

The Crittenden Press.

Printed in Marion, Ky., on Recycled Paper with Soy ink

USPS 138-260 • MARION, KY 42064

THURSDAY, APRIL 12, 2007

75 CENTS An Independent Newspaper Since 1879 VOLUME 127, NUMBER 40 - 16 PAGES

DEBATES

Paducah forum is open to the public, tickets available

A limited number of free tickets are available for next week's gubernatorial debates at the Luther F. Carson Four Rivers Center in Paducah. The debates, which begin at 6:30 p.m., Thursday, April 19 are sponsored by the Paducah Sun and WPSD-TV. WPSD will rebroadcast the debates at 7 p.m. April 21. Tickets are available at the Paducah Area Chamber of Commerce and the Carson Center.

Temps: From one extreme to the other

From record highs in late March to record lows in April, the weather has created havoc on plants and gardeners. Temperatures were in the 80s in late March, now a new all-time record low has been recorded for the month of April. According to WPSD-TV in Paducah, the low on Easter Sunday was 21 degrees. That's the lowest reading ever recorded during April. The previous low for that particular day was 27 degrees in 1972 and the previous low for the entire month of April was recorded in 1987 at 24 degrees.

Tax filing deadline

There is some confusion over the filing deadline for U.S. income tax returns. The IRS says the deadline is Tuesday, April 17 because the traditional deadline (April 15) falls on a Sunday and the next day is Emancipation Day in the District of Columbia. Although the IRS web site says April 17 is the deadline, local tax preparers are urging their clients to have their returns postmarked Monday.

LOCAL MEETINGS

THURSDAY EVENING

Marion City Council meets is special session at 6 p.m., Thursday (today) for a budget work session and to discuss application for a Land and Water Conservation Fund Grant for creating a skate

MONDAY EVENING

Marion City Council meets at 6 p.m., Monday at city hall.

TUESDAY MORNING Crittenden County Fiscal Court will meet at 9 a.m., Tuesday at the

District Court docket online www.the-press.com



courthouse.



P.Cloudy

Rain gauge

M.Cloudy 62/46 **FRIDAY**

THURSDAY

Last 7 days . Last 30 days

THIS WEEK'S **Home Mortgage Rates**

30 Yr. Fixed 6.17% 0.4 15 Yr. Fixed 5.87% 0.5 *Rates from FreddieMac.com Other variables may apply

Visit us on the web at www.the-press.com

For Breaking News Local news and sports updated when it occurs E-mail us your news tips thepress@the-press.com





The Press now accepts credit cards



Deckhand Brad Prior (left) and ferry pilot Rick Turner were quick to react when they saw a truck plunge into the Ohio River a couple of weeks ago.

Ferry crew saves man from sinking truck in Ohio River

BY BRENDA UNDERDOWN THE CRITTENDEN PRESS

Brad Prior made personal safety secondary March 30 when he jumped into the Ohio River to save a man whose vehicle plunged into the murky water at the Cave In Rock Ferry landing.

As a deckhand on the ferry, it's one of Prior's responsibilities to scan the river as the ferry makes its routine trips back and forth between the Kentucky and Illinois shores. But on this day he encountered something he really never expected.

The ferry boat was in the middle of the river and heading north toward the Illinois shore with a load of vehicles at around 10:30 a.m. Prior and pilot Rick Turner were on board the ferry when they saw a truck driven by J.T. Blair of Shawneetown exit the ferry ramp in Cave In Rock and plunge into the swiftly moving Ohio River. The scene set into motion a heroic recovery by the ferry

As the ferry approached the Illinois shore, Prior and Turner saw Blair sitting in the truck with windows rolled down and his safety belt on. They hollered at him to undo his seatbelt so he could get out of the truck window. The pickup, by that time, was floating away from the shoreline, about 40 feet out into the

Turner, the pilot, held the ferry boat at an angle to block the truck, while Prior jumped in and swam to the vehi-

cle. The man inside seemed to be in some kind of shock or trauma, doing little to facilitate his own rescue, Prior explained. Unable to unclasp the seat belt, Prior cut it with his knife.

Two Crittenden County men, Burnie Bradford and Darrell Penn, were in traffic behind the truck when the man suddenly drove off the loading ramp into the river. When the ferry got close enough to the ramp the two men jumped onto the deck to help if needed.

