



The Crittenden Press

www.The-Press.com



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

USPS 138-260 • MARION, KY 42064

THURSDAY, MARCH 29, 2007

75 CENTS
An Independent Newspaper Since 1879
VOLUME 127, NUMBER 38 - 16 PAGES

NO FOOLIN'

Here's your notice:

Don't be tricked!

Sunday will be the first day of April, commonly known as April Fool's Day or All Fool's Day. It's a holiday of uncertain origin and widely known for practical joking. For many cultures prior to 1500, the first of April was actually the first day of the new year.

Historical museum opens next week

The Crittenden County Historical Museum on East Bellville Street, formerly the Presbyterian church, will open for the season Tuesday. Hours are Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m., until 3:30 p.m.

Casting call for Murder at the Prom

Fohs Hall Community Arts Foundation is issuing a casting call for men, women and young adults interested in acting in its next play, *Murder at the Prom*. Casting call will be at 3:30 p.m., Tuesday and Thursday next week at Fohs Hall. Ken Crider is directing the play, a murder mystery dinner which is sure to be exciting for everyone in attendance. For more information, call Susan Alexander at 965-5983. The production will be held at 7 p.m., May 12.

Courthouse closing

Crittenden County Courthouse will be closed Friday, April 6 in observance of Good Friday.

Chamber event

Marion Feed Mill will host a Chamber of Commerce Business After Hours event from 5-6:30 p.m., Thursday (tonight) at Marion Feed Mill.

Free dump days

Friday and Saturday are Free Household Dump days in Crittenden County. Residents may dump for free their large household items such as old beds, mattresses, furniture, appliances, scrap iron or metal and some building materials at the county convenience center on U.S. 60 East. General household garbage is not included in the free service. Those type items will require a fee. The dump is open from 8 a.m., until 4:30 p.m., Friday and from 8 a.m., until noon on Saturday.

Amish stores are closed Good Friday

All Amish community shops, stores and business will be closed Good Friday, Ascension Day, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day and every Sunday.

30% RAIN	30% RAIN
P.Sunny	M.Cloudy
76/58	75/57
THURSDAY	FRIDAY

Rain gauge
Last 7 days0.00"
Last 30 days1.42"
Year-to-date10.66" (-0.80")
UK Ag Weather Service, Observations at Paducah as of Tuesday

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

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



Dealing with realities of combat missions...

Soldiers reflect on comrades

BY CHRIS EVANS
PRESS EDITOR

Local soldiers say they are dealing with strong emotions after learning about the injuries suffered by their friends and comrades last week in Iraq.

Despite their personal concerns and the anxiety facing families back home, Crittenden County military personnel insist that the mission goes on and they remain as focused as ever.

Sgt. Landon Driver was home last weekend on leave. He went back to Iraq Saturday. Before shipping off, he talked about his thoughts regarding fellow guardsmen Spec. Chase Matthews and Sgt. Jonathan McMackin, who were hurt in a roadside bombing last week.

Driver said the news of two high school buddies getting seriously hurt was tough to take. He said the thought of being next is always on a

soldier's mind.

"It's always hard when it hits home like that," Driver said. "But you can't do anything except put your heart out to their families because it can happen in the blink of an eye. It could happen to any one of us at any time and we understand that."

Matthews was a grade behind Driver in school and McMackin was a grade ahead of him. He knows them well although they are in completely separate companies of the National Guard.

Driver, 24, was first deployed in 2005 with the 2113th Transportation unit out of Paducah. He returned home in February 2006, but volunteered to go back and was assigned to a Heavy Equipment Transportation unit out of Mississippi. He has been stationed about seven miles north of Baghdad since last October. Two other Marion soldiers, Ray Witherspoon and Jordan Tinsley, are

also in his unit. They have another seven months to go to complete their current deployment.

Driver said the military vehicle Matthews and McMackin were riding in is one of the most dangerous.

"It's so low to the ground. If you run over an IED it has nowhere to go. The Humvee is an easy target," he said.

A Humvee is the military predecessor of the civilian Hummer. It sets about 18 to 24 inches off the ground. Driver said his unit moves heavy equipment such as tanks, dozers or other engineering type gear around Iraq. His truck is much like a monster tractor-trailer. The eight-wheel truck pulls a 40-wheel trailer and most importantly, it sets about eight and half feet off the ground.

"It's one of the safest vehicles to be in. My rear end is about this high off the ground," Driver said holding his hand above his head.



PVT. EPLEY
1st Deployment



SGT. DRIVER
2nd Deployment

While Driver is a veteran of two tours in Iraq, Pvt. Shannon Epley, 23, is leaving today for Iraq. He is fresh out of bootcamp at Parris Island, S.C. Epley joined the Marines last summer, finished basic training in November and was sent to Camp Lejeune, N.C., where he received more preparation for deployment to the Al Anbar Province in eastern Iraq

See **IRAQ**/page 8A

WRITING TO THEM...

