

OLD KENTUCKY HAYRIDE  
AT FOHS HALL SATURDAY

The popular Old Kentucky Hayride music and variety show returns to Fohs Hall Saturday, Feb. 12. Two dozen area musicians will entertain the crowd with classic country music starting at 7 p.m. The show is produced by local entertainers Classy & Grassy. Canned goods will be accepted as admission. Crittenden County FFA will operate concessions. You can follow Old Kentucky Hayride on Facebook for additional information.

KIRK'S WITHDRAWAL  
LEAVES 1 IN DISTRICT 4

Robbie Kirk, a Republican candidate for District 4 magistrate in Crittenden County, has submitted a Notice of Candidate Withdrawal. Kirk is currently county jailer, but had decided to not seek re-election. However, he filed to run for magistrate in District 4. Democrat incumbent Chad Thomas is the only other candidate to have filed for the District 4 seat on Crittenden Fiscal Court. See full candidate list on page 3.

MCDANIEL TO SEEK  
BOARD RE-ELECTION

Ryan McDaniel, a six-year incumbent on the Crittenden County Board of Education, has filed for re-election. School board races are non-partisan and the deadline to file for a non-partisan election is June 7. McDaniel serves in District 5, which includes voting precincts 3, 6 and 12. He is seeking his second full term on the board after serving part of an unexpired term and being elected for a full four-year term in 2018. The only other school board seat up for election in 2022 is in District 2 where Eric LaRue is the incumbent. Five individuals make up the board of education.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- Crittenden County Interagency Council will meet at 9:30 a.m., Thursday, Feb. 17. Site TBD.
- Crittenden County Fiscal Court meets at 8:30 a.m., Thursday, Feb. 17 at the courthouse.
- Marion City Council will meet at 5 p.m., Monday, Feb. 14 at city hall. This is earlier in the month than the council's typical meeting on the third Monday.
- Fredonia City Council will meet at 7 p.m., Monday, Feb. 21 at city hall.
- Salem City Council will meet at 6 p.m., Tuesday, Feb. 15 at Deer Lakes meeting room.
- Crittenden County Board of Education meets at 5:30 p.m., Tuesday, Feb. 22.
- Crittenden-Livingston Water District will meet at 4 p.m., Monday, Feb. 28 at Deer Lakes meeting room.

No matter your generation or which platform you prefer, The Press is there bringing you news and sports in a timely fashion. Join us online today!

The Crittenden Press

USPS 138-260 / Marion, Ky.

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Wayne Agent has been sheriff in Crittenden County for more than two decades. He's the longest serving sheriff in county history and this year will be his last.



County Jailer  
Robbie Kirk



Longest serving PVA  
Ronnie Heady



District 6 Magistrate  
Dan Wood  
First elected in 2002



2nd longest serving  
County Attorney  
Rebecca Johnson

Calling it Quits

Sheriff, County Attorney, PVA, Jailer, other officials are not seeking re-election, ending years of service

BY CHRIS EVANS  
PRESS EDITOR

This year's election cycle will change the landscape of Crittenden County's public service leadership like none in recent history.

In some cases, this historic election will mean a changing of the guard in a couple of county offices held for more than two decades by the same individuals.

The filing deadline has come and gone for candidates to run in the spring primary election. Among those who are hanging up their spikes of community service are long-time local servants who have chosen not to seek re-election. Those are Sheriff Wayne Agent, County Attorney Rebecca Johnson, PVA Ronnie Heady, Jailer Robbie Kirk and

Magistrate Dan Wood.

Together, they share almost 100 years of experience in public office.

Another magistrate, Todd Perryman, is not seeking re-election. Instead, he is campaigning for PVA.

The sheriff and property valuation administrator are the longest serving of those retiring from public office. They were each elected in the fall of 1998 and took office a couple of months later, beginning their first years of service in

ELECTION 2022

Crittenden County

Primary Election  
May 17

General Election  
November 8

See complete list of candidates currently filed on page 3 of this issue.

1999.

Wood was elected to serve District 6, which includes Shady Grove and the eastern section of the county. Johnson was elected as counsel to county government and local prosecutor in the fall of 2006.

Coincidentally, three of those four not seeking a return to office are among the few Democrats who have held onto public posts amid a wave of party defections across the South and Midwest, and even here in Crittenden County where a two-party system has been quite strong for years. Democrats held a majority here until 2014. In the past 8 years, Republicans have mounted huge gains in the county, holding a nearly 60-

See **RETIRE**/page 3A

Schumann Est.  
gives \$150,000  
to foundation

STAFF REPORT

The first distribution of funds from the Linda Schumann estate are going to the Crittenden County Rocket Foundation.

The school district has announced that \$150,000 has been pledged to its foundation, which helps students offset the cost of dual-credit college courses and vocational-technical certifications among other benefits. The foundation began an aggressive fundraising effort about a year ago with the goal of raising \$150,000. Before the Schumann contribution, the foundation had reached about one-third of its objective.

Schumann, a community and civic advocate, died in June 2019, leaving nearly \$1 million to Crittenden County Tomorrow, an organization

See **PLEDGE**/page 13A



Architectural rendering of design option for new high school

School project likely to  
face a six-month delay

STAFF REPORT

A shortage of building materials and labor appears likely to create delays in construction projects on the high school campus. Some will stay on target, but the new high school and football field will probably be delayed.

A series of renovation and construction plans have been in the works for more than a year. Intentions are to build a new high school and upgrade the current high school building, which will be turned into a middle school.

There had been some speculation that demolition would begin on the football field this spring to free up the spot where a high school will be built. It

now appears that demolition and construction of a new Rocket Stadium will be delayed until after the 2022 fall football season.

An increase in material costs, plus labor and material shortages, have been feared for several months. Last week, school officials began talking about a new timeline that wouldn't kick off until November. School officials had hoped to advertise for bids next month and have construction of the field complete by September.

With the pre-construction timeline already a month behind, school administrators say it will be best to plan for a

See **SCHOOL**/page 13A

Yep, it's  
our free  
edition

If you're not a weekly subscriber to this newspaper, you may be wondering why you're receiving this edition of The Crittenden Press.

The Feb. 10 issue of your community newspaper is being distributed to every home in Crittenden County on a one-time basis. It's a common annual practice for many newspapers, but this is our first run at it, at least in modern history.



Allison  
MICK-EVANS  
THE CRITTENDEN PRESS  
Write Now  
Commentary

Local news is no less important than it was 30-plus years ago before the rise of our Information Age and social media platforms. Timely reporting about issues or events in this community, which affect you, can be found nowhere else in verified and accurate detail than in the pages of your weekly newspaper.

Sure, social media platforms are fun, but they are also filled with mis- and disinformation, which makes our job of collecting, verifying and reporting facts even more important.

Good journalism is reliable, accurate, thorough and thoughtful. Trustworthy news is attributable and reported by professionals trained in research and media law.

Carrying out our charge has been the goal of this newspaper since 1879 and we are proud to continue this commitment 143 years later.

You may see this newspaper on the counter at Food Giant or a dozen other local outlets, or if you're in town on Wednesday afternoons, you may see people carrying it out of our office. Watch and you just might see people sitting in their car flipping through the pages before they pull away from the curb. It happens and we appreciate all of our loyal readers.

Though the printed page is how local news has been shared for decades, we have evolved in the digital world to offer our newspaper in online electronic format and we also send it to subscribers who prefer the full email edition. It's pretty cool to see the newspaper in your inbox every week in living color.

Through this a special issue, what you see is what you get on an average week. News, sports, obituaries, commentary, history and

See **PAPER**/page 7A

keep the change

tabor

county clerk

ON FACEBOOK  
Tabor for County Clerk

Paid for by Daryl K. Tabor



# Deaths

## Lawless

Bennett R. Lawless, 83, of Smithland, died Tuesday, Feb. 1, 2022 at Livingston Hospital and Healthcare Services in Salem.

He was born in Lola to Bill and Elsie Faulkner Lawless Sept. 23, 1938. He was a member of Burna Community Baptist Church and previously a member of Birdsville Baptist, where he was saved and baptized, Second Baptist in Smithland and Mint Springs Baptist. He was also a member of Local 181 Operating Engineers, and Salem Masonic Lodge # 81. He was an amateur radio operator and a veteran of the United States Army.

Surviving are a daughter, Bridgett Lawless of Smithland; a son, Daniel Lawless of Smithland; a grandchild, Lakyn Alexander; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Dorothy Buford Lawless; three brothers; and his parents.

Graveside services were Wednesday, Feb. 9 at McMurray Chapel Cemetery. Boyd Funeral Directors and Cremation Services was in charge of arrangements.

## Holloman

Eddie Bruce Holloman, 71, of Marion, died Tuesday, Feb. 1, 2022 at Livingston Hospital and Healthcare Services, Inc.

Surviving are his wife of nine years, Estie Thomas; two children, Patrick Holloman of Providence and Robert (Leta) Holloman of Macedonia, Ill.; four stepchildren, Jonathan McMackin, Lynise Teer, Garrett McMackin and Kennett McMackin; seven grandchildren; six step grandchildren; and two brothers, Randell Holloman and David (Robin) Holloman.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Robert Cecil and Sarah Frances Holloman; and a brother, Donald Holloman.

Services were Sunday, Feb. 6 at Gilbert Funeral Home with burial in McMican Cemetery.

## Allen

Wilma Jewel Allen, 89, of Marion, died Tuesday, Feb. 1, 2022 at Livingston Hospital and Healthcare Services, Inc. She was a member of Seven Springs Baptist

Church and foster parent of 92 children.

Surviving are four daughters, Yetta (Jim) Freeman of Hot Springs, Ark., Cynthia Ann Short-Tyson of Marion, Elizabeth Ann Baker of the Mexico community and Susan Marie Jones of Clay; a son, James A "Bert" (Marty) Allen of Jericho, Vt.; 12 grandchildren, Phillip (Bianca) Hinchee, Justin Baker, Raichel Jones, Tyree Jones, Scott (Stacey) Langston, Nickolas (Laura) Allen, Sean Allen, Logan Allen, Kelly Allen, Brendan Allen, Jenny (Brian) Kubacak and Emily (Janet) Freeman; 8 great-grandchildren, Wesley and Olivia Hinchee, Grayson Langston, Austin Merriott, Ashlyn (Curtis) Simmons, Coby (Lauren) Howell, Caleb (Cat) Kubacak and Coryn (Tyler) Anderson and great-grandchild, Boone Freeman.

She was preceded in death by her husband, James T. "Bud" Allen; her parents, William McKinley and Rutha Mae Fletcher; and three brothers, Emmett, Roy Ellis and Guthrie Clifton Fletcher.

Services were Saturday, Feb. 5 at Seven Springs Baptist Church with burial in Mexico Cemetery. Gilbert Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

## Mills

Shanan Travis Mills, 66, of Bowling Green, peacefully passed away with her family on Tuesday, Feb. 1, 2022.

She was born on March 24, 1955 to Georgia Morton Travis and Douglas Jackson Travis in Marion. After graduating from Murray State University, she moved to Bowling Green to complete her Master of Arts in Education. She went on to work with public schools in Kentucky for over 35 years, most recently as an instructional coach at Parker-Bennet-Curry Elementary School.

In 1979, Shanan married the love of her life, Eddie Mills, at her parents' home in Marion. They continued to live in Bowling Green and have two children, Mikaila Mills and Travis Mills. There was nothing more important to Shanan than the wellbeing of her family, which included much laughter and joy at the table during meals and games. Those games continued as her children become adults and included her beloved grandson, Corbin Jackson Freeman.

Shanan knew how to plan and host a gathering, down to every detail for holidays, family

events and her Bunco dinners. She also enjoyed and was dedicated to her regular early morning workout group. For her time away, she loved to be near water and spend time in the sun, whether it was in the salty air of the beach or crisp air of the lake.

Shanan deeply loved and appreciated the arts – visual arts, music, literature, and poetry. She dedicated most of her life to ensure that others could enjoy the same. She loved teaching students, coaching teachers, and creating a strong bond with her grandson as she taught him how to read. She will be remembered not only for her hardworking and nurturing demeanor but her ferocious sense of humor, contagious laughter and quick wit.

A celebration of life event will be held at a later date in Shanan's memory. Memorial donations may be made to Bowling Green Independent School District (BGISD) for the Parker-Bennett-Curry Literacy Program with checks payable to BGISD, c/o Shaunna Cornwell at 1211 Center Street Bowling Green, KY 42101.

J.C. Kirby & Son Lovers Lane Chapel was in charge of arrangements. *Paid obituary*

## Watson

Donna Fay Watson, 82, formerly of Caldwell County, died Tuesday, Feb. 1, 2022 at Salem Springlake Nursing home in Salem.

She was born Nov. 3, 1939 in Marion to the late Taft and Stella Jennings Rushing. She was a homemaker and pastor's wife and of the Baptist faith. She was a member of Samaria Baptist Church.

Surviving are two daughters, Judy (Johnnie) Davis of Caldwell County and Kim Watson of Princeton, Ind.; a twin brother, Donald Ray (Linda) Rushing of Lyon County; three grandchildren, Ashley (Shane) Alexander of Princeton, John Curtis (Jennifer) Davis of Crittenden County and Kyle Davis of Caldwell County; and eight great-grandchildren.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Bro. Bernard Watson; and an infant son.

Funeral services were Sunday, Feb. 6 at Morgan's Funeral Home with Bro. Mike Franklin and Bro. Johnnie Davis officiating. Burial was in Morse Cemetery in Caldwell County.

Memorial contributions may be made to The Gideons International, P.O. Box 421,

Eddyville, KY 42038.

## Smith

Services for Timothy E. Smith, 53, of Marion, have been rescheduled for 2 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 12, 2022 due to recent inclement weather.

Smith died Sunday, Jan. 30 at Lourdes Hospital in Paducah.

His complete obituary can be found in the Feb.3 issue of The Crittenden Press.

## Alexander

Alta Herbert Alexander, Jr., 93 of Marion, died Tuesday, Feb. 1, 2022 at Crittenden Community Hospital.

Brother Alexander pastored Pleasant Grove General Baptist Church for over 45 years and had served at several other churches. He was also a farmer.

Surviving are a son Tony (Kay) Alexander of Marion; a daughter-in-law, Brenda Alexander of Marion; four grandchildren, Shannon Alexander, Sherri (Scott) Pruitt, Stephanie (Jason Sisco) Camp, Justin (Jennifer Travis) Alexander; five great-grandchildren, Cheyenne and

Harbour Camp, Cody and Isabella Pruitt, Hilary (Matthew) Fagan; a great-great-granddaughter, Delilah Fagan; and a sister, Ruth Flener of Kansas City, Mo.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Alta Herbert and Birdie Virginia Pitcock Alexander; wife, Rachel Mae Arlack Alexander, son, Larry Alexander and daughter, Peggy Alexander.

Graveside services will be held at Mapleview Cemetery at a later date. There will be no public visitation at the funeral home.

## Brantley

Virginia Louise Brantley, 88, formerly of Marion, died Saturday, Feb. 5, 2022 at Stafford Care Center in Stafford, Missouri. For the past 2½ years she was being cared for and living in the home of her daughter until moving to Stafford Care Center. She was a loving sister, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother.

Surviving are a daughter, Teresa Davidson; two grandchildren; one great-granddaughter and four great-grandsons; two sisters, Janet Westerdorff and Janie Heidrich, both of Marion; and a brother, Danny Chandler of Marion.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Gerald Brantley; a son Greg Brantley; and her parents, Marion

and Maybell Jones Chandler.

Graveside services were Tuesday, Feb. 8 at Mapleview Cemetery with Pastor Russ Davidson officiating.

## Odom

Martha Sue (Eskew) Odom, 78, of Henderson, died Friday, Jan. 28, 2022 at her home. She was born on Oct. 18, 1943 in Marion to the late Chester and Naomi (Yates) Eskew.

Martha devoted her life to spending time with her kids and grandkids.

Surviving are four children, Darlene Adams, April Guthrie, Jennifer Odom and Charlie Odom; 11 grandchildren, Tannis Holt, Ethan Guthrie, Keela Guthrie, Dallas Brooks, Felicity Brooks, Terriana Odom, Cash Odom, Jayden Odom, Kaleigh Wedding, Keegan Wedding and Koien Banks; one great-grandchild; siblings, Janice Goff, Jack Eskew, James Eskew and Carol Borgeson.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Ricky Odom; and a son, David Jennings.

A memorial service will be held at Haven Pentecostal Church in Henderson at a later date.

Simple Cremation Evansville is in charge of arrangements.



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## MONUMENTS

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# THROW BACK THURSDAY

OUR MEMORIES GO BACK TO 1879

## 50 YEARS AGO

### Feb. 10, 1972

■ Ginny Runyan was named CCHS Betty Crocker Homememaker of Tomorrow for 1972.

■ Laura Phillips was the winner of the Crittenden County Conservation Essay Contest sponsored by the Courier-Journal and the Louisville Times.

■ Carol Stroud was named to the second Dean's List at Wilson College in Chambersburg, Pa.

## 25 YEARS AGO

### Feb. 13, 1997

■Crittenden County High School sophomore Beth Howard won first place in the Voice of Democracy essay contest sponsored by the James Franklin Oliver Veterans of Foreign Wars and Ladies Auxiliary. Her essay also placed second in the district competition.

■Crittenden County High School's Academic Team advanced to the regional competition after placing second overall in the Kentucky Governor's Cup District competitions.

The Quick Recall Team of Wesley Belt, Brooke Marshall, Kelly Grady and Bruce McClure placed second. In the written assessment portion of the competition, the following team members received awards: Math, Shanna Wood and Bruce McClure, first place; English Composition, Brooke Marshall, second place; General Knowledge, Shanna Wood, first place; Wesley Belt, second place; Science, Wesley Belt, first place; Language Arts, Kelly Grady, fourth place.

■Campbellsville University announced the academic honors list for the fall of 1996. Those honored from Crittenden County were Kelley Dameron, Regan Mott, Jody Porter and Jeremy Suchman.

•Students named to the Southeast Missouri State University Dean's List for the 1996 fall term were John Foster, Jeffrey LeFan and Scott Gland.

•■The following students from Crittenden County were named to the Dean's List at Murray State University: Nathan Boone, Tammy Brantley, Jennifer

Crowell, Shirley Curnel, Christy Faughn, Jill Highfil, Terri Humphrey, Jason Lacy, Shanna Moore, James Myrick, Michael Perry, Carl Andrews, Shane Belt, Tiffany Clark, Laura Crowell, Bridget Davis, Heather Davis, Robin Duncan, Kevin Hardesty, Adam Maroney and David Thurman.

## 10 YEARS AGO

### Feb. 9, 2012

■Crittenden County High School basketball homecoming court included sophomores Taylor Champion and Magan Sunderland, seniors Mark Farmer and Jessica Tinsley, 2011 King and Queen Terry Werne and Talaney Werne, seniors Brody Bruns and Mary Mattingly, juniors Dustin Roberts and Davana Head and freshmen Noah Dickerson and Khyla Moss.

■•Results from the Woman's Club of Marion student writing contest included the following: First place in category, Maggie Blazina (K-2), Haley Sisco (6-8) and Emily Hendrix (9-12). In the short story division, first place winners were Maria Dossett (6-8) and Breanna Ford (9-12).

■Crittenden County Middle School students Bobby Glen Stephens and Kaitlyn Wheeler served as legislative pages at the state capitol.

# COMBINING

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# RETIRE

Continued from page 1  
percent majority among registered voters.

The only other Democrat currently serving in the county is Chad Thomas, a magistrate in District 4.

Of the 39 candidates who filed to seek election in partisan races in the May primary, 36 are Republicans and three are Democrats.

Heady is the longest serving PVA in county history. He flirted with the idea of running for the Kentucky House of Representatives, going so far as to file for the District 4 race before re-districting was announced. Once the new House map was unveiled putting Crittenden in the legislative district with McLean, Union and Webster counties, Heady opted out of running in a primary race in District 12 against newcomer Alan Lossner of Slaughters. Whoever wins the Democratic nomination in that contest would then face either of two House incumbents, Jim Gooch (R-Providence) or Lynn Bechler (R-Marion) in the fall's general election. Gooch has been in the House since 1995 and Bechler is a five-term representative.

Three Republican newcomers are seeking to replace Heady, who said he will offer the winner an option to work in his office ahead of their officially taking office. Candidates for PVA must pass a written examination administered by the state before they qualify for office.

**Heady longest serving PVA**  
Heady, 60, said allowing the successful candidate to be in the office a few months earlier could provide a valuable orientation period. Heady said the party difference makes absolutely no difference. He's prided himself on being a non-partisan individual and conducting work in the office in that fashion.

"I want the new person to succeed. I feel like that since I was elected we have grown the office and I want to see it keep growing," Heady said, pointing out that his predecessor, the late Maurice Corley, a Republican, offered valuable assistance to him during the transfer more than 20 years ago.

"It's really sad that this is a partisan office," Heady said. "The PVA has no policymaking power. We're elected to serve the people, not one party, and we have to be as neutral as we can."

