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JOAN HOWELL of Flatwoods Stays informed by reading the latest issue of The Daily Independent

Former President Jimmy Carter dies at 100

President Jimmy Carter is interviewed in the Oval Office of the White House in Washington, Jan. 24, 1977.

ATLANTA (AP) Jimmy Carter, the peanut farmer who won the presidency in the wake of the Watergate scandal and Vietnam War, endured humbling defeat after one tumultuous term and then redefined life after the White House as a global humanitarian, has died. He was 100 years old.

The longest-lived American president died on Sunday, more than a year after entering hospice care, at his home in the small town of Plains, Georgia, where he and his wife, Rosalynn, who died at 96 in November 2023, spent most of their lives, The Carter Center said.

"Our founder, former U.S. President Jimmy Carter, passed away this afternoon in Plains, Georgia," the center said in posting about his death on the social media platform X. It added in a statement that he died peacefully, surrounded by his family.

Businessman, Navy officer, evangelist, politician, negotiator, author, woodworker, citizen of the world — Carter forged a path that still challenges political assumptions and stands out among the 45 men who reached the nation's highest office. The 39th president leveraged his ambition with a keen intellect, deep religious faith and prodigious work ethic, conducting diplomatic missions into his 90s and building houses for the poor well into his 90s.

"My faith demands — this is not optional — my faith

SEE CARTER | A6

Northern Kentuckian dies from rabies

BY SARAH LADD
KENTUCKY LANTERN

A Northern Kentuckian has died from rabies, the Kentucky Department for Public Health announced Friday.

It's unclear how the person contracted rabies, which is typically transmitted through the saliva of an infected animal.

"The person was treated both in Kentucky and Ohio, the department said, so both states are coordinating an investigation into the case with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Officials are also working to notify anyone who came in contact with the person, whose age and gender was not disclosed.

"This case is the first confirmed case of rabies infection in a human being in Kentucky since 1986, the public health department said.

"Rabies is a rare but serious disease caused by a virus that infects the brain," Dr. Steven Stack, Kentucky's public health commissioner, said in a statement. "Unfortunately, if left untreated, rabies is usually fatal. Immediate medical care after a suspected exposure to rabies is critical, as rabies treatment called post-exposure prophylaxis, or PEP, is nearly 100% effective at preventing rabies."

Symptoms of rabies include confusion, agitation and coma. Anyone who comes across a wild animal should avoid contact, the health department advised. Pets should also stay up to date on vaccinations for protection against rabies.

Anyone who thinks they have been exposed to rabies should call their health care provider immediately.

SCREENSHOT PHOTO
Dr. Steven Stack is Kentucky's public health commissioner.

Top 10 Feel-Good Stories of 2024

ZACH DANIELS | FOR THE DAILY INDEPENDENT
Fans laugh and smile as they take photos in front of the Rock The Country boots in April.

Honoring veterans, helping victims, coming together

BY AARON SNYDER
THE DAILY INDEPENDENT

In 1989, Motley Crue released the hit album, "Dr. Feelgood."

Thirty-five years later, *The Daily Independent* is releasing its Top 10 Feel-Good Stories of the Year.

Let's rock and roll . . .

10. Greysbranch gratitude

Students at Greysbranch Elementary colored pictures and penned letters of appreciation to veterans this past November.

"I think they learned more about compassion, respect and what it means to be a veteran," said Misty Tackett, the school's principal.

Through the project, students better understood why veterans are American heroes.

Many elderly veterans experience feelings of loneliness, but these messages brightened their day and made them aware that they are thought about and appreciated.

9. Heroes in blue

Mayor Troy Combs officially recognized Grayson police officers for heroic actions amid dangerous events in June.

On June 10, a suspect struck Timmy Jackson with a vehicle and nearly hit Christopher Newman during a traffic stop. Newman managed to open fire and the suspect was eventually apprehended. Both received medals in September.

Ten days after that incident, Wes Boggs and Joe Hammer exhibited "selflessness and a phenomenal effort" during an active shooting an barricade situation. They both also received medals for their actions.

SUBMIT TED PHOTO
Walter Dall received this note along with his ring.

8. Byron gets the buzz

Greenup County's valedictorian had a surprise in store at his graduation ceremony. After not having a haircut since seventh grade, the senior removed his cap and revealed short hair before giving his speech.

Nunley did so in memory of his mother, Rhonda, who died of breast cancer in 2013 at age 40.

Nunley donated his footlong ponytail to Locks of Love, a nonprofit that uses donated hair to make wigs for children who lost their hair due to cancer treatments.

Nunley received a buzz cut from Susan Stephenson of Main Street Cuts in South Shore.

He plans to grow it out again and will eventually be ready for a repeat donation, he said.

7. A special achievement

Desaltae Nickell, of Morehead, qualified for the 2025 Special Olympics in alpine skiing.

The 32-year-old said she has worked toward the goal over the last dozen years. She's played basketball, trained in martial arts and participated in pageants.

In high school, Nickell was diag.

SEE GOOD | A6

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