

THE ELLIOTT COUNTY NEWS

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Uncommon Sense

By Dr. Glenn Mollette



Tariffs, the Goose, the Gander and the American Dream

Let's give the tariffs time to work. I'm as anxious as you are since everything I have is tied to the stock market. If the stock market dies, I will be working or starving the rest of my life. Let's hope things settle down soon. I believe they will and will grow even bigger.

The tariffs make sense. If China charges us a 25% tariff, then it's only fair that we charge them one. The same goes for Canada, Mexico, Vietnam and all the others. If they want to charge us 40% then it's only fair that we charge them the same. What is good for the goose is good for the gander.

Higher prices will come for a while. Car dealerships have seen a lot more people trying to make their deals before all the tariffs are tacked onto the prices.

People are worried about buying cheap stuff from China at Walmart or any other country. I honestly don't want stuff from China. If China never ships another thing here it wouldn't bother me. Sadly, everything I own today is, in some way, likely tied to a foreign country.

When I was a kid, I had a transistor radio made in Hong Kong. I thought it was funny to have such an item made from so far away. Throughout the years it became the norm. Cars, televisions, furniture, appliances and steel started coming from other places. Sadly, our American manufacturers were moving to Mexico, or any country on the planet where they could find slave labor. This turned into big profit for them because they shipped the goods cheaply back to the United States and made big profits. The problem was that those jobs were forever lost in America. The American workers had to go out and find jobs at Walmart and Starbucks mak-

ing \$10 an hour which today is more like \$15 to \$18. They had been used to making \$35 or \$40 an hour before their job moved out of America.

People are crying today about what might happen to the prices at Walmart. Unfortunately, that's all Americans can afford today is Walmart. Americans are so poor that we have to rely on Dollar General Store or Walmart.

Back in the fifties, sixties and even seventies people could go to one of the big cities in their state and find a good paying manufacturing job. There were lots of jobs. We made a lot of cars, televisions, radios, clothes, furniture, steel, lumber, and had coal mining and much more. These people made enough money to buy a house, buy two cars, buy food, raise their kids and have a real retirement after working 30 years. That was called the American dream.

Today the American dream is applying for disabled Social Security and then praying that you can afford to go to Walmart. Don't even think about buying a new car, a new house or taking a vacation because on today's income it is not going to happen.

Let's try to keep breathing and see how these tariffs play out. We need jobs to come back to America. We need our own companies to come home. We need to buy our own American steel and make things here once again. If other countries will come to America and build their products here and hire our people that will be a good thing. Just maybe, in a few years, once again, people in America will dream again.

Dr. Glenn Mollette is the author of Uncommon Sense. Available wherever books are sold.

Sandy Hook Socials

Joann Barker Creech is at home after a hip replacement following a fall last week. Her surgery went well and her doctor said she should be as good as new. She is doing well. Prayers for a speedy recovery and complete healing.

Connie Harbie had surgery on her left ankle last Thursday at Cabell Huntington hospital. The surgery included a bone graft, bone marrow and bone tissue transplant in hopes that it all heals and prevents amputation. Prayers for healing and compete recovery. Connie is at home, very sore but doing well.

Joyce Lewis says hello to her brothers, Claude and Carl

Winkleman in Trenton, Mich.

Beginning on Thursday last week, thunderstorms and rain came through our area bringing flash floods, power outages, flooded roadways and damage to our roadways. The flood damage in Elliott County was minimal, but many areas of Kentucky and other states were not so fortunate. Dwight Whitley and Flo Whitley and their neighbors suffered a 24-hour power outage before service was restored, only to go out a few hours later for about six hours and yet another time for four hours. They were thankful for their generator for backup power to get them through. The community is grateful to the workers from Grayson RECC for working long hours in adverse weather conditions to restore our power.

Board ...

(Continued From Page One)

- August 21st
- September 18th
- October 16th
- November 20th
- December 11th
- January 15th

All board meetings will be held at 6 p.m. in the Elliott County Board of Education Multipurpose Room. This notice shall comply wit KRS 61.840. Board members may participate through video teleconference.

Program ...

(Continued From Page One)

Ombudsman:
Amanda Hamilton
FIVCO Long Term Care
Ombudsman Program
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Ashland, KY 41101
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HAPPINESS
Happiness never decreases by being shared.

— Buddha

Gorge ...

