

Governor addresses sanctity of life

In non-budget years, the legislative session of the Kentucky General Assembly is broken up into two parts. Part I began Jan. 8 and Part II of the 2019 legislative session reconvened on Feb. 5.

While there are numerous issues under discussion, there is no doubt that school safety is the top priority of this session. In fact, House Bill 1 and Senate Bill 1 both address school safety. SB 1 passed the full Senate with the House Education Committee hearing and discussing HB 1 during its meeting. The bill seeks to strengthen both our schools and our children, placing an emphasis on security and mental health. Feedback from legislators and other interested parties will be used to make any needed changes in the proposed legislation.

Last Thursday night, legislators from the House and Senate convened a joint session to hear the governor's State of the Commonwealth Address. As is typical in these addresses, the governor touted the accomplishments of his administration and pointed to what he wanted to accomplish for the Commonwealth in the future.

I was especially pleased to hear of his emphasis on protecting the lives of the unborn and his efforts to improve the lives of those in our foster care



Rep. Lynn BECHLER
R-Marion

Kentucky House Legislative Review

system.

One of the first bills approved by a House committee this week was a bill aimed at easing occupational and licensing requirements for heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) contractors. HB 133 would allow equivalent work experience as a mechanical engineer to count towards licensing requirements as a master HVAC contractor. It would also permit a person who meets all requirements except certification to begin employment as an inspector on the condition that certification is obtained within the following twelve months.

HB 133 builds on the bill I filed last year that was passed by the General Assembly and signed into law by the Governor. HB 133 would, in turn, give more hard-working individuals the ability to overcome regulatory burdens and put their previous work experience to good use.

A measure aimed at helping addicts beat their addictions cleared the House Health and Welfare Committee. HB 121 would prevent insurance companies from requiring prior authorization for medication-assisted addiction treatments. The standard 5- to 10-day waiting period that insurance companies require before medication-assisted

treatment can be prescribed is one of many barriers to an addict's recovery.

We have all heard the adage that "every vote counts," and the November elections showed this to be true, as there were a number of races decided by very few votes. In fact, the race for state representative for House District 13 (part of Daviess County) was settled by only one vote. As a result, the losing candidate asked for a recount.

According to the Kentucky Constitution, the recount was to be overseen by the House of Representatives. The recount was just completed and the race ended in a tie. Because of the cost of having another election and the fact that the candidate who was originally thought to have won was already sworn in and had been seated in the House, the candidate who asked for the recount decided to withdraw.

Legislation that is considered in the General Assembly falls into two categories – bills and resolutions. There are different types of resolutions, and one of these is a concurrent resolution. A concurrent resolution is a resolution adopted by both the House and Senate that does not require the signature of the governor and does not have the force of law.

House Concurrent Resolution 5 calls on federal regulators to expedite research into the benefits and risks of medical marijuana to help the Kentucky General Assembly "develop evidence-based and

Keeping up

There are several ways to keep up with the 2019 legislative session and share your thoughts with lawmakers.

- Legislative Message Line**
(800) 372-7181
- TTY Message Line**
(800) 896-0305
- Bill Status Line**
(866) 840-2835
- Legislative Calendar Line**
(800) 633-9650
- General Assembly website**
LRC.ky.gov
- Write any lawmaker**
Sen./Rep. First Last
Legislative Offices
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Frankfort, KY 40601

scientifically sound medical marijuana policies" since marijuana is still illegal under federal law, even though many states have authorized its use. The resolution now goes to the full House for consideration. This is not the first time that the House has made this request to the federal government.

One plant that is no longer illegal is industrial hemp, which was removed from the federal controlled substance list last year. Industrial hemp got our attention when Agriculture Commissioner Ryan Quarles updated the House Agriculture Committee on Ken-

tucky's Industrial Hemp Research Program, which is now in its fifth year. The state continues to regulate the growth, handling and processing of industrial hemp. Quarles told lawmakers that he expects economic growth in the hemp industry.

The House Small Business and Information Technology Committee heard testimony on cyber security. A few states have started to pass laws that address the steps a company must take in an effort to curb unauthorized use of its Information Technology systems. Cyber security is an area that needs to be addressed but laws must not hamper small businesses.

As always, thank you for reading my updates and thank you for contacting me with your concerns and thoughtful suggestions. It is a privilege to represent you in the Kentucky House of Representatives and your input helps me make decisions that best represent the views of the 4th District.

I may be reached through the toll-free message line in Frankfort at (800) 372-7181, directly at (502) 564-8100, by visiting the Kentucky Legislature Home page at LRC.ky.gov and clicking on the "Email Your Legislator" link, or by mail to the Capitol Annex, Frankfort, KY 40601.

(Rep. Lynn Bechler, R-Marion, has represented House District 4 – Crittenden, Livingston, Caldwell and portion of Christian counties – in the Kentucky General Assembly since 2013.)

Hep A outbreak not yet cause for local concern

FROM STAFF, WIRE REPORTS

A hepatitis A outbreak in Kentucky nears 4,000 cases in 103 of Kentucky's 120 counties, including suspected cases in Crittenden County. There have been more than three dozen deaths across the commonwealth attributed to the virus.

According to figures from the Cabinet for Health and Family Services, through Jan. 26 the number of cases stood at 3,919, resulting in 1,905 hospitalizations and 40 deaths, since the outbreak began being tracked in November 2017.

Pennyrile District Health Department (PDHD) Director Charles Hiter reports one probable and one suspect hepatitis A case in Crittenden County, but cautions against widespread concerns locally.

"PDHD is aware and has been monitoring the situation and supporting surveillance and investigations in order to determine if the cases are confirmed," he said. "At this point, there are no public health concerns to the local public."

The Department for Public Health says people who are considered high risk for exposure to the hepatitis A virus should get vaccinated as soon as possible, to avoid contracting the virus and lessen the spread of the disease. High risk groups include individuals who use illicit drugs, close contacts of illicit drug users and homeless people. DPH said 80 percent of the cases have occurred in those groups.

Other priority areas of the population for vaccination include: people with direct contact with someone who has hepatitis A; men who have sexual contact with men; and people who are at increased risk of complications from hepatitis A, such as those with chronic liver disease.

"Immunizations can be obtained from a health care provider, pharmacies, and clinics throughout the state," said DPH Commissioner Dr. Jeffrey Howard. "Local health departments have limited vaccine supply

for at-risk individuals who are uninsured. In addition, if you live in a county experiencing an outbreak, we also urge you to be vaccinated for hepatitis A as well as continue to practice regular and thorough hand washing, particularly if you are engaging with any of the high-risk groups."



Hiter

Health officials describe hepatitis A as a highly contagious, vaccine-preventable disease of the liver, which causes inflammation of the liver and affects the organ's ability to function. Signs and symptoms of infection include nausea, diarrhea, and loss of appetite, fever, fatigue, jaundice (yellowing of the skin or eyes), clay-colored bowel movements, dark-colored urine, and abdominal discomfort. Signs and symptoms usually appear 2-4 weeks after exposure but may occur up to 7 weeks after exposure. Children under 6 with hepatitis A often show few signs and symptoms.

The virus is found in the stool of infected people and is usually spread person-to-person when infected people do not properly wash their hands or do not have access to proper sanitation. Transmission typically occurs when a person ingests infected fecal matter, even in microscopic amounts, from contact with contaminated objects, food, or drinks. DPH recommends frequent hand washing, particularly after using the restroom, or before eating, to prevent transmission of hepatitis A and many other common diseases.

Since 2006, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has recommended that all children receive the hepatitis A vaccine series. DPH recommends children aged 1 to 18 years receive the two-dose hepatitis A vaccine, as well as at-risk adults.

Kentucky now requires all students in kindergarten through 12th grade to have two doses of the hepatitis A vaccine in order to attend school or receive a certificate of immunization.

Senate OKs school safety bill

The General Assembly hit the ground running last week as it began the continuation of the 2019 Regular Session. The Senate Majority is excited to move forward with its legislative priorities and pass laws that benefit the Commonwealth.



Sen. Robby MILLS
R-Henderson

Kentucky Senate Legislative Review

Through ice and snow to unseasonably warm weather, the General Assembly continued to discuss legislative priorities throughout the three-week interim in committee meetings.

The newly formed Public Pensions Working Group, co-chaired by Sen. Wil Schroder, met twice each week. Throughout these meetings, this bipartisan group from both chambers heard extensive and detailed testimony on the condition of our public pension systems.

While there is still much to be done, we are confident that this working group is heading in the right direction toward developing a viable solution to this persistent dilemma facing our state.

Committee meetings were in full swing last week as we discussed and passed bills to the Senate floor for final votes. Last Thursday, the Senate passed three pieces of legislation:

- Senate Bill 32, sponsored by Sen. Stan Humphries, improves

the current water well drilling system by allowing water well driller assistants to be certified by the Kentucky Energy and Environment Cabinet.

- SB 77, sponsored by Sen. Julie Raque Adams, proposes an expansion of Kentucky's current organ donor registration list through an easily accessible sign-on system to designate consent.
- SB 31, sponsored by Sen. Ralph Alvarado, requires the Cabinet of Health and Family Services to provide frequent visitation for siblings who are in out-of-home care and not jointly placed.

Also last Thursday, the Senate Education Committee was honored to welcome families of the victims of the Marshall County High School shooting as they testified on behalf of SB 1. The testimony from the Holt and Cope families was powerful and moving. At the conclusion of the meeting, SB 1 was unanimously voted out of committee.

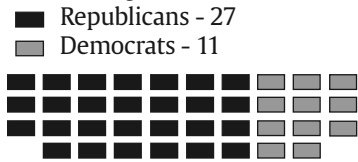
SB 1, the School Safety and Resiliency Act, passed Friday with an overwhelming majority. Sponsored by Sen. Max Wise, the legislation is a bipartisan piece of legislation that focuses on developing standardized conditions and training that will better secure safety in our schools through personnel, structures/protocols and a culture of connection with students that concentrates on their overall well-being. Accountability for school safety compliance will also be emphasized.

The safety and security of the children of Kentucky is paramount. As the bill moves to the House, the Senate Education Committee will continue to provide input so that the bill that eventually arrives on

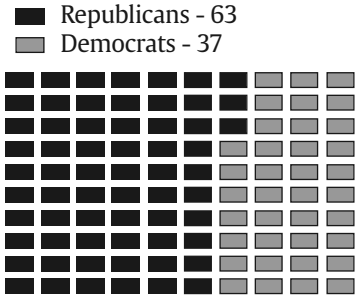
Party power

Of Kentucky's 138 state legislative seats – 100 in the House and 38 in the Senate – Republicans hold a 90-48 advantage over Democrats, maintaining a super majority in each chamber.

Kentucky Senate



Kentucky House



the governor's desk is in its best possible form.

If you have any questions or comments about these issues or any other public policy issue, please call me toll-free at (800) 372-7181 or email me at Robby.Mills@lrc.ky.gov.

(Sen Robby Mills, R-Henderson, represented Senate District 4 – Crittenden, Livingston, Caldwell, Webster, Union and Henderson counties – in the Kentucky General Assembly. He was elected to the position in 2018 and served the two prior years in the Kentucky House.)

DOCKET

Continued from Page 1

cover from its current drug epidemic.

"Substance abuse is Kentucky's most overpowering, prevalent problem," Beshear said. "It's impacting every community, hurting families and our economy, and putting law enforcement in danger. Rocket Docket programs are clearly helping us with this battle by providing treatment to Kentuckians quicker so they can take back their life from this debilitating epidemic."

Greenwell said anywhere from 60 to 70 percent of the cases he handles are related to drugs in some manner. For drug users, Rocket Docket has offered a bit of salvation.

"People need help," he said. "This is running them through quicker."

Information on the effectiveness of Kentucky's more than 35 Rocket Docket programs was provided to Beshear's office by the Prosecutors Advisory Council (PAC). The Jan. 17, 2019, PAC report examines data from July 16, 2015, when the Rocket Docket program began, to Nov. 30, 2018.

At the inception of the program, the Department of Corrections reported a felony drug offender spent on average 115 days in a local jail. As of Nov. 30, 2018, an offender spent 21 days in jail – a 94-day difference, according to the report.

