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Carter County Times

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Thunder in Olive Hill

Renaissance
Faire to feature
jousting

By Charles Romans
Carter County Times

The thunder of hoofbeats in Olive Hill this weekend won't be the Lone Ranger, but rather the sound of mounted combat at the upcoming Vandalia Renaissance Faire. Among the many things the faire will bring to Carter County – such as period costumes, activities, and vendors – patrons will also be able to enjoy an authentic exhibition of mediaeval jousting.

Jousting was prevalent throughout the Middle Ages as knights from across the land gathered to compete in contests of horsemanship and military skill. The Vandalia Renaissance & Fantasy Faire will echo such contests with jousting, mounted archery, and swordsmanship. It is all part of the immersion in history, both real and romanticized, that renaissance festivals deliver as attendees (who are encouraged to enhance their experience by attending in costume) browse through period accurate vendor goods, live music, and of course entertainment.

Although the combat at

See THUNDER on A-4



(Submitted photos)

Harvest Festival to
preserve local history

Grahn church
plans event

By Charles Romans
Carter County Times

The Kirk Memorial Baptist Church is engaged in a program to preserve the history not only of the church itself, but of the Grahn area of Carter County. Brandon LaVoie said his part in the program began with a malfunctioning transmission. Left stranded, Lavoie called upon a friend for help, and that friend not only helped him, but also loaned him a car and invited him to church at Kirk Memorial.

"I have always been involved in church," LaVoie said. "I grew up in church and went to

a private Christian school. And I was actually training to be a youth pastor and missionary." Unfortunately for LaVoie, however, problems with a compromised immune system had prevented him from attending church. It was after a surgery to correct this that his transmission further derailed his plans. Or so he thought.

LaVoie said that once he began attending his friend's church, he was quickly invited to become its pastor.

"I preached for a couple of Sundays," he remembered. "Then they had a vote and voted me in as pastor. And immediately I fell in love with the history of the place."

He quickly found out that

See FESTIVAL on A-6



The Grahn Company Store, date unknown. (submitted photo)

Commission discusses ARC grant

Funding will
purchase
pump station
generators

By Charles Romans
Carter County Times

Lashawna Miller, Assistant Grant Administrator for FIVCO, updated the Grayson Utilities Commission on the ARC Grant at the commission's September meeting. The ARC Grant has been secured, and will provide funding for two new generators at the pump station and the painting of steel tanks. The ARC grant is for \$412,000, with matching funds from the commission at \$103,000.

Utilities Director Gerald Haney reiterated to the



Grayson Utilities Commission. (Photo by Charles Romans, Carter County Times)

commission that the funding had been secured, and that now they were in the process of working on the checklist required for the project. Haney also told the

commission that a resolution would need to be adopted that was associated with the project.

See ARC on A-6

Weekly arrests report

The following individuals were arrested and booked into the Carter County Detention Center over the past week. This list includes local arrests only. It does not include federal inmates being housed at or transported through the detention center.

- Chad Sowdez, 54, of Salem, IN, arrested by Grayson PD, charges unavailable, arrested and booked September 28.
- Steven Litterall, 46, of Grayson, arrested by Grayson PD, on charges of first degree criminal mischief, and non-payment of court costs, fees, and fines, arrested and booked September 28.
- Tiffany Prichard, 25, of Olive Hill, arrested by Grayson PD, on four counts of non-payment

- of court costs, fees, or fines, arrested and booked September 28.
- Tina Armstrong, 44, of Mt. Sterling, arrested by Kentucky State Police, for non-payment of court costs, fees, or fines, arrested and booked September 29.
- Edward Martinez, 23, of Louisville, arrested by Carter County Circuit Court, on a hold for court, arrested and booked September 29.
- Dalton Whitt, 27, of Grayson, arrested by Grayson PD, for contempt of court, arrested and booked September 29.
- Joshua Hollon, 37, of Grayson, arrested by Grayson PD, on charges of operating a motor vehicle under the influence of

a controlled substance, failure to produce an insurance card, and speeding 10 MPH over the limit, arrested and booked September 29.

- Stefiney Gill, 18, of Morehead, arrested by Olive Hill PD, on charges of second degree criminal mischief, menacing, and third degree assault of a police or probation officer, arrested and booked September 29.
- Randall Carnes, 65, address unavailable, arrested by Kentucky Department of Corrections, charges unavailable, arrested and booked September 30.
- Jason McClure, 40, of Franklin, arrested by Kentucky Department of Corrections, charges unavailable, arrested and booked September 30.
- Kc Gormly, 31, of Santa Monica, CA, arrested by Kentucky

See ARRESTS on A-3

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This Week's Obituaries

Walter W.J. Cox, 85

Sherry Lee Blevins Phillips, 66

Tracey Lee Terry Williams, 67

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LIFESTYLE



A pound of beef, a little TVP and dinner to spare

There's a kindness in opening the freezer at 5:30 and finding that someone has already started dinner. Even better when that someone was you, when you had a skillet out and enough energy to chop an onion.

This Tex Mex beef and bean filling is worth making once and doubly worth making twice. It can become burritos tonight, sweet potatoes next week and a pot of chili on a day when the question "What's for dinner?" feels like a personal attack.

The trick in this Tex Mex filling is TVP, or textured vegetable protein. It takes on the flavors of the skillet and adds protein while helping stretch one pound of beef into about 5 cups of filling.

My family's favorite is the filling spooned over baked sweet potatoes with cheese and green onions. The sweet potatoes and savory filling are wonderful together.

If you have freezer space, double it and set half aside for future you. I use frozen chopped peppers and onions; one 16-ounce bag is just right when I double the recipe.

SUNDAY SUPPER STARTER: TEX MEX BEEF AND BEAN FILLING

Yield: About 5 cups, enough for 6 generously filled burritos
Total Time: 35 mins.

1/2 cup beef broth or bouillon
1/2 cup dry TVP (textured vegetable protein)
1 tablespoon olive oil
2 cups mixed onion and bell peppers, chopped
1 pound ground beef (80/20 blend)
2 tablespoons tomato paste
1 tablespoon ground cumin
2 teaspoons chili powder
1 teaspoon brown sugar
1/2 teaspoon smoked paprika, chipotle powder or ancho chili powder
1/2 teaspoon dried oregano
1 (15-ounce) can black, kidney or pinto beans, drained

1 (10-ounce) can diced tomatoes with green chiles, undrained
Salt and pepper, to taste

Heat the broth until steaming. Stir in the TVP and let stand for 5 minutes, or until the broth is absorbed. Set aside.

Heat the olive oil in a large skillet over medium heat. Add the onion and peppers and cook until softened and beginning to turn golden, about 5 minutes.

Add the ground beef and break it into small pieces. Cook, stirring occasionally, until the beef is no longer pink and reaches 160 F. Do not drain. Stir in the tomato paste and cook for 2 to 3 minutes. Stir in the cumin, chili powder, brown sugar, paprika or chili powder, and oregano. Cook for about 30 seconds, until fragrant.

Add the rehydrated TVP, beans and tomatoes with their juices. Simmer, stirring occasionally, until the mixture is thick enough to mound on a spoon, about 8 to 10 minutes. Season with salt and pepper. If it becomes too dry, add a splash of broth or water.

TO FREEZE AND REHEAT

Divide the filling into portions sized for your household. Refrigerate or freeze within 2 hours of cooking. For best quality, plan to use them within 2 to 3 months. Refrigerated portions should be used within 3 to 4 days.

Thaw overnight in the refrigerator, then reheat in a covered skillet over medium-low heat, stirring and adding water or broth if needed. You can also reheat a frozen portion in a covered skillet over low heat, stirring as it loosens. Heat the filling throughout to 165 F.

That's enough for six generously filled burritos, but burritos are only the beginning. Spoon it over rice, tuck it into stuffed peppers or turn it into soup, chili



Ground beef, with protein-rich TVP and beans, becomes a filling for burritos, casseroles or sweet potatoes. (Photo Credit: www.JasonCoblentz.com)

erate or freeze within 2 hours of cooking. For best quality, plan to use them within 2 to 3 months. Refrigerated portions should be used within 3 to 4 days.

Thaw overnight in the refrigerator, then reheat in a covered skillet over medium-low heat, stirring and adding water or broth if needed. You can also reheat a frozen portion in a covered skillet over low heat, stirring as it loosens. Heat the filling throughout to 165 F.

That's enough for six generously filled burritos, but burritos are only the beginning. Spoon it over rice, tuck it into stuffed peppers or turn it into soup, chili

or an enchilada casserole.

It's the sort of dinner that makes everyone think we had a plan all along. Because we did!

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 When is the right time to get oranized?

Time is fleeting. We have so much on our plates that organizing a room, a closet, or a cupboard, becomes the last thing on our minds. Time is also personal. No two people have the same schedules or the same priorities. How we budget our time is totally up to each individual.

