THURSDAY, APRIL 13, 2023

#### **Death toll of COVID-19**

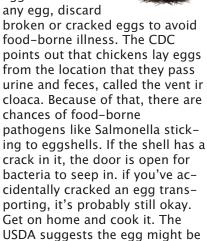
Here are the number of deaths associated with the conronavirus pandemic since the COVID-19 outbreak began in early 2020, and the percentage of each county's population that the death toll represents.

County	Deaths	Pop.	% of Pop.
Livingston	66	8,888	0.74%
Crittenden	58	8,990	0.64%
Caldwell	66	12,649	0.52%
Lyon	41	8,680	0.47%
Union	63	13,668	0.46%
Webster	52	13,017	0.39%

#### Be careful with eggs

As the price of eggs reach alltime highs, many folks are turning to local raised chickens for breakfast. If you've wondered why farm eggs are mostly brown, it's because the chickens have

dark feathers. White-feathered chickens lay white eggs. What they're fed can also affect the color of the egg. As with



#### Reminder about fire spring tinder mixtures

okay to eat if you move quickly.

Although rainfall has been plentiful in the past few weeks, residents are reminded that Kentucky's fall wildfire season does not end until April 30. Dry, windy days can create a big problem as highly-combustible tinder remains plentiful on the countryside. Local fire departments have been busy fighting blazes in fields in recent days. Remember, outdoor burning is prohibited during daylight hours between 6 a.m., and 6 p.m., anywhere near a field or woodlot.

#### **UPCOMING MEETINGS**

•Marion City Council will meet at 5 p.m., Monday, April 17 at city hall.

 Fredonia City Council will meet at 7 p.m., Monday, April 17 at city hall.

•Salem City Council will meet at 5 p.m., Tuesday, April 18 at Deer Lakes meeting room.

•Crittenden County Board of Education will meet at 5:30 p.m., Tuesday, April 18 at Rocket Arena conference room.

 Crittenden County Fiscal Court will meet at 8:30 a.m., Thursday, April 20 courthouse.

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## MPD rebuilds force with familiar faces

STAFF REPORT

Marion Police Department has found a way to bounce back from a potentially debilitating exodus of officers over the past

Last week, two former officers returned to the department, returning its ranks to somewhere close to normal.

Back are former officers Jerry Parker and George Foster. Together they return about 23 years of experience to a police force that has historically operated with five officers, but had dropped to two about a month ago. Now, back to a four-man unit, Police Chief Ray O'Neal says there remains a job opening for one more officer.

After other nearby law enforcement agencies starting cherry-picking Marion officers, attracting them with stronger employment packages, Marion City Council responded by giving all Marion policemen a \$4-an-hour raise a few weeks ago. Despite more money, two more officers left Marion, reducing MPD's force to only the police chief and Assistant Chief Bobby

Luring former officers back to Marion has been a godsend, the chief said.

"It has been tremendous. We've had so much experience to walk out the door over the last few months, and to have this much come back is just great," said O'Neal.

Over the past year or so, the department had lost the equivalent of about 35 years



**Foster** 



of experience with the departures of Heath Martin, James Duncan, Eric Gray and Donald Crawford. All left for jobs in law enforcement in nearby communities. Two of those officers - Duncan and Gray hired in with no experience and were sent to the police academy by the Marion PD.

Foster, 42, has 15 years experience as a law enforcement officer. He graduated from the police academy in 2007 and spent the next 12 years as a patrolman for the City of Marion. In 2019, Foster left the PD and joined the Crittenden County Sheriff's Department until last fall when he took a position with the Kentucky Department of Probation and Parole.

"I am just blessed to be able to come back and serve the community, doing what I love," he said.

Parker, 57, is a retired U.S. Army veteran who became a police officer in Marion

See POLICE/page 4

## The trash collection changeover continues this week Trash switch catches many

by surprise Transitioning from one garbage collector to a new one has been a monumental task for the com-

munity, to say the least. The courthouse phone number for county government has been buzzing over the past couple of weeks as many residents were

caught off guard by the switch. In February, Crittenden County Fiscal Court approved a five-year franchise agreement with a new trash collection provider, Impact Waste Service of Crofton. The former company, GFL Environmental with a regional headquarters in Princeton, lost its franchise agreement after it or its predecessors had provided garbage collection here for

about 20 years. GFL has for more than a week been picking up its trash containers from former customers in Marion and Crittenden County. and were scheduled to finish that work this week, taking any trash in the cans, too. Meantime, Impact Waste has been building its new client list and providing garbage totes to customers. Distribution of its garbage contain-

ers is also ongoing.

Last week, the county judgeexecutive's office received about 100 phone calls from unsuspecting residents who had not read the numerous articles in this newspaper nor seen the announcements at The Press Online or various social media sites that had generated posts over the past few weeks about the looming change.

Simply being surprised by the switch was the most common thread, but other phone calls to county government have included complaints about losing what's commonly called "back door" pickup, or custom trash collection. Residential curbside pickup requires customers to leave their trash bins next to the road where a large truck with an automated arm picks up the tote and dumps its contents into the garbage truck without a human leaving the cab of the vehicle. Elderly or people with disabilities have historically been able to contract with other service providers that have made special arrangements for garbage collection. The new franchise agreement is exclusive, meaning only Impact has legal right to pick up garbage in the city and county.

Impact Waste says the company will be providing a similar type of service to customers with special needs. Contact the office to inquire about special pickup.

Additionally, commercial or businesses accounts that have previously used the 96-gallon totes to hold garbage, instead of a dumpster, will be offered a similar arrangement with Impact as they've experienced with the former provider.

Currently, there is no exclusive franchise agreement for commercial trash service. Businesses are free to negotiate with any authorized provider. In 2024, the county will enter into an exclusive commercial contract with a provider. Competitive bids for that service will be accepted next year.

## **Courthouse Justice**



Jamie Pyle is the newest member of the Crittenden County Courthouse staff. He started work last week as a custodian. Pyle is a familar presence in Marion after working for 20 years in the grocery business. At 39, he's excited about a change of careers and will take over as lead custodian when longtime courthouse employee Rick Nelson retires later this year. Pyle says he enjoys working in the public sector where he gets plenty of interaction with people of the community. He will be working a regular 40-hour schedule on a five-day-a-week routine.

## On campus, meth and snake found on student

STAFF REPORT

Methamphetamine was found on a student at Crittenden County High School on Monday, March 27. It was the first time the highly addictive stimulant drug had ever been verified on campus, according to Marion Police Department.

An 18-year-old student was in possession of 1.5 grams of methamphetamine, according to the police report. While the student was charged as an adult, The Press has opted to not print his name because he is a student, and the charges are non-violent

The police report says

school officials were first alerted that a student had brought a four-foot python to campus and perhaps drugs. When the student was interviewed by school administrators, the snake was produced from inside his backpack. The student later admitted to having drugs, and produced from his hip pocket a container of meth and a "tooter" pipe. The student admitted to using the drug in the school bathroom to stay awake in class.

Assistant Police Chief Bobby West was called to the school where he arrested the student, charging him with felony

first-degree possession of a controlled substance and misdemeanor possession of drug paraphernalia. The student was lodged in Crittenden County Detention Center and later released on bond. He was arraigned in Crittenden District Court on March 29 and ordered to appear in district court again on April 12 for a preliminary hearing. Typically, if a judge finds probable cause during a preliminary hearing to continue the case, it will be sent to Crittenden Circuit Court. If convicted, felony possession of meth carries a penalty of one to five years in prison.

### **Deaths**

#### Hedger

David (Dave) H. Hedger, 81, of Marion, died Saturday, April 1, 2023. He was born on Sept. 4, 1941, in Princeton, Ind., to parents Geneva

(Wiley) and Cleat i Hedger. He tended Hobart

S at-High School. He

worked at EJ & E Railroad as an engineer until he retired at the

age of 60. He was an avid golfer and had holes-in-one throughout the course of his life. He golfed every day he possibly could until his body no longer allowed it. This was his true passion, aside from his family. He took great pride in his children and grandchildren.

Surviving are his devoted wife of 62 years, Karole (Motts) Hedger; two daughters, Brenda Bailey and Lisa Sawochka; two granddaughters, Bailey Alizabeth (Brian Sohaney) and Tiffany Sawochka; three great-grandchildren, Evan Robb, Avrie Robb and Abra-Sohaney;

sister, Delphine Ross; and two sister-inlaws, Mary Book and Russene (Tom) Heaton as well as many, many nieces, and nephews. He was preceded in

death by his parents, Geneva (Wiley) and Cleatis Hedger; a sonin-law, Mitchell Sawochka; granddaughter, Alisha (Bailey) Robb; and a grandson-inlaw, Shawn Robb; a son-in-law, Terry Baiand three siblings, Jack Hedger, Mona Gifford and George Hedger; as well as his beloved tiny Maltese, Kash.

A celebration of life will be held at a later date.

#### Baughman

Yvonne Baughman, 68, of Salem died Tuesday, April 4, 2023 at Livingston

S h e worked as an office man-



independent ordained minister.

Surviving are her husband of 38 years, Michael Baughman;

eight children, Nicole (Robert) Jackson, Tom (Johanna) Flagle, Angie (Rodney) Ford, Tim Flagle, Michael Baughman, Michelle (Mark) Darragh, Adaline (Jeff) Stump and Billy Baughman; 15 grandchildren nine great-grandchildren; and a brother, Rick Young.

She was preceded in death by her parents, James Cyril and Ruth Gertrude Fowler Young; two sisters; and a brother.

Memorial services will be held at a later date.

Myers Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

#### Barkley

A celebration of life for the late Alben W. Barkley II of Marion will be held Saturday, April 15, 2023.

The service begin at 1 p.m., at Glendale Baptist Church, 2123 State Route 2123 Marion KY 42064.

Barkley, 78, died Jan. 30, 2023.

#### Croft

Carol Corley Croft, 80, of Paducah, died Sunday, April 9, 2023 at Parkview Nursing and Rehabilitation Center.

