



## BOIL Advisory

### Marion

The City of Marion remains under a boil water order. It was first issued on July 7 and will remain in effect until further notice.

## RECORD SALES POSTED BY RESTAURANTS IN 2Q

Quarterly receipts at Marion restaurants and overnight lodging facilities have increased 150 percent over the past 18 years and reached an all-time record in the second quarter of 2022.

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 the months of April, May and June, restaurant sales were just over \$2.65 million.

Marion began collecting a restaurant and lodging tax in 2004. City tax revenue in that quarter was \$31,977. For the second quarter of 2022, revenue was \$79,461.

City of Marion Tourism, Recreation and Convention Commission administers revenue derived from the tax.

Local observers say inflation is no doubt driving the rise to some degree over the past few months, but the trend upward began during the pandemic and hasn't slowed.

## CHAMBER AFTER HOURS

Crittenden County Chamber of Commerce is spearheading a Night at the Museum after-hours event from 5-6 p.m., on Tuesday, Sept. 13 which will begin with light appetizers at the Edward Jones office. The event will finish up across Belleville Street at the Crittenden County Historical Museum. The chamber is billing this as a "fast-paced, face-to-face event where you can meet and talk with multiple people from many local businesses."

## MARION'S 2022 TAX RATE

Marion City Council approved first reading Monday of its tax rates for 2022. It calls for a rate lower than 2021. The proposed real property tax rate for 2022 is proposed at 22.1 cents per \$100 of assessed value. For a \$50,000 home, the owner would pay \$110.50, a savings of 50 cents from last year's rate of 22.2. The personal property tax is proposed at 27.18 cents and for vehicles and boats it would be 22.9. The county set its rates, too. See Fiscal Court article on page 8.

## UPCOMING MEETINGS

•Crittenden-Livingston Water District will meet at 4 p.m., Monday, Aug. 22 at Deer Lakes meeting room.

# We Marion *Every Gallon Counts*

## Sturgis link hits snag, won't likely meet end-of-month deadline

# City tries to flush boil order



Old City Lake remains almost full thanks to recent rainfall and a slower than normal draw from the raw water source.

STAFF REPORT

Old City Lake is holding its own thanks to Mother Nature and regular supplementation of drinking water coming to Marion from the county and other neighboring systems.

Recent rains, and hopes of more this week, have allowed City of Marion maintenance crews to flush, flush, flush.

Other new developments in the ongoing water crisis this week include the termination of National Guard assistance, the suspension of water hauling by area farmers and efforts to lift the boil water order. Getting rid of the troublesome need to purify water on the stove is proving a bit more challenging than most had expected.

Rainfall at the water plant and Old City Lake, which sit side by side just south of Marion, has been hit or miss in recent days. The southern part of the county has received about two more inches precipitation over the last week while the lake and plant have missed the bulk of that. Still, the water level in the reservoir remains near full giving state and local leaders some optimism about their chances of using the windfall to cleanse the distribution system and get rid of the boil order.

At Monday night's regular monthly Marion City Council meeting, representatives with the Kentucky Division of Water gave an update on the latest developments in the effort to improve water quality so the boil order can be lifted.

See **WATER**/page 16



# Fiber is coming

STAFF REPORT

It's going to be a minute, so to speak, but a company has officially partnered with Kenergy to bring truly high-speed, fiber internet to rural Crittenden County.

The deal sounds almost too good to be true. There are blazing fast speeds, thousands of times faster than anything currently available. The price is affordable, there are government-subsidized discounts available for those who qualify, no contracts, no throttling back speeds or data limits.

■ True high-speed broadband will be available to Kenergy customers within 3 three years.



Crittenden County Judge-Executive Perry Newcom joined other judges and county officials alongside Kenergy and Conexon officials last week during the official kickoff to construction of the fiber internet network in rural western Kentucky.

There's only one catch. It will be at least three years coming. Local experts say it will be worth the wait.

Collaborating with Kenergy on the project is Conexon Connect, an internet service provider (ISP) built on a rural fiber-optic network. The ISP will deliver high-speed fiber internet access for rural Kentuckians within Kenergy's service area, which includes parts of Crittenden, Breckinridge, Caldwell, Daviess, Hancock, Henderson, Hopkins, Livingston, Lyon, McLean, Muhlenberg, Ohio, Union and Webster counties. The goal is to provide fiber broadband to all of Kenergy's approximately 49,000 cooperative members.

FIBER/page 3



Allison and Chris Evans have owned and operated the newspaper for more than 20 years.

## Press owners to receive Al Smith Award

Chris and Allison Evans, owners and publishers of The Crittenden Press, have been chosen as recipients of the 2022 Al Smith Award for public service through community journalism by Kentuckians.

The couple will be formally recognized at the annual Al Smith Dinner later this fall in Lexington.

Al Cross, director of the Institute for Rural Journalism and Community Issues in the University of Kentucky's School of Journalism and Media said,

"The Crittenden Press has long been a standout newspaper in West Kentucky, from the days when Allison's family, the Micks, owned it. It has always punched above its weight and set an example for others to follow."

The Institute presents the Smith Award with the Bluegrass Chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists. It is widely considered the state's most prestigious award for community journalism.

See **AWARD**/page 3

## Sykes' death ruled accidental drowning

STAFF REPORT

Autopsy results show that Marion City Councilwoman Phyllis Sykes drowned in her backyard pool on Wednesday, July 27.

A friend found Sykes face down in her above-ground swimming pool the night she drowned. Sykes had told acquaintances earlier in the day that she planned to clean her pool that afternoon. A pool vacuum hose was found on the deck near the water, and Sykes was wearing a swim suit when discovered.

Friends say she had an intolerance for very hot weather and perhaps had an episode of some sort that led to her drowning. That afternoon, the temperature was 89 degrees with humidity near

100 percent.

Coroner Brad Gilbert said the autopsy, which was done in Louisville by a state medical examiner, found no other contributing cause of death beyond drowning. A toxicology study was also clear.

Sykes had spoken on the phone to a fellow city council member at about 4:30 p.m., the afternoon of her death. She is believed to have been in the water for at least two hours prior to being found and pronounced dead at 10:38 p.m.

Marion Police Sgt. Heath Martin, who is the lead officer in the death investiga-



Sykes

tion, said there was absolutely no evidence of foul play, and no further evidence at the scene indicated what might have happened to cause Sykes to drown.

The 75-year-old Sykes was among three candidates for mayor in the upcoming November election, including Councilman Donnie Arfleck and Austin Valentine Jr. Since her death, another candidate, Councilwoman D'Anna Browning, has emerged as a write-in candidate.

Sykes had attended a couple of city-related meetings the day of her death and no one saw any indication of her being anything other than her normal energetic self.



# Deaths

## Hinton

Thomas Edward Hinton, 62, of Marion, died Wednesday, Aug. 10, 2022 at Crittenden Community Hospital.

Surviving are his wife, Terry Hinton of Marion; two children, Deloris Hinton of Marion and Nathan McCarty of Washington; and three sisters, Ruth Waters, Kathy Sayre and Beth Lynn.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Richard E. and Deloris Hinton; and a brother, Richard Hinton.

Visitation was Sunday, Aug. 14 at Gilbert Funeral Home in Marion.

## Rogers

Loretta Jane Rogers, 82, of Marion, died Thursday, Aug. 4, 2022 at Crittenden County Health and Rehab. She was a longtime member of Piney Fork Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

Surviving are her children, Donald Wayne Rogers and Wanda Ann Stewart, both of Marion; a sister, Joy Doom of Marion; a daughter-in-law, Sherry Rogers of Marion; five grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Robert G. Rogers; a son, James Stephen Rogers; and her parents, James Sherman and Edith Campbell.

Services were Sunday, Aug. 7 at Gilbert Funeral Home in Marion with burial in Piney Fork Cemetery.

## Stratton

Rollie L. Stratton, 82, of Roaring Spring, Pa., died Tuesday, Aug. 9, 2022.

He was born in Detroit, Mich., on Aug. 11, 1939. The son of the late Rollie and Eva (Brown) Stratton, he was raised on a farm in Benton. He was a Baptist preacher and a proud Marine.

He was united in marriage to Wanda D. (Fleegle) Baker at the Raven Run Church of the Brethren Oct. 1, 2006.

Along with his wife, Wanda, he is survived by his children, Tara (Daniel) Martinez, Dawn

(Larry) Robinson, Jon Mark; stepchildren: Brenda (Baker) Thompson and Brian (Nancy) Reed, 15 grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren.

Along with his parents, he was preceded in death by three wives, Catherine, Norma Jean and Delores; a son, Brien L. Stratton; a granddaughter; and siblings: Peggy, Eddie, Mary Jo and Eva.

After serving in the United States Marine Corps, he served as pastor of the Grace Missionary Baptist Church in Salem for 35 years.

A graveside service was held Friday, Aug. 12 at the Grandview Cemetery with Pastor Tim McIntyre officiating.

Memorial contributions may be made to St. Jude's Children's Hospital.

Akers Funeral Chapel in Saxton, Pa., was in charge of arrangements.

## Stewart

Lee Ann Stewart, 61, of Deland, Fla., died Friday, July 29, 2022 in Florida.

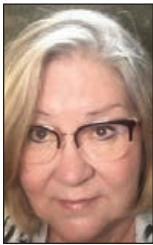
She was a registered nurse, a graduate of Western Kentucky University and had attended Marion United Methodist Church.

Surviving are a son, J.C. Stewart of Deland; her mother, Betty May of Marion; a sister, Susan Baker of Nolensville, Tenn.; a brother, David May of Marion; and a niece, Abigail Baker.

She was preceded in death by her father, J.T. May.

A graveside service will be held at 11 a.m., Sat, Aug. 20 at Mapleview Cemetery.

Myers Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.



## Lanham

Donald P. Lanham, 78 of Marion, died Monday, Aug. 15, 2022 at Crittenden County Health and Rehabilitation Center.

He was a retired lineman for the Kenenergy Company.

Surviving are a son, Michael Lanham of Marion; a



friend, James Darrell Holloman of Marion; and two grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Sherrie Lanham; a daughter; parents Douglas and Mabel Evalee Ryan Lanham; and several siblings.

Private services are being conducted by Myers Funeral Home.

## Sutton

Diane Shupe Sutton, 77, of Marion, died Friday, Aug. 12, 2022 at Crittenden County Health & Rehabilitation Center in Marion.

She was the wife of George B. Sutton, and they celebrated their 58th anniversary Nov. 15, 2021. She was born in Pottstown, Pa.



She was a member of St. William Catholic Church and was a retired waitress. She was a member of the Lindewold Moose Lodge for over 40 years.

In addition to her husband, she is survived by three children, Deborah Lynn (John) Botta, Denise Marie (Michael) Sutton-Parkin and Tracy Carole Sutton; a sister, Lorraine (David) Fronheiser; a brother, Stanton S. (Donna) Shupe, Jr.; seven grandchildren, Nicolas James (Mallory) Sutton, Rebecca Lee (Corey) Mulford, Brianna Marie Parkin, Sarah Elizabeth (Theodore) Banks, Emily Anne (Logan) Gebby, Olivia Rose Simon, Brennan Ryleigh Sutton; six great-grandchildren, Landon Ryan Sutton, Savannah Michelle Sutton, Kandice Eileen Helvitson, Kourtlyn Elizabeth McNally, Jade Marion Mulford, Theodore Rolison Banks IV; and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Stanton S. Shupe and Pauline (Surma) Shupe.

A funeral mass was held Monday, Aug. 15 at St. William Catholic Church.

### Online Condolences

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gilbertfunerals.com

## Top readers recognized

The top three readers who participated in the Crittenden County Public Library's summer reading program were named last week. From left are Russell Vince, Ava Morrison and London McCord. They each logged over 2,250 minutes of reading this summer, according to librarian Brandie Ledford.





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## Livingston Hospital

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From left: Nikki Baird, clinic coordinator; Katie Head, clinic specialist; Laura Wood, nurse practitioner; Samantha Greer, nurse practitioner; Taylor Venable, medical assistant; Carrie Peek, medical assistant.

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On Aug. 3, Marion resident Kyle Myers successfully completed Drug Court Graduation. Drug Court is a rigorous, months-long program that helps substance abusers to break free from a cycle of addiction. Pictured are (from left) Drug Court Case Manager Valeria Braden, Circuit Judge Rene Williams, Myers, Asst. Police Chief Bobby West, Police Chief Ray O'Neal and Drug Court Program Coordinator Krista Massey.

# Crittenden sending truck, Jaws to flood-ravaged east Kentucky

STAFF REPORT

Crittenden County is sending a truck and set of Jaws of Life to Letcher County, which has lost county vehicles and rescue squad equipment to the flooding in eastern Kentucky.

Magistrates on Tuesday approved a measure to surplus a 2012 Dodge Ram pickup no longer used by the county road department and a hydraulic set of extrication tools.

The rescue squad recently purchased a new set of battery-operated Jaws and it also will retain an extra set of hydraulic tools beyond the set being donated to the flood victims.

•The fiscal court approved no changes to

## Fiscal Court

county tax rates for 2022. By leaving the rates the same as 2021, the county will realize a slight increase in tax revenue of about \$4,200.

For 2022, the rate will again be 11.6 cents per \$100 of assessed value. A taxpayer owning a \$100,000 home will pay \$116 in county taxes based on the rate.

Magistrates left all other rates the same as well, including personal tangible property, merchant inventory, documented watercraft, boats and vehicles – all at 12.4 cents.

There was some discussion, as it has been

almost annually when tax rates are formally set, about imposing an aircraft tax. Magistrates voted 6-1 against creating a new aircraft tax. Aircraft are charged by the state and other local taxing districts such as Extension and the library.

•Magistrates approved a resolution to accept the Crittenden County Sheriff's Department application for a Homeland Security grant to buy new body armor. The armor has a certified lifespan of five years and the sheriff's department equipment is near that threshold.

The cost will be \$5,460. The county will buy the vests then be reimbursed through the grant.

# Fredonia's city council proposes plan to charge for water line through town

## ■ Town also wants to hold landlords liable for unpaid water bills

BY ALEXA TABOR

Fredonia City Council at its monthly meeting Monday proposed various ordinances with regard to looming concerns over issues with regard to water lines and water bills.

A proposed ordinance will hold property owners liable for renters or land contract holders whose tenants do not pay their water bills. According to the plan, which will require final approval at the next meeting, the city will deny water service to the property until the delinquency is paid. Ultimately, the responsibility will fall upon the landowner.

Additionally, amid the current water crisis in Marion, Fredonia took measures to protect itself.

There have been proposals circulating where new lines would be built, perhaps running through Fredonia that might connect Marion to Caldwell County or Princeton's water system.