Organizing our things requires organizing our time, which has its own

time limitations. For instance, we have to carve out time just to organize our time?!? It's all about when we decide it's important enough to start the process. If we think about our responsibilities every now and then it will not only help us maintain our routines, but will give us perspective and the opportunity to adjust. So, setting aside a few minutes



Daryl Ashley
Guest Columnist
Confusion Solution

to review is beneficial even if we don't include organizing time.

But stop! Include organizing time, please. It's a small task that will not require daily or weekly attention and it will prove to give you freedom once that task is off the table. For a while, at least.

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

Joyful Noise Who are you?

By Pastor Naomi Mitchell for *Carter County Times*

When you are born, the world tells you who you are. When you are born again in Jesus, God tells you who you are. The world may try to define you by your family, success, failures, appearance, possessions, and education, by your status or your past mistakes. Who you really are is found in God who created you in his likeness and image. John 3:7 says, "you must be born again."

The world may say – you are your past. God says – you are made new. The world may say – you are not enough. God says – you are my child. The world may remember your mistakes. God offers you forgiveness and a new beginning.

So, what does God say about you? 1) You are His child. In John 1:12 it says, "to all who did receive Him, He gave the right to become children of God." 2) You are a new creation. In 2 Corinthians

5:17 it says, "if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation." 3) Your past does not have the final word. Romans 8:1 says, "therefore, there is now no condemnation, for those who are in Christ Jesus." 4) You are created for God's purposes. Ephesians 2:10 says, "you are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works." 5) You belong to God. 1 Peter 2:9 says, "you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession."

Don't build your identity on the opinions of people. Build it on what

See JOYFUL NOISE on A-4



University of Kentucky
College of Agriculture,
Food and Environment
Cooperative Extension Service

Extension Notes
carter.ca.uky.edu

AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES

Searching for the ‘Super Tomato’: UK Lab is Advancing Horticultural Crop Breeding for a Healthier Future

LEXINGTON —A lab at the University of Kentucky Martin-Gatton College of Agriculture, Food and Environment (CAFE) is at the forefront of breeding and genetics of fruits and vegetables.

The Sapkota Horticultural Breeding and Genetics Lab, located on campus and at the Horticultural Research Farm (South Farm), is led by Manoj Sapkota, Ph.D., assistant professor in horticultural crop breeding for nutrition in the Department of Horticulture. The lab's mission is to enhance crop productivity, increase disease resistance and improve nutritional quality to meet the needs of growers, producers and consumers in Kentucky and beyond.

"We are trying to find

genes and genetics that make fruits and vegetables more nutritious, increase the quality, enhance the shelf life, make fruit size bigger or smaller and disease resistant," Sapkota said.

"The big goal of the lab is developing new varieties, so growers here in Kentucky have different options that are well suited to Kentucky conditions and have all the best qualities."

Sapkota works with a team of lab members — research staff, undergraduate and graduate students, and volunteers — on several research projects that include field-based tomato breeding and strawberry disease-resistance screening to seed morphology, herbicide resistance and computer vision-assisted

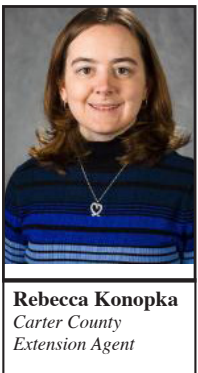
phenotyping.

The student researchers who work in the lab have a range of UK majors, including agricultural and medical biotechnology, biology, computer science, data science, health sciences, horticulture and neuroscience.

Sapkota said leveraging the students' different academic backgrounds is helping the lab create new breeding tools, and he is mentoring future leaders in this dynamic field.

"We are training the next generation of scientists, and I'm grateful that mentors and collaborators, both within the university and beyond, have supported me throughout my career," Sapkota said. "Integrated science is very important right now and every student brings something new to the table. They are helping us

See TOMATO on A-3



Rebecca Konopka
Carter County
Extension Agent



Dr. Manoj Sapkota (left) pictured with his students and undergraduate researchers behind a truck bed full of tomatoes at South Farm. Photo by Sabrina Hounshell.(submitted photo)

Kentucky Dept of Agriculture Livestock and Grain Market Report

Throughout the week, feeder steers and heifers showed mixed but generally firm trends. Lighter-weight cattle were sharply higher early in the week while mid and heavier-weight feeders were mostly steady to moderately higher with good demand. Yearlings remained steady with limited comparisons. Slaughter cows and bulls showed a consistent downward trend across most reporting days, selling 3.00 to 10.00 lower with plain quality offerings. A few early-week reports noted steady to slightly higher movement. Overall, demand for feeder cattle was moderate to good while slaughter classes saw moderate demand.

Week ending 10/3/26

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

Steers (M&L 1-2)	This Week	Prior Week	Last Year
350-400 lbs	469.51	467.80	421.87
400-450 lbs	441.48	444.16	415.45
450-500 lbs	419.91	431.95	413.47
500-550 lbs	394.07	395.74	380.97
550-600 lbs	372.45	374.38	31.42
600-650 lbs	356.08	358.16	353.43
650-700 lbs	349.61	349.02	344.19
700-750 lbs	337.20	343.24	341.14
750-800 lbs	330.90	332.70	338.65
800-850 lbs	319.04	317.92	341.30
850-900 lbs	312.06	315.83	316.75
Heifers (M&L 1-2)			
300-350 lbs	413.42	422.55	382.44
350-400 lbs	400.02	410.97	394.92
400-450 lbs	383.40	393.46	369.68
450-500 lbs	365.59	368.74	363.87
500-550 lbs	345.62	348.98	353.71
550-600 lbs	335.98	334.12	343.40
600-650 lbs	321.45	323.98	327.77
650-700 lbs	312.13	316.29	323.57
700-750 lbs	302.11	305.24	298.92
750-800 lbs	294.11	288.20	399.60

Slaughter Cows	Average	High	Low
Breakers	120.00-156.00	132.00-173.00	120.00-144.00
Boners	119.00-160.00	140.00-175.00	95.00-143.00
Lean	111.00-148.00	120.00-168.00	80.00-135.00
Slaughter Bulls	Average	High	Low
Yield Grade 1&2	161.00-204.00	181.00-217.00	100.00-190.00

Sep 24, 2026	Bowling Green, KY
SLAUGHTER GOATS: 170	
Kids-Selection 1-2 51 lbs 337.50; 66 lbs 305.00. Selection 2 56 lbs 320.00; 71 lbs 200.00; 80 lbs 250.00.	
SLAUGHTER SHEEP: 465	
Hair Breeds-Choice & Prime 1-2 52-58 jlbs 415.00-425.00; 66 lbs 327.50; 70-77 lbs 305.00-312.50; 88-89 lbs 280.00-295.00; 112 lbs 250.00.	
Wooled-Choice & Prime 1-2 80-82 lbs 250.00-297.50; 120 lbs 240.00; 145 lbs 235.00.	

GRAINS	This Week	Prior Week	Last Year
Corn	4.23-5.27	4.53-5.22	3.66-4.27
Soybeans	11.28-13.20	12.18-13.50	8.87-10.14
Red Winter Wheat	6.04-6.96	6.31-7.32	4.77-5.46

Arrests from A-1

Department of Corrections, charges unavailable, arrested and booked September 30.

- Timoth Madden, 27, of Glasgow, arrested by Kentucky Department of Corrections, charges unavailable, arrested and booked September 30.
- Davion Scott, 23, address unavailable, arrested by Kentucky Department of Corrections, charges unavailable, arrested and booked September 30.
- Steven Sullivan, 59, of Radcliff, arrested by Kentucky Department of Corrections, charges unavailable, arrested and booked September 30.
- Ryan Milby, 39, of

Sandy Hook, arrested by Kentucky State Police, on charges of fourth degree assault (child abuse), flagrant non-support, and two counts of failure to appear, arrested and booked September 30.

- Ryan Ratcliff, 23, of Grayson, arrested by Kentucky State Police, on a charge of theft by unlawful taking or disposition of items valued at more than \$1,000 but less than \$10,000, arrested and booked October 1.
- Christopher Cobb, 45, of Grayson, arrested by Kentucky State Police, for failure to appear, arrested and booked October 1.
- Stephanie Brown, 40, of

Flatwoods, arrested by Carter County Sheriff, on three counts of failure to appear, arrested and booked October 1.

- James Barker, 55, of Olive Hill, arrested by Kentucky State Police, for failure to appear, arrested and booked October 1.
- Jon Fleming, 45, of Grayson, arrested by Carter County Sheriff, for non-payment of court costs, fees, or fines, and failure to appear, arrested and booked October 2.
- Jeffrey Goodan, 64, address unavailable, arrested by Kentucky State Police, on charges of operating a motor vehicle on a suspended or revoked op-

erator’s license, operating a motor vehicle under the influence of a substance, failure to wear seat belts, careless driving, and prescription held in improper container, arrested and booked October 3.