While Turner kept the ferry in a position as close to the truck as possible, Bradford threw a rope to Prior, who tied it onto the truck's door frame, before freeing Blair from the vehicle. Prior used the rope to pull himself and the rescued man back to the ferry. He and Blair were assisted onto the deck by Bradford and Penn.

Shirley and Lonnie Lewis, owners of the Cave In Rock Ferry, assisted with the removal of the truck from the river with the use of their backhoe.

Thee men who operate the ferry are well trained and experienced in their jobs, the Lewises explained.

Prospective pilots must work three years on the deck and undergo pilot training that includes learning to chart a course, draw a map of the river, learn the names and formations of clouds to watch for upcoming weather, have radar training, know how to load vehicles for the safest location, and many other

Johnson's election means seat with WKU's Regents

BY ALLISON EVANS

It was through her sister's insistence that Jeanne Johnson became involved in Western Kentucky University's Student Government Association (SGA)

as a freshman. Now she's following in her older sister's footsteps, having been elected SGA President last week.

With the presidency comes the prestige of serving JOHNSON as a student rep-

resentative on the university's Board of Regents. Student regents have equal voting powers on all policies and procedures that come before the

Johnson, a studious campus leader who is active in Kappa Delta social sorority, had been filling an unexpired term as SGA president prior to a special election April 3-4. It was then she won the presidency with 62 percent of the campus vote. Johnson's older sister Patti,

who was SGA president in 2004, has been influential and most helpful at times, the younger Johnson says.

"When the past president

resigned, I was thrown into the position, so I spoke with Patti on the phone a lot, and she never hesitated to talk to me about the reality of the job so I haven't walked in completely naive," Johnson said.

younger explained the greatest benefit of having a sister as a past presi-

"A lot of the issues we face, she faced," Johnson said. "That is ironic because there tends to be in student organizations revolving doors, with so many students coming in and going out that they are unaware what what was told in the past or happened in the past. What is so great is I can say, 'My sister was here and I have the history and I know what we were promised," said Johnson, 20. "I basically have four extra years of knowledge.

The biggest issue facing SGA has been the debate over Plus Minus Grading. Western students are nearing the end of four-year trial of Plus Minus Grading which began when Patti Johnson was SGA president. Simply put, Plus Minus Grading makes grades earned more specific – adding a plus or

See **REGENT**/page 3A

Bowe

Wallace qualifies for Jr. Olympics

STAFF REPORT

Spending 12 hours a week in the gym paid off for Bowe Wallace, 11.

In late March, Wallace earned the title of Missouri State Champion for Level 7 gymnastics. He is a sixth Crittenden grader at County Middle School.

Born with a phenomenal talent to flip and twist and tumble, Wallace amazed his family and their friends as early as age three and four. Since then, he has received formal training in gymnastics and today practices three days a week in St. Louis, Mo.

He will compete at the Junior Olympics Regional competition in Kansas City, Mo., Saturday.

This is his first year training and competing for

See **OLYMPICS**/page 2A



Bowe Wallace will compete Saturday in the Junior Olympic Regionals at

Weathering disaster starts with good preparation

Stay ready for storm season

Emergencies can range from the inconvenient to the devastating, but every Kentuckian can take simple preparedness steps advance to minimize the impact on our families and communities.

That is why this spring, Kentucky Office of Homeland Security is urging the commonwealth's families and businesses to make an emergency plan and to get a

SERIES April and May generate some of the most danger ous weather. The Press will publish a series of articles over the coming weeks that will help you be prepared for storms

disaster supply kit to be better prepared for the unex-Springtime in pected. Kentucky can produce severe storms with damaging winds, tornadoes, hail and flooding. but Kentucky's family emergency preparedness Web site, www.ProtectYourFamily.ky.g

ov, provides easy, common sense ideas that can help.

"By taking some simple steps to make an emergency plan and get a disaster supply kit, Kentuckians will be better prepared if an emergency occurs," said retired Maj. Alecia Webb-Edgington, director of the Kentucky Office of Homeland Security.

logging on www.ProtectYourFamily.ky.g ov, you will have the information you need right at your fingertips," she said.