The city council proposed first reading of an ordinance that would put into place safeguards for Fredonia residents if

a water line is built through the city. There will be a fee for water utilities running through city limits of Fredonia to other water utilities.

"They have paid to have an engineering company (exploring running) water through Fredonia. But nobody has come to look at our water system, nobody has contacted us," Mayor Jim Seibert said. "I even contacted Princeton and nobody had contacted them. We are going to do what we can to protect this town."

If construction is granted, there would be a fee for utilities going through the city of Fredonia to other utilities, there would also be a 20-cent fee per 1,000 gallons for service passing through the city limits. The fee would increase two-percent every three years. This is similar to a current arrangement held in another nearby town, the mayor said. Permits will be required at a cost of two percent of the total cost of the project. Permits would have to be filed by the construction company or contractors.

Those contractors would also be subject to proper safety measures and show valid proof of insurance and workers' compensation. Any damage done to an existing Fredonia-owned water

line or sewer line during construction would result in a \$3,000 fine per each occurrence, regardless of whether it is damage done to a marked or unmarked line.

Other concerns surrounding potential construction of a line to Marion are the alleged outdated and inaccurate maps that are being used by designers. It was discussed that a water or sewer line could be 15 to 20 feet off from where it is marked on the maps, which could prove disastrous during any potential construction of a new line through Fredonia.

"When we asked people to do it for us, they told us they couldn't," Seibert said. "Everything about this is an insult. That's what bothers me. No one knows anything, it seems like they just paid some engineers, ran to the bank and didn't even check with us or do their homework on this. What a disservice it is to the people of Fredonia, who help them with a laundry service just to find out they're trying to run a water line through our town and not do anything for us after we requested to be hooked on for many years."

In other news, the City of Fredonia was given a \$3,000 grant for enhanced cyber protection, security and cyber liability.

## FIBER

Continued from page 1

bers.

Connect began building the fiber optic system last week, said Crittenden County Judge-Executive Perry Newcom, who attended a meeting last week in Henderson to launch the project.

Kenergy has for a few years worked to find a way around regulatory stumbling blocks in order to provide high-speed affordable internet to underserved and unserved areas in the 14 counties it serves. Judge Newcom said large internet providers such as Comcast have attempted to sidetrack the plans, but the Kentucky General Assembly last spring gave Kenergy the statutory armor it needed to

move ahead.

Connect will oversee construction of a nearly 7,200-mile fiber-to-the-home (FTTH) network, representing the company's first partnership in the state of Kentucky. It is already serving customers in Georgia, Missouri, Colorado and Florida. Conexon is a Kansas City-based company.

Conexon Connect and its corporate affiliate Conexon has assisted more than 275 electric cooperatives, 60 of which are deploying fiber networks, with more than 500,000 rural Americans connected to fiber to the home. The company has secured nearly \$2 billion in federal, state and local grants and subsidies for its clients.

Reese Baker, who once operated a local ISP and is a technology specialist with

Crittenden Community Hospital, said the advertised speeds – up to 2 GIG for around \$100 a month – are more than enough to stream video across multiple devices simultaneously.

"Those kind of speeds means you could probably do away with satellite television," Baker said.

According Connect's website, there are a variety of packages available starting at around \$50 per month for residential customers. That rate would be for 100 MB and customers could receive a discount under the Affordable Connectivity Program. That federal subsidy provides a monthly discount of up to \$30 per month for internet services for qualifying households. Individuals who receive benefits under certain

federal assistance programs including SNAP, WIC, Medicaid, Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Federal Public Housing Assistance (FPHA) or Veterans Pension, Survivors Benefit or receive benefits under free and reduced price school lunch or breakfast programs are included under the the USDA Community Eligibility Provision.

Connect also offers unlimited local and long-distance HD-quality phone service for about \$30 for internet customers or \$40 for phone only.

Typical download speeds for ISPs now serving Crittenden County range from 1 MB to around 20 MB, most are on the lower end of that scale.

Newcom said it's still unclear whether the provider will be able to turn on the internet

service to homes that connected early in the fiber network construction or whether they will have to wait until the whole system is built. He said southern Crittenden County around Dycusburg and northern Lyon County will be among the first construction locations.

Fiber lines will run on Kenergy utility poles. If your home has underground wiring from the electric transformer, the fiber will be pulled through the buried conduit to your home.

Ben Grainger, technology specialist with Crittenden County School District, said this type of fiber network will provide incredible opportunities to local residents. Speeds over fiber lines do not wane like they do over cellular data systems, he said.

## AWARD

Continued from page 1

nalsim.

The society's president Tom Martin said, "The Press is the embodiment of a vital community newspaper."

The Smith Award is named for the late Albert P. Smith Jr., who was the driving force for creation of the Institute, headed its advisory board and was its chair emeritus until his death in March 2021 at the age of 94. He published newspapers in western Kentucky and middle Tennessee, was founding producer and host of KET's "Comment on Kentucky," and federal co-chair of the Appalachian Regional Commission. He was the first winner of the award.

"We are flattered beyond words and incredibly humbled by this distinction," said Crittenden Press Publisher Chris Evans. "We must say, however, that the true credit goes to our loyal readers and advertisers, our staff and our community and its leaders, who give us remarkable insight and access to news, entertainment and sports.

"We are blessed beyond understanding, and are driven by scripture that reminds us, "To those who much is given, much is expected," Evans added. "We are grateful to the Institute for Rural Journalism, the Kentucky Press Association, and all others who sup-

port community journalism."

Former National Newspaper Association President Chip Hutchison, who once published a newspaper in Princeton, Ky., wrote an article for Publisher's Auxiliary earlier this month that pointed out The Crittenden Press's continued strength in the community while many other small-town newspapers are failing. Innovation, he wrote, and embracing digital news has been a key component of The Press's success and survival.

"While the print product remains as strong as ever, the newspaper in the past decade has built a strong multimedia presence. The podcasts and videos started with breaking news, then expanded to shows featuring coaches of the local high school sports teams," the Publisher Auxiliary article said. "The topics covered grew to include a "Women in History" series. When COVID hit, there were podcasts with the local school superintendent, the health department director and other local leaders, and interviews with school principals about how they were responding to constant changes in health directives. Considerable time and effort is required on the production end of the videos, including editing and adding music."

There was strong positive reaction to the news-

paper's live election night coverage, reporting results in real time, the national newspaper trade magazine said.

"It set the paper apart from other media," Hutchison's article said.

The award was based largely on historical work done over the past three decades by the couple. In announcing the recognition, the Institute for Rural Journalism and Society of Professional Journalists cited a num-

ber of The Press's investigative articles over the past 30 years and its more recent work in multi-media. From its work through the pandemic and into the current water crisis in Marion, The Press was widely hailed by the selection process for providing clear, accurate and timely information in print and online.

Chris Evans began his career in newspapers in 1979 in Paris, Tenn.,

where he covered sports and community news for the Paris Post-Intelligencer. He worked four years for the Murray Ledger and Times while studying journalism at Murray State. Evans wrote sports and outdoors at The Paducah Sun from 1988 to 1993 and worked for a time at a Hopkinsville radio station. Allison Mick-Evans grew up in the newspaper business in Marion, earned a degree from

Murray State and also worked at newspapers in Florida before returning to Marion in the late 1990s.

The award will be presented at the Al Smith Awards Dinner Nov. 3 at the Embassy Suites Lexington. Winners of the Institute's national Tom and Pat Gish Award for courage, tenacity and integrity in rural journalism, to be announced soon, will also be recognized at the event.

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# Show up instead of hiding

Some events in life are unavoidable. Try as we might, we cannot hide. We may get away with it for a little while, but not facing difficult situations catches up with us eventually. Even if we avoid them forever, they will leave their mark on us. It is not good for us to avoid uncomfortable situations because we are afraid of what might happen. If there is an uncomfortable situation that must be addressed, it will still be there whether we do anything about it or not.

In the story of Adam and Eve choosing the knowledge of good and evil over obedience, they discovered their nakedness and were ashamed. They couldn't hide what they had done so they tried to hide themselves – which is what we tend to do when we make even minor mistakes that we cannot deny.

This is what is said in Genesis, “And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. But the LORD God called to the man, and said to him, “Where are you?” And he said, “I heard the sound of thee in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself.” He said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the

tree of which I commanded you not to eat?”

There are two questions here that are important. “Where are you?” and, to paraphrase for context, “Who told you that you needed to hide?” Mistakes, in this case a trust and relational mistake, have the capacity to break things forever. If ever there is a time to show up, it is after we have made a mistake. Hiding doesn't help.

Coming out, dealing with the consequences, and putting the relationship back together is what needs to happen. If we hide too many times things get very difficult to repair. This is a strong case for humility and a repentant heart.

In the book of Nehemiah, we read about a Jewish man who was likely born in Babylonian captivity. He had risen to the important position of being “cupbearer to the king.” One could argue that this was the person the king trusted most. The job was to serve food and wine and confirm that the food was not poisoned (a common way of deposing monarchs back in the day).

The demeanor of a cup-

bearer would have been something a king would especially notice.

Any change might arise suspicion to the point of being removed, exiled, or killed. There was a day when the dire situation of Nehemiah's kinspeople in Judea came to his attention. His prayer of repentance, after doing nothing wrong, is a powerful example of identifying with his people. It caused him to grieve and changed his demeanor. He had the courage to show up anyway and explain himself.

This is how the scene is recorded in Nehemiah 1:11b – 2:2, “Now I was cupbearer to the king. In the month of Nisan, in the twentieth year of King Artaxerxes, when wine was before him, I took up the wine and gave it to the king. Now I had not been sad in his presence. And the king said to me, “Why is your face sad, seeing you are not sick? This is nothing else but sadness of the heart.” Then I was very much afraid.”

Nehemiah was saddened by what he heard. He did not avoid his responsibilities. Nor did he deny how he was feeling.

There are many places where we may feel that if we show up, we must hide how we are feeling (church and work come to mind). It takes courage to live an emotionally honest life. Show up anyway.

We do not know what was happening in David's life when he penned Psalm 23. We do know that through the course of his life he was a shepherd, a war hero, a fugitive, a mercenary, a king, a deposed king, an adulterer, and a restored king with a promise from God. We know he had a good heart. We know he had courage.

It is in this Psalm that we have some wonderful encouragement to be present in all of life's situations. Sometimes we are right. Sometimes we are wrong. Sometimes we are the cause of celebration, other times we are not welcome at all. It is for us to humbly walk with God, not hide from our mistakes or ourselves, and live an emotionally honest life.

Then we may experience Psalm 23:5, ‘Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil, my cup overflows.’

Show up.  
*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.*



Sean NIESTRATH  
Faith-based columnist  
Guest Columnist

## Base assurance of salvation on God’s Word—the Bible

**Question:** As a child, I attended church with my parents. In high school and college, I no longer practiced my religious beliefs. I'm married now and my wife and I want to get closer to God. How can I have assurance that I know God personally?

**Answer:** I'm pleased you are concerned about your relationship to God, for it has eternal consequences. The time is now to make sure of your personal rela-



tionship with God.

The reason people don't have a personal relationship with God is sin in their lives (Rom. 3:23, 6:23). Our efforts to bridge the gap between sinful man and holy God never work. God has provided the only way. Jesus Christ died on the cross

and rose from the grave and made it possible for us to have a personal relationship with Him (1 Tim. 2:5). Each person must turn from sins (repent) and make a choice to trust Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. One receives Him into one's heart through prayer.

If you have sincerely asked Jesus to come into your life, God has saved you and He has welcomed you into His family. Don't base your assurance of

your relationship with God on your emotional feelings. They vary greatly depending what's going on in your life. Base your assurance on the clear teachings of God's Word—the Bible. “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved” (Rom. 10:13). The moment your ask Jesus Christ to come into your heart, He does so and gives you eternal life.

Send your questions to: bob@bobhardison.com

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## Community Events & News

- Old Salem Baptist Church will have homecoming Sunday, Aug. 21. Message will be delivered at 11 a.m., followed by a noon meal and singing in the afternoon by the Masseys.
- There will be an Extension District Board Meeting on Wednesday, Aug. 24 at noon at the Extension Annex.
- The VFW in Marion will be having Bingo starting at 5 p.m. every Tuesday at 412 N. College St., Marion.
- Marion Show and Shine will be the fourth Thursday every month through October, weather permitting. Cars, trucks and motorcycles permitted at Crittenden County Courthouse, 107 S. Main St., Marion. Sponsored by City of Marion Tourism. City of Marion Police Dept. authorized.
- 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. For the time being, the Clothes Closet is operated outdoors from 1-3 p.m. each Thursday. Please observe social distancing. 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.

# Breezy Acres

## HERBS

202 Mt. Zion Church Rd., Marion, Ky.

### 10% OFF ALL

**Tranont Supplements and Tupperware**

Now thru August 31

**Also, check out: Essential Oils**

Hours: 8 a.m.-5 p.m.; Closed Thursday and Sunday

### HOMES

3 Bed 2 Bath - 650 Lewistown Ch Rd. - Princeton	\$109,900
3 Bed 1 Bath - 6437 SR 135	\$59,500SS
3 Bed 1 Bath - 2722 Mott City Rd.	<b>SOLD</b> \$89,900NW
4 Bed 2 Bath - 1071 Claylick Rd	<b>SOLD</b> \$164,900RP
2 Bed 1 Bath - 116 N Yandell St	<b>SOLD</b> \$44,900BF
Mobile Home - 237 Cruce Rd.	\$28,900ML
3 Bed 2 bath Split-Level - 417 College St.	<b>GOING</b> \$159,900WW
3 Bed 1 bath - 212 Leland Ave	<b>SOLD</b> \$70,000MP
2 Bed 1 Bath - 115 W Graham St., Fredonia	<b>SOLD</b> \$24,900DW
3 Bed 1 (full) 2(half) Bath on 35+- Acres, 1985 Weldon Rd	<b>SOLD</b> \$19,900BW
3 Bed 2 Bath - 2070 Vine St., Carrsville.	<b>SOLD</b> \$149,000MD

### ACREAGE

6.38 +- AC - Weldon Rd.	\$53,900BW
46 +- AC with Small Cabin - Good Springs Rd	\$129,900
650+- AC - 9285 US 60 W Marion, KY	<b>SOLD</b> \$1,300,000
Cave-In-Rock Island - 160+- AC	<b>ACTIVE</b> \$359,900 AE

### COMMERCIAL

Store Front - 110 S Main St.	\$99,900
Engine Repair Shop - 213 W Gum St.	\$98,500GG
Store Front - 1999 SR 70	\$24,900PT
The Front Porch	\$365,000

### 10x30 STORAGE UNIT • \$100

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308 N. MAIN ST., MARION, KY 42064 • (270) 965-9999  
PRINCIPAL BROKER Darrin Tabor, (270) 704-0041  
www.homesteadauctionrealty.com

### EMMAUS BAPTIST CHURCH

315 Emmaus Church Rd., Salem, Ky.  
Rodney Phelps, Pastor  
(270) 704-2400  
emmausbaptistsalem@outlook.com  
Follow us on Facebook

### Freedom General Baptist Church

Pastor: Ross Atwell  
87 Freedom Church Rd., Marion  
(about 1 mi. from Marion off Ky. 91)

CHURCH TIMES:  
Sunday School 10 a.m. Sunday Evening 6 p.m.  
Sunday Worship 11 a.m. Wed. Bible Study 6 p.m.

