



## UofL student wants to hear about your ticks

A University of Louisville student is studying the distribution of tick-borne illnesses in Kentucky and wants local citizen input. Dana McKenzie of Winchester is particularly interested in surveying Crittenden County residents, since Crittenden has what she says is the highest prevalence proportion of tick-borne illnesses in the state. She is writing a thesis for geography coursework and has created a study to identify key factors in tick-borne disease distribution throughout Kentucky. Using a smartphone, scan the QR code above to take her survey, which asks respondents about their use of tick repellent, repellent clothing and their history of tick bites. The survey takes about two minutes to complete. McKenzie will be in Marion this weekend doing research for her study.

## BY THE NUMBERS

### Crittenden Populations

Census	Population	Census	Population
1850	6,351	1950	10,818
1860	8,796	1960	8,648
1870	9,381	1970	8,493
1880	11,688	1980	9,207
1890	13,119	1990	9,196
1900	15,191	2000	9,384
1910	13,296	2010	9,315
1920	13,125	2020	8,990
1930	11,931	2024*	9,065
1940	12,115		*Estimate

## Comparing Counties

### POPULATION BELOW POVERTY LEVEL

The following figures are based on 2016–2020 American Community Survey data showing the percentage of each county's population living below 150% of poverty level.

Webster	31.6%
Crittenden	27.8%
Caldwell	27.4%
Union	26.6%
Livingston	22.8%
Lyon	20.7%

## UPCOMING MEETINGS

- Marion City Council will meet in special session at 5 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 22.
- Crittenden County Board of Education will meet at 5:30 p.m., on Tuesday, Feb. 27 at Rocket Arena.
- Marion–Crittenden County 911 Board will meet at 2 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 29 at Marion City Hall. This will be a special meeting for the purpose of discussing radio room equipment movement to the new radio room.
- Crittenden County Fiscal Court will meet on a different day of the month than normal during March. Magistrates will meet at 8:30 a.m., on Tuesday, March 19 at the County Office Complex.



## 10% of County's Children Educated in Homeschools

### School leaders taking note of classrooms' new figures

BY ALLISON EVANS  
PRESS EDITOR

Absentee figures in Crittenden County schools are among the highest in six years and enrollment is waning a bit, causing Crittenden County Board of Education and school administrators to take a closer look at how these trends can be interpreted.

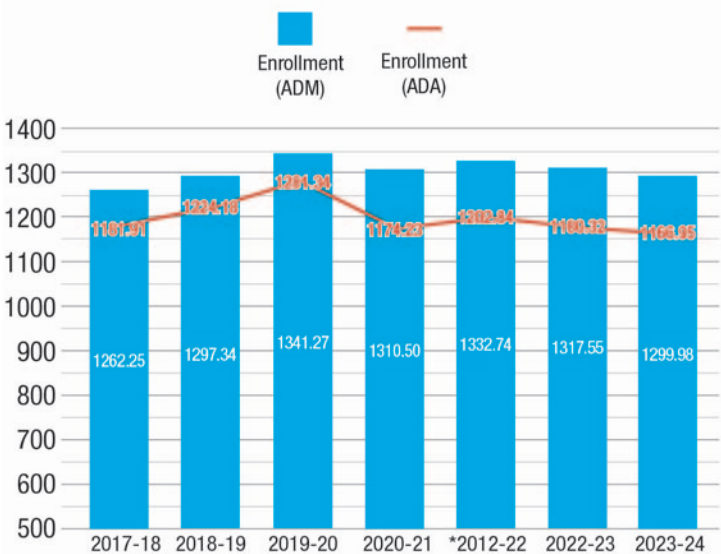
In addition to concern over missed instruction, there are financial ramifications, too, since public school funding is tied to average daily attendance.

Heavy absenteeism is a mystery to school officials, but they believe it can be tied to post-pandemic mentality. During the COVID years, parents were asked to keep children at home if there was any hint of sickness. That pandemic practice, school officials believe, has contributed to today's chronic absenteeism.

Part of the decline in annual enrollment is a growing number of parents who are choosing to homeschool. Citing everything from safety concerns to post-COVID health fears, more children are being schooled at home across the state, which comes with worries because Kentucky has few guardrails in place for homeschools. Accountability is lacking and longtime educators say it's unclear whether all of those students are getting an adequate education.

Currently there are 122 homeschooled students in

### 2017-2024 Enrollment (ADM) and (ADA)



Crittenden County. They belong to 75 different families. Their number has increased by 35 students since the end of last school year, according to Diana Lusby, director of pupil personnel. Today's home school population across the commonwealth has more than doubled over the past seven years, according to the Office of Educational Accountability. In 2017, there were 54 Crittenden County children in homeschools.

"Regulations need to be tightened, (parents) need to be accountable," said Superintendent Tonya Driver.

Some question whether all home school students are getting a complete education and whether they will be prepared

for college or the local labor force upon graduation.

Certainly some will, but there are alarmingly few indicators being tracked and there is no accountability.

"We have some quality home school programs in our community," Crittenden County Board of Education Chairman Chris Cook said. "The contributions that they make to our community and its workforce are appreciated as well."

Marion residents Michelle and Corey Crider have home schooled four children. Their oldest child at high school graduation had accumulated 33 college credit hours and was awarded a full academic

See **SCHOOL**/page 3

## Cutter, Cash & The Kentucky Grass

### Grand Ole Opry: Here we come!

STAFF REPORT

A flourishing relationship with legendary Grand Ole Opry star Jeannie Seely has opened many doors for Marion's budding bluegrass band, Cutter and Cash and The Kentucky Grass. Now, it's bringing them onto the grandest stage in country music.

Cutter and Cash Singleton and the rest of their five-piece band will be joining Seely at the Grand Ole Opry on Saturday, April 6.

"We still can't believe this is going to happen," said Cutter Singleton, the band's spokesperson and lead singer. "This is literally the stuff we have been dreaming



about and praying about since we were five or six years old."

Almost one charter bus load of tickets has already been sold as the community rallies behind the group's success.

"It just makes it even more special that our hometown folks will be there. I can't wait," Singleton added. "This

is the pinnacle of our careers right now, but we're still in high school."

Followers are certain this will not be the peak of the group's success, but it is a significant milestone.

"We're not nervous about it, but it's just like 'Wow,'" added the entrainer. "This is a stage where Hank Williams Sr., Johnny Cash and Dolly Parton have stood, and there will be little old Cutter and Cash."

The group will fill part of a 15-minute segment led by Seely, who is a regular on the Opry. They will perform their single, a remake of historic

See **OPRY**/page 8

## Hiding on cell phone is not right

Your government is wanting to dismantle the public's right to know, partly by saying communications in a text message are protected by privacy laws even when those communications circumvent laws to provide transparency in governing.

A recent opinion piece written by Jon Fleischaker and Michael Abate is making its way across the commonwealth and it bears printing here.



Chris EVANS  
Press Editor & Publisher  
*About Town*

Fleishaker has been around for a long time and helped craft Kentucky's very good open meetings and open records laws back in the 1970s right after Watergate when it became clear that backroom politics was for mobsters and had no place in the government of and for the people.

"It's become an annual tradition in Frankfort: a new bill designed to chip away at the government transparency Kentucky citizens have enjoyed for nearly 50 years under the Open Records Act. This year's bill – HB 509, endorsed by Speaker David Osborne and others in House leadership – is different, though. It would completely eviscerate the public's right to know even the most basic things about what the government is doing in its name," Fleischaker and Abate have written.

They go onto to say the following:

"How would it accomplish this goal? Primarily by changing the definition of what a 'public record' is. Today, that definition is clear: any record prepared, owned, used, possessed, or retained by a public agency, regardless of its form (paper or electronic), what it says, or where it is stored. Sure, agencies can claim that records are exempt from disclosure under other provisions of the law, but the agency must search for the records, admit they exist, and explain why they should not be released.

"Not under the new law, however. Legislators are proposing to smuggle various limitations and exclusions into the definition of 'public record' – opening the door to mischief and misdirection by public agencies. Under HB 509, nothing would be a 'public record' unless it documents a 'transaction' or 'final action' of a public agency. Those terms are not defined by the law, but it's easy to see how they will be abused."

The public has a right to know about its employees and what is in their personnel files. Whether it be teachers, police, coaches, dog catchers, mayors, judges or jailers, public employees work for the public and their personnel files are yours.

See **HIDE**/page 4



## Deaths

### Osburn

Greta Fern Osburn, 77, of Fredonia, died Sunday, Feb. 18, 2024 at Crittenden County Health and Rehabilitation Center.

She enjoyed playing the piano at Baker Baptist Church and was a member of Salem Baptist Church. She had been employed by the Sturgis Pants Factory for many years and retired from the Crittenden County Convalescent Center. In her spare time, she enjoyed the outdoors and spending time with her



grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Surviving are two daughters, Alicia Thornton of Fredonia and Vicki Berry of Marion; a sister, Amy Bell of Marion; two brothers, Richard Newcom of Illinois and Phil Newcom of Arkansas; three grandchildren, Jordan Murray, Dyllan Thornton and Brynna McDowell; and eight great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents, William Stross and Mina Scott Newcom; a brother, David Newcom; and a granddaughter, Shawna Murray.

Services are at 2 p.m., Friday, Feb. 23 at Myers Funeral Home. Friends may visit with family from 10 a.m., until service time. Burial will follow in Mapleview Cemetery.

## Kinship Care group supports area adults

A Kinship Care support group will meet March 5 in Marion in an effort to provide a community for adults raising "fictive kin."

Fictive kin is the name given to adults who are raising friends' children. The group meets at the Crittenden County Extension Office the second Tuesday of each month.

Rebecca Woodall, Crittenden County's Family and Consumer Sciences Agent, said family today can look differently than a two-parent makeup. When children cannot safely remain with their parents, grandparents or other relatives, oftentimes family friends step in to help raise them.

"I just want people to know that they are not alone, and that there are so many in this situation," Woodall said.

Today over 96,000 Kentucky kids live in kinship care. The Kinship Families Coalition of Kentucky provides emotional support and awareness to issues sur-

rounding fictive kin living arrangements.