Based on the data presented to PAC, more than 18,300 statewide cases have moved through the Rocket Docket programs over the 40-month period. Expediting offenders through the court system has saved an estimated \$82.3 million in local jail

costs, benefiting taxpayers.

Greenwell said the savings to Crittenden County taxpayers alone is a six-figure estimate. For cases expedited through Rocket Docket, the incarceration period dropped from an average 180 days to only 30 days behind bars.

Until an offender is prosecuted and sentenced in circuit court, the cost to house a local offender is on county taxpayers. Shaving five months off the incarceration cost at \$32 per day, according to Jailer Robbie Kirk's monthly report to Crittenden Fiscal Court, saves taxpayers \$4,800 per Rocket Docket inmate.

Additionally, that frees up a bed to house a state or federal inmate at Crittenden County Detention Center, generating \$4,701 in revenue over a 150-day period for state-level offenders to \$6,300 for federal inmates.

That means moving a single offender through the system faster with Rocket Docket saves Crittenden County taxpayers anywhere from \$9,500 to \$11,100, on average.

For the entire judicial circuit, Greenwell said of the estimated 300 cases a year his office handles, probably 50 are prosecuted through the Rocket Docket program. That makes room for more serious cases such as those involving violent crimes.

Also according to the PAC report, of the 18,300 cases completed through the Rocket Docket programs, nearly 10,800 defendants were identified, assessed and sent to substance abuse treatment. The report says this equates to 60 percent of defendants being referred to some form of treatment.

"It's something we're grateful to have," Greenwell said.



Obesity growing issue with America's pets

METRO SERVICES

Many pet owners would never intentionally harm their companion animals. In fact, pet owners often go above and beyond to ensure their animals are well cared for and content. However, many well-meaning people may be inadvertently harming their pets with something they provide each and every day – food.

Obesity is on the rise among pets. The Association for Pet Obesity Prevention says that 54 percent of dogs and 59 percent of cats in the United States were categorized as overweight or obese in 2016. That marks an increase from 52.5 percent and 58.3 percent, respectively, from four years ago. The majority of veterinarians think that pet obesity is a significant problem and nearly half of pet owners admit that their vets have discussed a pet's ideal weight with them during pet health visits.

Pet weight and appearance

Body weights for pets are based on breed ideals and

may not necessarily apply to dogs and cats of mixed breeds. For example, a golden retriever should weigh between 65 and 75 pounds. A domestic cat should weigh between 8 and 10 pounds. But vets will consider a host of variables to determine if a given pet is a healthy weight.

Vets advise that dog owners should be able to easily feel and count dogs' ribs when they run their fingers across the side of the animal. Pets viewed from above should display an hourglass figure that includes an indentation near the midsection. The absence of this "waist" may indicate a problem. When observing a pet from the side while he or she is standing, a slight upward slope of the stomach should be visible. A low-hanging abdomen means abdominal fat may be present.

Problems related to weight

The Purina Pet Care Center found that overweight pets may live two years less than ideal weight pets. Re-

duced life span is not the only problem, as carrying extra pounds can contribute to various maladies. These include osteoarthritis and poor joint health, type 2 diabetes, ligament injuries, heart and respiratory disease, kidney disease, and cancer.

Exercise and food

Just like humans, pets need a combination of physical activity and caloric moderation to maintain healthy weights. Daily caloric needs for indoor cats range from 180 to 200 calories per day. The larger a dog is, the more calories it needs.

Pet owners should work with their veterinarians to map out a diet and exercise regimen that can help their overweight pets shed pounds. Vets also can help determine if weight gain is due to illness or food habits.

Pets need to maintain healthy diets and engage in exercise to maintain ideal body weights that will keep them healthy for years to come.

Humans benefit from having pets

METRO SERVICES

Pets have been kept for centuries. Statistics from various sources indicate North Americans own millions of dogs, cats, birds, small mammals, and reptiles.

Pets' affable nature and loving looks are enough for many people to welcome them into their homes, but the benefits of having a pet extends beyond their appearances and temperaments.

■ Pets can help prevent loneliness. Loneliness affects people of all ages, but it is particularly problematic among seniors. Older adults who may be isolated can benefit from having a pet around. According to a study published in Aging & Mental Health, older adults who owned pets were 36 percent less likely to say they were lonely compared to those who didn't have an animal companion.

■ Pets can save lives. Pets can be trained to perform various tasks around the house and in the community. Rescue animals assist in finding people after natural disasters. Medical alert pets

can help people with debilitating illnesses and assist physically impaired people with everyday tasks.

• Pets help lower allergy risks. Keeping pets around can reduce a child's likelihood of developing allergies by as much as 33 percent, according to a study by pediatrician James E. Gern that was published in the Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology. People exposed early on to animals tend to develop stronger immune systems overall.

■ Pets provide socialization opportunities. A pet can be the common denominator to strike up new friendships and connect with others. Whether walking around the neighborhood or being part of a pet obedience class or interest group, pets can help their owners expand their social circles.

■ Pets can help combat stress. Talking to or stroking a pet can make stress easier to handle. A study from researchers at the State University of New York at Buffalo found that, when conducting a stressful task, people experienced less stress when their pets were

with them. Various other studies and data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention have found having a pet around can lower blood pressure, ease anxiety and may even help to lessen aches and pains. Pets provide unconditional love, which can be beneficial to someone facing depression or post traumatic stress disorder.

■ Pets help teach responsibility. Taking care of a pet can help children and adults become more responsible. According to the American Pet Product Association's 2011-2012 National Pet Owners Survey, 58 percent of pet owners say their pets help teach their kids to be responsible through routine care, exercise and feeding of the animal.

Pets are more than mere companions. In fact, pets can offer numerous health and well-being benefits to people of all ages.

County animal shelter fee schedule

Crittenden County Animal Shelter on U.S. 60 East in Marion serves Crittenden, Livingston and Lyon counties. County ordinance requires all adoptions of animals into Crittenden County be accompanied by the purchase of a license. Pets should also be licensed each year. State law requires a 6 percent sales tax be added to fees and services.	
- Dog or cat license only, annual	\$5.00*
- Pick up stray dogs, cats	No charge
- Dog, cat adoption fee (in-county)	\$65.00**
- Dog, cat adoption fee (out-of-county)	\$60.00**
- Return dog, cat to owner (first occurrence)	\$25.00
- Return dog, cat to owner (second occurrence)	\$50.00
- Return dog, cat to owner (subsequent)	\$100.00
- Owner surrender	Donations accepted
- Boarding of quarantined animal (10 days or fewer)	\$85.00 minimum
- Boarding of quarantined animal (10 days or more)	Minimum plus \$8.50 daily
- Boarding of animal, more than five days before return	\$5.00 daily, plus fees
- Surcharge for animal not current on vaccinations	\$15.00 per day, plus fees

*Exempt from sales tax. **Includes voucher for \$50 spay/neuter, if necessary



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5 advantages to sterilizing pets

Improved health one of several benefits

METRO SERVICES

One of the most important aspects of welcoming a pet into a home is to be a responsible part owner. Responsible pet ownership involves providing for the animal's physical and emotional needs, making sure to keep the pet out of danger and providing love, affection and training.

Responsible pet ownership also includes a commitment to maintaining a reasonable pet population. Due to unchecked breeding, shelters are bursting at the seams with animals who have been found stray or were turned over by owners who are unable to care for them. The ASPCA says millions of cats and dogs of all ages and breeds are euthanized or suffer as strays every year. These high numbers are the result of unplanned litters.

Neutering, also known as spaying and neutering, can help keep animal numbers in check. American Humane says spaying is a general term used to describe the ovariectomy of a female animal. Neutering is a general term used to describe the castration of a male animal. However, neutering is often used in reference to both genders. Veterinarians perform these surgeries, which often result in the same-day release of pets if there have been no complications.

Many shelters require adoptable animals be neutered before they can be released to a new family. Pet owners can work with veterinarians to determine the best age for sterilization.

There are many great reasons to neuter pets that go beyond reducing overpopulation.

Improves animal health

Spaying can help prevent uterine infections and breast cancer in female pets. Neutering males can prevent testicular cancer.

Reduces unwanted marking/mating behavior

Female pets advertise that they are ready to reproduce by leaving scents (urinating), barking, meowing, and being more agitated during breeding season. Spaying can reduce these inclinations.

Reduces the need to roam

Male animals will travel near or far to find a female. Once on the prowl, the animal runs the risks of injury from altercations with other animals as well as

2018 Crittenden County Animal Shelter activity

Crittenden County Animal Control Officer Timmy Todd tracks the inflow and outflow of animals at the shelter. Todd offers a summary of 2018 activity at the shelter, including purchases and donations of food and cat litter. Livingston and Lyon counties pay a fee to the county for bringing their animals to the shelter. Totals do not include a period in October when no statistics were tracked due to Todd's absence.

Dog/puppy statistics

INFLOW	STRAY	SURRENDER	TOTAL
Crittenden County	94	123	217
Livingston County	82	64	146
Lyon County	44	52	96
TOTAL DOGS			459

OUTFLOW	TOTAL
Rescued	361
Reclaimed by owners	43
Adopted	143
Euthanized	6
DOA	2

Cat/kitten statistics

INFLOW	TOTAL
Crittenden County	115
Livingston County	87
Lyon County	98
TOTAL CATS	300

OUTFLOW	TOTAL
Rescued	114
To local farmers for barns	42
Adopted	28
Re-homed for small donation	77
Euthanized	2

Dog food; cat food, litter

ITEM	POUNDS	VALUE
Dog food, county-purchased	4,250	\$1,454.15
Dog food, donated	9,415	
Cat food, county-purchased	0	\$0.00
Cat food, donated	2,468	
Cat litter, county-purchased	8,400	\$1,515.04
Cat litter, donated	703	

- **Animal Control Officer:** Timmy Todd
- **Contact:** 1901 U.S. 60 East, Marion.; (270) 969-1054
- **Hours:** Open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and Wednesday and Saturday from 8 a.m. to noon
- **Online:** CrittendenShelter.blogspot.com and on Facebook by searching for "Paws Crossed in Crittenden County Animal Shelter"
- **Funding:** Public funds and private contributions
- **Adoptions:** \$65, which serves as a voucher for spaying or neutering at most area veterinarian clinics with exceptions to some animals that might cost more
- **Volunteers:** Applications are available for prospective volunteers
- **Greatest needs:** Dog food, cat litter, cleaning supplies (towels, bleach, detergent, etc.), and small blankets

traffic. Such animals also may get lost.

Responsible breeding

American Humane says 25 percent of shelter dogs are purebreds. Responsible purebred breeders have homes lined up before they breed. There's no need to mate purebreds simply for the sake of continuing the lineage.

Improved behavior

The ASPCA says a male pet might be less likely to


mount other pets, people and inanimate objects after he's neutered. Some aggression problems may be avoided by early neutering as well.

Neutering is a smart choice. After the surgery takes place, give the pet a quiet, safe place to recover and inhibit jumping or running for a few weeks. Also, try to keep him or her from licking the wounds. When the vet gives a clean bill of health, pets can resume living full, happy lives.

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Fiscal court audit: Not enough internal controls

STAFF REPORT

A recent financial audit of Crittenden Fiscal Court for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016, cited a handful of concerns, including the Riverview Park Board failing to keep adequate accounting records.

State Auditor Mike Harmon released the findings of the audit early this week. Kentucky law requires annual audits of fiscal courts.

During the period between July 1, 2015, and June 30, 2016, Crittenden Fiscal Court had total receipts of \$6.59 million and disbursements of \$7.22 million. For that period, auditors found six areas of non-compliance in terms of accounting methods. But auditors offers no suggestion of malfeasance or anything nefarious.

Four of the concerns brought forward in the 53-page audit report dealt with weak or in adequate internal bookkeeping controls. But Harmon's office singled out two entities that did not follow proper procedures.

Riverview Park Board,

the group of fiscal court-appointed volunteers selected to oversee the county park at the site of the former Dam 50 on the Ohio River, failed to document all revenue sources and expenses.