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.

Carter Healthcare providers named 2026 NEKY Healthcare Professionals of the Year

OLIVE HILL — Dr. Charla Burchett, DNP, APRN, and Kristin Yarmann, APRN, of Carter Healthcare have been named the 2026 NEKY Healthcare Professionals of the Year by the Kentucky Small Business Development Center (SBDC).

The twin sisters and healthcare providers were recognized during the 2026 NEKY Small Business Awards breakfast on Tuesday, Sept. 1, where businesses and professionals from across Northeast Kentucky gathered to celebrate their contributions to the region.

For Burchett, the recognition provided an opportunity to pause and reflect on the growth of Carter Healthcare and the people who have helped make that growth possible.

“We were honestly shocked and incredibly honored,” Burchett said. “When you own a small business, you spend so much time focused on what needs to be done next that you don’t always

stop and think about how far you’ve come. There are always patients to take care of, problems to solve, new ideas we’re working on, and ways we want to improve. Receiving this award gave us a moment to stop and realize that maybe what we’re building really

See NEKY on A-8

Tomato from A-2

build toolkits and develop new crop varieties down the line.”

One of those students is Caroline Potts, who is majoring in human health sciences at the UK College of Health Sciences.

Potts is working collaboratively with Sapkota and the other student researchers to measure crop improvement with nutrition, human health and consumer-focused research through sensory testing and surveys — starting with tomatoes.

The tomatoes are already receiving positive reviews in the community, according to Potts.

“I have people trying the tomatoes we are growing, and they love them so much they want to know the name and grow these tomatoes themselves,” Potts said. “When I talk with my family, friends and peers about social determinants of health and share what I know about breeding and genetics, I feel that I’m bridging the gap and helping to demystify the science.”

Searching for the super tomato

One of the lab’s current projects is working toward what Sapkota calls “super tomato,” a tomato that is delicious and healthy for consumers, offering agricultural advantages for both growers and producers. The goal is to develop tomatoes that are well adapted to Kentucky conditions and are flavorful and nutritious, while also producing strong yields and resisting diseases.

At UK’s South Farm, Sapkota and his student researchers are growing over 250 different tomato varieties, breeding lines and other genetic materials, searching for the right combination of tomato traits.

The tomato is a “model species” for this type of research, and Kentucky offers the ideal geographic location, according to Sapkota.

“Basically, the tomato is pretty simple — it’s a very common vegetable across different cultures and plays a huge role in nutrition,” Sapkota said. “Scientifically, tomatoes are also an important model crop for genetics and genomics. What we learn from tomatoes can provide insights into related crops and, more broadly, help us understand the genetic basis of important traits in plants. It’s also an important vegetable crop for many growers, especially here in Kentucky, which offers amazing weather conditions.”

According to Sapkota, creating one super tomato for everyone to enjoy is challenging.

“Flavor preferences are highly subjective, while nutritional quality is complex and involves many different compounds and traits,” Sapkota said.

After harvest at South Farm, selected tomatoes are brought back to the Sapkota Lab on campus for additional measurements and analyses, including quality, flavor and nutritional traits. Field evaluations and data analysis from the 2026 growing season will continue through the fall.

Sapkota is hopeful that in 2027 there will be new publications on this research, which he believes is extremely beneficial for his lab, the students and the university.

From Kentucky to global collaboration

When he arrived at UK in 2025, Sapkota was eager to get his lab established. His mission was clear: Develop improved horticultural crop varieties that are not only high-yielding and disease-resistant but also packed with better flavor and enhanced nutritional value.

According to Sapkota, helping to meet the evolving needs of Kentucky growers and consumers while contributing to food security on a global scale will put UK on the map as a leader in plant breeding and genomics.

“We need to go beyond the boundaries,” Sapkota said. “UK already has tremendous expertise and resources. The opportunity is to connect those strengths across disciplines and build collaborations beyond the university as well. Science is teamwork. As a growing breeding program, we want to collaborate across UK, with researchers throughout the country and with international partners, while keeping the needs of Kentucky growers and consumers at the center of our work. We want our research to have an impact statewide, nationally and globally.”

In the future, Sapkota is hopeful to establish a genomics and breeding consortium at UK, bringing together the best researchers, experts and scholars to advance this field of study.

Funding for the Sapkota Lab and its student research includes support from the Department of Horticulture, The Food Connection Student Opportunity Grant, Office of the Vice President for Research’s Celebrating University Research Across the Enterprise (CURATE) Program, UK Tracy Farmer Scholars Program, UK Sustainability Summer Research Fellowships and UK Office of Undergraduate Research Fellowship.

Learn more about the Sapkota Horticultural Breeding and Genetics Lab at sapkotalab.mgcafe.uky.edu and the Department of Horticulture at horticulture.mgcafe.uky.edu.

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This article was originally written by Christopher Carney and published on October 1, 2026 at <https://news.mgcafe.uky.edu/>.

- Upcoming Events:**
- The last day for the Olive Hill Farmer’s Market will be on Saturday, October 10th at 8:00 AM at Save-a-Lot.
 - Carter/Greenup Farm & Family Field Day – October 13th @ R&J Farms in Garrison. Registration starts at 4:00 and the program begins at 5:00.
 - Hike & Learn – October 19th @ 1:00 PM @ the Olive Hill City Lake

CALENDAR

- **10/7: Olive Hill Farmer's Market @ 8 a.m.** | Save A Lot Paking Lot, Olive Hill
- **10/8: Grayson Tourism and Convention Commision @ 6 p.m.** | Grayson City Building Meeting Room
- **10/9-10/11: Vandalia Renaissance & Fantasy Faire** | Carter County Shrine Park, Olive Hill
- **10/10: Olive Hill Farmer's Market @ 8 a.m.** | Save A Lot Paking Lot, Olive Hill
- **10/12: Quilts for Veterans Sew Days @ 9 a.m.** | Carter County Extension Education Center | For questions call 474-6686
- **10/12: Open Art Studio @ 10 a.m.** | Grayson Gallery & Art Center
- **10/12: Game Night @ 5 p.m.** | Carter County Public Library - Olive Hill
- **10/12: Carter County Fiscal Court @ 6 p.m.** | Carter County Courthouse
- **10/13: Grayson Area Chamber of Commerce @ 12 p.m.** | TBD
- **10/13: Building Club @ 4 p.m.** | Carter County Public Library, Olive Hill
- **10/13: Carter/Greenup Farm & Family Field Day @ 4 p.m.** | R&J Farms, Garrison
- **10/13: Grayson City Council @ 5:30 p.m.** | Grayson City Hall
- **10/14: Girl Scouts meeting @ 5:30 p.m.** | Carter County Public Library - Grayson
- **10/15: Grayson Book Club @ 6 p.m.** | Carter County Public
- **10/15: Olive Hill Area Chamber of Commerce @ 6 p.m.** | Commercial Bank of Grayson - Olive Hill
- **10/16: Sit & Sew @ 9 a.m.** | Carter County Extension Education Center | For more info or to RSVP 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

Buddy is a male beagle mix, around three years old. He’s a very friendly boy, good with other dogs, and walks on a leash. Buddy also has a free adoption to an approved home. Stop by the Carter County Animal Shelter and meet him or call 475-9771 for more information.

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

CITY OF GRAYSON

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

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EQUAL HOUSING LENDER

■ Joyful Noise from A-2

God has spoken through His word. Your first birth gave you life in this world. Your new birth gives you new life in Christ. Don't let the world tell you who you are when God has already spoken. Be born again. Be rooted in Christ. And live from the identity God has given you.

God's voice speaks life. It affirms who you are in Christ, that you are loved, chosen and called. The enemy's voice speaks lies and tells you that you aren't enough, you are a failure and you are alone. Your voice speaks from self and will focus on self and image. What will people think of me? I need their approval.

God's voice vs. the enemy's voice vs. your own

■ Thunder from A-1

the fair is entertaining, Brittany Robinette Christian, who is in charge of organizing mounted combat for the events, says that it is far from staged or choreographed. The combat is quite real, with participants actively attempting to best their opponents in a contest of skill. There are, however, certain concessions made for reasons of safety that were not a concern in the Middle Ages. Christian said that every precaution has been taken to ensure the safety of the crowd as well as the combatants and the horses that play such an integral part.

"The jousting we will be performing this year is what is considered 'light' jousting," Christian said. "And it is done with the safety measures for the crowd."

Those safety measures include a wooden lance base with a fiberglass tube and a breakaway tip, Christian said. And the jousting, unlike in mediaeval contests where combatants attempted to unhorse each other, consists of the mounted combatants striking their opponent with the breakaway tip.

"The goal for light jousting is not to unhorse each other, but to go for a score and points," Christian said.

This was intentional, she said, to avoid splintering that could potentially be scattered and cause a safety hazard. The fiberglass tubes resist splintering and protects the crowd, she said.

