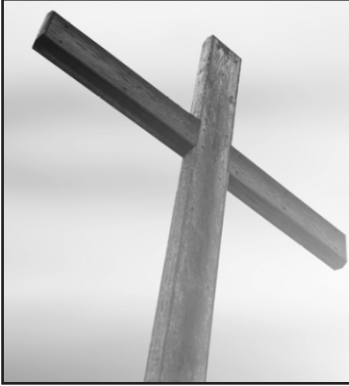




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Community has questions about new data center

TeraWulf plans to address concerns at Boyd County meeting

By Charles Romans
Carter County Times

The announcement that a new data center will be built on property along the Industrial Parkway has generated both public concern and questions. Technology company TeraWulf purchased the property with the intent of building a large data center, planned to be in excess of 1 gigawatt, and focused on artificial intelligence (AI) and

high performance computing (HPC). The new site is being called the Muskie Data Campus and, according to a May 26, TeraWulf press release, “the site includes approximately 285 acres of owned and controlled land capable of supporting hyperscale AI and HPC infrastructure, with optional adjacent acreage to support future expansion.”

Pushback from residents of FIVCO counties was immediate following the 8 a.m. press release, with many questioning how a development of that magnitude could have been started without informing the public. Similar size developments such as the AT&T call center and the proposed aluminum plant from Braidy (which ultimately

See DATA CENTER on A-3



The proposed data center is expected to create several construction jobs during the buildout phase. (File photo by Jeremy D. Wells, *Carter County Times*)

Fiscal court moves to ban data centers

Ordinance would prevent data center expansion into Carter County

By Charles Romans
Carter County Times

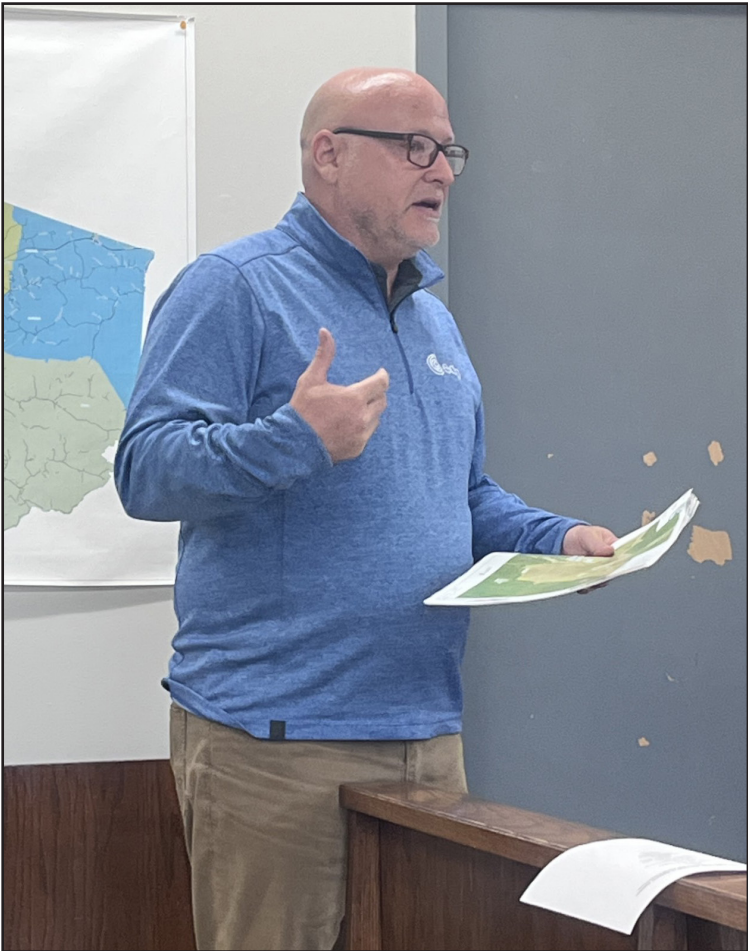
The Carter County Fiscal Court heard public comments at their regularly scheduled meeting on June 8, including concerns about the proposed data cen-

ter in EastPark. Ellen Spieless addressed the court, bringing to their attention her concerns which included, among other things, sound and light pollution potentially generated by the data center planned for the industrial park.

“The concern I have for you,” she told the court, “is four bats that frequent Carter Caves. They are currently on the endangered species list. And we have two more that are threatened or are proposed to go on the endangered species list.”

The species of bat winter at

See BAN on A-4



Solar Development Manager Mark Brough from EDP Renewables addresses Carter County Fiscal Court. (Photo by Charles Romans, *Carter County Times*)

Utilities commission discusses water repair

Blowout almost led to water loss for eastern portion of Grayson

By Charles Romans
Carter County Times

The Grayson Utilities Commission discussed the process of repairing the break in the water line near Raider Mart at their regularly scheduled meeting last month. Utilities Director Gerald Haney said the break in question occurred at around 1 a.m. in the water line across the river from BJ’s Auto Sales to Raider Mart.

“The line blew out and we lost the East Tank almost immediately,” Haney told the commission.

The break and the resultant water loss caused a wash out, Haney said, leaving an extremely large hole.

“It was quite a massive blow-out,” he said.

By 8 a.m. the crew was cutting blacktop to expose the damaged pipe and facilitate repairs.

“It undermined quite a big area, including a paved side road.”

Haney told the commission that an entire section or “stick” of water pipe was damaged, as was the tap itself. The saddle, he explained, had been leaking for some time before the break, and this particular section was not one of the sections that included sensors which would have helped to track the leak. When the leaking saddle finally “kicked,”

it split the section of pipe, Haney explained. The section was 20 feet long, running from bell to bell, he said.

The very nature of the repair required made the job very difficult, Haney told the commission.

“You have to take all of that out so you can replace the section,” he said. “In total when we put it back it took 52 ton of rock.”

“As the valve to the east gets shut off, no water is going to the east tank,” Haney told the commission. “And as the day went on, no water went to either of the tanks.”

The tanks are 500,000 gallon capacity tanks with only one feed in.

“When they get about four feet of water you can manually pump them to the taller tank.”

See WATER on A-8

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.

- Gerald Butler, 51, of Vanceburg, arrested by Kentucky State Police, for failure to appear on a citation for a misdemeanor, arrested and booked June 1.
- Robert Bellew, 46, of Grayson, arrested by Grayson PD, on a charge of alcohol intoxication in a public place, arrested and booked June 1.
- Robert Ward, 44, of Grayson, arrested by Grayson PD, for failure to appear on a citation for a misdemeanor, arrested and booked June 1.
- John Jones, 51, of Olive Hill,

- arrested by Kentucky State Police, for failure to appear on a citation for a misdemeanor, arrested and booked June 2.
- Angela Lucas, 57, of Denton, arrested by Carter County Circuit Court, charges unavailable, arrested and booked June 2.
- Stephanie Binion, 48, of Olive Hill, arrested by Kentucky State Police, on charges of operating a motor vehicle under the influence of a controlled substance, operating a motor vehicle on a suspended or revoked operator’s license, failure to surrender a revoked operator’s license, possessing a license when privileges are revoked, and no or expired registration receipt, arrested and booked June 2.
- Jonathan Fuhr, 46, of Web- bville, arrested by Grayson PD, on six counts of failure to

- appear on a citation for a misdemeanor, arrested and booked June 2.
- Ashley King, 39, of Olive Hill, arrested by Carter County Sheriff, for failure to appear on a citation for a misdemeanor, arrested and booked June 3.
- McKayla Shaffer, 24, of Grayson, arrested by Grayson PD, on a charge of fourth degree assault (dating violence) with minor injury, arrested and booked June 3.
- Brendan Deluca, 36, of Grayson, arrested by Kentucky State Police, for failure to appear on a citation for a misdemeanor, arrested and booked June 3.
- Nathan Cummings, 30, of Grayson, arrested by Greenup County Sheriff, for failure to appear on a citation for a misdemeanor, arrested and booked June 3.

See ARRESTS on A-3

ISSN 2692-420X



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This Week’s Obituaries

Larry J. Knipp, 76

Rena Sue Tackett Lucas, 63

Millard Skaggs, 78

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LIFESTYLE



Homemade pizza night starts with simple dough

There's something really satisfying about making pizza dough from scratch.

Maybe it's because pizza has become one of those "special occasion" meals for many families. Between delivery fees, rising restaurant prices and the mysterious extra charges that appear out of thin air, pizza night can cost nearly as much as a decent steak dinner used to. Ah, the good old days.

The good news? Pizza dough is surprisingly simple to make at home.

Flour. Water. Yeast. Olive oil. Sugar. Salt. That's it.

No stand mixer required. No dough hook. No dramatic

tossing of dough over your head while opera music plays in the background. (Although I highly recommend you try that at least once.) Just one bowl, a spoon and about 10 minutes of actual hands-on effort.

The rest of the time, the yeast does the work while you go about your day being the sort of person who casually has homemade pizza dough rising on the counter.

And honestly? That feels rather fabulous.

Homemade pizza dough costs a fraction of prepared crusts or takeout, and the flavor is delicious. The crust bakes up chewy, crisp around the edges and fills the kitchen with the aroma of fresh bread.

It's also very versatile. Use it for traditional pizzas, flatbreads, calzones, breadsticks, garlic knots or individual pizzas everyone can customize.

If you've never worked with yeast before, pizza dough is a great place to start. It's surprisingly forgiving, and once you see how easy it is, you'll find yourself eyeing leftovers and thinking, "That could totally become a pizza."

EASY PIZZA DOUGH
Yield: 6-8 servings

- Total Time: 1 hour 30 mins.
- 1 1/2 cups lukewarm water (about 110 degrees)
 - 2 packets (1/4 ounce each) instant dry yeast
 - 2 teaspoons granulated sugar
 - 1/4 cup olive oil, plus more for bowl and drizzling
 - 1 teaspoon coarse salt
 - 4 cups all-purpose flour, plus more for work surface

Pour water into a large bowl. Sprinkle yeast over the top and let stand until foamy, about 5 minutes. Whisk in sugar, olive oil and salt. Stir in flour until a sticky dough forms.

Lightly oil another large bowl. Transfer dough to bowl and drizzle lightly with olive oil. Cover and let rise in a warm place until doubled in size, about 1 hour.

Turn dough onto a lightly floured surface and knead gently two to three times. Form into a round and let rest 10 minutes.