"For Fiscal Year 2016, the board had bank receipts of \$10,981, bank disbursements of \$18,337, and an ending bank balance of \$23,183," the report reads. "(But) receipt forms for the year had been destroyed due to a lack of storage and adequate supporting documentation was not maintained for all disbursements."

Crittenden County Judge-Executive Perry Newcom has since instructed the park board to better document its financial activity and submit an annual budget and quarterly statements of accounting for magistrates' approval.

Auditor's also found Crittenden County Jailer Robbie Kirk did not use proper methods to acquire four new vehicles for Crittenden County Detention Center.

"The total amount expended for these vehicles was \$101,549, with each vehicle exceeding \$20,000," the report noted. "Each vehicle was purchased with no advertisement for bids."

According to statute, Kirk should have either purchased the vehicles from the Lexington auto dealer who had the contract bid on both Dodge Ram trucks and Chargers or advertised for bids. Instead, he purchased the vehicles at a nearby Paducah dealer at state contract price in order to save time and money on transporting the new vehicles to Crittenden County.

"I now know (the Lexington dealer) holds the singular state bid contract for both vehicles and that even if I saved the jail money I am unable to do this again," Kirk said in his official response found in the report. "I was proud to be able to purchase these four vehicles without using tax payer dollars but instead only using inmate account money from commissary."

The other areas noted by auditors were discussed openly at the October 2018 fiscal court meeting, where Newcom noted his frustration with the auditor's office over many of the findings. Those include:

- Weak internal controls over debt and debt service resulted in the misstatement of outstanding debt balances. This repeat finding also noted a lack of segregation of duties.
- Newcom said the issue has been addressed to prevent the same in the future.
- Weak internal controls over capital assets resulted in the misstatement of capital assets on the county's schedule of capital assets. Also a repeat finding, it noted improper maintenance of the schedule of capital assets in the amount of \$23,866.
- The judge-executive said this has also been addressed.
- Crittenden Fiscal Court lacks adequate internal controls over payroll. This included an employee receiving both overtime pay and compensatory time

during the same pay period despite waiving overtime with a signed agreement, an employee's whose pay rate was not approved by the fiscal court, health insurance claims not presented to the fiscal court, incorrect retirement contributions and multiple reconciliation errors.

In his reply to the auditor, Newcom said the issues have either been corrected or contends they were never issues to begin with, explaining each circumstance.

- Crittenden Fiscal Court does not have adequate internal controls over disbursements. This included missing credit card transaction invoices, incorrect account code usage, disbursements without documentation, 22 disbursements totaling \$1.24 million not presented to the fiscal court for approval, the purchase of a jail vehicle through the road fund, finance charges incurred on credit cards and others.

Newcom explained two-thirds of the \$1.24 million is pass-through money for

Cave In Rock Ferry funding, which is approved by magistrates in the annual budget. That money is paid to the county from the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet and, in turn, paid to the ferry operator. In fact, all disbursements are presented to the courted at monthly meetings and approved as part of the income and disbursement reports.

Some of the undocumented payments were electronic disbursements or recurring expenses for which invoices had failed to be printed. The road fund was reimbursed by the jail. And finance charges occur because the fiscal court meets once a month, meaning some invoices are beyond 30 days before they are presented to the court for approval.

However, because many payments are approved by magistrates after they have been processed, the auditor's replied stated, "not only were internal controls over these disbursements weak, the county was not in compliance with state statute."

GUARD

Continued from Page 1

obligation to be the bearer of the bad news.

"I wanted to make sure I was the person who conveyed the issues," Campbell said last Thursday during a visit to the armory along with representatives of the Kentucky National Guard Construction and Facility Management Office in Frankfort.

The issues are related to both structural deficiencies and needed updates to bring the outpost to current military standards.

Most of the structural issues are tied to construction practices of the early 1960s, when the facility was built on Rochester Street. Spongy soil under the building has led to settling that has left numerous cracks in the walls and flooring as the building twists and sinks in different directions. Many of the cracks and separation in the block structure are large enough to easily slip in fingers beyond the first joint. On the exterior, mortar that crumbles like chalk is separating from the brick in many areas.

Jayson McDonald, design and project manager with the construction and facility office, said those issues have accelerated in the last five years.

Kenny Staley, facilities manager for the Kentucky National Guard, points out that the structural problems do not present an immediate danger, but do require extensive work to prevent further settling. Chief among the fixes would be 20 helical piers, or screw piles, that would have been installed around the exterior for stability.

The 1963 construction was substandard in other ways compared to current practices, Staley said. In the drill hall, the entire 5,400-square-foot floor would today have been made in one pour, reinforced with rebar. But a half-century ago, it was designed with multiple pours, allowing sections to settle at different rates and create trip hazards.

"All buildings move," he said. "Not this much. It's moving in so many ways,

settling at different rates."

Last year's excessive rains, Staley explained, have created more settling than in any year prior.

"You're looking at more problems in the future," he added.

But it's not just shoring up structural problems that could push construction beyond \$1.5 million. Updating to bring the building to current standards would also be extensive.

Larry Goode, planning and programs branch chief with the

Guard, indicates that would include the addition of a female showering area and bathroom, as women were not enlisted in the mid-20th century with combat units like the armored company first stationed in Marion. Other updates include retrofitting access to satisfy the Americans with Disabilities Act, upgrading plumbing and HVAC and installing post-9/11 blast resistant windows.

With a limited amount of money to maintain 1 million square feet under roof at Kentucky's 54 active armories and mothballed facilities like the one in Marion and another 1 million square feet of structures to keep up at training facilities and barracks, the Kentucky National Guard is forced to prioritize expenses. The seven-figure fix for the 13,581 square feet in Marion is not cost effective.

"That's money we just don't have right now," Goode said.

With Guard numbers waning across the state, the local armory was home to only 18 soldiers, 12 of whom lived more than 50 miles away. Only one member, a new recruit, lived in Crittenden County. There about 6,500 Army guardsmen in Kentucky,



Settling of the foundation since the National Guard Armory in Marion was constructed in 1963 has created numerous problems at the facility on Rochester Street. Above, Kenny Staley, facilities manager for Kentucky Army National Guard, points out a separation of mortar from the bricks on the exterior of the building. At top right, a crack in the drill hall that runs from eye level on one wall to the ceiling on another is one of the more noticeable problems to the average onlooker, while more of the same can be seen in a restroom.



THE CRITTENDEN PRESS

down 500 from just a few years ago, so Campbell said the military is moving to regionalize outposts for better efficiency.

When he joined the Guard 38 years ago, Campbell was one of 77 enlisted men and officers based in Marion, with more than half of those living in Crittenden County. Today, there are only six guardsmen altogether living in the county. There have been only three enlistments locally in the last six years, Campbell points out.

"Recruiting is a challenge," he said.

That's because fewer young people today are interested in the military to begin with. But Campbell said many prospects cannot pass the physical exam, cannot present clean drug screens or have visible tattoos outside of the military's standards.

Certainly, Campbell said, if 77 soldiers were still attached to the local armory, the decision to close the building would have been much more difficult. But with the existing struc-

tural problems and outdated facilities, the outcome seemed inevitable.

As one of the top men with the Kentucky National Guard, however, his sway may have kept the doors open a few extra years. A survey of facilities across the state three or four years ago placed the Marion armory at risk of closure.

"I told them to leave us alone," Campbell said. "I think that helped buy us a few more years."

Though the pot of money to maintain the Guard's facilities is 75 percent federal, the Commonwealth of Kentucky owns the armories across the state. Ownership of the Marion installation will remain with the state, and there are no plans to dispose of the property.

"We're not selling it. We're not bulldozing it," Campbell assured local officials.

Preservation maintenance will continue indefinitely at the site to keep it usable in case Guard numbers expand and the facility is once again needed. The general is hopeful that day may come not too far down the road. Meantime, the Guard's construction and facility team will keep up the property with visits every other week or so, Goode said.

The armory will still be available for use by the community. Though the

last paid rental came in 2017, Campbell said "handshake deals" have seen the building continue to be used for non-profit efforts like Community Christmas distribution.

Anything not attached to the building has been removed, nothing of value remains inside. However, the tank monument on the front lawn will remain. The City of Marion has agreed to step up police patrols of the area and keep an eye on the vacant facility.

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SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Crittenden County Blue Knights chess team competed Saturday in the Graves County Scholastic, with teams placing either first or second. Clockwise from top left, the K12 team is comprised of (from left) Coach Don Winters, Dominic Rorer, Cole Swinford, Chase Stevens, Noah Campbell and Gage Russell; the K5 team is comprised of Winters, Cameron Hernandez, Jake Rich, Gunner Topp, Wyatt Russell, Charlie Ledford, Zak Smith; the K8 team is comprised of Isaac Sarles, Abbey Swinford, Evan McDowell, Winters, Tyler Swaggirt, Hayden Hildebrand and Trey Swaggirt; and the K3 team is comprised of Winters, Luke Binkley, Alex Hewitt, Aidan Smith, Roane Topp.

Blue Knights ready for regionals, hope for state bid

STAFF REPORT

The Blue Knights had their last regular tournament before regional competition at the end of this month. And Chess Coach Don Winters likes their chances of advancing to the state team tournament in March.

Crittenden County's chess team competed in the Graves County Scholastic on Saturday, will all four teams finishing either first or second and several individuals taking home honors.

The K8 team of Trey Swaggirt, Evan McDowell, Hayden Hildebrand, Abbey Swinford, Isaac Sarles and Tyler Swaggirt has been on a hot streak the past two tournaments and was looking to do the same at this one.

"After Round 1, they took a commanding lead and things looked promising," said Winters.

Contenders Murray Middle and Lone Oak Middle both came back and forced a three-way tie going into Round 5. The Blue Knights proved they would be the team to beat as almost every player would match up against one of the two competitors, and would do their job winning five out of the six matchups and give the Blue Knights first place by a mere half-point.

Individually McDowell placed first with 4 points, Sarles placed sixth with 3.5 points, Swaggirt placed seventh with 3 points, Swaggirt placed 10th with 3 points, Hildebrand and Swinford placed 17th and 18th, respectively, with 2 points each.

The K12 team of Skyler James, Chase Stevens, Cole Swinford, Gage Russell, Noah Campbell and Dominic Rorer would go into this tournament as the team to beat, as they have placed first in every tournament this season. This tournament brought in 41 K12 players, the most this year.

After Round 1, the Blue Knights took a commanding lead, but fell behind after Rounds 2 and 3. In Round 4 they picked things back up and went into Round 5 with a half-point lead. The top five teams at the end of Round 5 were only separated by 2 points.

The Blue Knights tied for first against Murray High School with 12.5 points, and would bring home the 2nd place trophy on tiebreaks. Individually, Swinford placed seventh, James placed ninth, Stevens placed 14th, Russell placed 21st, Rorer placed 25th and Campbell placed 38th.

The K3 team of Alex Hewitt, Aidan Smith, Luke Binkley and Roane Topp has had its hands full all year with the local powerhouse Murray Elementary. This tournament would prove no different as Murray jumped out to an early lead once again. The Blue Knights nipped at their heels all day, but would come up just one point shy at the end of the day and bring home the second place trophy.

Individually, Topp placed third with 4 points, Smith placed fifth with 3 points, Hewitt placed sixth with 3 points and Binkley placed 11th with 2 points.

The K5 team Wyatt Russell, Zak Smith, Jake Rich, Charlie Ledford, Cameron Hernandez and Gunner Topp has also been battling Murray Elementary all year. The teams would go into Round 2 tied for first, but Murray pulled away after that and never looked back. Murray would finish the day with an impressive 17 out of 20 team points taking first over the Blue Knights who finished with 12 points.

Individually, Rich placed sixth with 4 points, Russell placed 16th with 3 points, Ledford placed 19th with 3 points, Smith placed 20th with 2 points, Topp placed 26th with 2 points and Hernandez placed 34th with 1 point.

The teams will compete at Regionals Feb. 23, where the top four in each section advance to the state team tournament in March. Winters has high hopes for all four teams and feels like they will be a strong contender for the top spots at the end of the month.

