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Carter County Times

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CARTER COUNTY, KENTUCKY

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Police confirm identity of body found last week

Tessa Reeves had been missing since Valentine's Day

By Jeremy D. Wells
Carter County Times

Kentucky State Police (KSP) have confirmed that a body found last Tuesday, underneath a bridge along KY State Route 7 in Grayson, is that of 50-year-old Tessa Reeves, who had been missing for more than five weeks at the time. According to a report from the KSP issued on Sunday, they received a call last Tuesday, March 24, just before 10 a.m. reporting a body located under the bridge along

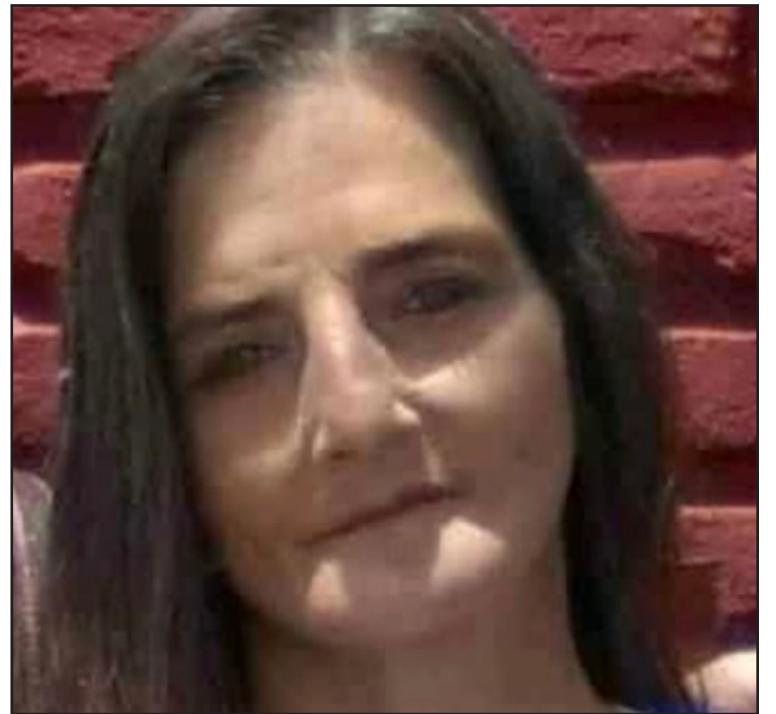
KY 7 between the Dollar General and Gibb's Hardware. The KSP determined the body to be that of Reeves, though exactly how that determination was made was not listed in the report, which states only that the identification was made "through investigative efforts."

According to a previous report released by KSP they had received a missing person's report on February 23, nine days after Reeves had last been seen on February 14. Reeves last reported location was Bayso's Sports Pub, on South Hord Street in Grayson. According to the police report issued at the time of the missing persons report, she had been wearing a pink t-shirt when she was last seen and did not have a cell phone or any personal belongings with her.

KSP Post 14, based in Ashland, requested any information related to Reeves whereabouts at that time, but it is not clear at this time if the discovery of Reeves was related to a tip received in association with that investigation, or if the body was located and reported by an unrelated individual or individuals.

KSP reported on Sunday that the cause of death for Reeves has not yet been determined, and that the investigation into her disappearance and death remains under investigation. Anyone with any information related to the case is still urged to contact KSP Post 14 at (606)928-6421.

Contact the writer at editor@cartercountytimes.com



Tessa Reeves (Submitted photo)

Hoppin' good time

Easter egg hunt returns to Grayson

By Charles Romans
Carter County Times

The popular Community Easter Egg Hunt returns to Grayson again this year on April 4 at 2 p.m., courtesy of Grayson Tourism. This year the event will be held on the lawn of the Kentucky Christian University with plenty of room for the Easter Bunny and his helpers to hide brightly colored eggs filled with holiday surprises. The hunt will be arranged into five separate age groups, for kids from 0 to 14 years of age, with a grand prize for each of those

groups.

There will be over 1,000 eggs hidden for each division, and in each division, there will be one golden ticket hidden in one of those eggs, with the lucky hunter who finds it named the grand prize winner for that division. Before and after – and most likely during – the hunt everyone can enjoy cotton candy and a planned bake sale of goodies. And topping the fun off, the Easter Bunny himself will be there for everyone to meet and take pictures.

"There will be lots of cotton candy and we are putting together a bake sale, so there should be lots of little trinkets and goodies to buy," tourism director Lana Axtell said of the returning event.

See EASTER on A-3



(File photo by Jeremy D. Wells, Carter County Times)

One of many

Local woman honored as WSAZ Hometown Hero

By Charles Romans
Carter County Times

Carter County woman Pam Wilburn will talk about herself, eventually, after she tells you all the wonderful things everyone else in the community and surrounding counties is doing to help one another. She is more

focused on the needs of her neighbors – everyone's neighbors – than she is about any kind of personal recognition. She considers everything a blessing, whether that is helping others or the wonderful organizations she receives donations from to do that work.

Wilburn is the director of Daily Bread Food Pantry in Carter County, a nonprofit organization that regularly provides supplemental food and other necessary things to seven hundred and fifty families each month, with an average of three members to each family. It was for that

work, something she considers a ministry to the community, that Wilburn was recently nominated for and awarded the recognition of Hometown Hero from WSAZ. Reporter Victoria Ware presented the award to Wilburn, and she said coverage is set to be aired on Friday, April 3.

She was understandably excited when she found out about the award, and in typical fashion she attempted to sidestep the spotlight.

"It should have been a team award," Wilburn said. "Not a one-person award. It should have been for the whole volunteer team."

Wilburn said she feels flattered and humbled by the recognition, and hopes it will help

See HERO 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.

- Katelyn Underwood, 31, of Grayson, arrested by Carter County Sheriff, for failure to appear on a citation for a misdemeanor, arrested and booked March 25.
- Austin Salyers, 30, of Webbville, arrested by Kentucky State Police, for failure to appear on a citation for a misdemeanor, arrested and booked March 25.
- Devon Savage, 25, of Grayson, arrested by Kentucky State Police, on a probation violation (for a felony offense), and for failure to appear on a citation for a misdemeanor, arrested and booked March 25.
- Cynthia Sargent, 41, of Rush, arrested by Carter County

Sheriff, on a charge of flagrant non-support, arrested and booked March 25.

- Carletta Hayes, 64, of Olive Hill, arrested by Kentucky State Police, on a charge of third degree criminal trespassing, and alcohol intoxication in a public place, arrested and booked March 25.
- Linda Gee, 56, of Grayson, arrested by Carter County Sheriff, for failure to appear on a citation for a misdemeanor, arrested and booked March 26.
- Travis Adkins, 30, of Olive Hill, arrested by Olive Hill PD, on two counts of failure to appear on a citation for a misdemeanor, and three counts of nonpayment of court costs, fees or fines, arrested and booked March 26.
- Jessica Ison, 44, of Webbville, arrested by Kentucky State Police, on charges of driving on a DUI suspended license, and no or expired registration receipt, arrested and booked March 27.
- Paul Sammons, 61, of Olive

Hill, arrested by Carter County Sheriff, for nonpayment of court costs, fees, or fines, and failure to appear on a citation for a misdemeanor, arrested and booked March 27.

- Robert Hughey, 22, of Grayson, arrested by Carter County Detention Center, on a hold for Drug Court, arrested and booked March 27.
- Jordyn Lawson, 19, of Jacksonville, FL, arrested by Grayson PD, on a charge of operating a motor vehicle under the influence of a substance, arrested and booked March 28.
- Tiffany Esteppe, 35, of Mount Sterling, self-surrender, charges unavailable, arrested and booked March 29.

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.



This Week's Obituaries

Myrtle Fay Burchett, 100
Don Michael "Mike" Evans, 75
Floyd Earl Gump, 88

Clayton Carrollynn James, 86
Tessa Ada Pelfrey Reeves, 50

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LIFESTYLE



A taste of spring: Carrots in sweet disguise

Carrots bring natural sweetness, moisture and vibrant color to these wholesome biscotti, while cinnamon and turmeric add depth and gentle complexity. Three forms of ginger -- fresh, ground and candied -- layer in warmth and bursts of sweet spice. Coconut and golden raisins add chewy sweetness, and a light sprinkle of turbinado sugar gives just the right crunch (regular sugar can be used if needed). Lightly sweet and fragrant with orange and ginger, these biscotti feel a little indulgent and a little virtuous. Think of them as

carrot cake's crisp Italian cousin -- perfect with coffee or tea. Made with simple ingredients, they're ideal for lunchboxes, snacks or a quiet moment. They keep well for up to a week -- though, in my house, they last about two days, and only if I hide a few on the first day.

CARROT BISCOTTI WITH ORANGE & GINGER

- Yield: 24 cookies
Total Time: 1 hr. 40 min. (+ cooling)
- 2 cups whole wheat or all-purpose flour
 - 1 1/2 teaspoons baking powder
 - 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
 - 1/2 teaspoon ground ginger
 - 1/2 teaspoon ground turmeric
 - 1/2 teaspoon kosher salt
 - 1 orange, zest and juice
 - 1 cup peeled carrots, shredded
 - 1 tablespoon fresh ginger, grated
 - 6 tablespoons butter, at room temperature
 - 1/2 cup granulated sugar
 - 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
 - 2 large eggs, divided
 - 1/2 cup golden raisins
 - 1/2 cup shredded coconut
 - 1/4 cup crystallized ginger, minced
 - 2 tablespoons turbinado sugar

Preheat the oven to 350 F and line a baking sheet with parchment paper. In a medium bowl, stir together the flour, baking powder, cinnamon, ground ginger, turmeric and salt; set aside.