**Sheriff made good friends**  
Agent, 55, was a sheriff's deputy and city policeman before taking office in 1999. He is the longest serving sheriff in Crittenden County history.

A variety of factors prompted Agent not to seek re-election. Among them was a series of non-lifethreatening health issues. He has in recent years had shoulder, hip and neck problems that have required surgeries.

Five individuals, all with some type of law enforcement experience, are running for sheriff. Agent said they are all his friends, and one is his brother.

"I will miss it and I am still somewhat reluctant about retirement," Agent said, showing some emotion about the prospects of giving up the office. "I want Crittenden County to have a sheriff that people can depend on and who will treat everyone with respect."

While he is not ruling out policing or security as a part-time job in the future, Agent says he isn't interested in returning to the rigors of being "on the road" as a lawman.

Agent was a deputy under Sheriff Floyd Andrews in 1992 and was a patrolman for the Marion Police Department from 1993 to 1998.



Counting her time as a district judge, Circuit Judge Rene Williams has been on the bench in Crittenden, Union and Webster counties for more than 30 years.

"I have made a lot of good friends and worked with a lot of good people," Agent said, noting that the staff has made his department successful over the years.

Never once has he fired his weapon in the line of duty, and Agent recounts that even on occasions when criminals have put up a fight, most apologized afterwards.

**Wood retiring from Dist. 6**  
Wood, 75, is a former industrial technology educator. He's one of the county's longest serving magistrates in history, having first been elected in 2002 when he beat an incumbent Republican, the late Bobbie Don Crowell, in the general election.

Wood has always characterized himself as a fiscally conservative Democrat, and he has been for nearly two decades a voice of reason on the fiscal court.

Wood retired from full-time teaching in Evansville, Ind., in 2002 and has worked part-time as a vocational technology instructor at Caldwell County and Madisonville Community College. He is currently resident representative on the City of Marion's sewer plant construction project, serving as a liaison between the engineering company and the general contractor. He's served as overseer of a couple of other municipal projects like that in Marion and Providence.

Wood has served as magistrate under three county judge-executives. "I have been lucky I guess because all of the courts I have been on and the judges have all gotten along and we've been able to get done what needed to get done."

In a county with a small industrial tax base, he said pinching pennies and taking care of roads is among a magistrate's highest charges.

"With my age, I just felt it was time after being on the court for 20 years," Wood said about leaving public service.

As magistrate, Wood counts among his most notable accomplishments, getting county water to his district in 2003, development at Riverview Park and working with the state highway department to install a low-skid sur-

face on a potentially hazardous curve on KY 120 at Deanwood.

**Johnson served 3 terms**  
Johnson is the second longest serving county attorney in community history. A three-term officeholder, her tenure has been highly decorated by Kentucky advocates for children based on her aggressive work collecting child support payments. Without Johnson on the ballot, Republican Bart Frazer will be unopposed in his fourth quest for the job.

"The reason that I am not running for re-election is that there are other legal opportunities that I want to explore that I could not pursue while county attorney," Johnson said. "I have truly enjoyed the job and I appreciate the trust that the voters have always placed in me. I feel that I have never taken this trust for granted and look forward to finishing this year strong."

Johnson said she will miss serving the community, especially advising the fiscal court, and will remain active in the community, devoting time to her private practice in Marion. She has been practicing law since 1987 and has had an office in Marion since 1992.

**Kirk jailer since 2013**  
Kirk, who has been jailer since the fall of 2013, has been credited with turning around the jail's financial condition. For years, the detention center which was built in 2007, had been costly to the county. At times, the jail drained nearly \$1 million from the annual budget. However, over the past three years, Kirk has operated it in the black. That hadn't happened since the larger detention center was built to replaced the old life-safety jail that was torn down.

**Judgeships changing**  
Also, Circuit Judge Rene Williams has chosen not to seek another term on the bench. She had served as judge of the circuit that includes Crittenden, Webster and Union counties since 2004. She is a Dixon resident and has been the chief regional circuit judge for the Purchase Area since 2007. She was a district judge for the same three counties from 1990 to 2004. Williams also ran in 2020 for a spot on the Kentucky Supreme Court.

District Judge Daniel Heady, who has served in that capacity for the last 10-plus years, presiding over Crittenden, Webster and Union counties, is the only candidate in the non-partisan election for circuit judge.

Ben Leonard, a Providence attorney and assistant commonwealth attorney, and Charles A. Willson, a Dixon attorney, have both field to run for the district judgeship that will be left by Heady's move to circuit court.

## LOCAL CANDIDATES FILED FOR UPCOMING ELECTIONS

### CRITTENDEN COUNTY JUDGE-EXECUTIVE

\*Perry Newcom - R

### CRITTENDEN COUNTY CLERK

\*Daryl K. Tabor - R  
Ashley Guess - R  
Belinda Williams - R

### CRITTENDEN COUNTY SHERIFF

Chuck Hoover - R  
Heath Martin - R  
Evan Head - R  
Ray Agent - R  
Don Young - D  
George Foster - R

### CRITTENDEN COUNTY ATTORNEY

Bart Frazer - R

### CRITTENDEN COUNTY JAILER

Athena Perry-Hayes - R  
Michael Puckett - R  
Tony Harper - R

### CRITTENDEN COUNTY CORONER

\*Brad Gilbert - R

### CRITTENDEN COUNTY PVA

Todd Perryman - R  
Misty Dalton Hicks - R  
Jason Champion - R

### DISTRICT 1 MAGISTRATE

\*Dave Belt - R

### DISTRICT 2 MAGISTRATE

Matt Watson - R  
Matt Grimes - R  
Daniel Kemper - R

### DISTRICT 3 MAGISTRATE

\*Willard Guill - R  
Robert Kirby - R

### DISTRICT 4 MAGISTRATE

\*Chad Thomas - D

### DISTRICT 5 MAGISTRATE

Dale Willingham - R  
\*Greg Rushing - R  
Travis Perryman - R

### DISTRICT 6 MAGISTRATE

Jeff James - R  
Scott Belt - R  
Bob Rowley - R  
Van Hunt - R  
Jason Martin - D

### DISTRICT 1 CONSTABLE

Barry Brown - R

### DISTRICT 2 CONSTABLE

Jamie Davis - R

### DISTRICT 3 CONSTABLE

\*Paul Beard - R

### DISTRICT 4 CONSTABLE

Lynn Goodrich - R

### DISTRICT 6 CONSTABLE

\*Don Herrin - R

### MARION CITY MAYOR

Phyllis Sykes  
Austin Valentine Jr.

### DISTRICT 6 BOARD OF EDUCATION

Ryan McDaniel\*

### 5 DISTRICT CIRCUIT JUDGE 1

Daniel Heady

### 5 DISTRICT JUDGE

Ben Leonard  
Charles A. Willson

### FAMILY COURT JUDGE

\*Brandi Hagan Rogers

### STATE DISTRICTS

#### 12TH DISTRICT KENTUCKY HOUSE

\*Jim Gooch - R  
Alan Lossner - D  
\*\*Lynn Bechler - R  
*See related article on back page*

### PARTISAN RACES ARE NOW CLOSED TO FILING NON-PARTISAN FILING DEADLINE IS ON JUNE 7

R-Republican D-Democrat

\* Incumbent

\*\*Incumbent in House District 4

## LOCAL VOTERS

Precinct	Democrat	Republican	Other	Ind	Libert	Green	Const	Reform	Soc Wk	Male	Female	Registered
Marion	185	300	34	17	2	0	0	0	0	240	297	538
Rosebud	166	227	25	12	1	0	0	0	0	216	215	431
Sheridan	230	454	32	12	0	0	0	0	0	355	373	728
Tolu	146	270	22	10	1	0	0	0	0	233	216	449
Marion 1	318	463	58	27	4	1	1	0	0	390	482	872
Fords Ferry	67	112	8	7	2	0	0	0	0	105	91	196
Marion 4	257	474	44	21	1	1	0	0	0	373	425	798
Frances 8	88	142	17	14	0	0	0	0	0	127	134	261
Frances 7	235	312	34	11	3	0	0	0	0	282	313	595
Marion 6	196	437	37	16	1	0	1	0	0	329	359	688
Marion 3	253	482	58	31	1	1	0	0	0	373	453	826
Shady Grove	118	165	10	5	1	0	0	0	0	156	143	299
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,259</b>	<b>3,838</b>	<b>379</b>	<b>183</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3,179</b>	<b>3,501</b>	<b>6,681</b>

## GOP registration growing in county

### STAFF REPORT

Republican voter registration in Crittenden County continues to outpace Democrats, independents and other third parties.

A gap between the GOP and Democrats has widened over the past

eight years to a point where Republicans have 57.4 percent of registered voters here. Democrats, who held a majority in the county until September 2014, now command 33.8 percent of voters.

There are 183 independent voters in the

county, 17 Libertarian voters, three from the Green Party and two from the Constitution Party. Listed as other are 379 voters. There are no individuals registered under the flags of the Reform Party or Socialist Workers Party.

## Polling places changing in May

### STAFF REPORT

As the election season begins to heat up, voters are reminded that there will be fewer polling places in the county this year. Some of the traditional voting sites in Tolu, Frances and at the library are being eliminated, but anyone, no matter their voting precinct, will be able to cast a ballot at the new countywide voting center, which will be at Marion Baptist Church.

The county's former 12 voting locations will be consolidated to five for the first time during the May primary. There will also be early voting options.

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Paid for by Jason Champion

ELECT

Dale Willingham

★★★

5th District Magistrate

★★★

I would like to introduce myself. My name is Dale Willingham and I'm running as a Republican for the 5th District Magistrate in Crittenden County, Kentucky.

Here's a little background on myself. My brothers and I purchased a farm in 1990 in Frances, KY. My wife Natalie and I purchased another 60 acres in Crittenden County in 2008 and built a house in 2009.

I retired from the Chicago Police Department with 26 years of service in February 2014. We became full-time residents of Crittenden County. We have operated two successful businesses — Longbeards & Whitetails Guide Service, LLC (2008-present) and Jackson Knob Firearms Training Center, LLC (2013-Present). I've been involved with firearms training for Marion Police Department, Crittenden County Sheriff, Livingston County Sheriff and Lyon County Sheriff Departments. Also several Church Security Teams including Mexico Baptist Church, Marion Baptist Church and Deer Creek Baptist Church to name a few. I also teach the Kentucky CCDW.

**MY QUALIFICATIONS FOR MAGISTRATE ARE AS FOLLOWS:**

- 1 Law Enforcement Career for 26 years, speaking and interacting with the public.
- 2 Running two successful businesses, day to day operations, writing and planning budgets, ordering supplies, etc.
- 3 As a firearms instructor, I'm used to speaking to groups of all sizes, implementing and writing courses of fire and training programs.

*I believe that the people's VOICE should be heard.*

--- I AM ---

✓ PRO 2nd Amendment

✓ PRO Law Enforcement

✓ PRO Firefighters

✓ PRO Rescue Squad

✓ PRO Military

✓ PRO Health Care Workers

✓ PRO Children being taught in person in classrooms

x AGAINST Government Over Reach

x AGAINST Mandatory Mandates

x AGAINST Higher Taxes

Email:

Dale.Willingham.magistrate@gmail.com

Paid for by Dale Willingham

*If elected I will be a voice for all the citizens of the 5th District and Crittenden County.*

Our magistrates are responsible for the County Budget, County Purchases and Road Maintenance, just to name a few of their duties. I feel that with my background, I'm a qualified candidate to perform those duties.

I look forward to meeting the citizens of the 5th district as I go door to door to ask for your vote and support in the upcoming months before the Primary Election May 17, 2022.

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## HOSPITAL DEPLOYS HIGH-TECH HEART CT SCANNER

A state-of-the-art cardiac diagnostic CT scanner began serving patients at Crittenden Community Hospital Jan. 27.

The coronary CT angiogram is 99 percent effective for identifying significant blockages of the arteries of the heart, according to interventional cardiologist Sanjay Bose.

He is certified in Cardiac CT scan interpretations.

“It is the next best diagnostic test to a heart catheterization, for a fraction of the cost, and is very good at ruling out significant blockage,” said Bose, who sees cardiac patients in Marion.

The Crittenden Cardiology clinic is open three days a week and is served by Dr. Bose and two Cardiology Nurse Practitioners, Rashelle Wydotis and Stephanie Mundy.

Bose said the device also identifies the presence of calcium build-up using coronary calcium scoring, which could be a sign of blockages in the heart. “This is top of the line, many hospitals do not offer cardiac CT scan and calcium scoring,” Bose said. “The hospital and community are very fortunate to have it.”

## METH FOUND AT TRAFFIC STOP

When Caldwell County authorities made a traffic stop in Fredonia last week to serve a warrant on a Marion man, they found methamphetamine and other illegal items in his vehicle.

William McCann, 42, is now charged possession of a controlled substance (methamphetamine), possession of marijunana and possession of drug paraphernalia. Deputy Evan Head also served McCann with a Caldwell County warrant for failure to appear in court.

The arrest was made at 6:20 p.m., Monday, Jan. 31 at the intersection of Old Mexico Road and KY 91.

## SPRING FIRE HAZARD SEASON CHANGES BURNING OPTIONS

Spring Forest Fire Hazard Season begins next week, which will change the times for which it is lawful to burn outdoors. Starting on Feb. 15 and running through April 30, outdoor burning is prohibited during daylight hours within 150 feet from a grassland or



woodland. It is okay to burn after 6 p.m., and up to 6 a.m.

Fines can be imposed on individuals responsible for starting fires outside of the regulations.

## LEGION RESETS FOUR CHAPLAINS SERVICE

The Burna American Legion’s annual Four Chaplain Service, which was originally set for Feb. 6, has been rescheduled for 11 a.m., Sunday, Feb. 13 at Old Salem Baptist Church.

## GOP MEETS FEB. 17

Crittenden County Republican Party will meet at 6:30 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 17 at the Lions Club building at the fairgrounds.

## PRECIOUS METALS SCAM AIMED AT AGED BEING FOUGHT

The Kentucky Department of Financial Institutions (DFI) has joined the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC) and 26 other states in a coordinated enforcement action to stop a fraudulent precious metals schemes targeting elderly investors. Nationwide, at least 450 people invested more than \$68 million in the scheme.

“Nine Kentuckians lost \$616,248 to this scheme, including at least four retirees,” said Gov. Andy Beshear. “The victims thought they were investing their retirement funds to provide for future needs. In reality, they were caught up in yet another investment fraud, which have increased significantly during the pandemic.”

Investors should be particularly cautious when purchasing precious metals and should check for outrageously high commissions, spreads or markups as high as 30 to 70 percent.

As part of the scam, investors are being convinced to liquidate their holdings at registered investment firms in order to buy precious metals, bullion and bullion coins through self-directed individual retirement accounts. Self-directed IRAs should not be confused with traditional IRAs or other retirement vehicles.

Investors should con-

tact DFI’s Division of Securities if they suspect they have been targeted by similar precious metals investment schemes. Please contact the Enforcement Branch at 502-573-3390 or kfi@ky.gov.

## RELIGION IS GROWING

KENTUCKY TODAY

Christianity is growing around the world, especially in the global South, according to recently released analysis by the Center for the Study of Global Christianity at Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary.

Religious faith is growing faster than the irreligious. Particularly in the United States and Western cultures, it can seem as if secularism is growing, and people are leaving the church and the faith. Globally, that is not the case.

While populations of all religions are growing at a 1.27 percent rate, the growth rate of the religiously unaffiliated is less than half that – 0.52 percent. Atheism is almost stagnant, growing only 0.18 per-

cent per year.

According to the report, there are fewer atheists around the world today (147 million) than in 1970 (165 million). Not only is religion growing overall, but Christianity specifically is growing. With a 1.17-percent growth rate, almost 2.56 billion people will identify as a Christian by the middle of 2022. By 2050, that number will top 3.33 billion. Catholics remain the largest Christian group with almost 1.26 billion adherents, but the two fastest growing Christian groups around the world are evangelicals (1.8 percent growth rate) and charismatics (1.88 percent). The dramatic global growth for charismatic Christians is particularly noteworthy. In 1900, less than 1 million people around the world were considered Pentecostals. By 2050, more than 1 billion will be.

Christianity is growing fastest in Africa (2.77 percent growth) and Asia (1.50 percent). In 1900, twice as many Christians lived in Europe than the rest of the world combined. Today, more Christians live in Africa than any other continent.

As Christianity continues to grow in the global South, it is also becoming less concentrated in highly Chris-

tian areas. In 1900, 95 percent of all Christians lived in a majority Christian country. In 2022, that number has fallen to 53.7 percent. By 2050, most Christians (50.4 percent) around the world will live in non-majority Christian nations.

As Christianity continues to grow, the

printing of Bibles continues to increase. This year, 93 million copies of God’s Word will be printed, up from 54 million in 2000 and 5 million in 1900.

*In between issues of the newspaper turn to The Press Online for breaking news*



**VOTE**

**TODD PERRYMAN**

★ ★ ★

**PVA**

**Property Valuation Administrator**

- Lifelong resident of Crittenden County.
- High school and college honor graduate.
- 11 years banking experience, 8 years in loan department.
- Knowledgeable of real estate transactions and property values in the county.
- Served as past member of the PVA Board of Assessment Appeals.
- Governmental experience as Magistrate.

*Paid for by Todd Perryman*

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**Evan HEAD**

Crittenden County

**SHERIFF**

Paid for by Evan Head



# Trip details towns’ locomotive

Taken from a line of a favorite song on mine, let’s take a ride on a magic carpet made of steel. This will be a fun and historical train ride through our beautiful Crittenden County and along the way we’ll go through towns and fields and stop at the depots along the way. The time period of our trip is the early and late 1900s. Our Illinois Central train ride will begin as it crosses the old draw bridge between Webster and Crittenden counties

This historical bridge has its own unique history. The Tradewater River railroad bridge at Blackford was a vital link for the Ohio Valley Railroad that ran from Henderson to Princeton. The first bridge to be constructed was a draw bridge shortly after 1886. In 1914 a new 528-foot long bridge was build by the Illinois Central Railroad with help from the U.S. Government that included a pedestrian walking bridge. The Illinois Central Railroad design was an upgraded structure, because the IC wanted to run a larger, heavier class of locomotives to pull coal trains from Union and Webster counties to the Illinois Central Kentucky main line at Princeton and handle car loads of fluorspar from Crittenden County headed North.

As we exit to the Crittenden County side of the bridge, we’ll roll by the Blackford Church Camp ground where they have a wonderful summertime camp meeting. These meetings started as early as 1917. People from several states came to the week-long meetings to worship the Lord. The camp grounds and dining hall would be full of folks. The singing of my wheels will hum them to sleep each night and my whistle call will awaken them each morning as I announce my return at the bridge.

We’ll roll a short distance through the beautiful country to the community of Nunn Switch. We’ll make a stop here to drop off the load of empty milk containers I brought back from Evansville. A stop here later in the day from a sister train from the South will pick up milk-filled containers for their trip back to the Evansville creamery. I’ll also pick up a few passengers that are going to Marion to spend the day in town. There are several passenger trains that run back and forth during the day.

This little hamlet is known through the county as having three names, Nunn Switch, Hoods and Gladstone. The Hood Creek School sits upon the hill not far from the depot named for the tumbling creek that rolls through the center of the village. The children watch for me as I chug by each day. The depot was named for the Samuel Nunn family as it sits on Nunn family land, and Gladstone for the post office located in the general store. Nunn



As a group of young boys were having their picture made in the Crayne School yard, a locomotive went rumbling by with its cloud of smoke in the background. Pictured (from left are), Edwin White, Richard Cruce, Jimmy Keeling, (back) teacher Hayden Harpending, Bruce Ordway, Norman Winters and Jim “Ped” Norman.

Switch has a blacksmith, grocery store, post office and stock pins located near the depot. It’s a central location for the area.

We pick up our speed and the rhythm of my wheels rumble through fields and along bluffs as we go through the edge of the community of Mattoon. It’s a busy location as roads from different parts of the county run through

the town. Mattoon adopted its present name in 1894. The business center, which led the county in the sale of farming implements during the early 1890s, lost its tobacco stemmery and flour mill to fire in the early 1900s. The town dwindled to only one general store. The construction of U.S. 60 through Mattoon was vital for the village, and for a time, set it back on the growing path.

A short distance farther down the rails is the little hamlet of Repton. It’s a beautiful little town situated on the I.C. Railroad. It consists of two general merchandise stores, one church, school house, blacksmith shop and a number of dwelling houses and a post office. There is a small ticket and freight depot located here with a stock yard nearby for farmers to load their stock on train cars and send them to the stockyard at Evansville. A few more passengers board my train and get seated in the passenger cars as we head on toward Marion.

We pass through more scenic countryside, and over the railroad bridge known as Harrison Trestle over Brushy Creek. Winslow Park is located here. Not so many years ago, it was a rather bare, uninviting tract of land with a few trees, a small house in the center of it, but I see today as I cross over the bridge, there are benches, tables and electric lights to make it possible for a picnic to be given there with as much ease and convenience as a meal is served in the dining room of one’s home.

