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CARTER COUNTY, KENTUCKY

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Candidates discuss economy and healthcare

By Charles Romans
Carter County Times

Political candidates for both local and state offices spoke to the public in Carter County on Saturday, May 2, at an event in Willard. The open-air event allowed each speaker to present their platform and answer questions from their current or potential constituents on topics important to local voters, such as the struggling economy and not only the rising cost of healthcare but also the lack of necessary coverage for county voters. Many of the candidates present voiced opposition to what Republican President Donald Trump has named his "Big Beautiful Bill."

"It will absolutely decimate

our rural poverty communities," candidate Ned Pillersdorf said of the bill.

Pillersdorf, a Democrat, is running against incumbent Hal Rogers for Kentucky's 5th Congressional District.

"The Medicaid cuts will be catastrophic," he noted. "We are projected to lose more hospitals than any other congressional district in the nation."

Pillersdorf lives in Floyd County, and told those present that he has been a poverty lawyer for 45 years.

"I'm running because, unlike the Republicans, I actually care about the less fortunate."

Pillersdorf said the fact that Rogers cast the deciding vote for

See CANDIDATES on A-4



Amy McGrath (Photo by Charles Romans, Carter County Times)

Welcoming Comer

Congressman receives key to city

By Charles Romans
Carter County Times

Congressman James Comer visited Grayson, last Thursday, May 7, and spoke with a large group at the Carter County Courthouse.

"He's making the District 18 tour today," Senator Robin Webb said, introducing Comer to a group of his constituents.

Those in attendance included other government figures such as State Senator Greg Elkins, County Attorney for Boyd County Curtis Dodson, and of course Webb herself.

"I just want to introduce my

good friend," she said, acknowledging their friendship went back to the year 2000 when he joined the General Assembly.

Comer currently represents Kentucky's First congressional district in the United States House of Representatives and has served in Congress since 2016. This is in addition to previously serving in the Kentucky House of Representatives and as Kentucky Agriculture Commissioner.

"I want to thank everyone for coming out," Comer said. "I have been traveling around the state, and I don't think it's any secret what we have on our minds. There is a governor's race coming up in 2027."

Comer said that in 2026 there is a senate race and a lot of local races, but the governor's race

See COMER on A-7



Grayson Mayor Troy Combs presents a Key to the City of Grayson to Congressman James Comer. (Photo by Charles Romans, Carter County Times)

Utilities commission discusses future projects

Accepts bids on sludge basin

By Charles Romans
Carter County Times

Grayson Utilities Commission Director Gerald Haney reported at the commission's April meeting that the project near East Carter High School had been completed; at least the utility part of it.

"Steve Opell of Opell Excavating said they were completely done with the high school utility relocation project," Haney told the commission.

Haney also reported that the project had been completed under budget by \$10,460. The savings were due, Haney said, to a combination of the plans for the work being very thorough

and Steve Opell and his subcontractors for the gas portion of that project. The project was also completed a month ahead of schedule.

"Overall, it was a very successful project," Haney said.

Haney referenced the March meeting where the commission discussed future projects and the need for a qualification list from some contractors on certain projects. One of the projects in question was the lead service pipe GIS work (in order for the commission to secure the lead service line grant).

"That's where we inventory what we have on the service line," Haney explained. "And what the customer has beyond the meter. As part of that funding requirement, we have to put that out for an open bid."

"We only had one request for

qualifications on that. It's from Terra Graphics," Haney told the commission. "They have been helping us for years."

Haney said the commission is looking for a specific service and firms that are capable of doing the work to map the features and the service line, Haney said.

"There is a submittal process to the Division of Water that lists what was looked at, and how it was disqualified or qualified for possibly having lead."

At the October Grayson City Council meeting Haney had presented information to the city council on where the city stood, Haney said.

"We had already started well beyond having him (the contractor) procured because I didn't realize that was going to be required."

See UTILITIES 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.

- Deron Flaughner, 34, of Grayson, arrested by Carter County Sheriff, on a charge of first degree criminal abuse of a child 12 or under, arrested and booked May 4.
- Jesse Glover, 35, of Flatwoods, arrested by Carter County Sheriff, on a charge of third degree burglary, arrested and booked May 4.
- Austin Hensley, 24, of Louisa, arrested by Carter County Sheriff, on charges of operating a motor vehicle under the influence of a controlled substance,

inadequate silencer (muffler), operating a motor vehicle on a suspended or revoked operator's license, first degree trafficking in narcotics (four or more grams of cocaine), possession of drug paraphernalia, and possession of marijuana, arrested and booked May 4.

- Bryson Crider, 18, of Olive Hill, arrested by Carter County Sheriff, on charges of failure to appear on a citation for a misdemeanor, and contempt of court, arrested and booked May 4.
- Steven Keeton, 65, of Grayson, arresting agency redacted, for non-payment of court costs, fees, or fines, arrested and booked May 5.
- Charles Oppenheimer, 69, of Olive Hill, arresting agency unavailable, for non-payment of court costs, fees, or fines,

- arrested and booked May 5.
- Chris Ratliff, 18, of Grayson, arresting agency unavailable, on a charge on public intoxication on a controlled substance (excludes alcohol), arrested and booked May 5.
- Andrew Porter, 41, of Olive Hill, arrested by Kentucky State Police, on charges of second degree fleeing or evading police (on foot), possession of marijuana, first degree possession of a controlled substance (methamphetamine) second offense, first degree possession of a controlled substance (fentanyl), possession of drug paraphernalia, tampering with physical evidence, menacing, being a first degree persistent felony offender, failure to appear on a citation for a misdemeanor, and two counts of probation violation (for a felony offense), arrested and booked May 5.

See ARRESTS on A-3

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This Week's Obituaries

Charles "Charlie Pap" Bailey, 86

Debra LeAnn Parker, 57

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LIFESTYLE



Divas ON A DIME By Patti Diamond

Ditch the store-bought mixes: Homemade alternatives for healthier, tastier meals

If you take a close look at the ingredients in most store-bought ranch mixes and onion soup packets, you'll see the pattern: They're built for shelf-life, not for your health. Fillers, preservatives, flavor enhancers and surprisingly high amounts of sodium do the heavy lifting. Then we mix them with mayonnaise or dairy and eat it for dinner. We can do better than this.

The biggest issue is control over what's in the mix. When you purchase processed mixes, you can't adjust the salt, skip the additives or choose better-quality ingredients.

The good news? You don't

have to give up those familiar flavors. Making your own blends at home is simple, inexpensive and puts you back in charge of what goes into your food (and your body!).

Ranch seasoning has a way of sneaking into just about everything, from popcorn and mashed potatoes to roasted vegetables, dressings and dips. It's a familiar little workhorse in many kitchens.

This homemade version lets you use ranch seasoning exactly the same way, sprinkled, stirred or whisked. Only now, you're in charge of every ingredient. It's the same versatility, just cleaner, fresher and entirely yours.

HOMEMADE RANCH DRESSING MIX

Yield: 14 tablespoons
Total Time: 5 mins.

- 1/2 cup buttermilk powder
- 1 tablespoon onion powder
- 1 tablespoon garlic powder
- 1 tablespoon dried parsley
- 1 tablespoon dried dill weed
- 1 tablespoon dried chives
- 1 teaspoon sea salt, optional
- 1/2 teaspoon black pepper
- 1/2 teaspoon sugar, optional

Whisk all ingredients together until well combined. Transfer to an airtight container and store in a cool, dry place for up to 6 months.

To Use:

- Substitute 3 tablespoons mix for 1 store-bought packet.
- Dressing: Mix 3 tablespoons with 1/2 cup sour cream, 1/2 cup mayonnaise and 3/4-1 cup milk (adjust for desired thickness).
- Dip: Mix 3 tablespoons with 1 cup sour cream.
- Add a squeeze of lemon juice to dips and dressing for extra zing.

If ranch is the life of the party, then onion soup mix is the steady, dependable friend who makes everything better behind the scenes.

Onion soup mix is one of those kitchen staples that shows up everywhere. It's the backbone of classic comfort dishes: pot roast, gravy, slow cooker meals and casseroles. It delivers deep, savory flavor with almost no effort, which is why it's been a pantry staple for decades.

Making your own keeps that same savory depth but lets you dial in the flavor without excess salt or mystery ingredients. Same results, just a little smarter.

