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Carter County Times

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cartercountytimes.com

Vol. 6, No. 47

NEWS/ADVERTISING 606-225-1258

CARTER COUNTY, KENTUCKY

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2025

\$1.00 PER COPY

Training at the Mushroom Mines

Lawton limestone mine gets new owners

By Charles Romans
Carter County Times

The Lawton Limestone Mine has gone through several owners over the years. The Lawton Limestone company was incorporated in 1910 when according to abandonedonline.com, "A ledge 30-feet in thickness was quarried with the purest limestone shipped to the Ashland Iron Works for flux, with the refuse used for railroad ballast and agricultural purposes."

Sometime later (1917) businessman Watt Hillman operated an open-pit limestone company named the Tygart Limestone Company and eventually opened an underground mine at the quarry. Using gunpowder, mules, and wagons, Hillman's company drew rock from 2.6 million square feet of tunnels. But with the end of World War II the Tygart Limestone Company ceased operations and the mines – as well as the jobs they represented – ended their significant run.

The location was abandoned until the mid-1960's when it was considered as a growing location for a group of eastern Kentucky

See MINES on A-3



New fences surround the old Mushroom Mine as it's prepared for its new role as an underground training facility for mine safety. (Photo by Charles Romans, *Carter County Times*)

Celebrating a final season

Landon Yoak caps historic career at East Carter

By Brayleigh Boggs
Carter County Times

Last Friday night, star running back Landon Yoak put on his East Carter football uniform and helmet for the final time. While the game marked the end of his high school career, his legacy within the program will stretch far beyond his senior season.

Yoak has been a constant presence for the Raiders over the past four years; a name fans have grown accustomed to hearing over the loudspeakers and seeing in the headlines. His numbers tell the story of a player who refused

to slow down. He capped off his career with 4,450 rushing yards, 59 touchdowns, and an average of 137.1 yards per game from his sophomore through senior year. Those stats alone would place him among the best to ever wear East Carter's colors, but the impact goes deeper than the box score.

From the moment he stepped onto the varsity field, Yoak brought a combination of speed, vision, and leadership that made him the centerpiece of the Raiders' offense. Defenders knew what was coming but stopping him was another matter entirely. Week after week, he carried the ball and the team with a consistency that defined East Carter football during his tenure. He was a force to be reckoned with and the first name to appear

See YOAK on A-6



(Photo by Brayleigh Boggs, *Carter County Times*)

Fiscal court honors veterans and support organizations

By Charles Romans
Carter County Times

Carter County Fiscal Court opened their regular meeting last Monday (November 10), with direct acknowledgement to the struggles faced by Carter County residents. County Attorney Brian Bayes made a statement on Veterans Day before the opening prayer and set a tone of gratitude for those who have served the country.

"Tomorrow is Veteran's Day," Bayes said. "But I don't agree with the idea of only honoring veterans one day a year. The fact that we have a right to vote, you need to thank a veteran. The fact

that we are here today with members elected by the community to make the decisions for the best interests of our county, you need to thank a veteran. The reason that we are allowed to pray, and to go to the church we want to, you need to thank a veteran."

Judge Executive Brandon Burton also addressed fiscal court and all in attendance before the public comment portion of the meeting.

"With the federal funding shutdown, it has affected 2,300 households in our county. I want to take a moment to thank local churches and organizations with their outreach in our community," Burton said. "And with

their assistance to those who have struggled with the federal shutdown and have needed just a little help."

"We were sent every contact that our county has, so we could help direct those families to where help was offered," Burton told the court. "I am very grateful for the teamwork with emergency management, the City of Grayson, the City of Olive Hill, and our health department. I want to say thank you very much for your hard work, love, and dedication to your county."

In the public comment section of the meeting, Rene Parsons from the Business Cultivation

See VETERANS on A-6

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.

- Tiffany Triplett, 42, of Wheelwright, arrested by Kentucky State Police, on two counts of failure to appear, arrested and booked November 10.
- Billy James, 39, of Olive Hill, arrested by Kentucky State Police, on three counts of failure to appear, and three counts of non-payment of court costs, fees, or fines, arrested and booked November 11.
- Tyler Leadingham, 28, of Olive Hill, arrested by Boyd County Jail, on a charge of theft by unlawful taking or disposition – shoplifting, arrested and booked

November 12.

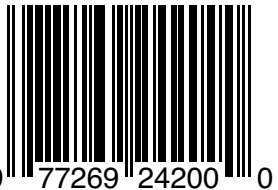
- Alexandria Smith, 30, of Grayson, arrested by Grayson PD, on a charge of fourth degree assault (dating violence) with minor injury, arrested and booked November 12.
- Magan Keith, 32, of Olive Hill, arrested by Grayson PD, on a charge of fourth degree assault (dating violence) with minor injury, arrested and booked November 12.
- Joseph Bailey, 40, of Olive Hill, arrested by Kentucky State Police, as a fugitive (no warrant required), and two counts of failure to appear, arrested and booked November 12.
- Tabitha Shenett, 38, of Grayson, arrested by Carter County Circuit Court, on a hold for drug court, arrested and booked November 12.
- Gary Skaggs, 30, of Olive Hill,

arrested by Olive Hill PD, on charges of second degree strangulation (domestic violence related), and two counts of fourth degree assault (domestic violence) with minor injury, arrested and booked November 13.

- Scott Temperio, 43, of Olive Hill, arrested by Kentucky Department of Corrections, charges unavailable, arrested and booked November 13.
- April Rogers, 43, of Grayson, arrested by Kentucky State Police, on charges of first degree trafficking in a controlled substance (up to two grams of methamphetamine), first degree trafficking in a controlled substance (10 or more dosage units, drug unspecified), possession of drug paraphernalia, and first degree promoting contraband, arrested and booked November 13.
- Barbara Counts, 54, of Grayson,

See ARRESTS on A-3

ISSN 2692-420X



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This Week's Obituaries

George Marshall Brammell, 80
Shirley Dean Blevins Knipp, 87

Patricia Ann Dean Keenum McLaurin, 86

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LIFESTYLE



The easiest (and cheapest) Thanksgiving sides you'll ever make

Thanksgiving has somehow earned a reputation as the culinary Olympics -- all pressure, no podium and plenty of sweating. Every year, home cooks everywhere find themselves elbow-deep in peeling, chopping and timing six different dishes to finish at exactly the same moment, as though Gordon Ramsay is about to burst through the door with a camera crew and a stopwatch. Let's release ourselves from that, shall we?

You don't have to spend a paycheck on side dishes. You don't have to spend three days prepping. And you absolutely don't need a sous-chef to pull off a beautiful, abundant Thanksgiving table.

What you do need is a handful of sides that are inexpensive, unfussy and wonderfully reliable -- the kind that come together quickly, don't require fancy ingredients, yet still make everyone at the table feel cared for.

This year, consider this your pre-holiday pep talk from me: Keep it simple, keep it affordable and let your sides work smarter, not harder.

We're leaning on some frozen vegetables that are budget friendly, with minimal prep and oven temps that play nicely together. In fact, all three roasted vegetable sides below cook at the same temperature and for the same amount of time.

If you're hosting a small gathering, you can roast 1 pound of each recipe (half) all together on one sheet pan, giving you three colorful, delicious sides for the time and effort of one.

HONEY GLAZED CARROTS

Yield: 6-8 servings
Total Time: 35 mins.

- 2 pounds carrots
- 1/4 cup honey or brown sugar
- 2 garlic cloves, minced
- 2 tablespoons melted butter
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1 1/2 teaspoons cinnamon
- 1/2 teaspoon ground ginger
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon pepper

Preheat oven to 425 F. Line a baking sheet with foil or parchment. Slice carrots on a diagonal into 1/2-inch pieces. In a mixing bowl, stir together honey, garlic, butter, oil and spices and toss the carrots to coat. Spread on a sheet pan; roast 20 minutes, tossing halfway. Serve warm.

To make Honey Glazed Cauliflower, substitute 2 pounds of frozen and thawed cauliflower for the carrots in the recipe (or fresh cauliflower cut into small florets and blanched).

ROASTED GARLIC GREEN BEANS

Yield: 6-8 servings
Total Time: 25 mins.

- 2 pounds frozen green beans, thawed and well-drained
- 1/4 cup olive oil
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- Salt and pepper, to taste

Heat oven to 425 F and line a sheet pan with parchment. In a large bowl, toss the green beans with olive oil, garlic, salt and pepper. Spread in a single layer and roast 15-20 minutes, until tender-crisp and lightly golden around the edges. Taste and adjust seasoning. Serve warm.

One more! Garlic Sauteed Spinach transforms bundles of fresh spinach into an easy, healthy, flavorful side dish in just 10 minutes.



Affordable, colorful and ready in minutes -- Thanksgiving made simple. (Photo Credit: www.JasonCoblentz.com)

GARLIC SAUTEED SPINACH

Yield: 4 servings
Total Time: 10 mins.

- 1 (12 to 16 ounce) bag fresh spinach
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 3 garlic cloves, minced
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon pepper

Heat oil in a large skillet over medium-high. Add garlic and saute for 30 seconds -- don't let it brown. Add all the spinach at once. Toss with tongs to coat in garlic and oil. Cover for 1 minute to steam, stir, repeat until wilted, about 5 minutes. Season and serve immediately.

Thanksgiving isn't a perfor-

mance; it's a gathering. Simplify where you can. Let these budget-friendly sides lighten your load. Go forth and feast. You've got this.

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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Ask Daryl: Your Professional Organizer

Knick-knacks galore!

Yes, we are collectors. There are souvenirs from our travels, memories from our childhood, gifts from our friends, glassware, thimbles, and the list goes on. This doesn't mean we are unusual or have a problem; because everyone has something they keep on display in their homes to show where we have been and who we are. The only thing that causes concern is when the things we own begin to take over our living spaces.



Daryl Ashley
Guest Columnist
Confusion Solution

So, what can we do to keep our experiences to a minimum? Taking stock of our knick-knacks every so often will give us an opportunity to see if those things are still memorable. If not, they can be given to family or donated. However, there is another option.

