

Turtles in the garden

Zach Williams’s “Wait For Me” _had been playing in my head. It was no coincidence that I had also been pondering what to do, and which way to turn next.

I had tried to ‘cast my cares’, over and over again, but I just couldn’t let them go. So I ventured to my front porch, to quietly and privately meet with my Lord.

The written devotions that I studied there were good, as always. But, to me, they weren’t speaking into the situation I was experiencing. I decided to listen to the song that had lodged in my head. I played it.

Love the song, but I couldn’t make the connection. The lyrics support the premise that God waits for us. God is the “You” in the chorus.

God waiting for me, didn’t seem to fit. I was waiting for Him.

I looked up to see a turtle with a slow, steady gait heading my way.

I hadn’t seen one at my home for years. Of course I was delighted to feed it. Tomatoes and a grape. He ate, without any signs of unease.

He even stuck his neck out and turned his face to me, as if I might have something to say.

In years gone by, another turtle would come stumbling and bumbling to visit with me.

That yellow boxy one knew when and where to find me, yet he approached in stops and starts. He was easily vexed, so he often withdrew into his shell.

He seemed to be more comfortable curled up in the dark, than breathing in the blessedness of light.

I would tantalize him with gifts of fresh fallen flowers, and morsels of fruit from my fridge. I had to wait for him to open up.

He had already tasted my wares numerous times so he knew that I was good.

“Listen carefully to Me, and eat _what is_ good, and let your soul delight in the richness.” (Is. 55:2)

But he held tightly to his earthly nature—just in case. Who knew turtles could be so sheepish?

That experience inspired me to write a column centered on these words:

“So the LORD must wait for you to come to Him so He can show you His love and compassion. For the LORD is a faithful God. Blessed are those who wait

for His help.” (Is. 30:18)

But I was still searching for answers for myself. I couldn’t figure it out. Then, on my way to town, very close to my house, I slowed my roll to a stop. I had to allow a turtle to cross.

Did I mention I’m slow?

Ernie Tucker didn’t once call me turtle-foot for nought!

I thought I was waiting for God. But He was waiting for me.

He had already made provisions. I had already tasted them, and I knew that He was good!

He was before me. He was ahead of me, bidding me to come up hither.

He knew all about my stone of contention. He wasn’t telling me not to do anything, which would mean that nothing would change.

He was telling me to get over it; to put it behind me.

He was telling me to move on!

He took my burden off of my shoulders. He called me out of that stifling place, and into His glorious light. For He is my sun and my shield. Not I!

“For the LORD God _is_ a sun and shield; The LORD will give grace and glory; No good _thing_ will He withhold From those who walk uprightly.” (Ps 84:11)

“For you will not leave in a hurry nor flee in haste, for the LORD goes before you, and the God of Israel is your rear guard.” (Is. 52:12).

Stacy Keelin can be reached at sheplantedavineyard@gmail.com

PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE INVITATION TO BID - SURPLUS VEHICLE

The Boyd County Board of Education is officially accepting sealed bids for the sale of a 2010 Ford Explorer. The vehicle has 170,000+ miles and will be sold strictly in as-is condition.

Submission Details: Bidders must submit their offers in a sealed, clearly marked envelope. Bids must be received no later than 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, October 6, 2026, at the Boyd County Board of Education central office:

- **Address:** 1104 Bob McCullough Dr, Ashland, KY 41102
- **Inquiries & Viewings:** To schedule an inspection or to request additional information, please contact **Bob Higginbotham at 606-928-7126.**

The Boyd County Board of Education reserves the right to reject any or all bids, waive formalities, or accept the bid deemed most advantageous to the District.

Published: September 19 & 26, 2026

LEGAL NOTICE BOYD COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY MARKETING, COMMUNICATION, AND PUBLIC RELATIONS SERVICES BID #2026-001

Boyd County Public Library is accepting bids for comprehensive marketing, communications, and public relations services. Bid packages with minimum specifications are available to download from the library’s website:

WWW.THEBOOKPLACE.ORG
(thebookplace.org/requests-for-proposals)

Or via mail from:
BOYD COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY
1740 CENTRAL AVENUE
ASHLAND, KY 41101
PHONE – **606-329-0518, x1110**

Bids will be accepted until 2:00 PM LOCAL TIME EST on Tuesday, October 20, 2026. All bids must be received prior to that time and at the above location.