One batch of dough makes a large round pizza, two medium pizzas, individual pizzas or can be stretched to fit a 15-by-21-inch three-quarter sheet pan.

Bake topped pizza at 475 F degrees until crust is golden and toppings are bubbly, about 12 to 15 minutes depending on thickness.



A simple homemade crust makes pizza night feel both affordable and special. (Photo Credit: www.JasonCoblentz.com)

For a well-balanced large pizza, use about 1/2-2/3 cup sauce, 1 1/2 to 2 cups shredded cheese, and about 2 cups total toppings. It can be tempting to pile on every topping in sight, but a lighter hand produces a crispier crust and better flavor. Think "picture-perfect pizza" rather than "edible yard sale."

For the pizza pictured, I used about 1/2 cup sauce, 12 ounces freshly shredded mozzarella, 3 ounces salami, thinly sliced zucchini, mushrooms, red bell pepper, sweet onion and a sprinkle of Parmesan cheese. The vegetables roast and caramelize as the pizza bakes, creating plenty of flavor without requiring

a mountain of toppings.

Pulling a homemade pizza from the oven is delicious, but the satisfaction of making it yourself is the real reward.

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

A simple reminder

So, you've decided to get organized. You think it might be a good time to make some dramatic changes for managing your time and creating a cleaner, simpler living environment.

Sounds great to me! But here's the rub. Making the decision isn't always the food that fuels the fire to get you moving in the right direction. You ask yourself, "What do I do first?" "What do I

need?" "How am I going to find the time?" These are the questions that can actually prevent you from taking action. It's easy to get overwhelmed when you start seriously look around at all the cupboards, closets, drawers and rooms you would like to organize.

I am very familiar with motivational pitfalls, and I found it easier to think of organizing as just a short-term lifestyle change. And remember that the time you invest

now will ultimately give you more time to enjoy and manage your life.

My approach to getting motivated is simple; first, I give myself permission to take my time. Your time is valuable and you are worth more than you might think, so consider how to build a simple plan before you try to organize your time, your environment, and your stuff.

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

AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES

University of Kentucky scientist trying to solve state's white oak mystery

Sybil Gotsch has spent her career climbing trees in some of the world's most remote rainforests — from Costa Rica to Brazil to Mexico. Now, one of the hardest questions in her career is rooted in Eastern Kentucky.

It's been coined "the white oak problem" and has been worrying foresters, ecologists and bourbon distillers for years. White oak seedlings sprout just fine on the forest floor. Mature white oaks tower overhead in the canopy. But the middle-sized trees — the teenagers of the oak world — keep disappearing. Something is preventing young oaks from growing, and nobody is quite sure what.

"The stakes go well beyond the forest," said

Gotsch, an associate professor of forest ecology and physiology in the Department of Forestry and Natural Resources (FNR) in the Martin-Gatton College of Agriculture, Food and Environment. "White oak acorns are a food source for deer and turkey, and the trunks provide roosts for bats. The wood is also essential for furniture, flooring and cabinetry."

And then there's bourbon. By law, bourbon must be aged in new, charred white oak barrels. Kentucky's bourbon industry alone is valued at \$10.6 billion. According to the White Oak Initiative's 2021 assessment, an estimated 60% of surveyed mature white oak acres had no white oak seedlings

present, and about 87% had no white oak saplings.

Gotsch, along with fellow researchers John Lhotka and Lance Vickers, have described the situation as two bottlenecks: one where seedlings fail to develop into saplings, and another where saplings fail to climb into the canopy overhead. If the next generation of white oaks doesn't break through, the ripple effects could last decades.

As an ecophysiologist, Gotsch studies how plants function in their environment — how they take in water, handle stress and spend their energy. Most of the researchers tackling the white oak problem have been foresters and ecologists, tracking which trees survive and which don't. Gotsch is asking a different kind of question: What is

See OAK on A-3



Sybil Gotsch, second from left, and her team are trying to tackle an issue in Eastern Kentucky which could have a long-lasting impact. Picture provided by Gotsch.

Joyful Noise

Unconditional love

By Pastor Naomi Mitchell
for Carter County Times

God's love for humanity is unconditional, sacrificial, and everlasting, demonstrated supremely through the gift of His Son, Jesus Christ. Thank God for His unconditional love!

The Bible describes God's love as unchanging and steadfast, meaning it does not depend on our actions, merits, or circumstances. It is all-encompassing, extending to every

person regardless of past mistakes or current struggles, and it is sacrificial, exemplified by the giving of His only Son for our salvation (John 3:16). That gives you hope!

This love is not merely emotional but active, seeking the well-being and eternal life of humanity. We serve a God that is alive! John 3:16 emphasizes the magnitude of God's love: "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that

whosoever believes in Him shall not perish but have everlasting (eternal) life." Romans 5:8 highlights its unconditional nature: "But God demonstrates His own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us." Praise God for this wonderful love. 1 John 4:9-10 shows God's love as proactive and life-giving: "This is how God showed His love among us: He sent His

See JOYFUL NOISE on A-4

Kentucky Dept of Agriculture Livestock and Grain Market Report

Compared to last week feeder steers sold mostly 2.00 to 5.00 lower and heifers were mostly 4.00 to 7.00 lower with instances reported to 15.00 lower. Yearling steers and heifers sold unevenly steady with prices reported from 4.00 lower to 4.00 higher. Demand for all feeder and yearling classes was moderate to good with best interest for weaned packages and groups. Slaughter cows and bulls were unevenly steady with reported prices ranging from 2.00 lower to 4.00 higher with good supply and moderate to good demand.

Week ending 6/6/26			
Courtesy of https://www.kyagr.com/			
Steers (M&L 1-2)	This Week	Prior Week	Last Year
350-400 lbs	530.65	538.20	431.24
400-450 lbs	506.39	510.33	419.58
450-500 lbs	488.07	493.41	399.23
500-550 lbs	468.97	468.38	381.69
550-600 lbs	446.63	447.25	371.01
600-650 lbs	413.83	419.82	344.49
650-700 lbs	406.42	392.76	334.16
700-750 lbs	379.19	367.37	305.52
750-800 lbs	349.15	358.51	299.39
800-850 lbs	334.83	347.12	291.78
850-900 lbs	350.29	313.75	280.00
Heifers (M&L 1-2)			
300-350 lbs	485.31	501.38	380.87
350-400 lbs	476.83	494.30	389.41
400-450 lbs	459.07	465.68	369.78
450-500 lbs	439.81	438.74	351.52
500-550 lbs	416.61	417.78	345.76
550-600 lbs	396.36	398.83	336.56
600-650 lbs	359.40	369.21	302.39
650-700 lbs	364.77	347.55	308.21
700-750 lbs	329.65	326.54	281.95
750-800 lbs	336.33	324.96	251.89

Slaughter Cows	Average	High	Low
Breakers	153.00-189.00	169.00-212.00	154.50-179.00
Boners	152.00-198.00	169.00-222.00	135.00-179.00
Lean	130.00-183.00	150.00-199.00	90.00-172.00
Slaughter Bulls	Average	High	Low
Yield Grade 1&2	195.00-232.00	215.00-255.00	160.00-216.00

May 28, 2026		Bowling Green, KY	
SLAUGHTER GOATS: 132			
Kids-Selection 1	54 lbs 392.50; 69 lbs 422.50.	Selection 1-2	80 lbs 405.00.
Selection 2	50-52 lbs 400.00-405.00; 60 lbs 404.00; 75 lbs 425.00.		
SLAUGHTER SHEEP: 722			
Hair Breeds-Choice & Prime 1-2	54-55 lbs 275.00-287.50; 65-68 lbs 265.00-272.50; 75-76 lbs 255.00-285.00; 89 lbs 275.00; 91 lbs 270.00; 100 lbs 160.00; 116 lbs 265.00.		
Wooled-Choice & Prime 1-2	49 lbs 302.50; 69 lbs 280.00; 87 lbs 275.00-295.00; 115 lbs 297.50; 140 lbs 260.00.		

GRAINS	This Week	Prior Week	Last Year
Corn	3.98-4.76	4.22-4.88	4.08-4.59
Soybeans	11.44-12.20	11.63-12.26	9.86-10.84
Red Winter Wheat	5.05-6.11	5.36-6.39	4.46-5.59

Arrests from A-1

- Thomas Ward, 36, of Grayson, arrested by Carter County Sheriff, for failure to appear on a citation for a misdemeanor, arrested and booked June 4.
 - Steve Binion, 30, of Olive Hill, arrested by Kentucky Department of Corrections, on a parole violation, arrested and booked June 5.
 - Tyler Douglas, 22, of Saint Catharine, arrested by Kentucky Department of Corrections, on a probation violation for a felony offense, arrested and booked June 5.
 - Ryan Blevins, 39, of Grayson, arrested by Carter County Detention
- Center, on a hold for drug court, arrested and booked June 5.
 - David Harlow, 48, of Grayson, self-surrender, weekender, arrested and booked June 5.
 - Dusty Tolliver, 32, of Denton, self-surrender, weekender, arrested and booked June 5.
 - Eric Hannah, 27, of Grayson, arrested by Grayson PD, on charges of public intoxication on a controlled substance, first degree possession of a controlled substance – cocaine, first degree trafficking in narcotics (up to four grams of cocaine), possession of drug paraphernalia, third degree
- possession of a controlled substance – drug unspecified, and controlled substance prescription not held in original container, arrested and booked June 5.
 - John Nolen, 56, address unavailable, arrested by Kentucky State Police, for non-payment of court costs, fees, or fines, arrested and booked June 6.
 - Deanna Lemaster, 47, of Morehead, arrested by Kentucky State Police, serving a warrant for a probation/parole violation, and on charges of fourth degree assault (domestic violence) with minor injury, and failure to appear on a citation for
- a misdemeanor, arrested and booked June 6.
 - Derrik Ross, 39, of Salt Lick, arrested by Grayson PD, on a pair of probation violations for a technical violation, arrested and booked June 6.

All of the charges listed are arrest charges only, and do not indicate an indictment or a conviction for the charges in question. All subjects are considered innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

Information is compiled from publicly available sources, but may not be comprehensive.

Data Center from A-1

proved a fiasco) were advertised long before groundbreaking.

In addition to this prevalent concern, there were questions concerning possible negative impacts to the local ecosystem, an increase in electric bills for residents due to the high-power demand of facilities of that nature, and strain on the local water supply for a business that requires a massive amount of water for cooling.

