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THURSDAY, JANUARY 10, 2008

W W W. T H E - P R E S S . C O M

75 CENTS A home-owned newspaper since 1879 VOLUME 128, NUMBER 27 - 12 PAGES

2007 2nd hottest for west Kentucky

Last year was the second hottest on record for western Kentucky, according to the University of Kentucky Agriculture Weather Center, where records date back to 1895. The average temperature in 2007 was 59.3 degrees, second only to 1921 when it was 60.4. August 2007 was the hottest month ever for the western portion of the state, averaging 83.7 degrees per day, almost a full 2 degrees warmer than the previous record set in August 1980



Marion connection on Deal or No Deal

Britney Lewzader, the 28-year-old granddaughter-in-law of Rip and Barbara Wheeler of Marion, will be a contestant on NBC's hot game show Deal or No Deal this month. Lewzader is the wife of Jonathan Lewzader, whose mother Becky grew up in Marion and formerly taught school here. As a contestant of a previously taped game show, Lewzader has not been at liberty to discuss how she did on the program, but her mother said nine of the 26 cases from which contestants choose contained \$1 million. According to Becky, Britney will be the second contestant on the Jan. 21 show and will be featured on the entire hourlong episode two nights later.

"It should be entertaining; Britney is very dramatic (and hopefully lucky)," Becky wrote The Press in an e-mail. Britney lives in Gilbertsville with her husband, Jonathan.

New jail now home to county inmates

Inmates in Crittenden County started the first full week of 2008 in the county's new detention center. On Monday, county inmates were transferred to the new \$7.7 million Crittenden County Detention Center. Though those prisoners were filling only 15 of the 133 beds in the facility as of Tuesday, Jailer Rick Riley is hoping to begin housing state inmates later this month once more

Marion turns to police for code enforcement STAFF REPORT

Marion Police Department has taken on some new duties, mostly as a cost-saving venture for the City of Marion.

Officers will be handling some of the nuisance ordinance issues previously covered by a full-time city code enforcement officer.

Police Chief Ray O'Neal said that his department's new community policing program makes it feasible to handle nuisance issues without much extra effort. That will mean a potential cost savings of about \$35,000 for the City of Marion.

O'Neal said the police department began dealing with such situations as

inoperable or abandoned vehicles, loud noises, animal violations, high grass and trash or rubbish violations last month. Over the past 30 days, the city has put 28 property owners on notice regarding such ordinance violations. Ten have already corrected their problems while four were cited and fined for failure to do so.

Fines and administrative fees for first offenders are \$60. If the problem is not corrected, the offender most likely will be charged with a misdemeanor and cited to district court.

Officers on patrol are reporting ordinance violations to the chief. Either he or the city administrator follows up on the matter within a day or two.

Generally, the property owner or resident is notified in person or through a large, red door hanger left at the premises where the violation occurred. Offenders have

seven days to take care of the matter whether that means getting rid

O'Neal of a junk car, cutting

weeds, or penning or quieting a problem dog.

"If we see that offenders are doing something to mitigate the situation. we'll work with them if they need a little more time," O'Neal said. "We're not

doing this to write citations or collect fines, it's just to make sure things are corrected.

City Administrator Mark Bryant said he, too, will be driving around town looking for ordinance violations now that the city no longer has a fulltime code enforcement officer. George Foster, now a city patrolman, was formerly the code enforcement officer. When he resigned to become a policeman, the city turned to former Police Chief Kenneth Winn. Winn was going to take the job, but ended up becoming the county's trial commissioner instead.

"I think we have a good plan now," Bryant said.

Back in the game

State **SEEKs** relief School board met with bleak funding forecast

By DARYL K. TABOR MANAGING EDITOR

A collective gasp was let out as school board members looked at a prospective six-figure cut in state allocated funds that could leave education in Crittenden County "bare bones basic" in the coming school year.

That was the scene Monday evening during the January work session of the Crittenden County Board of Education. Board members learned from Superintendent John Belt that because of the state's bleak financial forecast by Gov. Steve Beshear, school districts across the state have been asked to begin budgeting for a possible seven-percent cut in the state funding program that provides money to the local schools.

deputies are trained.

Dairy Queen still closed after fire

Dairy Queen in Marion remains closed indefinitely after an electrical fire last month caused smoke and fire damage to the building. Owner Barry Nasseri has said he is uncertain as to when repairs can be finished.

Spaying, neutering out with adoptions

A lack of money will temporarily halt the free spaying and neutering program offered by the county for the adoption of dogs and cats from the Crittenden County Animal Shelter. Adoptions, however, will continue. Volunteer Toyia Redd said adoptions at the shelter have tripled since the new facility was opened last summer. She said a grant has been requested that could hopefully revive the spaying and neutering program.

Public meetings

■ Marion City Council will meet 6 p.m., Jan. 14 at City Hall. Crittenden Fiscal Court will meet 9 a.m., Jan. 15 at the courthouse. Crittenden County Board of Education will meet 6 p.m., Jan. 15 at the elementary school. Livingston Fiscal Court will meet 5:30 p.m., Jan. 17 at the courthouse. Crittenden County Extension District Board will meet 1:30 p.m. Jan. 18 at the Extension office.

Weather

Reported by UK Ag Weather Service as of Wednesday at Princeton, online at wwwagwx.ca.uky.edu. Forecast THURSDAY FRIDAY 6 am Cloudy, 41° Mostly clear, 38° Mostly clear, 43° Noon Cloudy, 51° 6 pm Cloudy, 48° Mostly clear, 39° 9 pm Cloudy, 44° Mostly clear, 30° **Precipitation report** Last 7 days**0.06** For 2008. Last 30 days**8.71** Deviation 0.06 .-0.92



Visit the-press.com 24-7 for updates on your local and breaking news, including full-color video and slideshows of various events. Send tips to pressnews@the-press.com.





PHOTO ILLUSTRATION The 1908 Marion baseball team, shown in this photo provided by Brenda Underdown, was one of many organized teams to have played in the city. This summer baseball returns.

Marion backs baseball team to call its own; 1st since 1949

By DARYL K. TABOR MANAGING EDITOR

America's pastime will hit the basepaths in Marion this summer, when the town fields its own team in the six-member Kitty League.

Marion Baseball Club LLC will take the field in June, competing with the likes of the Dawson Springs-based Tradewater Pirates in the three-year-old collegiate $% \left({{{\left({{{\left({{{\left({{{\left({{{c}}} \right)}} \right.}$ summer league. The Marion Bobcats will play 25 home games at Marion-Crittenden County Park during June and July, with all but Sunday contests being evening starts.

"I think it's great, I really do," said Bob Swisher, a Marion native and member of the last organized baseball team to call the city home.

The team is the brainchild of Gordon Guess, who rounded up 17 other local investors to back the club and get it off the ground. A passionate baseball fan since his father took him to games as a

child, Guess has been working on such a venture for years, but rounded third on his dream after his retirement from The Peoples Bank last summer. "It American pastime,

Cletus Hunt, one of the 18 Crittenden Countians to have pledged \$1,000 initial investments with another \$1,000 at a later date, doesn't follow the game much anymore, but as a child could be found on sandlots and diamonds across

town. "If you grew up in Marion, you grew up playing baseball," he said.

Hunt, like most of the other investors, lives in Marion proper. He made his investment as a contribution for the benefit of the area.

"Anything you can get to attract people to Marion makes the community better," he said.

Swisher, who now lives in Paducah, played on the 1949 Marion Red Sox, an amateur club in the Twin States League and the last to call Marion home.

"For such a small town to have a baseball team of this nature is great," he said.

On Tuesday, Swisher fondly remembered the grand slam he hit in an 11-run fifth-inning explosion that sank Smithland 15-7 in what

See **BOBCATS**/page 5

That cut in the Support Education Excellence in Kentucky, or SEEK, base would amount to a loss of \$426,094 for Crittenden County schools, well over five percent of the \$7.9 million spending plan currently used by the district.

"I cannot imagine the nightmare" if this comes to pass, Belt said Monday evening. "I don't think we could cope."

The news of the possible reduction came down Monday from Education Commissioner John Draud on the heels of Beshear's projected budget shortfall of \$500 million.

While Belt said it was premature to assume the cut was a done deal, the district's budget committee began laboring Tuesday on two

See SEEK/page 5



We're facing a huge shortage in what we assumed for the revenue stream. There's no real silver bullet to

fix this thing.

- Sen. Dorsey Ridley on state's \$500 million budget shortfall

Crittenden man tries to pull firearm on deputy

STAFF REPORT

A Crittenden County man is jailed in Henderson County after allegedly trying to pull a gun on a police officer.

