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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2007

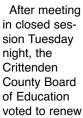
75 CENTS An Independent Newspaper Since 1879 VOLUME 127, NUMBER 32 - 20 PAGES

WE STAND.

Former player, coach recognized for hoops accomplishments

Former teammates, coaches and friends of the late coach Louis Litchfield and 1970s Lady Rocket basketball star Jeanne Hinchee are invited to join ceremonies for their induction to the Marion-Crittenden County Basketball Hall of Fame Friday night (see page 8B for details). A hospitality area will be available in the gymnasium conference room for everyone to visit with Hinchee and the Litchfield family.

Belt gets 2-year contract extension



Superintendent John Belt's contract for two years. Belt will have completed his first two years as the

head administrator in the district when the new contract begins July 1.

Courthouse open President's Day

Most of the offices in the Crittenden County Courthouse, including the clerks offices, will be open Monday on President's Day.

Free food Friday

Strep throat, influenza create record sickness

STAFF REPORT

Flu and strep are wreaking havoc on Crittenden Countians and creating record-setting numbers at local clinics.

Patients are flocking to the doctor's office seeking relief from a myriad of symptoms this winter.

Dr. Gary James recently saw 140 patients in a single day at Family Practice Clinic. Among the normal colds and viruses, the doctor confirmed multiple cases of influenza and strep throat.

"We've had an epidemic of flu and strep for nearly three months," Dr. James said.

In January, Family Practice Clinic saw more patients than it had in any single month since it opened in 1980.

Schools have been closed for a few days this year due to widespread ill-

Dr. James said it's mostly children he is seeing with strep and flu.

The bacteria that causes strep throat is generally found in the nose and throat, so normal activities like

coughing or shaking hands can easily spread the infection from one person to another.

Practicing good hygiene can lessen one's chance to getting a contagious disease like strep. Washing hands often and under hot water for more than 15 seconds is a good preventative measure.

With waiting rooms full, Family Practice has started moving patients with flu and strep symptoms straight to the laboratory where their illness can be confirmed after a nasal or throat swab.

Phyllis Campbell, lab supervisor at the clinic, said having those diagnostic procedures done prior to seeing the doctor saves time.

"Otherwise you see the doctor and he sends you to the lab then you go back to the doctor," she said. "This just cuts down on some of that.'

One day alone, Campbell said the lab ran more than 100 tests for flu and strep.

"It's been like that since the first week of January," she said.

Dr. James said he has been discussing with area school officials the possibility of starting an immunization program for students.

"Out of all of the patients I have

COMMON POINTERS...

STREP SYMPTOMS

- Red and white patches in the throat
- Difficulty swallowing
- Tender or swollen glands in neck Red and enlarged tonsils
- Headache
- Lower stomach pain
- Fever
- Loss of appetite and nausea

FLU SYMPTOMS

- Fever
- Headache
- Tiredness
- Dry cough
- Sore throat
- Stuffy, congested nose Muscle aches and stiffness

seen with the flu, only one of them had had a flu shot," he said. "So the immunization must be working pretty well."

About 10 days of antibiotics is the normal routine for fighting strep throat. If you get the flu, expect a prescription of the antiviral drug Tamiflu or something similar.

Teacher **Testing** In a series of satellite health clinics offered in Marion and Salem, Livingston Hospital's Home Health Agency made a stop at Crittenden County High School last Thursday. Between classes, teachers like Don Trent (center) had his blood pres-

Policy change

Schools respond to lice problem

STAFF REPORT

As a result of a persistent outbreak of lice at Crittenden County Elementary School, the board of education is temporarily reverting to a No Nit Policy on lice. Until recently, students with nits, or lice eggs, were allowed to stay in school, and only those with active bugs were sent home. Because students are continually being affected and new identified. cases Superintendent John Belt said he is recommending the return of the school system's No Nit Policy through the end of the school year. The problem is concentrated to Crittenden Elementary, Belt said. Because of their age, students are more likely to have close contact or share items such as headphones. Additionally, because of the physical layout of each classroom, children's coats touch on wall-mounted hooks therefore propagating the spread of the pests. "The problem is really in all grades," said Principal Melissa Tabor. "Between August and December we had 57 absences as a result of head lice." Belt has asked the school to keep records from now through the end of school to see whether the problem subsides with a return of the No Nit Policy. Acting on a recommendation from a national health organization, Crittenden and other boards of education did away with the No Nit Policy. The rationale was that eggs, or nits, could not pass from one child to another and pose no health threat. Now, however, the local board is re-examining its position since so many students have contracted the pesky bugs which are normally smaller than fleas and attach to hair, typically at the root or back of the neck. If nits are found through classroom checks, Belt has recommended that children be sent home for two days, with absences excused, while parents remedy the situation. Letters are also being sent home with children in each class where lice is found. Belt said siblings in the middle and high school will also be checked. Tabor said she will use discretion and ask teachers to



DR. JAMES sneezing,

Free food will be available for Crittenden County residents only from 12:30 p.m., until 2 p.m., Friday at the PACS Senior Citizens Center on North Walker Street across from Fohs Hall. Free venison donated by the Crittenden County Hunters for the Hungry is also available.

