



The Crittenden Press

County seeks grant
for Dam 50 boat ramp | Page 12

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Homecoming king, queen crowned

Noah Hadfield and Chelsea Oliver were crowned king and queen at Friday's Crittenden County High School basketball homecoming. For a picture of the entire court, see Page 10.

City, county forced to cancel meetings

Both Marion City Council and Crittenden Fiscal Court were forced to cancel their February meetings scheduled for this week due to the lingering effects of Monday's winter storm. At press time, neither the county nor the city had set a make-up date for their respective meetings.

Board of ed resets February meeting

Crittenden County Board of Education's monthly meeting scheduled for Tuesday was cancelled due to hazardous road conditions following Monday's winter storm. The meeting has been rescheduled for 6 p.m. Tuesday at Rocket Arena.

Crittenden's GOP to meet Tuesday

Crittenden County Republican Party will hold a special-called meeting at 6:30 p.m. next Tuesday at Crittenden County Courthouse. The meeting will deal with statewide business of the GOP. All registered Crittenden County Republicans are encouraged to attend.

Womanless beauty pageant Feb. 28

Par 4 Plastics will be stirring the community with its Womanless Beauty Pageant next weekend. The company's employees have organized the event as a fundraiser for Relay for Life, the American Cancer Society's biggest community project of the year. This event will feature men from the plant – from the front office to the assembly line – dressed in drag. It will be held at 6 p.m. Feb. 28 at Fohs Hall. Admission will be \$5.

Public meetings

- Crittenden-Livingston Water District will meet at 7 p.m. Monday at the district office on East Main Street in Salem.
- Crittenden Health Systems Board of Directors will meet at 6 p.m. Tuesday at the hospital administrative annex.
- Crittenden County Public Library Board of Trustees will meet at 5 p.m. next Thursday in the library meeting room.



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Progress of new U.S. 641 hinges on unknowns

By DARYL K. TABOR
PRESS EDITOR

A contract for the paving of a relocated U.S. 641 in Crittenden County could be awarded before Christmas, according to the top-ranking transportation official in Kentucky. However, there are a couple of major factors currently in play that could delay that projection.

In a recent letter from Kentucky Transportation Cabinet Secretary Mike Hancock to Crittenden County Judge-Executive Perry New-

com, the secretary said work continues on the 5.2-mile segment from Marion to Fredonia, while the design of the remainder of the route toward Eddyville is under development. But for the Crittenden County section, there remain outstanding property acquisitions for tie-ins to the current U.S. 641, and stabilization of funding for road and bridge projects still awaits action by lawmakers now in session in Frankfort.

"Our right-of-way acquisi-

tion consultant reports that 15 of 28 parcels have been acquired for the necessary tie-ins just north of Fredonia at the existing U.S. 641 and in Marion," said Hancock in the letter dated Jan. 23.

Of the remaining 13 parcels, according to the secretary, at least five are in the middle of the condemnation process and the remainder are in continued negotiations with the prop-

erty owners.

"Depending on the time that it could take to gain right of entry for all of the outstanding parcels, we anticipate letting a surfacing and incidental grade and drain contract in the fall of 2015," Hancock continued.

That contract would be for the surfacing of two lanes of the new U.S. 641 project, offering a usable connection from Marion to Fredonia.



Hancock

It was three years ago this week that the ceremonial ground-breaking for the project was hosted at the Ed-Tech Center in Marion. As of today (Thursday), it has been 1,098 days since the Feb. 17, 2012, event.

In addition to the property acquisition uncertainties, Newcom fears inaction or insufficient action by this year's session of the Kentucky General Assembly to stabilize the gas tax that

See **U.S. 641** /Page 3

Snowed in!



PHOTOS BY CHRIS EVANS, THE PRESS

Winter Storm Octavia dumped more than 10 inches of snow on some portions of Crittenden County Monday, closing schools, government offices and businesses across the county. Above, Kyle Jones of Marion and Adrian Williams of Princeton help a stranded motorist gain traction on the Five Star Food Mart parking lot early Monday morning. Below, Ed McGlone of the Mexico community in southern Crittenden County did some volunteer work along Ky. 70 early Monday morning with his small tractor and blade. McGlone said he's accustomed to such conditions. He moved here in 2009 from Michigan.

Winter Storm Octavia buries county, effects expected to linger for days

STAFF REPORT

The first winter storm of 2015 to hit western Kentucky was epic, dumping as much as an entire foot of snow on some portions of Crittenden County on Presidents Day. The weather closed schools, government offices and many businesses, leaving Marion a ghost town for much of Monday.

However, despite the massive amount of snow, at press time, it appears to have created little more than an inconvenience for people across the county. No deaths or serious injuries tied to the storm had been reported and no major power outages had occurred locally.

Meantime, the same storm blanketed a swath from Missouri to Virginia in deep snow and dumped heavy amounts of sleet and ice on some areas, leading to power outages affecting hundreds of thousands in 14 states. The storm had also been blamed for as many as five

deaths across the Eastern United States as of Tuesday.

"This is a lot of snow, but as long as we've got electricity and water, we don't have much of a problem," said Fred Brown, the county's assistant emergency management director.

In the wake of this week's winter storm, Crittenden County Judge-Executive Perry Newcom declared a state of emergency for the county, as did Gov. Steve Beshear for the entire state on

See **WINTER** /Page 4



2nd Region tournament returns to Crittenden

STAFF REPORT

March Madness is coming back to Crittenden County.

Starting March 2, Rocket Arena will host its second ever 2nd Region Basketball Tournament. The top eight girls' teams in the region will face off over four nights of basketball. The winner will earn a berth in the Sweet 16 Girls Kentucky State Championship at Bowling Green's Diddle Arena starting March 11.

Crittenden County has hosted the regional basketball tournament just one other time. That was eight years ago.

The 2nd Region tournament will include opening round double-headers on Monday and Tuesday, March 2-3, two semifinal round games on Friday, March 6 and the championship matchup at 7 p.m. Sat-

See **TOURNEY** /Page 7

Kickball coming as recreational youth league

STAFF REPORT

There will be a new recreational sport for children at Marion-Crittenden County Park this summer.

Kickball will be added to the lineup of activities sponsored by the Crittenden County Dugout Club, which has organized and offered youth baseball and softball leagues at the park for more than 30 years.

This summer, the league has opted to change its traditional format in order to provide kickball, which Dugout Club members believe will be a more-affordable, more-inclusive and more-competitive alternative to T-ball.

There will still be a hybrid T-ball and hand-operated pitching machine league, which has customarily been known as the Co-ed Rookie League for children ages 5-6. This summer, there will be no T-ball league for 4-year-olds.

"Club members have discussed this option for several years," said Chris Evans, Dugout Club treasurer and co-chairman. "We think kickball is a more user-friendly option for children who are just learning the con-

See **KICKBALL** /Page 4

Happy Feet auction will benefit charity that shoes school children

By JASON TRAVIS
STAFF WRITER

An elimination auction will be held at 6 p.m. March 7 at Fohs Hall to benefit the Happy Feet Equals Learning Feet non-profit organization.

Created in 2009 by retired Union County coal miner Jerry Baird, the goal of Happy Feet Equals Learning Feet is to remove one stumbling block for stu-

dents in regard to obtaining new shoes each school year. Since its inception, it has expanded into several other counties, including Crittenden, Caldwell, Livingston and Webster counties.

Local Attorney Karen Woodall is the board member for Crittenden County. She said shoes have been purchased locally through Hodge Outdoor Sports. This year, the organization is

also partnering with Shopko Hometown in Marion.

Woodall said money is raised for the purchase of new shoes for qualifying students in the local school system. Representatives from the Family Resource and Youth Services Center (FRYSC) measure to determine the students' shoe sizes at the end of the school year. During the school district's back-to-

school events each August, shoes are distributed to students.

"We send home information through the school system in May. Unfortunately, not all parents receive that information," Woodall said. "If a parent thinks they have a child who may be eligible to receive shoes in the fall, it would be a good idea for them to contact the school, specifically (FRYSC repre-



sentative) Holly White, before the school year ends, so while the student is still (in school), she can get the child sized for a new pair of shoes in the fall."

While the focus is getting students a new pair of shoes at the beginning of each school year, Woodall said if a need arises during the school year, or even

See **AUCTION** /Page 3

CrittendenFiscalCourt

Crittenden Fiscal Court convenes in regular session at the courthouse at 8:30 a.m. on the third Thursday of each month

Judge-executive	District 1 Magistrate	District 2 Magistrate	District 3 Magistrate	District 4 Magistrate	District 5 Magistrate	District 6 Magistrate
 <div>Perry Newcom (R) 107 S. Main St. Marion, KY 42064 270.965.5251 crittjudg2011@hotmail.com</div>	 <div>Danny Fowler (D) 2019 U.S. 60 E Marion, KY 42064 270.965.3048</div>	 <div>Curt Buntin (D) 4736 S.R. 297 Marion, KY 42064 270.965.2902 buntin4@live.com</div>	 <div>Glenn Underdown (R) 139 Oak Hill Drive Marion, KY 42064 270.965.2082 bunderdown@aepx.net</div>	 <div>Mark Holloman (D) 457 Hebron Church Road Marion, KY 42064 270.965.2618</div>	 <div>Donnetta Travis (D) 1447 Main Lake Road Fredonia, KY 42411 270.988.3361 dtravis@crittenden-health.org</div>	 <div>Dan Wood (D) 602 Providence Road Providence, KY 42450 270.667.5235 dan_wood@hughes.net</div>

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Is the courthouse open on Saturday? Yes. Most offices are open a half-day Saturday except during holiday weekends. The PVA and judge-executive's office, however, are closed on Saturday.

When is the solid waste convenience center (trash repository) on U.S. 60 East open? Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. It is closed on Wednesday and Sunday.


Do I have to have a dog license? Yes. Licenses are available for \$5 through county Animal Control Officer Denise Peek (969-1054) at the animal shelter on U.S. 60 East.

House hands off high-profile issues to Senate

The Kentucky House of Representatives was running at full speed last week as 28 bills were passed and sent to the Senate for consideration. Of these 28 bills, I would like to focus on four: House bills 1, 344, 2 and 145.

HB 1 is a bill commonly referred to as either LIFT (Local Investments for Transformation) or LOST (Local Option Sales Tax) that would amend the Kentucky Constitution to allow local governments to levy sales and use taxes up to 1 percent subject to voter approval. Under Kentucky's constitution, local governments currently have the authority to levy property taxes, restaurant taxes, employment taxes and a few others, but do not have the authority to levy taxes for capital projects. If the Senate concurs with HB 1 and it is signed by the governor (who has said he would), voters will be asked to decide if local governments should have that authority.

HB 344 is a companion



Rep. Lynn Bechler
(R-Marion)
House District 4

House in Review

bill to HB 1 and is what is referred to as enabling legislation. If HB 1 makes it on the ballot in 2016 and is approved by the voters, a local government wanting to implement a capital project tax would then have to go to its voters and ask for approval. HB 344 sets all the parameters and requirements under which the vote may be taken and the project or projects are implemented.

This is a two-step process requiring voter approval in both stages. First, a majority vote of voters in a statewide election would have to approve the amendment to the constitution. Second, a majority vote of voters in a local election

would have to approve the tax for the project or projects.

HB 344 goes into great detail, but the points most frequently addressed by those in favor of the amendment are:

- Taxing power is given to people to decide for themselves if they want to pay for a specific project or projects.

- Voters will be told the specific project or projects that will be undertaken and when it will be completed.

- The tax is temporary and will end upon project completion and payment.

An amendment to HB 1 that would have kept tax dollars from being used to promote passage of a tax was defeated. I voted yes on that amendment. This would have placed the same restrictions on the bill as an amendment I proposed for the same purpose in 2014. I firmly agree with local government control, but with the defeat of that amendment to HB 1 coupled with the fact that HB 344 can

subsequently be changed by the vote of another General Assembly, I voted no on each bill. These were very difficult votes for me.

HB 2 is a bill that would raise Kentucky's minimum wage. As I noted in last week's article, state law now ties Kentucky's minimum wage to the federal minimum wage, which is \$7.25 per hour. HB 2 would change state law and raise the minimum wage to \$8.20 per hour on July 1, \$9.15 per hour on July 1, 2016, and \$10.10 per hour on July 1, 2017 – a 39.3 percent increase over the current minimum wage. Supporters of the increase believe the change would benefit low-income families while opponents believe the change would increase prices with those increased prices being passed on to everyone.