Chase Matthews

Cards & Letters

Sp. Chase Matthews Family, c/o Mologne House Hotel, Room 406, 6900 Georgia Ave. NW, Bldg. 20, Washington, D.C. 20307-5001.

Assistance Fund

An assistance fund for Sp. Matthews has been established at Fredonia Valley Bank. To make a donation, send a check to: Chase Matthews Fund, c/o Fredonia Valley Bank, P.O. Box 135, Fredonia, KY 42411.



Jonathan McMackin

Cards & Letters

Brooke Army Medical Center 3851 Roger Brooke Dr. Ft. Sam Houston, TX 78234

Guardsmen recovering in states

FROM STAFF AND SPECIAL REPORTS

Sp. Chase Matthews, 23, of Dycusburg, is in stable condition in our nation's capital after he suffered severe injuries when the Humvee he was riding in drove over an improvised explosive device (IED) last week in Iraq.

Fellow Guardsman Sgt. Jonathan McMackin, 25, of Marion was also injured in the blast. Matthews was driving the military vehicle and McMackin was in the passenger seat. Another soldier from Minnesota was the gunner aboard the Humvee and suffered severe burn wounds.

McMackin was transported from a hospital in Germany to Brooke Army Medical Center in San Antonio, Texas late Tuesday night. McMackin suffered a broken leg and puncture wound to his lower leg in the explosion.

Matthews was originally airlifted to a medical center in Germany. On Friday morning, he was transported to Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C. His family said government communication was initially spotty and that the Department of Defense offered to fly three family members to Germany. However,

because of the quick turnaround and evacuation from the hospital in Germany, the family opted to wait until Matthews was moved to Washington.

On Friday morning, the family was notified that Matthews was en route to Washington, where he arrived at approximately 9 p.m. On Saturday morning, Chase's father, Rudy Matthews, and Rudy's sister, Barbara Ethridge, went to Nashville International Airport where they boarded a flight to Charlotte, N.C., connect-

See **UPDATE**/page 5A



Marion Mayor Mickey Alexander and Crittenden County Judge-Executive Fred Brown ordained Brenda Underdown Marion-Crittenden County Historian Laureate Saturday.

Underdown named historian laureate

STAFF REPORT

As an historian, Brenda Underdown certainly knows the origin of the word laureate. Now, it's part of her name.

Underdown, a local author, historian and genealogist, was officially proclaimed historian laureate of Marion and Crittenden County Saturday. The special recognition was bestowed by Crittenden County Judge-Executive Fred Brown and Marion Mayor Mickey Alexander during a book signing event and reception for Underdown at the Crittenden County Public Library.

The term laureate has often been used to acknowledge special recognition in a particular field. Dr. Thomas D. Clark was Kentucky's historian laureate and Robert Frost was U.S. poet laureate during his lifetime. It is derived from the root word laurel, as to place a laurel or wreath onto the head of someone for special recognition.

Underdown's ordination will be officially

PROCLAMATION & RESOLUTION

Whereas Brenda Underdown is an author, historian and genealogist in Marion, Crittenden County, Kentucky, and;
Whereas Brenda Underdown has done much to preserve the history of said community through her books, newspaper articles and research, and;
Whereas Brenda Underdown's tireless efforts to save and secure historic treasures through her work with the local museum is and will continue being a consequential task, and;
Whereas Brenda Underdown has spearheaded an effort to reclaim and restore the historic Marion City Cemetery, and;
Whereas Brenda Underdown has given of her time, energy and resources to save for posterity many items, stories and photographs of great historic significance;
Be it resolved and noted to all men here today that the powers that be in Crittenden County, Kentucky have established and ordained Brenda Underdown as Historian Laureate.

ratified during the next meetings of city and county governments.

"Brenda is a treasure and has done so

See **HISTORY**/page 8A

School pink slips are unnerving for teachers, staff

BY ALLISON EVANS
PRESS ASST. EDITOR

Preliminary revenue forecasts for local schools place about 11 Crittenden County teachers on the bubble for the coming year.

While the district's financial planners are working with a worst-case scenario in terms of the 2008 budget, the potential loss of teaching positions is unnerving for staff and school councils.

Superintendent John Belt anticipates a \$400,000 shortfall next year if the same employees and programs are staffed as they are this year.