Zest the orange, then juice it into a measuring cup, adding water as needed to make 1/2 cup. Reserve a pinch of zest and mix it with the turbinado sugar for topping. Shred the carrots using the large holes of a box grater.

In a small saucepan over medium-low heat, combine the carrots, fresh ginger, orange juice and remaining zest. Bring to a simmer, cover, and cook until the carrots are tender and the liquid is syrupy and nearly reduced, 10 to 12 minutes. If needed, uncover and cook over higher heat for 1 to 2 minutes more to reduce further. Set aside to cool.

In a large bowl, beat the butter and granulated sugar with a mixer on medium-high speed until light and fluffy, 2 to 3 minutes, scraping down the bowl as needed. Beat in the cooled carrot mixture and vanilla.

Add 1 whole egg and 1 egg yolk (reserve the white) and mix to combine. Add the flour mixture and mix on low just until the dough comes together. Fold in the raisins, coconut and candied ginger.

Divide the dough in half and



Carrot, ginger and orange biscotti offer a lightly sweet, spiced treat perfect for spring. (Photo Credit: www.JasonCoblentz.com)

shape into two 10-by-4-inch logs on the prepared baking sheet, flattening slightly (damp hands help). Beat the reserved egg white until foamy and brush over the logs. Sprinkle with the orange sugar. Bake until puffed and set, 25 to 30 minutes. Cool until just warm, 15 to 20 minutes.

Reduce the oven temperature to 300 F. Trim the ends, then slice each log into 12 biscotti, about 1/2 inch thick. Arrange cut-side down and bake 15 to 20 minutes. Flip and bake until lightly golden, 12 to 15 minutes more. Cool completely on the baking sheet.

Carrots are one of the most economical vegetables, making them a natural choice when you

want to bake something special without spending much. It's a reminder that simple, everyday ingredients can create something comforting and a little elegant and just right for spring.

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 Packing for a move

I was recently asked to offer some advice regarding how to pack for a move.

I started by explaining that time is the most important thing to consider to avoid a stressful situation at the last minute. This is one of the most common mistakes we make, because we really have no idea how much is involved with the packing process. It has happened to me and to most of those I have worked with to coordinate their move. Believe me, it's no fun when it comes down to the last few days before the movers arrive



Daryl Ashley
Guest Columnist
Confusion Solution

and you are scrambling, and begin throwing things into bags and boxes just to get it done.

Once the decision to move is finalized, allot time each day to take one room at a time and sort out the things you want to take with you from the things you no longer need. When you have cleared a room, pack up only those items you are taking; leaving what is necessary for living before your move.

Choosing the right boxes is also important. There are large, medium, and small sizes available, just be mindful of what you want to pack before you

buy. Try to even out heavy items with towels, linens, and clothes so that boxes are easier to move. Wrap or pad everything. Use packing paper, tape, bubble wrap or foam to prevent damage. Reuse boxes you have from other sources and don't forget to mark the room they are from and what's inside.

Remember when you wait too long to pack, you will take things with you that you will have to deal with on the other end. Start early and think before your pack.

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

Joyful Noise Strength

By Pastor Naomi Mitchell
for Carter County Times

Not every day starts with strength. Some mornings you wake up tired not just physically, but in your spirit. Carrying things, you didn't get to lay down yesterday. And that's okay. God doesn't require you to show up strong. He just asks you to show up. There's something powerful about coming to Him exactly as you are. No filter. No pretending. Just honest. Because that's where grace meets you. You might feel

behind. You might feel overwhelmed. You might feel like you're running on empty. But God does His best work in empty places. He fills what we bring to Him. He restores what we thought was too far gone. He gives strength that doesn't come from us. So, if today feels heavy, don't try to power through it alone. Just take one step, then another. And trust that He's walking right there with you. (Jason Crabb)

How do we get strength from the Lord? The Bible teaches that true strength comes from God, not from human resources or willpower. It emphasizes that believers should rely on God's strength rather than

their own. Prayer is a direct communication with God, allowing believers to seek guidance and receive the renewal needed. Philippians 4:6-7 states, "Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus."

Rest is warfare. One of the enemies' greatest strategies is keeping you mentally restless, which can make you physically tired in body and spirit. Because a restless mind and a tired spirit/body can rarely discern clearly.

See *STRENGTH* on A-6

Kentucky Dept of Agriculture Livestock and Grain Market Report

Compared to last week, feeder steers and heifers sold mixed from the beginning to the end of the session. The week opened with steers reported 10.00 to 15.00 higher and heifers 8.00 to 10.00 higher, both classes showing instances sharply higher. As the week progressed the reported higher trends for feeders slowed to finish steady to 5.00 higher. Demand was good for all classes. Yearling steers and heifers sold mostly steady to 5.00 higher with good demand. Slaughter cows sold mostly steady to 4.00 higher with instances to 8.00 higher and slaughter bulls steady to 5.00 higher with good supply and good demand for all slaughter classes. **Week ending 3/28/26**

	This Week	Prior Week	Last Year
Steers (M&L 1-2)			
350-400 lbs	572.33	566.09	404.59
400-450 lbs	532.83	523.39	403.98
450-500 lbs	521.70	514.12	371.86
500-550 lbs	479.25	475.95	339.89
550-600 lbs	461.68	454.68	336.33
600-650 lbs	422.02	427.37	322.64
650-700 lbs	406.89	389.21	308.93
700-750 lbs	373.45	369.07	290.41
750-800 lbs	352.36	354.18	269.33
800-850 lbs	340.45	343.22	264.37
850-900 lbs	329.23	330.45	266.69
Heifers (M&L 1-2)			
300-350 lbs	525.33	514.42	366.52
350-400 lbs	505.50	493.73	363.81
400-450 lbs	471.76	457.86	336.28
450-500 lbs	455.03	445.92	324.91
500-550 lbs	412.53	411.04	305.67
550-600 lbs	393.33	387.63	296.16
600-650 lbs	363.20	360.79	279.73
650-700 lbs	346.71	346.06	269.70
700-750 lbs	327.20	331.31	249.11
750-800 lbs	324.66	319.64	241.93

	Average	High	Low
Slaughter Cows			
Breakers	141.00-184.00	160.00-208.00	145.00-174.00
Boners	139.00-183.00	163.00-206.00	124.00-169.00
Lean	120.00-169.00	147.00-197.00	100.00-157.00
Slaughter Bulls			
Yield Grade 1&2	180.00-222.00	200.00-240.00	150.00-199.00

Mar 26, 2026 Bowling Green, KY

SLAUGHTER GOATS: 170

Kids-Selection 1 49 lbs 550.00, **Selection 1-2** 72 lbs 385.00; 89 lbs 305.00; 105 lbs 305.00. **Selection 2** 51-52 lbs 395.00-495.00; 70-74 lbs 305.00-355.00; 110 lbs 265.00

SLAUGHTER SHEEP: 645

Hair Breeds-Choice & Prime 1-2 54 lbs 392.50-395.00; 65-66 lbs 370.00-385.00; 74-78 lbs 345.00-372.50; 85-88 lbs 345.00-350.00; 105 lbs 240.00; 114 lbs 252.20; 121 lbs 252/50. **Wooled-Choice and Prime 1-2** 55 lbs 370.00; 73 lbs 360.00-365.00; 88 lbs 340.00; 105 lbs 225.00; 143 lbs 205.00.

	This Week	Prior Week	Last Year
GRAINS			
Corn	4.35-4.89	4.34-4.90	4.35-4.93
Soybeans	10.69-11.88	10.46-11.75	9.21-10.51
Red Winter Wheat	5.21-6.11	5.28-6.15	4.21-5.57

Warm early spring means early eastern tent caterpillar egg hatch

The first eastern tent caterpillars (ETC) of the season are now emerging. Initial sightings have been recently reported in Fayette County and University of Kentucky Martin-Gatton College of Agriculture, Food and Environment en-



Rebecca Konopka
Carter County
Extension Agent

tomologists say the hatch is now occurring statewide. The normal time for egg hatch is when the forsythia bloom starts and when the first Eastern redbud blooms emerge.

ETCs gained notoriety during the early 2000s when its accidental ingestion by pregnant mares was linked to Mare Reproductive Loss Syndrome (MRLS). From 1999 to 2001, MRLS caused an estimated 3,500 foal losses, including abortions, stillbirths and neonatal deaths. Central Kentucky alone lost around 30% of its 2001-2002 Thoroughbred foal crop, resulting in an estimated state economic impact of \$336 million across all horse breeds -- making tracking and managing the pests significant for horse owners, even to this day.

Temperature heavily

impacts eastern tent caterpillars' development.

"The eastern tent caterpillar is one of our early riser pests," said Jonathan Larson, UK Extension entomologist in the Department of Entomology. "They overwinter as eggs and begin hatching around 100 growing degree days, a measurement of development for insects that reflects the high and low temperature of any given day."