Grab some clear containers and select what you would like to have immediately on display. Let's say your trip to the Grand Canyon netted you photos, souvenirs, and books. Keep them

out and store the remaining items in the containers. You will reduce the clutter and be able to enjoy the moments you cherished during that trip. Then later, if you want a change, pull out the containers of other items and replace the Grand Canyon with family pictures or anything new and put that on display, for a while.

It's okay to collect. It's just more satisfying to keep things to a minimum.

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

Joyful Noise

Being happy on your journey

By Pastor Naomi Mitchell
for *Carter County Times*

Worry is a conversation you have with yourself about things you cannot change. Prayer is a conversation you have with God about things he can change. Fear is a conversation you have with yourself about what might go wrong. Faith is a conversation you have with God about what he can make right. Anxiety is a conversation you have

with yourself about what you lack. Gratitude is a conversation you have with God about what you already have. Complaining is a conversation you have with yourself about what's unfair. Prayer is a conversation you have with God about what he can restore. Guilt is a conversation you have with yourself about your mistakes. Wisdom is a conversation you have with God about how to move forward.

When one looks back

on the road one has walked, when one recollects every phase of one's journey, one sees that at every step, whether one's journey was arduous or smooth, God was guiding one's path, planning it out. It was God's meticulous arrangements, his careful planning, that led one, unknowingly, to today. To be able to accept the Creator's sovereignty, to receive his salvation -- what great for-

See *JOYFUL NOISE* on A-4

University of Kentucky Extension Notes

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

How to keep your livestock and fields safer from mud

As every livestock owner knows, mud is more than a nuisance. It robs animals of energy, wastes feed and tears up pasture. The good news is that a few wise choices about location and surface design can turn the worst trouble spots into firm, drainable ground that holds up month after month.



Rebecca Konopka
Carter County
Extension Agent

Start with placement
Heavy-use areas -- feeders, gates, mineral sites and waterers -- are best when set on a slight rise, not in a "bottom" or along a ditch. When you place these hubs on higher ground, you deal only with the rain that falls there, not with water flowing through from the rest of the field. That single decision cuts most of the mud before it is able to form.

Build a layered pad
Under any rock or gravel, separate soil from stone with felt-like, non-woven, geotextile fabric. Overlap seams by a foot or two, lay it flat, then cover with compacted dense-grade aggregate. Go easy with the first lift so you don't tear the fabric, then make sure it is well compacted. This simple fabric-plus-rock system spreads the load from hooves and traffic,

sheds water and resists rutting. When the surface loosens with use, add a thin layer of stone and compact again.

Choose the right surface for the spot

Concrete earns its keep around waterers, feed bunks and scraping lanes. Give it a rough finish -- rougher than a sidewalk -- to protect hips and joints. Where you want gravel but need more stability, plastic paver grids (think shallow egg cartons) lock rock in place and stop sloppy areas before they begin. Budget-friendly reinforcements, like filling old tires or cinder blocks with rock, can stiffen lanes and edges. Soil-cement can work for larger pads built in warm weather; use concrete where routine scraping is expected.

Daily habits that pay off

Keep hay off bare soil; once trampled into mud, it's lost feed and a future weed patch. Scrape manure before it dissolves into sludge. Avoid driving heavy equipment across wet ground to reduce ruts that channel more water during the next rain. Give animals a firm path to and from water and feed so they don't churn a single

patch into soup. Where animals access a stream, build one armored entry or crossing rather than letting the whole bank break down.

Fixing cow paths

Grazing animals form contour trails ("cow-touring") and single-file cow paths to save energy moving to water, feed and minerals. In wet weather, these routes can trough, erode, expose slick clay and become hard to traverse, especially on steeper slopes (cattle struggle above ~30%).

An all-weather path solves this by building a drainable base: excavate about eight inches, lay nonwoven geotextile, set recycled tire tread cylinders end-to-end in the trench and fill inside and around them with dense-grade aggregate. The tire tops finish at or just above grade. These paths provide firm footing year-round, cut energy costs for animals and protect fields from rutting and erosion.

To learn more about keeping mud out of your fields and stalls, contact the Carter County Extension office. Educational programs of the Cooperative Extension Service serve all people regardless of economic or social status and will not

See *LIVESTOCK* on A-3

Kentucky Dept of Agriculture Livestock and Grain Market Report

Compared to last week, feeder steers and heifers sold mixed throughout the week with some markets selling to 10.00 lower and some up to 10.00 higher. Demand was moderate to good with good supply. Bidders were active with best interest for weaned and vaccinated offerings. Yearling steers and heifers were 3.00 to 5.00 higher with good supply and good demand. Slaughter cows sold 2.00 to 4.00 lower and slaughter bulls mostly steady with good demand.

Week ending 11/8/25

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

	This Week	Prior Week	Last Year
Steers (M&L 1-2)			
350-400 lbs	420.35	432.39	317.39
400-450 lbs	408.94	415.00	300.4
450-500 lbs	395.98	395.11	285.99
500-550 lbs	375.55	377.73	269.76
550-600 lbs	363.40	362.27	264.12
600-650 lbs	343.61	347.76	251.60
650-700 lbs	333.60	339.46	250.82
700-750 lbs	324.74	332.19	239.78
750-800 lbs	320.23	332.52	232.97
800-850 lbs	321.90	320.94	230.59
850-900 lbs	315.65	316.29	220.11
Heifers (M&L 1-2)			
300-350 lbs	393.57	380.73	258.73
350-400 lbs	381.77	378.91	255.43
400-450 lbs	367.14	360.64	248.67
450-500 lbs	357.86	358.43	245.30
500-550 lbs	341.09	339.27	237.32
550-600 lbs	330.07	327.28	233.15
600-650 lbs	310.01	311.57	223.72
650-700 lbs	297.01	311.11	221.58
700-750 lbs	288.62	282.77	207.16
750-800 lbs	282.62	283.00	199.48

WEEKLY COW SUMMARY			
	Average	High	Low
Slaughter Cows			
Breakers	138.00-164.00	151.00-180.00	115.00-148.50
Boners	136.00-165.00	151.00-185.00	90.00-150.50
Lean	82.00-155.00	135.00-167.50	80.00-149.00
Slaughter Bulls			
Yield Grade 1&2	168.00-202.00	189.00-209.00	138.00-186.00

Oct 23, 2025 Bowling Green, KY
SLAUGHTER GOATS: 208
Kids - Selection 1 52 lbs 375.00; 72 lbs 345.00. **Selection 1-2** 92 lbs 305.00.
Selection 2 51 lbs 340.00; 64-65 lbs 260.00-340.00; 83 lbs 202.50.
SLAUGHTER SHEEP: 362
Hair Breeds-Choice & Prime 1-2 58 lbs 375.00; 70-78 lbs 307.50-320.00; 87-88 lbs 260.00-270.00; 108 lbs 235.00; 115-119 lbs 212.50-220.00. **Choice 2** 46 lbs 385.00; 57 lbs 350.00; 65 lbs 320.00; 75 lbs 295.00; 88 lbs 250.00; 112 lbs 215.00. **Wooled-Choice 2** 85 lbs 190.00; 100 lbs 137.50.

Week ending 11/8/25

	This Week	Prior Week	Last Year
GRAINS			
Corn	4.02-4.47	4.07-4.52	3.72-4.96
Soybeans	10.12-11.27	10.10-11.30	9.02-10.45
Red Winter Wheat	4.87-5.52	4.92-5.57	5.04-5.19

Arrests from A-1

arrested by Kentucky State Police, for non-payment of court costs, fees, or fines, arrested and booked November 13.

- Tammy Kaiui, 59, of Willard, arrested by Kentucky State Police, on two counts of non-payment of court costs, fees, or fines, arrested and booked November 13.
- Caleel Ware, 19, of Stone Mountain, GA, arrested by Grayson PD, on charges of alcohol intox-

ication in a public place, resisting arrest, menacing, and first degree disorderly conduct, arrested and booked November 14.

- Ryan Myers, 32, of Grayson, arrested by Kentucky State Police, on charges of second degree assault (domestic violence), failure to maintain required insurance, and operating a motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol, arrested and booked November 14.

- Maynard Howard, 55, of Isonville, self-surrender, weekender, arrested and booked November 14.
- William Yeager, 65, of Olive Hill, self-surrender, weekender, arrested and booked November 14.
- Cody Ison, 28, of Grayson, arrested by Kentucky State Police, for failure to appear, arrested and booked November 15.
- Devan Burchett, 34, of Grayson, arrested by

Carter County Sheriff, for failure to appear, arrested and booked November 15.

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.

Mines from A-1

mushroom growers and canners. The abandoned limestone mines were considered to be an ideal location for mushrooms due to their cool and constant temperatures that ran along a range between 50 and 58 degrees, as well as a high humidity of 85 percent.

Other characteristics that lent themselves to this use were the high ceilings, wide aisles, and vast chambers of the mines. And not only were the growing conditions thought to be an ideal match, but geographic and infrastructure benefits existed as well, checking off requirements to make the business viable. The Carter County mines were also near railway access so farms and racetracks could easily provide poultry and horse manure for the growth process.

Securing a loan from the EDA (Economic Development Administration) in the amount of \$376,000 in 1967, as well as additional funds from state and federal sources, Kentucky Mushroom Farms, Inc. began operations with 68 employees. Growing operations began in June of 1968, and the first shipments were sent out on Christmas Eve. The operation also boosted the Carter County economy in other ways as well, such as in the case of a local sawmill increasing its own number of employees to 50 to meet the needs of the growing operation.

Sadly, Kentucky Mushroom Farms, Inc. ceased operation in the mid 1980's, and the location once again was abandoned. Nearly a quarter of a century later, the location was embroiled in tragedy when the bodies of Gary and Cheryl Young, a missing Carter County couple, were found deep inside the mines. A grim note to a location that had provided so much for so many. But in 2006 it seemed as though the location would once again take an active part in the history of Carter County.