Mr. Virgil L. Stone, who is responsible for the many changes and improvements which have taken place at Winlow, has spared neither time nor money to make the park an attractive and inviting place for picnickers and tourists. He has also constructed some cottages for people to stay awhile if they would like.

From Winslow Park the rhythm of my wheels hum along the rails until we get to the town of Marion. The depot here is a center of activity. I let off my passengers from Nunn Switch and Repton, plus several businessmen that loaded on in Evansville. For the visitors from Evansville and beyond, there will be a horse and buggy waiting to take them to the Crittenden Hotel for their stay in Marion and Crittenden County. These are businessmen looking to invest in the county’s rich deposits of fluorspar and other minerals such as lead and zinc. There will be some salesmen included with the passengers also wanting to peddle their goods.

I’ll unhitch a couple of my empty loading cars at the depot, and they will be filled with this wonderful mineral called fluorspar. On a return trip the cars will be reattached and taken to points up North for the steel mills in some northern cities.

On the move again, we travel past country houses, farms and fields heading toward our next stop of Crayne. I’ll roll over the railroad trestle that crosses the A. H. Clement Road. This trestle is now gone, taken down during the last of the golden days of the train and railroads through the county (1999).

Gone with it are the days when it was a place to explore and climb on the wooden structure, a wonderful place for young boys to spend a day.

We roll into Crayne, or in my earlier days, Crayneville. The Crayne depot sits by a large lot, known as the loading yard. Piles of fluorspar and timber will be kept here until it can be loaded in my cars. Crayne folks that rode into Marion on an earlier train, will ride back with me and depart at the little Crayne depot.

The Crayne school is located a short distance from the Depot, and as I go by the children out playing will be watching and waving at me as I chug by, blowing black smoke from my smoke stack. I’m a special sight and sound, and my friendly conductor will be riding on my red caboose at the end to wave back at the children as we pass by – a special time in those days.

From Crayne we travel through more beautiful rural countryside and farm land until we reach the next community known as Mexico, just a short distance is the community of Frances.

Children that live close to the railroad tracks watch and listen for me.

My conductor looks for the children and will perhaps have some candy or gum to throw to them. Mexico also has its own depot, and located nearby is a train yard filled with piles of fluorspar waiting to be loaded. This is the heart of the great fluorspar country.

The large mining company known as Lafayette is located at Frances. My tracks run close by the great mill and here my cars are filled with fluorspar. It’s faster and easier to use train transportation than it was in the horse and wagon days, or even later with dump trucks.

I continue my journey over the hills and through woods to exit Crittenden County into the town of Fredonia in Caldwell County.

Enjoy my ride while you can, for in a few short years I will be disappearing with many memories for all that grew up with me – the sights and sounds of my rumbling wheels on the steel tracks, my lonesome echoing whistle, my bellowing black smoke and cinders as I neared the towns and cross roads. I have run over and flattened many hundred of pennies and nails to the delight of many children through my years. Perhaps you are lucky enough to have a souvenir of these days gone by when the locomotive was king of transportation in our county.

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

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Terry Mathis

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Entry Deadline Feb. 28, 2022

The Crittenden Press

10 Under 40

2021

Circle One Category

Agriculture

Automotive

Banking

Commerce/Retail

Construction/Trade

Early & Public Education

Food Service

Industry

Medical

Volunteer

10 Under 40 Program Description:

Ten deserving community members will be recognized through The Crittenden Press' 2022 10 Under 40 Community Recognition Program. We want to share the successes of the young professionals in our community, recognize their achievements, excellence in professional development and decisions to practice their trade in our community.

Process:

Nominees should be submitted for consideration for The Crittenden Press' 10 Under 40 based on their expertise, competency, integrity, courteousness and achievement in their respective field. Names may be submitted by employers, co-workers, family or friends by Feb. 28, 2022.

Qualifications:

The individuals nominated should be considered the best in their field, with strong integrity, work ethic and desire to serve Crittenden County. Nominees must work in Crittenden County but may reside outside the community. Nominees must be under age 40 by March 1, 2022.

Recognition:

Nomination forms will be received by email or in person at The Crittenden Press through close of business Feb. 28, 2022. A panel will evaluate nominees in each category and make a selection based on criteria set forth in Program Description and Qualifications. The individual selected in each of the 10 categories will be recognized in The Crittenden Press and on each of our social media platforms during a 10-week 10 Under 40 Recognition feature beginning in March.

Nominee

DOB

Nominee's Occupation

Phone

Nominated by

Phone

On separate paper, attach responses to the following:

What has the nominee done to deserve recognition in their field?

How long has the nominee worked in our community?

And in what capacity?

Describe their work ethic, involvement and commitment to improve our community through their trade.

## Community Events & News

- The Crittenden County High School SBDM will meet at 3:30 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 17 in the school library.
- Virgil Jones VFW will have a meeting at 6:30 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 10 at 412 N. College St. in Marion. Refreshments will be served.
- The Shady Grove Cemetery Association will have its annual meeting at 10 a.m., Saturday, Feb. 12 at the Shady Grove Fire Department. Everyone welcome to attend.
- Salem Baptist Church Thrift Store is open 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Tuesday and Sat-

- urday at 209 Highland St., Salem.
- The Clothes Closet of the First Baptist Church in Fredonia is open to serve the area with free clothes. For the time being, the Clothes Closet is operated outdoors from 1-3 p.m. each Thursday. Please observe social distancing. The Clothes Closet will be closed in case of rain.
- Fredonia Unity Baptist Church's clothes closet is open from 9 a.m. to noon on the second and fourth Saturday of every month.
- First Baptist Church of Fredonia food pantry is open from 1 to 3 p.m. the

- third Thursday of each month in Coleman Hall of the church.
- The clothes closet at Mexico Baptist Church is open from 9 to 11:30 a.m. each Monday.
- Cave Springs Baptist Church between Lola and Joy in Livingston County offers food 24 hours a day, 7 days week at its outdoor Blessing Box in front of the church.
- Does your group have something planned Let us know. We post notes here at no charge. Email to [the-press@the-press.com](mailto:the-press@the-press.com) or call (270) 965-3191



# Black history is our history, heritage

I grew up in a time when history and social studies taught that the United States was a “melting pot.” It is a founding metaphor for the United States that may have been in use since the 1780s. In recent decades that metaphor has been challenged because the homogenous culture that most imagined was one that combined those of European descent. I can’t argue with that as a reality, but I still like the ideal of a more balanced “melting pot.”

More recent metaphors have included mosaic or salad bowl. These consider the variety of cul-



**Sean NIESTRATH**  
Faith-based columnist  
*Guest Columnist*

tures that make up the citizens of most of the Americas, but let’s stick to the United States. Call me a child of the age, but my personal preference is for “mosaic” without completely discarding the ideal of melting pot. For me, mosaic honors each person’s heritage and the melting pot honors ideals of equality and unity. They are not exclusive.

The problem with the melting pot in the past is that it assumed movement toward mostly Western European Culture. Yet one cannot look at any part of our society without seeing influences from every ethnicity. The problems

have always arisen from power, control, and who gets the credit. That is the systemic issue that we are still trying to address.

We currently celebrate at least four cultural history months: Black History Month (February), Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month (May), Latinx Heritage Month (September), and Native American Heritage Month (October). These are all necessary for us to learn to appreciate the contributions of every ethnicity that make up our nation.

Learning of the massive contributions of others helps us to learn to appreciate each other. What is so astounding is the contributions that so many made in hostile environments. Most in the majority or controlling populations never have been asked to sacrifice personally for the good

of those who are openly hostile. Studying black history in its American context will leave any honest person in awe of the intelligence, wisdom, and courage shown by those who were seen as second-class citizens. We all owe them more than we know.

What I have had to learn is that Black History is my history. The United States would not be the same nation without the contributions of those whose heritage is in Africa.

God created the nations. We are all his children. We need to remember that. Any theology or national identity or ideology that demeans other ethnicities or sees one as superior to another is a theology or identity or ideology that is off course and eventually dangerous. We live in a world of such and responding to them challenges us

at every level. Learning more about each other helps.

The New Testament understands that even when a person becomes a disciple of Jesus, there will still be differences. Some will want to keep festivals and others not – but both the keeping and abstaining are to be in honor of God. Paul understood that because we are “slave and free, male and female, Jew and Gentile” (see Galatians 3:27-29) we are inclined to see ourselves either better or worse than others. In more than one place this is called nonsense. We are called to unity. But this does not erase our heritage or who we are, it honors it. Unity in the face of differences is the beauty of life together on this planet and we can only accomplish that if we honor each other’s past with equal measure. When that

happens, we all move toward each other.

Study and honor the history of your ethnicity, your heritage, your family and share it for others to see. Wear it proudly yet accept the contributions of others with humility. Better for some of us to learn the history of others.

For a good beginning one could go to the History.com website and look for black history. Here is the address: <https://www.history.com/topics/black-history>. Most who read this column are in Kentucky. The University of Kentucky has a Notable Kentucky African American Database, it is a rich resource, <https://nkaa.uky.edu/nkaa/>.

*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.*

# What are the signs of end times? Deal with conflict

I’ve been asked to write on the signs of the end of the world.

The Disciples asked Jesus “What shall be the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the world?”

His answer “But of that day and hour knows no man, no not the angels of Heaven, but My Father only.

But as the days of Noah were, so shall also the coming of the Son of Man be.

For in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered into the ark, and knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.

Therefore, be ye also ready; for in such an hour as you think not the Son of man cometh.” Matt. 24:36-39,44.

These masses of people I’m sure were moving to higher ground as the flood continued to climb,

but Jesus is saying they still did not believe it was the end and knew not until they were completely going down for the last time that it was truly the end.

But for the final end to the whole world He tells us it will not drag along as those people had been warned, but our end will come in an instant, as quickly as the flash of lightning comes from the east, and shines even unto the west; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. Matt. 24:27.

In the next chapter of Matthew, Jesus tells what that time will be like when we all stand before His Judgement Seat to be judged for all eternity, when we cannot change a thing. So many were sure they were right, yet He cast many into everlasting fire.

Jesus also told Saint John in Revelation Chapters 12, 16, and 20 that

before those days “the Great Red Dragon, which is paganism, will go out to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters of the earth and with two groups would gather them together to battle, the number of whom is as the sand of the sea.” He warns there: “Behold I come as a thief.”

Jesus loves us all and warns us so we will know who the Red Dragon is, and the two groups he will work with.

We can go to Google and see the long list of false religions that deny God.

Also, there are millions who claim to be Christian and have never truly been born again and devoted their lives to the one who suffered and died for them.

Jesus also spent time in the Sermon on the Mount telling us about what that judgment day will be like.

“Not everyone that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of Heaven, but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in Heaven. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not proph-

esied in thy name; and in thy name have cast our devils? And in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you; depart from me, ye that work iniquity.” Matt. 7:21-23.

The message to all the world, by the one who loves all enough to die for us, is saying to all “Be ready to meet me face to face, so you can spend eternity with me in a world of peace, happiness and love and where sin, old age and death can never enter.”

*Rev. Lucy Tedrick, pastor at Marion Church of God, shares her views periodically in this newspaper. She can be reached at (270) 965-3269. Her opinions are her own and are not necessarily those of this newspaper.*

**ASK the PASTOR**  
By Bob Hardison

**son’s point of view.** If we can see his point of view, we can be more understanding of his actions.

**3. Speak privately with the one you are having a conflict with.** Make the goal of the conversation about “making your relations right” – not about who is right.

**4. Be humble!** “Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others” (Phil. 2:3, 4). Humility is the key when it comes to solving relational tension.

Send your questions to: bob@bobhardison.com

**Valentine Special**  
at **WESTERN KENTUCKY REGIONAL BLOOD CENTER**  
1902 S. Virginia St. Hopkinsville KY

Blood donations may be made at the WKRBC daily. Please check center for times, as daily hours vary.

**HAPPY VALENTINE’S DAY!**  
All donors will receive a T-shirt and will be entered into a drawing for a \$25 gift card from a local restaurant.

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

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

**Mexico Baptist Church**  
  
Minister of Music Mike Crabtree  
Pastor: Tim Burdon  
Sunday Worship Services: 10 a.m., 7 p.m.  
Sunday Bible Study: 9 a.m.  
Sunday Discipleship Training: 6 p.m.  
Wednesday Worship Service: 7 p.m.  
175 Mexico Rd.  
(270) 965-4059  
MexicoBaptist.org

**DEER CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH**  
*"Whatever It Takes"*  
  
Sunday Bible Study: 10 a.m. • Sunday Worship: 11 a.m. & 6 p.m.  
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 United Methodist Church**  
  
Bro. Alex Kirby, Pastor  
We invite you to be our guest  
Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.  
The People of The United Methodist Church  
Sunday School 10 a.m. • Service 11 a.m.  
Wednesday Night Youth 6:30 p.m.

**Barnett Chapel General Baptist**  
  
Sunday School: 10 a.m.  
Sunday Worship: 11 a.m.  
Bro. Ken Suits, pastor  
Barnett Chapel...where everyone is welcome.

**Freedom General Baptist Church**  
  
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., ARIANA FOR CHILDREN & YOUTH GROUPS 6 p.m.  
CHOIR PRACTICE: 6:45 p.m., PRAISE TEAM: 7:30 p.m.

**SEVEN SPRINGS MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH**  
  
219 Seven Springs Rd., Marion, Ky. 42064  
Sun. School for all ages: 10 a.m.  
Sun. Worship: 11 a.m., 6 p.m. • Wed.: 7 p.m.  
Bro. Austin Weist, pastor  
• We are an Independent Baptist Church seeking to know Christ and to make Him known to the community around us.

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

**FIRST CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
  
224 W. Bellville St., Marion, Ky.  
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.  
Sunday Worship 10:45 a.m.

**Marion Church of God**  
  
334 Fords Ferry Road, Marion, Ky.  
Sun. School 10 a.m. • Morning Service 11 a.m.  
Sun. Evening 6 p.m. • Wed. Evening 6 p.m.  
"Where salvation makes you a member." Lucy Tedrick, pastor

**PINEY FORK**  
  
CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
SUNDAY School 10 a.m. Worship 11 a.m. Bible study 6 p.m.  
A new beginning, going forward and looking to the future Ky. 506 | Marion, Ky.

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

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

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

**Unity General Baptist Church**  
  
4691 U.S. 641 • Crayne, Ky.  
Barry Hix, pastor • (270) 365-5836 or (270) 625-1248  
Sunday School 10 a.m. • Sunday Worship 11 a.m.  
Sunday Evening 6 p.m. • Wednesday Night Service 6 p.m.

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



## WMJL Radio Host Troy McGahan

Meet 49-year-old local minister and WMJL morning radio personality Troy McGahan, who has a bachelor's degree in theology and a master's degree in religious education. He has been a pastor for 23 years. He has served small churches in various places and has also worked in a variety of other part-time jobs, including cleaning fence rows, painting, substitutive teaching, retail sales, driver and a burger cooker at McDonald's. He hosts the West Kentucky Wake Up Show that airs weekdays from 6-9 a.m., at FM 102.7. Troy's wife, Terra, teaches school at McNabb Elementary in Paducah. Their son, Zechariah, is a senior at Crittenden County High School.

**Q:** What is your history in radio?

**A:** As most people know I am an ordained Baptist pastor. When I was 22 years olds, the Lord started dealing with me about preaching and long story short, I surrendered to that call. My pastor at Grace Baptist Church at Science Hill, Ky., pulled me aside and said, "Brother Troy, you have a radio voice and the face to go with it. The Church is going to put you on the local



radio station." Preaching on the radio was the only experience I had until we moved to Marion.

**Q:** What attracted you to being a radio personality?

**A:** I had always been told I had the perfect voice for radio and I had always wanted to give it a try. Over the years, I didn't try probably because of a fear of rejection, fear of looking like an idiot, fear of failure, etc. When we moved here I knew I would need a job to supplement my income at the church. I started off delivering pizzas for Pizza Hut. I detested the job, but I was thankful to have a job and I appreciated Barb, the manager. But it was rough. So Terra suggested I go by the radio station and talk to them. So one day I was taking Zech to the doctor and I had a strong urge to go to the station. So I went by the station and knocked, Dena Conway came to the door and I promise you the first words out of my mouth was, "My name is Troy McGahan and I have been told that I have a radio voice and the face to go with it. Are you hiring?" Dena said, "Actually we are come on in." Long story short, I talked to Jason Crockett at Stratmeyer Media and here we are

three and a half years later on the air.

**Q:** What other community activities are you involved in?

**A:** Anywhere we have lived we try to be involved in the community. For instance, in Somerset and Appomattox, I coached youth sports, as well as varsity softball, middle school football and was involved with spring and summer football at the high school level. I believe if a pastor is going to reach the community God has placed him in, he needs to get involved in the community. Before we moved here, I had already determined my coaching days were done. I wanted to just be a dad. I wanted to enjoy Zech's four years of high school. Personally speaking, it was the best thing I could have done. So when we moved here, I started praying for the Lord to open doors to meet people in the community. Obviously, the radio is a big way to be involved in the community. Since then God has opened the door for me to preach in the local jail. I dearly love doing that. I also have emceed the Christmas parade twice and was the public address announcer for middle school and youth league football games. I



have recently joined the Chamber of Commerce and I also have had the privilege to be involved in ministering to those in Dawson Springs by passing out Bibles, counseling with survivors and holding a service for those who have been displaced.

**Q:** Where did you live before coming to Crittenden County?

**A:** I grew up in Somerset, Ky., and have lived in West Virginia, Tennessee, and we moved here from Appomattox, Va.

**Q:** What have your experiences been like living in this community?

**A:** I say this tongue in cheek, but I think the local chamber and tourism board should hire me to be the local hype man for Crittenden County. I love this place and that's no joke. I love the church I pastor. Central Baptist Church has some of the sweetest

folks that attend. We are small, but our church loves the Lord, each other and the community.

I love the people of Crittenden County. Some of the friendliest and most welcoming folks I have ever met live here. You always worry when you move to an area how will your kid be treated? Will the teachers, coaches, parents and kids accept your kid? Without exception my son has been treated very well. The same concerns go through your mind about your wife. Will she be accepted? I must say for the most part the answer is a resounding yes.

Then let's talk about the local officials. Since taking over the Wake Up Show, we have tried to have different folks on from the community. County Judge-Executive Perry Newcom has come on several times. We have also had City Administrator Adam Ledford and Superintendent Vince Clark just to mention a few. They are so accommodating and they genuinely care about our community. We are blessed to have them.

Since my family moved here we have made what we hope to be life-long friends. I love walking down the sidewalk and Junior honking his horn at me. I enjoy going into the barber shop and talking football on Fridays with Mike and Stoner. My son has talked about wanting to move back here after col-

lege and raise his family here. At the end of the day, I believe what Scripture says: Psalm 37:23, "The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord..." The Lord could be done with us here in Crittenden County tomorrow and move us on, but I hope not. I want to see the kids at church grow up, get married and have babies. At the end of the day, I want to serve the Lord here in this community until he calls me home.

## PAPER

Continued from page 1

columns about faith and religion.

In this issue you also will see a special section published in cooperation with the Kentucky Press Association, the University of Kentucky and the Kentucky Association of Health Plans. It contains important information about vaccinations – COVID and other inoculations.

We are sharing this issue with those of you who aren't subscribers or frequent readers because we want to share the importance of local news. For as little as 63 cents a week, you can learn everything "that's fit to print," about Crittenden County, to borrow a phrase coined many years ago by New York Times owner Adolph S. Ochs.

Something shared in this newspaper every week impacts you, whether it's a story about local taxes, road closures, new businesses or explanations of the construction project around the corner from your home.

Local newspapers are called the backbone of American communities for a few reasons:

- Newspapers keep community members informed.

- Newspapers legitimize local achievements.

- Newspapers chronicle and archive local history.

Community newspapers like The Crittenden Press have a commitment to provide accurate, hyper-local news content, which is in essence a history book of the communities. Our "morgue," as they call it in the business is full of past copies of the newspaper in giant hard-bound volumes – the complete documentary of Crittenden County, you might say.

We have a fierce commitment to inform, but

we also are proud to share a plethora of successes borne and bred in this community.

The Crittenden Press is independently owned and operated in Marion. We are one of only a handful of locally-owned, locally-operated newspaper in Kentucky and we are mighty proud to serve our community. Won't you join us every week? In this issue, please find information about how you, too, can subscribe.

