Rockets On Me

The Crittenden Press

Fifth District Tournament Continues
Post-Season Results, Sports Page 9

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24/7 BREAKING AND LOCAL NEWS / THE-PRESS.COM | AN INDEPENDENTLY-OWNED, LOCAL NEWSPAPER SINCE 1879 | ONE DOLLAR

RECORD REGISTRATION

KY DEMS 1.6M, GOP 1.4M

A record number of Kentuckians are now registered to vote. Secretary of State Michael G. Adams announced last week that 3,462,152 Kentuckians were registered as of Jan. 31. Democratic registrants represented just more than 48 percent of the electorate with 1,678,538 potential voters and Republican registrants totaled 1,477,985, or almost 43 percent of possible voters. Almost 9 percent of voters were listed under other affiliations. April 20 is the last day to register to vote in the May 19 primary. You may register at your local courthouse or online at GoVoteKy.com. This year, Kentuckians will cast votes for President, U.S. Senator and many local races.

DUAL CREDIT OPTIONS

Are you interested in getting a head start on your college career?

Madisonville Community College and your high school work together to help you starting earning college credit while you are still in high school with dual credit classes and Senior College Academy. There will be an information session on Thursday, March 19 at Madisonville Community College to learn more about how to earn college and high school credit for taking a college course. The program will be at the MCC Beshear Education Center community room (on first floor across from bookstore). The general high school dual credit program will be from 6-7 p.m., and the senior Senior College Academy (taking classes on MCC campus with other HS students) is from 7-8 p.m. This is for students and parents and high school and college professionals. For more information email janet.railey@kctcs.edu or call 270-824-8576.

FREE BASIC LIFE SAVING

Crittenden County School District's Crosswalk program is partnering with Baptist Health to offer an adult skill-building class in Basic Life Support (BLS) skills. The class will take place from 5:30-7:30 p.m., on Monday, March 2 at the high school library. It is free to any adult in the community interested in learning basic life support skills and receiving certification. Class size is limited so contact Jeff Hughes at -270-965-2248 as soon as possible to register.

NEW PARK BOARD MEMBER

Marion City Council last week appointed Matt Jent to a full four-year term on the Marion-Crittenden County Park Board.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

•**Crittenden Board of Education** will meet at 5:30 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 27 at Rocket Arena.

•**Crittenden County Public Library Board of Trustees** will meet at 5 p.m., Thursday Feb. 27 at the library.

Online self-reporting for the 2020 U.S. Census begins March 12. It takes about 10 minutes to complete the Census online form.

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USPS 138-260 / Marion, Ky.

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Student Hurst Miniard chats with School Resource Officer John Shofner last week at the SRO's kiosk in the hallway between the high school and middle school.

12 Percent of Local Students Under Behavorial Health Care

Local schools ahead of SB 8 gun, counselor policy

STAFF REPORT

Crittenden County is well out in front of proposed legislation that will make gun-carrying school resource officers and more campus counselors state law.

A bill requiring Kentucky school resource officers to carry guns was the first piece of education legislation during the 2020 session of the Kentucky General Assembly to pass both chambers. Gov. Andy Beshear signed it into law on Friday.

Known as Senate Bill 8, the legislation cleared the House with a bipartisan 78-8 vote. The bill passed the Senate by a vote of 34-1.

The new law requires all school resource officers to carry a handgun — an idea opposed by some Democrats, particularly those in Louisville. Some say the legislation has racist overtones.

Clark

Vince Clark, superintendent of Crittenden County schools, said the district already employs a deputy to serve as its resource officer, and he is armed with both a firearm and taser.

John Shofner, who has been the resource officer since August 2018, is a regular figure at local schools. He's a former police chief in Sturgis and a career lawman.

Shofner says he has developed good relationships on campus. Some students have even approached him about becoming a law enforcement officer. Interestingly, he also gets a number of questions from students curious about military careers.

Having the resource officer has been beneficial to safety and security, Clark said. The school pays the SRO's salary. The Crittenden County Sheriff's Department picks up most of the other expenses, such as his vehicle, fuel, weapons, gear, uniforms and training expenses.

