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LIBRARY AMNESTY

Return overdue materials without paying a fine...

Do you have an overdue book, magazine, video or audiotape from the Crittenden County Public Library? If so, now's the time to get it back to the library. There will be no late fines charged for returned materials from now until the end of April. Items must be returned to have the late fine exonerated.

Governor candidates debate tonight at Paducah's center

Gubernatorial candidates will participate in a debate tonight starting at 6:30 p.m., at the Luther F. Carson Four Rivers Center in Paducah. WPSD-TV will rebroadcast the debates at 7 p.m., Saturday on Channel 6.

Chamber will host annual dinner in May

The Crittenden County Chamber of Commerce will host its annual meeting and awards banquet Tuesday, May 8. The event starts at 6:30 p.m., at Fohs Hall. Reservations are required by next Friday, April 27. Cost is \$20 for members and \$23 for non-members. RSVP to the Chamber office at 965-5015. The dinner program will include Kantorei, a singing group from the Paducah area. Former state Rep. Kathy Hogancamp is a member of the group. The annual Chamber awards, including Person of the Year, Unsung Hero, Community Pride and a new Volunteer of the Year will be presented. Additionally, new officers and directors will be installed.

Earth Day Sunday

Earth Day, the annual celebration to raise awareness of environmental issues, will be recognized Sunday. The first Earth Day was in 1970.

Governor's rep will be in Marion on 25th

Virginia Gray, representative for Gov. Ernie Fletcher, will be in Marion at the courthouse at 10:30 a.m., Wednesday, April 25 to discuss issues or help citizens with any requests they might have.



MOSTLY SUNNY
68/43
THURSDAY



MOSTLY SUNNY
71/46
FRIDAY

Rain gauge

Last 7 days2.28"
Last 30 days5.00"
Year-to-date14.768" (-0.17")
UK Ag Weather Service, Observations at Paducah as of Tuesday

THIS WEEK'S Home Mortgage Rates

Type	Rate	Points
30 Yr. Fixed	6.22%	0.4
15 Yr. Fixed	5.90%	0.4

*Rates from FreddieMac.com
Other variables may apply

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Marion USDA office picked to close

Local officials will hold town meeting Friday

BY ALLISON EVANS
PRESS ASST. EDITOR

Crittenden County's USDA Service Center on East Bellville Street is scheduled to close as a result of a statewide restructuring prompted by budgetary cuts.

Crittenden's office was spared closure

in 2005 during a previous restructuring, but now it is scheduled to consolidate with the Livingston County office with all services moving to Salem.

The move requires the approval of NRCS's national headquarters and won't take effect for two years.

Still, local leaders are upset about the plan, and will hold a town hall meeting at 7 p.m., Friday at the courthouse.

The USDA Service Center provides various services for farmers and landowners. It administers government conservation and farm subsidy programs

among a vast array of other things.

According to U.S. Census figures, Crittenden County has 698 farms and Livingston County has 518.