She was born in Marion March 5, 1943 to the late Robert and

Esther Corley. She was a retired English at Tilghman High School



where she also served as sponsor for the Paducah Tilghman High School Drill Core. She served for many years as the church pianist at Margaret Hank Cumberland Presbyterian Church and later attended Lone Oak First Baptist Church. She will be remembered as a wonderful, driven woman who loved to travel and spend time family with friends.

Surviving are a son, Gregory Scott (Jacqueline) Croft of Paducah; two sisters, Linda (Larry) Starr of Marion and Nancy Keck of St. Louis, Mo.; grandchildren, Brian (Melissa) Croft, William Croft, Walter Croft, Maxwell Croft and Samuel Croft; three great-grandchildren, Ellie Croft, Wren Croft and Brayden Smallman; a greatniece, Rachel Jett, and great-nephew, Phillip Rowland.

She was preceded in death by her husband of 60 years, Danny Leon Croft.

Services will be held at 1 p.m., Thursday, April 13 at Milner & Orr Funeral Home of Paducah with Rev. Chris Prescott officiating. Burial will follow at Brook Hill Memorial Park and Mauso-

Visitation will be held from 11 a.m., until the service time on Thursday, April 13 at Milner & Orr Funeral Home of Padu-

Memorial contributions may be made Gideon's International. PO Box 8436, Paducah, KY 42002.

#### **Phelps**

Philip E. Phelps, age 85, of Princeton, died Monday, April 10, 2023 at Princeton Nursing and Rehabilitation.

He was born Dec. 13, 1937 in Caldwell County to the late Marion Edward Phelps and the late Henrietta Josephine Prowell Phelps. He was a member of Fredonia First Baptist Church and was the owner of Druther's restaurants in Princeton and Marion. He was a supporter of local athletes, especially the Tiger football team where he attended 423 straight football games over 37 years. He was inducted into the Caldwell County Football Hall of Fame in 2010.

Surviving are his wife of 40 years, Pam Bullock Phelps; three sons, Jeffery "Todd" (Karen) Phelps of Fredonia, Curtis "Curt" (Cara) Phelps and Brad (Jayme) Harralson of Princeton; a sister, Wanda Beck of Kuttawa; 11 grandchildren, David Phelps, Michael Phelps, Leigha (Kevin) McMullen, Mandy (Curt) Phelps Martin, Adrianne (Cody) Phelps Travis, Rainie Phelps, Taylor Phelps, Whitney Peck, Brooke Phelps, Mitchell Harralson and Madison Harralson, and 11 great-grandchildren.

Services are noon, Thursday, April 13 at Fredonia First Baptist Church with Rev. Presley Lamm officiating and Bro. Kyle Noffsinger assisting. Burial will follow in Hill Cemetery in Caldwell County.

Visitation is from 4-8 p.m., Wednesday, April 12 at Morgan's Funeral Home and from 10 a.m. until service time on Thursday, April, 13 at Fredonia First Baptist Church.

Memorial contributions may be made

Fredonia First Baptist Church Life Center, 208 Cassidy Lane, Fredonia, KY 42411.

#### Watson

Margaret Lucille (Williams) Watson, 94, of Lola, died Tuesday, April 11, 2023 at Providence Point Healthcare in Padu-

She was a member of Lola Pentecostal Church.

Surviving are two sons, David (Melinda) Watson of Paducah and Ronnie (Ra-

Watson of Pacific, M O . ;

mona)

three grandchildren, Christopher (Destiny) Watson, Micah (Alex) Watson, and Lauren (Daniel) Neihoff; four great-grandchildren, Oliver, Gwen, Leo and Aryah; a brother, Harold (Norberta) Williams of Carrsville; and a sister, Linda Rodgers of Lola.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Truman Watson; four brothers, Mark Williams, Robert G. Williams, Jesse Williams and Carl Williams; three sisters, Anna Lee Monroe, Marie Dinwidde and Joyce Dinwidde; and parents, Jim and Lora (Myrick) Williams.

Services are at 1 p.m., Saturday, April 15 in the chapel of Boyd Funeral Directors and Cremation Services with Bro. Tim Fouts officiating. Burial will follow in the Lola Cemetery.

Friends may visit with the family from 11 a.m., until the funeral hour.



#### Shewmaker honored

Roberta Shewmaker was selected Woman of the Year from the Woman's Club of Marion. Shewmaker has been a member for several years but her contributions during the past year earned her the award. Serving as a club officer and a member of the executive committee, she has volunteered many hours overseeing the proposed sale of the club's property. "It doesn't matter which committee Roberta is on, she is always helping the club by seeing what is needed and doing it," said Nancy Hunt, club president. "She is a very special lady and it is a honor to recognize her contributions with this award."

#### Library's 70th anniversary celebration starts April 13

The Crittenden County Public Library kicks off its 70th anniversary celebration Thursday, April 13 with an open house. It is the first of several events planned as a celebration of its beginnings in 1953.

During the open house from 5-7 p.m., visitors will be treated to finger foods and 1950s music by local vocalist Michelle

The following night the library will host its popular Trivia Night from 7-9 p.m. To enter, contact the library.

A children's celebration will feature stories and special guests from LBL's Woodland's Nature Station at 10 a.m., April 15. April events conclude

April 27-29 with a Friends of the Library book sale.



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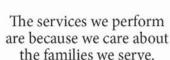
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## Time again for those creepy, crawly critters

In timely celebration of Earth Month, here's a look at some creepy, crawly critters that are showing up as the weather warms.

There are only four venomous snakes in our area and most of those are quite rare.

Other than the copperhead, timber rattler, pygmy chris rattlesnake and EVANS  $cottonmouth, \ \ \textit{Press Editor \& Publisher}$ most of western About Town Kentucky's bellydwelling reptiles

are handy to have around. They eat mice and other pests that cause us humans far more concern.

So many times, we mistake harmless snakes for venomous ones. No snakes are poison. Poison is ingested. Venom is injected. So I've been told.

If you're looking for those we know as venomous, count in this area the copperhead as the most commonly encounBirdsville and along the riverbanks and you might find a timber rattlesnake if you look close enough. As for the cottonmouth, I won't say there aren't any around here, but I've never seen one. Unless you're Mason Glore, you could look from now on and never find one. Glore, if you recall, was the subject of an article we had in the paper last year. He's something of a snake whisperer. An avid snake watcher, Glore has never documented a cottonmouth in Crittenden County. Neither have I, but I hear tales of them existing

The cottonmouth is generally occupied by places that stay wet most of the year such as marshes and swamps. All snakes in Kentucky have white mouths, so don't let that fool

All of western Kentucky's venomous snakes are pit vipers. They have small pits between their eyes and nostrils. Also, they have elliptical pupils. Snakes with round



The harmless water snake.

Those identifying traits are meaningless unless you get up close and personal. I suggest using those identifying methods once the snake is formerly of this world. As in dead. However, I don't condone the harming of snakes, unless they pose an immediate threat. They have an important role in the ecosystem and should be allowed to do their business without peril.

The chances of encountering a venomous snake is relatively slim, unless you go around turning over logs, rocks or a piece of tin that's blown off the barn roof. Snakes are generally nocturnal. They move around at night during the summertime. You will see snakes just about any time the temperaduring winter months.

The copperhead is the most routinely encountered venomous snake and his bite is almost never lethal to an adult. Children, though, can become very ill and even die from a copperhead's venom.

An area newspaper (which I will not name) printed a picture of a snake a few years ago, and the caption under the photo identified it as a copperhead although it appeared to be a harmless water snake.

The northern water snake has the misfortune of being marked up much like the copperhead. Because of that, it's customarily dispatched without impunity.

As a rule, I recommend making close examination of striped snakes only if you're a qualified expert. Copperheads can be identified from afar. They have hourglass stripes some call them brown Hershey's Kisses - across their body with the large patches on the sides and narrow part at the top of their backs. The

site with the large part of the stripe atop its back.

Although I can provide no scientific proof, observational data tell me that water snakes are among the first to emerge from their wintering grounds.

The triangle-shaped head method of identifying a venomous snake is foolhardy at best. Most mature water snakes have large heads that look like those belonging to their more nefarious cousins.

Young copperheads have bright yellow-tipped tails.

To be sure if you've passed judgment on a bad snake, just roll it over once it's clearly not a threat and look at the under-

If the snake has a single row of scales on its belly from the anus to the tail's tip, it's venomous. All non-venomous snakes of Kentucky have two rows of belly scales near their

Among other trivial pursuits, longtime Crittenden Press editor Chris Evans is an outdoors enthusiast and amateur conser-





Do you know what the word 'extinct' means? When we say an animal is extinct, we mean that there are none left!

Animals and plants have disappeared through natural causes such as storms, volcanic eruptions or diseases. Some animals have been wiped out because people were hungry and killed them for food before they had a chance to replace their populations.

Animals may be threatened by loss of their homes or by sprays used to kill pesky insects. Some are hunted for their furs or horns.

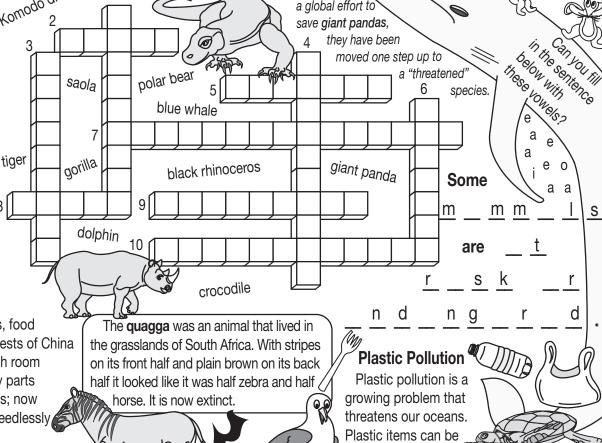
When numbers of these animals drop so low that they may become extinct, we call them 'endangered' and may work to protect them.