The location that had

been both limestone quarry and mushroom farm was set to contribute to the Information Age when it was purchased by a California company, Global Data Corporation, for \$996,000. Global Data Storage billed itself as a high-tech data storage company, and declared their intent to construct a secure, underground data storage center that would be one of the largest in the world. It was estimated to create between 1,200 and 1,500 good paying jobs in an area that historically needed jobs.

But the jobs it did create in the early phases of development and construction soon proved problematic. Many contractors reported not being paid by GDC for months, and soon allegations of malfeasance and fraud became a common discussion. Property transfers and sales, and unfulfilled bankruptcies followed, ultimately ending in the auction of the property.

Still, the history of the mines was not through being written. Local real estate agent JD Rayburn became involved with the property, knowing its true worth and value to not only Carter County but the City of Olive Hill as well.

"I had it listed for seven years," Rayburn said. "And there were a lot of problems with it. Jeffrey Scott Law Office helped me straighten a lot of that out."

Scott, he said, helped clean up all the legal red tape that GDC had embroiled the property in.

"After all that hard work, we finally found a buyer that had the patience to see it through," Rayburn said.

He also credited Danny Sparks, who was invaluable with supplying the history of the property. Others involved were Kentucky State Senator Robin Webb and Olive Hill Mayor Jerry Callihan, Carter County District Five Magistrate Harley Rayburn, Carter County District Four Magistrate Danny Holbrook, and

Olive Hill Council Member Eric Rayburn.

"There were a lot of people who helped me," JD Rayburn said.

He also credits the late Harley Williams and his sons George Williams and Cooper Williams, who let him begin dealing with the property years ago.

"I have been in real estate 29 years," Rayburn said, "and this is the hardest one I have ever worked on."

All of the hard work by Rayburn and others ultimately produced not only a sale of the property, but a future for it in the Olive Hill area. New Horizons Resources, LLC purchased the property and have announced plans to build a state-of-the-art training complex at the location. In a recent press release the Kentucky based company said, "Our vision is to transform this unique underground facility into a cutting-edge training complex designed to support various local, state, and federal entities in immersive underground training environments."

One of the company's three investors, Donnie Gatten, (along with David Ward and Brad Eschman) is a fourth generation Kentucky miner, and he said that he was thrilled to bring new purpose to the abandoned mine as well as a new name that he intends to be associated with the site for years to come, The Lawton Training Complex.

"What we are looking at doing is mine engineering, mine safety, and mine rescue," Gatten said. "We will be partnering with the University of Kentucky for some mine engineering training in two weeks, and then we will be partnering with the Kentucky Department of Mine Safety. They are planning on doing some mine rescue training there as well. And we will also be partnering with various state and federal agencies for training at the Lawton Training Complex."

"I was made aware of that site just sitting there vacant, and that it was for sale," Gatten said of

how the purchase of the property began.

Job Jarrell, who is Gatten's Son-In-Law and whose family has been in the area for generations, was the first one to bring it to his attention.

"When I came and looked at it, I knew it would suit our needs. Even though it looked pretty rough, I knew it had potential," Gatten explained.

What followed the purchase of the property was a lot of cleaning, and removal of the refuse that had built up over the years. There was also a need for fencing for safety and security reasons, because during the years that the mine was abandoned there were those who had used it as party spot of sorts. Now there are gates at the property entrance, along with razor wire topped fencing, and gates blocking access to the underground area.

There are also over 20 security cameras and security lighting, Gatten said.

"When we are doing some of this training, we can't have people wandering in because they could get hurt," he explained.

The potential danger is real, and warning signs shouldn't be ignored, he said. Some of the training, such as in the case of the University of Kentucky training, involves underground explosive testing.

Gatten, who is from the western part of the state, says that he has lived in Kentucky his entire life and is glad to have something like the Lawton Training Complex in the state.

"And I can't say enough about all the people in the area," Gatten said. "All the neighbors there have been very friendly while we were doing all the work to open up. And they have all had good things to say about us rehabbing that place."

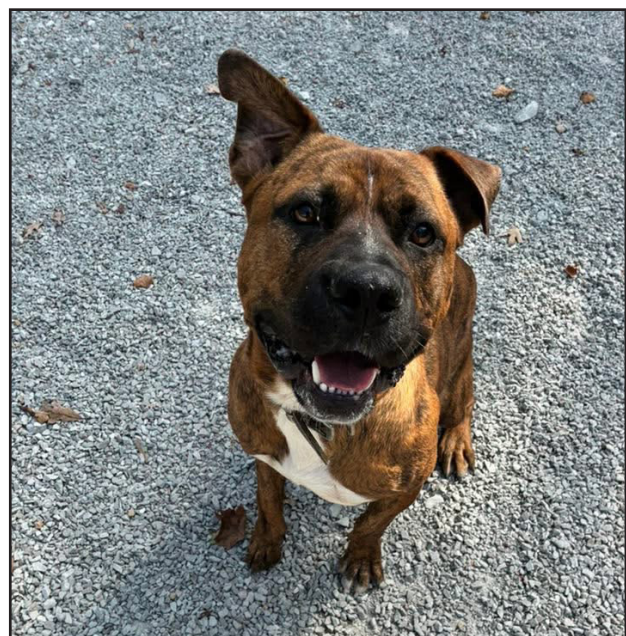
Contact the writer at charles@cartercountytimes.com

CALENDAR

- **11/20: Grayson Book Club @ 6 p.m.** | Carter County Public Library - Grayson
- **11/20: Olive Hill Area Chamber of Commerce @ 6 p.m.** | Commercial Bank - Olive Hill
- **11/21: Sit and Sew @ 9 a.m.** | Carter County Extension Education Center | For questions or to RSVP call 474-6686
- **11/24: Quilts for Veterans Sew Days @ 9 a.m.** | Carter County Extension Education Center | For questions call 606-474-6686
- **11/24: Open Art Studio @ 10 a.m.** | Grayson Gallery & Art Center
- **11/24: Girl Scouts meeting @ 6:30 p.m.** | Carter County Public Library - Grayson
- **11/25: Building Club @ 4 p.m.** | Carter County Public Library, Olive Hill
- **11/26: Olive Hill Book Club @ 5:30 p.m.** | Carter County Public Library - Olive Hill
- **11/28: Final Friday @ 6 p.m.** | Grayson Gallery & Art Center
- **12/1: Quilts for Veterans Sew Days @ 9 a.m.** | Carter County Extension Education Center | For questions call 606-474-6686
- **12/1: Open Art Studio @ 10 a.m.** | Grayson Gallery & Art Center
- **12/1: Carter County Tourism @ 5:30 p.m.** | Carter Caves State Resort Park
- **12/2: Building Club @ 4 p.m.** | Carter County Public Library, Olive Hill
- **12/2: Rattlesnake Ridge Water Distict Board meeting @ 4 p.m.** | Rattlesnake Ridge Water District office
- **12/2: Little Sandy Beekeepers Association @ 6:30 p.m.** | Carter County Extension Office | Topic: Bee Brains

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

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



Pet of the Week

Brody is a male boxer mix, around three-years-old. He's very friendly, good with other dogs, and loves attention. Brody has a \$100 adoption fee that 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.

Kentucky State Police arrest two following laser strike directed at aircraft

MAYSLICK - The Kentucky State Police (KSP) is investigating after a KSP helicopter experienced strikes from a laser device near Mayslick.

The incident occurred on Nov. 3, 2025, as KSP was responding to a report of a missing 11-year-old in Robertson County, which included assistance from

the KSP Aircraft Support Branch.

During the search for the juvenile, a KSP helicopter was subjected to multiple laser strikes near

the Mayslick community in Mason County. During the incident, the pilot and tactical flight officer were

See LASER on A-6

Livestock from A-2

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:

- Little Sandy Beekeepers – December 2nd @ 6:30 PM – Topic: Bee Brains

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

Commercial Bank of Grayson
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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.

Joyful Noise from A-2

tune that is! If a person has a negative attitude toward fate, it proves that they are resisting everything that God has arranged for them, that they do not have a submissive attitude. If one has a positive attitude toward God's sovereignty over human fate, then when one looks back upon one's journey, when one truly comes to grips with God's sovereignty, one will more earnestly desire to submit to everything that God has arranged, will have more determination

and confidence to let God orchestrate one's fate and to stop rebelling against God.

Let these reminders encourage your heart today. God loves you. God will protect you. God always hears you. God is always with you. God will give you peace. God will wipe every tear. God will never leave you. God will strengthen you. God will guide your steps. God knows what's best for you. God will bring you hope for the future. God will

provide for your needs.

Romans 8:31 says, "If God is for us, who can be against us?" You could also say, "what" can be against us. If Lazarus came out of the tomb, if Joseph came out of the pit, if the fire couldn't burn Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, if the storm couldn't drown Peter, and if the grave couldn't hold Jesus, then nothing can stop you when God is with you.

You can and will come out of your worries, fears and anxieties, and difficult

situations in the name of Jesus when you believe that with God all things are possible. Matthew 7:7 says, "Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and you shall find; knock, and it shall be opened to you." Philippians 4:13, God will give you strength for every battle, wisdom for every decision, peace that surpasses understanding. Isaiah 60:22, Keep the faith, for God can change your story. Very soon, you will smile and forget your moments of sadness. You

have learned many things over this life, and you will learn that the enemy is trying to knock you down, but he won't succeed because God is with you.

For NOVEMBER remember: N-Nurture your faith through prayer. O-Overflow with gratitude each day. V-Value his presence more than anything. E-Encourage others with his kindness. M-Meditate on his word daily. B-Be still and trust his plan. E-Embrace his peace in every season. R-Remember

his goodness always! Amen! So be it!

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

National collection week begins for Operation Christmas Child

KENTUCKY — The collection season for Operation Christmas Child, a project of Samaritan's Purse, begins this week as nearly 5,000 drop-off locations open across the country. Individuals, families and groups across Kentucky have the opportunity to pack a shoebox gift filled with fun toys, school supplies, and personal care items for children in need and drop them off now

during National Collection Week, Nov. 17 – 24.