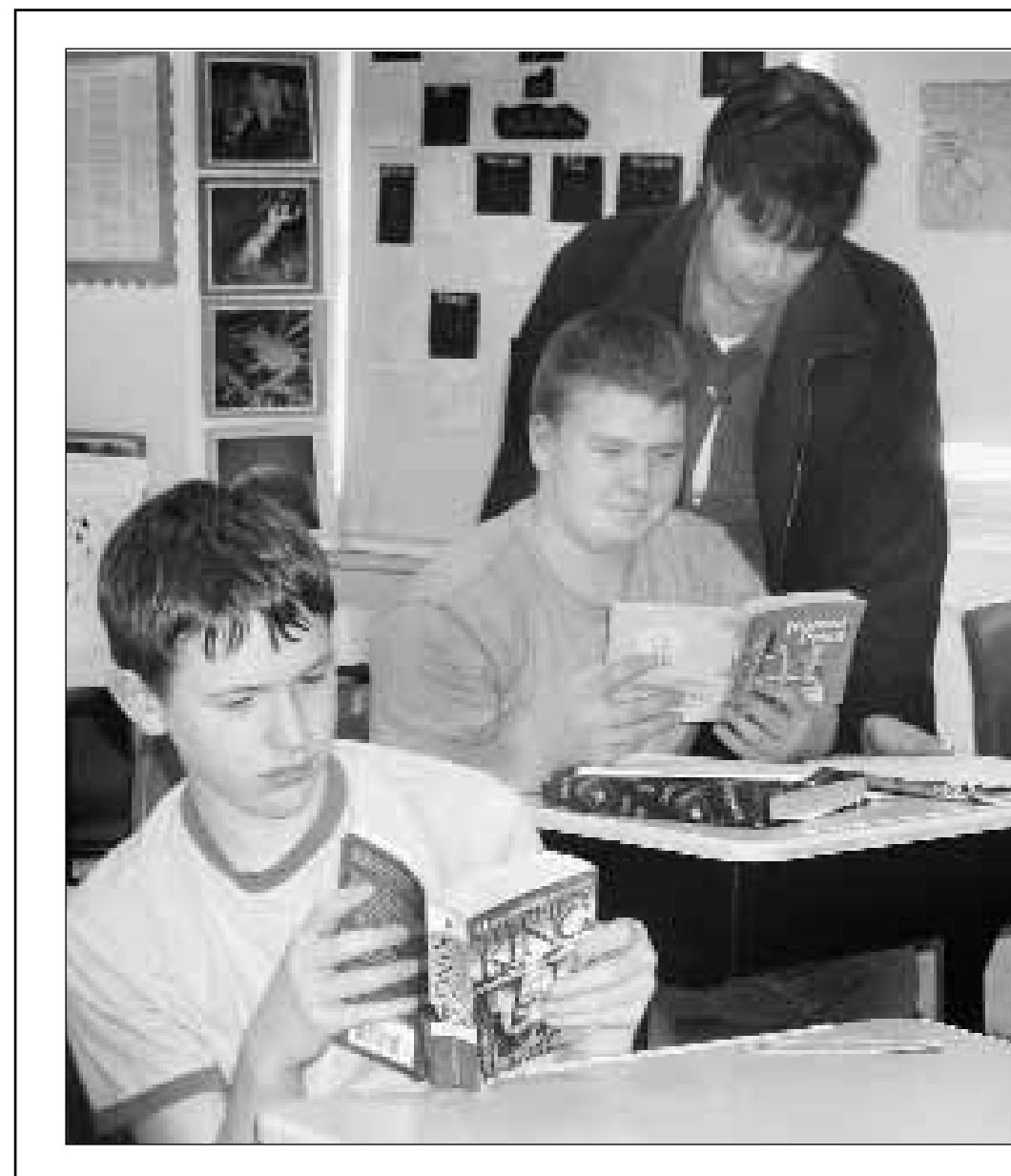
According to Kentucky's NRCS website, 41 county offices will be closed. In most cases, the office with the smaller workload will be consolidated into the office with the larger workload. That, however, is not the case in Livingston and Crittenden counties. A map of county-by-county workload shows Crittenden

See **USDA**/page 8A

WORKLOAD

NRCS workloads by county. These are the number of cases handled last year by the offices in a few area counties:

Caldwell	5,355
Crittenden	4,706
Livingston	4,123
McCracken	3,710
Lyon	1,626



Testing 1-2-3

Preparing for spring testing has been a major thrust for educators throughout the Crittenden County School District in recent weeks. Schools have held rallies, asked students to sign personal commitments to do their best and used some very creative means to encourage students as testing begins Monday. Aside from some highly festive hallway decor to reflect the middle school's "Survivor" theme, students have heard from Kathy Evanko, Highly Skilled Educator at CCMS, who explained to students the "Path to Proficiency" with testing vocabulary and discussed the importance of putting forth their best efforts. Pictured here are a couple of students brushing up on reading skills under the supervision of sixth-grade science teacher Dena Duncan. The boys are Dylan Downs (left) and Daniel Price.

Backroads fires up next week

After 17 years of Backroads Festivals, Marion Main Street Manager Rose Crider is more excited than ever.



Backroads Festival, sponsored by Marion Main Street and the Marion Tourism Commission, is an annual event which invites visitors to take a peek at what Marion and Crittenden County have to offer tourists. This year new events are scheduled for the April 24-28 festival.

The premier event at this year's festival will be the Antique Show and Sale at Fohs Hall on Friday, April 27 and Saturday, April 28. Antique dealers from several states will display antique quilts and collectibles.

In the past guests have enjoyed the city and county's antique stores, specialty shops, restaurants, fabric shops, quilt shows and craft and concession booths on the court square. They have also found interest in free ferry rides across the Ohio River to and from Cave In Rock, and forays into the scenic Amish community.

"Information about our Amish community is always the No. 1 request in the Tourist Commission office," said Michele Edwards, director of the Marion Tourism Commission.

The Amish Backroads Trail will be marked with Amish buggy signs. The signs will lead visitors past Amish businesses and back to Marion.

