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Carter County Times

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cartercountytimes.com

Vol. 7, No. 2 NEWS/ADVERTISING 606-225-1258 CARTER COUNTY, KENTUCKY WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2026 \$1.00 PER COPY

Shriners contribute more than quarter million to hospitals

Carter County Shrine Club contributes more than \$20K

By Jeremy D. Wells
Carter County Times

The El Hasa Shriners have issued their year-end report for hospital fundraising in 2025, showing that the fraternal organization raised more than a quarter million dollars – a total of \$268,240.06 – for the two Shriners Children's Hospitals in our region. This included significant contributions from Shriener affiliated groups, like the Hillbilly Clan and Order of the Quetzalcoatl, and from Shriener

sponsored events.

The Carter County Shrine Club contributed \$15,000 to that total from their horse show and other events, with \$10,000 going to Shriners Children's Lexington, and \$5,000 to Shriners Children's Lexington. But that isn't all the local club raised. Their paper sale raised an additional \$5,700 for the hospitals, for a total contribution of \$20,700 from Carter County, according to club treasurer Gary Justice.

Outgoing president of the Carter County Shrine Club, Harry Justice, noted how much these contributions meant to the families who benefit from the Shriners Hospitals, and how rewarding it is for the Shriners who work these fundraising events.



See SHRINERS on A-3 Members of the El Hasa Shrine participate in a Memory Days parade. (File photo by Jeremy D. Wells, Carter County Times)

Opening up Olive Hill

Trail Town aims to share local beauty with the world

By Charles Romans
Carter County Times

The nonprofit organization Trail Town is working to open up the natural beauty of Olive Hill and promote tourism. Trail Town President Jesse Oney said Trail Town was started in 2012 after major flooding in the area.

"We started looking at Olive Hill as a place we could have a

major trail system," Oney said. "We got a task force together and mapped the Red Trail out really well."

And after that first step to establish non-motorized trails, the project grew.

Oney said the next to be mapped was the Blue Trail that follows waterways from Olive Hill to Carter Caves.

"It begins at the Depot in Olive Hill," he said of the Blue Trail.

The Red Trail, he said, goes to what was the old city lake but is now called Firebrick Lake.

"We changed the name of it to Firebrick Family Recreational

See TRAIL TOWN on A-6



Olive Hill's Firebrick Lake. (File photo by Jeremy D. Wells, Carter County Times)

East Carter takes control

Claims Rivalry Win Over West

By Brayleigh Boggs
Carter County Times

East Carter and West Carter delivered exactly what a county rivalry should be on Friday night; a bruising, emotional, momentum-swinging battle that didn't loosen its grip until the final horn. Behind relentless defense, transition offense, and timely shot-making, East Carter pulled away late for a 55-40 win that felt far closer than the final score indicated.

The intensity was evident from the opening tip when Colton McGuire (12) con-

trolled the jump ball to Caden Tussey (15). Just moments later, McGuire set the tone defensively with a steal that led to the game's first basket. West Carter answered immediately, as Brody Boggs (14) knocked down a three, and the back-and-forth rhythm was established early.

Thomas Burton (1) showcased his physicality and finesse with a tough one-handed runner, while West Carter's Jamison Wagoner (31) and Boggs connected from deep to keep the Comets within striking distance. East Carter countered with hustle plays, McGuire fighting through multiple rebounds to earn a free throw, Tussey extending possessions on the offensive glass, and Grant Menix (10) finding Max

Karle (11) for a layup to push East back in front.

Defense defined the first quarter. Burton swatted away a layup attempt, Menix secured the rebound, and McGuire finished a tough look in transition. McGuire added two free throws after drawing contact, helping East Carter take an 11-6 lead into the end of the first.

The second quarter belonged to East Carter's defensive pressure. McGuire blocked multiple shots, including one that ignited a fast break finished by Menix. That run forced West Carter to call a timeout, trailing 16-6. Still, Boggs refused to let the game slip away, scoring inside and converting at the line while Nate

See RAIDERS 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.

- Jason Canterbury, 36, of Grayson, arrested by Grayson PD, on a charge of fourth degree assault (no visible injury), arrested and booked January 5.
- Estill Stamper, 54, of Olive Hill, arrested by Olive Hill PD, on a probation violation (for a felony offense), arrested and booked January 5.
- William Berry, 52, of Emmaleena, arrested by Grayson PD, serving a warrant for a parole violation, arrested and booked January 6.
- Ashley Salinas, 39, of London, arrested by Carter County Sher-

iff, on charges of first degree criminal possession of a forged instrument, and theft by unlawful taking or disposition of more than \$1,000 but less than \$10,000, arrested and booked January 6.

- Ricky Oliver, 57, of Olive Hill, arrested by Kentucky State Police, on charges of operating a motor vehicle on a suspended or revoked operator's license, failure to produce an insurance card, and non-payment of court costs, fees, or fines, arrested and booked January 6.
- Bretton McKinney, 30, of Vanceburg, arrested by Carter County Jail, for failure to appear, arrested and booked January 7.
- Shane Kramer, 32, of Grayson, arrested by Kentucky State Police, on charges of first degree strangulation (domestic

violence related), second degree assault – domestic violence, second degree fleeing or evading police (on foot), menacing, and second degree criminal mischief requiring restitution or repair, arrested and booked January 7.

- Bryson Crider, 18, of Olive Hill, arrested by Carter County Sheriff, on charge of fourth degree assault – domestic violence (no visible injury), and failure to appear, arrested and booked January 7.
- Jimmy Conn, 46, of Grayson, arrested by Carter County Sheriff, for failure to appear, arrested and booked January 8.
- James Gillespie, 40, of Olive Hill, arrested by Carter County Sheriff, on a charge of failure to pay support, arrested and booked January 9.
- James Conn, 50, of Olive Hill, arrested by Carter County Sheriff, charges unavailable, arrested

See ARRESTS on A-3



This Week's Obituaries

Connie Boggs, 66
Carla Williams Caudill, 64
Joyce Edna Runyon Holbrook, 81

Roger Mason McDowell, 70
Wanda Jean Bowens Richmond, 68
Jeffery Allen Satterly, 48

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LIFESTYLE



Why a pot of vegetable soup is the best January reset

Does last week already feel like a month ago? We often begin the new year with the best of intentions, and the trick is making them sustainable. I've learned that real life rarely responds well to extremes, but it does respond to support.

The gentlest and most effective reset doesn't come from cutting things out; it comes from putting the right things in. A pot of nourishing soup simmering on the stove is a simple, steady way to care for yourself and the people you love, one meal at a time.

A colorful, vegetable-rich soup offers more than comfort. Different colors provide different plant compounds that reduce inflammation, support immunity and overall wellbeing, which is why "eating the rainbow"

matters. Plant-forward meals also give digestion a welcome break from heavier animal proteins, allowing the gut to settle after a season of indulgence.

My trick for deeply flavorful vegetable soup is building layers of flavor before adding any liquid. I start with a classic mirepoix of onion, carrot and celery, sauteed slowly until soft and lightly browned. That browning brings out the vegetables' natural sweetness. Once the base is fragrant and sweet, I add the remaining vegetables and saute them too.

To help everything brown and boost flavor, I toss the vegetables with seasoned vegetable soup base (Better Than Bouillon) loosened with a tablespoon of olive oil. This coats the vegetables, deepens the flavor and replaces the need for cartons of vegetable broth. It's an ingredient that costs more upfront but saves money over time, making it a smart, frugal staple in my kitchen.

Seasonal Vegetables
This is a flexible, clean-out-the-crisper soup. Use whatever vegetables are in season, ripe in your garden or priced to move at the store. In spring, think peas, asparagus or leeks. Summer welcomes corn, tomatoes and bell peppers. Fall is perfect for squash and cabbage. In winter, use sturdy vegetables like

potatoes, peppers and kale. The method stays the same. The vegetables change with the season and the sales.

GENTLE RESET VEGETABLE SOUP

Yield: 16 cups
Total Time: 1 hour

- 4 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil, divided
 - 1 large, sweet or white onion, chopped
 - 3 carrots, peeled and chopped
 - 3 celery stalks, chopped
 - 2 tablespoons vegetable soup base (like Better Than Bouillon)
 - 4 cups seasonal vegetables, chopped
 - 4 cloves garlic, pressed or minced
 - 1/2 teaspoon dried thyme
 - 1 large can (28 ounces) diced tomatoes
 - 8 cups water
 - 1 (15.5 ounce) can great northern beans, drained
 - 2 cups leafy greens like kale, chopped (thick ribs removed)
 - 1/2 teaspoon sea salt, more to taste
 - 1 tablespoon red wine vinegar
- Freshly ground black pepper, to taste

Heat 3 tablespoons olive oil



A colorful, vegetable-rich soup is a simple way to nourish yourself one meal at a time. (Photo Credit: www.JasonCoblentz.com)

in a large soup pot over medium heat. Add the onion, carrot and celery and cook, stirring, until the onion is translucent, about 5 minutes. Meanwhile, mix the vegetable soup base with 1 tablespoon olive oil.

Add the seasonal vegetables to the pot, followed by the soup base mixture, stirring to coat. Add the garlic and thyme and saute until the vegetables are lightly browned and fragrant, 8 to 10 minutes.

Stir in the diced tomatoes with their juices and the water, scraping up any flavorful bits from the bottom of the pot. Bring to a boil, then partially cover, reduce heat and simmer gently for about 15 minutes.

Uncover and add the beans

and chopped greens. Simmer until the greens are tender, about 10 minutes. Remove from heat, stir in the vinegar and season generously with black pepper and salt to taste. Serve hot with crusty bread.

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

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Ask Daryl: Your Professional Organizer

Let's get started

How about taking a few minutes, really a few

hours, to tackle your clothes closet? I know, I know, this isn't exactly what you wanted to do, but it will take less time than you think, and the rewards will be amazing.

- First, schedule a few hours to devote to this project. Be sure you won't be interrupted except to take a few short breaks as needed.
- Now, you'll want to have on hand, trash bags, dust rags, a box or two for donating (you can use bags, but for giving items away it's nicer to have them boxed up), water

to hydrate, and comfy clothes.