School out Monday

There will be no classes Monday in observance of President's Day.

Rushing suffers heart attack

County deputy and school resource officer Greg Rushing suffered a mild heart attack Monday, according to the Crittenden County Sheriff's Department. Rushing was hospitalized and no further details were available.

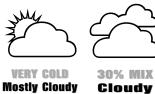
LOCAL MEETINGS

MONDAY MORNING

Crittenden Fiscal Court will meet at 9 a.m., Monday at the courthouse.

MONDAY NIGHT

Marion City Council will meet at 6 p.m., Monday at Marion City Hall.



28/11	GIOUA 35/24
THURSDAY	FRIDAY
THURSDAY	FRIDA

Rain gauge

Last 7 days .1.28" Last 30 days ..3.33"

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sure, heart rate and oxygen saturation level taken by LHHS staff Diana Wallace (foreground) and Diane Jones.

See LICE/page 3A

Trooper breaks ankle after chasing down suspect wanted in 2 counties

chased him down and the two began to Kentucky State Trooper Donald

scuffle. Hopkins tried to take the trooper's

gun, according to state police reports. Trooper Crawford used pepper spray along with other techniques to subdue the suspect and take him into custody before backup officers had responded to the scene.

Barry Meadows, spokesman for the state police, said Crawford broke a bone in his ankle during the altercation. He was treated and released from Western Baptist Hospital.

Hopkins was also injured, but refused treatment. He was lodged in the McCracken County Jail.

Hopkins was charged with thirddegree assault, possession of marijuana, first-degree fleeing and evading (on foot), resisting arrest, attempted dis-



Suspect

Hopkins

Trooper Crawford

arming of a police officer and giving police a false name. He was also served 16 additional local warrants, including several from Crittenden and Lyon counties.



The Livingston Hospital & Healthcare Systems, Inc. has announced the appointment of Michael J. "Mike" Budnick as its new CEO and hospital administrator.

STAFF REPORT

Christmas.

Crawford of Salem was injured last

week while making an arrest of a man

just before 8 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 7

at the Crittenden-Livingston line near

Salem. A passenger in the vehicle was

Stanley Wade Hopkins, 34, of Jackson

School Road in Crittenden County.

Hopkins was wanted in Crittenden

County for eluding police and game

wardens in a high-speed chase before

Hopkins was a fugitive from justice

and while he was attempting to deter-

mine the passenger's identity, Hopkins

jumped out the vehicle and attempted

to flee the scene on foot. Crawford

Trooper Crawford suspected that

Trooper Crawford stopped a vehicle

wanted in Crittenden County.

Budnick, who has served as interim administrator at LHHS since December of last year, succeeds Yvonne Maddux, who announced her retirement before the end of last year.

was an employee of LHHS for 29 years, serving the past six years as the hospital administra-BUDNICK tor.

"We are

grateful for the many achievements and years of

appreciate her for a com-

announce Mike Budnick as our new Administrator," added. "Mr. Budnick comes to LHHS highly recommended, well

qualified and well experienced for the challenges we have placed before him."

In the short time he has served as interim CEO, his expertise, influence, and knowledge of the business has made quite an impact on the operations of the hospital for the good, O'Bryan said.

See CEO/page 3A

service Yvonne gave to the business of Livingston Hospital," Randell O'Bryan, LHHS Board Chairman said. "We thank her and

mendable performance." "We're very pleased to O'Bryan



Kentucky No. 2 in disabled persons

Federal figures show that Kentucky has the nation's secondhighest percentage of people with disabilities, behind only West Virginia. The U.S. Census shows nearly one of four Kentuckians has a physical, mental, sensory or self-care disability. And a 2005 survey for the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention found that disabilities limit the activities of almost 23 percent of adult residents. A major factor driving up those numbers, experts said, is the overall poor health of Kentuckians. State officials said they are trying to improve health with initiatives such as Get Healthy Kentucky, which Gov. Ernie Fletcher highlighted recently at forums stressing exercise, eating right and avoiding tobacco. Government officials, who expect the number of disabled to rise as the population ages, said they are also trying to better serve those residents.

Carhartt building getting new occupant

A Sebree industrial building will soon house a new manufacturing company, the Providence Journal-Enterprise has reported. The former Carhartt Midwest building was deeded to the city after Carhartt closed its operation there last year. Now, Pioneer Plastics of Dixon wants to lease the building. Ed Knapp, president and owner of Pioneer Plastics, told the Providence newspaper that his company needs the building to house toolboxes it is currently making for a third party. He said in addition to using the building for storage, Pioneer Plastics will also house a decorating operation in the former Carhartt building. The toolbox manufacturing will mean 50 to 60 new jobs in Dixon, and the decorating operation at Sebree will start with two to three jobs and could grow.

