

Marion water flushing continues this week

City of Marion will continue flushing its drinking water distribution system this week. Overnight flushing began late Sunday and runs through 5 a.m., Friday. Periodic flushing is a necessary part of routine maintenance. This particular flush is longer than most because the city has raw water that needs to be used or lost. About a third of the water in Lake George will need to be pulled out in order for scheduled repair work to be done as part of the town's response to the damaged levee. Using that lake water for flushing, which would otherwise be dumped into Crooked Creek and lost, made wiser use of raw water, city leaders said.



Would you give a veteran a spot?

Kentucky Veterans Hall of Fame Foundation is asking for parking spots specifically reserved for veterans. Adrian Bambini, a U.S. Army veteran and member of the Veterans Hall of Fame, was in Marion last week soliciting locations for such parking spots. He said Crittenden Community Hospital has requested signs to designate four veteran parking spaces and he's looking for other businesses, churches, schools or governmental agencies to join the growing list of western Kentucky locations where veterans have reserved parking, much like handicapped parking spaces. Bambini's group, based in Owensboro, asks for a \$50 donation for each reserved parking sign. To request a sign, call Bambini at 270-702-8251.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- Livingston County Board of Education meets at 6 p.m., Monday, Aug. 12.
- Crittenden County Board of Education meets at 5:30 p.m., Tuesday, Aug. 13 at Rocket Arena.
- Caldwell County Fiscal Court meets at 9 a.m., Tuesday, Aug. 13 at the courthouse.
- Crittenden County Fiscal Court meets at 8:30 a.m., Thursday, Aug. 15 at the county office complex.
- Marion City Council meets at 5 p.m., Monday, Aug. 19 at city hall.
- Fredonia City Council meets at 7 p.m., Monday, Aug. 19 at city hall.
- Salem City Council meets at 5 p.m., Tuesday, Aug. 20 at Deer Lakes meeting room.
- Marion Tourism and Recreation Commission will meet at 8:30 a.m., Tuesday, Aug. 20 at the Marion Welcome Center.



Wade Buntin and Crittenden County FFA President Gavin Grimes.



Wade and the late Sue Buntin



ROLL CALL

Member and Year Inducted

Virgil Cook, 2021

Jack Voss, 2021

Tommy Chandler, 2022

Larry Parish 2023

Wade & Sue Buntin 2024

A Lifetime of Supporting 4-H & Farmlife Buntins inducted into Hall of Fame

BY CHRIS EVANS
PRESS EDITOR

More than 75 years ago Wade Buntin joined 4-H and entered a steer in the fair's livestock competition.

Since then, he's been a member, leader, volunteer, supporter and ambassador for 4-H and agriculture. On Friday, Buntin was recognized for three quarters of a century's work.

Introduced at the annual 4-H Crittenden County Lions Club Fair Breakfast by Crittenden County High School student and FFA President Gavin Grimes, Buntin, 85, along with his late wife, Sue, were honored as 2024 inductees of the Crittenden County Agriculture and Rural Leadership Hall of Fame.

"I'm probably the oldest 4-Her in the room," Buntin said in front of a standing-room-only crowd that enjoyed a king's breakfast prepared and served by the local 4-H Club.

When he was nine years old, Buntin, then a resident of Palestine, Ill., showed a steer at the county fair. His grandfather was a Hereford cattle breeder and provided him with the show animal.

"I spent a lot of time with that steer," he remembers. "It was a tough job leading it up through that chute at the



Lions of the Year

Find out who was named Lion of the Year on back page. More fair coverage on pages 9A-10A.

show. I remember it like it was yesterday."

Buntin was an over-the-road truck driver when he moved to Crittenden County in 1964 where he raised his family and forged a legacy as a 4-H leader, farmer and advocate for youth activities. He and Sue started the 4-H Horse Club here and were recognized at the state level for their involvement.

The Buntins were always very active in the agriculture community. Each served on the county and Pennyriple Area 4-H Council, co-chaired the area 4-H Horse Camp, and were Livestock Club leaders. They raised goats on their Diamond B Boer Goat Farm and were members of the International Boer Goat Association and American Dairy Goat Association. The couple also raised dairy cattle and horses.

Together they served as superintend-

ents of the sanctioned McCracken County Goat Show for over 14 years.

Additionally, they have been instrumental in outreach by Deer Creek Church, serving on various committees, the cemetery board and volunteering for events such as Live Nativity at the church during the Christmas season.

Wade, who was an FFA member in high school in the 1950s, has also been a volunteer leader at beef cattle shows, served as president of the 4-H Council and was a member of Crittenden County Extension District Board. Sue was leader of the Tolu 4-H Club.

"They are prime examples of agriculture leadership," said Grimes during the introduction. "For years they touched countless lives by sharing their knowledge and love of livestock and horses. They inspired, educated and embraced all who were blessed to be guided by them."

A few years ago, Wade suffered a stroke and had to relearn how to talk. Last week, he was surrounded by a large extended family who celebrated his and his late wife's work to foster entre-

See FAME/page 10



Back to School for Crittenden County

Classroom walls in Crittenden County schools are filled with colorful new material and teachers like Bailey Shea Guess (above) are ready to welcome students to the 2024-25 school year Wednesday, Aug. 14. Construction continues on campus for a new middle school, which will create some parking and traffic flow issues. You can find out more about those matters plus much more in The Press' comprehensive Back-to-School Guide in Section B of this week's newspaper, including •Bus Routes • New Teacher Profiles • Welcome addresses from school principals • SBDM members and meeting dates • List of teachers in each school. Also, worth noting is Crittenden County Elementary School's Back-to-School event for grades 1-5 is 4 to 6 p.m., Tuesday, Aug. 13. Preschool, kindergarten, middle school and high school events were earlier this week.



American Red Cross

Blood drives in area to combat national shortage

STAFF REPORT

Multiple blood drives are coming up in the region due to an emergency shortage prompting American Red Cross to urge donors to respond.

Among the area's upcoming drives are ones at Eddyville's Lee Jones Park 9:30 a.m., to 2:30 p.m., Thursday, Aug. 8, at Salem Baptist Church from 11:30 a.m., to 4:30 p.m., Wednesday, Aug. 14 and at St. William Catholic Church in Marion from 1-6 p.m., Monday, Aug. 26.

The American Red Cross says it is experiencing an emergency blood shortage as the nation faces dangerous levels of heat and as people are heading out for final summer travel plans. Since July 1, the Red Cross national blood supply has fallen by more than 25 percent, and blood donors of all types, especially those with type O blood, are urged to give as soon as possible to help patients receive lifesaving medical care.

Heat impacted more than 100

See BLOOD/page 3

Deaths

McDowell

Rebecca A. McDowell, 64, of Crittenden County, died Thursday, Aug. 1, 2024. She was known for her strong will, unwavering determination, and her big heart. She remains an inspiration to her loved ones who will live each day in memory of the strong and loving woman Ann was. While our hearts mourn the loss, we take comfort in knowing she is no longer suffering alongside her son and husband. Ann was a member of Emmanuel Baptist Church.

Surviving are three children, Ranetta E. McDowell, RaKara D. (Grant) Allen and Ra-Shawna D. (JT) Tinsley; four step-children, Robert D. McDowell, Stephanie M. (Michael) Carter, Timothy L. (Marta) McDowell, and Crystal (Larry) Baxley; several step-grandchildren; two brothers, Billy and Donald Knight; and three sisters, Rosetta Kay Tinsley and Reba Fay Todd; several nieces, nephews, and great-nieces and nephews.

In addition to grandparents, she was preceded in death by her

parents, Charles and Ruth Knight; her husband, Robert C. McDowell; a son, Eddie Knight; and a sister, Roella Knight.

Services were Tuesday, Aug. 6 at Gilbert Funeral Home with burial in Rosebud Cemetery.

McRae

Brian Malcolm McRae, 74, of Kuttawa, died Wednesday, July 30, 2024 at Baptist Health Paducah. Brian was of the Christian faith and was a U.S. Navy veteran.

Surviving are a daughter, Cindi Anita Jamison of Paducah; a sister, Sharon Preston of Madisonville; four grandchildren, Oceana Ellen Graham, Carolyn Rose Harrison, Nathaniel McRae Fletcher and Jessika Maye Fletcher; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Malcolm Shaw McRae and Loretta Gardner Childress; a daughter, Daisy M. McRae; a sister, Ione Omans; and a granddaughter, Clara Denise Fletcher.

Services were Monday at Lakeland Funeral Home with Bro. Ronnie Fox officiating. Burial of cremated remains with military honors will be conducted at 2 p.m.,

Monday, Aug. 12 at Kentucky Veterans Cemetery West in Hopkinsville.

Epley

Harry Dean Epley, 76, a native of Crittenden County, died Saturday Aug. 3, 2024 at his home in Paducah. Epley served his country for two years in the United States Marine Corps, and after an Honorable Discharge he joined the Kentucky National Guard.

He was a member of Marion Baptist Church. He had recently retired from P&H Farms, where he worked for 16 years. Many of his younger years were spent as a truck driver hauling cattle cross country.

Surviving are his wife of 43 years, Tammy (Norsworthy) Epley; three sons, Shannon (Jennifer) of Marion, Daniel (Kelsey) of Paducah and Donnie Gilbert of Eddyville.

His blessings were his eight grandchildren, including three grandsons, Collin Epley, Bryson Hall and Wyatt Dean Epley; and five granddaughters, Kate Epley, Avery Epley, Presley Hall, Chandler Epley and Emersyn Hall. His other love was his Shorkie, Hermey.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Edna Epley; a son, Todd

Epley; a sister, Claudine Leet; and half brother Bobbie Epley.

A Celebration of Life Service will be held at 1 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 10 at Marion Baptist Church. The family will receive guests beginning at 11 a.m., until service time. Memorial contributions may be made to St. Jude's Children's Hospital.

Doom

Billy Joe Doom, 82, of Kuttawa died Sunday, Aug. 4, 2024 at Salem Springlake Health Center. He was a member of Hebron Baptist Church and a U.S. Army veteran.

Surviving are a son, Joey (Stephanie) Doom of Lexington; two sisters, Betty (Don) Sanders of Nashville and Ramona (Herschel) Engler of Eddyville; a brother, Jimmy Ray (Sue) Doom of Eddyville; a granddaughter, Sarah Doom of New York; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Ray and Imogene Polk Doom.

Services are at 1 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 10 at Lakeland Funeral Home with burial in Hebron Cemetery in Lyon County.

Memorial contributions may be made to Hebron Baptist Church, c/o Carolyn Travis, 102 Woodrow St., Eddyville, KY 42038.

Community Calendar

Call (270) 965-3191 to share your organization's meetings in this free, weekly community calendar.

Thursday, Aug. 8

- Line dancing begins at 9:30 a.m., at the Crittenden County Senior Citizens Center.
- Virgil Jones VFW in Marion will meet at 6:30 p.m., at 412 N. College. Refreshments will be served.

Thursday, Aug. 8

- Reservations are due to the Crittenden County Extension Service for participation in the barn quilt painting workshop scheduled for Monday, Sept. 9.

Thursday, Aug. 15

- Crittenden County High School SBDM will meet at 3:30 p.m., in the library.
- Friends of the Crittenden County Public Library will meet at 6 p.m., in the library meeting room.

Saturday, Aug. 17

- An all-you-can eat breakfast will be held from 7-10 a.m. at Salem Masonic Lodge #81. The lodge is located at 237 W. Main St., Salem. Cost is \$6.

Tuesday, Aug. 20

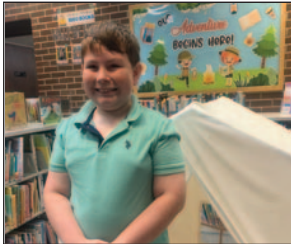
- Crittenden County Elementary School SBDM will meet at 4 p.m., in the school library.

Tuesday, Aug. 20

- The Crittenden County Extension District Board will meet at noon at the Extension Office.



Ava Morrison



L.J. Ward



Clark Baker



Ally & Caroline Williams



Paisley Witherspoon

Top program participants recognized

Crittenden County Public Library celebrated the finale of its Summer Reading Program last week with grand prizes, giveaways and a showing of the movie, "A Wrinkle In Time."

Pictured clockwise from left are Ava Morrison, who won first place in the library's reading challenge. Morrison read 95 books during the summer reading program; L.J. Ward completed his reading log for a summer adventure; Clark Baker won second place in the challenge by reading 18 books; Ally and Caroline Williams completed reading logs

for summer reading requirements; and Paisley Witherspoon was also

recognized for her participation.

REPTON CEMETERY ASSOCIATION INC.

will hold its annual meeting

SATURDAY, AUG. 10 at 1 p.m.

at the Repton Baptist Church Fellowship Hall, 6289 US Hwy 60 East, Marion (Mattoon).

EVERYONE IS WELCOME.

Due to decreased donations and increased maintenance expenses, donations are needed.

Make donations payable to:
Repton Cemetery Association, Inc.
c/o Donna Starrick
5109 US Hwy 60 East
Marion, KY 42064

Museum full of unique displays

The fashion displayed at the Crittenden County Historical Museum may surprise visitors, especially the stunning blue hat (above) that was all the rage in the 1920s.

A 1920s Duart Permanent Wave Machine hair curling apparatus (at right) can also be found at the museum.

These and other



unique pieces of Crittenden County history can be viewed 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Wednesday through Saturday at the museum located at 124 East Bellville St., in Marion.