HOMEMADE ONION SOUP MIX

Yield: 1 cup + 2 tablespoons
Total Time: 5 minutes

- 3/4 cup onion flakes
- 1/4 cup powdered beef bouillon or vegetable bouillon
- 1 tablespoon granulated onion
- 1 teaspoon celery seed



Two pantry favorites, side by side: homemade ranch dressing mix and onion soup mix. (Photo Credit: www.JasonCoblentz.com)

- 1 teaspoon granulated garlic
- 1/2 teaspoon pepper
- 1/4 teaspoon paprika
- 1 teaspoon salt, optional
- 1/2 teaspoon sugar, optional

Before You Mix:

Check your beef or vegetable bouillon. If salt or sugar is listed as one of the first ingredients, do not add any additional salt or sugar to this recipe. If not, add as directed.

Combine all ingredients in a jar and store in a cool, dry pantry.

To Use:

- Use 1/4 cup (4 tablespoons) in place of 1 packet of dry onion soup mix.
- This recipe yields about 4 1/2 packets worth.

Notes:

- For soup, use homemade stock

or broth instead of bouillon to control sodium.

- For a vegetarian version, use vegetable bouillon.

Skip the packet for better flavor, less sodium, no mystery ingredients. Just simple food made on your terms, always.

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 Office space

Whether you have a small office space in your home or you work at an office off-site, the challenge for creating efficiency is the same. There are documents that need to be filed or shredded, folders that need labels, and equipment that needs maintaining. When you are dealing with time limitations because of appointments or travel, organizing your office can often take a back seat and easily get out of control.

I talk a lot about managing your time and keeping an efficient office requires the same attention to planning as anything

else in your life. Scheduling some time each day to work on your office, even if it means compiling a list of equipment and materials that will help get your office in order, is worth the time. Research 'how to organize an office' and make a list of things that will improve the way you conduct business. Shopping for supplies can be fun and will help motivate you into action.

At home, even something as small as taking your mail into your office when it arrives is a gentle reminder to keep your space in order. Outside your home, at your place

of business, prioritizing your day and allowing some time to give your office some attention will actually result in a positive outlook as you deal with interruptions in your day.

Your office should be a place that is stress free. It's that space where you can find the documents you need when you need them. It's the space where you can concentrate on the work before you that needs your undivided attention. And it's the space you can walk away from when your work is done knowing that you can enjoy the rest of your day. So, take a moment or two and think about your office space and what you can do to make working easier.

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



Daryl Ashley
Guest Columnist
Confusion Solution

University of Kentucky Extension Notes

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

AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES

University of Kentucky researchers tackle hidden crisis in modern pig production

Lexington — A University of Kentucky reproductive biologist is leading an ambitious four-year study to investigate one of the most pressing, yet largely invisible, problems facing the American swine industry: the mismatch between how many piglets modern sows conceive and how many their uteri can actually support.

Jonathan Pasternak, associate professor in the Department of Animal and Food Sciences (AFS) within the Martin-Gatton College of Agriculture, Food and Environment, received a \$650,000 grant

from the U.S. Department of Agriculture National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) to study the developmental impact of uterine crowding in the contemporary sow. The project will run through January 2030 with assistance from the Animal Molecular and Cellular Physiology group, which includes AFS assistant professors Coral Kent-Dennis and Katherine Halloran.

Decades of aggressive genetic selection have pushed litter sizes in commercial swine to historic highs. Top-performing producers now average nearly

16 piglets per litter, with ovulation rates in some genetic lines reaching 40 oocytes — the number of eggs before maturation. But while geneticists have successfully increased the number of embryos a sow produces, uterine capacity has remained stubbornly unchanged. "Ovulation rate is exceptionally heritable, but uterine capacity can't keep pace," Pasternak said. "We now have sows producing more piglets in a litter than they have nipples to nurse them."

The result for piglets is a condition known as intra-uterine growth restriction (IUGR). Unlike traditional runts, which reflect poor genetic potential, IUGR piglets carry the full genetic capacity for efficient growth but are starved of nutrients in the womb. Disruption during this sensitive period has lifelong consequences.

IUGR piglets can represent up to 30% of a contemporary litter but account for the overwhelming majority of pre-weaning mortality. Survivors grow less efficiently and

See PIG on A-3



Rebecca Konopka
Carter County
Extension Agent



UK researchers are now studying a condition known as intrauterine growth restriction, which can have serious consequences in the swine industry. Photo provided by Jonathan Pasternak.

Joyful Noise

Jesus take the wheel

By Pastor Naomi Mitchell for *Carter County Times*

Have you ever sat and really pondered on how much God truly is in our everyday life? A few evenings ago, while at the National Day of Prayer meeting in the park, we were asked at the end of the service if someone had anything they wanted to share. One lady shared that she was thinking

about a certain candy bar that day that she would like to have. Low and behold when her husband came home from work, he gave her the very candy she had wanted that day. She said, "God is in the little things sometimes." Another lady said someone had given her son a refrigerator and when he had stopped by her house later, her fridge had just quit. She didn't even know

there was a problem with it. Her son gave her the refrigerator. Then a wise little boy (for his age I might add) named Willard quietly said, "God is just in all the little things in our life." How true, right out of the mouth of babes!

Romans 11:36 declares that all things originate from God, are sustained through Him, and exist ultimately

See JOYFUL NOISE on A-3

Kentucky Dept of Agriculture Livestock and Grain Market Report

Compared to last week feeder steers sold steady to 3.00 higher and feeder heifers were 3.00 to 5.00 higher. Yearling steers and heifers were mostly 3.00 to 5.00 higher with good demand for all feeder and yearling classes. Slaughter cows and bulls sold mostly steady with good demand.

Week ending 5/9/26

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

Steers (M&L 1-2)	This Week	Prior Week	Last Year
350-400 lbs	563.27	564.75	431.93
400-450 lbs	527.71	518.87	413.29
450-500 lbs	515.29	510.72	391.37
500-550 lbs	479.69	479.39	374.08
550-600 lbs	465.17	460.11	355.63
600-650 lbs	431.41	423.89	336.09
650-700 lbs	409.32	403.72	325.35
700-750 lbs	373.92	372.96	309.77
750-800 lbs	371.65	364.20	295.70
800-850 lbs	350.64	349.97	274.14
850-900 lbs	340.29	341.11	268.91
Heifers (M&L 1-2)	This Week	Prior Week	Last Year
300-350 lbs	532.72	525.12	389.35
350-400 lbs	510.80	506.54	385.02
400-450 lbs	477.53	470.53	366.22
450-500 lbs	454.69	450.70	352.54
500-550 lbs	419.31	417.72	331.53
550-600 lbs	402.50	399.79	318.40
600-650 lbs	371.50	373.69	292.73
650-700 lbs	350.29	361.29	283.22
700-750 lbs	334.27	337.55	261.73
750-800 lbs	327.68	330.20	252.87

Slaughter Cows	Average	High	Low
Breakers	157.50-188.00	174.00-201.00	161.00-178.00
Boners	145.00-190.00	165.00-211.00	130.00-178.00
Lean	119.00-170.00	152.00-210.00	101.00-159.50
Slaughter Bulls	Average	High	Low
Yield Grade 1&2	187.00-220.00	206.00-245.00	165.00-208.00

Apr 26, 2026 Bowling Green, KY

SLAUGHTER GOATS: 147

Kids-Selection 1 54 lbs 500.00; 73 lbs 380.00. Selection 1-2 83 lbs 305.00.

Selection 2 51 lbs 500.00 58. Selection 2-3 50-52 lbs 280.00-305.00; 65 lbs 285.00.

SLAUGHTER SHEEP: 937

Hair Breeds-Choice & Prime 1-2 54 lbs 360.00; 65-66 lbs 360.00-365.00; 73-78 lbs 360.00-395.00; 89 lbs 350.00; 108 lbs 330.00. Woolled-Choice & Prime 1-2 53-59 lbs 377.50-385.00; 67 lbs 375.00; 75-76 lbs 350.00-365.00; 88 lbs 330.00; 105 lbs 355.00; 120 lbs 300.00.