"As usual, our Amish friends are a tremendous asset to this community," Crider said. "We're glad to help showcase some of their products, especially quilts."

The festival will also include various quilt shows. The Marion Welcome Center Quilt Show features a variety of quilts from local quilt collectors. The dis-

MCC strives to increase enrollment here

BY ALLISON EVANS
PRESS ASST. EDITOR

Increasing student interest and decreasing apathy are among the ideas community leaders last week, hoping to glean information that will help them better educate area students.

Madisonville Community College representatives sought input from community leaders last week, hoping to glean information that will help them better educate area students. Enrollment in classes offered by MCC at the Crittenden County Ed-Tech Center has dropped from 95 in 2004-05 to 57 in 2006-07. Some suggestions shared by public officials include offering more health, early childhood, business and technical classes in Marion.

Parents attending the meeting suggested school officials set students' sights on college at younger ages - perhaps in fourth or fifth grade. Often times, students are not beginning to think about college until they are well

Bonita Hatfield, a former Crittenden County teacher, is now on the board of directors at Madisonville. She says the community needs to be more proactive in encouraging residents to seek higher education.



into high school. Parents also suggest increasing communication on the availability of scholarships and financial aid.

Dr. Judith Rhoads, president of MCC, said the majority of students attend college because they are expected to by their families, peers or educators. She challenged community leaders to get behind potential college students and let them know the community expects them to attend.

She also said there is a misconception

Just the Facts

Average age of MCC students **29**
Number of counties served by MCC **42**
Crittenden students enrolled at MCC **115**

- 2.1 percent of Crittenden students are enrolled in the KCTCS.
- Nine degree options are offered in the 2+2 program (2 years at MCC, 2 years at MCC through Murray State).

tion among some parents that tuition costs three- to four times more than it actually does. At MCC, 12 credit hours, or four classes, costs \$1,380 a semester.

Bonita Hatfield, MCC board chairman and former Crittenden County educator, encourages businesses to do

See **MCC**/page 3A

Be sure to check whether you have flood insurance

As the commonwealth enters severe weather season, Kentucky families are reminded to review emergency plans and safety procedures. This is also a good time to review and evaluate insurance policies.

Floods are among the most frequent and costly disasters, but many consumers do not realize that flooding is not covered under a homeowner's policy.

"Unfortunately, many people do not realize that flooding is not covered until it is too late," said Julie Mix McPeak, executive director of the Kentucky Office of Insurance. "Flood insurance



is affordable and if your community participates in the National Flood Insurance Program, we encourage consumers to consider buying it."

The National Flood Insurance Program is under federal jurisdiction but many insurance agents in Kentucky can assist con-

sumers. Information is available at www.floodsmart.gov or by calling 888-379-9531.

This is also a good time to review homeowner and auto insurance policies to see if coverage is adequate.

"It's never a bad idea to sit down with your agent and review your policies," said McPeak. "This gives consumers the opportunity to ask questions and be certain the coverage levels are appropriate. Sometimes people make new purchases or remodel their homes and forget to let their insurance agents know."

This is also a good time to photograph and record your

household possessions. The Office of Insurance provides a publication, Household Inventory, to get you started. Keep the completed document in a safe place, away from your home, such as in a bank safe-deposit box.

If a natural disaster does occur, members of the Office of Insurance Emergency Response Team will be on site to assist consumers.

"Our trained investigators provide valuable assistance to consumers during a natural disaster," said McPeak. "They can quickly assess the situation and determine if additional insurance adjusters are needed. In

addition, they can answer questions and assist with the complaint process, if necessary."

Consumers interested in tips on preparing for a disaster, reviewing insurance coverage and other storm-related information may go to the Office of Insurance website at <http://doi.ppr.ky.gov/kentucky/> and click on Free Publications, located on the Consumer Protection and Education bar on the left.

The Office of Insurance is an agency of the Department of Public Protection in the Environmental and Public Protection Cabinet.

See **BACKROADS**/page 5A

Another credible cougar sighting

STAFF REPORT

There's been another credible cougar sighting in Crittenden County.

Floyd "Rip" Wheeler, a former game warden and avid outdoorsman, told The Press that he and his daughter Tiffany were driving in the Piney area shortly after 2 p.m., Wednesday, April 11 when they watched for several minutes a tawny-colored cougar.

Wheeler, 82, a former conservation officer who was regional supervisor for the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife, said the cat appeared to have been

injured in its hip.

Wheeler said the cat walked through a creek, took a drink then bounded into a well groomed pasture where they got the best look at it.