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	Government websites.....	24%	Public bulletin boards.....	14%
	Word-of-mouth/friends/relatives.....	21%	Non-government website.....	8%



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Skunk, cats, rabbit create morning debacle oddly available in my yard

Sometimes you just have to laugh and file some life experiences into the Stuff You Can't Make Up category.

One morning last week I was awakened by my husband approaching a bedroom window saying, "We've got a big mess out here."



Allison MICK-EVANS
THE CRITTENDEN PRESS
Write Now
Commentary

While still trying to figure out what day of the week it was and determine which should come first – a look out the window or a trip to the coffee pot – I heard his explanation.

I should have gotten coffee first.

Instead, I grabbed my phone assuming I was going to need video proof to send my sister. Initially, I just heard the words "skunk," "cats," and "net."

Upon closer investigation, I hear his explanation of the order of events that followed in a calm tone as if he'd been studying the situation for a bit, trying to figure out the best plan of mitigation.

True story, the net serving as our kids' batting cage outside the basement had turned into a live trap for not only a skunk, but two kittens and a rabbit. The mama cat sat watchfully near Ground Zero, apparently sharing in the disbelief.

What in the world!

We had only recently "taken in" a white kitten from our herd of barn

cats to domesticate for companionship as the empty nest syndrome sets in. My first move was to make sure it wasn't him before filling a coffee cup and hearing the husband's full remediation strategy.

Obviously, trying to release the skunk would have included negative consequences, but freeing those two feral kittens did, too. They hiss like a cobra, squeal like a pig and have claws like Freddy Krueger.

No telling how long our three victims had been out there in the night trying to fight their way out, yet further entangling themselves in the tiny diamond shaped pattern of the mesh.

Sadly, it was the skunk whose life was sacrificed in order to save the cats. The episode was not without damage to an otherwise previously functional batting cage net where the kids practice hitting. Cutting out the cats left some gaping holes.

The skunk filled the countryside with its aroma while I watched from a distance as my husband cut the kittens free. If they only knew what was spared to save them, they would act better next time we tried to go visit them in the barn. Doubtful they'll be any more friendly, but they do still have a battery of nine lives remaining as a result of one homeowner's good deed.

Thanks to Mr. Skunk, the memory lingers around the homestead. Wonder when it will disperse?

Man, woman, child okay after night lost at Rock

STAFF REPORT

An adult male and female from Crittenden County along with an eight-year-old boy were lost overnight at Mantle Rock last week in a remote part of Livingston County.

The three had left their vehicle off KY 133 at the Mantle Rock Preserve parking area and headed off on a hike toward Mantle Rock, a large physical rock feature where Cherokees sheltered during their removal from the eastern part of the United States in the 1830s. The rock is just over a half mile walk along a well defined trail from the parking area.

At dusk, the couple became disoriented in the forest and tried to call for help. A 911 call went to Illinois where the nearest cell tower is located and Illinois officials alerted Livingston County emergency responders about 9 p.m., Tuesday, July 30.

"Their cell phone only had two percent when they tried to call for help," said Bobby Curry, Livingston County Emergency Management director.

Identities of the individuals were not released based on privacy protocol, Curry said.

"They were out there during that storm and were drenched, hungry and thirsty," Curry said. Otherwise, the threesome was okay.

A rescue effort that included 30 searchers, four drones and two dogs was unable to find them Tuesday night and the search was suspended at 3:45 a.m. When responders were back at the scene early Wednesday morning the couple and child came walking out of the woods, Curry said.

Mantle Rock Nature Preserve is a 367-acre area managed by the Nature Conservancy. It commemorates a portion of the Trail of Tears and surrounded by hundreds of acres of remote forest in northern Livingston County between the community of Joy and the Ohio River.

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JULY 2024

Weather Yearbook

Coldest Temp

58.0

Mon., July 1

Warmest Temp

92.9

Thur., July 4

Wettest Day

1.45

Wed., July 17

Average Temp

76.8

Coldest Temp

58.0

Hottest Temp

92.8

Precipitation

7.7

Wettest Day

1.45

2024

2023

2022

2021

2020

2019

77.6

78.8

76.6

78.6

77.2

57.8

61.5

58.5

61.3

57.4

93.8

95.0

90.0

90.6

90.0

3.6

8.6

6.8

5.75

5.02

0.99

3.93

3.7

1.57

1.38

■ July Fourth was celebrated as the month's hottest day. Global Warming hasn't really unfolded here as July was the coolest in Crittenden County over the past 10 years. You have to dive into the records back to 2013 to find a cooler July when the average temperature was 72.2. And contrary to what one might think, you would need only to go back two years to find a July with more rainfall than this year's 7.7 inches. The same month in 2022 provided 8.8 inches.

Slain deputy from Princeton has road dedicated to him

KY TODAY

Lt. Gov. Jacqueline Coleman and other elected officials joined the family of Calloway County Sheriff's Deputy Jody Wayne Cash last week at a road-naming ceremony in Princeton to honor his life and service to the commonwealth. The late chief sheriff's deputy was memorialized during the ceremony, where a sign was unveiled naming a four-mile stretch of Kentucky Highway 293 as the "Chief Deputy Jody Wayne Cash Memorial Highway."

"While nothing can ever replace the pain of losing a loved one too soon, knowing that their memory and legacy lives on is one small way to honor a life well lived like that of Chief Deputy Cash," said Lt. Gov. Coleman. "Travelers, family and friends will remember the hero, husband, son and colleague he was every time they pass by this sign for many years to come."

"Deputy Cash touched countless lives throughout his 22-year career," Gov. Beshear said. "His record of service is noble, and this highway will serve as a constant reminder of the sacrifice Deputy Cash made as well as his leadership and the compassion he had for his fellow Kentuckians."

Chief Deputy Cash was not only a leader in his community but also a trusted colleague within his profession. He was a 22-year law enforcement veteran, having served with the Caldwell County Sheriff's Office, the Mur-

ray State University Police and Kentucky State Police (KSP). Cash retired from KSP at the rank of sergeant before joining the Calloway County Sheriff's Office. Deputy Cash also worked with Department of Criminal Justice Training as a peer mentor through the Kentucky Post-Critical Incident Seminar, supporting officers after traumatic or distressing events.

Honorary road-naming designations are enacted by the General Assembly every legislative session and signed by Gov. Beshear. Sen. Whitney Westerfield sponsored the road-naming in Cash's honor as part of Senate Joint Resolution 58.

"Every community has its beloved heroes, and Caldwell County's native son Jody Cash is one of theirs," said Sen. Westerfield. "When we lose our heroes, we who remain owe them remembrance and recognition."

MARION POLICE activity report

Data below provided by Marion Police Department compare police activity for the month of July 2024 to the same month in 2023. The chart also includes the previous month's totals, year-to-date police activity totals and last year's monthly average.

CATEGORY	JULY 2024	JULY 2023	JUNE 2024	2023 YR TOTALS	2023 MONTHLY AVERAGE
Miles driven/patrolled	1,788	2,033	2,930	24,766	2,063.8
Criminal investigations	16	11	11	133	11.1
Domestics	8	6	8	82	6.8
Felony Arrests	3	6	7	55	4.6
Misdemeanor arrests	4	12	5	93	7.8
Non-criminal arrests	7	9	4	99	8.3
DUI arrests	0	1	0	9	0.8
Criminal summons served	2	2	6	46	3.8
Traffic citations	26	26	4	189	15.8
Other citations	16	32	2	307	25.6
Traffic warnings	1	3	9	48	4.0
Parking tickets	0	0	0	1	0.1
Traffic accidents	9	5	9	63	5.3
Security checks/alarms	52	58	55	741	61.8
Calls for service	240	200	250	2,463	205.3
Code Enforcement	10	—	—	—	—



MPD 270.965.3500
Police Chief
Bobby West

On Facebook
Marion Police
Department
Marion-KY

BLOOD

Continued from page 1

blood drives in July in nearly every state where the Red Cross collects blood – compounding other seasonal obstacles to blood donation, such as travel and summer activities. Together these factors contributed to a shortfall of more than 19,000 blood donations in July. At the same

time, hospital demand for blood products remains strong. Blood products are being sent to hospitals faster than donations are coming in. Right now, type O inventory is so low, distributions of this vital blood type are reduced below what hospitals count on.

There are a number of other blood drives around the region, including Paducah, Calvert

City, Benton and even across the river in Golconda.

The Red Cross is working with hospitals round-the-clock to meet the blood needs of patients – but can't do it alone, it says. To make an appointment, download the Red Cross Blood Donor App, visit RedCross-Blood.org or call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

ABSOLUTE REAL ESTATE AUCTION

Saturday, August 24th, 2024 @ 10:00 AM
1859 Turkey Knob Road, Marion, KY 42064

PUBLIC PREVIEW DATE:
Monday, August 19th from 5-6 pm

2 HOMES - WORKSHOP -
LIVESTOCK/EQUIP. BARNs &

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& Combinations

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TIMBER!

ESTIMATED
\$86,000

Timber Value OWNERS Portion!
EST. TOTAL TIMBER VALUE \$172,000

Two Amish-built homes on Turkey Knob Road, Marion, KY, offer a unique connection through a walk-out basement, seamlessly combining rustic charm with modern convenience. **1859 Turkey Knob Road, Marion, KY:** Features six bedrooms, three baths, a welcoming living area, and a spacious eat-in kitchen with oak cabinets and a walk-in pantry. **1861 Turkey Knob Road, Marion, KY:** Features two bedrooms, two and a half baths, and similar functional design elements. Both properties are designed to provide comfort and practicality, making them ideal for families and creating a serene, charming living environment. **Both homes include well water & a brick hearth set for your wood burning fireplace.**



SPECIES	BOARD FEET
Red Oak	24,847
White Oak	49,528
Hickory	52,527
Maple	38,422
Yellow Poplar	31,597
Misc.	49,065

TIMBER CRUISE
Total Sawtimber Avg.
DBH 16.5 & Est.
Board Feet 245,986
Estimated Timber Value
\$172,000
Estimated Owner's Share
\$86,000

REAL ESTATE TERMS: The property will be offered in (5) five individual tracts, any combination of tracts, or as a whole property. The property will be sold in the manner resulting in the highest total sale price. A 10% Buyer's Premium will be added to the final bid and included in the deed transaction sale price. 15% as down payment on the day of the auction with balance in cash at closing on or before 30 days. The down payment may be in the form of cashier's check, personal check, or corporate check. YOUR BIDDING IS NOT CONDITIONAL UPON FINANCING, SO BE SURE YOU HAVE ARRANGED FINANCING, IF NEEDED, AND ARE CAPABLE OF PAYING CASH AT CLOSING. **SURVEY:** The property will be sold by a new survey. Buyer will be responsible for 50% of the survey cost.

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Salem Day set for second Sat. of Sept.

Salem Day is scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 14. A full day of family fun is on tap with vendors, food, inflatables, face painting, balloon art, giveaways and music.

Salem, Sturgis will vote on cannabis

City of Salem residents will have an opportunity to determine whether the town will be open to medical cannabis dispensaries or other legal cannabis operations.

In November, Salem voters will see a question on the ballot asking them if they want to allow those types of businesses in their town or not. Salem City Council made the decision last month to put the question to voters this fall.

New Kentucky law allows cities and counties to outlaw such operations either by vote or by a decision made by elected officials, such as a city council or fiscal court. If counties and cities take no action, such businesses would be free to locate in that jurisdiction.

City residents in Sturgis will also have the same opportunity to vote on the measure during the Nov. 5 election.



Lyon’s fatality rate prompts initiative for safer highways

Members of the Lyon County Sheriff’s Office recently joined by members of Kentucky Transportation Cabinet, Office of Highway Safety, Kentucky State Police, Lyon County Road Department, PRG group and others assembled at the Lyon Convention Center to kickoff the Rural High–5 Traffic Safety Initiative.

The project is a result of Kentucky having a higher fatality rate than the national average, and rural Kentucky roadways having fatal crashes at a higher-than-average rate. Lyon County was one of five counties in Kentucky selected for this project which will utilize education, engineering, and enforcement to reduce crashes and save lives over the next 12 months.

The High 5 Rural Traffic Safety Project recognizes that the chances of surviving a traffic crash are 45 percent higher when properly restrained by a seat belt; that in the United States, 52 percent of rural passenger vehicle occupants killed in 2020 were unrestrained; airbags are designed to work with seat belts, so make sure you’re buckled up; and while Kentucky’s statewide seat belt usage is 89.8 percent over 100,000 drivers and 20,000 passengers are stillled unbelted every day on the common-wealth’s roadways.

High–5 is a data-driven, multi-agency effort to increase seat belt use and reduce serious injury and fatal crashes on rural roads in Kentucky through education, engineering and enforcement. Lyon County was found to be one of five rural Kentucky counties that crash data show has high fatal and severe injury rates. The other counties are Grant, Taylor, Pike and Perry.

811 awareness day

To raise awareness about the importance of safe digging, Atmos Energy celebrates 811 Day annually on Aug. 11 as a reminder for everyone to help protect underground utility lines by calling 8–1–1 before any excavation project, no matter how large or small. Effective damage prevention helps to avoid or minimize harm to people, property, and the environment by proactively identifying potential risks and implementing solutions to prevent incidents before they occur. Calling 811 is a critical component of damage prevention efforts that confirms digging projects are conducted safely and without disrupting essential utility services.