Some possible negative impacts to the local ecosystem include concerns over the levels of light and noise pollution the business might generate, and whether or not those levels would be enough to adversely affect local wildlife in adjacent areas historically used for hunting. Residents have also voiced concerns about water runoff from the facility, and

if the possible runoff could be contaminated with potentially toxic chemicals.

Beyond the physical environmental concerns, many residents were vocal concerning the nature of the projected number of jobs the facility will generate, and if local residents will be offered those jobs. There will of course be the initial large number of construction jobs available to build a facility of the size projected, but residents of the impacted counties want to know how many – if any – of those construction jobs will be filled by local construction companies and individuals. And if any of those types of jobs can or will be converted to maintenance positions once construction is complete.

TeraWulf addressed some of these concerns

in a release, citing that the Muskie Data Campus will utilize a closed loop cooling system that uses drastically less water than other cooling systems and allows no contaminants to be released into the air or the local water table. This type of cooling system, once filled, will not require being changed for an average of seven to ten years. When refilling is required, water currently in the system will be removed and taken to an approved disposal facility outside the FIVCO area. The company has also stated that noise and light pollution will be at or below acceptable standards.

However, local activists are pointing out that residents in New York have raised concerns about the validity of these claims after a TeraWulf affiliate – Cayuga Operating Company – was issued

a permit last month to draw approximately a million gallons of water a day from Cayuga Lake for that facility’s usage. Those reported usages include dust control, sump pumping, and “system maintenance.”

TeraWulf will be hosting a two-day event to connect with the public and local residents. On June 16, there will be a job fair at Ashland Community & Technical College’s Technology Drive Campus from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. There will then be a community informational meeting with the TeraWulf team on June 17, at the Boyd County High School Gymnasium from 6 to 8 p.m. Questions will be addressed by company representatives at this meeting.

Contact the writer at charles@cartercountytimes.com

CALENDAR

- **6/10: Girl Scouts meeting @ 5:30 p.m.** | Carter County Public Library - Grayson
- **6/11: Hula into Health @ 10 a.m.** | Carter County Health Department
- **6/15: Quilts for Veterans Sew Days @ 9 a.m.** | Carter County Extension Education Center | For questions call 474-6686
- **6/15: Open Art Studio @ 10 a.m.** | Grayson Gallery & Art Center
- **6/15: Carter County EMS Board @ 4 p.m.** | Carter County EMS Station
- **6/15: Carter County Board of Education @ 6 p.m.** | Carter County Board of Education office
- **6/16: Building Club @ 4 p.m.** | Carter County Public Library, Olive Hill
- **6/16: Olive Hill City Council @ 6 p.m.** | Olive Hill Senior/Community Center
- **6/17: Olive Hill Farmer's Market Opening Day @ 8 a.m.** | Olive Hill Save A Lot, Paking Lot
- **6/18: Grayson Book Club @ 6 p.m.** | Carter County Public Library - Grayson
- **6/18: Olive Hill Area Chamber of Commerce @ 6 p.m.** | Commercial Bank of Grayson - Olive Hill
- **6/19: Sit & Sew @ 9 a.m.** | Carter County Extension Education Center | For more info or to RSVP call 474-6686
- **6/20: Friends of the Library @ 5 p.m.** | Carter County Public Library - Grayson Branch
- **6/22: Quilts for Veterans Sew Days @ 9 a.m.** | Carter County Extension Education Center | For questions call 474-6686

Have an event to add to the calendar?

Email info to advertise@cartercountytimes.com

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Pet of the Week

Tammy is a senior female mixed breed. She’s good with other dogs, very friendly, and walks on a leash. Tammy is also spayed, up to date on all vaccines, and has a free adoption to an approved home. Stop by the Carter County Animal Shelter and meet her or call 475-9771 for more information.

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

"On With The Show!" returns to Olive Hill Center for Arts & Heritage

OLIVE HILL, KY -- The Olive Hill Center for Arts & Heritage invites the community to its annual

"On With The Show!" performance on June 26, an evening of entertainment, music, and celebration.

Dinner will begin at 6pm, followed by the performance at 7pm.

According to Dr. Debbie Baker Harman, Vice President and Performing

See *SHOW* on A-6

Oak from A-2

happening inside the tree that causes it to stall out?

“There are several possibilities,” Gotsch said. “One is drought stress. Young oaks stuck beneath the shade of taller trees may not be getting enough water or light to push through to the canopy, especially during dry summers. Another possibility is what scientists call an allocation problem — the tree might be putting its energy into roots or defenses instead of growing taller. Then there is a third factor, which could be competition.”

From rainforests to oaks

Gotsch’s hands-on approach is something she has been refining for over two decades. She got her start in 1998 in the dry forests of Costa Rica, studying how plants survive months without rain. She was supposed to stay six months. She stayed two years.

“I was doing a good enough job that my adviser kept finding money for me to stay,” Gotsch said.

Later, while working in the cloud forests of Mexico, Gotsch learned to climb towering oaks and place

instruments right next to the leaves, measuring how trees absorb water directly from fog. It was painstaking, physically demanding work hauling sensors and data loggers into the canopy by rope. But it also gave her something most forest researchers never get: a direct read on what a tree is doing in real time, high above the ground.

Those same techniques are what she's now bringing to Kentucky's white oak stands. She's collaborating with Lhotka, a UK FNR professor of silviculture, on a project based in Berea. Because the work involves tracking trees across seasons and years, she expects to return periodically to run new rounds of physiology measurements and build a clearer picture over time.

Gotsch said the canopy is where the real answers tend to hide. Plenty of scientists study forests, she said, but very few actually climb into them. According to her, most of the biologists who do are studying animals such as birds, bats and primates. Tree physiologists like her are rare up there.

“It feels like this secret

world that I have the great honor to be able to study,” Gotsch said.

The best part, she said, are the surprises — the moments when the data doesn't match what the textbooks predicted.

“You think it works a certain way, and then you get up there and realize you were completely wrong,” Gotsch said. “That's what I love about this work — it never stops raising new questions.”

That curiosity is now aimed squarely at the white oaks of Appalachia. If Gotsch and her colleagues can figure out exactly why young oaks are stalling, it could help land managers across the region make smarter decisions about which trees to protect and how to give the next generation of oaks a fighting chance.

Gotsch's broader research on cloud forests and canopy ecology will be featured in an upcoming episode of “Overview,” a PBS series of short science documentaries, expected to air this summer. Check local PBS listings for air dates.

This article was written by Jordan Strickler, jstrickler@uky.edu, and originally published on May 27, 2026 at 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 to individuals and institutions that provide equal opportunities 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.

- Upcoming Events:**
- Olive Hill Farmer’s Market Opening Day – June 17th @ 8:00 AM – Save-a-Lot Parking Lot
 - Olive Hill Farmer’s Market Kid’s Day – June 24th from 9:30 -11:00

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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.

Joyful Noise from A-2

only Son into the world that we might live through Him.” Jeremiah 31:3 affirms its eternal quality: “I have loved you with an everlasting love; I have drawn you with unfailing kindness.” Romans 8:39 assures believers that nothing can separate us from God’s love: “Neither

height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.” God’s love provides comfort, hope, and strength, especially during trials or feelings of inadequacy. It encourages

believers to trust in His grace, embrace their worth, and extend love to others. This love is ever-present, guiding, protecting, and sustains us through every circumstance (Psalm 136:26). Oh, what unconditional love the Father has for us! The Bible portrays

God’s love as limitless, unconditional, and eternal, demonstrated supremely through Jesus Christ, and available to all who believe, offering both spiritual assurance and transformative power in daily life. Now this is a life worth living! Jesus will set you free from sin, bondag-

es, fears and worries if you will just turn your life over to Him. He knows you better than yourself! He created you. Amen! So be it! *JOYFUL House of Prayer, 2519 Quicksand Road, (P.O. Box 856), Jackson, Kentucky 41339. Send Comments/Prayer*

Requests: Pastornaomi-4god@gmail.com. FB: JoyfulHopprayer. Services: 10am Sunday and Joyful Kids Class at 10:30am, 6:30pm Thursdays. Radio Broadcast: WJSN 97.3 FM & WEKG 81.0 AM Sundays 1-2pm.

Ban from A-1

Carter Caves, Spieless told the court. She also said the information she came across indicated that if you develop land in north-east Kentucky, a formal environmental survey must be done, especially around heavily forested areas and areas with natural caves to ensure that endangered species such as the bats she referenced were not adversely affected. In other business, Solar Development Manager Mark Brough from EDP Renewables addressed the court concerning a proposed small scale solar facility between Mount Savage and Denton in Carter County. “This is on Mick Franks’ property off 773,” Brough told the court. “It’s on one of his parcels that is currently being farmed for hay.”

