want the alien there even if it has to be lifted by strings or moved by boards. They want to be fooled, but they don't want to be fooled by a computer."

There are a lot of amazing CGI effects in movies, but he said that most horror fans are more willing to 'suspend disbelief' with a physically manipulated actor or object.

"I can't think of a single horror movie that has reached 'cult classic' status that was based on CGI," Forsythe said. "But there are practical effects movies people have loved for generations."

Some of those movies and television series, Forsythe said, have been loved by fans over multiple generations – it's common for parents to introduce their own children to their favorite movies – and are well represented at Scarefest Weekend. Multiple cast members from the Nightmare on Elm Street movies such as Robert Englund, Amanda Wyss, Brooke Bundy, and Brooke Theiss

(v 13). Perhaps after the sodium chloride spoils, the remaining salt is useful as an herbicide. Jesus might be referencing methods of salting roads to keep them free of weeds and thorns, by scattering the spoiled salt and allowing it to be trampled underfoot by men (v 13). In any event, the metaphor makes a stark contrast between the two uses. One is to bring out goodness; the other is to be discarded and forgotten. Amen! Be the good salt that makes a difference every day! (Excerpts from THE BIBLE SAYS).

Amen! So be it!
JOYFUL House of Prayer, 2519 Quicksand Road, (P.O. Box 856), Jackson, Kentucky 41339. Send Comments/Prayer Requests: Pastornaomi-4god@gmail.com. FB: JoyfulHopprayer. Services: 10am Sunday and Joyful Kids Class at 10:30am, 6:30pm Thursdays. Radio Broadcast: WJSN 97.3 FM & WEKG 81.0 AM Sundays 1-2pm.

will be there. Friday the 13th is also well represented, with actors Kane Hodder, Barbara Bingham, Jensen Daggett, VC Dupree, Scott Reeves, and Tim Mirkovich. For a full list of actors and the movies and series they represent, visit scarefestweekend.com.

The Scarefest Weekend also has a lot of side events and after-hours events that fans love to attend. "One thing we have this year that is special, and we are the last stop on the tour, and supposedly this tour ends with us, is the Warren Occult Museum," Forsythe said. "The Warren Museum of course is tied to the famous couple, Ed and Lorraine Warren. They were paranormal investigators, and the Conjuring movies were based on them. And that's what you would consider a cross-over event. Because the paranormal fans want to be there to try and see if the items are really haunted. And the movie fans, who might not believe at all, want to be there just to see what inspired the movies they fell in love with."

Tours of the Warren Museum are during the day, but actual structured ghost hunts will take place in the museum area Friday and Saturday nights, Forsythe said. There will also be an additional ghost hunt led by members of the paranormal group, the Tennessee Wraith Chasers. In addition to these, there will also be Talk Scary to Me, a live podcast hosted by Danielle Harris and Scout Taylor-Compton.

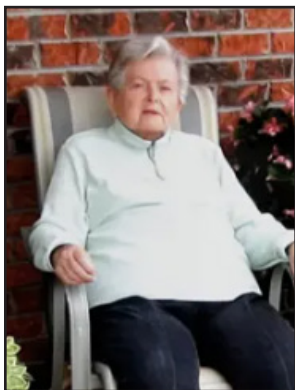
Wrestler, actor, and rock musician Chris Jericho will be having a special event on Friday night. Kane Hodder, Felissa Rose, RA Mihailoff, and Steve Nappe will be hosting a bourbon tasting event on Thursday at Lexington Brewing Company. And for those interested in some of the skills behind the effects that go into making horror movies, there will be an advanced makeup and prosthetics class on Sunday between 1:30 and 4:30 pm. Rob Whelan and Hollywood effects artist Joe Castro will be showing fans step by step techniques.

Scarefest Weekend has something for everyone to enjoy, Forsythe said. A full list of celebrities, vendors, and events can be found on their website.

Contact the writer at charles@cartercountytimes.com

OBITUARY**Dolores Owens Shaffer**

1925 – 2025



Dolores Owens Shaffer, 99 years, 10 months, passed away September 29, 2025. She was born November 29, 1925 at Flat Fork near Olive Hill, Kentucky, a daughter of George W. Owens and Florence Stallard Owens. Dolores attended Upper Tygart School, Erie School finishing her education at Morehead College. She taught in several one room schools, including Norton Branch and Spicy. She also substituted at Prichard Elementary. She worked at Carter Caves Lodge and Musetters as a deli manager. She was a woman of many talents and passions. She loved fishing more than anything, proudly recalling her largest catch; a four pound bass.

She loved to bake, baking many wedding cakes through the years along with a wide variety of cakes, muffins, and pies. She was thought of by her grandchildren as a maestro of sugar for her extensive assortments of candy creations, from cream candy to chocolate covered cherries. She was an avid painter and enjoyed a wide variety of crafts.

She was a lifelong student of the bible, cherishing her studies until her eyesight failed her. Above

all, she was a devoted mother and grandmother to her sons and their sons.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Clifford Earl Shaffer, her parents and siblings, Clayton Owens, Wilma Owens, Allen Owens, George W. Owens Jr., and Julia Marie Peters and two sons, Raleigh Kenneth Shaffer, infant and James O. Shaffer, twin grandsons, John Allen and Norman Edward Shaffer, infants.

She is survived by her sons, William Earl Shaffer (Sherri), Norman Allen Shaffer (Elizabeth), and one daughter-in-law, Mary Jane Shaffer, five grandsons, Steve (Lynn) Shaffer, Brenton (Frances) Shaffer, Matthew Shaffer, Gary K. (Krissi) Shaffer and Larry D. Shaffer, and their great grandchildren, Madison (Kaleb) Shaffer Fry, Brianna Shaffer and Sydney Shaffer and one bonus great-grandson, Chad Sansom and one great-great-granddaughter Ella Kay Fry.

Her loving nature and kindness will live on in the hearts of her family and friends.