Through the Kinship Families Coalition, friends raising friends' children can be connected to quality resources to ensure children in their care thrive into adulthood.

Woodall said local kinship care support group sessions offer fun activities, a resourceful book study and an opportunity to connect with like-minded individuals.

There are three types of kinship care in Kentucky, ranging from informal arrangements of children living with relatives or close family members; kinship care resulting from the removal of children from their family home as a result of action by the Cabinet for Health and Family Services (CHFS); or foster care in which child custody is maintained by CHFS.

Get more information about the program by contacting Woodall at (270) 965-5236.

# Marion mall opening March 1

Booth rental has been robust at Marion and Company, with 80 percent occupied ahead of the new business' March 1 opening.

Marion and Company is located inside the former Conrad's Food Store building on South Main Street in Marion. It features 71 booth spaces operating like an antique mall but modern and upscale, according to owner Mindy Withrow.

"We say it is boutique, antiques and more,"

Withrow said. "It's like an antique mall, but definitely not a flea market."

Withrow and her husband Kent have transformed the building inside and out with paint, new lighting, new heating and air and roof repairs. A Brunch of Sandwiches, the building's first tenant, will continue to offer fresh sandwiches, burgers, pizzas and daily specials and offer ex-



tended hours.

The Withrows traveled a two-hour radius of Marion prior to embarking on the Marion and Company project to get ideas.

Some of the committed booth rentals are a dessert business, soap and candle vendor, t-shirt and embroidery, outdoor yard ornaments, quilts, antiques and more. A company that sells grass fed beef will rent a freezer

section of the former grocery building, and Withrow said there are pork and poultry farmers who have indicated an interest in doing the same.

Flea market days will have their place as well, with tent rentals in the parking lot certain times a year.

Marion and Company will be open 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday and noon-5 on Sunday.



### Barfield estate aids shelter

The estate of the late Susan Barfield made a sizeable donation last week to the Mary Hall Ruddiman shelter. Barfield, a lover of animals – especially cats – made donations to the shelter throughout her lifetime, and requested a sizeable check be presented upon her death. Paula Porter, executrix of Barfield's estate, made a donation last week to MHR representative, Kristi Beavers.

### WKCTC students on dean's list

Several Crittenden and Livingston county students were recognized on the Dean's List for the Fall 2023 semester at West Kentucky Community and Technical College.

To be named to the Dean's List, a full-time student must earn at least a 3.5-grade point average.

Recognized were: Kylie Collins, Entry Level Pharmacy Technology; Jennifer Daugherty, Health Science Technology; Ashleigh Dunkerson, Diagnostic Medical Sonography; Alexandra Waters, Cosmetologist; Nicole Adams, Associate

in Science; Lillian Wesmolan, Associate in Arts; Cameron Baker, Visual Communication Multimedia; Mason Fuller, Associate in Arts; Tyler Suits, Associate in Science; Julia Adams, NoMariah Hall of Princeton, KY; Business Administration; Hannah Birk, Associate in Science; Carly Guess, Advanced Level Pharmacy Tech; Blake Martin, Associate in Arts; and Rosa Gilland, Business Administration.

## Phelps writes path to state Governor's Cup

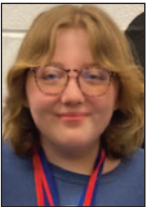
For the first time in 14 years, Crittenden County High School will have a representative competing at the state Governor's Cup academic competition.

Senior Marley Phelps will represent the Rockets in the composition event March 8-11 in Louisville.

Phelps was a member of the 2024 Paducah Sun All-District 4 Team, earning 5 points as the dis-

trict's composition champion. She was joined by teammate Aaron Adams, who was the district's arts and humanities champion.

The last CCHS student to go to state was Levi Palmer in 2009 and 2010 in science.



Phelps



### Parish's El Nino 1st

Rhett Parish (left) of Marion won first place Feb. 16 in the National Farm Machinery Show's Championship Tractor Pull's 10,200 pound pro stock tractor class. He finished sixth in the Louisville finals Feb. 17. He is the third generation to drive El Nino, the name given to the family's pulling tractor by the late Larry Parish. Pictured (from left) are Parish, his father Philip, mother Natalie and sister Cali following the Feb. 16 competition.



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### Community Calendar

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

**Tuesday, Feb. 20**

- Time Well Spent meets at 2 p.m., at the Crittenden County Extension Annex. Participants explore common reasons for procrastination and learn to identify and combat procrastination tendencies. Call (270) 965-5236 to register.

**Thursday, Feb. 22**

- Cooking Club meets at 1:30 p.m., at the Extension Annex.
- Pesticide Applicator Training begins at 6 p.m., at the Crittenden County Extension Annex. Call the Extension office to register at 270-965-5236.

**Friday, Feb. 23**

- Students in CCES' third- and fourth-grade drama club will perform "The Reluctant Dragon," at 6 p.m., at Fohs Hall.

**Tuesday, Feb. 27**

- Get recipes and learn the basics of making sour-dough bread at 5:30 p.m., at the Lions Club Agriculture Building at the fairgrounds in Marion. Cost is \$5 for a starter and free if not. Call (270) 965-5236 to register.

**Wednesday, Feb. 28**

- CCMS SBDM will meet at 3:45 in the principal's office.

## Salem buildings inspected

Owners of Salem businesses affected by the partial collapse of two downtown buildings have 30 days to have assessments conducted by structural engineers.

The Salem City Council made that decision Tuesday, Feb. 20 during a meeting attended by at least eight downtown property owners. Some have already had their buildings inspected.

All businesses on the

north side of East Main Street have been shuttered since the collapses Saturday, Feb. 3 due to safety concerns.

Salem Mayor Gary Dameron said all buildings must be inspected before work is done to either re-open, repair or tear down affected buildings. One of the businesses has relocated; one has remained closed; and one was set to open this spring.

## Livingston board gives recognition

Livingston County School Board held its first meeting in its new central office building Feb.12, recognizing staff and student achievements. Dwayne Howell and Jeff Paris were recognized as LiveRED recipients. Both were instrumental in relocating the central office.

During the LiveRED Report, Amy Ramage highlighted the South Livingston Elementay Book Club organized by Dale Workman, which challenges students to read a chapter book each week. Livingston County Elementary academic team, which now has students from North and South elementary schools, placed second at the District Governor's Cup. Paysen Pierson of North Elementary won an essay submitted to the AARP Kentucky Grandparent of the Year contest. Her essay will be submitted to state competition. Livingston County Middle school students were commended for a Fort Smith restoration project. Students cleared overgrowth with guidance from Daryl Chittenden.

Livingston Central's outstanding performance by the academic team in Governor's Cup competition was recognized. It was their first district title since 2012, and the team accumulated the most points in team history. Livingston Central sophomore basketball player Logan Wring was recognized for his 500th rebound and 1,000th career point.

Dr. David Meinschein discussed the need for increased teacher pay and expressed hope that the Hold-Harmless designation for Livingston County Schools, which hurts the amount of district SEEK funding, will be evaluated.

The board approved the Family Resource Center and Youth Service Center Continuation Plans and accepted an offer of assistance from the School Facilities Construction Commission in the amount of \$35,964.86 to be used toward construction or renovations. The board also aproved renovations to the career and technical center at Livingston Central.

## SCHOOL

Continued from page 1

scholarship to Murray State University last fall. Homeschooling parents are required to track their children's achievements, but there is no clearinghouse to verify or assimilate results. Because of that there are many questions as to whether an adequate education is being provided for all home-schooled children. Academic success of students enrolled in public schools is measured and tracked. School districts are held to educational standards that are verified by various metrics, including testing.

"It's not just about education, but about the associations kids have with other kids and adults. It's about teaching kids to be part of a community," said former Crittenden County Board of Education chairman Keith Hart, who has a college degree in education. "Many home schooled students have no rules or interaction with adults and I don't think it's best for their future."

Enrollment in Crittenden County Schools was 1,299 as of last week, the first time in six years it has been below 1,300. That could be attributed to a declining local population; however, the increase in home school attendance is certainly a contributing factor, educators say. About 10 percent of the county's school-age children are in home-schools.

"As we see our overall enrollment numbers and overall daily attendance decline along with the overall population of Crittenden County, it is extremely concerning to us," said board chairman Chris Cook. "We want to help reverse these trends by striving to be the schools of choice for our area and to offer an atmosphere with programming that makes students want to come to our schools every day."

"Our goal is to continually reinvent what an education looks like and offer that in Crittenden County Schools."

Public relations officials across western Kentucky have launched a campaign aimed at highlighting resources and opportunities in public education.

## Essays share love for CCES

February is the month for love, an appropriate time for students at Crittenden County Elementary to celebrate their love for school through an "I Love My School" writing contest.

Second- through fifth-grade students participated in the contest, saying teachers make them feel safe, included and loved. They enjoy being with their friends, and say their principals, janitors and lunch ladies are amazing.

Second grader Chase Winders praises the free food in the cafeteria and playing football and "all the math we learn."

"My school is awesome because it improves my intelligence by doing so much work," wrote third-grader Blake Beck.

One of the reasons fourth-grader Waylon Wood loves his school is because of the food served in the cafeteria.

"The food is too good to explain," he said.

Dakota Conner shared a joke in his essay.

"Do you love school? I sure love mine. I think it is the best school! I love my school so much. Wanna hear a joke? Why is a snake's favorite subject? Hisssssstory!," he said.

Fifth-grader Kyrie



Essay winners (front from left) are Madison Winterrowd, Fiona Ritchie, Chase Winders, Annabelle Buckley, Hadley Sherer, Emma Williams, Macie Millikan, (back) Dakota Conner, Waylon Wood, Brady Loudon, Russell Vince, Korie Bloodworth, Addie Nelson, Jo Adams and Blake Beck. Inset are Jaiclynn Curtis, Harper Riley and Adelyn Cosby.

Bloodworth said teachers are kind, loving and make everyone feel special, as well as equal and unique. Her friends, she said, are great students because CCES is raising them as good humans.

"Being raised here has had and will continue to have a great effect on how our students act and feel," she wrote, adding that the janitors encourage students to do their best, while also doing a great job keeping their school clean.

Principal Sarah Riley received accolades from fifth-grader Addie Nelson.