*Allison Evans is a third generation owner and operator of the newspaper. You can reach her via email at [allison@the-press.com](mailto:allison@the-press.com).*

### Crittenden Press

USPS 138-260

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*Newsprint is a renewable resource.*

*Recycling bins are located at the county's convenience center on U.S. 60 east of Marion.*

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# RAY AGENT

★ 23 Years Experience ★

**All of my service has been in Crittenden County as a Crittenden County Sheriff's Deputy.**

As a Crittenden County Sheriff's Deputy, I have been responsible for:

- ★ Routine Patrols
- ★ General Service & Protection
- ★ Criminal Investigations
- ★ Court Transportation
- ★ Vehicle Inspections

**Honest ★ Dependable ★ Experienced**

**PRO SECOND AMENDMENT**

My experience in the CCSO has led me to the point I am ready to lead the office.  
**I would appreciate your vote May 17.**

# VOTE AGENT

CRITTENDEN COUNTY SHERIFF

Paid for by Ray Agent

### HOMES

3 Bed 2 bath Split-Level.....	\$159,900	WW	
3 Bed 1bath - 212 Leland Ave.....	\$70,000	MP	
2 Bed 1 Bath - 115 W Graham St., Fredonia.....	\$24,900	OW	
3 Bed 2 Bath - 308 W Bellville St.....	<b>SOLD</b>	\$89,900	JC
2 Bed 2 Bath - 3576 US 297.....		\$89,700	FQ
2 Bed 1 Bath - 316 S College St.....		\$64,500	GB
3 Bed 1 Bath - 210 Maxwell St.....	<b>SOLD</b>	\$54,900	JD
3 Bed 1(half) 2(half) Bath on 35+- Acres, 1985 Weldon Rd.....	<b>SOLD</b>	\$19,900	BW
3 Bed 2 Bath - 2070 Vine St., Carnsville.....		\$159,000	MD
4 Bed 2 Bath - 802 E Bellville St.....	<b>SOLD</b>	\$149,900	KH
2 Bed, 1 Bath - 447 Freedom Church Rd.....	<b>SOLD</b>	\$89,900	MW
3 Bed 2 Bath - 220 Jarvis St.....	<b>SOLD</b>	\$69,900	ST
3-4 Bed, 2.5 Bath on 15+- AC - 648 Indian Hills Trail Eddyville.....	<b>SOLD</b>	\$9,000	SA
6 Bed, 5 Bath - 109 E Gum St. Historic Home.....	<b>SOLD</b>	\$112,500	SH
4 Bed, 2 Bath - 6531 St. Rt. 1943 West, Eddyville.....	<b>SOLD</b>	\$86,500	ST

### ACREAGE

23.49 +- AC on Allie Brown Rd.....	<b>SOLD</b>	\$69,900	AY
46 +- AC with Small Cabin - Good Springs Rd.....	<b>SOLD</b>	\$129,900	
3.5 AC - Adamson Lane.....	<b>SOLD</b>	\$9,900	FM
650+- AC - 9285 US 60 W Marion, KY.....	<b>SOLD</b>	\$1,300,000	
Cave-In-Rock Island - 160+- AC.....	<b>SOLD</b>	\$359,900	AE
110+- AC - 9285 US 60 W Marion, KY.....	<b>SOLD</b>	\$199,000	
250+- AC - 9285 US 60 W Marion, KY.....	<b>SOLD</b>	\$499,000	

### COMMERCIAL

Store Front - 1999 SR 70.....		\$24,900	PT
The Front Porch.....		\$365,000	

**10x30 STORAGE UNIT - \$100**

## HOMESTEAD AUCTION REALTY

308 N. MAIN ST., MARION, KY 42064 • (270) 965-9999  
PRINCIPAL BROKER Darin Tabor, (270) 704-0041  
[www.homesteadauctionrealty.com](http://www.homesteadauctionrealty.com)

## NOW ACCEPTING CLIENTS for TAX PREPARATION & BOOKKEEPING

**Debra Bostick-King, EA**  
**(270) 841-8594**

# Chad Thomas

Crittenden County Magistrate — District 4

**Proudly Serving District 4**

Paid for by Chad Thomas

## keep the change

ON FACEBOOK  
**Tabor for County Clerk**

# tabor

— county clerk —

**Elect Daryl K. Tabor**  
Crittenden County Clerk

*Appointed county clerk Oct. 1, 2020. Relying on strength, knowledge of staff, election workers, we have been able to:*

★ ★ ★  
Offer safe, convenient transactions amid pandemic by adding online registration renewals, office drop box, e-recording, online access to records through subscription

★ ★ ★  
Carry out unique 2020 general election with no issues, controversy

★ ★ ★  
Work with county board of elections to offer state-approved plan to consolidate voting precincts, reducing cost of each election

★ ★ ★  
Offer voters more secure elections by working with fiscal court to add new voting equipment

★ ★ ★  
Effectively pay for new voting machines by turning over \$125,000 in excess fees to county

★ ★ ★  
Save local taxpayers \$30,000 through grant for digitizing deeds, all marriage records

★ ★ ★  
Prepare for move of county offices to new location across town

★ ★ ★  
Keep public informed through local media, website, social media

*I ask for your support to help us continue the good works this office has done for decades*



# Buildings, internet top judge’s agenda

It is my pleasure to provide this update once again for the citizens of Crittenden County regarding several items of business within your county government.

As I sit down to provide this update, I know that it has been quite some time since my last installment. I apologize greatly for the delay in getting an update out to you. Given the fact that it has been such a long time, I have several ongoing projects from which to share information, and I will attempt to provide a condensed version. Due to this fact, you may have further questions and I would simply ask that you call, email, visit the office, or stop me on the street at some point for further clarification if needed.

It seems impossible that we have endured the most threatening health crisis in our lifetimes over the past two years. COVID has and continues to create many issues related to the way we live our lives. We have seen attempts to place government mandates on us at a personal level, through our employers, and by affiliation definition regarding status as a governmental entity or contractor. No matter one’s opinion regarding the attempted and sometimes successful mandates, this virus continues to be a problem and will be for some time. I encourage everyone to research options available for protection and make informed decisions based on the factual data now available. I thank all our health care professionals, facilities and health department for the tremendous number of resources and amount of energy they have made available to our community during this pandemic.

In my most recent journal to the public, I mentioned two facilities that

had been made available to our county through donations.

**Community buildings**  
The old Marion Christian Church building is thriving as a counseling facility tasked with providing much needed help for those in our community with a host of dependency-related issues. Most of the work done there is achieved through dedicated volunteers of time, talent and funding. The other property mentioned in my most recent journal to the public was the agreement with the State of Kentucky and Department of the Army to lease the old armory. Since that time, the county has been awarded the deed to that entire property and has begun the transformation of it into a community and recreation facility, while tying in the grounds to Marion’s City-County Park and Victory Gardens property. The effort is spearheaded by a group of volunteers representing various community groups and interests.

We have already moved the Adult Education program there as a permanent home that is now more accessible by those most in need of their services. The high school baseball and softball teams are utilizing the old drill hall area as a winter practice facility. The school system has installed Wi-Fi routers to make available internet access for those students needing access for virtual learning.

Lastly, the facility has partnered with Inside Out Archers of Kentucky youth archery club, expanding opportunities for our young citizens to have another winter option for staying active in a supervised and structured program. This program is also led by a dedicated group of volunteer coaches that benefit kids with a safe

and competitive sport that can result in scholarship opportunities after they graduate high school.

Other changes forthcoming will be the relocation of county offices to the Ed-Tech building. The county has awarded a contract for the renovation and addition to that building that will house the County Judge-Executive’s office, County Clerk, County Sheriff’s office and the PVA. This move has been necessitated by the pending demolition of our current courthouse and subsequent construction of a new judicial facility on the current courthouse lot.

**Countywide internet**  
Countywide internet service continues to be an effort of focus. At this time our best option is for the plan Kenegy has proposed to the PSC of Kentucky regarding the provision of internet services to their entire area of coverage.

There have been many obstacles to this effort and many of those are coming from an association called the Kentucky Broadband and Communications Association (KBCA). Currently the KBCA has filed documents asking the PSC to consider not approving the Kenegy plan based on the fact members of the KBCA provide services in the Kenegy service areas and those members have invested considerable funds for the purposes of providing internet services.

Research indicates most investments made has actually been the result of funds awarded these members through Connect America Grants and other public funding options provided by the

USDA. Anyone that may be compelled to do so can provide comment on this

case with the PSC by submitting a comment by email to [psc.comment@ky.gov](mailto:psc.comment@ky.gov). You must include the case number 2021-00365 within the subject line of the email and provide your full name and place of residence in the body of the email. You may also mail the PSC with comments regarding the Kenegy plan to Kentucky Public Service Commission P.O. Box 615 Frankfort, KY 40602, including the same case number and your name and address/place of residence in the body of the letter being submitted. This is our best hope for anyone who wishes to have an affordable option for quality high speed internet service.

Kenegy’s plan is to provide a planned 100mbps upload and download speeds to every Kenegy customer in their coverage area. I encourage everyone that can to please provide public comment to the PSC regarding the Kenegy plan and stress the importance of approval of the plan to our area. If members of the KBCA wanted to provide service in the Kenegy coverage area they would have already done so. However, the only major coverages provided are in Daviess County/Owensboro and Henderson County/Henderson. It is obvious to me, as well as all of my colleagues within the Kenegy coverage area, that KBCA is only interested in highly populated areas that are “easy” to serve. Make sure PSC realizes we count too, re-



**Perry Newcom**  
Crittenden County Judge-Executive  
*Judge’s Journal*

spond as soon as you possibly can.

**Election**  
As I close, I want to talk about the upcoming elections for local and state officials. I encourage each of you to take opportunities to learn about each candidate and make informed choices before voting. I will be conducting “get to know your candidates” meetings throughout the county as I have done each year that I have had the privilege to serve this county as your chief elected official. Each candidate for every office will be invited to attend these community meetings that will be open to the public and share their goals and vision. We will be in the Dycusburg/Frances area, Mattoon, Shady Grove, Tolu and Marion. These meetings will provide an opportunity for each candidate that wishes to participate to share their plans if elected to their respective offices and allow you an opportunity to ask questions of all candidates. Please remember the best vote is an informed vote, so I encourage as many as possible to attend one or all of these meetings that are for your benefit.

I know there are many more things I could touch on with respect to county business, but due to my respect for the space in which The Press provides for me to publish these updates, I will close for now. As always, if you have any issue or concern regarding your county government, please contact me at your convenience. You will find I am available in the office most any time during business hours either by appointment or drop in. You can email or call me, or just catch me in the street or at a community function when you see me. I will always do everything I possibly

can to address your concerns or issues and explain the why’s, how’s, or who’s as best I can. We have a great deal of work going on that will change the landscape of our community for the next several generations, and I encourage you all to be a part of that change, get involved in a place that fits your interests or concerns. We are always looking for folks that wish to be involved and provide their talents and gifts to the many areas of engagement we have available at any given time. I appreciate the opportunity you provide me to represent our community and I look forward to many more great things to come during the months ahead.

**Local news sources**  
My final comment is to encourage you all to subscribe to our local newspaper and listen to our local radio station. These local media partners work hard to ensure you are up to date and informed of what is going on in your community. By law all public business of the county must be advertised or printed in the local newspaper with the highest circulation. The local paper is the only resource you have at your disposal to read about the things that directly impact you as a citizen of this community. I hear comments all the time from folks that didn’t know something about an opportunity or a change and all I can say is “it was in the paper.” Subscribe today. Support our radio station by advertising today. Our local media partners care and provide service no other outlets can.

*Perry Newcom has served as Crittenden County Judge-Executive since 2011 and can be reached at (270) 965-5251 or by email at [perry.newcom@crittendencountyky.org](mailto:perry.newcom@crittendencountyky.org).*

# CCEDC strategically focused, streamlined

Crittenden County Economic Development Corporation (CCEDC), founded in 1995, has been proactively refocusing its energy and resources for the last four years. In 2018, Crittenden County had the opportunity to become a part of the Lake Barkley Partnership, a three county economic development alliance. The Partnership became a four-county group when Livingston County joined Caldwell, Crittenden and Lyon counties in 2020.

The CCEDC provides our county’s membership in the Partnership. We believe that the potential return on our resources is greatest with our involvement in this regional organization. The Partnership gives our community representation and service by a full-time, highly qualified

economic development professional, Amanda Davenport. CCEDC had been without even a part-time economic development professional since late 2014, until joining the Partnership.

Davenport works with our local industries, employers, schools and other community organizations as well as those in the other three member counties. She helps them coordinate partnerships and resources, overcome challenges and capitalize on opportunities, such as efficiencies, expansion, funding and workforce development and recruit-

ment. She also works with perspective industries and employers,

which includes marketing the remaining property in Industrial Park North. CCEDC owns the 20 acres at the end of the cul-de-sac of the state maintained and owned highway known locally as Pippi Hardin Boulevard (off of U.S. 60 East just north of Marion). This highly desirable tract of land is level, clear, at the highest elevation in the park and surveyed, so it can be easily subdivided based on the needs of a prospective industry or employer.

Advocacy for Crit-

tenden County at the state level is another key component of CCEDC’s efforts. In fact, a group of CCEDC representatives is headed to Frankfort this week to meet with legislators as well as various state cabinets and departments, including Economic Development, Education and Workforce Development and Transportation. Topics of conversation will include economic development initiatives, apprenticeships, Cave-in-Rock Ferry funding and completion of the new U.S. 641 project to connect Fredonia and Eddyville.

Facilitating the transfer of the former highway maintenance garage property from the state to Crittenden County Schools has been another CCEDC initiative. This transfer was originally contemplated

in 2007, if not earlier. This will get the schools one step closer to a new high school and expanded opportunities for students on that campus.

CCEDC has worked over the last several years to reduce our debt with the state, which was used to purchase Industrial Park North. One way that we have reduced it is by selling those acres in the park that were not conducive for development in the last year. We have also worked with Crittenden County and the City of Marion to transition the Ed-Tech Center to the county for their offices. This action has allowed CCEDC to

redirect the lion’s share of our annual budget from maintaining and managing this facility to honoring our community’s investment in the Lake Barkley Partnership.

CCEDC is investor-funded, led by a volunteer board of local and regional business, industry, education, government and community leaders with voting members appointed or elected from our investors. CCEDC is always looking for additional investor partners. If you would like to discuss joining our efforts, feel free to contact me.

VOTE

Misty DALTON HICKS

Your support is greatly appreciated for your vote on May 17th!

PVA

Property Valuation Administrator

Paid for by candidate, Misty Dalton Hicks

©TheCrittendenPress2022

Re-Elect

WILLARD GUILL

MAGISTRATE DISTRICT #3

50 year resident of Crittenden County

32 years as a heavy equipment mechanic

Will work to improve roads and the economy to benefit ALL OF CRITTENDEN COUNTY

Will work to bring industry to Crittenden County for the benefit of ALL CITIZENS

YOUR VOTE AND SUPPORT ON MAY 17 WILL BE GREATLY APPRECIATED

Thank You, WILLARD GUILL

ELECT

MATT GRIMES

Crittenden County Magistrate District 2

I truly believe that Crittenden County is the best place in Kentucky to live and raise a family. That is the reason we chose Crittenden County to call our forever home.

I want to help ensure that Crittenden County continues to be a place to call home for future generations. I promise to work with you to lead Crittenden County into the future with efficient, conservative government.

I WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR VOTE ON MAY 17

Paid for by Matt Grimes



# Tornado relief includes new Marion home

STAFF REPORT

Aaron and Victoria Blaine thought the donation of a couple cases of bottled water would quench their thirst for assisting Dawson Springs tornado victims. Turns out it was a drop in the bucket.

The Dec. 10, 2021 tornado that cut a path through Mayfield, Hopkins County and Bowling Green had a profound effect on the Blaines, Marion residents whose ministry had been contained to a small circle in their Mattoon church.

After putting their jobs on pause and living in a camper in Dawson Springs for a month, they returned home and brought a displaced Dawson Springs family with them. What began as a minor donation of water now involves coordinating volunteer contractors and donated material to help the

family establish permanent residency in Marion.

Concrete will be poured this week and construction is expected to take as little as six weeks for their new home on East Depot Street in Marion.

“You think you’re going to help them, but we are the ones who got help out of all this – we have a new vision, new boldness for God, and I’m so grateful we took time and went over there and are still involved in it,” said Blaine, youth pastor at Repton Baptist Church.

Through his job at Marion True Value and relationships with several churches in the re-



Blaine



Trusses are on site for a home to be constructed at the corner of East Depot and Clark streets.

gion, Blaine connected with investors, contractors, insurance agents and lumber and metal vendors. A group of men from Crittenden, Trigg and Hopkins counties’ Amish communities have pre-fabricated walls with donated lumber and are donating their labor to get the working mother of four from Dawson Springs into a new home.

She already has a job in Marion and her children are enrolled in school here.

“People have just poured into us,” Blaine said. “The goodness of people has been absolutely amazing.”

Sharing the philosophy of Habitat for Humanity, Blaine said the construction project is not a hand out, but a hand up.

Blaine insists there is no value in free, so the new home planned in Marion will not be entirely free.

“She will get a \$60,000-\$70,000 home for about \$10,000. She will still have a mortgage,” Blaine explains.

Marion Mayor Jared Byford is assessing options to work with Blaine and his group of volunteers to utilize city-owned property for additional home-building projects.

Byford said several properties currently being reviewed by the code enforcement committee for serious neglect, might be favorable for projects such as Blaine’s. He said he is willing to look deeper into how the city can partner with families and facilitate transfer of some of that property from private parties wishing to assist others in need.

“There are a lot of people in town willing help us get more lots to build homes on, and this would bring property values up,” Blaine said. “There are lots the city owns with condemned houses on them that they can’t afford to tear down, but we can. We can build \$60,000-70,000 homes and help the city in the long run by bringing in viable people who can work here.”

Four additional homes are planned in Hopkins County.

“So many people have been instrumental and just stepped up and have been the hands and feet of Jesus,” said Blaine, a Providence native.

“Electricians are willing to donate time as well as plumbers... the moving parts of this are just insane when you really put it into scope, but God in middle of everything.”

# Changes beneficial for Marion residents

February is a time for planning in the City of Marion. This month we start to consider the end of one fiscal year and the beginning of another. This is a time when we look back for successes and note new or prolonged challenges. In some cases, a project or situation may have mixed results. Over the past 25 months we have faced a tremendous degree of hardship in trying to keep staff healthy, respond to supply shortages and manage increased costs due to inflation. As a small community we have faced these challenges together and been steadfast in our resolve. So today, I want to honor the accomplishments and the changes which have moved the City of Marion forward or helped solve a challenging problem over the past year.

Street Improvements

During the fall of 2021 the city contracted with a local vendor to overlay, or pave, 8,000 feet of city streets costing roughly \$130,000. This was on top of another 12,000 feet of paving that was overlaid the previous year. The city is limited by the mechanism for funding street and alley projects. Currently our portion of the Mutual Aid from the State of Kentucky is \$60,000 annually. As these past few years indicate, the city remains committed to making each dollar go as far as possible.

Fire Department

Continuing a project started in late 2019, the city purchased a replacement turnout truck. After delays related to COVID-19, outfitting the truck was complete allowing it to enter service last October. Additionally,

the department has received a grant from the State of Kentucky for the purchase of a new Thermal Imaging Camera.

**Sidewalk Improvements**

By mid-2021, the city was able to put the final touches on improvements to the sidewalk stretching from the Crittenden County Library down West Carlisle Street to Main Street. The project allowed for ADA access to vital portions of our community while utilizing roughly \$200,000 in state grants in addition to cost-matching support from Farmers Bank & Trust Company.

Police Computers

In an effort to improve safety and effectiveness, the City of Marion Police fleet was outfitted with on-board computers. This allows the department to be ready to meet the state’s mandate to achieve a paperless court system. Additionally, it offers each officer up-to-date access to information in the field. The project cost roughly \$30,000 to complete and partially included use of ABC funds.

Sewer Plant

Last year, the city broke ground on a roughly \$11 million sanitary sewer plant. This is definitely one of the biggest challenges we have faced in recent years, being under an administrative order by the State of Kentucky to replace our aging sewer plant infrastructure. The new plant will assure the community’s waste is treated properly before returning it to the streams and rivers of the surrounding area.

Sewer Lines

As the fiscal year started, the city completed a roughly \$3 million

improvement project to the underground mains which run beneath the city, ferrying sanitary waste to the sewer plant. Many of the lines in our community were original to the time these portions of town were platted, an infrastructure reality common in small town America. As part of addressing the State of Kentucky Administrative Order, the city replaced or slip-lined over 25 percent of the lines while improving aging manholes.

Both sewer projects included interest rate hardship and debt forgiveness by the Kentucky Infrastructure Authority which is primarily funding the project. Additionally, the city has received roughly \$1 million in grants from various federal, state, and county organizations with more than \$2 million in outstanding grant applications awaiting disposition.

Water System

In fall of 2021, the city installed a master meter on the force main between the water plant and the supply towers. This meter will allow the city to better understand and manage water loss by providing accurate data on volume produced in comparison to volume billed. This project signals an increasing attempt to plan smarter and react more efficiently with projects of this

scope. Fire Hydrant Program

As in most older communities, there will always exist a need to repair and replace aging infrastructure. Over the last few years there have been efforts to replace poorly functioning fire hydrants while rehabilitating others. Cost can be prohibitive, but success with oil treatments

have allowed hydrants once marked for replacement to become serviceable. Each hydrant saved in this manner avoids \$4,000 to \$8,000 in replacement costs.