#### Fill in the puzzle with some animals that are at risk:

- 1. Arctic; melting ice threatens their habitat
- 2. hunted for furs and food; found only in Vietnam; looks like an antelope, in same family as the cow
- 3. Florida; swampy homes drained; hunted for skins, food
- 4. few small groups left in mountainous bamboo forests of China 5. large gentle animals in African jungles; not enough room
- for gathering food, raising families; killed for body parts
- 6. followed by fishermen seeking tuna; drown in nets; now companies support ways to fish that do not kill needlessly
- 7. Africa, Asia; poachers kill them for their horns
- 8. beautiful cat of India, Russia; killed for skin or fur
- 9. ocean animal; largest animal in world; hunted
- 10. giant lizard; very few left

dodo bird

#### Animals at Risk Some kinds of mice are at risk too! Wow! Kowoqo quagon Thanks to a global effort to save giant pandas, they have been moved one step up to a "threatened"



## **Extinct Animals**

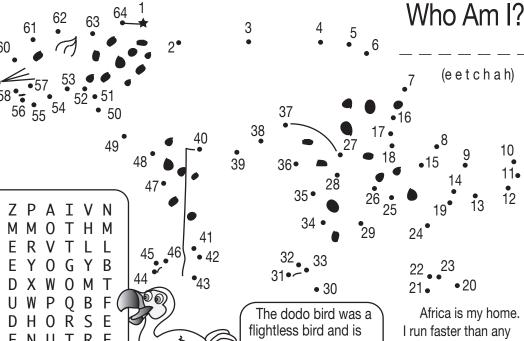
When animals are "extinct" it means that there are no more of them. The dinosaurs are probably the best known of the extinct animals. Can you find and circle the names of some extinct animals listed below?

woolly rhinoceros

woolly mammoth tarpan wild horse triceratops red gazelle desert bandicoot golden toad G P H X Z E F D E B Q H E O I U R Z P A I V N R F U M S D Z U L M U W O O L L Y M A M M O T H M E E A Z O S A B E R T O O T H T I G E R V T L L CMCBCDBHXRREDGAZELLEYOGYB EQDFUOSSWOGOLDENTOADXWOMT QJBJZNBKPJRICXSOUWPQBF AODNLICTCRTARPANWILDHORSE T D E S E R T B A N D I C O O T N M B F N U T R F OREIXDBINEADVQZQNCCKNCYGL P S S Z S V H X I U U V V M M N P D J B R H F T R

SZHVRBWOOLLYRHINOCEROSOEV

sabertooth tiger



extinct. People only know about it from a few sketches, writings, and some bones.

harmful to ocean

wildlife and may

threaten the whole ecosys

animal in the world. People hunt us for our beautiful fur. Our numbers have dropped.

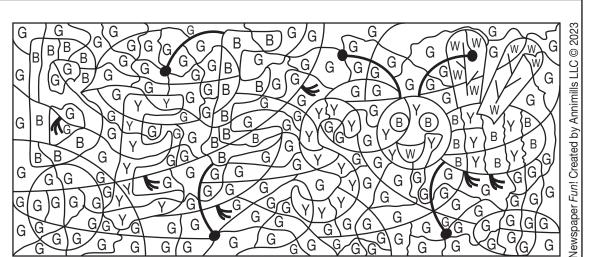
#### What Could It Be?

For years concern has cropped up for this winged animal. Reporters have been talking about "colony collapse disorder." Swarms of these little, flying creatures had been disappearing and now their numbers seem to be leveling off, but still no one knows why.

We need this animal to pollinate fruits, vegetables and flowers. They provide honey too. Our food supply might be in trouble if too many of these disappear!

Use this color key to fill in the puzzle to see what it could be!

B = black Y = yellow W = white G = green



#### Riding club hosts event near Fredonia

Fredonia Valley Riding Club will host Exhibition Night from 4–7 p.m., on Saturday, May 6. Admission is \$5 and there will be free hot dogs, chips and drinks.

#### **Marion's water woes** spawn new legislation

The levee leak in Marion has prompted Kentucky lawmakers to enact legislation requiring an emergency action plan for unstable dams.

Until a couple of weeks ago, Kentucky was one of a handful of states that did not require emergency plans for hazardous dams.

That has changed under a law enacted by the legislature and signed recently by Gov. Andy Beshear that will require some hazardous dams, including the one in Crittenden County, to have emergency action plans on file, according to an article in the Kentucky Lantern, an independent news gathering agency.

Senate Bill 277, sponsored by Sen. Johnnie Turner, R-Harlan, saw unanimous final passage by the state House of Representatives on the last day of this year's legislative session.

The legislation will require owners of dams with a hazard classification from the state as "significant," "moder-ate" or "high" to have emergency action plans in case a dam should fail, potentially endangering lives and property downstream.

**Emergency action** plans are documents maintained by dam owners that identify potential ways a dam could fail, identify the responsibilities for

monitoring a dam and mandate a procedure for what to do in an emergency situation. In particular, according to the State Association of Dam Safety Officials (ASDSO), these plans include water inundation maps were a dam to fail and a flow chart of who to call in what priority in an emergency situation.

The Kentucky Center for Investigative Reporting found, as of 2019, that dozens of "high" hazard dams in poor or worse condition had no emergency action plans on file. Before the legislature enacted SB 277, Kentucky was one of seven states that didn't require emergency action plans for "high" hazard dams as of 2021, according to ASDSO.

Similar legislation had been filed in past years without gaining traction. A dam safety bill last year was amended to add unrelated language that would have gotten rid of a Kentucky permitting program for animal waste operations not overseen by the federal government. That bill did not pass.

Commissioner of the Kentucky Department for Environmental Protection Tony Hatton also spoke during the hearing last month and recounted the crisis in

"We saw last year, for instance, down in the City of Marion through no fault of their own, they have a dam that impounds water that's their drinking water supply, which makes it even doubly important, and they began to develop a fairly slow leak in the dam," Hatton said.

"When there was a decision made that we needed to take a look at this, there was a period of time there, where there were so

many voices speaking, we didn't really have a plan and know which way to go."

Local elected and emergency management officials in Crittenden County at that time clashed with state dam safety officials over how to address the growing sinkhole in the dam, and the city of Marion — which owned and maintained the dam — did not have an emergency plan on file to give specific directions on how to address the situation.

At the legislative hearing, Hatton said it was important to at least have a plan in case of an emergency. He said the state had already done much of the "heavy lifting" regarding the work needed for these plans and is ready to provide dam owners with prepared inundation maps and extra assistance developing such plans.

Officials in Marion ultimately decided to breach the dam to prevent a potential failure, allowing for the water to drain out of the reservoir that was Marion's primary water source. Since that breach, the city has dealt with a water shortage and now faces expensive options to refortify its water infrastructure.

Hatton said the situation in Crittenden County "worked out okay in the end."

"But having had a plan in place, I think, we would've responded more timely and effectively," he said.

#### **Church attendance** steadier after COVID

While regular church attendance has dropped slightly since 2019, church participation has remained "remarkably steady" throughout the pan-



demic, according to an analysis from Pew Research.

Among Christians, 42% say they attend in person about as often as before the pandemic, 25% attend less often and 9% attend more, according to an article by Lifeway Research. It continues by finding that Black Protestants are the most likely to say they attend less often than before (35%) but are also the most likely to say they attend more now (15%). Another 32% of Black Protestants attend about as often as they did previously. White evangelicals are the most likely to say they attend about as often as before the pandemic (52%), while 23% attend less and 8% attend more. Among mainline Protestants 36% attend at a similar rate, 21% attend less, and 7% attend more.

While in-person attendance has declined, 15% of Americans say they now watch religious services online or on TV more than they did before the pandemic.

#### Smith earns award

Caldwell County seventh-grade science teacher Melinda Smith was recently named the 2022-2023 Challenger Learning Center at Paducah's Outstanding Ed-

Smith, a Paducah Community College (now WKCTC) alumnae, has 20 years of teaching experience with an emphasis on science, and she has taught seventh-grade science at Caldwell County Middle School since August 2010.

#### POLICE

Continued from page 1 in 2007 after a short stint as a jail deputy. He left Marion in 2015 and worked for eight years at Oak Ridge, Tenn., Police Department before moving back a few months

ago. "I'm not a guy who will be around another 10 or 15 years," he said, "but maybe I can help out for a year or two until they

can build the force back up. I always have liked it here. It's a little slower pace than where I've been.

O'Neal said the recruitment effort for an additional patrolman will continue with an emphasis on finding a certified applicant. If not, a worthy candidate would have to be put through the 20-week basic training course in Richmond.

## Crittenden Press

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LIVINGSTON COUNTY, KY - 114,303 ACPES - Diverse hunting tract with establish E LIVING unting tract has a diverse blend of hat at the located in an area known for

LIVINGSTON COUNTY, KY - 114 ACRES - \$226,892 - All timber hunting tract. This tract is located in an area known for big bucks and has timber diversity.

LIVINGSTON COUNTY, KY - 121 ACRES - \$236,347 - Mostly timber hunting tract geared toward turkeys and whitetails. This tract has a diverse topography with dynamic terrain features and

LIVINGSTON COUNTY, KY - 190 ACRES - \$497,806 - All timber hunting tract. This property is a timbered ridge top with food plots and a natural saddle

LIVINGSTON COUNTY, KY - 427 ACRES - \$896,610 - Timbered ridge top hunting tract! This tract has the ideal blend of habitat

types for mature whitetails and wild turkeys.