SCHOOLS

Continued from Page 1

school district already employs nurses through Graves County Health Department.

- An SRO in each district. Crittenden County Sheriff's Deputy John Shofner acts as the SRO in the district. He was hired before the 2018-19 school year. His salary is funded by the board of education. On Monday, Shofner was called on to prevent an adult with an active warrant from entering a school. The facility was locked out until the situation was resolved.
- A school safety coordinator. Clark serves in that capacity, taking on the duty after Al Starnes retired at the end of the previous school year.
- Schools to control entrance to their front door by installing an electronic lock, camera and intercom. That has been in place at each school in Crittenden County for several years.
- Visitors to report to the front office of the building, provide valid identification, state the purpose of the visit and wear a visible name tag while in the school This also has been in place for

many years.

- Classroom doors be locked from the outside and opened from the inside. This is done at the elementary and high schools locally, but the middle school, built in 1949, would have to be retrofitted to meet the standard. Clark said that would cost about \$1,500 per classroom at CCMS. "That is if the structure of building is solid enough to upgrade," Clark explained.
- Classroom doors to be locked while classes are in progress and require classroom doors with windows to be equipped with material to cover the window during a lockdown. Clark said locking doors is already in place in the district. Open doors to empty classrooms are also locked so that if someone enters the room to escape the dangers of an assailant, they can shut the door without taking time to lock out the intruder.
- One guidance counselor with mental health training for every 250 students in a school, contingent on funding. Counselors would be required to spend at least 60 percent of their workday on counseling-related tasks. While that ratio is not met in the local

school district, through Mountain Comprehensive Care, the board of ed has placed a mental health professional at all schools.

- Active shooter training for staff. Clark said all staff – including bus drivers, custodians and cafeteria workers – participate locally. "We try to do that every two years," he added.

School districts must have security measures in place by July 2022 or risk losing state finds for new construction, the measure requires.

Further efforts

In addition to the requirements outlined in the legislation, Crittenden County Schools utilizes K9 Resources for random searches of campuses for weapons and drugs, employs random searches that include wandering students with metal detecting devices, offers alternative learning environments for students who may be troubled in the normal classroom environment and works with local law enforcement to practice active shooter drills.

"I hope folks know we're doing what we can," Clark said.

The efforts do not come cheap, the superin-

tendent explained. Yet while state funding to school districts has been cut for textbooks, professional development and other areas, the local board of education has juggled funds to fill those gaps as well as provide the extra levels of health and safety.

"It's a challenge, while trying to keep the tax rate at an acceptable level," Clark said.

Over the summer, construction at both the middle and high school main entrances will add yet another layer of security. The building will be reworked to require visitors to be buzzed through a second door before freely leaving the office areas and entering the school. That is already done at the elementary school.

"Superintendents are asking what can we do to make our campus safer for students and staff," Clark said of his counterparts across the state. "Folks are at all levels of this."

Statewide measures

Other measures required at the state level in SB 1 include:

- Specifying who could serve on the board for the Center for School Safety and clarify members' du-

ties. The nationally recognized center was created by the passage of House Bill 330 in 1998. That measure was in response to the Heath High School shooting on Dec. 1, 1997, in West Paducah. Three girls died and five other students were injured.

- Development and implementation of a school safety coordinator training program.
- A position of State School Security Marshal at the Kentucky Department of Criminal Justice Training, to administer and enforce security of school buildings
- Expanding an anonymous school safety tip line statewide.

Wise said SB 1 was the product of testimony, research and study over eight months by the non-partisan School Safety Working Group and others who were asked to assist. Legislators formed the group in response to the western Kentucky shooting at Marshall County High School last winter in Benton. Last Thursday, the parents of the two slain students from the shooting gave emotional testimony in support of SB 1 before the Senate Education Committee.

"No one was shut out from providing input,"

said Wise, chairman of the education committee. "No one was shut out from my office. No one was shut out from having comments and feedback."

Wise said SB 1 was just the first step in the legislature's efforts to improve school safety. He said the second step would be to fund SB 1's various provisions during next year's regular session of the General Assembly. That's when legislators are constitutionally tasked with passing a biennium budget for the state. Wise stressed that the bill tried to avoid unfunded mandates that cash-strapped rural schools may not be able to afford.

Sen. Christian McDaniel, R-Taylor Mill, said as chairman of the Senate Appropriations & Revenue Committee he would work to make sure provisions of SB 1 are funded in the next biennium budget.

"We will find a way to make the funding for this to work," he said.

SB 1 passed out of the chamber by a 35-0 vote. The measure now goes to the House of Representatives for their consideration.

(Editor's note: Kentucky Today contributed to this story.)

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SECTION 8
HOUSING 



Area Deaths

Travis

Loya Charles Travis, 92, of Marion died Tuesday, Feb. 5, 2019 at his home.

He was a member of Caldwell Springs Baptist Church.

Survivors include his children Tony (Donnetta) Travis of Marion and Wanda (Larry) Patterson of Princeton, Ind.; grandchildren, Christie Patterson, Dana Patterson and Brodi (Justin) Sutton; 7 great-grandchildren; and a great-great-grandchild.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Ann Travis; parents, Ira and Oma Travis; and five brothers.

Services were Friday, Feb. 8 at Caldwell Springs Baptist Church. Burial was at Caldwell Springs Cemetery. Gilbert Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Memorials may be made to Caldwell Springs Cemetery.

Asbridge

Lillian Kirk Asbridge, 90, of Salem died Monday, Feb. 11, 2019 at Parkview Nursing and Rehabilitation in Paducah.

In previous years, she had taught at Elm Grove School, a one-room schoolhouse. She was an avid University of Kentucky basketball fan and personally recorded their statistics. She was a homemaker that enjoyed cooking, doing for others and reading her Bible. She was a member of Pinckneyville Baptist Church.

Surviving are two daughters, Jane Teague (Steve) of Ledbetter and Becky Asbridge of Paducah; a son, Tim Asbridge (Melinda) of Georgetown, Ky.; seven grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Thomas “Junior” Asbridge; sisters, Irva Gene Mahan and Cordie

Richardson; and parents, Odell and Irva Brown Kirk.

Services are scheduled for 1 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 14 in the chapel of Boyd Funeral Directors and Cremation Services with Rev. Joel Frizzell officiating. Burial will follow at Pinckneyville Cemetery.

Friends may visit from 11 a.m., until the funeral hour on Thursday at the funeral home.

Memorials may be made to Pinckneyville Cemetery Fund.

The Crittenden Press Obituaries

Most obituaries in The Crittenden Press are published at no charge. However, extended obituaries are available for a small fee. There is no charge for use of a photo. Please ask your funeral director about fee-based obituaries. Obituaries that appear in the paper are also accessible on the Web for free at The Press Online.



Chamber Recognizes Partners

Crittenden County Chamber of Commerce last week recognized Partners Insurance as the February Business of the Month. The local agency organizes the annual Christmas Parade along with being active in many other Chamber roles. Located on East Bellville Street, the agency has been owned by Shelly Davidson and Denise Byarley for four years. The partners have one employee, Savannah Oliver. The company offers most lines of insurance. Pictured are (from left) City Administrator Adam Ledford, Byarley, chamber member and former mayor Mickey Alexander, Davidson, Chamber President Randa Berry and chamber directors Natalie Parish, Dee Heimgartner and Elliot West. The Chamber of Commerce is having a membership drive in 2019 that includes a no-membership-dues feature in the first year for new members. Contact the Chamber for more information at (270) 965-5015.

Game officials seeking farmers who want to partner for dove money

Farmers can earn extra money and support Kentucky’s hunting heritage by participating in the Co-operative Dove Field Program offered by the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources.

The program leases privately owned and managed fields for public dove hunting in the fall. Enrollment is open through March 1.

“Landowners may earn up to \$10,000 in the Cooperative Dove Field Program,” said Kentucky Fish and Wildlife migratory bird biologist Wes Little. “They earn \$300 per acre planted.”

Kentucky Fish and Wildlife is particularly interested in landowners willing to sow multiple crops. “We want farmers to sow wheat, millet, corn and sunflowers,” Little said. “Multiple crops are best because if you have a failure of one crop, you still have three others to attract doves.”

Planting the same crop on the same plot for consecutive years leaches nutrients from the soil, leading to poor soil health. “We are looking for productivity,” Little said. “Adding crop rotation into the mix helps.”

Participating fields must be at least 10 acres. Additional lease payments are available for landowners who plant buffers around the hunting fields. “The dove field leases generally run from 20 to 30 acres in size,” Little said. “We want to concentrate on landowners with a lot of dove hunting potential on their

lands.”

Payment amounts depend on the number of acres enrolled, crop type and fulfillment of the plot management agreement with Kentucky Fish and Wildlife.

“We are also looking for silage or hemp fields to lease for dove hunting, up to \$1,000 per lease,” Little said.

Biologists with Kentucky Fish and Wildlife must make a determination if a field has sufficient numbers of birds and adequate public access to justify a lease.

Kentucky Fish and Wildlife is highly interested in reaching agreements with property owners who have acreage in underserved areas with significant numbers of dove hunters. In the western part of the state, this includes Caldwell, Calloway, Christian, Daviess, Fulton, Grayson, Hardin, Hart, Hickman, LaRue, Logan, Lyon, Simpson, Todd and Trigg counties. Boyle, Cumberland, Laurel, Lincoln, Pulaski and Wayne counties are areas of interest in southcentral Kentucky.

To get the process started, landowners must contact their Kentucky Fish and Wildlife private lands biologist or Natural Resources Conservation Service liaison. For a listing of biologists, visit the Kentucky Fish and Wildlife homepage at fw.ky.gov and search under the keywords, “private lands biologist.” Property owners may call the department at 1-800-858-1549 weekdays from 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., (CST).



Part of Crittenden County’s recycling program includes the collection wagon which is stationed at Marion-Crittenden County Park next to the concession stand. The trailer is a self-serve device aimed at creating a convenient way for residents to recycle. Plastic bottles and aluminum cans are can be dropped off at the recycling trailer. For more about the county’s government-sponsored recycling program, contact County Judge-Executive Perry Newcom.

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THANK YOU

To the family and many friends of Lonnie Curnel, we wish to express our sincere thanks for your many kindnesses, and for the condolences and support that we have received during this time of loss. We also send our gratitude and appreciation to the staff at Crittenden County Health and Rehab and to Boyds Funeral Directors for their compassion and kindness.

The Family of Lonnie Curnel

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Commonwealth of Kentucky
Crittenden Circuit Court
Marion, KY 42064
Case No. 18-CI-00126

MID SOUTH CAPITAL PARTNERS, LP, Plaintiff v. UNKNOWN HEIRS, IF ANY, OF RICKY CURNEL; UNKNOWN SPOUSES OF UNKNOWN HEIRS, IF ANY, OF RICKY CURNEL COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY, CITY OF MARION, JARED BYFORD, MAYOR; COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY, COUNTY OF CRITTENDEN, PERRY A. NEWCOM, JUDGE EXECUTIVE; DOT CAPITAL INVESTMENTS, LLC, ALITA C. ROGERS, REGISTERED AGENT;; MIKE MACKIN, PENNYRILE HOUSING CORPORATION, JASON VINCENT, REGISTERED AGENT, Defendants. The subject of this action is the following tract of land situated in Crittenden County, Kentucky, and more specifically described as follows:
Being the same property conveyed to Karla Reed and Ricky Curnel by Deed dated August 6, 1994 and of record in Deed Book 169, Page 356 in the Crittenden County Clerk's Office.
A certain house and lot situated in the City of Marion, Crittenden County, Kentucky on the East side of south Main street and bounded as follows:
BEGINNING at the Northwest corner of the Thomas McCain (now Chester D. Eskew) lot; thence nearly North with line of Main

Street 79.3 feet to the Nannie Stevens (now Bennett Ray Wright) lot; thence in an Easterly direction parallel with the North line of said Thomas McCain (now Eskew) lot 180 feet to the Southeast corner of said Nannie Stevens (now Wright) lot; thence in a Southwardly direction parallel to said South Main Street 79.3 feet to the said Thomas McCain (now Eskew) lot; thence in a Westerly direction 180 feet along the line of said Thomas McCain (now Eskew) lot to the beginning.
SOURCE OF TITLE:
Being a party (same as Tract I) of the property conveyed to Henry Lee Hill and his wife, Janice Louise Hill by Myrtle v. Abbing (now Myrtle Gipson), a widow, by Deed dated April 28, 1975, of record in Deed Book 118, page 506, in the Crittenden County Court Clerk's Office.
All references herein are to the Crittenden County Clerk's Office.
Anyone interested in this action should contact Coble D. Evans, Attorney at Law, P.O. Box 99, Smithland, KY, 42081. 270-928-4620

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Fohs Hall hosts Ridin’ Shotgun

Local band Ridin' Shotgun will perform Saturday at Fohs Hall for a fundraising Mardi Gras event. Tickets are \$50, which includes a catered meal and a membership to Fohs Hall, Inc. Tickets are available at The Crittenden Press and Bowtanicals in Marion and Salem.