Daryl Ashley
Guest Columnist
Confusion Solution

- If you have shelves, remove items and set them aside. As you pull things down or off shelves think about it you really need to keep them, or if there is a better place to store them, or if there is no need for them at all. If you can't decide right away, then hang on to them until you can think about them at a later time. Put items you want to donate into boxes or bags as you go. Pick up trash, as well.
- Don't put anything back just yet. Decide how you want shoes, clothes or other items stored on the

shelves displayed in your closet. Then you can start dusting off the shelves and putting things back in an orderly fashion.

- Hanging clothing can remain where it is because you will take each piece and make the same decisions as before. Then decide if you want them hung by type and color, put them on good hangers (they don't have to be expensive), and rearrange.

It's a wonderful way to refresh your closet and finding things when you need them will be much easier.

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

Joyful Noise

Identity

By Pastor Naomi Mitchell for *Carter County Times*

If any person is born again through faith in Jesus Christ, they have become a new creation, a heavenly species, a forgiven child of God. When God looks on the redeemed, He filters them through the precious blood of Jesus and all He sees is His Son.

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have

passed away; behold all things have become new." (2 Corinthians 5:17) "But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light." (1 Peter 2:9)

Your identity is not something to be lost or trampled on. It is unique, special, and individualized to you and you alone! Know who you are and that you were created to be a success. You are here to make a difference in this world. Choose the things

that will be beneficial in bringing you to your ultimate destination. You are a gift from God.

Speak these proclamations over your life, by faith, choosing to agree with God:

Today, I choose to agree with God! Jesus takes great delight in me. He sings, rejoices and dances over me.

Today, I choose to agree with God! I have the mind of Christ, and I am thinking more and more like Him.

Today, I choose to agree with God! This day I will

See *JOYFUL NOISE* on A-6

University of Kentucky Extension Notes

AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES

Upcoming agriculture extension programs & workshops

The Carter County Extension Office is excited to announce a full slate of educational programs and hands-on workshops for the winter season. These events are designed to support local farmers, producers, and community members with practical knowledge and resources. All meetings will take place at the Carter County Extension unless otherwise noted. If preregistration is required call 474-6686.

Predator Control Workshop - Thursday, January 22 | 6:00 PM @ Boyd County Franks Building at the Boyd County Fairgrounds. Learn effective strategies for managing predators on your farm. The first 40 participants that register will create their own black vulture effigy to hang at their farm.

Northeast Area Livestock Association Meeting - Tuesday, January 27 | 6:00 PM - Future meetings will be held on the fourth Tuesday in February

& March.
Topic: Farm Management Strategies for Improved Decision-Making
Speaker: Dr. Jordan Shockley, UK Ag Economics Extension Professor

Small Ruminant Quality Assurance - Friday, January 30 | 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM & Tuesday, March 3 | 6:00 - 7:30 PM
Cost: \$5
Improve your herd health and product quality through this certification program which is required for reimbursement through the CAIP small animal investment area. Preregistration required.

Little Sandy Beekeepers Association - Join fellow beekeeping enthusiasts on the first Tuesday of the month at 6:30 PM to share tips, discuss hive health, and learn best practices for the upcoming season.

Beef Quality & Care Assurance Training (BQCA) - Tuesday, February 3 | 6:00 - 7:30 PM & Friday, February 27 |

10:00 - 11:30 AM
Cost: \$5
The BQCA program's mission is to maximize consumer confidence in and acceptance of beef by focusing the producer's attention to daily production practices that influence the safety, wholesomeness, and quality of beef products through the use of science, research, and education initiatives. BQCA is required for cattle reimbursement in the large animal CAIP investment area. Preregistration required.

Pesticide Safety: Private Applicator Training - Friday, February 6 | 1:00 - 4:00 PM & Monday, February 9 | 5:30 - 8:30 PM
Required training for farmers that wish to apply restricted use pesticides. Preregistration required.

Farmer's Market Vendor Training & Meeting - Tuesday, March 17 5:30 PM - Executive Committee Meeting for Officers, Board of Directors & Market Managers
6:20 PM - Dinner Provided
6:30 - Business Meeting

See *EXTENSION* on A-3

Kentucky Dept of Agriculture Livestock and Grain Market Report

Trends are not available as most markets were closed for the comparison week for the holidays.

Week ending 1/10/26

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

	This Week	Prior Week	Last Year
Steers (M&L 1-2)			
350-400 lbs	478.71	415.03	366.97
400-450 lbs	451.55	421.39	347.46
450-500 lbs	440.63	399.23	343.61
500-550 lbs	415.22	370.00	313.96
550-600 lbs	404.46	372.51	301.13
600-650 lbs	372.90	344.81	287.38
650-700 lbs	369.26	351.22	272.07
700-750 lbs	346.16	339.41	257.01
750-800 lbs	339.16	331.79	255.70
800-850 lbs	334.83	327.50	244.73
850-900 lbs	324.79		235.19
Heifers (M&L 1-2)			
300-350 lbs	425.94	409.30	313.28
350-400 lbs	425.17	417.44	304.13
400-450 lbs	405.04	376.59	300.63
450-500 lbs	393.01	35.94	304.11
500-550 lbs	371.55	350.70	271.24
550-600 lbs	365.49	350.94	266.63
600-650 lbs	341.07	326.72	254.14
650-700 lbs	330.60	321.63	251.53
700-750 lbs	315.72	314.94	231.63
750-800 lbs	307.70		234.98

	Average	High	Low
Slaughter Cows			
Breakers	140.00-169.00	152.00-190.00	118.00-155.00
Boners	130.00-169.00	152.00-188.00	100.00-155.00
Lean	110.00-160.00	139.00-176.00	87.00-149.00
Slaughter Bulls			
Yield Grade 1&2	170.00-202.00	197.00-224.00	142.00-188.00

WEEKLY COW SUMMARY	
Dec 11, 2025	Bowling Green, KY
SLAUGHTER GOATS: 206	
Kids-Selection 1-2 56 lbs 415.00; 73 lbs 370.00; 93 lbs 350.00.	
Selection 2 64 lbs 402.50; 67 lbs 412.50; 74-75 lbs 260.00-307.50.	
SLAUGHTER SHEEP: 423	
Hair Breeds-Choice & Prime 1-2 53-57 lbs 405.00-425.00; 67-69 lbs 375.00-380.00; 80-83 lbs 305.00-360.00; 91 lbs 290.00-295.00; 113-119 lbs 217.50-240.00; 143 lbs 212.50. Choice 2 51-57 lbs 405.00-420.00; 67 lbs 360.00; 75 lbs 365.00; 85 lbs 285.00; 110 lbs 255.00.	

	This Week	Prior Week	Last Year
GRAINS			
Corn	4.31-4.73	4.20-4.64	4.48-4.91
Soybeans	9.77-10.89	9.65-10.83	9.13-10.54
Red Winter Wheat	4.58-5.36	4.56-5.32	4.71-5.55

Arrests from A-1

and booked January 9.

- Seth Wilson, 36, of Olive Hill, arrested by Carter County Sheriff, for failure to appear on a citation for a misdemeanor, arrested and booked January 9.
- William Church, 54, of Webbsville, arrested by Carter County Sheriff, on a parole violation, arrested and booked January 9.
- Dianna Martin, 25, of Olive Hill, arrested by Olive Hill PD, for non-payment of court costs, fees, or fines, arrested and booked January 9.
- Joshua Marshall, 50, of Grayson, arrested by

Carter County Sheriff, on a charge of fourth degree assault – domestic violence with minor injury, arrested and booked January 9.

- Kathleen Young, 54, of Grayson, arrested by Kentucky State Police, for failure to appear on a citation for a misdemeanor, arrested and booked January 9.
- William Yeager, 65, of Olive Hill, self-surrender, weekender, arrested and booked January 9.
- Brittany Baier, 31, of Olive Hill, arrested by Grayson PD, on a charge

of operating a motor vehicle under the influence of a controlled substance, arrested and booked January 10.

- John Hall, 38, of Olive Hill, arrested by Carter County Sheriff, on charges of second degree disorderly conduct, resisting arrest, second degree criminal mischief, and third degree terroristic threatening, arrested and booked January 11.
- Wayne Puckett, 50, of Olive Hill, arrested by Olive Hill PD, for non-payment of court costs, fees, or fines, arrested and booked

January 11.

- Johnathan Owens, 23, of Morehead, arrested by Kentucky State Police, on a charge of failure to pay support, arrested and booked January 11.

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.

Olive Hill Tourism discusses playground and improvements

By Charles Romans
Carter County Times

The Olive Hill Tourism Commission met last week for their first meeting of 2026. In the public comment portion of the meeting, the commission heard about Earthscape playground equipment for the city playground, but will wait until different options and the price of the equipment could be determined before committing to a vote. It was suggested that the new equipment would be compatible with the current improvements being made by the Trail Town organization in the Olive Hill area and enhance tourism.

Tourism President Jeremy Rayburn said that updating the playground would be desirable for the city, and cited recent upgrades at Carter Caves



The Olive Hill Tourism Commission discuss issues in their first meeting of the new year. (Photo by Charles Romans, Carter County Times)

Park as enhancing the overall experience for visitors there. “We do need an overall blueprint for what we hope to accomplish,” Rayburn said. “And we need to determine what stages we are going to follow with the projects.”

The tourism commis-

sion has several projects that are currently pending, and commission member Brittany Rayburn pointed out that several local contractors have already committed to donating labor for the projects. The commission will be responsible for the cost of

materials, or in the case of Earthscape they would be responsible for the entire cost of the project should they vote to move forward on that, but the donation of man hours in the form of labor from professional contractors will allow the

See TOURISM on A-6

Shriners from A-1

“I know to the kids that the Shrines help, it means a place they can go that they don’t need to be afraid, or worry about a burden to their family,” Justice explained. “They know that this is a place of people who want the best for them. And who love and care about them. The Shriners organization, it’s all about the children. And,

from the parents’ side, I’ve talked to so many from where I work that come in here and mention their children have been helped by the Shriners. And it didn’t cost them a dime. They always mention how thankful they are.”