Governor's reps coming to Marion soon

Eddie Spraggs and Virginia Gray, representatives of Gov. Ernie Fletcher, will visit several communities in western Kentucky soon to address questions and concerns from constituents. They will be in Marion at the Crittenden County Courthouse at 10:30 a.m., Feb. 28.

Ed-Tech Center offers EMT certification

Marion Ed-Tech Center will offer a basic EMT certification course beginning March 1. Classes will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5:30 p.m., until 9:30 p.m., for 20 weeks. Cost is \$800. The course is approved for EMS and firefighters. To register, call 965-9294.

Livingston bridge gets state funding

Gov. Ernie Fletcher and the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet are providing additional assistance to Livingston County for the emergency replacement of a bridge on Scotts Chapel Road (County Road 1200) near Tiline. Emergency funds totaling \$183,726 were authorized for the project in August 2006. This week Transportation Secretary Bill Nighbert authorized another \$15,000. Work to replace the ailing structure has already started. VanMeter Contracting, Inc., of Owensboro expects to complete construction of the new bridge across Dunn Creek by June.

Two hurt in U.S. 60 accident Sunday

A Crittenden County teenager involved in a two-vehicle accident on U.S. 60 near Marion refused treatment Sunday following the wreck, but checked himself into the hospital the next day. Justin Underdown, 16, was operating a 1985 Chevrolet pickup truck westbound on U.S. 60 at 4:45 p.m., when he attempted to make a left turn in front of an oncoming 1998 Dodge Ram pickup driven by Jo Sheets, 64, of Salem. The vehicles collided and Sheets was taken by ambulance to Livingston Hospital. Underdown reported no injuries at the scene, but apparently suffered a

Three hurt in wreck STAFF REPORT

Three local residents were taken to the hospital Monday and the driver of one vehicle stands charged of DUI following a wreck just south of Cravne.

Trooper Matthew Foster is investigating the accident that happened about 3:42 p.m., in a slight curve on U.S. 641

According to state police reports, Dustin Easley, 20, was operating a 2005 Ford Mustang northbound and Robert Nichols, 72, was operating a 2006 Ford F150 pickup in a southbound direction.

Police say Easley's sportscar hydroplaned on the wet roadway and started to slide. Easley lost control of the vehicle as it spun around in the highway and into the



The black Mustang driven by Dustin Easley, 20, took the impact of the accident in the rear while the pickup sustained frontal damage.

southbound lane where it struck the oncoming Nichols' vehicle. Easley's car took the impact in the rear, but Nichols' truck was hit in the front.

The highway was closed for about an hour while victims were removed to area hospitals and the roadway cleared.

Easley was transported by ambulance to the Crittenden Hospital. He was later transferred to St. Mary's in Evansville, Ind., with a collapsed lung.

Nichols and his wife, Sarah, 70, were both transported by ambulance to Crittenden Hospital. Sarah Nichols was later transferred to Western Baptist Hospital in Paducah with a broken leg and arm, according to police. Robert Nichols had arm and

head injuries.

Both drivers and the passenger were wearing seatbelts.

Easley was charged with first offense driving under the influence of drugs.

Marion Police, Crittenden Sheriff's Department, Crittenden EMS. Crittenden Constables and Crittenden Rescue Squad all assisted at the scene.

Lions Club account hacked by cybercrime

STAFF REPORT

Marion Police Department with some assistance from the Kentucky State Police's elecontronic crimes division has solved a case where a local man was allegedly trying to steal from the Crittenden County Lions Club.

It was apparently a cybercrime of coincidence, Marion Police Chief Kenneth Winn said.

John James Autry, of 110 Pierce Street, is charged with misuse of electronic information, a Class D felony, after he allegedly used the local Lions Club's bank account number in conjunction with his own personal information to apply for an online debit card.

Police say Autry charged \$2,659.96 worth of goods and services to the debit card, including membership to an online singles club.

According to Chief Winn,

personal information was used in establishing the online debit account. When police first questioned him, Autry suggested that he had been a victim of identity theft. He said he didn't own a computer and used one rarely at the public library.

Winn said Autry's original story seemed plausible, until more detailed investigation by the state police showed a trail right back to his phone number. State police provided special assistance

through its electronic crimes division which identified the IP address of the computer where the transactions originated. Each computer, no matter where it is located, has a unique multi-digit identification number. Winn said the IP number showed that the online activity originated from a particular computer and from the phone number where Autry lived in Marion.

Presented with that information, Winn said Autry confessed the second time he was interviewed by police.

Winn said that the fraud division from the online debit card company and electronic safeguards in place by Farmers Bank saved the Lions Club from actually losing any real money during the alleged crime. All purchases were refunded or subsequently denied, he said.

Autry was scheduled to be arraigned in Crittenden District Court Wednesday.



delayed reaction as he was admitted to Crittenden Hospital on Monday. Kentucky State Trooper Matthew Foster is investigating the accident. Marion Police Department, Crittenden County EMS and Crittenden County Rescue Squad assisted at the scene. Both drivers were wearing seatbelts.