"It has been super effective," she said. "It still has all of the 'shock and awe,' but it's safer for the horses and the crowd."

"The horses have eye coverings," Christian said

voice. God's voice speaks life. It leads with truth and wisdom. The enemy's voice speaks lies with confusion and deception. His lies will twist the truth and bring doubt and fear. Your voice which speaks from self will be based on feelings and opinions and will change with your mood and circumstances.

God's voice speaks life.

It will produce the fruit of the Spirit with love, joy, peace, patience and kindness. The enemy's voice speaks lies that produce fruit of the flesh with anger, fear, doubt, jealousy and confusion. Your voice speaking from self will produce comparison and inconsistency of pride one moment and comparison the next.

Learn to discern. God's voice brings life, the enemy's voice deceives and lies, and your flesh (voice) is often driven by fear and pride. Jesus said, "my sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me" (John 10:27). Listen to the voice that gives you life!

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

of the safety measures concerning the four-legged competitors. "They have a chest protector and a blanket that goes over the body, and the fiberglass tube is designed to bounce away if it goes between the horse's legs rather than splintering and hurting the horse."

"And all of these horses have been trained," Christian said. "They are personally trained by me, and I move them from the stables. And the jousters themselves are not allowed to joust unless I have trained them for at least a year. So, they (both horse and rider) don't get to do this unless I feel they are able to do it safely and professionally with the animal and other people's safety in mind."

"If I don't think they can do that, they don't ride," Christian said. They also have to wear

appropriate gear.

"The armor we usually wear is 14 gauge," Christian said of the human combatants' gear.

For comparison, the average car fender is made from 18 to 22 gauge steel, a measurement where the higher the number, the thinner the metal.

"For the light jousts, we typically don't wear that armor, but for the medium joust we do. And for next year we plan to do a round of medium jousting with full armor and wooden lances."

All combatants in the light jousting will have protection, she said, including helmets and other standard gear.

"We will also be doing mounted games as well as the joust," Christian said. "We will be shooting arrows at our knights (in full armor) from horseback, and they try to

dodge the arrows. There is also what we call a fruit slash off of the heads of one of our squires. One of our squires stands out there with a helmet on, and we run at them at full speed and cut the fruit in half off the top of their heads."

Christian said there is also what she calls the "Beheading of the Scoundrels." This entails striking foam heads from posts as the combatants thunder past. There is also a spear toss where the spear is tossed at a hay bale target, with the goal of course to strike the center of the painted bullseye.

"Each knight will have a point system, and the crowd will cheer for their favorite knight," Christian said.

All points from assorted combat are tallied for each knight through the jousting competition, she said.

"Hopefully, at the end of the competition, your knight has won," she said.

Christian said there is a lot of crowd involvement, and the opportunity to take pictures with the knight you cheered on throughout the competition.

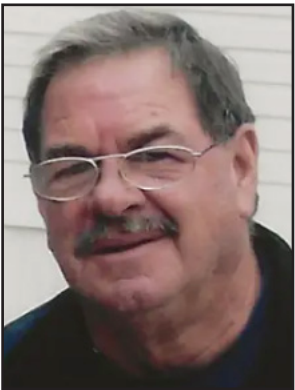
"And the crowd gets to come up and see the horses, which is something they always enjoy."

For more information about the Vandalia Renaissance & Fantasy Faire, visit their Facebook Page. It is scheduled to run October 9-11 at the Carter County Shrine Park in Olive Hill, Kentucky. Tickets are available online at www.vandaliafaire.com.

Contact the writer at charles@cartercountytimes.com

OBITUARY

Walter W.J. Cox 1941 – 2026



Porter.

W.J. is survived by one son, Walter Jason (Jessica) Cox Jr. of Clay City, Kentucky; two daughters, Beverly Joanne (Jerry) Minor of Olive Hill, Kentucky, Deborah Renee (Douglas) Steadman of Hitchens, Kentucky; seven grandchildren; five great-grandchildren, along with many other family and friends who will sadly miss him.

Funeral services will be held at 1 p.m., Friday, October 9, 2026, at Globe Funeral Chapel 17277 West US Hwy 60, Olive Hill, Kentucky, with Brother R.D. Porter and Brother Terry Dean officiating. Burial will follow in Garvin Ridge Cemetery in Olive Hill.

Friends may visit after 11:30 a.m., Friday, October 9, 2026, until the service hour at the funeral home.

Zach Thompson, Travis Tackett, Dawson Witt, Tyler Cox, Jerry Minor and R.D. Porter will serve as pallbearers.

Globe Funeral Chapel in Olive Hill, Kentucky is honored to serve the family of Walter W.J. Cox.

Walter W. J. Cox, age 85, of Olive Hill, Kentucky, passed away Wednesday, September 30, 2026, at his residence, surrounded by his loving family.

He was born Tuesday, June 10, 1941, in Carter County, a son of the late Walter Cox and Truman and Alberta Jaynes Cox Kiser

Walter enjoyed watching westerns, listening to bluegrass music, hunting, sitting on the porch, spending time outdoors and with his family.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his wife of 60 years, Darlene Johnson Cox and one sister, Rena

Tracey Lee Terry Williams 1959 – 2026



Tracey Lee Terry Williams, age 67, of Grayson, Kentucky, passed away Monday, September 28, 2026, at UK-King's Daughter Medical Center in Ashland, Kentucky.

She was born Sunday, August 9, 1959, in Boyd County, Kentucky, a daughter of the late Miles Thomas Terry Sr. and Wilma Wright Terry.

She enjoyed watching the birds, and spending time with family and friends, especially her grandchildren.

Tracey is survived by one son, Jerry (Heather) Williams of Grayson, Kentucky; one daughter, Emma Scott of Grayson, Ken-

tucky; four grandchildren, Hannah Williams, Jayden Williams, Jarred (Wanda) Tilsley, Evan Large; one great-granddaughter, Aspyrn Reese Daniels; two brothers, Miles T. (Pam) Terry Jr. of Boyd County, Kentucky; Phillip (Debra) Terry of Willard, Ohio; two sisters, Rose (Gary) Pittlenger of Willard, Ohio, Eva (Greg) Robinson of Grayson, Kentucky, along with many other family and friends that will sadly miss her.

Funeral services were held at 1 p.m., Thursday, October 1, 2026, at Grayson Funeral Home and Cremation Services, 49 McCoy Road, Grayson, Kentucky, with Brother Ben James officiating. Burial followed in Rose Hill Cemetery in Ashland, Kentucky.

Friends visited after 12 noon, Thursday, October 1, 2026, until the service hour at the funeral home.

Grayson Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Tracey Lee Terry Williams.

Sherry Lee Blevins Phillips 1959 – 2026



Sherry Lee Blevins Phillips, age 66, of Grayson, Kentucky, passed away Thursday, October 1, 2026, at UK-King's Daughter Medical Center in Ashland, Kentucky, surrounded by her loving family.

She was born Wednesday, October 30, 1959, in Boyd County, Kentucky, a daughter of the late Ora and Francis Sue Sturgill Carroll.

Sherry enjoyed cooking and caring for her family.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by one brother-in-law, Ronald Utley and one nephew, Randy Utley.

Sherry is survived by her loving husband of 47 years, Owen Trent Phillips; Johnathan Berry of Grayson, Kentucky, Josh Berry of Tennessee, Rodney (Christina) Utley of Olive Hill, Kentucky whom she thought of as her sons; Ronda (Nick) Wilburn of Grayson, Kentucky, Brandie (Derrick

Kinney of Olive Hill, Kentucky, whom she thought of as her own daughters; one brother, Rick (Cheri) Blevins of Grahn, Kentucky; one sister-in-law, Sue Utley of Grayson, Kentucky; great nieces and nephews, whom she thought of as her grandchildren, Wesley Wilburn, Shyann Wilburn, Roy Utley, Ella Utley, David (Nadalee) Utley, Kaylee Kinney, Tanner Kinney, Lila Kinney and Caroline Kinney, along with many other family and friends who will sadly miss her.

Funeral services will be held at 12 noon, Tuesday, October 6, 2026, at Globe Funeral Chapel 17277 West US Hwy 60, Olive Hill, Kentucky, with Brother Mike Bryant and Brother William Logan Jr. officiating. Burial will follow in Biggs Hill Cemetery in Olive Hill.

Friends may visit from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m., Monday, October 5, 2026, and after 9 a.m., Tuesday, October 6, 2026, until the service hour at the funeral home.

Dale Sturgill, Nick Wilburn, Rodney Utley, David Utley, Johnathan Berry and Derrick Kinney will serve as pallbearers.

Globe Funeral Chapel in Olive Hill, Kentucky is honored to serve the family of Sherry Lee Blevins Phillips.