He said the community echoes that support when they contribute at fundraising events.

“I know when you collect money, like on paper sales, people say they love the Shriners. And they’re happy to donate to the Shriners, because of all the good work they do.”

Incoming 2026 President Donny Owens, Jr. noted that visiting the hospital, and seeing firsthand the work being done to help the children,

is one of the more humbling things he’s experienced.

“It’s amazing, to see the things they do, and the difference they can make in these families’ lives,” Owens said.

Contact the writer at editor@cartercountytimes.com

Raiders from A-1

Webb (33) added a three. Tussey answered with a three of his own and later drew a foul from Boggs, stretching East’s lead to 20-10.

West Carter made a late push before halftime. Boggs attacked the rim, Webb fired a long outlet to Boggs for another layup, and suddenly the deficit was down to five. But Menix answered again, driving through contact for a contested layup, sending East Carter into halftime ahead 24-17.

The third quarter was when East Carter really seized control. McGuire continued to dominate both ends, blocking shots, grabbing rebounds, and

spinning through defenders for scores. Tussey calmly knocked down free throws, and McGuire buried a long three as the lead stretched. Menix added an “and-one,” while William Burton (5) also finished through contact. By the end of the quarter, East Carter had stretched its advantage to 41-28.

West Carter, however, continued to show fight in the fourth. Wade Lawson (32) scored in transition and later hit a long three. Nate Hale (24) added a reverse layup, and Webb chipped in from midrange. But every surge was met with an answer. East’s Thomas Burton drove strongly to the basket,

Tussey found Menix cutting for easy finishes, and Karle drilled a corner three off a McGuire assist. When Boggs knocked down two more free throws and Webb connected from deep, East Carter calmly responded, closing the door at the line and in transition.

Menix finished the game with 18 points, using his speed and strength to finish in traffic and run the floor. McGuire was everywhere, posting 14 points and a game-high 10 rebounds while anchoring the defense with multiple blocks. Tussey added eight points and eight rebounds, while Karle, William Burton, and Thomas Burton

each chipped in five points.

For West Carter, Boggs led the way with 15 points, Webb followed with 11, and Lawson added nine. Wagoner, Hale, Peyton Nichols (5), and Tabor Tackett (53) contributed on the glass, but East Carter’s depth, discipline, and defensive intensity proved too much down the stretch.

In a rivalry game fueled by effort and emotion, East Carter made the final statement, turning defense into offense and walking away with a hard-earned 55-40 victory.

Contact the writer at news@cartercountytimes.com

Extension from A-2

7:00 - Senior & WIC Required Training

For more information or to register for any event, contact the Carter County Extension Office. Stay

connected and take advantage of these opportunities to learn, network, and grow!

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.

CALENDAR

- **1/14: Girl Scouts meeting @ 5:30 p.m.** | Carter County Public Library - Grayson
- **1/15: Grayson Book Club @ 6 p.m.** | Carter County Public Library - Grayson
- **1/15: Olive Hill Area Chamber of Commerce @ 6 p.m.** | Commercial Bank - Olive Hill
- **1/16: Sit and Sew @ 9 a.m.** | Carter County Extension Education Center | For questions or to RSVP call 474-6686
- **1/17: Friends of the Library meeting @ 5 p.m.** | Carter County Public Library - Olive Hill
- **1/19: Quilts for Veterans Sew Days @ 9 a.m.** | Carter County Extension Education Center | For questions call 606-474-6686
- **1/19: Open Art Studio @ 10 a.m.** | Grayson Gallery & Art Center
- **1/19 Carter County EMS Board Meeting @ 4 p.m.** | Carter County EMS Station
- **1/19: Carter County Board of Education @ 6 p.m.** | Carter County Board of Education
- **1/20: Building Club @ 4 p.m.** | Carter County Public Library, Olive Hill
- **1/20: Olive Hill City Council @ 6 p.m.** | Olive Hill Senior/Community Center
- **1/22: Livestock Predator Control Program @ 6 p.m.** | Boyd County Extension Fairgrounds
- **1/26: Quilts for Veterans Sew Days @ 9 a.m.** | Carter County Extension Education Center | For questions call 606-474-6686
- **1/26: Open Art Studio @ 10 a.m.** | Grayson Gallery & Art Center

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

Scout is a male mixed breed, believed to be between one and two years old. He’s very playful, and loves attention. Scout is already neutered and up to date on all vaccines, and has a free adoption to an approved home. Stop by the Carter County Animal Shelter to 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.

Take the keys

Don't risk it.

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

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

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

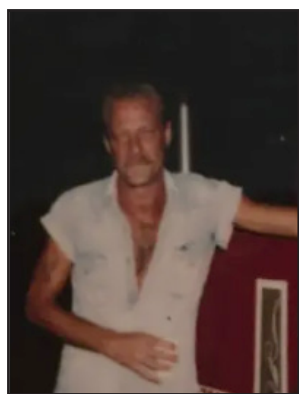
Commercial Bank of Grayson
Here for a century, here for you.

cbgrayson.com

Member FDIC

OBITUARY

Roger Mason McDowell 1955 – 2026



McDowell.

Roger proudly served his country in the United States Army and was a member of VFW Post Kansas City, American Legion.

Roger is survived by one daughter, Michele Stiles; one son, Roger Jason McDowell, along with many other family and friends who will sadly miss him.

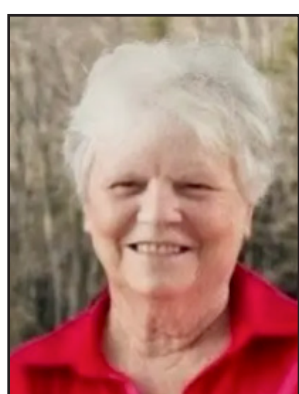
At Roger's request there will be no service at this time but a Celebration of Life will be held at a later date.

Grayson Funeral Home and Cremation Services is honored to serve the family of Roger Mason McDowell.

Roger Mason McDowell, age 70, of Cannonsburg, Kentucky, passed away January 3, 2026, at Boyd Nursing and Rehabilitation.

He was born September 18, 1955, in Boyd County, Kentucky, a son of the late June and Marie Griffith

Joyce Edna Runyon Holbrook 1944 – 2026



her loving husband of 47 years, Charles David Holbrook; two sons, Bryon (Tonya) LeMaster of Ashland, Kentucky, Chad (Victoria) Holbrook of Olive Hill, Kentucky; three daughters, Niki (Michael) Evans of Monroe, North Carolina, Kathy Taylor-Holbrook of Olive Hill, Kentucky, Karen (Randy) Hipp of Arcadia, Florida; 22 grandchildren; 31 great-grandchildren; one brother, Ralph (Mary) Runyon of Evansville, Indiana; two sisters, Shirley (John) Belba of Pataskala, Ohio, Joan (Gib) Johnson of Reynoldsburg, Ohio, along with many other family and friends who will sadly miss her.

Funeral services will be held at 3 p.m., Thursday, January 15, 2026, at Globe Funeral Chapel, 17277 West US Hwy 60, Olive Hill, Kentucky, with Brother John Gilbert officiating. Burial will follow in C & C Holbrook Family Cemetery in Elliott County.

Friends may visit after 1:30 p.m., Thursday, January 15, 2026, until the service hour at Globe Funeral Chapel.

Nathan Holbrook, Triston Holbrook, Nicholas Evans, Dennis Dees, Justin Hollon and Cameron Laney will serve as pallbearers.

Michael Evans, Randy Hipp, Chad Holbrook and Taylor Freeman will serve as honorary pallbearers.

Globe Funeral Chapel is honored to serve the family of Joyce Edna Runyon Holbrook.

Joyce Edna Runyon Holbrook, age 81, of Olive Hill, Kentucky, passed away Friday, January 9, 2026, at her residence, surrounded by her loving family.

She was born November 21, 1944, in Kenova, West Virginia, a daughter of the late Herman and Edna Wright Runyon.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by one daughter, Mary Holbrook; one granddaughter, Kirsten Seadorf; one great-grandson, Lawson Laney.

Joyce passed away peacefully at home, surrounded by her family. She was a loving wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, cherished daughter and sister. Joyce loved spending time with her family and keeping up with classic soap operas. She loved caring for her dogs and cats, watching hummingbirds, and enjoying the farm animals while having quiet moments on the porch with her husband. Her warmth and kindness will be fondly remembered.

Joyce is survived by

Connie Boggs 1959 – 2026



Connie Boggs, age 66, of Olive Hill, Kentucky, passed away on January 4, 2026, at UK King's Daughters Medical Center in Ashland, Kentucky.

She was born July 20, 1959, in Carter County, Kentucky, a beloved daughter of the late Thurman Boggs and Maxine Bryant Boggs.

In addition to her parents, Thurman and Maxine Boggs, Connie was preceded in death by her brother, Carl Boggs, and her sister, Carolyn Louise Lawson.

Connie was one of the most caring and genuine people you could ever meet. She had a servant's heart and spent her life taking care of others. While she was incredibly kind and loving, Connie was also strong-willed and stood her ground when needed a trait those close to her admired and respected.

She was an amazing cook and loved preparing meals for her family, a way she showed love better than words ever could. Although Connie was not a grandmother by title, she treated her nieces and nephews as if they were her own children and grandchildren, and many of them saw her exactly that way.

Connie worked for many years as a seamstress at Cintas, where she even-

tually retired. Through her work, she formed lifelong friendships — a true testament to the kind of person she was. Those friendships remained strong well beyond her working years.

Connie also took great pride in honoring her family's history. She devoted much of her time to preserving the memory and legacy of her parents, Thurman and Maxine Boggs, ensuring their lives were remembered with care, dignity, and love.