Protecting trees and horses ETC's preferred food plants are wild cherry, apple and crabapple, but may also appear on hawthorn, maple, cherry, peach, pear and plum trees. As the cat-

erpillars mature to 2 - 2.5 inches and become hairy, they may leave their host trees searching for places to spin their cocoons or additional food sources if their original tree is depleted. This often leads them along fences and into pastures.

"Right now, caterpillars are small and their nests won't be noticeable. Tents will become more obvious over the next 4-6 weeks though. If farm managers notice high numbers of nests, they should relocate pregnant mares from areas near wild cherry trees to reduce the risk of exposure," Larson said. "The greatest risk occurs when these mature caterpillars leave the trees to pupate and transform into moths. As they travel through the

See *CATERPILLAR* on A-3



Eastern Tent Caterpillars crawl on tree branches on Spindletop Research Farm. Photo by Matt Barton.

Easter from A-1

She said she was sure everyone who attends this year will have loads of holiday fun like they did last year, but Axtell said she has a favorite part herself.

"I really enjoy when the little ones, like the two and under, go running through the field and getting eggs. That's my favorite part of all of it."

Another favorite is seeing the kids meet the Easter Bunny.

"The Easter Bunny is something everyone seems to enjoy," Axtell said. "We have him every year and people can take pictures with him free of charge."

Grayson Tourism does

not have a professional photographer at the event, but Axtell said that people are more than welcome to snap pictures with their cameras and cell phones. For those who wish to help with the event in other ways, she said, volunteers are always welcome.

"There is a way the community can help us out," Axtell said of the upcoming event. "We are still looking for volunteers for the Easter egg hunt, and it would be wonderful if anyone wants to hop in and help."

Axtell said it would be great, for instance, if any local school groups needed volunteer hours for their

own various organizations and school groups and wanted to contact her office.

For instance, she noted, "There is a group of kids from the college who will be helping out to fill the eggs, and I am really grateful for that."

Axtell said the young egg hunters can look forward to different surprises inside of the plastic eggs used for the hunt.

"Of course, there is candy," she said. "But there could also be little prizes, and also there is one golden ticket hidden in each division. The grand prize for these divisions is

a rather large stuffed rabbit that any kid would love to take home to play with on Easter and really all year long."

Grayson Tourism is constantly looking for ways to enrich the lives of Grayson residents, Axtell said, and she believes events like the Easter egg hunt serve that purpose.

"People get to come out with their kids and enjoy some truly family friendly fun," she said. "And that makes everything better for everyone."

Contact the writer at charles@cartercountytimes.com

Hero from A-1

shed light on the needs of local residents and residents in communities everywhere.

"We have 11 different churches that volunteer with our group," Wilburn said.

Those churches, she said, are multidenominational but come together for the work of helping those in need.

"Everyone is so good about doing what needs to be done," she said of the network of volunteers. "They all work together really well to make everything go well."

Wilburn said the situation is unique because churches typically have their own missions that they dedicate time to in-

dependently. But for Daily Bread Food Pantry they have all come together.

The organization operates based on donations and grants, Wilburn said. Recently they were awarded a grant through St Claire in Morehead that will yield \$20,000 per year over a several year period. The grant is a huge benefit, she said, but donations are always appreciated because the organization spends around \$1,2000 each month to supplement the food and other items they receive to provide to the community.

A lot of the food they distribute to those in need comes from God's Food Bank in Morehead, Wilburn said. Other items are

donated by the Christian Appalachian Project from Paintsville, who bring in one or two semi-truck loads of useful items each month. All those donations and more are needed, she said, because people don't usually realize the need that is so prevalent in the area unless they are in the position of need themselves.

"We just did an Easter basket giveaway of 150 baskets," Wilburn said. "And I couldn't count how many times we heard from people who got them that those were the only baskets their children would see this year."

Wilburn said they were blessed by the Christian Appalachian Project who

provided those baskets so they could in turn bless others.

"They also brought candy, toys, and all sorts of stuff like that," she added.

Wilburn said she was completely surprised by the award, and that her friends kept it from her until the last possible minute.

"They kept it secret until they had to tell me to get me down here," Wilburn said. "I was so shocked and speechless. But I am grateful and humbled. And I hope this helps shed light on the need our friends and neighbors have."

Contact the writer at charles@cartercountytimes.com

Bare Bottoms and an eye toward the future

Olive Hill tanning salon has serious perks

By Charles Romans
Carter County Times

Bare Bottom Tanning, located at 131 Jessica Lane near Save-A-Lot in Olive Hill, brings new tanning technology to the city and

the county. The tanning salon offers a stand-up booth, bronzing beds, a red-light bed, and a high velocity bed among other features; all of which are new and on the cutting edge of the latest tanning technology. In addition, the salon is also looking into a spray tanning booth that might be available in the near future.

The salon is open from 11 am until 7 pm Monday through Friday, and is open

on Saturdays from 11 am until 6 pm. The hours are planned to be extended, however, as the summer months approach. "We do church and family time on Sundays, so we are closed then," co-owner Bubba Johnson said. "Everyone needs at least one day to recharge."

Johnson said that all of the credit for conceiving of and running the shop goes to his wife Amanda and daughter Kenley, and he is

quick to brag on both.

"They have all state-of-the-art stuff," Johnson said. "She's (wife Amanda) got a tanning bed that people in Olive Hill have never had access to, and they also have all different kinds of lotions and creams. Pretty much anything you would ever need; they even sell handbags and stuff like that."

Johnson, who is well

See *TANNING* on A-6

Caterpillar from A-2

grass, they could be accidentally ingested"

ETCs are named for the compact silk-tent shelters they construct in the crooks and crotches of branches to defend against predators and parasitoids. This species is known for its tidy, nest-building compared to the fall webworm, which creates large, messy webs at branch tips. The ETC population varies annually due to climate, predators and diseases.

Despite not reaching the extreme levels seen during the MRLS outbreak, the presence of these caterpillars still raises concerns. Larson emphasizes the importance of notifying horse owners about the onset of caterpillar activity each year, allowing them to monitor and manage the risk of MRLS by checking their property for caterpillar webs.

As part of caterpillar management practices,

pregnant mares should be kept away from infested trees, and preferred host trees should either be removed or not planted close to horse farm paddocks. In certain situations, using insecticides, such as the organic pesticide Bacillus Thuringiensis (Bt), to control the caterpillars in addition to those preventive measures may be necessary. Treating tall trees that are challenging to spray may also be necessary.

For the latter scenario, professional arborists will treat trees via trunk injection. Products labeled for ETC control include Tree-age (emamectin benzoate), Inject-A-Cide B (Bidrin), Abacide 2 (abamectin) and Lepitect (acephate). Applicators should read and follow all label instructions. All four injectable products are labeled for use on horse farms.

"ETC activity can vary annually due to climatic

conditions, predators and disease," Larson said. "However, understanding their life cycle and habitat preferences allows us to address potential risks preemptively. Awareness is our best defense. By tracking the hatching and development of these caterpillars, we can implement targeted interventions to protect our trees and, crucially, our horses."

To track growing degree days for each county, visit the UKAg Weather Center. For more information about how to assess trees for egg masses, the UK Entomology publication, Checking Eastern Tent Caterpillar Egg Masses, is available.

This article was written by Holly Wiemers and published on March 16, 2026 at <https://news.mgcafe.uky.edu/>. The Martin-Gatton College of Agriculture, Food and Environment is an Equal

Opportunity Organization with respect to education and employment and authorization to provide research, education information and other services only to individuals and institutions that function without regard to 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 expression, pregnancy, marital status, genetic information, age, veteran status, physical or mental disability or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity.

Upcoming Events:

- Hike & Learn – April 2nd @ Ohio River Bluffs
- Little Sandy Beekeepers – April 7th @ 6:30 PM
- Produce Best Practices Training – April 14th @ 4:30 PM – Call 474-6686 to register.

CALENDAR

- **4/2: Hike & Learn** | Ohio River Bluffs
- **4/2: Carter County Library Board** @ 6 p.m. | Carter County Public Library - Grayson
- **4/3: Sit & Sew** @ 9 a.m. | Carter County Extension Education Center | For more info or to RSVP call 474-6686
- **4/6: Quilts for Veterans Sew Days** @ 9 a.m. | Carter County Extension Education Center | For questions call 474-6686
- **4/6: Open Art Studio** @ 10 a.m. | Grayson Gallery & Art Center
- **4/6: Carter County Tourism** @ 5:30 p.m. | Carter Caves State Resort Park
- **4/7: Building Club** @ 4 p.m. | Carter County Public Library, Olive Hill
- **4/7: Rattlesnake Ridge Water Distict Board meeting** @ 4 p.m. | Rattlesnake Ridge Water District office
- **4/7: Little Sandy Beekeepers Association** @ 6:30 p.m. | Carter County Extension Office
- **4/8: Girl Scouts meeting** @ 5:30 p.m. | Carter County Public Library - Grayson
- **4/13: Quilts for Veterans Sew Days** @ 9 a.m. | Carter County Extension Education Center | For questions call 474-6686
- **4/13: Open Art Studio** @ 10 a.m. | Grayson Gallery & Art Center
- **4/13: Game Night** @ 5 p.m. | Carter County Public Library - Olive Hill
- **4/13: Carter County Fiscal Court** @ 6 p.m. | Carter County Courthouse
- **4/14: Grayson Area Chamber of Commerce meeting** @ 12 p.m. | Location TBD

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

Theo is a one-and-a-half-year-old male mixed breed. He's a very handsome guy, with a loving personality, and he knows his basic commands. Theo is neutered, up-to-date on all his shots, and has a free adoption to an approved home. Stop by the Carter County Animal Shelter and meet him or call 475-9771 for more information. Shelter hours are Monday through Friday 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. and Saturday by appointment.