GRAINS	This Week	Prior Week	Last Year
Corn	4.48-5.14	4.44-5.07	4.28-4.74
Soybeans	11.01-12.58	10.91-12.27	9.46-10.74
Red Winter Wheat	5.37-6.45	5.51-6.62	4.39-5.31

Arrests from A-1

- Bryson Haynes, 23, of Grayson, arrested by Grayson PD, on a charge of unlawful possession of a weapon on school property, arrested and booked May 6.
- Melvin Howard, 49, of Olive Hill, arrested by Olive Hill PD, on a charge of theft by unlawful taking or disposition – shoplifting, arrested and booked May 6.
- Alexander Stevenson, 48, of Grayson, arrested by Kentucky State Police, on charges of careless driving, no or expired registration receipt, no or expired registration plates, improper display of regular plates, and failure to produce an insurance card, arrested and

- booked May 6.
- Triston Runyon, 20, of Olive Hill, arrested by Carter County Sheriff, on charges of resisting arrest, third degree fleeing or evading police, and failure to appear on a citation for a misdemeanor, arrested and booked May 7.
- Alexander Stevenson, 48, of Grayson, arrested by Carter County Sheriff, on a charge of second degree strangulation (domestic violence related), arrested and booked May 7.
- David Harlow, 47, of Grayson, arresting agency unavailable, charges unavailable, arrested and booked May 8.
- Alexander Cline-Dickerson, 31, of Grayson, arrested by Carter County

- Sheriff, on a charge of operating a motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol, arrested and booked May 8.
- Ashley Domonique-Givens, 34, of Huntington, WV, arrested by Carter County Sheriff, on charges of operating a motor vehicle on a suspended or revoked operator’s license, and careless driving, arrested and booked May 8.
- Jamari Clark, 34, of Detroit, MI, arrested by Carter County Sheriff, on a warrant as a fugitive from another state, arrested and booked May 8.
- Gary Morgan, 65, of Hitchens, arrested by Kentucky State Police, on charges of operating a

- motor vehicle under the influence of a substance, and operating a motor vehicle on a suspended or revoked operator’s license, arrested and booked May 9.
- Larry Knipp, 59, of Grayson, arrested by Olive Hill PD, for failure to appear on a citation for a misdemeanor, arrested and booked May 10.

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.

Utilities from A-1

The mapping comes with challenges due to a shortage of contractors that might have the skillsets needed to provide the services, Haney said.

“There aren’t a lot of people doing this type of work yet,” he said.

The commission voted to select the submission from Terra Graphics, and that will be followed by crafting a contract to pinpoint exact duties, responsibilities, and price for the project.

Haney said the other request for qualifications he had posted was for the sludge sediment basin project.

“For this project, we

actually received the loan back in the fall for 3.4 million,” he told the commission. “Moving forward with that one, you will have to procure the engineering services.”

“We have an established relationship with Bell Engineering,” he reminded the commission.

Bell Engineering, he said, had helped with initial planning of the project.

But they aren’t the only firm in the running to complete the project. Three engineering firm bids were received for the sludge project, Haney said. These bids included the qualification criteria as well.

“Essentially you will

have to spend about a year of design time for this project,” Haney said. “This includes going through all of the environmental reviews and coming up with the design, and hopefully we are going to go through some other systems to see what they have. This is before you can start drawing any of the funds that will pay for those services.”

That would necessitate either the commission pay the initial services “out of pocket,” or the firm in question presenting a huge initial invoice, Haney told the commission. The three firms submitting were Bell Engineering, Howerton Engineering,

and New River Engineers. Haney said that what the commission received were proposals only, and did not include a dollar amount. The standard RD fee is 13 percent of total project cost, Haney said.

There was no vote concerning the project at the April meeting, with the commission deciding to do further due diligence and research before the next scheduled meeting in May of 2026.

Contact the writer at charles@cartercountytimes.com

Joyful Noise from A-2

for His glory. This scripture says, “For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things. To Him be the glory forever! Amen.” This verse emphasizes that God is the ultimate source, sustainer, and goal of all creation.

“From Him” – This highlights God as the Creator and First Cause. Everything in existence originates from God, affirming that nothing exists independently of Him. Humans, nature, and the universe itself derive their being from God’s creative power.

“Through Him” – This emphasizes God as the Sustainer and Means. All life, events, and natural laws are maintained by God’s

ongoing involvement. Every breath, heartbeat, and cosmic process occurs through His power, illustrating His active presence in the world.

“To Him” – This signifies God as the ultimate purpose and goal of all creation. Everything exists to glorify God, and human life finds its true meaning in reflecting His glory.

This teleological perspective asserts that history and existence are directed toward God, not random or self-generated purposes.

Colossians 1:16 also teaches that everything was created for Christ, meaning that all creation exists to fulfill His purpose and bring glory to Him. This implies intentionality in creation,

showing that the universe is not random but designed with Christ as its ultimate goal. Believers are called to recognize this and align their lives with His will, living in a way that honors Him.

John 1:3: “Through Him all things were made; without Him nothing was made that has been made,” reinforcing Christ’s central role in creation. Hebrews 1:2: God has spoken through His Son, “through whom also He made the universe,” affirming His authority over all creation. Philippians 2:10: Every knee will bow in heaven and on earth, echoing the universal scope of Christ’s dominion. Ephesians 6:12: Believers wrestle

against spiritual forces, highlighting the reality of Christ’s authority.

We say we have faith in God. But do we trust Him to take the wheel? Take a deep breath relax, and know you are in good hands!

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.

Pig from A-2

rarely reach market weight.

“From a pure reproductive standpoint, this is arguably the biggest issue facing the swine industry today,” Pasternak said.

Researchers will track fetal development at sequential stages of gestation, measuring how and when individual organ systems begin to diverge between crowded and uncrowded environments. The goal is to identify the precise developmental windows during which crowding begins to derail growth. Pasternak’s lab will also investigate why a subset of piglets appears naturally resistant to the effects of crowding.

Practical implications for producers

Pasternak emphasized that the goal is not to roll back decades of genetic progress but to inform it.

If the team can identify the genetic and physio-

logical markers that make some piglets more resilient to crowding, producers may eventually be able to select for animals that maintain high litter sizes without the welfare and economic costs of IUGR.

“We’re never going back on litter size,” Pasternak said. “The goal is to perhaps inform the geneticists of what the limits of uterine capacity really are and find ways to maintain litter size while avoiding these low-quality piglets that won’t perform as desired.”

The research will be conducted using UK’s swine unit and meat laboratory facilities, producing a tissue and sample archive that Pasternak hopes will benefit collaborators across campus.

“IUGR is also a human health issue, so the samples we’re generating are likely to be valuable

to other researchers at UK and beyond,” he said. “We want people to know these resources will be available.”

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nities for qualified persons in all aspects of institutional operations and do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, ethnic origin, religion, creed, age, physical or mental disability, veteran status, uniformed service, political belief, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, pregnancy, marital status, genetic information or social or economic status. This article was written by Jordan Strickler, jstrickler@uky.edu, and originally published on April 30, 2026 at <https://news.mgcafe.uky.edu/>.

Upcoming Events:

- Senior Farmer’s Market Vouchers – Appointments will be made by calling 474-6686 or 713-1840 on May 20th between 8:00-4:00.

CALENDAR

- **5/13: Girl Scouts meeting @ 5:30 p.m.** | Carter County Public Library - Grayson
- **5/15: Sit & Sew @ 9 a.m.** | Carter County Extension Education Center | For more info or to RSVP call 474-6686
- **5/16: Friends of the Library @ 5 p.m.** | Carter County Public Library - Grayson Branch
- **5/18: Quilts for Veterans Sew Days @ 9 a.m.** | Carter County Extension Education Center | For questions call 474-6686
- **5/18: Open Art Studio @ 10 a.m.** | Grayson Gallery & Art Center
- **5/18: Carter County EMS Board @ 4 p.m.** | Carter County EMS Station
- **5/18: Carter County Board of Education @ 6 p.m.** | Carter County Board of Education office
- **5/19: Building Club @ 4 p.m.** | Carter County Public Library, Olive Hill
- **5/19: Olive Hill City Council @ 6 p.m.** | Olive Hill Senior/Community Center
- **5/20: Senior Farmer's Market Vouchers** | Carter County Extension Office | Call 474-6686 or 713-1840 for an appointment
- **5/21: Grayson Book Club @ 6 p.m.** | Carter County Public Library - Grayson
- **5/21: Olive Hill Area Chamber of Commerce @ 6 p.m.** | Commercial Bank of Grayson - Olive Hill
- **5/25: Quilts for Veterans Sew Days @ 9 a.m.** | Carter County Extension Education Center | For questions call 474-6686
- **5/25: Open Art Studio @ 10 a.m.** | Grayson Gallery & Art Center

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

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Pet of the Week

Henry is a 34 pound Boston terrier mix, around two-years-old. Henry is a very good boy, and gets along well with other dogs. His \$100 adoption fee includes rabies vaccination and being neutered. Stop by the Carter County Animal Shelter and meet him or call 475-9771 for more information.

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



CITY OF GRAYSON

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

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Candidates from A-1

the “Big Beautiful Bill” is, “an unconscionable act of treason for our population.” Pillersdorf said the “Big Ugly Bill,” as he calls it, gave tax breaks to the top one-tenth of one percent while Medicare and Medicaid suffer.