“The projects that we do are called community solar projects,” Brough explained. “Everyone has heard of the mega projects, but ours are considered small because they are under five megawatts. That’s roughly 20 to 24 acres.” “We will be interconnecting it, which means plugging it in at the distribution line,” Brough said. “There is no infrastructure build on it. We are literally just plugging it into a pole. So, it ends up being very basic and doesn’t take very long. Construction time is probably three months from the time we break ground until we turn it on.” Brough provided the court with a rudimentary map of the site, and said that the next step would be to send out environmental experts to look for wetlands and other consider-

ations, and also look at any drain tiles on the property. “The primary way we build these is we just drive posts into the ground like you would a fence,” Brough told the court of the process. “There is no concrete or permanent structures involved. And when the project is done, we pull them out of the ground and return it to farmland.” Brough said a solar farm typically lasts between 20 and 25 years before the panels stop producing at a rate which is financially beneficial, at which point they are decommissioned. Brough explained that the community solar plugs into the distribution line of existing power supplies, in this particular case, Kentucky Power. There is no direct “path” of the

power generated by the solar farm, meaning it is simply added to the overall power grid. But projects of this nature are able to generate enough energy to power between 400 and 600 homes a year, he told the court. The project is being financed by Walmart, Brough said, though the power generated isn’t “sent” to the retailer. “Walmart is doing what is called a ‘Virtual Power Purchase Agreement,’” Brough told the court. “They are breaking even on it, but what they get to say is twenty percent of their electricity nationwide comes from renewable energy. And they have partnered with us to do 20 to 30 projects like this across Kentucky and Ohio.” The last order of business at the meeting was a

motion made by magistrate Derrick McKinney, seconded by magistrate Millard Cordle, to draft an ordinance banning the creation or establishment of data centers within Carter County and have KACo (Kentucky Association of Counties) review for legal standing. The motion passed by unanimous vote of all magistrates present. The draft ordinance would then need to be approved

by fiscal court in a future meeting. *Contact the writer at charles@cartercountytimes.com*

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OBITUARY

Millard Skaggs
1948 – 2026



Millard Skaggs, age 78, of Olive Hill, KY entered into rest Saturday evening, June 6, 2026 at the Community Hospice Care Center in Ashland, KY. He was born February 16, 1948, in Elliott County, KY, a son of the late Labourn Skaggs and Mary Lawson Gee. In addition to his mother and father, he was preceded in death by one brother, Bob Rose and his stepfather, Hurst Gee. Throughout his life Millard worked for Rockwell Corporation, as a pipefitter, and was a lifelong farmer. He enjoyed fishing, hunting, welding, farming; basically, he was a jack of all trades. Millard was a founding member of the Route 504 Fire Department, where he served many years as call sign 623. He was a member of the Stark Church for over 40 years, serving faithfully wherever needed. Millard

was instrumental in constructing the new church building, which was completed in one year. He is survived by his loving wife of 49 years, Lyda Harper Skaggs; four sons and three daughters-in-law, Robert (Danielle) Skaggs of Morehead, KY, David Skaggs of Olive Hill, KY, Matthew (Krista) Skaggs of Bellfonte, KY, and Isaiah (Becky) Skaggs of Olive Hill, KY; one sister, Suzy Meek of Grayson, KY; and one brother, Dale Gee of Madison, IN. He is also survived by many grandchildren and great-grandchildren, as well as a host of relatives and friends that will cherish his memory. Celebration of Life services was conducted at 2:00 PM on Tuesday, June 9, 2026, at Stark Church, 3299 Stark Ridge Road, Olive Hill, KY 41164 with Pastors Brian Flannery and Dewayne Brewer officiating. Burial followed at a later date at the Kinster Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be sent to the Stark Youth Ministry; c/o Wilma Simmons, 1529 KY State Route 504, Olive Hill, KY 41164. Online condolences may be left at www.duval-landmoore.com

Larry J. Knipp
1950 – 2026



Larry J. Knipp, age 76, of Winchester, Kentucky, formerly of Olive Hill, Kentucky, passed away Wednesday, June 3, 2026, at his residence, surrounded by his loving family. He was born Monday, April 24, 1950, in Carter County, Kentucky, a son of the late Arnold and Maxine Rougie Knipp. Larry was a member of Henderson Branch Christian Holliness Church and loved going to church. He proudly served his country in the United States Army and often shared Army stories with his family. He enjoyed sitting outside, gardening his fruit trees, running his dogs and spending time with his family. Larry is survived by his loving wife of 35 years, Geraldine Middleton Knipp; five daughters, Redia (Kendall) Hall of Winchester, Kentucky, Tammy Reynolds (Marty Walker) of Olive Hill, Kentucky, Pammy (Ronnie) Whitt of Sandy Hook, Kentucky, Jennifer Sylvia of Winchester, Kentucky, Angie (Cheyenne) Littleton of Morehead, Ken-

tucky; 7 grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren; one brother, Jeff Knipp of Olive Hill, Kentucky; three sister, Thressia Knipp of Olive Hill, Kentucky, Shelia (Mark) Aylesworth of New York, Lisa Knipp of Olive Hill, Kentucky; two special friends, Dola Radar and Volene Bradley, along with many other family and friends who will sadly miss him. Funeral services were held at 11 a.m., Monday, June 8, 2026, at Globe Funeral Chapel, 17277 West US Hwy 60, Olive Hill, Kentucky, with Doctor Todd Radar and Pastor Jason Johnson officiating. Burial followed in Olive Hill Memorial Park in Olive Hill, Kentucky. Friends visited from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m., Sunday, June 7, 2026, after 9 a.m., Monday, June 8, 2026, until the service hour at the funeral home. Chris Howard, Daniel Reynolds, Aaron Shields, Pud Beadle, Evan White and Trevor Shields served as pallbearers. Jason Reynolds, J.R. Reynolds, Ronnie Whitt, Marty Walker, Kendall Hall, Jeffrey Layne, Dallas Middleton, Carlos Middleton, Marvin Sparks, Buddy Callihan, Mickee Nolen served as honorary pallbearers. Military Honors were conducted at the graveside by Olive Hill American Legion Post 138. Globe Funeral Chapel is honored to serve the family of Larry J. Knipp

Rena Sue Tackett Lucas
1962 – 2026



Rena Sue Tackett Lucas, age 63, of Denton, Kentucky, went home to be with the Lord, Tuesday, June 2, 2026, at her residence, surrounded by her loving family. She was born Saturday, June 23, 1962, in Carter County, Kentucky, a daughter of the late Tommy and Louise Knipp Tackett. She loved serving the Lord, singing and going to church. She enjoyed spending time with her friends and family, especially her grandchildren. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by one son, Aaron Patrick Lucas. Rena is survived by her husband of 48 years, Jerry Lucas; four sons, Kenneth (Jolinda) Lucas of Cannonsburg, Kentucky,

Jason Derrick (Jody) Lucas of South Webster, Ohio, Eric Patrick (Marissa) Lucas of Elliott County, Kentucky, Ryan Aaron (Cali) Lucas of Grayson, Kentucky; one daughter, Jessica (Joe) Proctor of Proctorville, Ohio; several grandchildren; two brothers, Ricky (Lisa) Tackett of Maysville, Kentucky, Tommy (Kaitlyn) Tackett of Morehead, Kentucky; three sisters, Vicky (Tom) Cochran of California, Linda (Brent) Steele of Grayson, Kentucky, Vanessa (Michael) Church of Ashland, Kentucky, along with many other family and friends who will sadly miss her. Funeral services were held at 11 a.m., Friday, June 5, 2026, at Grayson Funeral Home & Cremation Services, 49 McCoy Road, Grayson, Kentucky, with Brother Mark Griffith officiating. Burial followed in Bond Cemetery in Hogshead Hollow in Denton, Kentucky. Friends visited after 10 a.m., Friday, June 5, 2026, until the service hour at Grayson Funeral Home. Grayson Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Rena Sue Tackett Lucas.

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

Kentucky must make data centers pay their own way

By Roger Ford and Erin Petrey

Artificial intelligence (AI) is dominating headlines, earnings reports, and social media. It’s already reshaping the American economy, for better or worse, impacting industries from education to healthcare to defense. And with AI comes the data centers that power it. If Kentucky can benefit from this industry, we must do so with our eyes wide open and with appropriate guardrails in place.

The Department of Energy reports that electricity used by the U.S. data center industry rose from 58 terawatt-hours in 2014 to 176 terawatt-hours in 2023. By 2028, data centers could consume up to 580 terawatt-hours annually - roughly 12% of all U.S. electricity.

When that kind of demand hits the grid, it affects generation, transmission, substations, water systems, utility planning, and ultimately the monthly bills paid by Kentucky families and businesses.

The rapid expansion of data centers isn’t simply about technology. It’s about energy, water, utility rates, and, in Eastern Kentucky, about whether communities that already sacrificed so much to make others rich will be asked to do so again. Eastern Kentucky knows this story all too well. Outside capital came here before promising jobs and growth, all in the name of development. But it was a false promise. The wealth left, while the costs lingered.

Speed without safeguards has a long history of leaving regular people with the bill. Kentucky must not hand a blank check to every power-hungry project promising to usher in a new age of prosperity via AI. There are some valid uses of high-performance computing (HPC) and AI, many of which are already part of our current technology landscape, especially if they help deliver critical services like healthcare access or real job growth. Some projects may serve a genuine public purpose, such as facilitating remote work, more rapidly detecting cybersecurity threats, or optimizing energy systems. However, other applications like cryptomining and digital asset arbitrage are just cash grabs dressed up as economic development.

On May 26, TeraWulf announced a 1GW hyperscale AI and HPC development at the Muskie Data Campus in Eastern Kentucky. A 1GW data center campus near Ashland isn’t just another ribbon-cutting but a major power-policy event. It will require as much continuous electricity as is needed to power about 750,000 Kentucky homes, more than exists in the entire region. Kentucky simply does not have the rules, regulations, or public-interest safeguards in place before projects of this size move forward. It’s the Wild West.

During the 2026 session, Kentucky lawmakers discussed legislation intended to protect power customers from subsidizing the enormous demands of data centers. That effort failed, putting Kentuckians at a disadvantage and allowing data center development before establishing a serious statewide framework to protect all impacted parties and expose hidden costs.

Frankfort should pass a bipartisan Kentucky Data Center Responsibility Act before any new data center receives tax incentives, expedited approvals, or utility commitments that could expose existing ratepayers to stranded costs. In other words, we must prevent higher bills for Kentuckians by avoiding sweetheart deals for data center developers.

Kentucky should also establish a large-load tariff through the Public Service Commission, including minimum demand charges, long-term contracts, exit fees, performance bonds, and stranded-cost protections. Independent power producers should be allowed to develop behind-the-meter generation, private microgrids, islanded power systems, and dedicated energy parks that serve data centers without destabilizing the broader grid.

Local governments must benefit through public-private energy partnerships, land leases, special energy districts, franchise fees, or community benefit agreements. Projects seeking tax incentives must demonstrate significant public benefit and should never become public risk.

Kentucky must require full transparency on ownership, financing, foreign involvement, power source, water use, efficiency standards, and especially public health and community impacts before any further data centers are greenlit. Eastern Kentucky - and the rest of the Commonwealth - cannot become another sacrifice making outsiders wealthy while leaving regular Kentuckians to clean up after them.



Storybook weddings often happen, so how about a Storybook funeral?

Yes, that’s exactly what occurred in Morehead last Sunday afternoon at the funeral of Allen “Styx” Hicks, a longtime “super fan” of Bluegrass music in general and of Rhonda Vincent in particular.

Lo and behold, the “Queen of Bluegrass” rolled up in her tour bus at Northcutt and Son Home for Funerals where she and members of her band, The Rage, performed two songs during the service. Hicks, 63, a retired postmaster, lost a two-year battle with cancer.