Kentucky school budgets for next year reflect a couple of new unfunded or inadequately funded mandates. Beginning next year, two additional days are being added to the school calendar, a cost to Crittenden County

Schools of about \$50,000. Additionally, the Kentucky General Assembly mandated a \$3,000 raise for all certified staff, but did not fund those employees hired under programs such as Title I and grants. Those raises will cost the district an additional \$40,000.

School councils, by Kentucky law, determine how to staff their schools based on allocations provided by the district. For example, if a school is told it should have 20 teaching positions, school councils decide where best to utilize those positions.

At this point, Crittenden Elementary stands to lose three positions, the middle school six and the high school two.

Superintendent John Belt

See **SCHOOL**/page 3A

West Carlisle is now 1-way, too

STAFF REPORT

The City of Marion has made West Carlisle Street between Farmers Bank and the courthouse a one-way street similar to East Carlisle in front of the post office. Traffic on West Carlisle will flow westward as traffic on East Carlisle flows eastward.

The change was recommended last summer and just put into practice this week when the city had the street resealed and restriped.

Police Chief Kenneth Winn said it's a safety measure, adds more parking and will

prevent traffic problems with vehicles entering from Carlisle onto Main Street.

Winn said that police will be issuing verbal warnings during a period of adjustment. Motorists involved in an accident because they are traveling the wrong way will be liable, however.

Also, the city has restriped East Carlisle, putting the parallel parking spaces on the south side of the street. Columns at Peoples Bank on the north side of the street had created an issue with motorists opening car doors.

Assistant chief hurt chasing female suspect

STAFF REPORT

Marion Assistant Police Chief Ray O'Neal was slightly injured Sunday morning while trying to apprehend on foot an escaped juvenile.

A 17-year-old Marion girl had escaped authorities in Hopkinsville earlier in the day and had gotten a ride back to Marion. Officers were on the lookout for her and O'Neal spotted the car she was riding in at about 10:30 a.m., on Country Club Drive. The vehicle was stopped and the teenager was taken into custody. She was cuffed and put into a cruiser. When O'Neal arrived at the police station and got the girl out of the back, she had gotten loose from handcuffs and bolted down the street.

O'Neal gave chase and stumbled in the Farmers Bank Parking lot next to the jail. Crittenden County Deputy Jailer Susan Gilland

happened to be looking out the jail window and saw what was transpiring. She notified fellow deputy jailer, Jerry Parker, who ran outside and chased the girl down West Carlisle Street. Parker was able to run the girl down and detain her in front of where the new jail is being built until O'Neal was back on his feet.

O'Neal suffered fairly serious abrasions to his face, head and hands. He also broke his eyeglasses and damaged his service weapon in the fall.

The teenage girl had been ordered to the McCracken County Detention Center last week by Crittenden District Judge Tommy Chandler. She was later taken to Hopkinsville's Cumberland Hall for further evaluation. It was from there that she escaped.

UPDATE

Continued from page 1A

ing to Washington's Reagan National Airport.

Ethridge said Rudy's airfare on the civilian carrier U.S. Airways was paid by the military. Her airfare was covered by the nonprofit Fisher House Foundation. The foundation administers the "Hero Miles" program for the Department of Defense. The program is comprised of individual airlines whose passengers donate their frequent flyer miles to assist service members and their families. Upon landing in Washington, they were met by a uniformed serviceman who drove them to Walter Reed.

The family was concerned that the conditions at Walter Reed would not be suitable for care. Last month, The Washington Post published a series of articles outlining cases of alleged neglect at the sprawling 113-acre, 5,500 room hospital located just six miles from the White House, bringing much media attention to the entire Veterans Affairs medical network. Among the problems cited were physical deterio-

ration, mold, mice and a quagmire of seemingly endless red tape that rendered several incapacitated soldiers and their families helpless.

However, Ethridge reported that the hospital was "very clean," and that Matthews' room is adjacent to a nursing station. She said the staff have been "extremely attentive," to his needs.

"He has someone sitting outside of his room monitoring just him," she said. "If anything happens, the nurses have been right there. I'm impressed with all of the nurses, doctors and overall care."

Matthews' wounds have been continually cleaned since he arrived at the medical facility. Ethridge said respiratory therapists and neurologists are reporting positive results with lung and brain scans, but did note that the explosion left debris in his lungs. Matthews' left leg will require additional amputation to prepare for prosthesis.

One of the biggest concerns has been Matthews' left arm, fractured in the blast. Doctors have been monitoring the arm, hoping

Military Update ARMY-AIR FORCE-NAVY-MARINES

Do you have a loved one serving in Iraq or Afghanistan? We want to know. The Press is updating its files of military personnel currently serving in the Middle East. Please notify us either by phone or e-mail in the rank, name, branch and if possible the unit and place of deployment. Call (270) 965-3191 or email us at ThePress@The-Press.Com.