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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

It's time to celebrate the sacred rite of voting in America

Host a Democracy Potluck to get people thinking about midterm elections

By Sylvia Lovely
Kentucky Lantern

It was an early November day, cold and snowy. My father, Walter, was 85 and recovering from cataract surgery gone bad. He did the things an 85-year-old did – he read his newspaper daily despite an 8th grade education, told WWII stories, and doted on his grandchildren. But there was one more thing he did on that cold, snowy November morning.

Moving slowly with a patch securely over his left eye, he sat down at the dining room table as I arrived.

“Daddy, it’s time to go vote,” I said.

“I don’t think I can this time,” he replied.

His answer was not unexpected but shocking, nonetheless. I pondered for the longest moment and came up with this: “if you don’t vote, daddy, your guys won’t win!” He looked at me for a moment with a look of deep concern and a sudden sense of urgency. Slowly, he rose from his chair and headed toward the door. As if there was never a moment of hesitation, he walked past me at the door with these words, “What are you waiting for?”

Looking back, it was a teaching moment that voting was something the weather or a bad eye could not stop. It was that important. We are reminded that democracy is sustained not only by historic figures and grand speeches, it is the stuff of ordinary people who put on their coats, learn about the candidates and the issues, and go vote.

In honor of people like my dad and the most sacred rite of freedom, voting, The League of Women Voters of Lexington, Global Lex, and CivicLex are launching “Make Democracy Social,” and “Celebrate Democracy,” a two-part, nonpartisan voter engagement initiative, designed to help Fayette County residents become informed voters, make a plan to vote, and build community around civic participation.

The initiative, launched this September, will provide a toolkit where information instructs on how to conduct and host Democracy Potlucks. The potlucks will feature community forums where citizens gather to make democracy social with a meal and conversation. Community groups, churches, neighborhood associations, clubs, workplaces, language communities and friend groups are encouraged to consider hosting a Democracy Potluck before early voting begins. Sponsoring organizations will provide nonpartisan resources to help people research what is on their ballot, understand the offices being elected, and make a voting plan.

Following these activities, all will be invited to Democracy Celebration opportunities where voters gather after voting to celebrate community participation.

Visit www.lwvlexington.com for more information and look out for League of Women Voters of Lexington, Global Lex, CivicLex, and partner organizations out in the community throughout the fall.

Let’s remember that our fundamental freedoms were the result of sparks of passion and the act of voting that underpins our most basic freedoms. They include freedom to worship as you wish and separation of church and state, freedom of speech to voice opposing opinions and enjoy a free press, due process and the right to counsel sparked by one man who spoke up and demanded representation in our courts (Gideon vs. Wainright, 1963).

Let us remember that our most fundamental right to speak up and vote lay at the root of all our freedoms. The many battles throughout American history were ones of expanding the right to vote through many means including constitutional amendments that afforded voting status without discrimination regardless of gender, race, and age.

Let’s honor the legacy of those who have gone before us. Voting is not something my dad did when convenient, when weather cooperated, or when he felt particularly inspired. It was a part of being a citizen and fighting hard every day to

See VOTING on A-8

Carter County Times
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Nicole Wells, publisher
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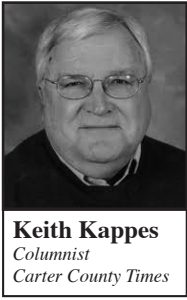
Newfangled technology continues to thrill us...if it doesn't kill us.

Reprinted by request from September 2016

As long as new gadgets and gizmos keep coming, history shows we Americans will be fascinated enough to spend whatever it takes to own the latest doodad.

Today’s mindboggling inventions seem to unfold on a daily basis, especially in electronic technology, ranging from phones to drones.

But I’m not going to talk about space age stuff this time. Instead, here are the long-secret details of my first adventure of scientific discovery into the mysteries of...are you ready?...robotic food preparation.



Keith Kappes
*Columnist
Carter County Times*

In fact, this personal breakthrough in what became known as automation happened in the mid-1950’s when I was about 12 years old.

Until then, home toasters were crude contraptions where you loaded the bread onto side panels and pushed them up to the heating coils. If you didn’t keep track of time, your toast would be burned to a crisp.

Try to imagine the excitement of a curious young boy when his mother came home with a shiny, new automatic toaster.

The bread went into the top slot and you pushed it

down to start the toasting process. Not only did you not have to keep time but the perfectly browned toast popped up when it was ready to be eaten.

Dad was out of town and Mom had gone off to work. My older brother and younger sister were not around.

I just knew I was on the frontier of science that morning when I sat down at the kitchen table with this marvelous new invention, plus a loaf of bread, butter, jams and jellies.

Granted, I knew very little about the scientific process but I had to know if the apparatus would work each time.

I made a journal entry in my mind each time I loaded the bread, pushed it down, lifted it out, buttered and jellied or jammed it and then carefully ate each slice.

No telling what I might have discovered had I not consumed the entire loaf of bread and developed a major tummy ache. Yep, the toaster worked fine.

*Keith Kappes can be reached at
keithkappes@gmail.com*

We need to have a talk with our sons

In the wake of what's alleged at Cornell University, we gotta talk.

Seven young men. One woman. A frat house. A Snap that went out bringing more people in. I'm not going to walk you through the rest. You've seen it in every paper and on every feed. A grand jury will decide what the law says about it.

But somebody raised those seven. Not that long ago, they were boys in a lunch-room, too.

I have kids. I think I know what's going on with them, but realistically, I don't. They're off in lunchrooms, on playgrounds, on social media, yelling at one another in video games. Kids do their own thing. They're developing creatures, same as us, even if there's a little gray in our hair.

When I worked on Bourbon Street, I saw plenty of questionable behavior. People hit the bottle hard down there. But hitting the vodka isn't a yes, and passing out sure as hell isn't one. Our boys need to hear that from us.

Here's the uncomfortable truth. Every one of those young dudes knew rape was wrong. Nobody gets to an Ivy League school without hearing it a hundred times. You get in by being very smart or very rich, and neither one buys an exemption. Knowing wasn't the problem.

The problem is what happens when the room goes sideways. When a buddy's egging it on. When the phones are out and the group chat is blowing up.

When the cost of saying "no, bro, we're done here" feels steeper than the cost of keeping your trap shut.

That's the conversation we aren't having with our boys. We tell them not to be the bad guy. We don't teach them how to be the man who walks out, makes the call, or gets between a friend. We don't tell them that being called a buzzkill isn't the worst thing that can happen. What happens in that room lasts a lifetime, for her first, and for everyone who was there.

Here's what I'd ask you to do. Ask the hypothetical out loud. "What would you do if a friend was in the group chat saying something like that?" Don't accept "I'd never be there." Make him walk through it. Tell him standing up is what good men do.

Give him a rule he'll remember when he's 19 and three beers deep: if she's too drunk to drive, she's too drunk to say yes.

Tell him he can call you from anywhere, any hour, no questions about how he got there. Then mean it. If he's had too much to drink, that isn't the night for a lecture. Pick him up. Talk in the morning.

Pay attention to who's in his ear. Make sure he knows women aren't props. They aren't prizes. They're people.

Our sons need to hear that from us, not just from a school assembly. But they also need to know what to do with it at 1 a.m., when everyone around them has decided otherwise.

See TALK on A-6

Policies

General

Advertisers should check their ad the first time it runs. The Times shall not be liable for any typographical errors or for failure to publish an ad or errors in publication except to the extent of the cost of the ad for the first insertion. Adjustment for errors is limited to the portion of the ad wherein the error occurred. The Times reserves the right to reject any advertisement and submitted editorial copy, and reserves the right to edit any copy submitted for publication. Corrections will be made at the discretion of the editor.

Circulation

A one-year in-county subscription costs \$26.00 plus tax. Due to additional mailing fees, any subscriptions mailed out of county will cost \$52.00 plus tax.

Letters & Opinion

The Times welcomes all letters to the editor.

Letters should be limited to 300 words or less. Letters should focus on issues that affect the community as a whole, and not personal or business disputes. Letters must include a verifiable address, along with the phone number and signature of the writer. Letters submitted via e-mail need only include a phone number in lieu of a signature. Letters, columns and cartoons do not necessarily reflect the views of the Times or EK Newsgroup, LLC. General interest guest columns are welcome. For details email editor@cartercountytimes.com.

Deadlines

The deadline for news copy and letters to the editor is noon on Monday prior to publication. The deadline for display and classified advertising is 5 p.m. on Monday prior to publication.

Talk

from A-5

"My kid would never." That's likely exactly what those parents thought before a harsh reality landed on their doorstep.

Festival

from A-1

both his and his wife Emily's families had a history with the church. "The church was built as a memorial to Kirk (Grahn), who died at two years and five months old from Scarlet Fever," LaVoie said. "What I found to be the oddest thing about that was that (Kirk's father) Carl Grahn's dad died when he was two and a half year's old." LaVoie said the initial loss of Grahn's father was most likely what led him to immigrate from Germany and start his own way in the United States. "The City of Hanover, Germany he came from was known for its busy squares and industry set up with towns around them. So, I think he brought his love of that with him to Kentucky and started that here."