Every Kentuckian should plan in advance what they will do in an emergency.

should be included in any plan:

Below are a few items that

■ Designate an out-ofstate contact in the case of downed communication

■ Know your region's potential disasters and how you will be notified.

■ Find out emergency plans at work, daycare and school

■ Create an evacuation plan.

After a disaster, local officials and relief workers will be on the scene but may not be able to reach everyone

immediately. An emergency supply kit can help your family stay safe and be more comfortable during and after an emergency. Below are a few items that should be included in any kit:

■ Three-day water supply. ■ Three-day non-perish-

able food supply. ■ First aid kit.

■ Non-prescription drugs. ■ Tools and supplies.

■ Clothing and bedding.

■ Hygiene needs. For more information on

specific weather preparedsuggestions, ness www.ProtectYourFamily.ky.gov.

Area News Briefs

Young family loses everything in fire

A young Crittenden County couple with a small child lost all of their belongings when their home was destroyed by fire Saturday. The Mattoon Volunteer Fire Department responded to a call by a neighbor who mowing his lawn and saw smoke coming out of the house nearby. By the time firefighters arrived, the home was completely engulfed in flames. The home was owned by Steven Cates who had left about 1 p.m., to go to his mining job at Dodge Hill, said David Travis of the Mattoon Fire Department. The fire was reported about 30 minutes later. Cates' wife and their fourmonth-old child were in Eddyville visiting relatives. "They lost everything," Travis said. "By the time we got there, fire was coming out of the windows and there wasn't much we could do. We finally put it out before it got to the ground, but there was nothing left." Travis said the young couple had not been living there very

Wreck went undiscovered all night long

A Lola man was injured in a single-vehicle accident on Ky. 838 in rural Crittenden County last week. According to Kentucky State Police, James S. Barnes, 47, was driving a 1988 Toyota Camry westbound when he dropped off the shoulder of the roadway. Barnes apparently overcorrected and lost control of the vehicle. The car exited the roadway and overturned several times as it traveled down an embankment. The vehicle came to rest on its top. A motorist driving by the accident scene reported it at 7 a.m., Tuesday, but the wreck is believed to have occurred about 10:30 p.m., the previous night. Barnes, who was trapped in the vehicle all night, was flown to Deaconess Hospital in Evansville, Ind.

Wildcats hire new basketball coach

Billy Gillispie is the new head basketball coach at the University of Kentucky. He replaces Tubby Smith, who resigned for the head coaching position at Minnesota. Gillispie takes over the Wildcats after a successful run at Texas A&M. In five years as a head coach, Gillispie is 100-58. He led the Aggies to a record of 27-7 this past season and a spot in the NCAA's final 16. He is also a former coach at Texas-El Paso. Gillispie agreed to a seven-year contract with UK. He'll be paid \$2.3 million per year.

Princeton club polling on alcohol issue

In Princeton, members of the local country club are being polled to determine whether they want to seek a referendum that might allow them to sell liquor at the golf course and club. According to a report in the Princeton Times-Leader, members of the Princeton Golf and Country Club are being asked to respond to a question posted in the club newsletter. If most of the members agree that pursing a liquor license would be in the best interest of the club, it could take the next step, according to the newspaper report. A Kentucky statute allows golf clubs with a nine- or 18-hole courses to petition for a vote within the district to determine whether alcohol sales could be made legal. The vote would include only the voters in the district where the club is located. The club's president told the newspaper that the membership poll is very preliminary work in regard to the matter and that no decisions have made at this point.

Farmers Market will open on April 23

The Crittenden County Farmers Market will be opening for the season just in time for Backroads Tour on April 23. Anyone wishing to sell items at the market on Main Street next to McDonald's may do so for free during the Backroads Tour, April 23-28. Beginning on May 1, there will be a \$4 per day fee charged for /endors selling items at the market. For more information, contact Rose Crider at Marion Main Street, Inc., 965-5015 or 704-0134.

Fluorspar project will honor those killed

Members of the Hardin County (III.) Fluorspar Festival are working on a commemorative book to honor miners who died on the job. The group is asking for information, photographs or news clippings regarding deceased miners. Elaine Shetler is heading up the project. She can be reached at P.O. Box 291, Rosiclare, IL 62982. The booklet will be included with the program for the 2007 Fluorspar Festival in October.

