

THE ELLIOTT COUNTY NEWS

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Letters Column

From The Licking Valley Courier

In Defense Of Liberals

To The Editor:

Look it up before you bash liberals with stereotypes. For years, liberalism has been under assault. It has been transformed into a profane word conservatives use to describe most Democrats.

If you are a liberal, it is assumed you are anti-God and anti-American. As a Christian who happens to love my country, I'm deeply saddened by the stigma attached to being a liberal.

Webster Dictionary describes liberalism as "a political philosophy based on belief in progress, the essential goodness of man, and the autonomy of the individual, and standing for tolerance and freedom for the individual from an arbitrary authority in all spheres of life."

Liberals have long fought for the homeless, the poor, the hungry, and all other less fortunate people.

Republicans who call liberals anti-God forget that Jesus fought for many of the things we fight for today:

Jesus aligned himself with the poor and oppressed. He said we should love everyone, even our enemies. He healed and forgave when no one else would.

Republican policies favor the rich and turn a blind eye to the poor. They are driven by greed and couldn't care less about the environment. The Bible says the love of money is the root of all evil.

— Larry L. Lykins
Blairs Mill, Ky.

Dist. Wildlife Commission seat to be filled

FRANKFORT, Ky., Oct. 1— Public nomination meetings to fill three expiring Kentucky Fish and Wildlife Commission district seats will be held in November. A new nomination process is now in place to select candidates for the 2nd, 3rd and 8th district representative's seats.

The commission is a nine-member board that meets quarterly in Frankfort to help provide oversight of the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources and guide development of the state's regulations on hunting, fishing, boating and conservation. Commission members are nominated at public meetings. The governor selects one nominee from each district to the board, who must then be confirmed by the Kentucky Senate.

The meeting to nominate individuals within the 8th district, who properly applied for consideration and were qualified by the department, will be Tuesday, Nov. 17. (Applications for nomination are due by Nov. 2) at the Cooperative Extension Office in Mt. Sterling Cooperative Extension Service, 106 East Locust Street, Doors open from 6 to 7:30 p.m. (ET). Closed door meeting at 7:30 p.m. 8th District includes Bath, Bourbon, Boyd, Carter, Elliott, Fleming, Greenup, Lewis, Mason, Menifee, Montgomery, Morgan, Nicholas, Rowan, and Wolfe counties.

Volunteers sought for long term care ombudsman pgm.

The Legal Aid of the Bluegrass Long Term Care Ombudsman Program is looking for Volunteers!

Did you know 60% of nursing home residents never receive a visitor?

The Long Term Care Ombudsman Program advocates for rights, dignity and independence for nursing home residents. The program's volunteers visit about 1,700 frail and elderly at least quarterly and advocate for quality care and work to resolve problems. Ombudsman help provide a voice for those who otherwise would have none, serving those living in nursing homes, personal care homes, and Family care homes.

For more information, contact your Long Term Care Ombudsman:

Amanda Hamilton
FIVCO Long Term Care Ombudsman Program
1616 Greenup Ave
Ashland, KY 41101
(606) 780-2258
ahamilton@lablaw.org

THE BEST REMEDY

The best remedy for those who are afraid, lonely, or unhappy is to go outside, somewhere where they can be with the heavens, nature and God. Because only then does one feel that all is as it should be.

— Anne Frank

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County jobless data released for September 2026

FRANKFORT, Ky. Oct. 22 — Unemployment rates fell in 54 counties between September 2025 and September 2026, rose in 47 counties and stayed the same in 19 counties, according to the Kentucky Center for Statistics (KYSTATS), an agency within the Kentucky Education and Labor Cabinet.

Elliott County's jobless rate in September was 7.0% with 1,788 of its 1,924 member workforce employed.

Woodford County recorded the lowest jobless rate in the commonwealth at 3.4%. It was followed by Cumberland County, 3.6%; Todd County, 3.7%; Campbell and Fayette counties, 3.8% each; Boone, Franklin, Jessamine, Kenton and Scott counties, 3.9% each.

Magoffin and Martin counties recorded the state's highest unemployment rate at 7.7% each. It was followed by Wolfe County, 7.4%; Lewis County, 7.3%; Elliott County, 7.1%; Jackson County, 7%; Lawrence County, 6.6%; Harlan County, 6.5%; and Carter and Knott counties, 6.3% each.

Medicare Open Enrollment runs through Dec. 7th

Medicare Open Enrollment is here! Starting on October 15, 2025, people on Medicare are able to compare their prescription drug plans and/or Medicare Advantage plans, to ensure that they are getting the best, most affordable coverage available in 2026.

Most people that compare their plans during Medicare Open Enrollment save significant money. But do not delay, for Medicare open enrollment closes on December 7, 2025.