Boyd County Public Library reserves the right to reject any and all bids, waive irregularities and accept the bid which, in its opinion, best serves the needs of The Library. Boyd County Public Library is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Published: September 26, 2026

BOYD CIRCUIT COURT CIVIL ACTION NO. 25-CI-00551

CITIMORTGAGE, INC.,

PLAINTIFF,

vs. **ADVERTISEMENT**

UNKNOWN HEIRS, DEVISEES, LEGATEES, BENEFICIARIES OF LYDIA KINNEY, and THEIR UNKNOWN CREDITORS; UNKNOWN EXECUTOR, ADMINISTRATOR, OR PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR THE ESTATE OF LYDIA KINNEY; MELISSA RUTT, AS POSSIBLE HEIR TO THE ESTATE OF LYDIA KINNEY; EQUABLE ASCENT FINANCIAL LLC, DEFENDANTS.

Pursuant to Order to Reschedule Sale entered on September 18, 2026, I shall sell the property described herein below at public auction in the lobby inside the front door of the old Boyd County Courthouse, Catlettsburg, Kentucky, on **Friday, October 16, 2026, at 11:20 a.m.**, to highest bidder on the following terms:

Full purchase price will be due at time of sale, payable by personal, business or official check. We do not accept cash. **IF the Master Commissioner has pre-approved the surety and collateral for a bidder’s bond**, a down payment of ten-percent (10%) of the purchase price will be due at time of sale, and the unpaid balance with interest at the rate of **5.75% per annum** will be due within thirty (30) days from the date of sale.

Address/Short Description of Property: 3200 South 29th Street, Ashland. (For Legal Description, see LSOT: Deed Book 662, Page 423, Boyd County Clerk’s Office)

Map/Parcel ID Numbers: 031-03-12-012.00

NOTE - Only delinquent ad valorem taxes shall be paid from the sale proceeds. The Purchaser shall be responsible for payment of the taxes for the current year and thereafter.

/s/ Kenneth Williams Jr.
KENNETH WILLIAMS, JR.
BOYD CIRCUIT COURT
MASTER COMMISSIONER

Please visit our website:
www.boydcountykymastercommissioner.com
Published: September 26 & October 8, 2026

BOYD CO. LIONS

ASHLAND TOMCATS

GET YOUR GAME TICKETS



GET YOUR ASHLAND TOMCATS OR BOYD COUNTY LIONS FOOTBALL TICKETS WITH YOUR LIBRARY CARD!

Tickets are now available at the Ashland and Midland Branches of Boyd County Public Library!

First Come, First Serve!

Don't miss out on football this season!
Stop by either of these branches today to secure your tickets.



thebookplace.org
(606) 329-0090

PUBLIC NOTICES

RUSSELL INDEPENDENT BOARD OF EDUCATION GENERAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026-2027

REVENUE	
Beginning Balance	\$5,987,791
Local Revenue	\$10,033,850
State Revenue	\$19,335,114
Federal Revenue	\$2,180,212
Total Revenue (net of transfers)	\$37,536,967

EXPENDITURES	
Instruction	\$16,503,238
Student Support Services	\$1,298,603
Instructional Staff Support Services	\$3,035,773
District Admin Support	\$1,226,070
School Admin Support	\$1,782,512
Business Support Services	\$475,005
Plant Operations & Maintenance	\$3,250,378
Student Transportation	\$967,184
Food Services Operations	\$1,851,727
Community Services	\$139,798
Debt Service	\$1,892,961
Day Care	\$45,000
Contingency	\$5,168,718
Total Revenue (net of transfers)	\$37,636,967

Published: September 26, 2026

BOYD CIRCUIT COURT CIVIL ACTION NO. 26-CI-00022

MEMBERS CHOICE CREDIT UNION,

PLAINTIFF,

vs. **ADVERTISEMENT**

CAROL S. JOHNSON; UNKNOWN SPOUSE, IF ANY, OF CAROL S. JOHNSON; KAR TAX LIEN PORTFOLIO, LLC; CITY OF ASHLAND, KENTUCKY and COUNTY OF BOYD, KENTUCKY, DEFENDANTS.