CITY OF GRAYSON

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

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Saturday, April 18
9:00am till 11:30am

Commercial Bank of Grayson

OBITUARY

Clayton Carrollynn James

1939 – 2026



Tabor James; one daughter, Barbara Lynn James Botts and one granddaughter, Cassandra Singh.

Clayton is survived by one son, William James of Mt. Sterling, Kentucky; one grandson, Nathan James; one great-grandson, Bryce Tyra; one sister, Annie James of El Paso, Texas, along with many other family and friends who will sadly miss him.

Clayton Carrollynn James, age 86, of Jeffersonville, Kentucky, passed away Saturday, March 21, 2026, at St. Joseph Hospital in Lexington, Kentucky.

He was born Saturday, April 30, 1939, in Carter County, Kentucky, a son of the late David and Loyal Stamper James.

He enjoyed smoking cigars, woodworking, fishing and spending time with his family.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his loving wife of 59 years, Helen Annalou

Funeral services were held at 1 p.m., Thursday, March 26, 2026, at Globe Funeral Chapel, 17277 West US Hwy 60, Olive Hill, Kentucky, with Brother C.J. James officiating. Burial followed Tabor Cemetery in Olive Hill, Kentucky.

Friends visited after 11:30 a.m., Thursday, March 26, 2026, until the service hour at Globe Funeral Chapel

Globe Funeral Chapel is honored to serve the family of Clayton Carrollynn James.

Don Michael "Mike" Evans

1939 – 2026



his babies; they never failed to put the biggest smile on his face. Mike was so grateful to be able to meet his newest great-grandchild, Trenton. He always had a dollar and a piece of candy for anyone who came to visit. The kids could tell you a dozen stories filled with memories of helping him tend to his garden, spending time outside, and getting into all sorts of fun.

Mike loved spending time at his home on Greasy Creek, and everyone who walked in could expect him to be relaxing in his recliner, watching westerns. In his later years, he loved playing Jenga and taking car rides. He always had a story to tell, reminiscing about the wonderful memories that he made with family and friends. Mike was so thankful for his wonderful caregivers at Perkins Country Manor who gave him wonderful care with love and grace.

Mike will be deeply missed, but the love that he gave his family and friends will stay in their hearts forever.

Funeral services will be held 11 a.m., Wednesday, April 1, 2026, at Globe Funeral Chapel, 17277 West US Hwy 60, Olive Hill, Kentucky, with Brother Jackie Evans officiating. Burial will follow in Masters Cemetery in Rowan County, Kentucky.

Friends may visit from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., Tuesday, March 31, 2026, and after 9 a.m., Wednesday, April 1, 2026 until the service hour at Globe Funeral Chapel.

Mike's pallbearers include: Kyle Conn, Brandon Conn, Travis Fultz, Rodney Evans, Dustin Stegall, and Cody Sanders.

Mike's honorary pallbearers include: Grady Evans, Brady Evans, Larry Knipp, Brent Fultz, Davey Smith, and Justin Jackson.

Don Michael "Mike" Evans, age 75, of Olive Hill, Kentucky, passed away at Perkins Country Manor Sunday, March 29, 2026, surrounded by his loved ones.

He was born May 3, 1950, in Olive Hill, Kentucky, to the late Katherine Lee Johnson-Evans and Nelson Evans.

Mike is survived by his loving wife of 53 years, Margret Gay Messer-Evans; three daughters, Cathy Brown (Phil), Caroline Knipp-Sanders (Rob), and Teresa Fultz (Tony); one son, Larry Knipp; 11 grandchildren, 18 great-grandchildren; a host of nieces and nephews; one sister, Susie Fultz (Brent); one brother, Grady Evans, and three sisters in law, Katie Evans, Aliene Messer and Shirley Evans.

In addition to his parents, Mike was preceded in death by three brothers, Gene Evans, Dan Evans and Bo Evans (Kay); one sister, Joan Sturgill (Joe), and one sister-in-law, Bessie Evans.

Mike enjoyed working in carpentry with his nephew Brady and farming. He loved spending time with his brothers and sisters; each one having special memories of the times they shared. Anyone who got the opportunity to talk to him knew the deep love that he held for his wife and family.

Mike found so much joy in spending time with

Tessa Ada Pelfrey Reeves

1975 – 2026



Musgrave and Anita Sue Carter.

Tessa is survived by three sons, Jared Scott (Martina) Bear, Devion Blake Bear both of Grayson, Kentucky, Dakota Rhyn (Skylar) Bear of Mt. Sterling, Kentucky; Samuel Dean Bear; one brother, Kevin (Lisa) Maddix of Soldier, Kentucky; three sisters, Virginia (Gary) Brown of Morehead, Kentucky, Billie Lorae Maddix of Olive Hill, Kentucky; Treena Maddix of Grayson, Kentucky, along with many other family and friends who will sadly miss her.

Tessa Ada Pelfrey Reeves, age 50, of Ashland, Kentucky, passed away Tuesday, March 24, 2026 in Grayson, Kentucky.

She was born Monday, November 10, 1975, in Rowan County, Kentucky, a daughter of the late Jerald Arvil and Elizabeth Smith Offill.

Tessa was of the Baptist Faith. She enjoyed being a Mother, cooking, spending time outdoors, fixing dinners for her family and spending time with her boys.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death two sisters, Lacinda

Graveside services will be held at 4 p.m., Wednesday, April 1, 2026, at Bradley Cemetery in Olive Hill, Kentucky, with Brother Bobby Day officiating.

Dakota Bear, Jared Bear, Mason Maddix, Charlie French, Scotty Bear and Kevin Maddix will serve as pallbearers.

Globe Funeral Chapel is honored to serve the family of Tessa Ada Pelfrey Reeves.

Myrtle Fay Burchett

1925 – 2026



got sick last year with a brain bleed, she would sing without a book or paper and was still memorizing songs.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband of 7 years, Walt Justice; two brothers, Eli Burchett, Ernest Burchett; two sisters, Mary Haney, Fannie Hensley, she is joining them and her youngest daughter, Marsha, we know she has been waiting on Mom.

Myrtle Fay Burchett, age 100 years, 4½ months, of Olive Hill, Kentucky, went home to be with her Lord and Savior, Monday, March 23, 2026, at her residence.

She was born Thursday, November 5, 1925, at Carter Caves Lake, before it was a lake or a state park to the late James Crawford and Martha Workman Burchett. She was a Christian woman whose life touched everyone. If you met her for a few minutes, you would fall in love with her.

Myrtle loved going to church, singing, writing songs, when God gave her the words to write, usually in the middle to the night. She would keep paper and pen by her bedside, just in case. She loved working outdoors in the gardens and flowers. She spent her time inside, making our clothes for school and for the winter. She served as a 4-H Leader, teaching knitting to students and one particular school teacher. She loved crocheting, reading, especially the Bible.

She would often tell us stories about her and her brother Ernest, getting into trouble. She had a mind like a steel trap. People would often come or call to ask something about their family that they needed to know. Before she

Myrtle is survived by two daughters, Ernestine B. Rogers, Martha Burchett both of Olive Hill, Kentucky; two step-daughters, Linda (Roger) Duncan of Greenville, Tennessee, Cathy White of Olive Hill, Kentucky; two grandsons, Shawn Rogers, Adam (Jennifer) Burchett/Kiser; one great-grandson, Lance Rogers of Grayson, Kentucky; she also leaves her little dog that traveled with her, Princess, along with many other family and friends who will sadly miss her.

Funeral services were held at 11 a.m., Saturday, March 28, 2026, at Globe Funeral Chapel, 17277 West US Hwy 60, Olive Hill, Kentucky, with Brother Gary Sparks, Brother Jerry Gray and Brother Danny Brown officiating. Burial followed in Burchett Cemetery on Sutton Road in Carter County, Kentucky.

Friends visited from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m., Friday, March 27, 2026, and after 9 a.m., Saturday, March 28, 2026, until the service hour at Globe Funeral Chapel.

Globe Funeral Chapel is honored to serve the family of Myrtle Fay Burchett.

Floyd Earl Gump

1938 – 2026



Above all else, Floyd cherished his family. He shared 59 loving years of marriage with his devoted wife, Myrtle Elizabeth Wells Gump. Together they built a life centered on faith, love, and family. He was a proud and loving father to Melissa (H. Rupert III) Gump Wilhoit and Michelle (Brent) Gump Stone. His greatest pride and joy were his grandchildren—Kenzie (Dustin) Scott, Conner Stone, Riley Stone, and Henry Rupert Wilhoit IV—and his great-grandchildren, Hayden Floyd Scott, and Harrison Chase Scott. Nothing brought him more happiness than time spent with his grandkids and great-grandkids, whose lives are forever enriched by his love and guidance.