Operation Christmas Child has been collecting and delivering shoebox gifts to children worldwide for more than three decades. In 2025, Operation Christmas Child hopes to collect shoeboxes throughout Kentucky to help with the global goal to reach another 12 million children. The project of Samaritan's Purse partners with local

churches across the globe to deliver these tangible expressions of God's love to children in need.

"Every shoebox gift is an opportunity to tell a boy or girl that God loves them. That's why we do what we do," said Franklin Graham, president of Samaritan's Purse. "I'm thankful for every single person who packs a shoebox because these simple gifts open the door for the

Gospel."

Participants can drop off their shoebox gifts at First Baptist Church in Grayson or use the locator tool at www.samaritanspurse.org to find a drop-off location and hours of operation.

Those who prefer the convenience of online shopping can browse samaritanspurse.org/buildonline to select gifts matched



(Submitted photo)

See CHRISTMAS on A-6

OBITUARY

Patricia Ann Dean Keenum McLaurin 1939 – 2025



and deep love for her children guided her through every difficulty. She faced life's trials with remarkable strength and grace, raising her family with integrity, humor, and determination.

Patricia was an avid reader, a lifelong learner, and a deeply spiritual woman who found joy in helping others and in exploring new ideas and beliefs. She treasured time with her children and grandchildren and exemplified compassion, curiosity, and kindness.

She was preceded in death by her husbands, Dale Keenum and Jesse McLaurin; her daughter, Debra Walker; her parents, Clyde and Stella Dean; her seven brothers – Cleotis, Levangle, Raginold, Eugene, Kendall, Lloyd, and Clyde (Baby) Dean; and her sister, Ruth Houston.

She is survived by her brother, Terry (Sue) Dean of Olive Hill, KY; her son, Rick (Patty) Keenum of Greenup, KY; her daughters, Goldie (Keith) Cumpston of Pahoehoe, HI and Diana (Philip) Dodds of Alachua, FL; seven grandchildren – Michael and Mathew Keenum, Jana and John Walker, Andrew, Ethan, and Leela Dodds; and four great-grandchildren – Lillian Keenum, Noah, Tobi, and Josh Keenum.

A private family gathering will be held at a later date to celebrate her life. A portion of her ashes and a memorial stone will be placed in the Dean Family Cemetery in Olive Hill, Kentucky, where generations of her family rest.

Patricia's family will remember her for her kindness, her willingness to help others, and her unwavering love for her family. Her humor, grace, and curiosity about the mysteries of life and spirit will continue to inspire all who knew her.

Patricia Ann Dean Keenum McLaurin, 86, of Alachua, Florida, passed peacefully early Saturday morning, November 8, 2025, after a long and courageous journey with Alzheimer's disease.

Patricia was born on April 14, 1939, in Olive Hill, Kentucky, to Clyde and Stella Dean. A 1956 graduate of Olive Hill High School, she soon moved to Washington, D.C., where she began her career in the secretarial pool for J. Edgar Hoover at the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Her professionalism and attention to detail set the foundation for a lifelong career in legal and executive administration.

She married her first husband, Dale Keenum, with whom she shared many years of adventure during his service in the U.S. Air Force. Together, they lived and traveled extensively around the world; including Taiwan, El Salvador, Iceland, and other posts both in the U.S. and abroad – experiences that deepened her appreciation for other cultures and her abiding curiosity about the world.

After Dale's passing in 1968, Patricia returned to Kentucky, where she continued her career for more than 30 years. In 1969, she married Jesse McLaurin. Although their paths eventually diverged, Patricia's steadfast spirit

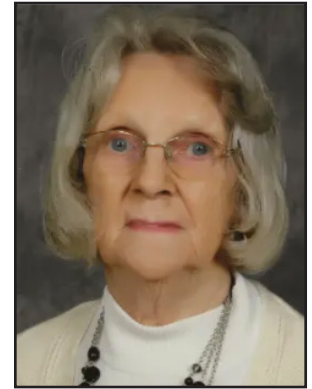
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Shirley Dean Blevins Knipp 1938 – 2025



Stephanie Knipp; two brothers, Boyd Blevins and James Carmel "Jim" Blevins; as well one sister, Sylvia Blevins Kuemin (Joe Kuemin).

Shirley is survived by her daughter-in-law, Lisa Knipp of Olive Hill, Kentucky; four grandchildren, Brian Lundsten (Danisha), Kayla Bailey (Brett), Shawn Knipp (Hallie), and Amanda Knipp; four great-grandchildren, Zander, Glennon, Ian, and Chloe. Additionally, she is survived by Gabrielle Bond, who she loved and considered her own. She leaves behind many other family members, church family, and friends who will sadly miss her.

Funeral services were held at 1 pm, Saturday, November 15th, at First Baptist Church in Olive Hill, Kentucky with Brother Roger Cline and Brother Eddie Barker officiating. Burial followed in Pleasant Valley Cemetery in Olive Hill, Kentucky.

Friends visited after 11 am, Saturday, November 15th, until the service hour, at First Baptist Church in Olive Hill, Kentucky.

Family and friends served as pallbearers.

Globe Funeral Chapel is honored to serve the family of Shirley Dean Blevins Knipp.

Mrs. Shirley Dean Blevins Knipp, age 87, of Olive Hill, Kentucky, went home to be with the Lord Thursday, November 13, at her home surrounded by her loving family.

She was born May 29, 1938, in Grahn, Kentucky, a daughter of the late Dennis and Bella Barker Blevins.

Shirley was a member of the First Baptist Church in Olive Hill and retired from the Carter County Board of Education as a Teacher's Aide. She enjoyed being with her grandchildren, great-grandchildren, shopping with her life-long best friend, Alyce Hammond, and attending church. Shirley was also known for her beloved cream candy which was enjoyed by so many.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband of 50 years, Lester Eugene Knipp; their son, Terry Knipp; a granddaughter,

Shirley was a member of the First Baptist Church in Olive Hill and retired from the Carter County Board of Education as a Teacher's Aide. She enjoyed being with her grandchildren, great-grandchildren, shopping with her life-long best friend, Alyce Hammond, and attending church. Shirley was also known for her beloved cream candy which was enjoyed by so many.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband of 50 years, Lester Eugene Knipp; their son, Terry Knipp; a granddaughter,

George Marshall Brammell 1945 – 2025



loving wife of 57 years, Barbara Ann Flannery Brammell; two daughters, Angela (Art) Daughtrey and Jodi (Bob) Conley, both of Grayson; four grandchildren, Dr. Korey Brammell, Dr. Ryann Conley, Kaitlyn Conley, and Colin Pennington-Conley; a sister, Donna Brammell Bush of Grayson; two brothers, Dr. Fred Brammell (Susan) of Richmond, KY, and Dr. Timothy Brammell (Debbie) of Nicholasville, KY; along with countless close friends and extended family who mourn his loss.

Funeral services will be held 1 pm, Wednesday, November 19, 2025, at the Malone Funeral Home in Grayson, with Bro. Tom Riffe officiating. Burial will follow at Grayson Memorial Burial Park. Visitation will be 6-9 pm Tuesday and after 11 AM on Wednesday until the service hour.

In this time of sorrow, the family invites you to share your condolences online at www.malonefuneralhome.com (<http://www.malonefuneralhome.com>). George will be deeply missed, but his spirit will live on in the hearts of all who knew and loved him.

Those honored to serve as pallbearers will be: his grandsons Dr. Korey Brammell and Colin Pennington-Conley, and his nephews Dr. Ben Brammell, Randall Redmond, Michael Kibbey, Drew Brammell and Erik Kibbey.

In lieu of flowers memorials are suggested to: Fostering Possibilities, 310 S Carol Malone Blvd, Grayson, KY 41143

George Marshall Brammell, 80, of Grayson, went to be with his Lord and Savior on Saturday, November 15, 2025, at his residence, surrounded by his loving family.

Born on September 13, 1945, in Leon, KY, George was the son of the late Fred P. and Grace Sammons Brammell. He is reunited in rest with his beloved sister, Glenna Brammell Morris Sturgill, and his two brothers-in-law, Ralph Sturgill and Johnny Bush.

George was a proud graduate of Prichard High School, class of 1963, and continued his education at Morehead State University. He devoted his career to serving others as a VA adjudication division supervisor before retiring after 37 years. A dedicated member of Pactolus Methodist Church, he found solace and strength in his faith.

An ardent fan of UK sports, George cherished the time spent cheering on his favorite teams and was especially passionate about watching his grandchildren participate in their own athletic pursuits. His family meant the world to him, and he will be lovingly remembered for his unwavering support and encouragement.

He is survived by his

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Carter County Times

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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

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

M

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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.

Perspectives

A response to a viral TikTok experiment

Anytime "research" is done it is important to ask questions like, was the data properly analyzed? Or are the findings skewed by any personal bias or poor experiment methodology? Such questions simply were not given consideration in the social experiment that has gone viral on TikTok, where a helpless mother of a starving baby in need of formula calls upon different spiritual centers for help. For any experiment, there are always data outliers that can significantly impact the results and therefore they must be investigated to determine if they erroneously misrepresented the data. An explanation of tithing practices is one such outlier. To better understand how this would affect the results of this experiment, a short explanation is given below.

Muslims pay in Zakat (alms) and is mandatory as one of the 5 pillars of Islam. Zakat is broken down into multiple forms; depending on what type of Muslim you are and your income (think like a tax), you are required to pay. Some Muslims also are required to pay in an additional tax to their mosque called a khum. It can be as much as 20% of your income. Revenues are often very high.

Catholics often differ on their interpretation of tithing, but it is generally accepted to be 10% of one's income. It is not required, but selfless giving or sacrificial offering is taught to be one's duty to the church. Revenues are often high and therefore are able to provide a wide array of charitable resources to local communities; often having an entire organized network of charities.

Buddhists have no explicit rules for tithing, just implied. Monks teach an extremely minimalistic and "selfless" lifestyle...to which many followers equate to giving most of what they have back to the monk and/or temple to prove one's selflessness and help in their journey towards nirvana or enlightenment.