Voters want longer period for balloting

An unofficial poll by The Crittenden Press Online has found that 71 percent, or 99 out of 139 respondents, prefer to have up to two weeks to cast their ballots during local elections. The poll was initiated to help Crittenden County Clerk Carolyn Byford gain information that she will provide to the Kentucky Clerk's Association. Based on other feedback from across the state, the association may press lawmakers to change voting laws so that people could cast ballots at a central location for up to 14 days prior to election day. It would be similar to the current absentee voting system, but anyone could use it.

Wiggins now with WOW

Rick Wiggins, of Salem, is Marion's new field representative for Woodmen of the World insurance company.

Jeff Winn was previously the representative, but was promoted to a management position June 1 of last year. Since the representative position has been open, Winn has interviewed over 30 people who were eligible for the job before hiring Wiggins.

As a field representative, Wiggins services clients and sells life insurance and investments. Wiggins has been in the insurance business for over two years.

"I really like it. I like work that is beneficial to people," Wiggins said.

Woodmen of the World



965-3980

Autry gained access to the routing number for Farmers Bank by using a check that belonged to a relative. Winn said the suspect told investigators that he picked a random number and used it for the account information. By coincidence, it appears, that number belonged to the Lions Club.

Winn said the investigation uncovered the fact that Autry had been paid a couple of years ago with a Lions Club check for participation in a demolition derby. Winn doesn't think, however, that the information was gleaned from that check long ago and kept to be used to perpetrate this alleged crime.

The chief said there's no other evidence that the suspect actually knew it was the Lions Club's account he was using to make online purchases between Oct. 24, and Nov. 16 of last year.

The suspect used a computer on loan from a Princeton computer retailer to make the transactions. The computer had already been returned to the Princeton business when began their authorities investigation.

Autry became a suspect initially because some of his



CRITTENDEN COUNTY HOMES

JUST WHAT YOU HAVE BEEN LOOKING FOR ... A 3 bedroom brick that features: 2 baths, large living room, kitchen with room eat-in family dining area, laundry-mud room, plus patio doors legislabeling period deck. This home has replacement windows, an attached garage with multi storage cabinets, an attached carport and 2 storage buildings. Conveniently located near Crittenden County School.

CHECK THIS ONE OUT ... Investors take a look at this nine-room fixer upper house that was formerly used as a duplex. Features 2 kitchens, 2 baths, laundry room, floored attic and partial basement. Situated on nice lot in Marion and located 2 blocks from Main St.

AN OLDER HOME WITH DIGNITY ... describes this 12 room, 2 story brick home. Features: screened in front porch with beveled glass door entry to live the field of the provide the second second with the second s with dressing room or nursery, 2 bathrooms plus another bedroom. All this is on the first floor. The second floor has 5 rooms, bath and 2 large walk in closets

GOLFER'S FANTASY ... Enter down the private drive to this landscaped estate that joins Marion's County Club Golf Course. This magnificent two story home includes 4 to 6 bedrooms, open grand staircase, 2 master suites, 4 bathrooms, kitchen w/appliances, 2 laundries, study, great room with gas log fireplace, recreation room plus bonus kitchen, enclosed glass solarium & private deck overlooking the beautiful greens. In addition this lovely home has a large walk-out heated basement, an attached oversized double car garage plus many additional amenities. Fulfill you dreams by calling for an appointment today.

533 E. DEPOT ST....commercial building. Was being used as a doctor's office. Features large multi purpose room, offices, 2 baths, and a lot of parking space. Also has apartment with 3 bedrooms, 1.5 baths. Many possibilities. PRICE REDUCED.

TAKE A LOOK...3 bed the h, situated on deep lot in Marion. GREAT BUSINESS POTENTIAL ... Investors take a look at this commercial property

IN LIVINGSTON COUNTY

*********** VALENTINE SPECIAL....JUST REDUCED...4 bedroom, 2 bath doublewide situated on lot in Burna. Price to sell at \$29,900. Call us today for more information

***** 419 E. MAIN ST 3-4 bedroom home. Convenient to grocery, bank, post office. Features: hardwood floors, large living room with fireplace, eat in kitchen, basement, shed on nice lot in Salem. 129 W. MAIN ST....two bedroom, 1 bath brick, extra large living & dining room, eat-in kitchen with stove & refrigerator, utility room. Located W. Main St., Salem with landscaped front courtvard, \$35.000



hanced with beautiful fireplace mantle, modern kitchen with major appliances, TV/entertainment room; partial basement, plus more. Located on large deep lot on Wet Bellville St., Marion

ing room, formal dining room, en-

VINYL SIDED ... frame build home. Features: 2 bedrooms, eat-in kitchen, extra den or dining area and vinyl replacement windows. Plus a small storage building and black top drive. REDUCED TO \$38,000.

SALEM...this corner lot listing located East Main and College Streets has a three bedroom, 1 bath home with Livingston Co. stone exterior. Convenient location within walking distance to Bank, grocery, churches, beauty shop, etc. Would also make excellent commercial / office property. Call today for details.