Voter registration deadline is April 23

The May 22 Kentucky primary election is just over a month away. Citizens only have a few more days to register to vote in the upcoming election. The deadline to register for the primary is Monday, April 23. You can register at the county clerk's office through 4 p.m., on that day. The same deadline applies for the potential runoff election that would be scheduled for June 26, if necessary. A postmark of April 23 is required for all mail-in voter registration applications. Registration cards can be obtained over the internet at www.sos.ky.gov/register. Also, minors who are 17 years old but will be 18 years old on or before the general election (Nov. 6, 2007) are eligible to register and entitled to vote in the upcoming primary and runoff election but are not eligible to vote in special elections unless they are 18 years old.

> For Breaking News See The Press Online www.the-press.com **Or Call Us With News Tips @ 965-3191**

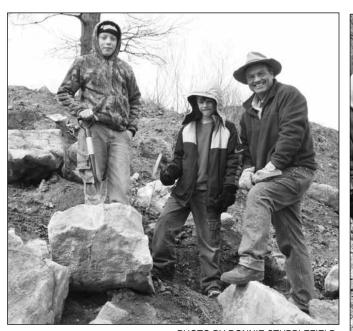


PHOTO BY RONNIE STUBBLEFIELD

Rock Hounds

Tucker Frazer, Will Shuffett and Dave Shuffett pose for a photo during the dig last month. At right, Ronnie Stubblefield of Marion looks at a mineral uncovered by KET's Kentucky Life host Dave Shuffett.



KET comes digging for gems

BY ALLISON EVANS PRESS ASST. EDITOR

Ben Clement's one-of-akind mineral collection has fascinated visitors Marion's Mineral Museum for many years. Soon the museum will receive exposure that will help attract visitors from around Kentucky due to a feature on KET's Kentucky

Kentucky Life is a program that features profiles of Kentucky people, places and ideas. Its programs are storybased rather than event driven and highlight Kentucky's history, geographic diversity and natural beauty. Anyone who has seen the Clement collection or visited one of the local mines from which many of the brightly colored minerals were found can attest that the Clement Museum is a perfect specimen for Kentucky Life.

Its host Dave Shuffett, a mineral and fossil collector, was amazed with what he found while filming in Marion last month.

Originally the show was going to air in the fall; how-

ever, Shuffett has arranged

Police employ thermal scope to catch drunk

Marion Police Officer Billy Woolsey was called to the scene of a disturbance at about 4 a.m., Tuesday morning at Bellville Manor apartments.

By the time the officer arrived, the man allegedly creating the disturbance had left on foot. Woolsey looked for the suspect for a while but couldn't find him in the early morning darkness.

The officer went back to headquarters and picked up the police department's thermal imaging night scope. After returning to the scene, waiting and watching for about 30 minutes, Woolsey saw the man moving through the darkness in the night vision scope. The man was heading back toward the apartments, reports said.

The man, John S. Madden, 21, of Grand Rivers, was charged with public intoxica-

ON THE TUBE

The segment filmed in Crittenden County will be broadcast on Kentucky Life May 26 and May 27. Kentucky Life can be viewed on KET.

for the feature to be broadcast May 26 and May 27, just prior to the museum's June gem and mineral show and

dig.
"I had been meaning to get there for years," Shuffett said. "I am a rock and mineral and fossil collector and had come there on a Kentuckiana Geological Society field trip, so I had a great opportunity to do the

story and be with club members at the same time.

The Kentucky Life crew filmed at the museum in March and participated in a dig. During such digs, participants take home samples of minerals they find, most ranging in price from \$35-\$100 each.

"This is the best mineral museum I have seen in my life," said Shuffett, whose rearing near Mammoth Cave created in him a love for rocks and minerals, but also caused him to take for granted the beauty and uniqueness of that geographical region.

"I've visited here and there

and everywhere and seen collections in museums in various places but nothing like Clement Museum)," Shuffett said.

The Kentucky Life host hopes the program will help geologists lure Kentucky and beyond to

Marion. "Our mission is to tell the public about the positive attributes of Kentucky and the surrounding area," Shuffett explained.

The KET program featuring the Clement Museum will be broadcast at 7 p.m., Saturday, May 26 and again at 3:30 p.m., Sunday, May

Yes, you can own a Home in 2007 **BELT AUCTION & REALTY REALTORS®**

can help you fulfill your dream of home ownership this year.