(Continued From Page One)

Inside LGCHC, where it has been nice and dry, we have added some new collections in recent weeks. We have added a gallery wall featuring the dro-nography of Skylar Dickerson. Now on display are several of Skylar's beautiful local photographs on canvas. The photos are on display for visitors to enjoy but are also available for purchase. Skylar has also displayed some biographical information along with a QR code for accessing his website where more photos are available. Skylar captures beautiful images of the Laurel Gorge, Elliott County, and elsewhere throughout the state, and we are proud to display the work of this young man, a native of Elliott County.

Already on display in the Center were a half-dozen clay sculptures by Paul Cox which have been there for several years. In recent weeks, the collection has increased significantly. Barb Hale donated twenty-one pieces of Cox's art which she had been gifted during the time he was a resident at the Elliott Nursing & Rehab Center. When she and other care providers learned of his love for clay art and leather work, they provided supplies during his time at ENRC so he could continue making his beloved crafts. In return, Barb and probably others who cared for him were gifted with his creations, and now Barb's collection has been gifted to the Laurel Gorge Cultural Heritage Center for others to enjoy. Cows, pigs, horses, chickens, and dogs are among the clay figures in the remarkable collection Barb donated.

New to LGCHC is a growing collection of wood carvings by Leslie Stapleton. The Center had its first few pieces of Leslie Stapleton's wood carvings donated a few weeks ago. Barry and Diana Lewis donated five of Stapleton's bird carvings, which had originally belonged to Diana's sister and brother-in-law, Don and Lenora Meister. Then just a week or so later, Allen and Carolyn Gillum donated seven bird carvings from their collection. Each of Stapleton's bird carvings is very intricate and amazingly life-like.

We are grateful to Barb Hale, Barry and Diana Lewis, and Allen and Carolyn Gillum for donating these wonderful collections from local artisans to the Laurel Gorge Cultural Heritage Center. We want these pieces of art to be protected as they are on display for visitors to enjoy, so we hope to soon have some display cases with plexiglass fronts added to the museum

There is such a wide variety of artistic talent among folks in Elliott County. Artists, sculptors, carvers, photographers, quilters, musicians – the list goes on. We are honored to display the awesome handiwork of some of these remarkable folks and we are grateful to those who enable us to do so. We encourage you to come out for a visit to discover the remarkable talent on display at the Laurel Gorge Cultural Heritage Center.

Arrested ...

(Continued From Page One)

Class-C felonies punishable by five to ten years in prison. Demmon was lodged in the Rowan County Detention Center.

The Kentucky Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force is comprised of more than twenty-six local, state and federal law enforcement agencies.

The mission of the ICAC Task Force, created by the United States Department of Justice and administered by the Kentucky State Police, is to assist state and local law enforcement agencies in developing a response to cyber enticement and child sexual abuse material investigations.

This support encompasses forensic and investigative components, training and technical assistance, victim services, prevention and community education.

The ICAC program was developed in response to the increasing number of children and teenagers using the internet, the proliferation of child sexual abuse material and the heightened online activity of predators searching for unsupervised contact with underage victims.

Local Couple Continues Tradition Of Raising Wool Sheep

John Paul and Mary Rose Skaggs are third-generation owners of Skaggs Farms, where they proudly continue the tradition of raising wool sheep.

This tradition began in the spring of 1955 when Mary's father, Russell Plummer Rose, first started raising wool sheep on the Rose family farm in Elliott County.

This spring marks 70 years of the family's commitment to raising sheep. Mary and her sisters and brothers grew up surrounded by the dedication it took to care of the sheep.

Mary and John Paul were blessed to carry on the legacy of raising sheep when they started their own journey in 2005.

Over the past 20 years, they have poured their hearts into farming, embracing both the blessings and challenges of sheep and cattle farming. Their dedication and pride in their heritage are evident in every aspect of their farm operation, as they strive to honor the tradition that was started by Mary's father.

Thank You For Reading The Paper!!!



Pictured are Skaggs Farms owners John Paul and Mary Skaggs and their sheep.

Elliott Co. Tourism Update

By Judy Craig

Greetings on this fine day, Monday, April 7. Our hearts go out to all of you affected by this crazy weather. So much rain with nowhere to go, and the river keeps raising. But again, I'm very fortunate to live in an area that the weather goes all around us. I call it the Pineapple Express area.

Continue to be careful and stay weather wise for one more week as a steady rainfall is expected to begin. All of Eastern Kentucky is expected to receive at least one more inch of rain from this system and expect more flooding.

