

•LIFE Continued from page two

rejecting a transplanted organ.

“Transplant patients usually don’t die because of the transplant,” Martin said. “It’s not from my liver, for example, but it will be a complication from something else, severe pneumonia, a bad stomach issue, complications from high blood pressure or cholesterol.”

“It’s not just a transplant, it’s not the end of it,” Martin said. “But after the first three years, the negative side effects start to gradually taper down.”

Medications, routine lab work, and checkups with specialists are still a part of Martin’s life to help ensure her body isn’t rejecting the organ and things are working as they should. She has encountered two minor rejections since 1998.

Martin returned to work around three months after her surgery and would ultimately decide to go on to college, a goal she had planned to accomplish before learning she would need a transplant.

“The things I thought about doing and thought I’d never get to do at the time, going to college would be one of them,” Martin said.

As a young teenager, Martin witnessed her brother’s health also decline, which ultimately led to him needing two kidney transplants himself. Through the years, the siblings would become a support system for one another at different times during their journeys.

Martin said that both she and her brother lost friends after becoming sick and having been put on an organ transplant list.

“If somebody is sick and they’re on a transplant list, please don’t talk to them like they’re different,” Martin said. “Just treat them like you always do.” Martin explained that oftentimes people are unsure how to react or how to handle what people with serious illnesses are facing.

For someone to receive a transplant and a new chance at life, someone else has to lose theirs. It is a complicated, heart-wrenching moment for those who have suffered a loss, but a blessing and gift to the recipients who accept a donor’s organ.

After someone receives a donor organ, the two sets of parties involved do not typically get to know one another. Martin said she sometimes thinks about the person who she received the liver she needed from.

“You wonder what happened to them,” Martin said, explaining that donor families and donor recipients are allowed to communicate via written letters that are filtered through the transplant coordinators to ensure no personal

information is shared. Martin said she didn’t receive correspondence back from her donor’s family.

Her gratitude for being alive today because of someone else dying is something she struggles to find the words to say.

“Thank you just doesn’t cut it, you know?” Martin said. “I would just like to talk to the family and learn more about my donor.”

“Was he/she not good at math? Did they write like this? Did they love strawberries and shrimp?” Martin asked.

Martin said after the transplant, she had sudden changes in her life. For example, she was great at math before the surgery, but not after. Her handwriting was different and she never liked strawberries and shrimp until after her transplant.

What Martin is referring to is called “cellular memories” where recipients experience sudden and very different traits, emotions, or even memories after receiving a donor organ. Medical studies are exploring these claims and some find there are plausible, scientific explanations in considering that cellular memory may be more than just a theory.

Considering organ donation can be an unsettling decision for many people. April is National Donate Life Month, a time set aside that many use to educate people while

honoring donors and their families who have chosen to give the gift of life beyond their own.

Martin encourages others to consider the lifesaving gift of organ donation.

“If you lose somebody in your family and they sign to be an organ donor, honor their wishes because they really don’t need them anymore,” Martin said, adding that sometimes people opt to forgo organ donation, because they may look different at their funeral. “It’s not going to affect the way they look at the funeral and I know you hate the thought of them being cut on, and I get that, but there’s so many people that’s going to live because of that.”

She also encourages anyone awaiting an organ transplant that if they learn they need a TIPPS procedure to be sure to carry through with it, because if you need a shunt by pass to keep blood flowing through, it is critical to ensure you aren’t faced with a sudden rupture or even death.

According to the Health Resources and Services Administration, over 103,000 individuals are on the national transplant waiting list, including children. Seventeen people die each day waiting for an organ transplant and every eight minutes another person is added to the waiting list. Kidneys are by far the most common need of donors on the waiting list with nearly 90,000 people in need, as of September 2024.

KDE’s Summer Boost Program



By Jennifer Ginn
Director of Communications

Thirty-four districts and 35 sites will be participating in the 2025 Summer Boost: Reading and Mathematics Program, a partnership between the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) Office of Teaching and Learning and the Summer Food Service Program.

The Summer Boost program promotes family engagement in reading and math by giving away free books and fun items – such as wristbands, bookmarks, and backpacks – intended to motivate continued learning throughout the summer months. Each awarded site will receive about 1,000 books to distribute at their meal sites.

Families interested in having their child participate should reach out to their local Summer Food Service Department for more information about meal service sites within their district.

Summer Boost coordinators will direct families to KDE’s Summer Support webpages, which also are available to all Kentucky families. The webpages offer information and resources to encourage students and families to make learning a part of their daily summer routines and to make summer count! Other resources available on the webpages include information for families and caregivers, and literacy, mathematics and gifted and talented resources.

Districts participating in the 2025 Summer Boost: Reading and Mathematics Program include Adair County, Augusta Independent, Barren County,

Carter County, Clark County, Covington Independent, Erlanger Elsmere, Fairview Independent, Fayette County, Frankfort Independent, Fulton County, Fulton Independent, Glasgow Independent, Greenup County, Hardin County, Jefferson County, Jessamine County, Johnson County, Lincoln County, Logan County, Ludlow Independent, Magoffin County, Martin County, Metcalfe County, Newport Independent, Nelson County, Oldham County, Owen County, Owsley County, Rockcastle County, Somerset Independent, Spencer County, Whitley County, and Williamstown Independent.

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**METCALFE COUNTY
PROPERTY ADMINISTRATOR**

Property assessment notices are being mailed to Metcalfe County property owners. This is a notice to inform owners of their current 2025 assessment, not a tax bill. The taxable value is shown at the top left side of the notice. Individuals who have had changes in property as-sessments should receive notice.