CASA auction

An online auction benefits the Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) program of Hopkins, Webster and Crittenden counties. Visit the CASA Facebook page to see a list of items up for auction. Bidding continues through Saturday.

Conservation scholarships

Crittenden County high school seniors and college students pursuing studies in agriculture and natural resource can apply for scholarships from the Kentucky Association of Conservation Districts (KACD) Auxiliary. Three \$1,000 scholarships will be offered.

High school seniors who intend to major in agriculture or conservation of natural resources may apply for the George Crafton Memorial Scholarship. The Conservation of Natural Resources Scholarship is awarded to any student currently enrolled in college and pursuing an undergraduate degree in agriculture or a related natural resources field. The third scholarship is the Betty Barrick/Non-Traditional Students Scholarship, for a student that is at least 25 years old pursuing a degree in agriculture or a related natural resources field.

Application deadline is noon, March 1. For more information call the Conservation District at (270) 965-3921, ext. 3.

Extension

– The **Crochet Corner** Club invites anyone interested in needlework – embroidery, knitting, tatting, etc. to join them. They are going to become a needlework club. They meet at noon Feb. 20 at the Extension Office. Donations of yarn, needles, hoops etc., are also being accepted. Contact Nancy Lapp at (270) 965-4469 for more information.

– **After Hours** Club will meet at 5 p.m., Monday at the Extension Office.

Senior Center

The Crittenden County senior Citizens Center is open weekdays 8 a.m.-2 p.m. Lunch is served at 11:30 a.m. each day, and is \$3 for those 60 and older and \$5 for those under 60. Reservations are encouraged by 9 a.m., but are taken up to a week in advance.

Menu and activities include:

Thursday - Menu is chicken and brown rice casserole, buttered spinach, wheat roll, banana pudding and margarine.



Active lifestyles encouraged

Serena Dickerson, owner of Full Body Fitness Studio presented the program for the Woman's Club of Marion Feb. 6 meeting, discussing the Importance of sleep, stretching, improving mobility and flexibility and walking. Dickerson is certified in fitness for aging adults along with other certifications and works with approximately 90 people a day to maintain a healthy lifestyle.

Guardsmen served locally, abroad

(Author's note: The following information came from Kentucky National Guard history and The Crittenden Press articles and is not intended to be a comprehensive history of the local armory and units.)

Military organizations have a long history in Marion, with the first unit of record being the Marion Rifle Battalion of the Kentucky State Guard, organized in August 1860 (just five months after the State Guard was created). Two companies made up the battalion, known as the "Marion Rifles."

Men from Crittenden County and other western Kentucky counties served with the Union Army in the Civil War as part of the 48th Kentucky Volunteer Mounted Infantry Regiment. Records reveal that there was a military unit in Marion from 1860 to 1880, although records from several of those years are missing.

Some men from Crittenden County served in the Spanish-American War at the turn of the century, and it is known that an infantry company was present in Marion in the early 1900s. This unit was organized as Company K, 3rd Infantry Regiment in March 1908. In 1907, some companies in the regiment were called out to suppress the Night Riders in western Kentucky, and some men from Marion may have been involved.

Early 20th century
In March 1925, Company I was transferred from Pikeville to Marion and reorganized as Company C, 149th Infantry, and mustered into federal service. The company was changed from Company C back to Company I, 149th Infantry on June 6, 1926.

In their first few years of organization, the Guard participated in several state active duties. In July 1925, they were called out for seven days to assist in the rescue work for seven men trapped in the Hudson Mine, a zinc mine located near Salem. They were also called several times to help in escorting prisoners to and from pris-

ons and penitentiaries and helping with flood duty in Ballard and Hickman counties.

In the 1930s, the Marion unit was activated for duty during a coal strike in Harlan. They were on duty during labor disturbances in Hopkins, Christian and Union counties, and they were activated for flood duty in Paducah during the flood of 1937.

Greatest Generation
In January 1941, the Marion Guard was called up for active duty in World War II. Sixty men left Marion by train for Camp Shelby, Miss., where they received infantry training. After training, Company I left for overseas duty in January 1944, first stopping in Hawaii and then proceeding to the South Pacific, where they participated in campaigns in New Guinea, Mindanao, the Philippines and Luzon, before returning to the Philippines. There were casualties, including five men killed, and some men received battlefield commendations. When the company returned, the unit was disbanded and would not be reorganized until 1955.

In 1955, Carson G. Davidson, who was not a member of the unit when it began in 1925, was contacted by the Adjutant General about reorganizing the National Guard in Marion. In order to have federal recognition for the unit, there had to be a company commander and at least 13 people. The Guard was reorganized with 18 people and a commander and was designated Battery C of the 640th Field Artillery Observation Battalion.

The activation ceremonies for Marion's new National Guard unit were held on Sunday, June 26, 1955, in the lot on East Bellville Street next to the former Marion City Hall. The unit would be commanded by Capt. Edward Runyan of Marion and the executive officer would be Lt. Charles Brockmeyer of Fredonia. The temporary meeting place of the two officers and 30 enlisted men would be in the Legion Hall on East Carlisle

Street. The unit is a highly specialized organization carrying higher non-commissioned officer ratings than most other military units. It offers, in addition to high pay, educational advantages in the field of radio, radar, survey, sound and flash equipment and the normal fields of supply administration.



The Kentucky National Guard armory on Rochester St., has rich history in Marion.

The Sixties
In the early 1960s, the Guard was activated for duty because of the Berlin Crisis. The men trained at Fort Knox, but were never sent overseas. The late retired 1st Sgt. Carson Davidson remembered that the men from the National Guard were harassed by the regular Army while they were at Fort Knox, but their unit was recognized by Maj. Gen. Baston, commander of Fort Knox, for superior service during tank training while they were there.

During the 1950s and early 1960s, the men attended summer camp and had annual training at Camp Breckinridge. Over the next several years, the National Guard units in Marion were reorganized as companies C and D, 123rd Armor, (Medium Tank Battalion), and in 1968, they were organized as Company A, 1st Battalion, 123rd Armor, which they remained until June 1995, when they were reorganized as Company B, 2nd Battalion, 123rd Armor, with headquarters in Bowling Green.

New armory built
The current National Guard armory was completed in 1963 after obtaining 8 acres of land from the Crittenden County Board of Education. At one time, this land was used as the Crittenden County Fairgrounds. At the time the land was acquired by the Guard, it was a baseball complex for Little League. The state supplied a quarter of the money for

the armory, while the federal government supplied the balance of the funding. Fundraisers were held to raise the money for the armory's construction.

The armory, a one-story square building with attached two-story drill hall, sits on approximately 8 acres in a residential area. The land for the armory was sold to the National Guard by the Crittenden County School Board for \$1,500.

The new armory was dedicated on April 19, 1964. Congressman Frank Stubblefield was the dedicatory speaker. A 19-gun salute from five of the company's M-46 Patton tanks greeted the congressman and other dignitaries on their arrival.

Current armory
The current armory is the only one built in Marion with help from state and federal funds, plus local fundraisers. In 1926, A.M. Shelby had a new building built for the National Guard located on West Bellville Street. The building was of cream-faced brick, beautiful large plate glass windows and of ample size for the requirements of the company in drilling and for indoor games as well. The building was modern throughout, hot and cold running water and everything. (This building was the one torn down to build the new fire station.) Two other buildings also served as a home for the National Guard since its beginnings in Marion in 1925. One was a county-owned maintenance garage located near the entrance of the city, and it was also housed in a concrete block building on Walker Street that is now used by the city maintenance department.

The National Guard was not active in Marion for 10 years after World War II (1945-55), but when the Guard was re-

organized in 1955, it was housed in another leased building. In August of 1963, the Guard moved into an existing two-bay gas station located on Gum Street (former Tabor's Muffler Shop) until moving into the current armory.

Rededication
On Sept. 14, 2002, a ceremony to name Marion's National Guard Armory in honor of the late Carson G. Davidson was held. Davidson was commonly referred to as Mr. National Guard, largely because of the multitude of tasks he carried out at the armory in the 1970s. He was in charge of recruiting, administration, supplies, training and janitorial duties. He was credited with the unit's growth and push for a new facility under Commander Ed Runyan. Retired Col. Maurice Farmer, who served with Davidson, stated, "He is the primary reason Marion has a National Guard unit today."

In addition to its long military history, the National Guard has participated in many state active duty missions. More recent state active duties include evacuating people from their homes during blizzards in 1995 and 1996 in Henderson, in 1997 flood duty in Livingston County and the 2009 ice storm. Men from the unit have also participated in the War on Terror.

In 2007, the longtime armored unit was reorganized as part of an engineer battalion. In early 2019, the unit was relocated to Leitchfield and the local armory was closed indefinitely.

(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).



E-cig dangers addressed

Cardiologist Patrick Withrow, M.D., director of clinical outreach at Baptist Health Paducah, spoke last week to Crittenden County Middle School students about the dangers of Juul and other electronic cigarette devices. The use of the e-cigarette is an alarming trend on the rise among adolescents, said Dr. Withrow, who also visited Denis Hodge's freshman health class.

Library events

The following events are scheduled at the Crittenden County Public Library in February.

Feb. 21 is the next Friends of the Crittenden County Library Meeting at 6 p.m.

Feb. 22 is Conversation Heart Trivia Night at 7 p.m. Get your team together to compete for the coveted CCPL Trivia Night trophy.

Each Tuesday, Lego Club meets 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. for kindergarten through 4th grade students in the library meeting room. Each Thursday, Tech Help with Carol is scheduled for 10 a.m. to noon to teach computer basics and how to download eBooks and digital audiobooks.

Submit local events
Community calendar is designed for individuals, non-profit organizations and government entities to publicize meetings and events. dCall (270) 965-3191 or email press-news@the-press.com or stop by our office at 125 E. Bellville St. in Marion.

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VICKY GRAFF

Cornerback Lonnie Johnson (6) has put himself into position to be a possible first-round draft pick thanks to his performance at the Senior Bowl.

UK facing SEC showdown with Tennessee Saturday

Kentucky faces a SEC showdown with Tennessee Saturday night in Rupp Arena. The Volunteers have been terrific all season and many believe that junior Grant Williams is the top contender for SEC Player of the Year and senior Admiral Schofield is the other Tennessee player that gets the most national attention.



Larry Vaught
UK Sports Columnist

Vaught's Views

They are all very strong and can muscle you. Their bigs can move their feet. It is really a good combination. They are really good."

NFL Draft
Seeing cornerback Lonnie Johnson improve his NFL Draft status with a strong showing at the Senior Bowl did not surprise UK recruiting coordinator Vince Marrow.

"I have been saying Lonnie for a long time would get drafted high," Marrow said. "He still has to go run (at the NFL Scouting Combine Feb. 26-March 4 in Indianapolis) and do what he's gonna do, but just from his practices at the Senior Bowl, a guy that's 6-3, 210 and he's going to run a 4.4," Marrow said. "Just from the feedback I have been getting, he's going to be a first round pick."

That would give UK two first-round picks when the draft is held April 25-27 in Nashville because it is a given that Josh Allen will not only be a first-round choice but will be a top five pick.

Marrow believes safety Darius West – one of eight Wildcats invited to the Combine – could surprise many.