### PINEY FORK

CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
Pastor: Greg Rushing  
SUNDAY School 10 a.m. Worship 11 a.m. Bible study 6 p.m.  
Ky. 506 | Marion, Ky.

### St. William Catholic Church

Sunday Mass 11 a.m.  
Father John Okoro  
860 S. Main St. Marion, Ky.  
(270) 965-2477

### Marion Baptist Church

College & Depot streets, Marion • (270) 965-5232  
Pastor: Bro. Aaron Brown • Children's & Youth Pastor: Bro. Shawn Holean  
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 CHILDREN & YOUTH GROUPS 6 p.m.  
CHOIR PRACTICE: 6:45 p.m., PRAISE TEAM: 7:30 p.m.

### Sugar Grove

Cumberland Presbyterian  
585 Sugar Grove Church Rd., Marion, Ky. (270) 704-2455  
Pastor Jesse Thornton (618) 200-0884  
Sun. School: 10 a.m. | Sun. Worship: 11 a.m. & 6 p.m.  
Wed. Bible Study: 7 p.m.

### 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.  
175 Mexico Rd. (270) 965-4059  
MexicoBaptist.org

### 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. -

### Marion United Methodist Church

Open hearts, Open minds, Open doors.  
The People of the United Methodist Church  
WED: Bible Study 5:30 p.m.  
SUN: Sun. School 9:30 a.m. Bro. James LAIBEN  
Worship 10:45 p.m. South College St.

### 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

### Crayne Community Church

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

### Frances Community Church

Bro. Butch Gray  
Wed. night prayer meeting & youth service: 6:30 p.m.  
Sunday school: 10 a.m.  
Worship service: 11 a.m.

### Emmanuel Baptist Church

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 Youth Activities: 6 p.m.  
Captured by a vision...

### FIRST CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

224 W. Bellville St., Marion, Ky.  
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.  
Sunday Worship 10:45 a.m.

### Hurricane Church

Hurricane Church Rd. off Ky. 135 West  
Pastor: Bro. Danny Hinchee  
Sun. School, 10 a.m. • Worship, 11 a.m.  
Sun. Evening services, 6 p.m.  
Wed. Evening services, 7 p.m.

### Tolu United Methodist Church

Bro. Alex Kirby, Pastor  
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.

### PLEASANT GROVE General Baptist Church

growing in grace  
2 Peter 3:18  
Pastor Tris Gaudin  
Located on Ky. 723, 4 miles north of Salem  
Sunday School 10 a.m. | Sunday Worship 11 a.m., 6 p.m. | Wed. 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.

### Barnett Chapel General Baptist

Sunday School: 10 a.m. Barnett Chapel Rd., Marion, Ky.  
Sunday Worship: 11 a.m. Barnett Chapel... where everyone is welcome.  
Sunday Night Service: 6 p.m.  
Bro. Ken Suits, pastor

### Marion Church of God

334 Fords Ferry Road, Marion, Ky.  
Morning Service 10 a.m.  
Sun. Evening 6 p.m. • Wed. Evening 6 p.m.  
"Where salvation makes you a member."

### Marion Church of Christ

546 West Elm Street • (270) 965-9450  
Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.  
- The end of your search for a friendly church -



# Enjoyable gatherings recorded in Press

Our old country churches and their activities were so important for the little communities located all over our county. Children's Day programs, singing conventions, Homecomings and Sunday School Conventions brought people together for times Christian fellowship fun, and food.

### Children's Day at Dycusburg

June 13, 1897 was Children's Day at Dycusburg, and the Methodist church was packed with people to witness the interesting services. The Sunday school superintendent was ably assisted by two tireless workers, Mesdames P. K. Cooksey and T. J. Yeats, who had arranged for the occasion, and they had reason to be proud of their work.

Addresses were made by Rev. A. J. Thompson of Kuttawa and Messrs. Yeats and Glass of this place. The little folks had appropriate recitations, and their part of the program was most delightfully rendered.

Among the little girls who participated were Misses Ray Cooksey, Lucy Gregory, Mamie Graves, Lulie Ramage, Hattie Yeats and Mamie Richards. The little boys were also in evidence.

Miss Willie Cooksey presided at the organ and was assisted by our choir, a splendid one. The music was inspiring. Among our good singers whose talent did much to make the occasion a success are Misses Cooksey, Waters and Cassidy and Messrs. Ed. Dalton, J. R. Glass and Billy and Marvin Charles.

At noon the contents of the well-filled baskets were spread in the grove, and there was plenty for all.

It was a day that will be long remembered in this community.

### Children's Day at Mt. Zion

July 1913. Sunday morning at an early hour wagons, buggies, horseback and footbackers began to arrive till several hundred people had gathered, then came the auto with R. Kemp as driver with some of Marion's best citizens as passengers.

At 9:30 the house was called to order by the pastor Rev. J. A. Wheeler. He introduced Rev. W. Pl Gordon of Marion, and with eloquence he addressed the people for about 15 minutes.

Bro. Wheeler called for prayer by Bro. Th. H. Cochran. The program was then turned over to the children. The session represented the highest morals of literal and spiritual life.

At 12:15 in the beautiful grove such as surrounds a county church, dinner was spread. Some wondered how this multitude could be fed, it was like the five loaves and fishes, there was plenty and as fine a dinner as the writer ever saw, and everybody seemed to enjoy it.

The day was closed by Sister Duvall, who by this time was so filled with the holy ghost that she gave us an old fashioned holy ghost talk. To say the least, we had an all around good time that will dwell with the memory through time and eternity.

### Singing Convention at Repton

September 11, 1913. The county singing convention met at Repton Church Saturday. A large crowd was present, and the exercises were opened by singing by Repton choir followed by devotional exercises by Rev. B. F. Hyde, who also delivered the welcome address.

Cave Springs choir then took charge of the singing. This choir did good singing and showed they had good training. They were followed by Rosebud choir who also delivered some excellent music led by Desmond Crowell.

After a song by the entire congregation, the choir from the Second Baptist Church of Marion, with George Gass as leader were next, and many comments were made upon the spirit with which they sang. This was followed by a recitation "The Gift of God to Fallen Man" by Miss Lockie Powell and Mrs. E. M. Duvall made an interesting talk on the "Blessings of Music." More music followed by Messrs. Travis, Crowell, O'Neal and Crowell and a solo by Guthrie Travis.

### Weston Sunday School Convention

The Weston District Sunday School Convention will be held at Greens Chapel, Thursday, July 1, 1937, beginning at 9:30 a.m., and concluding with a committee report at 3:10 in the afternoon.

W. F. Winders is district president and Irene Cain, secretary. Mr. Winders invites all and ensures all choirs that may be in attendance that a place will be arranged on the program, for them, even if appearance has not been previously arranged.

Special features will also find places on the schedule according to Winders, who also releases the following program: Opening with a song, and the devotion-



A favorite part of gatherings were the large basket-filled noon meals, usually spread on homemade tables on church grounds.

al will be conducted by Lucian Sullivan 10 minutes later. The welcome address at 9:45 a.m., by Melburn Cain and the response by superintendent of Bells Mines Sunday School.

The first address will be that of H. B. McDowell entitled "Observation from the County President," with music 15 minutes later.

Rev. W. C. Dempsey will speak on "Building Up the Sunday School," beginning at 10:45 a.m., with Catherine Beard scheduled at 11 a.m., on "Sunday School Citizenship." The report of the Sunday School is next and Mrs. Mattie Dempsey discusses Children's Training shortly before noon.

At noon a basket dinner will be served on the lawn, and preparations are being made for the largest crowd in the history of this convention. All sorts of delicacies and good, pure wholesome food will be in abundance as it has always been.

The afternoon session begins at 1:30 p.m., with a musical program, and addresses of Sunday School ideals will be made by Mrs. J. B. Hina, Gladys Walker and Co. Atty. Stone, each choosing topics directly related to the general subject.

E. Jeffrey Travis speaks on Religious Education and later Rev. Wallace Rutherford sums up the work and situation of the district concluding at 3:10 p.m., with reports of secretaries and committees.

Leaders from all parts of the county, as well as

those of adjoining counties, plan to be in attendance and a day long to be remembered is eagerly looked forward to by everyone.

### Bells Mines Homecoming

June 28, 1940. The hillside at historic Bells Mines was covered with the largest homecoming crowd in its history Sunday. Almost everyone who should possess sentiment for a day at Bells Mines appeared, as did numbers of friends and many strangers. Estimate of the crowd ranged from 1,000 to 1,200.

The forenoon was occupied by the children's program which is tradition, and a few impromptu speeches by those who just couldn't hold themselves in.

The Cave Springs choir under direction of Virgil Drennan was one of the features and placed the day in a position to be long remembered.

Stamps, Baxter Melody Boys, well known to local audiences, entertained during the afternoon hours. The building was crowded during the entire performance and at no time during the day was there more

than standing room in the church.

An old timer in discussing the day said "speaking of loaves and fishes; at noon there was enough delicious basket dinners to feed a large part of Uncle Sam's army. Two long tables were completely covered besides the number of groups throughout the grounds who couldn't find room for the baskets at the tables."

From a survey, there were representatives from Illinois, Indiana, Tennessee, Missouri, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Florida and Michigan, not to mention the hundred from Kentucky. All surrounding counties were represented and large portion of all churches in Crittenden were present.

A great time in our past history, those large all-day church gatherings brought everyone together from all over the town and county to have a day of fellowship and good times.

(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).

## AUCTION

**Aug. 27, 2022 • 10 a.m.**  
**Nobel Travis Living Estate Sale**  
**1776 State Route 2123 Marion, Ky. 42064**

This property features 7.5 acres of fine country living!

**A spacious Country Home** that include 3/4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 car attached garage, a detached garage/wood shop, a large covered porch are just a few of the many amenities this property has to offer!

**Personal Property includes:** A very LARGE collection of quilts, handmade pillow cases, 1979 Chevy Truck, 1955 International Tractor Model FC, display hutch, corner display cases, case knives, large collection of knives, hand tools, woodworking tools, power tools, large collection of black cast iron, crocks, kitchen table and chairs, dining room table and chairs, cedar bedroom suite, wood bedroom suites, cabbage patch dolls, yard tools, kerosene lamps, couch, sectional couch, quilt racks, washer and dryer, dishes, cooking pans, crocks #6 #4, troy built tiller,

**GUNS:** Smith Wesson Lady Smith 36-9 38 special with the box, (2) Lorcin .Model L380 .380 Cal. Auto. Phoenix Arms Model Raven Nickel Cal.25 auto with box.

**Real Estate terms:** 10% Down day of the sale. 45 days to close. Real estate will be sold according to the way the deed reads. Property to be sold AS- Where IS with no warranty expressed or implied. Property will be sold to the highest bidder. Seller has reserved the right to refuse the highest bid at their discretion. Bondurant Auctions is an agent of the seller.

**Personal Property:** 10% buyers premium will be added to the final bid price. And 6% Ky state sales tax will be included to the final sale price. All items will be sold as is -where is. All items will be considered sold after the auctioneer has said "sold.". All items will need to be removed from the auction site the same day of the auction. We are not responsible for lost or stolen items.

*All announcements made the day of the auction take precedence over any advertised material.*  
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**For any questions please give us a call! (270) 952-6336**

### Bondurant Auctions

Blake Bondurant  
Auctioneer #256594  
Freddy Mack Broker #217988

## "Forever in our Hearts"

### Papa Bruce's Family

*Daddy, we miss you more than words can say.*

## In Loving Memory of Bruce Guess

February 28, 1942 — August 16, 2005

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employment

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY: CITY OF MARION POLICE DEPARTMENT is seeking to fill the position of Police Officer as soon as possible. Under the general direction of the Chief of Police, the Officer will be responsible for patrolling and other such duties common to our department's operations. Minimum requirements include basic training and certification as recognized by the Department of Criminal Justice Training (DOCJT); some experience in law enforcement is desirable, but not mandatory. A copy of the full job description for the Police Officer's position is available from the City Administrator. Salary for a DOCJT Certified Officer is set at \$45,444.33 for the 2022-2023 fiscal year. The City also pays 100% of the officer's health insurance premiums, and 25% of any covered family member. We offer 10 paid vacation days and 12 paid holidays per year. Anyone interested in the position should submit a City of Marion Job Application to the City Administrator's office by 12 noon on Thursday, Sept. 1, 2022. The City of Marion is an Equal Opportunity Employer and a Certified Drug-Free Workplace. (2t-34-c)

The Earle C. Clements Job Corps Academy is seeking employees. We offer a competitive salary, benefits package and advancement opportunities. NEW! SIGN-ON BONUSES FOR MOST POSITIONS! Now offering a \$15 minimum wage! MTC is an equal opportunity employer-Minority/Female/Disabled/Veteran. To view current openings and qualifications and to apply, please visit our website: [www.mtc-jobs.com](http://www.mtc-jobs.com) "Building Tomorrow's Futures Today" (TFC-p)

LABORERS NEEDED IMMEDIATELY! Full-time local positions, 1st & 2nd shift positions available now! Good starting wage \$14 or more based on skill & experience. Must pass background & drug

screen. Apply at Liberty Tire Recycling, 2071 US 60 West, Marion KY or email resume to [hmaloney@libertytire.com](mailto:hmaloney@libertytire.com). Call for more info 270-965-3613. Equal Opportunity Employer. (tfc)

services

CONCRETE WORK: Parking lots, garages, steel buildings, walls, sidewalks, driveways, room additions, rock driveways, clean ditches. Call for quote (270) 724-4672, Joe Mattingly Concrete Construction. (12t-44-p)