COUNTRY LIVING ... if you like the country life you will enjoy this home. Features 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, large kitchen with appliances, dining room, living room, full basement with lots of storage shelves. Laundry area in basement includes the washer & dryer. All this on 3.80 acres

YOU MUST SEE THIS ... 3 1000 Dath brick home situated on large lot.

3 ACRE... 3 bedroom, 2 bar from with central heat & air.

WALK TO TOWN... from this large older 7 room, 2 bath home with vinyl size.

LOTS / SMALL TRACTS / FARMLAND

7 BEAUTIFUL LOTS located in Hickory Hills Subdivision. Call for more information

1.29 +/- ACRE lot locate Rd., Smithland.

5 +/- ACRES... located in Salem. All city utilities available. Call today for more info.

12.44 ACRES...with approx. 9 lake known as Chipps I ake

12.9 ACRES... located in Crittenden County on Hwy 120 and Just A Mere Rd. Great building site with county water available. Owner will divide.

55 +/- ACRES...located on Hwy 60 in Crittenden County. All open fields with some fencing and a pond. Also features a 3 bedroom, 2 bath brick ranch style hor a 7 x 45 Morton building. Owner will sell ground away from home. Call today for more details.

61.15 ACRES... located in Crittenden County on Hwy 723 and Lewis Croft Rd. Features **Store I Star Den Den Ge** with gently rolling fields great for building sites. County water available. REDUCED TO \$103,000.

225 SECLUDED ACRES...located in Crittenden County with approx. 70 open acres. 56 a true between the second 262 +/- ACRES...Features: 2 bedroom house, detached garage, 1 barn, 2 grain bins, 2 ponds, STIPPIX. 195 open, balance in woods, and a creek that runs thru property. Great location for hunters

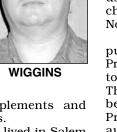
COMMERCIAL PROPERTIES

START YOUR OWN BUSINESS ... from this 30 x 50 garage. Features (3) 10' x 12' overhead doors, office space, propane heat, exterior lighting, concrete floors, city water. Call for more details

COMMERCIAL OFFICE...formally used as dentist office. Many possibilities!

REALTORS® 411 SOUTH MAIN ST. MARION, KY. 42064 Raymond Belt (270) 965-2358 See website for our Peggy Watson (270) 704-0079 Home Visual Tours Sharon Belt (270) 965-2358 www.beitrealty.com REALTORS® is a registered collective membership mark which may be

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funds. cancer plans,

offers life

insurance.

mutual

Medicare supplements and 401-K rollovers.

Wiggins has lived in Salem for over 10 years with his wife Carla, his son Josh, 17 and his daughter Tori, 11.



111 South Morgan Street Morganfield, Kentucky 42437 1.270.389.9488 ryan@neelandcompany.com

300 First Street Henderson, KY 42419-0596 1.270.827.1577 info@neelandcompany.com



Pictured are former Crayne students who attended the September reunion. They are (back from left) Jimmy Bigham, Doug Fox, Clinton Bigham, Jackie Winters, Parker Holsapple, Warren Thomas Moore, (standing behind post), Wayne Keeling, J. E. Cannon, Dorothy Stone Alexander, Cindi Hicks Short, Dennis Mott (behind Cindi), Donna Linzy Haire, Betty Conditt Bleichroth, Sheryl Ferguson McKinney, Helen Cruce, Lois Bradford Fox, Harold Cannon, Mary Jean Cruce Fear, Jimmy Fox, Jewell Myers, Edith Tabor Cronin, Clement Butler King, Wilma Fletcher Allen, Houston Kirk, Louise Jones Kroeger, Kerry Wayne Crider, Peggy Crider Malcom, Heneritta Baird Warren, Gladys Parmley Brown, Jim Keeling, Isabelle McMican Thompson, Bernice Sutton Jennings, Nell Boyd Perryman, Martha Ordway Fletcher, Bruce Ordway, Keith Shewcraft, (middle row) Doug Binkley, Harold 'Cotton' Tabor, Paul Rushing, Arlena Maroney Fowler, Kenny Kirk, Charlotte Coleman Booker, Evelyn Coleman Beavers, Billie Travis, Frances Paris Teer, Sandra Ferguson Cook, Brenda Travis Underdown, C. W. Stevens, Linda Woodall Gilland, Vernon Gilland, Edwin White, Mark Norman, Glenda Alvis Chandler, Jane Alvis, Shelby Belt, Elaine Gilland Shinall, Bob Highfil, Marilyn Highfil Appleton, Donna Highfil Brantley, Linda Kirk Tabor, Joyce Winders Cleghorn, Jerry Holsapple, Gwen Clement York, Billy Wayne Baird, Dot Shewcraft Young, Betty Shewcraft Hodges, Earl 'Butch' Jackson, Sue Boyd Clayton, Linda Jo Baird Nelson, Perry James, James Robert Dorroh (behind sign), Preston Perryman, (front) Wanda Elder Eli, Jim Kirk, Danny Timmons, Richard Cruce and Carolyn Shewcraft Despain. Other students attending but not in picture: Martha Nell Woodall Byford, Donald Moore, Paulette Rushing Myers, and substitute teacher Clara Mae Woodall Belt.