Kentucky law requires homeowners, excavation companies, and contractors to call 811 three business days before digging. When using this free service, the caller is connected to a local call center that notifies area utility companies of the location where digging will occur. Professional locators then arrive at the digging site to mark the approximate locations of underground lines with flags, spray paint, or both.

For more information about 811 and safe digging practices, visit Kentucky 811 or the Atmos Energy website for safety tips – and don’t forget to become a safety ambassador by signing the Call 811 Pledge.

Mayor chosen to head parade, Fredonia Lions Festival is Saturday

Fredonia Mayor Jim Seibert has been chosen grand marshal of Fredonia Lions Club’s 59th annual Summer Festival Parade. The parade is Friday night at 6 p.m., on Cassidy Ave., in Fredonia and the day-long festival is Saturday at Buddy Rogers Park.

Seibert is a 12-year resident of Fredonia and has been mayor for seven years. Last month, he was chosen Citizen of the Year, an award presented during the annual Thunder in the Valley celebration of Independence Day.

Saturday’s festival begins at 10 a.m., with Bingo, baseball and FFA pedal tractor pulls. There will be a 3 p.m., pet show, washer pitching at 4 p.m., and cakewalks throughout the day. Music featuring local talent begins at 5 p.m., and Tim Rhodes will perform at 7 p.m. There will also be inflatables, games, drawings, silent auctions, train rides, plenty of food and much more.

Proceeds from the festival benefit the Lions Club’s eyeglasses program and other charitable organizations.



Seibert

Local prosecutors are on murder case

Local Commonwealth Attorney Zac Greenwell was the special prosecutor in a murder trial in Hopkinsville that ended suddenly in a mistrial on Tuesday.

Assistant Commonwealth Attorney Wes Hunt was also helping prosecute the case.

The trial opened Monday with Cortez Hairston of Hopkinsville accused in the 2021 shooting death of 23-year-old Adrian Acree. Police say Hairston shot Acree multiple times. Two other people have been charged in the case. A female has already pleaded guilty and received a 10-year sentence and agreed to cooperation with police, investigators and prosecutors regarding her co-defendants.

The trial ended suddenly following an outburst in court from the someone in the audience. The defense was concerned that it would impact the jury and keep them from making an unbiased, objective verdict, so they requested a mistrial, according to WHOP radio in Hopkinsville. A new trial date of Oct. 21.

Allied appeals ruling made by circuit judge

Allied Contracting Group has appealed Circuit Judge Daniel Heady’s ruling from late June denying the locally-owned company’s request for an injunction to stop Crittenden County from entering into a roofing contract with another company.

Allied Contracting Group and its owner Kent Withrow had on June 27 asked Crittenden Circuit

Court for a temporary injunction and restraining order to prevent Miller Construction from repairing roofs on a dozen county-owned buildings damaged by weather. Allied asked for an injunction claiming it was necessary relief while it sought to have its case against the county adjudicated in court. Allied had been one of two unsuccessful bidders for the work. Bids were opened in May by county leaders and the contract awarded to Miller.

Last week, Allied formally appealed the judge’s ruling against the injunction. Miller is scheduled to begin work this week replacing roofs on county buildings. Allied’s complaint alludes to further legal action beyond its request for temporary injunctive relief.

In its new appeal, Allied asserts its original claims and argues that Judge Heady did not apply proper standards when he denied the injunction. The appeal says Allied will suffer irreparable harm if immediate relief is not provided in the case.

Although Allied’s bid was considerably higher than Miller’s, the aggrieved bidder believes its bid was the best because, based on its contentions, Miller didn’t follow some required bid procedures and missed a pre-award meeting.

In denying the original request for a temporary stay, Judge Heady said he didn’t believe Allied showed enough merit in its case to be successful through further examination by the court. The judge found insufficient evidence for the injunction, questioned the plaintiff’s standing to make the assertions in its claim and said that postponing the work could allow further damage to the roofs.

Testimony at the hearing revealed that Allied’s bid was \$935,668 and Miller Construction’s bid was \$578,000. The judge said there was no evidence of fraud, collusion or dishonesty on the part of the county when it accepted a bid that was \$357,668 lower than Allied’s.

KY corn 90% silked

Kentucky’s corn crop is progressing close to the five-year average now, according to the latest report from the National Agriculture Statistics Service (NASS). Silking is nearly complete at 90%. About 66% of the crop is milking, with 48% doughing and 22% having already denting. Condition of corn acres is slightly improved from in the past 10 days, with 68% now being reported as good or excellent.

Soybeans are also progressing slightly ahead of the five-year average, with 74% blooming and 54% setting pods. Soybeans have also begun coloring, with 3% reported as such this week.

Consistent rains have provided good moisture for most pastures. Some areas of the state reported receiving too much rainfall making pastures difficult for livestock to use. NASS reporters are optimistic that rains will improve the second cuttings of hay fields

Move Over Law expanded

Kentucky drivers on multi-lane highways are now required to move over a lane, if safe to do so, when they’re approaching any stranded vehicle with its flashers on or another type of warning signal. If you can’t move over, the law requires that you slow down.

While Kentucky has had a “slow down, move over” law since 2003, a law that went into effect in July expands the safety measure. The previous law protected only law enforcement, highway crews, tow truck operators and other roadside workers. The expanded law includes all stranded motorists.

According to Kentucky State Police crash data, from June 1, 2019, to June 1, 2024, there were more than 30 people struck and killed while leaving or approaching their car roadside. Another 16 were struck and killed while changing their tire. on the side of the road.

Between Printed Editions
Tune in to The Press Online
for breaking news.



50 YEARS AGO

August 8, 1974

■ Diane Robertson was crowned Miss Crittenden County. Her court included first runner-up Rhonda Kirk, second runner-up Tracey Jay, third runner-up Debbie Fritts and fourth runner-up Janet Patmor.

■ Crittenden County Conservation District celebrated its 25th year. Morris Caudill was chosen District Conservationist. Board of supervisors in 1974 were J.L. Gregory, Clinton “Pete” Brennan, Kenneth Winn, Stanley Herrin, William Todd, Tom McKenney and John May.

■ David Douglas Nunn was awarded the Walker Pharmacy Medal during Pharmacy Honors Day at Samford University.

■ July births reported by Crittenden County Hospital included Marion residents Kenneth Michael Kirk, Robbie Ellen Markham, William Brian Hill, David Wayne Belt, Libby Dawn Buntin, Erika Leigh Sleamaker, Cindy Renea Belt and Lori Donna Sharp.

■ Rudd and Hart Building Supplies opened in Marion. Owners were J.A. Rudd and Charles “Hank” Hart, who bought the former Enoch Home Decorating Center.

25 YEARS AGO

August 5, 1999

■ Brandi Travis was crowned Miss Crittenden County. Her court included first runner-up Patti Johnson, second runner-up Keri Kemper, third runner-up Heather Herrin and fourth runner-up Ashley Myers.

■ Chris Clarke joined the staff of Marion Baptist Church as youth and music director.

■ Children who read the most books during the summer reading program at Crittenden County Public Library were James Poindexter, LaDonna Herron, Olivia Scott, Ronnie Howton, Kayla Kirk, Rebecca DeMoss, Kinley Ringstaff, Will Scott, Anna Palmer, Whitney Green, Sara Shoemaker and Kristen Harris.

■ Football campers age 12-up who were top competitors at the annual punt, pass and kick competition were Grant Patton, Corey Winn, Brant Martin, Justin Baker and Andrew Roberts.

10 YEARS AGO

August 7, 2014

■ William Ralph “Rodney” Paris was presented a Historic Preservation Recognition Award by the General John Caldwell Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. Paris, a land surveyor, was honored for his achievements including research of land grants issued to veterans of the Revolutionary War and his work to place monuments at the corner markers of original surveys. He also developed information about the location of the Trail of Tears route taken by Cherokee Indians’ route West and shared that information through topographic maps indicating campground locations and creeks.

■ Crittenden County’s eight-year-old all star baseball team won a championship at the Dawson Springs All Star Tournament. Members of the Crittenden County all stars included Quinn Summers, Levi Piper, Brady Belt, Evan Belt, Casey Cates, Kaleb Nesbitt, Jeremiah Foster, Tyler Belt, Chase Conyer and Case Gobin.

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

Crittenden Press

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125 E. Bellville St. | P.O. Box 191 | Marion, KY 42064
270.965.3191 | www.the-press.com
Chris Evans | Editor and Publisher
Allison Evans | Advertising Manager
Alaina Barnes | Graphic Design
Kayla Maxfield | Reporter
Jamie Brown | Delivery

The Crittenden Press (USPS 138-260) is published weekly by The Crittenden Press Inc., P.O. Box 191, 125 E. Bellville St., Marion, KY 42064. Periodicals postage paid at Marion, KY and at additional mailing offices. Subscriptions \$38 to \$75 per year. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Crittenden Press, P.O. Box 191, Marion, KY 42064. The Crittenden Press is your primary source of news and information for this community. We're proud to serve our community and we take great pride in bringing you real news, sports reporting and other information that helps you know what's going on in town and across the county. Help ensure that real reporting continues in this community by subscribing today. You can subscribe online to the full version of the newspaper for only \$3.89 a month. Try our new e-Edition newspaper emailed straight to your inbox every Wednesday. Go online to The-Press.com for more about how to subscribe electronically.

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The tsunami of fake is nothing new

Fake news is nothing new. Human beings mocking each other is nothing new either. It was not that long ago that I remember Christians (white Christians in particular) making fun of and mocking everyone who was not just like them. I remember the treatment of people with different skin tones and accents.

Fake news is with us and only likely to get worse with the advent of artificial intelligence (a hilarious description), social media, and indoctrination channels disguised as news or religious outlets. We can add to this pathological desire of political ad producers have to take the cheap shots of denigrating character and personal attack rather than presenting policy.

Christianity being mocked by others is with us as well and only likely to get worse. It will continue to get worse until Christians stop confirming the mocking by responding in kind. I don't know what happened at the Olympic Opening Ceremony, I didn't watch it. I have since investigated it and formed an opinion. That is not of importance here. There are those who have made up their minds one way or the other and are not likely to change it. To change one's mind about such things and admit it would risk criticism and derision in today's environment.



Sean NIESTRATH
Faith-based columnist
Guest Columnist

It appears to me that many who claim to be disciples of Jesus have decided to adopt the tactics of those whom they disagree with most. There are too many who long for the imagined days of yesteryear when Christianity had all the power and cultural influence. There are too many who are walking through the world with raw nerves on edge looking for reasons to be offended.

We are not without those who do this for us and tell us what to be offended about. Their hope is that we will spread their vitriol in the name of decency, or faith, standing up to evil. The more people who react (and they do not care if it is "for" or "against"), the better off they will be and the further the rest of us get from responding as people who are learning from God.

It is well-known that the earliest Christians were known for atheism (because they had no images), cannibalism (because they took of the "body" and "blood" of Jesus), and even incest (because they referred to each other as brother and sister). They were persecuted because they rejected the social stratification of the culture. Romans 16:16 says, "Greet one another with a holy kiss." This is not just a cultural greeting. It would have been unthinkable for a Roman slaveholder to greet a slave with a kiss. It represented acceptance and equality.

The response of these believers was not to respond with equal derision, but with care and love of the poor and outcast. They did as Jesus said in the beatitudes, they honored those who hungered and thirsted for justice (most of our translations use "righteousness"). They did not spread false rumors about unbelievers who mocked them. They welcomed and loved – sometimes at their own

peril.

This is not to say that they did not answer their critics. Some early apologists wrote scathingly against the beliefs of those who persecuted them. They used sound argument rather than personal attack. They used the actions of the Christians as evidence against false accusations. The way to stand against untrue accusations is to act in such a way around those we know to understand that what is said about Christians cannot be true because their experience does not match what they see.

Christians are not left without guidance in these matters. First, we are to remember that if one is not a believer, we have no right or expectation to expect respect. One excellent synopsis of how we are to respond is given in Matthew 5:11-12, "You are honored when people mock you, persecute you, and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for so the prophets were persecuted who went before you."

Here are some Proverbs to encourage us.

"The beginning of strife is like letting out water, so quit before a quarrel breaks out." (17:14)

"The one who forgives an offense seeks love, but the one who repeats a matter alienates a friend." (17:9).

"The one who states their case first seems right, until the other comes to examine them." (18:17)

"For lack of wood the fire goes out; and where there is not whisperer, quarrelling ceases. As charcoal to hot embers and wood to fire, so is a quarrelsome person for kindling strife." (26:21-22).

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.

Religious Outreach

■ Old Salem Baptist Church will have homecoming, Sunday, Aug. 18. Sunday school at 9 a.m., sermon at 11 a.m. Meal will follow the sermon and singing by the Mooreheads will follow the meal.

■ Old Salem Baptist Church will have revival at 7 nightly, Monday, Aug. 19 - Friday, Aug. 23 with the Stone Family. Bro. Gary Hardesty and congregation invite everyone to attend.

■ The annual meeting of the Hurricane Camp Board will be held at 7 p.m., Aug. 22 in the dining hall on the Hurricane Campgrounds. All interested people are welcome to attend.

■ Old Salem Baptist Church has a Blessing Box located next to the church at 117 Old Salem Church Rd. Everyone is welcome to take items or place them in the box for others to enjoy.

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

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

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

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

■ First Baptist Church of Fredonia food pantry is open from 4-5:30 p.m., third Wednesday 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.