Funeral services were held 1 p.m., Friday, October 3, 2025, at Grayson Funeral Home and Cremation Services, 49 McCoy Road, Grayson, Kentucky, with Brother James Caudill officiating. Burial followed in East Carter Memory Gardens in Grayson, Kentucky.

Friends visited after 11 a.m., Friday, October 3, 2025, until the service hour at Grayson Funeral Home.

Grayson Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Dolores Owens Shaffer.

Ray Dearl McCoy

1931 – 2025



It is with great sadness that the family of Ray Dearl McCoy announces his passing on September 28, 2025, at the age of 94.

Born on January 26, 1931, to the late Willie and Florence (Hollingsworth) McCoy, Ray spent most of his life in Olive Hill, Kentucky. He was preceded in death by his beloved wife of 73 years, Alberta (Duncan) McCoy; his son, Joe McCoy; brothers Charlie, Burl, and Bob McCoy; and sisters Lillian Offill, Blanche Osenton, Betty Dixon, and Billie Jean Holland.

Ray retired after a 31-year career with the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife, where he served as a game warden and conservation education program leader. He especially loved visiting local schools to teach children about wildlife conservation and even traveled to his grandchildren's school in Ohio to share his passion. A strong supporter of summer conservation programs, he spent many seasons providing leadership at Camp Earl Wallace and Camp Robert Webb.

An active member of his community, Ray was a 66-year member of the Olive Hill Masonic Lodge #629 and a 52-year member of the Olive Hill Eastern Star Chapter 290. He also served several terms on the Olive Hill City Council. Ray was a proud member of the Christian faith and a devoted fan of the Kentucky Wildcats.

Above all, family was Ray's greatest joy. He is survived by his daughters Martha Jean Kelly of Arcanum, OH, and Rhonda (Ron) Reynolds of Olive Hill; grandchildren Jennifer (Mark) Panganiban of Creedmoor, NC, Brent

McCoy of Elkhart, IN, Victoria (Joe) Martin of Greenville, OH, Stephanie Reynolds of Olive Hill, Rachel (Jeff) Francis of Greenville, OH, Jessica Reynolds of Olive Hill, Robin (Craig) Boughey of Louisville, KY, and Jack Reynolds of Sandy Hook; and eleven great-grandchildren.

Ray's grandchildren treasure memories of his tall tales, bumpy rides to the farm in the back of his truck, his famous greasy stovetop popcorn, and tubs of homemade ice cream. Ray doted on his great-grandchildren—Nathan, Natalie, and Mark Panganiban; Ryan and Kamryn Martin; Camari Parker; Madilyn and Parker Francis; and Abigail, Isaac, and Ethan Boughey—always ready for treats at Dairy Queen and saving all his spare change to fill their piggy banks.

Ray is also survived by many loving nieces, nephews, extended family members, and dear friends.

Services

Visitation was held Sunday, October 5, from 6–9 p.m. and Monday, October 6, from 9–10 a.m. at Globe Funeral Chapel in Olive Hill. A Masonic funeral service, conducted by Olive Hill Masonic Lodge #629, took place Sunday evening at 7 p.m. The funeral service followed on Monday, October 6, at 10 a.m., with burial at McFerren Cemetery in Olive Hill.

Pallbearers were Brent McCoy, Jack Reynolds, Mark Panganiban, Joe Martin, Jeff Francis, Craig Boughey, Nathan Panganiban, Ryan Martin, and Mark Panganiban Jr. Honorary pallbearers include Ron Reynolds, Isaac Boughey, and Ethan Boughey.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to the Olive Hill Meals on Wheels program in Ray's honor. Donations can be sent to Herbie Jones 465 Hitchins Avenue Olive Hill, KY 41164.

Globe Funeral Chapel is honored to serve the family of Ray Dearl McCoy.

Mary Magelane Evans Clark

1933 – 2025



Mary Magelane Evans Clark, age 92, of Olive Hill, Kentucky, went home to be with the Lord, Thursday, October 2, 2025, at her residence, surrounded by her loving family.

She was born Wednesday, March 1, 1933, in Carter County, Kentucky, a daughter of the late Charlie Huston and Jennie Conn Evans.

Mag was a member of the Church of God for many years and loved going to church. She enjoyed going to yard sales, painting, nurturing her garden, working in her resale store and spending time with her family.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband of 58 years, Sherman Schuyler Clark; seven brothers, Earl Evans, Stearl Evans, Beecher Evans, Toots Evans, Nigel Evans, Junior Evans, Johnny

Evans; three sisters, Mearl Shumate, Pearl Evans and Ester Hall.

She is survived by one son, Sherman Schuyler "Skip" Clark (Sharon Snow) of New Symrna, Florida; two daughters, Angie Stevens of Morehead, Kentucky, Teresa (David) Forman of Olive Hill, Kentucky; 4 grandchildren, Scott Clark, Alex Stevens, Skylar Forman, Haley Forman; 1 great-granddaughter, Isla Clark, along with many other family and friends, who will sadly miss her.

Funeral services were held 1 p.m., Saturday, October 4, 2025, at Globe Funeral Chapel, 17277 West US Hwy 60, Olive Hill, Kentucky, with Brother Clifford "Tippy" Price officiating. Burial followed in Clark Cemetery, St. Rt. 955, Olive Hill, Kentucky.

Friends visited after 11:30 a.m., Saturday, October 4, 2025, until the service hour at Globe Funeral Chapel.

Skip Clark, Alex Stevens, Dave Forman, Skylar Forman, Haley Forman and Scott Clark served as pallbearers.

Globe Funeral Chapel in Olive Hill, Kentucky is honored to serve the family of Mary Magelane Evans Clark.

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OPINION

EDITORIALS | LETTERS | COLUMNS | COMMENTARY

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

Guest Editorial

The original AI: Newspapers run on accurate information

By Ken Paulson

Artificial intelligence is going to transform everything we watch, hear and read. You can already see it happening.