An amendment that would have raised the minimum wage to \$8 per hour on July 1, 2016, and adjust it annually to reflect the average annual percentage

change in the consumer price index was defeated. I voted yes on this amendment, but no on the bill without the amendment.

HB 145 sets a statewide smoking ban indoors and within 15 feet of public places and places of employment. The governor, by executive order, has already decreed that smoking is not allowed on state property, but HB 145 would disallow smoking, including e-cigarettes, in public and business places, too. If the bill becomes law, any local anti-smoking laws that are already in place or that are enacted prior to this law being implemented on July 1 can remain in place.

I prefer not to eat at an establishment that allows smoking or to enter a smoke-filled room, but that is a decision that I make, not a decision that I feel the government should make for me. There is nothing in current law that prohibits a business from enacting its own smoke-free requirements, so based on my be-

lief in personal freedom, I voted no on HB 145.

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, extension 665; by visiting the Kentucky Legislature website at www.lrc.ky.gov and clicking on the "Email Your Legislator" link; or by mail to: Capitol Annex, Room 424C, Frankfort, KY 40601.

(Rep. Lynn Bechler, a Marion Republican, has served in the Kentucky House of Representatives since 2013 representing House District 4, which is comprised of Crittenden, Livingston, Caldwell and a portion of Christian County.)

Senate passes bills to aid childhood cancer patients, hungry

We are nearing the halfway point of this 30-day legislative session, and an important mile-marker passed Friday – the last day to file new bills in the Senate. So we now have a clear idea of what Senate legislation we have to consider. Fairly soon, we will wrap up our work on Senate-sponsored bills and begin hearings on House proposals. Conversely, we passed several significant bills last week in the hope the other chamber will give them its seal of approval.

One of those bills will have a great impact on some of our vulnerable citizens – children with cancer. It is impossible to measure the impact that cancer has on its victims and their families by using statistics, and it is unimaginable for parents to think of hearing the words, "Your baby has cancer."

But sadly, this is too often a reality. Childhood cancer is the leading cause of disease-related death among children and adolescents (ages 1-19) in the U.S. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and



Sen. Dorsey Ridley
(D-Henderson)
Senate District 4

Senate in Review

the Children's Oncology Group say that each year in the U.S., approximately 13,500 children and adolescents 18 and under are diagnosed with cancer – that is more than a classroom of children a day.

Last Thursday, Senators put politics aside to pass legislation (Senate Bill 82) which could help children with cancer. It would allow residents to donate on their income tax returns directly to the pediatric cancer research trust fund by checking a box on the front of their state tax return.

The Senate also moved unanimously to pass a bill last week to ensure the continued operation of a non-profit dedicated to alleviating hunger and malnutrition in Kentucky.

Supporters of the legisla-

tion, known as SB 55, said it would prevent any city, county or any public health department from disallowing the practice of donating game meat. The bill also enshrines into law that the game meat must be harvested in Kentucky, properly field dressed and taken to processors certified by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources.

The tradition of donating game meat started in 1988 after state deer herds had grown beyond carrying capacity in some areas and biologists were encouraging additional doe harvest. This led to discussions between avid hunters who wanted to oblige wildlife management but had concerns about what to do with extra venison. The non-profit Kentucky Hunters for the Hungry now provides 60,000 pounds to 70,000 pounds of mostly deer meat every year that allows food kitchens to serve an additional 560,000 meals.

Judiciary committee members robustly debated last Thursday how to curb

drunken driving. While we are still weighing the benefits of expanding the use of ignition interlocks in Kentucky, we did pass SB 34. It would change what is known in legal circles as the "look back period" to 10 years from five years. What that means is that if someone is convicted of drunken driving multiple times in a 10-year period, the penalties for the crimes are increased.

If the bill becomes law, it would be named the Brianna Taylor Act. Brianna was 17 when she died in a car wreck eight months ago in Hardin County. The Elizabethtown High School graduate was on her way home at the time of the crash. The driver of the other vehicle is awaiting trial on charges of driving under the influence, two counts of assault and murder. This is the sixth time that the driver has been charged with driving under the influence.

One of the greatest fiscal challenges facing Kentucky is the unfunded liability of the public pension systems. We have not shied away

from tackling that issue – one that has no quick fix. We passed senate bills 22, 23 and 62. The bills are designed to boost the accountability and transparency of state-administered retirement systems.

Last Thursday, we honored a great Kentuckian, statesman and friend – "the boy from Yellow Creek" who became one the most powerful Democrats in Washington – Wendell Hampton Ford. Sen. Ford was a distinguished public servant who loved his commonwealth and its people. Throughout his long and distinguished service, he earned the respect, admiration and love of the people of this state. We were saddened at the loss of Sen. Ford on Jan. 22, but recognize that his many contributions will live on for generations to come. He began his political career in the Kentucky Senate and ended it as a U.S. Senator (1974-1999), where he was serving as Senate Minority Whip (1991-1999). Before going to Washington, he was the first person to be

successively elected lieutenant governor, governor and U.S. Senator in Kentucky history. The 53rd governor of Kentucky always put Kentuckians before politics and could always relate to the people of his beloved commonwealth.

As we are nearing the halfway mark of this session, it is important that you make your voices heard on issues before the Kentucky General Assembly. I welcome your input as we consider legislation which affects issues important to you. You can leave a message for me or any legislator by calling the toll-free message line at (800) 372-7181. Citizens with hearing impairments may leave messages for lawmakers at the TTY message line at (808) 896-0305.

You can also e-mail me directly at dorsey.ridley@lrc.ky.gov.

(Sen. Dorsey Ridley, a Henderson Democrat, has served in the Kentucky Senate since 2004 representing District 4, which is comprised of Crittenden, Livingston, Caldwell, Webster, Union and Henderson counties.)



PHOTO BY CHRIS EVANS, THE PRESS

Hammer down

Seth Birdwell strikes a heavy blow on this car in the frigid cold as part of a Project Graduation fundraiser before Friday's basketball game. Ethan Hunt is in the background.

Thompson named Lion of the Year

STAFF REPORT

Larry Thompson was named the Lion of the Year for 2014 by the Crittenden County Lions Club. He was presented with a plaque designating the honor last week.

When asked his thoughts on receiving the recognition, Thompson said it was an honor to be considered. He said the Lions Club has numerous people who are worthy of the honor every year.

"Many, many people are involved in pulling off the yearly fair, which includes

the many events that go on during the week, as well as the other programs we are involved with during the course of the year," Thompson said. "I have been involved in the Lions Club for over 25 years now and actually never thought about winning Lion of the year. We, as Lions, just do what we do."

Thompson offered his thanks to Kenergy Corp., his employer, and said without them and use of their equip-

ment, it would not have been possible to get a new pole set

up and lighting in place and working at the fairgrounds.

"I would like to encourage anyone who feels the need to give back to our community to join the Lions Club," Thompson said. "The Lions Club is always looking for those individuals (male or female) who would like to make a difference here in Crittenden County."



Thompson

For KSP trooper Crawford pleads not guilty

THE PADUCAH SUN

A former Kentucky State Police trooper who is alleged to have engaged in inappropriate contact with a juvenile during a traffic stop pleaded not guilty to misdemeanor charges last week.

An arraignment was held last Thursday in Livingston District Court for Donald Crawford, a state trooper for nine years at KSP Post 1 before he resigned in August. State police completed an investigation last fall after multiple witnesses alleged that Crawford had engaged in misconduct with a Marshall

County juvenile during a traffic stop in Grand Rivers.

The victim was reportedly not injured. Crawford was also alleged to have engaged in misconduct with another juvenile.

Crawford's attorney, Del Pruitt, said the man faces two counts of official misconduct and one count of attempted witness tampering. All three charges are misdemeanors. Crawford's next hearing is set for 9 a.m. next Thursday. Livingston County Attor-

ney Billy Riley recused himself from prosecuting the

case because of prior interactions with Crawford. Before serving as a trooper, Crawford was a Livingston County sheriff's deputy.

Webster County Attorney Clint Prow was appointed special prosecutor in January. Prow brought misdemeanor charges forward following a recommendation by G.L. Ovey, then commonwealth attorney, in December.



Crawford

Five sentenced in circuit court

STAFF REPORT

Crittenden Circuit Court Judge Rene Williams sentenced five individuals last Thursday during the regular monthly court session.

Those sentenced or had their probation revoked were as follows:

- Austin S. Russell, 20, of Marion pleaded guilty to an amended charge of third-degree rape, a Class D felony. He had originally been indicted in September 2013 for second-degree rape, no force, a Class C felony. Russell was accused of having a sexual encounter with a 13-year-old girl, according to court records.
- Commonwealth Attorney Zac Greenwell recommended a three-year sentence in this case consecutive to time Russell has to serve in another Crittenden County felony case from March 2013.
- Russell's pre-trial diver-

sion was set aside on the original case and he was ordered to serve three years for auto theft and custodial interference for taking an underaged girl out of the county, both Class D felonies.

The total sentence in both cases amounts to six years in prison.

- Ariel D. Tinsley was sentenced to one year in prison for first-degree trafficking in a controlled substance (methamphetamine). Probation was opposed by the state prosecutor.
- Curtis R. Smith, 29, of Kuttawa pleaded guilty to trafficking in marijuana, second or subsequent offense, and was ordered to serve one year in jail. Probation does not appear likely for Smith, based on the state's recommendation in the case. He will be formally sentenced next month.
- Ricky Wayne Harmon, 43, of Sturgis pleaded guilty to an amended charge of first-degree criminal trespassing, a Class A misdemeanor. He was originally charged with felony burglary. Harmon and co-defendant Natosha Lamae Below, 37, of Sturgis were found in a shed on Rudolph Chandler Road last spring. Below's original charge was also amended to first-degree trespassing. The two were both given one-year sentences. They each received unsupervised probation for a period of two years.
- Bobby D. Vailes, 39, of Clay had his probation revoked by Judge Williams. Vailes will have to serve a five-year sentence for flagrant non-support after it was found by the court that he violated terms of his probation. A probation and parole officer testified that Vailes had twice either failed a substance abuse test or admitted to

using illicit drugs or alcohol. He also failed to complete a required rehabilitation program and failed to report to his probation officer, according to testimony last week

- Bradley Frazier, 23, aka Ethan Thomas Hughes, was formally sentenced to an amended charge of third-degree rape.
- Hughes had been tried and convicted in 2012 by a Crittenden Circuit Court jury for a more substantial rape charge. He had been sentenced to 10 years in prison, but the Kentucky Supreme Court reversed the decision in November, remanding the case back to circuit court in Marion.
- In December, Frazier and the commonwealth reached a plea agreement, which was an 18-month sentence, five years of post-incarceration supervision and registry as a sex offender for 20 years.

AUCTION

Continued from Page 1

during the summer, families can inquire about assistance.

Community members and business leaders can help support Happy Feet by participating in next month's elimination auction. Tickets should be purchased in advance and the price is \$50 per person. This gets the ticket-holder one meal and one chance to win. During the auction, participants will be given a number from one through 150. Those numbers will be placed inside a barrel and pulled throughout the event. The goal is for participants to not have their number pulled from the barrel. Any numbers that are not sold will be auctioned periodically throughout the evening. Individuals will compete for a \$2,000 prize.

"When we get down to the last few people who are still remaining ticket holders, we give them the option of splitting the prize or continuing to draw. Some people in the crowd will obviously encourage the participants to split the prize. There will be others who will say draw again," Woodall said. "At the end of the evening, if everybody doesn't decide to split, then one last ticket holder will go away with the \$2,000 prize."

Woodall said she attended a similar event last fall that benefitted the United Way in McCracken County. Their grand prize winner donated all or a portion of their prize back to the United Way. While Woodall said she doesn't necessarily expect this from the elimination auction's grand prize winner, it's nice to make the option



An elimination auction will be held at 6 p.m. March 7 at Fohs Hall to benefit the Happy Feet Equals Learning Feet non-profit organization. Above, Karen Woodall, a local attorney who is also a board member of Happy Feet from Crittenden County, helps Briley Lawson with a new pair of shoes.

available if someone wants to help local students. She expects the auction to move along swiftly and keep everyone both interested and entertained.

In addition, tickets will be sold for \$500 for corporate tables that will seat eight people. The corporation will receive eight tickets. The additional money will be used to have the corporation's name and advertisement displayed at the fundraiser throughout the evening. For smaller corporations, Woodall said they will offer a half table for \$250, which allows four people into the din-

ner.