"He will run a sub 4.38 (40) and has been a three-year starter in the SEC," Marrow said.

What about running back Benny Snell, UK's all-time leading rusher?

"When you look at Benny, his film speaks for itself," Marrow said. "Now, will he run what they (NFL scout) think or surprise them and run faster (at the combine) and move up in the draft?"

"We have other guys who will be drafted. The first year we had maybe one guy (Bud Dupree) drafted. Now we should have at least five or six guys drafted. When you do that, then you can go compete with people that have seven or eight (players) drafted."

Kentucky has eight players – Allen, Johnson, West, Snell, tight end C.J. Conrad, safety Mike Edwards, linebacker Jordan Jones and cornerback Derrick Baity –invited to the combine, it's highest total ever. Only six schools – Alabama (11), Clemson (11), Ohio State (10), Georgia (9), Mississippi (9) and Washington (9) – had more players invited.

Marrow said NFL scouts told him and other UK coaches all season about how "different" the bodies were for UK seniors they had watched for four or five years.

"I remember one guy told me we would win 10 or 11 games and also said nine or 10 guys would get

drafted," Marrow said. "He actually called me after (UK beat) Penn State (in the Citrus Bowl) and told me we had NFL players now."

Marrow said he's going to watch all three days of the draft because he thinks Kentucky will have players drafted each day – something that has never happened before. He said he's trying to talk Stoops into going to Nashville for the draft.

P.J. Washington
Remember back earlier this season when many speculated that Kentucky sophomore P.J. Washington was hurting his NBA Draft stock with his play.

Amazing how that changed with three straight double-doubles (the first by a UK player in five years) and five 20-point games in a six-game stretch after scoring 23 points in the win at Mississippi State last Saturday.

"The only player in the SEC who may have played better than P.J. Washington the last few weeks is Grant Williams (of Tennessee). Guy is getting better each time he takes the floor," Jon Rothstein, college basketball insider for CBS Sports, said.

Kentucky coach John Calipari insists NBA scouts are more impressed with Washington's energy, athleticism and aggressiveness than they are his improved 3-point and foul shooting.

"I am trying to explain to all of these guys, not just P.J., that the ego stuff you care about doesn't matter. It's this stuff that you are evaluated on that matters," Calipari said.

"P.J. is getting better. He is getting in better shape. When something goes wrong, he doesn't go cool and act like it doesn't matter. He bows his neck and just plays.

"The other thing is he is taking on challenges. You don't know why the light goes on but you see it and know it happens and you are just glad it happened."

That's why the UK coach was disappointed that Washington only had three points to go with his 23 rebounds against Mississippi State.

"He just can't do that," Calipari said. "He's too good to just have three rebounds."

South Carolina coach Frank Martin tried to recruit Washington out of high school. He's certainly seen the light come on for Washington, who had 20 points against his team in a recent UK win.

"He is playing tremendous basketball," Martin said. "He was really good in high school, had a real good freshman and now as a sophomore his understanding is better. You can see that in his pace, shooting ability, understanding where opportunities are. I can see that. He is a handful."



MIKE HARMON AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

To the People of Kentucky
The Honorable Matthew G. Bevin, Governor
William M. Landrum III, Secretary
Finance and Administration Cabinet
The Honorable Perry Newcom, Crittenden County Judge/Executive
Members of the Crittenden County Fiscal Court

Independent Auditor's Report

Report on the Financial Statement

Report on the Financial Statement

We have audited the accompanying Statement of Receipts, Disbursements, and Changes in Fund Balances - Regulatory Basis of the Crittenden County Fiscal Court, for the year ended June 30, 2016, and the related notes to the financial statement which collectively comprise the Crittenden County Fiscal Court's financial statement as listed in the table of contents.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statement

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of this financial statement in accordance with accounting practices prescribed or permitted by the Department for Local Government to demonstrate compliance with the Commonwealth of Kentucky's regulatory basis of accounting and budget laws. This includes determining that the regulatory basis of accounting is an acceptable basis for the preparation of the financial statement in the circumstances. Management is also responsible for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of a financial statement that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on this financial statement based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States and the Audit Guide for Fiscal Court Audits issued by the Auditor of Public Accounts, Commonwealth of Kentucky. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statement is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statement. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statement, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statement in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statement.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Basis for Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles

As described in Note 1 of the financial statement, the financial statement is prepared by the Crittenden County Fiscal Court on the basis of the accounting practices prescribed or permitted by the Department for Local Government to demonstrate compliance with the Commonwealth of Kentucky's regulatory basis of accounting and budget laws, which is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

The effects on the financial statement of the variances between the regulatory basis of accounting described in Note 1 and accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, although not reasonably determinable, are presumed to be material.

Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles

In our opinion, because of the significance of the matter discussed in the Basis for Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles paragraph, the financial statement referred to above does not present fairly, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the financial position of the Crittenden County Fiscal Court as of June 30, 2016, or changes in financial position or cash flows thereof for the year then ended.

Basis For Qualified Opinion On Regulatory Basis of Accounting

Crittenden County's Statement of Receipts, Disbursements, and Changes in Fund Balances - Regulatory Basis, includes the bank activity of the Riverview Park Board. The Riverview Park Board did not maintain adequate supporting records to determine accurate receipts, disbursements, and reconciled fund balance. Since the accounting records for the Riverview Park Board were not adequate, the financial information presented could not be determined to be reasonably accurate.

Qualified Opinion on Regulatory Basis of Accounting

In our opinion, except for the possible effects of the matters discussed in the Basis for Qualified Opinion On Regulatory Basis of Accounting paragraph, the financial statement referred to above presents fairly, in all material respects, the fund balances of the Crittenden County Fiscal Court as of June 30, 2016, and their respective cash receipts and disbursements, and budgetary results for the year then ended, in accordance with the basis of accounting practices prescribed or permitted by the Department for Local Government described in Note 1.

Other Matters

Supplementary Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statement taken as a whole of the Crittenden County Fiscal Court. The Budgetary Comparison Schedules and Capital Asset Schedule are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the financial statement; however, they are required to be presented in accordance with accounting practices prescribed or permitted by the Department for Local Government to demonstrate compliance with the Commonwealth of Kentucky's regulatory basis of accounting and budget laws.

The accompanying Budgetary Comparison Schedules and Capital Asset Schedule are the responsibility of management and were derived from and relate directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statement. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statement and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statement or to the financial statement itself, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the Budgetary Comparison Schedules and Capital Asset Schedule are fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the financial statement as a whole.

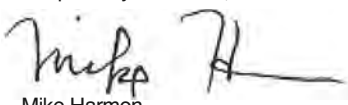
Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated October 5, 2018, on our consideration of the Crittenden County Fiscal Court's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Crittenden County Fiscal Court's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Based on the results of our audit, we present the accompanying Schedule Findings and Responses included herein, which discusses the following report comments:

- 2016-001 Weak Internal Controls Over Debt And Debt Service Resulted In The Misstatement Of Outstanding Debt Balances
- 2016-002 Weak Internal Controls Over Capital Assets Resulted In The Misstatement Of Capital Assets On The County's Schedule Of Capital Assets
- 2016-003 The Crittenden County Fiscal Court Does Not Have Adequate Internal Controls Over Disbursements
- 2016-004 The Crittenden County Fiscal Court Lacks Adequate Internal Controls Over Payroll
- 2016-005 The Crittenden County Fiscal Court Did Not Properly Budget Or Account For The Riverview Park Board
- 2016-006 The Crittenden County Jailer Did Not Properly Procure Vehicles

Respectfully submitted,


Mike Harmon
Auditor of Public Accounts

October 5, 2018

State law requires the Auditor of Public Accounts to annually audit fiscal courts, county clerks, and sheriffs; and print the results in a newspaper having general circulation in the county. The complete audit and any other audit of state agencies, fiscal courts, county clerks, sheriffs, and property valuation administrators may be viewed in the reports section of the Auditor of Public Accounts' website at www.auditor.ky.gov or upon request by calling 1-800-247-9126.

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BASKETBALL

This Week's Games

FRIDAY

Lady Rockets host Ft. Campbell
Rockets host Ft. Campbell

Girls Region at Marion

The Fifth District is in line to host this year's Second Region Girls' Basketball Tournament. Although Trigg was originally scheduled to host the event, that school declined and Crittenden County will now be the host. The regional tournament will be at Rocket Arena Feb. 27 through March 5.

Elementary results

Here are individual scoring figures from Crittenden County Elementary School's recent basketball games:

GIRLS	
6th Grade: Crittenden 23, Caldwell 16	Scoring: Anna Boone 6, Elliot Evans 7, Andrea Federico 6, Madison Walker 4.
6th Grade: Crittenden 30, Caldwell 7	Scoring: Boone 8, Evans 2, Georgia Holeman 12, Walker 1, Bristyn Rushing 2, Chloe Hunt 5.
6th Grade: Livingston 23, Crittenden 11	Scoring: Boone 3, Evans 6, Rushing 2.
4th Grade: Caldwell 22, Crittenden 10	Scoring: Jordyn Hodge 8, Haylie Hunt 2.
4th Grade: Crittenden 18, Livingston 14, OT	Scoring: Hunt 2, Hodge 11, Morgan Stewart 3, Alexis Mattingly 2.
6th Grade: Crittenden 29, Trigg 17	Scoring: Boone 2, Evans 4, Federico 4, Porter 4, McDaniel 5, Hunt 10.
4th Grade: Crittenden 24, Trigg 9	Scoring: Hunt 4, Hodge 8, Alexis Mattingly 2, Taryn McCann 1.

SWIMMING

Cooper in Top 10

Crittenden County High School junior Shelby Cooper finished in the Top 10 at the KHSAA First Region Swim Meet Friday and Saturday at Paducah. It was her first opportunity to swim in a scholastic regional meet as a Lady Rocket athlete. The school district last fall recognized swimming as a CCHS sport so that Cooper could compete in KHSAA meets. She practices in Madisonville with the high school team there. At last weekend's regional meet, Cooper finished ninth in the 100-yard backstroke and 11th in the 100-yard freestyle. The top two finishers in each race advance to the state meet. Cooper finished her backstroke race in 1:12.66 and her freestyle time was 1:06.08.



OUTDOORS

Hunting Seasons






Raccoon Hunt	Oct. 1 - Feb. 28
Squirrel	Nov. 12 - Feb. 28
Raccoon Trap	Nov. 12 - Feb. 28
Bobcat Trap	Nov. 12 - Feb. 28
Fox Hunt/Trap	Nov. 12 - Feb. 28
Canada Goose	Nov. 22 - Feb. 15
Snow Goose	Nov. 22 - Feb. 15
White Front Goose	Nov. 22 - Feb. 15
Bobcat Hunt	Nov. 24 - Feb. 28
Crow	Jan. 4 - Feb. 28
Goose Conservation	Feb. 16 - March 31
Coyote	Year Round
Coyote Night	Feb. 1 - May 31
Groundhog	Year Round
Youth Turkey	April 6-7
Spring Turkey	Apr. 13 - May 5

Wild Game Supper

The annual Wild Game Supper at Mexico Baptist Church will be held Saturday, Feb. 23. This is a free event. It begins at 5 p.m., at the church in rural Crittenden County.

Coyote contest

The annual coyote contest sponsored by Hodge's Sports & Apparel Sports and Marion Tourism Commission will be Friday and Saturday, Feb. 22-23. For details about the overnight hunt, see the advertisement elsewhere in this issue.