The Medicare SHIP Program, a non-profit organization provides comparison assistance at no charge to you. Medicare SHIP does NOT sell or endorse any insurance company. We are here to help you make informed decisions with regards to your Medicare needs.

Additionally, our program can screen you for money-saving benefits and help you to apply for help to lower your medication and Medicare premium costs each month.

Call the Medicare SHIP Program at 1-866-516-3051 or visit lablaw.org/medicare to find out more and to get information.

Birthdays

- Happy Birthday**
- J.T. Fannin, Nov. 1.
 - Vickie Pennington, Nov. 2.
 - Chris Dickerson, Nov. 2.
 - Melany McClellan, Nov. 3.
 - Ethan Adkins, Nov. 4.
 - Darrell O'Hara, Nov. 4.
 - Darren Fannin, Nov. 5.
 - Clarissa Mullins, Nov. 5.
 - Rhonda Gillum, Nov. 6.
 - Sharma Darby, Nov. 6.
 - Shawna Wilson, Nov. 7.
 - Rhonda Reynolds, Nov. 7.

Birthdays

- Olive Blevins, Nov. 5.

Game ...

(Continued From Page One)

will also host a split-the-pot drawing at halftime of the Lions game, with 100% of the proceeds going straight to our basketball programs. Concessions available! Tickets for fan entry will be \$5- children 12 and under are free.

Elliott County is a strong basketball community, and your support is what makes it all possible. We hope to see plenty of former players, family, and fans for a fantastic evening of fun!

Sandy Hook Socials

Dwight and Shakori Needham made a trip to Riddleton, Tenn., last Tuesday. Shakori purchased a

Way Back When: Chunk Of Coal

By Jo Ann Butts

Way back when I was a little girl living on Middlefork way up Coal Branch holler in 1960, I was still 9 years old.

We probably had a very bad start to the year, nut no one told kids their problems back then. Or maybe they just didn't tell me. Whatever!

Daddy had been sick for sometime, and needed to go to the Veterans Hospital, way off somewhere in West Virginia.

My dad was an alcoholic with bad kidneys, bad liver and other serious ailments from drinking. Though sometimes he didn't drink for two years at a time.

I guess with him being so sick and having extra bills to pay after we got the tobacco all stripped and sold, there probably wasn't enough money left over to buy a ton of coal for the winter.

Mommy was due to have my baby sister in February, so he wanted to get her settled in with the new baby before going off to the hospital. So he suffered it out until after she was born.

Baby sister had a terrible first few days of life and almost died, but that's another story.

Daddy and Mommy must have been in really bad

Election ...

(Continued From Page One)

and Adam Weddington. (Non-partisan.)

- **Board Of Education, District #4** – Keith "Smiley" Mason and Brittany Riggs Kissinger. (Non-partisan.)
- **Sandy Hook City Council** – Kim Carroll, Andrea Wagoner, Tara Griffith, Diana Penix, Cindy Redwine and Joe Montgomery. (Non-partisan.)

State Offices

Contested races for state offices include the following:

- **State Representative, 99th District** – Richard Lee White (R) and Iva Markicevic Daley (D).

Federal Offices

Contested races for federal offices include the following:

- **United States Senator** – Andy Barr (R), Charles Booker (D) and Christopher Campbell (Kentucky Party).
- **United States Representative in Congress, 5th District** – Hal Rogers (R; incumbent), Ned Pillersdorf (D), Mikel Wein (I) and Gerardo Serrando (I).

State Constitutional Amendment

The following Kentucky Constitutional Amendment question is also on the ballot:

Court ...

(Continued From Page One)

locally for that purpose.

"I called the [Elliott County PVA] to see who actually owns the property in question," Lewis wrote in an Oct. 6 Facebook post. "I found out it is indeed owned by a company who states online that they are affiliated with data center development."

Gorge ...

(Continued From Page One)

to-serve food item, and/or volunteer to serve or deliver meals, contact us at LGCHC by November 5th.

The turning of another calendar page will also get us a bit closer to Christmas. We will be hosting our annual Christmas Craft Fair

1995 Granada Gibson banjo from Jim Britton of Ceres Banjo Works. They made friends with Jim and learned that his wife's family were Isons from Isonville, Ky. It's a small world!

Sharon Boggs reports that her aunt, Minnie Adkins, is struggling to regain her mobility after her recent illness. Sharon says she is

shape financially, because we had no money to start with.

So how could it get any worse? Well, I'd say it did.

But as a young girl of 9 and a half years old, I had no idea about stress. Life for us was to just do what we were told to do.

In my little mind, everything was the same. We ate good, and slept good. Life was good for us. But our parents never told us kids of the stress and grief they must have be going through at any time.

We heated with coal in the living room and bedroom. There was a big chimney with a hearth and grate on each side for warmth in the living room and the bedroom.