When we worship God together, we experience joy

ASK the PASTOR

By Bob Hardison

Question: During the Coronavirus Pandemic, I got in the habit of watching TV preachers each Sunday. It has become my regular means of weekly worship. I enjoy the teaching and preaching. Since I'm comfortable worshipping God in my home, why do I need to go to a church?

Answer: Worshipping God at home is good, but a whole new dimension of experiences take place when you worship God with others. Worshipping together, one feels a very tight bond with those we sing, pray and praise our LORD with.

Unless you are unable to physically attend the church, I whole heartedly encourage you to make the effort to worship with others. For 63 years now, I have worshiped with other believers almost every Sunday. The folks at church are a special family to me. It lifts me up mentally and spiritually, helps me relax and to feel connected to fellow believers.

When we worship God together, we experience joy in His presence. Enter worship with enthusiasm and focus. Sing with gusto. Listen attentively to the message. Join in prayer with passion.

Send your questions to: bob@bobhardison.com

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7 Nightly

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

Mexico Baptist Church

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

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

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...

Tolu Methodist Church

Pastor: David Brown
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Barnett Chapel General Baptist

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

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.

Marion Baptist Church

College & Depot streets, Marion • (270) 965-5232
Pastor: Bro. Aaron Brown • Children's & Youth Pastor: Bro. Shawn Holman
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.

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Wednesday night service 6:30 p.m.
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Crayne Community Church

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Bro. James Driver, Interim Pastor
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Frances Community Church

Bro. Butch Gray
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Children's Church ages 3 & up ... 11 a.m.
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Sun. Evening services, 6 p.m.
Wed. Evening services, 7 p.m.

Unity General Baptist Church

4691 Mott City Rd. • Marion, Ky.
Bro. David Perryman, Pastor
Sunday School 10 a.m.
Sunday Worship 11 a.m.

Marion Church of Christ

546 West Elm Street • (270) 965-9450
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Crooked Creek Baptist Church

261 Crooked Creek Church Rd., P.O. Box 442, Marion, Ky. • (270) 704-0914
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Sunday Worship: 11 a.m.
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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.

Marion Methodist Church

We love intensely, believe deeply, and pray zealously
SUN: Sun. School 9:30 a.m.
Worship 10:45 p.m.
South College St.

Classifieds The Crittenden Press

The Crittenden Press

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42064. (1t-32-p)

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LEGAL NOTICE

The Crittenden County Treasurer's Settlement for FY 2023-2024 is available for inspection at the Crittenden County Judge-Executive's office during normal business hours. The financial settlement is, according to Kentucky Statue, available for public viewing in hard copy format at the Judge's office in lieu of publishing the entire document in the newspaper. For more information, contact the County Judge-Executive's office at (270) 965-5251.

Marion-Crittenden County E-911 is hiring
FULL-TIME AND
PART-TIME POSITIONS

Must be 18 years old, have a high school diploma/GED and be able to pass a drug test and background check.

You will attend a 4 week training in Richmond, KY within 1 year of hire.

Pick up an application at 217 S Main St., Marion KY. Call (270) 965-3500 with any questions.

NOTICE OF
PUBLIC MEETING

Livingston Hospital
August 21, 5 p.m.
at Deer Lakes Golf Course
140 Deer Lakes Lane
Salem, KY 42078

Notice is hereby given that Livingston Hospital & Healthcare System will hold a public meeting on August 21 at 5 p.m. This informational public meeting will be held at Deer Lakes Golf Course to discuss the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Community Facilities Loan Program related to modernizing the current hospital in the City of Salem. Any interested person wishing to comment on the project and its funding sources is welcome to attend. For additional information, you may call Shane Whittington at (270) 988-7236.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Local sports schedule

FRIDAY
Rocket football hosts scrimmage vs Madisonville at 6pm (free admission). With construction on campus limiting parking spaces, additional parking can found on the former highway garage property north of the football field.

TUESDAY
Golf All A at Deer Lakes

SOCCER

Youth league registration

Crittenden County Youth Soccer is registering participants age 4-under through 14-under on two more dates for its fall recreational league. Participants must sign up on one of the following dates: 9-11 a.m., Aug. 10 at Dairy Queen or Aug. 13 at CCES Back to School Night. Cost is \$55 to \$65 depending on age. Family discounts apply for households with more than one child participating.

BASEBALL | SOFTBALL

Fall ball registration

Crittenden County Dugout Club's registration for fall baseball and softball ends Friday, Aug. 9. Cost is \$40. Practice begins Aug. 19 and games start Sept. 3 and end by fall break. For more information, see the Dugout Club Facebook page or contact Tanner Tabor at 859-333-9751.

GOLF

QB Club fundraiser

The annual Crittenden County Quarterback Club Pippi Hardin and Ronnie Myers Memorial Golf Scramble will be held at 10 a.m., Saturday, Aug. 24 at Deer Lakes Golf Course. Cost is \$300 per team with proceeds benefiting the high school football program. Contact Darrick Myers at 270-704-1225 to register. A meal will be provided following 18 holes of play.

OUTDOORS

Hunter Ed Course here

Hunter Education Safety Course will be available Saturday, Aug. 24 at Crittenden County Extension Park (former gun club) on Ky. 91 North. Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources requires anyone born after Jan. 1, 1975 and currently age 12 or older to have completed the hunter education course before legally hunting. Enrollment can be done online at www.fw.ky.gov. Go to the Education button to register. John Robertson will be the instructor and course is from 9 a.m., to 4 p.m.

Duck blind on Barkley

Public drawing for season-long, temporary waterfowl hunting blind sites at Lake Barkley will be held Monday, Sept. 16. Multiple sites are available along the shore of the lake in Trigg and Lyon counties. Registration begins at 8 a.m., with the drawing to follow. The drawing will be at the shelter on the east side of the Cumberland River at Lake Barkley Dam, off U.S. 62 near Lake City. Participants should use the powerhouse entrance and then turn right toward the drawing location. Hunters may build temporary blinds on the site, which will need to be removed after waterfowl season.

Ducks Unlimited event

Crittenden County Ducks Unlimited fundraising auction and banquet will be held Aug. 10 in the Crittenden County High School multi-purpose room. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. Raffles and auctions will be conducted to raise money for the conservation program. Tickets are \$50 each or \$60 for couples.

Hunting Seasons

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

Bullfrog	May 17 - Oct. 31
Squirrel Fall	Aug. 17 - Nov. 8
Canada Goose	Sept. 1-15
Dove	Sept. 1 - Oct. 26
Deer Archery	Sept. 7 - Jan. 20
Turkey Archery	Sept. 7 - Jan. 20
Canada Goose	Sept. 16-30
Teal	Sept. 21 - Sept. 29
Wood Duck	Sept. 21 - Sept. 25
Deer Crossbow	Sept. 21 - Jan. 20



Members of the Crittenden County Lady Rockets volleyball are (front from left) Braelynn Pate, Mary Stephens, Carly Porter, Hannah Mott, Brooke Winstead, Riley Kirby, (middle) Shelbi Belt, Aly Yates, Hadley Myers, Lilah Sherer, Braelyn Merrill, Lacey Boone, Mae-son Martin, (back) Layken Gilchrist, Jasmine Lynch, Bre McKendree, Grace Vinson, Alissa Northrup, Grayson Travis, Maddie Hearell and Ava Tabor. Not pictured were Emerye Pollard, Emory Orr, Brinley Tramble and Macandliss Chittenden.

Big Goal for Soccer Girls

STAFF REPORT

Crittenden County has built quite a name for itself in Second Region volleyball play over the past half dozen years. In fact, there's hardly anything left to accomplish other than a regional crown, and that's exactly where second-year head coach Savannah Tays and her team have their sights set.

"We have set some goals this year to win the games we are supposed to win and to go to the state tournament. That would be something really cool for the school because it has never been done before," the coach said.

To bolster its chances CCHS returns three all-district performers from a year ago despite losing 2023 district player of the year Katie Perryman to graduation. Back are Carly Porter, Hannah Mott and Riley Kirby who earned district post-season honors. Porter was also all-region.

That trio and returning starters Mary Stephens and

Brooke Winstead will be the corps of hope for Crittenden County to win its first regional title in volleyball. All five of them are seniors. The girls got close last season before losing to the region's top-ranked team, University Heights, in the championship game. It was the first time CCHS has ever gotten to the regional title match, but the Lady Rockets have long dominated the Fifth District, winning six straight post-season district championships and sweeping the regular-season five straight years.

With a strong nucleus of returning experience and depth, Coach Tays believes the Rocket girls have almost everything thing they need to hoist a regional trophy in November. The only thing that might be missing, she says, is a killer instinct.

"We need to improve on putting the ball away," she said. "We need to try to score instead of just getting the ball over the net. They have the

ability to do it, but we don't do it all of the time. We need to work on terminating the ball."

Porter is a strong frontline player and a good server. She will play middle blocker and is a four-year starter for CCHS. Mott has the hardest serve on squad and will play outside hitter and be a defensive specialist. She's a three-year starter. Winstead is a three-year starter for the Lady Rockets and will play right side while Kirby is a defensive specialist and has been a regular in the lineup for the last two seasons. Stephens is getting a strong look as the team's libero and will be a back-row defense specialist.

Junior Lilah Sherer can play all six positions, but will be a key player at setter. Classmate Lacey Boone will be a regular on the floor at outside hitter. Also, sophomore Braelyn Merrill will contribute in the middle of the back row while junior Hadley Myers will be the mix for playing time, too.

CRITTENDEN Volleyball Roster		
Player	No.	Class
Hannah Mott	6	Sr
Carly Porter	8	Sr
Mary Stephens	2	Sr
Riley Kirby	3	Sr
Brooke Winstead	12	Sr
Braelynn Pate	14	Sr
Lacey Boone	5	Jr
Aly Yates	20	Jr
Lilah Sherer	22	Jr
Braelyn Merrill	7	So
Hadley Myers	10	Jr

LADY ROCKETS Volleyball Schedule	
Aug 19	at Marshall County
Aug 20	Christian County
Aug 22	at Madisonville
Aug 26	at Henderson County
Aug 27	Trigg County
Aug 29	at Livingston Central
Sept 5-7	All A Region at UHA
Sept 10	Caldwell County
Sept 12	Muhlenberg County
Sept 16	Union County
Sept 17	at Webster County
Sept 19	Livingston Central
Sept 24	at Trigg County
Sept 26	Hopkins Central
Sept 27	at Hopkinsville
Sept 30	at Christian County
Oct 3	Madisonville
Oct 14	Henderson County
Oct 21	District at Trigg
Oct 28	Region at Christian

BATTLE OF BANKS FOR JHF WIFFLE BALL CROWN



Foundation raises almost \$60K; local bankers square off in championship

The Jake Hodge Foundation's annual Wiffle Ball Tournament in Princeton at the home of Ken and Dr. Katie Parker raised more than \$55,000 during the tournament last weekend and that total is before all contributions were tallied and concession proceeds figured. The foundation has over the past decade provided almost \$200,000 in college scholarships to graduates of Crittenden, Lyon, Caldwell, Livingston and Trigg counties. Hundreds attend the event and this year two local banks squared off in the National League championship game. Farmers Bank won the title over First United Bank. Pictured above left are Farmers Bank players (front from left) Kiana Nesbitt, Kelsey Berry with son Case, Kyler Atwell, Callie Courtney with daughter Dru, Easton Burton, (back) Jeremy Dempsey, Gavin Dickerson, Ethan Dossett, Ryan James and Cody Doom. First United Bank's team members pictured above right are (front from left) Parker Day, Brady Polk, Laura Faulk, Brody Day, (back) Mark Demoss, Brian Higgs, Charlie Day, Jason Hawkins and Jorge Tail.

Public dove hunting available at local WMA

Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources will host dove quota hunts and traditional mentor/youth dove quota hunts this fall. Applications for all dove quota hunts opened Wednesday and close at 3:30 p.m., Aug. 16.

Dove quota hunts are being held at Big Rivers Wildlife Management Area (WMA) in Union County. Hunts will be held on Sept. 1, the traditional opening day of dove season, and again on Sept. 7. Also, there will be a public field in Crittenden County.

Quota dove hunts run from 11 a.m., to 4 p.m. Hunters must be off the field by closing time. These fields will be closed in between the quota hunt dates to limit hunting pressure on the fields.

The fields will open to all dove hunters starting Sept. 8.

Applications for dove quota hunts may be found on the Kentucky Fish and Wildlife Migratory Bird Hunting webpage. Results will be available Aug. 23. Drawn applicants must print a copy of the selection page and carry it with them. Drawn hunters are allowed one guest. The guest must be accompanied by the drawn hunter. Guests must also carry a copy of the selection page.



All hunters must check in before the hunt and check out after.

Each hunter is allowed 50 shotshells (two boxes). There will be 25 hunter slots for each quota hunt on Big Rivers WMA.

Dove hunting on the Big Rivers tract has been quite successful the last few years. John Zimmer, KDFWR regional biologist, said a new management concept began last year at Big Rivers WMA for improving dove hunting.

"We have a dedicated field that will be hunted through a quota hunt structure that will restrict the number of hunters in the field, number of shells allowed by each hunter, and limited days the field will be hunted," he said. "This year is the

second year of this new concept. We will still have one 25 acre 'open to all' field on the WMA in addition to the 25 acre quota field."

Mentor/youth dove quota hunts on Sept. 1 will be available at Higginson-Henry WMA in Union County.

Rules for the mentor/youth dove quota hunts remain unchanged from last year and may be found on the Migratory Bird Hunting webpage along with the application link. The online application period for these hunts is also Aug. 5-16.