According to police reports, Henderson Jay deputy Workins was patrolling along U.S. 41 South at 1:30 a.m., Sunday when he got behind a vehicle that was swerving. He suspected the driver might be impaired, so Workins stopped the vehicle.

When the officer got out of his cruiser, the suspect exited his vehicle simultaneously, according to a report in the Henderson Gleaner newspaper. The driver was identified as Crittenden County resident Kenneth Brian Fitzgerald, 20. In his right hand, Fitzgerald was holding a

I pulled my gun and ordered (Kenneth Brian Fitzgerald) to the ground or I was going to shoot him.

- Jay Workins Henderson County deputy

Mountain Dew beverage box, according to a news release issued by the Henderson County Sheriff's Department. But with his left hand, Fitzgerald allegedly reached into the vehicle and began tugging at a loaded shotgun. The gun's sling became entangled in the steering

edFitzgerald to the ground.

Workins told the Henderson newspaper that he had a split-second to decide what he should do.

"I pulled my gun and ordered (Fitzgerald) to the ground or I was going to shoot him," the officer told Henderson reporter Beth Smith.

Instead, Fitzgerald let go of the gun and started running. He was chased by the officer, but the suspect disappeared behind some buildings. The officer radioed for backup which soon arrived at the scene, including a state police and a K9 unit. The officers started searching together and found the suspect's cap, a shoe and the Mountain Dew

wheel and the deputy order box he was holding. The box contained what police said was three ounces of marijuana.

Fitzgerald was later found hiding nearby behind a guardrail on the Pennyrile

Parkway, news reports said. Fitzgerald was charged with driving under the influence, expired plates, failure to wear a seat belt, trafficking in marijuana less than eight ounces (firearm enhanced), first-degree fleeing/evading police and possession of drug paraphernalia. The trafficking charge was enhanced from a misdemeanor to a felony due to the presence of the firearm.

The investigation led Henderson authorities to a home where 20-year-old Jake Edward Cummings was

arrested and charged with possession of marijuana, possession of drug paraphernalia and first-degree possession of cocaine.

Workins told the Henderson newspaper that when he saw Fitzgerald trying to pull the gun, "I was scared. I'm not going to lie. I knew it was me or him, and I wanted to go home to my babies.'

"It all happened so quickly and all I had time to do was react," he told the Gleaner. "I never want to shoot anyone, but I was prepared to. I thank God the (gun) got caught. Because if I'd shot and killed him, I couldn't have lived with it if I'd killed someone and then it turns out the gun wasn't loaded. I'm glad it all worked out the way it did."

Swisher

I don't care what people say," Guess said Monday, after confirming the last of his investors.

is

the

hePressNews&Views

Thursday, January 10, 2008



Rep. Mike CHERRY (D) **House District 4** Crittenden Livingston Caldwell McCracken, part

Contacting Rep. Cherry: 702 Capital Ave. Annex Rm. 370A Frankfort, KY 40601 502.564.8100, ext. 665 mike.cherry@lrc.ky.gov

> 803 S. Jefferson St. Princeton, KY 42445 270.365.7801

Service House 1999 - Present

Session Committees: Agriculture & Small Business; Education; State Government, chair

Health department

intimidating Amish

Crittenden County is for-

tunate in having the Amish

as residents and neighbors.

Their farms are flourishing

income to the county, in

sharp contrast to many of

under various government

programs which are produc-

ing nothing, and often in the

ownership of absentee own-

the many people who come

farms and witness farming

not seen elsewhere today.

comed dollars to the mer-

Marion, as well as to the

Amish.

chants, motels and bed and

breakfast establishments of

small stores operated by the

The Amish stores are very

popular with out of town visi-

mary destination. The owners

tors and are often their pri-

of these small stores pay

taxes on their profits, and

the items most sought for

These visitors bring wel-

from other areas to see these

as done not so long ago, but

The county benefits from

ers from out of state.

and productive and providing

the other farms in the county

To the editor:



Sen. Dorsey **RIDLEY (D) House District 4** Crittenden Livingston Caldwell Henderson

Union Webster Contacting Sen. Ridley: 702 Capital Ave. Annex Rm. 251 Frankfort, KY 40601 502.564.8100. ext. 655 dorsey.ridley@lrc.ky.gov

> 4030 Hidden Creek Dr Henderson, KY 42420 270.869.0505 or 826.5402

Service House 1987-94; Senate 2004 - Present

Session Committees: Agriculture & Natural Resources; Veterans, Military Affairs, & Public Protection; Banking & Insurance

Kentucky 2008 General Assembly

Following the session

Kentuckians can contact their state legislators and get information about the General Assembly's work in a variety of ways during the 2008 Regular Session, which began Tuesday.

The Legislative Message Line at 1-800-372-7181 is available for constituents to offer their opinions to state lawmakers. The legislature also operates a TTY Message Line for citizens with hearing or speech impairments at 1-800-896-0305.

Residents can also get information about the legislature's activities by calling the Calendar Line, updated each evening, at 1-800-633-9650. The recording announces the upcoming day's scheduled committee hearings and floor meeting times

The status of each bill filed in the House or Senate is also available at 1-866-840-2835.

A wealth of information is also available to constituents through the General Assembly's Web site, www.lrc.ky.gov. Among the services available are the meetings calendar, help on discovering who represents each area of Kentucky in Frankfort, pending legislation, current laws, and a guide to how the legislature operates.

The LRC Public Information Office emails regular legislative updates to subscribers of its eNews service. Anyone can subscribe by visiting www.lrc.ky.gov/pubin-fo/listserv.htm. In addition, the Public Information Office maintains a Web log of legislative news, "Capitol Notes," detailing legislative action at www.lrc.ky.gov/ pubinfo/capitol_notes.htm.

Kentucky Education Television records all meetings of the full House and Senate as well as many committee meetings. House and Senate chamber proceedings and some committee meetings can be viewed on a live stream available at KET's Web site at www.ket.org/legislature. Each weeknight at 10 p.m., KET airs half-hour legislative update.

Standing committees

- Committee on Committees (House, Senate) Rules (House, Senate)
- Enrollment (House, Senate)
- Agriculture & Natural Resources (Senate only)
- Agriculture & Small Business (House only)
 Appropriations & Revenue (House, Senate)
- Banking & Insurance (House, Senate)
- Economic Development (House only)
- Economic Development, Tourism & Labor (Senate only)
- Education (House, Senate)
- Elections, Constitutional Amendments & Intergovernmental Affairs (House only)
- Health & Welfare (House, Senate)
- Judiciary (House, Senate) Labor & Industry (House only)
- Licensing & Occupations (House only) Licensing, Occupations & Administrative Regulations (Senate only)
- Local Government (House only) Natural Resources & Environment (House
- only) Seniors, Military Affairs & Public Safety
- (House only) ■ State Government (House only)

evening.

- State & Local Government (Senate only)
- Transportation (House, Senate)
- Tourism Development & Energy (House only)
- Veterans, Military Affairs, & Public Protection

Real

a real estate career can regis-

ter for RE 100, or Real Estate

Principles I, on Monday

via interactive TV from

Madisonville from 6 to 8:45

p.m. Classes begin next week.

Tuition is \$115 per credit

tion contact the Admissions

Office at MCC. The toll-free

number to the college is 1-

contact Hardin at at 965-

9294, particularly if they plan

to take the real estate classes

as non-degree seeking stu-

Area residents can also

866-227-4812.

To inquire about registra-

hour, the lowest in the state.

Both classes will be taught

Estate

The Press Letters

The Press Letters Policy

The Crittenden Press accepts and encourages letters to the editor on a variety of subjects. Letters should be submitted by 5 p.m., Friday the week before publication.

Letters must include the author's name, address, phone number and signature. Phone numbers will not be published. They are for our records only in order to authenticate a letter's author.

Letters should be written in good taste and in most cases

Crittenden Press as a letter to the editor for last week's paper, but having become aware that an employee of the health department had scheduled a meeting between her supervisor and the proprietors of an Amish store to clarify some of the items listed in her inspection which threatened the closure of their store, I held the letter until I could hear the health department's side of the mat-

ter. The anticipated meeting was attended largely by other Amish, some of whom I recognized as storekeepers, all there by invitation. This meeting never took place as the supervisor of the health department refused to discuss in public the issues raised by their threatened closure of the store. The Health Department employees had left the store when the store owners followed them out into the parking area and agreed to meet them in the privacy of their home.

should not exceed 300 words. Letters will be edited for spelling and grammar and The Crittenden Press reserves the right to reject or edit letters for clarity, brevity and otherwise at our discretion. Writers should limit their letters to no more than one per month. Original copies of submitted letters will be retained in our files.

Letters may be brought into our office, sent to P.O. Box 191, Marion, Ky., 42064 or press news@the-press.com.

in their private meeting with the health department, which was that nothing much was changed. The two people from the health department were accompanied by another person who did not introduce himself, but was assumed to be the "big gun" from Frankfort, whom the store owners had been told would be present.