Revenues are often very high.

Your local Christian church is quite different and teachings on tithing vary from church to church. Though many do teach the standard 10% tithing rule, it is never expected or mandatory and is always taught as "whatever you and your family can spare".

With individual's desires for unnecessary pleasures steadily increasing, "what you and your family can spare" has steadily

See **TIKTOK** on A-8

Faith without works - in the age of SNAP

By Emily Sherman Burton
Forward Kentucky

If community churches spend more on stage lighting than feeding the hungry on their doorsteps, then they have both lost their soul and the faith of their followers.

Somerset pastor and great-grandpa Johnny Dunbar knew he needed to take notes for the upcoming conversation with a stranger.

"Good Start, like for infants," Dunbar is heard to say, nearly to himself over the phone, probably already writing it down. "Infant formula."

This was an important request recently of his church, Heritage Hope Church of God in Somerset, though he'd never met the woman and her crying infant on the other end of the line.

"Well, let me ... I'll see if I can get somebody to do this. We can do this," Pastor Dunbar said. "Tell me what it is called in case I have to go get it. Because I'm a great-grandpa, I'm not used to picking up formula, ok?"

What social media creator Nikalie Monroe actually wanted by calling Dunbar's church was nothing so expensive - just a simple yes. When a mother of a starving infant calls in desperate need, who will help her? Which church will say yes?

In the world of social media, Monroe rocketed to the top last week after her recent social experiment: calling churches with a simple request, a single can of baby formula, as she records the exchange. For the record, the crying baby was a recording and she did not accept any cans of formula if offered.

As of last weekend, she's received 10 offers of help from religious institutions, but 33 refusals, including those from the mega churches of Joel Olsteen in Houston and Charlie Kirk in

See **SNAP** on A-8

Carter County Times
Members of the Editorial Board
Nicole Wells, publisher
Jeremy Wells, editor Keith Kappes, columnist



"YOU SHOULD STOP DOING THAT UNTIL THE DEMOCRATS CAME IN."

Fear itself can be a scary thing

It was a Wednesday night in the fall of 1989. I was twelve years old, sitting in a half-empty sanctuary at our small country church. Midweek services were never well attended—maybe ten or twelve people in total. That particular night our pastor had brought a whiteboard, treating it more like a class than a sermon.

I'll admit, my attention wandered. I probably thumbed through the hymnal or stared at the ceiling, anything to pass the time. The lesson wasn't aimed at a middle schooler anyway. But I remember the moment our pastor drew a strange symbol on the board and asked if anyone knew what it was.

I leaned toward my mom and whispered, "Isn't that Pisces?"

It wasn't. It was the ichthys—a fish symbol used by early Christians. But in a sanctuary that small, a whisper might as well have been shouted. The pastor heard me and asked me to repeat it aloud. I hesitated, not because I was shy, but because I wasn't sure. When I finally said it, he didn't correct me gently. Instead, he turned to the group and launched into a "what's wrong with our youth today" diatribe.

My wrong answer became his example. I was mortified—but, unintentionally, I had proved his point. The series he was teaching was about the dangers of the "New Age movement."

The New Age movement had emerged in the 1970s, drawing on astrology, Eastern spirituality, and all sorts of mystical ideas. It spread mostly among the counterculture crowd, particularly along the West Coast. Know where it didn't take root? Rural Kentucky. And know who wasn't exactly the target demographic? Twelve-year-old Kentucky kids. My answer may not have been right, but I wasn't exactly conducting séances while singing "The Age of Aquarius" either.

Looking back, I know our pastor meant well. He truly believed this New Age philosophy posed a threat to Christianity. His concern wasn't malicious—it was misplaced. His fear was genuine; the danger was not.

Fear itself isn't inherently bad. At its best, it's a safeguard—our instinct to avoid real harm. For instance, I have a healthy fear of snakes. Maybe it's stronger than it needs to be, but it's kept me from ever getting close enough to be bitten. But irrational fear? That's another story.

History gives us no shortage of examples. Take Salem, Massachusetts, in the 1690s. For fifteen months, hysteria swept through the town after a handful of young girls accused others of witchcraft.

See **FEAR** on A-6



Tommy Druen
Guest Columnist
Carter County Times

The Epstein files and the rot at the top

Every few months, another headline drops and we're reminded just how deep the rot goes. The Epstein files, once dismissed as rumor, are now public — and the names are exactly who you thought they'd be.

I'll just add to the social dog pile here and say the quiet part out loud: remember when Pam Bondi said there were no Epstein files but now there magically are? Yeah. I remember that, too. And now we're watching Trump squirm because he was homies with a known pedophile. The apologists will pretend it's not a big deal, but it is. The cabal of power above us is real and they're weirdos living in their own reality. We saw it with Diddy and now we're seeing it with the Epstein melee. Trump's hands are dirty. At this point, if you're defending him, that's questionable on you.

The Epstein files should be a national crisis. Instead, it's another tab we scroll past between cat videos and war footage. We've seen so many monsters unmasked that it barely registers anymore.

But here's the kicker — we've been here before. And if you're reading this saying, "if the Democrats had them, why didn't they bring them out?" I'm with you on that logic. Everyone involved should have to pay the moral cost of going to some sketchy island. I don't own Clinton shoes; a Clinton flag doesn't hang outside my house. I don't care what happens to Bill

Clinton. I know he's plenty dirty himself.

We were told "the laptop didn't exist," or "the flight logs were nothing," and "there was no list." This is all part of the disinformation campaign by the elite. And honestly, at this point, we live within a weird, altered reality of who's to blame — conspiracy feels like the normal mode these days. Clinton, Dershowitz, Trump, Gates — people who built empires off access are all listed as connected. It's the same set of creeps who toast each other on yachts and lecture the rest of us about morality.

At the root of all this is money. Money buys silence. The more obvious the lie, the less anyone wants to admit it. You don't send a birthday card to a guy you barely know — Trump's relationship with Epstein wasn't casual. And now he's suing comedians and threatening journalists because that's easier than explaining why his name's on the flight logs.

We shouldn't be taking sides based on political identity but instead maybe asking why the same group of rich freaks are allowed to fly into a known predator's island. The ruling class treats scandal like it's something enough propaganda and money can wave away, considering how beaten down we are by their antics and slaps on the wrist. Do I think anything will

See **ROT** on A-6

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.

Christmas from A-4

to a child's specific age and gender, then finish packing the virtual shoebox by adding a photo and personal note of encouragement. Shoebox gifts built online go to the ends of the earth to children in some of the

hardest-to-reach places—whether deep jungles, city slums, steep mountainsides, or one of the more than 1,000 remote Pacific islands.

Operation Christmas Child, a project of Sa-

maritan's Purse, seeks to demonstrate God's love in a tangible way to children in need around the world and, together with the local church worldwide, to share the Good News of Jesus Christ. Since 1993,

Operation Christmas Child has collected and delivered more than 232 million gift-filled shoeboxes to children in more than 170 countries and territories.

Veterans from A-1

Foundation in Grayson spoke to the court about her contract with the county, which is due for renewal. Parsons also introduced several members of the community who had applied during the year for grants from the county's Opioid Abatement Fund. In all there were over thirty grant applications that BCF (who had been tasked with reviewing proposals) had presented to the court,

with many more applications that still need to be processed.

Several of those who applied for grants have also applied to be on the proposed Opioid Advisory Board, which once implemented will assist the court in looking over applications based upon established criteria which include adherence to state guidelines, viability, and sustainability of those

proposed programs in the county. Applicants present at the meeting included Future Problems Solvers from West Carter High School, the Olive Hill Center for Arts and Heritage, Carter County 4H, Wilson Athletics, and the Auxiliary of the Willard American Legion.

There was no vote by the fiscal court to either approve or deny the grant proposals made by those

present at the meeting. The court voted to set the public hearing for Sassafras Road for December 8, and voted to accept the county clerk's quarterly report. The treasurer's report was also accepted, as were claims and transfers.

Contact the writer at charles@cartercountytimes.com

Recognizing hometown heroes

West Carter High School Student Council for Carter County Times

West Carter High School Student Council has started a campaign, "Hometown Hero" to honor and highlight upstanding and inspiring members of our community. November's Hometown Hero is Hadesah Patton!

A note from our Hero:

Giving back to my community has always been at the heart of who I am. I graduated as the Class President of West Carter High School's Class of 2024, where I was honored to receive the Presidential Award for three consecutive years and proudly serve as both an FCCLA leader under Martha Henderson and an FCS Ambassador. For the past six years, I've had the privilege of working with the West Carter High School Volleyball Team, keeping stats and supporting the athletes I've grown to admire.

As a freshman, I started my small business, Sunshine Clay, in memory of my former elementary teacher, Leigh Williams



Hadessah Patton (submitted photo)

—turning creativity into compassion by donating proceeds to brain cancer research. Through hard work and community support, Sunshine Clay was honored with the Kentucky Invest 606 Small Business Award, reminding me of the power of purpose.

Today, through my service with AmeriCorps at Tygart Creek Elementary School, I continue to serve the Olive Hill community, leading Project Prom and Unite Club with both ele-

mentary and high school students to inspire the next generation of young leaders and provide opportunities for community engagement and student growth.

None of this would be possible without my amazing family, my friends who always show up, Martha Henderson, educators, and coworkers. Their love, encouragement, and constant support have shaped me into who I am today and remind me why I love

giving back to the place I call home.

My future goal is to graduate from Morehead State University with a degree in Elementary Education and return to Olive Hill to make a difference in the lives of the next generation — promoting community involvement and helping my students see that they truly can make a difference. "When you can't find the sunshine, be the sunshine." — Leigh Williams

Fear from A-5

More than two hundred people were accused, thirty were convicted, and nineteen were hanged. One man was pressed to death under stones for refusing to confess. Five more died in jail. All because of an invisible threat that existed only in fear.

Of course, that was the 17th century—surely we'd grown past such madness, right? Maybe not. Those of us who grew up in the 1980s remember another wave of mass hysteria: the "Satanic Panic."