Call today for your appointment to see one of our fine homes.



For farmland/acreage and 3 bedroom homes. Please contact us about selling your property

WE HAVE BUYERS.

2 +/- ACRES...plus 3-4 bedroom house. This one and half story home has been completely remodeled with new kitchen cabinets, large living room, laundry & replacement windows, central heat & air, county water. Located in Crayne and priced at \$54,500.

CRITTENDEN COUNTY HOMES

116 SHADY LANE Features 3 bedrooms, 1.5 baths, utility

SOLD 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 leading to an extra large covered deck. This home has replacement windows, an attached garage with multi storage cabinets, an attached carport and 2 storage buildings. Conveniently located near Crittenden

GROWING PAINS?.....This vinyl siding 2 story family home has 4 hedrooms 2 haths fover w/open stair case, living room, formal dining room enhanced with beautiful fireplace mantle, modern kitchen with major appliances, TV/entertainment room; partial basement, plus more. Located on large deep lot on West Bellville St. Marion 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. REDUCED TO \$27,500. Owner says make an offer.

SOLD AN OLDER HOME WITH DIGNITY...describes this 12 room, 2 story brick home. Features: screened in front porch with beveled glass door entry to living rm/w fireplace, formal dining room w/built in buffet & beveled mirror, butler's pantry & retro kitchen, master bedroom 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.

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. 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. Owner says sell. Priced at \$299,900.

IN LIVINGSTON COUNTY

LARGE FAMILY HOME...This home speaks children...Features: 5 bedrooms, 2.75 baths, living room, formal dining room, and kitchen with major appliances, large laundry, TV/Rec. room and only 3 years old. Located in Salem on approx. 3 acres.

SALE PENDING GREAT CORNER LOCATION...describes the setting for this 3 bedroom 1 1/2 bath brick with attached double car garage. Home redecorated last year with new carpeting includes nice kitchen w/major appliances; formal dining room, family/Florida room, laundry hookup w/washer/dryer, central heat & air plus private deck. Situated on 2 nice lots in Salem. Call today for details.

SALE PENDING HORSE LOVERS! This 10 acre tract is just what you've been looking for. Features: a beautiful 1996 doublewide with 3 BR, 2 BA, dining/living room w/gas log fireplace, kitchen including appliances, utility room plus attached

double carport. In addition there is a garage plus large 50x70 barn and good fenced pasture. Located approx. 3 miles from Berry's Ferry landing on the Ohio River. 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. Price Reduced to \$19,900.

129 W. MAIN ST.... This building could either be your new home or a new business. Features 2 bedrooms, extra large living & dining room, eat-in kitchen with stove & refrigerator, utility room. Or it would be excellent for an Antique shop or business. Large area for displays. Endless possibilities. Call today to schedule your appointment. Priced reduced to \$32,500.

VINYL SIDED...frame build home. Features: 2 bedrooms, eat-in kitchen, extra den or dining area and vinvl 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

SOLD THREE BEDROOM TWO BATH SPLIT / PLAN HOME offers large great living/dining room with fireplace, kitchen w/bay window including appliances, master bedroom w/bath & walk-in closet, attached double garage, and large private deck. Other amenities include an above ground 52" X 30' pool, a new underground storm shelter and nice finished storage/craft potting shed. This nice home is situated on 3 nice lots in Glenhart Subdivision, Salem. Call today

LOTS / SMALL TRACTS / FARMLAND

LAKE AREA LOT...located south of Eddy Creek Marina on Hwy 93. Perfect for mobile home or build your dream home. Utilities already on property. Call for more information.

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

SOLD 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 home with a 76 x 45 Morton building. Owner will sell ground away from home. Call today for more details. **SOLD** 61.15 ACRES... located in Crittenden County on Hwy 723 and Lewis Croft Rd. Features a barn, metal building and 2 ponds with gently rolling fields great for building sites. County water available. REDUCED TO \$103,000.

COMMERCIAL PROPERTIES

GREAT LOCATION... in Salem. Commercial building and lot. Many possibilities. Call for more information.

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

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

UPCOMING AUCTIONS

SAT. APR. 28, 9:30 AM - Personal property. Location: Hwy 91, Marion. Owner: Wm. Miller.