For more information, visit Kentucky Fish and Wildlife's website at fw.ky.gov.

A state-approved Hunter Education certification is required for all Kentucky hunters age 12 or older who were born in 1975 or later. A one-year Hunter Education Exemption Permit is available free to hunters who can't obtain their certification before going afield, but the permittee must be accompanied in the field by an adult who is Hunter Education-certified. Details about Hunter Education courses and the temporary exemption permit are available on the Kentucky Fish and Wildlife Hunter Education webpage.

COUNTY FAIR EXHIBITORS

* Asterisk denotes Champion
Arts

Brooklyn Lovell, Jr Acrylic, Blue, Reagan Stokes, Jr Acrylic, Blue* Dpt Champ. Caroline Martin, Jr Watercolor, Blue* Emme Lynch, Sr Watercolor, Blue* Dally Millikan, Jr Abstract, Blue Katrina Scott, Jr Abstract, Blue London McCord, Jr Abstract, Blue* Paige Tinsley, Jr Abstract, Blue Phillip Barnes, Jr Abstract, Blue Sadie Young, Jr Abstract, Blue Aerie Suggs, Sr Abstract, Blue* Aliza Maraman, Sr Abstract, Blue Emme Lynch, Sr Abstract, Blue Dally Millikan, Jr Self Portrait, Blue Katrina Scott, Jr Self Portrait, Blue Raylee Millikan, Jr Self Portrait, Blue* Aerie Suggs, Sr Self Portrait, Blue Emme Lynch, Sr Self Portrait, Blue* Emme Lynch, Sr Human Action, Blue Emme Lynch, Sr Oil Pastel, Blue* Brooklyn Suggs, Jr Blueprint Paper Print, Blue Caroline Martin, Jr Blueprint Paper Print, Blue London McCord, Jr Blueprint Paper Print, Blue Paige Tinsley, Jr Blueprint Paper Print, Blue Sadie Young, Jr Blueprint Paper Print, Blue* Aerie Suggs, Sr Blueprint Paper Print, Blue Aliza Maraman, Sr Blueprint Paper Print, Blue* Russell Vince, Jr Black Pencil Drawing, Blue*

Aliza Maraman, Jr Contour, Blue Caroline Martin, Jr Contour, Blue Ellie Binkley, Jr Contour, Blue Emme Lynch, Jr Contour, Blue London McCord, Jr Contour, Blue Caroline Martin, Jr Circular Shape Object, Blue* London McCord, Jr Circular Shape Object, Blue Emme Lynch, Sr Circular Shape Object, Blue* Caroline Martin, Jr Color Pencil, Blue Phillip Barnes, Jr Color Pencil, Blue* Aliza Maraman, Sr Color Pencil, Blue Emme Lynch, Sr Color Pencil, Blue* Grayson Pritchett, Jr Pen and Ink, Blue* Emme Lynch, Sr Pen and Ink, Blue* Macie Conger, Sr Pen and Ink, Blue Brooklyn Lovell, Jr Hand Lettering, Blue* Caroline Martin, Jr Hand Lettering, Blue Ellie Binkley, Jr Hand Lettering, Blue London McCord, Jr Hand Lettering, Blue Aliza Maraman, Sr Hand Lettering, Blue Emme Lynch, Sr Hand Lettering, Blue Macie Conger, Sr Hand Lettering, Blue* Adley Sutton, Jr Batik Fabric, Blue Caroline Martin, Jr Batik Fabric, Blue Paige Tinsley, Jr Batik Fabric, Blue Russell Vince, Jr Batik Fabric, Blue* Aliza Maraman, Sr Batik Fabric, Blue* Tessa Potter, Sr Batik Fabric, Blue Caroline Martin, Jr Lap Loom Woven Item, Blue* London McCord, Jr Clay, Blue* Emme Lynch, Sr Clay, Blue* Grayson Pritchett, Jr Art Trends, Blue* London McCord, Jr Art Trends, Blue Paige Tinsley, Jr Art Trends, Blue Phillip Barnes, Jr Art Trends, Blue Sadie Young, Jr Art Trends, Blue Aerie Suggs, Sr Art Trends, Blue Aliza Maraman, Sr Art Trends, Blue Emme Lynch, Sr Art Trends, Blue Tessa Potter, Sr Art Trends, Blue* Brooklyn Lovell, Jr Jewelry, Blue Ellie Binkley, Jr Jewelry, Blue Emarie Cox, Jr Jewelry, Blue London McCord, Jr Jewelry, Blue Paige Tinsley, Jr Jewelry, Blue* Phillip Barnes, Jr Jewelry, Blue Raylee Millikan, Jr Jewelry, Blue Reagan Stokes, Jr Jewelry, Blue Aerie Suggs, Sr Jewelry , Blue Gracie Orr, Sr Jewelry , Blue* Gracie Orr, Jr Leather Craft, Blue* Allyson Willimas, Jr Heritage Arts, Blue Anslee Hurst, Jr Heritage Arts, Blue Brooklyn Lovell, Jr Heritage Arts, Blue Brooklyn Suggs, Jr Heritage Arts, Blue Dally Millikan, Jr Heritage Arts, Blue Ellie Binkley, Jr Heritage Arts, Blue Grayson Pritchett, Jr Heritage Arts, Blue Ila Sheets, Jr Heritage Arts, Blue Katrina Scott, Jr Heritage Arts, Blue Myra Sheets, Jr Heritage Arts, Blue Phillip Barnes, Jr Heritage Arts, Blue Raylee Millikan, Jr Heritage Arts, Blue Sadie Young, Jr Heritage Arts, Blue* Aerie Suggs, Sr Heritage Arts, Blue Emme Lynch, Sr Heritage Arts, Blue* Macie Conger, Sr Heritage Arts, Blue

Consumer/Financial
Russell Vince, Poster- Bargain Shopping, Blue* Dpt Champ.
Educational Dog Project Posters
Russell Vince, Junior, Blue* Dpt Champ.

Electricity
Aerie Suggs, Display of wire sizes and types Blue
Caroline Martin, Display of wire sizes and types, Blue*
Ellie Binkley, Display of wire sizes and types, Blue
Emme Lynch, Display of wire sizes and types, Blue
Grayson Pritchett, Display of wire sizes and types, Blue
Katrina Scott, Display of wire sizes and types, Blue
London McCord, Display of wire sizes and types, Blue
Sadie Young, Display of wire sizes and types, Blue
Grayson Pritchett, Table Lamp, Blue*, Department Champion
Grayson Pritchett, Basic electric circuit with solid wire components, Blue
Katrina Scott, Basic electric circuit with solid wire components, Blue*
Phillip Barnes, Basic electric circuit with solid wire components, Blue

Foods
London McCord, Three Cheese Muffins, Blue*
London McCord, Three Snickerdoodle Cook-



Members of Crittenden County 4-H were recognized as Sweepstakes winners last week at the annual 4-H Fair Breakfast. They are (front from left) Paige Tinsley, Phillip Barnes, Grayson Pritchett, London McCord, Sadie Young, (back) Emme Lynch Aliza Maraman, Caroline Martin, Aerie Suggs, Adley Sutton, Ellie Binkley and Russell Vince.

ies, Blue* Dpt Champ.
London McCord, Three Pieces Classic Choc. Fudge, Blue*

Forestry
Ellie Binkley, Leaf Collectiom, Blue* Geology
Russell Vince, Second Year Geology, Blue* Dpt Champ.

Home Environment
Ellie Binkley, Color Collage, Blue Emarie Cox, Color Collage, Blue Emme Lynch, Color Collage, Blue Gracie Orr, Color Collage, Blue Grayson Pritchett, Color Collage, Blue Raylee Millikan, Color Collage, Blue Russell Vince, Color Collage, Blue* London McCord, Simple Clothe Item for Home, Blue*
Paige Tinsley, Simple Clothe Item for Home, Blue
London McCord, Bulletin Board, Blue*
Aliza Maraman, Decorative Item for Home & Photo, Blue
Koltyn Woodall, Decorative Item for Home & Photo, Blue
London McCord, Decorative Item for Home & Photo, Blue
Sadie Young, Decorative Item for Home & Photo, Blue* Dpt Champ.
London McCord, Indv. Place (table) setting, Blue*
Paige Tinsley, Heritage Item-Refin,Restored or made by 4-H member, Blue*

Horticulture & Plant Science
Dally Millikan, Dish Gardens, Blue
Ellie Binkley, Dish Gardens, Blue*
Gracie Orr, Dish Gardens, Blue
Koltyn Woodall, Dish Gardens, Blue
Phillip Barnes, Dish Gardens, Blue
Raylee Millikan, Dish Gardens, Blue
Sadie Young, Dish Gardens, Blue
Phillip Barnes, Upcycle Container Garden, Blue* Dpt Champ.
Caroline Martin, Tomato -Cherry, Blue
Grayson Pritchett, Tomato -Cherry, Blue
Phillip Barnes, Tomato -Cherry, Blue*
Aliza Maraman, Cucumbers, Slicing, Blue*
Aliza Maraman, Squash, Blue*
Phillip Barnes, Squash, Blue
Grayson Pritchett, Potato, Blue*
Phillip Barnes, Largest Pumpkin, Blue*
Horticulture Photography
Ellie Binkley, Single B&W, Blue* Dpt Champ.
Katrina Scott, Single B&W, Blue
Adley Sutton, Single Color, Blue
Aliza Maraman, Single Color, Blue
Ellie Binkley, Single Color, Blue
Emme Lynch, Single Color, Blue*
London McCord, Single Color, Blue
Raylee Millikan, Hort. Collection B&W or Color, Blue*

Needlework
Brooklyn Lovell, Sm. Crochet Item, Blue*
Ellie Binkley, Sm. Crochet Item, Blue
Brooklyn Lovell, Crochet item using intermediate skills-shaping & fitting multiple pcs., Blue*
Brooklyn Lovell, Crochet item using intermediate skills-shaping & fitting multiple pcs., Blue* Dpt Champ.
Ellie Binkley, Other Needlework*
Ellie Binkley, Knitted -self stripping or variegated yarn*

Photography
Emme Lynch, Forest, Blue
Katrina Scott, Forest, Blue
Russell Vince, Forest, Blue*
Ellie Binkley, Water, Blue*
Katrina Scott, Water, Blue
Sadie Young, Water, Blue
Aerie Suggs, Wildlife, Blue
Emme Lynch, Wildlife, Blue* Dpt Champ.
Gracie Orr, Wildlife, Blue
Adley Sutton, Natural Scenic, Blue*
Aliza Maraman, Natural Scenic, Blue
Katrina Scott, Natural Scenic, Blue
Koltyn Woodall, Natural Scenic, Blue
Emme Lynch, Native Plants, Blue*
Reagan Stokes, Native Plants, Blue
Caroline Martin, Insect, Blue
Gracie Orr, Insect, Blue*
Katrina Scott, Insect, Blue
Adley Sutton, Livestock, Blue*
Caroline Martin, Livestock, Blue
Katrina Scott, Livestock, Blue
Russell Vince, Crops, Blue*
Grayson Pritchett, Life Cycle*
Adley Sutton, Ag Scenic, Blue
Phillip Barnes, Ag Scenic, Blue*

Ellie Binkley, Farm Eq/Implement, Blue
Katrina Scott, Farm Eq/Implement, Blue
Phillip Barnes, Farm Eq/Implement, Blue*
Adley Sutton, Companion Animal, Blue
Sadie Young, Companion Animal, Blue*
Aerie Suggs, Formal/Candid Portrait, Blue
Caroline Martin, Formal/Candid Portrait, Blue
Dally Millikan, Formal/Candid Portrait, Blue
London McCord, Formal/Candid Portrait, Blue*
Aliza Maraman, Urban Scenic, Blue*
Adley Sutton, Event, Blue*
Katrina Scott, Event, Blue
Ellie Binkley, National/International, Blue*
Aliza Maraman, Family,Potrait or Candid, Blue
Russell Vince, Family,Potrait or Candid, Blue*
Reagan Stokes, Food Prep, Blue*
Adley Sutton, Patterns, Blue
Aliza Maraman, Patterns, Blue
Emme Lynch, Patterns, Blue
Gracie Orr, Patterns, Blue
Grayson Pritchett, Patterns, Blue
Katrina Scott, Patterns, Blue
London McCord, Patterns, Blue
Russell Vince, Patterns, Blue
Sadie Young, Patterns, Blue*
Russell Vince, Residential, Blue*
Russell Vince, Architecture, Blue*
Sadie Young, Energy, Blue*
Emarie Cox, Movement, Blue*
Katrina Scott, Physical Activity, Blue*
London McCord, Competitive Sports, Blue
Russell Vince, Competitive Sports, Blue*
Phillip Barnes, Healthy Foods, Blue*
Russell Vince, Healthy Foods, Blue
Grayson Pritchett, Careers in Health, Blue*
Paige Tinsley, Careers in Health, Blue
Adley Sutton, Dealing with Stress, Blue
Aerie Suggs, Dealing with Stress, Blue
Dally Millikan, Dealing with Stress, Blue
Ellie Binkley, Dealing with Stress, Blue
Emme Lynch, Dealing with Stress, Blue
Katrina Scott, Dealing with Stress, Blue*
Russell Vince, Instrument/Art Utensils, Blue*
Adley Sutton, Arts Creation, Blue*
Grayson Pritchett, Created Art - Community, Blue
Katrina Scott, Created Art - Community, Blue
Russell Vince, Created Art - Community, Blue*
Katrina Scott, Word(s), Blue
Paige Tinsley, Word(s), Blue
Reagan Stokes, Word(s), Blue
Russell Vince, Word(s), Blue*