"Mrs. Riley is the best principal I have ever had



and that's saying something, because I have been at many schools before. She is just the nicest! She has fun assemblies and she just brings so much fun to CCES," Nelson wrote.

Most importantly, Nelson said, CCES is shap-

ing her into the person she is today.

"Our teachers and school staff are fun. They keep students motivated by playing educational games, building STEM projects and allow us to help lead classes with them. They engage with us in more ways than just sitting at a desk to learn," wrote Jaiclynn Curtis. "The most important (reason) is they are my family. Everyone of the staff members treat me like I am part of their family and make me feel warm and accepted. They are the reason I look forward to going to school every day."

found that concern about school environment, moral instruction, dissatisfaction with academic instruction, concern about school shootings and bullying were top reasons for leaving public schools.

"Personally, I did not want to give away my child for seven hours a day," said Michelle Crider, the local homeschooling mother. "There has been no concern over socialization, because my kids are very social in several activities."

The Criders are members of the West Kentucky Christian Home Educators, an association comprised of families from a multi-county area. There are 16 Crittenden County families in the coalition, which shares teachers and resources and holds classes in Marion each Friday.

Having the freedom to share the couple's Biblical world view, develop relationships and shepherd their children through the educational process were motivating factors for the Criders.

When rigor of coursework increased for their high school student, the Criders and two other families hired a retired physics teacher to facilitate labs and simulate classroom environments.

Kentucky's governance of homeschools, according to the Legislative Resource Commission's Office of Educational Accountability, requires parents to:

- Notify the local board of education annually of their intention to home-school;
- Keep attendance and "scholarship," or report cards;
- Teach 1,062 hours of instruction over at least 170 days; and
- Teach reading, writing, spelling, grammar, history, math, science and civics.

Public school district directors of pupil personnel have the authority to monitor notifications of

homeschool enrollment; request and review attendance and grade reports and refer cases to the cabinet, police, prosecuting attorneys or courts if educational neglect is suspected.

Crittenden County Superintendent Tonya Driver said the district will explore those options with guidance from legal counsel.

**Chronic absenteeism**

Lusby said an attendance report from early February showed 92.8 percent average daily attendance in Crittenden County, the lowest since 2018.

Currently, 24 percent of the district's students are chronically absent. Chronic absenteeism is defined by the Kentucky Department of Education as missing 10 percent of the school year.

School officials want to determine what is driving poor attendance habits and what can be done to reverse the trend.

Managing truancy is a responsibility of each public school district. School age children are required by law to be in school if they are enrolled in public education. Their parents can be held legally liable, and Crittenden County School District is already seeking court orders to compel some parents to make sure their chronically-absent students get to class.

Lusby is director of pupil personnel for Crittenden County. She said Family Resource and Youth Services staff do home visits to combat truancy.

School officials believe residual effects from the pandemic may be partly to blame for today's non-attendance figures.

"There is a different philosophy or mindset," Driver said, speaking of post-pandemic behaviors. "It used to be we would say if you are sniffing, come to school but when the pandemic happened, they were told if they had any symptom to stay home."

"Now we're trying to get back to the guidance that if you don't have a fever you should come to school. We gave something away and it is hard to take it back," the superintendent adds.

Lusby said lower attendance is an issue across the state, not just here.

Crittenden County Middle School this year consistently has had one of the district's best daily attendance percentages. Students with good attendance are rewarded with simple treats like freedom to sit where they want at lunchtime. In her experience, Lusby said incentives for good attendance work better than punishment.

Before the pandemic, strict enforcement of chronic absenteeism was stressed and was working after the district was seeing a 26 percent chronic absenteeism rate. Then COVID-19 struck. Officials appear poised to resume enforcement measures if attendance continues to wane.

Teacher attendance is down as well since the pandemic, Lusby said.

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## How to reserve for an event at park or farmers market

As warmer weather approaches and folks begin to spend more time outdoors, Marion Tourism and Recreation Commission and Marion-Crittenden County Park Board remind citizens that organized use of the farmers market and/or park requires an approved reservation. There is a small fee for commercial vendors at Imogene Stout Market on Main and a small cost for groups or individuals who charge an entry fee for organized events at Marion-Crittenden County Park. Call Marion Welcome Center at (270) 965-5015 to make a reservation.

## AT&T making plans to build new cell tower near Marion

AT&T Mobility, LLC is proposing to construct a 195-foot self-supporting lattice telecommunications tower north of US 60 just outside of Marion City Limits. The structure is proposed to be located on a 25-acre tract of private land just east of Liberty Tire. The project is in the early development stages and in accordance with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) regulations, the developer is completing cultural and geological due diligence to determine whether there are any obstacles to the project.

## HIDE

Continued from page 1 Under proposed legislation, most of their work record will be hidden forever. Fleischaker and Abate point out that even if you somehow surmounted this new hurdle, there are more roadblocks in your way. “For example, “preliminary” documents will no longer be public records. Under current law, these records can be withheld, but only temporarily. Once a final decision is reached, the reasons for it must be disclosed. Not under HB 509—the records showing why your government is doing what it is doing are permanently off limits.” Lastly, is the cell phone provision in this proposed new law, and it’s the real head scratcher. Remember, Fleischaker and Abate are not politi-

## Problem weed tour set for Princeton Farm Center

Italian ryegrass continues to increase as a problematic weed in all of Kentucky’s major agronomic crops. While ryegrass has been a perennial problem in wheat, it has become increasingly problematic in no-till corn and soybeans. The University of Kentucky Weed Science team will be hosting a field tour to highlight Italian ryegrass research being conducted at the UKREC in Princeton. The team will cover ryegrass control in the fall and spring prior to no-till corn and soybean planting as well as continued research on ryegrass control in wheat. The field tour will occur on March 28 in Princeton, and will be led by Dr. Travis Legleiter, Extension Specialist in Weed Science. The day will begin at the Caldwell County Extension office with registration beginning at 8:30 a.m. The tour will start with opening remarks at approximately 9 a.m., followed by a caravan to the University of Kentucky Research and Education Center to tour ryegrass research plots. The tour will wrap up prior to noon. Pre-registration for the event is recommended, but not required. For more information about the ryegrass field tour call (859) 562-2569 or email UK Extension Associate Jason Travis jason.travis@uky.edu.

## Salem Garden Club accepts items for its March auction

Salem Garden Club is accepting items for its annual auction March 6-12, which raises money for scholarships for Crittenden and Livingston County graduates. Donations may be made March 1-2

at Harris Gas in Salem, and can include furniture, crafts, jewelry, antiques or other items of moderate value. The club asks that no leftover yard sale items be contributed. The office will be closed; however, the lobby will be open for drop-offs. The Salem Garden Club will conduct its auction on its Facebook page from 6 p.m., March 6 through noon, March 12. In the past five years, the club has given more than \$15,000 in scholarships between the two counties. To qualify for the scholarship, students must be planning to further their education in horticulture, agriculture, agri-business, animal science or other agriculture-related fields; be active in FFA or 4-H; have completed at least one class in an agriculture pathway; or be active in their high school greenhouse program. Applications are available from high school guidance counselors and must be submitted to the Salem Garden Club by April 1. Edmondson is named to Dean’s List at Kennesaw Brittany Edmondson of Marion has been named to Kennesaw State University’s Fall 2023 Dean’s List in recognition of academic achievement. Majoring in Nursing-Interest, Edmondson is among the more than 8,000 students named to the Fall 2023 Dean’s List. To qualify, students must earn a semester grade point average of 3.5 or higher and complete a minimum of nine credit hours.

## Voting will look about the same here for ’24 elections

Voting in 2024 will look pretty much the same as it has the last few elections.

Crittenden County Board of Elections recently approved a plan for May and November that will feature precinct-level voting at Mexico, Rosebud and Crooked Creek Baptist churches and Shady Grove Fire Department. Early Voting and the countywide Voting Center on the day of elections will both be at the new Crittenden County Office Complex. County Clerk Daryl Tabor expects as low as a 10-15 percent turnout for the May 21 primary due to the lack of races. Democrats will have only the presidential primary, while Republicans will choose a nominee for President and state Senator for District 1.

## Voter info for 2024 primary

- On the ballot**
- Democrats: U.S. President.
  - Republicans: U.S. President, State Senate District 1.
- Voter registration deadline**
- April 22. Can register online at GoVote.ky.gov.
- Mail-in absentee voting**
- Request ballot April 6 to May 7 online at GoVote.ky.gov or in the Crittenden County Clerk’s office.
- In-office absentee voting on machine**
- May 8-15 in large conference room at County Office Complex.
- Early voting**
- May 16-18 in fiscal court room at County Office Complex
- Election Day**
- Voting Center at County Office Complex.
  - Also at Repton Baptist, Shady Grove Fire Department, Mexico Baptist and Deer Creek Baptist.
- Filing deadlines**
- Filing deadline for non-partisan races like city council, school board, conservation district is 4 p.m., June 4.
  - Deadline to file as write-in candidate is 4 p.m., Oct. 25.

## GOP figures continue rise in KY

Kentucky’s voter registration continues to increase, making it the 10th month in a row for such a rise, according to Kentucky Secretary of State Michael Adams. In January, 6,700 new voters registered while 6,156 were removed. 5,089 of them were deceased voters, 578 voters convicted of felonies, 325 who moved out of state, 78 who voluntarily de-registered, 44 adjudged mentally incompetent and 42 duplicate registrations. According to these latest figures, Republican registration now accounts for 46 percent of the electorate with 1,611,760 voters. Republican registration rose by 2,111, a .13 percent increase. Democratic registration accounts for 44 percent of the electorate, with 1,520,663 voters. Democratic registration went down by 2,751, an .18 percent decrease. There are 359,380 voters registered under other affiliations.



## 10 YEARS AGO

**February 20, 2014**

■ A new tradition was launched when Crittenden County Rocket basketball teams took the floor on senior night, spring 2014, as a brand-new custom-made Rockets mascot costume was unveiled and cheered on both the boys and girls team to victory on senior night against Fort Campbell.

■ Jessica Tinsley was awarded best interview and first runner-up in the 72nd annual Miss Valentine Pageant at Campbellsville University. She was was majoring in Spanish education at Campbellsville University.