Floyd Earl Gump, 88, of Webbville, Kentucky, went home to be with his Lord and Savior on Thursday, March 26, 2026, at UK King's Daughters Medical Center in Ashland, KY. His passing leaves a deep void in the hearts of those who knew and loved him, yet his family rejoices in the promise of eternal life and the legacy of faith and devotion he leaves behind.

Born on February 19, 1938, in Metz, West Virginia, Floyd was the son of the late James Victor and Olive Price Gump. He was also preceded in death by his brothers, Jamie (Louise), Ralph (Delores), and Jackie; his sisters, Midge (Raymond), Opal, and Nina; and several brothers- and sisters-in-law: Carlos Wells, Wade Greene, James "Shorty" (Carol) Wells, Phyllis (Bob) Harrell, Earl Thompson, Judy Gump and Virginia (Charles) Howard.

A proud United States Army veteran, Floyd served his country honorably, carrying with him a quiet strength and steadfast patriotism throughout his life. After his military service, he dedicated himself to hard work and providing for his family. A lifelong farmer, Floyd raised tobacco and cattle, living close to the land he loved. He worked as a machinist at Birmingham Metal and as a laborer with Local 1445. From 1969 to 1994, he was the owner and operator of Gump's Grocery, a place that became more than a business—it was a gathering spot where friendships were formed and neighbors were always welcome.

Floyd felt most at home outdoors. Whether coon hunting under the stars, tending his garden, or caring for his chickens, he found joy in the simple blessings of country life. He was a devoted fan of UK Basketball, rarely missing a game and always cheering on the Wildcats with enthusiasm.

He is also survived by his brothers, Rob (Donna) Gump, Paul Gump, Raymond (Brenda) Gump, and Bill (Tina) Gump; his sisters, Joretta Snyder and Mary Stout; brothers- and sisters-in-law, George Wells, Chloe Greene, Sue Wallace, Linda Thompson, and Sara (Jay) Sexton; along with a host of extended family members and dear friends who will lovingly remember him.

Funeral services were held at 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, March 31, 2026, at Malone Funeral Home in Grayson, with Bro. Tim Porter officiating. Burial followed in East Carter County Memory Gardens with Military Honors rendered in recognition of his faithful service. Visitation was from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. on Monday with Masonic Rites at 7 pm; and after 9:00 a.m. Tuesday until the service hour.

Those honored to serve as pallbearers were Rupert Wilhoit, Brent Stone, Conner Stone, Riley Stone, Dustin Scott, Henry R. Wilhoit IV, Hayden Scott, Harrison Scott, and Cowan Kinney. George Wells, Jay Sexton, Jr., Mike Sexton, Jim Sexton and Scott Harris served as honorary pallbearers.

Floyd's life was a testament to faith, hard work, and unwavering love for family. Though he has laid down his earthly burdens, his memory will continue to guide and comfort those who were blessed to know him. Condolences may be shared with the family at www.malonefuneralhome.com.

Grayson Optical

166 S. Carol Malone Blvd
Suite A
Grayson, KY 41143
(606) 474-2940



Garrett S. Kee, O.D.
Optometrist

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OPINION

EDITORIALS | LETTERS | COLUMNS | COMMENTARY

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

Guest Editorial

The regime they tell us to ignore

By Brandon LaVoie

Some Americans speak about Iran like the answer is simple. They say the people should just stand up. Just revolt. Just throw off the regime.

That is easy to say from the safety of Kentucky, where your daughter can laugh in the yard without a morality patrol deciding whether her body is now a crime scene. It is harder to say once you look directly at what the Iranian regime is.

This is not just a government with bad policies. It is a machine built to break the human spirit. A theocratic state that turns law into a leash, fear into a language, and humiliation into public policy.

Women and girls are not merely “disrespected” there. They are pressed downward by design; treated as lesser in marriage, in custody, in inheritance, in public life, in the simple act of existing without permission.

A girl’s hair becomes evidence. A woman’s defiance becomes a file. A mother’s grief becomes a warning to others.

That is not order. That is organized domination.

And when people resist, the regime does not blush. It does not debate. It does not persuade.

It arrests. It disappears. It beats. It tortures.

It strangles the internet so truth cannot travel. It turns the courtroom into theater and the prison into doctrine. It teaches the population the oldest lesson tyranny knows – obey, or we will make an example of you.

So no, this is not a place where freedom is one brave speech away.

The people of Iran do stand up. That is what the comfortable do not understand.

They stand up in the streets. They stand up in classrooms. They stand up in whispers, in mourning clothes, in hidden videos, in uncovered hair, in the terrible courage of being seen under a system that punishes visibility itself.

And they pay for it.

Not in arguments. Not in embarrassment. In blood. In cells. In shattered bones. In names read off by grieving mothers. In futures that end at the end of a rope.

That is the part people here need to understand. The issue is not that the Iranian people lack courage. The issue is that courage alone does not dissolve a regime that owns the guns, the courts, the prisons, the surveillance, and the punishment of whole families. And the evil runs so deep it reaches children.

Let that sit.

A government willing to execute people for acts allegedly committed when they were under 18 is not a normal government with cultural differences. It is a moral catastrophe wearing the costume of a state.

A regime that can look at youth and still choose death has already confessed what it is.

So, when I hear people talk lightly about Iran, or shrug as if this is just another foreign mess, I do not hear wisdom. I hear distance. I hear the luxury of people who have never had to imagine their daughter growing up under a system that can make femininity itself a punishable risk.

People in Kentucky understand something simpler than geopolitics. You do not call a snake harmless because it is in someone else’s house.

The Iranian regime is not misunderstood. It is brutal.

It brutalizes women. It terrorizes dissidents. It uses fear as infrastructure. Its cruelty is not incidental. It is structural.

It is not losing control. This is how it keeps control.

And still, even now, the answer is not to mock the trapped. That is where I part ways with the loud men who confuse distance with clarity.

Do not sneer at Iranian families and ask why they have not fixed it themselves. Do not talk about revolt like it is a weekend chore. Do not demand heroism from people whose children sleep under the shadow of prison walls and execution orders.

Honor their courage by telling the truth about the cost. Then tell the truth here too.

Because Kentuckians know something about being treated like supply. We know what it means when the powerful find urgency for war but not for us. We know what it means when patriotism gets mistaken for permission. We know what it means to be mined – for labor, for sons, for loyalty, for silence.

See REGIME on A-6



As I wrote 15+ years ago, there should be a Nickname Hall of Fame!

(Based on published material from December 2010)

We have halls of fame for athletes, alumni, musicians and politicians, among others, but is there one for nicknames?

If so, I hereby nominate my hometown of Hinchins for enshrinement in that place of honor.

In fact, I’ll put it up against any other community in the U.S. for having the most colorful, perhaps even the strangest or most unusual nicknames.

I learned most of the nicknames as a young boy and picked up some of their given names later. But I have no idea even today of what legal names actually appeared on some of their birth certificates.

I do remember telling my parents that I felt slighted because I didn’t have one of those nifty nicknames. Dad suggested “knucklehead” but Mom vetoed it.

From an original list of about 50 recollected nicknames, I selected 15 to share.

The persons who carried or still carry these nicknames are good folks and I certainly intend no offense to them. I just like their nicknames.

Some had nicknames you might give a beloved family pet like “Boots” or “Hound Ears” or “Pooch”.

Some had nicknames related to their size like “Chigger” or “Moose”. Or perhaps to their food preferences like “Jelly” or “Soda-Pop”.

Still others carried nicknames of two-word combinations like “Red Leather”. Some names were short like “Pud” or “Toggy”.

Others were musical like “Fiddle” or related to work like “Shovel-Up” or to a boyhood job like selling “Grit”.

But the grand prize winner had a nickname that may have been unique in the entire world. I have no idea how or where it originated or why it stuck with him.

The man who had the winning nickname was a likeable person who seemed to have many friends, one of whom is the runner-up in this best nickname business.

No. 2’s nickname was “Ramcat”.

But I’ve kept you in suspense long enough. The hands-down winner is “Dogbutton”.

Keith Kappes can be reached at keithkappes@gmail.com



Keith Kappes
Columnist
Carter County Times

These seats ain't gettin' any softer

My coffee was a little more expensive today. The ICE agents standing around the New Orleans airport were an unwelcome sight, with most people cringing as they walked past, doing nothing but chatting among themselves or staring at their phones. Gas prices affected the cost of my Ubers around New Orleans. The prices of goods and services were also up everywhere. I know that because, yes, I’m visiting, but I also used to live in this city. I know what things should set me back.

While my timeline is photos of my old stomping grounds, of po-boys dripping with roast beef debris, or shrimp piled on a plate, my friends all over the country are posting photos of their groceries, of how much their gas is costing; and some people welcome this?

I need you to finally admit that things aren't going well for Trump. He's a horrible president. I'm so tired of writing about it, about him, about how there's always some new thing he's been doing, and literally none of it benefits the American people. Did those ICE raids make anything better? No. They only stoked fear in people, and who made money? Not your community.

Usually, hollow politicians use their sleight of hand to distract us away from one issue (right now, it's the Epstein files) and double down into other territories. Still, King Trump doesn't even bother — he lets you know his friends and donors are the ruling class and that your survival on minimum wage is your cross to bear, not his. Consider those ICE raids: did that guy

trying to make a living affect your life? He didn't.