She is survived by her sisters, Cathy Hanshaw (Dave Campbell) of Olive Hill, Kentucky, who—alongside Xenia Marshall—lovingly cared for Connie in her final days; Charlene Ratcliff of Ashland, Kentucky; and Dana Riffe of Russell, Kentucky; along with many nieces, nephews, extended family members, and dear friends who will forever cherish her memory.

Funeral services were held at 12 noon, Thursday, January 8, 2026, at Globe Funeral Chapel, 17277 West U.S. Hwy 60, Olive Hill, Kentucky, with Brother Mike Bryant officiating. Burial followed in Boggs Cemetery in Grahn, Kentucky.

Friends visited after 11 a.m. Thursday until the service hour at Globe Funeral Chapel.

Devin Hanshaw, Dave Campbell, Xaver Marshall, Xenia Marshall, Areyu Arthur, and Thomas Breedon served as pallbearers.

Connie will be remembered for her warmth, her strength, her generosity, and the love she freely gave to so many. Her presence will be deeply missed, but her legacy of care, devotion, and remembrance will live on.

Carla Williams Caudill 1961 – 2026



Carla Williams Caudill, age 64, of Olive Hill, Kentucky, passed away Thursday, January 8, 2026, at her residence.

She was born April 24, 1961, in Carter County, Kentucky, to the late Carl and Alberta Parker Williams.

Carla attended Carter Church of Christ. She was a beautician for 40 years and enjoyed making crafts, sewing quilts for her grandchildren and staying home with her children and grandchildren.

Carla is survived by her loving husband of 40 years, Dale Caudill; two sons, Tommy (Bobbie) Caudill, Scotty (Missy) Caudill all of Olive Hill, Kentucky; 4 grandchil-

dren, Cameron (Jerrika), Chandler (Hayla), Marissa (Russell), Matthew; 4 great-grandchildren, Clay, Lydia, Jaxon, Opal; one brother, Jeff Williams of Carter City, Kentucky; one sister, Patsy (Richard) Slone of Grayson, Kentucky; special nephew, Adam Slone; special niece, Adrienne (Kyle) Lubert and great-niece, Mahaila Lubert, along with many other family and friends who will sadly miss her.

Funeral services were held at 1 p.m., Tuesday, January 13, 2026, at Globe Funeral Chapel, 17277 West US Hwy 60, Olive Hill, Kentucky, with Brother Rick McGlone officiating. Burial followed in Williams Cemetery in Carter City.

Friends visited after 11:30 a.m., Tuesday, January 13, 2026, until the service hour at Globe Funeral Chapel.

Tommy Caudill, Scotty Caudill, Cameron Caudill, Chandler Caudill, Matthew Caudill and David Jesse served as pallbearers.

Globe Funeral Chapel is honored to serve the family of Carla Williams Caudill.

Jeffery Allen Satterly 1977 – 2025



With broken hearts, we announce the passing of Jeffrey Allen Satterly, lovingly known as Jeff, who departed this life on Sunday, December 21, 2025, at Cabell Huntington Hospital in Huntington, West Virginia, due to complications from pancreatitis and pneumonia. His passing leaves a silence words can not fill and a space in our hearts that will never be the same.

Jeff was the cherished son of Betty and John Freeman, a devoted father to Allen and Ollie Samuels, and a loving longtime partner of Rhonda Murphy. He was a proud and devoted "Pop Pop" to his grandchildren, who brought him immense joy and were the light of his life.

Jeff was a humble man with a true heart of humor. Funny, outgoing, and quick-witted, he had a rare gift for making others feel seen, protected, and loved. He could lighten even the hardest moments with his laughter and wit. Jeff would give the shirt off his

back to anyone in need, yet he never hesitated to stand strong for himself or those he loved. He showed up—everytime—and loved with his whole heart.

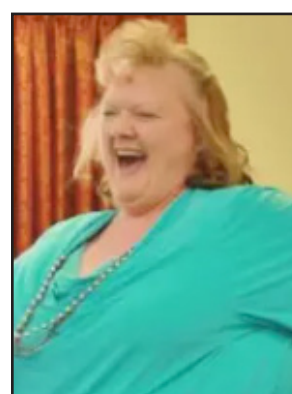
A true warrior, Jeff courageously fought the disease of addiction and proudly maintained three years in recovery. He was an integral part of the Journey 2 Heal staff, where he openly shared his recovery journey and his carpentry skills, teaching and encouraging others through both his work and his example.

Jeff is survived by his parents, Betty and John Freeman of Milton; his children, Allen and Ollie Samuels; his partner, Rhonda Murphy; his sister, Shaunan Satterly Dimas of Eminence; his sister, Tammy (Steve) Meredith; his brother, Robbie (Jennifer) Freeman; and he is also survived by many nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles, cousins, and friends who were deeply loved and treasured by him.

Jeff is reunited in eternal rest with Alice and John "Jack" Satterly, along with many beloved aunts, uncles, and cousins who went before him.

Though our hearts are heavy, we are forever grateful for the laughter he shared, the love he gave so freely, and the memories that will live on in each of us. Jeff will be deeply missed and lovingly remembered—always.

Wanda Jean Bowens Richmond 1957 – 2026



Wanda Jean Bowens Richmond, age 68, of Grayson, Kentucky, went to be with the Lord on Wednesday, January 7, 2026.

She was born August 25, 1957, in Ohio, a daughter of the late Eugene and Ella Bowen Bowens.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by two sisters, Patricia Copley, and Sharon Ison.

Wanda was a member of Colton Baptist Church and previously attended Stinson Church of Christ, and she loved going to church. She enjoyed her gardening, taking care of her house plants, watching westerns, reading books, watching her great-grandchildren on videochat, browsing the aisles at thrift stores for treasures, and

spending summer days at the pool or lake.

Wanda is survived by her loving daughters, Darla (James) Clark of Ashland, Kentucky, Ashleigh Richmond (Andrew Seer) of Richmond, Kentucky; three grandchildren, Stacy (Ethan) Davis, Raileigh Bond (Alannah Mullins), Gavin Bond, and her pride and joy, Asher and Sadie Davis, her precious great-grand babies; two brothers, Lawrence (Linda) Ison of Virginia Beach, Virginia, Jimmy Bowens of Puerto Rico, she also leaves behind a special niece, Juanita Griffiths of Ashland, Kentucky and a host of family and friends who will mourn her passing.

Funeral service will be Saturday, January 17, 2026 at 2:00 p.m., at Coalton 1st Baptist Church, 2501-2799 Cr-1604, Rush, Kentucky 41168, with Brother Paul Holbrook officiating.

Friends my visit after 12 p.m., Saturday, January 17, 2026 at Coalton 1st Baptist Church until the service hour.

Family and friends will serve at Pallbearers.

Grayson Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Wanda Jean Bowens Richmond.

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Carter County Times
www.cartercountytimes.com
Published every Wednesday by the EK News Group, LLC
Office of Publication: 109 E. Main St, Grayson, KY 41143
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

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OPINION

EDITORIALS | LETTERS | COLUMNS | COMMENTARY

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

Guest Editorial

Why Troy's Law matters to Kentucky's working class

By Bubba Johnson
Bubba's Towing

Some days in Frankfort carry more weight than others. Not because of ceremony or politics, but because of what's at stake for the people of Kentucky.

One of those days came recently when Representative Richard White and Representative Patrick Flannery, joined by dedicated co-sponsors, filed House Bill 282, known as Troy's Law. The filing marked an important step forward, not just for the towing industry, but for every working family in the Commonwealth who depends on safe roads and responsible leadership.

Frankfort is the foundation of Kentucky's lawmaking. It is where real-life struggles are meant to be heard and turned into real-world solutions. When lawmakers gather here, they are entrusted with more than votes and bills. They carry the responsibility of representing the people who keep this state moving—the blue-collar men and women who clock in early, clock out late, and hope nothing goes wrong before they make it home.

That includes the towing industry.

Tow operators are often invisible until the worst moment of someone's day. When a car breaks down on the shoulder. When an accident shuts down a lane. When a family is stranded, scared, cold, and unsure of what to do next. That's when we show up.

We are the ones who stand just feet from moving traffic so others can get home safely. We work in the dark. In the rain. In the snow. On highways where one distracted driver can end a life in seconds. Every call we respond to is someone else's emergency. Every shift we work carries risk. Every time we step out of our trucks, our families pray we come back.

Troy's Law exists because that risk has grown too high to ignore.

At its core, Troy's Law is about fairness, safety, and respect. It recognizes the essential role tow operators play in keeping Kentucky's roads clear and its people safe. It also acknowledges a simple truth: visibility saves lives.

House Bill 282 would allow tow operators to run blue lights alongside their amber lights while working active traffic scenes. That is the full request. There are no budget demands. No grants. No funding attached. No special treatment.

Just one more layer of protection.

Across the state of Kentucky, construction zones operate with blue lights present whenever workers are on the side of the road. Those lights slow traffic, grab attention, and give drivers extra reaction time. Their safety matters—and it should. But Troy's Law asks a fair question: why should the men and women working active traffic scenes every day be treated differently?

This is not about convenience.

This is not about appearance.

This is about visibility.

This is about reaction time.

This is about lives.

Blue lights change driver behavior. They force attention. They slow speeds. They buy seconds. And on the side of a highway, seconds are often the difference between going home safe and not going home at all.

For the towing industry, Troy's Law is deeply personal. It represents coworkers lost, close calls survived, and families permanently changed. It represents the reality that too many tow operators have been injured or killed while simply doing their jobs. It represents a promise that those losses mattered enough to demand change.

But Troy's Law is also about the work happening right now inside the Capitol. Advocacy does not happen overnight. It takes showing up, having difficult conversations, and standing in rooms where decisions are made and saying, clearly and respectfully, "This matters." It takes lawmakers who are willing to listen. The filing of House Bill 282 shows what happens when leadership listens and acts.

This moment in Frankfort is a meaningful step forward—not just for Troy's Law, but for every working family who depends on strong representation and common-sense laws that protect those who serve the public every day.

Tow operators help Kentucky get home. Now we are asking Kentucky to help protect us.

It is time for courage.

It is time for unity.