He had become a celebrity himself as the enthusiastic fan in the front row at Bluegrass concerts throughout Eastern Kentucky and elsewhere. He had more than 4,000 Facebook friends and greeted many prominent and local Bluegrass musicians by first name.

Although Vincent had been aware of Hicks’ death, no public notice was given of her participation in his funeral. Like many others, I assumed she was on tour and perhaps might divert her bus to Morehead for the funeral.

To her credit and as evidence of her warm regard for Hicks, she had no performances scheduled that weekend and apparently came to Morehead from one

of her homes in Nashville or Missouri.

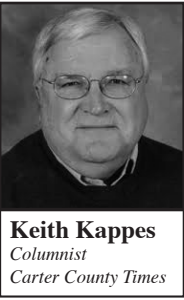
My friend Styx had commissioned the building of a new Silverangel Poppy mandolin by Ken Ratcliff and Danning Wang, his apprentice, to be presented to Vincent later this month as a birthday present. Instead, it was uncased at the funeral home and played by Vincent in both songs.

Also performing during the funeral were local Bluegrass artists Scott Tackett, Billie Renee, and David Carroll.

Rhonda and The Rage will be back in Morehead on Friday, June 26, to perform at RudyFest on Poppy Mountain, east of Morehead on U.S. 60.

It was my honor to deliver his eulogy at the funeral and, honestly, it was a thrill to be on the same platform with a Grammy winner/Grand Ole Opry member and, most importantly, with a famous, classy lady who surely appreciates her fans.

For that overflow audience of friends of Styx and other fans of Bluegrass music, yes, it truly was a Storybook funeral.



Keith Kappes
Columnist
Carter County Times

Keith Kappes can be reached at
keithkappes@gmail.com

And we’re back... just in time for Pride and pandemics

It’s everyone’s favorite month: June! AKA Gay Pride. And while someone in your life will invariably declare it “straight pride” or quote the Bible, you should probably roll your eyes because who cares? What, two nice men are giving your frumpy wife a makeover or someone at the department store explains why a boxy dress shirt looks awful on you? Move on with your righteousness. Kentuckiana will happen and the boys will be in hot pants, and the ladies will be in baseball caps. No one will get hurt and life will go on. If anything, you know who benefits? Local businesses. I don’t know if you’ve looked around lately, but most of us are broke and could use the cash.

Because there are bigger things to worry about than who is wearing what.

In the Democratic Republic of Congo, those USAID cuts we made back in 2025 are now colliding with an Ebola outbreak. The lessons of COVID, Ebola, and every major outbreak is simple: public health is a team sport. An "America First" approach to disease prevention is self-defeating because the fastest way to protect Americans is often to stop an outbreak before it leaves someone else's backyard. We didn't get refund checks from those cuts. We didn't see cheaper groceries. We didn't see lower rents. What we got was a weaker public health response and more money poured into conflict abroad.

The war with Iran is shaping up to be another ex-

pensive mess. The administration thought the regime would fold. It hasn't. Every day this drags on cost taxpayers money that could be spent solving problems here at home. We don't have affordable housing. We don't have universal healthcare. Infrastructure is crumbling in communities across the country. Yet somehow there's always money available when it's time to launch missiles.

Inflation is still high. Gas prices still suck. Insurance premiums keep climbing. Rent keeps turning into a bloodsport because most of us can’t afford to buy a home and never will thanks to literally everything being on fire around us all the time. The average person isn't sitting around wondering about geopolitical strategy.

The system is broken. This isn’t about left or right. It’s a matter of the working class getting hosed while we line up for the next splash. And yet, people are frothing at the mouth in comments sections on Facebook over gay pride festivals? Bro. Grow up. Look at how your Senators smile in your face and deny any meaningful legislation. Carter County doesn't need another culture war. It needs jobs that let young people stay, affordable housing, and healthcare people can actually afford to use. Yet somehow we're expected to spend our energy arguing about drag queens instead of asking why so many of our kids leave and never come back.

This is a math problem.

See BACK on A-6



Robert Dean
Guest Columnist
Carter County Times

Carter County Times

Members of the Editorial Board

Nicole Wells, publisher

Jeremy Wells, editor Keith Kappes, columnist

Policies	
■ General	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.
■ Circulation	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.
■ Letters & Opinion	
The Times welcomes all letters to the editor.	

■ **Back** from A-5

The guy working a double at the plant doesn't care which political team gave the green light to the predators signing his paycheck or who cut his overtime to save a buck. The woman choosing between insulin and rent isn't watching Fox or MSNBC — she's watching her bank account.

The left had their chances and blew them. The right had theirs and handed the bill to the same

■ **Show** from A-3

Arts Director, this year's production, subtitled "Songs from Stage & Screen," features a lively variety of selections from Broadway, film, television, and even video games.

The show includes mostly familiar music, performed in a mix of vocal, instrumental, and dance numbers.

She added that board member Elaine Brunelle, a professional violinist with an extensive career performing with major orchestras and headliner artists, will also be featured in the production.

Tickets for the dinner and show are currently available for \$25 per person for a limited time. After June 12, ticket prices will increase to \$28. All dinner tickets must be ordered by June 19.

Guests who wish to attend only the performance may do so at no cost, as show-only admission is free.

When asked who the event is for, Harman emphasized its broad appeal.

"It is a wonderful event for most anyone," she said.

"If you have visitors, bring 'em. I think they'll be amazed at the talent."

Harman also spoke about the spirit of the production and the impact

people they claimed to be fighting for. The working class keeps getting passed around like it's someone else's problem, and come election time, both parties will claim they looked out for us. Neither did. Don't worry about guys in drag. Worry about how we're getting screwed by the devils you know.

Contact the writer at editor@cartercountytimes.com

on attendees, saying, "I truly hope the community and beyond will come out to see this show. The talent will surprise you and you'll leave feeling uplifted."

She added, "We have such dedicated artists who want nothing more than to do something for their community, and they give their all. And they are truly talented."

This event is one of many annual events held by the Olive Hill Center for Arts and Heritage. Others include "Vantine's on the Hill," the "Tea Party on the Hill," "Festival of Trees," and "Christmas on the Hill."

"People say 'there's nothing to do here,' yet often opportunities like this get missed," Harman said. "I love my town and want it to have the best we can offer. This is our little corner of such a contribution."

Tickets for "On with the Show!" are available now at <https://ohcae.ludus.com/200430880> or by calling 304-972-2440.

The Olive Hill Center for Arts & Heritage is open Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday from 11am to 4pm and is located at 120 Comet Drive, Olive Hill.

At one Kentucky bar, young Republicans wrestle with their disappointment in Trump and their party

By Jesse Bedayn
Associated Press

COVINGTON (AP) — On a recent evening in northern Kentucky, over a dozen young Republicans gathered with beers and brightly colored cocktails at a bar called dEcORa, its neon interior as eccentric as its capitalization, ribbing each other and picking apart the presidential administration they welcomed with high hopes last year.

By now, their enthusiasm for Donald Trump had curdled into frustration.

"I absolutely do not regret voting for Trump in 2024," said Nathaniel Showalter, 34, who sat in front of a concrete pillar covered in spray paint. "I can't wait for him to get out of office."

What poured out that night under the bar's low lights was a sense that the Republican establishment — which they initially applauded Trump for disrupting, but which some now see him sustaining — had forsaken them.

That festering feeling has widened a generational gap between younger and older conservatives as the party slowly begins to consider a future without Trump in charge.

The crew at the bar see Trump's war with Iran as a betrayal of his campaign promises. They are living in an economy that appears as shaky as it was before his inauguration. And they mourn the assassination of Charlie Kirk, the 31-year-old conservative activist they viewed as their lone

spokesperson with influence in the White House.

The defeat of Republican Rep. Thomas Massie — who had earned a younger and anti-establishment following while feuding with Trump — in Tuesday's primary cost them one of their strongest allies in Congress.

"There seems to be a concerted effort to keep the next generation out on the right," said TJ Roberts, the group's lanky leader. A 28-year-old state representative, he was the only one at the bar wearing a suit. "There's this sense of entitlement among the establishment on the right. 'Well, I'm better than the alternative.' Well, sure, but a stomach flu is preferable to stomach cancer. I'd rather have neither."

Roberts convenes the group every month to talk politics, this time with The Associated Press, and he feared that young people like those gathered at dEcORa were "going to live a shorter, less prosperous life than your parents."

"We have to make sure that young Republicans have a voice in Washington, D.C.," he said.

"It's why we need a change in leadership"

The boisterous group, all men in their 20s and 30s, crowded around a low table painted with kaleidoscope art. They made ribald jokes and debated each other, sometimes slipping into impressions of Trump or conspiracy theorist Alex Jones.

Although views of Trump's presidency aren't uniform — some like his

CLASSIFIEDS

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
CARTER CIRCUIT COURT
CASE NO. 20-CI-00210

MID SOUTH CAPITAL PARTNERS, LP
VS.
ELLA CAUDILL; JOHN CAUDILL; AND COMMON-WEALTH OF KENTUCKY, COUNTY OF CARTER

PLAINTIFF
NOTICE OF SALE
DEFENDANTS

Pursuant to the Judgment and Order of Sale in the Carter Circuit Court, entered on April 11, 2026, I shall offer for sale the property described herein at public auction on the Courthouse steps of the old Carter County Courthouse, 300 West Main Street in Grayson, Kentucky, on the **24th day of June, 2026 at or near the hour of 10:00 a.m.**, to the highest bidder on the following terms:

The aforementioned real estate shall be sold as a whole. The real estate shall be sold on a credit of thirty (30) days, with the privilege of the purchaser to pay for bid in cash in full, and if not paid in full then the purchaser shall make a cash down payment of at least ten percent (10%) of the purchase price to cover the costs of the judicial sale; and the purchaser shall execute a bond for the remainder of the purchase price, with good surety thereon, to be approved by the Master Commissioner of this Court, and bearing interest at the rate of 12% per annum from the date of the sale, until paid; additionally, a lien shall be retained upon the real estate to be sold herein, to secure the payment of the balance of the purchase price within thirty (30) days of the date of sale upon which execution may be levied by the Master Commissioner of this Court.

Description of the Property: 16 Haney Lane, Grayson, Kentucky 41143. (For Legal Description see LSOT: Deed Book 228, Page 688, Carter County Clerk's Office.)

Map/Parcel ID Number: 060-00-00-005.07.