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legal notices

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY CRITTENDEN CIRCUIT COURT CIVIL ACTION NO: 21-CI-00081 CITY OF MARION, KENTUCKY PLAINTIFF vs. JO ANNA HAMLET, and Unknown Spouse, if any UNKNOWN OCCUPANTS AND/OR TENANTS OF 423 West Elm Street Marion, Kentucky 42064 COUNTY OF CRITTENDEN, KENTUCKY, DEFENDANTS. NOTICE OF SALE. By virtue of a Judgment and Order of Sale rendered by the Crittenden Circuit Court on the 20TH DAY OF MAY, I will on THURSDAY, AUGUST 25TH, 2022, at the hour of 1:30 p.m. or as soon thereafter as possible at the Courthouse door in the City of Marion, Crittenden County, Kentucky, proceed to offer for sale to the highest and best bidder the following described real property located in Crittenden County, Kentucky, to-wit: Property Address: 423 West Elm Street, Marion, Kentucky 42064 PVA No. / Map No.: 058-20-08-020.01. The current year's property taxes will be paid by the purchaser of the property. Purchaser may pay cash or said property will be sold upon payment of 10% deposit, with the balance upon credit of 30 days, the purchaser shall execute a good and sufficient bond with approved surety thereon for the purchase price, the bond to bear interest at the rate of 6% per annum from the date thereof, until paid, and to have the force and effect of a judgment, but a lien shall be retained on said property to further secure the payment of the purchase price. At his option, the purchaser may pay cash or pay the bond with accrued interest at any time before its maturity. Said sale to be made free and clear of any and all liens, claims, rights, title, and interest of any and all parties to this action. The purchaser will be prepared to promptly comply with these terms or the said property will immediately be offered again for sale. GIVEN under my hand this the 29th day of July, 2022. STEPHEN M. ARNETT Special Master Commissioner. (3t-33-c)

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY CRITTENDEN CIRCUIT COURT CIVIL ACTION NO: 21-CI-00080 CITY OF MARION, KENTUCKY PLAINTIFF vs. PHILLIP CALE STACEY WALLEN UNKNOWN OCCUPANTS AND/OR TENANTS OF 216 S Wel-

don Street Marion, Kentucky 42064 COUNTY OF CRITTENDEN, KENTUCKY DEFENDANTS. NOTICE OF SALE By virtue of a Judgment and Order of Sale rendered by the Crittenden Circuit Court on the 20TH DAY OF MAY, I will on THURSDAY, AUGUST 25, 2022, at the hour of 1:30 P.m. or as soon thereafter as possible at the Courthouse door in the City of Marion, Crittenden County, Kentucky, proceed to offer for sale to the highest and best bidder the following described real property located in Crittenden County, Kentucky, to-wit: Property Address: 505 West Bellville Street, Marion, Kentucky 42064 PVA No. / Map No.: 058-80-01-010.00. ALSO included in this conveyance is a 1983 ATLA Mobile Home, Model Name-Concord, VIN# 2138215231. The current year's property taxes will be paid by the purchaser of the property. Purchaser may pay cash or said property will be sold upon payment of 10% deposit, with the balance upon credit of 30 days, the purchaser shall execute a good and sufficient bond with approved surety thereon for the purchase price, the bond to bear interest at the rate of 6% per annum from the date thereof, until paid, and to have the force and effect of a judgment, but a lien shall be retained on said property to further secure the payment of the purchase price. At his option, the purchaser may pay cash or pay the bond with accrued interest at any time before its maturity. Said sale to be made free and clear of any and all liens, claims, rights, title, and interest of any and all parties to this action. The purchaser will be prepared to promptly comply with these terms or the said property will immediately be offered again for sale. GIVEN under my hand this the 29th day of July, 2022. STEPHEN M. ARNETT Special Master Commissioner. (3t-33-c)

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY CRITTENDEN CIRCUIT COURT CIVIL ACTION NO: 21-CI-00079 CITY OF MARION, KENTUCKY PLAINTIFF vs. SHANE MCDOWELL and Unknown Spouse, if any AMANDA LITTLE and Unknown Spouse, if any COY J. McDOWELL and Unknown Spouse, if any COLTEN OWEN and Unknown Spouse, if any UNKNOWN OCCUPANTS AND/OR TENANTS OF 312 Fords Ferry Road Marion, Kentucky 42064 COUNTY OF CRITTENDEN, KENTUCKY WILLIAM H. ADAMS CAROL ADAMS WASHINGTON MUTUAL FINANCE GROUP, LLC RTLF-KY, LLC DEFENDANTS. NOTICE OF SALE. By virtue of a Judgment and Order of Sale rendered by the Crittenden Circuit Court

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY CRITTENDEN CIRCUIT COURT CIVIL ACTION NO: 21-CI-00080 CITY OF MARION, KENTUCKY PLAINTIFF vs. PHILLIP CALE STACEY WALLEN UNKNOWN OCCUPANTS AND/OR TENANTS OF 216 S Wel-

don Street Marion, Kentucky 42064 COUNTY OF CRITTENDEN, KENTUCKY DEFENDANTS. NOTICE OF SALE By virtue of a Judgment and Order of Sale rendered by the Crittenden Circuit Court on the 20TH DAY OF MAY, I will on THURSDAY, AUGUST 25, 2022, at the hour of 1:30 P.m. or as soon thereafter as possible at the Courthouse door in the City of Marion, Crittenden County, Kentucky, proceed to offer for sale to the highest and best bidder the following described real property located in Crittenden County, Kentucky, to-wit: Property Address: 216 SOUTH WELDON STREET, MARION, KENTUCKY 42064 PVA No. / Map No.: 058-20-14-013.00 The current year's property taxes will be paid by the purchaser of the property. Purchaser may pay cash or said property will be sold upon payment of 10% deposit, with the balance upon credit of 30 days, the purchaser shall execute a good and sufficient bond with approved surety thereon for the purchase price, the bond to bear interest at the rate of 6% per annum from the date thereof, until paid, and to have the force and effect of a judgment, but a lien shall be retained on said property to further secure the payment of the purchase price. At his option, the purchaser may pay cash or pay the bond with accrued interest at any time before its maturity. Said sale to be made free and clear of any and all liens, claims, rights, title, and interest of any and all parties to this action. The purchaser will be prepared to promptly comply with these terms or the said property will immediately be offered again for sale. GIVEN under my hand this the 29th day of July, 2022. STEPHEN M. ARNETT, Special Master Commissioner. (3t-33-c).

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY CRITTENDEN CIRCUIT COURT CIVIL ACTION NO: 21-CI-00079 CITY OF MARION, KENTUCKY PLAINTIFF vs. SHANE MCDOWELL and Unknown Spouse, if any AMANDA LITTLE and Unknown Spouse, if any COY J. McDOWELL and Unknown Spouse, if any COLTEN OWEN and Unknown Spouse, if any UNKNOWN OCCUPANTS AND/OR TENANTS OF 312 Fords Ferry Road Marion, Kentucky 42064 COUNTY OF CRITTENDEN, KENTUCKY WILLIAM H. ADAMS CAROL ADAMS WASHINGTON MUTUAL FINANCE GROUP, LLC RTLF-KY, LLC DEFENDANTS. NOTICE OF SALE. By virtue of a Judgment and Order of Sale rendered by the Crittenden Circuit Court

on the 23RD DAY OF MAY, I will on THURSDAY, AUGUST 25th, 2022, at the hour of 1:30 p.m. or as soon thereafter as possible at the Courthouse door in the City of Marion, Crittenden County, Kentucky, proceed to offer for sale to the highest and best bidder the following described real property located in Crittenden County, Kentucky, to-wit: Property Address: 312 Fords Ferry Road, Marion, Kentucky 42064 PVA No. / Map No.: 070-10-09-003.00 The current year's property taxes will be paid by the purchaser of the property. Purchaser may pay cash or said property will be sold upon payment of 10% deposit, with the balance upon credit of 30 days, the purchaser shall execute a good and sufficient bond with approved surety thereon for the purchase price, the bond to bear interest at the rate of 6% per annum from the date thereof, until paid, and to have the force and effect of a judgment, but a lien shall be retained on said property to further secure the payment of the purchase price. At his option, the purchaser may pay cash or pay the bond with accrued interest at any time before its maturity. Said sale to be made free and clear of any and all liens, claims, rights, title, and interest of any and all parties to this action. The purchaser will be prepared to promptly comply with these terms or the said property will immediately be offered again for sale. GIVEN under my hand this the 29TH day of July, 2022. STEPHEN M. ARNETT, Special Master Commissioner. (3t-33-c).

bid notice

Crittenden County Judge-Executive RFP: Crittenden County Judge-Executive's office is seeking sealed bids for a grant proposal to more properly store and protect in a fire-resistant cabinet several series of permanent and long-term paper records required to be held by the fiscal court records manager in the courthouse in Marion, Ky. The effort will ensure preservation of vital records by storing them in fireproof filing cabinets. This project has one section, for equipment only. Section I Acquire two FireKing fire-

proof, 4-drawer lateral filing cabinets to store the following files, which are not currently retained in fireproof cabinets. L4959 – Policies and Procedures (Crittenden County Administrative Code) Permanent Retention. L4936 – Executive Orders – Permanent Retention. L4994 – Funds Ledger – Permanent Retention. L4998 – Annual Audit – Permanent Retention. L5007 – Annual Approved Budget – Permanent Retention. L4944 – Publication of Legal Notices – Permanent Retention. L4951 – Annual Reports from Departments, Agencies – Permanent Retention. L5797 – Payroll Register – Year End – Retain 70 years from date first employed, then destroy. The cabinets should fit the following parameters: Fit within a 45-inch wide by 24-inch depth by 54-inch height area. Have a lifetime warranty Have 1-hour fire and impact rating Accommodates letter and legal size hanging files Environmentally friendly scratch resistant powder coating Drawers with high sides for hanging file folders UL listed high security lock Insulation between all drawers Free replacement guarantee Sealed bids must include all costs, including shipping, handling and delivery charges. Bids must be returned to the Judge Executive Office by mail or in person by the time of bid opening at 2 pm. on Aug. 25, 2022. Bids may be sent to: Crittenden County Treasurer Yvette Martin, 107 S. Main St., Ste. 208, Marion, KY 42064. Bid Opening will be open to the public and held in the Crittenden County Fiscal Court room. For additional information, contact Yvette Martin at 270-965-5251. (1t-33-c)

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# 1 of 3 in Rogers group burglary case pleads

## Other 2 suspects Crittenden Circuit Court Pleadings remain on run

STAFF REPORT

One of three Illinois residents who were arrested last September inside the dormant Rogers Group quarry on U.S. 60 East near Mattoon entered an Alford plea last week in Crittenden Circuit Court and is facing three years in prison.

By entering an Alford plea, Gene Dale Broadway Jr., 45, of Benton, Ill., admits the commonwealth has evidence to possibly get a conviction if the case were to go to trial. Although he did not admit guilt in the 2021 burglary, his plea has the same effect as a conviction. He will be formally sentenced Oct. 6 and is facing four three-year felony sentences and two 12-month misdemeanor sentences for his role

in the break in. He is charged with complicity to burglary, theft and trespassing and possession of burglary tools and possession of methamphetamine.

Commonwealth Attorney Zac Greenwell told the court that Rogers Group’s quarry sustained hundreds of thousands of dollars in damage during the alleged burglary. During the course of the burglary, Greenwell has said the perpetrators damaged wiring and other fixtures at the quarry’s production plant.

The prosecutor has said repair and replacement would exceed \$800,000. However, state law limits the amount of individual reparations to \$100,000. Greenwell said Broadway will be responsible for \$100,000 in restitution and

so will the other two if convicted.

The other individuals charged with burglary and theft in the case have been on the run since early this year when they missed a pretrial hearing in Marion. A warrant was issued for the arrest of Jin Hee Ward, 35, and Richard Anthony Ward, 50, of Goreville, Ill.

The following are dispositions of other cases before Judge Williams last Thursday:

- Michael Adams, 22, of Marion pleaded guilty to felony first-degree sexual abuse and distribution of obscene material to minors, a Class A misdemeanor. He was sentenced to one year in prison for the felony count and 12 months for the misdemeanor. The time will run concurrently for a total

of one year. He will be formally sentenced on Oct. 6. The commonwealth is opposing probation.

Adams was charged and indicted earlier this year following an investigation by the Kentucky State Police. Adams was accused of an incident from October of 2021 where he engaged in masturbation in front of a female under the age of 16 and allegedly showed her obscene matter.

- Terry Dorris, 49, of Marion was sentenced to three years on a methamphetamine drug charge and lesser time for two misdemeanors for public intoxication and possession of drug paraphernalia. He was awarded probation for five years with stipulations. The charges stem from his arrest while walking down Fords Ferry Road on July 29.
- April McKenzie, 38, of Marion pleaded guilty to felony first-degree possession of a

controlled substance (methamphetamine), third or greater offense; and possession of drug paraphernalia, a misdemeanor. She was sentenced to one year on the meth charge and 12 months for the paraphernalia charge. The time will run concurrently. The commonwealth opposed probation.

- Judge Williams denied a bond reduction request by the public defender representing Michael J. Clark, 26, of Marion who was indicted last month on five felony charges, three of which are Class C felonies and two are Class D.

Clark is charged with second-degree rape (no force); third-degree rape, second-degree sodomy, third-degree sodomy and first-degree unlawful transaction with a minor.

Clark was arrested on July 14 and remains jailed on a \$25,000 cash bond. A pretrial hearing is set for next month.

# Grand jury indicts seven

STAFF REPORT

Seven individuals were indicted last week by the Crittenden County Grand Jury.

A grand jury does not determine guilt or innocence. It merely decides whether enough evidence exists in a case to continue felony prosecution in circuit court.

Indicted Thursday were the following:

- Ronald Frutiger, 44, of Louisville was indicted on a felony charge of flagrant non-support. According to court records, Frutiger is in arrears on child support payments by more than \$21,000.
- Jason Miller, 43, of Marion, was indicted on a felony charge of first-degree trafficking in a controlled substance, less than 2 grams, first offense and first-degree trafficking in a controlled substance, less than 10 doses of opiates, first offense. Court records allege that Miller sold \$100 worth of meth and two Lortabs for \$20 to a cooperating witness on May 20 in the parking lot of Dollar General Store on Sturgis Road.
- Justin Morris, 25, of Marion, was indicted on two felony charges



of second-degree forgery and fraudulent firearm transaction, and two misdemeanor charges for violation of a Kentucky EPO/DVO. Court records allege that Morris falsely completed a firearms transaction application and gave false information to a licensed gun dealer on May 31 while making a purchase of a weapon. Morris is also accused of violation a protective order on Nov. 15, 2021 and April 29, 2022.

- Michael Pierce, 42, of Uniontown, was indicted on a felony charge of theft by unlawful taking (more than \$10,000 but less than \$100,000). Court records allege that Pierce was helping a female move furniture at her home on June 8 when he took the car key fob from her purse and left in her car without permission.