Asking an AI search engine a question about an obscure fact can yield quick and surprisingly detailed responses. Type in a cellphone model number and you're suddenly a highly informed consumer. And when it comes to transforming legendary television show casts into babies, AI is world-class.

But news? AI-fueled news poses problems.

The first is that news is about reality. AI provides tools to bend reality. We're seeing a wave of AI-abetted falsehoods and deepfakes online, all designed to mislead us with doctored images and video.

No, Ukraine is not sending children, the disabled and the elderly to clear minefields. President Trump does not have a forehead indentation indicating serious illness. Sen. Amy Klobuchar didn't attack Sydney Sweeney and complain that Democrats are "too fat to wear jeans or too ugly to go outside."

It's time to retire "seeing is believing."

A second issue with AI is that it doesn't know what the truth is. Its take on the world will be driven by the data it accesses. Popular but untrue information isn't necessarily filtered out. There's no one sitting at a desk signing off on AI's best guess.

In contrast to the breathless tone of clickbait, newspapers in print and online can seem a little old-school. Traditional. Reliable. Safe.

Local newspapers embrace the original AI: accurate information. How refreshing is that? Newspapers focus on your community, written by neighbors who shop at the same stores and send their kids to the same schools. Most can readily be reached by phone or email, and when they make an error, they correct it.

How quaint. How essential.

AI isn't magic. When used for search, it offers an analysis and recasting of information about what's already known, drawing on the vast resources of the web.

Any search about your hometown, though, depends on that information being captured and published in the first place. If your local newspaper doesn't report on a new transportation plan for your community, there's nothing for an AI search to draw upon. AI is not sitting in the third row of the city council meeting.

There's an oft-used phrase in data analysis: Garbage in, garbage out. No local news in, no local news out.

In the long run, artificial intelligence may be good for us; it may be bad. But it will be.

The question is whether we will support the local daily journalism that informs us, protects our communities, and yes, fuels AI.

Unless we support local newspapers and local journalism of all sorts, we will lose the collective knowledge and insight that allows a community to address its needs and move forward. We can't fix what we don't know is broken.

If we don't subscribe and support local news media, we will no longer know how our tax dollars are being used, how well elected officials are doing their jobs, or what the real stakes are for the next local election.

But just wait until you see the mayor as a baby.

Ken Paulson is the director of the Free Speech Center at Middle Tennessee State University and a former editor-in-chief of USA Today.

National Newspaper Week takes place Oct. 5-11. Support your local newspaper.

Letter to the Editor: No Thrones, No Crowns, No Kings" Rally

On Saturday, October 18, there will be a "No Thrones, No Crowns, No Kings" Rally in Morehead, Kentucky in conjunction with gatherings around the country. The event is a peaceful national day of action and mass mobilization in response to the increasing authoritarian excesses and corruption of the current administration.

The event will be held at Fountain Park in downtown Morehead at the corner of Main St and Route 32, across the street

See RALLY on A-8

Carter County Times

Members of the Editorial Board

Nicole Wells, publisher

Jeremy Wells, editor Keith Kappes, columnist

CONVERSATION WITH GOD



After 250 years as a free nation, are we discarding the 'rule of law'?

Much is being said and written these days about the "rule of law" being blatantly ignored by the executive branch of our federal government with many even saying the future of our nation is at stake.

I recall from my study of American history that John Adams, our second president, defined the concept as the American system must be "a government of laws, and not of men."

To save time on a busy day, I queried the Gemini app which is Google's mobile and web-based AI assistant for a summary of the importance of the rule of law under the U. S. Constitution. The next four paragraphs came from Gemini's 30-second response.

The endurance of the United States rests entirely upon its adherence to the rule of law: the principle that all persons, institutions, and entities – including the government itself – are accountable to laws that are properly promulgated, equally enforced, and independently adjudicated.

The rule of law ensures political stability by establishing clear, predictable limits on governmental power. By guaranteeing the separation of powers and an independent judiciary, it constrains elected officials from exercising power arbitrarily or unilaterally. This predictability fosters public trust in institutions, which is vital for a functional democracy. If citizens or leaders begin to feel they can ignore the Constitution, the entire legal and political framework loses its

legitimacy, leading to fragmentation and disorder.

Furthermore, the rule of law is the bedrock of equality. It guarantees due process and equal protection, ensuring that no individual, regardless of wealth or status, is above the law. This impartiality protects the rights of minorities against the tyranny of the majority and provides legitimate mechanisms for resolving disputes.

By upholding contract and property rights, it also underpins the nation's economic system, promoting investment and prosperity.

Abandoning this principle means embracing authoritarianism, dissolving the social contract, and ultimately ending the American democratic experiment.

I know that the "separation of powers" means that the executive, legislative and judicial branches of our central government cannot intrude on each other's responsibilities. If so, since the constitution places "war powers" in the hands of Congress, how can the executive branch wage war anywhere without congressional authorization?

Finally, if implementing the Project 2025 blueprint for radically changing the federal government leads to insurrection which, in turn, results in the violent overthrow of the government, could authors and implementers of that radical plan be charged with criminal anarchy? Or treason, perhaps?

Keith Kappes can be reached at keithkappes@gmail.com



Keith Kappes
Columnist
Carter County Times

Everything doesn't have to be for me

I don't like Bad Bunny's music. I dislike all forms of music that sound like that. I wasn't thrilled when I heard he'd been tapped for the Super Bowl Halftime Show. I was hoping Metallica would finally get their day, so the world could see those dudes rip through "For Whom the Bell Tolls" after "Enter Sandman," which is played at every sporting event on Earth. People know that riff. Jack White or Sturgill Simpson would've been cool. Hell, I'd take Zach Bryan and his antics. But then it hit me: the Halftime Show isn't for me. It's one big commercial for pop music, not rebellion, and rock isn't part of the national cultural conversation right now.