■ Robert D. Mitchell was honored by the American Legion Auxiliary Unit 217 of Burna. Accompanied by his wife Pearl, he was presented a certificate recognizing service to his country.

■ Crittenden County’s fifth and sixth grade traveling girls’ basketball team won the West Kentucky Basketball League Tournament.

## 25 YEARS AGO

**February 25, 1999**

■ Members of the Crittenden County High School landscaping class and members of the local FFA chapter, including Lisa Haire, Randa Poindexter Renee Maraman and Lydia Taylor, spruced up grounds at the high school campus. The class and FFA members built planters and benches for

the new front entrance of the school.

■ Suzette Todd, a member of the CCMS 4-H club, learned how to cut out a pattern for a pair of shorts she was making during the 4-H project sewing meeting.

■ High school baseball practice got underway with snow on the ground. The Rocket baseball team found refuge from the snow under a pole barn at the fairgrounds where pitchers and catchers worked on conditioning their arms and their skin to the winter-like weather. Pictured in The Press was assistant coach Jamie Brown watching senior hurler Jeremy Wheeler work on his delivery as snow fell to the ground.

■ Members of the CCES chess team that helped capture the regional crown were Grant Gilkey, Skeyley Robertson and Brit-tany Bay.

## 50 YEARS AGO

**February 21, 1974**

■ Ronald Rustin returned from Kansas City, Mo., where he successfully completed a course in Auctioneering and Auction Sale Management at the Missouri Auction School. He received his diploma and the honorary title of colonel along with male and female auctioneers from throughout the United State and Canada.

■ Victor “Pippi” Hardin was appointed by the Kentucky Finance Company, Inc. of Lexington as the new manager of the Marion office.

■ Minnie Miles celebrated her 100th birthday at Salem Nursing Home. She was born near Salem and lived her century in Livingston, Crittenden and Lyon counties.

The Crittenden Press

USPS 138-260

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**LIVINGSTON COUNTY, KY 118.1 - \$299,000 -** This property has the right habitat for deer and turkey hunting, with the added bonus of a rustic one-room hunting cabin! Located in a qdm neighborhood and has plenty of deer sign throughout!

**SOLD**

**LIVINGSTON COUNTY, KY 81.09 - \$236,869 -** Property has a diverse mix of habitat types, irrigation system, numerous entry points along road frontage, hunter-friendly topography, a creek, and planted pines.

**SOLD**

**CRITTENDEN COUNTY, KY 55.78 - \$255,500 -** This tract has the right blend of habitat types, irrigation system, and hold big bucks with the added bonus of a fully furnished pole barn cabin! Includes a Redneck hunting blind and feeders!

**PENDING**

**LIVINGSTON COUNTY, KY - 113.44 ACRES - \$269,422 -** All timber hunting tract. This tract is located in an area known for big bucks and has timber diversity.

**LIVINGSTON COUNTY, KY - 119.44 ACRES - \$235,906 -** Mostly timber hunting tract geared toward turkeys and whitetails. This tract has a diverse topography with dynamic terrain features and timber diversity.

**LIVINGSTON COUNTY, KY - 189.63 ACRES - \$501,265 -** All timber hunting tract. This property is a timbered ridge top with food plots and a natural saddle.

**LIVINGSTON COUNTY, KY - 427 ACRES - \$918,237 -** Timbered ridge top hunting tract! This tract has the ideal blend of habitat types for mature whitetails and wild turkeys.

**CRITTENDEN COUNTY, KY - 201.98 ACRES - REDUCED! \$759,000 -** This property has a diverse blend of habitat types and topography with a home, outbuildings and a proven history of big bucks. The home has 2,025 square feet of living space with three bedrooms and two bathrooms.

**CRITTENDEN COUNTY, KY - 0.9 ACRES - REDUCED! \$105,000 -** This rustic cabin with storage buildings provides the ideal base camp for your hunting adventures! This cabin has 1,192 square feet of living space with three bedrooms and one bathroom, a spacious living area with a fireplace, a full kitchen with plenty of cabinet space, a full bathroom and laundry room.

**CRITTENDEN COUNTY, KY - 265.67 ACRES - \$742,500 -** Diverse hunting tract with waterfowl potential! This tract has the ideal habitat types for deer, turkeys and waterfowl hunting! This river bottom farm has approximately 1.5 miles of frontage along the Tradewater River.

**LIVINGSTON COUNTY, KY - 139.95 ACRES - \$318,386 -** Great hunting tract with dynamic hunter friendly topography, mast producing timber, security cover, open areas for food plots and a good trail system.

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# Practice more faith, advertise it less

Back in the day when Yellow Pages was a paper book, I needed some work done to upgrade a bathroom. I looked at the various possibilities and saw one that had a fish symbol included. Thinking it was a good idea to support a Christian business, I called, got a reasonable quote, and hired them. The job was adequate, but they left behind a sticky mess for me to clean up. Job not finished in my book. I had a couple of other experiences like this before I decided that choosing a company because they advertise their faith is not the best course of action. There is also a reason that I never have and never will give any indication of my faith on my vehicle. First, I make mistakes driving from time to time. Second, other people make mistakes driving as well and think it is my fault (this is much more common). There are enough reasons for people to be angry at Christians' behavior without giving more for no good reason. Then there is this wonderful new term "virtue signaling." It has been around for about 20



Sean NIESTRATH  
Faith-based columnist  
Guest Columnist

years, but widespread is more recent. These are the things people say that are for the purpose of gaining acceptance or to demonstrate moral/ethical superiority. For those who intentionally practice this technique it can be especially damaging to the cause. It tends to separate and polarize; virtue signaling is perfect for the times in which we live. The problem I see with all of this is that it uses faith or an ethical stand to bring attention to the person or the business. It just seems a little backward given that those in service to God (or anything else) are in the business of pointing to the thing they serve. Then there is the recent campaign "He Gets Us." There were several of these spots aired during the Super Bowl. The reactions to these ads have been varied to say the least. To me it was like eating too many doughnuts. I really enjoyed the event but didn't feel quite right afterward – even if it took me a while to figure out why. When I have this reaction, I can usually come to a place where I am at peace with it. I

still haven't gotten to that place. Here are three initial thoughts about why I might feel uneasy about those ads. Broadcast advertising (as in casting a broad net) will always be misunderstood by some because our contexts and viewpoints are vastly different from each other. In a polarized environment it is nearly impossible for something to be perceived as neutral. That means that those who are naturally inclined against something will not likely be changed by something as impersonal as an ad – and it may cause a bigger gap. I have been part of some social media conversations with people whom I share religious heritage, but do not know personally. Even here it is possible to say something that is understood in the opposite way intended. Once that happens it is nearly impossible to bring it back – especially if the participants do not share the same sense of humor. Advertising has no control over the receiver's context and therefore no way to correct a misunderstanding. It may be fine with cars, phones, beer, or betting apps – not so sure it's a good idea with matters of faith. Another uneasy feeling I had was how much it appealed to emotion. I love the idea that "Jesus

gets us." However, that emotion only takes us so far. I understand that this is a 30 or 60 second ad, so the journey is not going to be very long. It is just that I am not happy with where it left me, equating faith with feeling. The emotional appeal leads into a related thought. It is one thing to watch images of one person washing the feet of another when the expected roles are reversed. (Which also says a lot about us.) It is another to put down the chicken wings and ranch and go serve someone we may not otherwise like very much. The more we sentimentalize faith, the less it will cause us to do anything. In my experience faith does not always feel good. Sometimes it is downright miserable – but that doesn't make for good advertising. I am thankful that people believe enough that they are willing to put in the resources to make the ads possible. It is not for me to judge the servant of another or what they do with their resources spent in good conscience. I know that there will be some good done. I also know that what is needed is more practicing and less advertising. Dr. Sean Niestrath is a minister in Madisonville, Ky. He holds a doctoral degree in ministry. You may contact him at sean.niestrath@outlook.com.

Religious Outreach

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

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

■ Salem Baptist Celebrate Recovery meets Monday's 5:30 p.m. with a meal at 6 p.m., at 209 Highland Street, opposite side of the building from the Thrift Store.

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

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

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

■ First Baptist Church of Fredonia food pantry is open from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. the third Thursday of each month in Coleman Hall of the church.

■ The clothes closet at Mexico Baptist Church is open from 9 to 11:30 a.m. each Monday.

■ Cave Springs Baptist Church between Lola and Joy in Livingston County offers food 24 hours a day, 7 days week at its outdoor Blessing Box in front of the church.

Does your congregation have something planned or a service they offer? Let us know. We will post it here at no charge. Email to thepress@the-press.com or call (270) 965-3191

## Will weekend lake-living affect our worship and service?

**Question:** My husband and I can afford a weekend home on the lake. We all enjoy boating, fishing and playing in and around water. If we purchased a lake house, would mean we would spend most weekends there and away from our home church. Would it harm our relationship to God and our Christian training for our teens?

**Answer:** Of course, only you all can decide that, but here are a couple things you should consider:

1. God's Word explicit-

Ask the Pastor

By Bob Hardison

ly instructs us to "seek first his kingdom and his righteousness..." (Mt. 6:33). It means for us to put God in the center of our lives every day. It also emphasizes, "Let us not give up meeting together..." (Heb. 10:25). God intends that we live out our faith in community, and we

need encouragement from fellow Christians to stand strong in our faith. Ask yourself, "Can we worship God and serve others as well at the lake each weekend as we can at our home church and community?"

2. What effect will weekends living in a recreational

environment be on us and on our teens in five, 10, 20 years from now? Changes in ones location and environment often have life-changing effects on one's family dynamics and patterns of worship and service. Will it draw us closer to God or will it become the start of our not being in worship regularly? My personal observation has been when folks are not in church each Sunday, they stop reading their Bible daily or praying regularly. Send your questions to: bob@bobhardison.com

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St. William Catholic Church

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

Mexico Baptist Church

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

DEER CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

Sunday Bible Study: 10 a.m. "Whatever It Takes"  
Sunday Worship: 11 a.m. & 6 p.m. Bro. Jamie Baker  
Wednesday Bible Study: 7 p.m.  
Approx. 5 miles from the intersection of Hwy. 60 & Hwy. 297  
Phone: (270) 965-2220

Emmanuel Baptist Church

108 Hillcrest Dr., Marion | (270) 965-4623  
Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.  
Sunday Worship: 10:45 a.m., 6 p.m.  
Wednesday Adult Bible Study, Children and Youth Activities: 6 p.m.  
Captured by a vision...