- Tyler Pigg, 19, of Marion was indicted as a youthful offender on a felony charge of first-degree rape of a victim less than 12 years old. The incident allegedly occurred in April.
- Michael Wright, 37, of Marion was indicted on a felony charge of custodial interference. Court records charge that Wright was not truthful when police went to his home on June 8 looking for his juvenile son. Witnesses, the complaint warrant says, saw the boy leave from a back door and get into a vehicle with his mother.
- Brian Keith Haymaker, 47, of Marion was indicted on a felony charge of being a convicted felon in possession of a handgun and a misdemeanor charge of fourth-degree assault (domestic violence with minor injury). He is being held in the county jail on a \$10,000 cash bond. Haymaker is accused of assaulting a female on July 26 then fleeing the home with a 9mm Ruger. Court records say that Haymaker is also known by the aliases Brian Keith Moore and Brian Keith Shipley. Court records indicate that Haymaker is a convicted felon in Illinois.

# County sells 28 past-due tax bills; purchasers can force sale Jan. 1

STAFF REPORT

Twenty-eight delinquent property tax bills were sold at the courthouse last week, most of them going to third-party companies that buy them for profit-making.

More than \$20,000 in tax receipts were realized from the sale, which is open only to registered buyers who qualify ahead of time. A handful of local individuals were among the buyers of past-due tax bills.

After a year, the buyer can force the sale of the property and collect fees, expenses and interest.

From the sale of the delinquent bills, Crittenden County School District will get a share of \$1,870, the State of Kentucky will get \$1,905 and Crittenden County will receive \$1,870 in revenue. Other taxing districts will get their share as well.

There remains about \$15,000 in delinquent tax

bills that went unclaimed. After the public sale in 2021, the county delinquent list was nearly double at about around \$30,000.

Beginning Jan. 1, 2023, the third-party purchasers of Crittenden County tax bills may institute a foreclosure action to collect the amounts owed under the certificate of delinquency or to enforce the lien created by the certificate of delinquency. Under KRS 134.546, a third-party purchaser may (1) institute an action against the delinquent taxpayer to collect the amount of the certificate of delinquency to enforce the debt; (2) institute an action to enforce the lien represented by the certificate of delinquency; or (3) institute one action including both types of the aforementioned actions.

Once a past-due tax bill is sold, it can create a financial and legal nightmare for the property owner.

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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 wildlife lover's dream. The property has 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 mix of habitat types. Great deer and wild turkey habitat with opportunities for waterfowl hunting. Open areas for food plots. Approximately 244.78 acres of timber. Planted pines.

CRITTENDEN COUNTY, KY - 947 ACRES - \$1,450,000 - This unique large acreage hunting farm is ideal for all of Kentucky's favored game species. The tract features a diverse blend of habitat types.

LIVINGSTON COUNTY, KY - 132.73 ACRES - \$238,914 - Great hunting tract with diverse topography, most producing timber, several food plots, open areas for food plots and a good trail system.

LIVINGSTON, KY - 99.954 ACRES - Hunting tract with a large creek, open ground for food plots, most producing hardwoods and numerous funnels and pinch points! \$199,909.

CRITTENDEN COUNTY, KY - 239.27 ACRES - \$376,900 - This farm has a diverse blend of habitat types that provides excellent deer, turkey and waterfowl hunting opportunities. This area is known for producing big bucks!

LIVINGSTON COUNTY, KY - 118.16 ACRES - Topography is a mix of semi-flat creek bottoms and timber ridges. An established food plot on the main ridge. Excellent hunting! Reduced \$209,751.

CRITTENDEN COUNTY, KY - 103 ACRES - Located in big buck territory, this scenic property features a spacious home, garages, a barn ideal for equipment or storage and a diverse blend of habitat types!

LIVINGSTON COUNTY, KY - 50.20 ACRES - \$123,137 - Mostly timber hunting tract with diverse topography! This tract has several improvements geared toward big bucks and is ready for the 2021 season!

LIVINGSTON COUNTY, KY - 16.16 ACRES - \$140,042 - Mostly timber hunting tract with diverse topography! This tract has a blend of habitat types and improvements that are geared toward big bucks!

LIVINGSTON COUNTY, KY - 60.15 ACRES - \$152,218.50 - Mostly timber hunting tract located in an area known for big bucks! This tract has habitat diversity with improvements geared toward big bucks! Includes established food plot.

LIVINGSTON COUNTY, KY - 76.26 - Mostly timber hunting tract located in an area known for big bucks! Includes a groomed landing area ideal for hunting camp.

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## 50 YEARS AGO

**August 24, 1972**

- Mrs. C.L. Frazer was named 1972 Arthritis Campaign Chairman for Crittenden County.
- Art students at CCHS had an outdoor ceramic exhibit on the front lawn of the courthouse.
- George Watts was appointed Sales Counselor for the Direct Sales Division of Doehla Greeting Cards, Inc.
- Special guests at the regular meeting of the Marion Rotary Club were new member, Junior Combs; program chairman, Dexter Marsh; vice-president Zeb Ricketts; and guest pianists Donna Hodge and Robin Webb.

## 25 YEARS AGO

**August 28, 1997**

- Shawn Steele, a sixth-grade student at Tolu Elementary School, was inducted into the Accelerated Reader International Reading Honor Roll for earning 605 reading points.
- Community Arts Foundation Resident Director



Susan Alexander conducted a tour of Fohs Hall and the Clement Mineral Museum for Daniel Kidd of the Kentucky Department of Travel, Chris Harp of the Kentucky Arts Council and Bruce W. Brooks II also of the state's department of travel.

- Bennett Redd of Marion won the Kentucky Archers Association State Championship in Providence.
- Brian Shemwell, a 1997 graduate of Crittenden County High School, signed a letter of intent to play baseball at Freed Hardeman College near Jackson, Tenn.

## 10 YEARS AGO

**August 23, 2012**

- Crittenden County's Adult Education Center was ranked among the top 20 performing centers across

the state. Crittenden ranks eighth out of 120 counties in the state.

- Maggie and Mauri Collins represented Crittenden County and District 7 at the State 4-H Communications day in Lexington after winning top spots at county and area competitions. Maggie's demonstration on "How to Make Banana Bread" was champion in the senior breads division. Mauri was one of only five 4-Hers in the state to qualify to compete in both speech and demonstration. She earned a blue ribbon in her speech "How to Bring Balance in Your Life" and in her demonstration "A Healthy Summer at the Ballpark."

For more local history read Brenda Underdown's Blog Forgotten Passages

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# Back to school, back to normal

By **TONYA DRIVER**  
Superintendent of Schools  
Dear Rocket Families and Community,

It's almost that time... back to school, back to normal, and #BackToTheFuture. That's our theme as we eagerly begin our 2022-2023 school year. Our goal continues to be empowering and engaging students every day, and we are thrilled to be able to get back to some basics in academics, as well as in the traditions we value so much in Crittenden County.

I am honored to serve as your superintendent. Having been a lifelong resident of Crittenden County, I want to work with you to make a difference for our students. We have several welcome back activities planned for them. Mark your calendars for Tuesday, Aug. 23 as the Back-to-School Night for CCMS and CCHS, and Thursday, Aug. 25 as the Back-to-School Night for CCES.

Our incoming kindergarten students will have their own special night on Monday, Aug. 22 at CCES, and our youngest Rockets, our pre-school students, will get to meet their teachers on August 18.

It's been wonderful to hear the buzz of students excited about getting their schedules and learning who their teachers are the last few days. As you may know, this information is available after parents have completed the online registration process. We have a great competition going on among our schools to see who can get to 100 percent first. As of Friday, Aug. 12, the district has 64.9 percent of student online registrations complete, with the elementary school in the lead with 72.1 percent of their registrations submitted.

We are looking forward to welcoming students back on Monday, Aug. 29 for the first day of school, and we want to share

some important changes for the school year. First, we are changing the direction of parent pickup and dropoff at the middle/high school. In an effort to avoid left turns and ease the stress of the traffic, we will be having cars enter the dropoff/pickup lines on the high school end of the campus and exit in front of the middle school with a right-turn only. As you may be aware, we are awaiting a turning lane project in front of these schools, and the rerouting of traffic will ease congestion to aid in that endeavor. While the project completion is still a few months out, we want to get our Rocket families familiar with the new routine at the start of the year.

As we start the year, I want to let you know that your board of education has been diligently working all summer to address

how the water issue may impact our campuses. I am proud to report confidently that through a partnership with emergency management and our city and county governments, Marion is now predicted to be able to support the water needs of the schools. Rest assured, we have a back-up plan in the event that the water supply diminishes. Director Slinker from Emergency Management has helped us to create a back-up plan that can be put in place if the need arises. At the elementary school, we are also in the process of hooking onto Crittenden-Livingston Water District as soon as materials arrive.

I know you may also have questions around COVID-19 and the quarantines that have been such a huge part of our lives for the last two years. COVID isn't gone,

but it is definitely moving into a new phase. We want you to know that in our commitment to get back to normal, we will be treating COVID just as we will treat any other virus, such as the flu or strep. This means using good judgment and keeping students home until fever has resolved for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications. As always, we ask that you follow any ad-

vice given by a physician.

As summer comes to an end, it's my wish that you enjoy these remaining days and look forward to the new year with excitement and positivity. We are anxious to see the hallways and classrooms of our schools full of students and staff as we head #BacktoTheFuture.

My door is always open, and I invite you to contact me with any questions or concerns.



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# New improvements at high school

**By DR. QUERTERMOUS**  
*CCHS Principal*

Dear CCHS students and families,

We are so excited to have each of you as part of our CCHS family, whether you are returning or just beginning your journey as a CCHS Rocket. It has been a noisy, dusty, busy place since students left in May for summer break. Construction crews and custodial staff have worked hard to remodel the upstairs and downstairs restrooms, remodel the upstairs science labs, create a family/unisex restroom,



Quertermous

install an elevator, and clean, paint and accomplish much more to make our building better. Our art teacher Mrs. Rodriguez has added her amazing artwork to our cafeteria. These folks have poured their time and sweat into our building so that students have an improved learning environment, and we can't wait for you to see these improvements!

Please note that some policies have changed in our handbook for this year. Pay special attention to our dress code and technology expectations. We

want all students safe and able to focus on learning and growing while they are here, beginning on day one. Additionally, unexcused tardies will impact a student's ability to participate in school activities. This is also highlighted in the handbook.

The last two years have definitely been a challenge, but it's time to re-focus and re-engage in learning. The first step is to be present, physically and mentally, and be on time. On time means that students are in their 1st block class and ready to learn by 7:50. If they arrive at 7:50, they are late. Ensure that there is enough time to get to a

locker and to class.

Assistant Principal Mr. Wynn, counselors Mrs. Shoulders and Mrs. Poindexter, and I have an open-door policy for students. Students, you are the best part of our day, and we encourage you to let us know if you need help.

Families, please call or email if you have questions or need to arrange a meeting. We are here to help make sure students are successful and safe. Let's work together to make CCHS a place where everyone is respected, accepted and valued.

Welcome back Rockets! Let's make this the most amazing year ever!

## CCHS Staff

Jessica Abercrombie - Classroom Instructor; Jennifer Bell - Digital Learning Coach; Jared Brown - Classroom Instructor; Tessa Brown - Classroom Instructor; Gaige Courtney - Classroom Instructor; Casey Evans - Classroom Instructor; Derrick Ford - Classroom Instructor; Teresa Foster - Classroom Instructor; Lori Glore - Exceptional Child Instructor; Victoria Hatfield -

Classroom Instructor; Jessica Hill - Media Librarian; Denis Hodge - Classroom Instructor; Glenna Hoeszle-Rich - Classroom Instructor; Talley Joyce - Classroom Instructor; Tara Kirk - Exceptional Child Instructor; Nicholas Martinez - Classroom Instructor; Hayden McConnell - Classroom Instructor; Deonna McCord - Classroom Instructor; Kimberlie Moore - Classroom

Instr; Michelle Orr - Classroom Instructor; Laura Poindexter - Classroom Instructor; Jody Porter - Classroom Instructor; Melissa Quertermous - High School Principal; Julie Rodriguez - Classroom Instructor; Stefanie Shoulders - Guidance Counselor; Howard Suggs - Classroom Instructor; Misty Tinsley - Classroom Instructor; Kimberly Vince - Classroom Instructor; Larry

Walker - Classroom Instructor; Leah Waters - Classroom Instructor; Michaela West - Classroom Instructor; Brian Wynn - High School Vice Principal; Brittany Mardis - Classroom Instructor

## Middle school looking foward to #BacktotheFuture

**By KARA TURLEY**  
*CCMS Principal*

Welcome back, Rockets! We hope you have had an awesome summer full of fun, relaxation, and maybe a bit of reading! Teachers and staff are looking forward to going #Backto-theFuture, as we join together again to welcome back our students and learn and grow together.

We have worked hard to make a schedule that meets the needs of individual students. This year, we do not have any block or 90 minute classes. Data has been analyzed to place specific students in math or reading development classes so they can receive more instruction in areas where they need it. Don't be surprised if your middle school student has a schedule that looks a bit different from his or her friends.



Turley

Middle school means lockers! Students will be assigned lockers that they may visit at certain times of the day. Times to visit lockers are upon arriving at school, before and after lunch, and before leaving at the end of the day. CCMS students are required to have a transparent backpack. A small pouch may be kept inside the backpack to conceal private or personal items. Textbooks won't be transported from room to room, as most of them are digital. Texts that aren't digital remain in teachers' classes for students to use.

We are happy to welcome the following staff members to our team: Madison Champion, 8th grade math; DJ Pigg, RTI; and Talley Joyce, counselor.

Parents and families are the most important partners we have as ed-

ucators, and we want to work together with you to help all of our students grow and achieve. All staff members can be reached by email using the following format: firstname.lastname@crittenden.ky-schools.us. You can reach us by phone at 270-965-5221, and keep up with our school initiatives by following us on our Facebook, Instagram, or Twitter pages. Let's work together to make sure that this is another awesome year at Crittenden County Middle School!