The actions of the health department employees can only be described as pure intimidation. **Merrill Greeman**

Salem, Ky.

cash donations and we estimate approximately \$6,000 was provided by generous family sponsors.

There is no way to list the names of everyone who was involved; but, whether you donated a \$1 or more, sponsored a child, volunteered on set-up or distribution day, had a sponsor tree at your business, donated smoke alarms, donated new toys or clothing, provided a clothes closet, held a fundraiser or any of the many other things that help make the event successful; we are most appreciative.

We also wish to thank the staff from the following local agencies that assisted with the overall planning and distribution: Senior Center, Learning Center, PACS, Heart to Heart FRYSC, Crittenden County Schools, Public Housing, and U.K. Extension Service. If these agencies did not support this united effort to help local families we would not be able to have this type of project in our county.

Mona Manley and Alicia McDowell, co-chairs Community Christmas Marion, Ky.

Real estate classes begin at ed center



its Real Estate Principles II (RE 200) course to the center from 6 to 8:45 p.m. The first class is next Tuesday.

"Students who took RE 100 last semester will likely want to take the second class to complete the educational requirements for the real estate sales license with the

2 join WPSD weather team

STAFF REPORT Meteorologists Kyle Mounce and Trent Okerson are the latest additions to the Weather Authority team at JewsChanne

taught science in the Massac County School system. He

oins



NewsChannel 6 full-time. In

dents.

nights, Madisonville Community College will be broadcasting

spring at the Crittenden Center.

STAFF REPORT Kentucky A career in the real estate Commission," said Dulcie industry is the object of two Hardin, education coordinator real estate classes being at the center. this Other persons interested in

Educational Training On Tuesday

purchase are largely items not found in any other stores in the county, and take very little business from them. Overall, the Amish community is a huge economic plus to Crittenden County.

Having said all of that, I have one question; why is the Crittenden County Health Department so determined to close the Amish stores?

The above was to have been submitted to The

The store owners afterwards shared what went on

Community gives to 134 families To the editor:

On behalf of the 2007 **Community Christmas** Committee, we would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who assisted by making the holidays a little brighter for 134 families in Crittenden County. These families included 258 children and 198 adults. \$6,889.33 was collected from

'07 Gift Giveaway much appreciated

To the editor: I would like to say thanks to WMJL FM 102.7 and to all the sponsors in The Great Gift Giveaway for 2007, which I was the winner of. It

was great and much appreci-

ated. Marie Robertson Marion, Ky.

Worak

Paula

Mounce, an Indiana native, comes to NewsChannel 6 from WHBF in Rock Island, Ill., where he was the weekend meteorologist. He joins Scott McGee and Johnette weekdays for Mounce NewsChannel 6 at 5 p.m., and Bridges for

NewsChannel 6 at 9 on Fox 23.Okerson has worked for NewsChannel 6 since October as a part-time weather anchor

on the weekends while he

addition to serving as the weekend meteorologist, Okerson will Mike join Mallory and Johnette

Worak on NewsChannel 6 Midday three days a week.

Okerson and Mounce join Chief Meteorologist Jennifer Rukavina on the WPSD weather team.

What's your **opinion** What do you think of casino gambling in **Kentucky?**



Debbie Thomas They might as well, 66 Illinois is getting our dollars there.



Arnold Redd 66 I think it would bring in money to the community that we desperately need.



Paula Samuel I'm really not for it. 66 There's a lot of other things I could do with my money, but if they would apply it to the schools it would be a big help.



Clifton Etheridge 6 think it should be put on the ballot, if the majority is in favor of it, then so be it.



Vickie Hodges The gambling atmosbhere is not a healthy atmosphere to raise children.

Nero heard tuning his fiddle

Our government harbors men and women that are a disgrace not only to our God. but to our nation and to our military that put their lives on the line to keep us from becoming like any of the other nations of the world where God does not bless them like He has this one.

From the Pilgrims to every present person in the United States military have sacrificed time, life, limbs, and the comforts and love of home for this country that was founded on and for the Gospel of Jesus Christ that we might remain one nation under God, and blessed because in Him we trust.

Not only are avowed homosexuals, liars, fornicators and adulterers dirtying the halls of our nation's capital, and no



doubt many state houses, but now we can boast that one state elected a Muslim to Congress, and now an admitted and seemingly proud atheist has added his name to the shame list.

What a disgrace that we have in the Congress 18-term "Pete" Stark who told The New York Sun that he is "a Unitarian who does not believe in a supreme being," yet belongs to the Unitarian

Church, which really is no church at all, as church means "congregation of God's people."

Any person that knows anything about history, both world and Bible, knows beyond the shadow of a doubt that every nation that turns its back on God, goes down to the quagmire of filth, poverty, disease, slavery, ignorance and tyranny, ruled by ruthless dictators of these aforementioned conditions or brutal despotic men or women.

God has given us the form of government that we elect our leaders by majority vote. What we elect tells us what the majority of us are. Too many do not care about morals and Christian values, they only want their party in

even if they are supported by the devil himself, and the ones that promise the most to the ones that deserve it the least, stolen from the ones that deserve it the most.

America is facing the most deadly and frightening enemies in our entire history that want to kill us so badly they are anxious to die to do it. And we still play party over principal, mammon over morals, and satan over God who has blessed this nation above any and all nations on earth and in history.

If ever there were a statement that fits the times: "Nero fiddles while Rome burns.'

(Editor's note: Lucy Tedrick is pastor at Marion Church of God. Her column appears weekly in The Press.)

The Crittenden Press

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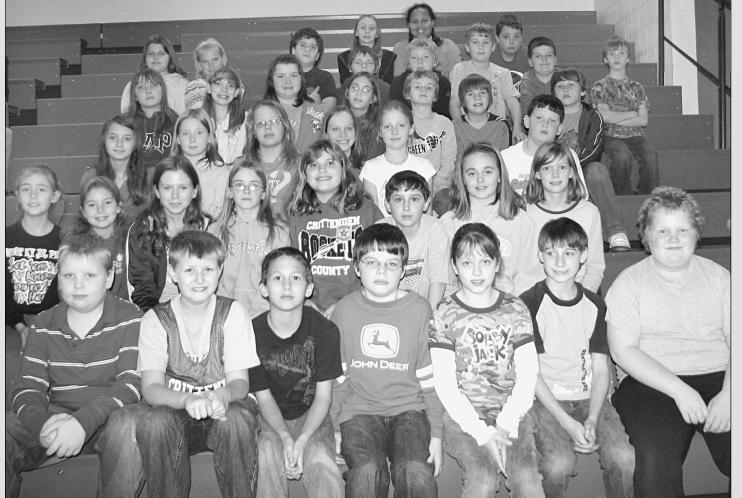
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Proficient achievers: Fifth-grade CATS performers



PROFICIENT READING

At left, fifth-grade students at Crittenden County Elementary School recognized for proficient achievement on the reading portion of their fourth-grade Commonwealth Accountability Testing System (CATS) test are (front row, from left) Logan Bingham, Adam Driver, Michael Clark, Jacob Berry, Danielle Byarley, Matthew Cox, Chris Andersen (second row) Madison Lynch, Sydney Hunt, Chelsea Oliver, Mallory McDowell, Kayla Davis, Jacob Graham, Erica Hardin, Lauren Watson, (third row) Megan Manns, Haley Skees, Kenzie McKinley, Keiana Baird, Chloe McKinzie, Chase Dempsey, (fourth row) Eleasha Head, Arieal Wright, Sylvana Hunt, Leilani Hutchings, Nathan Burnett, Ryan Dunham, Michael Hassett, (fifth row) Brittany Stone, Layla Underdown, Joey Shewmaker, Dakota Stone, Lane Wallace, Noah Dickerson, Hunter Stone. Austin Travis, (back row) Elizabeth Ritchie, Khyla Moss and Chase Young. Not pictured are Colby Watson and Brayden McKinney.

PHOTOS BY DARYL K. TABOR

proficient achievement on the writing portion of their (front row, from left) Sydney Hunt, Madison Lynch, Katrina Mast, Dianna Bradford, Sylvana Hunt, Anna Bryant, Elle LaPlante, Danielle Byarley, Erica Hardin, (second row) Chelsea Oliver, Jacob Berry, Kayla Davis, (third row) Lauren Watson, Noah Dickerson, Chase Bingham, Lane Wallace, (fourth row) Kenzie McKinley, Burnett, Trevor Faith, Jacob Graham, Joey Shewmaker, Dakota Stone, Cole Easley, (fifth row) Cameron McDaniel. Arieal Wright, Eleasha Head, Suggs, Austin Travis, (back



Schools urging all to go bully free

By HOLLY WHITE

SCHOOLS COMMUNITY EDUCATOR The new year is a time for new beginnings and making resolutions to change things for the better.