**INSPECTION PERIOD FOR
THE PROPERTY TAX ASSESSMENT ROLL**

The Metcalfe County real property tax roll will be open for inspection from May 5 through May 19. Under the supervision of the Property Valuation Administrator or one of the deputy-ties, any person may inspect the tax roll.

This is the January 1, 2025, assessment on which state, county and school taxes for 2025 will be due on or about October 1, 2025.

The tax roll is in the office of the property valuation administrator on the main floor of the county government building and may be inspected during the following hours:

Monday-Friday 8:00 A.M.-4:00 P.M.
Saturday 8:00 A.M.-10:00 A.M.

Any taxpayer desiring to appeal any assessment on real property made by the PVA must first request a conference with the PVA or a designated deputy. The conference may be held prior to or during the inspection period.

Any taxpayer still aggrieved by an assessment on real property after the conference with the PVA or designated deputy may appeal to the county board of assessment appeals.

The appeal must be filed with the County Clerk's office no later than one work day following the conclusion of the inspection period.

Any taxpayer failing to appeal to the county board assessment appeals, or failing to appear before the board, either in person or by designated representative, will not be eligible to appeal directly to the Kentucky Board of Tax Appeals.

Appeals of personal property assessment shall not be made to the county board of as-sessment appeals. Personal property taxpayers shall be served notice under the provision of KRS.132.450(4) and shall have the protest and appeal rights granted under provision KRS.131.110.

The following steps should be taken when a taxpayer does not agree with the assessed val-ue of personal property as determined by the Property Valuation Administrator.

(1) Taxpayer must list under protest (for certification) what they believe to be the fair cash value of their property.

(2) Taxpayer must file a written protest directly with the Department of Revenue, Office of Property Valuation within 30 days from the date of from the date of the notice of assessment.

(3) This protest must be in accordance with KRS.131.110.

(4) The final decision of the Department of Revenue may be appealed to the Kentucky Board of Tax Appeals.

/s/MICHAEL WELSH
METCALFE COUNTY PVA

05-01-25 **Super Crossword** TRIPLE-E PLAY

ACROSS

1 Degrade
6 Sandler of "Grown Ups"
10 Adverse fate
14 Birch's cousin
19 Bob of folk rock
20 It uses poses called asanas
21 "Waterloo" group
22 Wife of Gorbachev
23 Paper version of an online publication, informally
26 Cairo's home
27 1989 Series champs
28 Share the same view
30 Region of northern France
33 That man's
35 The "P"
36 Assessment of a worker's performance
42 Moon goddess
43 Dernier — (latest thing)
44 Patronage: Var.
45 Befuddled
49 Give rise to

50 Hearty brunch dishes
54 People with clout
55 That woman
56 NBC TV inits.
57 The "S" of RSVP
58 Pi follower
59 Port in Italia
62 Moore of the Brat Pack
65 San — (certain Californian)
67 Christmas carol whose titular flower symbolizes Mary
72 Hindu god incarnate
73 — bene
74 Brainpower
75 TV's Turner
76 Q followers
78 Curve part of S&P
80 Geller of psychic acts
81 Just out
84 Portrayer of Rainbow Johnson on "Black-ish"
89 Clan
91 Kett of comics
92 Bona fide
93 Lamb nurser

94 Israeli money
95 "Sixteen Tons" hitmaker of 1955
100 See 123-Across
102 Hi-fi discs
103 Sets off to the right of the margin
104 Fish also called "unagi"
109 Fury
110 Root in perfumery
111 R.E.M.'s debut single
117 Garlic mayonnaise
118 Old overlord
119 Pub projectile
120 Rapids craft
121 Jam-packed
122 "Don't look —!"
123 With 100-Across, sailor's greeting
124 Flee to marry

DOWN

1 Tack on
2 "Later!"
3 Styled like
4 Sob stories
5 Make a king
6 Sailor's positive reply
7 Performs
8 Era
9 Furious
10 Itinerary info
11 Big Apple
12 Wind quintet instrument
13 Lots of
14 Playground retoy
15 Like a shallow bay in an atoll
16 Handy sort
17 Some sports awards
18 Per-unit cost
24 Color again, as hair
25 Rae of "Insecure"
29 Start for glottis or Pen
30 Joe of "Home Alone"
31 "To clarify ..."
32 Grade just above average
33 Man, in Berlin
34 Wall-climbing plants
37 Level of rank
38 Actress
39 Fleece-lined boot brand

40 Insurance co. bailed out in 2008
41 General — chicken
46 1994 French Open winner Bruguera
47 Actor Hawke
48 "I feel — coming on!"
50 Thunder god
51 Makes lovable
52 Olympic skater Ito
53 "The Waste Land" poet
55 Scanty
59 "Fat chance!"
60 Enlightened
61 Kin of "equi."
63 Wifely title
64 Early PC operator, often coming on!
66 Gp. activated by a 911 call
67 Espresso with hot milk
68 Undisguised
69 Attacked
70 Sells online
71 Metallica drummer Ulrich
77 Beach bird
79 Inch along
81 Pentax rival
82 Roger of film review

83 Solders, e.g.
85 Tall marsh plants
86 Golf's Trevino
87 — Vegas
88 Is in the red
89 2017-19 HBO drama series
90 Doctor's pass-along to a specialist
94 Bum slightly
96 Itty-bitty
97 Science educator Bill
98 Greeting to 'Enry 'Iggins
99 Forty-five times two
100 Actress Dressler
101 Chef's wear
104 "The Grapes of Wrath" hero Tom
105 Mex. miss
106 Sunrise side
107 Dutch cheese
108 St. Pat's land
109 Prefix with space
112 Rx watchdog
113 Cheer word
114 Artist Yoko
115 Dad
116 Apt shoe width to wear when solving this puzzle?

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