Private prison giants are raking it in: GEO Group pulled in about \$2.6 billion in 2025, while CoreCivic topped \$2.2 billion — both boosted by expanding ICE contracts. For each company, immigration detention alone now generates over \$1 billion a year, with new deals and facility expansions driving even bigger projections ahead. This isn't just enforcement — it's a multibillion-dollar business model where detention translates into profit. Guess who these companies donate to?

The war with Iran is Trump's final act of incompetence. He's a long-standing, horrific businessman and nothing but a cancer to the American people, its future, and its legacy. He's made us a cautionary tale, and these seats ain't getting any softer.

Iran has been preparing for this for forty years. This war isn't a ground offensive with guns and missiles, but instead a tactical day-by-day plan to dismantle the United States' dominance as a world power. As we're walking into a quagmire that will do nothing but show how unsuited we are, led by a team of people who belong on reality television, here's what China has been doing for the last twenty years: China has poured more than \$1 trillion into its Belt and Road Initiative across 150+ countries, locking in trade routes, ports, and political leverage while the U.S. burns capital on endless conflicts. It now produces

See SEATS on A-6



Robert Dean
Guest Columnist
Carter County Times

Policies

General

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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.

Carter County Times

Members of the Editorial Board

Nicole Wells, publisher

Jeremy Wells, editor Keith Kappes, columnist

Strength from A-2
Many battles will disappear when a person learns to rest in their body and in their spirit.

In Philippians 4:11, Paul writes: "Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content," means learning to be satisfied and at peace in any circumstance, relying on God's provision rather than material abundance. Give it to God, then go rest. You don't burn out from responsibility you burn out with tiredness and exhaustion from carrying what

was never yours. Scripture says, "cast all your cares upon me for I care for you" 1 Peter 5:7. Because some weights were never meant to stay with you. The joy of the Lord is your strength. In His presence is joy. Begin to worship Him daily, resting in His promises and see what happens with the tiredness when you show up daily for worship in His presence. 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: JoyfulHopprayer. Services: 10am Sunday and Joyful Kids Class at 10:30am, 6:30pm Thursdays. Radio Broadcast: WJSN 97.3 FM & WEKG 81.0 AM Sundays 1-2pm.

Regime from A-5
So yes, say plainly that the regime is evil. Say plainly that its treatment of women is wicked. Say plainly that a government that rules through terror has forfeited any moral right to call itself just. But if America is going to ask working families to bear the cost of confronting that evil, then those families deserve more than chest-thumping and slogans. They deserve truth. They deserve a voice. They deserve to know the cause, the cost, the objec-

ive, and the end. Because we will fight when the fight is real. But we are done pretending that ordinary people – here or in Iran – are expendable pieces on a board for men who will never bury the dead themselves. That is the line. For my son's future, I want them to know this: strength is not loudness. It is not easy contempt. It is not barking at the trapped to fight harder while you risk nothing. Strength is the will-

ingness to look evil in the face and name it clearly. Strength is refusing to romanticize tyranny. Strength is refusing to turn the suffering of women, children, and families into background noise. Strength is demanding that if free men are asked to fight, they are told the truth before the blood starts falling. And for the families living under that regime right now – mothers, daughters, fathers, sons – this should be said plainly; some of us see you. Some of us under-

stand that the world asks the impossible of you and then judges you for failing to achieve it. Some of us know that survival under terror is not cowardice. It is endurance. It is resistance stretched across time. It is carrying the human soul through a furnace and refusing to let it burn out. That light still matters. And one day, God willing, it will outlive the men who built the cages

Seats from A-5
roughly 30% of the world's manufacturing output — more than the U.S., Japan, and Germany combined — and controls over 80% of the global solar supply chain, positioning itself at the center of the next energy economy. Meanwhile, China has invested heavily in strategic infrastructure such as ports, rare earth minerals (accounting for roughly 90% of global supply), and digital networks, quietly building the backbone of 21st-century power. At the same time, Americans pay insane rents, deal with

broken insurance systems, are continually broke, and consistently wonder who's leading us further into calamity. One of the reasons I left New Orleans is that it was hard to make a living as a working writer. It's a city that's always been historically poor. And even twenty-one years after Hurricane Katrina, it's still recovering. A city so special that people from all over come to visit and enjoy its excesses, but the infrastructure is still failing, the plane tickets to visit are still high — we

don't invest where it matters, but instead in how to kill more people. New Orleans survives on the margins. It's always been beautiful and broken. It's generationally overlooked by people in power who show up when there's money to extract or a photo op with a beignet to take. Sound familiar? The city isn't a metaphor — it's a preview. What happens when you chronically underinvest in people, infrastructure, and dignity isn't abstract. It's here. It has a second line, a flood line, and a menu

that'll make you weep. What happens when your town has nothing to offer? They've at least got jazz — you ain't even got a decent radio station. (Editor's note: Our contributor is unfamiliar with how blessed we are with WGOH/WUGO, so we're going to forgive and let him slide on this last point. The rest of it, we'd love to hear your feedback on.) Contact us at news@cartercountytimes.com

Tanning from A-3
established in Olive Hill with his towing business and community engagement, said this is more than just another business for them. They're invested in Olive Hill and Carter County. "She rented a spot at the Olive Hill location, but its long term because she expects to be there quite a while," Johnson said. "She made a huge investment and completely remodeled the building from floor to ceiling. It's a really nice facility, and a state-of-the-art facility for tanning." Johnson said the goal was to provide Olive Hill

and the surrounding region with a tanning salon that was comfortable and served every need the customer might possibly have. Bare Bottom Tanning not only provides for pre-tanning and after-tanning care but also offers some potential health benefits. "The red-light bed she has is really good to help with arthritis and muscle pain," Johnson said. "It also helps with other aches and pains and can be used for skin pigments. When you research red-light beds, you'll find that the list of what it can do goes

on and on." Johnson said the best thing for residents that are interested in using the facility, or are simply curious about what their equipment can be used for, is to just come visit and see for themselves. The staff will be more than willing to explain everything and work with individuals on what their goals and needs might be, and how Bare Bottom Tanning can help them meet those needs in the best way possible. "They do run packages like monthly memberships," Johnson said. "They welcome walk-ins,

and every kind of customer. You can spend as little as ten dollars. Or it can go higher depending upon what you actually need." Johnson said his wife and daughter have worked tirelessly to bring what they believe is a one-of-a-kind tanning experience to Olive Hill. "When they picked this building out for the tanning salon, they started remodeling. It took them over a year of hard work to put this all together." Johnson said an indirect benefit of their hard work and investment of independent capital was that

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Citizens Veterans Association, Inc. d/b/a Proud Bird CVA hereby declares its intention(s) to apply for a Nonquota Type 4 Retail Drink License and Special Sunday Retail Drink License no later than December 1, 2026. The licensed premises will be located at 501 N Carol Malone Blvd, Grayson, Kentucky, 41143. The owner and president is William E Shaffer, 110 Sawgrass Lane #23, Grayson KY 41143. Any person, association, corporation, or body politic may protest the granting of the license(s) by writing the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control, 500 Mero Street 2NE33, Frankfort, Kentucky, 40601, within thirty (30) days of the date of legal publication.

PUBLIC NOTICE

CARTER COUNTY FISCAL COURT

Carter County Fiscal Court will be accepting sealed bids for bridge replacement on Waterfall Creek (CR-1685) and Black Hollow Rd (CR-1183). Sealed bids will be accepted until Friday, April 17, 2026, at 4pm at the judge executives' office located at 300 West Main Street Room 227 Grayson KY 41143. For specifications on bridges, please call Jason Carroll at 606-316-8096.

Brandon Burton
Judge Executive

HELP WANTED

Wanted experienced core drillers and helpers. Good pay commensurate with experience, overtime available. Health insurance. Must have valid driver's license, be drug free and willing to travel. If interested call 606-548-5300 or 606-359-0409.

Bare Bottom Tanning can be reached at 606.315.2133, by email at barebottomtanning@outlook.com, or by visiting their Facebook page. Contact the writer at charles@cartercountytimes.com

20 counties selected for KACo's Opioid Solutions Network to help maximize opioid settlement funds

By Melissa Patrick
Kentucky Health News

The Kentucky Association of Counties has selected representatives from 20 Kentucky counties to participate in the KACo Opioid Solutions Network (KOSN), a new association to help counties maximize opioid settlement funds, according to KACo's March 26 newsletter. The selected counties are: Boone, Breathitt, Carroll, Clark, Estill, Graves, Grayson, Hardin, Jessamine, Lewis, Magof-

fin, Marion, Mason, Owen, Powell, Todd, Trigg, Trimble, Wayne and Woodford. "Each of these counties has demonstrated a strong commitment to supporting addiction recovery in their communities," KACo Executive Director Jim Henderson said in the newsletter. "When equipped with the right tools and information, counties can make investments that create a positive ripple effect for generations to come." Opioid settlement funds are payments from drug manufacturers, distributors

and pharmacies to resolve lawsuits to the opioid crisis. Distributions from these settlements began in 2022, with Kentucky expected to receive approximately \$1 billion over the coming years. Half of the settlement money goes to the state and the other half to local governments. The money must be used for opioid abatement efforts such as treatment, prevention and harm reduction. The first KOSN meeting will happen this spring, where county leaders will

participate in peer learning and get technical assistance on practical strategies to address the opioid crisis. They also will participate in regional site visits. The program will highlight approaches already working in Kentucky, particularly those supported by national opioid settlement funding, according to the newsletter. As part of the network, participants will develop a project or strategy aimed at improving how opioid settlement funds are used locally and will present their work at the 52nd

Annual KACo Conference in November. KOSN is modeled after the National Association of Counties' Opioid Solutions Leadership Network. KACo opioid settlement adviser Lauren Carr leads the new association. Carr, along with Boone County Judge-Executive Gary Moore, Harlan County Judge-Executive Dan Mosley and Madison County Judge-Executive Reagan Taylor, previously served on the national leadership group that examined successful

recovery strategies across the country. "Seeing proven program models up close is often an aha moment for county leaders," Carr said. "KACo's Opioid Solutions Network builds on insights learned at the national level and creates opportunities for idea-sharing and collaboration in Kentucky." Courtesy of Kentucky Health News.