Many people have noticed, since school began in August,

on certain days people are wearing yellow T-shirts that "Bully say Free." There has been a lot of talk on these davs about this what



means and White why so many people are doing this.

At the beginning of our 2007 school year, Crittenden County School District went Bully Free. On certain days, every staff member wears their Bully Free T-shirt to raise awareness of this issue.

Everyone can remember a time when they were bullied or that they bullied someone. There is a very distinct feeling that goes along with bullying or being bullied, and it is a feeling that a person never for-gets. Bullying has lifelong effects on people.

Crittenden County Schools want to take our Bully Free program one step farther for the new year. We want to have a Bully Free Community. We ask that everyone has one common res-

the

have

Bully Free olution for 2008: Treat public days others way that you The following days have been want to be established as treated. We

community-wide should all live Bully Free Days by this goldin conjunction with Crittenden County Sch

■ Jan. 9 ■ Feb. 6	established dates that we
 ■ Feb. 6 ■ March 5 ■ April 9 	will be Bully Free, and we
■ May 7 ■ June 4	ask that the community
■ July 2	join in and

en rule.

We

support us in this effort. Also, there are different things that can be purchased to note that you sup-

cient achievement on the math Dickerson and Nathan Burnett. Not pictured are Colby Watson

port and have adopted the golden rule. Those items are: \blacksquare Flower pot signs, \$5;

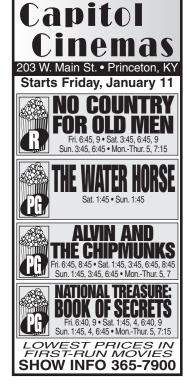
■ T-shirts, \$12;

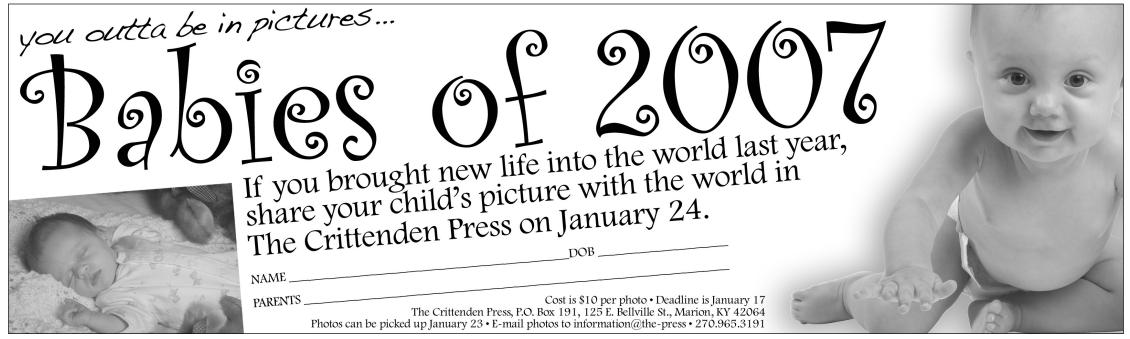
■ 9- by 12-inch countertop table tent signs, \$5;

■ 12- by 19-inch vinyl yard signs, \$12; and

■ 9- by 12-inch window signs, \$5.

To purchase these items, contact Holly White at the board of education central office at 965-3525 or e-mail holly.white@crittenden.ky schools.us.





General Assembly watch '08 Lawmakers face grim finances

FRANKFORT, Ky. (AP) – A grim financial forecast awaited Kentucky lawmakers as they returned to the Capitol Tuesday for the start of the 2008 legislative session, where negotiations over the next two-year spending plan are likely to dominate the coming months.

For weeks Gov. Steve Beshear has warned that state government's coffers are running low and are expected to stay that way for the near future. The state, Beshear says, still needs more than \$160 million this year and is facing a \$500 million shortfall next year.

Beshear, a Democrat who took office last month, has already slashed millions from the current \$18 billion biennial budget that expires June 30. He'll ask lawmakers to authorize more spending to finish out the current year for programs such as Medicaid and corrections.

And next year could be worse, Beshear warned.

"We are going to have to tighten our belts and cut up our credit cards and make our budgets balance," Beshear told reporters Monday. "It's going to be painful to do that, it's going to be painful all across state government."

Coal money to aid jail, Dycusburg

Coal mined from Crittenden County will return to the county in the form of financial help for the new detention center and three other community projects.

Sen. Dorsey Ridley told The Press that local requests for the \$300,000 due Crittenden County in the coming fiscal year from Kentucky's coal severance tax have been agreed upon by him and Rep. Mike Cherry. Both Democrats represent Crittenden County in Frankfort and will be requesting allocations in the state's new biennial budget based upon the wishes of the local fiscal court.

According to Ridley, the \$300,000 will be broken down as follows:

■ \$240,000 for debt reduction on the new \$7.7 million **Crittenden County Detention** Center. That will amount to about half of the half-a-milliondollar payment the county will make for 2009.



addition to an uncertain cost of transportation as fuel prices continue to rise. The remainder of the cur-

prospective budgets for 2008rent school year would be 09 – one with the full SEEK funding and one with the seven-percent cut. The state legislature also began its 60day session Tuesday and will begin taking up the budget when Beshear hands over his two-year spending plan later this month.

Rep. Mike Cherry (Din Frankfort Princeton), Tuesday for the start of the session, believes the sevenpercent proposal is a worstcase scenario for school districts.

"By the time we're finished," said the five-term legislator of budget work by lawmakers, "I don't expect it to be that bad."

Draud said Tuesday that the cut it is only a possibility, but State Budget Director Mary Lassiter and interim President Brad Cowgill of the Council on Postsecondary Education said the governor's administration has already warned that public universities, community colleges and state agencies may have up to 12 percent less money beginning July 1. That reduction would be in addition to a 3 percent cutback now under way for the last half of the state's current fiscal year.

Because of SEEK's complicated formula, a seven-percent cut in the base of \$3,822 per student would amount to a total 7.8-percent loss for Crittenden County. That \$426,094 follows a \$310,000 budget gap the district was forced to close in the current spending year through a reduction in staff and programs.

According to Belt, Chief Financial Officer Brent Highfil said if the cut occurs, the district would be funding a school system next year with 2009 expenses and revenue the equivalent of 1994 dollars, in

unaffected by SEEK cuts. They would not be effective until July 1, when the new fiscal year begins. The superintendent said the picture for next vear could be dismal, alluding to more staff and program cuts, even an elimination of some extra-curricular activities and a return to simply basic

programs and bus routes. But Belt remains cautiously optimistic for the future, as lawmakers in the capital begin to take up the budget process.

"It's too early to panic," he said.

Cherry, a member the House Education committee, said education ranks among the top of state government's responsibilities along with public safety and welfare. In fact, he said Kentucky spends about 60 percent of its budget on education.

"Education, by far, is where we spend the most money," he said.

Sen. Ken Winters (R-Murray), chairman of the Senate Education Committee, said education must continue to be funded properly.

"Our economic future depends on education," the forpresident of mer Campbellsville College, Murray State University professor and Crittenden County native told The Press. "I'm looking forward to making some significant strides in education.

The school board will likely further discuss the budget issue at it next regular meeting, set for 6 p.m., Tuesday at Crittenden County Elementary School.

The legislative session continues through April.

The (Editor's note: Associated Press contributed to this story.)



Farmers Bancorp issues 3rd dividend

Farmers Bancorp of Marion has issued its third shareholder dividend for the fiscal year ending Dec. 31, 2007, providing stockholders with record earnings last year.

Farmers Bank and Trust Company of Marion is a wholowned subsidiary of Farmers Bancorp.

Stockholders earned \$16.10 per share during 2007, which included the latest payout of \$5.60 per share. The locally-owned company generally pays two dividends per year, in July and December. This year, stockholders received a third special dividend of \$5 per share in October.

In comparison, stockholders earned \$10.70 per share in 2006

This year's shareholder earnings would have been a record even without the special dividend in the fall, company officials said.

Bank President Gareth Hardin said the record stockholder earnings reflects the bank's growth over the past 12 months. Farmers Bankcorp ended 2007 with \$125 million in assets, which was \$9 million more than the previous vear.

Sen. McConnell files for re-election

FRANKFORT, Ky. (AP) -Republican U.S. Sen. Mitch McConnell of Kentucky has filed his candidacy papers for re-election.

The move for the Senate minority leader isn't unexpected. He has raised nearly \$11 million for his re-election effort. McConnell filed his can-

didacy papers Monday. McConnell so far has three Democratic challengers. They are Iraq war veteran Andrew Horne, Louisville-area doctor Michael Cassaro and perennial candidate David L.