Metallica, with a 40-year career, has sold over 150 million albums worldwide. Bad Bunny, in less than a decade, has already racked up more than 115 million equivalent sales through streaming and albums. As much as I'd love to hear "Master of Puppets," the kids of today — on a global scale — are into what Bad Bunny does. That's just the math mathing.

Every year, people complain about the Halftime Show, just like they complain SNL isn't funny or that The Simpsons has gone downhill. It's as predictable as it gets.

Culture is personal. We like what we like. I hate Jimmy Buffett, Billy Joel, the Eagles, and Guns N' Roses. The Halftime Show isn't supposed to reflect mine or yours — it's pop spectacle, shilling Apple Music (Pepsi before that). Are you going to be shocked when you see rampant product placement? Oh! A Miller Lite commercial? The horror.

And for anyone griping about a Puerto Rican artist headlining, saying he's "not American": my dudes and dudettes, Puerto Rico has been a U.S. territory since 1898.

We just never made it the 51st state, probably because we like round numbers.

Just because you don't like something doesn't mean it's un-American. The Super Bowl is a marketing event with fireworks and celebrity polish. People will always complain about who gets the gig. But the best one was Prince — and that's just a fact. "Purple Rain" IN THE RAIN? COME ON. Bad Bunny is fine. It's literally :30 minutes during a football game. Go chug a beer, eat some bean dip and move on with your life. If Patrick Mahomes and the Chiefs aren't there, that's the real win.

Contact us at news@cartercountytimes.com



Robert Dean
Guest Columnist
Carter County Times

Policies

General

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

Circulation

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

Letters & Opinion

The Times welcomes all letters to the editor.

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

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

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

General interest guest columns are welcome. For details email editor@cartercountytimes.com.

Deadlines

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

Report: Some Kentuckians kicked off food benefits because of data that doesn't tell whole story

By Melissa Patrick
Kentucky Health News

“With food insecurity rising, Kentucky continues to aggressively investigate individuals on fraud allegations, with some legal experts claiming they rely too much on faulty evidence,” Sylvia Goodman reports for Kentucky Public Radio.

Goodman writes about a single mother from Salyersville who relied on federal food assistance, known as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program or SNAP. She lost her benefits in 2020 after Kentucky state investigators concluded she'd committed fraud based on her shopping patterns.

“The state alleged she'd made multiple same-day purchases, tried to overdraw her account a few times, entered a few invalid PINs and sometimes made ‘whole-dollar’ purchases that are unlikely during typical grocery runs,” Goodman reports.

The woman's explanation: “She worked at the store. She would sometimes buy lunch there and then get groceries after work. Her child would also occasionally use her card,” Goodman writes, adding that she sued and she won.

“It is draconian to take away SNAP benefits from a single mother without clear and convincing evidence that intentional trafficking was occurring during a time when food scarcity is so prevalent,” Franklin County Judge Thomas Wingate said in his 2023 decision.

Over the last five years, Goodman reports that the Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services has brought hundreds of fraud cases that are heavily reliant on transactional data, despite judges, lawyers and legal experts

telling KPR that such evidence proves little.

“Kentucky is so aggressive in disqualifying people from SNAP benefits that the state has the second-highest number of per-capita administrative disqualifications in the nation, behind Florida, according to the most recent federal data from 2023. In the last decade, disqualifications in Kentucky rose from fewer than 100 in 2015 to over 1,800 in 2023. And more than 300 others have been accused of selling or misusing their benefits since January 2024, according to records obtained by Kentucky Public Radio,” Goodman reports.

Goodman explains how people are informed of their alleged fraud: “Kentuckians receive notice of their alleged suspicious activity through mailed letters, in which they're asked to voluntarily waive their right to a hearing and automatically accept the punishment. On first offense, that's generally a one-year SNAP ban. They're also required to pay back the full amount the state says they misused.” Often, Goodman reports, the lawsuits state that people don't understand the consequences of that waiver.

Goodman reports that Kendra Steele, a spokesperson for CHFS, declined to schedule an interview with cabinet officials after multiple requests. “Steele said in an email that ‘we have never’ brought trafficking cases based solely on transactional data and acknowledged it would not be sufficient to prove intent,” she writes. Steele added that fraud allegations look into income, living situations and “patterns of spending that are indicative of trafficking.” Also, Steele told KPR that

they interview vendors and SNAP recipients.

In her story, Goodman digs into the impact of food insecurity in Kentucky and what's going on in other states, writing that “in 2020, Michigan state court of appeals judges decided transactional data alone is never sufficient to prove that a business — or a person — fraudulently used SNAP benefits.” University of Kentucky law professor Cory Dodds told Goodman that he believes that should be the standard for all states, including Kentucky.

Goodman also explains that “when Kentuckians receive the formal notice of accusations, they also receive a waiver asking that person to voluntarily forgo their right to a hearing and automatically accept the punishment.”

But legal experts told KPR that “there's no benefit to signing the waiver — the punishment isn't lessened, nor does refusing to sign lead to criminal prosecution,” she writes.

Another challenge for rural Kentuckians is that there are fewer lawyers with expertise in this type of law in rural Kentucky, Kristie Goff, an AppalRed legal aid lawyer in Prestonsburg in southeast Kentucky, told KPR.

“I imagine for every one person who walks through my door to get a hearing,” Goff said, “there's probably five more that have never known that they could call us or know that they could get an attorney.”

Associated Press data reporter Kasturi Pananjady contributed to this report. This reporting is part of a series called *Sowing Resilience*, a collaboration between the Institute for Nonprofit News' Rural News Network and The Associated Press.

Safe Harbor to hold annual Candlelight Vigil

ASHLAND – Safe Harbor of Northeast Kentucky will hold its annual Candlelight Vigil on Thursday October 23, 2025, at 5pm.

The event is in conjunction with October's observance of Domestic Violence Awareness Month and honors the memory of those individuals in Kentucky who lost their lives in the past year as the result of domestic violence. This year's vigil will honor the memory of 23 Kentucky women, children, and men.