CRITTENDEN COUNTY, KY - 201.98 ACRES - \$769,000 - This property has a diverse blend of habitat types and topography with a home, outbuildings and a proven history of big bucks. The home has 2,025 square feet of living space with three bedrooms and two

CRITTENDEN COUNTY, KY - 31.5 ACRES - \$782,000 - Beautiful home and acreage in a quiet rural area near Marion. This property has a sprawling 4,998-square-foot home nestled in scenic

CRITTENDEN COUNTY, KY - 0.9 ACRES - \$115,000 - This rustic cabin with storage buildings provides the ideal base camp for your hunting adventures! This cabin has 1,192 square feet of living space with three bedrooms and one bathroom, a spacious living area with a fireplace, a full kitchen with plenty of cabinet space, a

full bathroom and laundry room. CRITTENDEN COUNTY, KY - 12.6 ACRES - \$425,000 - Spacious home and outbuildings on acreage. This property is in a quiet rural

setting just minutes from town. CRITTENDEN COUNTY, KY - 265.67 ACRES - \$742,500 Diverse hunting tract with waterfowl potential! This tract has the ideal habitat types for deer, turkeys and waterfowl hunting! This river bottom farm has approximately 1.5 miles of frontage along

CRITTENDEN COUNTY, KY - 353 ACRES - \$1,495,000 - Beautiful farm with home and a diverse blend of habitat types. This farm is a nature and will a diverse blend of habitat types with everything needed to grow, hold

and harvest mature whitetails and wild turkeys.

LIVINGSTON COUNTY, KY - 216.57 ACRES - \$427,717 - Great

hunting tract with a diverse most habitat types. Great deer and wild turkey habitat with o So habitat with o waterfowl hunting. Open areas for food plots. Approximately 244.78 acres of timber. Planted

CRITTENDEN COUNTY, KY - 947 ACRES - \$1,450,000 - This unique large acreage hus Deal for all of Kentucky's favored game species. The value features a diverse blend of habitat

types.
LIVINGSTON COUNTY, KY - 139.95 ACRES - \$297,922 - Great hunting tract with dynamic hunter friendly topography, mast producing timber, security cover, open areas for food plots and a

LIVINGSTON COUNTY, KY - 118.16 ACRES - Topography is a mix of semi-flat creek bott be lim bed ridges. An established food plot on the main ridges a life spot for big bucks. Excellent

hunting! Reduced \$209,751.

CRITTENDEN COUNTY, KY - 103 ACRES - Located in big buck territory, this scenic proper sous practices home, garages, a barn ideal for equipment sous properties a diverse blend of habitat



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## OUR MEMORIES GO BACK TO 1879

## **10 YEARS AGO**

#### April 11, 2013

■ A Crittenden County man who threatened the life of a Livingston County deputy sheriff and employees of Livingston Hospital and Healthcare Services in Salem kept nearly a half dozen law enforcement agencies on the hunt and hospital employees on edge. Kenneth Brian Fitzgerald, 25, of southern Crittenden County, was arrested after he reportedly assaulted two nurses and a hospital custodian, sparking the manhunt. He allegedly later threatened to shoot and kill hospital workers as they left the building and singled out Livingston County Deputy David Koon with a death threat. Crittenden, Livingston and Caldwell sheriff departments teamed with Kentucky State Police and Kentucky Vehicle Enforcement to search for Fitzgerald and stand guard at the

- hospital until Fitzgerald was found. ■ The General Education Development test, or GED as it is better known, has always provided individuals the opportunity to receive their high school equivalency diploma. But as of 2014, the test would be updated to include more college and career standards. Officials in the Adult Education Center claim that the changes in the new test would now include essay questions and advanced math. It would also be a computer-based test and cost double what it used to be to take the GED in 2014.
- The Crittenden County Rockets' baseball team (4-7) beat Hopkinsville 6-5 when Taylor Champion singled and scored on an error in the last inning at Marion's Gordon Blue Guess Field. Champion singled to right with one out then went to second on a sacrifice by Aaron Owen. Travis Gilbert put the ball in play on the next at-bat, grounding to third. An error on the play allowed Champion to score

for the victory.

■ The long-awaited Crittenden County agriculture education/ FFA greenhouse opened for business. The greenhouse was located behind the high school and next to Rocket Arena. It would be open from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. on weekdays. The money from the sales would be used to help fund FFA activities throughout the year and to fund the next year's crop. The greenhouse was three years in the making and was funded through a Kentucky Agriculture Development grant, the Crittenden County Board of Education and private donations from

### **25 YEARS AGO**

#### April 16, 1998

the community.

■ Crittenden County road employees Robert McDowell and Mark McDowell helped clean up an illegal dump site on Mt. Zion Cemetery Road as a part of Marion's celebration of Earth Day. Also helping in the clean-up efforts were more than two dozen Crittenden County officials and school children including young tikes from Head Start, biology students at CCHS and CCHS Science Club members. A host of city and county leaders also Earth Day celebration and encourage

- planted flowers, picked up trash and weeded flower beds to promote the others to take care of our planet. ■ WPSD- TV meteorologist Cal Sisto visited Head Start students at Crittenden County Elementary School to teach the youngsters about the weather. He showed the students several meteorological instruments, such as a rain gauge and thermometer, and discussed the importance of
- ing rainfall, temperature and severe weather. ■ Four Crittenden County High School basketball seniors tried out at

those tools in predicting and record-

Bethel College in McKenzie, Tenn. The private tryout consisted of tw scrimmages, each against Bethel's varsity and junior varsity players. Chad Kemper, Kyle Myers, Allie Turley and Nathan Howton each attended the one-day tryout. Kemper said he and three senior teammates took two out of three games from the Bethel players in the 5-on-5 scrimmage and reported that the Bethel coaching staff seemed interested in the local boys' talent.

■ The opening day of turkey hunting season was a success for several Crittenden natives. Some of the successful hunters were. Todd Phelps who bagged a 20-pound gobbler with a 10.5-inch beard; Percy Cook who bagged a 22-pound turkey with a 10inch beard and three-quarter spurs; as well as Larry Lynch who harvested a hefty 26.75-pound gobbler with an 11.5-inch beard and one-inch spurs.

#### **50 YEARS AGO**

#### **April 19, 1973**

■ Paul Mick, editor of The Crittenden Press; Ed Hill, station manager for WMJL; and Earl Belt, regional manager for Sureway, were honored by the Marion Rotary Club for their assistance with the Rotary Radio Auction which netted over \$3,000.

- Marion Modular Homes was among 59 Kentucky industries contributing to the industrial growth in the Commonwealth in 1972. Gov. Wendell Ford presented a tribute to Frank Chambers, president and stockholder Carl Winebarger during the annual Governor's Industry Appreciation luncheon held in Louisville.
- Doyle Sherer, Route 6, Marion was presented with a certificate citing him as Tree Farmer of the Year in the Kentucky Division of Forestry's Western District. He was presented with the certificate by Clarence Gray, who was a management aide with the Kentucky Division of Forestry.

Read Brenda Underdown's Forgotten Passages column at The Press Online between newspaper issues.

## Religion The Crittenden Press



## The command of Maundy Thursday

NIESTRATH

Guest

**Columnist** 

Faith-based columnist

Our society today values expression more than restraint. So much so that expression carries with it an entitlement beyond tolerance to acceptance and endorsement. This sets us up for polarization and makes us vulnerable to ambitious men and women who either promise us what they cannot deliver or make us feel righteous in our contempt for others. We find these ambitious people mixed in with true servants among our religious leaders, politicians, journalists, scientists, and educators. They will do and say nearly anything to gain a following and an advan-

For most of my adult life segments of evangelical Christianity has carried the banner of a cross in one hand and an elephant in the other while other Christian groups carry the cross and the donkey. We have allowed the inferior banners to become more part of our identity than the cross to the point of violence. Actually, there is nothing new here.

There will always be something that we can be convinced to fear. There will always be events and shifts in moral behavior that will cause us to think that our God, this is a good place society is falling apart. The problem is that we are not

always the best judges of what we should really fear and there are parts of any society that should be changed. We secular and religious leaders that understand these things and we need a population that knows how to find them.

Psalm 118:6 9 reminds us where we

should put our confidence, "With the LORD on my

side I do not fear. What can man do to me? The LORD is on my side

to help me; I shall look in triumph on those who hate me. It is better to take refuge

in the LORD than to put confidence in man.

It is better to take refuge in the LORD

than to put confidence in

Not all will agree with

this, but for believers in

to start. If a leader does not understand where to

put their confidence, question their motive.

This, for most Christians in America, Holy Week. I am writing this on Maundy Thursday. The commandment that we are called to reflect upon this day is another key for locating leaders to see through to better days.

Maundy Thursday gets its name from John 13:34,

"A new commandment I give to you, to love one another." The Latin word for commandment here is "mandatum," from which we get the words, "manand "mandatory." The Latin word evolved into English use as "maundy." Hence, Maundy Thursday is the day when we reflect on the command of Jesus that we love one another. Jesus knew that the disciples were about to experience a faith shattering event when he was crucified. It is only love that gets us through the darkest of days that would otherwise scatter us in fear.

This is a day when many Christians will also read the story of the Passover (Exodus 12) and Jesus washing the disciples' feet (John 13). A reflection of hospitality and service that must accompany the kind of love that Jesus commands of his disciples. This is a day to read Psalm 116 and reflect on faithful ones that have passed from this life to the next. Psalm 116:15 says, "Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints.'

Maundy Thursday is a reminder to all of us to keep our priorities in life in the correct order. Those who would be our spiritual and political leaders who call us to set aside love and replace it with fear are not worth our time. When Christians figure this out and take the command of Maundy Thursday seriously then the message of Easter will be better heard.

Dr. Sean Niestrath is a minister in Madisonville, Ky. He holds a doctoral degree in ministry. You may contact him at sean. niestrath@outlook.com.

#### **Community Events & News**

■ The VFW in Marion will have a meeting at 6:30 p.m., Thursday, April 13 at 412 North College St. Refreshments will be served.

■ Moore Business Forms former employees will meet for lunch at noon, April 15 at LaDelicia Restaurant in Marion.

■ A benefit for The Meeting Place in Sturgis will feature live music and food vendors beginning at 1 p.m., Saturday, May 13 at the amphitheater on North Adams Street in Sturgis. The Meeting Place is a Christian community outreach supporting individuals in recovery. Funds raised during the event May 13 will be used for remodeling and startup for The Meeting Place.

■ Suicidal thoughts? Stop! Email dbrantpc@tds.net and request a video link that hopefully will change your mind.

■ Salem Baptist Celebrate Recovery meets Monday's 5:30 p.m. with a meal at 6 p.m., at 209 Highland Street, opposite side of the building from the Thrift Store.