Tolu United Methodist Church

Pastor: David Brown We invite you to be our guest  
Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.  
The People of The United Methodist Church  
Sunday School 10 a.m. • Service 11 a.m.  
Wednesday Night Youth 6:30 p.m.

Barnett Chapel General Baptist

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

Freedom General Baptist Church

Pastor: Ross Atwell  
87 Freedom Church Rd., Marion (about 1 mi. from Marion off Ky. 91)  
CHURCH TIMES:  
Sunday School 10 a.m. Sunday Evening 6 p.m.  
Sunday Worship 11 a.m. Wed. Bible Study 6 p.m.

Marion Baptist Church

College & Depot streets, Marion • (270) 965-5232  
Pastor: Bro. Aaron Brown • Children's & Youth Pastor: Bro. Shawn Holeman  
SUNDAY MORNING SERVICES: 9 a.m. & 11 a.m., ONLINE 11 a.m., SUNDAY SCHOOL: 10:05 a.m.  
WEDNESDAY: BIBLE STUDY/PRAYER 6 p.m., AWANA FOR CHILDREN & YOUTH GROUPS 6 p.m.  
CHOIR PRACTICE: 6:45 p.m., PRAISE TEAM: 7:30 p.m.

SEVEN SPRINGS MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

219 Seven Springs Rd., Marion, Ky. 42064  
Sun. School for all ages: 10 a.m.  
Sun. Worship: 11 a.m., 6 p.m. • Wed.: 7 p.m.  
- We are an Independent Baptist Church seeking to know Christ and to make Him known to the community around us. -

Crayne Community Church

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

FIRST CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

PLEASANT GROVE General Baptist Church

growing in grace 2 Peter 3:18  
Pastor Tracie Gaudin  
Located on Ky. 723, 4 miles north of Salem  
Sunday School 10 a.m. | Sunday Worship 11 a.m., 6 p.m. | Wed. 7 p.m.

Marion Church of God

334 Fords Ferry Road, Marion, Ky.  
Morning Service 11 a.m.  
Sun. Evening 6 p.m. • Wed. Evening 6 p.m.  
"Where salvation makes you a member."

PINEY FORK CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Speaker: Greg Rushing  
SUNDAY School 10 a.m. Worship 11 a.m. Bible study 6 p.m.  
A new beginning, going forward and looking to the future Ky. 506 | Marion, Ky.

Sugar Grove Cumberland Presbyterian

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

Marion United Methodist Church

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

Frances Community Church

Bro. Butch Gray  
Worship service:..... 11 a.m.  
Children's Church ages 3 & up ... 11 a.m.  
"The little church with a big heart"

Hurricane Church

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

Unity General Baptist Church

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

Marion Church of Christ

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



# Language, superstitions and weather lore

When some of us older generation get together and set around the table, it's not long until we start to reminiscence and compare things we remember from our childhood days, like school memories, games we played, even old sayings and beliefs that we heard while listening to our parents and grandparents.

This interesting article was written several years ago, but it reminded me, of how people from other states always remarked about our western Kentucky speech. I don't think much about it any more and this may help explain why.

The distinguishing marks generally accepted between a "Northerner" and a "Southerner" are rapidly disappearing in this age of visiting and travel.

The "Yankee twang" and the "Southern drawl" are not so noticeable as they once were. Even the "r's" seems to have been restored to the Dixie lexicon and language.

But a few twists to the American lingo, hardly apparent to the average user of them himself, yet define on which side of the Mason and Dixon line the speaker was born. A couple of examples: A Southerner who handled "r's" as fluently as the most northern Northerner was challenged in a Northern town with: "So you're one of those you all boys?" He asked why his hearer thought so, and was promptly told "you've used the expression, 'sure 'nough', three times during our conversation in the last 15 minutes.

Automobile touring bureau representatives brought to light another "sure shot" that distinguishes Northerners from Southerners. The Northerner, they say, refers to a "creek" as a "crick" while the Southerner invariably pronounces the words as spelled, "Creek."

Northern people tease us about the words "you all," and insist that we use it in the singular

way, applying to just the one person to whom you are talking. They refuse to believe we use it in a plural form, meaning "you and all your family come." Can anyone find a more hospitable word? I do not think we should ever forget to use it.

### Some Old Saying's

It is fun to think of all the phrases and beliefs that we grew up with, and no doubt, to people not from here, they are strange sounding and make no sense at all.

But they are a part of our heritage. Some examples include:

- A coon's age - meaning a long time
- Limp as a rag - weak feeling
- Plum tucked out - tired
- Bone weary - tired
- Down in the dumps - discouraged or depressed
- Rant and raving - discussing something emotionally or angry
- Smell a rat - suspicious about something or someone
- It's just a whoop and a holler - a short distance to some place
- Don't give a hoot - not interested.
- Very poorly - not feeling well
- Fast - meaning an immoral or flirtatious person
- If it'd been a snake it would have bit you - it was right in front of you
- Slower than molasses - meaning someone that never gets in a hurry
- Waited on hand and foot - taking care of sick or lazy people
- You let the cat out of the bag - told the secret

### Superstitious Don'ts.

I remember hearing many of these while I was growing up.

- Don't go in swimming in Dog Days. Dog Days, when Sirius is riding high, have been suspected since ancient times, even by people much brighter than you and me. Weather lore, "the "dog days" is considered a time when "all

liquids are poisonous, when bathing, swimming, or even drinking water can be dangerous, and a time when no sore or wound will heal properly."

- Don't plant potatoes in the light of the moon. Potatoes planted then go to tops and make very sorry tater.

- Don't cut out a dress or any other garment on Friday unless you can finish it before the week is over. This superstition is as ancient as the human race, I suspect. It was as common in classical times as it has ever been since. Friday is Venus's day. Venus is changeable, not to be trusted. Even the weather on Venus's day is unpredictable. "Friday is fairest or foulest."

- Don't sleep with the windows open. Poisonous air, or "miasmatic vapors," will come in and poison you while you are asleep. Incidentally, along with the miasmatic vapors will come malaria mosquitoes, but nobody seemed to know that then.

- Don't talk while you are fishing. You will scare the fish and thus get no catch. And sit down and be still while fishing as walking or running along the creek bank will scare the fish as they can feel the impact on the ground.

Weather Lore and Superstitions. Since the beginning of time man has found various ways to predict the weather. From this have come superstitions, old wives tales, and cultural stories passed from one family member to the next in each generation. It is a way of controlling the environment by knowing what to expect from the coming season. It is impossible according to scientists, - and reliable according to those who know how to read the signs they have learned.

- Red sky at night, sailors delight. Red sky at morning, sailors take warning.
- Owls will hoot more at night if rain is on the way.
- Cobwebs in the grass mean rain.
- Pink clouds in the west at evening time means rain.
- A round topped

cloud with a flatted base, carries rainfall in its face.

- If Easter comes in late March, that is a sign there will be an early spring.

- I'm sure most have heard the old saying for March "in like a lion, out like a lamb" or it might be reversed and be "in like a lamb and out like a lion."

- If the moon shows like a silver shield you needn't be afraid to reap your fields. But if she rises haloed round, soon we'll tread on deluged ground."

- We all know the moon has a certain control over the ocean tides. But according to weather lore it also predicts weather patterns and how plants will grow. Many people believe in planting according to the moon, they watch it for the next rainfall, harvest fields by it and predict major storms coming their way just by watching for shape, season, color and location.

- Native American belief is if the moon looks like it is tipped on its back, it is holding water that will not spill. If it is tipped forward the water will spill from it in the form of rain.

- Animals seem to have a built in weather system and can predict hard winters more easily than any human will ever be able to. When their fur comes in thicker than normal during the fall it means there is going to be a hard, cold winter. But this applies to animals that live in the outdoors all the time, not your well pampered pets. Horses, goats and other barnyard animals that need extra protection from the season are provided for by nature with an extra layer of hair or fur.

- Beavers are a great predictor of the winter season to come. They build their homes to protect them from the cold and weight of snow. If a beaver dam is built thick and heavy, blocking a larger portion of water mass than in years past, you can be sure the winter will be a hard one.

- Other predictors of a hard, cold winter are when nuts and berries hang on the branches after the last of the leaves have fallen. When the oak tree still wears his

leaves in October, it will be cold, hard winter.

True enough, the only sure way to predict the weather is to wait for it to arrive and then look out the window. Some of the superstitions and lore seem to be right on, while others serve as entertainment to the world. But if you want to find out the truth, keep your own weather journal to create a new generation of predictors and fam-

ily stories. I've kept a weather journal for more than 40 years, they are very interesting to look back on and compare the weather through the years.

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



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## IT'S GREEK TO ME

A FIRESIDE CHAT with KATHLEEN GUESS

**FEBRUARY 27  
7 PM  
FOHS HALL**

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Pictured (front from left) are Kelly DeWitt, Carol Harrison, Monica Wessel and Barbara Steele, (back) Pam Clevenger, Jazlynn Fowler, Melissa Guill and Barbara Gross. Participants not pictured are Lindsay Morrison, Shawnee Pace and Susan Smith.

## Anniversary celebrated with book challenge

The Crittenden County Public Library celebrated its 70th anniversary with an Ultimate Book Nerd Challenge.

This group of prolific readers challenged themselves to read an

impressive number of books over an eight-month period.

Teen participants strived for 35 books, or an average of about a book a week. Adults' goal was 53 books between April 6 and Dec.

31, 2023.

This was the first such challenge for Melissa Guill, who admitted that though she has never been an enthusiastic reader, developed a new love for reading during the challenge.