Marion boil-water orders expected

Williams.

If you hear several boil water warnings come from the City of Marion's water department over the coming months don't be too alarmed.

City officials say they recently received clarification of state law that requires them to notify residents anytime there is a water main break that causes water pressure to drop for a significant portion of their customers.

City Administrator Mark Bryant said that because the city has some lines dating back to the the 1920s, leaks are frequent. When workers dig up the line to make repairs, they must shut off water or lower pressure to a large part of the city. When that happens, the city is required by law to issue a boil water notice.

The notices will be aired on area radio and television stations and often printed in The Crittenden Press, if practicable due to printing schedules.

A boil water notice issued by the city this week because of a water main break on West Bellville stated that "although no contamination has been confirmed we recommend bringing all water to a rolling boil, let it boil three minutes, and let it cool before using, or use bottled water. Boiled or bottled water should be used for drinking, making ice, brushing teeth, washing dishes and food preparation until

further notice. Boiling kills bacteria and other organisms in the water.'

In most cases, boil water notices are lifted in 24 hours.

The notice also states that "people with severely compromised immune systems, infants and some elderly may be at increased risk. These people should seek advice their healthcare from providers about drinking water."

GOP's Ron Paul has son in Kentucky

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP) - As New Hampshire voters made their choice for party nominees, Kentucky finds itself relegated to the sidelines in the early presidential primary season. But one Kentuckian has been in the thick of the race by stumping for his father.

Bowling Green ophthalmologist Rand Paul went to New Hampshire Saturday for the final campaign blitz before the state's pivotal primary on Tuesday. Paul greeted voters, did radio interviews and made phone calls for his dad, GOP presidential candidate Ron Paul.

It's a role the 44-year-old relishes in helping his dad's long-shot presidential bid.

"Some guys my age would love to do nothing but watch football and the scores," he said in a phone interview Friday. "For me, it's watching and reading politics."

Ron Paul, a 10-term congressman from Texas, is known for his libertarian leanings and opposition to the Iraq war. He placed fifth among Republicans in the New Hampshire primary and fifth in the Iowa caucuses, ahead of former New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani.

BOBCATS Continued from Page 1

became the last game of organized league baseball Marion would host. According to Guess, a brawl between the two clubs – documented in the June 10, 1949, issue of The Crittenden Press - spelled an end to the three-year-old Marion team. Soon after, the league kicked Marion out of the

fold. obcats furniture and groceries to Railroaders players. "They become local heroes," he said of club members.

It also provides an identity. "We haven't been here

before," Guess said matter-offactly. "It's our own franchise. Our own team."

Guess, like Hunt, grew up playing ball in Marion, whether in a back yard or grassy field making a game with as few as three boys by playing homemade variations like cat-eye and bottlecap. He and his dad, who shunned any other sport, bonded over baseball.

ment will do that. Season tickets will be \$115 for the 25 home games, with general admission tickets only \$5. Various additional promotions, he hopes, will draw at least 125 a night to the stands.

"That's our break-even number," he said. "Of course, we hope to do better than that."

Through promotions, including Ladies' Night and Old-timers Night, inexpensive fun and good baseball, the club hopes to draw varied, large crowds. Guess is even counting on strong baseball interest in Fredonia and Salem to fill

ture.

"It's a civic thing these investors are doing," he said. "You're not going to make money on it.'

Bobcat investors range from retired business people to those in their late 20s, with careers in insurance to agribusiness.

"Most of the people haven't even been in the same room together," Guess said of the wide array of personalities.

While the Marion baseball venture has become his own Fulton. field of dreams, Guess wants to shy away from personal attention. He's called in lots of Sikeston, Mo. favors, aside from the initial investors, to make the park and team a reality. Bobcats players will take action. the field in team colors of red, white and royal blue. The

team's white vest-type uniforms will have Bobcats emblazoned in blue across the chest in block letters. Undershirts will be blue for home contest, red on the road. The traditional baseball cap will be blue with a red M, trimmed in white. But why name the team the Bobcats?

"Because we've got plenty of them around here," said Guess.

Kitty League teams for 2008 will be based in Marion,

■ \$30,000 for restrooms and upgrades to the Dam 50 recreation area.

■ \$20,000 for upgrades to the Ben E. Clement Mineral Museum in Marion.

■ \$10,000 to create a recreation area at Chase Matthews Park at the boat ramp in Dycusburg.

Special elections filling empty seats

FRANKFORT, Ky. (AP) Republican Alecia Webb-Edgington and Democrat Sannie Overly have won election to the state House.

Democrats now hold 61 of the 100 House seats, with Republicans controling 37. Two vacant seats remain. In the Senate, the GOP outnumbers Democrats 21-15, with one Independent and one vacant seat, formerly held by Lt. Gov. Daniel Mongiardo.

In northern Kentucky's 63rd district, Webb-Edgington defeated Democrat Dan Wolff in unofficial returns reported Tuesday by the state Board of Elections. The district's former representative, Jon Draud, resigned to become Kentucky education commissioner.

Overly defeated Republican Bryan Beauman for central Kentucky's 72nd District seat left vacant after former state Rep. Carolyn Belcher was elected Bath County judge-executive.

All remaining vacant seats will be filled with a Feb. 5 special election.

2008 Session Toll-free numbers

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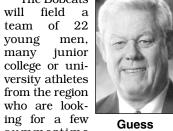
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Online Information www.lrc.ky.gov

will field а team of 22 young men, junior many college or university athletes from the region who are look-



summertime at-bats to hone their skills and gain exposure. It's a sacrifice, as players of the Kitty League do not get paid, rather they pay a fee to play the game. You get at bats. You get to

be seen," Guess explained.

Bobcat players will be managed by Steve Fowler of Madisonville.

The Kitty League is officially the KIT League, an acronym for Kentucky, Illinois and Tennessee, the general geographical area from which teams hail. The term "Kitty" is a throwback to the Class D professional league that that made its home in the same area from 1903 to 1955.

Marion joins the new Kitty League in 2008 as a replacement for Farmington. Mo., whose owners disbanded the team due to other commitments.

League President Randy Morgan said the communities that play host to the teams have fallen in love with them.

"People have really just taken these players into their hearts," Morgan said from his Paducah home.

Guess is counting on the community's open arms for both the success of the team and a roof over players' heads. While he has made tentative arrangements for some of the players, others will need a place a stay once the action begins.

There are probably going to be a few with a hometown in northern Illinois or Staten Island (N.Y.)," he said. "They can't commute like some others.

Morgan said community support is essential to keeping the league viable, and not just through ticket sales.

"In Fulton, they would tell you (the team) means quite a bit," he said.

The league president said such affection is illustrated by the fact that Fulton residents have gone so far as to donate

"There's nothing my dad liked better than to take me to a game," Guess said.

They would also listen to Harry Caray calling St. Louis Cardinal games on the radio. Guess recalls thinking a town was little to nothing if it didn't host a baseball team. In his youth, cities like Paducah, Hopkinsville, Madisonville and Owensboro each had organized baseball.

"This puts us a league up on Princeton," Guess said of the Bobcats. "You have no idea what that means to me."

The team will play on the high school field at Marion-Crittenden County Park which is appropriately named for Guess. The diamond has carried the name Gordon B. Guess Field for several years.

"I decided before they named it I wanted to do something like this," he said. "After that, I didn't want to have my name on something that's poorly done.'

That's why he's been pouring in money and time, adding 250 chair-back seats and a covered pavilion at the field. Next will be an enlargement of the field itself and traditional below-ground dugouts for the teams. A new concession stand and combination batting cagestorage facility are also in the works.

"We're trying to make Marion a better place," Guess said.

Guess believes low cost, summer evening entertain-



seats "It's good quality entertainment," he said. "I hope people will come out and see us play.'