Wheeler said the animal looked four times toward the vehicle which was stopped in the road, but paid little mind to its human observers. His view of the cougar in the pasture was clear and he said there is no doubt what it was.

"I guarantee it was a cougar," he said.

After it walked through the fescue field the cat disappeared into a thicket, Wheeler said.

They saw the animal just off Piney Fork School Road not far from where it intersects with Ky. 506 in the eastern section of the county.

Gerald Doom who lives on Copperas Springs Road near the intersection of Ky. 506 says the cat has been seen several times the area. His home is about a half mile from where Wheeler reported seeing the cougar last week.

"It ran across the road in front of me last spring," he said. "Several people in the area have seen it."

While the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources maintains

that cougars don't exist in the wild in Kentucky, game wardens and biologists have shown interest in the numerous sightings. They don't believe a breeding population exists in this state, but the sightings may be from formerly caged animals that have been turned loose over the years.

KDFWR officials have told The Press that they'd like to have a carcass of one of the animals being seen in the county so that a scientific study could determine if the animal comes from a lineage of wild or domestic animals.

MCC

Continued from page 1A what they can to assist non-traditional students' efforts with their post-secondary education.

Locally, at least two organizations assist employees with tuition assistance.

Crittenden Health Systems offers tuition reimbursement up to \$1,500 a year with some conditions.

Farmers Bank also offers up to \$1,000 annually for tuition assistance.

"I realize everybody can't do that, but maybe \$100 - something to give them a pat on the back and show them we're concerned," Hatfield

said.

Madisonville Community College is working with Crittenden County businesses and individuals to continue building the Crittenden County Endowment.

Just over \$200,000 has been raised for the Crittenden County Endowment, and as a result, this spring MCC will offer eight \$1,100 scholarships to graduating seniors.

John Peters, MCC's director of development, said the average Crittenden County High School student earns \$2,300 in Kentucky Educational Excellence Scholarship (KEES) program.

Vandals damaging Cherokee park

City introduces FY 07-08 budget

STAFF REPORT

There's been some trouble on the Native American property next to City-County Park.

Momfeather Erickson told the Marion City Council Monday night that vandals had damaged lodge poles, have stolen materials from their pavilion and rutted up the property behind the fishing lake.

Erickson said her group, the Mantle Rock Cherokees are considering putting up a fence and gates to keep people from driving vehicles onto the property and damaging the improvements.

"This is sacred to us," she said. "We have some license numbers."

Mayor Mickey Alexander suggested that she turn the license plate numbers over to police so they can followup on the vandalism.

Erickson said that 4x4 vehicles are driving across the undeveloped land and are going in and out of an access road next to Pamida.

Some city council members balked at the idea of putting up a fence because so many people use the lake for fishing. Instead, the council suggested that "no trespassing" signs be put up behind the lake.

The Cherokees are planning to develop a village on the property depicting life from about 1600 to the 1800s.

In other business, the Marion City Council heard a report from the Marion Skate Park Association. The group of skateboard enthusiasts and their parents have been picking up trash on roadsides, conducting a raffle, selling baked goods and bagging groceries at Conrad's for donations. They have raised \$2,213 so far.

Marion-Crittenden County Park Board Chairman Paul Belt commended the group

for its efforts and said the money will be earmarked for matching funds to go with a grant that has been applied for to build a skate park.

Councilman Donnie Arflack suggested that Marion consider prohibiting truck drivers from using "jake breaks" while they are driving through town.

He said several other cities are putting up signs prohibiting it and he thinks it would eliminate some noise pollution in town.

Councilman Jason Hatfield suggested that the city code enforcement division take a look at the delapidated and dangerous mobile homes on Creek Street. Hatfield said they appear vacant and the doors are standing open on some of them. He also said trash was piled up in the neighborhood.

The council also passed the first reading of its 2007-08 fiscal budget.