City/County 911

When I became mayor, the city was facing annual deficits in providing 911 services throughout the greater Crittenden County region. Without question, 911 service is critical. The need to address this issue was clear not only for the city, but for other local government agencies as well. To improve the future quality and stability of this service, we partnered with Crittenden County and over the period of multiple years reached an arrangement to establish a joint board responsible for the management of operations. In the process, we placed the organization in a position to respond to technological and training advancements while assuring a



Jared Byford  
Marion Mayor

From the mayor's desk

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Spinal decompression is a nonsurgical treatment option for people experiencing mild to moderate back pain. This back pain can be caused by a degenerative disc disease, such as a bulging disc or herniated disc that is placing pressure on a nearby nerve root.

This type of therapy is used to realign the components of the spine in order to relieve pressure on a pinched nerve that is causing chronic pain and symptoms. By using traction, spinal decompression therapy increases circulation to the damaged disc, allowing it to begin the natural healing process. This may not only relieve disc pressure, but also reduce compression of nearby spinal nerve roots.

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This architect’s rendering shows the tentative design of what will be the new courthouse in downtown Marion. Only the judicial system will occupy the new building. County offices will be moved to the Marion Ed-Tech Center on the south side of Marion.

# Winds of change

## Construction projects are moving forward in Marion

STAFF REPORT

A handful of publicly-funded construction projects are progressing in earnest, yet slower than perhaps originally anticipated due to pandemic pressures on materials and labor.

In addition to a multi-million-dollar new high school being built on the Gum Street campus west of town (see page 1A for details), there are a handful of other public enterprises that will amount to about \$34 million in new construction in Marion.

The City of Marion is building a \$13.6 million waste water treatment plant on the northeast end of town inside the industrial park. The current sewer plant on the opposite side of U.S. 60 from the new construction, had been deemed outmoded by a state regulatory agency. Paying for the new treatment plant has been quite a disturbing issue for Marion water and sewer customers who have seen their rates go up and an environmental fee tacked onto their bills. Rates could go up again in July.

Audubon Area Head Start is building a \$7.2 million new pre-school on Chapel Hill Road. The Head Start Program has been in Marion since 1985, but it’s never had a permanent home. The new 16,000-square-foot facility will provide plenty of room for growth in the popular program that helps to ready young students for kindergarten. Once completed, it will be able to enroll about 84 students.

Crittenden County’s local government offices are leaving downtown later this year to occupy the 20-year-old Marion Ed-Tech Center, which is getting a \$1.74 million renovation and expansion. The project ended up costing nearly 30 percent more than first estimated. The current couthouse will be torn down in the coming months and replaced by a new \$12 million Crittenden County Justice Center. During demolition and construction, district and circuit court will be held elsewhere in Marion. State officials are currently studying where to put temporary courtrooms. Two sites are being considered. One is at Darben Plaza and the other is Hometown Foods.



Soon the 20-year-old Marion Ed-Tech Center will become home to county government offices. If renovation and expansion stays on schedule, the county clerk, sheriff, PVA and judge-executive are moving out of the downtown courthouse later this year.



Crittenden County’s Courthouse, which was opened in 1961, will soon be torn down to make way for a new Crittenden County Justice Center.



Monuments, historical markers and the town gazebo will be moved off of the court square during construction. The monuments will go back when the new justice center is finished. Fate of the gazebo remains unclear as designers say there may not be room for it.



Marion’s aged sewer plant at the corner of Sturgis Road and Adams Street on the northeast side of town is out of compliance with state regulations and is being replaced with a new waste water treatment plant across the highway.



Work is progressing on the new City of Marion waste water treatment plan, which is being built in Industrial Park North on Pippi Hardin Boulevard. Construction of the plant is costing a handsome amount and city residents are feeling the pain with rising water and sewer bills.



Audubon Area Head Start is building a modern facility on Chapel Hill Road that will allow the early-education program to accommodate more students and provide greater resources.

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# Library offers new titles, tours

## February activities include book clubs for youth, adults

Workers at the Crittenden County Public Library have been busy over the past month updating automated systems, computers and collections. Computers at CCPL are safer than ever with the new PC Reservation system that times patron sessions but also releases print jobs in a more private way. Also, the older Princh mobile printing platform has been replaced with the PrinterOn App so that patrons can send prints to the printer at CCPL from their devices at home, school or work. Stop by to get the printer app set up on your phone today. Copies are just 25 cents each or 10 cents if you bring your own paper.

Trustees are currently working on a new strategic plan made possible by the American Library Association's Libraries Transforming Communities grant. It's not too late to send input. Email us at [info@crittendenlibrary.org](mailto:info@crittendenlibrary.org)

denlibrary.org to get your thoughts added to the data being reviewed by Trustees.

**Checkout services**

Colder weather and high COVID numbers are seeing more people at home reading to pass the time. Although we're seeing fewer people coming into the building due to pandemic concerns, we are checking out just as many print books through our curbside and Bookmobile outreach services. CCPL receives weekly book shipments of the latest bestsellers.

**New bestsellers**

New books received in the past few weeks include "Four Winds" by Kristin Hannah; Stuart Woods' "Criminal Mischiefs;" Robert Dugoni's "The World Played Chess;" and "The Becoming" by Nora Roberts. Place new books on hold by logging into your library card account at <https://crittendenlibrary.org>. Click on the

catalog link on the home page and enter your library card number and 10-digit phone number in the upper right corner. It's easy to renew and reserve new books all from the comfort of home. If you love eBooks, download the Libby app and get your favorite best-sellers through Kentucky Libraries Unbound.

**Youth programs**

In March, we are bringing back popular in-person programs like Lego Club for elementary-age children, trivia nights for adults and story hour for young children age birth to 5. Programmers are busy planning summer reading activities for all ages along the theme, "Oceans of Possibilities." The summer theme this

year is all about oceanography. The youth program will focus on pirates and marine animals, teens will spend time reading on the beach, and adults who participate in the library program will enjoy white star service on the fictional cruise ship, the SS Seas the Day. Quirky programs, reading challenges and prizes provided by the Friends of the Library and local businesses make summer reading fun for all ages.

**Ferry Tales tours**

Due to popular demand, more Ferry Tales tours are being scheduled in 2022 so watch for more information in the coming months. You can call us now to add your name to the wait list for future tours.



## February library events

**Early Learning activity kits**, make and take craft kits and passive activities are available weekly at CCPL. Check in regularly to pick up activities for kids, teens and adults who may be stuck at home due to quarantines or NTI days.

**Feb. 3-24** – Surplus Sale in the Library meeting room. Pick up a bid packet and view items in the library through Feb. 24. Sealed bids are due by 5 p.m., Feb. 24 at the library circulation desk. Winning bidders must remove items by March 4.

**Feb. 21** Library Closed for President's Day. Workers will be completing mandatory safety training and learning about new services to better serve patrons at the annual staff in-service training day.

**Feb. 24** – Brown Bag Book Club. Join Brandie in the library meeting room for a discussion about the murder mystery selection, "Aunti Poldi and the Sicilian Lions," by Mario Giodano. Bring your lunch and we'll provide coffee and dessert.

**Feb. 28** – CCPL Kids Book Club. Join Melissa for this new monthly book club as she discusses the book "Max and the Midknights," by Lincoln Pierce in the library meeting room with youth ages 8-12.

# District, students excel despite COVID hurdles

Like all districts across the Commonwealth, COVID-19 has continued to present challenges to the 2021-22 school year. Our diligence in Healthy at School procedures, however, has allowed us to address student and staff quarantines and ensure that learning continues in the most effective and efficient way. Despite challenges, our district is proud to celebrate some current successes and exciting plans for the future.

Speaking of the future, plans are in motion for the eventual construction of a new high school, which would attach to Rocket Arena, providing our students with a 21st Century place of learning equipped with the space and technology they need to compete with high school students across the state and nation. Our existing WWII-era middle school would be demolished from the front office to the wing connecting to the cut-through road, with students in grades 5-8 moving into our existing high school once the new high school is constructed, allowing them more space and learning opportunities, as well.

While the future looks very bright for Crittenden County Schools, our students currently are continuing to excel in the classroom, in sports arenas and in extracurricular activities. At Crittenden County High School, we have a record number of students enrolled in dual credit courses, allowing them to earn college credit while simultaneously fulfilling high school graduation requirements. More than 70 of our Rockets are taking advantage of this opportunity, while eight juniors and seniors are participating in Madisonville Community College's Senior Academy experience. These students complete all coursework either on campus at Madisonville or via interactive telecourses at the high school. Additionally, our partnership with the Caldwell Regional Career Center affords juniors and seniors the opportunity to hone their skills in



trade areas, such as plumbing, welding, automotive, information technology, construction and healthcare. At the conclusion of their program, they are eligible for industry certification exams in these areas.

Within our high school, college and career pathways continue to offer students opportunities to prepare for their futures. In addition to our existing family and consumer science, agriculture and business pathways, new additions of computer technology and biomedical pathways have given students even more options. The biomedical path provides hands-on learning opportunities in STEM, while our computer technology program introduces students to 21st Century skills essential to many career fields.

In athletics, Coach Shannon Hodge and Coach Bayley McDonald earned 2021 regional coach of the year honors in girls' basketball and

volleyball, respectively. Our Lady Rockets basketball team and Rocket baseball teams earned the title of Regional Class A Champs last season, and expectations for another successful season this year are high.

Our students continue to achieve beyond the classroom through extracurricular involvement. Our students have competed and found success at both regional and state levels in clubs, including FFA, 4-H, FCCLA and Beta. Through a partnership with the West Kentucky Educational Cooperative, Gear Up is giving middle school students enhanced exposure to STEM activities, strengthening their understanding in science, technology, engineering and mathematics. The addition of an Educators Rising club at the high school is helping us grow our own future educators, allowing them the opportunity to complete the first five classes in the education pathway.

At the district level, we have found success in securing important grants for all students in our district, including a Happy Feet grant, allow-

ing us to meet students' basic needs at home and an AT&T grant, which resulted in the delivery of 351 hot spots with internet service to give students access to WiFi for times when remote learning is necessary. Our FRYSC team continues to serve families in our district, with more than 7,000 contacts made during the last calendar year. From providing assistance with basic living needs to hosting family engagement events, the FRYSC staff works tirelessly to level the playing field for all of our students by removing barriers to learning. A \$225,000 Striving Readers Grant also allows us to address reading proficiency at each school.

Finally, our Rocket Foundation is gaining momentum, thanks to a generous donation from the Linda Schumann estate through the Crittenden County for Tomorrow committee. The \$150,000 gift has helped us achieve our initial fundraising goals so that more college and career opportunities may be provided to our students. (See story page 1A.) Other initiatives to

grow our foundation include our Rocket Business Partner of the Month; the sale of legacy plaques, which honor graduates' accomplishments and are being permanently displayed in Rocket Arena; and donations from individuals with a desire to fund learning opportunities for all students in their pursuit of college and career success.

It's an exciting time to be a Rocket, and the future looks even more promising. As we continue to meet students where they are in a rapidly changing environment, we are thankful for an exceptional staff at every turn, equipped to meet students' academic and social-emotional needs. Our mission to empower and engage every student every day is a team effort and one in which we take great pride.

*Vince Clark has been superintendent of Crittenden County Schools since 2014. He recently announced his retirement when his contract ends June 30.*

# Senate talks pre-K, death notices

*Submitted by Sen. Jason Howell*

The Senate has officially begun the thorough process of reviewing the Governor's and State House of Representatives' budget proposals.

I will keep you informed on the weeks ahead on significant budget developments from the Senate. Know that we are combing through both documents to develop one that is both fiscally sound and takes care of Kentucky residents across the Commonwealth.

Legislative measures passing in the Senate this past week include:

**SB 60** maximizes education funds and services for as many at-risk four year olds as possible by making the commissioner of education a mediator between school district superintendents and local Head Start directors to determine when a local Head Start program has maximized the number of children it can serve. This important determination is needed so that local school districts can certify the need for a preschool program;

the preschool program is then eligible for additional grant funding, ultimately serving more children.

**SB 61** was a cleanup bill that enjoyed unanimous support. It modernizes statutory requirements for early high school graduation by eliminating the requirement for benchmarks on end-of-course exams and references to scoring benchmarks on the ACT. It also updates early high school graduation requirements and future revisions to be established through administrative regulations made by the Kentucky Board of Education.

**SB 66**, also known as 'Nathan's Law,' takes the necessary step to give greater consideration to the grieving process of families by implementing requirements on how the news of a loved one's death must be delivered. It requires coroners and deputy coroners, within three years of assuming office, to complete a minimum four-hour course that includes instruction of the grieving process and best practices for providing death

notice to a spouse or next of kin. The bill also stipulates that news of the death must be delivered verbally and respectfully and requires a follow up with the family member within 48 hours. Additionally, the bill would require emergency responders to be on standby.

**SB 64** allows public safety agencies to establish a peer support counseling program. This enables those within the same field to use personal experiences to help colleagues deal with post-traumatic stress disorder. The bill will include emergency dispatchers, often the first line of communication for individuals in crisis, distress or trauma, as well as other first responders.

**SB 94** expands the Work Ready Kentucky Scholarships to Kentucky students with special needs. All of these bills are now under House consideration, and we are hopeful they pass them quickly so that residents may reap the benefits of these important pieces of legislation.

Our session remains

focused on children, education and our changing workforce to improve the lives of Kentucky residents no matter where you live.

*Senator Jason Howell (R-Murray) represents the 1st District, which includes Calhoun, Crittenden, Fulton, Graves, Hickman, Lyon, and Trigg counties.*

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legal notices

The Defendant, Joshua Phelps, is hereby notified that on March 22, 2021, Plaintiff, Fischer & Van Thiel, LLP filed a Complaint for breach of contract, and common counts in San Diego Superior Court of North County, 325 S. Melrose Dr. Vista, CA 92081 (Case No. 37-2021-00012716-CL-BC-NC) seeking a judgment for costs of suit, for such relief as is fair, just, and equitable; and for damages of \$24,626.62 by Defendant.

COURT DATES  
CIVIL CASE MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE: January 14, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. Dept. N-31. In the event the Defendant fails to respond to the Complaint within 30 days after this publication of this Notice, the Court may proceed to enter a Default Judgment and grant the relief requested by the Plaintiff. A letter, phone, or court appearance call will not protect you. The attorney representing the Plaintiff is Michael A. Fischer, Fischer & Van Thiel, LLP 2424 Vista Way, Suite 200, Oceanside, CA 92054; phone (760) 722-7646. (4t-6-p)

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY  
CRITTENDEN CIRCUIT COURT  
CIVIL ACTION 20-CI-00054  
U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE, FOR MANUFACTURED HOUSING CONTRACT SENIOR/SUBORDINATE PASS-THROUGH  
CERTIFICATE TRUST 2001-2  
PLAINTIFF VS.  
BETTY STONE AKA BETTY L. STONE  
LEROY STONE  
UNKNOWN OCCUPANT, IF ANY  
CITIFINANCIAL SERVING LLC SBMT  
CITIFINANCIAL CITY OF MARION  
MIDLAND FUNDING LLC  
COUNTY OF CRITTENDEN  
DEFENDANTS  
NOTICE OF SALE

By virtue of a Judgment and Order of Sale rendered by the Crittenden Circuit Court on the December 29, 2021, I will on Thursday, February 17, 2022 beginning at the hour of 10:00 A.M. in the City of Marion, Crittenden County, Kentucky, proceed to offer for sale to the highest and best bidder the following described real property located in Crittenden County, Kentucky, to-wit: Property Address: 429 W. Bellville Street, Marion, Kentucky 42064  
Parcel No.: 058-20-01-016.00  
Subject to all restrictions, conditions, covenants and to all legal highways and easements.  
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and sufficient bond with approved surety thereon for the purchase price, the bond to bear interest at the rate of 3.75% per annum from the date thereof, until paid, and to have the force and effect of a judgment, but a lien shall be retained on said property to further secure the payment of the purchase price. At his option, the purchaser may pay cash or pay the bond with accrued interest at any time before its maturity. Said sale to be made free and clear of any and all liens, claims, rights, title and interest of any and all parties to this action. The purchaser will be prepared to promptly comply with these terms or the said property will immediately be offered again for sale.  
This the 7th day of January, 2022.

Robert B. Frazer  
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COMMISSIONER  
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CRITTENDEN CIRCUIT COURT  
CIVIL ACTION 20-CI-00030  
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Delonda G. Czaplicki, et al.  
DEFENDANTS  
NOTICE OF RE-SALE  
By virtue of a Judgment and Order of Sale rendered by the Crittenden Circuit Court on the January 13, 2022, I will on Thursday, February 17, 2022 beginning at the hour of 10:00 A.M. at the Courthouse door in the City of Marion, Crittenden County, Kentucky, proceed to offer for sale to the highest and best bidder the following described real property located in Crittenden County, Kentucky, to-wit: Property Address: 1381 US Highway 60 West, Marion, KY 42064  
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from the date thereof, until paid, and to have the force and effect of a judgment, but a lien shall be retained on said property to further secure the payment of the purchase price. At his option, the purchaser may pay cash or pay the bond with accrued interest at any time before its maturity. Said sale to be made free and clear of any and all liens, claims, rights, title and interest of any and all parties to this action. The purchaser will be prepared to promptly comply with these terms or the said property will be immediately be offered again for sale.  
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# PLEDGE

Continued from page 1  
she helped form in 2003. Schumann was a 1965 graduate of Crittenden County High School and attended Paducah Community College before graduating from Western Kentucky University in 1969. Following graduation, she took a position with the Environmental Protection Agency in Washington, D.C. She later worked for the Chicago Board of Trade and earned a master's of business administration from University of Chicago. Schumann completed her professional career with Cigna Corporation in Hartford, Conn., where she advanced to become the highest ranking female executive in the company. Schumann retired in Marion in 1998.

Long time friend and Crittenden County Tomorrow president Stuart Collins said Schumann's humble contributions to the community are a testament to her love for her hometown.

"Linda mentored numerous people and positively influenced their lives without calling attention to herself," said Collins. "We are honored to continue Linda's work, and we believe that investing in our community's most valuable resource, our young people, will further Linda's legacy of creating a brighter tomorrow for Crittenden County."

Chris Cook, Crittenden County Board of Education chairman, said Schumann's gift aligns with the school district's vision to create success for its students, whatever college or career path they choose.

"This generous gift in honor of Linda truly is a game changer for our kids, their families (present and future), our schools (including future teachers and staff) and our community. These resources will be invested strategically and wisely

by empowering and equipping our most precious resource...our kids, who are Crittenden County's tomorrow. We will use this gift as a springboard for our next financial goal for the Rocket Foundation."

The Rocket Foundation was formed more than a decade ago with the purpose of aiding high school students with expenses tied to post-secondary education. In recent years the school board has contributed to the foundation, but it wasn't until mid-2020 that efforts spearheaded by Superintendent Vince Clark expanded the reach and efforts of the foundation.

“As anyone can see, education has changed dramatically over the last decade, and it continues to evolve as our students are presented with more opportunities and path-

ways,” said Clark. “Even in the midst of a pandemic, we knew that the time was now to focus energies on growing our foundation, so that we could open more doors to students as they look toward their future.”

Clark explains that the Rocket Foundation aids high school juniors and seniors in a multitude of ways, including: Covering dual credit tuition and textbook costs for juniors and seniors; aiding with work-ready certifications through pre-apprenticeships and industry certifications in auto, electrical, plumbing, carpentry, health sciences, information technology and welding at the Caldwell Regional Career Center; strengthening career readiness in career and technical education pathways in biomedical, computer science, agriculture,

business/marketing and family and consumer studies; assisting with tuition and textbook cost for the Senior Academy, a partnership with Madisonville Community College; and providing scholarship opportunities to colleges, universities and trade schools.

- Furthering opportunities for OSHA certification at the Caldwell Regional Career Center

# SCHOOL

Continued from page 1  
delay.

The new high school will allow middle schoolers to move into the existing high school, phasing out the 1940s-era middle school.

The new high school, originally projected at about \$13 million, will include 15 classroom

and EMT certification through the Health Science Department at Madisonville Community College.

There are many ways to contribute to the foundation, according to public relations officer Tiffany Blazina, including payroll deduction, one-time and recurring donations, and two new initiatives Blazina is working to grow, Legacy

Plaques and the Rocket Business Partner of the Month program. Legacy plaques are permanently displayed on the walls of Rocket Arena and feature an individual's graduation date and high school activities and involvement. Rocket Business Partner of the Month began in November to create partnerships between the district and local businesses.

cent higher than originally projected.

Timeline for a \$1.08 million renovation of the existing high school remains on schedule. That project by Princeton Lumber Co., includes renovation of two science classrooms, restrooms on the first and second floors and installation of an elevator.