See **TROY'S LAW** on A-8

Carter County Times

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How did Plato know personal computers were coming?

Plato, the ancient Greek philosopher, was a student of Socrates and the teacher of Aristotle. That means he was one smart dude.

So, when he said necessity is the mother of invention, history tells us he was right as rain.

I experienced that truism a few years ago after returning from a business trip to Alabama. My tablet computer was on the blink and I felt sure that the airport security folks had handled it too roughly.

As a confessed low-tech redneck, I turned to tech-savvy family members, co-workers and others for advice on how to fix the handy little device...but all to no avail.

I turned it off and on and reset it twice but the blue screen, squiggly lines and blinking lights persisted. It looked like a couple of the cell phones I had clumsily submerged in Cave Run Lake.

Totally frustrated and faced with doing without the tablet, I suddenly recalled the advice of a friend who works in information technology. He says that when all else fails, the IT professionals humble themselves and go to Google for answers. But he also says to be careful about who knows that secret.

But I am so excited that I am forced to out myself

today with this admission that I went to Google, the incredible Internet search engine launched in 1998.

At first I was overwhelmed by the number of responses from IT technicians, technical writers, computer self-help sites and others who posted suggestions for eliminating the blue screen.

I scanned the list carefully before selecting a YouTube entry that asked if I had ever "spanked" my tablet.

Worried at first that I might have hit one of those naughty Internet sites, I carefully opened the link to find a fully-clothed young woman holding up a tablet computer with a blue screen.

She literally spanked the machine twice on the back, turned it over and the normal screen images immediately returned.

I did the same trick with my tablet and got the same joyful result. Yes, I am available for auto-graphs...and high consulting fees.

Keith Kappes can be reached at
keithkappes@gmail.com



Keith Kappes
Columnist
Carter County Times

Don't tread on me?

For years, the rallying cry from many Republicans was loud and straightforward: "We're prepared to fight tyranny. We're ready to saddle up and get into the streets. The government overreach is too much."

You heard it everywhere. At gun shows. In Facebook comments. On yard signs and pickup truck bumpers. Grab military boots. Buy more. Train for the moment when evil arrives.

But when evil showed up, it wasn't the evil they envisioned. Instead of fighting for healthcare, for affordable housing, for federal jobs fixing our crumbling infrastructure, people took jobs working as Trump's high school flunky patrol: ICE.

The people who call themselves lovers of America are watching cities get raided as perverse entertainment because they don't believe immigrants should be here. They see some people as nothing more than obstacles between them and the wealth they're sure they deserve — you know, "They're taking our jobs." But you don't see many folks standing in front of Home Depot ready to work in their absence. And cruelty, once justified, becomes a feature instead of a flaw.

JD Vance has now stated that ICE agents should be allowed to go door-to-door looking for people without the correct documentation. History has seen what happens when armed agents of the state are empowered to demand papers from civilians in their own homes. That path has never ended well, and it has never aligned with freedom.

When armed federal agents arrived in face masks with guns drawn, suddenly the so-called patriots went quiet. The same folks waving yellow "Don't Tread on Me" flags welcomed the boot.

An ICE agent called Renee Nicole Good "a f---ing b---h" and shot her in the face. Her car was turning away. He was masked. He was in her neighborhood. She was living her life. By any moral standard, this is indistinguishable from murder.

This should not be framed as a personal defense story. Have you ever been in a crisis situation? A car accident? People move erratically. Good's car was clearly turning away. She wanted to exercise her First Amendment right to speak out against injustice. A masked agent of the state shot her in the face instead.

The debate about whether it qualifies as murder is exactly how tyranny normalizes itself. It's a flash point in basic decency.

This isn't a pro-Democrat piece either. Obama built the cages, and Biden put them inside. Trump is just the endgame. All politicians are complicit in a culture of pushing the idea that if you could be illegal, you're a menace to God-fearing white people. Most of the folks getting rounded up are hard-working people who wanted a better life. As I've said in columns past, I would rather have a neighbor who walked through hell to live next door to me than someone who thinks slapping a flag on their truck is the same thing as loving their country.

How do you justify tyranny in plain sight?

See **TREAD** on A-6



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.

Joyful Noise from A-2

be everything God created me to be. I will be awesome, amazing, spectacular, delightful, happy, and free.

Today, I choose to agree with God! I have a relationship with Truth Himself, and I am forever becoming more and more free.

Today, I choose to agree with God! I have been made free in Christ. I am

no longer a slave to sin. I am walking in my new identity as a child of the Most High God.

Today, I choose to agree with God! I have been forgiven and set free. God's mercy covers me every morning. This is a new day, and I have new mercies today in my life.

Today, I choose to agree with God! I have power, love, and a sound mind. I

have erased fear from my life. I walk in truth always. I know who I am in God. Amen! So be it! (Excerpt from Re-Script Your Life Dr. Clarice Fluitt)

JOYFUL House of Prayer, 2519 Quicksand Road, (P.O. Box 856), Jackson, Kentucky 41339. Send Comments/Prayer Requests: Pastornaomi-4god@gmail.com. FB: JoyfulHoprayer. Services:

Trail Town from A-1

Park," Oney said. "And we are making it into a park for everyone to use whether it be horseback riding, walking, or bicycle riding. If you want to bring a kayak to the lake, you can do that."

"We have plans for a shelter house up there too," he said of upcoming improvements. "We will be putting in restrooms there, and will be making the park bigger and easier for people to get into and out of."

"Right now, there are three access points to the lake we can use," Oney said. "One is on Perry Branch, there is the Ranch Road access, and the Garvin Ridge entrance."

"We use Garvin Ridge as more of a maintenance entrance right now," he said. "But anyone that wants to access it can use all three entrances."

Everything the group does is to state specifications, Oney said. Even the prohibition of motorized vehicles is designed to prevent any kind of contamination to the land, and to ensure that the water system is not polluted.

"Any trail that crosses a stream, we have to treat that stream as a crucial natural resource because it is. Everything we do is EPA compliant."

The group's goal is to protect the lake while utilizing the land around it. The walking trails, bike trails, and horse trails will allow both local residents and tourists alike to enjoy the land while protecting

it, Oney said.

"Right now, we have a minimal amount completed," Max Hammond, who is affiliated with both Trail Town and the Warrior's Path said of the project's progress. "We are working through a volunteer effort, and we are going up there and building the trails properly in compliance with the Kentucky Office of Nature Preserves. And we are building them to the International Mountain Bike Association standards."

The trails that Trail Town are building will be all earth trails, both Oney and Hammond said.

"There will be no necessity of bringing in any material that doesn't already exist at the city lake," Hammond said. "The only exception would be some gravel for expanded parking."

"And that's one thing that makes the project unique," Hammond said. "According to the International Mountain Bike Association, this has the potential to be the finest mountain bike park east of the Mississippi."

"The reason for that is our soil," he explained. "It is primarily clay; the same clay that was used at our brick yard. That soil is moldable into almost any shape you could imagine."

"Anything we build is going to stay the way we build it," Oney said of the clay's inherent value.

Currently Trail Town is working on building a bridge so that they will

be able to open another trail. One bridge has been built already, but another is still needed. This trail, he said, will be designated the Purple Trail, and will be dedicated to one of the group's volunteers who has gone above and beyond during the process. He predicts that trail opening will be near the end of February, Oney said.

The design of this Trail Town project was the result of a grant written to the International Mountain Bike Association.

"We were one of ten communities picked nationwide who received a grant to design the park," Hammond said. "Once we had the design of the park, we went to the Department of Local Government and wrote a Recreational Trails Program grant. We were awarded \$159,000 in funding for that."

Both Oney and Hammond said that there had been a lot of work done on the trails in 2025, and they hope to make an equal amount of progress in the coming year. Anyone interested in learning more about the project and how they can volunteer should visit the Trail Town Facebook page. Oney said they are grateful for the community support they have received, and said the project would not be able to be completed without the residents of Olive Hill and beyond.

Contact the writer at charles@cartercountytimes.com

Tourism from A-3

commission to do more.

The commission has an annual budget, but they hope to augment that budget through grants. There are multiple grants for which they are able to apply on both the state and federal level, many of which are more closely tailored to tourism.

The commission also discussed old business, specifically the signage travelers would see as they come into Olive Hill. The signage is currently in the design phase by Signs Plus in Nicholasville, Kentucky, but a completed representation is expected to be presented to the commission for approval in January and could be voted on at the regularly scheduled February meeting. The dimension of the new sign is four feet by eight feet,

with an option to increase the size. The company has agreed to install additional signs if needed or desired.

The commission was made aware that they have paid Trail Town \$17,895.25 of their agreed upon funds match on the Depot improvement, with the remaining balance of the funds match expected to be around \$5,000.

Potted spring flowers were also discussed by the commission. The last quote received was for installing baskets and flowers, watering three times per week, then removing them in the fall and installing fall flowers, and was submitted at \$27,375. There was discussion about whether flowers should be addressed before certain repairs and clean-up were completed in the downtown area, as well

as discussion of whether hanging baskets would be preferable to ground standing planters. Pending further investigation, no vote was taken to approve the bid.

The commission also heard information about the Google site for the City of Olive Hill. Changes and updates were discussed with the commission intending to make their forms available on that site and make it easier to apply to the tourism commission for funding. The cost of subscription for that site for the 2026 year is \$15.98, and the commission voted to approve the subscription.

Contact the writer at charles@cartercountytimes.com

U.S. House Passes Federal Funding Authored by Congressman Hal Rogers

WASHINGTON, DC – The U.S. House of Representatives are on track to pass all 12 federal funding bills for fiscal year 2026 before the January 30th deadline, surpassing the halfway mark on Thursday with a package of three more bills. The bipartisan Commerce, Justice, Science; Energy and Water Development; and Interior and

Environment Appropriations Act of 2026 (H.R. 6938), passed the House with support of Congressman Hal Rogers (KY-05), who helped author the legislation as Chairman of the Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science and related agencies.

The legislation cuts wasteful spending, lowers costs for American families and

businesses, increases accountability for government spending, bolsters national security, invests in American innovation, and restores American energy dominance.