Upcoming Area Events

- April 12 – From 2 to 4 p.m. Annual Shoppes on the Hill Tea Party in Olive Hill.
- Possum Ridge Easter Egg-travaganza will be on April 19 starting at 1 p.m. There will be over 500 eggs to hunt and find, exciting prizes, family friendly

fun for all ages. Located in West Liberty. (On the Possum Ridge Ranch Facebook page, you will be able to see the cute cabins and tag along with Liz as she takes you on a scenic drive.)

Laurel Gorge Cultural Heritage Center was able to make more improvements to the trails there, and will now be open on Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. There is always something fun to see and do. Check out all their activities on Facebook.

Roll Over Ice Cream is hosting there doggy easter egg hunt This Saturday, April 12. Over 2,000 eggs are filled with treats. Find the Golden egg and win a PRIZE! Last year Moose won a cute lovie. All the fur babies are very well behaved. So, bring your babies out for a great time.

- Bridge Day will be May 10th from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. This event is hosted by the one and only Elliott County Tourism putting your dollars to work

just for you!

Thank you again to all who have taken the time to send the Elliott County Tourism Committee some love.

Let's keep turning "ME" into what "WE" can do for Elliott County. It's so easy to give 10 hours a month of your time to make a difference in your life and others. So many of us need volunteers to keep things running smoothly, so why not do something positive in your life and help others. If you need ideas reach out to Elliott County Tourism and we can point you in the right direction.

Additional Information

The Elliott County Tourism Committee meets the second Monday of the month at Laurel Gorge Heritage Center at 5 p.m. Let's keep turning "ME" into what can "WE" can do for Elliott County.

Follow us on Facebook or on our website at visitelliottcounty.com.

SBA opens Business Recovery Center in Ky. to assist those affected by Feb. storms

ATLANTA – The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) announced the opening of a Business Recovery Center (BRC) in Pike County to assist businesses, nonprofits and residents affected by the recent storms, straight-line winds, flooding, landslides, and mudslides.

SBA customer service representatives are now on hand at the BRC to answer questions about SBA's disaster loan program, explain the application process and help individuals complete their application. Walk-ins are accepted, but you can schedule an in-person appointment in advance at appointment.sba.gov.

The BRC's hours of operation is listed below.

Business Recovery Center (BRC), Pike County – Pike County Public Library, 126 Lee Avenue, Pikeville, KY 41501

Hours are Monday through Saturday, from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.; and Sunday, from 1 pm. to 7 p.m.

"SBA's Business Recovery Centers have consistently proven their value to business owners following a disaster," said Chris Stallings, associate administrator of the Office of Disaster Recovery and Resilience at the SBA.

"Business owners can visit these centers to meet face-to-face with specialists who will guide them through the disaster loan application process and

connect them with resources to support their recovery."

The SBA's Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) program is available to small businesses, small agricultural cooperatives and private nonprofit (PNP) organizations with financial losses directly related to the disaster. The SBA is unable to provide disaster loans to agricultural producers, farmers, or ranchers, except for small aquaculture enterprises.

EIDLs are available for working capital needs caused by the disaster and are available even if the business or PNP did not suffer any physical damage. The loans may be used to pay fixed debts, payroll, accounts

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The Elliott County Fiscal Court is requesting proposals from qualified consulting engineering firms for professional services related to the design, permitting, bidding support, and construction oversight of a small wastewater pump station project in Elliott County, Kentucky. The selected firm will be responsible for services including preliminary engineering studies, preparation of plans and specifications, assistance with permitting and regulatory compliance, coordination with relevant agencies, bidding and contractor selection support, construction management, and project close-out documentation. Interested firms should submit proposals that include information about the company's history, size, and relevant project experience, key personnel resumes and roles and references for similar projects. Proposals will be evaluated based on criteria such as relevant experience, qualifications of key personnel, and quality of references. Five hard copies of the proposal must be submitted to Myron Lewis, Elliott County Judge Executive, at 3390 N KY-7, Sandy Hook, KY 41171. Proposals must be received by 4/15/2025 by 4 P.M. Elliott County Fiscal Court reserves the right to reject any and all proposals, request additional information, and waive any informalities or irregularities in the proposal process. For questions regarding this request, please contact Myron Lewis, Elliott County Judge Executive, at 606-738-5335 or ejudge@mrtc.com.