Advocates: sex ed, communication and community needed to address Ky's high teen birth rate

By Melissa Patrick
Kentucky Health News

Kentucky has one of the highest teen birth rates in the country, which Dr. Stephanie Stockburger, who leads the University of Kentucky's Adolescent

Medicine program, says comes from a patchwork approach to sexual education and health care, Alena Neves reports for ABC 36 News Now. "With higher teen birth rates, it's less comprehensive," Stockburger told

Neves. "Parents have to opt in to sex education instead of opting out. Other factors — poverty, lower income, adverse childhood experiences, lack of access to healthcare or health insurance — are all major barriers to prevention."

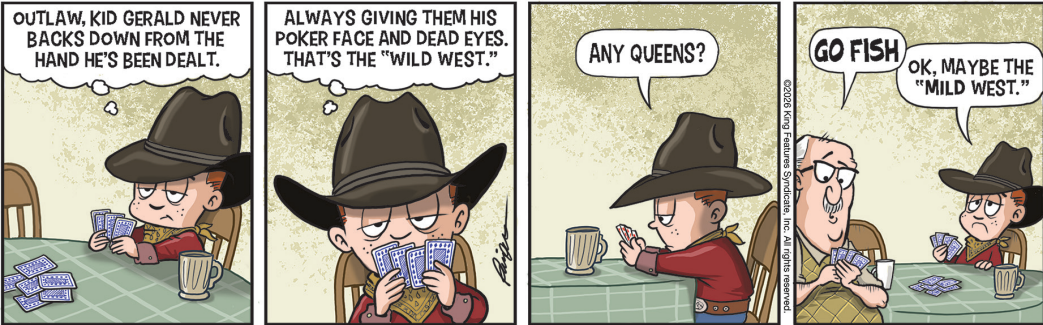
She adds that prevention begins within families by creating openness and connection, Neves reports. "Talking openly — sexual experiences are normal, part of being human — and we want people to be safe and happy and make wise

choices," she said. "Having community programs and positive mentors also plays a huge role in preventing teen pregnancy." Neves points to two programs that aim to create community and offer resources to young

pregnant women: the Not Alone Pregnancy Center in Georgetown and the Step by Step program in Lexington. "A lot of our young moms don't have people they can rely on," Tanya

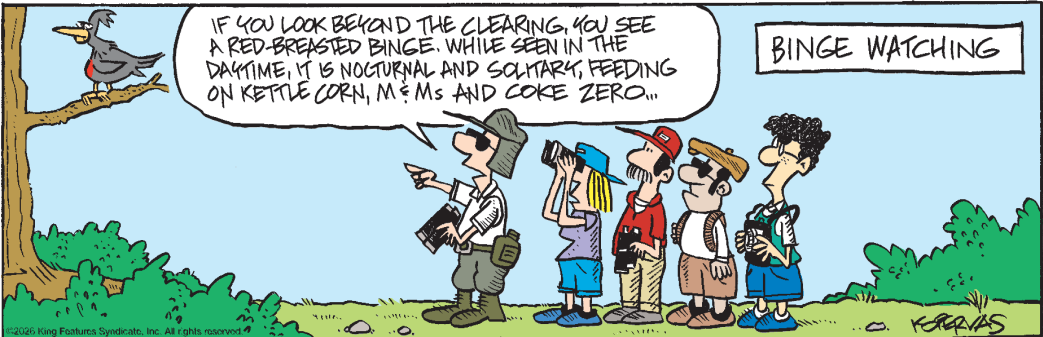
Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



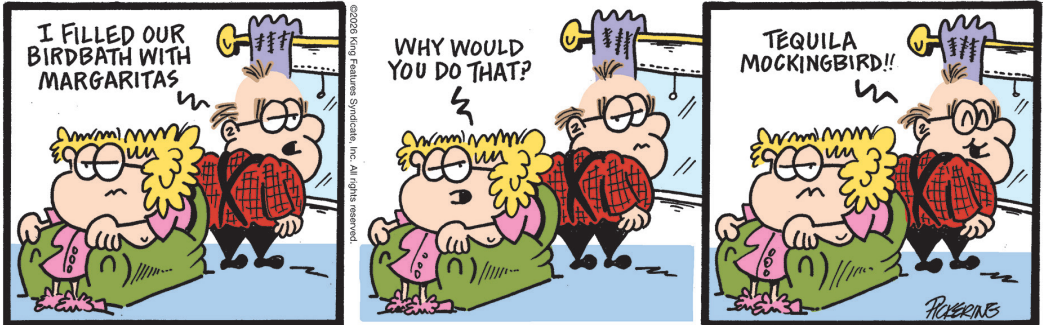
Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



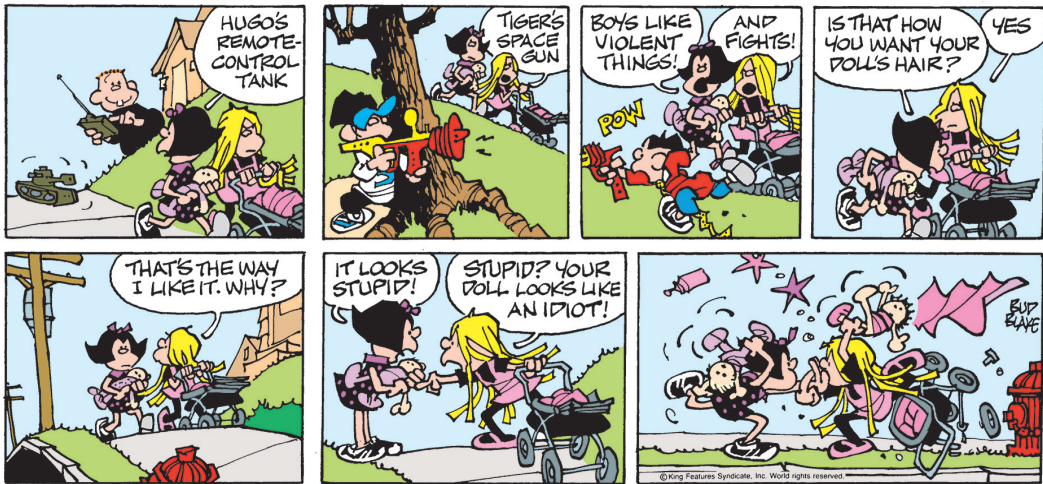
The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



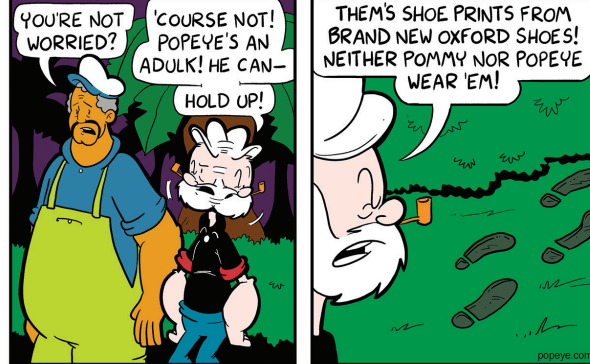
TIGER

by BUD BLAKE



OLIVE & POPEYE

By Randy Millholland



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: A equals B

SR BNJ LWBZVK LRRUJWX,
KBSUUJV LDT XSDPKUJC LVJ
LUU PZTZ AFTTSJK, S
KFMMZKJ BNJC'VJ AJD MLUK.

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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!