The rich history of the church itself also appealed to Lavoie from the beginning. Kirk Memorial is one of the oldest churches with a continuously running congregation in Carter County, he said. There are churches whose buildings are physically older, Lavoie said, but unfortunately the COVID Pandemic marked the end of some of these other congregations continuing to meet. "Lyndsey Chapel was the oldest church," he gave as an example. " But there is no longer a congregation there." "So, we started to gather information to put up on our website," LaVoie said of gathering the church history together. "Then we saw how deep it went, and it was just incredible."

ARC

from A-1

"The resolution is concerning cost overruns," Miller told the commission. "That basically says that anything beyond the \$412,000 is the responsibility of the commission." Miller also explained to the commission that there were certain steps that needed to be completed before the funds were released. One of those steps was the resolution, and another was a Title 6 Plan. A Title 6 Plan concerns prohibiting discrimination based on race, color, or national origin. This is required for any program or activity that receives federal financial assistance. The commission voted to adopt the required resolution for the grant, and also voted to give director Gerald Haney authorization to sign letters of assurance and provide for any other requirements concerning that particular ARC Grant. Haney updated the commission on current work being done at the wastewater treatment plant, including "settlers." "We are making progress this month," Haney told the commission. "I did have the people from Brentwood come. They were here earlier and gave us the quote for \$52,000. That was a much lower quote than the first quote." Haney said the representatives from Brentwood looked over the project and didn't see anything that might increase the estimate. "We did have contractors looking at

Now their sons' faces are all over the internet, and a young woman says she's been living with that night ever since. Grahn, he said, had its own currency and company stores, and of course a church for its workers. Then he began asking Kirk Memorial members about their own histories and put out a few posts on social media. "We just stated that we were interested in history and keeping it alive. We got just a flood of messages," LaVoie said of the response to those initial posts. "People were telling me how much Grahn meant to them. And how much the church and Grahn school meant to them."

LaVoie said one group in particular responded in large numbers. That group was made up of people who had worked at the brick yard, or who had family members that had been employed there. "There were comments from people who worked there or whose parents had worked there," he said. "People from all over the area including State Senator Robin Webb and State Representative Patrick Flannery all had history there. Robin Webb's mom and dad were married at our church." "So, we saw a huge job that needed to take place," LaVoie said. "The oral history needs to be preserved before people forget." In order to assist in that preservation, he said they decided to make an event that would encourage the preservation of those memories before they were lost to subsequent generations. And it is a good way, he said, to capture the glory of God as he has moved through the community. A good

it as well," Haney told the commission. "It is a 12-week time frame, and I have another person coming to look at it to give me another quote. But we couldn't schedule that before today's meeting." Haney said he preferred to wait until he was able to speak with the final bidder before making a decision. All information, he said, would be available by the October 2026 meeting. Haney also updated the commission on bids for the SCADA (Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition) network. He said they had spoken with Microcom, the company most of the telemetry is through. "It was \$250,000 from the company we spoke to initially," Haney told the commission. "They gave a price for doing it all. And they also want to maintain the software. Their price is around \$110,000." Haney said he had also spoken to a representative from another company based in Lexington. "They are not including the radio," Haney said. "But their price is around \$150,000." "The picture is getting a little clearer," Haney said of the project. "But we want to fine tune it before we decide on which direction to go." The system does need to be modernized and brought up to date, Haney said. But it is currently functioning, he said, so he believed the "settlers" were a more pressing need at the moment.

Contact the writer at charles@cartercountytimes.com

Don't wait for the door-step. Have this talk.

Contact us at or send submissions to news@cartercountytimes.com . Visit

example of that, he said, was how Karl Grahn turned the heartbreaking loss of a child into a memorial that has served the community for over one hundred years. "I think these are all things that need to be captured so that when people come to this church, they realize that it is a church with so much community history," LaVoie said. LaVoie said the ultimate goal is to create a community record. LaVoie, his wife Emily, and Kayla Carrol will be available at an upcoming event on Saturday, October 24. The event is called the Calling Grahn Home Harvest Festival (7430 Aden Road in Grahn, Kentucky) and will run from 2 until 9 pm. LaVoie, wife Emily, and Carrol will be at the church and available to speak with people and record oral histories, as well as receive photographs, documents, and family stories. There will also be games and events throughout the day. LaVoie said the festival is open to anyone who would like to attend, and not just members of Kirk Memorial or current residents of Grahn. "We especially hope to welcome former residents, descendants of Grahn families, families of former brickyard workers, and anyone who carries a memory or connection to this community," LaVoie said. The event will be a day filled with activities such as the Brickyard Memorial Race (no entry fee), hayrides, apple cider, food, and fellowship. Participants will compete

the author on Substack at [What's Annoying Robert Dean Today?](#)

in timed runs using the same four-wheel pedal car. The youth divisions are ages 7 to 9, 10 to 12, and 13 to 17, with prizes recognizing the fastest times. After dark, the adults will have their turn and race for bragging rights, LaVoie said. "We are grateful that the Grayson RECC board has approved a donation to support the Brickyard Memorial Race youth prize fund," LaVoie said. "The church has provided the requested payment details so Grayson RECC's accounting department can issue the check. Their support is helping us make the race something special for the children who participate." LaVoie said there is a plan to create a community history book titled "We Are Grahn." He said all the information collected will be used to make this project a reality. Volunteer authors will include himself, Emily LaVoie, and Kayla Carroll with project support from Restoring What Was Lost, Inc. This year's gathering also has a larger purpose. Calling Grahn Home is an effort to collect and preserve photographs, family stories, oral histories, letters, documents, and names connected to Grahn, the brickyard, Kirk Memorial, and the families who built and sustained this community. People are invited to share their memories even if they do not have photographs or documents. Sometimes one remembered name or story can restore an important piece of history. "Our hope is that this

CLASSIFIEDS

PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY
DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
GRAYSON DAM WATER CONTROL PLAN UPDATE
CARTER COUNTY, KENTUCKY

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Huntington District, by this Notice of Availability (NOA), advises the public that the Draft Environmental Assessment (DEA) for the Grayson Dam Water Control Plan Update is complete and available for public review. The project is located in Carter County, Kentucky. A Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) is anticipated for the proposed project. A Draft FONSI is included with the DEA for public review.

In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the DEA and draft FONSI must be available to the public in the affected area for thirty (30) days for review and comment. Final determination regarding the need for additional NEPA documentation will be made after the public review period, which begins on or about September 23, 2026. Copies of the documents may be viewed at the following location:

Carter County Public Library – Branch
116 W Main St.
Grayson, KY 41143
Phone: (606) 475-1528

The documents may also be viewed at the following website:
<https://www.lrd.usace.army.mil/Mission/Public-Review-Approved-Plans/>. Copies of the DEA and draft FONSI may be obtained by contacting the Huntington District Office of the Corps of Engineers at (304) 399-5924. Comments pertaining to the documents may be submitted to:

Ms. Megan Wilburn
Acting Chief, Environmental Analysis Section, Planning Branch
Huntington District Corps of Engineers
502 Eighth Street
Huntington, West Virginia 25701-2070
Email: Megan.B.Wilburn@usace.army.mil

CARTER COUNTY TAXPAYER'S NOTICE

The 2023 Carter County Unmined Coal tax bills are now due and payable. The following are the collection dates:

2% Discount	10-01-2026 to 11-01-2026
Face Amount	11-01-2026 to 12-31-2026
5% Penalty	01-01-2027 to 01-31-2027
10% Penalty + 10% Sheriff's Add on Fee	After 01-31-2027

Public Notice of Waiting List Closure

Effective October 10th, 2026 the following Housing Authority of Olive Hill program waitlists will be closed:

- Public Housing- Hydreco Village
- Project- Based Rental Assistance- Hydreco Village

Due to current wait times for all programs exceeding 12 months.

Applicants already on the waitlists will not be affected and we will continue to process all applications based on when they were received.

NOW HIRING MAINTENANCE WORKER

The Olive Hill Housing Authority is accepting applications for the position of Maintenance Worker.

Application Deadline: 10/23/2026

Applications for employment may be picked up at the Olive Hill Housing Authority Office- 501 Tygart Street, Olive Hill, KY 41164

MISCELLANEOUS

The Tackett-Knipp-Ash Cemetery has been cleaned off at 563 Hawkinsmith Road, Olive Hill, KY. If you have family there, feel free to visit.

becomes more than a one-day festival. We want photographs to find their names, memories to find a permanent home, and the stories of Grahn's families to be carried forward for generations to come." "Grahn's history does not belong only to those who remember it firsthand. It also belongs to the children and grandchildren who have not yet heard

it. We want this festival to give those memories a home, and we want 'We Are Grahn' to carry them forward through Kirk Memorial Baptist Church for generations." Festival information is also available at kirkmemorialbaptist.org.