■ Sugar Grove Cumberland Presbyterian Church will host an Easter Sunrise service bgns at 6:15 a.m., April 9 with breakfast to follow.

■ Salem Baptist Church Thrift Store is open 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Tuesday and Saturday at 209 Highland St., Salem.

■ The Clothes Closet of the First Baptist Church in Fredonia is open to serve the area with free clothes. The Clothes Closet is operated from 1-3 p.m. each Thursday. The Clothes Closet will be closed in case of rain.

■ Fredonia Unity Baptist Church's clothes closet is open from 9 a.m. to noon on the second and fourth Saturday of every month.

■ First Baptist Church of Fredonia food pantry is open from 1 to 3 p.m. the third Thursday of each month in Coleman Hall of the church.

■ The clothes closet at Mexico Baptist Church is open from 9 to 11:30 a.m. each Monday.

■ Cave Springs Baptist Church between Lola and Joy in Livingston County offers food 24 hours a day, 7 days week at its outdoor Blessing Box in front of the church.

Does your group have something planned? Let us know. We post notes here at no charge. Email to thepress@thepress.com or call (270) 965-3191.

## God's desire to work through us is no cause for fear

Question: I've been asked to give a Gideon Report to two churches. Speaking before an audience intimidates me. I know the Lord is in it, but how can I do it?

Answer: Public speaking is the number one fear for many. An angel announced to the Virgin Mary, "Do not be afraid, Mary, you have found favor with God. You will be with child and give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus" (Lk. 1:31). She asked how this could be and the angel explained, "For nothing is impossible with God." "I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May it be to me as you have said" (Lk. 1:37, 38).

Mary took a step of faith and didn't allow fear to rule. May we respond as Mary did: "I am the Lord's servant." Let our "yes" be always on the table to do whatever the Lord leads, even if it is speaking in pub-

When we let self or fear sit on the throne of our lives, we fail to do the Lord's will. Speaking to an audience can be an opportunity to step into the unknown and trust God on the journey. If we take the step of faith and leave the results up to God, He will do amazing things.

Step out and trust God to empower you regardless of the circumstances. When we do God's will, there is no



need to fear because God will use one's obedience to be a blessing to others. Don't let fear have the last

word. God's presence wins over fear every time.

Send your questions to:

#### THANK YOU

I want to thank everyone for their prayers, calls, cards and visits at home.

I am so thankful for all my church friends that called and sent food and Richard taking care of me.

God answered all prayers. My heart surgery was A-OK and I am in recovery. Marie Vaughn



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Rodney Phelps, Pastor emmausbaptistsalem@outlook.com



Sunday Mass 11 a.m. 860 S. Main St.

Marion Baptist Church For College & Depot streets, Marion • (270) 965-5232

Pastor: Bro. Aaron Brown . Children's & Youth Pastor: Bro. Shawn Holeman SUNDAY MORNING SERVICES: 9 a.m. & 11 a.m., ONLINE 11 a.m., SUNDAY SCHOOL: 10:05 a.m. WEDNESDAY: BIBLE STUDY/PRAYER 6 p.m., AWANA FOR CHILLDREN & YOUTH GROUPS 6 p.m. Choir Practice: 6:45 p.m., Praise Team: 7:30 p.m.

Freedom General Baptist Church Pastor. Ross Atwell

Sunday School 10 a.m.

Sunday Worship 11 a.m.

87 Freedom Church Rd., Marion

(about 1 mi, from Marion off Kv. 91)

CHURCH TIMES:

Sunday Evening 6 p.m.

Wed. Bible Study 6 p.m.

#### Marion, Ky. (270) 965-2477 Father John Okoro Mexico Baptist Church Minister of Music Mike Crabtree

Pastor: Tim Burdon Sunday Worship Services: 10 a.m., 7 p.m. Sunday Bible Study: 9 a.m. Sunday Discipleship Training: 6 p.m. Wednesday Worship Service: 7 p.m.



#### SEVEN SPRINGS MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH 219 Seven Springs Rd., Marion, Ky. 42064

Sun. School for all ages: 10 a.m. Sun. Worship: 11 a.m., 6 p.m. • Wed.: 7 p.m.

We are an Independent Baptist Church seeking to know Christ, and to make Him known to the community around us.

FIRST CUMBERLAND

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

224 W. Bellville St., Marion, Ky.

Sunday School 9:45 a.m.

Sunday Worship 10:45 a.m.



#### Orayne Community Church Crayne Cemetery Road, Crayne, Ky. Bro. James Driver, Interim Pastor Sunday Worship 9 a.m.

#### DEER CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH Sunday Bible Study: 10 a.m. "Whatever It Takes" Sunday Worship: 11 a.m. & 6 p.m. Bro. Jamie Baker Wednesday Bible Study: 7 p.m. Approx. 5 miles from the intersection of Hwy. 60 & Hwy. 297 Phone: (270) 965-2220

108 Hillcrest Dr., Marion | (270) 965-4623 Sunday School: 9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship: 10:45 a.m., 6 p.m. Wednesday Adult Bible Study, Children and Captured by a vision... Youth Activities: 6 p.m.

Emmanuel Baptist Church

Tolu United Methodist Church We invite you to be our guest Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.

The People of The United Methodist Church Sunday School 10 a.m. • Service 11 a.m. Wednesday Night Youth 6:30 p.m.

Sunday School: 10 a.m. Barnett Chapel Rd., Marion, Ky. Sunday Worship: II a.m. Barnett Chapel... Sunday Night Service: 6 p.m. where everyone Bro. Ken Suits, pastor is welcome.

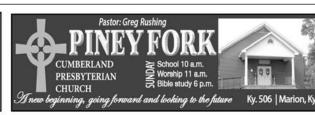
**Barnett Chapel General Baptist** 



Marion Church of God 334 Fords Ferry Road, Marion, Ky. Morning Service 11 a.m. Sun. Evening 6 p.m. · Wed. Evening 6 p.m.

"Where salvation makes you a member."



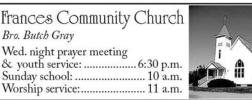




#### Alarion United Alethodist Church

Open hearts, Open minds, Open doors. The People of the United Methodist Church WED.: Bible Study 5:30 p.m. Bro. Sun. School 9:30 a.m. LAIBEN

Worship 10:45 p.m.







## Hurricane Church Rd. off Ky. 135 West

South College St.

Pastor: Bro. Danny Hinchee Sun. School, 10 am. · Worship, 11 a.m. Sun. Evening services, 6 p.m. Wed. Evening services, 7 p.m.

#### Unity General Baptist Church 4691 Mott City Rd. • Marion, Ky.

Bro. David Perryman, Pastor Sunday School 10 a.m. Sunday Worship 11 a.m.

#### Marion Church of Christ

·The end of your search for a friendly church -

546 West Elm Street • (270) 965-9450 Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.



## Music brought good times to communities

Many years ago, a faand neighbors was to

gather at someone's home and play music. families Many had at least one family member that could play an instrument, which was usually either a guitar, fiddle and piano, and one special lady in my old neighborhood of Crayne could play the accordion, mystical instrument to us little

Brenda

Underdown

**County Historian** 

Forgotten

Passages

kids. Friends and

neighbors would join together, especially on weekends and make their music. Seldom did any of the players have professional lessons, they all just "played by which meant once they heard a tune they just automatically play it out on their instrument. Those that couldn't play took part by just being there and enjoying the music that they played, and maybe a talented or even not so talented listener would join in with a song or two. But it was a wonderful time in the neighborhood.

Crittenden had its share of local talented musicians. I remember several of them, maybe they didn't get their names in the paper, as they didn't win a prize at a contest, but they were all winners to us listen-

We are fortunate to have some stories printed in The Crittenden Press many years ago to remind us of these good times of yesteryear, when a good time meant a gathering of friends and neighbors or a friendly contest at one of our local schools.

#### Feb. 5, 1926 Repton Fiddler Wins Prize In Evansville

The first prize in the final contest of the oldfiddlers contest held in Evansville was carried off by a Crittenden County man, Isaac W. Jenkins of Repton. The contest was held under the auspices of the Evansville Courier, and a large crowd was in attendance to hear the playing of the 15 old time fiddlers, who each played some old air like "Turkey in the Straw."

Jenkins is a merchant at Repton and is 65 years old. For years he has been known for the

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Fredonia

old time music he knows vorite pastime of friends how to make his "fiddle" produce.

The prize he won was \$20.

> April 2, 1926 Jenkins Crittenden County Representative County

Crittenden will have a representative in the inter-state fiddlers contest to be held in Jefferson City, Mo., April 2. Isaac W. Jenkins, merchant at Repton, has been appointed by

Governor Fields to represent, with "Blind Joe" Mangrum of Paducah, the state of Kentucky in a "fiddling" contest with Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Tennessee, Iowa, Illinois and Nebraska. The governors of the respective states have appointed two old fiddlers to take part in the contest.

The contest is being staged by radio station WOS at Jefferson City. The 16 fiddlers from the eight states will gather at the broadcasting station in Missouri's capital city, and there they will play the old time "tunes" as if before an immense audience consisting of people in all parts of the united States.

The judges in the contest are to be those who listen in on WOS Friday night. Each person who tunes in with that station may vote, the voting being done by telegraph and long distance telephone. Each telegram or long distance call will be counted as one vote for the contestant that the message favors.

People in this section are boosting for Jenkins, who is an accomplished "fiddler," and has played at different times for various occasions over the county. Only recently he won a prize in Evansville as being the best of the "fiddlers" and "foot patters." Jenkins says he is not a violin player, but a fiddler who likes to play the old time tunes.

Jenkins would like to have all his friends who own radios tune in on WOS and wire a vote for him on this Friday night. The telegraph offices are to remain open until a late hour to receive messages. (note: I don't know how Jenkins did in this contest. Jenkins died March 22,



A wonderful old photo of Crayne's string band from long ago includes (from left) Jonas Rushing with guitar, Elbert Brown with fiddle, Hughey McCaslin with bass fiddle and Nat Sutton with mandolin. Rushing, although pictured here with a guitar, was chosen the winner of the fiddling contests at Frances and Mexico schools in this article.