Refuge: MUSALY
Mixture: BHIRDY
Crazy: RABUDS
Grieve: ROMUN

TODAY'S WORD: _____

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Purse part
- 6 Tatter
- 9 Fr. holy woman
- 12 Borders on
- 13 In the past
- 14 Allow
- 15 Trattoria offering
- 16 Wild hurry, as on Black Friday
- 18 Divides in two
- 20 Greek mountain
- 21 Rule in India
- 23 Goat's plaint
- 24 City on the Yangtze River
- 25 Broadway failure
- 27 Zaps in a microwave
- 29 Argue
- 31 Portugal's place
- 35 Fix a lawn
- 37 Bath bubbles
- 38 Long-legged shorebird
- 41 Hwys.
- 43 Scale note
- 44 Spanish "but"
- 45 Rob Roy spirit
- 47 Pressed for time
- 49 Garlicky mayo
- 52 Dijon denial

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
12											
15											
		18			19			20			
21	22			23				24			
25			26		27		28				
29				30			31		32	33	34
				35			36		37		
38	39	40				41	42		43		
44				45			46				
47				48			49		50	51	
52				53			54				
55				56			57				

- 53 Blackbird
- 54 "What's in — me?"
- 55 — Lanka
- 56 "Acid"
- 57 Crusoe's creator
- 7 Turkish officials
- 8 Deity
- 9 Melting snow
- 10 "Selma" actress
- 11 Thompson
- 17 Awakens
- 19 Wind indicators
- 21 "Mayberry —"
- 22 Hearty brew
- 24 Spider's home
- 26 Sitting room
- 28 Youngster
- 30 Hanoi holiday
- 32 Exit in haste
- 33 Altar promise
- 34 Visual communication syst.
- 36 Corsage flower
- 38 Whirls
- 39 Choir member
- 40 Resident of Tabriz
- 42 Composed
- 45 Taxpayer IDs
- 46 Refer to
- 48 "Friendly skies" co.
- 50 Brit's restroom
- 51 Fury

DOWN

- 1 Enervate
- 2 TV schedule abbr.
- 3 Work that's done ASAP
- 4 "— boy!"
- 5 Sacred song
- 6 French Baroque composer

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Weekly SUDOKU

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

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

- TELEVISION: What is Ron Swanson's favorite food group in the sitcom "Parks and Recreation"?
- GAMES: In Scrabble, how many tiles does each player get to start?
- GEOGRAPHY: Dubai is in which Middle Eastern country?
- MOVIES: What is Neo's real name in "The Matrix"?
- U.S. PRESIDENTS: Which president was born with the name Leslie Lynch King Jr.?
- LITERATURE: Which 19th-century English novel introduces the character Mr. Rochester?
- FOOD & DRINK: Cornelius Rooster is the mascot of which cereal brand?
- SCIENCE: What is the process called when water evaporates from plants?
- CHEMISTRY: What is the most abundant metal in Earth's crust?
- ANATOMY: How many vertebrae are in the human spine?

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BUY-BUY

Today's Word

- 3. Absurd; 4. Noun

SCRAMBLERS

B	R	I	D
C	R	I	E
R	A	C	E
D	A	N	C
C	A	N	C
F	A	N	C

Solution

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

Answer

Weekly SUDOKU

suppose they're Ben pals.
Stiller and Kingley are all good buddies.
If the actors Affleck, answer

CryptoQuip

- Meat
- Seven
- United Arab Emirates
- Thomas Anderson
- Gerald Ford
- "Jane Eyre" by Charlotte Bronte
- Kellogg's Corn Flakes
- Transpiration
- Aluminum
- 33

Solution time: 26 mins.

King Crossword

14	=	1	=	10				
6	+	9	+	2	=	17		
+	+	4	-	3	=	8		
+	+	+	+	8	=	14		
1	+	5	+	8	=	14		
14	=	1	=	10				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

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.

+	+	=	14					
+	+	-	=	8				
+	+	-	=	8				
+	÷	×	=	17				
+	+	=	17					
=	=	=	14	1	10			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

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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. Curly-haired dog | P _ _ _ _ _ | Pasta segment | N _ _ _ _ _ |
| 2. 39 th President | C _ _ _ _ _ | Negotiate a trade | B _ _ _ _ _ |
| 3. Dish | _ _ _ T _ _ | Location | _ _ _ C _ _ |
| 4. Group of sheep | _ L _ _ _ _ | Fancy dress | _ R _ _ _ _ |
| 5. Wilt | W _ _ _ _ _ | Or's partner | E _ _ _ _ _ |
| 6. Large book | _ _ V _ _ _ | Peace prize giver | _ B _ _ _ _ |
| 7. Skimpy beachwear | _ _ _ _ I _ _ | Using a two-wheeler | _ _ _ _ G _ |
| 8. Egypt's capital | _ _ _ _ O _ | Toto's kind of terrier | _ _ _ N _ _ |
| 9. Backbone | _ _ _ N _ _ | Railroad stake | _ _ K _ _ _ |
| 10. Modest and retiring | _ _ M _ _ _ | Space telescope | _ _ B _ _ _ |

14	=	1	=	10				
6	+	9	+	2	=	17		
+	+	4	-	3	=	8		
+	+	+	+	8	=	14		
1	+	5	+	8	=	14		
14	=	1	=	10				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

- Poodle Noodle
- Cartier Barier
- Plate, Place
- Flock, Frick
- Whet, Ether
- Novel, Nodel
- Blink, Bling
- Carin, Calm
- Spine, Spike
- Humble, Hubdel

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Tanning from A-3

Torp of Step by Step told Neves. "They're often going through everything alone. We help them build relationships that

are strong and healthy — friendships that can support them. Maybe one works first shift, and the other works third shift,"

she added. "They'll babysit for one another, share responsibilities, and call each other during hard times." Editor's note: Accord-

ing to the County Health Rankings & Roadmaps report, there were 23 teen births per 1,000 females ages 15-19 between 2018

and 2024. The report shows that the rates range from a high of 49 teen births per 1,000 females ages 15-19 in Lee County

to five in Oldham County. Courtesy of Kentucky Health News.

Federal judge dismisses charges against ex-Louisville officers who crafted Breonna Taylor warrant

By Dylan Lovan Associated Press

LOUISVILLE (AP) — A federal judge has dismissed charges against two former Louisville police officers who were accused of falsifying the warrant used to enter Breonna Taylor's apartment the night police shot her to death.

U.S. District Judge Charles Simpson issued a one-page ruling Friday

throwing out charges against Joshua Jaynes and Kyle Meany, two former officers involved in crafting the Taylor warrant.

Federal prosecutors asked a judge last week to dismiss charges against the former officers "in the interest of justice." Prosecutors noted that the court had already removed some felony charges against Jaynes and Meany in previous proceedings.

Former U.S. Attorney General Merrick Garland announced charges against Jaynes and Meany in 2022 in a high-profile news conference in Louisville, where Garland said "Breonna Taylor should still be alive today." Garland said the officers at the scene who shot Taylor, 26, were unaware of the "false and misleading statements" in the warrant.

Taylor's boyfriend

fired one shot at police after they broke down her front door with a battering ram. Police returned fire, striking Taylor multiple times in her hallway. Her killing along with the death of George Floyd in Minnesota sparked weeks of racial justice protests in the summer of 2020.

Jaynes was facing charges for conspiracy and falsification of records and misdemeanor civil

rights violations. Meany was facing a charge for allegedly lying to federal investigators.

The warrant used to enter Taylor's apartment alleged she was receiving packages for a suspected drug dealer and former boyfriend. The document said Jaynes had confirmed with the postal service that packages for the ex-boyfriend were going to Taylor's apartment. Inves-

tigators later learned that Jaynes had not confirmed that information with the postal inspector. Meany, a former police sergeant, signed off on the warrant.

Jaynes was fired by Louisville police in 2021 for being untruthful about the warrant. Meany was fired after he was charged in 2022.

Today in history: April 1, US forces invade Okinawa during World War II

By The Associated Press

Today is Wednesday, April 1, the 91st day of 2026. There are 274 days left in the year. This is April Fool's Day.

Today in history:

On April 1, 1945, American forces launched the amphibious invasion of Okinawa during World War II. (U.S. forces succeeded in capturing the Japanese island on June 22 after a battle in which more than 240,000 died, including as many as 150,000 Okinawan civilians.)

Also on this date:

In 1924, Adolf Hitler was sentenced to five years in prison for his role in the Beer Hall Putsch in Munich. (Hitler would serve just nine months of the sentence, during which time he completed the first volume of "Mein Kampf.")

In 1946, a magnitude 8.6 earthquake centered near Alaska's Aleutian Islands triggered a tsunami that pounded the Hawaiian Islands with waves up to 55 feet (17 meters) tall, killing 159.

In 1970, President Richard M. Nixon signed a measure banning cigarette advertising on radio and television beginning in January 1971.

In 1976, Apple Computer was founded by Steve Jobs, Steve Wozniak and Ronald Wayne.

In 1984, singer Marvin Gaye was shot and killed by his father after Gaye intervened in an argument between his parents at their home.

In 2001, the Netherlands became the first country in the world to legalize same-sex marriage.

In 2003, American troops raided a hospital in Nasiriyah (nah-sih-REE'-uh), Iraq, and rescued Army Pfc. Jessica Lynch, who had been held prisoner since her unit was ambushed by Iraqi forces on March 23.

In 2025, Democratic Sen. Cory Booker of New Jersey, in a symbolic protest against President Donald Trump's second-term agenda, wrapped up the longest individual speech on the Senate floor. He began his marathon address to the chamber on the evening of March 31 and concluded 25 hours and 5 minutes later on the night of April 1.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Ali MacGraw is 87. Supreme Court Justice Samuel Alito is 76. Actor Annette O'Toole is 74. Filmmaker Barry Sonnenfeld is 73. Singer Susan Boyle is 65. Hockey Hall of Famer Scott Stevens is 62. Political commentator Rachel Maddow is 53. Actor David Oyelowo is 50. Comedian-actor Taran Killam is 44. Actor Asa Butterfield is 29.

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