LIVINGSTON CENTRAL BOYS

No.	Player	Pts	Reb	FT	3PT
14	Ringstaff, T-Roy	13.8	4.0	70%	44%
25	Stein, Bryce	13.0	9.5	59%	0%
3	Mayhugh, Steven	8.2	5.8	48%	n/a
5	Head, Cameron	9.2	2.2	82%	35%
22	Downey, Max	7.2	3.8	68%	25%
4	Kitchens, Carson	1.5	1.5	50%	21%

PICK6

The Top Six
Players Statistically
For Next Week's
Opening Round
Tournament Games

TRIGG COUNTY GIRLS

No.	Player	Pts	Reb	FT	3PT
1	Bush, Rylee	10.2	7.3	58%	24%
25	Phillips, Adri	6.3	5.7	46%	0%
4	Slone, Katelyn	6.2	0.9	100%	35%
35	Reynolds, Marleigh	4.8	4.6	43%	n/a
3	Noffsinger, Emily	4.5	2.3	41%	27%
12	Stallons, Bethany	4.9	2.1	55%	26%

CRITTENDEN COUNTY BOYS

No.	Player	Pts	Reb	FT	3PT
4	Mott, Gabe	16.0	3.1	71%	34%
31	Turley, Preston	11.2	6.1	62%	22%
32	Boone, Hunter	8.2	3.0	70%	43%
2	O'Leary, Erik	5.9	1.9	63%	28%
3	Towery, Sawyer	7.5	4.7	57%	28%
10	Dickerson, Gavin	3.2	3.7	61%	5%

CRITTENDEN COUNTY GIRLS

No.	Player	Pts	Reb	FT	3PT
10	Guess, Taylor	10.4	4.2	56%	20%
44	Woodward, Nahla	10.4	7.1	69%	22%
21	Summers, Shelby	9.1	5.4	57%	0%
22	Duncan, Jaelyn	4.5	4.6	54%	n/a
11	Boone, Natalie	3.1	3.2	73%	31%
35	Long, Matthia	1.1	1.6	25%	n/a

FIFTH DISTRICT PREVIEW

Coins give Rockets perhaps best case scenario;
Lady Rockets will play Trigg in 5th's first round

Based on historical facts and figures local basketball observers would have to find through deductive reasoning that last week's coin tosses to determine seedings for the post-season district tournaments were a true Tale of Two Tosses.

Crittenden County's boys came out on the better end if you look strictly at how the Rockets played against other district foes during the regular season. Coach Denis Hodge won his coin toss with former Rocket player and current Trigg County coach Payton Croft. Croft's Wildcats and Hodge's boys had split during the regular season's two meetings and lost all other divisional games. According to Fifth District policy, teams who are tied in the standings use as their first tie-breaker head-to-head competition. If that is equal, then a flip of the coin determines who gets the higher seed.

The Fifth District is one of 55 divisions in the state that seeds its post-season tournament. Nine districts in Kentucky do not. Those use a blind-draw system to set playoff pairings.

Every district in the Second Region seeds its tournaments.

Even the casual basketball observer can see that Crittenden's win of the coin toss, pitting it against Livingston Central in the first-round of next week's tournament, was the best case scenario. The Rockets hadn't come

close to competing with Lyon County in 3 meetings this season – twice in league play and once in the All A Classic. Thirteen points was the closest in the trifecta of losses to the Lyons.

However, Crittenden lost by 11 at Livingston in December in a game that felt much closer and was most of the way. Less than two weeks ago, Crittenden took the Cardinals to the wire before losing by one on a three-pointer by LCHS's Cameron Head in the final seconds.

Even though the game is at Livingston next week, the Rockets have to feel good about their draw. Crittenden was the No. 4 seed last February when they upset No. 1 Livingston in the opening round of the tournament at Marion.

On the other hand, the Lady Rockets' coin toss was not as fortuitous. Crittenden, Lyon and Trigg counties finished regular-season district play in a three-way tie. Crittenden lost twice to Trigg during the season's round-robin. The Rocket girls beat Livingston and Lyon each time they played. Lyon beat Trigg twice during season.

At the coin flip, Crittenden and Trigg ended up getting the second and third seeds and Lyon got the coveted top spot and will play tournament host Livingston Central in the first round at Smithland. Livingston didn't beat anybody in the district this year.



5TH DISTRICT TOURNAMENTS

BOYS	
MONDAY, FEB. 18	
Lyon vs Trigg, 6pm	
Livingston vs Crittenden, 7:30pm	
CHAMPIONSHIP	
Thursday, Feb. 21, 6:30pm	
GIRLS	
TUESDAY, FEB. 19	
Lyon vs Livingston, 6pm	
Trigg vs Crittenden, 7:30pm	
CHAMPIONSHIP	
Friday, Feb. 22, 6:30pm	



Crittenden's Taylor Guess (10) and Shelby Summers (back) have been among the most consistent players for the Lady Rockets this season.



Senior Sawyer Towery is gradually getting himself back into the flow after missing several games in January with a chronic groin injury.

GAME SUMMARIES	
GIRLS	
Crittenden 63, CCA 36	
Community Christian	7 12 27 36
Crittenden County	20 32 51 63
CCA - Murphy 21, Harris 2, Cross, Clinard 6, Michael 2, Rogers 3, Johnson 2, Fraser, Shaw. FG 14. 3-pointers 4. FT 4-12.	
CRITTENDEN - Guess 4, Boone 6, Summers 18, Woodward 14, Duncan 9, Long 2, Easley 4, Perryman, Binkley, Hatfield, Smith 4, Hunt 2, Keller. FG 26. 3-pointers none. FT 11-20.	
Union 62, Crittenden 61, OT	
Crittenden County	7 25 39 55 61
Union County	15 25 39 55 62
CRITTENDEN - Guess 21, Boone 5, Summers 8, Woodward 10, Duncan 17, Long. FG 20. 3-pointers 3 (Guess 2, Boone). FT 8-26.	
UNION - Hobbs 5, Wells, Brown 13, Sheffer 4, Jenkins 2, Morris 14, Beaven, Robison 15, Hagan 9. FG 24. 3-pointers 7 (Morris 4, Hagan). FT 7-14.	
Crittenden 57, St. Mary 41	
Paducah St. Mary	12 19 24 41
Crittenden County	22 36 55 57
ST. MARY - C.Doran 16, B.Doran 12, Higgins 7, Brownfield, M.Brownfield, Vandry 6. FG 17. 3-pointers 4. FT 3-4.	
CRITTENDEN - Guess 10, Boone 8, Summers 4, Woodward 13, Duncan 10, Long 6, Easley 2, Perryman 2, Binkley, Hatfield 2, Smith, Hunt, Geary, Keller. FG 26. 3-pointers 4 (Boone 2, Guess 2). FT 1-1.	
BOYS	
St. Mary 57, Crittenden 51	
Paducah St. Mary	15 27 40 57
Crittenden County	19 29 37 51
ST. MARY - Doss 22, Johnson 8, Eggemeyer 11, Haas, Bell 2, McCauley 5, Lafont 8, Lurtz 1. FG 20. 3-pointers 3. FT 14-30.	
CRITTENDEN - E.O'Leary, Towery 9, Mott 16, Dickerson, T.Boone 4, Winders, J.Carlson 5, Turley 9, H.Boone 8. FG 14. 3-pointers 4 (H.Boone, Mott 2, Towery). FT 19-30.	
Crittenden 85, Dawson Springs 71	
Dawson Springs	16 29 47 71
Crittenden County	18 37 55 85
DAWSON - Clark 25, McKnight 3, Pace 13, Skinner 2, Huddleston 16, Dawson 10, Williams, Boyd 2, Skinner, Cunningham, Whalen, Neiters, Franklin. FG 24. 3-pointers 7 (Clark 3, McKnight, Pace, Huddleston 2). FT 16-20.	
CRITTENDEN - Morgeson, E.O'Leary 16, Towery 9, Mott 10, Guess, Dickerson 14, S.O'Leary, T.Boone 9, Winders, Dobyns, J.Carlson 2, Turley 16, H.Boone 9. FG 28. 3-pointers 7 (E.O'Leary 3, Mott, Towery, H.Boone 2). FT 22-38.	
Crittenden 56, CCA 50	
Community Christian	9 25 39 50
Crittenden County	11 24 33 56
CCA - Carter 19, Middleton 12, Wilkerson, Wilson, Tidwell 2, Paxton 12, T.Wilson 5, Chappell. FG 16. 3-pointers 7. FT 5-14.	
CRITTENDEN - E.O'Leary 8, Towery 2, Mott 19, Dickerson 4, T.Boone, Winders 2, J.Carlson, Turley 15, H.Boone 6. FG 18. 3-pointers 4 (Mott 2, H.Boone 2). FT 16-20.	

FINAL STRETCH

The final regular-season basketball games will be played Friday night at Rocket Arena. Crittenden County will host Fort Campbell in a varsity double-header. Senior Night activities will be conducted as part of the action.

At 14-12 before Tuesday night's action at Hopkins Central, the Lady Rockets had the fourth best record in the second region, but have fallen from the regional rankings (see below). Last week was the first time all season CCHS's girls have not been ranked among the top 10.

The Rockets were at 10-16 before Tuesday's game at Hopkins Central, which was its final road trip of the season. Results from the games at Hopkins Central were not available at press time. The boys have been unranked all season, but had won three of their last five games as of Monday.

Second Region RANKINGS

Media Poll

Here are the top 10 teams in the Second Region according to a weekly media poll.

BOYS	
1.	University Heights Academy
2.	Madisonville-North Hopkins
3.	Hopkinsville
4.	Christian County
5.	Henderson County
6.	Caldwell County
7.	Union County
8.	Lyon County
9.	Hopkins Central
10.	Webster County
GIRLS	
1.	Webster County
2.	Henderson County
3.	Christian County
4.	Madisonville-North Hopkins
5.	Hopkinsville
6.	Caldwell County
7.	Lyon County
8.	University Heights Academy
9.	Hopkins Central
10.	Trigg County

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NEW RECRUITS

College Football Signing Day Ceremony

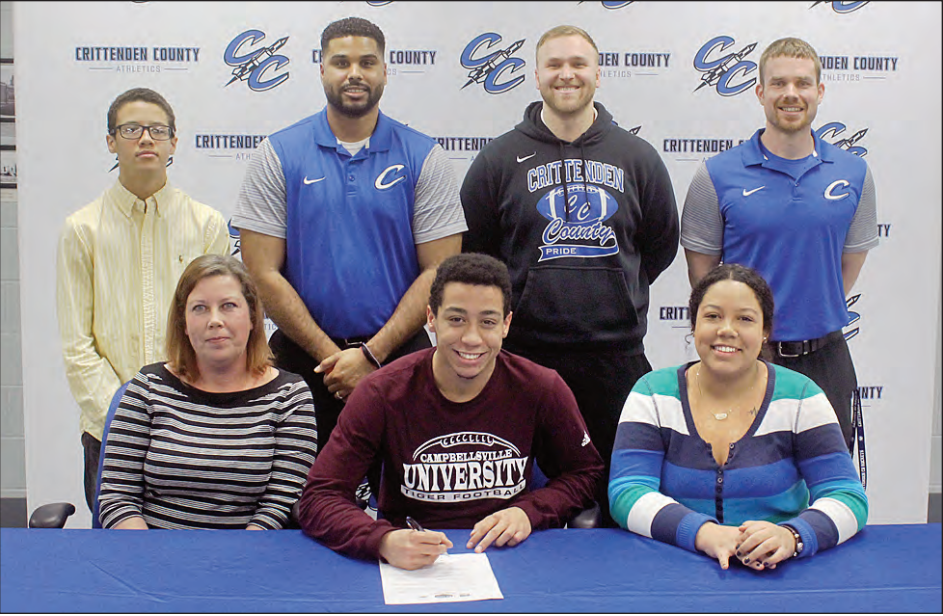
Six Rockets to Play at Next Level



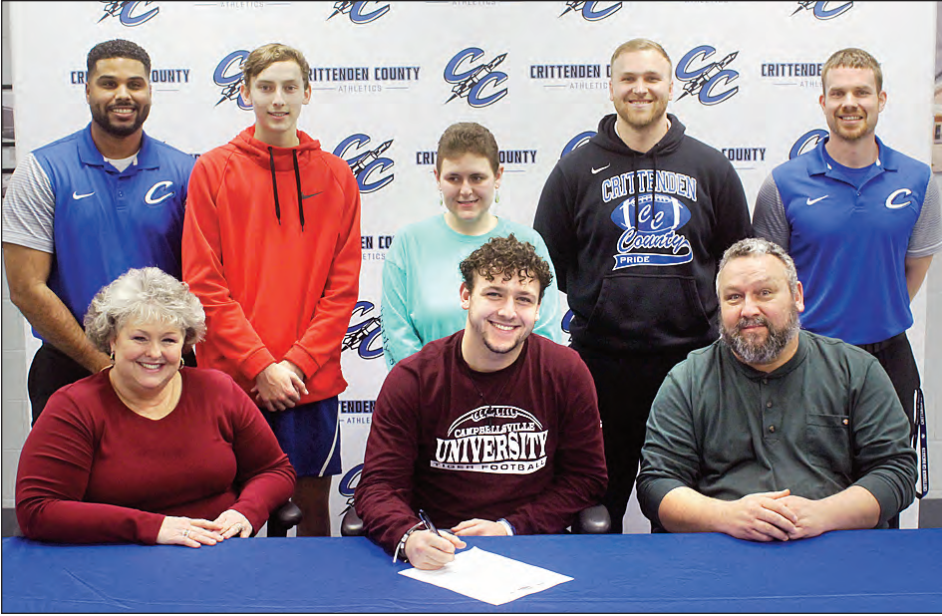
Rockets receiver Ethan Dossett has agreed to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin. Crittenden County’s all-time leading receiver had various offers at other lower division schools but opted to accept a preferred walk-on spot at UT-Martin, a member of the Ohio Valley Conference and a Division I team. Pictured with Dossett on the front row are (from left) his father Craig Dossett and his mother Amanda Dossett. On the back row are Rockets head coach Sean Thompson and assistant coaches Gaige Courtney and Bryan Qualls.