It's hard to overstate how widespread it was. Across the country, more than 12,000 accusations emerged of ritual sacrifice and child abuse supposedly committed by devil-wor-

shipping cults. People claimed Satanic messages were hidden in heavy metal records, comic books, and even Dungeons & Dragons. Talk show hosts stoked the flames, and lives were destroyed in pursuit of a phantom menace.

In the end, no credible evidence ever surfaced. The only real thing about the Satanic Panic was the damage it caused—innocent people accused, families torn apart, and a generation taught to fear shadows.

And yet, the cycle always repeats. In 2016, social media gave birth to another moral panic—"Pizzagate." This time, it was claimed that high-ranking politicians

were running a child trafficking ring out of a Washington, D.C. pizzeria's basement. The fact that the restaurant didn't even have a basement didn't matter. A man from North Carolina showed up with an assault rifle to "rescue" the children anyway.

Fear, when left unchecked, spreads faster than reason. It leaps from Salem to the suburbs, from pulpits to podcasts. It adapts to its time and technology, but its root is the same: ignorance.

The 19th-century writer Christian Nestell Bovee once said, "We fear things in proportion to our ignorance of them." That may be the most enduring truth of all.

I'm not suggesting we should be fearless. There are plenty of things in this world worth fearing. But the one fear we should all cultivate—the one that might keep us safest—is fear of ignorance itself. Because if we ever stop questioning, stop learning, stop discerning truth from hysteria, we're bound to repeat the same mistakes.

The witches of Salem are long gone. The Satanic cults of the '80s never existed. And the only thing hiding in the basement of that D.C. pizzeria was our own collective gullibility.

When we fear knowledge less and ignorance more, maybe then we'll finally break the spell.

Laser from A-3

repeatedly struck by a laser beam directed at the aircraft from the ground. The tactical flight officer sustained possible physical injury to his eyes as a result of the laser exposure.

In addition to the laser strikes, suspects on the ground allegedly fired multiple rounds from a firearm toward the aircraft. Both the laser and gunfire

posed a serious threat to the safety of the flight crew and individuals on the ground. A laser strike on an aircraft can temporarily blind or disorient the pilot, potentially leading to catastrophic consequences.

Through the coordinated efforts of the KSP Aircraft Support Branch and local troopers, the two individuals responsible

for the dangerous actions toward the aircraft were located and arrested at a residence in the 4100 block of US 62 near Mayslick. The suspects were identified as Jason McKee, 49, of Mayslick and Donald W. Boone, 55, of Aberdeen, OH. Both individuals were lodged in the Mason County Detention Center and were charged with the

following offenses.

- Jason L. McKee
•Wanton Endangerment, 1st Degree- Police Officer
•Wanton Endangerment, 1st Degree- Discharge of Firearm
•Laser/Vision Interference Light Directed at Aircraft with Disrupted Travel

- Donald W. Boone
•Wanton Endangerment,

Yoak from A-1

on every opponent's scouting report.

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lights. His story is one of perseverance, consistency, and pride in representing East Carter.

For the fans who cheered his every run, and for the teammates who lined up beside him, Landon Yoak will always

CLASSIFIEDS

PUBLIC NOTICES

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY CARTER CIRCUIT COURT CASE NO. 24-CI-00328 UMB BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY, BUT SOLELY AS LEGAL TRUSTEE OF PRL TITLE TRUST II PLAINTIFF VS. NOTICE OF SALE DEFENDANTS UNKNOWN HEIRS OF JAMES JEREMY WILLIAMS A/K/A JAMES J. WILLIAMS A/K/A JAMES WILLIAMS; MELISSA SUE BLEVINS A/K/A MELISSA BLEVINS A/K/A MELISSA SUE WILLIAMS A/K/A MELISSA S. WILLIAMS A/K/A MELISSA SUE SPARKS A/K/A MELISSA S. SPARKS, EXECUTOR/EXECUTRIX OF THE ESTATE OF JAMES JEREMY WILLIAMS; ALYSSA WILLIAMS A/K/A ALYSSA GRACE WILLIAMS, A MINOR CHILD; GE MONEY BANK; AND UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF JAMES JEREMY WILLIAMS A/K/A JAMES J. WILLIAMS A/K/A JAMES WILLIAMS Pursuant to the Judgment and Order of Sale in the Carter Circuit Court, entered on October 17, 2025, I shall offer for sale the property described herein at public auction on the Courthouse steps of the old Carter County Courthouse, 300 West Main Street in Grayson, Kentucky, on the 5th day of December, 2025 at or near the hour of 10:10 a.m., to the highest bidder on the following terms: The aforementioned real estate shall be sold as a whole. The real estate shall be sold on a credit of thirty (30) days, with the privilege of the purchaser to pay for bid in cash in full, and if not paid in full then the purchaser shall make a cash down payment of at least ten percent (10%) of the purchase price to cover the costs of the judicial sale; and the purchaser shall execute a bond for the remainder of the purchase price, with good surety thereon, to be approved by the Master Commissioner of this Court, and bearing interest at the rate of 11.84% per annum from the date of the sale, until paid; additionally, a lien shall be retained upon the real estate to be sold herein, to secure the payment of the balance of the purchase price within thirty (30) days of the date of sale upon which execution may be levied by the Master Commissioner of this Court. Description of the Property: 1242 State Highway 2078, Olive Hill, KY 41164. (For Legal Description see LSO: Deed Book 62, Page 432, Carter County Clerk's Office.) Map/Parcel ID Number: 033-10-00-008.01. NOTE: Only delinquent ad valorem taxes shall be paid from the sale proceeds. The Purchaser shall be responsible for payment of the taxes for the current year and thereafter. Honorable John P. Thompson Master Commissioner Carter County, Kentucky

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY CARTER CIRCUIT COURT CASE NO. 23-CI-00383 SELECT PORTFOLIO SERVICING, INC. PLAINTIFF VS. ANP TAX LIEN COMPANY, LLC DEFENDANT/ CROSS-CLAIMANT VS. LARANNA L. MAY F/K/A LARANNA BATES DEFENDANTS A/K/A LARANNA LYNN BATES NOTICE OF SALE Pursuant to the Judgment and Order of Sale in the Carter Circuit Court, entered on October 7, 2025, I shall offer for sale the property described herein at public auction on the Courthouse steps of the Carter County Courthouse, 300 West Main Street in Grayson, Kentucky, on the 5th day of December, 2025 at or near the hour of 10:05 a.m., to the highest bidder on the following terms: The aforementioned real estate shall be sold as a whole. The real estate shall be sold on a credit of thirty (30) days, with the privilege of the purchaser to pay for bid in cash in full, and if not paid in full then the purchaser shall make a cash down payment of at least ten percent (10%) of the purchase price to cover the costs of the judicial sale; and the purchaser shall execute a bond for the remainder of the purchase price, with good surety thereon, to be approved by the Master Commissioner of this Court, and bearing interest at the rate of 6% per annum from the date of the sale, until paid; additionally, a lien shall be retained upon the real estate to be sold herein, to secure the payment of the balance of the purchase price within thirty (30) days of the date of sale upon which execution may be levied by the Master Commissioner of this Court. Description of the Property: 209 S. Hill Street, Grayson, KY 41143. (For Legal Description see LSO: Deed Book 66, Page 322, Carter County Clerk's Office.) Map/Parcel ID Number: 104-10-46-011.00. NOTE: Only delinquent ad valorem taxes shall be paid from the sale proceeds. The Purchaser shall be responsible for payment of the taxes for the current year and thereafter. Honorable John P. Thompson Master Commissioner Carter County, Kentucky

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY CARTER CIRCUIT COURT CASE NO. 23-CI-00432 U.S. BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR LB-RANCH SERIES V TRUST PLAINTIFF VS. NOTICE OF SALE DEFENDANTS DONALD B. FRAZIER A/K/A BRIAN FRAZIER; BARBARA FRAZIER Pursuant to the Judgment and Order of Sale in the Carter Circuit Court, entered on October 14, 2025, I shall offer for sale the property described herein at public auction on the Courthouse steps of the old Carter County Courthouse, 300 West Main Street in Grayson, Kentucky, on the 5th day of December, 2025 at or near the hour of 10:00 a.m., to the highest bidder on the following terms: The aforementioned real estate shall be sold as a whole. The real estate shall be sold on a credit of thirty (30) days, with the privilege of the purchaser to pay for bid in cash in full, and if not paid in full then the purchaser shall make a cash down payment of at least ten percent (10%) of the purchase price to cover the costs of the judicial sale; and the purchaser shall execute a bond for the remainder of the purchase price, with good surety thereon, to be approved by the Master Commissioner of this Court, and bearing interest at the rate of 11.2488% per annum from the date of the sale, until paid; additionally, a lien shall be retained upon the real estate to be sold herein, to secure the payment of the balance of the purchase price within thirty (30) days of the date of sale upon which execution may be levied by the Master Commissioner of this Court. Description of the Property: 68 Sparks Road, Olive Hill, KY 41164. (For Legal Description see LSO: Deed Book 239, Page 451, Carter County Clerk's Office.) NOTE: Only delinquent ad valorem taxes shall be paid from the sale proceeds. The Purchaser shall be responsible for payment of the taxes for the current year and thereafter. Honorable John P. Thompson Master Commissioner Carter County, Kentucky

Rot from A-5

happen to Trump, Clinton, Gates, or the others? No. I live in reality. Money gets you out of everything.

But you can't call yourself the party of law and order while defending a guy on the same flight logs as a predator. Either you

believe in justice, or you believe in your team jersey. You can't have both. And if this doesn't bother you, maybe the problem isn't the files — it's us.

Email us at news@cartercountytimes.com

1st Degree- Police Officer referred to the Federal Bureau of Investigation for possible further charges

stemming from the incident. The investigation remains ongoing by Tpr. Caleb Hamm.

Yoak from A-1

on every opponent's scouting report.