Remembering **Crayne school**

On these dark wintry days, when it is cold and miserable outside, it's nice to have memories of a warmer time, of sunshine, happy days and a good time spent with many old friends.

One of these warmer happy memories occurred on Sept. 9, 2006 at Crayne. The first ever Crayne Grade School Reunion was held at Crayne Presbyterian the Church on Crayne Cemetery Road.

Plans were being finalized, announcements put in the



paper, phone calls made and e-mails sent. The responses started coming in. The students of the Crayne School



DORROH **KIRK** Oldest alumni at the reunion

Bragdon, Lela McMican, Annabel Alexander (who was the teacher when school closed in the 1960-61 school year) and Mrs. Clara Mae Woodall Belt (who had been a substitute teacher for several vears).

On the day of the reunion the only teachers that were still living were Edna Fritts Easley (who has now passed away), Anna Hayes Sherer (who lives at Tolu) and substitute teacher Clara Mae Woodall Belt.

Clara Mae Belt was the only one able to attend the reunion.

Some of the special



Jim Kirk was master of ceremonies for the reunion and Linda Kirk Tabor was one of the event organizers.

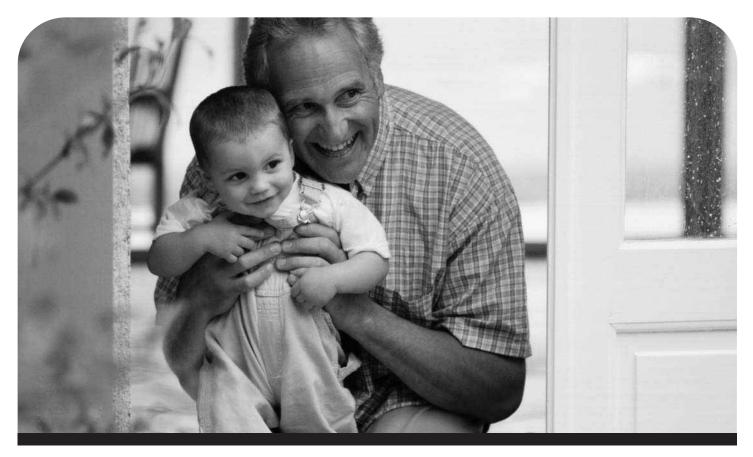
wonderful day of reminiscing and being thankful for those good days and friendships that were made at the Crayne School.

The next Crayne Grade School reunion is planned for 2008

If I have misidentified or left anyone's name out of the picture, I apologize for the error.



Players on the Crayne basketball team about 1947-48 were (standing from left) teacher Hayden Harpending, Bruce Ordway, Norman Winters, Jim Norman (front) Edwin White, Richard Cruce and Jimmy Keeling. Notice the locomotive roaring down the tracks behind the the boys, and the outhouse in front of the train.



indeed interested in having a reunion.

The sun shinned bright and warm on this muchanticipated day. Old friends and classmates, some that hadn't seen one another since their grade school days, hugged, talked, laughed and remembered their days at Crayne School.

The first Crayne School was known as Crayneville and it was started in 1896. The school was located on McCaslin land. That land is across the road from the United Presbyterian Church, and the former home of the Seth Ferguson family.

A new school building was needed and in 1923 property was bought on Highway 91 and a new building was built consisting of two rooms. Later it became overcrowded and a one-room block building was added for grades 1-3 with Mrs. Mildred Paris as teacher.

There were no students living from the first school to attend the gathering last September, but many of these first Crayne students had children and grandchildren present. Those later generations had attended the Crayne School built on Highway 91.

Some of the teachers that were remembered were: Owen Fannie Gray, Davenport, Homer Davidson, Emmett Chandler, Randell Woodall, Opal Wicker, Reva Cleghorn, Mary Todd, Eda Fritts, Mrs. Bob Lear, Geneva Holcom, Anna Hayes Easley, Mildred Paris, Mary Todd, Hayden Harpending, Edna Evelyn Fritts Easley,

acknowledgments made were: Oldest student attending: Maurie Houston Kirk, 84. Second oldest: James Robert Dorroh, 80.

Drove the farthest: Cindy Hicks Short, Hot Springs, Ark., 418 miles, and Edwin White, from Kingsport, Tenn., 390 miles.

There were approximately 125 attending the reunion, with 80 of these being former students.

Crayne once again had many members of its former families, neighbors, and friends back together for a

THIS WEEK IN

From The Crittenden **Press Archives** Local news articles from this week in 1957...

Marion and Crittenden County school boards merged. Superintendent Louis Litchfield's salary, including a stipend for board secretary, totaled \$6,000. Gene Simpson and D.L. Wight were appointed to fill board vacancies. The Golconda, III., ferry, that transports cars from Livingston County reopened after an eight-year lapse. Marion resident Robert Frazer had the franchise on the ferry.

Local news articles from this week in 1982...

Livingston Board of Education negotiated the purchase of 22 acres for the new high school at a cost of \$66,775, paving the way for a \$4 million building.