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## BASKETBALL

### UPCOMING GAMES

#### THURSDAY

Lady Rockets at Webster County  
Rockets host Webster County

#### SATURDAY

Lady Rockets host Union Co., 4pm  
Rockets host Dawson Springs, 6pm

#### TUESDAY

Lady Rockets Hopkins Central  
Rockets host Hopkins Central

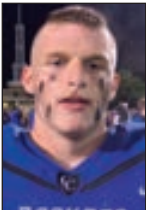
#### THURSDAY, Feb. 17

Lady Rockets host Hopkinsville  
Rockets host Hopkinsville

## FOOTBALL

### Yates commits to Wesleyan

Crittenden County senior Dylan Yates has committed to play football at Kentucky Wesleyan College in Owensboro. The Panthers compete in NCAA Division II. Yates was an four-year starter at defensive end and offensive line for the Rockets and he's all-time sacks leader. He was an All-State Honorable Mention and All-Western Kentucky Conference First Team performer his senior year.



## BASKETBALL

### Murray State at No. 23

Murray State's men's basketball team, which has one of the longest winning streaks in the nation, entered the Top 25 this week, ranked No. 23. It's MSU's first Top 25 ranking since 2015. The Racers are 22-2 overall and 12-0 in the Ohio Valley Conference. Murray hasn't lost since falling to now-No. 1 Auburn on Dec. 22. Its only other loss was in November to East Tennessee State. MSU plays at Tennessee State Thursday and next up is Morehead.

## OUTDOORS

### Hunting Seasons

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

Raccoon hunt	Oct. 1 - Feb. 28
Squirrel	Nov. 15 - Feb. 28
Raccoon trap	Nov. 15 - Feb. 28
Quail	Nov. 15 - Feb. 10
Rabbit	Nov. 15 - Feb. 10
Fox hunt/trap	Nov. 15 - Feb. 28
Canada goose	Nov. 25 - Feb. 15
Bobcat hunt	Nov. 27 - Feb. 28
Spring Youth Wild Turkey	April 2-3
Spring Wild Turkey	April 16 - May 8
Coyote	Year Round
Groundhog	Year Round
Turtles	Year Round

### Coyote event canceled

The annual coyote hunting contest sponsored by Marion Tourism Commission and Hodge's Sports and Apparel was iced out by bad weather last weekend. The event will not be rescheduled. Registration fees will be refunded.

### Small game season out

Kentucky's small game season for quail and rabbits ends this week. Thursday is the final day for hunters to chase bunnies and birds.

## UMPIRING

### Paid HS umps needed

The KHSAA Second Region is looking for umpires and referees. If interested in being a paid referee or umpire in any scholastic sport, email matt.bell@webster.kyschools.us or call 270-871-6956 for more information.

### Youth league officiating

Crittenden County Dugout Club is looking for individuals interested in umpiring baseball and softball games this summer at Marion-Crittenden County Park. These are paid positions. Fore more information, contact Lafe Riggs at (270) 564-5000.

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Lady Rocket eighth-grader Chloe Hunt looks for an outlet pass after stealing the ball against Dawson Springs Tuesday night as Crittenden won for the 16th time this season.

# Lady Rockets have hands full for 18th win

#### STAFF REPORT

Crittenden County's girls had their hands full with McLean County Tuesday night at Rocket Arena.

The Lady Rockets maintained a narrow lead most of the basketball game, but nearly let it slip away in the waning moments. Crittenden missed five straight foul shots at one point in the final minute, but held on to beat McLean 50-45.

The Lady Cougars came into the game with just seven wins, but the scrappy bunch kept steady defensive pressure on CCHS, forcing a number of turnovers and

showing an ability score off the dribble.

CCHS junior scoring stalwart Taylor Guess got started slowly with just two fielders in the first half while the Boone sisters – Natalie and Anna – posted 19 of the team's 28 first-half points. Guess made three "and-one-baskets" in the fourth quarter to finish with 17. Natalie Boone led with 18 points and Anna Boone scored 10.

Crittenden won for the 18th time against five losses this season, marking the 5th most victories in school history.

**Girls whitewash Dawson**  
Crittenden County was far

too much for Dawson Springs Monday night at Rocket Arena, dispatching the Lady Panthers 52-29.

The Lady Rocket defense held Dawson to four points in the first half. The Panthers had a very difficult time scoring against the CCHS first-teamers.

Everyone on the Lady Rocket bench played and 10 girls scored. Junior Taylor Guess led scorers with a dozen and eighth-grader Elliot Evans 10. Dawson fell to 6-13 on the season.

McLean County	11	21	34	45
Crittenden County	14	28	36	50

# SCORING COUNTDOWN Current School Record 1,825

Held by Cassidy Moss

## Taylor Guess Scoring by Season



Season	Points
Junior*	481
Sophomore	393
Freshman	515
8th Grade	298
7th Grade	38
<b>Taylor's Total</b>	<b>1,725</b>

\*In progress

# First CCHS girls team was undefeated

#### STAFF REPORT

Crittenden County High School's first girls' basketball team was perfect, but the real women's hoops pioneers didn't win a single game.

When the Lady Rocket basketball team got off to an 8-0 start this season, The Press reported that it was the best start in school history. Mary Anne Green Kelley, one of the players from 1974's CCHS basketball team, sent us a message pointing out that her team was even better.

With some research, it was indeed uncovered that the 1973-74 Lady Rockets – the very first county school basketball team for females – started 9-0. In fact, that's how the team ended the season. It played just nine games that inaugural

season, and won all of them. The team was coached by Cindy Almendinger.

Research into the matter also uncovered a long lost story about the first girls' team in Marion, which dates back to 1920. The team lost all four games it played that season. An excerpt in the yearbook from that school year reads, "This was the first year for the girls of MHS to try their strength in athletics and taking in consideration all of our drawbacks it must be admitted that we brought forth a good team even if it were a losing team. Although we didn't win a game we felt that the basketball season was a real success for it taught us all how to be goods losers and to play harder when being defeated."



This picture was taken for the 1920 Marion High School yearbook. These are the first students to form a girls' high school basketball team in the county. Pictured are (from left) Robbie Fowler, Jessie Elkins, Fannie Moore, Elizabeth Dollar, Leoda McWhirter, Melba Williams, Dollie Enoch, Marie Lowery, Evalyn Moore, Katherine Hughes and coach George Gumbert.

# Rockets drop two straight at home

#### STAFF REPORT

Crittenden County had some nice offensive runs against Hopkins Central Tuesday, but couldn't find a hot hand down the stretch at home, and let a third-quarter lead disappear in a 59-49 loss to the Storm.

Hopkins Central, featuring Marcus Eaves, the seventh-leading scorer in the state, didn't find is offensive rhythm either, and Crittenden had a chance. The Rockets trailed by five at the break, but Travis Champion and Preston Morgeson tagged team for a couple of three-pointers early in the third period to touch off a scoring spurt and a four-point lead.

However, Hopkins Central roared back with a 10-0 run to retake a six-point advantage two minutes later.

The Rockets tried to shoot themselves back into it after failing behind by double digits in the final period, but missed a handful of threes down the stretch before falling to 10-13 on the season.

Eaves finished with just 14 points for Hopkins Central, half his average. The Storm improved to 10-9.



Preston Morgeson (1) scored 19, including six three-pointers against Lyon County Monday at Rocket Arena, but it wasn't enough to beat the powerful Lyons.

Champion led the Rockets with 19.

#### Rockets fall to Lyon

Crittenden County faced Lyon County for the final time during the regular season and after a close first half, bowed to the league-leading Lyons 92-58.

The Rockets led briefly in the first period, but Lyon deployed its full-court press and created some problems for CCHS. The Lyons went ahead

in the second period for good and never looked back. A 13-8 run out of the chute in the second half opened their lead, and by the start of the fourth period it was a 20-point game.

CCHS junior Preston Morgeson dropped six threes, four in the first half, to keep the game tight for a time. He finished with 19 and Travis Champion had 17.

Lyon's Travis Perry scored

seven threes and finished with 28. Jackson Shoulders had 21 for the Lyons.

The Rockets, now 10-12 overall, fell to 2-4 in wrapping up regular-season district play. The Lyons went undefeated in district action.

Lyon County	19	42	65	92
Crittenden Co.	15	32	46	58

**LYON** – J.Shoulders 21, Perry 28, B.Shoulders 6, Reddick 10, Whalin 2, Gilbert 2, Bingham 9, Parker 2, Cissell, Ray 2, Kirk 5, Radivonyk, Breedlove, Burchett, Downing 5. FG 37. 3-pointers 9 (Perry 7, J.Shoulders, Downing). FT 9-18.

**CRITTENDEN** – Morgeson 19, Champion 17, Beverly 2, Adamson 8, Hatfield, Crider, Davidson 2, Keller, Derrington, Guess 2, Hutchison 3, Sharp, Conyer 1, Yates 4, Cooksey. FG 23. 3-pointers 10 (Morgeson 6, Champion, Adamson 2, Hutchison). FT 2-5.

Hopkins Central	17	33	51	59
Crittenden Co.	19	28	42	49

**HOPKINS CENTRAL** – Eaves 14, Weldon 7, Skeen 10, Belt, Morris 10, Hooke, Hall 12, Jones 6. FG 20. 3-pointers 5 (Eaves, Skeen 2, Jones 2). FT 14-28.

**CRITTENDEN COUNTY** – Morgeson 6, Champion 19, Beverly 4, Adamson 6, Crider, Davidson 2, Derrington 8, Yates, Cooksey 4. FG 18. 3-pointers 5 (Derrington 2, Adamson 2, Morgeson). FT 8-13.





# Players, supporters inducted to Hall Saturday

## Kirk, Courtney, Sherer, Myers Enshrined

Two former student-athletes and two longtime members of the athletics support staff will be enshrined in the Farmers Bank Marion-Crittenden County Athletics Hall of Fame during a ceremony between basketball games Saturday at Rocket Arena. Inducted as the 2021 Class into the Hall of Fame will be soccer star Melissa Kirk, a 2007 graduate, and Gaige Courtney, a football and basketball star, who graduated in 2009. Also, inducted will be longtime football program supporters, the late Ronnie Myers and Dwight Sherer. The induction ceremony will be held following the girls' high school basketball game, which tips off at 4 p.m. A boys' game will follow. There will be a memory room and come-and-go reception for the new inductees, their families, friends and former coaches and teammates in the Rocket Arena meeting room. It will be open from 3 p.m., until the end of the second game.

## Courtney ‘one of best ever’ says Starnes

**STAFF REPORT**  
Gaige Courtney epitomizes Rocket football perhaps as well as anyone who ever wore the uniform.  
He's a product of the system, was a star in the youth league ranks and middle school before becoming one of the most prolific linebackers and offensive players in school history. He played four years of college football at Kentucky State University and eventually returned home to become the 16th head coach in Rocket football history.  
Al Starnes, who coached the Rockets for 23 seasons including all of Courtney's career, said the linebacker was one of the best he ever coached.  
“He had the size and the toughness,” Starnes said. “And what a lot of people might not know is that he had the work ethic to go with it. He wanted to be the best he could be and to be honest, that's not typical of a high school kid.”  
Courtney led the Rockets to the semifinals of the Class A playoffs in 2008, its second best finish in the modern post-season system. He played tight end, fullback and linebacker and holds various distinctions in the CCHS record book on both sides of the ball.  
With eye black painted on his face in an often ghoulish manner, Courtney was a menacing looking figure with broad shoulders and a thick trunk. He played defense with an attitude and remains No. 4 on the Rockets' all-time career tackles list with 345. Of those, 177 were solos. His 24 tackles for loss over four years rank 10th in the history book and he's fourth in career fumble recoveries with seven. He holds the record for most two-point conversions in a career with eight, is 32nd in career touchdowns with 16, in the top 25 all time for receptions, receiving yards and receiving touchdowns. His 82-yard scoring run in 2008 against Fulton

City is the ninth longest TD in school history.  
He was a First-Team All Western Kentucky Conference selection in 2008, a four-time pick for All WKC and a Paducah Sun All Purchase Team member as a senior. In 2008, he was the Rockets' MVP and defensive MVP as a junior and senior.  
Starnes described Courtney as a leader on and off the field, largely based on his actions and effort.  
“He made everyone around him better. He was not a real vocal leader, but when he did say something it was like, ‘Oh snap, We better listen.’”  
In 2013, after a successful career as a starter at Kentucky State, Courtney moved into coaching. He was a graduate assistant at KSU before retiring to western Kentucky where his first high school position was at Webster County where he spent two seasons. In 2018, Courtney joined the Rocket football coaching staff and became defensive coordinator under former coach Sean Thompson. He succeeded Thompson as head coach in 2021. Since Courtney joined the CCHS coaching staff, the Rockets have been ranked in every season, once as high as No. 4. Crittenden was ranked No. 9 early in Courtney's inaugural head coaching season.  
Courtney was also a star high school basketball player, playing in the post for Crittenden County and averaging double digit scoring over his career. Courtney scored 961 points in four seasons, making him No. 11 on the Rockets' all-time scoring list.



Courtney  
In 2008

## Rocket contributions from Myers, Sherer never went unnoticed by faithful followers

**STAFF REPORT**  
What's under the hood is seldom seen, but part of the motor behind Crittenden County's ascension to Kentucky high school football achievement has been the steady and undying help from two longtime support staff members.  
Ronnie Myers passed away in the fall of 2020. It's not surprising that he was driving home from a football game at Henderson County, pulling the team's equipment trailer, when he was mortally struck by a heart attack. He and bracemate Dwight Sherer had become legendary promoters and supports of Rocket football way before most people knew it. However, those associated with CCHS were well aware of their contributions.  
“It's an honor. I know Ronnie would think so too if he was here, but it's sad, too,” said Sherer about accepting the hall of fame induction with-out Myers.  
Myers began on the Friday night film crew during the state championship season of 1985 and Sherer joined him the following fall.  
Best friends since first grade, the two traveled as teenagers to every Rocket football game and rarely missed a kickoff in all the years since graduating high school. They were the best man in each other's wedding and for years double dated every Saturday with their new brides.  
Sherer's involvement in youth sports began when he was 16 coaching baseball at Grady Field, several years with Myers by his side. He also coached the first travel baseball team in Crittenden County and little league basketball.  
For nearly four



Dwight Sherer and Ronnie Myers (right) began service on the Rocket football support staff in the mid 1980s.

decades, Myers and Sherer were as much a part of CCHS football as the blue jerseys on the backs of its players. They became engrained into the program and were known as part of the Rocket staff near and far.  
“They both deserve to be honored for their long and genuine dedication to the program,” said Al Starnes, who coached the Rocket football team for 23 years until his retirement after the 2017 season. “A good program cannot survive without support staff, people in the background who really do a whole lot of work that goes unnoticed a lot of times.”  
In addition to making sure quality video was available for coaches and players to break down after each game, the duo were involved in other facets of the program, such as fundraising and field maintenance.  
Myers had also started a long and popular tradition of firing off a loud fireworks blast after every home touchdown. He personally bankrolled the Rocket fireworks tradition, an added game attraction for decades, while making sure trained personnel were there to ignite the wick, including his son, Darrick who is now fully in charge of the explosions.

“Ronnie also planned and ran our fundraising golf tournament every year,” said Starnes.  
Darrick Myers recalls the daily connection his dad had to the program, including the field at Rocket Stadium.  
“Al tried to mow it a couple times, but he put gas in the diesel mower and dad told him to stay off of it,” Myers said with a chuckle.  
That's when Starnes said Ronnie came to him and said, ‘You worry about coaching and let me take care of this other stuff.’”  
“For Dwight and Ronnie to do as much as they did demonstrates their true dedication to the kids and the program,” Starnes added.  
Myers always made Sherer the front man when the two hosted banquets for their youth baseball teams. This weekend, he will be the front man for the duo.  
“It is a big honor living in Crittenden County all my life, being associated with football and little league programs all these years,” Sherer said. “It wasn't something I did or Ronnie did with the intention of ever having this honor bestowed upon us, it was just for love of helping Rocket sports. But this is really a nice honor.”

## Speed, foot skills sent Kirk to scoring summit

**STAFF REPORT**  
Melissa Kirk's mark on Lady Rocket soccer is unmatched. Her looming presence in the Athletics Hall of Fame is groundbreaking because she is the first CCHS soccer player to be elected to the local hall of fame.  
Kirk, who graduated from Crittenden County High School in 2007, played soccer just a few years into the program's infancy. Coaches say her skills were ahead of the time in western Kentucky and Kirk racked up 105 goals over four seasons ending in the fall of 2006.  
She led the Lady Rockets to their only two winning seasons in school history in 2005 and 2006, scoring 40 goals as a junior and 39 as a senior. No other player is close to her on the all-time scoring list.  
Kirk was an All Region and All District performer and the Lady Rocket soccer team selected her as its Offensive MVP three straight seasons.  
“She was really quick. That was her biggest asset. Back then hardly anybody in this area had soccer foot skills, but she did and she was just so much quicker than anyone else on the field. That combination of rare foot skills and speed was what made her so good,” said Kory Wheeler, a longtime assistant coach and one of the individuals instrumental in starting and maintaining a soccer program at the high school.  
The first KHSAA soccer season for CCHS was in 2001. Longtime Crittenden County educator Karen Nasserri was the team's head coach the second and third seasons. She said Kirk was in the soccer program since its beginning.  
“Her age group was the very first set of players who started playing soccer here as little kids. So by the time they were playing at the high school level,



Melissa Kirk was a prolific soccer scorer and team leader in the mid 2000s.

they were starting to catch on. Some of that was just natural, too. Melissa had skills you just can't teach,” said Nasserri.  
Kirk played forward during most of her career, but she was a very strong midfielder, too.  
“She had a lot of assists, too. She knew how and when to get her teammates the ball,” said Nasserri.  
Over her career, Kirk scored five goals in one game and had eight assists in another.  
Her coaches also remember that Kirk had uncanny leadership skills. She was the player who would rally the troops and motivate teammates during tight contests.  
“Those girls were really close, both on and off the field, and Melissa knew how to pull them together,” said Nasserri.  
Kirk said many of her high school teammates started playing together early in elementary school. They, too, deserve recognition, she said.  
“It's really a team sport. It takes an effort from everyone to win a game. I just happened to have the ball sometimes.”  
Kirk said she is humbled by her selection to the hall of fame. “I was shocked. It makes me blush a little,” she explained.

### Marion-Crittenden County Hall of Fame Roll Call

*Player, Year Inducted, Sport*

Andrews, Josh - 2005 - Football  
Belt, Bruce - 2001 - Basketball  
Beverly, David - 2007 - Football  
Brasher, Don "Sucky" - 2002 - Basketball  
Bridwell, Lynn "Lefty" - 2009 - Baseball  
Brown, Nicky - 2009 - Basketball  
Champion, Jamie - 2006 - Football  
Conyer, Roy - 2001 - Football  
Courtney, Gaige - 2021 - Football, Basketball  
Cozart, David - 2019 - Football, Baseball, Basketball  
Cozart, Spencer - 2004 - Basketball  
Croft, Jimmy - 2013 - Basketball  
Daniels, Markeata Brown - 2009 - Basketball  
Davidson, Glen "Ace" - 2003 - Basketball  
Morgan Dooms - 2015 - Basketball  
Easley, Clinton - 2005 - Football  
Elder, Houston "Hound" - 2001 - Football  
Faith, Leonard - 2008 - Basketball  
Franklin, W.A. - 2006 - Basketball  
Gates, Pat - 2002 - Football  
Grady, Orville "Soupy" - 1998 - Football  
Gray, Vanessa - 2011 - Basketball  
Green, Don - 2001 - Basketball  
Hart, Brad - 2017 - Football, Basketball  
Hart, George - 1998 - Basketball  
Head, Frank - 1998 - Football  
Hicklin, Robert "Hickie" - 2002 - Football  
Highfill, Hugh - 2002 - Basketball  
Hill, Tim - 2016 - Basketball, Track  
Hinchee, Jeanee - 2007 - Basketball  
Hodge, Denis - 2006 - Football  
Hodge, Shannon Collins - 2008 - Basketball

Perryman, Chad - 2011 - Baseball  
Phillips, James - 2000 - Basketball  
Rich, Joey - 2014 - Football  
Rushing, Woodson "Chuck" - 1999 - Football  
Shadowen, Lige - 2003 - Basketball  
Sherer, Dwight - 2021 - Support Staff  
Shewcraft, Jeff - 2004 - Basketball  
Simmons, Ellis - 2005 - Basketball  
Smith, Bennett - 1999 - Basketball  
Starnes, Al - 2004 - Football  
Starnes, Angela - 2018 - Track Coach  
Stewart, Womple - 2007 - Football  
Summers, Von - 2014 - Football  
Swisher, Bob - 2000 - Football  
Tabor, Charles "Bill" - 2003 - Football  
Tabor, Gerald "Hoopy" - 2000 - Basketball  
Tabor, Melissa Jones - 2009 - Golf  
Terry, William "Gander" - 1999 - Football  
Thurman, Greg - 2002 - Basketball  
Towery, Carlisle - 1998 - Basketball  
Turley, Curtis - 1999 - Basketball  
VanHooser, Carroll - 1998 - Football  
Wheeler, Floyd "Rip" - 2010 - Baseball  
Wheeler, Clark - 2019 - Track and Field  
Willoughby, James - 2012 - Track  
Winders, Nicky - 2019 - Basketball, Golf  
Woodall, Deller E. - 1998 - Football  
Woodall, Jerry - 2004 - Football  
Wring, Tommy - 2002 - Basketball  
1945 Marion High Football Team - 2008  
1963 CC High Football Team - 2008  
1985 CC High Football Team - 2000  
1942 Marion High Football Team - 2015

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## MARION POLICE activity report

Data below provided by Marion Police Department compare police activity for the month of January 2022 to the same month in 2021. The chart also includes the previous month's totals, year-to-date police activity totals and a five-year monthly average.