Trends
Brooklyn Lovell, Jr Upcycle Project, Blue

Brooklyn Suggs, Jr Upcycle Project, Blue
Caroline Martin, Jr Upcycle Project, Blue
Dally Millikan, Jr Upcycle Project, Blue
Paige Tinsley, Jr Upcycle Project, Blue
Sadie Young, Jr Upcycle Project, Blue*
Emme Lynch, Sr Upcycle Project, Blue*
London McCord, Jr Cake Decorating 4-H, Blue*
London McCord, Jr General Cake Decorating, Blue* Dpt Champ.
London McCord, Jr Cup Cake Decorating 4-H, Blue*
London McCord, Jr General Cup Cake Decorating, Blue*

Wood Science
Ellie Binkley, 1 Level, Made from Kit, Blue
Grayson Pritchett, 1 Level, Made from Kit, Blue* Dpt Champ.
Paige Tinsley, 1 Level, not made from kit, Blue*
Russell Vince, 2 Level, Made from kit, Blue*
Caroline Martin, 3 Level, not from kit, Blue*

Poultry Show
Callie Rich, Bantam, Pure Bred Feather leg, Hen, Blue*
Cabot Sutton, Bantam, Pure Bred Feather leg, Hen, Blue
Adley Sutton, Bantam, Pure Bred Feather leg, Rooster, Blue
Phillip Barnes, Bantam, Pure Bred Feather leg, Rooster, Blue
Cabot Sutton, Standard Pure Bred Duck, Hen, Blue
Cabot Sutton, Standard Pure Bred Duck, Hen, Blue
Cabot Sutton, Standard Pure Bred Duck, Drake, Blue*
Cabot Sutton, Standard Light Breed, Hen, Blue*
Cabot Sutton, Standard Light Breed, Rooster, Blue*
Katrina Scott, Junior Showmanship, Blue
Phillip Barnes, Junior Showmanship, Blue
Adley Sutton, Junior Showmanship, Blue*
Cabot Sutton, Senior Showmanship, Blue
Callie Rich, Senior Showmanship, Blue
Open Family & Consumer Science
Brandi Potter, Color Photo, 1st
Jerrel James, Sewing: Non-Clothing, 1st
Madison Cox, B&W Photo, 1st
Brandi Potter, Ceramic Piece, 1st
Brandi Potter, Holiday Decoration-Summer, 1st
Jerrel James, Patriotic Article, 1st
Open Agriculture
Willa Suggs, Best Houseplant, 1st
Phillip Barnes, Best Flower Arrangement, 1st
Koltyn Woodall, Best Flower Bloom, 1st

Over
\$191,000
in scholarship
funds
awarded
since 2009

Held annually at Little Field of Dreams on South Jefferson St., in Princeton, the annual Wiffle Ball tournament supports the Jake Hodge Foundation, which grants educational scholarships to students who display honesty, character and integrity. The foundation rewards students who excel in the classroom and in their chosen field of competition. Students recognized are forever challenged to lead a purpose-driven life and to leave a positive and profound legacy.

West Kentucky Bomb Squad was the top fundraising team in 2024, contributing \$23,268 to the Jake Hodge Foundation.

Farmers Bank and Trust won the 2024 National League championship.

Mojo Sports was the 2024 American League champion.

Crittenden County Lions Club Fair

Fair awards presented at breakfast

STAFF REPORT

Crittenden County Lions Club wrapped up another successful fair despite battling weather and traffic issues.

The club recognized some of its own during last week's 4-H Breakfast at the fairgrounds' Agriculture Building.

Natalie Parish, who was the first female to join the local Lions Club, and Jason Martin were chosen Lions of the Year. Stephanie Martin was honored with the club's Citizen of the Year.

Kentucky Cattleman's Association President Josh Lancaster was keynote speaker at the event. The Webster County resident who grew up in Meade County praised the Lions Club for hosting a county fair and promoting a culture of rural America.

"There are a lot of people fighting against us," he said. "We see it all of the time. We have to fight for our future as rural Americans and not let anyone take our voice away."

Members of the Crittenden County FFA were also instrumental in supporting the fair breakfast. Local FFA President Gavin Grimes introduced 2024 Agriculture and Rural Leadership Hall of Fame inductees, Wade and Sue Buntin (see front page article).

Dee Heimgartner, UK Extension Agent for Agriculture, introduced a number of breakfast guests, which included local officials such as Judge-Executive Perry Newcom, Mayor D'Anna Browning and Kentucky Sen. Jason Howell. Heimgartner praised the Lion's tireless work to produce a county fair.

"They put in a whole lot of hours. I know they're tired and there's no tired like fair tired," she said.

On exhibit were fair entries from flowers to handicrafts and photography.

Leslea Barnes, UK Extension Agent for 4-H, said there were 238 exhibits entered and 22 poultry entries, including chickens, ducks and a turkey. See Sweepstakes winners and a complete list of exhibit winners on page 9A.

4-Hers cooked and presented a breakfast complete with ham, bacon, sausage, eggs, gravy and trimmings while pageant queens, including County Fair Queen Natalie Boone, greeted guests.



Natalie Parish was presented a Lion of the Year Award from Lions Club President Ronnie Heady.



Jason Martin was presented to sLion of the Year Award by Natalie Parish.



Citizen of the Year Stephanie Martin was honored by Lions leader Natalie Parish.



Crittenden County FFA leaders at the breakfast last week were (from left) Taylor Haire, Madison Walker, Gavin Grimes and Landon Starkey.

FAME

Continued from page 1

preneurship and pride in local agriculture. "This was a big surprise," Buntin said. "When our family sat down at the table there was a sign that said, 'Reserved for Hall of Fame.' I told them we needed to move that this table was for someone else."

Turns out, he was in the right place the whole time.

TAKING BIDS

Yanmar VIO35-6A



Toyota 42 Forklift



Nissan R Forklift



Nissan 60 Forklift



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Farmers Bank and Trust Company is
Now Accepting Sealed Bids
on this equipment through
Friday, August 16, 2024 by 5 p.m.

You are encouraged to inspect equipment prior to submitting your bid. You may inspect this equipment by contacting
Jared Byford
at our Main Office at
(270) 965-3106.

Farmers Bank & Trust Company reserves the right to reject any and all bids. No winning bid will be awarded prior to the deadline of August 16, 2024 at 5 p.m. Farmers Bank & Trust makes no warranties, or certification concerning this equipment. It is being sold "AS IS".

To obtain a bid form, contact Jared Byford in person at our Main Office, by calling 270-965-3106, or by mail at:
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Attention: Loan Department

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2024-2025

Crittenden County Schools

BACK TO SCHOOL

#BelieveInBlue

A special to The Crittenden Press

Thursday, August 8, 2024

Page 1B



Believe remains focus for the new school year

Dear Rocket Family,
Welcome to the 2024-2025 school year! We are excited to begin a new year with our students. When the students enter our doors on the first day of school, we hope that our vision and mission will set the stage for student learning in the district. Crittenden County Schools' vision is to launch students to personal success in an ever-evolving world. Now, more than ever, that vision is more than just a want; it is a need. We are preparing students to work in professions and industries that



Superintendent
Tonya Driver

don't yet exist, but we know that the timeless skills of cooperation, collaboration, critical thinking, and problem-solving will equip them to thrive in any environment.
When we adopted the #BelieveInBlue tagline last year, we couldn't imagine the profound and far-reaching impact it would have on the decisions we make daily in our district. We believe in our vision. We believe in our mission. And we believe in our core values. Most importantly, however, we believe in our students, our staff, and our community. The word "believe" carries great significance and meaning,

and we have chosen to keep it as a centerpiece of our culture.
Our mission is Committed to Cultivating Success. We achieve that by instilling our core values in each other and in our students. We put **Kids First**. They are at the heart of every decision we make. We pursue **Excellence** by striving to be better tomorrow than we are today. We place a strong emphasis on **Relationships**. We nurture positive connections by treating others with empathy, compassion, and respect. **Safety** is our top focus. We prioritize the physical and mental well-being of our Rocket family. We celebrate **Tradition**. We take pride in our identity as

Rockets by honoring our history as we invest in our future.
We wholeheartedly believe in our students, our staff, our parents, and our community, and we invite you to **#BelieveInBlue** with us as we look forward to another great year of learning and growth.

Kids First

Excellence

Relationships

Safety

Tradition



Time Magazine's Kid of the Year visits Marion

Orion Jean, Time Magazine's Kid of the Year in 2021 and author of "Race to Kindness," shared the story that led to his national acclaim as the Kindness Kid Tuesday, Aug. 6 at Rocket Arena.
His visit prompted the designation of Kindness Week Aug. 4-10 in Marion, Crittenden County and Kentucky as an effort to recognize good deeds and acts of affection.
Jean, a Texan who will be entering high school this fall, was honored by Time Magazine for his kindness initiative, "Race to Kindness," designed to spread kindness all over the world. He also authored "A Kids Book About Leadership" and encouraged the collection of toys, books and food in his past endeavors, Race to 500 Toys, Race to 100,000 Meals and the Race to 500,000 Books.
His website racetokindness.com currently is collecting 1 million acts of kindness, and individuals can submit acts of goodwill on the site.

2024-25 School Bus Routes

- CCES 1st ROUND

Chapel
- BUS 041 MANDY HUNT:

Cherry Street, Rochester Ave., Luck St., Second St., N. College, Whippoorwill Dr. to Hillcrest Dr. to Summit to Harmon Dr. to U.S. 60.

BUS 1514 AMBER LENE-AVE:

East Bellville (from Five Star to Marion Feed Mill), Old Shady Grove, Club Dr., Guess Dr., N. Clay, Tribune Tower Rd., Wilson Farm Rd., Ky. 132 (Enon Church) to Ky. 120.
- BUS 212 SARA OMER:

Old Salem Rd., West Bellville St., to North Yandell, Travis to Keeling to North Weldon (Streets along N. Weldon including Creek St.) Turn-around at Starling (Pick-up for Williams Park is Pigeon Dr.).

BUS 1528 KEITH WILCOX:

Air Evac at Crittenden Hospital annex), KB Pharmacy, Main Street pick up and drop in front of Frazer Law, Terrace Dr., Tower Rd., Sugar Grove Church Rd., Ky. 120-139 Shady Grove, Providence Rd.
- BUS 0739 COURTNEY PATE:

Ky. 365 to Long Branch, Ky. 1901, Mattoon Loop, Nunn Switch Rd., Caney Fork, Blackford to turnaround, back Blackford to Nunn Switch, Fishtrap back to U.S. 60, J.P. Hower-ton and West Bellville from stoplight to N. Yandell.

BUS 1508 RICKY WIND-ERS:

S. Weldon (includes joining streets), Ky. 1668, Ky. 135, OB McDaniel Rd., Donald Winders Rd., Aunt Jane Tabernacle, Willard Easley Rd., Hebron Church Rd., Ky. 91 (cannot cross bridge or go to Freedom Church due to weight restrictions) AT Crider.
- BUS 2319 LIBBI ROBIN-SON:

CCHS to CCES a.m., CCES to CCHS p.m., Ky. 297 from Glendale Church Rd. to Ky. 723 S., Ky. 723 to Cecil Croft Rd., Ky. 838 W., Claude Belt, New Union Church, Lewis Croft, Deer Creek.

BUS 1520 MATT MINIARD:

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 2356 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

CCHS/CCMS 1st ROUND (STARTING AT ROAD)

BUS 21 BRYCE WINDERS:

U.S. 641 from Industrial Dr.

BUS — Continued on page 3B
- ## Crittenden County Schools
- ### 2024-2025 School Calendar
- | August 2024 | September 2024 | October 2024 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| 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 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| February 2025 | March 2025 | April 2025 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| Su | M | Tu | W | Th | F | Sa | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Su | M | Tu | W | Th | F | Sa | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| Su | M | Tu | W | Th | F | Sa | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| May 2025 | June 2025 | July 2025 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| Su | M | Tu | W | Th | F | Sa | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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- Regular Instructional Day

Holiday

Professional Development

First & Last Day for Students

District Planning Day

Opening/Closing

Non School Day
- | | | | |
|--------------|-------------------------------|--------------|-----------------------|
| Aug 6 | District Planning Day | Jan 6 | District Planning Day |
| Aug 7-9 | Professional Development Days | Jan 20 | No School |
| Aug 12 | No School | Feb 17 | No School |
| Aug 13 | Opening Day | Feb 18 | District Planning Day |
| Aug 14 | First Day for Students | Mar 31-Apr 4 | Spring Break |
| Sept 2 | Labor Day | Apr 7 | District Planning Day |
| Oct 7-11 | Fall Break | May 22 | Last Day for Students |
| Oct 14 | Professional Development Day | May 23 | Closing Day |
| Nov 5 | Election Day | May 26 | Memorial Day |
| Nov 27-29 | Thanksgiving Break | May 27 | District Planning Day |
| Dec 20-Jan 3 | Christmas Break | | |
- School Day - 7:55 AM - 3:00 PM

Working together to grow our students

Welcome back, Rockets! What an honor it is to serve as principal of Crittenden County High School for the 2024-2025 school year. Our dedicated and talented staff, family and community supporters and I look forward to watching you grow and achieve new heights of success! With a focus on our core values (Kids First, Excellence, Relationships, Safety,

and Tradition), we'll work together as a team to become the best versions of ourselves. This year, our SBDM Council consists of teacher representatives, Dr. Derrick



Josh Cook
CCHS Principal

Ford, Deonna McCord and Brittany Mardis. Our parent representatives are Aaron Brown and Patti Merrill. We'll meet on the third Thursday of each month in the CCHS Conference Room, at 3:30 p.m. Our school administrative team members each have an open door policy and welcome input and feedback from students, staff, parents, and the

CCHS SBDM:
Members are Aaron Brown, Deona McCord, Derrick Ford, Patti Merrill, Brittany Mardis

Meetings are held the third Thursday of each month at 3:30 p.m.

community. Growing our students takes all of us, working together, to

provide the support, resources, and encouragement they need to find personal success in an ever-evolving world. We believe that so strongly, we have adopted that as the guiding vision for our district. In my first year as a Rocket, I had the privilege of getting to know you and experience what makes Crittenden County so special. This year,

I'm excited to build on that momentum as we forge new opportunities for you, as students, and new experiences as Rockets. I believe in your talents, your strengths, and your abilities. I believe in our teachers, our staff, our parents, and community. Most importantly, I believe in you, and I #BelieveInBlue! I look forward to seeing you soon!