Morgan agreed the league is certainly not a get-rich ven-

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TALK ABOUT ROOMY - COLLEGE ST. - This is the home, 4 br, bath, living rm, dining rm, kitchen w/stove & refrigerator, fireplace, basement, carport and a garage. Well maintained. 3 blocks from town. \$59,500.00. sf

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ENOUGH SPACE FOR FAMILY - 4 or 5 bedrooms, 2 baths, living room, dining room with fire-place, kitchen complete with appliances. Basement, new front porch, side deck, carport, brick patio. Large yard. Well cared for. jw

REDUCED - STURGIS, KY - A 3 br 2 bath double wide w/large eat-in kitchen & laundry rm with room for upright chest freezer. There's central H/A, new front & back porches, an outbuilding (needs repair) & a paved drive. \$39,900.00. vmh NEW - POPLAR STREET - 3 br, 1 bath home, din-

ing rm, kit., 1 car garage on double lot. Good starter home, \$29,000,00, mc FAMILY LIVING - 3 or 4 br, 2 full baths, 2 1/2 baths, large kit. w/lots of cabinets, utility rm. hot tub, 3 car garage, paved drive, 2.19 ac. Priced to

sell. wg

A CONTRACTOR

\$8,000.00. jg NEW - DRIFTWOOD ESTATES - Building lot, lake Celler, central h/a. Also has an outside wood burnview at Barkley Lake, Eddyville. \$30,000.00. gd NICE CORNER LOT - This nice 1+/- acre lot is

LOLA AREA - 3 br, 1.5 bath, large utility rm, hardwood floors, cent. Air/gas heat, attached garage, 30x50 work shop w/double overhead doors, Crittenden Co. 2 miles from Lola, \$51,500.00, ch QUIET AREA - 3 br home, 1 bath, liv. rm, kitchen w/dining rm combo, full basement, central H/A and carport. Storage bldg (needs repair), county water, .61 acres, \$42,000.00, tw

Older home & 2 out bldgs (all in need of repair). County water, a well & a spring. Excellent hunting. 4 miles from Marion ty

home with bath, living room, kitchen, 2 car garage, paved drive and 3+/- acres. Owner wants offer.

\$90,000.00. Owner wants offer. jf DON'T MISS THIS OPPORTUNITY - N. Grant St.,

Sturgis, 2 br, bath home w/1 car detached garage. Conveniently located. Excellent for rental or frst time buyer! Reduced to \$25,000.00. db

w/app., laundry with w/d, Oak hardwood floors, new vinyl siding and new cen H/A. \$59,000.00. bg LOOKING FOR A BEAUTIFUL SETTING - and a home? Large maintenance free home, 4 or 5 br, 3 1/2 baths, kitchen w/app. Walk out basement

There's a 1 car det. garage w/storage area and 2

fence. Call for app. \$96,500.00. rb GREAT FOR A HUNTER'S LODGE - 3 br w/large great rm, lots of kit. cabinets, large laundry rm, & fam, rm, A barn & small storage bldgs, A 32x52 metal bldg. w/upstairs br apt., a 1/2 bath on lower level & concrete floor, 4+ acres fenced & a spring.

NEW - GOLFER'S DREAM - Nice 3 br. 2 bath in kitchen w/nice oak cabinets & ap. A Double lot

w/kitchen, living rm & updates on all the interior. er for the home, out bldgs & county water on 2 acres +/-. Hwy 60 E. Reduced. rp

GREAT LOCATION - 90 acres mostly wooded.

Price reduced to \$62,000.00. Ic

OLD SALEM ROAD - 2 or 3 br w/2nd story & basement. Metal garage, older barn, 4.5 acres. Won't last long! Owner wants offer, iw SECLUDED - 3br, 2 bath w/front deck, oversized storage bldg., fruit trees. Dead end rd. 10+/- acres.

NEW - WALKING DISTANCE - 2 br. eat-in kitchen

w/deck, central H/A, paved drive. Wooded 1 acre +/-. A must see property. db GREAT FOR FAMILY LIVING - 3 br. 2 bath brick home, living rm, dining rm, fam. rm, and carport.

storage bldgs. A nice backyard w/deck & privacy

Salem area. \$130,000.00. js

brick home overlooking hole 7. Fam. rm, dining rm & office. 2 fireplaces w/gas logs. Att. 2 car garage Detached 25 X 30 garage w/electric. Gazebo. am STARTING OUT - 3 br, bath, liv. rm, quiet st. Priced right. W. Depot St. Owner wants offer. GREAT FAMILY HOME - 3 Br bath, living rm, eat-

& 5 out buildings. This home is well kept. ew OPEN & SPACIOUS - is this 2 br, 2 bath

Christopher Rd, in Fredonia, KY, Lots of big oak 8 hickory trees on these lots. Priced to sell at \$12,500.00 BUILDING LOT - with underground city electric phone and county water, \$5,300,00, kd

6 BEAUTIFUL BUILDING LOTS - County water \$8,700 to \$12,500. jn IMMEDIATE POSESSION - On this 3 bedroom COMMERCIAL

LOCATION - LOCATION - 1 block from The Court Square on Main Street. Nice commercial bldg Ready for your new business, cen h/a, security sys

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room, 2 office areas & 2 restrms. Parts rm., storage bldg w/concrete floor. Fenced area. security systme in & out. Pond on 5+/- acres. Hwy. 641 Marion. jc

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Owensboro and Dawson Springs in Kentucky; Union City, Tenn.; and Wooden bats, nine-inning

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19 \$24,900.00, 3.23 AC, Lot 11 \$10,000.00, 1.02 AC, Lot 6 \$11,500.00, 1.208 AC, Lot 5 \$10,500.00, 1.068 AC. Lot 4 \$11,500.00 1.509 AC, County Water, Underground utilities, in

APPROX. 1 ACRE - Hwy. 506. \$5,900.00. dh GOOD LOCATION - Lot across from Crittender Farm Supply on Gum St. \$8,000.00. rd NEW - 3 NICE BUILDING LOTS - On Campbell

Lane & Hwy 641. County water & elec. Lots range

from 1 acre to to 2 1/2 acres. Mobile homes o.k

VERY NICE BUILDING LOT - In Penn Estates, Lot

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BEAUTIFUL LOTS - On Hillside Rd. off of

Dr. It adjoins the golf course property, has city water

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trees. \$27.500.00. in

ThePressReligion

Thursday, January 10, 2008

God keeps new year promises

A new year has arrived and many folks have made resolutions and promises, knowing that some of them will be impossible to keep. Someone has said, "Promises are like snowballs....easy to make but hard to keep." But when God makes a promise we can have complete confidence that it will be kept.

Several years ago, a fine young man gave me a bookmark, entitled, "God keeps his promises." Listed were six promises from God's word. They are:

■ He will never again destroy the earth with a flood.

■ He will keep us in perfect peace.

He will help us when we



are in trouble.

He will give us wisdom.
He is with us always.
He gives us eternal life through Jesus Christ.

To these we can add His promise of protection, provisions, grace sufficient to meet our need and His comfort in our hour of sorrow.

Joshua's message to the

children of Israel is also true for us today. He said, "You know with all your heart and soul that not one of all the good promises the Lord your God gave you has failed. Every promise has been fulfilled; not one has failed."

None of us knows what lies ahead in the new year, but God knows. He said, "I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord. They are plans for good and not evil. To give you a future and a hope."

The Prophet Isaiah wrote, "Fear thou not; for I am with thee; be not dismayed; for I am thy God; I will strenghten thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my *The Lord shall* preserve thy going out and thy coming in from this time forth, and even forevermore.

- Psalms 121:8

righteousness. "God is faithful who promised."

(Editor's note: Lula Mae Gostley is a guest religion columnist for The Crittenden Press Her column appears periodically on this page.)

Prayer walks continue to thrive

BY ALLISON EVANS ASSISTANT EDITOR

No one will know what tragedies were thwarted or dangers avoided as a result of the power of prayer. But prayer warriors for Revive Prayer Walks are confident they are seeing God at work in their schools.

Monday marks the first anniversary of the beginning of the Revive Prayer Walk in Livingston County.

It is a day coordinator Wade White will not soon forget.

"More than 100 people gathered for the first time to pray inside the gym at Livingston County," White wrote on reviveprayer walk.com. "It was people from all denominations in this small county. It was a passing thought that this might actually spread to a couple counties around us."

On Jan. 28, 2007, Crittenden County had its first prayer walk with 150 people. It wasn't until May when one more school added prayer

walks, Lyon County, where more than 175 attended their

first prayer walk, White said. The next prayer walk in Crittenden County is Jan. 20, but beginning in February for the rest of the year, Revive Prayer Walks will be the third Sunday of each month from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m., all at Rocket Arena.

To date, 80 school districts have held prayer walks, some monthly, in seven states. Prayer walks have also been held at seven Kentucky colleges and universities, including the University of Kentucky.

Kentucky has the largest number of school districts participating; however, White says the event has spread to other states "through me and my youth going to events and setting up booths and God simply opening the right doors. It has been really amazing how it has spread."

White is youth pastor at Grand Rivers Baptist Church and the son of retired Crittenden County teacher

Janise White.

"I have been blessed to attend many prayer walks and walk the ______

h a 11 w a y s and touch thousands of l o c k e r s ," White writes on the Web site. "As I County will be walk these hallways, I am still overwhelmed by the presence of the Holy

Spirit. To travel to so many counties across this state and see so many prayer warriors with one agenda: to see God's Glory in our schools, to see Him change them in a way we can not."