Since 2011, 375 pairs of shoes have been given to local students. Woodall said the elimination auction is a great opportunity for the community to come together and help raise funds for the cause.

"With a new pair of shoes, that's one less thing a child has to worry about or be nervous about starting back the first day of school," she said.

For more information regarding tickets for the Happy Feet Equals Learning Feet elimination auction or to make a donation, contact

Woodall at (270) 965-3355. All donations are tax deductible and stay in Crittenden County.

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U.S. 641

Continued from Page 1

funds road and bridge projects in the state could put the brakes on work related to construction of the new roadway. Since the gas tax is tied to the wholesale price of gasoline at the pump, the sharp decline in gas prices over the last year has created a dip in the projected revenue available for construction and maintenance of highway infrastructure projects.

Earlier this month, Crittenden Fiscal Court adopted a resolution asking state lawmakers to take action this

legislative session to stabilize the plummeting gas tax and, consequently, the funding used for state construction projects like the relocation of U.S. 641 and by local governments to maintain their own roads, streets and bridges.

"Like you, we remain hopeful that the 2015 General Assembly can stabilize the tax at current levels and preserve as much of the budgeted amounts (for construction projects) as possible," Hancock wrote Newcom.

A shortfall of about \$125 million is expected for state

projects through June 30, 2016, if the gas tax drops again by more than a nickel as anticipated on April 1 without a change in the state law by lawmakers. Hancock recently told The Courier-Journal that reduction would cause some projects to be delayed, though none were specifically identified.

At press time, legislation had been introduced to address the gas tax issue, but lawmakers have yet to agree on a solution. The legislature is set to adjourn in late March.

CAPITOL CINEMAS

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50 Shades of Grey

R

Fri. 3:45, 6:45, 9:15

Sat. 1:30, 4, 6:45, 9:15

Sun. 1:30, 4, 6:45

Mon. - Thur. 6:30

The Spongebob Movie: Sponge Out Of Water

PG

Fri. 3:45, 6:45, 9:15

Sat. 1:30, 4, 6:45, 9:15

Sun. 1:30, 4, 6:45

Mon. - Thur. 6:30

Kevin Costner Stars in Black or White

PG-13

Fri. 3:45, 6:45, 9:15

Sat. 1:30, 4, 6:45, 9:15

Sun. 1:30, 4, 6:45

Mon. - Thur. 6:30

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Sludgefoot



David Drennan

WINTER

Continued from Page 1

Monday. Residents were advised to stay off the roads unless completely necessary.

Winter Storm Octavia, as dubbed by The Weather Channel, began to create problems on area roadways in the early morning hours Monday. Snow continued to blanket the county until nightfall, leaving accumulations that rival historic one-day snow totals like those in 2004 and 1978.

"It's not quite '78, but it could get there pretty quick," said Newcom Tuesday, eyeing a forecast for up to 3 inches more of snow later that day and into Wednesday.

January of 1978 saw multiple snowfalls bury the county deeper and deeper, while a period of extended frigid temperatures kept the snow from melting.

This week's snowfall is also expected to hang around for a while, likely keeping schools closed all week. Besides the additional snow expected to begin Tuesday night, the long-range forecast shows high temperatures below or hovering around the freezing mark for several days.

"The temperatures are so cold, it's not going anywhere," Newcom said.



Andy Polk, 14, of Marion strolls through town early Tuesday with a mound of snow at last 12 feet high piled up next to Farmers Bank & Trust Co. at the corner of South Main and East Carlisle streets.

PHOTO BY CHRIS EVANS, THE PRESS

A break could come Saturday when rain and a high temperature of around 40 degrees is forecast. Another string of sub-freezing days is expected to follow, though.

Around Marion Tuesday, mounds of snow cleared from parking areas reached as high as 12 feet. By the afternoon, major highways cleared by state crews were in good condition, though some rural sec-

ondary highways and many county roads remained hazardous despite the best efforts of crews pouring in overtime.

To assist crews with clearing the snow Monday and Tuesday from 360-plus miles of county roads, Newcom hired seven private contractors who used their own equipment.

Volunteers and local authorities were busy Monday

and Tuesday shuttling essential workers to and from their jobs and even delivering medication to people in need who could not get out. While Crittenden EMS did have trouble reaching some calls for assistance, with the help of other agencies like the rescue squad and sheriff's department, they were able to render aid.

While the offers for emergency assistance were plenti-

Snow likely to cancel classes rest of week

STAFF REPORT

Although school officials aren't saying it, this week's snow could very likely keep children home through Friday.

Crittenden County Superintendent of Schools Vince Clark said the school district will make decisions about classes on a "day-to-day basis" with student and staff safety paramount to the decision-making process.

Clark said parents can expect an announcement about school by 5 p.m. each day "as long as it's pretty obvious" that conditions are not favorable for going back to class the following day.

Until this week, Crittenden County had missed just two days of school this winter.

Those days were scheduled to be made up Monday of this week and on April 6.

Based on a scenario where school is out the rest of this week, the school district will have to add six days onto the end the school calendar.

The last day of school and graduation was originally going to be May 15. Now, it looks like students could be going until the last week of May, as they did last year.

Clark said if more days are missed due to winter weather, the school district will have to re-evaluate everything. He said as long as students can get out in May, the district will not consider going on Saturdays or perhaps shortening spring break.

ful inside the county, Newcom said he was told to not expect any aid from the Kentucky National Guard, despite the governor's emergency declaration that allows local governments to call on the Guard. He said Bowling Green was the nearest area guaranteed aid from the National Guard.

Newcom said residents with known special medical needs have also been given

extra consideration when possible, with crews clearing their roads as best they can.

Anyone needing urgent or emergency assistance is asked to call 911 or (270) 965-3500 for non-emergency requests of aid.

The courthouse will be open to the public as a warming center until such time as temperatures remain consistently above freezing.



PHOTO BY ALAINA BARNES, THE PRESS

CCVFD puts new brush truck in service

Crittenden County Volunteer Fire Department recently put into service a new 2015 Ford F-350 to use as a brush truck. The new vehicle is replacing a 1979 Chevrolet and is the first truck bought by the department in 36 years. Billy Arlack, chief of the fire department, said state aid paid \$17,000 of the purchase price for the truck, but the remainder was paid for using voluntary dues from people living in the fire district. Voluntary fire dues of \$30 are now placed on property owners' tax bills, though taxpayers can opt out. "We want to thank everyone who opted to pay their annual fire dues so we can purchase equipment like this to better serve the county's fire department needs," said Arlack.

KICKBALL

Continued from Page 1

cept of team and diamond sports."

Girls and boys age 4 will be eligible to participate in kickball. Five-year-old boys and girls will have an option of playing kickball or playing in the hybrid Co-ed Rookie League, which uses what is commonly called a "safe-soft" baseball.

In the Co-ed Rookie League, players start out trying to hit a ball launched from a manually-operated pitching machine. If they fail to make contact, the ball is then placed on a hitting tee and the batter swings at the stationary ball.

The league fee for kickball will be \$25. The fee for Co-ed Rookie League baseball is \$35.

In the past, families who signed up for T-ball were required to equip their child with a glove and many of them also purchased an aluminum bat. Those expenses were anywhere from \$25 to more than \$50.

Players will still wear helmets to play kickball and will receive a league T-shirt.

The Dugout Club has discussed preliminary rules for the new kickball league and

will finalize those at its next meeting at 6 p.m. next Wednesday at Marion United Methodist Church's fellowship hall. The meeting is open to the public.

The Crittenden Press

USPS 138-260

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ADAM H. EDELEN

AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

The Honorable Perry Newcom, Crittenden County Judge/Executive

The Honorable Wayne Agent, Crittenden County Sheriff

Members of the Crittenden County Fiscal Court

Independent Auditor's Report

Report on the Financial Statement

We have audited the accompanying statement of revenues, expenditures, and excess fees - regulatory basis of the County Sheriff of Crittenden County, Kentucky, for the year ended December 31, 2013, and the related notes to the financial statement.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statement

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statement in accordance with accounting practices prescribed or permitted by the laws of Kentucky to demonstrate compliance with the Commonwealth of Kentucky's regulatory basis of accounting as described in Note 1. Management is also responsible for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the 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 the 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 County Fee Officials 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 opinions.

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 County Sheriff on the basis of the accounting practices prescribed or permitted by the laws of Kentucky to demonstrate compliance with the Commonwealth of Kentucky's regulatory basis of accounting, 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 each fund of the County Sheriff, as of December 31, 2013, or changes in financial position or cash flows thereof for the year then ended.

Opinion on Regulatory Basis of Accounting

In our opinion, the financial statement referred to above presents fairly, in all material respects, the revenues, expenditures, and excess fees of the County Sheriff for the year ended December 31, 2013, in accordance with the basis of accounting practices prescribed or permitted by the Commonwealth of Kentucky as described in Note 1.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with Government Auditing Standards, we have also issued our report dated September 12, 2014 on our consideration of the Crittenden County Sheriff'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 solely 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 effectiveness of the Crittenden County Sheriff's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with Government Auditing Standards in considering the entity's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Based on the results of our audit, we have presented the accompanying comments and recommendations, included herein, which discusses the following report comments:

2013-01 The Sheriff Should Strengthen Internal Controls Over Financial Reporting In Order For The Quarterly Financial Report To Be Materially Accurate

2013-02 The Sheriff's Office Lacks Adequate Segregation Of Duties

2013-03 The Sheriff's Office Should Remit Excess Fees Due Fiscal Court Upon Submitting The Annual Fee Settlement

2013-04 The Sheriff Should Pay Vendor Invoices Within 30 Days

Respectfully submitted,

Adam H. Edelen

Auditor of Public Accounts

September 12, 2014

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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MINI FARM...4 bedroom, 1 bath brick home w/ dining room, living room, Large basement, 2 car attached garage, horse barn, 2 fenced pastures, 2 ponds, & lots of other buildings on 7.5 acres. kp

WEST ELM ST...3 BR, 1.5 BA, large living room, dining room, all appliances, 1588 square feet of living space, black-top driveway. np

REDUCED \$40,000

EXECUTIVE HOME ON 4.5 ACRES... Features: Colonial, 2 story, 4 BR, 3 full BA & 2 half BA. Foyer w/open staircase, parlor & large formal DR w/lgas log fireplace. The island kitchen w/all major appliances, many built-in cabinets & pantries; & breakfast room. The family/great room w/library nook, built-in storage cabinets & a w/burning fireplace. The property has many amenities including a 40'x50' pole barn.

DEPOT ST...Investment Property...2 BR, 1 BA home w/vinyl siding, wood flooring, electric heat, city utilities. W/ REMODELED BRICK RANCH...home w/full basement & large 2 car garage. Complete w/modern appliances, brick fireplace located in the living area & basement. Central HVAC system, Large lot adjacent to the home for your garden, also good location for additional garage/workshop. \$3,000 BUYER CLOSING COST INCENTIVE TO BE PAID BY THE SELLER WITH AN ACCEPTED OFFER BY MARCH 3, 2015. PRICE REDUCED \$89,900

LAKE GEORGE ESTATE...3-4 BR, 2 BA home w/fireplace, vaulted ceilings, open floor plan in the kitchen, dining & den w/great views of the lake. Detached garage w/large addition & has central HVAC, fireplace, wired for sound, bathroom w/shower, closet space, on over 4 acres. PRICED REDUCED \$309,000

LOVELY BRICK HOME...w/large double lot in center of Marion. 3 BR, 2 BA has large rooms throughout, hardwood floors, modern kitchen w/all appliances, formal dining room, large basement w/storage & shower, 2 car detached garage, partially fenced. bb

GREAT STARTER HOME...for newly weds, retirement home, hunting lodge for the upcoming deer season. 2 BR 2 BA, large den, living room, dining room. Property has plenty of room for a garden. This home is located in the southern portion of Crittenden county, close to Fredonia, Edgelyville and I 24. Quiet Country living. mg

GREENWOOD HGTS AREA...4 bedroom, 2 bath brick home, eat in kitchen, walkout basement, 5 car detached garage. PRICE REDUCED

EAST BELLVILLE...4 BR, 3 BA home on corner lot. Just 1 block from the Court House & Main St. Business. Lots of character. cb

CARRSVILLE HORSE FARM...Approx. 59 acre w/3 BR, 2 BA Cedar sided home, den, dining room, kitchen w/appliances. Large deck overlooking stocked lake. Approx. 35 acres open pasture/hay fields w/balance in woods. 42 x 100 shop/stable bldg. w/concrete floor, water & electricity. Lots of privacy trees, shrubs, flowers, good pasture, fencing & abundant wildlife. Pm

SISCO CHAPEL RD...3 BR Brick Ranch, move in ready, this home needs a family & furniture, home has central heat/air, large living room, new carpet, large 2 car garage w/black top drive. Kitchen complete w/stove top, oven, - Immediate possession is available at closing. Db

SALE PENDING

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CORNER LOT LOCATION...2 BR, 1 BA, close to schools, hospital and Country Club. Call for more info. Gb

WEST CENTRAL...3 BR, 2 BA brick home in town. Gas central heat and air, eat-in kitchen, master bath w/2 sinks. tj

BUILDING LOTS

LARGE CORNER LOT...in Marion. Ready to build on. Many possibilities.