State law also says school districts should have a resource officer on every campus. Crittenden has two campus sites with the middle school and high school on one site and the elementary school campus about a mile away. Shofner splits his time between all of the schools.

Kentucky Revised Statutes say that at least one SRO is required per campus "as funds and qualified personnel become available."

Sheriff Wayne Agent said finding qualified candidates is among the greatest chal-

See **SAFETY**/page 3

Turning Green into Blue

City turns alcohol tax revnue into police pay

STAFF REPORT

It's been formally accepted, Marion City Policemen will be getting a $1.50 hourly raise starting in March.

Marion City Council approved final passage of a pay ordinance last week that will give officers an across-the-board pay hike and make way for the hiring of a sixth city patrolman.

Largely buoyed by new revenue generated through the legal sale of alcohol in Marion, the plan also rolls money into the police department from elsewhere in the city's budget previously earmarked for a code enforcement officer.

Depending on rank and tenure, police officers will soon be earning between $41,717 and $48,200 annually. Officials hope higher pay will help the city recruit and retain quality policemen.

City Administrator Adam Ledford said recently that receipts from the local alcohol tax and the sale of permits had generated about $13,000 in

See **POLICE**/page 3

Zipping Right Along

Crittenden County magistrates have approved spending more than $177,000 to buy a piece of equipment that will attach to a backhoe bucket. They say the device will help it improve chip and seal roads. See article on back page.

County buying road barriers

STAFF REPORT

Crittenden County has allocated funds to purchase 30 barricades to better identify where and when roads are underwater.

County Road Foreman Audie Maraman recommended the acquisition last week to magistrates during their regular monthly meeting.

"Right now we have 13 roads under water," Maraman said, adding that the county owns no certified barriers to adequately warn and protect motorists.

Makeshift barriers have long been deployed at high-traffic areas where floodwaters cover roads, the foreman said. Using two barrels and sometimes a rope or board hung between them to hold a sign has been common practice, but Maraman said that does not

See **SIGNS**/page 10

Crittenden Hospital names new CEO

STAFF REPORT

Jon Gleason was recently named CEO of Crittenden Community Hospital.

This is Gleason's first position as CEO after joining Rural Health Group, who last year purchased the hospital. He replaces Don Buchanan, who left his position early this year.

The Idaho native will be charged with managing the small critical care hospital, which he says is vital to this community.

"I am working hard to share the vision of the hospital, which is exciting, the hospital has a bright future, and I want to talk to the community and share what's going on and bring people back home," Gleason said. "We want to take care of our friends."

Gleason points to an example of his mother seeking immediate medical treatment while suffering a heart attack in his small Idaho community while illustrating the importance of critical access hospitals in rural America.

"I had a whole new level of appreciation for rural hospitals because it touched me on a personal level."

As for the hospital and its 140 full- and part-time employees, Gleason wants to build relationships and increase the success of the hospital.

"We need the community to rally around us," Gleason said. "We want to support them, and we want them to support us."

Gleason is one of 17 children in his blended family. He and his wife have six children ages 16-11.

CCH CEO Jon Gleason

Senate Bill 4 aims to take politics out of road building

Robby **MILLS**
KY STATE SENATE
Guest Commentary

We began the week by remembering our founding fathers and the noble leaders who helped shape our great nation. On Presidents Day, we salute all U.S. Presidents, past and present, especially Kentucky's son, Abraham Lincoln.

If you've visited the Capitol, you may remember the grand statue of President Lincoln in the rotunda. There is a century-old tradition of rubbing his left boot for good luck. Especially popular during the session months, lawmakers and visitors frequently touch the statue as they pass through the rotunda. While the hustle and bustle of the session could always use a little more positivity and luck, the statue serves as a daily reminder of Lincoln's remarkable leadership and moral courage he displayed as a lawmaker, the type of Kentuckian we should all aspire to be.

Week seven marks the halfway point of the 2020 Regular Session of the Kentucky General Assembly. For the past couple of months, I, along with my colleagues in the Senate and House, have been working diligently to pass legislation on a wide variety of issues facing Kentuckians and our Commonwealth. With a little fewer than 30 days left in the session, we want to make sure that we are maximizing our time here in Frankfort.