REALTORS® 411 SOUTH MAIN ST. MARION, KY. 42064 Raymond Belt (270) 965-2358 Peggy Watson (270) 704-0079 Sharon Belt (270) 965-2358

See website for our Home Visual Tours www.beltrealty.com

Celebrating our 37th year 270-965-5271

REALTORS® is a registered collective membership mark which may be used only by real estate professionals who are members of the National Association of Realtors® and subscribe to its strict code of ethics.

THE MAYFIELD OPEN CONSIGNMENT AUCTION

SAT. APRIL14th AT 9:00 A.M. AT THE FAIRGROUNDS ON HWY 121 NORTH MAYFIELD, KENTUCKY

Plan To Come Spend The Day.....It Only Happens Twice a Year.. 100'S OF ITEMS WILL BE IN THIS AUCTION

TRACTORSALL SIZES!! BACKHOES - DOZERS - TRUCKS - TRAILERS HAY EQUIP - LAWN & GARDEN - PLANTING & TILLAGE EQUIP IMPLEMENTS OF EVERY DESCRIPTION!! BRING YOUR EQUIPMENT TO THE FAIRGROUNDS

8:00 A.M. Until 6:00 P.M. Each Day Please No Worn Tires, Battered Fuel Tanks, Fence Row Rems! We Only Accept Items That In Our Discretion Are Saleable COMPLETE SETTLEMENT DAY OF SALE - CURRENT BANK LETTERS A MUST!

THURSDAY OR FRIDAY

April 12th And 13th

7#E AUCTIONEER - FANCY FARM, KY- 270-623-8466 "THE SELLING MACHINE"

Siloam church, school saw their share of tragedies

Let's pay a visit to one of our early schools and churches and learn some history about them.

In Dec. 1879, County School Commissioner Rev. James F. Price paid a visit to the little school of Siloam. It seems through the years the church and school house were used as one. Here is his

Dec. 9, 1879

November 18th, I visited Siloam School, Miss Mollie V. Walker teacher. I did not find a very large school but a very interesting one; the average attendance has been 20.

This is Miss Mollie's fist school but she displays considerable ability as a teacher. The conduct of the pupils is truly good, whispering is successfully prohibited, quiet prevails in the school room, no unnecessary moving around or disturbance is allowed.

The teacher is very firm in her discipline; she seems to be well pleased with the work of the school room and takes a great interest in her students. The instruction is tolerably thorough.

There are two things retarding the progress of the school; not enough use of the proper text and the irregularity of attendance. They use the old church house for a schoolroom inasmuch as they have no school house in the district.

Fast forward 73 years

Seventy-three years later the Siloam school was still an active school, here is a story of an unusual and tragic event that happened at the Siloam School in the fall of November 1952.

An account of the tragedy is told in The Crittenden Press, Nov. 26, 1952. Constance Lou Hughes, 13, an eighth grade student at Siloam School, was killed instantly and four other chil-





Forgotten Passages

dren were injured Tuesday, when lightning struck them.

The five girls were in an outdoor toilet about 100 feet from the school building when the lightening hit.

The injured were Yvonne Rushing, 14, daughter of Coy Rushing; Peggy Fletcher, 14, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Fletcher; Shelby Jean York, 12, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Shelby York; and Janice McKinney, 13, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Orville McKinney.

They were taken to the Crittenden County Hospital. The Fletcher girl was released following treatment. The others were reported suffering from severe shock.

The teacher, Mrs. Lorene Cox, learned of the tragedy when the Rushing girl crawled into the school shortly after noon and sobbed weakly that the girls were dead.

The teacher and other pupils ran out to find the other four girls lying on the rain soaked floor of the toilet. Some of the victims were revived before taken to the

None of the girls could give a coherent account of the tragedy. There was no serious damage done to the building.

Funeral services for Constance Lou Hughes were held at Siloam, with burial at Union Cemetery.

The Siloam school was closed about 1955-56 with the students transported to other schools.

Bicentennial in February

tures 12 dioramas with life-

like wax figures depicting key

events in Lincoln's life on the

first floor, also hopes to

install a computer lab in the

second-floor library to assist

researchers, said museum

The museum has raised

Director Iris LaRue.