COMMERCIAL CORNER LOT...0.68 acre lot w/many possibilities. As

3.37 ACRES...located on the corner of Hwy 506 & Country View Drive. Utilities available. Lot is only 2.5 miles from the center of Marion, lot has building restrictions. mr

COMMERCIAL

6.5 ACRES...Commercial property in Fredonia with buildings. cb

COURT SQUARE...Approx. 2400 SQ FT of office/Retail Building space w/ear parking. Bldg. directly across the street from the Court House & several Restaurants, Banks, Attorney's, Retail Shops. Street Parking. Agent Owned.

OFFICE...Features: lobby, lots of offices, conference room, storage, located across from courthouse. As

ACREAGE

70.64 ACRES...Deer Central, property consist of 2 tracts, one has approx. 26 acres of row crop bottom ground on the corner of Blackburn Ch Rd & Gum Creek Rd. other tract is approx. 45 acres located just a few hundred yards away on Blackburn Church Rd. plenty of prime deer & turkey hunting w/ possible row crop income. Electricity available w/several building sites for your home or cabin in the woods.

MEXICO...approx. 14 acres per PVA & includes two rental homes, has access from both SR 70 & Jackson School Rd. Several building locations w/county water & electricity available. Great small tract with excellent hunting as well as income potential. nw

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‘Grace of God’ saves church from fire

STAFF REPORT
Call it divine intervention. Parishioners at Tolu Methodist Church returned to the pews Sunday after what could have been a devastating fire the week before cancelled services.
In the hours before Sunday morning worship on Feb. 8, the small country church in northern Crittenden County was likely spared serious damage when a water line above a basement furnace that caught fire was compromised, apparently

acting to extinguish the blaze.
"It must have acted as a sprinkler system," said long-time church member Larry Tinsley. "I really believe it is by the grace of God that the building is still standing."
Tinsley said the fire must have occurred in about a two-hour span well before scheduled Sunday morning services.
"I went down there about 7:30 to do something before service and didn't smell anything," Tinsley recalled.

However, he said it was around 9:45 a.m. when another member arrived and detected the smell of smoke.
The source of the smoke was quickly found to be the church furnace, which had caught fire in a self-contained basement room. The furnace was a loss and smoke from the incident left soot throughout the church, but Tinsley said that was about the extent of the damage from the fire. About 40 gallons of water from the line burned in two above the furnace was vacu-

umed from the basement.
While the near-disaster cancelled services that morning, Tinsley said everything fell into place to get the church reopened for this week's Sunday service. The furnace, of course, had to be replaced, as has much of the duct work that was full of soot. The church, too, had to be cleaned to remove all of the smoke damage.
"It came together nicely," Tinsley said of the short turnaround to make the church usable again.



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OBITUARIES

— PAID OBITUARY —
Grace
Pamela Jo Grace, 56, of Marion died Feb. 13, 2015, at Crittenden County Health and Rehab in Marion.
She was a member of Mexico Baptist Church.
Grace is survived by her husband, Harold Grace of Marion; two daughters, Britne (Nick) Parker of Paducah and Cortne Hunt of Paducah; her father, Joe Heady of Marion; two brothers, Billy Dale (Debbie) Heady of Belleville, Ill., and Kevin (Lisa) Heady of Mt. Vernon, Ill.; and two grandchildren, Adeleine Parker of Paducah and Nolan Parker of Paducah.
She was preceded in death by her mother, Barbara Heady.
Funeral services were Wednesday at Gilbert Funeral Home in Marion with interment in Mapleview Cemetery.
Donations may be made to: Gideons International, P.O. Box 304, Salem, KY. 42078.

Lemon
Maurice W. Lemon, 76, of Joy died Feb. 8, 2015, at his home.
He is survived by three brothers, Harold Lemon of Golconda, Ill., Rudy Lemon of Union City, Tenn., and Larry Lemon of La Porte, Ind.; three sisters, Linda Thurston of La Porte, Velda Henson of Ledbetter and Phyllis Weber of Indianapolis; and several nieces and nephews.
Lemon was preceded in death by his wife, Wanda Lemon; a son, David Wayne Lemon; six brothers, Charles Lemon, Carlos Lemon, Lyman Lemon, Luther Lemon, Ralph Lemon and Edward Lemon; and a sister, Elvia Riddle.
Graveside services were Friday at Lay Cemetery with Dr. Brad Henson officiating. Boyd Funeral Directors in Salem was in charge of arrangements.
Condolences may be left online at BoydFuneralDirectors.com.

Wheeler
David Alan Wheeler, 63, of Marion, died Feb. 15, 2015, at Livingston Hospital and Healthcare Services in Salem.
He was a member of Marion Baptist Church.
Wheeler is survived by a sister-in-law, Karen Wheeler of Marion; three nephews, Kevin Wheeler of Marion, Dustin Wheeler of Marion and Mike (Cassie) Wheeler of Clarksville, Tenn.; a great-niece, Kara Wheeler of Clarksville; and a great-nephew, Grayson Wheeler of Clarksville.
He was preceded in death by his parents, Edward Bruce and Mary Wheeler; and a brother, Eddie Wheeler.
Funeral services are scheduled for 1 p.m. today (Thursday) at Gilbert Funeral Home in Marion with interment in Mapleview Cemetery.
Visitation will be from 11 a.m. today until service time at the funeral home.
Donations may be made to: Gideons International, P.O. Box 304, Salem, KY 42078.

Clarke
J.W. Clarke, 93, of Salem died Feb. 16, 2015, at Livingston Hospital and Healthcare Services in Salem.
Arrangements were incomplete at press time at Boyd Funeral Directors in Salem.

Crittenden Press obituary policy

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.

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For further information please contact Rebecca Zahrtre at rebecca.zahrtre@gmail.com or 270-978-3328

Snow Date: Feb. 28th from 1-3PM

TOURNEY
Continued from Page 1
urday, March 7.
Crittenden County girls' coach Shannon Hodge said attendance at the regional event can be very high, depending on which teams qualify.

"Some of the teams in our region have a huge following," she said.
Hodge's team has a good chance of playing in the regional tournament for the first time in four years and the first time in front of a hometown crowd. The last time Crittenden County was in the regional tournament, it won the championship. This year's girls' team has two seniors and three sophomores in the starting lineup and its 15 wins have been somewhat of a surprise to many, but perhaps not the coach.
"I had said all along this team had a chance of being pretty good," Hodge said.
If her girls can win their opening round game in next week's district tournament at Smithland, the Lady Rockets will earn the right to play in the regional event alongside the area's best.
Rocket Arena, which opened in 2003, seats 1,250. Depending on the matchups for the early-March event, tickets could be at a premium. Crittenden County's

season tickets will not be honored at the regional event, and there will be no reserved seating. Admission will be \$5 for everyone from first-graders up.
Henderson County, Webster County, Christian County, Hopkinsville, University Heights, Hopkins Central, Lyon County and a few other schools are among the favorites to earn regional berths.
Hosting the regional tournament is a big economic benefit to the community. Restaurants, convenience stores and other retailers should see sales increases, according to Michele Ed-

wards, tourism director for the City of Marion.
"We're glad the tournament is here, and we welcome the visitors to town," Edwards said. "Our businesses will see an impact, especially for fuel and food."
Edwards said the influx of guests will come at a good time, too.
"Early March is generally a time when there is not a whole lot else going on," she said. "Any time we can bring more business into town, it's great for our economy."
The 2nd Region Boys' Basketball Tournament will be held at Union County High School.

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Neighbors have been easy to love by ‘damsel in distress’

Not only will Marion, visiting politicians, car buyers, male gossipers and loyal friends miss Lynn Auto Sales, but this damsel in distress will awfully miss her “handsome alley gatekeeper.”

We’re told to love God with all our heart, soul, mind and strength and our neighbors as ourselves.

I’ve failed in all five categories, but it hasn’t been because God or my neighbors haven’t been better to me than I could ever deserve.

Neighbors are a security blanket to me, and I love and appreciate every one of them.

To my sorrow, lately, two holes have been shot in that blanket because of moves by two of them who have been such a help to me.

The first spring we moved to our new home, we heard a tractor and there was one of Richard Small’s men bush-hogging our field.

When I went to pay Richard, he refused any pay and gave me a compliment I will always cherish. “I’m just glad you moved up there,” he told me.

All these years, he has continued to be that kind of neighbor, and I love him dearly.

Then, I was out on my new lawnmower and not being root and brush wise, I went through a forbidden opening and was stopped dead still with my blade under a tree root as big as my arm.

There I sat, disgusted with myself and scared I had ruined the new mower.

I hid my pride, and with muted intimidation, called for a neighbor who might not be so anxious to help a past visitor to a certain Marion City Council meeting.

As I learned later, true to his good nature, he had a forgiving heart and within five minutes, dear Allen Lynn and his dad, Bill, pulled up, graciously lifted the mower up as if it were a bicycle. They probably went down the road thinking, “Who in the world do we have here that doesn’t have any better sense than to run under a tree root?”

Allen has been a wonderful neighbor and has my love, prayers, gratitude and respect.

Before the lawnmower and root episode, Allen was on the city council, and I went to ask the townfathers if something could be done with my tax dollars about making our street wide enough to meet another car.

The then-city administrator dismissively called my



street an alley. I took offense to it.

Allen spoke up in a way that sparked the exchange of a few “friendly barbs,” which prompted my reminding the council I had improved that part of this fair city in several ways.

Soon after that, I again had a load of pride to swallow as my drive was new and not settled good. I ran my car off of the gravel and was hung up.

Again, I called Allen, and, immediately, he and several of his friends came to the rescue of the damsel in distress. While I felt and acted like a fool, they graciously pulled me out.

Now, I know how hard it is for anyone to believe this, but, yes, I did it again just a few days later.

Yes, the SOS call came in to Allen’s men’s gossip club. Here these fine gentlemen came again, pulled me out and laughingly left with me begging them to please never tell anyone else, for those who had thought I was nuts would now be forever convinced.

They, of course, never told a soul!

So after all of these distress calls, I named Allen my “handsome alley gatekeeper,” as he was situated just right and was such a helpful gentleman all these years.

Too, Christmas was a time he always beat a path to my door with a delicious package of his hard work. This made me feel guilty, as I could never find any good way to show him my deep appreciation, especially when things got hard for me to motivate as once I could. My flimsy thanks was so inadequate.

So now, I will so miss him as my kind, wonderful, handsome alley gatekeeper and friend, as well as all his friends who were a help in time of need.

My love and prayers will always be for him and all those helpers.

Soon after I lost my husband to death, God gave me a wonderful neighbor on the hill across the road from me, George Wesmoland and his wife Dorothy.

George was another chip

off his father’s block, Monroe Wesmoland, with whom I had grown up near The Easley Store at Casad.

A big rain had washed out my drive, and I heard a tractor. There was George dragging my road.

I was still running lawnmowers into the mud or a ditch and was unable to get out. Here would come George with a laugh, pulling me out and waiting for me to call him again.

George has been a wonderful neighbor and did so many things for me that I could not do. May God always bless him and his wife, and I will always love him and Dorothy and pray for them.

So the two holes are gaping in my security blanket, as these two men relocated. I sure hope I had nothing to do with that.

Then some years back, a big snow came. A loud noise was heard outside, and here was another wonderful neighbor, Billy Yandell, cleaning my drive with Danny Chandler’s powerful machinery.

Danny has been a good friend and neighbor, and he and Billy have helped me for years.

None of them knew how it galled me to have to call for anyone to help me do any-

thing or how it humiliated and humbled me to have to bother anyone. It still does.

How true the words, “It is more blessed to give than to receive.” I live to do for others and will always have to work at being a gracious receiver.