## CCMS Staff

Ryan Cowser - 8th grade social studies; Bryan Qualls - 8th grade science; Jessica DeBurgo - 8th grade ELA; Madison Champion - 8th grade math; Nicole Cates - Special Ed; Jeanna Keith - Special Ed; Bryce Winders - Health and PE; Jeff Embrey - Health and PE; Ken Geary - Tech and algebra; DJ Pigg - Reading intervention; Ethan Hill - 7th grade social studies; Neal Bryant - 7th grade science; Anne Lance - 7th grade ELA; Susan Bak-

er - 7th grade math; Ben Thompson - 6th grade social studies; Becky Bryant - 6th grade science; Mandy Perez - 6th grade ELA; Austin Berry - 6th grade math; Heidi Hicks - receptionist; Cathy Oliver - book keeper; Talley Joyce - counselor; Ashley Frederick - curriculum coach; Kara Turley - Principal; Hayden McConnell - band; Elizabeth Rodriguez - art; Kimberlie Lady - ag; Jessie Hill - library; Kaitlyn Berry - Special Ed



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# CCES staff prepared for an amazing year

By SARAH J. RILEY  
CCES Principal

Families and Friends of CCES,

On behalf of the entire faculty and staff, I hope everyone had a relaxing and enjoyable summer break. As the beginning of school is quickly approaching, we are eager to welcome your children back to Crittenden County Elementary School for an outstanding 2022-23 school year. Our administrative, custodial and secretarial staffs have been working throughout the summer, preparing the building for another amazing school year.

Our first event for the year is Kindergarten Carnival Night on Monday, Aug. 22 from 5-6:30 p.m. This is for kindergarten students

and their parents. That night you will have the opportunity to complete on-line registration, view the classrooms, and have your questions answered by teachers and transportation staff.

The Back to School Bash will be on Thursday, Aug. 25 from 6-7:30 p.m. for grades 1-5. On-line registration, transportation staff, and many other groups will be available. Kindergarten students and parents do not need to attend this night.

I am looking forward to a year of partnering with the staff, parents and community to help our students have a successful year. We can't wait to start an exciting 2022-2023 school year, and we are prepared to provide the best Rocket education to our students!



Riley

## CCES Staff

Sarah J. Riley, principal; Laurie Holcomb, assistant principal; Sara Omer, counselor  
**Preschool:** Meagan Brasher, Lisa Cooper, Tami Smith-Allen  
**Kindergarten:** Jennifer Beverly, Bess Davis, Kassie Green, Denise Guess, Andrea Markham  
**First Grade:** Heather Bloodworth, Magan Cruce, Ann Moore, Mollie Tabor, Kayla Travis  
**Second Grade:** Shayann Board, Melia Cappello, Amanda Harris, Julie Tinsley  
**Third Grade:** Ashley Conway, Jada O'Leary, Summer Riley, Mandy Winters, Abby Whitney  
**Fourth Grade:** Olivia Bloodworth, Johnna Henager, Tabby Padon, Katelyn Wright  
**Fifth Grade:** Cindy Crabtree,

Mandy Hunt, Kim Spivey, Renee Stowe  
**Additional staff:** George Cavanah, psychologist; Tiffany DeBoe, curriculum; Suzanne Brown, arts and humanities  
Marlee Lanham, computer lab; Sandra Martinez, physical education; Mary Ann Winders, library; Alyssa Schoensiegel, music; Kathleen Guess, GT; Amy Caraway, JJ Graham, Jayme Young, intervention; Becky Bailey, Heather Belt, Brooke Hunt, Alex Kirby, Jenny Long, Kara Markham, Melissa Shewcraft, Tammy Stone, Shelby Weme, special education; Kristin Belt, Taylor Berry, Marsha Burkeen, Stephanie Mott, Victoria Shewcraft, Shawna Sunderland, Wendy Williams, instructional assistants

# New teacher introductions

## Schrock

Christian County native, Lacey Schrock begins her role as Supervisor of Instruction.

Schrock received her bachelor's degree in biology and secondary education from Murray State University, as well as a degree in wildlife biology from Austin Peay University. She completed work for her school administration and supervisor of instruction certification at Murray State University.

Having taught at Hopkinsville Community College, Christian County High School and Lyon County High School, Schrock most recently taught high school science and dual credit courses for the Trigg County School District.

Schrock says her goal as Crittenden County's supervisor of instruction is to create multiple opportunities for students to be successful.

"I know that through collaboration with administrators and staff, we can provide great opportunities for students to learn, grow, and be prepared for their future," said Schrock. "It is through that collaboration toward a common vision that we will move forward and provide equal opportunities for all students."

In her free time, Schrock and her husband, Scott, a math teacher and fishing team coach for Trigg County High School, enjoy watching their boys (Gavin, age 10 and Cadan, age 6) participate in many sports activities. As a family, they also enjoy time hiking, fishing, and spending time outdoors.

## Harmon

Deborah Harmon has been chosen as Director of Special Education and Preschool Coordinator, and she says she feels the time is right for her to return to serve students.

Harman most recently held the position of principal at Bend Gate Elementary School, a 4-star academic achievement

honoree, in Henderson, KY. Prior to that, she served as the Director of Special Projects for Union County School District, which included roles as the district's Director of Special Education, Preschool, and other areas. Harman holds a Rank 1 in Curriculum and Instruction from Indiana Wesleyan University, along with a Rank 1 Certificate of Leadership in Director of Special Education from Murray State University and a Master of Science in speech pathology from West Virginia University.

Her goals, she says, always have been to serve students in her care to the best of her ability. "I want all students to grow and learn, so they can be prepared to enter the world confidently with the best set of skills possible," she said.

Harman said that desire for all students to be successful is what led her back into the world of education after a brief



Harmon

NEW TEACHERS  
continued on page 12

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NEW TEACHERS  
continued from page 11

period of retirement. “I realized pretty quickly that I missed students and missed being part of an education team,” she said. “Having held this position in the past, it felt like the right time for me to return to serve students.”

An avid animal lover, Harman also enjoys reading and is a volunteer for the Ronald McDonald House in Evansville, Indiana. She also serves on the Board of Directors for River Valley Behavioral Health. Harman is married and is the mother of two adult daughters and grandmother to six grandchildren.

**Shewcraft**

Melissa Shewcraft’s special assistant Oscar might just be the most popular guy in school. The Goldendoodle is a certified therapy dog and will join Shewcraft, recently hired as a special education teacher at Crittenden County Elementary School. Recently approved by the Crittenden County Board of Education, Oscar will join her as the first therapy dog in Crittenden County School District history.



Shewcraft



Oscar

Shewcraft is a 2003 graduate of Crittenden County High School. While originally wanting to be a teacher, a communication disorders class in college led her to pursue that career path. She switched majors and later received a bachelor’s degree in Communication Disorders from Murray State in 2007. After some time in the classroom, she obtained her master’s degree in special education from Georgetown College in 2019.

Shewcraft is not new

to teaching in the Crittenden County School System, as she was a classified instructor from 2011-2017 in the high school.

As a certified teacher, she has taught at Webster County and, most recently, Browning Springs Middle School in Madisonville.

Mom of one, Shewcraft says the transition to leave her students in Browning Springs was a hard choice but after deciding to enroll her daughter in pre-school in Crittenden County, she knew she needed to be close to home.

Padon

Tabby Padon has traded in her Cardinal red for Rocket blue this year as she starts her teaching career at Crittenden County as a fourth grade teacher.



Padon

A 2018 graduate of Livingston Central High School, Padon continued her studies in elementary education at Murray State University, graduating in 2022.

During her time in high school, Padon played basketball, softball, volleyball and ran track. She was also the senior class president.

Padon did her student teaching at Crittenden last year and is ready for what this year will look like with her own Rainbow Bohemian themed classroom. She will be teaching social studies, and is also looking forward to teaching reading and writing.

Champion

Madison Champion is returning to her alma mater to start her career as an eighth grade math teacher.



Champion

Dreaming of teaching from a young age, Champion laughs

as she recalls forcing her brother to “play school” with her as children. She says she never remembers a time she was not playing with a chalkboard instead of dolls and toys. She has always enjoyed being around children and helping them learn, whether it’s school, sports or life in general.

Once she graduated from Crittenden County High school in 2018, the thoughts of a lower pay scale from teaching pushed her to pursue a nursing degree from Murray State University.

Halfway through her second year of studies and after completing a semester of the nursing program, Champion realized the line of work was not for her. She met with her advisor and prayed-fervently before making the choice to pursue teaching after all, and she has not looked back.

Champion completed her student teaching at Caldwell County Middle school last year. Being able to help children both through problems in the classroom and in similar situations she has faced in life has made Champion confident in her choice of teaching.

Champion is thankful to make her great-grandmother Gyneth Strong, a retired teacher and principle at Crittenden County, proud of her.

Conway

A family full of teachers and an inspiring fifth-grade teacher cultivated a love of learning for Ashley Conway. Early on, she realized teaching was her calling.



Conway

A Union County native, Conway is a graduate of Union County High School Class of 2018. She received a bachelor’s degree in elementary education through Murray State University’s Henderson Campus in 2022.

Though 2022-23 will be her first year as a teacher, Conway is no stranger to the classroom with two years of substitute

teaching under her belt, and her student teaching experience last year at Uniontown Elementary.

In high school Conway was a part of Union County’s volleyball, softball and basketball teams. She was also involved in Beta Club, National Honors Society and the Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA). In college, she was a member of Phi Theta Kappa.

Conway is excited to teach third graders all about mathematics and is also hoping to teach some social studies later in the year.

Pigg

An eighth-grade language arts teacher helped set D.J. Pigg on a path that led him to Crittenden County High School.



Pigg

Pigg, the new Rocket basketball coach, will be splitting his time between middle and high school RTI (Response to Intervention) and high school English.

“My eighth grade English teacher, Cody Lane, who also taught geography in sixth grade, did lot of stuff that stuck out to me at Benton Middle, and I knew if I was going into education I wanted to be a teacher like he was,” said Pigg, a 2016 graduate of Marshall County High School.

After playing year of golf at John A. Logan, Pigg returned to western Kentucky to pursue an education degree at Murray State.

He was an assistant basketball coach at Graves County before being hired at Crittenden County.

Pigg and his fiancé, Bailey Hawkins, an educator in Marshall County, reside in Kuttawa.

Smith-Allen

After four years in the U.S. Navy and 21 years living in Oklahoma, Tami Smith-Allen is returning to her roots.

She will begin her first year at Crittenden Coun-

ty in one of the school’s three preschool classrooms.

Smith-Allen grew up in Louisville and moved to Lyon County as a sophomore in high school, graduating from there in 1986.



Smith-Allen

This summer she and her husband, who is recently retired, relocated to Lyon County where they will be taking over her mother’s farm.

For the past six years, Smith-Allen has taught preschool, kindergarten and second grade in Oklahoma.

A love for young children led her to preschool. “My passion is with the littles,” she said. “I love the movement, the activities, the ability to teach all different ways, including song.”

“They have such enthusiasm for learning.” Smith-Allen will be joined in the classroom by instructional assistant Missy Nelson.

Mardis

Brittany Binkley Mardis’ family has long been affiliated with



Mardis

the Crittenden County School District.

Her dad, Greg, is retiring this month as the district’s maintenance supervisor, and her mom Judy held several roles before retiring two years ago.

Now it is Mardis’ turn.

The 2001 CCHS grad will be the Family and Consumer Sciences instructor at the high school, teaching family and consumer science, lifespan development and relationships classes. Most of the curriculum for those courses were covered during her undergraduate studies, which included a major in psychology.

She holds a master’s degree in human development and leadership and worked in the middle and high school last year as a counselor for Mountain Comprehensive Care Center.

“I had 50 clients last year and this year I will be covering a lot of the

NEW TEACHERS  
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## 2022-2023 Crittenden County Bus Routes

**2022-2023 (subject to change as we get students in system and if we get road or bridge restrictions)**

**CCHS 1st Round  
BUS 041 MANDY HUNT**

Hospital annex, Cherry Street, Rochester Ave, Luck St., Second St, N. College, Whippoorwill Drive to Hillcrest Drive to Summit to Harmon Drive back to U.S. 60

**BUS 0739 COURTNEY PATE**

Central Office, Mattoon Loop, Nunn Switch Rd., Caney Fork, Blackford (to turnaround) to Nunn Switch, Fishtrap back to U.S. 60, J.P. Howerton and West Bellville from stop light to N. Randall

**BUS 29 LIBBI ROBINSON**  
KY 297 from Glendale Church Rd., to KY 723 S., KY 723 to Cecil Croft Rd., 838 W, Claude Belt, New Union Church, Lewis Croft, Deer Creek.

**BUS 24 GARY DAMRON**  
KY 297, Tolu end of KY 723, Tolu end of KY 135, Tolu, Irma White Rd., Tom Hill Rd., Dick Jones Rd., Barnett Chappel

**BUS 1514 TINA NEWCOM**  
East Bellville (from Five Star to Marion Feed Mills), Old Shady Grove, Club Dr., Guess Dr., N. Clay, Tribune Tower Rd., Wilson Farm Rd., KY 132 (Enon Church) KY 120.

**BUS 1528 STEPHEN SMITH**  
KB Pharmacy, Main Street in town (pick up and drop in front of Frazer Law oOffice) Terrace Dr., Tower RD., SugAr Grove Church RD., KY 120-KY 139 Shady Grove, Provenience Rd.

**BUS 1507 RICKY WINDERS**  
South Weldon and joining streets, KY 1668, KY 135, O.B. McDaniel Rd., Donald Winders Rd., Aunt Jane Tabernacle, Willard Easley Rd., Hebron Church Rd., KY 91 (cannot cross bridge or go Freedom Church due to weight restrictions), AT Crider.

**BUS 1403 SARA OMER**  
CCHS to CCES mornings, CCES TO CCHS afternoons, U.S. 60 West from KY 1668



to Crittenden-Livingston line, Zion Cemetery, Lewis, Love Cemetery, Irma White Youth Camp, Dry Branch

**CCHS/CCMS 1st Round  
BUS 1604 ED LENEAVE**

U.S. 60 from Marion city limits to KY 1668 (Bright Beginnings, Airport Rd., Gregory Lane), Claylick Rd., KY 2132, View Road (KY 2132 to U.S. 60) Kirk Bluff, Damron Rd., Eagle Mine, KY 855, Frances Rd., Amos Rd.

**BUS 2215 PAM COLLINS**  
Sulphur Springs Rd., Mexico Rd. (from Marion Rd. to Mexico Baptist Church) Marion Rd., Axel Creek, Caldwell Springs to turnaround, Guess Rd., Paddy’s Bluff to turnaround (Gorman pond Rd.) Brown Mines Rd., Emmaus Rd.

**BUS 2216 LISA WILLIAMSON**  
Chapel Hill (from Par 4 to Crayne), Lloyd Rd., Lilly Dale Rd., U.S. 641 from Calvary Baptist Church to Caldwell County line, Nipper Rd., Harris Rd.