Senate candidate Amy McGrath also spoke to those present. McGrath, a Democrat, is running to fill the seat that will be vacated by Mitch McConnell – who will retire at the end of his current term.

“I’m running for this open US Senate seat,” McGrath, a 20-year veteran of the United States military, with most of her service in the Marine Corps, told the crowd. “And my slogan is ‘Country over Party,’ because it isn’t about party.”

McGrath has intimate knowledge of parties meeting in the middle because she is a Democrat and her husband is a Republican. And, she noted, the issues Kentuckians face cut across those party lines.

“The prices of everything have skyrocketed,” McGrath told those present, introducing a key point of her platform.

McGrath said she agreed with Pillersdorf that there should not be cuts for those relying on Medicare, Medicaid, and other programs while the wealthy enjoyed tax breaks.

“I’m not about that,” McGrath said of the cuts the “Big Beautiful Bill” will cause to social programs. “It (the bill) really just gives tax breaks to Elon Musk and the people making the most money.”

“It’s on the backs of all of us,” McGrath continued. “The average Kentuckian is paying \$5,000 more than last year. If you break it down, the average Kentuckian is paying an average of \$2,500 just because of the tariffs. Tariffs that were unilaterally put in that we did not have a say on. What that does is jack up the price on everything. We are all paying for it. Other countries aren’t paying for it – we are paying for it.”

McGrath said that the other factor costing Kentuckians money was the rising cost of gas due to a “war we did not need to start.”

Candidate Benjamin Hurley, a Republican running for Kentucky Congressional District 5,

is from Pike County, and is also a veteran who served in the 101st Airborne Division.

“After six years of jumping out of airplanes, I came home to my hometown of Phelps and noticed a regression instead of progression,” Hurley said. “My county and many other counties have become dilapidated. So, going forward, I decided I wanted to run for the US House.”

“What we need,” Hurley said, “is more jobs. It’s just that simple – we need better paying jobs.”

Hurley told those gather that instead of “sounding like a crooked politician,” he was prepared to put his own money where his mouth is.

“Currently your US House Representative makes \$14,000 (monthly),” Hurley said. “Your median household income is \$2,900, and I will match that.”

Hurley said that the difference will be used to fund small community projects around the district.

“That way, the only way I make more money is if I bring in better paying jobs.”

Another key point of Hurley’s platform was to set term limits on congress, and said that with career politicians, Washington has turned into a nursing home.

Vincent Thompson, Democratic candidate for the US Senate seat currently held by Mitch McConnell, began by saying his wife had passed away in 2020.

“She had been battling congestive heart failure since 2015,” Thompson said. “We were told that she needed to go to Vanderbilt for a heart transplant. But the problem was she was on state insurance because she was a teacher on disability. And we were told that she needed to go to a state hospital.”

“I hold the fact that insurance was dictating her healthcare, rather than her healthcare provider, as a key factor in her passing,” Thompson said. “When I get to DC, the first thing I am going to do is make sure insurance companies get back in their own lane. They need to be taking care of reimbursing healthcare and not telling nurses and doctors what they are supposed to be doing.”

Thompson said that healthcare should revolve around health and not a company’s financial bottom line.

Pam Lewis, candidate for Kentucky House District 96, said she grew up in Carter County in a little house across from Willard Elementary.

“I never really wanted to be a politician,” Lewis said. “However, we need change. Kids in our communities are suffering.”

Lewis, who is a teacher and manages a nonprofit that provides clothing for foster children, said that there is a need because the government has failed that population and others.

She told those present that public education is “taking a beating.”

“It has some issues,” she said. “And there are a lot of things I would like to change. But I can’t do that sitting at home.”

Lewis also echoed the need to improve healthcare, citing an incident with her mother’s struggles with diabetes, and the fact that her care was often marginalized or nonexistent due to her insurance.

“Our healthcare system is failing our people,” she said. “I want change, and I am a be-the-change type of person. That’s why I’m here.”

Iva Markicevic Daley, candidate for the Kentucky State House of Representative for Elliot, Morgan, and Rowan Counties, said the first thing people need to know about her is that she is a mother, and that shapes every aspect of her life.

“That is the primary reason I am running for this seat,” Daley said.

Daley said that during her pregnancy she had been between jobs and was on state funded insurance. When she experienced severe abdominal pain, and a 45-minute trip to Morehead for care, she realized just how crucial medical support was for struggling families in the region. Daley also pointed out the struggles of veterans, her husband being a combat veteran, to receive the proper and necessary health care they deserve.

“What I have seen come out of Frankfort isn’t helping families,” she said, calling the current situation “maddening,” and hoping herself to help provide necessary changes.

Grayson Mayor Troy Combs, who is running for reelection, began by thanking everyone for attending the event and taking interest in both their local and state government.

“The mayor’s election for Grayson is

a nonpartisan office,” Combs said. “And I am really glad to be at this event in Willard to see the nonpartisanship of this event. I think it is great that people running as a Democrat or a Republican can get up here and we can all listen to each other and have a civil dialogue.”

“I’m proud to be a part of that,” Combs continued. “And I am proud to be here.”

Combs said the city and the county work well together, and that Grayson is proud to be the county seat of Carter County.

“Grayson is making a lot of developments, we are growing a lot, and we have a lot of good things going on,” Combs told those in attendance. “And it is my goal as mayor to keep working with the county.”

Combs said the various city and county departments have made it easy to work together and get things done, and his goal is to continue to foster that for the benefit of not only Grayson, but the county as well.

Derrick McKinney, who is currently serving as Magistrate of District 2 in Carter County, is also running for Mayor of Grayson in the current election.

“I’m an East Carter High School graduate,” McKinney said, telling those gathered that he was proud of his Carter County roots. “And I’ve been a lineman here in Carter County for 25 years. I want to run for mayor because I want a change for Grayson. I’m a small business owner, and I want more for our small businesses.”

“The sports park is still not completed,” McKinney continued, addressing other concerns. “I want it completed within the first year of being elected.”

McKinney said he believed the funds to do so are sitting unused and need to be utilized for their intended purpose.

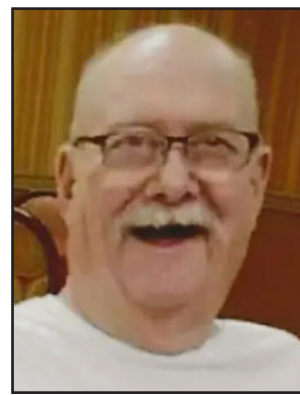
“I want more for our children too. I’d like to see the city pool back for our kids,” he said, as well as other things to benefit Grayson’s youngest population.

McKinney finished by saying he was always available in Grayson to answer any questions concerning his platform and to hear concerns from Grayson residents.

Contact the writer at charles@cartercountytimes.com

OBITUARY**Charles "Charlie Pap" Bailey**

1939 – 2026



Charles “Charlie Pap” Bailey, age 86, of Olive Hill, Kentucky, passed away Sunday, May 3, 2026, surrounded by his loving family.

He was born Thursday, May 18, 1939, in Carter County, Kentucky, a son of the late Parish and Geneva Miller Bailey.

Charlie Pap enjoyed playing cards, fishing and spending time with his family.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by two brothers, Dallas Bailey, Larry Dale “Pickle” Bailey and one sister, Lana Offill.

He is survived by two sons, Lester (Sabrina) Bailey of Olive Hill, Kentucky, Raymond (Eula) Bailey of Grayson, Kentucky; one daughter, Amy (Danny) Middleton of Olive Hill, Kentucky; three

grandchildren, Amberleigh Middleton, Leannah Fraley, Cameron Bailey; five great-grandchildren, Emalee Bailey, Harper Cole, Bennett Bailey, Wrenlee Fraley, Jetson Fraley; two sisters, Sheila (Roger) Felty of Grayson, Kentucky, Annette Hamm of Ashland, Kentucky; half-sister, Patty Parsons of Grayson, Kentucky; one brother-in-law, Donald Offill of Olive Hill, Kentucky, along with many other family and friends who will sadly miss him.

Funeral services were held at 11 a.m., Saturday, May 9, 2026, at Globe Funeral Chapel, 17277 W. US Hwy 60, Olive Hill, Kentucky, with Brother Gary Sparks officiating. Burial followed in Biggs Hill Cemetery.

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

Lester Bailey, Raymond Bailey, Cameron Bailey, Daniel Fraley, David Middleton and David Justice, served as pallbearers.

Globe Funeral Chapel is honored to serve the family of Charles “Charlie Pap” Bailey.

Debra LeAnn Parker

1968 – 2026



Debra LeAnn Parker, 57, of Olive Hill, Kentucky, passed away Tuesday, May 5, 2026, at her residence, surrounded by her family.