The budget calls for no radical changes and no tax increases for the coming

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LOOKING FOR PEACE AND QUIET? - Sheridan is where you'll find this 1 br home w/laundry, living rm, dining area, kitchen & 1 bath. Deck, front porch, 24x30 metal garage on 3+/- acres. \$59,500.00. nd

WHAT A DEAL - This 3 br, 2 bath home features a living rm & an open kitchen & dining area. A detached two car garage w/electric. Beautifully landscaped. Large lot. Only 4 years old. \$85,000.00. mo

SURROUNDED BY NATURE - 3 br 2 bath manufactured home located in the country on 4 1/2 acres +/- . 2 car det. garage with a small out bldg. Lots of wildlife with the woods right at the back door. \$89,900.00. jb

A GREAT LOCATION-RESIDENTIAL OR COMMERCIAL - 3 br, 2 bath home, formal dining rm or conference rm, large front foyer or could be waiting rm, tv or 2nd waiting rm, full basement w/br or office, walk-out door in basement, central H/A. Property within walking distance of banks, restaurants & court house, parking behind home. 326 N. Main. Price Reduced. db

COLEMAN ROAD - 3 br, brick ranch, 2 baths, fam rm w/built in work space, eat-in kitchen w/dishwasher, laundry rm, central h/a, nice screened back porch, carport, 2 bldgs, nice neighborhood, less than 1 mile from town. Price Reduced. rv

NEW LISTING- WHY RENT WHEN YOU CAN BUY - 3 br, 2 ba home. Also has a mobile home, several bldgs. 1 bldg w/celler. House is 3 years old, situated on 2 1/2 +/- acres. Nice country setting. Burma. mo

NEW LISTING-PERFECT STARTER OR RETIREMENT HOME - A 3 br, 1 bath home w/living rm, kitchen w/appliances, dining area, utility rm, family rm w/fireplace, central h/a, a storage rm, carport, and a large fenced back yard. \$79,900.00. bd

EXTRA NICE - A Brick 3 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath home with living room, kitchen-complete with appliances, dining area, 1 car garage, nice deck, paved drive. This home is move in ready. \$79,000.00. dh

READY TO MOVE IN - Come look at this brick ranch shaded by mature trees. It's a 3 br, 1 ba home with living room, kitchen, complete with appliances and dining area. A 1 car attached garage, window air, a large storage building located on a 1 +/- acre corner lot. \$75,000.00. rb

SALEM, KY - 3 br, 2 bath brick home. Living rm w. gas log fireplace, kitchen dining combo & has a 1/2 basement, a carport, 3 car garage & lots of shade trees. Owner wants offer. \$72,500.00. lb

NICE 3 BEDROOM - With 1 bath and utility room. Appliances stay with home. 10 x 12 New storage shed w/airport and corner lot. Good first home or rental. Motivated Seller. \$47,500.00. bs

TAKE A LOOK - 3 br, 2 bath double wide w/living rm, kitchen w/appliances, dining rm., 2 car garage & 2+/- acres located on Hwy. 60 W. Motivated seller. Make Offer. bk

COUNTRY HOME - Beautiful 2 story home. Main level has 2 story foyer w/open staircase, living rm w/gas fireplace, dining rm w/French doors, large kitchen w/eat-in area, laundry rm. Upstairs has 3 bedrms, 2 baths, & office. 2 car attached garage, wrap around porch that covers 3 sides, 18' above ground pool all on 4.26 acres. rf

LOTS OF ROOM - It's close to town and there's lots of room in this 4 bedroom, (could be 5) home. It has 2 baths, a family room, kitchen & dining room. There's a large fenced yard. This could be a 2 family home. Price \$39,000.00. mr

NEW LISTING - LEVIAS ROAD - 2 br, 2 bath ranch home w/family rm, kitchen w/ite counter top, w/complete w/ap., dining rm, laundry rm, walk out basement w/room for 2 additional brs, a bath & family rm, has county water. 2+/- acres. lg

NEW LISTING - DON'T MISS THIS OPPORTUNITY - N. Grant St., Sturgis, 2 br, bath home w/1 car detached garage. Conveniently located. Excellent for rental or first time buyer! Reasonably priced at \$31,900.00. db

NEW LISTING - MINUTES FROM TOWN - 2 br, 2 bath mobile home w/front & back porches, central h/a, detached garage, stocked pond, some woods, blacktop drive, new roof, windows & siding on 5+/- acres. \$45,900.00. am

NEW LISTING - GREAT POSSIBILITIES - This is a 14 rm house. Could be apartments w/separate entrances or one big family house. There's a large lot & a beautiful level lot. Call today. Price reduced to \$55,000.00. dw

24.25 WOODED ACRES - on Nunn Switch and Blackford Rd. gg

NICE BUILDING SITE - 3.75 acres, great for home or double wide. 3.75 acres w/20 X 40 carport, 20 X 20 bldg, new roof, new concrete floor, dead end rd., Elec & water av...fj

NEW LISTING: 3 NICE BUILDING LOTS - On Campbell Lane & Hwy 641. County water & elec. Lots range from 1 acre to 2 1/2 acres. Mobile homes o.k. Broker/Owner. jc