Congressman Rogers gave the following speech on the House Floor to encourage passage of the comprehensive federal funding package: "Thank you, Mr.

10am Sunday and Joyful Kids Class at 10:30am, 6:30pm Thursdays. Radio Broadcast: WJSN 97.3 FM & WCKG 81.0 AM Sundays 1-2pm.

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statement**Opinions**

We have audited the accompanying Statement of Receipts, Disbursements, and Changes in Fund Balances – Regulatory Basis of the Carter County Fiscal Court, for the year ended June 30, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statement, which collectively comprise the Carter County Fiscal Court's financial statement as listed in the table of contents.

Unmodified Opinion on Regulatory Basis of Accounting

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statement referred to above presents fairly, in all material respects, the receipts, disbursements, and changes in fund balances – regulatory basis of the Carter County Fiscal Court, for the year ended June 30, 2024, in accordance with accounting practices prescribed or permitted by the Commonwealth of Kentucky as described in Note 1.

Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles

In our opinion, because of the significance of the matter discussed in the Basis for Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles section of our report, the financial statements do not present fairly, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the financial position of each fund of the Carter County Fiscal Court, for the year ended June 30, 2024, or the changes in financial position and cash flows thereof for the year then ended.

Basis for Opinions

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS), the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, and the *Fiscal Court Audit Guide* issued by the Auditor of Public Accounts, Commonwealth of Kentucky. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statement section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Carter County Fiscal Court and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

Basis for Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles

As described in Note 1 of the financial statement, the financial statement is prepared by the Carter County Fiscal Court on the basis of the accounting practices prescribed or permitted by the Department for Local Government to demonstrate compliance with the Commonwealth of Kentucky's regulatory basis of accounting and budget laws, which is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The effects on the financial statement of the variances between the regulatory basis of accounting described in Note 1 and accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, although not reasonably determinable, are presumed to be material and pervasive.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statement

Carter County Fiscal Court's management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statement in accordance with accounting practices prescribed or permitted by the Department for Local Government to demonstrate compliance with the Commonwealth of Kentucky's regulatory basis of accounting and budget laws. This includes determining that the regulatory basis of accounting is an acceptable basis for the preparation of the financial statement in the circumstances. Management is also responsible for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of a financial statement that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Carter County Fiscal Court's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statement

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statement is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards* will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statement.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards*, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statement, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statement.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to

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the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Carter County Fiscal Court's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statement.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Carter County Fiscal Court's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statement (Continued)

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

Other Matters Supplementary Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statement taken as a whole of the Carter County Fiscal Court. The Budgetary Comparison Schedules and the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards, as required by Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance) are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the financial statement; however, they are required to be presented in accordance with accounting practices prescribed or permitted by the Department for Local Government to demonstrate compliance with the Commonwealth of Kentucky's regulatory basis of accounting and budget laws.

The accompanying Budgetary Comparison Schedules and Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards are the responsibility of management and were derived from and relate directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statement. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statement and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statement or to the financial statement itself, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the Budgetary Comparison Schedules and the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards are fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the financial statement as a whole.

Other Information

Management is responsible for the other information included in this report. The other information is comprised of the schedule of capital assets but does not include the financial statement and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinions on the financial statement do not cover the other information, and we do not express an opinion or any form of assurance thereon. In connection with our audit of the financial statement, our responsibility is to read the other information and consider whether a material inconsistency exists between the other information and the financial statement, or the other information otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work performed, we conclude that an uncorrected material misstatement of the other information exists, we are required to describe it in our report.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated August 26, 2025, on our consideration of the Carter County Fiscal Court's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Carter County Fiscal Court's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Based on the results of our audit, we present the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs included herein, which discusses the following report findings:

- 2024-001 The Fourth Quarter Financial Report Was Materially Misstated
- 2024-002 The Carter County Fiscal Court Overspent The Road Fund By \$851,467
- 2024-003 The Jail Commissary Purchased Electronic Cigarettes Without Properly Obtaining Bids
- 2024-004 The Carter County Fiscal Court Did Not Establish And Maintain Adequate Internal Controls Over Compliance With CDBG Requirements

Respectfully submitted,
/s/ Allison Ball
Auditor of Public Accounts
Frankfort, Ky

August 26, 2025
State law requires the Auditor of Public Accounts to annually audit fiscal courts, county clerks, and sheriffs; and print the results in a newspaper having general circulation in the county. The complete audit and any other audit of state agencies, fiscal courts, county clerks, sheriffs, and property valuation administrators may be viewed in the reports section of the Auditor of Public Accounts' website at auditor.ky.gov or upon request by calling 1-800-247-9126.

Tread from A-5

Are we supposed to accept Kristi Noem in her gigantic hat, standing behind a camo podium, as leadership? Is this the seriousness we were promised? Is this what "law and order" looks like now — federal agents with itchy trigger fingers and politicians selling it like merch?

For all the talk of unity — of a stronger, better America — what did it buy us?

There are no DOGE checks. No tariff wind-falls. No sudden flood of better-paying jobs. The economy still sucks. Groceries cost more. Rent

keeps climbing. The only thing delivered on time was more force and less accountability.

The cruelty isn't hidden anymore. It's broadcast. Shared. Liked. Defended.

Raids aren't policy to some — they're popcorn-munching entertainment. Deportations are tallies. Fear is the show. And the people who swore they'd stand up when the government crossed the line are comfortable sitting down. They never wanted to be against the government; they wanted it to align with their values of "stay in your place."

Patriotism isn't cosplay.

It isn't tactical gear bought on credit or slogans slapped on flags. It isn't silence when the Constitution becomes inconvenient. It's not a culture of red hats made in China, promoting that you enjoy suffering — a brand ideology.

Patriotism is believing the rights you demand for yourself apply to everyone — even those you don't like. Especially then.

And if this hell is freedom, who exactly is it for?

Send your submissions to us at news@cartercountytimes.com

Speaker, as Chairman of the CJS Subcommittee, I rise in support of H.R. 6938.

"From national security and law enforcement to American innovation and space exploration, the

CJS bill before us puts the nation on a path to greatness while reinforcing President Trump's bold agenda on trade and combating illicit drug trafficking.

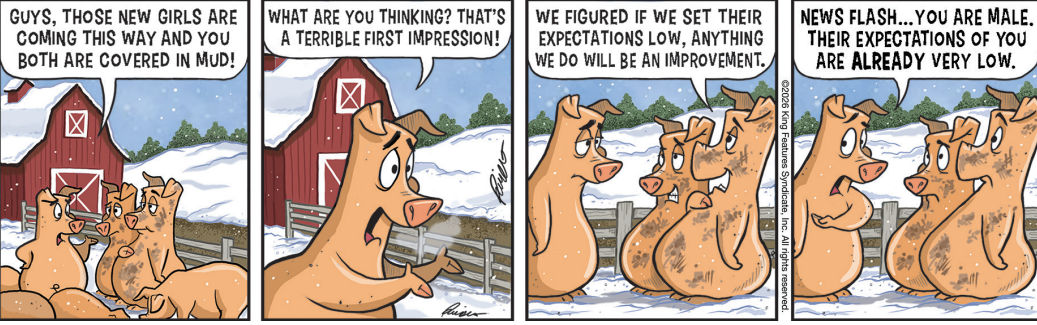
"To continue the

fight against drug cartels that are ravaging American communities, the Drug Enforcement Administration receives an increase of \$63 million in this bill.

See **ROGERS** on A-8

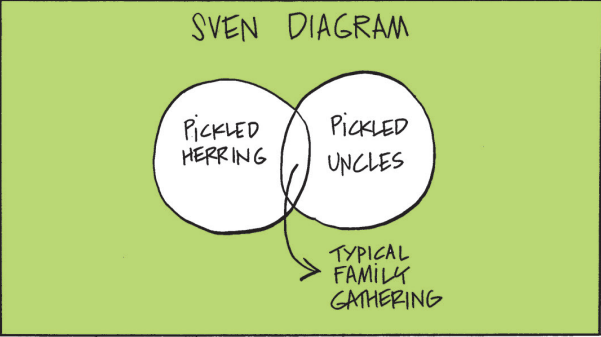
Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



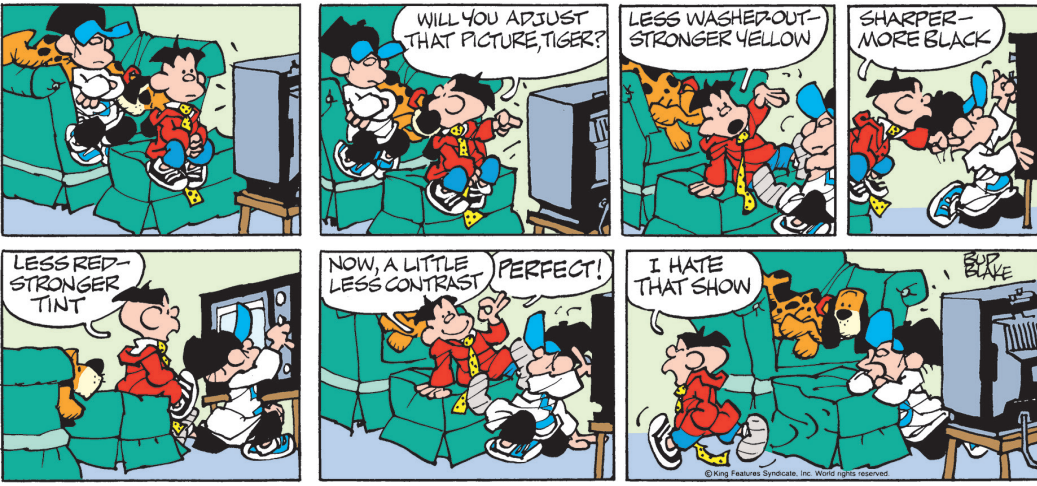
The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