There was no shortage of bill movement in Senate committees and the chamber this week. The State & Local Government Committee heard testimony and passed several constitutional amendments including Senate Bill (SB) 58, which would limit the Governor's ability to grant pardons beginning 30 days prior to a gubernatorial election and ending at that gubernatorial inauguration. SB 62 would grant persons convicted of a felony other than a sex offense, a violent offense, or an offense against a child, the right to vote five years after completion of sentence.

Also passing through the Senate State & Local Government Committee was SB 15, also known as "Marsy's Law." This constitutional amendment and national effort is no stranger to the Kentucky General Assembly, having been passed in 2018 with bipartisan support. Similar to the previous bill, SB 15 would require victims of crime to be notified throughout the judicial process. This year's bill adds in the requirement that victims must be notified in advance of any pardon or commutation of a sentence, which is not currently required by law.

The Senate passed another priority measure this week. SB 4 is a bill that serves to depoliticize the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC). Governors in the past have utilized KYTC as leverage when allocating funding for road projects. SB 4 would codify into law the previous administration's Strategic Highway Investment Formula for Tomorrow (SHIFT) initiative, a data-driven, objective approach to compare capital improvement projects and prioritize limited transportation funds. SB 4 would establish a diverse Transportation Board which would be responsible for recommending the state road plan to the Kentucky General Assembly. However, legislators would still make the ultimate decision on the state's six-year road budget. SB 4 would also provide necessary oversight over the appointment of the Cabinet Secretary. Board members, in coordination with various organizations such as the Kentucky Association of Counties and the Kentucky League of Cities, would nominate three well-qualified secretary candidates for the governor to choose from.

So as to avoid any concerns that the bill was politically motivated, SB 4 was filed last year prior to the 2019 governor's election. Any concerns about the bill and proposed changes can and should be discussed in the House. We are all very blessed to be in such a position that we can debate and develop good policy on behalf of the people of Kentucky. It's a responsibility that I do not take for granted and I know the same is true for my fellow lawmakers.

Passing in the Senate with bipartisan support was SB 50. This is a technical measure regarding pharmacy benefits and seeks to remedy unfair practices by Pharmacy Benefit Managers (PBMs) within the Medicaid program. SB 50 tackles many issues including preferred drug lists, reimbursement methodology, and dispensing fees within Medicaid managed care. SB 50 would provide transparency by requiring the contracted PBM to disclose any potential conflict-of-interest with the state Medicaid department, managed care organizations, pharmacies and other groups involved in the pharmaceutical industry. Also, the PBM would have to disclose any fees it imposes on pharmacies.

The amended version of SB 50 would protect a nearly 30-year-old federal arrangement, titled the 340B Drug Pricing Program, which requires pharmaceutical manufacturers to provide drugs to some health care organizations, such as Kentucky's rural hospitals, at significantly reduced prices.

Other bills moving to the House for consideration are:

SB 91 protects patients and healthcare providers from harmful surgical smoke by requiring licensed health facilities that use energy generating devices (tools using heat, laser, or electricity) to use a smoke evacuation system during any surgical procedure that produces surgical smoke.

SB 103 would exempt some agricultural buildings on farms of five acres or more from certain sewage disposal and plumbing requirements. This would not include residential buildings or structures within a city's limits. Currently, the farm has to be at least 10 acres or more to qualify for the exemption.

SB 111 would require, upon the family's approval, the American flag to be draped over the casket of a police officer, firefighter, emergency medical services provider or coroner killed in the line of duty. SB 111 would apply when the first-responder's body is returned from the medical examiner's office. The bill also states a coroner should professionally transport the remains according to the family's wishes.

SB 134 would establish the Optometry Scholarship Program to provide students the opportunity to attend an optometry school and become a certified practitioner in Kentucky. A minimum of one-third of the amount spent on scholarships would be awarded to students attending the Kentucky College of Optometry at the University of Pikeville. The remaining amount could be spent on scholarships to out-of-state institutions. SB 134 would also create a trust fund for the program.

