

Opinion —



So,
Anyway...

Congratulations

By Greg Wells, editor

The opinions of writers on this page are not necessarily those of the newspaper, or management. We encourage our readers to share their views for publication.

By Greg Wells
CCN – Editor

So, there are a lot of congratulations to be handed out to all of you. The storm last week was a harrowing experience for many in our community and proof of the dedication among community members to the welfare of the entire community.

There was ample proof that community volunteers are willing to step up and help those in need. There was also repeated proof that those who are paid to provide services do much more than what they're paid for.

There are some that say the trials of life are punishments for some infraction in life or in thought. There are some that say the trials we face are necessary for each of us to grow.

I think that perhaps last week's trial by ice and cold was an opportunity for proving who

we are.

From the Red Cross volunteers manning the shelter, to the fire-fighters rescue squad members and other volunteers who were out cutting away the trees and limbs that blocked our roads and pulled down our power lines; to the road crews scraping the streets and spreading the salt, to the members of law enforcement and the ambulance service who braved treacherous roads to check on those homebound by the storm; not to mention the long-suffering utility workers who braved the weather and the dangers of high-voltage electricity restoring power across the area: you have once again earned all of our heartfelt thanks and proven your dedication to your county and all who live within it.

All of your friends and neighbors who worked to keep all of us safe deserve your thanks and

appreciation.

There is one group deserving everyone's appreciation, though it may escape everyone's attention.

All of you who looked at the weather forecast and decided to stock up, to prepare and to not just get ready for the coming storm but also to stay off the roads.

So much death, injury, or just property loss was avoided when people stayed at home. I, for one, thank all of you who didn't just go out joyriding and sightseeing in the ice and snow.

Your restraint likely saved lives, maybe even your own. The cold continues, and we must remain attentive to those who may need help because of it. But we have passed this first challenge of the new year, and hopefully, that is a good sign of things to come.

Melton,

— Continued from Page One

He has served more than 10 years with the Marrowbone Volunteer Fire Department, working alongside Cumberland County's first responders to serve the community whenever called upon.

In addition to his service work, Melton spent 12 years working at — and later owning and operating — Highway 90 Tire Shop. He says those years taught him the value of responsibility,

accountability, and treating people fairly.

"This county isn't just where I work — it's home," Melton said. "I believe in hard work, accountability, and taking care of our community. As jailer, I will ensure every person is treated fairly and equally."

Melton says he has enjoyed visiting with residents across the county and looks forward to meeting many more voters in

the weeks ahead. He notes that voters may see him and his sons out visiting neighborhoods soon.

Residents with questions or concerns may contact Melton at 270-459-3280.

The Cumberland County primary election will be held in May.

Vote Chad Melton for Cumberland County Jailer.

Leveridge,

— Continued from Page One

wife, Harley, now reside in the same community, where they are raising their two sons, Jase and Jarrett.

Leveridge is a 2013 graduate of Cumberland County High School and earned a bachelor's degree in criminal

justice from Lindsey Wilson College in 2017. For nearly the past decade, he has worked locally with C&C Land Surveying, gaining hands-on experience related to property and land valuation across the county.

Leveridge said his decision to run is rooted in a strong commitment to serving the community he has always called home. He and his family are asking for the support and votes of Cumberland County residents in the May Primary.

Widespread Power Outages
Impact Multiple South-Central Kentucky Counties

Staff Report

The danger has passed now, but thousands of homes and businesses across south-central Kentucky were without electricity early Jan. 23, as utility crews continued restoration efforts following severe winter weather.

Crews worked overtime through bone-chilling cold and dangerous precipitation throughout the week to put back what the storm had taken.

As of 7:30a.m. that Monday, Allen County reported the most significant impact, with 7,662 customers without power, representing 64.36% of the county's 11,905 tracked electric customers. Allen County currently has the highest number of outages of any county

in Kentucky, as well as the highest percentage of customers affected statewide. Tri-County Electric Membership Corporation reported all 7,662 outages in the county, accounting for 66.15% of its customers there.

In Metcalfe County, 1,503 homes and businesses were without power, or 25% of the county's 6,012 tracked customers. Tri-County Electric reported 940 outages, representing 44.11% of its customer base in the county.