When I start naming names, I always wish I could name everyone who has been so good to me since I’ve been in the county. Some already have received their eternal reward.

Chris Evans, the publisher of this newspaper, would not let me have room to name all the neighbors, businesspeople, doctors, nurses, attorneys all the way back to Johnson Postlethweight, bankers, our church congregation, my family, ministers past and present, The Crittenden Press all the way back to Paul Mick, public officials, Crittenden County citizens, farmers, the Amish and all who have been so good to me. God tops the list, and so does my underserving.

My love, prayers and thanks to all of you, and you know who you are.

(Rev. Lucy Tedrick of Marion shares her views regularly in this newspaper. Her opinions are her own, and are not necessarily those of the newspaper.)

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Thank You

We want to give a special thank you to the Tolu Community Center for having the benefit for our family. We know it was hard work to get it all together. We appreciate everyone who got it together, who worked the day of and who came to show support. We feel so blessed by our community for being so thoughtful and caring. Again, thank you all from the bottom of our hearts. Mason is also thankful.

Brad, Jenny & Mason Fuller

Come worship with us...

For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them. — Matthew 18:20



Crooked Creek Baptist Church
261 Crooked Creek Church Road, Marion, Ky.
Sunday school, 10 am
Sunday worship: Morning, 11 am | Evening, 6 pm
Bro. Mark Gitten, pastor
Wednesday Bible study, 6 pm
Join us every fourth Sunday of the month for gospel singing at 6 pm



Mexico Baptist Church
175 Mexico Road, (270) 965-4059
Sunday Bible Study 10 a.m. • Sunday Worship Service 11 a.m.
Sunday Discipleship Training 6 p.m. • Sunday Evening Service 7 p.m. • Wednesday Service 7 p.m.
Pastor Tim Burdon
Minister of Youth Robert Kirby
Minister of Music Mike Crabtree
Visit us at www.mexicobaptist.org



Marion Baptist Church
College and Depot streets, Marion • 965-5232
• Sunday school: 9:30 a.m.
• AWANA: 5:45 p.m.
• Sunday worship: 10:45 a.m., 6:30 p.m.
• Sunday contemporary service: 8:15 a.m.
• Wednesday: 6:30 p.m.
• RA's, GAs and Youth Cruise: 5:45 p.m.
Pastor Mike Jones



St. William Catholic Church
Sunday Mass 11 a.m.
860 S. Main St.
Marion, Ky.
965-2477
Father Ryan Harpole



Marion United Methodist Church
Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.
The People of the United Methodist Church
Rev. David Combs, pastor
Wednesday Night Bible Study 6 p.m.
Sunday School 9:30 a.m. • Worship 10:45 a.m., 6 p.m.
www.the-press.com/MARIONunitedmethodist.html



Life in Christ Church
A New Testament church 2925 U.S. 641, Marion
Sunday services 9 a.m. and 10:45a.m. | Wednesday services 7p.m.
➤ Chris and Sue McDonald, pastors



Emmanuel Baptist Church
Captured by a vision...
108 Hillcrest Drive, Marion • 270.965.4623
Sunday School 9:30 a.m. • Morning Worship 10:45 a.m. • Sunday Evening 6 p.m.
Wednesday 6 p.m. Adult Bible Study • Children and Youth Activities
www.emmanuelcn.org



Piney Fork Cumberland Presbyterian Church
State Route 506 - Marion, Kentucky
Sunday School 10 a.m. - Worship 11 a.m.
Sunday Night Bible Study 6 p.m.
Pastor Daniel Hopkins
A New Beginning, Going Forward and Looking to the Future



Hurricane Church
Hurricane Church Road off Ky. 135 West
Bro. Wayne Winters, Pastor
Sunday school, 10 a.m. • Worship, 11 a.m.
Sunday and Wednesday evening services, 6:30 p.m.



Sugar Grove Cumberland Presbyterian Church
585 Sugar Grove Church Road • Marion, Ky. • 965-4435
Rev. Terra Sisco • Sunday School 10 a.m. •
Worship 11 a.m., 6 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study 7 p.m.



FIRST CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
224 W. Bellville St. • Marion, Ky.
Dee Ann Thompson, pastor • Sunday School 9:45 a.m. • Sunday Worship 10:45 a.m. • Sunday Night Worship Service 6 p.m.



Barnett Chapel General Baptist Church
• Sunday school: 9:45 a.m. Bro. Steve Tinsley, pastor
• Sunday worship: 11 a.m. Barnett Chapel Road
• Sunday evening: 6 p.m. Crittenden County, Ky.
• Wednesday night Bible study: 7 p.m.
Barnett Chapel... where everyone is welcome.



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



PLEASANT GROVE GENERAL BAPTIST CHURCH
Located on Ky. 723, 4 miles north of Salem
Sunday School 10 a.m. • Sunday Worship 11 a.m.
Sunday Evening 6 p.m. • Wednesday Bible Study 7 p.m.
Growing in grace
Rev. Trae Gandee



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Bro. Selby Coomer, Pastor
We invite you to be our guest
Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.
The People of The United Methodist Church
Sunday School 10 a.m • Service 11 am • Wednesday night youth 6:30 p.m.



Crayne Community Church
Pastor, Bro. Tommy Hodge
Crayne Cemetery Road
Marion, Kentucky
Wednesday night Bible study, 6 p.m.
Sunday school, 10 a.m. | Sunday worship, 11 a.m.



MARION CHURCH OF CHRIST
546 WEST ELM STREET • 965-9450
Richard Harp, minister
Bible Study: 9:30 a.m. • Sunday Worship: 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study: 6:30 p.m.
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Marion General Baptist Church
WEST BELLVILLE STREET • MARION, KY
Sunday School 10 a.m. • Sunday Worship 11 a.m., 6 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study 7 p.m. • Tony Perryman, Pastor
For rides, call 965-0726 • Find us on Facebook!



Local judges participate in Circuit Judges College

STAFF REPORT
Circuit Judge Rene Williams and Family Court Judge Brandi Rogers, who each serve Crittenden, Union and Webster counties, participated in the 2015 Circuit Judges Winter College that took place Jan. 25-28 in Louisville. The Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) provided the education program for the state's circuit judges. The judges attended courses on domestic violence, science and the law, computer forensics in court, alternative ways to resolve disputes in cases, personal jurisdiction, judicial writing for trial judges, evolving areas of law and recently

published cases and court technology, including eFiling. With eFiling, attorneys can file cases electronically. The program is now available in 26 Kentucky counties, including Crittenden County, and will be in every county in the state by the end of 2015. "eFiling is going to cut down on the time and money it takes to get to a courthouse to file case documents and attorneys can log on anytime of the day or night," said Jefferson Family Court Judge Stephen M. George, president of the Kentucky Circuit Judges Association. "With clicks of a mouse, attorneys will be able to more efficiently ac-

cess justice for the people they represent. "Also, this college was the first for our new circuit judges who took office Jan. 5, so it was a perfect time to welcome them and for the new judges and more experienced judges to discuss a variety of judicial topics." In addition to general sessions, the college offered separate courses for circuit judges with general jurisdiction and those who oversee family court cases.



Williams



Rogers

Circuit judges with general jurisdiction had the opportunity to attend courses on scientific evidence and expert testimony, juror selection, property boundary cases, probation and pretrial discovery. They attended sessions about the admissibility of electronic information in cases and the rights of defendants who are indigent to get state funds for experts for their defense. Family court judges at-

tended a session about Kentucky's new juvenile code under Senate Bill 200, the juvenile justice reform legislation passed by the General Assembly in 2014. Other courses specifically for family court judges focused on self-represented litigants, child custody cases and trends in dependency, neglect and abuse cases. The DNA session also covered what judges can do to address child fatalities and near fatalities in Kentucky. The AOC Division of Judicial Branch Education worked with the Education Committees of the Kentucky Circuit Judges Association to provide the college. The

college included 20.75 hours of continuing education credit for the circuit judges. Circuit court is the court of general jurisdiction that hears civil matters involving more than \$5,000, capital offenses and felonies, divorces, adoptions, termination of parental rights, land dispute title cases and contested probate cases. Family court is a division of circuit court. In counties that have a family court, the court has primary jurisdiction in cases involving family issues, including divorces, adoption, child support, domestic violence and juvenile status offenses.

Aldridge remembered for service to his country

By DARYL K. TABOR
PRESS EDITOR
On the day of Charles Aldridge's funeral, his sister was granted an unexpected and pleasant surprise in memory of her younger brother.

Jessie Jewel Hunt, 89, of Marion was presented a Bible from VFW Jack McDowell Post 5484 in Providence in recognition of Aldridge's service in the U.S. Marine Corps. The Bible was contained in an

elegant, velvet-lined box with a message offering sympathy for Hunt's loss: "This Holy Bible is presented to you in recognition of your loved one's service to our country. We sincerely hope that you will find comfort, consolation and strength through God's Word."

"I was so surprised, I didn't know what to do," said Hunt.

Aldridge, a Crittenden County native and fixture who was well known and admired within the community, died Feb. 7 at the age of 87. He is perhaps best known for his 46 years of work at The Peoples Bank.

But before Aldridge was cashing weekly paychecks and making change for patrons, he was a Marine.

Hunt said her brother



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Jessie Jewel Hunt of Marion was recently presented a Bible from VFW Jack McDowell Post 5484 in Providence in recognition of her late brother Charles Aldridge's service in the U.S. Marine Corps in the mid-1940s.

just so happened to join the military on Aug. 14, 1945, the day the announcement of the Japanese surrender that effectively ended World War II was made public. He served for about a year before being discharged, his sister said.

The Providence VFW post typically presents Bibles to a surviving family member after one of its own passes. Aldridge was not a member the post, but since Post Commander Joe Brown is married to Hunt's granddaughter (Aldridge's grand-

niece), the U.S. Navy veteran of conflicts in Libya and the resolution of the hijacking of the cruise ship Achille Lauro in 1985 saw it fit to present the post's token of sympathy to Hunt.

"I wanted to do it for Granny," Brown said.

The Bible was presented to Hunt after her brother's funeral on Feb. 10.

"Flowers do not last that long, and we find this more meaningful," Brown explained. "We hope family members can get comfort from God (with this gift)."



PHOTO BY JASON TRAVIS, THE PRESS

FFA greenhouse grows in size

Sophomore Tyler Smith measures equipment in an expanded area of the Ag-Ed greenhouse at Crittenden County High School. The covered area located at the front of the facility's entrance will be used to both harden, or temper, plants and as a retail center for plant sales to the public. It will also allow for the placement of more tables for display. CCHS Ag educator Larry Duvall said the front of the greenhouse also received tiered planting beds to be used for early spring vegetables and flowers. The 30-foot by 30-foot expansion will include a secured chain link fence surrounding the area. Funds from the project came from a 50/50 matching grant from the Kentucky Agricultural Development Board.

Marion monument company honored

STAFF REPORT
The City of Eddyville recently recognized a Marion business in appreciation of its work to restore a Lyon County cemetery.

Henry and Henry Monuments sent crews to Rolling Hills Cemetery to repair decorative vases on more than 20 graves that were vandalized in November.

"Henry and Henry fixed every one of those vases on the tombstones free of charge," Eddyville Mayor Nancy Slaton was quoted in The Times Leader newspaper.

The monument company, which has an Eddyville office, was presented with a plaque commemorating the city's appreciation for its donation.

Health fair slated for seniors next Thursday

STAFF REPORT
Officials at the Crittenden County Senior Citizens Center know the importance of staying healthy and active. Next Thursday, the center will host a senior health fair. It will last for approximately two hours and begins at 9 a.m.

Representatives from Livingston Hospital & Healthcare Services will conduct

cholesterol, blood sugar and blood pressure screenings.

In addition, senior center director Jenny Sosh said a representative from the Penroyal Center will be at the health fair to discuss smoking cessation.

The senior center is located at 210 N. Walker St. in Marion. For more information, contact (270) 965-5229.

Diabetes management scheduled in Smithland

STAFF REPORT
Diabetes self-management classes will be held from noon to 4 p.m., March 9 and during the same hours on March 16 at the Livingston County Senior Citizen's Center located at 508 Rudd St. in Smithland.

Classes are free and open to the public. Registration is required by calling the Livingston County Health De-

partment by March 5 at (270) 928-2193.

Officials encourage those wishing to become more informed about diabetes to attend. The event is sponsored by the Pennyryle District Health Department, Livingston County Senior Citizen's Center and the University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service in Livingston County.