School year starts with new teachers at CCHS

MILAM
Like several teachers in Crittenden County Schools this year, Dr. Tanya Travis Milam is putting retirement on the back burner to return to the classroom. Milam will teach integrated science, biology and introduction to chemistry and physics. Science is a critical shortage area in Kentucky, which allows districts to hire retired teachers when active teachers are not available.



Milam

Milam graduated from Crittenden County High School, Murray State University and taught middle school science for 27 years at Nebo, Providence, Hopkinsville and Browning Springs in Hopkins County before retiring in 2019.

She returned to her alma mater, Murray State University and completed coursework in 2023 for a doctorate in education with an emphasis in agriculture education.

"It is something I had always wanted to pursue, and before I retired I had started it," Milam said.

Milam shows Tennessee Walking Horses and, in fact, will show one in the fall championship in Murfreesboro, Tenn.

"At 56 I was too young to quit working, and it helps pay for my doctorate and horses," she added.

Milam was a permanent sub at Crittenden County Middle School the last two years.

She calls the ability to teach in her hometown and care for her parents a Godsend. This will be her first year teaching high school science, and she looks forward to the challenge.

BATUANG

A math position at Crittenden County High School is fulfilling Cedrich Batuang's dream to experience teaching outside his native Philippines.

Batuang, 31, arrived in the U.S. last week through the U.S. Department of State's Teacher Exchange Program, which gives him the opportunity to teach in the U.S. for up to three years.

He will be teaching math.

He was a teacher in the Philippines for eight years at his alma mater St. Louis College and La Union National High School in San Fernando, where he taught business math, statistics and probabilities, algebra and geometry.

St. Louis College is not a university as the name suggests; instead, it is an institution serving preschool through college-level students. For the last two years, Batuang said he took time off to "work on fatherhood." Despite a young family at home, Batuang said his wife and family are supportive of his desire to teach in the United States.

"At first my family was hesitant because this is my first time, but upon

telling them what good opportunities there are – they are much bigger and many things learn here in U.S. as I see on YouTube or articles on internet – they became very supportive," he said. And how did he find Crittenden County, Kentucky?

The Kentucky Department of Education provided him with a list of districts that participate in the Teacher Exchange Program. He saw the job opening for a math position at CCHS and feels fortunate to have received an interview.

Participating in the program requires a U.S. Visa sponsor, which he found through Global Educational Concepts in Nashville. The process took about six weeks, including a series of interviews and submitting documentation. Batuang arrived in Marion last week.

He began learning English in the first grade, so he speaks the language fluently, but admits he has a "Filipino accent." He says he is a fast learner and will get accustomed to western English.

He plans to "give all of his efforts, give the best to the school that has given me this opportunity."

COLEMAN

Emma Rushing Coleman, 28, will lead the new JAG (Jobs for America's Graduates) program at Crittenden County High School this fall.

About 50 students will take JAG as an elective.

JAG programming focuses on leadership development and will teach skills students need to be successful in college and the workforce. Like

Crittenden, Union and McCracken counties are new to JAG this year.

Team building skills, financial literacy and soft skills like professional communication and creating resumes will accompany field trips and guest speakers to help prepare students for life after high school.

Coleman is a Livingston Central High School graduate and graduate of Murray State University. She earned her Master's Degree in guidance from Campbellsville University in 2019.



Coleman

Since then, she has worked in McCracken County Schools and most recently in student services at the University of Kentucky College of Engineering's Paducah campus.

"While working with college students, almost all of them said there was someone who helped them get there –

whether it was a parent, community member or teacher – and I thought how many students don't have someone to help get here.

"When the JAG position was posted, I thought it was the best of both worlds in what I do – connecting students 9-12 into what their options are after high school and also the perfect way to be "that person" who helped them get there for so many kids."

Coleman is married to CCHS graduate Tyler Coleman. They have a nine-month old son, Crew.

"JAG will cater to students in class," she said. "If they are interested in nursing, we will spend time exploring what they need to get there and what their options are in this area and give as many opportunities as they can get to see that field."

MERRICK

Teaching is in Ellen Merrick's blood. Both her parents were educators in Crittenden County, and after a few years

away from Marion, she's returned to teach senior English.

"It just makes sense that I've ended up doing what they did and do," said Merrick, a 2017 graduate of Campbellsville University.

She earned a degree in music vocal performance and got her start in education as a preschool assistant.

"I realized how much I loved helping kids learn – even in school, I helped friends and peers with homework, and I loved reading over their papers and stories and giving them feedback," she said. Merrick pursued the alternative certification program to obtain teaching credentials at Murray State University.

"My first high school job was in Webster County where I spent four years, which proved



Merrick

NEW — Continued on page 3B

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NEW
Continued from page 2B

to me that high school is where I belong,” she said. Merrick said moving away from Marion and teaching in other districts helped her appreciate where she grew up. “Crittenden County Schools and its teachers fostered my love for literature and writing, and gave me opportunities to be creative and pursue the arts that I hope to be able to provide for other kids at CCHS,” she said. Her father Todd is an English teacher and her mother a former librarian and author. “Teaching English is a given,” she said. “I’m so fortunate to have parents who love their community and have taught me to give back to it just like they have. I hope I can live up to the legacy they have begun here.”

LANHAM
Marlee Lanham is adding another element to her agriculture repertoire. She and her husband Dustin raise registered Gelbvieh cattle, and this year she is taking her knowledge of the agriculture industry to Crittenden County High School. Lanham, 35, holds a bachelor of science in agriculture business management from UT Martin, and will soon complete her master’s in teacher leadership via the Crittenden County Schools’ alternative certification program. The Metropolis, Ill., native will teach agriculture principles at the high school and nine-week rotations at the middle school of basic ag studies

to help expose students to animal science, horticulture and ag power pathways offered at the high school. Lanham spent six years as a radio-graphic technician at Crittenden Hospital before moving into various roles the last few years in the school system. Most recently she was a technology assistant. Lanham plans to have guests with careers in the agriculture industry to expose students to the vastness of agriculture opportunities. “I am a big proponent of kids finding something works for them,” she said. “I want to expose them to the options in the ag community because ag is not just farming. There is also the business side such as ag finances, loan officers who specialize in farm loans, crop futures, aquaculture, dairy, and so many options kids can go into in their back yard.” She also said it is important for students to know where their food comes from. “They need to know so much more involved in it than picking up food eat the grocery,” she said.

BECK
Dennise Beck will put a college chemistry degree to work this fall at Crittenden County High School. She will teach introduction to chemistry and physics and chemistry. Beck graduated from

Murray State University after pursuing pre-pharmacy coursework in 2007. Instead of continuing on to pharmacy school, Beck began working as a lab technician at a plant in Calvert City and also spent time as a pharmacy technician. Education runs in the family. Her mother, Paula Porter, was a long-time business teacher at CCHS. Beck has worked as a substitute teacher the last three years, mostly at Crittenden County High School, and she taught physical science and chemistry two years at Livingston Central. She said the late Mike Watson, who taught her chemistry class in high school, is credited with leading her toward a chemistry degree in college. “I enjoyed chemistry in high school and Mr. Watson was a wonderful teacher,” she said.

“My mom also influenced me to want to be a teacher because I see all the positive relationships she still has with her former students,” Beck said. “She will see former students while we are out and they will say, ‘Mrs. Porter!’ and are happy to see her. You can tell she had a positive impact on their lives. I love when I see that and hope I can be like her in that way.” Though it wasn’t her original career path 20 years ago, she is excited to be back in the chemistry department at CCHS where she developed a love for the same subject matter. Beck has a fourth-grad-



Lanham



Beck

CCHS Pathways:

Students at Crittenden County High School pursue one of the following educational pathways during their high school career:

- Aerospace
- Bio Medical
- Agriculture (Animal Science, Horticulture, Ag Power)

- Business
- Family & Consumer Sciences
- Teaching & Learning
- Computer Programming

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CCHS Staff

Teachers & Assistants

Jessica Abercrombie, Agriculture

Cedrich Batuang, Mathematics

Denise Beck, Science

Alex Benoit, Band Director

Kaitlyn Berry, Specially Designed Instruction

Heather Bloodworth, Foreign Language

Mackenzie Cook, Job Coach/Employment Specialist

Gaige Courtney, ISD/Alternative School

Casey Evans, Mathematics/Science

Derrick Ford, English Language Arts

Jennifer Gibson, Specially Designed Instrucion

Lori Glore, Specially Designed Instruction

Vicki Hatfield, Social Studies

Jessie Hill, Library Media Specialist

Marlee Lanham, Agriculture

Trevor Lewis, ISD

Brittany Mardis, Family & Consumer Sciences

Nick Martinez, Mathematics

Sandra Martinez, Health/PE

Deonna McCord, English Language Arts

Stacey McKinney, CCR Coach

Ellen Merrick, English Language Arts

CCHS Office

Staci Blackburn, Receptionist

Bree Brown, Bookkeeper

Josh Cook, Principal

Debroah Harmon, Assistant Principal

Kathy Harris, Secretary

Kara Markham, Instructional Coach

Stefanie Shoulders, Guidance Counselor

Student Support

Carissa Fritts, Mountain Compreshensive Care

Jeff Hughes, Crosswalk Coordinator

Jessie Mathieu, Pennyroyal Services

Rick Coyle, School Resouce Officer

Ashley Thomas, Nurse Assistant

Brandy Whitney, School Nurse

Technology

Rita Binkley, Ben Grainger

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“Have a Great Day” SCHOOL YEAR CHECKLIST

BEFORE SCHOOL

- ☐ Brush my teeth
- ☐ Wash my face
- ☐ Brush my hair
- ☐ Get dressed
- ☐ Eat breakfast
- ☐ Remember my backpack, lunch and water bottle

AFTER SCHOOL

- ☐ Wash my hands
- ☐ Have a snack
- ☐ Wash my dishes
- ☐ Do my homework
- ☐ Check my chores list

BEFORE BED

- ☐ Choose my breakfast
- ☐ Help prepare my lunch
- ☐ Pack my backpack and remember homework
- ☐ Take a shower
- ☐ Pick out an outfit and shoes
- ☐ Brush my teeth
- ☐ Set my alarm
- ☐ Go to bed on time

Pro Tip for Parents:

Start now easing into the school year routine to help kids adjust to more structured sleep times and schedules. Research shows that routines help keep kids feeling safe and secure and engaged in learning!

Working together helps students acheive and grow

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 joining together again to welcome back our students and learn and grow together. Regarding the dress code, our SBDM council



Kara Turley
CCMS Principal

has worked to set expectations that are fair and balanced for students of both genders and of all sizes. In addition to these goals, we hope to accommodate modern styles. We want our students to feel comfortable and be able to express themselves. There is no set length of acceptable shorts or skirts. We do ask that students dress in a way that is modest and appropriate, and not a distraction to learning. ‘Volleyball’ length shorts are not acceptable, and undergarments must not be visible. The en-

CCMS SBDM:
Members are Ashley Morries, Tiffany Brown, Jessica DeBurgo, Neal Bryant, Anne Lance, Cathy Oliver.

Meetings are held the last Wednesday of each month at 3:45 p.m.

building. This is a safety measure, as it is difficult to identify people who should not be in the building if part of their face is obstructed with a hat. We ask that students leave hats at home. Any hats brought to school will stay in the office until the end of the day. 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. Parents and families are the most important partners we have as educators, 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.kyschools.us`. You can reach us by phone at (270) 965-5221, and keep up with our school initiatives by following us on ParentSquare. For safety reasons, we choose to share the majority of our school information on ParentSquare and not Facebook. Let’s work together to make sure that this is another awesome year at Crittenden County Middle School!