TIGER

by Bud Blake

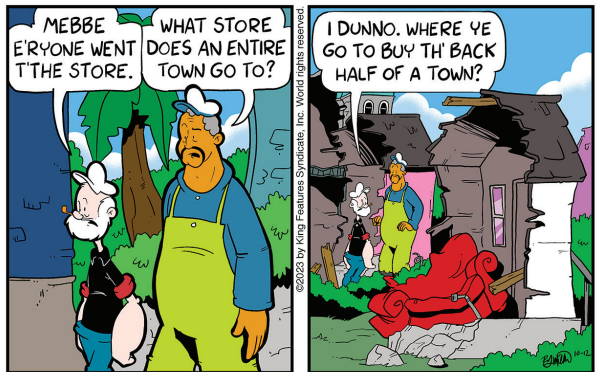
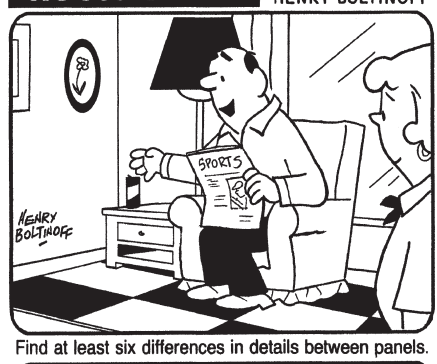
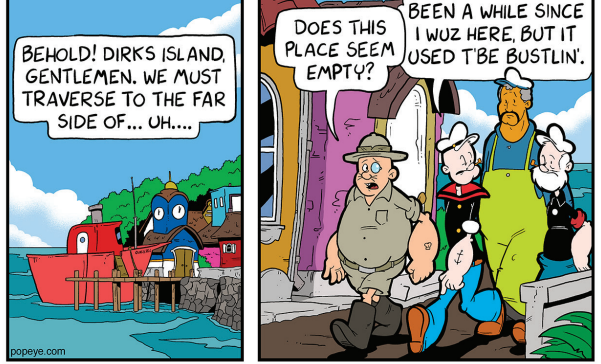


OLIVE & POPEYE

By Randy Milholland

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



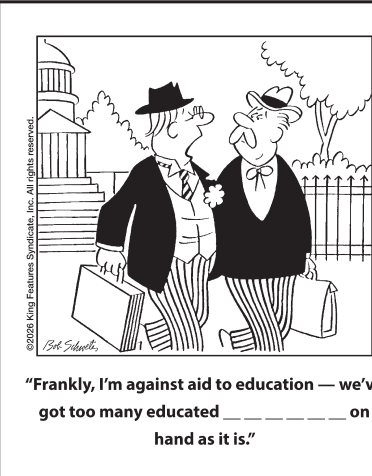
CryptoQuip

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: H equals S

VPHHSDK VKUWICITSH ZJIQJ
YIW SUH ORWSIRH MREK
CICRTPUSIJ IY HMPEEX NPNX
NIDSJKH: JKQ XPZ OSUX.

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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!

Discuss: ENFORC

Inherent: ANTENI

Classic: GIANTEV

Plod: MCHYES

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. Chimpanzee's home _ _ U _ _ _ _ Catchy tune _ _ I _ _ _ _
2. Bank safe _ _ V _ _ _ _ Flaw _ _ F _ _ _ _
3. Spring month _ _ _ _ C _ _ _ _ Swamp _ _ _ _ S _ _
4. From Deutschland G _ _ _ _ _ Novelist Melville H _ _ _ _ _
5. Eatery _ _ _ _ N _ _ _ _ Frogman _ _ _ _ V _ _ _
6. Ice cream spoon _ _ C _ _ _ _ Sailing vessel _ _ L _ _ _ _
7. Food cupboard _ _ _ _ N _ _ _ _ Trifling _ _ _ _ L _ _ _ _
8. Fire-starting stone _ _ _ _ N _ _ _ _ Coquette _ _ _ _ R _ _ _ _
9. Physical well-being H _ _ _ _ _ Financial prosperity W _ _ _ _ _
10. Goblet or beaker _ _ L _ _ _ _ Lawnmower target _ _ R _ _ _ _

GO FIGURE!

by Linda Thistle

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

DIFFICULTY: ★★★

★ Moderate ★★ Difficult ★★★ GO FIGURE!

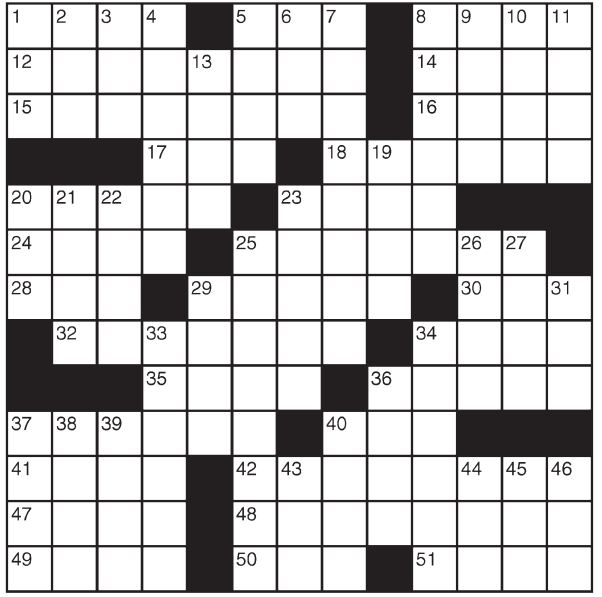
Even Exchange

Donna M. Pettman

1. Jungle, jingle 6. Scoop, Sloop
2. Vault, Fall 7. Parity, Pality
3. March, Marsh 8. Flirt, Flirt
4. German, Herman 9. Health, Wealthe
5. Diner, Diver 10. Glass, Grass

King Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Post-WWII alliance
 - 5 Life story
 - 8 Quick kiss
 - 12 Challenger's words
 - 14 Oklahoma tribe
 - 15 Misses an opportunity
 - 16 Without acting
 - 17 Prattle
 - 18 Contacts, e.g.
 - 20 Vowel group
 - 23 " — Misbehavin' "
 - 24 Japanese noodle
 - 25 Anthology
 - 28 Pvt.'s superior
 - 29 To the third power
 - 30 Green shade
 - 32 Cruised in style
 - 34 Furnace fuel
 - 35 Region (Abbr.)
 - 36 Natural talents
 - 37 Nap
 - 40 Extinct bird
 - 41 "Hulk" star
 - 42 Distributes
 - 47 "Smallville" girl
 - 48 Coffee bar order
- DOWN**
- 1 Zilch
 - 2 Hubbub
 - 3 Prof's aides
 - 4 Salem's state
 - 5 Invitation initials
 - 6 Debtor's letters
 - 7 Summarized
 - 8 Unspecified travel destination
 - 9 LAX postings
 - 10 Natalie or Nat
 - 11 Piano pieces? for "farmer"
 - 13 Isaac's eldest
 - 19 Author
 - 20 Ger. neighbor
 - 21 Jittery
 - 22 Speck
 - 23 Fossil resin
 - 25 Incensed
 - 26 Atop
 - 27 Bicycle part
 - 29 Guitarist
 - 31 Gore and Pacino
 - 33 MD's diagnostic order
 - 34 Stopped
 - 36 Dutch word for "farmer"
 - 37 Actress Ward
 - 38 401(k) relatives
 - 39 Drei minus zwei
 - 40 Star athletes, briefly
 - 43 Equi-
 - 44 Sugary suffix
 - 45 Mex. neighbor
 - 46 Great weight



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Weekly SUDOKU

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

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: What is the Code of Hammurabi?
- GAMES: Which letters in the English version of Scrabble are worth 10 points each?
- MOVIES: What is the name of Dr. Evil's cat in "Austin Powers in Goldmember"?
- MEDICAL TERMS: What is the common name for somnambulating?
- TELEVISION: What is the name of the town where "Veronica Mars" is set?
- THEATER: What is the first play written by an African American woman to be produced on Broadway?
- LANGUAGE: What is the official language of Austria?
- MATH: What is the smallest prime number?
- GEOGRAPHY: What is the only U.S. state with a one-syllable name?
- MYTHOLOGY: What is the home of the Norse gods?

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FiveSpot™

At the bagel shop

C	H	O	S	E

Selected: British bakery item, U of Miami team nickname, Doesn't stand straight, Iconic slowpoke, Unremarkable

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 02622

SCRAMBLERS

Today's Word: **VOYAGERS**

1. Confer; 2. Inmate; 3. Village; 4. Scheme

N	I	L	A	P
L	I	A	N	S
S	N	A	L	E
S	S	A	N	C
E	N	O	S	C
S	E	O	S	E

Answer: **FiveSpot™**

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

Answer: **Weekly SUDOKU**

Massive metropolises known for its curious huge population of shaggy baby bovines: New York City.

Answer: **CryptoQuip**

1. One of the earliest and most complete written legal codes established by the Babylonian King Hammurabi
2. Q and Z
3. Mr. Bigglesworth
4. Sleepwalking
5. Neptune, California
6. "A Raisin in the Sun" by Lorraine Hansberry, 1959
7. German
8, 2
9. Maine
10. Asgard

King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 22 mins.

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

Rogers from A-6

"The bill also streamlines and enhances support for the National Weather Service to ensure Americans receive lifesaving information in times of need.

"This bill is pro-law enforcement. It includes increased funding for state and local police through Byrne formula grants and COPS hiring grants

while also making cuts to wasteful grant programs.

"I want to thank Chairman Cole for his steady leadership.

"I also want to recognize Ranking Member Meng and Ranking Member DeLauro for their partnership, as well as staff for their hard work on the bill.

"This legislation

is a product of good faith, bipartisan negotiations. I urge a yes vote and I yield back the balance of my time."

The Trump Administration issued a statement in support of H.R. 6938, as it delivers on key aspects of President Trump's agenda.

"The Administration is pleased that the

Congress is advancing the appropriations process in a manner that avoids a bloated omnibus package and adheres to a fiscally responsible topline agreement that decreases overall discretionary spending," the Administration stated. "The bill supports the Department of Justice's successful efforts to reduce

violent crime, root out fraud in Government programs, and address the past weaponization of the Department of Justice and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. H.R. 6938 would also support the Administration's energy dominance agenda, while cutting funding for wasteful and unaligned programs."