War veterans sought for flight program

THE PADUCAH SUN

Honor Flight Bluegrass is seeking World War II, Korean War or Vietnam War veterans who have not taken an Honor Flight.

Honor Flight is a nationwide program that flies veterans to Washington, D.C., on a one-day, all-expenses paid

trip to visit the memorials built to honor their service and sacrifices. Honor Flight Bluegrass will host a flight on Sept. 26 that will leave from and return to Lexington.

To learn more about the Honor Flight Bluegrass program, including electronic applications for both the veteran

and guardian, visit HonorFlightBluegrass.org.

Interested veterans and guardians can also call toll-free, (888) 998-1941, or Honor Flight Ambassadors George Campbell at (859) 749-0721; Phillip Pittman, (859) 263-8124; or Bill Stokes, (859) 749-0408.

Legion offers scholarship

STAFF REPORT

As deadlines approach for college admissions and scholarship applications, a local veterans organization wants to provide financial aid to a local student.

American Legion Auxiliary Unit 217 in Burna will be offering one \$500 scholarship to

a graduating Livingston Central High School senior preparing to enter college this fall.

Contact the high school's guidance counselor for eligibility requirements, deadlines and application forms. Military and veteran information should be included.

Project Lifesaver is now accepting participants and donors

Project Lifesaver is a local, non-profit organization aimed at helping loved ones keep track of people who tend to wander.

Call (270) 704-0167

SENIOR CENTER CALENDAR

Crittenden County Senior Citizens Center is open weekdays 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Lunch is served at 11:30 a.m. each day and is \$3 for those age 60 and older. Milk, coffee or tea are available each day. Reservations are requested. All menu items are subject to change based on availability.

Every day, the center at 210 N. Walker St. in Marion offers billiards, card games, Wii games and the use of exercise equipment. Call the center at (270) 965-5229 for further information.

Upcoming activities and

menu include:

- Today: Menu is pork roast with gravy, mashed potatoes, whole kernel corn, cornbread and apple crisp.

- Friday: Bingo begins at 10:30 a.m. Call the center for an appointment with a tax preparer. Menu baked catfish, navy beans, baked potato, cole slaw, cornbread and peaches.

- Monday: Ladies exercise by Full Body Fitness Studio begins at 9:45 a.m. Menu is beef stroganoff on noodles, seasoned peas, baby carrots, whole wheat roll and fruit salad pudding.

- Tuesday: A legal aide will be available for counsel at 10 a.m. Menu is baked Italian chicken, broccoli soup, stewed potatoes, glazed pears and whole wheat roll.

- Wednesday: Game Day with Barb begins at 10:30 a.m. Menu is meatballs and gravy, mashed potatoes, lima beans, dreamsicle gelatin and wheat bread slice.

- Next Thursday: Senior Health Fair begins at 9 a.m. Menu is chicken and dumplings, buttered spinach, seasoned cabbage, apple cobbler and cornbread.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Saturday, Feb. 21

- Woman's Club of Marion will present a free program relating to issues affecting families and the community beginning at 1 p.m. at its club headquarters on East Carlisle Street.

Tuesday, Feb. 24

- A beekeepers meeting will be held at 7 p.m. at the Ed-Tech Center in Marion. Pat Jamison will be the guest speaker.

Tuesday, March 3

Bigham Lodge No. 256 F&AM will have stated communication on March 3 at the lodge at 206 Sturgis Road in Marion. There will be a meal at 6:30 p.m. with the meeting to follow at 7:30 p.m. All members and Master Masons are urged to attend.

Wednesday, March 4

- Crittenden County Extension Homemakers will host a reception for Nancy Hunt, who retired from the University of Kentucky Crittenden County Extension Service after 35 years. The reception will be held from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Woman's Club building on East Carlisle Street. The reception will be open to the public.

Saturday, March 7

- Electrical, HVAC and plumbing classes will be held at the Marion-Crittenden County Ed-Tech Center. Call Madisonville Community College at (270) 824-8660 to register.

On-going events

- Relay for Life of Crittenden County will hold meetings at 5:30 p.m. the third Monday of each month at the Crittenden County Courthouse. This year's theme is "Every Hero has a Story."

- The Livingston County Middle School Efficiency Committee meets the fourth Monday of each month from 3:15 to 4:15 p.m. in the LCMS Cardinal Room.

- Veterans in Crittenden County looking for benefit information can contact Renita Duff with the Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. weekdays at (270) 322-9087.

- All veterans are invited for coffee and breakfast at 7:30 a.m. each Tuesday at the VFW building located at 412 N. College St. in Marion.

- The use of addicting drugs is on the rise. Narconon urges families take steps to protect themselves from drug use. Call for a free brochure on the signs of addiction for all drugs. Narconon also offers free screenings and referrals for counseling. Call (800) 431-1754 for further information on Narconon.

Drennan to promote literacy, first book

By JASON TRAVIS
STAFF WRITER

It's an opportunity to promote literacy among youth and teens while sharing the story of the legendary Sludgefoot. Much like the deer hunters in his first book, Crittenden County native David Drennan is encouraging young readers to go on a hunting expedition – for good books. Drennan will appear at two upcoming events that feature local authors.

On Feb. 21, authors Mildred Edwards and Tom White will join Drennan as the Tolu Community Center

hosts an afternoon with area authors. The event begins at 1 p.m. Then on March 21, the Crittenden County Public Library will host Drennan at 10 a.m. in the library's meeting room as he presents his book Sludgefoot. Individuals can purchase the book in two ways. They can pick up pre-order forms now at the Crittenden County Public Library. The pre-ordered books will be delivered at the March 21 event. Individuals can also purchase copies of the book

now at Amazon.com, Barnes and Nobel and Books a Million.

Drennan, who is an English teacher at Union County High School, said the idea behind his book came from his father, who told stories about a large deer he studied one summer on his parents' farm. The story is told in two perspectives. One is from the human point of view; the other is from the point of view of the title character Sludgefoot, a large deer who roams the woods of Ken-

tucky, while being stalked by hunters.

Drennan hopes his writing will influence students to develop a passion for life-long reading. He underscored the importance of reading skills and how reading plays a fundamental role in all aspects of education. He currently works with students preparing for their ACT or Work Keys assessment exams. He believes reading for pleasure helps develop good reading skills in school. During both appearances for his book, Drennan will be joined by students from his English classes who will

demonstrate the importance of reading.

"I enjoy involvement and involving students in every aspect of their learning. I think that is probably the greatest thing teaching can do for students is to involve and include them in all aspects of learning," he said.

He also asks his students to be leaders in the classroom by promoting ideas and to involve students who like to read with those who don't. He said the benefits are twofold.

As for writing, Drennan believes it's important for authors to be aware of their au-

dience.

"One of the best parts about writing is to try and anticipate how the audience is going to feel and react to the story," he said.

He also believes it's important to keep dreaming of new ideas for projects. Drennan said he has a sequel planned for Sludgefoot that will incorporate new dangers in the forest including a mountain lion.

"Any kind of writing allows one to communicate with an audience," he said. "I enjoy putting myself in the reader's place and envision how the story affects them."



Drennan

New high school club encourages debates

By KATIE DAVIES
STAFF WRITER

Among the many clubs at Crittenden County High School, Young Politicians Club is stirring debate among students.

Howard Suggs, a world civilizations teacher in the social studies department of the school, is the sponsor. He loves hearing the debates between the students and their views on relevant issues.

In the club, students have lively conversations about the Republican and Democratic parties in the nation's political system. Guest speakers also talk to the students about current events.

Arry Schofield attends Young Politicians Club. She says it's good to discuss world topics, and everyone is allowed to express their different views.

"The club gives us the opportunity to express our different political views and debate what we think is right," Schofield said. "It's good to express your opinion sometimes."

She said the club also looks good on college applications.

Dylan Hollis, another club participant, likes to hear people's opinions and wants to better understand where the Democrats are coming from.

"It's good to express my opinion, as well as hear what other people have to say," he said.

Suggs said students keep up with current events in the world through this club, adding that students should have a good knowledge of what happens around the globe.

Annual slogan contest poll online

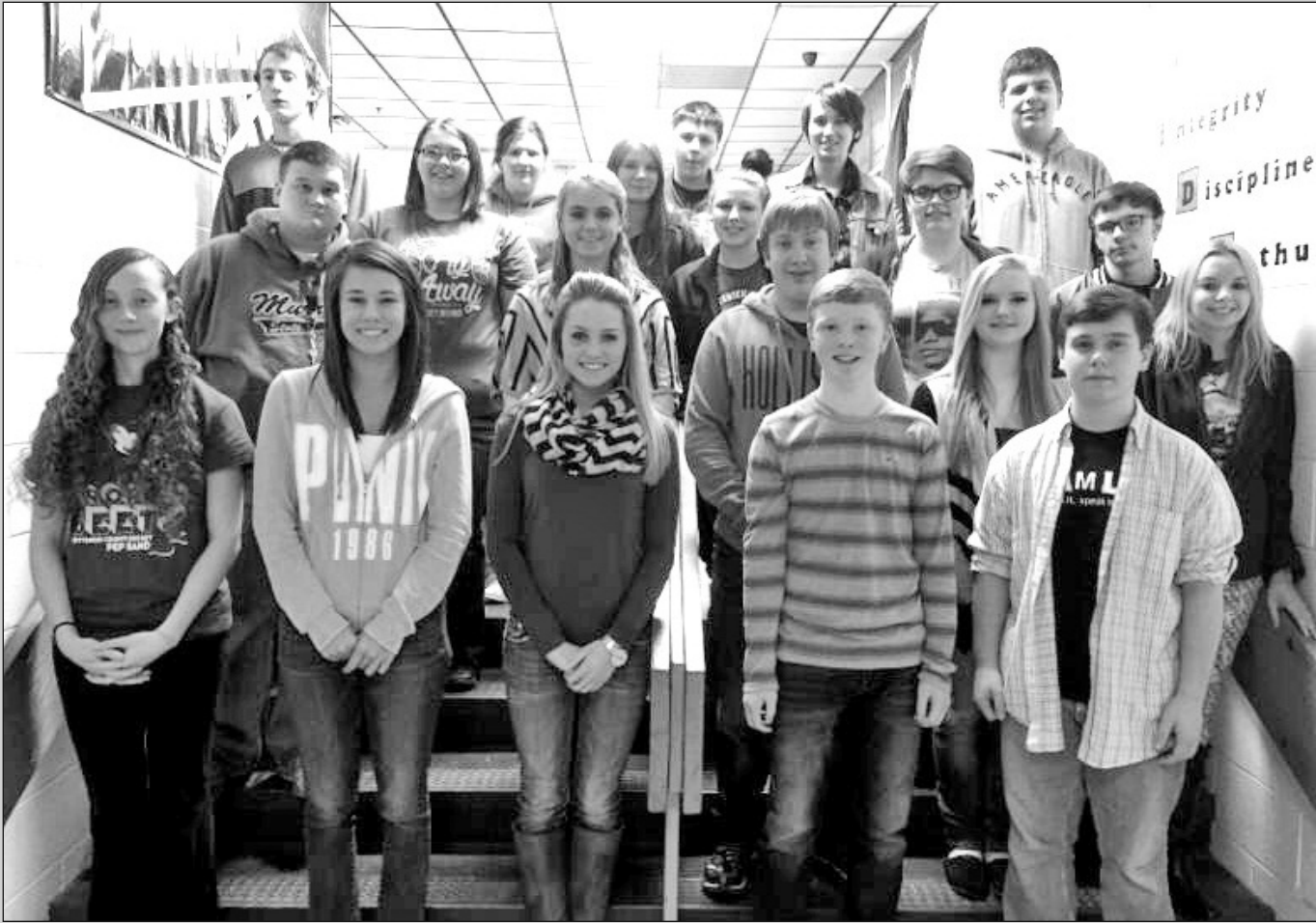
STAFF WRITER

Students across the Commonwealth are participating in Kentucky's 26th annual Slogan Contest, and Secretary of State Alison Lundergan Grimes invites the public to vote for their favorite slogan.

Kentucky 6th-, 7th-, and 8th-graders were eligible to enter the slogan contest. Entries are judged on how well

they attract attention to and express the importance of participating in elections, and the Secretary of State's office has narrowed the field of slogan entries to 15 finalists.