33.5 +/- ACRES - 5 minutes from town on Hwy. 506 E. Beautiful bldg. lot, pond, some woods, partially fenced, county water on farm. mr

VERY NICE BUILDING LOT - In Penn Estates. Lot size 150x200, close to town. \$13,300.00. jg

CABIN & 88 +/- ACRES - This cabin sleeps 6, has full bath, w/central air system & electric. Mineral rights transfer w/property. ry

NEW LISTING - 1+/- Acre lot on Levias Road, has septic tank, county water available. tg

30 ACRES - Lots of trees, good road frontage. \$37,000.00. kd

NEW LISTING - DRIFTWOOD ESTATES - Building lot w/older mobile home, lake view at Barkley Lake, Eddyville. \$35,000.00. gd

BUILDING LOT - North Weldon. Owner wants offer. ck

NEW LISTING - 85 ACRE LOT - A nice lot, located on Hwy. 141 in Union County. Water and electric available. \$3,500.00. jw

NEW LISTING - NICE CORNER LOT - This nice 1+/- acre lot is located on the corner of Chapel Hill Rd and Oak Hill Dr. It adjoins the golf course property, has city water & sewer and is nicely shaded with lots of mature trees. \$27,500.00. jn

NEW LISTING - 3 beautiful lots on Hillside Rd. off of Christopher Rd. in Fredonia, KY. Lots of big oak & hickory trees on these lots. Priced to sell at \$12,500.00

NEW LISTING - 2 lots in Greenwood Heights, partially wooded, on Circle Dr., \$8,500 each. dh

BUILDING LOT - with underground city electric, phone and county water. \$5,300.00. kd

BUILDING LOT - Grandview Estates \$8,500. jn

6 BEAUTIFUL BUILDING LOTS - County water. \$8,700 to \$12,500. jn

COMMERCIAL

EXCELLENT BUSINESS LOCATION - 2 miles from Marion on 641 S. & Campbell Lane. Approx. 5000 sq. ft. concrete slab-chip & seal paving w/airport. \$100,000.00 gravel on other parking area. County water, elec., septic system. Call for other info & price. ed

NEW LISTING - MAIN STREET GOOD INCOME PRODUCING COMMERCIAL PROPERTY - Bldg. has appx. 1,200 sq. ft. & is expandable. Low utilities, new roof, 3 phase electric, located on a double lot. jw

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AREA NEWS BRIEFS

Frosted rhubarb can be poisonous

Property owners growing rhubarb, take heed: The plant can be toxic if eaten after it was damaged by frost. That's the warning from Elizabeth Wahle, a plant specialist with the University of Illinois extension. She says rhubarb shouldn't be harvested when the leaves are wilted and limp after a hard freeze. Wahle says that not only do the leafstalks acquire a poor flavor and texture, but the leaves and eventually the stem may become toxic. The stem of the rhubarb plant should only be harvested from plants that have suffered no frost damage. Damaged stems should be removed and discarded. Re-growth of the stem is safe to eat.

Hatfield named to council on aging

Marion Mayor Mickey Alexander has appointed local resident Bonita Hatfield to the Pennyryle Area Council on Aging. The appointment was ratified by the city council Monday night.

Trooper collides with another vehicle

A Kentucky State Trooper was not injured but another motorist was when his cruiser collided with her vehicle near Nortonville in Hopkins County Saturday afternoon. Trooper Derek Smith, 23, was traveling eastbound on U.S. 62, responding to a domestic complaint when the accident happened. The victim in the other car, Martha Lovan, 76, was transported to Regional Medical Center for treatment of minor injuries following the wreck. The Trooper was trying to pass her car when she made a lefthand turn and the trooper hit her in the driver's side.

Farmers Market will open Monday

The Crittenden County Farmers Market will be opening Monday for the season just in time for Backroads Tour next week. 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 vendors selling items at the market. For more information, call 965-5015.

Voter registration deadline is Monday

Citizens have until Monday to register to vote in the upcoming primary election. The deadline 4 p.m., at the county clerk's office. The same deadline applies for the potential runoff election that would be scheduled for June 26, if necessary.

USDA

Continued from page 1A with a larger workload based on the number of applications in all programs.

By comparison, there are seven employees in the Marion office and five in the USDA office at the Tambo Center in Salem. Three FSA employee, including Susan Champion, the district supervisor, spend time at both offices.

The Crittenden County USDA office houses the Natural Resources and Soil Conservation, Farm Service Agency, Crittenden County Conservation District and a Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources office.