The museum, which fea-

Abraham



Mrs. Lorene Cox was the teacher at Siloam the day lightning struck and killed one student and injured oth-

Siloam Church

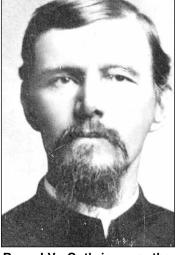
Here is some history about the Siloam Church.

Siloam United Methodist Church building, located on Ky. 297 was auctioned Saturday, June 12. It had its final services there Sunday, May 23, 1982.

Church trustee Wilson shared the history with The Crittenden Press in June of 1982. The decision to close the church and merge with the Tolu United Methodist Church was a traumatic one for the dwindling congregation. The church had served the community for more than 140 vears.

On Feb. 26, 1834, William Hickman deeded a parcel of land to the trustees for a newly organized church. The church was Siloam Methodist Church and the trustees were Littleton Owen. Alexander Coleman, Thomas Yates, John Yates, George Hardin, Daniel Minner and Andrew Love.

A log church was built on this site, which was located about a mile lower on Deer Creek than the present one,



Rev. J.V. Guthrie was the preacher at Siloam in 1894 when he suddenly died after walking into the church to begin the evening service.

which is the third one to house the congregation.

Besides the 1834 deed, Mr. Wilson said church papers included a Bible dedicated to the church Aug. 7, 1856, and records started in the 1850s.

According to those records, at one time more than 200 people attended services there. It was nearly the only church in the area, with churches being widely scattered then. During the early 1900s attendance dropped off as people transferred their memberships to Marion and other closer churches.

The present building, the former Siloam Schoolhouse, was purchased in the late 1950s. It replaced a huge weather boarded structure located a mile down the creek from the present site.

Memories of Siloam's past are good. As late as 1939, Mr. Wilson could remember the old building being filled with people coming from around the area. They would come and park their wagons and buggies outside the building.

Other things remembered



part of the 20th century.

about the old church were wood stoves and kerosene lamps. There were two huge wood stoves on either side of the room. The preacher preached with an overcoat on many a time. It wasn't unusual for the kerosene lamps to burn down, and the preacher would continue preaching in the dark.

At one time the church was visited by large crowds for prayer meetings. When you walked or rode your buggy up to the service, you could hear the people singing and praying. I've heard it told that during one dry season, the people gathered to pray for rain. Old Uncle Jimmy Wooten rode up to the church with an umbrella in his hand. When asked what he had it for, he said he aimed to use it. He got to use it before he left too.

Another story was told of how Rev. Johnson called his son down from the pulpit never missing a word in his message. Another pastor Rev. J.V. Guthrie was reappointed to serve Siloam Oct. 1, 1894, and died in the church of a heart attack Nov.

From Rev. Guthrie's obituary it tells us that never was Marion and Crittenden more shocked than when the report spread rapidly that Rev. J.V. Guthrie had dropped dead in the church at Siloam, in the midst of the congregation that was gathering to hear him preach.

People at first said surely it could not be true, but it was true. Rev. Guthrie had returned for the evening services and went to the stove to warm, he stooped down to kindle up the fire, and raising partially up he was heard to exclaim "Oh my heart." These were his last words; he immediately sank down and expired. Rev. Guthrie and his wife are buried in the Mapleview Cemeterv.

Mr. Wilson said that during his childhood, worship services were held once a month, but Sunday School was held every week. The church was part of a circuit then, preaching was held monthly with the preacher going to either Hebron. Hurricane or Tolu Methodist on the other Sundays. Today only Tolu remains in the Methodist Conference.

Although selling church building was sad for the nine active members, it would be better than seeing it continually vandalized.

Today the church is a lovely home lived in and for by Terry and cared

THIS WEEK IN

From The Crittenden **Press Archives**

from this week in 1957...

•Perry Chips, a Marion High School senior, won a scholarship to Southern Methodist University. The scholarship will pay \$500 a year and will renew itself if Chips keeps a B average.

•Mr. and Mrs. Edd Holliman of Crayne, observed their golden wedding at their home. The couple was married in 1907. ·A truck carrying cases of liquor plunged off U.S. 60 just north of Marion, narrowly missing a housewife working in her garden. The truck was forced off the road by an on-coming car and landed in Mrs. Baker's flower garden.