She was born December 8, 1968, in Boyd County, Kentucky, to Edward and Patricia Sue Cooper Parker of Olive Hill.

LeAnn was a devoted mother, sister and daughter whose life was rooted in both compassion and the quiet beauty of the natural world. She found her greatest peace outdoors—whether hiking at Red River Gorge, tending her garden, or working with her cattle. She carried that same passion into her career as a nurse, offering comfort, dignity and kindness to every patient she served; she was known for never forgetting a face or a story. LeAnn was a bright and beloved friend, remembered for her warmth, her steady presence and her unique ability to make others feel truly seen and cared for.

She was preceded in death by her grandparents, McKinley and Nancy Dean Parker and Everett and Wilma Priddy Cooper, with whom she shared a special bond; and one grandson, Eliot O’Daniel.

In addition to her parents, she is survived by two daughters, Leah (Tyler) O’Daniel of Clarksville, Tennessee and Kaina Garvin of Olive Hill, Kentucky; one son, Isaac (Amber) Garvin, and one grandson, Oliver Garvin of St. Louis, Missouri; her sister Khrista Parker Wellman of Ashland, Kentucky; a special uncle and aunt, Larry and Sharon Cooper of Olive Hill; and numerous family members and friends who mourn her passing.

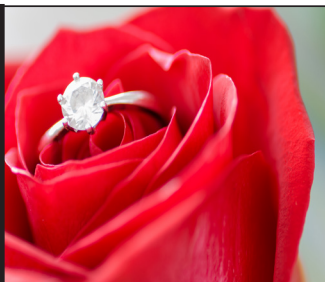
Funeral services were held at 12 p.m. noon, Monday, May 11, 2026, at Globe Funeral Chapel, 17277 West US Hwy 60, Olive Hill, Kentucky, with Brother Jessie Hylton officiating. Burial followed at the Cartee Cemetery in Olive Hill. Friends visited after 10:30 a.m., Monday until the service hour at the funeral chapel.

Larry Cooper, Tyler O’Daniel, Isaac Garvin, Wyatt Gee and Kaden Wellman served as pallbearers.

Globe Funeral Chapel is honored to serve the family of Debra LeAnn Parker.

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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

Protect REAP, a federal program rural Kentucky can't afford to lose

By Josh Bills
Mountain Association

Over the past several decades, rural Kentucky has faced significant changes. In Eastern Kentucky, a shrinking tax base, population loss, and the decline of long-standing industries has made resilience an ever-changing challenge. Through it all, our communities have adapted and searched for new ways to build a stronger, more diverse economy.

Increasingly, a new crisis has emerged: the soaring cost of keeping the lights on. For small businesses and farms that are essential to our local economy, electric rates for commercial facilities have more than doubled over the last 20 years. When you layer in historic inflation, the math becomes overwhelming. Overhead costs eat away at already thin margins, forcing owners to choose between a new hire, a new piece of equipment, or simply paying the utility bill.

At Mountain Association, we have been supporting small businesses since 1976 and saw this energy crisis coming early. In 2008, as costs began their steep climb, we launched an energy savings program. Through this work we continually see one of the biggest challenges facing businesses is upfront capital.

That's where the Rural Energy for America Program—REAP, for short—comes in. REAP is a federal program administered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture that provides guaranteed loan financing and grant funding to agricultural producers and rural small businesses for renewable energy systems or energy efficiency improvements. For a rural small business owner, that means a grant can cover up to 25 percent of the cost of solar more efficient HVAC system, LED lighting, or better insulation. These are the kinds of upgrades that pay for themselves in a short time, reducing overhead and improving the bottom line. But for many, the upfront cost is simply out of reach.

At Mountain Association, we have been packaging REAP grants for our clients since 2009. To date, our team has secured more than 60 REAP grants for small businesses and farms across Eastern Kentucky, totaling over \$2.5 million for our clients. These energy savings projects keep rural businesses open and competitive. As a bonus, many of the projects are completed by local contractors, allowing those federal investments to go even further in supporting Eastern Kentucky's economy. Without support from programs like REAP, some of the businesses and farms we work with simply won't make it as costs continue to rise.

Mike Long is the general manager of Long's Pic Pac in Pineville, a town of about 1,630 people in Southeastern Kentucky. His father started the business in 1964 with a \$3,500 loan. Today, Mike is fighting to keep it the grocery store of choice for a community where the median household income is just \$27,159. Grocery stores typically run on a razor-thin 2.2% profit margin. One bad year or one season of sky-high demand charges and a rural store can vanish.

For Long's Pic Pac, a REAP grant funded 40% of a project to install solar panels on the store's roof and a 60-kW battery. The battery can store excess solar energy and vastly reduce the punishing "demand charges" that make up more than half of the grocery's monthly power bill. The result is an estimated cost savings of at least \$15,000 per year—money that can go to staffing the deli, offsetting delivery costs, or simply keeping prices stable for families in Pineville. Long expects to pay back the entire cost of the project in just four years.

The need for this program has never been more urgent. With each devastating flood or winter storm, utility companies are forced to make expensive repairs to aging infrastructure. Businesses and ratepayers pay for those repairs through higher rates. As the frequency and intensity of these storms increase, utilities will continue passing those recovery costs back to us. For a business like Long's Pic Pac living on a 2.2% margin, this compounding cycle of damage, recovery, and rate hikes is a threat to its existence.

REAP is a proven, efficient tool that uses modest federal investment to unlock private capital and lower operating costs. But it only works if it is funded and protected. It isn't just an energy policy. It is the difference between closing the doors and keeping the lights on.

Josh Bills is the Senior Energy Analyst at the Mountain Association. He can be reached at josh@mtassociation.org.

Carter County Times

Members of the Editorial Board

Nicole Wells, publisher

Jeremy Wells, editor Keith Kappes, columnist



It was 10 years ago that gasoline was under \$2 but cheap proved to be costly

(Reprinted by request from January 2016)

It was in this space in 2015 that we predicted that Kentuckians, especially those of us who live in rural areas, would discover a downside to cheap gasoline.

The average price for a gallon of regular grade gasoline had remained at or below \$2 for that period and somehow didn't go back up during the traveling holidays.

The bad news is that, despite the General Assembly's intervention last year, the much lower pump prices means that the state gasoline tax has declined significantly.

One of the major fiscal issues facing Gov. Matt Bevin as he prepares his first budget proposal for the upcoming legislative session is what to do about the shortfall in state road fund revenues.

Motorists obviously love the lower fuel prices but city and county officials already are faced with maintaining streets and roads with substantially lower funding this year.

Moreover, the scarcity could be worse in the new fiscal year starting July 1.

Kentucky's general fund did well in the last fiscal year but the state road fund experienced a major shortfall because its revenue is tied to the price-per-gallon formula.

We understand that county judge-executives and mayors are concerned because the rural and municipal aid allocations include funds that are discretionary at the local level.

In other words, some of the state money must be used for repaving, bridge repairs and other work on roadways but part of that state aid can be used where a county or city determines it needs it the most.

After the blizzards and floods of 2015, we believe the governor and the General Assembly should protect local governments by temporarily making other funding available for streets and county roads.

Because of consumer protection language in the statute concerning the state gasoline tax, state highway officials say it could take five or six years to get the rate back to the level before cheap gasoline.

That's simply too long to wait.

NOTE: The critical question in 2026 has to be what will be the fallout from the suspension of the state and federal gasoline taxes. Yes, that could bring some relief to high prices at the pump today but will it result in 2027 becoming The Year of The Pothole?

Keith Kappes can be reached at keithkappes@gmail.com



Keith Kappes
Columnist
Carter County Times

A celebration of ignorance

My high school had just over 300 students. It was the only public school in the county. Needless to say, we weren't accustomed to success. Talent isn't only found in larger places, but our school had a smaller pool to draw from.

Yet, our basketball team punched well above its weight. In my four years, we won the district and the All "A" region tournaments three times each. I'm proud to say I was a part of the team.

For the sake of full disclosure though, I wasn't the reason. I was the guy on the bench. I didn't see the floor unless the outcome was already decided. Once, my coach asked me to keep stats during the game. That moment made my role crystal clear. Our odds of winning were better if I had a pencil in my hand, not the ball. Still, I never resented it. I knew our chances of winning were better with my friend J.P. Blevins on the court, averaging 30 points a game, than me, who likely averaged more fouls than minutes played. I accepted my role. My desire to play was outweighed by my desire for the team to win.

