



The Crittenden Press



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COOK BOOK

Local cookbook spotlight's business in Crittenden Co.

The cookbook "Spotlighting Businesses in Crittenden County," is now available for purchase at the Crittenden County Extension Office for \$10. The book was compiled by the Crittenden County Homemaker Association. For further information call 965-5236.

Courthouse closed

The Crittenden County Courthouse is closed Thursday and Friday next week, Nov. 23-24, in observance of Thanksgiving. Some courthouse offices will also be closed on Saturday.

Water District will change meeting

The regular monthly meeting of the Crittenden-Livingston County Water District has been postponed until 7 p.m., Nov. 27, at the office in Salem.

Christmas Parade entries must be in by next Friday, the 24th

Entry forms for Marion's Christmas parade, scheduled for 4 p.m., Dec. 2, can be picked up at Terry L. Ford Insurance Agency or at the Welcome Center. The theme for this year's parade is A Magical Christmas. Entry forms must be turned in by Nov. 24. For more information contact Terry Ford at 965-2239.

Hunter shot in arm

A former Crittenden County man was injured in a hunting accident in Ohio County Monday. Jackie Easley, Jr., was in serious condition at University of Louisville Hospital Tuesday, but is expected to recover. He suffered a gunshot wound to his left arm when another hunter, Ronald Cappage of Hartford, mistook Easley for a deer and shot him with a high-caliber rifle. The Owensboro Messenger-Inquirer newspaper reported Wednesday that charges were expected in the matter.

LOCAL MEETINGS

MONDAY NIGHT
Marion City Council will meet at 6 p.m., at city hall.

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

District Court docket online
www.the-press.com

AM SHOWERS CLOUDY	Partly CLOUDY
45-32	52/35
THURSDAY	FRIDAY

Rain gauge
Last 7 days0.66"
Last 30 days6.70"
Year-to-date58.32" (+15.90")
UK Ag Weather Service, Observations at Paducah as of Tuesday

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Varied Results

Property owners along new highway have mixed feelings

BY ALLISON EVANS
PRESS ASST. EDITOR

Some residents in the path of the proposed new four-lane U.S. 641 are pleased, others are not, as price negotiations and appraisals continue.

The Transportation Cabinet is in varying stages of negotiations with owners of 70 properties affected by the relocation of U.S. 641 between Marion and Fredonia.

According to Keith Todd, public information officer in District 1, 13 parcels of land have been purchased, 13 other property owners have been made offers and 10 have yet to be contacted.

"We deal with each case individually in good faith, and we are not going to discuss negotiations," said Keith Todd. "They are free to but we will not."

The new highway will begin south of Marion near the intersection of Coleman Road and current U.S. 641 and continue southward. It will be located east of the existing U.S. 641. Phase I, which ends near the Caldwell County line at Livingston Creek, is estimated to cost \$48 million. That figure includes cost of right-of-way acquisition, utility relocation and construction.

Bids for construction are tentatively scheduled to be let in September 2007, Todd said.

While some property owners are happy with their offers, others are

Construction Bids

State Highway Department officials say the bid for U.S. 641 construction could be let next fall.

not so pleased.

Keith Davis and his wife Chris are among those whose home, at the intersection of Coleman Road, is in the direct path of the new road. It will be demolished, but the Davises are extremely satisfied with the settlement price offered by the Transportation Cabinet.

Keith Davis said the agreed purchase price is well over what he expected the house to bring on the open market.

"Everybody says they hate to hear about losing the house, but I'm the lucky one - I won't have a road going through my front yard," said Davis, who plans to re-build out of town. He said the state will allow them to salvage whatever they want from their house - whether it's windows, brick, etc., - but there may be a salvage fee involved.

Curt Phelps and his wife Sharon are negotiating a purchase price after rejecting the state's initial offer for their five-year-old home and 13 acres on Crayne Cemetery Road.

The Phelps have debated whether to allow their home to be torn down or have it moved to another location on their 20-acre farm. They are now



Craig Morris of the Pennyrile Area Development District looks over a county highways map with local officials Judge-Executive Fred Brown, Mayor Mickey Alexander and City Councilman Jason Hatfield during a recent public meeting regarding U.S. 641 and other local highway projects.

negotiating a price for the home and 13 acres in the path of the new U.S. 641.