Shea Holliman, youth

In Memory of Our Beloved Sister LINDA PARIS BENNETT January 12, 1965 - May 7, 2006 It broke our hearts to lose you, but you did not go alone. Part of us went with you the day God called you home. A million times we've thought of you, a million times we've cried. If loving could have saved you, you would have never died. Forgive us Lord we'll always weep. For the

director of Marion United Methodist Church, is the coordinator of Crittenden County's prayer walks.

She says an average of 25 people attend monthly prayer walks, but the first several events attracted up to 100 people. The format is typically informal but can vary from school district to school district.

"At the prayer walks we come together as a group and then we disperse for about 45 minutes and pray on our own," Holliman said. "We come back together with about 15 minutes left and get in a circle, hold hands, and give testimonies, prayer request and praises, and then we sing Sanctuary and then someone prays to end the prayer walk."

Church**notes**

Marion Baptist Church will have a service at Crittenden County Health and Rehab Center at 1:30 p.m., Sunday.

■ Youth Suite Open House is Sunday at Marion Baptist Church immediately following morning worship service. The Youth Suite is a place to hang out for those in grades 6-12. A very important youth and parent meeting regarding the Youth Suite will be at 5 p.m., Sunday.

- Unity General Baptist Church at Crayne will host a singing at 5 p.m. Sunday, featuring His Song. Everyone is invited.
- Arion General Baptist will dismiss Sunday night service in order that they can join Unity General Baptist.

■ Glendale General Baptist Church will have a Memorial Plaque to honor those who assisted in the cost of paving the parking lot by donating \$50 or more. If anyone is interested in having their

name engraved or a name in memory of someone, call 965-1637. ■ Bro. John Dunn will be bringing Sunday services at Freedom General Baptist Sunday. Everyone welcome.



Children of Ken and Shana Wheeler Geary



ELVA LEE CROWELL

will be held from

2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

January 13 at Mexico Baptist Church

All friends and children who stayed

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Census guru: County part of changing America

By DARYL K. TABOR MANAGING EDITOR

12

The average worker in Crittenden County earned \$15,262 and spent 28 minutes and 30 seconds on the road to work. There was a 98in-100 chance they were white and an 8-in-10 possibility they owned their home. If the average resident didn't work, they may have been part of the 16.5 percent who were over 65 or perhaps one of the 19.1 percent living in poverty.

What does all of that data from the 2000 Census mean? Who can make heads or tails of the picture these numbers paint?

Ron Crouch is who, and he'll be speaking to the Crittenden County Chamber of Commerce next week on

how Crittenden County's declining numbers – down in 2006 estimates to 9,070 from 9,384 in 2000 – and relatively undereducated populace only 7.3 percent hold a bachelor's degree or higher - fit into trends across the nation.

The director of the Kentucky State Data Center specializes in knowledge dissemination. In other words, his job at the University of Louisville is to analyze data from the nationwide 10-year head count, developing information in ways that enhance understanding and sharing that knowledge with groups or organizations that make use of those stats.

In other words, Crouch takes all of the ingredients that define a geographical area and boils them down into an easy-to-digest stat soup. Next week, Crouch will be serving that soup at the Chamber's January luncheon.

The meal and presentation will begin at noon next Thursday at the Ed-Tech Center in Marion. The cost of the chili meal is \$8 for members and \$10 for non-members. Everyone in the community is welcome to attend.

A U of L graduate with specialties in sociology, business administration, economics and political science, Crouch heads the state's clearinghouse for Census data on population, housing, employment and other social indicators. Projections based on this historic and current data can help illustrate trends and issues facing certain geo-

graphic areas. F 0 r instance, Crouch said Kentucky and the nation are undertaking a major change with an aging Baby Boomer

population Chamber 3 households **luncheon** containing Ron Crouch children while will speak on about about Census matone-quarter ters and how have a sole they affect the resident. county at a Chamber lun-

Each state, as well cheon at noon as the entire at the Ed-Tech next Thursday United States, center in is undergoing Marion. major demographic and economic revolutions," he said. "Our population is aging. Our economy is moving from a manufacturing to a knowledge economy. We are growing more diverse."

Crouch has developed a national database analyzing trends by both Census regions and states. He also has developed Census profiles for all 50 states, including population pyramids by race and Hispanic origin, a population chart showing population trends by age, race and Hispanic origin, and tables indicating trends on demographic, social and economic variables.

And those profiles seem to show the Bluegrass State is fairing well.

The Southeast, of which Kentucky is a part, is moving

forward economically while other portions of the nation appear to be falling off, Crouch points out.

"The Northeast region is experiencing decline and the Southwest region is headed toward being the new Appalachia." Crouch indicated in a preview of his presentation provided by Chamber Executive Secretary Kelly Heady. "We, as a nation, are in for a period of major change.'

Sharing his breakdown of data to more than 150 groups per vear across 27 states in the last three years, Crouch will provide that insight during next week's luncheon.

For more information on the January Chamber gathering, contact Heady at 965-5015.

Today

■ The CCMS Site-Based Council meeting will be at 3:30 p.m., today (Thursday) in the CCMS library.

Friday

 CCHS grade cards will go out Friday.

Saturday

■ The Crittenden County Genealogy Society will meet at 10 a.m., Saturday in the meeting room at the library. The program will be a work session on organizing obituaries.

Monday

■ The Crittenden County Coalition for a Drug Free Community will meet at 6:30 p.m., Monday at the Crittenden Health Systems Annex Building in Marion.

■ The Salem Garden Club will meet at 6:30 p.m.. Monday at the Christian Life Center in Salem. Club members will be leaving the Life Center 6:35 p.m., and carpooling to Burna to see the hundreds of plants in the Quimby's greenhouse. Meetings are held the second Monday night of each month. For more information, call Janet Hughes at 988-3835.

Wednesday

■ The National Active and **Retired Federal Employees** Association (NARFE), Local Chapter 1373, will meet at 11:15 a.m., Wednesday at The Marion Cafe. All current and retired federal employees are invited to attend. Contact Tom Diaz at 965-2621 or narfe2005wk

@gmail.com

Next Thursday

■ The Crittenden County Inter-Agency Council will meet at 9:30 a.m., next Thursday at Crittenden Health and Rehab. Crittenden County Board of Education Community Educator Holly White will be sharing information about the Bully Free Program implemented in the school system this year.

The Crittenden hospital auxiliary will meet at 4 p.m., next Thursday in the hospital cafeteria. Officers will be installed and volunteer hour pins and bars will be presented to members.

Ongoing

seat.

■ The Senior Citizens Center in Marion, located at 210 N. Walker St., is open for lunch

to fill Peck's vacated council

Carroll D. Walker said Fox's

term expired this year, so a

new mayor will be elected in

November. At that time, a

replacement to finish out

Peck's unexpired two-year

and Jimmy Randolph round

Janet Hughes, John East

term will also be elected.

out the Salem council.

Livingston County Clerk

weekdays at 11:30 a.m. The meals are \$2 for anyone over 60 and \$4 for others.

Upcoming

The Press **Community Calendar**

CCHS is hosting an Information Session from 6 to 7 p.m., Jan 31 for all sophomore parents to review their students PLAN (pre-ACT) test results and learn how their student can perform well on the ACT.

■ The Crittenden County Even Start Center and the Crittenden County Family Resource Center will be sponsoring a Winter Dance Festival on Jan. 24 at the Crittenden County Elementary School multi-purpose room. The festivities will be from 5 to 7 p.m. Lona Starnes will be teaching dance steps to all parents and students attending. STLP stu-

dents will also be presenting Power Point programs on various aspects of dance. Refreshments will be provided as well as drawings for door prizes.

(Editor's note: Community Calendar items should be submitted by 5 p.m., Monday for publication in that week's issue. Find the calendar online at www.the-press.com.)



CRITTENDEN COUNTY HOMES

GREAT VIEWS...of the Fredonia Valley from this 3 Bedroom, 2 Bath home located on Lilly Dale Rd. Sit on the large front deck and enjoy scenic views, or work in the flower garden situated around a stone patio. Quiet and peaceful, this home has large open floor plan so you can enjoy the kitchen and den with fireplace. Large two car garage with work area, yard is landscaped and has large oaks to keep you in the shade, all on 2.2 acres of land. Over 2100 sq. ft. of living area for only \$65,000, call and set an appointment today.

WALK TO TOWN ... from this immaculate brick home featuring 2 bedroom, 2 bath, foyer, formal living room, separate dining room, family room, eat-in kitchen with appliances This attractive home has attached double car garage and 34' x 36' shop building with loft situated on large deep lot.

SALE PENDING LIVING IN THE COUNTY AT ITS

RELAX ON LARGE BALCONY ... overlooking your own private stocked lake. Attractive brick features: 3 bedrooms. 2 baths, family room, kitchen w/built-in appliances; formal Living. & dining room with full glass panels overlooking lake. Has 2 car attached garage plus nice double unattached garage/workshop w/heat & air plus other amenities. Located on 3 beautiful lots in Salem Heights.