Pursuant to Judgment and Order of Sale entered on August 28, 2026, I shall sell the property described herein below at public auction in the lobby inside the front door of the old Boyd County Courthouse, Catlettsburg, Kentucky, on **Friday, October 16, 2026, at 11:10 a.m.**, to highest bidder on the following terms:

Full purchase price will be due at time of sale, payable by personal, business or official check. We do not accept cash. **IF the Master Commissioner has pre-approved the surety and collateral for a bidder’s bond**, a down payment of ten-percent (10%) of the purchase price will be due at time of sale, and the unpaid balance with interest at the rate of **3.750% per annum** will be due within thirty (30) days from the date of sale.

Address/Short Description of Property: 4191 Skyline Drive, Ashland. (For Legal Description, see LSOT: Deed Book 826, Page 616, Boyd County Clerk’s Office)

Map/Parcel ID Numbers: 031-02-00-098.00

NOTE - Only delinquent ad valorem taxes shall be paid from the sale proceeds. The Purchaser shall be responsible for payment of the taxes for the current year and thereafter.

/s/ Kenneth Williams Jr.
KENNETH WILLIAMS, JR.
BOYD CIRCUIT COURT
MASTER COMMISSIONER

Please visit our website:
www.boydcountykymastercommissioner.com
Published: September 26 & October 8, 2026

BOYD CIRCUIT COURT CIVIL ACTION NO. 26-CI-00074

MEMBERS CHOICE CREDIT UNION,

PLAINTIFF,

vs. **ADVERTISEMENT**

CHRISTINA L. EDEN; UNKNOWN SPOUSE, IF ANY, OF CHRISTINA L. EDEN; SECURITY CREDIT SERVICES, LLC; CITY OF ASHLAND, KENTUCKY and COUNTY OF BOYD, KENTUCKY, DEFENDANTS.

Pursuant to Judgment and Order of Sale entered on August 28, 2026, I shall sell the property described herein below at public auction in the lobby inside the front door of the old Boyd County Courthouse, Catlettsburg, Kentucky, on **Friday, October 16, 2026, at 11:05 a.m.**, to highest bidder on the following terms:

Full purchase price will be due at time of sale, payable by personal, business or official check. We do not accept cash. **IF the Master Commissioner has pre-approved the surety and collateral for a bidder’s bond**, a down payment of ten-percent (10%) of the purchase price will be due at time of sale, and the unpaid balance with interest at the rate of **5.750% per annum** will be due within thirty (30) days from the date of sale.

Address/Short Description of Property: 1500 Chestnut Street, Ashland. (For Legal Description, see LSOT: Deed Book 829, Page 717, Boyd County Clerk’s Office)

Map/Parcel ID Numbers: 031-14-01-010.00

NOTE - Only delinquent ad valorem taxes shall be paid from the sale proceeds. The Purchaser shall be responsible for payment of the taxes for the current year and thereafter.

/s/ Kenneth Williams Jr.
KENNETH WILLIAMS, JR.
BOYD CIRCUIT COURT
MASTER COMMISSIONER

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NEKY

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That connection also extends to the broader small-business community, Yarman said. She and Burchett were especially proud to see other Northeast Kentucky businesses recognized during the SBDC awards ceremony.

“One of our favorite parts of the awards ceremony was looking around and seeing so many familiar faces and so many Olive Hill and Northeast Kentucky businesses being recognized,” Yarman said. “There are some incredible people investing their time, money, and energy into making our communities better, and we are proud to be among them.”

The sisters chose to establish Carter Healthcare in the region because they believe local residents should have access to quality healthcare and expanded services without having to routinely travel long distances.

“We hope this award reflects the relationships we’ve built with our patients, the team we’ve built around us, and our commitment to this community,” she added. “And hopefully, years from now, no matter how much Carter Healthcare grows, people will still walk through our doors and feel the same thing: these people care about me.”

Burchett said that gratitude was ultimately at the heart of receiving the recognition.

“Our community has supported us, trusted us with their families, encouraged us, and allowed us to grow,” Burchett said. “We don’t take that for granted and we thank God for the opportunity to serve Him where we grew up.”

JUMBLE

Answer:

STYLUS UPTOWN BEHOLD
DEBTOR PURIFY COSMOS

The new orbiting comedy club
featured comedians who were —

OUT OF THIS
WORLD

ANSWER TO TODAY’S PUZZLE

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