"I want to keep the house and have it moved, but my estimate to have it moved is \$30,000 and that doesn't include moving the heat and air system, foundation and gas and phone lines. The state won't pay the cost to move the house," Phelps said.

Phelps said the people he's dealt with at the Transportation Cabinet have been very helpful, but he hopes to come to terms on what he considers a "reasonable price." He said he could not rebuild his house today for the price he's being offered by the state.

"I'm real dissatisfied with how it's going," Phelps said. "I'm not against the road coming through... (but) ideally I think I am entitled to the value of the house and property because I will lose my view and they are forcing

me out."

Ultimately, a 12-person jury determines the value of a home in cases where a settlement price cannot be agreed upon and the matter goes to circuit court.

"They've been really nice but I think I should be able to keep the house, move it and be eligible for relocation money," Phelps said. "They said I won't get relocation money unless they tear it down and I rebuild."

The owner of a 40-acre tract across from the Phelps on Crayne Cemetery Road is also dissatisfied with his initial offer. Todd Riley said the road will divide his property and decrease its value. Because he rejected the state's first offer it is now his responsibility to gather property values of comparable tracts and prepare

See U.S. 641/page 7A

SOLEMN SALUTE

Staff Sgt. Timothy Keel, Sgt. A.J. Huddleston and Pvt. 1st Class Justin McFarland of the 2nd BN 123rd Armor Ky. ANG salute the flag after presenting the colors at the Veterans Walk of Honor Veterans Day ceremony Saturday afternoon. The local Kentucky Guard Unit provided the color guard and other participants. Local Guardsman Lt. Barkley Hughes was the keynote speaker during the American Legion's Veterans Day event in Marion. See page 3A for more Veterans Day coverage.

PHOTO BY MICHAEL McLENDON

Annex issue...

Clerical error will not affect 1981 expansion

STAFF REPORT

A clerical error during the 1981 annexation of four small pieces of property into the Marion city limits will have no effect on property owners nor the city, Mayor Mickey Alexander said.

Workers with the Pennyrile Area Development District (PADD) discovered a mapping oversight a couple of weeks ago when they were doing regulatory research for a cellular phone company that wants to add a transmission antenna on Wilson Hill, the highest point in the county.

The problem PADD officials uncovered is that 25 years ago when the city expanded, it either failed to notify the Kentucky Secretary of State or the Secretary's office somehow failed to enter the new city boundaries into its own map

See ANNEX/page 3A



Bob Yehling heads workshops at the Crittenden County Public Library.

New Marion resident encourages writing from within

Yehling hosts workshops

BY MICHAEL McLENDON
PRESS STAFF WRITER

A celebrated author, journalist and editor is lending his vast knowledge and experience to would-be writers through several workshops held at the Crittenden County Public Library. These workshops have also showcased the talent of a young teen author, who may have a chance at being published.

Bob Yehling, who is leading the library's workshops, is a 30-year veteran of the publishing industry. He now resides in Marion.

Yehling predominantly focuses his work on writing books but has been a sports writer, book and magazine editor, including an editor's job for American Idol

Magazine.

He is currently working on his seventh book, which is in association with Lucas Films, the production company founded by George Lucas, who created and directed the Star Wars movies.

Yehling is also quite an athlete - he recently placed 55th in the Indianapolis Marathon and qualified for his second Boston Marathon.

During the first local library workshop, 10 participants ranging in age from 14 to over 70, listened to Yehling's tips on being published.

According to Yehling, he has seen many talented individuals at workshops such as these. Most notable is 14-year-old Alexis Black. Black's work

caught the eye of Yehling, and he is now helping her edit her work.

Yehling believes Black "has what it takes." He is hoping to use his contacts in the industry to help connect her with a publishing firm.

During the workshop, students like Black listen to advice from Yehling and do multiple writing exercises.

He teaches his students to write from within their own experiences, emotions and passions.

"A lot of us look outside ourselves to write, (but) the best material comes from life experience," said Yehling. "All great novels come from life experi-

See WRITER/page 8A