Also, during the vigil, Safe Harbor's annual White Ribbon Awards will be presented. The awards honor outstanding volunteerism and commitment to Safe Harbor's mission.

This year's honorees include Avery Caudill/Calvary Episcopal Church, Chris Wallace/Mary Kay Representative, Lynn Hutchinson/Women's Group with Legacy Church and Girl Scout Troop 1100.

Safe Harbor is a domestic violence shelter that serves the counties in the FIVCO ADD area: Boyd, Greenup, Carter, Elliott, and Lawrence. The Ashland-based shelter and outreach program offers three levels of care, including emergency shelter, transitional housing, and permanent, supportive housing (apartments) on site.

Immediately after the vigil, a brief reception will be held and artwork made

by clients will be displayed and available for purchase. We will also be having a memorial to our shelter dog, Maggie that just passed away in August.

Safe Harbor has occupied the former tuberculosis hospital complex in Ashland for 30 years. During its three decades, Safe Harbor has housed 20,000+ women, children, and men.

“Safe Harbor provides individuals and families a safe place where they can take time to put their lives back together in order to leave an abusive relationship.” Mrs. Perkins said. “Our program offers them tools to become self-sufficient and independent. We are a holistic program

CLASSIFIEDS

PUBLIC NOTICES

CLERK'S NOTICE OF FIDUCIARIES ACCOUNTING
Upon requirements of Section 424.129 Kentucky Revised Statutes, the following fiduciary appointments have been filed with the Carter County District Court Clerk.
Final Settlement Kim Sturgill, Executrix, in the Estate of: Sandra Cromer. Attorney for Estate, Hon. W Jeffrey Scott, November 5th, 2025, at 10:30am having been set as date of hearing, no cause for exceptions, having been shown, the settlement will be confirmed at date of hearing.

LEGAL NOTICE
The City of Grayson will be holding a public auction on October 23rd, 2025, at noon, at the City impound lot located at 591 East 5th Street, Grayson, Kentucky.
Preview of the vehicles will be by appointment only, beginning 72 hours before the day of sale. Vehicles are sold "as is", without title (unless indicated), all sales are final. The City of Grayson reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

VIN	MAKE	MODEL	YEAR
2CNDL13F356032188	CHEVY	EQUINOX	2005
1FAFP44471F220816	FORD	MUSTANG	2001
1GNDT13S132264890	CHEVY	TRAIL BLAZER	2003
JKAZR2B14KA032410	KAWASAKI	ZR900	2019
1G4CW52K7X4649428	BUICK	PARK AV	1999
KMHCG45C52U292433	HYUNDAI	ACCENT	2002
1Y1SK52861Z448447	CHEVY	PRIZM	2001
WDBRF40114A624006	MERCEDES	C2K	2004

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b. Total Paid Print Copies (Line 15C) + Paid Electronic Copies	680	669
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d. Percent Paid (Both Print and Electronic Copies)	96.00 %	98.00 %
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that addresses everything a family needs.”

For more information, call Linda Day at (606) 329-9304.

Trump-targeted GOP congressman Massie tours his Kentucky district with support from Sen. Paul

By Bruce Schreiner
Associated Press

SHELBYVILLE (AP) — Republican Rep. Thomas Massie of Kentucky has enlisted help from a key ally, Sen. Rand Paul, as the maverick congressman tries to fend off President Donald Trump's threats to oust him from Congress.

Massie is running headlong into his toughest political fight as a super PAC

launched by Trump aides attacks him and he awaits a potential challenge from someone backed by the president. Massie has drawn the president's wrath for opposing him on budget and foreign policy issues but is betting that Kentuckians will embrace his independent streak despite Trump's popularity in the Bluegrass State.

Massie on Thursday wrapped up a two-day

swing through his district alongside Paul, who has endorsed the congressman and shares Massie's libertarian leanings. Massie says Paul's endorsement offers "a counterbalance to Donald Trump's presumed endorsement for somebody else."

Speaking to an overflow crowd at a Shelbyville distillery, Massie defiantly said the attack ads against him "aren't going to

change my mind at all." "I'm doubling down," he said.

Massie poked fun at himself and Trump, at one point impersonating the president's voice when recounting a conversation between them. The congressman added that "he's probably the best president we've had in my lifetime."

"But if I think he's wrong on policy, or if I think one of his cabinet

members has misled him on policy, and they want us to vote on something ... I will speak up if I don't think it's following the Constitution," he said.

Greg Hunt, a Massie supporter at the event, said he likes that independent streak.

"Upsetting the apple cart is, in my opinion, not a bad thing," Hunt said. "I would like to see a little more cohesion within the

party, but I don't want group think, either. So I'm glad that he stands up and voices his opinion."

Accustomed to winning by lopsided margins, Massie became the first Republican incumbent in Congress to be targeted for defeat by Trump and his political team in the 2026 midterm elections. Kentucky's primaries take

See MASSIE on A-8

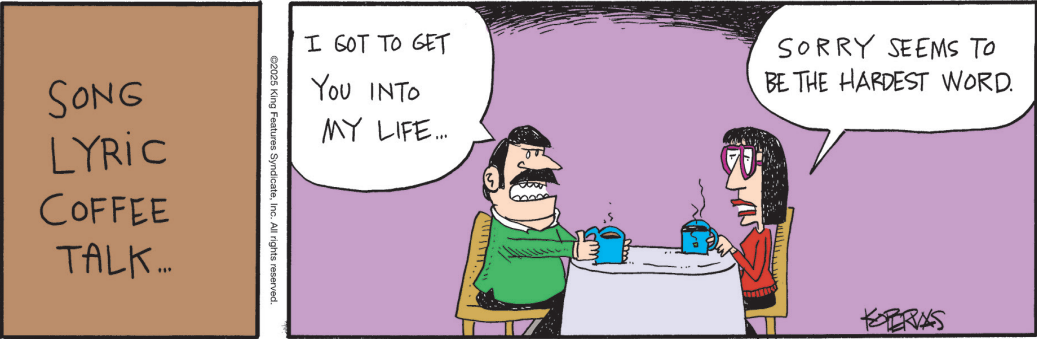
Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