Do you have COPD?

If you have chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), you may qualify for a clinical study.

We are screening patients with COPD who are over 40 years of age and have a history of smoking.

If you qualify, you will receive at no cost:

- Investigational medicine
- Study-related office visits
- Study-related physical exams

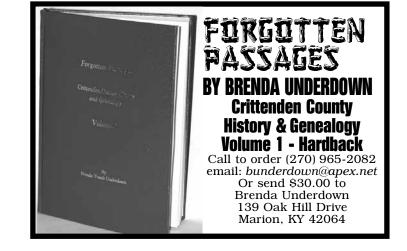
For more information please call:

(270) 825-8345 or Toll Free (888) 569-8930 Commonwealth Biomedical Research, LLC Bret A. Wittmer, MD, Medical Director 240 East Ayr Parkway • Madisonville, KY 42431









Hall of Fame inducts 2 Hinchee played on first girls' team & first to be enshrined

BY CHRIS EVANS PRESS EDITOR

By shooting out the lights, Jeanne Hinchee brought her life and career out of the dark.

"You have no idea how many doors were opened up for me and my career because of basketball," said Hinchee, a 1978 graduate of Crittenden County High School and very possibly the Lady Rockets' all-time leading scorer.

Hinchee will become the first female basketball player inducted into the Marion-Crittenden County Basketball Hall of Fame during a ceremony Friday night.

Being first in basketball is nothing new to Hinchee. As an eighth grader, she started on the very first girls' basketball team at Crittenden County High School. In 1973 when girls programs were instituted in schools throughout Kentucky, Crittenden put one of its most successful teams ever on the floor. In eight games that inaugural season, the Lady Rockets were undefeated.

Crittenden was blessed with some pretty good talent that initial year with a couple of players who went on to the college ranks. Hinchee had a very successful career at Austin Peay and teammate Markita Brown played collegiately in Mississippi.

Cindy Almindinger, a physical education

Ceremony between games

The Hall of Fame Ceremony will be held between the boys' and girls' game Friday night. The boys play the first game of a doubleheader against St. Mary. It is also homecoming.

JEANNE HINCHEE At Crittenden County 1973-1978

Points: 1,559 All-Fifth District 4 times All-3 Rivers Conference 3 times All-Second Region 1978 East-West All Star Game 1978

At Austin Peay University 1978-1982 Assist: 507 (2nd all time) Steals: 131 (10th all time) Games played: 115 (7th all time)

teacher, was the first coach. Hinchee said Crittenden had some other really good athletes on that team - including Mary Ann Green who had played organized basketball Tennessee before transferring to in Crittenden - and with other clubs just getting started, the Lady Rockets were just a cut above the rest in the area.

The next season, point guard Hinchee led the Lady Rockets to a Fifth District championship. Hinchee scored 1,559 in her high school career, a period when the three-point shot was not part of the game. Although Hinchee was a good long-range shooter, she specialized in the 16-foot jumper.

As a senior, the Lady Rockets played for the Second Region championship under coach Joe McCord. It was the best post-season performance in team history.

"I would have to say that coach McCord's influence on my basketball skills was the main reason I got an opportunity to play in college," Hinchee said. "He developed what skills I had and pushed me to be better than

Hinchee said team her the senior year was comprised of some great players, including Cindy Brookshire, Teresa Fox. Debbie York and Cindy Wright. The Lady Rockets breezed through the Fifth District beating Trigg and Caldwell behind

Hinchee's

games.

points in two

I was."

Hinchee at CCHS

The girls beat Providence in the Second Region semifinals, but lost to West Hopkins in the title game.

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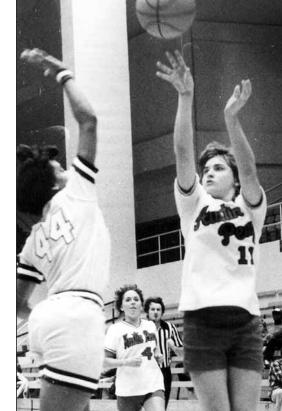
"Playing basketball at Crittenden County was the most memorable, fun time in my life," Hinchee said. "As a new program we enjoyed great support from the community.

"Those are the times I look back on in my childhood and think about the great fun we had.'

Hinchee said she never realized at the time how much of an impact basketball would have on her professional career.

"I had no idea how many doors it would open up for me and my career. I finally realized that after college.'

Basketball paid for her college education



Hinchee at Austin Peay

at APSU where she was an All-Ohio Valley Conference Freshman, four-year starter and up until only recently the school's all-time assist leader.

After college, Hinchee spent a few months as a substitute teacher then joined the military. She went to officer training school and eventually retired from the U.S. Army as a major and returned to college in Chattanooga, Tenn., where she also works full-time as a consultant for a community college. She's months away from graduating with a second bachelor's degree.

Litchfield's accomplishments vastly numerous for 58 years

BY CHRIS EVANS

PRESS EDITOR Although Louis Litchfield has been gone for nearly 40 years, his legacy lives on in Crittenden County.