Contact Sen. Mills toll-free at 1-800-372-7181 or email Robby.Mills@LRC.KY.GOV. You can also review the legislature's work online at www.legislature.ky.gov

Rep. Bechler explains his opposition to medical pot bill

Lynn **BECHLER**
KY STATE HOUSE
Guest Commentary

It was an interesting week in the Kentucky House of Representatives as a couple of controversial pieces of legislation were debated and votes taken. The debate on each bill lasted for hours with emotional speeches by those in favor of the bills and those opposed. Due to the length and complexity of both bills, this update will only focus on one of those bills. I hope to be able to provide an update on the second bill at a later date.

House Bill 136 (HB-136) would allow, within limits, the cultivation, processing, sale, distribution and use of medical marijuana. The bill would allow "practitioners" to provide written certification for the use of medical cannabis. Practitioners are defined as physicians or advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs) who are already allowed by law to prescribe controlled substances. "Dispensaries," as the name implies, are the businesses that would be allowed to sell the product to "cardholders."

Cardholders are the people who would be allowed to purchase medical marijuana if the person has a "qualifying medical condition." A list of qualifying medical conditions, at a minimum, must include chronic pain, epilepsy, multiple sclerosis, or nausea or vomiting. The agency charged with overseeing the medical cannabis program would have the ability to add conditions based on input from practitioners.

HB-136 would limit the amount of allowable THC (the active ingredient of marijuana) to no more than 35 percent for raw plant material and no more than 70 percent for product other than raw plant material. Smoking medical marijuana would not be included as an allowable method of consuming medical marijuana.

It is important to note that marijuana is still not allowed under federal law; because of this, physicians and APRNs are not allowed to write prescriptions for and pharmacists are not allowed to sell marijuana. If they do, their licenses can be revoked. This leads to the creation of practitioners and dispensaries, thus giving the illusion that marijuana is an approved drug. Additionally, federal law prohibits banks and financial institutions backed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) to associate or receive deposited funds from a marijuana based business. Since most major credit cards are linked with FDIC-backed financial institutions, many cannabis dispensaries and similar businesses are unable to even take credit cards as a viable form of payment. This has led marijuana businesses to deal in cash which leads to an increased risk of theft, difficulty in acquiring insurance, and other serious problems.

Marijuana is a complex plant containing over 400 chemicals of which more than 50 are active ingredients. Marijuana is probably useful for some medical conditions, but there is no medical science supporting its use for treating disease, and no medical organization in the commonwealth supports its use as a medicine. We have all heard anecdotal stories of how marijuana has helped individuals and supporters point to a few studies supporting the use of marijuana for certain medical problems. Unfortunately these studies are typically single stand-alone studies and have not been peer reviewed. There are no peer reviewed double blind studies (clinical trials where neither the researchers nor participants know who is in the control group – those not receiving the experimental medication - or is actually receiving the experimental medication) studying the use of medical marijuana. The purpose of a double blind study is to eliminate any bias in the study.

Studies have shown, however, that use of marijuana by children, which is allowed under HB-136, is detrimental to a child's brain. Marijuana has been shown to interact negatively with some prescription drugs and the proposed legislation does not require dispensaries to list these possible interactions. An amendment which I supported would have required that information to be provided to the individual purchasing the marijuana, but that amendment was defeated.

Based on the debate in the House and the information I have researched on my own, I voted no on HB-136. The bill did pass, however, and has been sent to the Senate where its fate is up in the air. If it does pass the Senate, there is no doubt that it won't be exactly the same as the bill that passed the House, thus assuring more debate.

The second bill I mentioned at the beginning of this update is House Bill 1 (HB-1) which addresses the elimination of fraud and abuse of those receiving public assistance (taxpayer money) while at the same time providing a bridge to health care coverage to those needing it. As I noted earlier, I hope to be able to cover the bill thoroughly in another update. If you are interested in reviewing HB-1, however, you may go to the Legislative Research Commission (LRC) website and read the bill there.

Rep. Lynn Bechler testifies on the floor of the Kentucky House during a recent debate.