I thought of that acceptance recently while watching a 2018 documentary called "Behind the Curve." It follows a group of people who genuinely believe the earth is flat. More troubling, they believe that governments, scientists and teachers (and the Freemasons, of course) continue to conspire to hide this "truth" from the public. I'll admit I dozed off halfway through, so

I never quite grasped what the supposed endgame of this conspiracy might be.

What struck me though was not one of these flat earthers was a scientist. None had relevant degrees or worked in any related field, although one had won a virtual pinball tournament. However, they were all certain they knew better than experts who had earned advanced degrees and dedicated their lives and careers to astronomy.

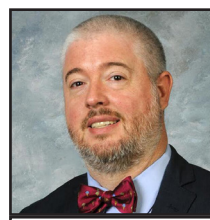
It sparked a question that I think of with increased frequency. Why do people believe they're right when experts say otherwise?

We see it everywhere. Social media has made armchair experts of us all. There are entire industries built upon this. Podcasts, YouTube channels, and blogs become the mediums where people confidently opine about topics they barely understand. And they're wildly popular. We've created celebrities, and fortunes, out of demonstrated ignorance.

Not long ago, a woman lectured me about how the Kentucky's General Assembly "really" works. I've spent 25 years working for the legislative branch while her job isn't even remotely related to government. She wasn't unintelligent, but she was unwilling to acknowledge her own ignorance. When I politely corrected her, she questioned my motives for "defending the system."

What's more troubling is intelligence has itself become suspicious. I know brilliant people who are

See *IGNORANCE* on A-7



Tommy Druen
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.

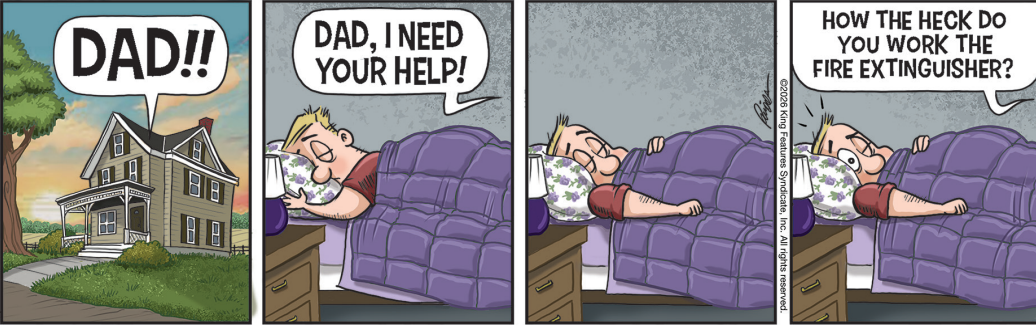
General interest guest columns are welcome. For details email editor@cartercountytimes.com.

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.

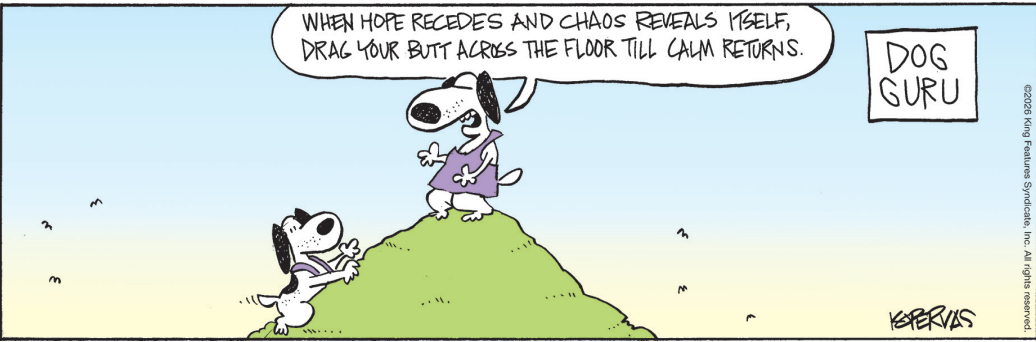
Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



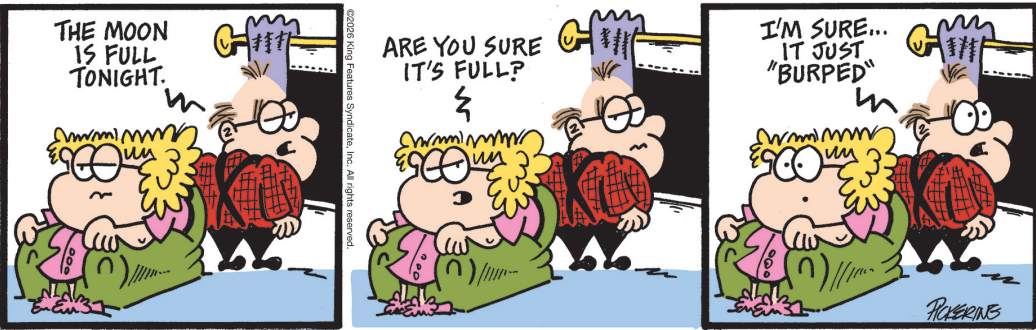
Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



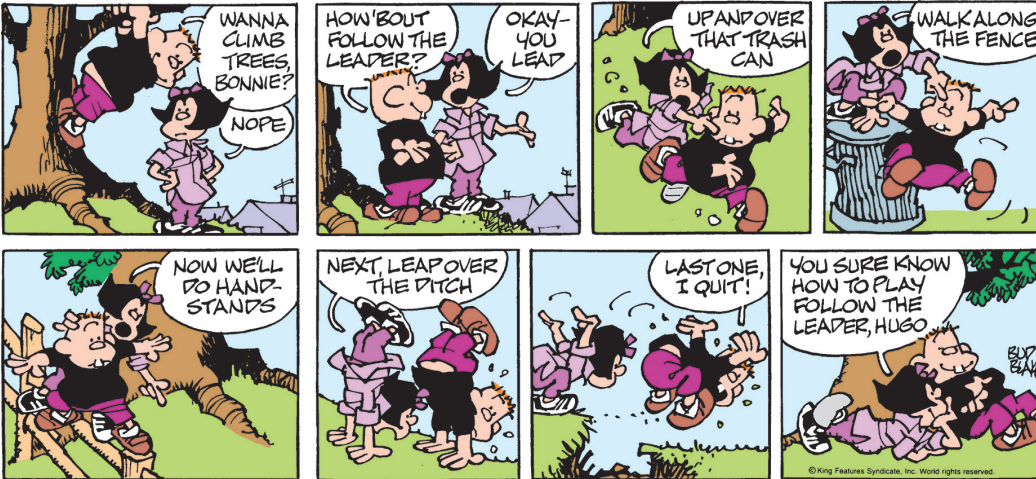
The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



TIGER

by BUD BLAKE

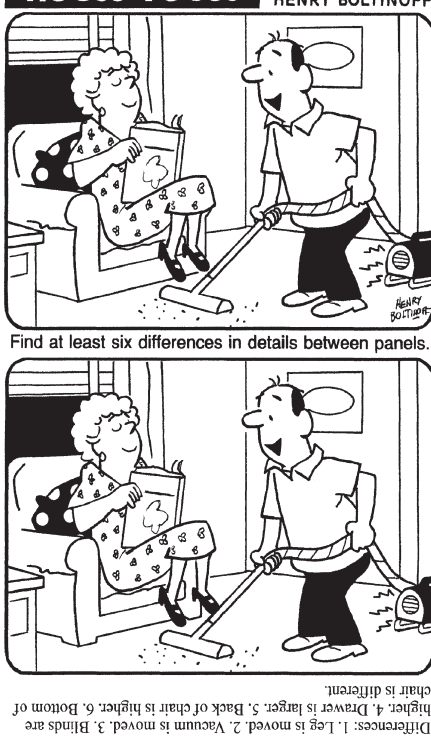
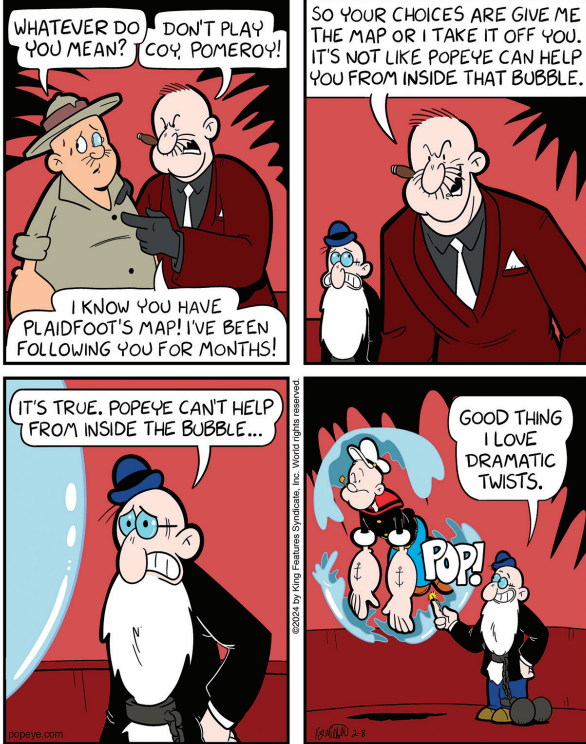


OLIVE & POPEYE

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: C equals R

PT BI NCDYF CSAPKS P CSZMRS
 FD MRS FYLF YSCN ZCDB L
 JLMCSJ FCSS, ADTFCLCI FD
 KDKMJLC NLI JSLZ.