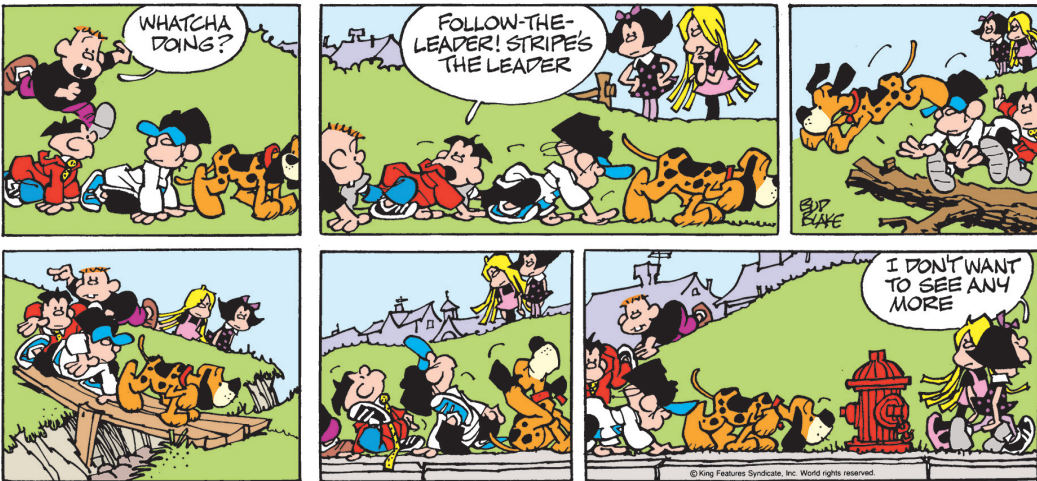
The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



TIGER

by BUD BLAKE

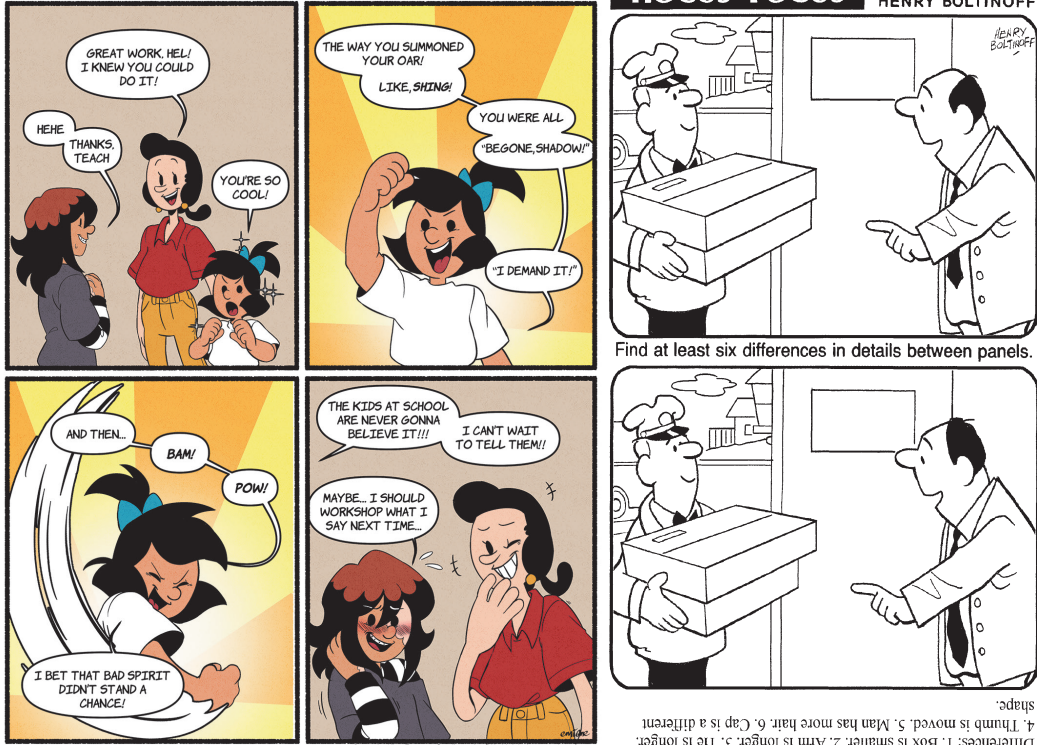


OLIVE

By Emi Burdge

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY 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: W equals L

BCWCMPRICFPQLRDIGB-CPR
CDAWGJY VQCI OYQ ORJ
KRLQJSJ KQP MCGDA CRJGWT
ICLVICF: WSPCF MTPQD.

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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!

Filth: M I R G E
Grasp: H A L E N D
Find: E L T A C O
Expire: R E S H I P

TODAY'S WORD

Even Exchange

by Donna Pettman

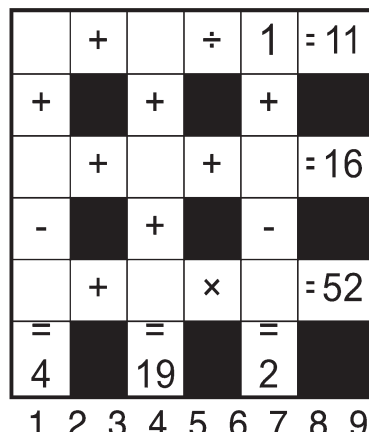
Each numbered row contains two clues and two 6-letter answers. The two answers differ from each other by only one letter, which has already been inserted. For example, if you exchange the A from MASTER for an I, you get MISTER. Do not change the order of the letters.