The Kentucky NRCS website has this to say about the restructuring: "It is a good business decision. The plan matches personnel to workload, and budget. With reduced budget projections it's a necessity."

The website says eliminating 41 offices statewide translates into an annual savings of more than \$500,000. The site says the intent is to get rid of "bricks and mortar" (offices) rather than employees. The restructuring plan calls for maintaining current personnel numbers.

"We need to keep it open," said Beverly Herrin, Crittenden County Conservation District chairman. He said Marion is the center of commerce for Crittenden Countians and seldom do residents go to Salem for other business.

Herrin compiled a list of reasons the consolidated offices should be located in Marion, and they include the following:

- Crittenden is a larger county and has more NRCS employees.

- The office in Marion is large enough to house both the Livingston and Crittenden offices.

- Salem is not the county seat of Livingston, but Marion is the county seat of Crittenden.

- Administrative work has been performed for both Livingston and Crittenden counties' FSA offices at the Marion location for the last seven years.

- There is no city police protection in Salem.

Herrin said he doesn't know whether someone is pushing closure of the Marion office or why the state decided to close Crittenden's office.

"I suggested they close Livingston's office, sending people south of the Cumberland River to McCracken County and the others to Marion, but that didn't go over at all," Herrin said. "It didn't make sense to them."

Herrin says bringing Livingston County's office to Marion would be less disrupt-

ive, as there are more agency employees in Marion than in Livingston County.

Ian Young, director of the NRCS office in Salem, would not comment on the restructuring.

"We're just here, we don't have any say in it," Young said.

Lois Jackson, public affairs specialist with the Kentucky USDA NRCS office in Lexington, said the restructuring plan does not specify exactly where in Livingston County the new consolidated office will be located.

"At the point that USDA is ready to advertise for new space to combine the two locations, we will evaluate exactly where in Livingston County the office would best serve the agencies," Jackson

Judge warns of a tight budget; attorney's retirement discussed

BY ALLISON EVANS
PRESS ASST. EDITOR

Crittenden County magistrates were forewarned Tuesday of an anticipated tight budget for fiscal year 2007-08.

First reading will not be given until next month, but Judge-Executive Fred Brown cautioned magistrates that the tentative spending plan is full of assumptions on revenue and expenses.

An invoice submitted by County Attorney Rebecca Johnson prompted a rather lengthy discussion on the upcoming budget. Johnson submitted a \$692.87 bill for the county's share of her child support retirement benefits for the first-quarter of 2007. For many years, the county had supplemented the county attorney's office by paying about \$9,000 a year in retirement benefits for the county attorney and two child support employees.

In December, the court voted not to pay into the retirement funds of the two child support employees, but indicated that it would continue paying the county attorney's portion.

Johnson suggests that in the past, the county offered to pay a portion of the county attorney's retirement fund in lieu of a salary increase.

said in an email to The Press. "The workload and customer service area of all USDA agencies is the determining factor."

Asked why Crittenden's office will be consolidated in Livingston County since its workload is higher, Jackson said the state restructuring plan also took into account travel patterns.

Conservation districts, according to the NRCS website, may remain in each Kentucky county; however, that is not financially possible in Crittenden County without support of the fiscal court, Herrin said.

The conservation district uses space within Marion's USDA service center and in exchange provides employee assistance within the NRCS office.

Fiscal Court

In the end, the court voted to continue paying into Johnson's retirement through June of 2007. Brown said annual contributions are not included in the 2007-08 budget.

Johnson said the child support office operates on a \$88,600 annual budget - about \$60,000 of which is salaries. She told the court that she had personally contributed \$7,000 to the office's budget when she won election last winter - money she does not expect to recoup.

Brown said to date, the county has transferred \$12,000 into the county employees' retirement funds with three months remaining in the current budget year. He said next year, the rate will increase by about 20 percent.

In other business: Magistrates held a public hearing concerning the addition of Jesse Gobin Road, Koon's Cemetery Road and Blackberry Lane into the county road system. Each are two-tenths of a mile or shorter.

No comment was voiced on Jesse Gobin or Koon's Cemetery roads; however, Sharon Murray, assistant transportation director for the Crittenden County

School District, questioned how the court could maintain Blackberry Lane for magistrate Greg West, his daughter and another landowner.

West excused himself from discussions, during which Magistrate Dan Wood explained that West's son-in-law and another property owner applied for the road to be taken into county maintenance. Wood also said it meets all the requirements to be maintained by the county and there could be repercussions if the county did not accept a road that had passed all the requirements - one being servicing more than one landowner.