NOTE: Only delinquent ad valorem taxes shall be paid from the sale proceeds. The Purchaser shall be responsible for payment of the taxes for the current year and thereafter.

Honorable John P. Thompson
Master Commissioner
Carter County, Kentucky

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
CARTER CIRCUIT COURT
CASE NO. 23-CI-00347

CARRINGTON MORTGAGE SERVICES, LLC
VS.
MELISSA R. KOUNS; ARNOLD LEE KOUNS; LEND-MARK FINANCIAL SERVICES, INC.; CHARLES WILLIAM COLEMIRE

PLAINTIFF
NOTICE OF SALE
DEFENDANTS

Pursuant to the Judgment and Order of Sale in the Carter Circuit Court, entered on April 11, 2026, I shall offer for sale the property described herein at public auction on the Courthouse steps of the old Carter County Courthouse, 300 West Main Street in Grayson, Kentucky, on the 24th day of June, 2026 at or near the hour of 10:05 a.m., to the highest bidder on the following terms:

The aforementioned real estate shall be sold as a whole. The real estate shall be sold on a credit of thirty (30) days, with the privilege of the purchaser to pay for bid in cash in full, and if not paid in full then the purchaser shall make a cash down payment of at least ten percent (10%) of the purchase price to cover the costs of the judicial sale; and the purchaser shall execute a bond for the remainder of the purchase price, with good surety thereon, to be approved by the Master Commissioner of this Court, and bearing interest at the rate of 3.75% per annum from the date of the sale, until paid; additionally, a lien shall be retained upon the real estate to be sold herein, to secure the payment of the balance of the purchase price within thirty (30) days of the date of sale upon which execution may be levied by the Master Commissioner of this Court.

Description of the Property: 465 Paradise Hill, Grayson, KY 41143

Map/Parcel ID Number: 104-50-12-005.00.

NOTE: Only delinquent ad valorem taxes shall be paid from the sale proceeds. The Purchaser shall be responsible for payment of the taxes for the current year and thereafter.

Honorable John P. Thompson
Master Commissioner
Carter County, Kentucky

 Cooperative Extension Service

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CARTER COUNTY
DU14433

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PUBLIC NOTICE
CARTER COUNTY FISCAL COURT

Carter County Fiscal court is accepting sealed bids for the 2026/2027 fiscal year for materials and services listed below. Sealed bids will be accepted until June 24, 2026, at 4 PM.

Fuel	bulk-gasoline, diesel, propane
Oil	various weights
Fluids/Lubricants	
Asphalt	pick up and delivered/laidd
Paving	emulsion and chip seal oil
Pipe	various sizes
Limestone	various sizes both pick up and delivered
Hauling	
Heavy Equipment	rate per hour including fuel and operator

A detailed list and bid packet are available at the Judge Executive's office, 300 West Main Street, Room 227, Grayson, KY 41143. All bids will be opened and awarded, June 25, 2024, at 4pm during a Carter County Fiscal Court Special meeting.

PUBLIC NOTICE
CARTER COUNTY FISCAL COURT

Carter County Fiscal Court will be accepting sealed bids for a new bridge on Lemaster Cemetery Rd. Sealed bids will be accepted until Thursday, June 24, 2026, at 4pm at the Judge Executives' office located at 300 West Main Street Room 227 Grayson KY 41143. For specifications on bridge, please contact Jason Carroll at 606-316-8096.

Brandon Burton
Judge Executive

second term more than others — they were all animated by anger over the war with Iran.

To many in this group, Operation Epic Fury is not just "a complete betrayal of his promises," as Michael Gartman, 32, put it. It's evidence that their voices have been drowned out by the political establishment, defense contractors and megadonors who they see

See REPUBLICANS on A-8

REQUEST FOR BIDS – FIRE CHIEF VEHICLE - DUE BY June 18th, 2026, AT 2:00 P.M.

The City of Grayson will accept bids in any format for the purchase of (1) Durango PPV for use by the City of Grayson Fire Department. The bid must be received in person, by mail, or by email by June 18th, 2026, at 2:00 p.m. at the City Clerk's office 302 East Main Street, Grayson, Kentucky, 41143, or by email at dmay@graysonky.net. Bids must be in accordance with the specifications below. Contact City Administrator Joe Hammer at jhammer@graysonky.net or at 606-474-6651 if you have any questions. The City of Grayson reserves the right to reject any and all bids, to waive informalities and to negotiate with the apparent qualified best bidder to such extent as may be in the City's best interest. The below listed minimum qualifications shall be met:

Vehicle Basic Specifications:
Vehicle Year: 2025-2026
Vehicle Make: Dodge Durango PPV
Vehicle Color: White

Vehicle shall be equipped with the following: V8 Engine • Automatic Transmission • Pursuit Package: Bid packages shall include a delivery timeline as below; preference may be given based upon the delivery timeframe • Vehicle delivery time.

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
CARTER CIRCUIT COURT
CASE NO. 25-CI-00488

21ST MORTGAGE CORPORATION
VS.
RICKY DANIEL VARNEY; SKYLA VARNEY; COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY, COUNTY OF CARTER

PLAINTIFF
NOTICE OF SALE
DEFENDANTS

Pursuant to the Judgment and Order of Sale in the Carter Circuit Court, entered on May 5, 2026, I shall offer for sale the property described herein at public auction on the Courthouse steps of the old Carter County Courthouse, 300 West Main Street in Grayson, Kentucky, on the **24th day of June, 2026 at or near the hour of 10:15 a.m.**, to the highest bidder on the following terms:

The aforementioned real estate shall be sold as a whole. The real estate shall be sold on a credit of thirty (30) days, with the privilege of the purchaser to pay for bid in cash in full, and if not paid in full then the purchaser shall make a cash down payment of at least ten percent (10%) of the purchase price to cover the costs of the judicial sale; and the purchaser shall execute a bond for the remainder of the purchase price, with good surety thereon, to be approved by the Master Commissioner of this Court, and bearing interest at the rate of 6% per annum from the date of the sale, until paid; additionally, a lien shall be retained upon the real estate to be sold herein, to secure the payment of the balance of the purchase price within thirty (30) days of the date of sale upon which execution may be levied by the Master Commissioner of this Court.

Description of the Property: 693 Long Fork Road, Olive Hill, KY 41164. (For Legal Description see LSOT: Deed Book 534, Page 275, Carter County Clerk's Office.)

Map/Parcel ID Number: 029-00-00-003.001.

NOTE: Only delinquent ad valorem taxes shall be paid from the sale proceeds. The Purchaser shall be responsible for payment of the taxes for the current year and thereafter.

Honorable John P. Thompson
Master Commissioner
Carter County, Kentucky

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
CARTER CIRCUIT COURT
CASE NO. 25-CI-00395

FREEDOM MORTGAGE CORPORATION
VS.
THE UNKNOWN HEIRS, BENEFICIARIES, LEGATEES, DEVISEES OF BOBBY RANSHAW; DAWN RANSHAW; THE UNKNOWN REPRESENTATIVE OF THE ESTATE OF BOBBY RANSHAW; THE UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF, IF ANY, OF DAWN RANSHAW; KENNETH CLAY RANSHAW

PLAINTIFF
NOTICE OF SALE
DEFENDANTS

Pursuant to the Judgment and Order of Sale in the Carter Circuit Court, entered on May 14, 2026, I shall offer for sale the property described herein at public auction on the Courthouse steps of the old Carter County Courthouse, 300 West Main Street in Grayson, Kentucky, on the **24th day of June, 2026 at or near the hour of 10:10 a.m.**, to the highest bidder on the following terms:

The aforementioned real estate shall be sold as a whole. The real estate shall be sold on a credit of thirty (30) days, with the privilege of the purchaser to pay for bid in cash in full, and if not paid in full then the purchaser shall make a cash down payment of at least ten percent (10%) of the purchase price to cover the costs of the judicial sale; and the purchaser shall execute a bond for the remainder of the purchase price, with good surety thereon, to be approved by the Master Commissioner of this Court, and bearing interest at the rate of 6% per annum from the date of the sale, until paid; additionally, a lien shall be retained upon the real estate to be sold herein, to secure the payment of the balance of the purchase price within thirty (30) days of the date of sale upon which execution may be levied by the Master Commissioner of this Court.

Description of the Property: 1413 Tick Ridge Fork, Olive Hill, KY 41164. (For Legal Description see LSOT: Deed Book 220, Page 22, Carter County Clerk's Office.)

Map/Parcel ID Number: 035-00-00-032.01.

NOTE: Only delinquent ad valorem taxes shall be paid from the sale proceeds. The Purchaser shall be responsible for payment of the taxes for the current year and thereafter.

Honorable John P. Thompson
Master Commissioner
Carter County, Kentucky

PUBLIC NOTICE

ORDINANCE relating to the Annual Budget and Appropriations.

Be it ordained by the Carter County Fiscal Court, Commonwealth of Kentucky:

The following budget is adopted for the Fiscal Year 2027 and the amounts stated are appropriated for the purpose indicated.

GENERAL Fund		
5000	GENERAL GOVERNMENT	2,221,980.20
5100	PROTECTION TO PERSONS AND PROPERTY	40,000.00
5200	GENERAL HEALTH AND SANITATION	126,100.00
5300	SOCIAL SERVICES	2,500.00
5400	RECREATION AND CULTURE	27,000.00
7000	DEBT SERVICE	204,277.25
9000	ADMINISTRATION	1,803,109.44
Total GENERAL Fund		4,424,966.89

ROAD Fund		
6100	ROADS	3,907,896.70
7000	DEBT SERVICE	778,984.47
9000	ADMINISTRATION	393,700.00
Total ROAD Fund		5,080,581.17

JAIL Fund		
5100	PROECTION OF PERSONS AND PROPERTY	2,531,244.70
7000	DEBT SERVICE	30,000.00
9000	ADMINISTRATION	1,306,505.30
Total JAIL Fund		3,867,750.00

LGEA Fund		
5000	GENERAL GOVERNMENT	40,000.00
5100	PROTECTION TO PERSONS AND PROPERTY	394,174.00
5200	GENERAL HEALTH AND SANITATION	196,500.00
5300	SOCIAL SERVICES	5,000.00
6100	ROADS	20,000.00
9000	ADMINISTRATION	400,750.00
Total LGEA Fund		1,056,424.00

CDBG Fund		
5200	GENERAL HEALTH AND SANITATION	200,000.00
Total CDBG Fund		200,000.00

FORESTRY FUND Fund		
5100	PROTECTION TO PERSONS AND PROPERTY	22,200.00
Total FORESTRY FUND Fund		22,200.00

CLERK STORAGE FEE Fund		
5000	GENERAL GOVERNMENT	105,000.00
Total CLERK STORAGE FEE Fund		105,000.00

OPIOID FUND Fund		
9000	ADMINISTRATION	683,805.00
Total OPIOID FUND Fund		683,805.00

ENHANCED 911 Fund		
5100	PROTECTION TO PERSONS AND PROPERTY	372,613.50
9000	ADMINISTRATION	130,851.38
Total ENHANCED 911 Fund		503,464.88

Adopted by the Carter County Fiscal Court this the 28 day of May, 2026.