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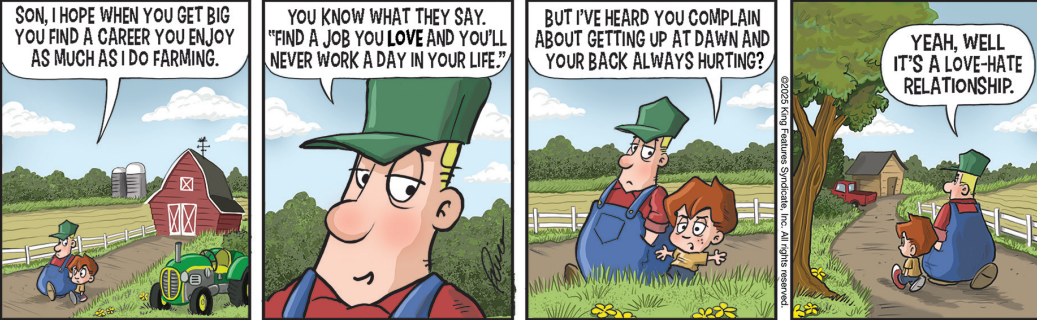
be known as more than just a running back. He was the heartbeat of East Carter football. He will always be the standard of work ethic and perseverance for the future of Raider football. He embodies the motto listed on the

back of every one of their helmets, "CCC": courage, commitment, and character.

Contact the writer at news@cartercountytimes.com

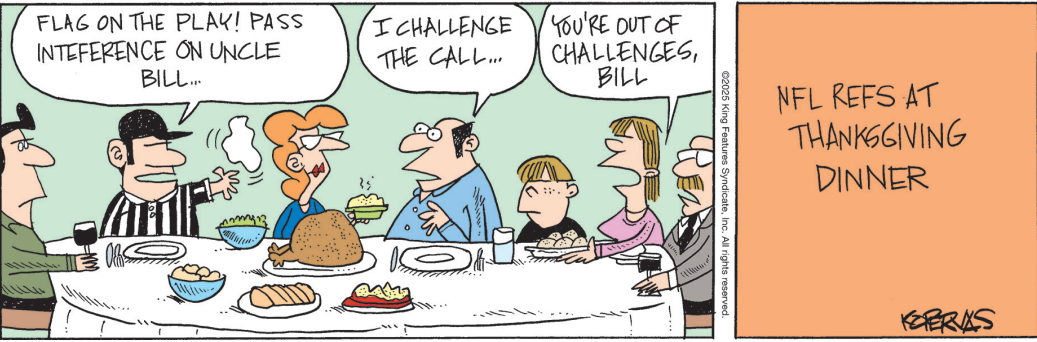
Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



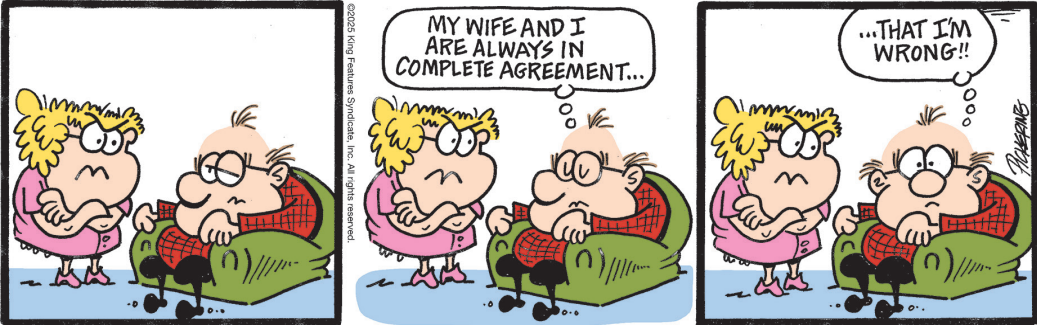
Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



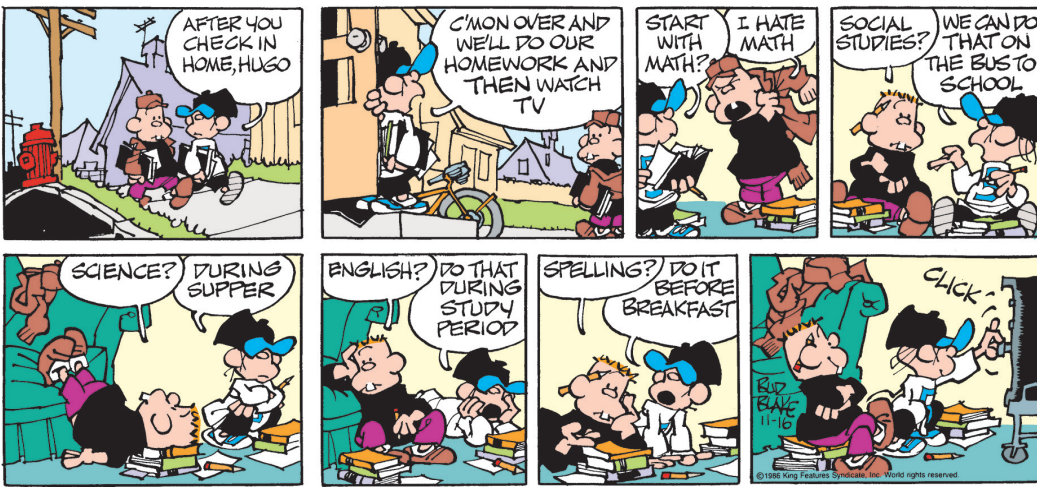
The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



TIGER

by BUD BLAKE



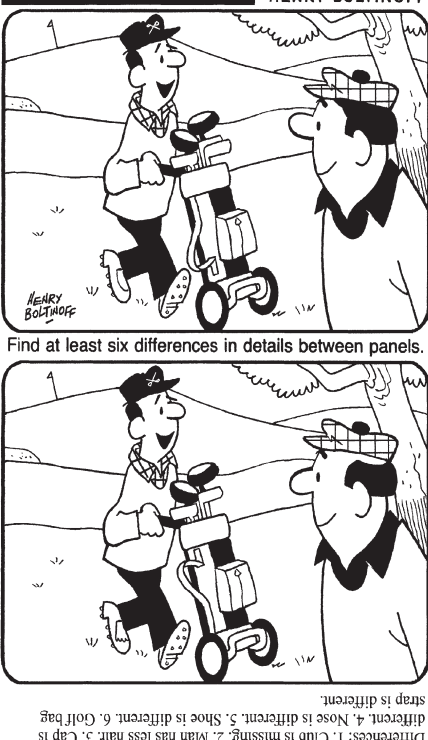
OLIVE & POPEYE

By Randy Milholland



HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



CryptoQuip

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

Clue: I equals P

ZK ISYDPXY SXO DBZXDH-PEO,
KPIXDH-DBXOO PX KZKDH-EZEO
HOSXY PNC, CP IOPINO YSH
DBOH'XO IXZGO GZEZYDOXY?

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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!

List: LEAST, Rarely: MODELS, Much: REAGOL, Require: GLOBIE

Boxed letters: L, E, A, S, T, M, O, D, E, L, S, R, E, A, G, O, L, G, L, O, B, I, E

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.

1. Fetch	_____ G	The very edge	_____ K
2. Report card entry	_____ D	Fruit of the vine	_____ P
3. Allotment	_____ N	Proportions	_____ S
4. Bread ingredient	_____ U	Ground surface	_____ O
5. Nip	_____ I	Boxer's movement	_____ U
6. Fire engine device	_____ D	Pantry	_____ R
7. 100 pennies	D _____	Shirt neckline	C _____
8. Bower	_____ B	Eagerness	_____ D
9. German river	R _____	Gleam	S _____
10. Get the better of	_____ W	Garment	_____ F

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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.

	-	2	+		= 13			
-		+		-				
	+		÷		= 9			
x		÷		+				
	+		-		= 2			
=		=		=				
15		1		13				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

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King Crossword

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11		
12				13					14			
15				16					17			
18							19	20				
			21			22			23	24	25	
26	27	28				29			30			
31						32			33			
34						35			36			
37								39				
			40					41		42	43	44
45	46	47				48	49					
50						51				52		
53						54				55		

ACROSS

- Listening device
- Wrestling style
- Wax-coated cheese
- Cagers' gp.
- Jannings of old films
- Showroom model
- Cheek
- Pleased
- Sports venues
- CEO's deg.
- Cowboys quarterback Prescott
- Equivalence
- London —
- Allen or Tebow
- "Kitchy- —!"
- Ore deposit
- Madrid Mrs.
- Small bell sound
- '50s president
- Layer
- Speakers' platforms
- Chasteness
- Fixed
- Search for gold
- Salad choice
- Designer Wang
- Magnitude
- During
- Vend
- Homer's bartender
- First-rate
- Lays down the lawn
- Evening hrs.
- Dukakis of "Moonstruck"
- Mystery writer's award
- N.J. neighbor
- "I — Rock"
- '60s chic
- "Frasier" pooch
- "Kapow!"
- you not!"
- "Sula" author Morrison
- Meditative practice
- Radar image
- Video-streaming brand
- Baltic Sea
- feeder
- Attempt
- Fox's trait
- Tribal emblem
- Sch. fundraising group
- Gems from oysters
- Apple tablets
- Berate
- Ninny
- Fermi's bit
- Deli loaves
- Cistern
- Punk rock offshoot
- Shred
- "The Matrix" hero

DOWN

- Tolkien creatures
- Help a hood
- Hindu hero
- number
- Inuit boat
- Cambridge sch.
- Tolkien creatures
- Help a hood
- Hindu hero
- number
- Inuit boat
- Cambridge sch.

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Weekly SUDOKU

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

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

- HISTORY: Which country sold Alaska to the United States?
- GEOGRAPHY: On which continent is the Sahara Desert?
- GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: Who created The Muppets?
- MUSIC: What was singer Miley Cyrus' alter ego when she starred in a Disney sitcom?
- MATH: How many sides does a heptagon (sometimes called a septagon) have?
- MOVIES: Which singer is featured in the biopic "A Complete Unknown"?
- FOOD & DRINK: What is carpaccio?
- LITERATURE: In "The Jungle Book," who raised the boy called Mowgli?
- TELEVISION: Where was Mork from in the sitcom "Mork and Mindy"?
- LANGUAGE: What does the phrase "doubleplusgood" mean in Newspeak, featured in the dystopian novel "1984"?