Contact the writer at charles@cartercountytimes.com

Better beans
make Better coffee

Taste the difference at

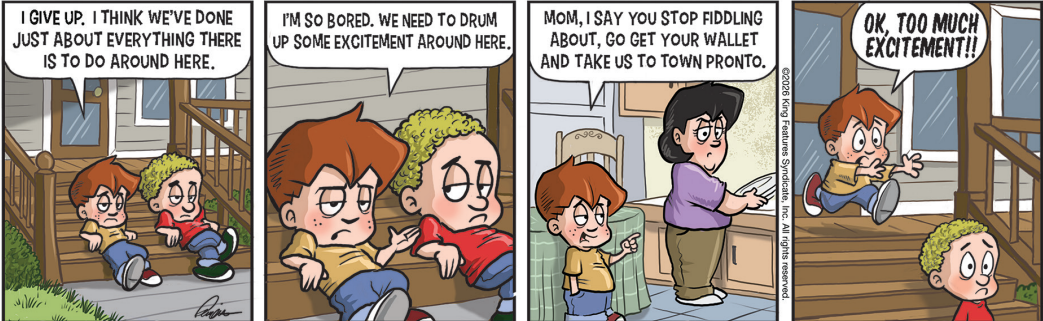
NOOK & CRANNY

Coffee House

109 E. Main St | Grayson

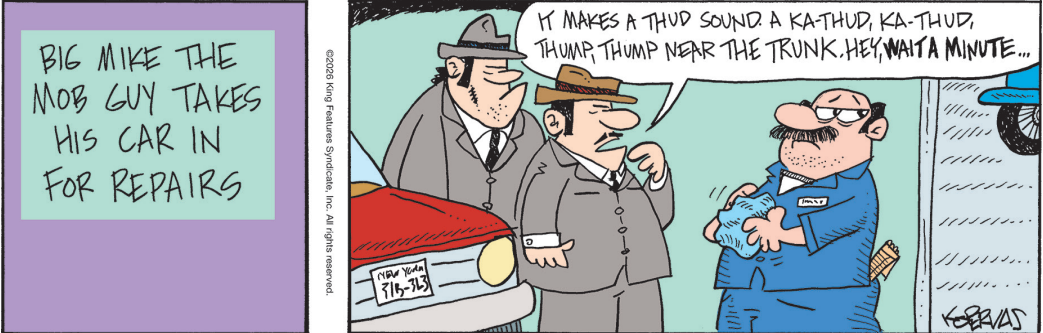
Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



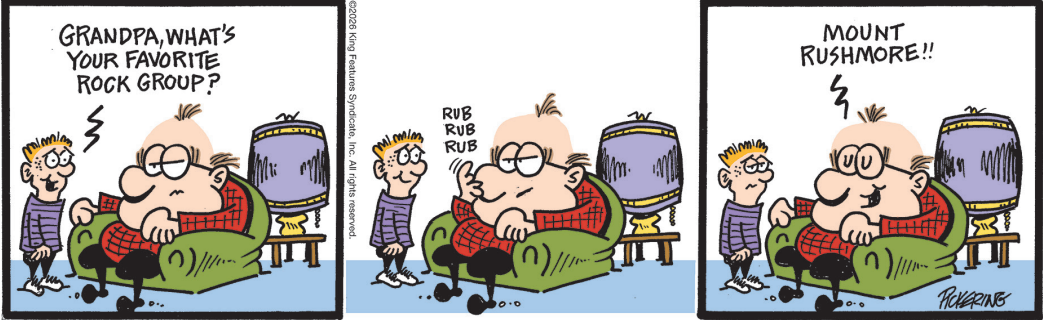
Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



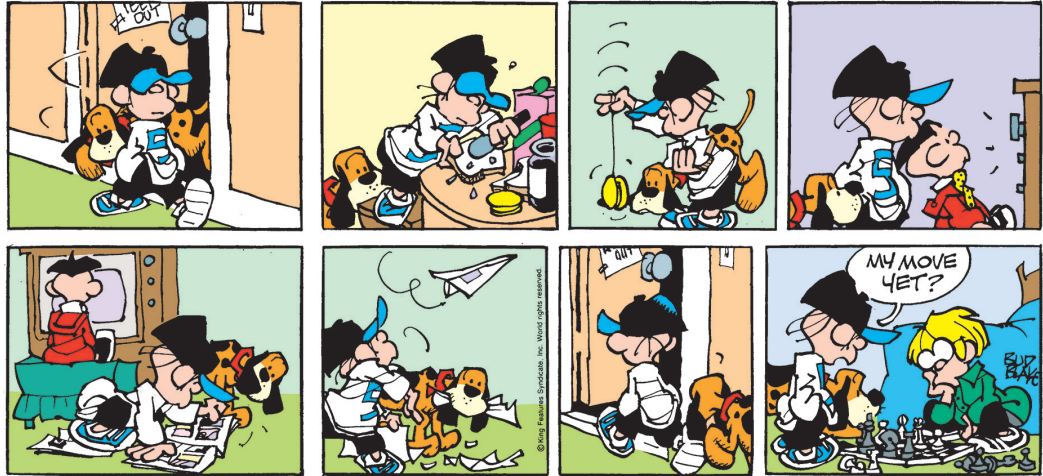
The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



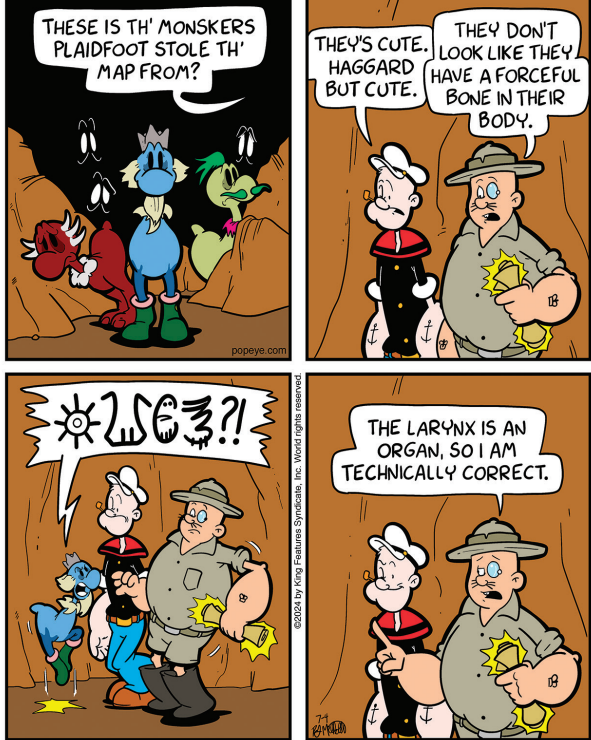
TIGER

by BUD BLAKE



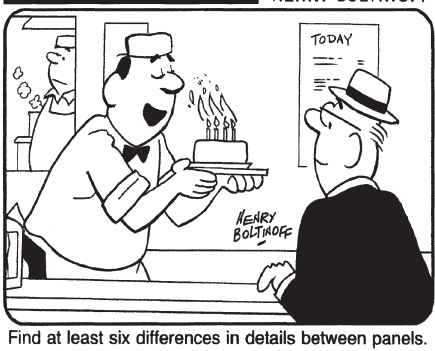
OLIVE & POPEYE

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: T equals M

VYEJ TZSYJ OQA EUUATG ZU
JYG REXQKZJG NYQNQBEJG
NEICO QR NEXG-CVGBBZIS
CVEKRU? JQQJUZG JKQBBU.

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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!

Mull
ENDROP
Shine
SHIPLO
Bore
CREEPI
Deli
MAILAS

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. Recluse | H _ _ _ _ _ | Sesame Street frog | K _ _ _ _ _ |
| 2. Translucent | _ _ _ _ _ R | Luster | _ _ _ _ _ N |
| 3. Detonate | _ L _ _ _ _ | Monster | _ E _ _ _ _ |
| 4. Wisconsin's animal | _ _ D _ _ _ | Grocery store worker | _ G _ _ _ _ |
| 5. Bullwinkle | _ _ O _ _ _ | Rat's smaller cousin | _ _ U _ _ _ |
| 6. Georgia's fruit | _ _ A _ _ _ | Roost | _ _ R _ _ _ |
| 7. Thirsty fabric | _ E _ _ _ _ | Linger | _ A _ _ _ _ |
| 8. Slapstick, e.g. | _ _ _ _ _ D _ | Attractive | _ _ _ _ _ L _ |
| 9. Closet accessory | _ A _ _ _ _ | Appetite | _ _ U _ _ _ |
| 10. Ditch | T _ _ _ _ _ | Parisian language | F _ _ _ _ _ |

GO FIGURE!