CHILDREN WANTED...in this 4 bdrm., 1 1/2 story family home that enters into living rm. w/grand open staircase. The nice colonial column front porch house has vinvl exterior with replacement windows and concrete double drive with large 30' x 40' building. Situated on beautiful corner acre lot in Salem.

LOTS / SMALL TRACTS / FARMLAND

1.27 ACRE LOT...located in Marion. Many possibilities. Call today. Owner/Agent.

27.994 ACRES...of prime deer & turkey hunting ground. Located in Crittenden County with 3-5 open acres and the balance in woods

Peck serving as Salem mayor

Hazel Croft, Fox resigned his

post due to increasing obliga-

his plate," Croft told The Press

trucking company, is retired.

He was appointed to replace

Fox by his fellow council

members at the last meeting.

On Tuesday, council members

Wednesday morning.

"He just had too much on

Peck, who had his own

tions

STAFF REPORT

Salem will have a new mayor for next Tuesday's city council meeting.

Rell Peck Sr., elected last November to Salem City Council, will replace outgoing Mayor Andy Fox at the head of city government. Peck's first meeting as mayor will be next Tuesday. The meeting starts at 6 p.m.

According to City Clerk will appoint a replacement to

Whitfield near bottom in congressional mailings

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP) - Congressman Ed Whitfield spent less tax money to send mailings to constituents in 2006 than 347 other members of the U.S. House of Representatives, including four fellow Kentucky congressmen.

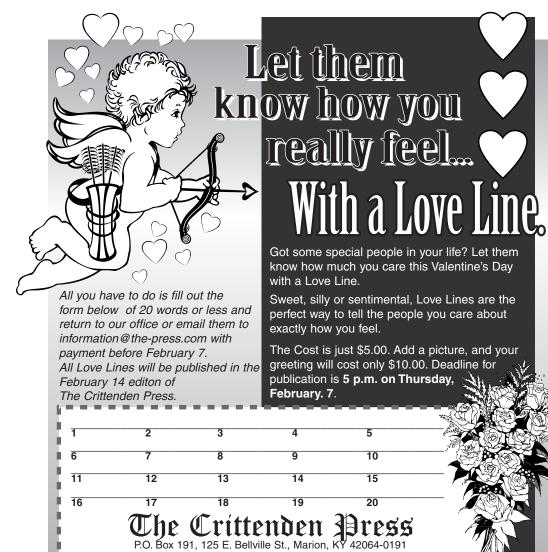
According to The Associated Press, Rep. Whitfield, a Republican who represents Crittenden County and the 1st Congressional District, spent \$12,910 on mailings. Only 6th District Rep. Ben Chandler, a Democrat, spend less among Kentucky congressmen. His use of the congressional franking privilege carried an overall cost of only \$5,096, ranking 401st of the 435-member House.

Overall, U.S. House members spent \$20.3 million to send nearly 116 million pieces of mail last year, an AP review of public records shows. Franking lets members of Congress send mail with just a signature where the postage would normally be affixed.

CONGRESSMAN (DISTRICT)	SPENT	RANK
Geoff Davis (R-4th)	\$165,316	5th
Anne Northrup (R-3rd)	\$18,615	327th
Ron Lewis (R-2nd)	\$16,330	333rd
Hal Rogers (R-5th)	\$14,266	339th
Ed Whitfield (R-1st)	\$12,910	348th
Ben Chandler (D-6th)	\$5,096	401st

Rep. Geoff Davis, who represents the 4th District in northern Kentucky, sent out 716,803 pieces of mass mailings in 2006 at a cost of \$165,316 to taxpayers. He was outspent by only four other congressmen, all fellow Republicans.

Whitfield, who did not send out mass mailings last year, said he used to send them but decided they weren't especially effective. He said his office found out that some of the mailings were never delivered.



It's so easy you'll want to send one to everyone!

BEST...this 3 BR, 2 BA split level has been completely remodeled and maintained top to bottom. Modern kitchen appliances, lovely den with large stone fireplace, master BR has large closets and separate bath, central HVAC. county water and well. Home is on 3 plus acres with small pond and stable overlooking beautiful fields and woods. Walk out your back door and enjoy the water garden or sit on the deck and enjoy the pool. Home is ready for you to move right in. List price \$144,900.

SALE PENDING WANT THE CONVENIENCE ... of town living without paying city taxes, this 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath brick home is located less than half mile from city limits on Hwy 120. Home has partial finished basement, detached 2 car garage, very nice 16 x 30 metal shop building, a barn all on approx 2.5 acres. Basement with bath/shower and would be very easy to use one of the rooms downstairs as extra bedroom if needed. Call us to set up a showing, \$105,000.

COUNTRY LIVING ... 3 bedroom, 2 bath mobile home situated on approx. 2 acres in Crittenden County. Also features stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, 24' x 30' garage with concrete floor and work benches. Plenty of room to have a garden or let the kids run. Call today for more info. STARTING OUT OR SLOWING DOWN ... this is right for you. Nice 2 bedroom mobile home w/deck, porch and portable 10' x 16' storage building. Must be moved. Reduced \$15,500.

SOLD AFFORDABLE AND CONVENIENT... location to center of Marion. This home would be a nice starter home or an addition to your rental investments. Features: 2 bedrooms, 1 bath. Call for appointment. Price Reduced. \$23,900.

FIXER UPPER...investors take a look at this 3 bedroom, 1 bath house located in Marion. Priced at \$14,500.

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. Reduced to \$292,500.

LIVINGSTON COUNTY

SALE PENDING ATTRACTIVE BRICK RANCH ... with attached garage. Has 3 bedrooms, one and half baths, central heat & air. Kitchen w/appliances including washer & dryer. Located on large corner lot in Salem. Price Reduced to \$74,500.

CORNER LOT...located in Salem. Features 3 bedrooms, 1 bath, stone exterior. Walking distance to bank, grocery, churches, beauty shop, etc. \$29,500.

IMMEDIATE POSSESSION ... 2 bedroom home located in Lola. Features living room, dining room, kitchen w/ stove, refrigerator, washer, dryer, and much more. Reduced \$29,500



Last select timber cut was 20 years ago. Some highway frontag Perfect for building your secluded dream home. Call for more info. 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. PRICE REDUCED.

GREENWOOD HEIGHTS...looking at building your dream home? Here are the lots for you. Priced to sell at \$8,000. Call for more information.

SOLD APPROX. ONE HALF ACRE...lot fronting the Ohio **River & Crooked Creek**

SOLD 45 ACRES HUNTING RETREAT...approx. 5 acres open balance in woods. Located on Old Fords Ferry Rd.

60.5 ACRE CATTLE FARM ... with portion of farm in timber with road frontage on two roads. Farm is fully fenced and cross fenced and has two ponds. Property has several areas that would make great home sites that have wonderful views of Crittenden County. Abundant deer and turkey also make this farm a great place to harvest that trophy deer or turkey. Call us for a showing. \$119,500.

AWESOME DEER AND TURKEY HUNTING...on this 75.5 Acre Crittenden County Farm. 30 acres of tillable farm land surrounded by hardwood timber and creeks. Great views from atop this farm, several areas of the farm would make a great home site or a place to put that secluded cabin. Several nice trophy deer and turkey have been taken from and around this location. Give us a call to view. \$149,500.

COMMERCIAL PROPERTIES

1800 KENTUCKY, PADUCAH KY ... Midtown office location. Access to bldg. from KY Ave. or thru the alley off 18th St. Professional office bldg. w/ many rooms available. \$139,900. 1806 KENTUCKY, PADUCAH, KY ... Commercial bldg. Located on corner of 19th & KY Ave. Has over 2400 SF of space that currently has 1100 SF leased to "Man's World" barber shop. Balance of bldg. approx. 1300 SF recently has been used as convenience store. Features a storage bldg. in rear w/over 950 SF. Conveniently located near hospital and DR. offices & other professional bldg. This would be a great investment opportunity \$165,000

112 S 5th ST., PADUCAH, KY...located in heart of downtown renovation area. Building was home to "Conway's" barber shop for over 50 years and bldg. dates back over 100 years. Period architectural designs are still very visible & attractive. \$80,000.

RESTORED HISTORICAL COMMERCIAL BUILDING. located Main St. in downtown Marion. This renovated building has original ornate tin/medallion ceilings. hardwood/mosaic tile flooring, replacement windows plus central heat & air. The building has 1 and half baths, 2 stories with an open staircase leading to the balcony and second floor. Excellent for various retail businesses and downtown apartment. Come take a look and began a new business or transfer your location to this unique building. Call today for more details.

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

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