Murray said her question came on the heels of budget discussion.

Judge-Executive Brown said the road fund is separate from the general fund, and it is the general fund that is most often strapped for cash.

All magistrates, with the exception of West, voted to accept all three roads into the county system.

The court updated the county Administrative Code to provide a provision that allows county employees to donate sick days to fellow employees on a case-by-case basis.

Magistrates approved school bus turnarounds currently maintained by the

county road department. By law, the county must provide gravel and other needed maintenance for school bus turnarounds. Requests for turnarounds must be signed by those making the request, and maintenance requests must be made by the school's transportation department.

The court approved the changing of Emery Stevens Road to Stevens Road, which is located off of Crayne Cemetery Road.

Magistrates heard an explanation from Crittenden County Economic Development Corporation (CCEDC) Executive Director Stan Hoover regarding repayment of money owned by former CCEDC president Steve Davidson.

Hoover told the court that 95 percent of the money Davidson pled guilty to embezzling was repaid in one lump sum. The remainder - about \$9,000 - is being repaid in monthly installments of \$187.

The court adopted standard operating procedures for the Crittenden County Animal Shelter, which includes guidelines for volunteers. The center - located behind the county road department on U.S. 60 East - is under construction and about 90 percent complete, Brown reported.

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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 your dreams by calling for an appointment today. **Owner says sell. Priced at \$299,900.**

CRITTENDEN COUNTY HOMES

NEWLY REMODELED... Walk to town from this neat vinyl siding 1 bedroom home. Nice kitchen including dishwasher, laundry room, basement and large back yard. Priced at \$37,500

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

116 SHADY LANE Features 3 bedrooms, 1.5 baths, utility room and large out building.

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.

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 County School.

GROWING PAINS?..... This vinyl siding 2 story family home has 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, foyer 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 Belleville 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.**

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 hook up 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 fire-

place, 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.

SALE PENDING 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 vinyl replacement windows. Plus a small storage building and black top drive. **REDUCED TO \$38,000.**

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

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 to see this one!

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 details.

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.

AUCTION

SAT. APR. 28, 9:30:AM

7371 SR 91 N., 7 miles from Marion

DOZER, TRACK LOADER, TRACTOR, HORSES, TOOLS, GUNS, FARM ITEMS, WOOD WORKING EQUIP., HOUSEHOLD, MISC.

GUNS: Browning Auto 5-12 gauge, 2 3/4 chamber shot gun; SKB gold trigger over/under double barrel shot gun; Benelli Nova Pump 12 gauge 3 1/2 chamber Turkey gun.

OWNER:
Mr. & Mrs. Wm. Miller

HORSE DRAWN EQUIP. & FARM TOOLS	WOOD WORKING SHOP EQUIPMENT
I & J Cultivator; New Idea Manure spreader; Oliver riding plow; Oliver wooden beam walking plow; Team disks; # 9 McCormick mowers; (2) Jacobson reel mowers; Fertilizer seed attachment for cultivator; Mulch Compositor Tank; (2) wheel Garden cart; Wheel barrows; Harness parts & collars; Single Buggy top; Corral Panels; Buggy wheels; Wagon wheels; Kerosene incubator; Stainless steel tank; Wooden water tank (not complete); S-15 Gallager Solar fence charger; Fence stretchers; Come-a-long; (2) 1,000 Gal. Plastic tanks (used for drinking water only); FARM MACHINERY: Clipper 400, 4' Rotary Mower, 3ph	20 ton Shop Press; Floor Vise; Honda Air compressor; Air compressor tank; Air Tank & IMC compressor; Grisley Jig saw; #5 Stanley hand plane; Router table; 8 HP Yamakoyo Gas engine; 12 HP Vertical Briggs & Stratton motor (like new); Miter saw; Fairbanks Morse 0-500 Lb Scales; "New" folding bench brackets; Misc. Drawer slides & hinges; Misc. Kiln dried lumber: Oak, Walnut & Western Cedar; MISC. ITEMS: Railroad cart; 80 Gallon cast iron wash kettle; Johnny Popper air compressor; Wooden nail keg; Misc. Vinyl siding & parts; Chimney blocks; Vinyl porch rail; Wooden interior doors; Assort. of books; Bi-fold door; Range hood; Scrap iron; 11'x11' Overhead garage door (good shape); Sliding Tandem wheels & axles from Semi Trailer.

PLUS MANY ITEMS TOO NUMEROUS TO MENTION

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