Cumberland County reported 1,470 customers without electricity, impacting 29.2% of its 5,034 tracked customers. All reported outages in Cumberland County were attributed to Tri-County Electric Membership

Corporation, which had 29.35% of its customers without service that morning.

In Barren County, 2,524 customers were without power, representing 15.73% of the county's 16,047 tracked customers. Farmers Rural Electric Cooperative Corporation (RECC) reported the largest number of outages in the county, accounting for all 2,524 customers without service, or 17.83% of its customer base.

Utility providers continued working to restore service as weather conditions allowed through the week. What a difference a week made, as all of Tri-County's Kentucky customers have their power back.

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Super Crossword

FILLED FOOD

ACROSS											
1	"Thank U, Next" singer Grande	48	Chilly tourist lodge	91	Feels ill	3	Way to mark losses	44	Wine valley of California	88	Fail to
7	Yachts, e.g.	53	New Mexico art mecca	92	Hip-hop band	4	Fourth mo.	45	Brief audio file	90	Agile
12	Keto dieter's nutrient calculation	54	Old New York theater	94	Thaw after winter	5	TV ratings name	46	All the rage	91	City in Iowa
20	Right-rear bowling target	55	Whirled	97	Writer Wilde	6	Chlumsky of "Veep"	47	Midterm, e.g.	93	Half of bi-
21	Like Viking script	58	To a greater extent	100	"Fancy that!"	7	Musical Mars	48	"500" race	94	Sink down
22	Call to have food delivered	59	Phased-out cartoon	101	Pilot's heading indicator	8	"— Gang"	49	Mine vehicle	95	Hired
23	Chief justice before William Rehnquist	60	Greek cheese	108	Newton who was knighted	9	Filmmaker Lee	50	Prevaricates	Japanese hostesses	
25	Runaway	61	Easels, e.g.	112	Met solo	10	— del Fuego	51	Genesis twin	97	Yoko of "Two Virgins"
26	Fruity drink	63	Susa's ancient land	113	Fishing rod	11	TV part	52	Bausch & —	98	Taco toppers
27	Reclined	64	Take care of	114	\$5 bills, slangily	12	Center points	55	Cheap cigars	99	Split with an ax, say
28	Actress Russo	66	Bikers' association	116	H.S. lab class	13	Previous to	56	St. Patrick's Day event	101	Actor Matt
30	Chaplin of "Game of Thrones"	70	Tunes for two	117	"The Velvet Fog"	14	NFL goals	57	"I give up!"	102	Actress Ryan
31	Makeovers	72	Permissible	121	Its menu might include the ends of seven answers in this puzzle	15	OK grade	60	Absconded	103	Small brooks
33	Application to improve blood flow	73	Tiny bits	125	Web pop-up, e.g.	16	Bow go-with	61	— Artois	104	Absorb the loss, in slang
39	Stew legume	74	Curveball that breaks over the plate at the very last second	126	Be of help to	17	Turbine part	62	— -fi flick	105	Opinion pieces
41	Glazer of "Broad City"	78	Wine vessel	127	King of pop	18	— Vista, Mexico	65	— it out (fighting)	106	Lou who won three Grammys
42	Gold, in Italy	81	Wrinkly tangelo	128	Salted-away sums of money	19	Purse piece	67	Mary-Kate of "Beastly"	107	Japanese sash
43	Person not getting deserved acclaim	82	"Joan of Arc" actress	129	Mails in, e.g.	24	Pen brand	68	Latching, e.g.	109	Hate
		83	Acorn trees	130	Isis' brother	29	U.S. intel org.	69	LGA info	110	Garlic mayo
		85	Grassy tract			32	Musical work	71	Fa-la linkup	111	Makes do
		86	Wrecked			34	Like swamps	74	Aaron in "Hamilton"	115	Danish shoe brand
		89	Santa — (some winds)			35	Gp. in the Arab League	76	Get in return	118	Undivided
		90	Agra dress			36	Quadrennial games org.	77	Mimic a lion	119	Rule, informally
						37	City near Provo	79	Descended	120	Zine
						38	NYC area near the Village	80	Toward dawn	122	Delhi bread
						40	Go along with	84	Actress Nicole — Parker	123	Carried out
						43	37-Down's state	87	Funny Idle	124	— Lanka

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Answers on Page 8

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