Litchfield, born at Blackford in 1910, rose to become one of the most noted individuals in Crittenden County history. He was a respected educator, accomplished coach, excellent public speaker, Christian devout and one of the most



Louis C. Litchfield

decorated administrators from this area. Litchfield will be inducted into the Marion-

LOUIS LITCHFIELD As a coach

Teams: Blackford, Cobb, Nebo, Farmersville, Frances, Fredonia, Crittenden. Titles: At least 7 district championships and 1 regional championship. State Tournament: Blackford 1931

As an educator, administrator & other Principal and superintendent Chairman KHSAA Board of Control Chairman Murray State Board of Regents Asst. Commissioner of Agriculture for Kentucky Deacon Marion Baptist Church Referee for state basketball tournament First District Education Association president

heralded Carr Creek, but lost to Tolu, the eventual state champion. Blackford was dubbed as a "gymless wonder" by the Louisville newspaper because the team didn't have an indoor o



President Of KHSAA Board od of 1943-47, During the period of 1943 itchfield was assistant comm He is a former in urray State Col Somer of agriculture. He is a member of the KEA and NEA. Litchfield was a certified bas-ketball official for several years and was a state tournament Birdic Quisenberry of Fri con in the was a state tournament Birdie Quisenbe

Marion-Crittenden County Basketball			
HALL	OF	FAN	1E

Member	Inducted
Carlisle Towery	1998
George Hart	1998
Bennett Smith	1999
Curtis Turley	1999
Gerald "Hoopy" Tabor	2000
James Phillips	2000
Don Green	2001
Bruce Belt	2001
Don "Sucky" Brasher	2002
Greg Thurman	2002
Hugh Highfil	2002
Tommy Wring	2002
Glenn "Ace" Davidson	2003
Lige Shadown	2003
Ercel Little	2003
Spencer Cozart	2004
Jeff Shewcraft	2004
Ronnie Moss	2005
Ellis Simmons	2005
W.A. Franklin	2006
Jeanne Hinchee	2007

tenden County Basketball Hall of Fame Friday night. His inclusion into the shrine was based as much on his accomplishments away from the basketball court as it was on his many successes as a coach.

In six seasons as a coach in Crittenden County, Litchfield won five district championships. He coached three current Hall of Famers – George Hart, Bruce Belt and Don "Sucky" Brasher - and took his Blackford team to the state tournament.

Ironically. Litchfield was blind in one eve and it's not clear if he ever played basketball himself. His daughter, Bettye Vaughan, who lives in Marion, doesn't ever recall her father speaking of playing ball as a youngster growing up in the edge of Webster County on the Tradewater River.

Litchfield, just 20 years old, took his first coaching job at Blackford in 1930. Later that season, in early 1931 his team won the regional championship and advanced to the state tournament at Lexington. His team beat

Litchfield left Blackford after one season and enrolled at Murray State College.

"He would teach and coach one year to earn a little money then he would go to Murray for a year. He did that for several years and coached at several little schools around the area," his daughter said. "He finally graduated from Murray in 1937.

All told. Litchfield coached at Blackford. Cobb, Fredonia, Farmersville, Nebo, Frances and Crittenden County. He spent three seasons at Frances, building the small school into a regional powerhouse. He won the district championship every season he was at Frances, from 1947 to 1950. It was there that Litchfield coached Hart, the state's all-time leading scorer at the time.

Litchfield was the first principal and basketball coach at the newly formed county high school following consolidation in 1950. His Crittenden County basketball teams were as well superior to most others in the area. In

Louisville Courier-Journal article noting that Litchfield had been elected president of the KHSAA Board of Control.

three seasons, he won two district titles. Ironically, his best team - a club that won 24 games in 1951-52 - was beaten in the district tournament because several of the players came down with the mumps.

Although his team was knocked out of post-season competition, Litchfield staved active. A highly respected basketball official, he was a referee for the state championship game that year.

After retiring from coaching, Litchfield

Louis Litchfield 2007

became superintendent and oversaw the consolidation of Marion and Crittenden high schools in 1957.

Charismatic and sharp witted, Litchfield was a success in every endeavor he sought.

"As a coach he was strict," Brasher said. "He ran a tight program. He was fair, but it was clear that he ran the show."

Indeed, he ended up running nearly every organization with which he became affiliated. Litchfield served several terms on the Kentucky High School Athletic Association Board of Control, the First District Education Association and the Murray State Board of Regents. He rose to the leadership post of each one of those. Litchfield was also assistant Commissioner of Agriculture for Kentucky from 1943 to 1947.

Litchfield died tragically young in 1968 of rheumatic fever. He was just 58 years old.

More from Hall of Fame on WMJL...

In case you can't make the game Friday night, catch all of the action on WMJL Radio at 102.7 FM.

Basketball play-by-play announcer Nicky Winders will have Hall of Fame inductee Jeanne Hinchee on as his halftime guest

during the first game of Friday's doubleheader.

Tipoff for the boys' game is 6 p.m.