You may also go online to www.the-press.com and click on our military link

to avoid amputation. Ethridge said his caregivers are optimistic because the arm is warm, a sign that blood is circulating. Matthews has only been able to communicate through blinking because he has a tracheostomy (trach) tube.

"Chase is hardly out of the woods," said Ethridge from her room at the Mologne House, a four-story hotel on a grassy slope behind the hospital. Mologne House opened 10 years ago as a short-term lodging facility for military personnel, retirees and their family members.

"But instead of expecting the worst, I'm expecting the best," she said, adding that the support of the Dycusburg community has been outstanding.

Ethridge said being surrounded by families of wounded soldiers and seeing young soldiers, now amputees, in wheelchairs and on crutches has been tough.

"It has really hit home. This brings the reality of war to our front door," she said. "I am so amazed, appreciative and proud of all our servicemen and women. Being here makes the war real."

John Ed Thomas of Marion is McMackin's grandfather. Thomas said Tuesday

that his grandson has been talking to the family by phone and he anticipates that McMackin's wife, Megan, will be going to San Antonio this week.

"Jonathan's sister Lynise is stationed at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio," Thomas said. "The whole family was planning on going to her graduation from basic training on April 13."

Thomas said now, some may go even earlier to be with McMackin, who is at the base hospital at Fort Sam Houston.

McMackin's leg was broken below his knee and he suffered a "golf ball size" puncture wound near his ankle, Thomas said.

"I talked to him Monday. He's doing better," Thomas said.

Matthews and McMackin were serving in Iraq with the Marion unit of the Kentucky National Guard, Company B, 2nd Battalion, 123rd Armor deployed late last winter and was originally supposed to be home this month. However, the unit's mission was extended 120 days.

Matthew T. Patton, Chase's first cousin and frequent writer for The Press, contributed to this report.

Graduated DL applications start Monday

The Kentucky State Police Driver Testing Branch advises that applicants who applied for and were issued a motor vehicle operator's instruction permit after Oct. 1, 2006 under the graduated driver's license program are eligible to take a driving skills test to qualify for an intermediate operator's license beginning next week. However, they must not have violated any of the following conditions:

- The instruction permit was carried at all times when operating a motor vehicle, motorcycle or moped on the highway.

- Permit holder was accompanied by a person 21 years of age or older with a

Marion Testing Day

Written driver's license tests are administered at the Crittenden County Clerk's office at 12:30 p.m., each Friday. No appointment is necessary for the written test. Road tests are conducted between 8:15 a.m., and 10:30 a.m., each Friday by appointment only. Appointments must be made by 3 p.m., Thursday during the week of your test.

valid driver's license.

- Permit holder under the age of 18 has not operated a motor vehicle between the hours of midnight and 6 a.m., without good cause.

- Permit holder under age of 18 has not operated motor vehicle at any time when

accompanied by more than one unrelated person under age of 20 unless accompanied by licensed driving instructor.

- Operated a motor vehicle with 0.08 blood alcohol level (0.02 for persons under 21 years of age).

- Operated a motor vehicle while under the influence of any other substance or combination of substances that impair driving ability.

KSP also advises that applicants wishing to take the test for an intermediate license must go online to <http://drlc.kytc.ky.gov> and print an eligibility verification letter prior to arrival for the driving skills test. Applicants must present this

letter and a statement signed by a parent or guardian stating that the applicant has completed 60 hours of supervised driving, including 10 hours at night, accompanied by a 21-year-old licensed driver in the front passenger seat.

The verification letter and signed statement are required in order to take the driving skills test for the intermediate license.

A licensed driver 21 years of age or older must accompany the applicant to the test location and the vehicle used for the test must be properly registered and insured. The vehicle must also pass an on-site safety inspection prior to the test.

Early birds get discount for Relay registration

Crittenden County's annual American Cancer Society Relay for Life event will be June 8-9.

The fundraising event will start at 5 p.m., Friday, June 8 at City-County Park.

Monthly committee meetings are held at 5 p.m., April 10, April 21 and May 21 at Crittenden Hospital annex building. Team captain meetings follow at 6 p.m.

Anyone interested in having a team should contact Vicki Tinsley at 965-2755. Sign up before April 10 and get half price registration.

Smoke Tuesday from LBL burn

The heavy haze of smoke that filled the Fredonia Valley up through the City of Marion Tuesday was caused by a large controlled burn at Land Between the Lakes, according to local authorities.

The wind was blowing from the southwest, pushing the smoke this way.

The controlled burn covered about 1,500 acres in Lyon County. Fires were expected to continue through the week.



Livingston Hospital and Healthcare Services, Inc.