**BUS 1513 KEN GEARY**  
KY 365 to Long Branch, KY 654 N to Cotton Patch, Roe Wafford, Mt Zion Church, Yoder Rd., Valley View, Fords Ferry to Pickering hill back to Browns School (turnaround at Howerton Rd.) Fords Ferry to Sturgis Rd.. MAIN STREET MARKET STOP (Includes McDonalds, Johnsons Furniture and Subway)

**BUS 33**  
KY 70 (Mott City to Dycusburg), KY 855 (from KY 70 to KY 902), KY 902 from Crittenden-Caldwell line to Dycusburg, Jackson School Rd. to March Oliver Rd., Dycus Rd., Main Lake Rd., Joyce Rd. at

KY 70 Lafayette Heights at KY 70

**BUS 1508 DENIS HODGE**  
CCES TO CCHS morning, CCHS TO CCES afternoon, Old Salem Rd., West Bellville to North Yandall, Travis to Keeling to North Weldon (STREETS ALONG N.WELDON INCLUDING CREEK ST.) turnaround at Starling (PICK UP FOR WILLIAMS PARK IS PIGEON DRIVE)

**BUS 21 BRYCE WINDERS**  
U.S. 641 from Industrial Drive to Mott City Rd., to Railroad Ave., AH Clements to Dove Lane, Campbell Lane, Weldon Rd., from U.S. 641 to Belt Lane, Coleman Rd., Chapel Hill (Brookcliff, Arlene and Hickory Hills) to Moore

Ave. (Leland Ave), Watson St., to Blackburn to U.S. 60 West.

**BUS 1520 AMBER LENEAVE**

West Mound Park, Sturgis Rd., U.S. 60 E to Bailey Rd., Long Branch, Old Morganfield Rd. (At U.S. 60 E and Old Morganfield Rd.)

**BUS 1512 KEELY HALL**  
Blackburn Church (Just-A-Mere intersection) Copperas Springs, KY 506, Pleasant Hill (from KY 506 to Floyd Turley Rd.) Lone Star Rd., to Baker Lane, Piney Fork, KY 1077 to Harvest House Church, East Depot (from Kevil to KY 506) East Depot, South Walker, Main Street from Napa to Industrial Drive



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NEW TEACHERS  
continued from page 12

same things moving into a teaching roll – mental health, life skills – just interacting with more kids,” she said.

Mardis is hired under Kentucky’s alternative certification program, which allows individuals who have worked in related fields to begin teaching and obtain alternate certification within three years.

Mardis wants to fast-track that, as the program allows participants to work at their own pace to complete coursework.

Mardis has two children in the school district, a sixth- and third-grader.

Foster

The theme for the school year in Crittenden County is Back to the Future.

That’s quite true for long-time educator Teresa Foster.

Foster began her teaching career in Crittenden County fresh out of college in 1980. She retired at age 47 and is back as an English teacher at CCHS.



Foster

Foster retired 15 years ago, but has stayed connected to the district as a substitute teacher. She taught English at Crittenden County Middle School and severed as the technology coordinator for seven years.

Changes to state laws governing teacher retirement during a critical shortage of teachers allows Foster to return to

full-time teaching without affecting teacher retirement.

Foster will be teaching senior English as well as supervising students who are taking dual credit classes through Madisonville Community College.

Speaking of back to the future, Foster wants to ensure her students have some basic writing skills in addition to literary emphasis in senior English.

“A lot of kids may not be going to college, they may be going to vocational school instead, so I want to do a lot of real-life things when it comes to writing,” she said.

Joyce

As the new guidance counselor at Crittenden County Middle School, Talley Joyce will serve as a liaison between sixth-through eight-grade stu-



Joyce

dents, their parents and teachers. Joyce moves to CCMS this year from her role last year as high school English teacher and part-time counselor.

“I want to be someone kids can not only talk out their problems with but also advocate for them with emotional needs,” Joyce said, pointing to two years of on-again, off-again in-person learning due to COVID-19.

Joyce is a Crittenden County graduate and 2014 graduate of Western Kentucky University. She has a master’s degree in school guidance and counseling.

Joyce replaces Laura Poindexter, who is moving the high school to teach math. She began her teaching career at Crittenden County in 2015 as a seventh-grade reading teacher.

Attending to middle schoolers’ mental health is a priority, Joyce said.

“I will work with them to balance their time, and new responsibilities that come upon as teenagers and school in general

such as building relationships, dealign with gossip, rumors and how to handle social media and cyber bullying.

A program called Suite 360 will allow Joyce to focus on social/emotional learning, and she hopes to be in each classroom as much as possible to deliver lessons and spend some one-on-one time with students.

—

**Hunt**

After a year away from her field, Brooke Hunt returns as a speech therapist this fall at Crittenden Elementary.

The 2006 University of Kentucky graduate has provided speech therapy in the school setting in Union and Henderson counties



Hunt

for 10 years and in an outpatient medical setting for five years.

Last year she was the secretary in the Crittenden County High School office, which she said was a good transition into the school district while both her sons began school last year.

Hunt replaces therapist Tracy Rogers.

The job opening was a blessing, she said.

“When God opens a door, sometimes you have to walk through it,” she said. “It feels good. When you go to school for all that time and pay for a degree, you want to use it and I’m excited to be on the same schedule as the boys, who are in preschool and kindergarten.”

Blackburn

Getting on her same schedule as her preschool and first-grade children was the attraction. Staci Blackburn needed to

head back to school herself.

Blackburn was hired this week as the secretary at Crittenden County High School.

Working on the front line at the high school, Blackburn will oversee a multitude of daily tasks that keep students on track and information flowing from the front desk throughout the school.

She is a 2006 Crittenden County High School graduate and a graduate of the former International Academy of Design in Nashville.

“I was home the last two years with the kids but knowing both are going to be in school, I was ready to get back to work,” Blackburn said.



Blackburn

Crittenden County Schools  
2022-2023 School Calendar

August 2022	September 2022	October 2022
Su M Tu W Th F Sa 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	Su M Tu W Th F Sa 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	Su M Tu W Th F Sa 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31
November 2022	December 2022	January 2023
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Reg. Instructional Day

Holiday

Professional Development

First & Last Day for Students

District Planning Day

Opening/Closing

Non School Day

Aug. 23-24	Professional Development Day	Jan. 2	Teacher Planning Day
Aug. 25	Teacher Planning Day	Jan. 16	No School
Aug. 26	Opening Day	Feb. 20	Professional Development Day
Aug. 29	First Day for Students	Apr. 3-7	Spring Break
Sept. 5	Labor Day	Apr. 10	Teacher Planning Day
Oct. 3-7	Fall Break	May 26	Last Day for Students
Oct. 10	Teacher Planning Day	May 30	Closing Day
Nov. 23-25	Thanksgiving Break	May 31	Teacher Planning Day
Dec. 30	Christmas Break	June 1	Flexible PD Day

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Members of the Crittenden County Rockets football team are (front from left) manager Landon Woodall, Seth Guess, Kaleb Nesbitt, Kekoa Kuamoo, Case Gobin, Caden Howard, Sammy Impastato, Bennett McDaniel, Camron Belcher, Micah Newcom, Evan Belt, Quinn Summers, (second row) Casey Cates, Brayden Poindexter, Rowen Perkins, Preston Morgeson, Jacob Carder, Levi Piper, Blake French, Tyler Belt, Gabe Keller, Briley Berry, Gattin Travis, Hayden Hildebrand, (third row) Trae Taylor, Keelyn Gobin, Dakota Sosh, Jeremy Maze, Pheonix Clayton, Grayson James, Kaiden Travis, Zach Counts, Austin Whitt, Lane West, Michael Counts, Keagan Young-Pier-son, (fourth row) Garyson Hall, Kaden Guill, Seth Lynn, Travis Blazina, Deacon Holliman, Aiden Curnel, Brayden Brandsasse, Jason Millikan, manager Destiny Reed, manager Callie Dempsey, manager Laycee Lynn (back) assistant coach Bryan Qualls, offensive coordinator Austin Berry, head coach Gaige Courtney, assistant coach Rylan Thomas and assistant coach Jared Brown.

# Detested trophy looms large in Rockets’ camp and psyche

STAFF REPORT

Throughout July and August there has been one constant in Rocket football’s preseason camp – last year’s First District Class A Run-nerup Trophy. The piece of hardware is a source of unrest for the Rockets.

Finishing second in the division for the first time in five years left a bitter taste in second-year coach Gaige Courtney’s mouth and the whole thing is starting to stick in everyone’s craw.

“I take it personally,” said the Rocket head coach. “We win four straight then the first year I take over that happens. I don’t want to be the one that lets the standard take a step back.”

So the trophy – a constant reminder of that taste of humility Crittenden County swallowed last fall – has been an omnipresent image of the Rockets’ disdain for anything short of a championship season.

“We take that second-place trophy to the practice field with us, the weight room, it will go with us to games,” Courtney said. “It reminds of what it felt like to lose.”

If the Rockets want to avoid losing this season, they will need some special weapons. The sched-ule is as tough as it’s been in years. Beyond the Class A First District, which includes a defend-ing state runner-up Russellville squad weak-ened by graduation and an improved Fulton County crew, Crittenden will run the gauntlet with the likes of Murray, Madisonville, Bethle-hem, Louisville DeSales, Union County and first-year Tennessee team Liberty Creek.

While a cast of talented skilled-position play-ers return, the Rockets are retooling things up front. Returning linemen Deacon Holliman and Zach Counts will anchor the offensive line and both carry a big stick. Counts broke his leg last year and missed most of the season. Coach Courtney describes him as hungry to get back into action and Holliman is characterized as the team’s most physical player. Both tackles are imposing figures and will need to stay healthy if Crittenden hopes to win the trenches.

Hurst Miniard will play at center with Travis Blazina and Grayson James on each flank at guards. Lane West will see a great deal of playing time, too, but depth is thin up front.

Junior Micah Newcom is the quarterback with senior Seth Guess the backup. Crittenden lost record-setting quarterback Luke Crider who has moved on to play collegiately. Crider had been the starter for nearly three seasons. The skipper says Newcom is quite capable of handling the job.

“Micah has been groomed for this role for a long time, just been waiting his turn. I feel like he’s ready and I expect him to be really good,” Courtney said.

Take your pick as to who else might be han-dling the football. The options seem endless. CCHS has more depth at running back and re-ciever than perhaps it has in history. There’s a full range of talent levels and special skills among the stable of athletes. Certainly atop the pack are seniors Preston Morgeson and Kaleb Nesbitt. Their ability to hit the home run on any player will create big problems for opposing de-fenses. Look for them to show up at various places on the field, primarily as receivers.

At running back will be Gattin Travis, Levi Piper and senior Sammy Impastato. Each has a skill set that will allow the coach to mix in power or elusiveness. Senior Briley Berry will also get some time on offense, although his speciality is middle linebacker.

Senior Case Gobin will play the traditional tight end type role in a multiple offense that will feature mostly spread formations. Freshman Caden Howard, the team’s fastest player Rowen Perkins, Tyler Belt, Kekoa Kuamoo, Casey Cates and Gabe Keller are among the cast of other tal-ented characters who will get their hands on the ball any given Friday.

“We’re still trying to figure out what we’re good at offensively,” Courtney said. “We have so much depth at receiver and all of those guys want the ball. It’s going to be hard at times to figure out where the ball should go. We’ve moved (Nesbitt) outside and he has the ability to take the top off of a defense. He gives us that home run element and they will have to respect him.”

Defensively, the Rocket secondary hasn’t been tested too much in preseason, but there’s some good skill back there. Linebackers look solid and the three inside guys up front have a high ceil-ing. Depth is another issue there, however.

Berry and Gobin will set the tone. Berry leads the linebacking corps and Gobin is the top re-turning tackler at end. Gobin is long and strong

and Berry has gotten bigger since his breakout junior season a year ago.

Junior Bennett McDaniel will miss the first game of the season with a back injury, but will be a key compo-nent at strong side linebacker if he can get healthy. The third backer is Travis, giving the Rockets a sold three-man start-ing unit. The starting hybrids d e f e n s i v e back/linebackers are Nesbitt and Guess with Perkins and Morgeson at the corners and Tyler Belt at free safety. There is some depth in that part of the defense with Piper, Howard, Cates, Keller, Austin Whitt and Evan Belt, who is back on the gridiron for the first time in years.

Coach Courtney, who played linebacker dur-ing his days as a Rocket and four years in col-lege, says the team must do a better job of forcing turnovers this season.

“That’s got to be an emphasis,” he said. “Hon-estly, on defense we’re at a better place right now than we were at this point last season. I feel good about every level.”

Depth is a concern at linebacker, Courtney said, with McDaniel a question mark as the season begins. “We have to stay healthy,” he added.

The Rockets have a chance to retake that cov-eted district championship again this season, but they will have to avoid injuries and improve special teams play. The kicking game is a par-ticular concern as the season gets underway this week.