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FiveSpot™

Energy sources

S	O	L	A	R	

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.sproutspuzzle.com 02537

SCRAMBLERS

Today's Word

1. State; 2. Seldom; 3. Galore; 4. Oblige

D	E	N	I	M
A	E	D	I	A
D	R	E	A	M
A	R	M	E	D
R	O	A	D	S
S	O	L	A	R

Answer: solution

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

Answer

King Crossword

Solution time: 26 mins.

Answers

E	A	R	S	U	M	O	E	D	A	M	
N	B	A	E	M	I	L	D	E	M	O	
T	E	M	E	R	I	T	Y	G	L	A	D
S	T	A	D	I	A	M	B	A			
D	A	K	P	A	R	I	T	Y			
B	R	O	I	L	T	I	M	K	O	O	
L	O	D	E	S	R	A	P	O	I	N	G
I	K	E	P	L	Y	P	O	D	I	A	
P	U	R	I	T	Y	S	E	T			
P	A	N	C	A	E	S	A	R			
V	E	R	A	E	N	O	H	M	I	T	Y
A	M	I	D	S	E	L	L	M	O	E	
T	O	P	S								
P	S			S	O	D	S				
P	M	S									

CryptoQuip

Answers

If pastors are thirty-one, forty-three or fifty-nine years old, do people say they're prime ministers?

Answers: 1. Russia, in 1867; 2. Africa; 3. Jim Henson; 4. Hannah Montana; 5. Seven; 6. Bob Dylan; 7. Thinly sliced raw meat or fish, usually served as an appetizer; 8. Wolves; 9. Planet Ork; 10. Terrible

Even Exchange

Answers

1	Bring, Brink
2	Grade, Grape
3	Ration, Rabios
4	Flour, Floor
5	Pinch, Punch
6	Ladder, Larder
7	Dollar, Collier
8	Arbor, Arbor
9	Rhine, Shine
10	Quilt, Quilt

TIKTOK from A-5

decreased in the offering plates. Pair that with the decrease in attendance at your local church and the ability for that church to help its community has been severed. Revenues are often very low. Also, it is important to remember that the rising costs of utilities and operational costs have increased for the local church just as much as they have the average American family. All of this combined have had a detrimental effect on the local Christian Churches ability to help and give to "the needy".

With all this said, none of this excuses the Christian church from helping those in need. Which is the very reason you see so many churches closing down and falling into disrepair. It is their willingness to continue giving until there is no more left to give, and your unwillingness to attend services and "give what you can" that your local Christian church is now viewed as "failing to help the needy", being wrongfully ill spoken of, and thus closing their doors.

But you can still help! It

is never too late. Instead of relying on the government for help and then complaining when that doesn't work out the way you hoped, perhaps a better (if not best) way you can help is for you to support your local striving Christian church through and by regular church attendance and tithing. Then, and only then, will they be able to get back to helping the needy as we always hope and pray that we can.

Signed,
A concerned Carter
County Citizen

SNAP from A-5

Phoenix. Some alluded to applications that could take weeks, while others referred her elsewhere, willing to help in ways that didn't inconvenience them.

Infant formula and diapers are consistently one of the most needed items at food banks. Following the pandemic, a study published with the National Library of Medicine found that "31% of families who used infant formula indicated that they experienced various challenges in obtaining infant formula, and in response, 33% of families who used formula reported resorting to deleterious [harmful] formula feeding practices" such as adding more water to the mix or saving leftover mixture.

Given that we've had about five years since the pandemic to resolve such crucial public health needs, one wonders why we are still ignoring the very real crisis of the nation's working poor with infants. Further, if the federal government continues to refuse this responsibility by halting SNAP benefits, local charities such as neighborhood churches must step up and reaffirm their community value by providing basic supplies for young families in desperate circumstances, no matter where they attend services.

The Islamic Center of Charlotte, North Carolina asked no questions of Monroe other than where she lived, how much formula she needed, and what brand, though there was little question of Monroe being a member of their muslim congregation.

At First Baptist Church of Jeffersontown, a historic black church founded in 1829, the woman who answered Monroe's call recently was also quick to find a way to help.

"We wouldn't have it readily available, but ... it's for your baby?" she paused. "Let me see what I can do." TikTok's community speculated she was

already reaching for her own purse.

The vast majority of responses from larger churches – by a wide margin – showed patronizing sympathy while explaining all of the reasons their house of worship couldn't scrounge up a single can of baby formula among their thousands of parishioners and millions of dollars in operating budgets.

Some offered referrals — other churches, overly burdened food banks, the Health Department — but very little in the way of actual action.

At the Germantown Baptist Church in Tennessee they told her they actually had a benevolence fund that they could use to help feed her infant, "but it is just for our members."

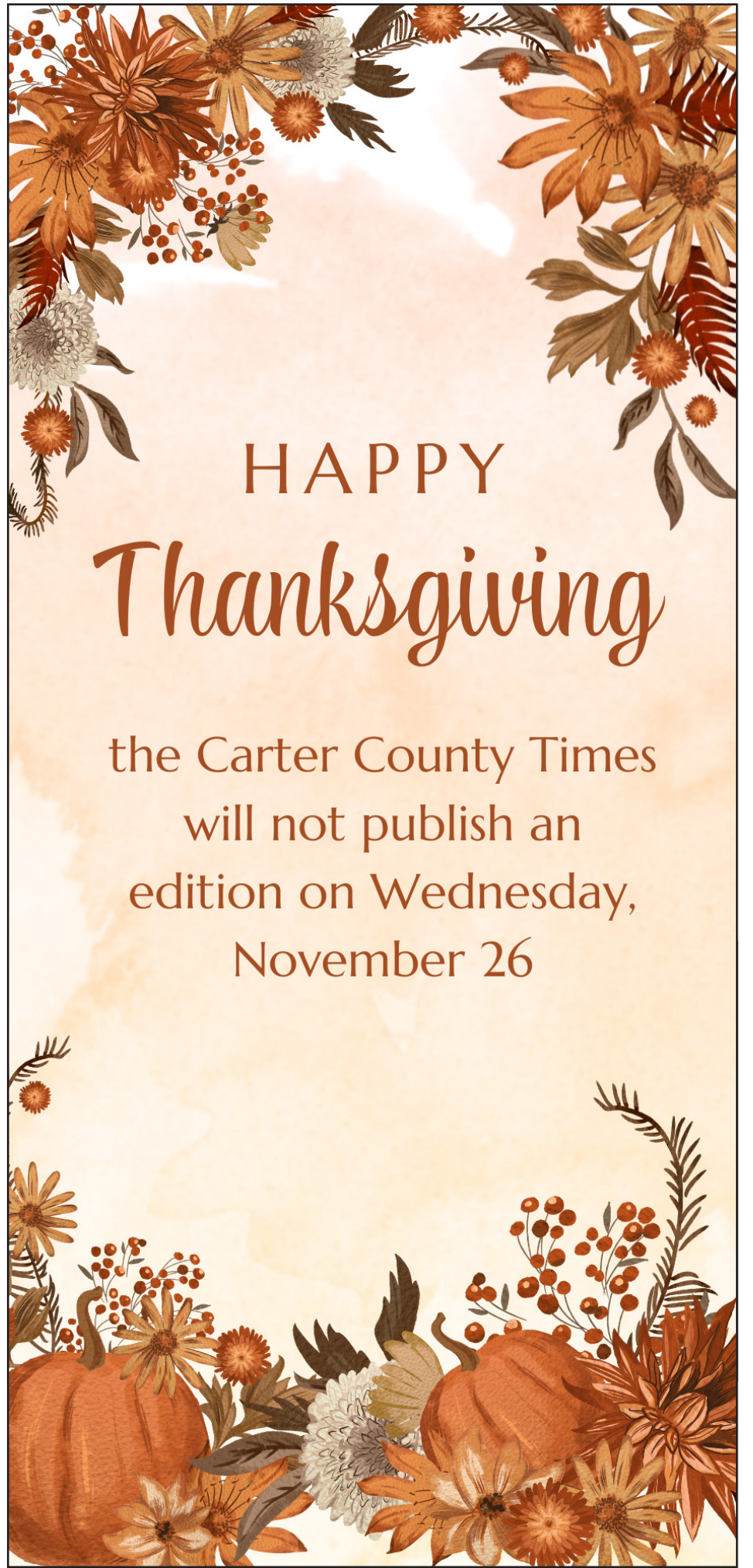
Throughout several calls, one gets the feeling she was wasting someone's time, undeserving of their help and pitiful for trying.

"It's not something you all could get, and I'd just pick it up?" asked Monroe about the formula at one Kentucky Baptist church.

The church representative sighed. "No," they said, distastefully. The call was over.

Given that churches enjoy a tax exempt status based in part on their charitable giving, one must wonder exactly who some of them deem worthy of Christian kindness to help keep them off the hook for billions of tax dollars annually. How much worse must hunger get in these communities before the nation's mega churches step up in answer to that call?

Having listened to dozens of such calls from Monroe to various churches in the south and in Texas, it becomes more clear as to why some Americans are distancing themselves from permanent church membership. According to a Pew Research Center report, the number of agnostic, atheist, or religiously unaffiliated adults in our nation has grown to nearly 29%, up from 26%



in 2007.

This dwindling of the faithful has been used as a campaign hot potato for numerous Republicans as of late. But when put into perspective by Monroe's social experiment, it became more apparent that Americans are leaving the church in light of its shortcomings, not their own.

John 2:14-17 tells us "What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save them? ... In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead."

If the Republican party is truly worried about preserving America's religious heritage, they would do well to look closer to home on Sunday mornings. If community churches spend more on stage lighting than feeding the hungry on their doorsteps, then they have both lost their soul and the faith of their followers.

Originally published on
Forward Kentucky

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make Better coffee

Taste the difference at

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