CAVANAH
After a decade in her native Hopkins County, Amber Cavanah is starting a new chapter as a sixth grade English teacher in the Crittenden County School District. She is a 2010 graduate of Dawson Springs High School and a 2014 graduate of Murray State



Cavanah

University, where she met her husband, George Cavanah, Crittenden’s school psychologist. Cavanah has a Master’s of Arts in library media and is working on her second master’s degree in global history. She chose to teach English and history because, she said, “at the heart of each, there are incredible stories to be told.” She taught sixth grade English at James Madison Middle School for three years before mov-

ing to Dawson Springs middle and high school social studies. “My mother, Tammy Dawson, instilled a love of learning within me. She always prioritized education as a pathway to success,” she said. “I was also fortunate to have some great examples of teachers, particularly my middle school science teacher, Kim Menser, whom I had the pleasure of working with for the past six years.” Cavanah loved and ex-

celled in school growing up. “It was like a second home. I simply love learning, and I want to help students,” she said. “The moment a student understands something he or she is struggling with is amazing to see.” She enjoys working to instill a love of learning in her classroom, particularly reading. “Reading is something you have to do every single day, whether it is reading instructions on a box of macaroni, a

street sign, or proofreading your dissertation, you must be able to read competently,” she reminds students. She will tell them that the key to learning to love reading is to take time to read every day.

“Find something you enjoy. Even if it is an article about Taylor Swift or Monster Trucks, read it,” she said. The Cavanahs have two daughters, the oldest of which is a first-grader at CCES.

CCMS Staff

8th grade:
Jessica DeBurgo, English
Anne Lance, Social Studies
Glenna Rich, Science
Madison Champion, Math

7th grade:
Gabrielle Gray, English
Ethan Hill, Social Studies
Neal Bryant, Science
Susan Baker, Math

6th grade:
Amber Cavanah, English
Ben Thompson, Social Studies
Rebecca Bryant, Science
Austin Berry, Math
Nicole Cates, Special Education
Jared Brown, Special Edu-

cation
Kaitlyn Berry, Special Education
Jayme Young, Interventionist
Ken Geary, Technology
Bryce Winders, Health and PE
Jessie Hill, librarian and yearbook
Elizabeth Rodriguez, Art
Alexander Benoit, Band

CCMS Office:
Kara Turley, Principal
Talley Joyce, Counselor
Ashley Frederick, Curriculum Coach
Heidi Hicks, receptionist
Cathy Oliver, Attendance clerk and bookkeeper

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BUS
Continued from page 1B

to Mott City Rd. to Railroad Ave., AH Clements to Dove Lane, Campbell Lane, Weldon from U.S. 641 to Belt Lane, Coleman Rd., Chapel Hill (Brookcliff, Arlene and Hickory Hills) to Moore Ave. (Leland Ave.) Watson to Blackburn to U.S. 60 West.

BUS 1513: CCES to CCHS a.m. - CCHS to CCES p.m.
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 McDonald’s, Johnson’s Furniture and Subway)

BUS 24 KEELY HALL:
Blackburn Church (Just-A-Mere at 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 Sevil to Ky. 506) East Depot, S. Walker, Main Street from Napa to Industrial Dr..

BUS 2216 WADE RAMAGE:
CCHS to CCES a.m., CCES to CCHS p.m., U.S. 60 W.from Ky. 1668 to Crittenden/Livingston line (White Church, Ky. 7971 US 60 W.), Zion Cemetery, Lewis, Love Cemetery, Irma White Youth Camp, Dry Branch.

BUS 33 EMILY GUESS:
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. March Oliver Rd., Dycus Rd., Main Lake Rd., Joyce Rd. at Ky. 70 Lafayette Heights at Ky. 70.

BUS 1604 ED LENEAVE:
U.S. 60 city limits to Ky. 1668

(Bright Beginnings, Airport Rd., Gregory Lane), Claylick Rd., Ky. 2132, View Rd. (2132 to U.S. 60) Kirk Bluff, Damron Rd., Eagle Mine, Ky. 855, Frances Rd., Emmaus 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 2317 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.

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CCES works as team to achieve great things

Dear Students and Families,

Welcome back to another exciting school year at Crittenden County Elementary! I hope you all had a fantastic summer break with fun and relaxation. As we gear up for another year of learning, growth, and success, I want to reassure you that we are fully committed to supporting all of you in your jour-



Sarah Riley
CCES Principal

ney. Our goal is to educate and ensure your success in every aspect of your school life. I am thrilled to welcome you back to our fantastic school community.

This year, we are setting the bar high because we believe in the potential of every one of our students. We have high expectations for ourselves, our students, and our school community. It's about more than what we can achieve individually but what we can accomplish together. We can achieve great things as a team by pushing ourselves to be the best we can be.

CCES SBDM:
Members are Aaron Brown, Tiffany Brown, Kassie Green, Shayann Board, Becky Bailey

Meetings are held the third Tuesday of each month at 4 p.m.

You have the potential to achieve anything you set your mind to, and we are here to support you every step of the way.

Creating a sense of belonging is at the heart of everything we do at Crittenden County Elementary. We are a family, a team, and a community that supports and up-

lifts one another. Let's work together to create a warm and welcoming environment where every student feels valued, respected, and included. Excellent attendance is crucial to success in school. Attending school every day on time and being ready to learn is a habit that can set you

up for a lifetime of success. Let's commit to prioritizing our education by showing up daily and giving it our all.

As we embark on this new school year, let's aim for nothing less than excellence in everything we do. With hard work, dedication, and a positive attitude, there's

no limit to what we can achieve together. I am excited to see all the fantastic things we will accomplish this year. Let's make it a year to remember, filled with growth, achievement, and endless possibilities. Here's to a fantastic school year ahead!

New employees are eager to meet their students at CCES

GOBIN

After a few years out of the district, Melissa Gobin returns to Crittenden County Schools as a second grade special education teacher.

Gobin was a special education teacher at CCES in second- and third-grade classes during the COVID years.

The Dawson Springs native has degrees in teaching and nursing and left the classroom to pursue an administrative position at an assisted living facility.



Gobin

to pursue her master's degree in that field.

"I always thought I would want to teach students with moderate to severe disabilities, I just didn't now where it fit on the timeline," she said. "I guess sooner rather than later."

Smith and her husband have a three-year-old and are foster parents of a one-year-old.

"The Lord's timing has been perfect in all of this," she said. "We are so blessed to start a new ministry and we could not be more thankful and blessed. We're eager and excited to be in the church and community."

SCOTT

A love of teaching and watching students grow academically is magnetizing for Lori Scott.

She has taught every year since retiring in 2019.

Scott began her teaching career in Crittenden County in 1989 and returns to second grade this fall.

Scott's predominantly taught younger elementary grades, but spent time in Title I and as a reading and math interventionist.



Scott

"I love teaching," she said. "I love their personalities – they are so eager to learn, when the lightbulb come on, it makes teaching so worthwhile."

"Seeing how far they come in the course of a year is rewarding."

Scott retired from Caldwell County Schools but spent 15 years in Crittenden County at the beginning of her career.

Last year she taught first grade at Caldwell Primary School.

"My calling is the younger ones," she said.

Returning to Marion is both a fresh start and a homecoming.

"It's like coming back home, I'm getting to teach with people I taught with years ago, it's so fun and they have all been so welcoming."

Her second grade team of teachers includes some familiar faces. As a veteran, she hopes to guide the first-year teacher of the group but expects also to learn from her.

GUESS

Bailey Guess always had her sights set on the classroom.

"I always knew I wanted to teach, since elementary school, I never wanted to do anything else," she said.

The Fredonia native completed her high school career in 2020 in the most unconventional way thanks to COVID-19, and entered Western Kentucky Community and Technical College that fall amid uncertainty from the pandemic.



Guess

After two years, she transferred to Murray State University and graduated in 2024.

This fall her dream comes true as she creates her second-grade classroom at Crittenden Elementary.

She will be teaching alongside longtime friends Shayann Board and Victoria Shewcraft, whose mother was Guess' kindergarten teacher.

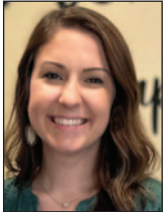
"I'm very comfortable here with my team," she said.

Second grade teachers teach all subject areas, and Guess is up for the assignment.

She said she was prepared for the profession by her home economics teacher and PALS program advisor at Lyon County High School, Amanda Guzik.

SMITH

In a matter of days, Maryanna Smith, 27, will have started a new job in a new teaching area in a new community.



Smith

Smith and her husband Morgan also will start a new ministry when he steps into the pulpit for the first time Aug. 18 at Mexico Baptist Church.

The couple have relocated from Scottsville and she will be the head teacher in Crittenden County Elementary School's moderate to severe disabilities classroom.

Smith graduated from Marshall County High School and then from the University of Kentucky in 2019 with a degree in career and technical education. For 2 ½ years, she taught agriculture and science at Old Kentucky Home Middle School in Nelson County.

In December she will complete her Master's in Special Education from Campbellsville University.

She enjoyed her experience with a small group of special education students in Nelson County, prompting her

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Tabor, Crabtree take on new roles

Two longtime teachers at Crittenden County Elementary are changing roles this year.

Cindy Crabtree is the new music teacher and Mollie Tabor is one of two interventionists.

Tabor is adding some flare and an acronym to the term interventionist, using the word HYPE (Helping You Progress Every day). Data from testing identifies students who need extra help in reading and math. The



Crabtree



Tabor

other interventionist – or HYPE leader – is JJ Graham, who has been in that position for six years.

Leaving the classroom where she had taught kindergarten through second grade for the past 25 years has been somewhat emotional, Tabor said.

“I will work with a broader spectrum of kiddos and teachers throughout the building, and I am really excited about that,” she said.

Cindy Crabtree is thrilled to be working with all CCES students in the music classroom since being a fifth-grade teacher for the past 19 years. She taught third and fourth grades her first six years.

“I am excited about the opportunity to do something different the last two or three years I plan on teaching, and I like singing, I was in the band so I have a little background, but I’m willing to learn along with the kids,” she said.

Crabtree will use a program called Quaver designed in Nashville that presents music lessons and activities in a fun

way with computer-aided technology. She plans to collaborate with physical education teacher Mandy Hunt for the school’s annual Veterans Day presentation, and will coordinate the spring first-grade musical. She also will introduce a new instrument – bucket drumming.

“I will teach recorders and other instruments, and I want kids to put their hands physically on instruments, even if it is the triangles, I want them to be able to say they’ve played an instrument in music,” she said.

All students in the elementary school participate in music class once a week for 50 minutes.



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CCES

Continued from page 5B

“I love reading and we will build on what they learned in first grade,” she said.

BOLING

After two years in human resources, Madison Boling returned to college, following in her family’s footsteps to become a teacher.

The Marshall County native is a fourth generation educator who will be a fourth-grade math and science teacher at Crittenden County Elementary School.

“The people there are unlike anywhere else, I felt right at home and that makes me really ex-

cited,” said Boling, 27.

She worked at North Calloway for the previous two years, teaching fourth-grade reading her first year, followed by a year as a math interventionist.

She earned an undergraduate degree in business from Northern Kentucky University in 2019 and completed her Master’s of Education after being drawn into the education field.

“There is so much support in (Crittenden County), and I feel that – it feels



Boling

different. I feel accepted and welcome,” she said.

GARDNER

Mandy Gardner got a small taste of retirement since leaving Crittenden County Schools in 2022.

But early in 2024 she returned as a reading and math interventionist, and this fall will re-enter the district as a full-time fifth grade special education teacher.

Gardner taught 31 years Crittenden Elementary – 13 years in sixth grade and kindergarten



Gardner

and 12 years in special education. Her final years were spent as a reading and math interventionist.

She enjoys teaching in small groups like special education.

“I love kids in general and working with kids,” she said. “I like to see kids grow academically and that in itself is why a teacher teaches, and I love to see them mature as a person as well.”

Gardner will have seven of her 13 grandchildren at the elementary school.

“For years I didn’t have a homeroom, so I did breakfast duty, and I love seeing the kids every morning come in, I love to speak to them and say good morning and have great day,” she said.

CCES Staff		
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Preschool: Meagan Brasher, Shanna Loudon, Tami Smith-Allen Preschool assistants: Deana Becker, Kennedy Ford, Carla Tinsley	Psychologist: George Cavanah Curriculum: Tiffany DeBoe Arts & Humanities: Suzanne Brown Physical Education: Mandy Hunt	Instructional Assistants: Taylor Berry, Marsha Burkeen, Breann Duncan, Stephanie Mott
Kindergarten: Jennifer Beverly, Kassie Green, Denise Guess, Andrea Markham	Library: Mary Ann Winders Music: Cindy Crabtree GT: Kathleen Guess Intervention: JJ Graham and Mollie Tabor	Special Education Instruction Assistants: Angie Beverly, Courtney McMackin, Missy Nelson, Dillan Smith, Elaine Young
First Grade: Magan Cruce, Ann Moore, Cassie Polk, Kayla Travis	Special Education: Becky Bailey, Heather Belt, Stephanie Galusha, Mandy Gardner, Melissa Gobin, Brooke Hunt, Tara Kirk, Melissa Shewcraft, Maryanna Smith, Shelby Werne	Food Service: Cindy English, Tammy Lemon, Megan Mathews, Lucy Mattingly, Mandy McConnell, Amber McLean, Sheila Miniard, Michelle Roberts, Shelly Roberts
Second Grade: Olivia Bloodworth, Shayann Board, Bailey Shea Guess, Lori Scott, Victoria Shewcraft	Mountain Comprehensive Care: Sammie Jo Tabor FRYSC assistant: Stephanie Martin	Custodians: Greg Hewitt, Chuck George, Donna Herron, Michelle Hewitt, Cyndi Ivy
Third Grade: Melia Cappello, Abby McKinney, Renee Stowe, Julie Young	Office staff: Julie	School nurse: Cindy Roberts; Donnette Perryman, assistant
Fourth Grade: Madison Boling, Amanda Harris, Vicky Parker, Alyssa		



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