Board of Directors, Administration, and staff wish to recognize the dedicated physician's and practitioners of LHHS for all they do. On Doctor's Day, March 30th, and throughout the year, we thank you and appreciate you for caring for us and our loved ones.

LHHS

We put the "CARE" in Healthcare **LHHS** Livingston Hospital and Healthcare Services, Inc.

Internet

Unlimited Hours, No Contracts!

\$9.95 per month

- FREE 24/7 Technical Support!
- Instant messaging - have your buddy list!
- 100 e-mail addresses with 10MB!
- 100MB Web Page - space, unlimited & more!

Download

Surf up to **6X faster!** just 10 more

Sign Up Online! www.LocalNet.com

Call Today & Save!

LocalNet 965-9256

Multiple Internet Access, Single Price

HOMESTEAD AUCTION REALTY

308 N. MAIN ST., MARION, KY 42064

DIRRD HERRIN - PRINCIPAL BROKER - 270-704-1027

DARRI H TABOR - BROKER - 270-704-0041

MELISSA TABOR - SALES ASSOCIATE - 270-853-9208

270-965-9999

SEE PICTURES AND DETAILED LISTING AT www.homesteadauctionrealtys.com OR THE "HOMESTEADER" MAGAZINE

ATTENTION LANDLORDS! - GREAT RENTAL OR LIVE IN 1 AND RENT 2 (WITH A LITTLE WORK). MOBILE AND 2-1 BEDROOM COTTAGES \$43,000.00. RM

NEFF LISTING 1.066+ ACRES - BIG BUCKS FOR LITTLE DOUGH! ENDLESS POSSIBILITIES! \$1000.00 PER ACRE. IS JUST LISTED: 8+ AC - WITH 1 BR, 2 BATH HOME, ATT. 3 CAR GARAGE EASILY CONVERTED TO LIVING SPACE, WOULD ALSO MAKE EXCELLENT HUNTING CABIN. \$48,000.00. LP

NEFF LISTING 18 LUNTER'S OASIS - 3794+ ACRES MULTIPLE PONDS, 2 CREEKS, BARN, ELECTRICITY AVAILABLE AT THE ROAD. RM ON THE EDGE OF TOWN - 3 BEDROOM, 2 BATH, 2 CAR DET. GARAGE, GREAT LOCATION. RD

PRICE REDUCED!!! MOTIVATED SELLER!! BEAUTIFUL 4 BEDROOM, 2 1/2 BATH HOME - LOTS OF CHARACTER, WELL MAINTAINED, SCREENED PORCH, 2 CAR GARAGE, \$169,000.00. DW JUST MOVE IN! - 3 BEDROOM, 2 BATH, NEW WINDOWS, SIDING AND ROOF. ALSO A LARGE 2 1/2 CAR GARAGE. 327 E. DEPOT ST. \$39,900.00. DM

PERFECT FOR YOUR DOUBLEFIDE - LOTS 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5 WILL SELL IN ANY COMBINATION, COUNTY WATER & ELECTRIC AVAILABLE. RM

MINI FARM: NEFF LISTING - 2 BR, 1 BA, HARDWOOD FLOORS, CH&S, FULL BASEMENT, ON 11+ ACRES WITH BARN & POND, FENCED. JM

COUNTRY LIVING CLOSE TO TOWN - 3 OR 4 BR, 2 FULL BATHS, LARGE LOT. GREAT FAMILY HOME, GREAT LOCATION. SH

2+ ACRES - AND 3 BR, 1 BATH HOME. NEW ROOF, UPDATED BATH, OTHER EXTRAS! JUST 1 MILE FROM TOWN, IN THE COUNTRY. DE BUNT OR FARM - 30+ ACRES, SOME OPEN, SOME WOODS, GENTLY ROLLING, SEVERAL GREAT BUILDING SITES, COUNTY WATER AVAILABLE. RM

BUSINESS FOR SALE - TRACKSIDE BBQ - SULLIVAN, KY - ESTABLISHED BUSINESS, ALL EQUIPMENT - MANY POSSIBILITIES. RM

CONVENIENTLY LOCATED - 3 BDRM, 1 1/2 BA ON A LARGE LOT. LOCATED CLOSE TO TOWN. LC

POTENTIAL! POTENTIAL! - NICE LARGE LOT IN ESTABLISHED NEIGHBORHOOD, KITCHEN, 2 CAR GARAGE COULD BE CONVERTED TO APARTMENT. RM

BUILD ON THE BILL - FANTASTIC VIEW - BIRCHWOOD SUBDIVISION - GREAT LOT. KC

4.46 AC & 3-4 BR, 2 BA, MODULAR HOME IN SULLIVAN, KY. HOME IN GREAT CONDITION, POND AND LOTS OF ROOM TO GROW. \$79,900.00. BS