/s/ Brandon Burton
County Judge/Executive

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY

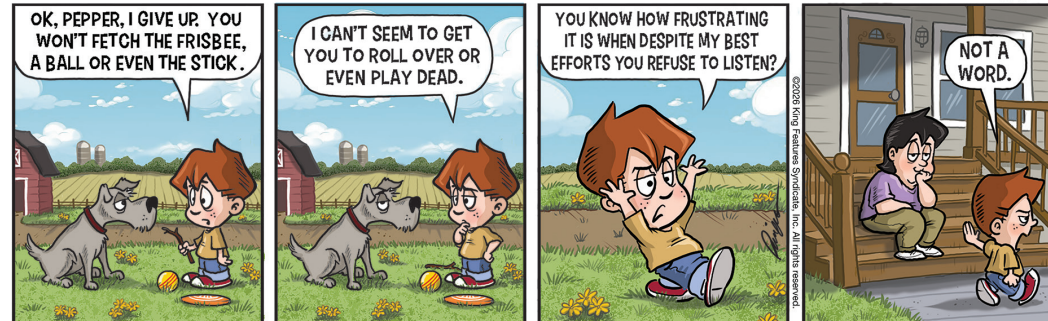
All interested persons and organizations in the County are hereby notified that a copy of the County's adopted budget in full is available for public inspection at the office of the County Judge/Executive during normal business hours.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Kentucky Public Service Commission ("PSC") will conduct a public hearing in Case No. 2025-00365 beginning at 9:00 a.m. Eastern Standard Time on Tuesday, June 30, 2026, at the PSC's offices at 211 Sower Boulevard, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601. The purpose of the hearing is to cross-examine Kentucky Power's witnesses and take evidence on Kentucky Power's application for continuation through December 31, 2026 of its demand-side management programs; recovery of costs, including lost revenues and incentives, associated with demand-side management; and all other required approvals and relief. This hearing will be streamed live and may be viewed by connecting to the YouTube link posted on the PSC website, psc.ky.gov, on the day of the hearing. Public comments may be made at the beginning of the hearing. Those wishing to provide public comments may do so by arriving at 211 Sower Boulevard, Frankfort, Kentucky, before the start of the hearing.

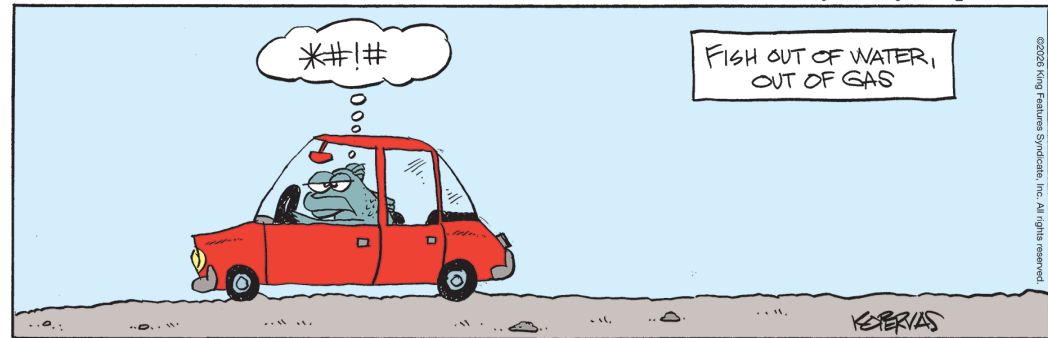
Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



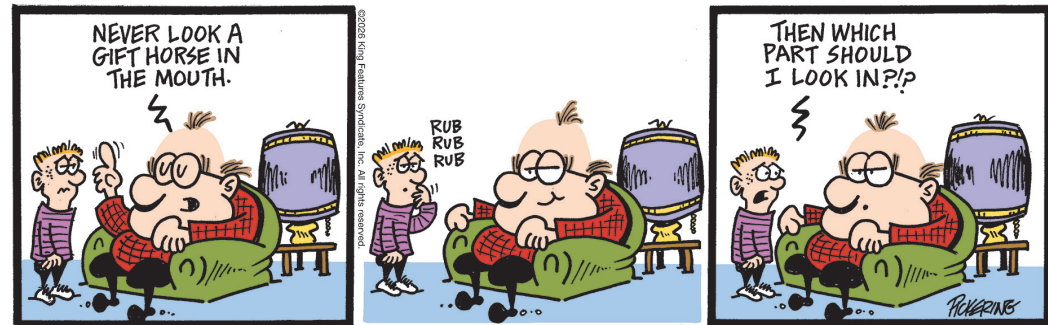
Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



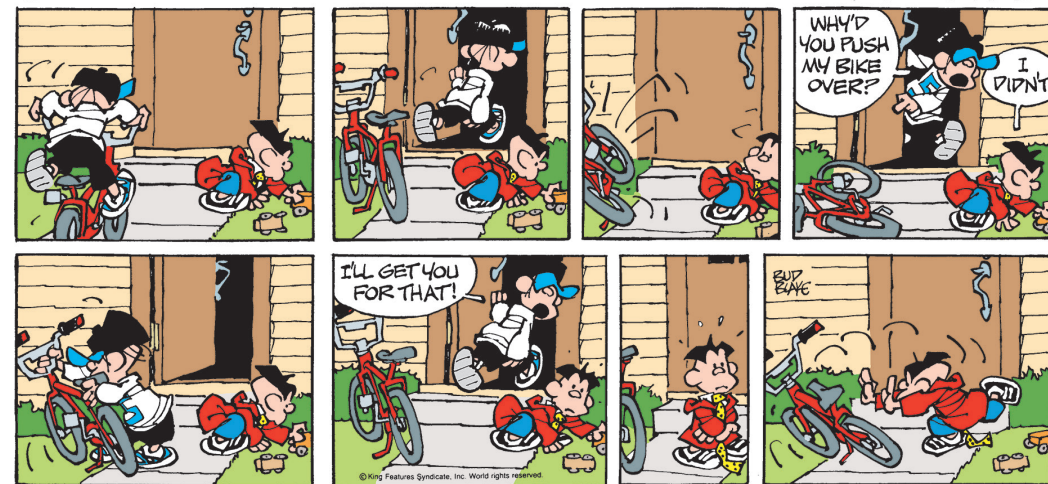
The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



TIGER

by BUD BLAKE



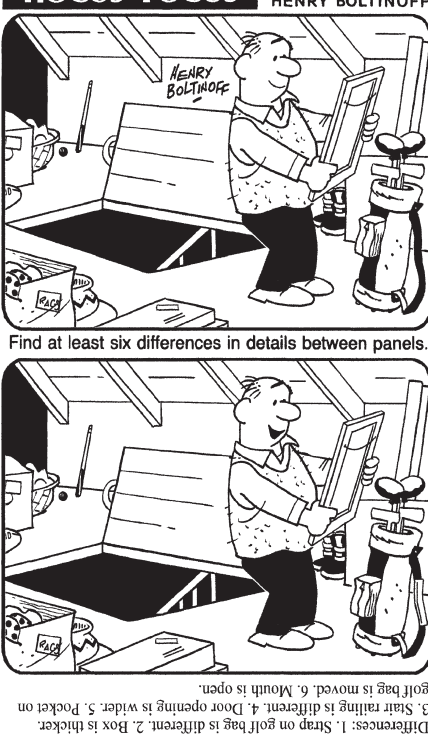
OLIVE & POPEYE

By Randy Milholland



HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



CryptoQuip

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

Clue: H equals Y

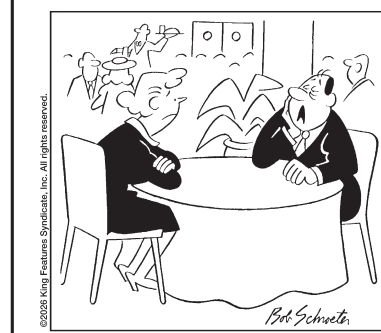
M UBNRQ ICVJYMPRH PBJ
VCIBFFCPQ JOYJ JYMRBV JB
YPHBPC CRZC. OC QMQP'J
ZNMJ FC UCRR.

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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!

Part
MOULDE
Perform
CANTE
Keen
AGREE
Lift
SHOTI
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. Mannerly | _____ T _ | Crime squad | _____ C _ |
| 2. Made from milk | _____ R _ | Per diem | _____ L _ |
| 3. Take heed | _____ T _ | Beginner | _____ V _ |
| 4. Wallpaper glue | _____ E _ | Linguine or fettucine | _____ A _ |
| 5. Bend in the road | _____ V _ | Witch's whammy | _____ S _ |
| 6. Regular customer | _____ N _ | Walk the beat | _____ L _ |
| 7. Exchanges | T _ _ _ _ _ | Teacher's scores | G _ _ _ _ _ |
| 8. On no account | _____ V _ | More modern | _____ W _ |
| 9. Secluded | _____ N _ | Attractive | _____ V _ |
| 10. Up and about | _____ K _ | Cognizant | _____ R _ |

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.