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Prepaid ads of 20 words or less are \$6 for one week, with a 10-cent charge for each word over the initial 20. Run the same ad for consecutive issues for only \$4 each week. Now, all regular classified ads are placed on our Web site, www.the-press.com, at no extra charge. You can also reach more than one million readers with one call! Contact the classified department for more information about placing a 25-word classified in 70 newspapers for only \$250. It is the policy of The Crittenden Press Inc., to fully comply with the Fair Housing Act and to never knowingly publish advertisements that discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, disability or family status. If you believe an advertisement published in this newspaper is discriminatory, please contact the publisher immediately at (270) 965-3191. All phone numbers listed for ads on this page are within the 270 area code unless otherwise noted.

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Heritage breed (Tamsworth) purebred guilts, ready for service (8 months old in March 2024). Current weight approx. 275-300 lbs. Gentle mothers, strong immune systems, dependable litter sizes. Call (270) 704-6005. (2t-8-p)

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miscellaneous

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(20t-9-p)

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bid notice

The City of Fredonia is accepting bids for the 2024 mowing season. Bid packets are available at Fredonia City Hall during normal business hours. Mowing bids are due to Fredonia City Hall by March 8. For additional information, contact Fredonia City Hall at (270) 545-3925. (1t-8-c)

legal notices

LaDelicia Mexican Restaurant LLC, dba La Cantina with an address of 115 Morningside Drive, Marion, KY 42064 hereby declares intention(s) to apply for a NQ2 retail drink license(s) and special Sunday sales license no later than March 15, 2024. The business to be licensed will be located at 115 Morningside Drive, Marion, Ky. 42064. Doing business as La Cantina LLC. The owner, Graciela Bruce of 346 Rail Road Hill Road, Grand Rivers, Ky. 42045. Any person, association, corporation, or body politic may protest the granting of license(s) by writing the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control, 500 Mero Street 2NE3, Frankfort, Ky. 40601-8400, within 30 days (KRS 243.430) of the date of this legal publication. (4t-11-c)

Notice is hereby given that on February 7, 2024 Denise Smith of 9039 S. Central, Oaklawn, IL 60453 was appointed executrix with will annexed of Kenneth W. Willingham, deceased, whose address was 83 Willingham Ln., Marion, Ky. 42064. Douglas C. Howard, 213 Saint Clair St., Suite 101, Frankfort, Ky. 40601, agent for service of process.

All persons having claims against said estate are hereby notified to present the same properly proven as required by law to the agent for process with will annexed on or before the 7th day of August, 2024 and all claims not so proven and presented by that date shall be forever barred. All persons indebted to the estate of the above-named decedent, will please call and settle said debts immediately Crittenden District Court Melissa Guill, Clerk (1t-8-c)

I, Melissa Guill, Clerk of Crittenden County District Court, Marion, Ky. do certify that the following has filed notice of final settlement: Melinda Gibson of 100 Town Lake Dr., Marion, Ky. 42064 for Stanley Gibson, deceased, whose address was 812 S. Main St., Marion, Ky. 42064. The foregoing settlement is to be heard at the regular session of Crittenden District Court on March 20, 2024. All persons having exceptions to said settlements are to file same at once. Crittenden District Court Melissa Guill, Clerk (1t-8-c)

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# Go catch a trophy Kentucky bass in late winter

**BY LEE MCCLELLAN**  
KENTUCKY APFIELD

Not long ago, wind chills bottomed out at 15 degrees below zero. After this arctic wave passed, Kentuckians endured monsoon rains that prompted rivers and streams to jump up quickly and run high for weeks.

It is enough to give outdoors enthusiasts the blues. January came in like a lamb, then roared out like a lion. February, with its gradually longer days and an occasional warm front, revives hopes in many Kentucky angler’s souls.

For February marks the beginning of a time when anglers with perseverance and a willingness to deal with the elements can catch the best fish of their lifetime, especially largemouth and smallmouth bass.

It starts with the warmer rains that raise water temperatures and trigger fish to begin feeding in preparation for the coming spawn. It’s a process that can happen quickly. In late January, for example, Central Kentucky’s Elkhorn Creek measured barely above 32 degrees. Following rains that swelled the creek, the Elkhorn’s water temperature jumped to nearly 51 degrees within four days.

“February is our wet season,” said Mike Hardin, assistant director of Fisheries for the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources. “We start to warm up from the deep freeze. Critters start moving, even salamanders get active at this time of year.”

By mid-February, fe-

male bass are gearing up for spawning. They need healthy fat reserves to power them through the rigors of reproduction. Instinct tells them to eat, even if it is dark and gloomy February.

“This is when female fish get eggy,” Hardin explained. “They need food so they can store energy for spring spawning that is still several weeks away in Kentucky. We are now starting to come out of the winter pattern, with our days getting longer and the water warming.”

Old-timers knew the pattern well.

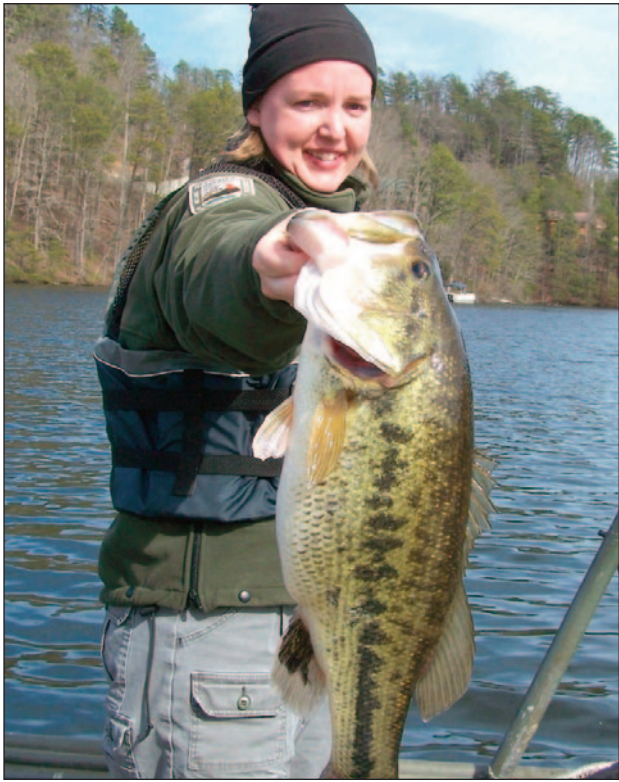
Once February rains had raised Herrington Lake, flooding the shoreline cover and coloring the water, hearty anglers donned heavy wool jackets and fished the upper end of the lake.

Since this was decades before electric trolling motors, anglers used wooden sculling paddles to stealthily move among the shallow stumps and logs. Huge largemouth bass, flushed into shallow water by the rising lake, waited in this cover to ambush prey from their lairs.

Anglers employed stout cane poles with heavy black Dacron line tied onto the slender end of the pole. They impaled night crawlers on large hooks, then gently dunked their bait beside the stumps and along the sunken logs in the muddy water. Sometimes huge fish inhaled the offering.

This technique, called jigging, also proved effective when Lake Cumberland first filled in the 1950s. The new lake featured plenty of flooded shoreline trees for bass cover. Jigging’s popularity declined in Lake Cumberland as wave action eventually destroyed the cover. Looking at the nearly featureless bank of the huge lake at winter pool now, it is hard to believe the bank was once wooly.

As shoreline cover in Kentucky’s lakes has degraded with age, today’s anglers rarely use sculling paddles and fat gobs of nightcrawlers to catch shallow largemouth bass in February. Instead, they pitch ½-ounce black and blue jigs with large matching trailers beside shallow stumps, dock pylons or sunken logs. Big female largemouth still move to shallow cover after Feb-



**Marcy Anderson, Southeastern Fisheries District biologist for the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources, holds a huge largemouth bass captured and released during population sampling in February on Woods Creek Lake a couple of years ago. February and into mid-March is an excellent time to catch a trophy largemouth or smallmouth bass.**

## Week 7 Legislative Review Senator highlights key bills

Having surpassed the midpoint of the 2024 Regular Session, it’s a pivotal time to reflect and renew our dedication to our legislative responsibilities. With under 30 legislative days remaining, we recommit ourselves to the crucial tasks that lie ahead.

Throughout the session, we’ve had the privilege of hosting various student groups and esteemed guests within the halls of our capitol. Their presence has infused our deliberations with fresh perspectives, reminding us of the importance of civic engagement and the responsibility we bear to mentor and empower the next generation of leaders in the commonwealth.

In the words of John Quincy Adams, “If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader.” As we navigate the complexities of governance, this quote reminds us that true leadership is marked by its ability to inspire others to reach their fullest potential.

Presidents’ Day – which was celebrated Monday – is a fitting to pay homage to the exemplary leadership and selfless sacrifices of those who have held our nation’s highest office. Much like John Quincy Adams, our past presidents have steered the course of history with their visionary leadership, guiding us through moments of adversity and transformation. In observance of this Presidents’ Day, the General Assembly did not convene on Monday.

The pace of activity picked up in the Senate last week as we passed several including two measures that are proposed changes to our Kentucky Constitution. Senate Bill 143 (SB 143) is a proposed constitutional amendment I sponsored which would prohibit individuals who are not citizens of the United States from participating in the voting process within the Commonwealth of Kentucky. Senate Bill 23 is another constitutional amendment that would exempt homeowners 65 and older from property valuation increases, providing much-needed relief to our senior citizens.

To enact either of these changes, the bills would require support from three-fifths of both the Senate and House of Representatives. Once endorsed by the required majority, the proposed amendment would then be presented to Kentucky voters during a future General election. If the majority of voters favor the amendment, it would subsequently be adopted.

I also introduced two significant bills that are making their way through the legislative process. SB 189 alters

existing law that allows the placement of a veterinarian school of Murray State University, a much-needed addition to our post-secondary education option. SB 157 strikes a balance between the efforts of animal rights groups, pet stores and other businesses that make their living from the pet care business.

In striking this balance for responsible regulation, this bill incorporates the USDA standards for regulating animal breeding. It requires pet stores to offer dogs and cats they sell from animal shelters and qualified breeders, and prevents local governments from enacting tighter regulations on the businesses. Retail pet stores would only be able to sell to buyers who are at least 18 years old, and prohibits them from selling puppies and kittens less than eight weeks old.