CATEGORY	JAN 2022	JAN 2021	DEC 2021	2021 YR TOTAL	MONTHLY 5 YR AVG.
Miles driven/patrolled	2,977	3,110	3,312	41,460	2,970.9
Criminal investigations	6	7	8	132	13.3
Domestics	7	6	16	105	8.5
Felony Arrests	0	1	2	64	4.4
Misdemeanor arrests	0	2	3	94	8.3
Non-criminal arrests	14	3	6	87	6.8
DUI arrests	0	1	0	8	0.8
Criminal summons served	5	2	4	29	2.5
Traffic citations	17	29	14	238	18.3
Other citations	30	9	15	246	19.4
Traffic warnings	6	2	2	58	7.6
Parking tickets	0	0	0	3	0.2
Traffic accidents	2	3	5	72	5.7
Security checks/alarms	41	42	32	478	52.0
Calls for service	159	131	142	2,000	185.9



MPD 270.965.3500  
Police Chief Ray O'Neal  
Asst. Chief Bobby West

On Facebook  
Marion Police Department  
Marion-KY

## Crime takes January off

Crime in Marion continues to wane a bit and for the first time in 14 months the town had no felony arrests during January.

Felonies are serious crimes punishable by a year or more in prison.

Additionally, Marion didn't have a single misdemeanor arrest during January. The last time that happened was 20 months ago in April 2020. The last time Marion didn't have an arrest for a felony or misdemeanor in a month was also in April 2020. That was the first month of the pandemic lockdown.

I have 8 years Law Enforcement experience and 27 years of public service to Crittenden County. I have a passion to help others and would be humbled to be your next Crittenden County Sheriff. If elected, I will work with County Officials, making every effort to secure funding for additional patrol staff, and to expand our School Resource Officer program. I will work to strengthen relationships with State and Federal Agencies, heightening our overall security. I pledge to improve communication and transparency, staying within constraints of the law. It is my sincere desire to continue to serve this community with uniform presence, involvement, and availability with the intent of building a stronger relationship with you, the community.



*Elected* *Motivated \* Dedicated \* Determined*  
**Heath Martin**  
*for Sheriff*

\*Paid for by Jonathan Heath Martin, Candidate

Breaking News Between Printed Issues  
[www.The-Press.com](http://www.The-Press.com)

## Cook selected director for KSBA

### STAFF REPORT

Chris Cook of Marion has been selected to serve on the Kentucky School Boards Association (KSBA) as a director-at-large. The KSBA is comprised of three officers, 12 directors-at-large and one representative from each of the state's 12 regions.

Cook is in his 18th year as chairman of the Crittenden County Board of Education.

Cook sought selection on the board, an association of school boards from across the state. KSBA provides training and services to members. It has no policy-making authority in the state.

Cook's nomination was recommended by an interviewing committee and his three-year term begins at the KSBA's annual meeting this month.

He is the third Crittenden County School Board member to serve as a director-at-large.

The late Linda Conrad Kupisch and the late Dr. Donald Wight are past directors. Kupisch served as a regional chairperson from 1993-1994. Wight served as regional chairperson from 1972-1974 and as a director-at-large from 1977-1980.

"I am especially honored to be serving with Christine Thompson, who was already a director-at-large, and board of education member for Livingston County and is the wife of one of our Crittenden County teachers," Cook said. "It is a great honor to represent Crittenden County on the Board of the Kentucky School Boards Association. It provides another opportunity for me to advocate for our students, staff, schools and community as well as Kentucky public education in general at the state level."



Cook

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**CRITTENDEN COUNTY CORONER**  
BRADLEY R. GILBERT – CORONER  
KEITH C. GILBERT – DEPUTY CORONER  
117 W. BELLVILLE ST., MARION, KY 42064

*Although I am unopposed in the upcoming election, I would appreciate your vote.*


*I, along with my brother Keith, have been honored to serve our wonderful county for the last 12 years and look forward to continuing that service for the next 4 years.*

*We will continue to direct each investigation with the respect, dignity and sympathy each family deserves. We look forward to working with our local law enforcement, EMS and rescue squad as well.*

**Thank you for your support.**

Bradley R. Gilbert – Crittenden County Coroner  
Keith C. Gilbert – Crittenden County Deputy Coroner

Paid for by Brad R. Gilbert



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 <b>Quaker Maple and Brown Sugar Oats</b> <b>\$1.25 each</b> <i>or 12 ct case</i> <b>\$10/case</b>	 <b>Purell Regularly \$1.79 each</b> <b>SALE PRICE</b> <b>6 ct case</b> <b>\$2.99</b>	 <b>Sodas</b> <b>50¢ each</b> <i>or 24 ct case</i> <b>\$9</b>



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# Vaccines great health successes

By Dr. Natalie Jones  
*University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service*

There has been a lot of talk about vaccines lately, but the concern goes beyond what you might think.

During the pandemic, not as many children have received the required vaccinations against childhood diseases, and now that they can get vaccinated for Covid-19, parents have been slow to get them vaccinated.

Most Kentuckians have been vaccinated for Covid, but many have not, and now that flu season is here, doctors worry about a “twindemic” that could fill up our hospitals. So, health officials are urging Kentuckians to get ALL their vaccinations.

—

**Vaccine History**

Vaccines are one of the greatest suc-

cess stories in public health. They work by preventing disease. Just two examples: Smallpox has been eradicated, and we have nearly eliminated the polio virus. It all started 225 years ago with Dr. Edward Jenner, who collected pus from cowpox—the animal variant of smallpox—from the arm of a milkmaid and scratched it into the arm of an 8-year-old boy. This was successful and proved that immunity to smallpox was possible. In 1798, the first smallpox vaccine was developed.

Vaccines are important because they save lives. In the history of vaccines, we have successfully eliminated the threat of multiple diseases. The first polio vaccine was available in the United States in 1955. Thanks to the widespread use

of the polio vaccine, the U.S. has been polio-free since 1979. Around the world, the number of cases has decreased as well, with just 33 cases of polio in the world reported in 2018.

In addition, in 2000, thanks to the MMR vaccine, which protects against measles, mumps, and rubella, measles has been largely eradicated in the U.S.

Getting any vaccine is relatively easy. Vaccines are available at the doctor's office and many pharmacies. If you have questions or concerns about recommended vaccines for you and your family, talk to your family doctor.

—

**Vaccine Schedules**

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends certain vaccinations to protect

children and adults against many diseases, and some are required by state law for children to attend school.

The CDC's vaccine schedule is recommended by its Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, which includes hundreds of vaccine experts, scientists, doctors, and public health professionals. Each recommended vaccine is carefully developed to protect against a specific illness. Some shots are “one and done” while others require more than one dose to build enough immunity, or to boost immunity that can decrease over time. That's why we need a flu vaccine each year, because the disease changes over time and the vaccine is changed to keep up with it.

By following the vac-

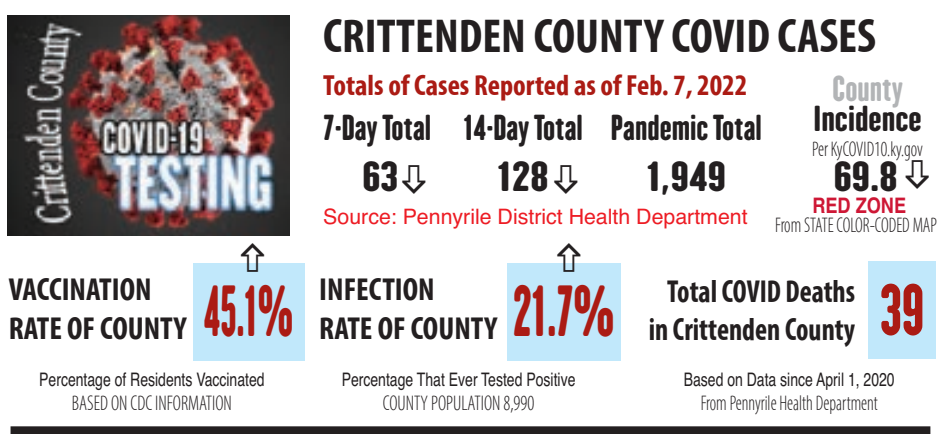
cine schedule, we reduce the spread of illness. People who don't follow the schedule are not only at risk of getting sick but can spread illness to others who are not protected, such as infants, who are too young for vaccines, and people with weakened immune systems. By getting your vaccines on time, you are protecting yourself, your friends, family, and community.

—

**Vaccine Mandate History**

Vaccine mandates are not new. In fact, the first vaccine mandate in schools was enacted in Massachusetts in the 1850s to prevent smallpox. By the mid-1900s, because of measles and smallpox outbreaks across the country, nearly half of all states had the same requirement.

In 1977, the U.S.



## Cases in county declining, fifth highest week in state

STAFF REPORT

Although the latest surge in COVID-19 is beginning to subside in Kentucky, it's clear that the pandemic is far from over in Crittenden County.

Last month, this county had its highest number of cases since figures began being tracked in April of 2020. In January, there were 292 confirmed COVID cases in Crittenden County, eclipsing the previous monthly record of 235 in August 2021.

Many of the cases in January were among school-aged children. There were 128 cases in the age range infant to 19. Of those, 42 were nine or younger.

Schools were greatly affected by the surge

during January. Staff and student infections and quarantine orders forced the Crittenden County School District to cancel classes a few days. Weather also helped cool the spread of the virus as schools missed days for snow and ice, too.

Across Kentucky, the virus is also slowing after a near record-setting month for cases and hospitalizations. For the second week in a row, Kentucky has seen a sharp drop in the number of new cases. Gov. Andy Beshear admitted last week's ice storm and resulting closings may have been a factor in the decline, “But regardless, we are now definitely moving in the right direction. We are really excited about the

trajectory of cases, but remember, this is still the fifth highest week in our entire COVID experience. There is still a whole lot of virus out there.”

Crittenden had one COVID-related death reported during January, making the county's pandemic total to 39. Over the 22 months since the pandemic began being tracked in Marion, the mortality rate has been two percent among those ever infected.

Crittenden's cases have declined markedly over the past couple of weeks, but the county remains in the so-called Red Zone on the state's COVID-19 map. Counties in the Red have stronger recommendations for safety

Just the Numbers

COVID-19

CRITTENDEN COUNTY CASES APRIL 2020 THROUGH JANUARY 2022

Month	COVID Cases	GENDER		AGE RANGE OF CASES IN COUNTY							
		Female	Male	0-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60-69	70-79	80+
APRIL 21	4	2	2	0	0	0	0	2	1	1	0
MAY 21	2	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0
JUNE 21	3	2	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0
JULY 21	18	10	8	3	1	2	1	4	6	1	0
AUGUST 21	38	20	18	5	0	7	10	6	5	4	1
SEPTEMBER 21	63	35	28	10	8	7	13	10	5	7	3
OCTOBER 21	52	22	30	7	10	7	7	9	7	4	1
NOVEMBER 21	98	59	39	12	14	7	18	24	14	6	2
DECEMBER 21	141	75	66	21	9	10	14	28	17	26	16
JANUARY 21	134	71	63	15	15	22	15	17	11	21	17
FEBRUARY 21	46	23	26	7	2	14	10	8	5	1	1
MARCH 21	51	25	26	12	6	8	11	8	2	0	0
APRIL 21	45	28	17	12	2	6	7	9	3	4	2
MAY 21	9	3	6	2	1	1	4	1	0	0	0
JUNE 21	22	13	9	3	0	3	3	7	3	1	2
JULY 21	74	42	32	12	14	11	14	11	5	1	2
AUGUST 21	235	127	108	80	36	34	29	15	24	11	5
SEPTEMBER 21	230	117	113	73	29	36	24	27	20	12	8
OCTOBER 21	109	62	47	52	15	10	13	7	8	4	0
NOVEMBER 21	63	38	24	16	7	13	9	8	5	4	1
DECEMBER 21	141	78	63	31	19	19	16	16	20	12	8
JANUARY 22	292	151	140	128	24	38	30	37	16	13	5
TOTALS	1,886	926	864	501	212	256	249	254	178	135	74

Age, gender and/or date of diagnosis unknown for some cases, which explains why rows may not reconcile.

Source Kentucky Department of Public Health Pennyriple District Health Department

measures.

The state's positivity rate was at 23.51 percent early this week.

“Still really high, but significantly down from when we crossed 33 percent,” the governor said. “So, decreasing about 10 percentage points on the positivity side in the last two weeks.”

Beshear also noted the state is starting to

see a real downward trend in hospitalizations due to the omicron variant, by 11 percent over the past seven days.

“We almost reached the hospitalization levels we had with delta, but it does look like we are declining. We are not moving as quickly as with case numbers, as is to be expected, since it typically lags by a certain period. The

vast majority of these hospitalizations are unvaccinated Kentuckians,” the governor said.

Crittenden County's vaccination rate continues to edge upward. As of early this week, just over 45 percent of the county's residents had received at least one shot. Crittenden's vaccination rate remains among the state's lowest.



## COMMUNITY SUPPORT GRANTS RECIPIENT

This section is made possible with support of Kentucky's health insurance companies.

# HEALTHY TOGETHER

## THROUGH VACCINATIONS





# Vaccines key to healthy society

By THE KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT FOR PUBLIC HEALTH

Immunization is one of the greatest public-health achievements, preventing tens of thousands of deaths, millions of cases of disease, and saving billions of dollars each decade.

Immunization is a safe, effective way to protect children from disease, including some cancers, as well as hospitalization, disability, and death. It is especially important during a pandemic or other public-health emergency to maintain routine immunizations to prevent further outbreaks.

Pediatricians play a crucial role in immunizing children and are a trusted source for vaccine information. Vaccine conversations with parents should begin as early as possible – at prenatal visits/interviews, ideally – as families often make immunization decisions during pregnancy through the first two months of a baby’s life.

On-time vaccination throughout childhood is essential because it helps provide immunity before children are exposed to potentially life-threatening diseases. Vaccines are tested to ensure they are safe and effective for children to receive at the recommended ages.

Immunity is the body’s way of preventing disease. When a baby is born, its immune system is not fully developed, which can put the infant at greater risk for infections. Vaccines reduce a child’s risk of infection by working with his or her body’s natural defenses to help safely develop immunity to disease.

Children are exposed to thousands of germs every day in their environment. This happens through the food the child eats, the air the child breathes, and things the child puts in his or her mouth.

Babies are born with immune systems that can fight most germs, but there are some deadly diseases they can’t handle. That’s why they need vaccines to strengthen their immune system.

Vaccines use very small amounts of antigens to help a child’s immune system recognize and learn to fight serious diseases. Antigens are parts of germs that cause the body’s immune system to go to work.

To simplify the decision-making process for parents and families, we’ve compiled five reasons you should make sure your children are up to date on their vaccination schedules.

1. *Vaccines can save your children’s lives:* Some of the deadliest diseases targeting children have been eliminated through vaccines. For example, polio paralyzed and killed thousands of children yearly until a vaccine was created in the early 1950s. As a result of this adding this vaccine to the childhood vaccination schedule, no new cases of polio have been reported for more than 42 years.

2. *Vaccinations are safe and effective:* Vaccines are not created overnight and only are administered to the public after a long and careful review process by scientists and doctors. Vaccines are constantly tested and monitored even after initial approval. They may cause slight discomfort, pain or redness at the site of injection, but these side effects are small compared to the diseases they were



Nurse Kelly Croft administers a COVID-10 vaccine to a Crittenden County teenager.

specifically designed to prevent.

3. *Immunization protects others you care about:* Children too young to be vaccinated are most vulnerable when it comes to contracting vaccine-preventable diseases. In the last 10 years, we’ve seen resurgence of several diseases that affect children, like measles and whooping cough. In the U.S., about 10–20 babies die each year from whooping cough because they are too young to receive the vaccine and contract the disease from someone who was not vaccinated against it.

4. *Immunizations can save your family time and money:* Children without up-to-date immunization records can be denied admission to schools or child care. Your children are exposed to millions of germs through their day-to-day interactions and the only way to fight these germs is to ensure your children are up to date on their vaccinations. Over time, vaccine-preventable diseases become expensive to treat compared to the short time spent at the doctor’s office getting your children their shots. Immunization vaccines typically are covered by insurance, making them inexpen-

sive or free methods to protect your kids from deadly diseases.

5. *Immunization protects future generations:* Vaccines have eliminated several deadly diseases in recent years. For example, smallpox was eradicated worldwide by a vaccine. As a result, children no longer receive the vaccination for smallpox. Continuing to follow the immunization schedule set for your children can help the community further eliminate harmful or deadly diseases for future generations.

## What vaccines are required for children?

In Kentucky, to enter kindergarten, all children at least 5 years of age must have:

- Five doses of DTaP or DTP (diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis) or combinations of the two vaccines.

- Four doses of IPV or OPV (polio) or combinations of the two vaccines.

- Three doses of hepatitis B.

- Two doses of MMR (measles, mumps, rubella).

- Two doses of varicella (chickenpox), unless a health-care provider states that the child has had a diagnosis of typical varicella disease or verification of a history of varicella disease by a health-care provider or a diagnosis of herpes

### Protect your child’s health with these five easy steps.

**1. Talk with your pediatrician or family doctor.**

Meet with your pediatrician or family doctor to share your concerns and schedule your child’s vaccine.

**2. Talk with your child.**

Discuss with your children what vaccines are, their importance and what might happen after they get it. They may have arm pain, a headache, feel tired, or have achy muscles. These should go away in a day or two. It’s important they know this will protect the people around them too!

**3. Schedule your child’s vaccine appointment.**

Pick a location and time that is convenient and fits in your child’s schedule. No matter where your child gets the vaccine – doctor’s office, school, church, pharmacy, etc. – all locations can access your child’s medical record.

**4. Prepare your vaccine-ready kit.**

Hydration is key. Doctors recommend hydrating before and after the vaccine. Also, have a non-aspirin child’s pain reliever on hand in case your child has pain at the injection site, sore muscles, or a headache.

**5. Get your child vaccinated.**

When you’re at the doctor’s office or immunization clinic, be calm. Remember kids pick up on how the adults around them are feeling. And remember to reward your kiddo for being brave with a **high five for health!**

High Five for Health is a public service campaign that speaks directly to the concerns of Kentucky parents about COVID-19 vaccines for children ages 5 to 11 years old. The campaign is made possible by the Foundation for a Healthy Kentucky and supported by Anthem Blue Cross Blue Cross and Blue Shield Medicaid.

For more information about the campaign, visit [highfiveforhealth.org](https://highfiveforhealth.org)

SUPPORTED BY

zoster disease or verification of history of herpes zoster disease by a health-care provider.

For sixth grade entry, age 11 or older, a child is required to have:

- One dose of Tdap (diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis) if it has been at least 2 years since the administration of the last dose of tetanus-containing vaccine.
- Two doses of varicella, unless a health-care provider states that the child has had a diagnosis of typical varicella disease or verification of a history of varicella disease by a health-care provider or a diagnosis of herpes

provider or a diagnosis of herpes zoster disease or verification of a history of herpes zoster disease by a health-care provider.

- One dose of MCV or MPSV (meningococcal vaccine).

In addition to the required vaccines, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends these vaccines for children and adolescents:

- Rotavirus (RV)
- Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib)
- Pneumococcal conjugate (PCV13)
- Influenza

- Hepatitis A
- Meningococcal
- Pneumococcal polysaccharide (PPSV23)

More information about vaccination can be found at:

<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/schedules/easy-to-read/child-easyread.html>

<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/parents/why-vaccinate/vaccine-decision.html>

<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/parents/why-vaccinate/index.html>

<https://www.aap.org/en/patient-care/immunizations/>

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**CRITTENDEN COUNTY, KY - 100 ACRES** - Diverse hunting tract with home and shop! This tract has a diverse blend of habitat types with a new home, large shop and a proven history of big bucks!

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

**CALDWELL COUNTY, KY - 115 ACRES - \$710,500** - Established hunting tract with tillable acreage and open areas for food plots. Home with scenic views and a finished property with finished walkout basement.

**LIVINGSTON COUNTY, KY - 71.51 ACRES - \$150,164** - Hunting tract with hunter-friendly topography, food plot locations, a good trail system, a pond, creek and security cover.