1941 and is buried in the Repton Cemetery.)

#### Feb. 8, 1928 Jonas Rushing Best Fiddler

An old-fashioned fiddlers contest will be given under the auspices of the Frances P.T.A. at the Frances school house, Tuesday, Feb. 5. Prizes will be offered for the first, second and third best fiddlers, and for oldest and youngest fiddlers. There will also be a harmonica contest with prizes including those offered for the youngest and oldest harmonica players.

Participants are Jonas Rushing, of Franklin Mines, Elbert Brown of Crayne, Isaac W. Jenkins of Repton, George Perkins of Frances; Elzie Frazer of Frances; Oman Matthews of Frances and others.

The winners of this old-fashioned fiddlers contest were: Jonas Rushing of Franklin Mines, who was awarded first prize; and Isaac W. Jenkins of Repton, second prize. The judges were B. F. Walker, Jr., Allie Whitt and A. Hodge. Evidently no one participated in the harmonica contest.

Mexico School was also a place for an old fiddlers contest. Winners here were first prize won by Jonas Rushing, second prize by Elbert Brown, third prize by Jim Woodall, and the best guitar player was J. Lowry.

Nov. 1930

Old Fiddlers Contest The largest crowd ever assembled in the Shady Grove High School auditorium was present last Friday night at the Old Fiddlers Contest.

**ELECTION NOTICE** 

Crittenden County's automatic tabulating equipment for use in

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Crittenden County Clerk's Office

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in the basement of the county clerk's office

prize for string bands went to Traylor's band of Caldwell County and Stewart's string band of this county. Nov. 20, 1936

#### **Brewer Best Fiddler**

The fiddlers' contest held at Mattoon last Friday evening was well attended and enjoyed by a large audience. Buck Brewer was declared to be the best fiddler, with F. W. Hughes a close second. Many and varied were the different types of contests beginning with sacred selections and finishing with the selection of the best of the fiddlers.

Prize winners of the various events and also entries were:

Best Fiddler playing some sacred selection First, Lemand White; second, Buck Brewer; and third, Chester Yarbrough. Entries were Edd Hunt, Lemand White, Wilburn Hall, Brewer, F. S. Hughes, Chester Yarbrough, J. W. Jenkins and Joe Rush-

Guitar selection with yodeling – First, Virginia Wilson; second, Elmer Newcom, Entries: Virginia Wilson, Elmer Newcom, Frances Davis, Crawford Cowens, Wilbur Hall, Claude Cruce and Kenneth Davis.

Best family family band - First, Hall band; second, Newcom broth-

Hawaiian guitar -First, Claude Cruce; sec-

Breakdown - First, F. W. Hughes; second Buck Brewer; and third, Edd Hunt. Entries: Buck Brewer, Edd Hunt, Joe Rushing, Lemand White, F. W. Hughes, Wilburn Hall, J. W. Jenkins and

Chester Yarbrough. French Harp - First Raymond Cain; second, Elden Harding; third, Elmer Newcow. Entries other than the prize winners: Lemand White and Crawford Cowen.

Best string band -First, Ragtown; second, Hughes; third, Hunts.

Vocal duet - First, Raymond Cain; second, Ms. Hill and son. Entries besides winners: Newcom brothers, Wilson sisters, Cruce and Cruce., White and Newcom, and Vaughan and Vaughan.

Best fiddler Playing own selection - First Buck Brewer; second Chester Yarbough, third, Isaac W. Jenkins. Other entries were: Edd Hunt, Joe Rushing, Wilburn Hall, Lemand White.

Best fiddler of the evening - First Buck Brewer, second, F. W. Hughes.

Good times of long ago. May the memories

(Brenda Underdown is chair of Crittenden County Historical Society and a member of Crittenden County Genealogical Society. Much more local history can be found at OurForgottenPassages. blogspot.com).



Buck Brewer, the winner of several local Fiddlers' contests, enjoys making wonderful music on his fiddle for family and friends.

Elmo Morris was selected as the best allaround fiddler and Miss Mary Tudor as the best

Crittenden County Public Library

## 70th Anniversary Calendar of Events

Open House April 13 5-7 p.m.

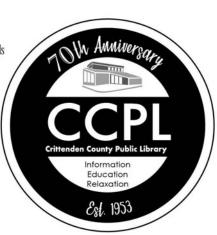
Featuring 1950s music by Michelle Crider & 1950s retro finger foods

Trivia Night April 14 7-9 p.m.

Children's Celebration April 15 10-11 a.m. Stories and animals from LBL's Woodland's Nature Station

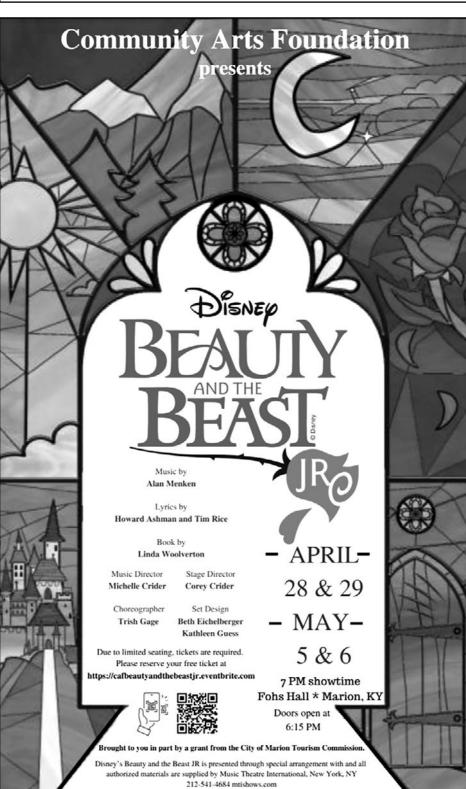
Friends Book Sale April 27-29

Member preview April 27, 5-7 p.m. Sale April 28, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. and April 29, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.



Celebrating 70 years April 6 1953-April 6 2023





## Classifieds The Crittenden Press

### **The Press Online**

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Prepaid ads of 20 words or less are \$6 for one week, with a 10-cent charge for each word over the initial 20. Run the same ad for consecutive issues for only \$4 each week. Now, all regular classified ads are placed on our Web site, www.the-press.com, at no

extra charge. You can also reach more than one million readers with one call! Contact the classified department for information about placing a 25-word classified in 70 newspapers for only \$250. It is the policy of The Crittenden Press Inc., to fully comply with the Fair Housing

publish advertisements that discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, disability or family status. If you believe an advertisement published this newspaper discriminatory, please contact the publisher immediately at (270) 965-3191.

Act and to never knowingly

All phone numbers listed for ads on this page are within the 270 area code unless otherwise noted.

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#### bid notice

The Crittenden County Board of Education is accepting sealed bids for nine (9) bench style cafeteria tables (12 ft long by 41/2 ft wide) . These tables fold in the middle and are on wheels for easy moving/ storage. Sealed bids must be submitted to the CCBOE at 601 West Elm St., Marion, KY by April 21st at 2:00 p.m. at which time they will be opened. Please state "Cafeteria tables" on the outside of the envelope. For more information, contact Brian Kirby at 270-965-4658. (1t-15-c)

Crittenden County The Board of Education is accepting sealed bids for twenty-two (22) stackable chairs. These chairs have blue cloth seats/backs with metal arms and legs. Sealed bids must be submitted to the CCBOE at 601 West Elm St., Marion, KY by April 21st at 1:30 p.m. at which time they will be opened. Please state "Stackable Chairs" on the outside of the envelope. For more information, contact Brian Kirby at 270-965-4658. (1t-15-c)

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ANTIQUES & COLLECTIBLES: #10 & #2 Crock, #2, #5 Crock jugs, #3 butter churn, also other Crocks, McCoy bowl and pitcher, McCoy 14" biscuit bowl, Seth Thomas clocks, well bucket, oil lamps, Depression and Hull glassware, washboard, cast iron pcs., Carbine light, 60+ arrowheads, (3) Mickey Mouse phonographs, Bud Light, Budweiser wagon, metal milk can, vintage metal baby walker, Wagner Ware pot, wood butter press, oak dry sink with mirror, vintage claw foot table, Edwin Knowles collector plates, NASCAR, Vintage fainting couch, Flora couch with matching chair

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GUNS: H&R model 923 .22 revolver, Jennings model 9 9mm pistol, Ithaca 20 ga., Stevens model 15-A.22 rifle, Remington 870 Wingmaster 12 ga. with extra slug barrell, Rossi .22 rifle.

Also, Mark will be here with new items and food.

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#### SPRING SPORTS

#### **Upcoming events**

**THURSDAY** Softball at Christian County **FRIDAY** 

Softball at Mayfield

SATURDAY

Track and field at Hopkinsville Classic **MONDAY** Softball at Union County

Baseball at Hopkins Central **TUESDAY** Softball at All A at Lyon County

Baseball at All A at Livingston

#### **ALL A CLASSIC** SOFTBALL

#### **FIRST ROUND**

Caldwell County 9, Fort Campbell 1 Livingston Central 16, UHA 1 Crittenden Co. 15, Dawson Springs 0 Lyon County 14, Heritage Christian 0 **SEMIFINALS** 

**Tuesday at Lyon County** Livingston 11, Caldwell 10, 8 innings Crittenden 3, Lyon County 2 **CHAMPIONSHIP** 

Thursday at Lyon County Crittenden Co. vs. Livingston Central

#### BASEBALL

#### **FIRST ROUND**

Livingston Central 8, Ft. Campbell 2 Caldwell County 3, Lyon County 1 UHA 16, Heritage Christian 1 Crittenden Co. 15, Dawson Springs 1 **SEMIFINALS** 

**Tuesday at Livingston Central** Caldwell County 15, Livingston 0 Crittenden 9, University Heights 4 **CHAMPIONSHIP** 

Thursday at Livingston Central Crittenden Co. vs. Caldwell Co.