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

Detention Center Census

DETENTION CENTER REPORT

FEBRUARY 20, 2020

State Inmates	116
Federal Inmates	79
Other County Inmates	13
Crittenden County Inmates	14
TOTAL INMATES	222
Weekenders/Work Release	2
Out to Court	0
Inmate Bed Count	224

- *Federal Inmates $42 Per diem*
- *State Inmates $31.34 Per diem*

JANUARY REVENUE

State Housing Fees	$116,114.70
Federal Housing Fees	$96,540.07
Federal Transport Fees	$8,886.07
Other County Housing Fees	$18,464
Weekend/Work Release Fees	$1,056
TOTAL HOUSING	$232,174.77

JANUARY ANALYSIS

Cost of our county inmates	$10,336
Number of County Housing Days	323
Daily Housing Rate	$32
Avg. Daily County Inmates	10.42

The Crittenden County Detention Center report is provided monthly to magistrates during Crittenden County Fiscal Court meetings. The inmate count was accurate for the day the report was created.

Proposed legislation would cap insulin out-of-pocket expense at $100 month

The Kentucky House of Representiaves last Wednesday unanimously passed a bill to cap out-of-pocket insulin costs.

The more than 500,000 Kentuckians who have been diagnosed with diabetes could save on costly insulin prescriptions under the proposed legislation.

House Bill 12 would cap patient cost for a 30-day supply of insulin in Kentucky at $100 per prescription, said HB 12 primary co-sponsor and licensed pharmacist Rep. Danny Bentley, R-Russell. A diabetic himself, Bentley said typical costs for a month's supply of the drug can run $1,200 or more per patient.

"I use insulin. A box of Lantus is over $300," said Bentley. "So if you use four boxes a month, that's $1,200."

It's that kind of expense, Bentley said, that has led some diabetics to begin rationing the life-saving drug.

"We hope that (HB 12) helps," said Bentley. "Especially personal to me are the people I live with in eastern Kentucky where we have a high rate of diabetes."

An amendment to the bill filed by HB 12 primary co-sponsor and licensed pharmacist Rep. Steve Sheldon, R-Bowling Green, gives patients further assurance by prohibiting insurers from increasing the patient cost of insulin prescriptions that fall below $100. The amendment was adopted in the House by voice vote.

Rep. Patti Minter, D-Bowling Green, voted in support of the bill. The mother of a Type 1 diabetic, Minter said those affected by diabetes are a "growing family."

Minter said she ultimately supports insulin-for-all but that there is a need for HB 12 now.

"This is an excellent start, and it's an excellent example of what this chamber can do when we are at our very best," she said.

HB 12 passed the House 92-0.

Crittenden County lawmaker **contacts**

Kentucky General Assembly convenes in January • 115th Congress is currently in session

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Kentucky Agriculture Training School (KATS) will host its next workshop on Thursday, March 5 at the University of Kentucky Research and Education Center located at 348 University Drive in Princeton. The KATS Green Up Workshop offers full-day training and runs from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., with sign-in beginning at 8:30 a.m. The workshop will feature demonstrations and interactive experiences for clinic participants. Officials said much of this workshop will be held outdoors and ask participants to please plan accordingly. Topics to be addressed will include aphid scouting and evaluation of natural enemies on different aphid species; managing nitrogen for wheat; identifying and managing soil compaction; economics of soil testing; factors that influence soil productivity; and adding another profit center to your farm: cover crops as a forage. Credits available for participation are pending. Pre-registration is required. Registration is limited and the cost per participant is $105. Lunch will be included. To register visit kats.ca.uky.edu. For additional information contact KATS Coordinator Lori Rogers at the UK Research and Education Center at Princeton at 270-365-7541, Extension 21317 or by email at lori.rogers@uky.edu.

Crittenden County Grand Jury indicts 4 in February meeting

STAFF REPORT

Four individuals were indicted in February for felonious crimes.

The Crittenden County Grand Jury heard evidence in five cases and returned indictments in four of them during its regular monthly meeting on Thursday, Feb. 13 at the Crittenden County Courthouse.

A grand jury does not determine guilt or innocence. It merely determines whether enough evidence exists to continue prosecution of a case in circuit court. Following are those indicted this month.

•Kevin Little, 48, of Evansville, Ind., formerly of Marion, was indicted on a felony charge of first-degree rape in July of 2016. Information about the case is very limited, other than the narrative in the formal indictment which says Little "committed first-degree rape by engaging in sexual intercourse with another person while she was physically helpless."