**CRITTENDEN COUNTY, KY - 300.5 ACRES - \$560,000** - This farm is a solid hunting tract with everything needed to grow, hold and harvest big bucks! Includes a 7 +/- acre pond with fishing opportunities.

**LIVINGSTON COUNTY, KY - 132.73 ACRES - \$238,914** - Great hunting tract with dynamic hunter friendly topography, mast producing timber, security cover, open areas for food plots and a good trail system.

**CALDWELL COUNTY, KY - 128.55 ACRES** - This tract has a diverse blend of habitat types and a history of big bucks. The farm features rolling topography, some tillable acres and an established hunting camp.

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

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

**CALDWELL COUNTY, KY - 257.32 - \$599,900** - Prime hunting tract with an area known for big bucks. Diverse blend of habitat types and topography. Well-managed property that is ready to hunt.

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

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# COVID-19 Q&A

By MELISSA PATRICK  
*Kentucky Health News*

One of the many challenges facing Kentuckians who remain unvaccinated against the coronavirus is that they still have unanswered questions about vaccines, some based on facts and others based on myths. This story is an attempt to sort through some of those questions and to counter misinformation.

This information is not only for the unvaccinated. Kentucky Health News encourages individuals who have already been vaccinated to use it as a resource when talking to their loved ones about getting vaccinated, since friends and family have proven to be highly influential in persuading them to do so.

**■ COVID-19 is no worse than the seasonal flu, right?** Wrong. While influenza and COVID-19 are both contagious respiratory illnesses, they are caused by different viruses. COVID-19 appears to be more contagious and to spread more quickly, and is more deadly. Preliminary estimates from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention are that the U.S. had 35 million flu cases and 20,000 deaths from it in the 2019-20 flu season, for a death rate of 0.06 percent. The U.S. has had more than 53 million confirmed cases of the coronavirus and over 825,000 deaths from COVID-19. In Kentucky, there have been over 879,000 cases and more than 12,000 deaths.

**■ Kids don't get it, do they?** Yes, they do. Children can be infected with the virus, and can get sick from COVID-19 and spread the virus to others without knowing they have it. In Kentucky, more than one-fifth of cases have been in people under 20. Most children have mild symptoms or no symptoms, but some have become severely ill from the disease and a few have died. They can also get a rare but serious condition, Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome, that sometimes doesn't show up until weeks after the infection. Kentucky has had more than 50 reported

cases, according to the CDC. The more contagious Omicron variant of the virus that recently became dominant seems to affect them more.

**■ These vaccines were developed very quickly; how can we be sure that they have been fully researched and proven?** The vaccines were developed, tested and given emergency-use authorization in less than a year, thanks to years of previous research on related coronaviruses. Researchers had also been working on the technology for years; the timing, and federal funding by Congress and the Trump administration allowed companies to run multiple trials at the same time, saving time. Surgeon General Vivek Murthy said, "There were no corners cut in making these vaccines; what was cut was actually red tape."

**■ Then why has only one been permanently licensed?** There has always been a long, deliberate process at the Food and Drug Administration to fully approve a drug, involving a review of much more data over a longer time than is required for emergency use authorization. Moderna has completed its submission for full approval of its COVID-19 vaccine for ages 18 and older and has asked for priority review, but even with priority review the approval process typically takes months to complete.

**■ Why has the Pfizer vaccine been permanently licensed?** The FDA reviewed nine months of experience with the vaccine and found it safe. It granted Pfizer's request that the review of its data be "fast tracked," which means the agency agreed to prioritize the analysis over other work, "such as meetings with other drug developers. It does not mean the review was rushed," McClatchy Newspapers report. The FDA said, "We have taken an all-hand-on-deck approach, including identifying additional resources such as personnel and technological resources from across the agency and opportunities to reprioritize other activities, in order

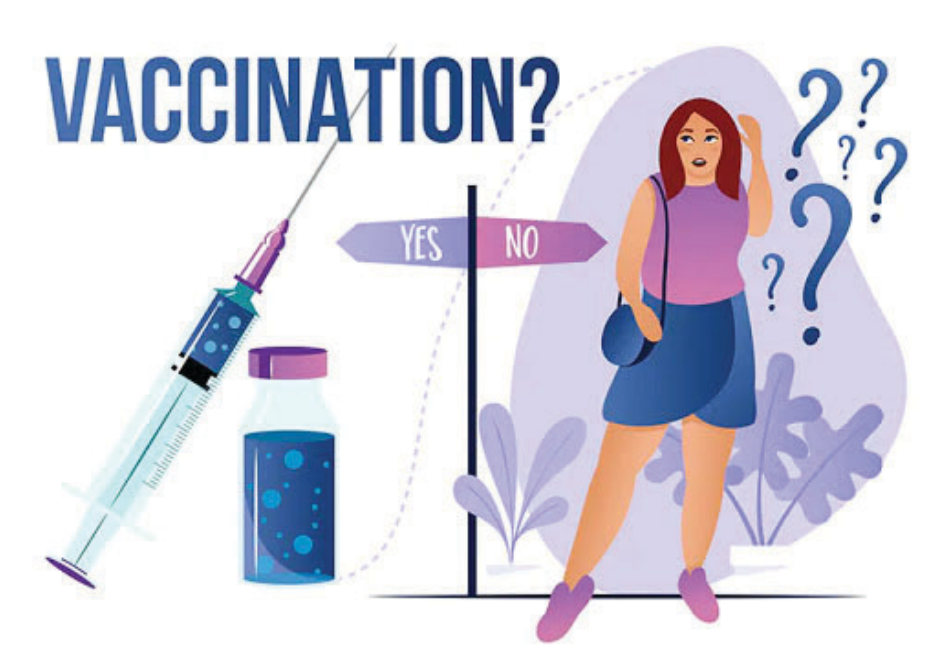
to complete our review to help combat this pandemic surge."

**■ Does this new type of vaccine change your DNA?** "COVID-19 vaccines do not change or interact with your DNA in any way," the CDC says. The new types of vaccines deliver instructions "to our cells to start building protection against the virus that causes COVID-19." Johns Hopkins University says, "The messenger RNA from two of the first types of COVID-19 vaccines does enter cells, but not the nucleus of the cells where DNA resides. The mRNA does its job to cause the cell to make protein to stimulate the immune system, and then it quickly breaks down — without affecting your DNA."

**■ What are the issues with the Johnson & Johnson vaccine?** Is it still recommended? In April 2021, the J & J (Janssen) single-dose vaccine was paused while the FDA and the CDC investigated a very small number of cases of blood clots in people who had received it, nearly all of them adult women younger than 50. The FDA and CDC recommended that administration of the vaccine could safely resume. After more than 17.2 million doses of the vaccine had been given in the U.S. there were 57 confirmed reports of people who got the vaccine later developing blood clots, according to the CDC.

On Dec. 16, 2021, the CDC recommended that people shouldn't get the J & J vaccine when the Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna vaccines are available. The CDC news release said, "Any vaccine is better than being unvaccinated."

In July 2021, the Food and Drug Administration added a new warning about the J & J vaccine because it was linked to a rare neurological condition, Guillain-Barré syndrome. Preliminary research reported in July 2021 found 100 Americans out of more than 12 million who had developed the syndrome after receiving the vaccine; one died and 95 were hospitalized. The FDA said in a news release that "the known and poten-



tial benefits" of the vaccine "clearly outweigh the known and potential risks." Through Dec. 16, 2021 there have been around 283 preliminary reports of Guillain-Barre syndrome out of more than 17.2 million J&J vaccine doses, according to the CDC. These cases have largely been reported about two weeks after vaccination and mostly in men, many 50 years and older.

**■ What are the side effects of a COVID-19 vaccination?** The most common side effects are pain, redness and swelling on the arm where you get the shot. Other side effects are tiredness, headache, muscle pain, chills, fever and nausea. Side effects after a second shot may be more intense. There have been three confirmed cases of the rare blood clot following the Moderna vaccine, out of 470 million doses of mRNA COVID-19 vaccines.

Serious adverse reactions after a coronavirus vaccination are rare, says the CDC. Anaphylaxis, which can occur after any vaccination, is severe and has occurred in approximately five people per million vaccinated in the U.S. Clinics keep people 15 minutes after a shot to make sure they don't have a reaction.

As of Dec. 16, 2021

there have been 1,947 preliminary reports of myocarditis or pericarditis among people 30 and younger who received a coronavirus vaccine. Most cases have followed the Pfizer or Moderna vaccine, particularly in male teenagers and young adults. The CDC has confirmed 1,124 cases out of more than 496 million doses.

**■ Do I need a shot if I've already had the virus?** The CDC recommends that those who have been infected with the virus should be vaccinated, because we don't how long or strong the resulting immunity is. "Emerging evidence shows that getting a COVID-19 vaccine after you recover from COVID-19 infection provides added protection to your immune system. One study showed that, for people who already had COVID-19, those who do not get vaccinated after their recovery are more than two times as likely to get COVID-19 again than those who get fully vaccinated," says the CDC. If you were treated for COVID-19 with monoclonal antibodies or convalescent plasma, wait 90 days before getting a vaccine.

While "evidence is growing" that infection with the virus "is generally as effective as vaccination at stimulating your

immune system to prevent the disease...federal officials have been reluctant to recognize any equivalency, citing the wide variation in COVID patients' immune response to infection," Kaiser Health News reports.

**■ I got fully immunized, but then got infected. How did that happen?** No vaccine is 100% effective, health officials say. The Pfizer and Moderna vaccines are about 95% effective in preventing COVID-19 in those without prior infections. The Johnson & Johnson vaccine has a 72% overall efficacy rate and an 86% efficacy against severe disease in the U.S.

**■ What's the latest information on who needs a booster?** Research has found that a booster shot of the Pfizer or Moderna vaccine is needed to protect against the highly contagious Omicron variant of the virus.

Adults 18 years and older can get any of the COVID-19 vaccines as a booster. A booster is recommended five months after the second shot for those who initially received a Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna vaccine.

The CDC recently recommended 12-to-15-year-olds should get the Pfizer booster at least

**COVID-19 Q&A**  
*Continued on Page 5B*

FOHS HALL, INC.

ANNUAL REPORT, NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING  
AND OPEN LETTER OF APPRECIATION TO OUR COMMUNITY

January 2022

Friends & Supporters of Fohs Hall:

Despite the continuing pandemic, Fohs Hall has had a productive year. As I write this, Telecast Communications is working on phase 3 of the installation of the new sound and light system to position Fohs Hall as a regional Performing Arts Center. The project is 90% complete with the only outstanding work related to components that have been affected by supply chain issues.

As to the project, we have raised over \$39,000 toward our goal of \$50,000! Below is a list of supporters to date and we say THANK YOU!

The Board is so appreciative of your support. Our goal is to make Fohs Hall an entertainment destination by establishing it as a performing arts center for the region. Of course, Fohs Hall will continue to be an event venue for weddings, receptions, meetings, reunions and public events. If you have ever attended school or an event at Fohs Hall please consider contributing to help us achieve our goal. Support may be mailed to Fohs Hall Inc, PO Box 1, Marion, KY 42064 OR ON OUR "GOFUNDME" ACCOUNT.

The Kentucky Hayride is scheduled for Saturday, February 12, 2022 at 7 p.m. **Classy & Grassy have a tremendous lineup for the show.**

This year will mark the 40th year since Fohs Hall, Inc. was formed and we obtained title by way of deed from the Crittenden County Board of Education. The year 2026 will mark the 100th centennial anniversary of the construction of Fohs Hall. We want to take it to the next level to continue to fulfill the vision of Julius Fohs for the citizens of Marion and Crittenden County.

The Annual Meeting of Fohs Hall Inc. is scheduled for Tuesday, February 15, 2022 at 5 p.m. at Fohs Hall. All members, supporters and the public are invited to attend. Our current Board of Directors are: Alan Stout, President; Bonita Hatfield, VP; Phyllis Sykes, Secretary; Mary Anne Campbell, Treasurer; Elliot West (booking coordinator), Brennan Cruce (building & grounds), Natalie Parish, and Janet Pierce.

*Sincerely and with gratitude on behalf of the Board,*  
*Alan C. Stout, President, Fohs Hall*

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# Another study shows that wearing a mask lowers the odds of getting COVID-19

By MELISSA PATRICK  
*Kentucky Health News*

Two years into the pandemic, many people still refuse to wear a face mask as part of a holistic approach to slow the spread of a virus that has killed more than 13,000 Kentuckians, despite public-health officials begging them to do so – and a wealth of research that supports their pleas.

On Friday, Feb. 4, another such study was released by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, showing real-world evidence that masks work, and that the type of masks you wear matters.

“In addition to being up to date with recommended Covid-19 vaccinations, consistently wearing a comfortable, well-fitting face mask or respirator in indoor public settings protects against acquisition of [Covid-19] infection; a respirator offers the most protection,” says the early release report.

The researchers said their study has limitations, but the results are consistent with previous research showing that masks prevent the spread of the virus.

The study assessed face-mask or respirator use among 652 people who tested positive for the virus and 1,176 who tested negative from Feb. 18 to Dec. 1, 2021 and self-reported being in indoor public settings during the two weeks preced-



ing their test, with no known contact with any confirmed or suspected Covid-19 infection. The samples were randomly selected residents of California.

The study concluded, “Always using a face mask or respirator in indoor public settings was associated with lower adjusted odds of a positive test result, compared with never wearing a face mask or respirator in these settings.”

Among the 534 study participants who reported the type of mask they used, cloth masks offered 56% more protection against the virus than wearing no mask indoors; surgical masks offered 66% more; and respirator mask, such as N95 or KN95, offered the most additional protection, 83%.

“These data from real-world settings reinforce the importance of consistently wearing face masks or respirators to reduce the risk of acquisition of infection among the general public in indoor community settings,” the

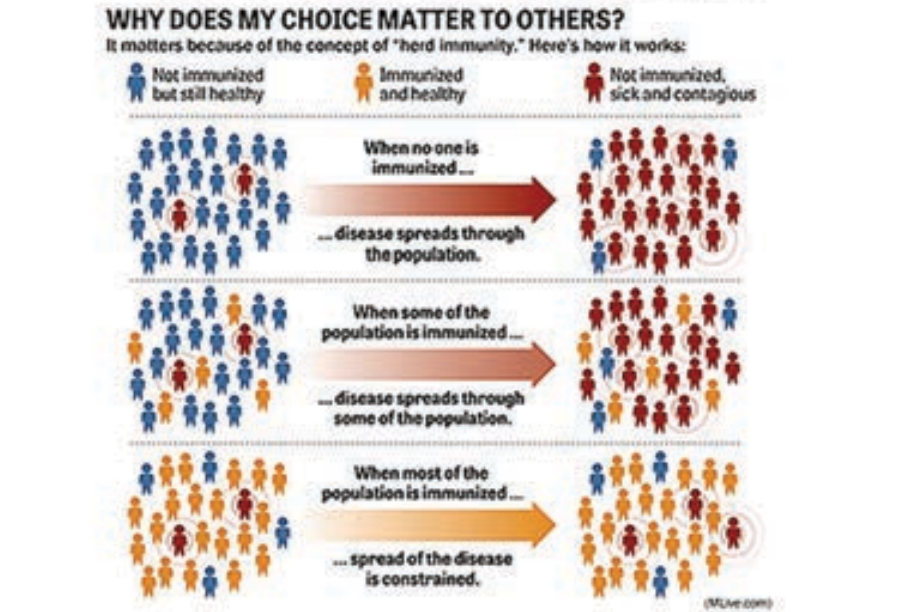
report says.

CDC guidance says that N95 masks, when they fit well and are worn correctly, provide the highest level of protection, while also maintaining that “any mask is better than no mask.” Last month, the federal government began distributing 400 million free N95 masks through pharmacies and community health centers.

State officials have long urged Kentuckians to wear masks in indoor spaces and especially in schools, but in September the legislature took away Gov. Andy Beshear’s power to impose mask mandates.

A Kaiser Family Foundation survey taken mid-January found that most American adults (54%) say they wear a mask every time in an indoor, crowded space. The rate was highest among vaccinated people (62%; unvaccinated 28%). It was also higher among Democrats (77%), followed by independents (50%) and Republicans (31%).

# Vaccination is Important for Ending the COVID-19 Pandemic



## COVID-19 Q&A

*Continued from page 3B*

five months after their second Pfizer shot.

Additionally, the CDC recommends that moderately or severely immunocompromised 5-11-year-olds receive a booster dose of vaccine 28 days after their second shot.

Everyone who received the Johnson & Johnson (Janssen) vaccine is eligible for a booster shot at least two months after they get the single-dose vaccine. It is especially important for those who got the J&J vaccine to get a booster, since it has been shown to be less effective over time compared to the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines.

The latest guidance says people can receive a different brand of vaccine as a booster than they did their initial shots.

**Children and COVID-19 vaccinations:** Most children and all teens can get a COVID-19 vaccination.

The Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine is approved for children 12 and older in the

same dosage as adults, which comes in a purple capped vial.

The Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine for children 5 to 11 is one-third of the adult dose and comes in an orange capped vial and is delivered with a smaller needle, designed specifically for children.

Both of these vaccines require two doses, given three weeks apart.

**Can vaccines affect fertility?** “The COVID-19 vaccine will not affect fertility,” say physicians at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore. They said the myth sprang from a false report on social media that the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines would affect not only the spike protein on the surface of the virus, but another spike protein that is involved in growth and attachment of the placenta in pregnancy. “The two spike proteins are completely different and distinct, and getting the COVID-19 vaccine will not affect the fertility of women who are seeking to become pregnant, including through in vitro fertilization methods,” the doctors say. The CDC says, “There is currently no evidence that COVID-19 vaccination

causes any problems with pregnancy, including the development of the placenta. In addition, there is no evidence that female or male fertility problems are a side effect of any vaccine, including COVID-19 vaccines.”

**Where can I get more information? And how do I tell truth from deception?** The Immunization Action Coalition provides a list of questions you should ask when evaluating health information online, such as the original source of the information and who manages it. The University of California-San Francisco offers tips on how to find credible sources of health information, including red flags to watch for, including outdated or anonymous information, possible conflicts of interest, one-sided or biased information, if there is a claim of a miracle or a secret cure, or if no evidence is cited.

*Kentucky Health News is an independent news service of the Institute for Rural Journalism and Community Issues, based in the School of Journalism and Media at the University of Kentucky, with support from the Foundation for a Healthy Kentucky.*

## VACCINES

*Continued from page 1B*

theria, measles, mumps, pertussis, polio, rubella, tetanus and pertussis (whooping cough). Now, all states have vaccination requirements for children to attend school and child-care facilities.

The military also requires service members to be vaccinated.

The first U.S. immunization mandate was in January 1777, when George Washington ordered troops in Philadelphia to be inoculated against smallpox. For over 230 years, the military health-care system has immunized troops to protect them personally and to help them accomplish their missions. This is because a sick service member can infect and be a threat to an entire unit, preventing them from completing a mission. By staying healthy and immunized, service members are able to return home safely.

### Vaccine Safety

To ensure continued success of vaccines, safety precautions are followed as vaccines are developed. Before any vaccine is approved by the Food and Drug Administration or distributed to the public, scientists test it extensively to ensure it is effective and safe. The COVID-19 vaccines have received the most intense safety monitoring in U.S. history, which has allowed public-health officials to make science-based recommendations to keep people safe.

All the COVID-19 vaccines were cautiously tested and reviewed. The vaccines went through a detailed and thorough three-phase clinical trial process and no shortcuts were taken. More than 150,000 people participated in U.S. clinical trials of the vaccines, and now, hundreds of millions of vaccine doses in the U.S. have been safely admin-

istered.

### mRNA Vaccine History

The Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna vaccines for COVID-19 use messenger RNA to make the body produce the coronavirus spike protein to produce immunity to the virus. Some people are hesitant about mRNA vaccines, thinking they use a new technology or could change people’s DNA. Neither is true.

Researchers have been studying and working with mRNA vaccines for decades. Messenger RNA, or mRNA, was discovered in the early 1960s; research into how mRNA could be delivered into cells was developed in the 1970s. mRNA vaccines have been studied before for flu, Zika, and rabies. Thanks to decades of research and innovation, mRNA vaccine technology was ready for COVID-19.

### Getting Your COVID-19 Vaccine

The best way to protect against COVID-19

is to get a vaccine and a booster as soon as you are eligible. Currently, everyone ages 5 and older is eligible to get vaccinated against COVID-19.

Being vaccinated is especially important for people 50 and older, residents of long-term care settings, people with underlying medical conditions, and pregnant people, because of the increased risk for severe illness from COVID-19. The vaccine can protect you, your family and your community from this potentially deadly disease.

You have three ways to find vaccines near you, including boosters:

- Go to [vaccines.gov](https://www.vaccines.gov)
- Text your ZIP code to 438829
- Call 1-800-232-0233

*Dr. Natalie Jones is the family health specialist in the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences at the University of Kentucky, and writes for the UK Cooperative Extension Service.*

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