#### BASEBALL I SOFTBALL **2nd Region Polls**

Following are Second Region polls for softball and baseball compiled by West Kentucky Sports Network as voted on by media and coaches in the region.

#### SOFTBALL

12-3
11-3
7-5
8-1
8-1
7-7
10-6
6-7
2-6
7-5

BASEBALL	
1. Christian County	8-8
2. University Heights	7-3
3. Lyon County	7-5
4. Caldwell County	9-4
5. Union County	4-4
6. Henderson County	5-8
7. Hopkinsville	3-10
8. Trigg County	6-6
9. Webster County	6-6
10. Crittenden County	5-5

#### **OUTDOORS**

#### **Hunting Seasons**

Here are some of the key hunting opportunities currently in season or coming up:

April 15 - May 7 Turkey Spring Squirrel May 20 - June 16 Coyote Year Round Ground Hog Year Round

## **Guess signs with Lindsey Wilson**

Arguably the best female basketball athlete to come through Crittenden County High School has made her intentions for college official.

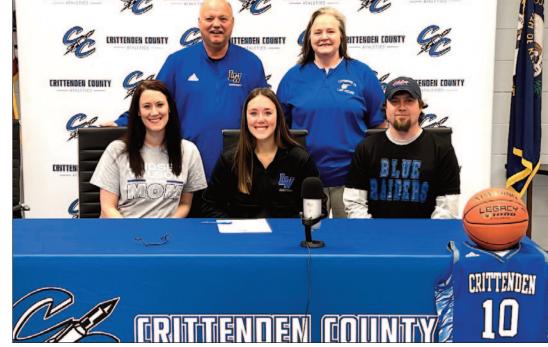
On Monday, CCHS senior Taylor Guess signed to play basketball at Lindsey Wilson, a private United Methodistrelated college in Columbia,

Lindsey Wilson competes in the NAIA's Mid South Conference alongside other schools such as Bethel, Campbellsville, Freed-Hardeman, Cumberland University. Thomas More, University of Pikeville and Tennessee Southern. The Lady Raiders are led by 33-year head coach John B. Wethington, who ranks No. 2 on the NAIA's active all-time wins list with 634 career victories. He has guided the team to a 94-59 record the past five seasons and four trips to the NAIA National Championship Tournament in the past six seasons.

Coach Wethington told a large group of supporters during Monday's signing that he chose Guess for her athletic ability, but also because of her tenacity and strong personal values.

"I watched her play. Yeah, I see that she scores twentysomething points, but I want to see how she reacts when something goes wrong," the coach said.

Wethington spent time talking to other coaches around western Kentucky, vetting Guess before signing



Crittenden County High School senior Taylor Guess signed formal documents Monday pledging her intention to play basketball at Lindsey Wilson College. Pictured are (front from left) her mother Ashley Smith, Guess, her father Tyler Guess, (back) Lindsey Wilson coach John Wethington and Lady Rocket coach Shannon Hodge.

"I have heard nothing but great things," he said as about 60 supporters looked on for the formal event.

Last weekend, Guess played in the annual Ohio-Kentucky All-Star Basketball game. She scored a half dozen points, grabbed six rebounds and had some steals as her team beat Ohio.

A 5-foot-9 guard, Guess completed her high school career as the school's all-time leading scorer with 2,643 points, which is also the Fifth District career scoring record. She was Player of the Year

in the Second Region this past season and was a threetime all-region performer in basketball. Five times she was chosen as an all-district player.

Guess has also excelled at soccer where she was a fourtime all-district player, twice the team MVP, scored more than 50 goals in her career and was an all-region performer as a senior.

Guess is playing softball for the first time this spring and has won a job in the starting lineup at first base.

"She's proven herself on

different playing fields," said CCHS basketball coach Shannon Hodge, pointing out that Guess is indeed arguably the school's greatest female athlete.

"I believe her game is going to elevate when she gets to college," Hodge added. "Her future is bright for sure. She has all of the tools necessary to continue to excel and develop as a player."

Guess said she was proud of the support experienced at CCHS and thanked her teammates and others during the signing at Rocket Arena.

#### **CRITTENDEN COUNT** SPRING SPORTS

### **TOP5** BATTING LEADERS

#### **Rocket Baseball**

Quinn Summers	.500
Tyler Belt	.346
Evan Belt	.318
Case Gobin	.304
Hunter Smith	.300
Casey Cates	.250
Minimum 15 ABs, throug	h 9 game

#### BASEBAL

#### Rockets advance to All A finale

Crittenden County got what Coach Devin Belt called a "gutsy" performance from pitcher Chase Conyer to upset the region's No. 2 team in Tuesday's All A Classic semifinal game at Smithland.

Crittenden knocked University Heights 9-4 to advance to Thursday's Second Region small-school championship game where they will



face Caldwell County.

Conyer threw six innings, striking out 10 and walking five while allowing just three hits against the Blazers, who had beaten the Rockets 10-4 earlier this season. Jeremiah Foster pitched the last inning for CCHS, striking out two.

Conver also drove in two runs in the game on one hit. Quinn Summers had two RBIs on one hit. Casey Cates and Kaiden Travis scored twice. Cates had a single and so did Evan Belt. Foster had a double and scored a run.

#### **Rockets hammer Panthers**

The Rockets toyed with Dawson Springs for six innings Monday before exploding with a dozen runs in the sixth inning to put the game away. CCHS beat the Panthers 15-1 to open All A Classic action at Marion.

Hunter Smith, Jeremiah Foster and Evan Belt had two hits apiece. Smith drove in three runs and so did Casey Cates. Chase Conyer also hit safely for the Rockets, who managed eight singles in the game. Tyler Belt's double was the only extra-base hit. Seven CCHS batters walked and four were hit by pitch.

Asa McCord got the start and the win by throwing five innings, striking out nine and walking just two. Case Gobin closed it out in the sixth inning, striking out two of the four batters he faced.

#### **CCHS** will play for All A title

Lady Rocket freshman Anna Boone pitched a onehitter and hit a home run to lead Crittenden County to a 3-2 victory over Lyon County Tuesday in the semifinal round of the All A Classic at Eddvville.

It was a double-dip victory for CCHS because the contest's outcome also counted as a Fifth District game, making up an earlier rainout. Lyon had won the last three A regional All championships.

Boone struck out 10 and walked three. She gave up no earned runs as CCHS committed four errors that allowed the Lyons to score.

Six Lady Rockets had hits

## TOP5 BATTING LEADERS

#### **CCHS Softball**

Anna Boone Elle McDaniel .464 Elliot Evans .423 Andrea Federico .400 Natalee Buchanan .350 Minimum 15 ABs, through 11 games

in the game. Boone's fifth-inning homer down the right field line tied the game at two. Elle McDaniel tripled later in the inning and eighth-grader Hannah Jent singled her home for the eventual winning run.

Jaycee Champion singled and scored a run and Elliot Evans and Natalie Buchanan also had singles in the game.

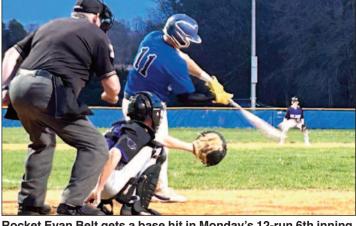
CCHS will play Liv Central in Thursday's Second Region All A Championship game.

#### Lady Rockets blast Dawson

Crittenden County scored eight in the first and seven runs in the second inning against the struggling Dawson Springs girls to win the All A Classic opener 15-0 in three innings Monday at Marion.

The Dawson pitcher walked 13 and hit six Lady Rocket batters. Natalee Buchanan and Anna Boone had CCHS's only two hits. Boone drove in two runs.

Elliot Evans pitched two inning and Boone finished it off in the third, combining for a no-hit, shutout.



Rocket Evan Belt gets a base hit in Monday's 12-run 6th inning.

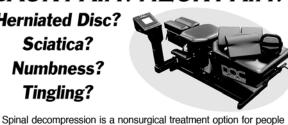
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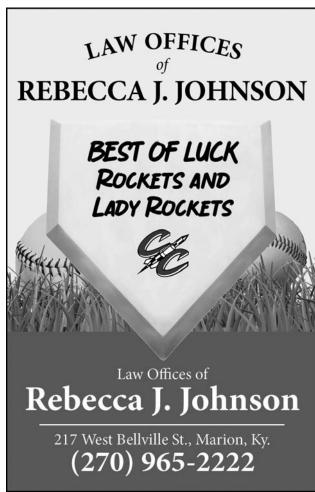
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## 7-1 UK signee finds respect among McDs

During Media Day at the McDonald's All-American Games, several players were asked which other player or players had impressed them the most during all-star practices leading up to the game.

Kentucky signee Aaron Bradshaw, a 7-1 player with interior and perimeter skills, got a lot of respect from Duke signees.

"I'd say Aaron Bradshaw. The guy is a 7-foot and he's shooting it really well. I didn't know he had that in him, said Duke signee Jared McCain.

"I feel like Aaron Bradshaw. I mean, I already knew how he played because I played AAU with him, but I feel like he keeps getting better. His shot is better and he's better with his shot selection now," Mackenzie Mgbako, another Duke signee, said.

Future Duke player Sean Stewart had never played against Bradshaw until the all-star event in Houston

"He's actually way bigger than I thought. He's, like, seven feet and he shoots it really well. It's been really cool playing with him," Stewart said.

Kentucky signee Justin Edwards, considered the top player in the 2023 recruiting class by many, went a different route. He picked future UK teammate Reed Shep-

"He does a lot. He makes open shots and crisp passes," Edwards said. "We recently played against them, too, in high school. I can tell you it's hard to guard him."

defensive Kentucky coordinator Brad White challenged senior lineman Josaih Hayes to do more in the 2023 season and likes the way that Hayes did not back down from the challenge.