JUST FOR YOU - 20 BDRM, 1 BA HOME LOCATED ON LARGE LOT. CONVENIENT LOCATION, NEW ROOF. RM. SEE THE ONE! JR

WAITING FOR YOU - 4 BR, 3 BA ON 6+ ACRES. CENTRAL H&S, ABOVE GROUND POOL, ALL APPLIANCES STAY. SK

PRICE REDUCED!!! MOTIVATED SELLER!! NICE COUNTRY HOME - BRICK RANCH STYLE HOME COMPLETE WITH 3 BR, 1 1/2 BA, WELL MAINTAINED - \$77,900.00 TO \$73,000.00. WP

MOTIVATED SELLER!! JUST FOR YOU!! - 3 BR, 1 1/2 BA, BACK DECK, 1 CAR ATTACHED GARAGE, BATH IN KITCHEN. SH

GOING!!

FOR SALE - RENT TO OWN - LAND CONTRACT - CONTRACT FOR DEED - CUTE 3 BR, 1 BA WITH LIVING ROOM, FAMILY ROOM AND LARGE LOT. OWNER AGENT. LP

GONE!!

START YOUR OWN BUSINESS! - GARAGE WITH POWER, WATER AND HEAT ON A DOUBLE LOT. \$19,900.00. RE

106+ AC - ESTABLISHED POOD PLOTS, LOCATED IN THE CRAYNE AREA. RP

107+ ACRES - ESTABLISHED HUNTING LAND WITH PICTURESQUE CREEK, POOD PLOTS, PERMANENT DEER STANDS AND 3 PONDS. CAN BE DIVIDED. \$164,900.00. SU

MOTIVATED SELLER! INCOME PRODUCING PROPERTY. SOME SECTION 3-4 PLEX, TWO - 1 BR, TWO - 2 BR, PRICE REDUCED FROM \$64,000.00 TO \$39,900.00. JW

JUST LISTED - JUST SO LD - YOU CAN SELL YOURS! - 4 BEDROOM, 2 BATH, ALL ELECTRIC, FINISHED, WALK-OUT BASEMENT, CH&S, 1+ ACRES. WC

GOING - GOING - GONE!!!

LET US CONDUCT YOUR AUCTION!

Billy Stone - Auctioneer

270-962-2940

AREA NEWS BRIEFS

Clay wants Marion-type poultry results

Residents of Clay in Webster County are asking the Clay City Council for help in dealing with odors emitting from nearby chicken farms. A group called CAPS (Citizens Against Poultry Smell) has organized and is using a precedent set in Marion in 2003 as its basis for relief from the smells. CAPS has been getting legal advice from the Sierra Club, an environmental group, according to an article in last week's Providence Journal-Enterprise. Clay residents want the city council to enact some type of ordinance that will protect them from the smells. They are using Marion's nuisance ordinance as a model for their plans. Tyson Foods had a chicken growing facility next the city limits of Marion until the summer of 2003 when the company was found guilty in District Court of allowing its odors to "trespass" onto neighboring properties. Five months after Tyson was found guilty and fined \$500 for each occurrence, the company closed its facility here and sold the property. The property was later purchased by the Crittenden County Economic Development Corporation and is now a proposed industrial park.

Albums headed for same fate as 8-Track

To the regret of most music labels, fans are buying fewer and fewer albums, according to a report in the New York Times. Before long, albums will suffer a similar fate as the old 8-Track Stereo - they'll be virtually extinct. In the shift from CDs to digital music, buyers can now pick individual songs they like without having to pay upward of \$10 for an album, the Times reported. Last year, digital singles outsold plastic CD's for the first time. So far this year, sales of digital songs have risen 54 percent, to roughly 189 million units, according to data from Nielsen SoundScan. Digital album sales are rising at a slightly faster pace, but buyers of digital music are purchasing singles over albums by a margin of 19 to 1.

Crittenden workers losing Carhartt jobs

Crittenden County native Angle Hobbs O'Leary is one of about 100 union and company employees of Carhartt Inc., in Providence who will lose their job effective June 22. About a half-dozen Crittenden Countians work at Carhartt, O'Leary said. Company officials announced the closing of the Carhartt plant last Wednesday. O'Leary, who has been employed with Carhartt for 16 years, said she and others were expecting the closure. "Our contract is up at the end of the year, so we really thought it would be then," said O'Leary, whose husband also worked at the plant up until about six years ago. O'Leary said the company has told employees that severance packages will be negotiated in the coming days through the union. O'Leary plans to go back to college when her job ends.