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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!

Stoop: DINGE
 Clang: ONESI
 Deluge: RAREBAG
 Social: CAROLID

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. Derrick | ___ N ___ | Wooden enclosure | ___ T ___ |
| 2. Meditation | ___ R ___ | Actor or team member | ___ L ___ |
| 3. Gut feeling | ___ N ___ | Pigeon enclosure | ___ T ___ |
| 4. Torrent of rain | ___ G ___ | Hoodwink | ___ D ___ |
| 5. Aesop's specialty | F ___ | Kitchen furniture | T ___ |
| 6. Modify | ___ E ___ | Church platform | ___ A ___ |
| 7. Smallest finger | ___ N ___ | Hard to please | ___ C ___ |
| 8. Energetic | ___ I ___ | Attractive | ___ O ___ |
| 9. Clothes holder | ___ E ___ | Airplane garage | ___ A ___ |
| 10. Underage person | ___ R ___ | North Dakota city | ___ T ___ |

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				
+		-	+					
		-	+	= 14				
÷		×	×					
	+		×	= 44				
=		=	=					
5		36	56					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

Even Exchange

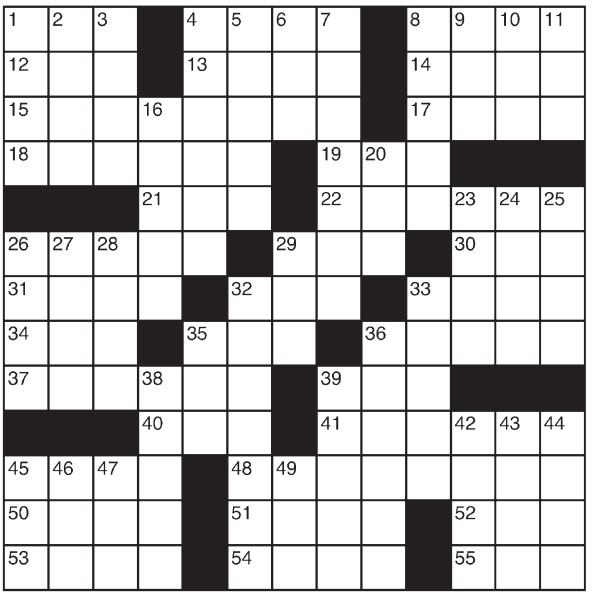
ANSWERS

1. Crane Crate	6. Alter, Alter
2. Player, Player	7. Pinky, Pinky
3. Hunch, Hunch	8. Lovely, Lovely
4. Deluge, Deluge	9. Hanger, Hanger
5. Fable, Table	10. Minor, Minor

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Cry
- 4 Vault
- 8 Daly and Allen
- 12 Common title start
- 13 Killer whale
- 14 Web addresses
- 15 Pithy joke
- 17 Legume
- 18 Suggests
- 19 TV guide abbr.
- 21 Wager
- 22 Expulsion
- 26 Errand runner
- 29 Whatever number
- 30 Hwy.
- 31 Caspian Sea feeder



- 50 Ache
- 51 Aswan's river
- 52 Victory
- 53 Abbr. on a schedule
- 54 Ticked (off)
- 55 Annex
- 9 Rage
- 10 Org. with a style manual
- 11 Nine-digit ID
- 16 Slander in print
- 20 Purchase
- 23 Advanced math
- 24 Sicilian peak
- 25 Bylaws, briefly
- 26 Sudden wind
- 27 Disc-shaped cookie
- 28 Sharp tooth
- 29 Commotion
- 32 Penny
- 33 Like seawater
- 35 Boxing leg-end
- 36 Turned bad
- 38 Hog's "hello"
- 39 "Hello" singer
- 42 Illinois neighbor
- 43 Wife of Geraint
- 44 Fax
- 45 Clean air org.
- 46 Baseball fan's headwear
- 47 Tear
- 49 Compete

DOWN

- 1 Halt
- 2 "It can't be!"
- 3 Hive population
- 4 Hang around
- 5 Painter Max
- 6 Expert
- 7 Series opener
- 8 Big brass

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Weekly SUDOKU

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

- GEOGRAPHY: What is the capital of Belarus?
- LITERATURE: Which Ken Kesey novel is set in an Oregon psychiatric hospital?
- MYTHOLOGY: Who is the Greek goddess of discord?
- ANATOMY: What is the longest bone in the human body?
- U.S. PRESIDENTS: Which president was a commanding general in World War II?
- MATH: What kind of polygon has three sides?
- BIBLE: What is the last book in the Bible called?
- ASTRONOMY: Which planet in our solar system is closest in size to Earth?
- CHEMISTRY: What is the newest element on the Periodic Table?
- MOVIES: Which Canadian actor/comedian starred in the movie "Uncle Buck" and died of a heart attack at 43?

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FiveSpot™

Home alone

S	A	V	O	R

Enjoy
 Distinguishing coffee feature
 Set aside for future use
 Path
 Price estimate
 Serenity

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.

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02639

OBEDIENCE

Today's Word

3. Barrage; 4. Cordial

SCRAMBLERS

1. Deign; 2. Noise

T	E	I	U	Q
E	O	U	Q	
E	U	T	O	R
E	O	R	E	S
T	A	S	T	
R	A	V	O	R

Solution

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

Answer

King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 26 mins.

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

CryptoQuip

ANSWER

In my broth recipe I refuse to use that herb from a laurel tree, contrary to popular bay leaf.

1. Mink
 2. "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest"
 3. Ent
 4. Femur
 5. Dwight Eisenhower
 6. Tangle
 7. The Book of Revelation
 8. Venus
 9. Oganesson (Og)
 10. John Candy

is something he is very interested in.

"I have every intention of running for governor," Comer told those present.

He said that he plans to formally announce in December, but during the intervening six months he plans to visit every county.

"I'll be listening to people and meeting people," Comer said. "We'll meet with a lot of the local elected officials, community activists, and people that are involved in the business community."

"You have to listen and learn," Comer continued. "I'm going to be meeting with a lot of the school superintendents and teachers all over the state. Public education is a huge issue.

So, we are doing everything we can to learn about what we can do to move Kentucky forward."

Comer told those gathered that all of the great things that have been happening in Kentucky are because of the state legislature.

"And when I listen to the state legislators talk, one of the complaints is that there is no communication line with Governor Beshear," Comer said. "But if we had a governor that worked closely with our state legislators, I think we could accomplish any goal."

"I think we have the greatest state in America," Comer said. "But I believe we could do better."

One of the ways to do better, he said, was to keep Kentucky's "best and brightest" in the state.

"In order to do that we have to focus on economic development. We have to focus on attracting good paying jobs that provide good benefits," Comer explained. "That gives these young people as many opportunities – if not more – in our home area than they would get in other states."

Grayson Mayor Troy Combs said that he appreciated hearing Comer talk about how he wanted to work with local officials.

"And the fact that I heard him say he wanted to work with local tourism commissions is exciting to

hear," Mayor Combs said. "And it is exciting that we have someone in congress who knows about what is going on here in our town. Promoting tourism is a big part of what Carter County is trying to do, either at the county level or city level."

"The City of Grayson is a nonpartisan entity," Combs said. "But any time we have a dedicated public official from the United States Government, we want them to feel welcome here."

Combs presented Comer with a key to the city, in recognition of his service and leadership.

Contact the writer at charles@cartercountytimes.com

Ignorance from A-5

graduates of Harvard and Princeton. When they ran for public office, they deliberately hid those credentials. Why? They feared it would cost them votes. And I suspect they were right.

Isaac Asimov captured it perfectly. He said, "There is a cult of ignorance in the United States. The strain of anti-intellectualism has been a constant

thread winding through our political and cultural life, nurtured by the false notion that democracy means my ignorance is just as good as your knowledge."