Rockets quarterback Hunter Boone has signed a letter of intent to play footall at the University of the Cumberlands, an NAIA school in Williamsburg, Ky. Boone broke almost every passing record during his three-year starting tenure at Crittenden County. Picctured with Boone in the front row (from left) are his mother Heather Boone and father Matt Boone. On the back row are his sister Hannah Peek, Rockets head coach Sean Thompson, his brother Tyler Boone and assistant coaches Gaige Courtney and Bryan Qualls.



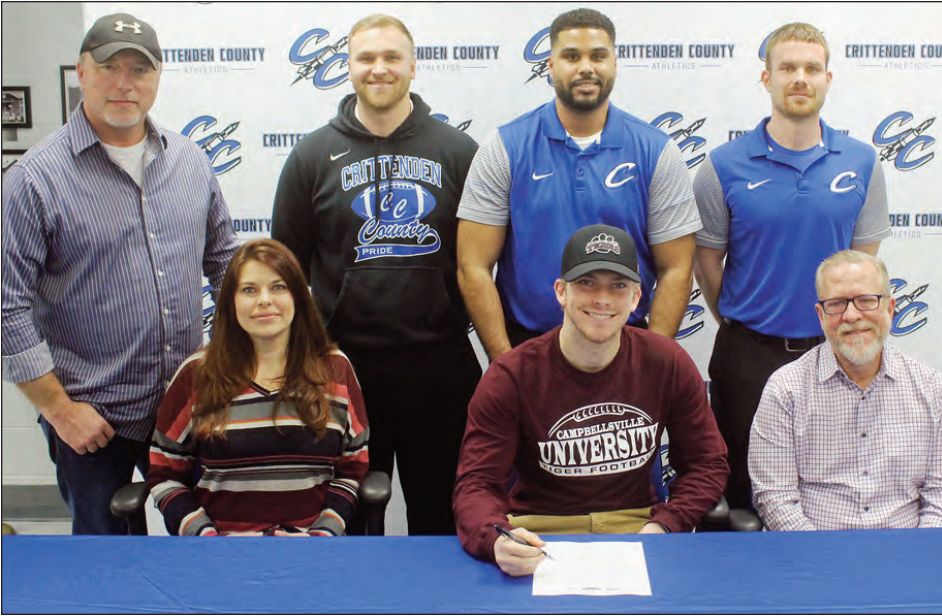
Rockets running back Devon Nesbitt has signed a letter of intent to play football at Campbellsville University in Campbellsville, Ky. Nesbitt broke nearly every touch-down scoring record during his career at CCHS, earning him the nickname Mr. Six. Pictured with Devon on the front row are (from left) his mother Kelli Nesbitt and sister Kiana Nesbitt. On the back row are his brother Kaleb Nesbitt, Rockets head coach Sean Thompson and assistant coaches Gaige Courtney and Bryan Qualls.



Rockets defensive end Sean O’Leary has signed a letter of intent to play football at Campbellsville University in Campbellsville, Ky. O’Leary broke several school records during his high school career including those for sacks and tackles for loss. Pictured with O’Leary on the front row are (from left) his mother Angie and father Bobby O’Leary. On the back row are Rockets head coach Sean Thompson, his brother Erik, sister Tiffany and assistant coaches Gaige Courtney and Bryan Qualls.



Rockets center Brock Langston has signed a letter of intent to play football at Camp-bellsville University in Campbellsville, Ky. A two-year starter since transferring to Crittenden County as a junior, Langston was an all-conference performer and had a variety of offers from other colleges and unversities. Pictured with Langston on the front row are (from left) his mother Mary Loveless, brothers Tanner McBride and Zane McBride and father Randy Loveless. On the back row are his grandmother Jan-ice Howard, Rockets head coach Sean Thompson and assistant coaches Gaige Courtney and Bryan Qualls.



Rockets kicker Parker Johnson has signed a letter of intent to play football at Camp-bellsville University in Campbellsville, Ky. Johnson joined the Rocket football team as a senior after transferring to Crittenden County from Owensboro. He set a school record for extra-point kicks last fall. Pictured with Johnson on the front row are (from left) his mother Melissa Collins and his father Darren Johnson. On the back row are his stepfather Will Collins, CCHS assistant coach Gaige Courtney, Rockets head coach Sean Thompson and CCHS assistant coach Bryan Qualls.



Crittenden County’s football team has never had six players out of one senior class earn opportunities to play at the next level. Last week, the school celebrated with a College Signing Day ceremony at Rocket Arena. You can watch the event which was videotaped live on The Crittenden Press Face-book Page, or listen to our exclusive podcast with each player at The Press Online. For those keep-ing score, the 1985 state championship Rockets had five players commit to play collegiate football.

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THE CRITTENDEN PRESS

Homecoming king, queen crowned

Crittenden County High School held its annual basketball homecoming ceremony Friday night before a varsity doubleheader against Paducah St. Mary. Pictured is the entire court (from left) sophomore attendants Taylor Stoner and Braxton Winders; senior candidates Shea Martin and Matt Lynn; senior candidates Kelsey Webster and Sawyer Tower; queen Shelby Summers, king David Maness, junior attendants Ashton Binkley and Michael Kirk; freshman attendants Addy Faughn and Logan Bailey and 2018 queen Lauren Falkner. In the front are flower girl Aubrey Walker and crownbearer John Luke Reddick.



THE CRITTENDEN PRESS

The Cave In Rock Ferry is expected to be closed as long as two weeks until current flooding along the Ohio River recedes. Above, from the ferry deck Tuesday afternoon, the approach to the landing on the Crittenden County side shows Ky. 91 North barely above water. Below, a National Weather Service graphic shows the precipitation totals for Kentucky and the region in the two weeks prior to Feb. 11. The heaviest areas are in dark red with the lightest accumulation in blue. The map shows that all along the Ohio River, which forms Kentucky's northern border, rainfall has been heavy. Crittenden County is indicated by shading.

FERRY

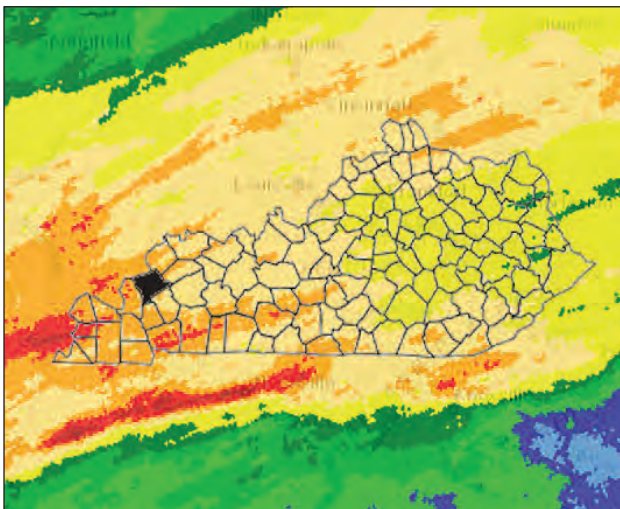
Continued from Page 1

level, Ky. 91 North leading to the ferry landing in Crittenden County becomes impassable.

At press time Tuesday, the river was at just more than 40 feet. The river was expected to eclipse the operational limits late Tuesday night, according to National Weather Service (NWS) hydrological projections. It is expected to crest Tuesday evening at about 49 feet.

Ferry operator Lonnie Lewis says flooding is a part of life on the river, especially in late winter or early spring. Last year, the ferry was closed most of March following heavy February rains and several days in April due to high waters.

A flood warning remains in effect for Crittenden County. Several county roads along floodplains of the Ohio and Tradewater rivers had already closed at press time, with more likely as the rivers continue to rise. Some roads along the Cumberland River floodplain are also likely to be-



come impassable. The rains have come slow enough, said Crittenden County Judge-Executive Perry Newcom, that there have been no major or emergency issues tied to flooding. "Because it's been spread out over several days, it hasn't caused a widespread problem," he said.

The Ohio River has been steadily rising for more than a week, and continual rains locally as well as along most of the upstream basin in Kentucky have exacerbated flooding along the lower portion of the river. According to the Kentucky Mesonet weather monitoring station near the Rep-ton community in Crittenden County, 4.69 inches of precipitation had fallen in February through midnight Monday, though rainfall totals vary widely across the county. Up-river, Kentucky Mesonet measurements for the month included 4 inches in Henderson, 3.71 inches in Oldham County just north of Louisville and 4.23 inches in Boone

County near Cincinnati, Ohio.

The ferry carries an average of 500 vehicles a day between Ky. 91 North and Ill. Route 1 during normal operational hours – 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. The majority of those originate in Illinois, with many making a commute to work in Kentucky. Marion is also the closest place for residents from around Cave In Rock to shop for essentials like gas and groceries. About half of the users from the Crittenden County side use the ferry for the work commute.

When the ferry is closed, the 12-mile journey between Marion and Cave In Rock turns into about an 85-mile detour, across the bridge at Old Shawneetown in Union County.

According to NWS river forecasts, the ferry would not likely resume operation anytime before Feb. 22. The river is expected to still be above 48 feet at that time.

Check next week's issue for an update on the ferry service or visit The Press Online.

See it online
The Press Online was at the ferry landing Tuesday as waters rose

River crests

According to the National Weather Service, the Ohio River at press time was expected to crest at around 49.1 feet Tuesday at Shawneetown, Ill. Below are historic crests at Shawneetown as measured in feet:

- 65.64 on Jan. 30, 1937
- 56.35 on May 6, 2011
- 55.60 on March 14, 1945
- 55.30 on Jan. 19, 1950
- 54.60 on March 20, 1964
- 54.40 on March 12, 1997

Other recent crests

- 52.10 on March 4, 2018
- 49.10 on Feb. 19, 2109*

**Projected*

Costs delay medical care

KENTUCKY HEALTH NEWS

One in five Kentucky households delay or forgo medical care because of the cost, according to the latest Kentucky Health Issues Poll.

Interestingly, the poll found more difference between people with incomes above and below 200 percent of the poverty line, about \$50,000 for a family of four. Among those with higher incomes, the share delaying or forgoing care rose to 20 percent, from 14 percent in 2014. Among those with lower incomes, the delay-or-forgo share declined to 25 percent, from 29 percent in 2014.

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WILD GAME SUPPER

**FEBRUARY 23, 2019
5 P.M.**



Join us for an inspirational message by our **Pastor Tim Burdon** who has recently established a Retriever Hunt Test Ministry.

Wild game served includes:
Duck, Goose, Dove, Deer, Squirrel, and more.

Youth Duck and Turkey calling contest – Taxidermy for viewing – Recognition of this year's Trap Shoot winners. We will also be giving away guns and other great prizes to those in attendance.

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