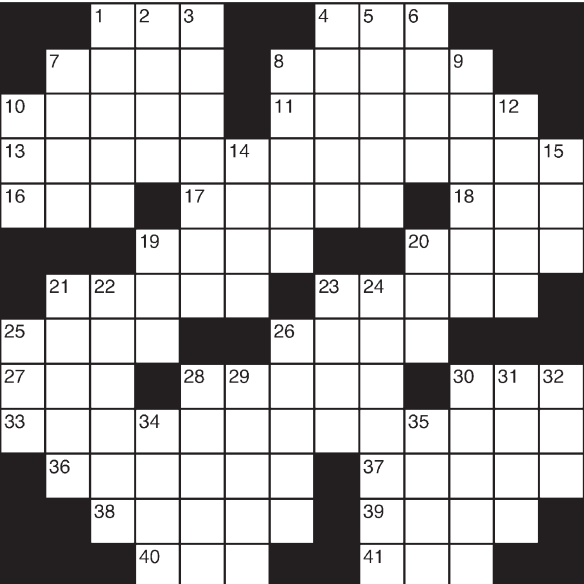
	+		-		= 13			
-		+		+				
	+		+		= 10			
×		+		×				
	+		×		= 65			
=		=		=				
63		14		40				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

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King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Center
4 Solo in space
7 Lawn mower brand
8 Spoils, with "on"
10 Wanderer
11 Beethoven's Third
13 Time management aids
16 Citric beverage
17 Got up
18 Mosquito barrier
19 "— chic!"
20 Feel sorry for
21 Mom's sister, informally
23 "Time in a Bottle" singer
25 Impudent
26 Owl call
27 Solid-rock insert
28 Spine-tingling
30 Lupino of film
33 Commuters' buys
36 Turned to mush
37 Lounges
38 Egypt's neighbor



- 39 Sloth's home
40 Ballpark fig.
41 Even so
10 Secret protect-ing doc.
12 Mountain crest
14 Quarry
15 Farm pen
19 Stick with a kick
20 Cauldron
21 Greek storyteller
22 Faraway orb
23 Business abbr.
24 Author's payment
25 Actress Dawber
26 "Papa" of classical music
28 Molts
29 Traction aid
30 Archipelago part
31 Editing mark
32 Ninny
34 Verifiable
35 Harboring a grudge

DOWN

- 1 Bro
2 Russian river
3 Tattoos, e.g.
4 Circle dances
5 Expiate
6 Dresden denial
7 Frog's kin
8 Apollo's birth-place
9 Picturesque

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Weekly SUDOKU

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

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦♦

- ♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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FiveSpot™

Running errands

C	H	A	S	E	Pursue
					Attain
					Moved quickly
					Inelegant
					Below
					Go to the nearest whole number

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

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

02543



Solution time: 24 mins.

Answers

King Crossword

Trivia test

by Fifi Rodriguez

- TELEVISION: Who is the long-time host of the reality show "Survivor"?
- MOVIES: What is the song playing when the lead characters dance the twist in "Pulp Fiction"?
- U.S. STATES: The first president, George Washington, was born in which colony that would later become a state?
- GEOGRAPHY: Which South American country controls Easter Island?
- MYTHOLOGY: To which mythological character is the Parthenon dedicated?
- LITERATURE: Which war is the background for Anthony Doerr's novel "All the Light We Cannot See"?
- MATH: What is the sum of the first five prime numbers?
- INVENTORS: Which inventor developed more than 300 products from peanuts?
- MUSIC: Who won Album of the Year at the 2026 Grammys?
- HISTORY: In what year did U.S. women earn the right to open credit cards in their own names?

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AUDITOR

Today's Word

3. Eager; 4. Hoist

1. Module; 2. Enact

SCRAMBLERS

5. solution

5. solution

5. solution

5. solution

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■ **Republicans** from A-6

as pushing Israel's agenda.

Logan Edge, a 30-year-old gun lobbyist who sported a Hawaiian-style shirt and Lincoln-esque beard, mimicked Trump talking about Miriam Adelson, the billionaire who Trump once said advised him on Israel.

"Oh Miriam, she's over there, she loves Israel, maybe more than America," he said.

He dropped the president's intonation and said, "You can't piss on my shoes and tell me it's raining."

Across from Logan sat Andrew Cooperrider, a 33-year-old who hosts a conservative podcast about Kentucky politics, and his son, 14-year-old Leo. The teenager aspires to be an underwater welder and suggested to his father that he could get training by enlisting in the U.S. Navy.

"And I said absolutely not," the elder Cooperrider said, "not with everything going on, my son is not getting into the military right now and go fight these wars for these psychopaths."

"Thank you!" someone shouted, as Cooperrider added that Leo can pursue the trade outside the military.

Edge jumped in, saying that he and his father, who served in Desert Storm and Iraq, had visited Arlington National Cemetery.

There's a phone app that can guide you to specific grave sites, he said, his voice deepening with emotion. "And me and my dad spent the day finding his friends. And it was very

emotional, very tough. And you can get on the Metro and go to the next Metro stop and the first thing you see is Raytheon, Lockheed Martin and Northrop Grumman, and I said to my dad, 'Look what you're about to see.'"

Edge paused. "It brings tears to my eyes," he said, pushing his chair back and dropping his gaze from the group. Roberts leaned over and asked if Logan was OK.

"Why do my friends have to be over there?" said Angel Figueroa, 27, who served in the military and knows people based in the Middle East right now. "It would devastate me to see one of my friends getting bombed one day and what, I have to see their box now?"

Most thought a military draft was unlikely. But Elijah Drysdale, 27, who wore a backward cap over a red-haired mullet, said the fact that it's even become a discussion "speaks volumes to me, and it's why we need a change in leadership."

"He broke a lot of his promises"

Although Roberts has concerns about the Republican establishment, he was a rare member of the group at dEcORa who was pleased with Trump's second term. He argued that the party "under President Donald Trump is without doubt the best Republican Party I have seen in my entire lifetime, the old order is dead."

"It's dying," someone interjected.

"No, it's gone," Roberts

retorted. "Trump shifted the culture so well that these conversations you're hearing right now, this would be unacceptable in the Republican Party of 2014."

Now, Roberts said, there is more willingness to oppose foreign military entanglements, corporate bailouts and aid to foreign countries such as Ukraine and Israel. The party had also drawn a harder line on immigration, which those gathered have applauded.

"I do think Trump started the (establishment's) downfall, I think it's only being kept alive now by him," said the elder Cooperrider, citing Trump's endorsement of U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham and his opposition to Massie.

John Wardrop, a 24-year-old wearing a short-sleeve button-up tucked beneath a big belt buckle, said "we could do a whole lot better." He argued that there was hope for some in the administration, such as Director of National Intelligence Tulsi Gabbard, Health Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr. and Vice President JD Vance.

"I'm actually in disagreement," said Drysdale, who pushed back with harsher criticism of Trump than most of the group. "I think that he broke a lot of his promises."

Any affiliation with this administration, he said, will be "a stain on your reputation. This isn't the party that we want, this isn't the party that we voted for, or thought we were voting for."

Could they envision voting for a Democrat?

Henry Hecht, a 26-year-old libertarian who sipped a cocktail with a pirate flag stuck in the top, raised a tentative hand and shrugged.

"What's he doing here?" Cooperrider said in mock anger. "Get him out of here, somebody get the log!"

'Eventually that cycle has to break'

The sense of malaise has been compounded by the loss of Kirk, who founded the conservative youth organization Turning Point USA. Kirk seemed to have no clear heir, and Roberts said he "was kinda like a mediator, so Trump understood where young Republicans were coming

from."

The group listed several examples where they've felt Republican lawmakers betrayed their promises and conservative ideology, such as the extension of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act and the growing national debt.

Massie fought the White House on those issues and others. Trump responded by backing a primary challenger, former Navy SEAL Ed Gallrein, who centered his campaign on fealty to the president.

Gallrein won on Tuesday, demonstrating Trump's power over this party, but deepening frustration with his leadership in other quarters.

"We cannot really fight the left until we defeat

these old, boomer Republicans," Edge said. "The left is organized, the left is institutionalized, they're smart, they're tactical, they're not a joke, they don't play."

"We look at our own organization on our side and say, 'We're a little lost,'" said Cooperrider, suggesting there was more mobilization among younger liberals.

"Why don't right-wingers do it?" asked Hecht.

"My question is: why would you when, for so long, the right has been joking about their promises?" said Roberts.

"It creates an endless cycle," he added. "Eventually that cycle has to break."

Meta settles social media addiction case brought by rural Kentucky school district

By Barbara Ortutay
AP Technology Writer

Social media companies including Meta have settled the first of many lawsuits brought by hundreds of school districts seeking compensation for costs they say they incurred dealing with harms to children's mental health from social media addiction.

The lawsuit brought by a small, rural Kentucky school district was set to go to trial next month in federal court in Oakland, California. The judge and the parties selected it as a bellwether case — essentially a test for both sides to see how their arguments play out before a jury — out of 1,200 similar cases. The settlement only applies to the Breathitt County School District.

Meta reached a settlement with the district Thursday, following settlements earlier this week with the other defendants in the case — TikTok, Snap and Google's YouTube.

The financial terms of

the settlements were not disclosed. The school district had sought more than \$60 million to create a 15-year program it said would help counteract mental health and learning issues caused by social media.

The plaintiffs' attorneys said in a statement that their "focus remains on pursuing justice for the remaining 1,200 school districts who have filed cases."

The settlement follows court losses earlier this year for Meta and YouTube in social media harms lawsuits in California and New Mexico.

In March, Meta and YouTube were found liable for designing addictive features following a trial in Los Angeles. The plaintiff, known by her initials KGM, claimed she became addicted to social media as a child and that it exacerbated her mental health struggles. A jury sided with her and awarded about \$6 million in damages.

And in New Mexico, a jury determined that Meta harms children's mental

health and safety, in violation of state law.



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■ **Water** from A-1

This tank is 90 feet tall, and it creates higher pressure," Haney told the commission. "So, all these areas that are higher on the ridge like Fairview Hill and Family Mountain get pressure from this tank."

"But it fills out of the top, so you have to have the pumps on to give this area pressure," he said.

Not everyone lost water at once, but Haney said the break could have potentially affected 1,700 people.

"And as the day went on and the longer we took to fix it, the lower the water levels became. And when we finally were able to turn it back on, it had a very long way to go to fill back up. It was almost empty at that point,"

Haney said.

Complicating the repairs was a leak that started on the other side near the smaller tank. Haney said they were forced to allow that leak to continue until water levels raised, then eventually they were able to shut that side down temporarily to change the leaking valve. Haney said they consulted the Division of Water and were told that since the repair was done and water was back on relatively quickly, there was no need to pass out bottled water. There was, however, a boil water advisory issued.

Contact the writer at charles@cartercountytimes.com