•Over 200 Boy Scouts of the Boone District were scheduled to descend on Marion April 26, for a two-day spring camporee. The Scouts will come from Crittenden, Union and Webster counties and will pitch camp at Grady Field near

Local news articles from this week in 1982...

•Mrs. Donna A. Farley of Marion was notified that she was among the finalists in the annual Jefferson Awards sponsored by WPSD-TV Channel 6. Farley was nominated for her public service activities.

•Crittenden County Elementary School cafeteria staff treated the students, faculty and staff with more than 700 chocolate covered eggs during Friday's lunch time. The peanut cream-filled goodies took all week to prepare.

•Good Friday was "Wear A Hat" day at the Crittenden County Senior Citizens Center. Senior Citizens that were involved are Mrs. Agnes Pugh, Mrs. Mary Meyers and Mrs. Freida Woodward.

FURGUTTEN PASSAGES BY BRENDA UNDERDOWN **Crittenden County History & Genealogy**

Volume 1 - Hardback Call to order (270) 965-2082 email: bunderdown@apex.net Or send \$30.00 to

Brenda Underdown 139 Oak Hill Drive

Lincoln museum expecting big influx during celebration Kentucky's official Lincoln Museum, housed in two renbegun, LaRue said.

Among the artifacts in the ovated historic buildings in Hodgenville's downtown dislibrary is an original article trict, is looking to refurbish clipped from the New York and expand its library of Herald newspaper describing books and other documents Lincoln's assassination in in time for the kickoff of the Washington, D.C., in 1865. Lincoln

The presidential box at Ford's Theater in which Lincoln was assassinated by John Wilkes Booth is represented by one of the museum's dioramas, which also features a figure of Mary Todd Lincoln, the president's wife who is also from Kentucky. Other dioramas include the Civil War battlefield where Lincoln delivered his famous Gettysburg Address, a depiction of about \$10,000 of the project's estimated cost of Lincoln preparing his second \$100,000, but full-scale inaugural speech, and a

scene of the 16th president drafting the Emancipation Proclamation freeing enslaved African Americans in the South.

include one of the debates between presidential rivals Lincoln and Stephen A. Douglas and a representation of photographer Matthew Brady's studio with Lincoln and his youngest son, Tad, posing for a portrait.

Each of the 21 figures, which are composed of wax faces and hands, human hair, wooden bodies and authentic period clothing, cost between \$3,000 and \$5,000. The wax figures were originally housed in a gift shop in Springfield, Ill., but

the daughter of the store's late owner offered them to the LaRue County Chamber of Commerce in 1988. When Other lifelike depictions raising \$25,000 in six weeks, the birth of Hodgenville's Lincoln Museum was ensured, LaRue said.

More than 300 volunteers helped renovate a vacant family-owned department store to house the wax figures.

"We opened the museum in 1989 and expanded to the adjacent building in 2001," LaRue said. "We became Kentucky's official Lincoln museum in 1991.'

A federal grant helped cover the renovation costs, including installing an elevator and restrooms for visi-

About 80 percent of the other items in the collection. which includes a large porthe chamber succeeded in trait of Lincoln that originally hung in the state capitol in Frankfort, campaign buttons, clothing, civil war artifacts and other memorabilia, were donated to the museum. On the second floor, visitors can also watch a 21minute film on Lincoln's life. The museum averages

about 25,000 paid visitors a year, but LaRue anticipates a large increase during the two-year Bicentennial in 2008-2009. Currently admission costs \$3 for adults, \$2.50 for seniors and military and \$1.50 for children 5-12 years old. Groups are welcome.

OUR CORE VALUES SAFETY • QUALITY • COMPASSION • ACCOUNTABILITY

Compassion sometimes appears in the smallest gestures. That's why we are consistently evaluating the entire patient experience and making improvements.

The new Guest Services Centers, located in both Regional Medical Center and Trover Clinic, were designed with patients and families in mind. We understand that making things easier during a difficult time can make all the difference.

Guest Services Center offers-

- Patient representative services
- Financial counselor services • Request medical records or
- X-rays for Trover Clinic and RMC
- Account payment services · Much, much more



270.825.5100 • 800.998.5100 www.troverhealth.org/values



OUR MISSION IS EXCELLENT CARE • EVERY TIME