- Water flow — T — Munch painting — C —
- Creek — K — Witch's transportation — M —
- dioxide — B — Milk container — T —
- Beauty's admirer B — Banquet — F —
- Appropriate — R — Power forward — L —
- Scare — R — Air journey — L —
- Similar — K — Have being — V —
- Inn's guest — D — Forest worker — G —
- Harmony — E — Come in second — L —
- Up and about — K — Cognizant — R —

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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.

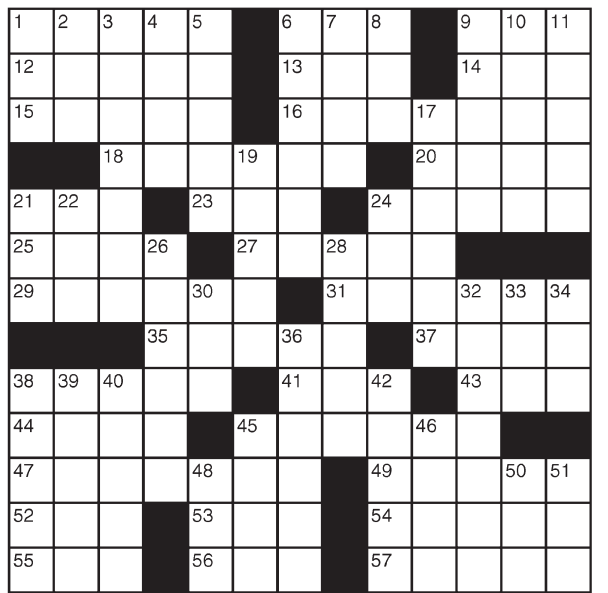


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King Crossword

ACROSS

- Surrenders
- Tennis match division
- Cover
- Fold
- Sch. founded by Jefferson
- Blackbird
- Shadow
- Utter disaster
- Bump into
- Soup cooker
- Cowboys quarterback Prescott
- Has an intense craving
- Actor Guinness
- Toothpaste holders
- Strange thing
- Deceived
- Welsh pooch
- Bargain
- "Downton —"
- ER workers
- Quilters' get-together
- Tragic king
- Rum cocktail
- TV anchor Norville
- "Glee" guitarist
- Packed away
- Historic period



DOWN

- PC's brain
- Shade tree
- Battled verbally
- Grey tea
- Composed
- Number puzzle
- Divisible by two

- Bar bill
- Shoe fasteners
- Cove
- Losing ventures?
- Tickled
- Nymph pursuer
- Kung — chicken
- Vintage
- Floral garland
- Roman orator
- Russian pancakes
- Playpen item
- Deducted
- kwon do
- Flamenco cheer
- Cracker type
- Actors Robert and Alan
- Borscht base
- Innocents
- Play for time
- Stallion's mate
- Operatic solo
- Rule, for short
- Chemical suffix
- Curved letter

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Weekly SUDOKU

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

Use your head

T	H	I	N	K

- Cogitate
- That which belongs to thee
- Just sitting there
- Earn
- Key role in old-time circuses
- Type of job or house

Solve each row by replacing one letter from the answer above or below and scrambling to make a new word. When complete, the top and bottom words will have no letters in common.

FiveSpot is a trademark of Michael McLinden. See more at www.sproutsudoku.com

02531

Trivia test

by Fifi Rodriguez

- MOVIES: In the United States, what is the title of the first Harry Potter movie?
- GEOGRAPHY: The Prime Meridian Line runs through which major city?
- HISTORY: When did federal child labor law start in the United States?
- ACRONYMS: What does the acronym VPN stand for?
- U.S. PRESIDENTS: Which president appeared on the 1960s comedy show "Laugh-In"?
- TELEVISION: Which teen show starred Mayim Bialik before she got the role as Amy Fowler on "The Big Bang Theory"?
- GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: Where did the Minoan civilization flourish?
- SCIENCE: What pH balance is considered neutral?
- LITERATURE: In which Shakespeare's plays does the character Polonius appear?
- ANIMAL KINGDOM: In which African country can the Bonobos species of ape be found in the wild?

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ANAGRAMS

Today's Word

1. Grime; 2. Handle; 3. Locate; 4. Perish

SCRAMBLERS

D	R	E	A	M
T	A	M	E	R
M	E	R	I	T
T	I	N	E	R
E	N	I	N	E
T	H	I	N	K

Solution

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

Answer

Weekly SUDOKU

templated; Lured Byron.

English poet who was famous for being easily tempted; Lured Byron.

CryptoQuip

Celebrated Romantic-era

Answer

- "Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone"
- Greenwich, London, England
- 1938
- Virtual Private Network
- Richard Nixon
- "Blossom"
- The Island of Crete
- "Hamlet"
- Democratic Republic of the Congo

King Crossword

Solution time: 26 mins.

Answers

4	=	19		2
6	+	7	×	4
	=	52		
	+		+	
8	+	3	+	5
	+		+	16
2	+	9	+	1
	+		+	11

Even Exchange

ANSWERS

- Stream, Scream
- Brook, Brown
- Carbon, Canton
- Best, Feast
- Proper, Propel
- Fight, Flight
- Awake, Aware
- Lodge, Logger
- Peace, Place
- Proper, Propel

Raiders from A-1

DZsawn Beason (23) followed with a punishing 13-yard run, bulldozing his way near the goal line. It wasn't long before the Raiders punched it in for the game's first touchdown, taking a 7-0 lead that set the tone for the night.

Bath County tried to respond but struggled to gain traction. Their opening drive featured a few short gains, but a failed fourth-down attempt quickly handed the ball back to the Raiders. East Carter's offense kept grinding, with Yoak and Beason alternating carries and wearing down the Wildcats' defense.

A costly penalty wiped out a Bath County touchdown later in the

quarter, and a turnover on downs sealed the fate of that drive. Meanwhile, the Raiders kept their foot on the gas. Beason powered his way into the end zone on a 15-yard run, extending East Carter's lead to 14-0.

Bath County managed to get on the scoreboard late in the first half, narrowing the gap to 14-6 with a touchdown of their own, but the Raiders headed into halftime firmly in control.