Daddy went to the VA hospital and was gone for a couple weeks, I think – or maybe more.

We were getting pretty low on coal, so Mommy sent my older brother and me with the sled, a pick, a shovel and homemade box we nailed on the sled to haul the coal back down to the house.

Our coal vein or seam, was way up on top of the steepest hill, named the Coal Bank hill. (We had names for a few others too, like the Graveyard Point.)

It was easy to dig once

...

Are you in favor of limiting a Governor's ability to grant pardons or commute sentences by prohibiting him or her from granting pardons or commuting sentences during the time period beginning 60 days prior to the general election at which the Governor is elected, and ending when the Governor is sworn in for that term by amending the Constitution of Kentucky as stated below?

It is proposed that Section 77 of the Constitution of Kentucky be amended to read as follows:

(1) The Governor shall have power to:

- (a) Remit fines and forfeitures; and*
- (b) Commute sentences and grant reprieves and pardons, except:*

- 1. In case of impeachment; or*
- 2. For the period beginning sixty days prior to the date of the gubernatorial election and ending the fifth Tuesday succeeding the election.*

(2) The Governor shall file with each application therefor a statement of the reasons for his or her decision thereon, which application and statement shall always be open to public inspection.

(3) In cases of treason,

Judge Lewis told The Elliott County News on Oct. 7 that the company is listed as Artemis Power Tech Inc., out of Newburgh, N.Y.

The Artemis Power Tech website (artemispowertech.com) states, "We bring data centers to life."

Elliott County News Editor Flo Whitley reported that an employee of the judge executive's office told her on Oct. 6 that the property purchased by Artemis

on Saturday, December 28 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Mark your calendars for the event. Local artisans and small business owners will have a variety of hand-crafted items, baked goods, seasonal items, and more. It will be the perfect opportunity to do some Christmas shopping and support local businesses.

One last event to mark on your calendar – the annual

working hard to get up and walk by herself. We extend prayers that she is walking unassisted soon.

Carol Phillips Lewis, of Isonville, fell last week and broke her hip. She was hospitalized for surgery. We pray that her surgery was successful and that she has a speedy recovery.

Friday guests of Dwight

we got up there. We had to pull and drag that sled up that hill, then keep it from running away coming back down.

It was hard to pull on level ground, but we did it. We pulled coal off that hill many trips. We'd get behind it sometimes so it didn't come down too fast, and then really pull if on flat ground.

What I remember most about the difficulty in hauling the many loads was that when we would be in front and pulling the sled, unknowing that it had a nail sticking out of the corner of the sled box. It slid into me, punching a hole with a sharp nail into the back of my leg.

Ouch, that really hurt – and bled. But it only got me once.

I still carry that scar on the back of my leg 6 inches up from my ankle. I didn't cry or quit and go to the house. That's not the days or the times I was raised up in. We did the job we were told to do and did it without complaining.

Though we had everything we needed, we just had to work harder for it.

That was just life, way back when.

Jo Ann Butts
606-738-9839

...

the Governor shall have power to grant reprieves until the end of the next session of the General Assembly, in which the power of pardoning shall be vested; but he or she shall have no power to remit the fees of the Clerk, Sheriff or Commonwealth's Attorney in penal or criminal cases.

...

Voters will select "YES" or "NO" to answer this question.

Voter ID Requirements

Voters are required to show photo ID at polling places, as per state law.

Acceptable forms of ID include the following:

- Kentucky driver's license.
- Kentucky state ID.
- U.S. Passport.
- Military ID.
- College ID from a Kentucky institution.
- Government-issued photo ID.

Social Security cards and SNAP/EBT/Food Assistance cards will not be accepted, however.

Additional Information

Polls will be open on Election Day, Tuesday, Nov. 3, from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Persons with questions regarding voting procedures, polling places and other election-related issues should contact County Clerk Jennifer Carter at 738-5421.

Power Tech is located near Little Sandy Correctional Complex.

Artemis Power Tech previously operated a Bitcoin mining data center in Wolfe County that shut down earlier this year.

Additional Information

For additional information regarding the data center moratorium resolution, contact the office of Judge Executive Myron Lewis at 738-5821.

nual Christmas concert by the Laurel Gorge Dulcimer Club will be on Saturday, December 5. The hour-long performance will begin at 1:00 p.m. and refreshments will follow. The event is free to the public. Everyone is welcome to come out and enjoy the sounds of the season.

Christy Lewis
LGCHC Director

and Flo Whitley were Rebecca Whitley Vanover, her son Charles Calton, Skylar Muse, and Allison Martin, all of Mason County. We all enjoyed food and visiting. Rebecca's son Damien, who had been visiting with his great-grandparents for hte week, returned home to Mayslick with his mom.