What troubles me even more than ignorance itself is that expertise is being treated as evidence of corruption. The more qualified someone is, the more suspicious they become. It's inverted the entire logic of

knowledge.

My basketball team didn't succeed because of anything I did on the court. But I like to think I contributed in other ways. I made my teammates better in practice. I cheered them on during games. I didn't create discord. I simply knew my role.

You don't have to be the leading scorer to be valuable. But good teams

are made up of people who play certain roles. Currently, people are playing positions in society they're not prepared for, ones that treat hunches as expertise and opinions as knowledge. We could be so much stronger if we simply found our own roles and played them well. That's not a weakness, that's wisdom. And that's how our society wins.

1ST2FLY STEAM Festival to bring hands-on career exploration and community celebration to Carter County

OLIVE HILL – Students and families from across eastern Kentucky are invited to experience the inaugural 1ST2FLY STEAM Festival, a two-day event focused on hands-on learning, career exploration, and community connection.

The festival will take place May 15 and 16 at the Depot in Olive Hill.

Led by Carter County's Pathfinder Initiative

Coalition, the festival is designed to connect young people with real-world opportunities in fields such as aerospace, healthcare, advanced manufacturing, skilled trades, information technology, and technical education while reinforcing positive, future-focused decision-making.

"The festival was created to provide young people with meaningful, hands-on opportunities," said Max

Hammond, Executive Director of Warriors' Path of Kentucky and event organizer.

The name "1ST2FLY" demonstrates both the region's history and its vision for the future.

"1ST2FLY reflects Carter County's aviation heritage and the idea of helping all of our students find their path. Some students will become the first in their families or com-

munities to pursue new opportunities and career paths," Hammond said.

The festival will welcome from 800 to 1,000 Carter County middle and high school students on Friday, while remaining open to the public.

Saturday, May 16, will expand into a full community festival day designed for families and visitors from across the region.

See STEAM on A-8



A Special Tribute During the Memorial Day Parade

The Citizens Veterans Association Inc. invites families and loved ones of deceased military veterans to participate in a moving community tribute honoring those who served our nation.

WHO MAY PARTICIPATE

Family members or loved ones of:

- Veterans who died while serving our country
- Veterans who served honorably and later passed away

Participants are encouraged to carry the folded American flag presented by the military at their loved one's funeral service.

WALK IN HONOR OF YOUR VETERAN

Join other families in a unified march of remembrance and respect during this year's Memorial Day Parade.

PLEASE REGISTER IN ADVANCE CONTACT INFORMATION

Citizens Veterans Association Inc.
Phone: 606-316-3036
Email: wmschaffer@citizensforveterans.com

PARADE INFORMATION

Date: May 23
Check-In Time: 12PM
Meeting Location: US 60 West near Estep Body Shop

OUR PURPOSE

To honor the memory, service, and sacrifice of the men and women who served our country - and the families who continue to carry their legacy forward.

"No Veteran Is Forgotten. No Family Stands Alone."

Sponsored by the Citizens Veterans Association Inc.



The sky is not the limit - It's just the beginning.

1ST2FLY FESTIVAL

MAY 15–16, 2026 • OLIVE HILL, KENTUCKY

A Regional STEAM, Innovation & Family Festival-Celebrating the Commonwealth's Birthplace of Flight

Join students, families, educators, innovators, makers, and community leaders for one of Eastern Kentucky's most exciting new events!

The 1ST2FLY Festival is a two-day celebration of aviation, space, STEAM education, technology, outdoor recreation, Appalachian creativity, workforce exploration, family fun, and community pride.

FRIDAY, MAY 15 — STUDENT DAY + PUBLIC FESTIVAL

- 800–1,000 Carter County students attending
- Hands-on STEAM exhibits
- Space & aviation experiences
- Paper Airplane Flying Contest
- Frisbee Golf Competition
- Career exploration activities
- Live demonstrations & interactive exhibits

Featuring participation from Morehead State University Space Science Center, Challenger Learning Center, Mountain Association, Warrior's Path Project, regional colleges, innovators, and community organizations.

SATURDAY, MAY 16 — COMMUNITY FESTIVAL DAY

OPEN TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC

- Exhibitors & vendors
- Artisan makers
- Food trucks
- Family activities
- Live entertainment
- Outdoor recreation & trail culture
- Interactive STEM experiences
- Tours of the Northeastern Kentucky History Museum (10:00 AM – 4:00 PM, beginning at the top of each hour)
- Concert beginning at 6:30 PM featuring Branden Martin and Band

FESTIVAL HQ
Olive Hill Welcome Center at the Depot
Now Accepting Limited Select:

- Exhibitors
- Artisan Vendors
- Food Trucks
- Community Organizations
- Entertainers

FREE ADMISSION
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC BOTH DAYS

OLIVE HILL, KENTUCKY "Where Families Come to Play"

Presented by the Pathfinder Initiative Coalition; Building opportunities for Appalachian youth through innovation, education, recreation, and community leadership.

Supported by Carter County Tourism & Olive Hill Tourism



Follow us @
The Pathfinder Initiative Coalition

Steam from A-7

Activities throughout the two-day event will include a wide range of hands-on experiences aimed at engaging students and sparking curiosity.

These will include a paper airplane contest, frisbee golf, mountain biking experiences, a science fair, STEAM demonstrations, and opportunities to join the Carter County Pathfinders Mountain Bike Racing Team.

Exhibitors will include colleges, workforce programs, and organizations representing a wide range of industries.

Attending exhibitors include Morehead State University Space Trek, Challenger Learning Center, Kentucky Interscholastic Cycling League, Ashland Community and Technical College, Mountain Association, and the Warriors Path Project.

Unlike traditional career fairs, the event emphasizes interaction and immersion.

"It is fully hands-on, community-wide, and blends STEAM, workforce development, outdoor recreation, and culture into a single experience," he said. "The festival

aims to increase student confidence, career awareness, and community pride while helping young people see real opportunities for their future."

He also stressed the importance of engaging the community in that effort.

"It ensures families are involved... and reinforces that youth success is a shared responsibility," he said.

In addition to educational programming, the festival will feature entertainment and activities for all ages. It is also completely free to attend.

Organizers expect more than 1,500 attendees across both days, with participation extending beyond Carter County.

The 1ST2FLY STEAM Festival is led by Carter County's Pathfinder Initiative Coalition, with support from the Galaxy Project, Carter County Tourism, Olive Hill Trail Town, and Olive Hill Tourism.

The festival has been made possible through partnerships with local schools, agencies, and organizations across the community.



3D MAMMOGRAPHY NOW AVAILABLE IN GRAYSON MONDAY-FRIDAY

UK King's Daughters is pleased to offer 3D mammography screenings at UK King's Daughters Grayson Primary Care, 100 Bellefonte Drive. Screenings are performed on our permanently stationed mammography unit Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to noon and 1 to 3 p.m.

When breast cancer is found early, the chance of survival is 98%. Screening mammograms are an excellent way to detect abnormalities early - before they can be felt! For women at average risk, screening mammography should begin at age 40 and continue annually thereafter.

Women at higher risk should follow the advice of their provider.

A provider order is not needed. Most insurances cover screening mammography at 100%. Financial assistance is available for those who qualify.



FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO SCHEDULE A SCREENING, CALL (606) 408-1111.



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Switching Providers? We're Here For You.

NOW WELCOMING NEW CLIENTS!

Trusted Addiction & Family Medicine

STI & Hep. Care | Psych & Counseling | Transportation

SAME-DAY IN-OFFICE & REMOTE APPOINTMENTS AVAILABLE

Ashland • Grayson • Morehead • Vanceburg



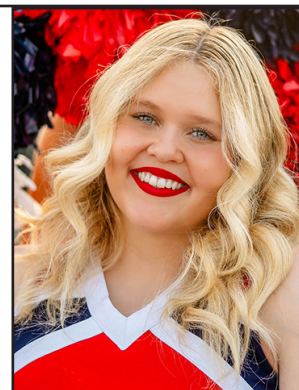
Lilly Baldwin
East Carter High School



Abigail Boggs
East Carter High School



Brooklyn Braun
East Carter High School



Remi Brown
East Carter High School



William Burton
East Carter High School



Cadee Crum
East Carter High School

Congratulations!

2026 Senior Salutes

EC



Haley Davis
East Carter High School



Isaiah Estep
Carter Cristian Academy



Avery Hall
East Carter High School



Mia James
East Carter High School



Emily Ledford
East Carter High School



Olivia Litton
Carter Christian Academy



Randa McGuire
East Carter High School



Tanner Neel
East Carter High School



Ava Oney
East Carter High School



Landon Yoak
East Carter High School