The second half was all East Carter. The Raiders' defense stepped up, forcing false starts and shutting down Bath County's run game. Hall ignited the crowd with a 23-yard kickoff return, giving the Raiders excellent field

position to start the half. Yoak then continued his relentless assault, breaking tackles and moving the chains with ease before finishing the drive with a touchdown run that pushed the lead to 21-6.

East Carter's defense then came through again, recovering a Bath County fumble and turning it into points. Quarterback Thomas Burton (1) connected with Chase McGuffin (2) on a beautifully executed touchdown pass that electrified the crowd and extended the lead to 28-6.

The Wildcats fought hard to mount a comeback, but penalties and turnovers kept setting them back. One particularly tense moment had everyone's

attention when Burton threw a high, blind pass that left McGuffin vulnerable to a hard hit by Bath County's Johnny Manley (16).

Not to be denied, Yoak ripped off a 19-yard run, and Burton scrambled for an impressive 34 yards before Hall wrapped up the scoring with a touchdown run, sealing the game at 41-6.

East Carter's dominance was clear on every level: powerful running backs, precise passing, and a suffocating defense that forced multiple turnovers and kept Bath County off balance all night. Yoak and Beason led the ground attack with determination, while Burton showed poise and leadership from behind

center.

But beyond the big win, the biggest story of the night was Yoak officially becoming East Carter's all-time leading rusher. It was a milestone moment for the senior, capping off a night where he proved he's not only one of the best players on the field but one of the best in the school's

history.

With this kind of performance, the Raiders aren't just playing to win; they're playing to make a statement that they're a team to watch all season long.

Contact the writer at news@cartercountytimes.com

Massie from A-6

place in May.

Whoever wins the Republican nomination will be heavily favored in the November general election in a district last represented by a Democrat two decades ago.

Both Massie and Paul have reputations for standing up to party leaders in Washington, a dynamic that Paul said puts them in good standing with voters back home.

"I think there's a difference between Kentucky and D.C.," Paul said Wednesday. "Oh, Thomas Massie or Rand Paul are unpopular in D.C. Well, that's why we're popular at home because people aren't very happy with what's going on in Washington."

So far, a handful of candidates besides Massie have filed with the Federal Election Commission for the campaign in Kentucky's 4th District — though none has received the backing of Trump or his political operation.

Trump aides are in no rush to put their firepower behind a candidate and see no reason to give Massie an opponent to attack for months, according to a Trump political adviser, who spoke on the condition of anonymity to discuss the internal dynamics of the race.

Massie has said he intends to file for reelection but also has openly talked about running for the Senate instead of his congressional seat. That would be contingent on former state Attorney General Daniel Cameron dropping his own Senate bid and running for Massie's seat, an option Cameron's campaign has rejected. Paul on Thursday expressed his own doubt about such a scenario for Massie, saying: "I don't think he's going to get in the Senate race. I think he's going to stay in the House race."

Paul said Massie would have a big lead against anyone joining the House race.

Rally from A-5

from Wendy's Restaurant. Time is 12 - 2 pm. Convenient parking available. If able, bring an item for a food drive collection at the event.

There will be music, and the following speakers will give brief remarks: Kay Tillow - coordinator of the All Unions Committee for Single Payer Health Care; George Wright - Former Army spokesman at Pentagon, retired soldier and founder & chairman of the Kentucky Democratic Veterans Council; Nancy Gowler - minister of First Christian Church, and; Ned Pillersdorf, an Eastern Kentucky attorney, running in the Democratic primary for Kentucky's 5th Congressional District.

Thanks, Ann Colbert

"The rallies that we've had, all the support from the state legislators, to me shows that it will be very hard to run against him," the senator said.

Massie's rocky relationship with Trump

Massie's up-and-down relationship with Trump took another plunge this year. The congressman opposed the massive tax breaks and spending cuts package that Trump calls "beautiful" but Massie says will grow the national debt and hurt the economy. Massie drew Trump's wrath for saying the president lacked authority to attack Iran's nuclear sites without congressional approval. And Massie has been at the forefront of efforts to force the public release of case files on the sex trafficking probe into the late Jeffrey Epstein.

Trump unleashed on Massie this summer on his social media platform.

"Thomas Massie, the worst Republican Congressman, and an almost guaranteed NO VOTE each and every time, is an Embarrassment to Kentucky. He's lazy, slow moving, and totally disingenuous - A real loser! Never has anything positive to add. Looking for someone good to run against this guy, someone I can endorse and vigorously campaign for!"

Massie said there's more at stake than his own future — the role of Congress to check presidential powers without fear of retribution.

"This race is a referendum on whether somebody can be independent within

the Republican Party," Massie said in an interview. "And a lot of my colleagues are watching this race. They ask me every week how it's going."

He said Trump's attacks on him are intended to keep his Republican colleagues in line.

The battle for bucks takes off

Bracing for a strong primary challenge, Massie has ramped up fundraising. He's averaged a half-million dollars in donations per quarter this year, he said, amassing more in a quarter than he typically raised in two years.

The MIT-educated Massie entered Congress in 2012. He represents a conservative district stretching across northern Kentucky that includes rural and suburban voters.

Massie's reputation as a contrarian willing to buck GOP leaders goes back years. In 2020, during Trump's first term, he tried to stall a COVID-19 relief package. Trump berated him then as a "third rate Grandstander" who should be tossed from the GOP. The smackdown was a bump in the road for Massie, who cruised to reelection. In 2022, Trump endorsed Massie, calling him a "Conservative Warrior" and a "first-rate Defender of the Constitution."

"People remember that, and they know that sometimes people get on his bad side and sometimes they're on his good side," Massie said.

Massie unleashes a preemptive attack

In the same interview,

Massie found a way to attack a candidate who remains hypothetical at this point.

"If they try to recruit a candidate who's politically aware, politically astute and they have existing political capital and name

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