Senate Bill 6 ensures that students and employees of public postsecondary institutions are not penalized for refusing to endorse discriminatory concepts. It also prohibits preferential treatment based on political or social ideology and mandates that courses don’t advocate discriminatory concepts as fact. Additionally, SB 6 mandates new student orientation programs and allocates at least 50 percent of diversity initiative employees’ duties to supporting Pell grant students. The attorney general can enforce the act through civil action, and institutions must publish designated course information on their website.

Senate Bill 11 enhances school safety efforts by requiring schools to be notified within 24 hours when a juvenile is charged with certain crimes, ensuring better communication and proactive measures to protect our students.

Senate Bill 16 broadens protection of key infrastructure assets including commercial food manufacturing and processing facilities, concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs), and animal feeding operations (AFOs). The bill would define an offense of trespass upon key infrastructure assets, stating that individuals may be charged if they knowingly operate unmanned aircraft systems or recording devices over properties containing CAFOs, AFOs, or commercial food facilities without the owner’s consent.

Additionally, recording or distributing footage from any part of these facilities would be considered an offense.

The legislation specifies that the trespass statute does not apply to electric, water, or natural gas utility companies, or individuals acting on their behalf for legitimate business purposes.

SB 20 expands the definition of a violent offender to include individuals convicted of discharging a firearm while committing either burglary in the first degree, assault in the second degree, or wanton endangerment in the first degree. Additionally, convicted violent offenders must serve at least 50 percent of their sentence before being eligible for probation, shock probation, parole, conditional discharge or other form of early release. The legislation also addresses the growing trend of violent crimes committed by youth across the commonwealth. Senate Bill 20 will mandate that an individual between the ages of 15-18, who is charged with a violent crime be tried as an adult.

SB 139 aims to allow private fund advisers to conduct business in Kentucky without needing an investment adviser registration license. However, they would still be required to pay fees and submit reports to the Department of Financial Institutions. To qualify, they must not have serious violations under federal law, manage funds limited to venture capital or certain investor types, and provide required disclosures.


SB 158 allows financial institutions to open restricted savings accounts, restricted investment accounts, or issue annuities on behalf of minors entering into certain settlements. A court order will no longer be needed to open the account or issue the annuity. This saves time and money by eliminating the need to navigate the courts to get an order to open an account.

SB 29 aims to permit primarily out-of-state entities from taking advantage of auto glass claims. This bill restricts insured individuals from transferring their insurance policy rights to third parties for motor vehicle glass repair or replacement claims. The bill mandates repair shops obtain either a claim number from the insured or written confirmation of lack of coverage for repairs to proceed.

You can find the status of these bills and other legislation by calling 866-840-2835 or receive legislative meeting information at 800-633-9650. You can watch and follow legislative activity at [KET.org.legislature](http://KET.org.legislature) and [Legislature.ky.gov](http://Legislature.ky.gov).

*Sen. Howell, R-Murray, represents the 1st Senate District including Calloway, Crittenden, Fulton, Graves, Hickman, Lyon and Trigg counties.*






**JANUARY 2024**

## Activity Report

Here is Crittenden County Sheriff Evan Head's monthly activity report for his department.

	January	2023 Avg Monthly
Collision Investigated	2	5.25
Complaints	62	54.58
Papers Served	38	28.83
Service Attempts Failed	7	8.17
Total Service Attempts	81	56.17
Transports	4	3.17
Special Detail	59	37.83
Training Hours	48	11.42
Verbal Warning	6	11.25
Criminal Citation	11	5.33
Officer Assist	4	4.75
Building Checks	116	59.92
Total Manhours	791.4	486.46
Bailiff Court Hours	77	47.48
Cases Opened	7	9.58
Felony Arrests	0	3.67
Followup Investigations	10	9.42
Misdemeanor Arrests	3	6.92
Motorist Assists	6	6.08
DUIs	0	0.42
Traffic Citations	8	6.42
General Policing	102	69.83
Call for Service	52	23.75
Vehicle Inspections	37	-
Meet w/Schools	7	-

Crittenden County Detention Center				
	<b>JAIL CENSUS</b>	<b>Jan. 2023 Avg</b>	<b>Dec. 2023 Avg</b>	<b>Monthly Average 2023</b>
	State Inmates	85	91.65	99.25
	Federal Inmates	76.3	66.71	57.85
	Other County Inmates	15.1	27.32	12.78
	Crittenden County Inmates	17.1	17.74	13.81
	<b>TOTAL INMATES</b>	<b>193.5</b>	<b>203.42</b>	<b>183.75</b>
	Highest Daily Count	217	206	—
	Lowest Daily Count	188	186	—
<b>DETENTION CENTER REPORT</b> FEBRUARY 2024				
The Crittenden County Detention Center report is provided monthly to magistrates during Crittenden County Fiscal Court meetings. The inmate count is an average for last month. <small>• Federal Inmates \$57 Per diem • State Inmates \$31.34 Per diem • Lyon County Inmates \$36.00 • Other County Inmates \$32.00</small>	<b>Last Month REVENUE</b>	<b>January 2023</b>	<b>December 2023</b>	<b>Monthly Average 2023</b>
	State Housing Payments	\$93,085.56	\$100,400.94	\$105,704.89
	Federal Housing Payments	\$134,748.00	\$101,322.00	\$85,958.25
	Federal Transport Payments	\$14,021.60	\$11,514.54	\$8,245.58
	Lyon Co. Housing Payments	\$14,832.00	\$28,260.00	\$14,880.00
	Other County Housing Payments	\$1,760.00	\$1,984.00	\$666.67
	Weekend/Work Release	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$296.00
	<b>TOTAL HOUSING</b>	<b>\$258,477.16</b>	<b>\$243,491.48</b>	<b>\$208,736.23</b>
	<b>Last Month ANALYSIS</b>			
	Cost of Crittenden Inmates	\$15,968.00	\$17,600.00	\$14,986.67
<b>JANUARY</b> <small>Total Receipts \$328,074.27 Disbursements \$368,398.33</small>	Numbers of Co. Housing Days	499	550	468.33
	County Daily Housing Rate	32	32	\$32.00
	Avg Daily Population Co. Inmates	17.1	17.74	15.44



BASKETBALL

Fifth District Standings

GIRLS		
Team	Dist	Overall
Lyon County	5-1	17-9
Crittenden County	4-2	17-12
Livingston Central	3-3	11-10
Trigg County	0-6	3-24

BOYS		
Team	Dist	Overall
Lyon County	6-0	26-3
Trigg County	4-2	10-18
Livingston Central	2-4	9-18
Crittenden County	0-6	3-22

5th District Tournament

**Girls at Lyon County**  
**MONDAY'S FIRST ROUND**  
Lyon County vs Trigg County, 6pm  
Crittenden vs Livingston Cent., 7:30pm  
**CHAMPIONSHIP**  
Thursday, 6pm at Lyon County

**Boys at Lyon County**  
**TUESDAY'S FIRST ROUND**  
Lyon County vs Crittenden Co., 6pm  
Trigg Co. vs Livingston Cent., 7:30pm  
**CHAMPIONSHIP**  
Friday, 6pm at Lyon County

2nd Region Tournament

The girls' Second Region Basketball Tournament will be hosted by Trigg County March 4-9 while the boys' Second Region Tournament will be March 6-12 at Hopkinsville.

Round the 5th District

RECENT RESULTS	
Girls	
Hopkins Central 55, Lyon Co. 46	
Hopkins Central 41, Livingston 34	
Ballard Memorial 54, Trigg Co. 37	
Paducah Tilghman, 69, Trigg Co. 47	
BOYS	
Lyon County 73, Madisonville 70	
Lyon County 98 Adair County 48	
Hopkins Central 100, Livingston 63	
Meridian, Ill., 90, Trigg County 79	
Ballard Memorial 60, Trigg Co. 55	

UPCOMING GAMES	
Girls	
Feb 22 Critenden Co. at McLean Co.	
Feb 23 Carlisle County at Lyon Co.	
Feb 23 Livingston at Caldwell County	
Boys	
Feb 22 Calloway Co. at Lyon County	
Feb 22 Crittenden at Mayfield	
Feb 23 Crittenden at Carlisle County	
Feb 23 Todd Central at Trigg County	
Feb 23 Livingston at Caldwell Co.	

Fifth District Old Timers

There will be an Alumni Fifth District basketball tournament Saturday at Ed-dyville and Crittenden County will be participating. Crittenden's first men's game is at noon. Games will be all day long at Lyon County High School gym. There is no CCHS girls' team playing.

SOCCER  
Youth sign up Saturday

Crittenden County Youth Soccer As-sociation will have registration from 9-11 a.m., Saturday, Feb. 24 at H&H Home and Hardware and from 5-7 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 29 at Crittenden Elementary. Registration forms are available at The Crittenden Press. Deadline to register is March 1, and payment must accompany forms. Call Bridgett Sharp for more information 270-625-4634.

BASEBALL | SOFTBALL  
Youth league sign ups

Deadline is March 9 for boys and girls who want to play youth baseball and softball in Marion. Costs vary depending on the age of the child, and there are family discounts. Skills assessment is 10 a.m., to noon, Saturday, March 9 for some players. For more infor-mation call Tanner Tabor at 859-333-9751.

FOOTBALL  
Rocket stay in 2A likely

A proposed reclassification of KHSAA football teams has been presented, which has Crittenden County remaining in Class 2A through the 2026 season. The Class A First District would change, however, starting in the fall of 2025. The Rockets would join Caldwell County, Mayfield, Ft. Campbell, Todd Central and Trigg County, based on the current pro-posal. Murray, which is in the dis-trict now, would move up Class 3A with Union County and others.

Girls maroon  
Madisonville

STAFF REPORT  
Sophomore Anna Boone dropped 37 points Tuesday as Crittenden County beat Madisonville for the first time in more than 40 years.  
Boone was six points from the Lady Rockets' single-game scoring record in the 70-65 victory.  
CCHS trailed by as many as 14 in the first half, but Boone and Hodge got hot in the second period and CCHS went ahead by two inside of two minutes be-fore the half and settled for a 34-all tie at the break. Crittenden owned the sec-ond half despite foul trouble and being without forward Andrea Federico.  
Madisonville falls to 13-12 as Critten-den improved to 17-12 with one regu-lar-season game to go at McLean County on Friday.  
**Loss at Hopkinsville**  
Outmanned with forward Andrea Fed-erico out with an injury, Crittenden County couldn't hold onto an early lead Friday and lost 74-62 at Hopkinsville.  
The Lady Tigers' quickness and re-bounding helped them take the lead for good late in the third quarter and when CCHS leading scorer Anna Boone went down with an ankle injury late in the game, Hoptown prevailed.  
Crittenden led by five at the half thanks to good three-point shooting, but stopping Hopkinsville inside pro-vided to be a challenge. When CCHS de-ployed a zone offense in the second half, the Tiger girls shot over it.