Election registration deadline is April 23

The May 22 Primary election is nearly two months away, but the deadline for registering to vote is just over three weeks off. Anyone registering as a new voter may do so by April 23 and still be eligible to vote in the May primary. Party affiliations can still be made, but those individuals changing sides won't be able to vote in the upcoming primary election.

Skate Park public hearing is April 5

There will be a public hearing at 11 a.m., Thursday, April 5 at Marion City Hall regarding the development of a City-County Park Skate Park. By law, the city must hold the hearing in order to qualify for a Land and Water Conservation Fund grant. The meeting is open to the public and citizens will be afforded the opportunity to express their views concerning the recreational needs of their community. Anyone with a significant supporting or opposing view is invited to voice that opinion at the meeting or write a letter to: Land and Water Conservation Fund Program, Governor's Office for Local Development, 1024 Capital Center Drive, Suite 340, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601. Letters must be received within two weeks of the meeting date.

New extinguishing cigarettes mandatory

Only cigarettes that extinguish themselves when dropped or left unattended will be allowed to be sold in Kentucky under a new law. That means conventional cigarettes - which have been blamed for untold numbers of house fires over the years - would essentially be banned in one of the nation's top tobacco-producing states, a move that could help propel a national push for safer cigarettes. Kentucky joins California, Illinois, Massachusetts, New York, New Hampshire, Utah and Vermont in the effort to prevent fires ignited by cigarettes, according to the fire safety group. "Kentucky, with its rich tobacco history, makes a statement that this is very much a public safety initiative," said Lorraine Carli, a spokeswoman for the National Fire Protection Association. Carli said at least 18 other states are considering similar legislation to require the special smokes, which are wrapped in thin bands of paper that work like "speed bumps" to slow the burning of cigarettes. They go out when the burning tobacco is no longer being puffed by smokers. "The value of this kind of cigarette is priceless," said Kentucky Gov. Ernie Fletcher.

3 hurt in ATV accidents over the weekend

Three people were injured in separate ATV accidents last weekend, two at Paddy's Bluff ATV Park near Dycusburg. Clyde Basna, 69, of Coydon was flown from the ATV park Saturday by PHI air ambulance with head injuries. Another man, William Graves, 36, of Lyon County was taken to Crittenden Hospital with a broken arm Sunday after a head-on collision with another ATV at the park. Another person was hurt in a four-wheeler mishap Sunday evening on Hebron Church Road, but the victim refused medical help when the ambulance arrived.

IRAQ

Continued from page 1A near the Syrian and Jordanian border.

In less than a year, Epley has been transformed into a new Marine with one thing on his mind - the mission.

"We have a job to do and we have to go finish the job so we don't have to keep going over there in the future. That's the way I see it," he said by phone a few days ago.

Epley said the news of his former schoolmates getting seriously injured brought the reality of war to him a week before he was to be there and see it first hand.

"It sends a cold chill down my back," he said. "It's weird because you see it on the news and think, oh, it's just a world away then it hits you at home."

Whether you're getting ready to go or hear about guys from home getting hurt,

Epley said, it's all the same. "It makes you stop and think."

Epley, a third generation Marine, is assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 6th Marines weapons company. His unit is normally an anti-armor division, but with virtually no enemy tanks to worry about in Iraq, the mission will be one of security.

"Our job will be as escort for ground units and convoys," said Epley, who is trained as a driver. Units like his provide protection for the big equipment transportation units like the one Driver is in.

"It's like a big game of chess," Epley said. "In this case, if you make a wrong move, it can cost you."

Driver says that despite what's shown on television, things are changing on the ground in Iraq.

The Iraqis are becoming better at protecting themselves. He sees a much

greater initiative by the native people to end the sectarian violence that has erupted along religious lines in the past two years.

"You can't imagine the difference they've made. I was gone from Iraq six months and during that time things changed a whole lot," he said. "I wouldn't say it's safer, but the Iraqis are starting to step up."

He said Iraqi guard and police units are improving and become more vigilant. U.S. troops are training them.

He also said people back home wouldn't believe the money being spent there in U.S. dollars. From military equipment to food and infrastructure, he said it's amazing what the war is costing.

"Even if we decided to get out of there tomorrow, it would take two years to get everyone and everything out," Driver said.



Tyler Manufacturing installed a new sign in front of its building recently. The company, a spinoff of Par 4 Plastics, is located in the former Tyco building on Chapel Hill Road. The company assembles parts for the automotive industry and will be assembling a new heavy equipment tracking system, Extreme Tracker, which is currently under development. The company has about a half dozen employees and plans on hiring more workers later this year.

Clerk loaded with new computers

Technology upgrades are being made at the Crittenden County Clerk's office.