## SCHEDULE

Aug 19 at Murray  
Aug 26 at Webster County  
Sept 2 Madisonville  
Sept 9 at Caldwell County  
Sept 16 Bye  
Sept 23 Union County  
Sept 30 at Bethlehem  
Oct 7 at Liberty Creek, TN  
Oct 14 Fulton County  
Oct 21 Russellville  
Oct 28 Louisville Desales  
Nov 4 Playoffs

## Rockets Roster

No.	Player	Height	Weight	Pos.	Year
1	Seth Guess	5'9"	165	QB DB	Senior
2	Kaleb Nesbitt	5'11"	175	WR DB	Senior
3	Kekoa Kuamoo	5'10"	150	WR S	Senior
4	Nate Faith	6'1"	135	WR DB	Senior
5	Case Gobin	6'4"	207	TE DL	Senior
6	Caden Howard	6'1"	160	WR DB	Fresh
7	Sammy Impastato	5'8"	200	RB DL	Senior
8	Bennett McDaniel	5'11"	190	WR LB	Junior
9	Camron Belcher	5'6"	130	RB DB	Soph
10	Micah Newcom	5'10"	175	WR DB	Junior
11	Evan Belt	6'1"	180	WR DB	Senior
12	Quinn Summers	5'8"	150	QB LB	Fresh
14	Casey Cates	5'10"	160	WR DB	Junior
15	Brayden Poindexter	6'1"	160	TE LB	Fresh
16	Rowen Perkins	5'6"	140	RB DB	Senior
17	Preston Morgeson	5'9"	160	WR DB	Senior
20	Jacob Carder	5'10"	160	RB DB	Fresh
21	Levi Piper	5'9"	175	RB DB	Junior
22	Blake French	5'8"	175	FB LB	Soph
23	Tyler Belt	5'10"	165	WR DB	Junior
24	Gabe Keller	6'2"	165	WR DB	Junior
26	Briley Berry	6'1"	205	WR LB	Senior
27	Gattin Travis	5'7"	175	RB LB	Junior
30	Hayden Hildebrand	5'7"	130	WR DB	Soph
34	Trae Taylor	5'5"	120	WR DB	Fresh
35	Keelyn Gobin	5'10"	180	RB DL	Soph
38	Dakota Sosh	5'10"	140	WR LB	Fresh
39	Jeremy Maze	5'7"	115	WR DB	Fresh
50	Phoenix Clayton	5'10"	280	OL DL	Soph
51	Grayson James	5'10"	205	OL DL	Junior
53	Kaiden Travis	5'9"	180	OL DL	Soph
54	Zach Counts	6'1"	285	OL DL	Senior
55	Austin Whitt	5'11"	180	OL DL	Junior
56	Lane West	5'10"	215	OL DL	Junior
57	Keagan Young-Pearson	6'0"	190	OL DL	Fresh
58	Michael Counts	5'8"	200	OL DL	Fresh
60	Garyson Hall	5'7"	150	OL DL	Fresh
61	Kaden Guill	5'11"	140	OL DL	Fresh
62	Seth Lynn	5'5"	170	OL DL	Fresh
65	Travis Blazina	5'6"	220	OL DL	Junior
70	Deacon Holliman	5'11"	270	OL DL	Senior
76	Aiden Curnel	5'10"	230	OL DT	Fresh
77	Hurst Miniard	5'8"	230	OL DL	Junior
79	Braydin Brandsasse	5'9"	230	OL DL	Fresh
80	Jason Millikan	5'9"	150	WR DB	Junior

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## UPCOMING EVENTS Rocket Sports

**THURSDAY**  
Volleyball at Madisonville  
MS football hosts Mayfield  
**FRIDAY**  
Volleyball at Apollo Tournament  
Football at Murray High  
**SATURDAY**  
Golf at All A Classic, Deer Lakes  
**MONDAY**  
Soccer at St. Mary  
**TUESDAY**  
Volleyball at Livingston Central  
Golf host Lyon County at Marion  
Soccer hosts Webster County  
MS football at Browning Springs

## OUTDOORS Squirrel season Saturday

The fall squirrel season begins one week from Saturday. One of the longest hunting seasons in the state, bushy tails can be legally harvested from Aug. 20 through the start of rifle deer season when the squirrels get a four-day break. From there, the season runs from Nov. 14 through Feb. 28. There is also a 35-day spring season in May and June.

## FOOTBALL UK rare preseason rank

The University of Kentucky football is ranked among the top 25 teams in the country's most respected preseason polls. It's the first time the Wildcats have been a preseason Top 25 team in the Associated Press poll since 1978. They're are No. 20 in that poll and No. 21 in the USA Today poll.

## GOLF Foster medalist twice

Jeremiah Foster had been a bit slow out of the chute this golf season, but the Crittenden County junior is smoking in recent matches. He shot 38 to win a match Monday at Deer Lakes against Webster and Hardin (Ill.) counties. The Rockets won the Monday match with a team score of 165. Parker Kayse had a 39, Grayson Davidson 43 and Avery Belt 45. Foster shot 34 for medalist honors in a match last week also at Deer Lakes. Playing against Livingston, Lyon and Fulton, Foster led Crittenden County to a team victory with a 180 score. Avery Belt shot aa 39 for CCHS and Jaxton Duncan a 52. Livingston's Riley Taliaferro led Cardinals golfers with a 48 and Alex Parks shot a 52. Travis Perry led Lyon with a 37. In middle school action, Cash Singleton shot a 49 for Crittenden and Gunner Topp a 63. Lady Rocket golfer Addie Hatfield was medalist in girls action with a 50 and Georgia Holeman was next at 59.



Crittenden County's Koltar Green struggles with a Fort Campbell player for control of the ball during Tuesday's opening round win the All A Classic at Marion.

# Lady Rockets return to All A finale

**STAFF REPORT**  
At the 23-minute mark of the first half Tuesday night, Crittenden County senior Taylor Guess scored her first hat trick of the season, but she wasn't done, and neither were the Lady Rockets. Guess finished with four goals and CCHS beat Fort Campbell 8-1 in the opening round of the All A Classic at Marion. Crittenden advances to the small-school Second Region championship for the second straight season under coach Jessica DeBurgo.

The Lady Rockets got two goals apiece from Ella Geary and Lizzie Campbell and a pair of assists apiece from Campbell and Raven Hayes. Keeper Hannah Long had 14 saves, seven in each half as CCHS raced out to a 7-0 lead early. CCHS will play Caldwell County on Saturday in the All A championship game at Princeton. The Lady Tigers beat UHA 3-1 in the other semifinal match. **Tie game at HopCentral** The Lady Rockets and Hopkins Central battled to a stalemate last Thursday at Nortonville in Crittenden's season opener. The Storm came into the match 0-1 after losing 2-0 earlier last week to Henderson County. CCHS got goals from Guess and Campbell. "It was a defensive battle, but we held our own. They had the advantage with home field and depth," Coach DeBurgo said. CCHS trailed 2-1 at the half. "Hannah Long saved our behinds in the goal, and all of our midfields had to do a lot of work holding the middle and helping defensively," the coach said.

den's season opener. The Storm came into the match 0-1 after losing 2-0 earlier last week to Henderson County. CCHS got goals from Guess and Campbell. "It was a defensive battle, but we held our own. They had the advantage with home field and depth," Coach DeBurgo said. CCHS trailed 2-1 at the half. "Hannah Long saved our behinds in the goal, and all of our midfields had to do a lot of work holding the middle and helping defensively," the coach said.



On "The Ridge" at Rocket Stadium Harper Qualls, Annabelle Brown and Karlee Qualls enjoy something other than the action on the football field Friday night during the Rockets' scrimmage. Meanwhile Ashley Brown, Madison Qualls and Beverly Belt found their attention occupied a good bit on the girls.

# CCHS pounds Lakers, open at Murray

**STAFF REPORT**  
Crittenden County's second preseason scrimmage went more to plan on Friday night at Rocket Stadium as CCHS unleashed a compliment of offensive weapons to blitz Calloway County 39-0 in three quarters of varsity play. The Crittenden JV team won its only quarter 8-0. The Rockets scored 27 first-half points then tacked on another dozen in the third period behind a balanced running and short passing attack. The only lackluster and apparent

segment in need of more polish was the kicking game. Calloway, which was 3-7 last year in Class 4A, is ranked near the bottom of its division in preseason polls and clearly showed signs of it being a rebuilding period for the Lakers. For CCHS, Sammy Impastato, Kaleb Nesbitt, Levi Piper, Preston Morgeson and quarterback Micah Newcom all scored touchdowns. Newcom was on target and effective, throwing mostly slants and screens. Running back Gattin Travis

also ran the ball well for the Rockets and several other skilled position players got in on the offensive action. CCHS had not performed well in its first outing of the season a week earlier at Hopkins Central, losing 13-7. Coach Gaige Courtney said he was proud of the improvement and challenged his team to get better in the coming days. "Great teams work to get better after a win," he said. Crittenden opens the regular season at 7 p.m., Friday at Murray.



## DEPTH CHART

### OFFENSE

- QB** M.Newcom, S.Guess  
**F-Back** L.Piper, G.Travis, S.Impastato  
**H-Back** R.Perkins, T.Belt, B.Berry  
**Z** K.Nesbitt, C.Howard  
**Y** P.Morgeson, C.Gobin, K.Kuamoo  
**X** G.Keller, C.Cates  
**C** H.Miniard, B.Brandsasse  
**LG** G.James, A.Whitt  
**LT** Z.Counts, P.Clayton  
**RG** T.Blazina, K.Travis  
**RT** D.Holliman, L.West

### DEFENSE

- DE** G.James, D.Holliman  
**DE** C.Gobin, K.Gobin  
**NG** S.Impastato, T.Blazina  
**MLB** B.Berry, B.French  
**SLB** B.McDaniel, A.Whitt  
**WLB** G.Travis, L.Piper  
**Whip** K.Nesbitt, C.Howard  
**Rocket** S.Guess, C.Cates  
**CB** R.Perkins, G.Keller  
**CB** P.Morgeson, E.Belt  
**FS** T.Belt, K.Kuamoo

### SPECIAL TEAMS

- Punter** P.Morgeson, M.Newcom  
**Kicker** P.Morgeson, B.McDaniel  
**Snapper** C.Gobin, B.Berry  
**Returns** P.Morgeson, R.Perkins, K.Nesbitt

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Among those pictured above is U.S. Army Cpt. Hannah Brantley and members of her battalion who are currently deployed in Iraq. Brantley, a Crittenden County High School graduate, and her team would like to thank the members of Crittenden and Livingston counties for their gracious support and donations during the deployment. Brantley is the daughter of Del and Betty Brantley of Salem. Due to security matters, Brantley was unable to provide further information about her mission.

# School looks at plan to sniff out vaping

## STAFF REPORT

An alarming increase of vaping among students has Crittenden County School District looking into options that will prevent the devices from making their way onto campus.

Vaping devices are electronic cigarettes that simulate tobacco smoking and often contain THC, the chemical found in marijuana.

Despite the legal age for purchasing vapor products being 21, they are popular among teenagers and apparently readily available.

During a board of education meeting last week, administrators heard a presentation from Superintendent Tonya Driver about a metal detector called Opengate that can sniff out the presence of both guns and vaping devices.

The detectors are used at con-

certs and other public venues to deter the presence of weapons. A sensitivity sensor can be increased to detect vaping devices.

Driver said vape sensors in restrooms on the high school campus have been effective in deterring student usage. Students have been found hiding vaping devices tucked into their shirt sleeves or in their lockers.

The goal is to stop them from being brought onto campus.

Driver said additional sensors are being installed this year at a cost of about \$1,500 apiece. Crittenden County Coalition for a Drug-Free Community is assisting with the purchase.

When sensors detect the presence of vapors in the restrooms, alerts are sent to administrators' cell phones.

A good portion of the high school assistant principal's time,

Driver said, is dealing with disciplinary action for students caught vaping.

"We would need to work on a program to help kids – we need a solution like counseling, not just punishment," Driver said, noting that students who are identified with vaping devices containing THC are referred to Celebrate Recovery, which meets weekly in Crittenden County. "If we need to put another level of protection on our kids and faculty and staff and give them more of a feeling of security" we will.

Board member Ryan McDaniel said safety is the priority.

"Kids are getting these things from friends, and who knows what could be in them," he said. "To me it's an epidemic and it's not going away."

## WATER

Continued from page 1

though no firm timetable was provided, Jackie Logsdon, a scientist for the state, said flushing was scheduled to continue through Wednesday night. She believes the work will improve water chemistry and Marion can begin testing the water late this week or early next week to determine whether chlorine and bacteria levels reach an acceptable threshold.

"We had hoped some soft flushing would be enough," Logsdon said.

That was tried last week, but didn't provide acceptable results.

"So we're taking a more aggressive approach," she added, pointing to the increased overnight flushing that began Sunday.

Flushing the system is necessary to clean pipes and although it does waste a great deal of water, it's imperative to improving water quality and is being done with hopes of eliminating the need for boiling water prior to drinking, brushing teeth or cooking, and in some cases bathing.

**Goodbye to Guardsmen**

The Kentucky National Guard's mission ended Friday. Without guardsmen to help at the bottled water distribution

center at the former armory, more volunteers are needed. Contact city hall if you can help.

Jason Hurley, the county emergency management director, said plans are to move toward ending the bottled water distribution. No date has been set, but it will hinge on when the boil water requirement can be terminated.

**Delay with Sturgis**

The Sturgis connection, which local leaders hope will help provide more potable water from a third-party source, has hit some snags and will likely not be completed by the end of the month. Officials had previously stated that a self-imposed Aug. 29 deadline was the target – which would coincide with the restarting of school in the county – but legal agreements between all parties involved appear to be holding up the start of construction.

The Division of Water still hopes there will be sufficient progress made in the coming days to lift the boil water advisory by the time school starts.

If the boil order can be lifted, there's a good chance that Marion could step back some of its conservation restrictions. Lifting the boil water requirement would allow restaurants to forgo bringing in water from portable tanks for washing

dishes and other practices that are not allowed under the current situation.

Meantime, Crittenden-Livingston Water District through cooperation with Webster County Water District, continues to push about 100 gallons of drinking water every minute into the city's water system.

**Water on hand**

Engineers were in Marion Tuesday to further explore the idea of repairing the valve in the bottom of Lake George so the reservoir could continue to hold an emergency backup of raw water. Those same engineers are looking at ways to add more volume of water to Old City Lake, possibly by cleaning it out to make it deeper.

There remains a slow leak in Lake George's levee, but repairing the valve (where the original breach had formed) could help it provide a secondary source of raw water, at least until a long-term solution can be found for Marion's water shortage. Although Lake George is no longer capable of holding 180 million gallons of water as it did prior to being purposely drained in April, it can be a backup source for a limited amount of raw water.

Logsdon said customers typically use less water in fall months as compared to summertime. That, she said, could

also help Marion make a decision on when the conservation order could begin to be rolled back. The town remains at the highest level, Stage 3, in its water conservation policy.

**Lucile Mine option**

Test results from samples taken a few days ago from the abandoned Lucile Mine in Marion have yet to be finalized. City Administrator Adam Ledford said he'd hoped to have them by now. Marion leaders will review those results when available, before deciding whether to pursue the idea of drawing water from the mine to supplement its raw water stores.

Alan Robinson, president of Eclipse Engineering, the firm that's guided Marion through its sewer expansion project, was at the council meeting and urged city leaders to exercise caution when considering the Lucile Mine. "I would be very, very, very shocked if that water is ever proven capable of being treated," he said.

He did indicate there were ways to treat it, but those would likely not be economical for Marion. He said California and Texas are a couple of states that have few raw water options and they use methods to treat similar types of water.

"In Kentucky, it's typically passed on because we have so much natural water," he said.

"I would hesitate spending any more money toward that source. There is a litany of things wrong with (Lucile Mine) water."

State scientists and engineers have said the same.

He also pointed out that Marion's water distribution system is aged and will need repairs in order to prevent further seepage. With help from outside sources, Marion has repaired a number of leaks, saving thousands of gallons of water a day. He said more leaks will develop because of the system's age.

Robinson recommended putting resources toward leak detection equipment, particularly meters that would help isolate problems in the system so they can be repaired as part of routine maintenance.

One Marion water customer, Patty Dunlap, who lives on Maxwell Street, asked the council for a refund on a recent water bill. She said her bill was for a 39-day period and therefore she was charged \$10.30 too much for the cycle.

The council approved the credit and gave the city administrator discretion to make similar adjustments for others who might have been impacted by same issue.

Ledford said it could affect as many as 5 to 10 percent of the town's customers.

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