Sophomore forward Andrea Federico, pictured above in a recent contest against Union County, was injured in a game against Hopkins Central last week. She is expected to return later this week, but her absence has been sorely felt over the last couple of games.

Crittenden had three girls in double figures with eighth-grader Jordyn Hodge leading the way with 18.  
The Lady Rockets fell to 16-12 with the loss while Hoptown improved to 9-9. CCHS hadn't lost to the Lady Tigers since COVID.  
Madisonville 21 34 47 65  
Crittenden Co. 14 34 52 70  
MADISONVILLE – Whitsell 26, Johnson 1, Parish 3, Wright 5, Carney 7, Sword 20, Barber 3. FG 23. 3-

pointers 7 (Parish, Whitsell 6). FT 9-11.  
CRITTENDEN – Boone 37, Evans 9, Hodge 13, Holeman 5, Rushing 2, Stewart 4, Munday. FG 24. 3-pointers 8 (Boone 6, Evans, Hodge). FT 14-18.  
Crittenden Co. 17 33 44 62  
Hopkinsville 15 28 49 74  
CRITTENDEN – Boone 16, Evans 13, Hodge 18, Rushing 6, Holeman 7, Stewart 2. FG 17. 3-pointers: 9 (Boone 3, Evans 3, Hodge 2, Holeman). FT: 17-18  
HOPKINSVILLE - Payton 5, Davis 21, Wilson 7, Flemming 9, Forte 28, Murray 2, Sharper 2. FG 30. 3-pointers 4 (Payton, Davis 3). FT:10-18.

Champ gets 2 more

STAFF REPORT  
Sidelined with a season-ending knee injury weeks ago, Rocket senior Travis Champion returned the floor briefly on senior night Friday to score a ceremonial basket during a 65-46 loss to Owensboro Apollo.  
The Rockets were unable to find further magic and were outpaced by Apollo from the outset, losing for the 21st time this season.  
Injuries, particularly the one to Champion, have been a challenge for the Rockets this winter, the first season for new coach Matt Fraliex. However, the squad has continued to fight through a campaign with only three wins.  
**Walker nets 34 at HopCentral**  
CCHS fell behind by a bunch early, but closed the gap in the second half on the road Tuesday before losing 81-71 to Hopkins Central as Rocket Bryson Walker scored 34.  
Hopkins Central improved to 10-17 while the Rockets fall to 3-22.  
**Loss against Webster**  
Crittenden County fell behind early and lost 67-40 to Webster County Thursday at Rocket Arena.  
The Trojan defense was far too much for the Rockets as Crittenden lost its fifth game in a row and fell to

3-20 on the season.  
Owensboro Apollo 20 30 48 65  
Crittenden County 7 17 35 46  
APOLLO - Kelly 13, Henning 9, Williams 3, Tutt 3, Jarboe 18, Tillopp 7, Powers 11, Johnson 2. FG 26. 3-pointers 6 (Kelly 5, Jarboe 2). FT:9-9.  
CRITTENDEN - Champion 2, Belcher 2, Walker 14, Hatfield 13, Sharp 7, Keller 6, Poindexter 2, LaRue, Reddick, Travis, Rhodes. FG 13. 3-pointers 3 (Water 2, Sharp). FT: 10-10  
Webster County 18 36 54 67  
Crittenden County 7 15 31 40  
WEBETER - McDyer 1, Starks-Scott 10, Austin 15, Hardison 4, Michalek 4, Davis 7, Garrard 9, Cardwell 2, Orcutt 6, Murphy 9. FG 26. 3-point-ers 5 (Austin 3, Davis, Murphy. FT: 14-18.  
CRITTENDEN - Belcher 3, Walker 14, Hatfield 5, Dayberry 5, Sharp 6, Keller 2, Reddick 2, Travis 3, Poindexter 2, Porter, LaRue. FG: 12. 3-pointers 5 (Walker 2, Dayberry, Sharp 2). FT: 16-20.  
Crittenden County 6 21 38 71  
Hopkins Central 24 43 63 81  
CRITTENDEN – Belcher 7, Walker 34, Hatfield 12, Sharp 6, Keller 5, Reddick 5, Poindexter 2, Travis, LaRue. FG 27. 3-pointers 6 (Walker). FT 14-18.  
HOPCENTRAL – Butcher 14, Hopson 2, Dun-lap 12, Sumner 12, Skeen 16, Mitchell 2, Gunn 10, Jones 1, Craig 7. FG 31. 3-pointers 7. FT 17-18.




Crittenden County center Jonah Reddick has averaged five points and five rebounds in his first season to play for the Rockets.




Crittenden County' boys' and girls' little league basketball teams have been sharpening their skills during league action this month. Here, Karsin Gardner makes her away around a Trigg County de-fender.

Wishing the  
Rockets &  
Lady Rockets  
a Successful  
Season!



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Gabe!

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# County revokes business license of roofing company for delinquent dump fees

STAFF REPORT

Crittenden County Fiscal Court last Thursday voted to revoke a business permit for All In One Contracting, a Madisonville firm that has been operating in the community for more than a year.

The county cited an unpaid, past-due accumulated dumping fee in excess of \$7,000 for the action.

After meeting in executive session to discuss pending or possible litigation, Judge-Executive Perry Newcom said the court is giving the roofing company 10 days to pay the bill in full or it will file suit against All In One.

The move appears to be the first time a county business license has been revoked in more than 25 years.

All In One had recently been making hail-damage repairs for an insurance claim filed by the City of Marion on its buildings in town.

Roofing companies have been using the Crittenden County Convenience Center as a location to dump damaged roofing and construction materials from their repair jobs. Newcom said the county dumping center is a cash-only business; however, special concessions were made for the companies so they could dump daily yet pay at the end of the month. He stated that All In One had paid timely for eight or nine months, but as of last Thursday had not paid a bill for \$7,503 from December. He said multiple attempts have been made to collect the delinquent account.

“The county attorney has sent a letter to them with no response,” the judge said.

In other action by the fiscal court during last week’s regular monthly meeting:

- Magistrates approved a proposal from the Crittenden County Recreation Center Committee to begin charging a fee for use of the former National Guard Armory.

The county, which now owns the armory, developed a cooperative agreement with the school district a couple of years ago which allows school sports teams to use the facility for indoor practices. The armory is also home to Crittenden County Adult Education and has been temporarily used by other agencies for various activities. Competitive youth

## FISCAL COURT

archers associated with Inside Out Archery use the facility and adult pickle ball is regularly held there. It can also be made available for other groups.

Newcom said the committee that oversees what is now considered the county’s group recreational center has established a fee schedule for them. Entities with up to 49 members pay \$200 per year and larger groups pay \$300 annually. The armory is secured by an automated locking system on doors. Group representatives are assigned a key fob that electronically logs their times of usage. Groups must also pay a small deposit for the key fob.

- The county has received just over \$20,000 on an insurance claim from an ambulance that was involved in a crash on US 60 West a few months ago. Equipment from the rig has been salvaged for use in another ComCare ambulance.
- Crittenden County government approved payment of a district court ordered \$500 attorney fee for an indigent person.
- Local Extension agent Rebecca Woodall has been chosen to serve an unexpired term as a trustee on the Crittenden County Public Library Board.

Crittenden County Fiscal Court made the appointment last week during its regular meeting. Woodall will serve until November 2026. She will replace Melissa Tabor, who resigned. Trustees typically serve four-year terms.

- Scott Hurley, who is fire chief of the Crittenden County Volunteer Fire Department, was appointed to serve as a deputy emergency management director. He will join his brother, Jason Hurley, who is the director, and Darrell Simpson, who is another deputy director, on the EM staff.
- The fiscal court will meet on a different day than usual during March due to scheduling conflicts with events in Frankfort. Next month’s meeting will be at 8:30 a.m., Tuesday, March 19.
- Riverview Park camping has slowed over the coldest part of winter, but there were a half dozen overnight RV stays at the campground, which is operated by the county on the Ohio River.

Crittenden County Schools

2024-2025 School Calendar

August 2024						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

September 2024						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

October 2024						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

November 2024						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

December 2024						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

January 2025						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

February 2025						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	

March 2025						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

April 2025						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

May 2025						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

June 2025						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

July 2025						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Regular Instructional Day

Holiday

Professional Development

First & Last Day for Students

District Planning Day

Opening/Closing

Non School Day

Aug 6-8

Aug 9

Aug 12

Aug 13

Aug 14

Sept 2

Oct 7-11

Oct 14

Nov 5

Nov 27-29

Dec 20-Jan 3

Professional Development Day

Teacher Planning Day

Opening Day

No School

First Day for Students

Labor Day

Fall Break

Professional Development Day

Election Day

Thanksgiving Break

Christmas Break

Jan 6

Jan 20

Feb 17

Feb 18

Mar 31-Apr 4

Apr 7

May 22

May 23

May 26

May 27

Professional Development Day

No School

No School

Teacher Planning Day

Spring Break

Teacher Planning Day

Last Day for Students

Closing Day

Memorial Day

Teacher Planning Day

# Supporters start GoFundMe for Sykes Garden

STAFF REPORT

A GoFundMe has been established to raise money for the Phyllis Sykes Reading Garden at Crittenden County Elementary School.

Former students, colleagues and friends say an inviting, outdoor space for students to develop a lot for reading is the perfect memorial for the beloved first grade teacher and Marion City Council

member.

Search “Ms. Phyllis Sykes’s Reading Garden” on the GoFundMe web page or make monetary donations directly to Crittenden County Elementary School.

The reading garden will also include a lending library so students can borrow and share books throughout the school year and summer months.

The late Phyllis Sykes

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