Gov. Ernie Fletcher and the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC) has announced the installation of new computer equipment for the office. The KYTC has installed the computers as part of a statewide Automated Vehicle Information System (AVIS) computer upgrade.

"It's hard to imagine, but in some counties this old computer equipment has been in use for about a quarter of a century," said Transportation Cabinet Secretary Bill Nighbert. "Governor Fletcher's commitment to this project has made the system upgrades possible. The county clerks desperately need new equipment so they can do their jobs more efficiently."

As the result of a Transportation Cabinet initiative, the state's budget now includes \$750,000 over the next two years to replace old terminals, printers and networks in county clerk's offices all across the Commonwealth. The two-part AVIS upgrade includes replacement of network equipment and hardware, as well as software enhancements. The system improvements are being made first in the 60 smallest counties in the state. The network used by the county clerks will be updated, old terminals will be replaced with PCs, and mainframe printers are being

discarded in favor of new PC printers that will be used for vehicle registrations.

"This is a very positive change for us. We appreciate being chosen as one of the first county clerk's offices to benefit from this project. We also want to thank Gov. Fletcher and the Transportation Cabinet for making an investment in Crittenden County, which will save a lot of time for us and our customers," stated Crittenden County Clerk Carolyn Byford.

"These much-needed improvements will make a world of difference for the county clerks and their customers," said Department of Vehicle Regulation Commissioner Roy Mundy.

"This project will bring all the county clerks on board with the same modern computer network. It is the foundation for the new AVIS computer system, as well as future consumer services like digitized plates, on-



Crittenden County Court Clerk Carolyn Byford gets started on the new computer system recently installed at the courthouse. The new computers are much faster and more efficient. Also pictured is Kevin Lee who helped install the new hardware and software.

demand registration stickers, and expanding internet transactions."

Additionally, the clerks office has received word that it has qualified for a grant to

upgrade computers used for looking up deeds, wills and other legal documents. The new hardware and software is being installed this week.

Yes, you can own a Home in 2007

BELT AUCTION & REALTY REALTORS®

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

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

WE HAVE BUYERS..

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



CRITTENDEN COUNTY HOMES

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

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 Bellville St. Marion **CHECK THIS ONE OUT!** Investors take a look at this nine-room fixer upper house that was formerly used as a duplex. Features 2 kitchens, 2 baths, laundry room, floored attic and partial basement. Situated on nice lot in Marion and located 2 blocks from Main St. **REDUCED TO \$27,500.** Owner says make an offer.

SOLD AN OLDER HOME WITH DIGNITY!...describes this 12 room, 2 story brick home. Features: screened in front porch with beveled glass door entry to living rm/w fireplace, formal dining room w/built in buffet & beveled mirror, butler's pantry & retro kitchen, master bedroom with dressing room or nursery, 2 bathrooms plus another bedroom. All this is on the first floor. The second floor has 5 rooms, bath and 2 large walk in closets.

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.

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

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

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

419 E. MAIN ST....3-4 bedroom home. Convenient to grocery, bank, post office. Features: hardwood floors, large living room with fireplace, eat in kitchen, basement, shed on nice lot in Salem.

129 W. MAIN ST....two bedroom, 1 bath brick, extra large living & dining room, eat-in kitchen with stove & refrigerator, utility room. Located W. Main St., Salem with landscaped front courtyard. \$35,000.

VINYL SIDED!...frame build home. Features: 2 bedrooms, eat-in

HORSE LOVERS! This 10 acre tract is just what you've been looking for. Features: a beautiful 1996 doublewide with 3 BR, 2 BA, dining/living room w/gas log fireplace, kitchen including appliances, utility room plus attached double carport. In addition there is a garage plus large 50x70 barn and good fenced pasture. Located approx. 3 miles from Berry's Ferry landing on the Ohio River.

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.

SALE PENDING 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 1.29 +/- ACRE lot located Blueridge Rd., Smithland. **5 +/- ACRES!**...located in Salem. All city utilities available. Call today for more info.

SOLD 12.44 ACRES!...with approx. 9.5 acres of lake known as Chipp's Lake.

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.**

SOLD 225 SECLUDED ACRES!...located in Crittenden County with approx. 70 open acres. 56 acres in . Excellent deer & turkey hunting.

SOLD 262 +/- ACRES!...Features: 2 bedroom house, detached garage, 1 barn, 2 grain bins, 2 ponds, CRP, approx. 195 open, balance in woods, and a creek that runs thru property. Great location for hunters.

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!

UPCOMING AUCTIONS

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



REALTORS® 411 SOUTH MAIN ST. MARION, KY. 42064

Raymond Belt (270) 965-2358

Peggy Watson (270) 704-0079

Sharon Belt (270) 965-2358

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

Celebrating our 37th year 270-965-5271

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