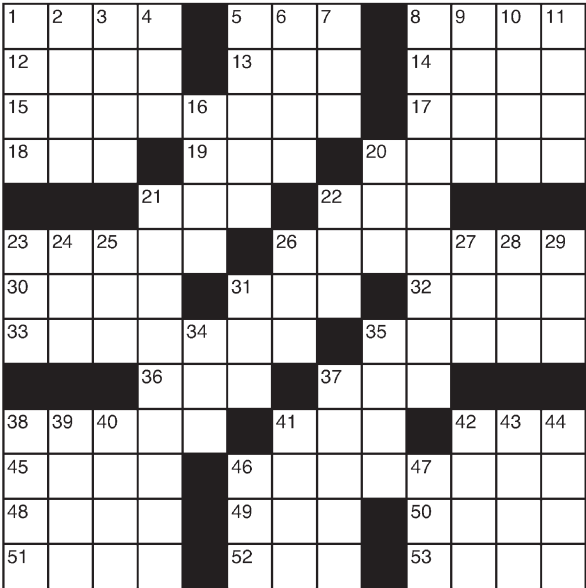
The idea of Go Figure is to arrive at the figures given at the bottom and right-hand columns of the diagram by following the arithmetic signs in the order they are given (that is, from left to right and top to bottom). Use only the numbers below the diagram to complete its blank squares and use each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

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King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Use a squeegee
5 ACLU concerns
8 Oodles
12 Valhalla VIP
13 — Jima
14 Slightly
15 Reveals by accident
17 California valley
18 LAX and JFK overseer
19 Bad spell
20 Playful sea critter
21 Young bloke
22 Used to be
23 Skewered Thai recipe
26 Beach robes
30 Four Corners st.
31 Gearwheel tooth
32 Barrett or Jaffe
33 Pond floater
35 Unclothed
36 Long lunch?
37 Tier
38 Teapot feature
41 Binge
42 Hiatus
45 Galley gear
46 Legendary gossip columnist



- 9 Final notice
10 Clock reading
11 Swizzle
16 Horse-drawn carriage
20 Klutz
21 Revolving tray
22 Witty one
23 Bando of baseball
24 "Exodus" hero
25 Up to
26 Massachusetts cape
27 Fine, to NASA
28 Compass dir.
29 Blue
31 Taxi
34 Impose
35 Egg drinks
37 Demolishes
38 Daytime drama
39 Rid of rind
40 Sweet sandwich
41 Rock's Hendrix
42 Donate
43 Bickering
44 Profs' degrees
46 Trail the pack
47 "Sheesh!"

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Weekly SUDOKU

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

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™

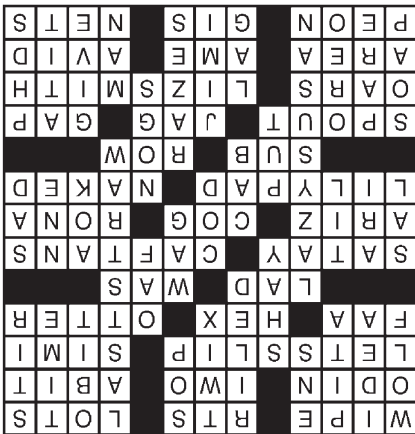
A cliché

B	A	S	I	C

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

02660



Solution time: 23 mins.

King Crossword

Trivia test

by Fifi Rodriguez

- LITERATURE: Who wrote the novel "The Invisible Man"?
- GEOGRAPHY: In which country is the Topkapi Palace located?
- ASTRONOMY: How long is a year on the planet Mars?
- MOVIES: What is the name of the sea witch in the animated film "The Little Mermaid"?
- ANATOMY: What is the average lifespan of a red blood cell?
- MATH: What is the Arabic equivalent of the Roman numerals MMI?
- GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: What are the three secondary colors in traditional color theory?
- TELEVISION: Which TV sitcom features the Bluth family?
- ANIMAL KINGDOM: What is a group of jellyfish commonly called?
- GAMES: How many squares are on a checkerboard?

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ASPIRINS

Today's Word

3. Pierce; 4. Salami

1. Ponder; 2. Polish

Solution

SCRAMBLERS

T	R	O	P
P	R	O	S
C	R	O	P
S	C	R	A
A	S	P	I
B	A	S	I

Solution

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

Answer

Weekly SUDOKU

CryptoQuip

What might you assume is the favorite chocolate candy of cave-dwelling dwarfs? Toolish Trois.

Answer

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Answer

CryptoQuip

■ **NEKY** from A-3

is making a difference.”

While the award recognizes Burchett and Yarman individually, Burchett said they immediately thought about the team behind Carter Healthcare.

“Our names may be on the award, but Carter Healthcare is not just the two of us,” Burchett said. “We have an amazing team who believes in what we’re trying to do and cares about our patients just as much as we do. This recognition belongs to them, too.”

Burchett and Yarman have grown Carter Healthcare while navigating the unique dynamic of working alongside a twin sister. As the practice has evolved, they have learned to embrace their individual strengths while relying on the team around them.

“We’re twin sisters, so working together definitely comes with an interesting dynamic. We know each other extremely well, and we’re also not afraid to disagree,” Burchett said. “We have different strengths, different ideas, and sometimes completely different ways of getting to the same place.”

As their roles have developed, the sisters have remained focused on a shared goal: expanding access to healthcare services in the region while maintaining the personal connection that was important to them from the beginning.

“The one thing that really hasn’t changed is our end goal,” Burchett said. “We both want Carter Healthcare to continue growing and bring services to our area that people might otherwise have to travel to receive, while still keeping the personal feel that was so important to us when we started.”

That personal approach is central to the sisters’ vision for patient care.

“We want them to feel comfortable. We want them to feel heard. And most importantly, we want them to feel like we actually care...because we do,” Burchett said.

Burchett said the relationships they build with patients are one of the most meaningful parts of their work, from hearing about patients’ families and celebrating milestones to supporting them through difficult circumstances.

“We want people to feel comfortable asking questions and being involved in their own healthcare,” Burchett said. “We want them to know that we’re going to listen and that we’re willing to look at different options when the traditional approach isn’t meeting their needs.”

“At the end of the day, we want people to walk

■ **Voting** from A-5

be informed and go vote. It is the act that not only preserves democracy but something we should celebrate. Let’s celebrate democracy together!

(Editor’s Note: Carter County is not Lexington. Our issues and concerns are different. But the democratic process is the common heritage of all Americans, and we like this idea. We encourage churches, civic groups, and individuals in Carter County to consider hosting your own Democracy Potluck.)

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out feeling like they were taken care of by people who genuinely cared about them,” she added. “This is more than just a job for us, it’s a calling.”

For Yarman, the opportunity to practice healthcare in the communities where she and her sister grew up makes their work particularly meaningful.

“It means a lot, because this is home,” Yarman said. “These aren’t just communities where we happen to work. These are our people.”

Yarman said practicing healthcare in a small community creates relationships that extend well beyond the walls of the practice.

“You take care of people you went to school with, former teachers, friends, neighbors, entire families, and sometimes multiple generations of the same family,” she said. “You see your patients at ballgames, school events, the grocery store, and around town. That creates a connection that goes far beyond an appointment.”

That connection also extends to the broader small-business community, Yarman said. She and Burchett were especially proud to see other Northeast Kentucky businesses recognized during the SBDC awards ceremony.

“One of our favorite parts of the awards ceremony was looking around and seeing so many

familiar faces and so many Olive Hill and Northeast Kentucky businesses being recognized,” Yarman said. “There are some incredible people investing their time, money, and energy into making our communities better, and we are proud to be among them.”

The sisters chose to establish Carter Healthcare in the region because they believe local residents should have access to quality healthcare and expanded services without having to routinely travel long distances.

“We chose to build Carter Healthcare here because we believe people in our region deserve access to great healthcare and new opportunities without always having to drive an hour or more to find them,” Yarman said. “Being able to contribute to that is something we’re very proud of.”

Ultimately, Yarman hopes the award reflects more than clinical knowledge or professional accomplishments. She hopes it reflects the relationships the providers have built with their patients, their team and their community.

“We obviously want to be knowledgeable providers and provide excellent healthcare, but being a good healthcare professional is about more than just knowing medicine,” Yarman said. “It’s listening, advocating for your patients, admitting when



(submitted photo)

you don’t know something and being willing to find the answer, and being willing to do things differently because healthcare isn’t one-size-fits-all.”

“We hope this award reflects the relationships we’ve built with our patients, the team we’ve built around us, and our commitment to this community,” she added. “And hopefully, years from now, no matter how much Carter Healthcare grows, people will still walk through our doors and feel the same thing: these people care about me.”

Burchett said that gratitude was ultimately at the heart of receiving the recognition.

“Our community has supported us, trusted us with their families, encour-

aged us, and allowed us to grow,” Burchett said. “We don’t take that for granted and we thank God for the opportunity to serve Him where we grew up.”

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