You can vote for slogans at www.sos.ky.gov. The poll will remain open through 10:59 p.m. Feb. 27. The first-, second-, and third-place winners will receive cash awards.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

CCHS names students of the month

Crittenden County High School named the following students as CCHS February Students of the Month. They include (front row, from left) Sarah Hodge, Lauren Beavers, Cali Parish, Kyle Castiller and Texas Young; (second row) Alex Maynard, Charity Sitar, Jayden Willis, Alexis Gideon and Jessica McConnell; (third row) Emily Robertson, Ashleigh Rodgers, Kaitlynn Cook and Dylan Rushing; (back row) Dustin Kirk, Alexia Kidd, Katie Davies, Shane Jacobs, Gwen Hudson and Dawson Doyle. Not pictured: Jason Isbell.

Rep. Bechler presents grant to Fohs Hall Community Arts Foundation

STAFF REPORT

State arts leaders gathered Feb. 11 for Arts Day in Kentucky, an annual celebration of the Commonwealth's arts community and the vital roles it plays in the state's livelihood. The day is also an opportunity for arts leaders to thank members of the Kentucky General Assembly for their continued support of arts funding through the Kentucky Arts Council.

Rep. Lynn Bechler presented Fohs Hall Community Arts Foundation with a check for \$1,517 for a Kentucky Arts Partnership (KAP) grant awarded by the arts council in July 2014. The funding awarded to Fohs Hall Community Arts Foundation is part of \$1.4 million the arts council awarded to 96 nonprofit arts organizations across the state for the 2014 fiscal year.

"Kentucky has excellent arts organizations in every region of the Commonwealth that provide year-round arts experiences in their communities," said Lori Meadows, arts council executive director. "The state arts agency is proud to partner with Fohs Hall Community Arts Foundation to ensure the arts are made available to all Kentuckians."

This year's Arts Day comes during the 50th anniversary year of the establishment of the arts council by

Gov. Edward T. Breathitt and the creation of the National Endowment for the Arts by Congress. Because of those milestone achievements, the arts council is celebrating 2015 as the Year of the Arts.

"It's uplifting to reflect back on where we've come from 50 years ago and to think about the kind of support we can give to our arts partners today through programs like KAP," Meadows said. "We owe those early leaders a debt of gratitude for having the forethought to make our state's artistic legacy and integrity a priority worthy of the government's attention."

KAP grants provide operating support on a competitive basis to arts and cultural organizations and community arts programs to ensure participation in the arts is available to the people of Kentucky.

For more information about Arts Day in Kentucky, visit artscouncil.ky.gov/KentuckyArt/ArtsDay2015_Schedule.htm.

The Kentucky Arts Council, the state arts agency, fosters environments for Kentuckians to value, participate in and benefit from the arts. Kentucky Arts Council funding is provided by the Kentucky General Assembly and the National Endowment for the Arts.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

On Feb. 11, arts leaders from across the Commonwealth celebrated the public value of the arts and thanked legislators for their continued support of the Kentucky Arts Council. Checks were presented to organizations awarded Kentucky Arts Partnership operational support grants by the arts council in July 2014. Pictured above are (from left) Kentucky Arts Council Executive Director Lori Meadows, arts council board chair Mary Michael Corbett, arts council board member Todd P. Lowe, Rep. Lynn Bechler, Tourism, Arts and Heritage Cabinet Deputy Secretary Lindy Casebier and arts council board member Josephine Richardson.

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HOSTED BY CRITTENDEN COUNTY

EXTENSION HOMEMAKERS ASSOCIATION



PREP CALENDAR

Upcoming Games
Crittenden County Basketball
FRIDAY
CCHS varsity DH at Fort Campbell
FIFTH DISTRICT TOURNAMENTS
All Games at Smithland
Monday's Boys' Games
Trigg Co. vs. Livingston Central, 6pm
Crittenden Co. vs. Lyon Co., 7:30pm
Tuesday's Girls' Games
Crittenden Co. vs. Trigg County, 6pm
Lyon Co. vs. Livingston Cent., 7:30pm
Thursday, Feb. 26 Boys' Game
Championship, 7pm
Friday, Feb. 27 Girls' Game
Championship 7pm

SOCCER

Soccer select tryouts
PVS (Pennyrile Valley Select) soccer is having tryouts for 10-under and 12-under boys teams, but girls may also try out. Tryout is at 10 a.m., Saturday at the Caldwell County Soccer Association fields on Old Madisonville Road in Princeton. For information contact Rhett Miller at rhettmiller@bell-south.net or 270-625-9005.

BASEBALL

Bobcat in broadcasting
A former player with the now defunct Marion Bobcats summer collegiate baseball club has been named as part of the broadcasting team for the 2014 College World Series champion Vanderbilt Commodores. Andrew Harris, a former Commodore who played for the Bobcats in the summer of 2009, will join Kevin Ingram for Commodores baseball broadcasts beginning March 10 on online SEC Network+.

Baseball, softball sign up
Registration is now under way for youth kickball, baseball and softball leagues at Marion-Crittenden County Park. Kickball is new this season. See front page article for more information on the transition to kickball from T-ball. Registration forms will be sent home with CCES students next week. A registration form is also available online at the Dugout Club Facebook page or The Press Online Sports link. Forms can be picked up at The Crittenden Press. Payment must accompany registration form when it is submitted to Dugout Club. Assessments are 2-4 p.m., Sunday, March 8 at the middle school gym. Anyone new to the league or moving up to a new age division is required to attend the assessment. The assessment takes about 15 minutes. Players should wear tennis shoes and bring a glove and bat, if they have them. For more information call Chris Evans, 270-704-0435.

OUTDOORS

Hunting seasons
Raccoon, Opossum Oct. 1 - Feb. 28
Squirrel Nov. 10 - Feb. 28
Bobcat Nov. 22 - Feb. 28
Crow Jan. 4 - Feb. 28
Snow Goose Feb. 9 - March 31
Youth Turkey Apr. 4-5
Spring Turkey Apr. 18 - May 10
LBL Turkey Apr. 20 - May 3
Groundhog Year Round
Coyote Daytime Year Round
Coyote Lights Night Feb 1 - May 31

CORRECTION

Parents in photograph
The individuals pictured in last week's newspaper with RaKara McDowell, who was signing a letter of intent to play soccer at Kentucky Wesleyan, were her parents, Bob and Ann McDowell.

BASKETBALL

Alumni Game March 8
There will be age-specific Rocket alumni basketball games starting at 1 p.m., Sunday, March 8 at Rocket Arena. Anyone who has played for CCHS in the past is eligible to form his own team or participate. Teams must be made up of 5-8 players. There will be two age brackets: 39-under and 40-over. Players 40-up may play with the younger group. Pull-over scrimmage jerseys will be provided. To enter, text or call Travis Perryman at (270)-969-1168 or travis.perryman123@yahoo.com. Admission will be \$5. So far, six teams have entered. If you want to play and are not affiliated with a team, you will be will assigned to one on game day.

Lady Rockets 1 going into 5th District Tourney

STAFF REPORT
Crittenden County's girls have received the No. 1 seed heading into next week's Fifth District Basketball Tournament. They will play Trigg County at 6 p.m., Tuesday at Smithland.
The Fifth District seeds its tournament based on regular-season district results. Crittenden (15-10) and Lyon County (18-8) tied with 5-1 league records, splitting their head-to-head matchups this year. A coin toss last week was won by Crittenden, thereby giving CCHS the top seed.
The Lady Rockets beat Lyon 54-47 in December at Marion, but lost the Lady Lyons 55-48 at Eddyville in January.
Crittenden's girls have won five out of their last seven games, splitting last weekend's matchups by beating St. Mary in the Rocket homecoming game then losing to Union County on Saturday. Lyon has won five out of its last eight games.

Union 42, Crittenden 32				
Union County	12	16	7	17
Crittenden County	11	3	11	17
UNION COUNTY - Campbell 8, Thompson 14, Bennett 11, Conway 7, Williams 7, Ratley, Greenwell 2, Duckworth, French 3, Babbs. FG 19. 3-pointers 1 (French). FT 13-22. Fouls 12.				
CRITTENDEN - McDowell 18, Oliver 9, C.Moss 8, Lynch 3, K.Moss, Evans 2, Nesbitt 2, Pierce, Champion. FG 15. 3-pointers 5 (McDowell 2, C.Moss 2, Lynch). FT 7-11. Fouls 18.				
Crittenden 52, St. Mary 35				
St. Mary	10	7	11	7
Crittenden	11	15	10	16
ST. MARY - Meredith 3, Koenig 13, Shockley 3, Courtney, Higgins, Waltman, Black 4, Bratton 10, Thomas 2. FG 16. 3-pointers 2 (Meredith, Shockley). FT 5-15. Fouls 16.				
CRITTENDEN - McDowell 4, Oliver 20, C.Moss 12, Lynch, Evans 2, K.Moss 8, Nesbitt 4, Riley 2, Pierce, Champion, Davis, Collins, Beverly, Barnes. FG 19. 3-pointers 0. FT 14-16. Fouls 17.				



Crittenden County senior Chelsea Oliver tries to save this ball on the baseline as she and Lady Rockets took on Union County Saturday at Rocket Arena.

Snow will likely end season early

STAFF REPORT
It's unclear whether Crittenden County's basketball teams will be back on the floor again until next week's district tournament begins at Smithland.
The Rockets and Lady Rockets are scheduled to play a varsity doubleheader at Fort Campbell Friday, but it's not very likely school will be back in session this week. That being the case, it takes special approval from the school's administration to allow the teams to practice or play when school is not in session. A decision on practices or Friday's games had not been made at press time.
If school is out all week, there will be no time for makeups – the Rockets had two games cancelled

early this week and the Lady Rockets had one. Also, there will be scarcely little time to prepare for the upcoming post-season tournament.
Rocket coach Denis Hodge said he and his boys will be ready to get back into the gym as soon as it's safe. "Our practice plan will be ready to go," he said.
Hodge said other teams are in the same situation, therefore, not being able to play or practice the week before the tournament does not put Crittenden at a great disadvantage.
Crittenden (15-10) will play Lyon County (10-16) in the first round of the district tournament (see Fifth District pairings in left column this page). The teams have split their regular-season matchups.



The tape wrapped around the right wrist of Crittenden County senior Landon Young is a telltale sign of why his point production has gone down the last few games. The high-scoring guard hurt it in the Class A tournament.

Twisted wrist slowing Young's offensive output

STAFF REPORT
Sure, opposing defenses have been keenly focused on trying to put a stop to Rocket senior Landon Young's big scoring, but there is another reason the guard has been having trouble matching his early-season point totals.
A wrist injury, suffered during a fall against University Heights in the All A Classic championship, continues to plague Young's shooting touch.
Over the past 12 games, Young's average has gone down two points. At the end of January his average was 19 points a game. Since the injury, it's dipped to a dozen. Young scored 10 Friday against St. Mary.
He hasn't practiced shooting at all the last few weeks, opting to let the wrist rest between games. This week's snow will hopefully help the healing process, too, as there will likely be no games until Monday's district tournament.
St. Mary 48, Crittenden 30
St. Mary 17 7 12 12
Crittenden County 3 5 8 14
ST. MARY - Deneave, Hopper 22, Smith 4, Sims 4, Johnston 4, Hubert 9, Norris 2, McCauley 2, Vaughan, Dickens 1, Emmons. FG 17-39. 3-pointers 3-12 (Hopper 2, Sims). FT 11-15. Rebounds 24 (Hopper 6). Fouls 11.
CRITTENDEN - Young 10, Hollis 5, Dickerson 4, D.Watson 4, Driver 2, Hadfield, Greenwell, Hicks 3, C.Watson 2. FG 11-29. 3-pointers 3-9 (Hicks, Young, Hollis). FT 5-12. Rebounds 22 (Young 5). Fouls 16.