The legislation now

moves to the U.S. Senate for consideration.

In November, Congress passed the first three appropriations bills for fiscal year 2026, including Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, Agriculture, and Legislative Branch funding.

Tomorrow is the last day to sign up for health insurance through Kynect

By Melissa Patrick
Kentucky Health News

The deadline to sign up for federally subsidized health insurance through Kynect, the state's online portal, is Thursday, Jan. 15, for coverage that starts on Feb. 1.

With the expiration of the Affordable Care Act's enhanced premium tax credits on Dec. 31, health insurance premiums are much higher for Kentuckians during this year's open enrollment. Even so, Gov. Andy Beshear stressed the importance of having insurance.

"Open Enrollment ends January 15, and I encourage everybody, you need coverage," he said at a Jan.

8 press conference. "You can't roll the dice. Don't be one injury away, one sickness away from losing it all."

Priscilla Easterling with Kentucky Voices for Health told WKYT-TV that some Kentuckians could see a \$1,000 monthly premium increase.

Easterling advised Kentuckians to seek out a Kynector, who are available in every county and are trained to help Kentuckians enroll in coverage through Kynect; not let their plan auto-renew without shopping the marketplace to ensure they are getting the best option; and to call their lawmakers to let them know the impact of Congress not renewing

the enhanced tax credits.

Beshear said even with the "sticker shock" of the plans, as of Jan. 6, 88,000 Kentuckians had enrolled in a Qualified Health Plan for 2026. Last year, he said, this number was about 100,000.

"So you can see a direct impact of Congress's refusal to extend those tax credits," he said.

Beshear said that of the 88,000 people who have selected and enrolled in a plan, 12,045 are new enrollees and 10,558 have canceled coverage for 2026. Further, he said, Kynect is seeing people downgrade their plans.

An article by Dr. Eric Lullove titled "Healthcare is About to get a Lot More

Expensive," republished with permission by Blue Amp Media, offers a comprehensive explainer of what the "enhanced tax credit" provided and the fallout from its loss.

Lullove writes that the bottom line is: "2026 marks a pivot point where 'having insurance' no longer equates to 'having healthcare.'" Between the loss of subsidies and the rise of massive deductibles, millions of Americans are becoming "under-insured"—holding a card in their wallet they are too afraid to use because of the out-of-pocket costs."

Gov. Andy Beshear added that Congress's decision to end the enhanced tax credits is "going to

cause a significant burden on our people."

To counter this financial burden, Beshear said he proposed \$100 million in his budget to support Kentuckians on Kynect facing health care price spikes due to the federal expiration of the subsidies.

"It's my hope that the General Assembly will not only act on that, but we could go ahead, if we so choose, and add it to this current budget and make it available as soon as the General Assembly would be willing to move it through," he said.

It is uncertain as to whether this proposal will be included in the final budget since Beshear, a Democrat, faces a Re-

publican super-majority in each chamber of the General Assembly.

Meanwhile, on Thursday, Jan. 8, the U.S. House passed a three-year extension of the enhanced subsidies that expired Dec. 31 by a vote of 230-196, with 17 Republicans voting with Democrats. This allows the enhanced premiums to restart and remain in place through the end of 2028 with no adjustment to the formula. The legislation now heads to the Senate, where it faces an uphill battle as a similar measure failed in December.

Updating the hotel tax

Fiscal court has second reading of transient tax ordinance

By Charles Romans
Carter County Times

The Carter County Fiscal Court began their new year with the second reading of an ordinance (865) concerning the transient tax. The updated ordinance now covers all rentals that are rented on a nightly basis, including campgrounds and Air BnB's in the county. The tax does not apply to rental properties that rent on a monthly basis, such as homes or apartments. The ordinance passed by unanimous vote, excepting magistrate Danny Holbrook who was absent from the meeting. The transient tax is a three percent tax typically paid by hotels and other tran-

sient lodging.

Carter County Tourism President Carl Burton addressed the court during the public comment section of the meeting, and discussed a vacant seat on the tourism board. The vacancy was created by a member stepping down, and Burton made a suggestion to the fiscal court for a replacement. Burton said the tourism board approved Joe Suttles, and requested the court agree to that appointment. Judge Executive Brandon Burton officially nominated Suttles for that position, and the court voted to approve Suttles as the new tourism board member. Suttles will serve a one year term.

Burton told the court that the new opioid advisory board had met, and that all applications for funding through the opioid abatement fund had been given to that board.

"All the members were present," Burton told the court. "They accepted all thirty applications that

were given to them for review. They discussed budget and funding, possible surveys, school staff, and they are asking questions about what we are already funding."

Burton said the board had asked about interviewing applicants before approval.

"Once they narrow the

applications down to three to five applications, they will bring them in and do interviews."

Burton said the next meeting of the board had been scheduled for January 15, but it will likely be moved to January 22 at 1 pm. Burton said the board will be focusing on those grant applications that are more time sensitive.

"We marked those for them to look at a little quicker," Burton said.

"So maybe they can be resolved in a month or so."

"We chose a great group," Burton told the court. "And I believe they will do a great job with our opioid funding."

In other business, Burton said that he would like to nominate Gordon Womack for another four years as a board member on the Big Sandy Water District. The court voted to approve Womack, who will represent Carter County

on that board. The court also heard reports from all county departments.

Additionally, the fiscal court voted to increase the county attorney's pay to \$40,000 per year. The court also voted to approve the magistrates pay to \$600 salary and \$600 expenses per month, which will take effect in 2027.

Contact the writer at charles@cartercountytimes.com

Troy's Law from A-5

It is time for lawmakers to stand with the people who keep this state moving.

Support Troy's Law. Stand with the towing industry.

And help ensure that the men and women working the side of our roads get home to their families the same way they help others get home to theirs.



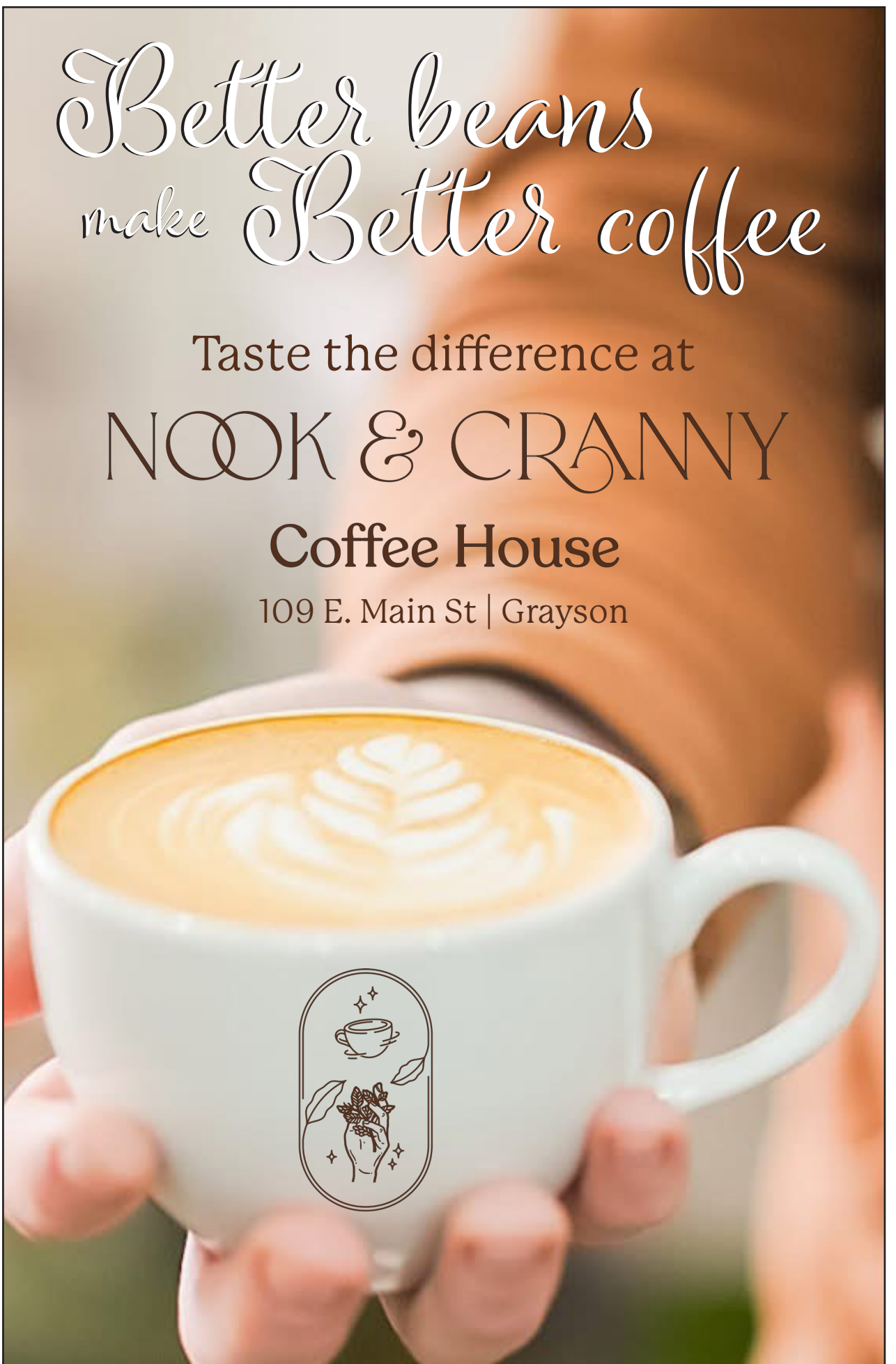
Your local High School Sports Connection

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West Carter Basketball on WUGO 99.7 FM

Also follow East Carter Athletics LIVE video stream on our Go Radio Local TV page on Youtube

Link up, listen, and watch at www.wgohwugo.com

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