"I expect a guy that's been in the program this long to be clean, to know their assignments, to know what to do, to play

with great effort strain every down. Like that is understood and quite frankly, Jo (Hayes) hadn't Larry done that," Vaught White said. UK Sports Columnis



S o Vaught's there was a Views chal- 🛭

big lenge for him this offseason. He understood that and he has responded in spring in a way that's exciting. Hayes was a four-star

prospect when he signed with UK in December of 2019 when almost everyone expected him to stay home and play for Ole Miss. He played in five games in 2020 and all 13 games in 2021 when the nose guard had 14 tackles. However, last year he had just eight tackles in 11 games.

White wants Hayes to understand just playing well in spring practice is not enough because that is not equal to a 12-game

Now, the 6-foot-3, 317-pounder who will sport No. 97 instead of No. 99, which he wore in his first three seasons at Kentucky, is being counted on to take a major step forward this

"I want to see it from that guy the entire spring through summer, and he knows that and we're gonna keep the pressure on him," White said about the 6-3, 315pound Hayes. "He has responded and he's a guy that we need to be in there and a guy that we need to help us because he's got size and twitch and experience.

"He just needs to keep pushing but proud of how he's reacted."

Kentucky lost its 2022 starting nose guard to the transfer portal. Hayes is competing with Jamarius Jenkins and North Carolina State transfer Keeshawn Silver for the starting job next season.

Silver, who seems to have the edge at No. 1 now, said the competition is good for all of them.

"If he does good, I'm gonna try to do better than him and the guy behind me is gonna try to double what we both do. So you have to keep getting better," Silver said.

Kentucky was 12th

best in the nation in total defense last season but only 49th nationally in run defense.

Kentucky coach Mark Stoops says the 2022 season "it is what it is" for quarterback Will Levis but says not to overanalyze statistics when evaluating Levis' draft stock.

He completed 65.4 percent of his passes in 2022 compared to 66 percent a year earlier and averaged 7.7 yards per game compared to 8.3 in 2021. He did throw fewer interceptions in 2022 (10 to 13) but also had fewer passing touchdowns and less rushing yardage.

"I know everybody's gonna analyze that (2022 stats) and look at things and, listen, he doesn't need me to make excuses for himself and he doesn't need to make excuses. There are some plays maybe he was pushing it, maybe he was forcing it. Things happen. We weren't as good. I take responsibility for that," Stoops said on SiriusXM Radio.

"We weren't as good around him, we didn't protect him as well. I'm still quite confident in Will's ability, the way he

can lead and the way he can play. Somebody is gonna be extremely pleased to have him on their roster, I can promise you that?

Levis was being mentioned as a potential No. 1 overall draft pick a few months ago but at worst a top 10 pick. Now some are projecting that his stock has dropped to where he might not even go in the first round of the draft later this month.

Stoops is confident Levis has the mental and physical makeup to find NFL success.

"He has all the intangibles you're looking for to build a franchise around," Stoops said. "He has the leadership capabilities. He has an unbelievable work ethic. Anything that is a weakness for him right now, he will eventually turn into a strength because that's just how he attacks every day.

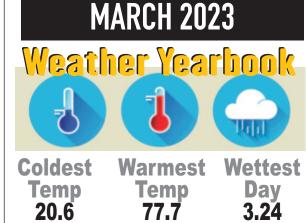
"Ability-wise, he came in that first year (from Penn State) and hadn't played much football. You saw what the right system (could do). We had good players around him. We had three NFL offensive linemen on that

"And his first year here he really lit it up. Played exceptionally well and led us to 10 (wins), which we hadn't done a whole heck of a lot of around here. Just a fantastic addition.'

Offensive coordinator Liam Coen knows North Carolina State transfer Devin Leary is going to be his starting quarterback next season. However, he's still trying to determine if Kaiya Sheron, Destin Wade or Deuce Hogan will be the backup quarterback.

"It's huge for one of those guys to step up. I have a familiarity with Kaiya (who was at UK in 2021 when Coen was

previously at Kentucky). He knows some things we are doing but how do you react in those situations," Coen said. "Kaiya, I know he can execute the offense. Now I am seeing Destin and Deuce in competition with the second group. Destin did a nice job at the end of the scrimmage. He gave us life with some throws he made and decisions he made."



Mon., March 20

Average Temp

**Coldest Temp** 

**Hottest Temp** 

Precipitation

**Wettest Day** 

Wed., March 1 2022 2021

Fri., March 24 2019 2018 45.1 43.8

2023 2020 47.5 50.1 52.1 51.8 16.1 26.6 25.8 23.2 9.8 77 82.4 8.2 4.4 4.4 5.99 4.93 3.51 3.24 1.79 1.07 0.99

■ Wet, mighty wet, was March with 8.2 inches of rainfall. It was the most precipitation for March since 8.63 inches in 2016. About 40 percent of the month's total rain fell during a 24-hour period on Friday, March 24. The temperature last month was cooler on average than the previous three years, but about normal.





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# Rising restaurant sales help build playground

CTAFE DEDODT

First quarter tax payments are due in a few days for City of Marion restaurants and overnight lodging facilities and there's reason to believe 2023 will continue to show record sales for local businesses.

Another record-setting year can now be verified for restaurants and overnight lodging facilities, which has provided continued windfall for Marion Tourism and Recreation Commission. Increased revenue has been put on the ground in Marion. The new multi-faceted playground at Marion-Crittenden County Park is among the noticable benefits of rising receipts for the tourism and recreation sector.

Restaurants, motels, bed and breakfasts and vacation rentals by owners are responsible for reporting quarterly income and paying a tourism tax to the city.

Most revenue generated from the three-percent tax

comes from restaurants as Marion has just one motel, a couple of bed and breakfasts and a few VRBOs.

Based on receipts collected from the city's tourism tax during 2022, restaurants and lodging business saw a 2.7-percent increase in sales last year.

Based on the \$290,957.14 collected for 2022, local restaurants and overnight lodgers rang up \$9.69 million in gross receipts during the 12-month period ending in January.

The figure was actually higher, but some late payees have skewed 2022's final numbers. In actuality, there was about \$150,000 more in sales last year based on additional tax payments from the fourth quarter of 2022 made after the Jan. 15 deadline.

Money from the three-percent tourism tax funds a number of local programs and



projects, including sponsorships and promotional campaigns for Marion restaurants, seasonal advertising for local businesses, statewide tourism marketing, events at Fohs Hall, disc golf at the park, mineral shows at the Ben E. Clement Museum and special events like the recent rock bouncer race at Sugar Creek.

Perhaps the most notable recent project is the play-ground, including security

and safety equipment, all of which cost almost \$250,000.

Quarterly receipts during 2022 averaged almost \$74,000. The tourism commission received about \$291,000 in taxes last year. Quarterly receipts at Marion restaurants and overnight lodging facilities have increased more than 150 percent over the past two decades.

## Individuals & Groups who helped build new park playground

Funded largely by Marion Tourism and Recreation Commission, the new \$243,000 playground at Marion-Crittenden County Park was built by community volunteers, organized by Jason Hatfield, a member of the tourism commission. Among the volunteers who had a hand in the work were: E&M Plumbing, Dustin Muff; Ozz Mattingly; Brandon Carlisle; Casey O'Nan; Clark's True Value; H&H Home and Hardware; Henry & Henry Monuments; Crittenden County Fiscal Court, Judge-Executive Perry Newcom; Jason Singleton; Crittenden County Detention Center's work-release program; Riley Tool and Machine; Clifton Etheridge; James Robertson; Maddie Muff; Mike O'Hara; Ron Harbour; Billy McConnell; Donnie Arflack; Keith Gipson; Kevin Maxfield; Kory Wheeler; Tanner Tabor; JP Copenhaver; Dakota Adamson; Rusty Miniard; Hurst Miniard; Jaxon Hatfield; Jacob Courtney; Shawn Muff; Brian Hunt, Grant Rogers; Todd Campbell; Trent Guess; Doug Campbell; and Hoyt Reynolds.

## Solar eclipse returning to Marion

STAFF REPORT

A remake of the 2017 Great American Eclipse is 12 months away and Marion will again be part of the epicenter.

While total solar eclipses are rare, western Kentucky will be on a direct path of total darkness once again only seven years since the last one that generated a great deal of tourist activity in the area.

Similar interest can be expected again next April when the moon will track in front of the sun, blacking out Marion, Salem, Burna and Smithland.

Marion is expected to have about 24 seconds of darkness while Burna will experience over a minute and a half.

Most of western Kentucky will share some type of experience during this natural event with a tiny sliver of the sun remaining exposed for areas from Paducah to Murray. Southeast Missouri and southern Illinois will get

(270) 245-5150



Folks gathered at the airport in Marion in 2017 to watch the eclipse.

more than 4 minutes of totality on the eclipse path from Poplar Bluff and Cape Girardeau and Carbondale and McLeansboro.

After next year's eclipse, America will not see another until 2045, when the shadow crosses Arkansas, Mississippi, Alabama and Florida.

### **MARION POLICE activity report**

Data below provided by Marion Police Department compare police activity for the month of March 2023 to the same month in 2022. The chart also includes the previous month's totals, year-to-date police activity totals and last year's monthly average.

CATEGORY	MARCH 2023	MARCH 2022	FEBRUARY 2023	2022 YR TOTAL	2022 MONTHLY AVERAGE	,
Miles driven/patrolled	2,189	4,382	2,917	39,844	3,320.3	MARION
Criminal investigations	10	16	15	146	12.2	MAINON
Domestics	4	4	4	74	6.2	中中
Felony Arrests	3	8	11	62	5.2	10
Misdemeanor arrests	9	4	7	99	8.3	11000
Non-criminal arrests	6	16	8	121	10.1	MPD 270.965.3500
DUI arrests	0	1	1	6	0.5	Police Chief
Criminal summons served	2	3	4	31	2.6	Ray O'Neal
Traffic citations	14	20	21	201	16.8	Asst. Chief
Other citations	21	30	37	332	27.7	Bobby West
Traffic warnings	6	4	6	31	2.6	On Facebook
Parking tickets	0	0	0	1	0.1	On Facebook Marion Police
Traffic accidents	4	5	4	67	5.6	Department
Security checks/alarms	63	38	42	478	39.8	Marion-KY
Calls for service	209	184	169	2,119	176.6	