Beckner bags contest's best buck

STAFF REPORT
Beau Beckner of Fredonia has won the annual Big Buck Contest sponsored by Hodge Outdoor Sports and Marion Tourism Commission.
Beckner, who has also shared the coyote hunting contest title the last couple of years, is making quite a name for himself among local outdoorsmen.
The coal miner said he knew there was a pretty good buck in the neighborhood of some hunting property near Fredonia where he had permission, but he didn't expect what he dropped the final weekend of rifle season.
"I had trail cam pics of this particular buck back in October," he said. "He didn't look near as big in the pics so I never tried pursuing the deer."
Beckner's attention was turned toward another big deer on another piece of property the week before rifle season. He took a week's vacation to archery hunt before the gunners got in the woods, but he missed a nice 150-class 10-pointer. From there, his season took a few steps backward.
"I hunted the rest of the week

without getting a shot at another nice buck. Gun season came in and I didn't get to hunt a lot except weekends due to work."
In addition to working on filling his own buck tag, Beckner said he wanted to help his girlfriend Erin Boone take her first deer.
"So I passed up several decent bucks but no really big ones," he explained. "It came down to the last weekend and I knew I had to get her a deer."
By then, Beckner had almost given up on harvesting a trophy for himself.
"I had hunted since September and passed up over 30 bucks and missed the big 10-point with a bow," he said.
It was the final weekend of rifle season and Beckner focused foremost on getting his gal a good buck.
"We hunted Saturday and nothing," he said. "Sunday morning came. I didn't want to get out of bed. But I had to get her a shot at a deer, so we got up and went to the property where I had those trail cam pics."
Beckner hadn't been on that particular hunting tract all season. He'd worked all his other spots

pretty good, yet to no avail.
"We got in the stand at daylight. Not 20 minutes after daylight we began seeing deer. An hour after daylight, a buck came walking right by. I told my girlfriend to get ready. She shot and her buck went down," Beckner explained.
"She was really excited. I told her let's keep sitting here a while so maybe I can get one."
Shortly thereafter, another buck came by chasing a doe. It wasn't big enough to harvest, so Beckner and his girlfriend enjoyed watching it for a while.
"A few minutes later I heard something to my left thinking it was a squirrel. I turned slowly to see this big buck making a rub on a tree 25 yards away. I about had a heart attack," he said.
It was a monster, and it was so close Beckner knew it might see him before he could get off a shot.
"I told my girlfriend not to move. I eased my gun around and aimed. The buck turned and looked right at me. But it was too late," he said.
His aim was true. The big buck ran about 75 yards and went down.
"I didn't realize he was as nice as he was til I walked up to it," he said.



Beau Beckner and his buck.

"It was a great hunt since we both got a buck."
With the deer on the ground, Beckner saw that it had a 20-inch spread. It was field dressed and later weighed in at 195 pounds.
At that point, he knew the chance he took on buying a ticket for the Big Buck Contest might just pay off.



Rocket Royalty

Crittenden County High School crowned its basketball homecoming queen and king Friday before a varsity doubleheader against St. Mary. Senior Chelsea Oliver was crowned queen and senior Noah Hadfield was selected king. Here is the entire court (from left) freshmen Adam Beavers and Mackensie Simpkins; juniors Jayden Willis and Lauren McKinney, seniors Colby Watson and Khyla Moss, Hadfield and Oliver, 2014 king Adam Watson, seniors Noah Dickerson and Mallory McDowell, and sophomores Bobby Glen Stephens and Cassidy Moss. In front are crown bearer Roane Topp and flower girl Jordyn Hodge.



Reminiscing while flipping through archives of The Crittenden Press during a reception for 2014 Athletics Hall of Fame inductees are (from left) Joey Rich, Tammy Swinford, Chrystal Rich, Hadlee Rich, Pam Campbell, Shelby Summers, Von Summers and Cindy Summers. Joey Rich and Von Summers were inducted into the hall of fame Friday during a ceremony at Rocket Arena. The hall of fame is sponsored by Farmers Bank and Trust of Marion.



Upward Basketball is heading into its final month at Marion Baptist Church. Pictured here during recently Saturday morning action were (from left) Madison Walker (25), Georgia Holeman (12), Mia Hackney (1) and Lucy Haire (11). Upward games will continue through March 14. The Upward banquet will be March 15 following a 10:45 a.m., Sunday service. This year's special entertainment will be Gusty the Flying Fox.


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notices

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Legal Notice
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County still seeking Dam 50 boat dock

By **DARYL K. TABOR**
PRESS EDITOR

The county is fishing the same waters as last year in a second effort to land a grant to install a boat dock at Riverview Park, the public recreational area on the Ohio River often referred to as Dam 50.

Last Thursday, a public hearing was held at the courthouse to discuss a new grant application by Crittenden Fiscal Court for federal money awarded through the state to upgrade outdoor recreation areas and facilities. The forum was a required part of the process of applying for a Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) grant.

Last year, the project was not among the 17 selected by the state to share in nearly \$700,000 of matching grant money. Two parks projects in Webster County, however, were awarded a combined \$51,060.

A floating dock at Riverview Park, which is owned and maintained by the county, would offer sea-

sonal use as the water level of the river allows. When in place, it would make access to the Ohio River safer and more convenient by giving boaters up to four slips to moor to after offloading or before trailering watercraft.

"You have a nice campground, and it would be nice to add that," said Jamie Lawrence, a project manager with Pennyrile Area Development District (PADD), who conducted last week's meeting.

PADD will be facilitating the grant application just as it did last year.

County officials are eyeing the \$60,000 project – up from about \$50,000 last year – to further develop the public recreational area that entertains campers, fishermen, boaters, groups making use of the picnic area and those there to simply enjoy the vista of one of the nation's longest and most historic rivers. Because LWCF is a 50/50 grant matching reimbursement program, the county would be responsible for half of the

boat dock's estimated cost, or \$30,000.

Judge-Executive Perry Newcom said the dock would be an important adventure tourism draw to attract more people to Crittenden County, but it also addresses safety concerns at the riverside park's boat ramp.

"Right now, there's really nothing to tie to," he said. "You've got to have two or three people to safely launch a boat."

Newcom explained that the county's financial obligation could be largely met by in-kind labor tied to preparation of the site.

Riverview Park, located at the end of Ky. 387 off Ky. 91 North, was established by the fiscal court in 2008 as a means to revitalize the property at the site of the former U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Lock and Dam No. 50, which was removed in early 1980. The park is now home to six camp sites that offer electricity, restrooms and picnic tables under roof. It has become a tourist attraction to hundreds of visitors

each year.

"The spinoff is pretty big," said former judge-executive Fred Brown of the money spent by users of the facility who purchase fuel, groceries and other supplies in the county. "We get a lot of people from neighboring counties who just want to get away for a few days."

Brown, who was judge-executive when the park was established, is now the county's deputy emergency management director. He and the agency's director, David Travis, believe the proposed dock's value would extend beyond the use of pleasure craft. They, along with the county's rescue volunteers, believe a dock would allow for better response to rescues and recoveries on the river.

"(Riverview Park) is the only place for us to put in to the Ohio River," said Travis. "For emergency management, (the project) is kind of important."

Crittenden Fiscal Court will be competing with dozens of other local governments from across Kentucky vying for this year's pot of grant money. Parry Barrows, with Gov. Steve Beshear's office of communications, expects this year's LWCF allotment for Kentucky to be around \$650,000.

Newcom is hopeful Crittenden County will be on the receiving end in 2015.

"They pretty much assured us last year that if we applied again, we would be looked at favorably," he said.

The grant application deadline is April 30. Lawrence said an announcement of projects selected for funding by the Kentucky Department for Local Government and approved by the governor's office should come in the late fall.

At last week's public hearing, a handful of county officials were the only ones in attendance. However, the signatures of many local

boaters, fishermen, public officials and other backers of the Riverview Park development have already been obtained for inclusion into the grant application as a show of community support. Letters of support, too, will be included.

Newcom said anyone wishing to express their desire for the project can submit letters to his office or simply stop in to offer their signature as a backer on a form to be included with the final application. Letters and signatures will be accepted through early March.

"Parks and recreational facilities play an important part in enhancing the quality of life in our Kentucky communities," Gov. Beshear said in announcing the 2014 awards. "This LCWF funding will go toward improving recreational projects in towns across the Commonwealth and provide children and residents of all ages with safe, quality spaces to be active, play sports and live overall healthier lifestyles."



Travis

Livingston school student finds balloon note from Okla.

By **JASON TRAVIS**
STAFF WRITER

In a world where people communicate instantaneously, it's rare when individuals choose to correspond by something other than electronic means. But recently, two area students have found messages that have challenged communicating via modern methods.

Last fall, Crittenden County student Caden DeBoe found a note inside a bottle during a church picnic Riverview Park at Dam 50. Weeks later, it was discovered the note made its way down the Ohio River from Poseyville, Ind. It was sent by junior high school student Damien Hughes around July 4 of last year.

On Feb. 8, a North Livingston Elementary School student found a deflated balloon with a note attached to it in the front yard of her home in Salem. Rochelle George, manager of the Five Star Food Mart in Marion, said her daughter Charlee

and friend Bella Chittenden, both fourth-graders, found the balloon with a note indicating it had come from Oklahoma – Owasso, Okla., to be precise. That's a distance of a little more than 500 miles or eight hours and 15 minutes of driving time. Owasso is located in the northeastern part of the Sooner State.

George said her daughter was surprised to find the note and excited once she realized just how far it had traveled.

The message attached to the balloon indicated it was sent by Mrs. Amber Hatch's kindergarten class at Bailey Elementary School in Owasso. In celebration of their 100th day of school, each of the institution's four kindergarten classes released 25 balloons and asked anyone who found a note to contact them.

After being notified of the discovery, Hatch said the balloons were released Jan. 28. She was surprised at the

distance the balloon had traveled.

"It was a very windy day, so we were hopeful," Hatch said.

The only other response they have received from the launch date in January was from an individual in a nearby neighborhood. Hatch indicated releasing balloons on the 100th day of school is an annual tradition for the kindergarten classes. In previous years, they have received responses from Missouri and Kansas. She said Salem is the farthest location in which they've received a response. She added that it would be a good geography lesson for her students.

George said her daughter has taken the note to share with her class at North Livingston Elementary. A photograph of the class with the note has already been taken. They plan to communicate with the students at Bailey Elementary either by letter or Skype.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Bella Chittenden (left), Charlee George and their classmates at North Livingston Elementary School in Burna plan to respond to a letter sent by kindergarteners in Oklahoma that the girls found attached to a balloon which traveled to Kentucky from the Sooner State. The students were hoping to either Skype or write letters in response.

Radio Shack stores in area set to close

FROM STAFF AND AP REPORTS

Five Radio Shack locations in far western Kentucky are included on the company's list of 1,784 stores it expects to close by the end of March as the 95-year-old electronics retailer seeks bankruptcy reorganization.

The list of 25 Radio Shack locations in Kentucky eyed for closure includes stores in Princeton, Madisonville, Paducah, Hopkinsville and Mayfield.

Radio Shack filed for bankruptcy protection Feb. 5. Part of its plan is for Sprint to open mini-shops in as many as 1,750 of Radio Shack's remaining stores.

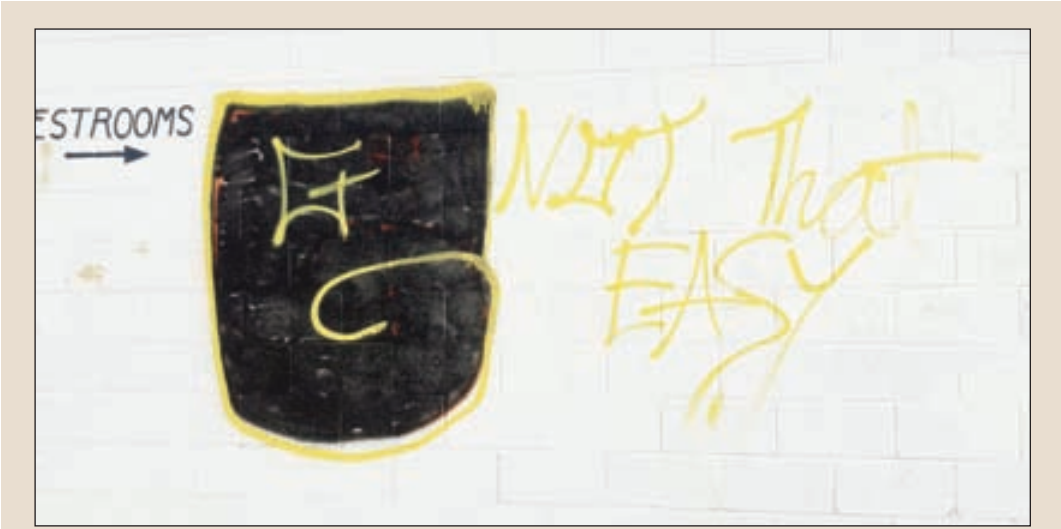


PHOTO BY CHRIS EVANS, THE PRESS

City-county park vandalized...again

After volunteer crews had painted over graffiti left two weeks ago by vandals, they struck again last week scrawling more spray paint on public property at Marion-Crittenden County Park. Anyone with information about these inciting messages can call the Marion Police Department at (270) 965-3500 and remain anonymous. You could earn a reward.

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