•Maurice Bell, 33, of Marion was indicted on a felony charge of flagrant non-support. Bell is allegedly in arrears in the amount of $4,394.40 in child support.

•Rashenna Ann Trail, 36, of Marion was indicted on a Class C felony charge of first-degree trafficking in a controlled substance (methamphetamine) greater than two grams, and a misdemeanor charge of possession of drug paraphernalia. Court records allege that Trail sold meth to a cooperating witness on Oct. 24 in a transaction arranged by the Pennyrile Area Narcotics Task Force.

•Jonathan Chase York, 34, of Marion was indicted on a Class B felony charge of first-degree trafficking in a controlled substance (methamphetamine), over two grams, second offense, and a Class C felony charge of first-degree trafficking in a controlled substance (opiates), second or subsequent offense. Court records allege that York sold meth and hydrocodone to a cooperating witness on Jan. 8 in a transaction arranged by the Pennyrile Area Narcotics Task Force.

Man held on $1 million bond, charged with raping 2 teens

STAFF REPORT

A Marion man is jailed on a $1 million bond, charged with raping, sodomizing and sexually abusing on multiple occasions two teen family members.

Thomas Robert Irvin Sr. was taken into custody Friday night in McCracken County. He is being held at Crittenden County Detention Center following a state police investigation that led to eight charges against Irvin, including two felony counts of first-degree rape. There are also four felony charges for first-degree sexual abuse and two felony charges of first-degree sodomy.

According to the complaint warrant filed by Detective Brandon McPherson of the Kentucky State Police, Irvin is alleged to have committed the offenses against a 14-year-old female and a 15-year-old male.

While the warrants say recent allegations exist for incidents while the teens were home from school for Christmas break, court records also allege that the abuse and rapes had been going on for years.

Irvin's case is set for a preliminary hearing on March 4 in Crittenden District Court.

County	Labor Force	Currently Employed	Currently Unemployed	2020 Jan.	2019 Dec.	2019 Jan.
CALDWELL	5,547	5,293	254	4.6%	4.4%	4.1%
CRITTENDEN	3,967	3,816	151	3.8%	3.8%	4.5%
HOPKINS	19,267	18,492	775	4.0%	3.8%	3.7%
LIVINGSTON	3,719	3,532	187	5.0%	4.5%	5.9%
LYON	3,041	2,912	129	4.2%	4.1%	5.0%
TRIGG	6,163	5,915	248	4.0%	3.8%	4.0%
MARSHALL	15,337	14,721	616	4.0%	3.8%	4.9%
MCCRACKEN	29,728	28,376	1,352	4.5%	4.3%	4.8%
HENDERSON	22,359	21,542	817	3.7%	3.7%	3.5%
MCLEAN	4,251	4,086	165	3.9%	4.0%	4.2%
UNION	6,116	5,862	254	4.2%	4.4%	4.2%
WEBSTER	5,688	5,469	219	3.9%	3.9%	3.3%

POLICE

Continued from page 1

the last quarter of 2019 – a period when some of the sales points were just getting started. While it's too early to begin forecasting what annual revenue will be from the legal sale of alcohol in Marion, Ledford says, it's clear that the windfall will be enough to pay for this proposed raise, and perhaps more.

After a few weeks of lively debate on the code enforcement matter, city council members agreed last week during a special meeting to eliminate a full-time position for those duties. Instead, it will become a part-time, largely administrative roll. Police Chief Ray O'Neal said plans are to incorporate the code enforcement position into the duties of Sgt. Heath Martin, who is also the city's Alcoholic Beverage Control agent.

The chief said Martin will be available for patrols, but would concentrate much of his efforts on ABC and code enforcement, which includes planning and zoning.

Voters here approved alcohol sales last spring by a vote of 403-277. In August, stores in the city began selling legal spirits for the first time since 1936.

The search for a sixth police officer has begun, the city administrator said.

SAFETY

Continued from page 1

lenges to meeting that requirement. His department will continue cooperating with the school district to provide trained SROs, Agent said.

In addition, SB8 will require schools to have at least one school counselor or certified mental health counselor for each 250 children enrolled in the school.

Clark says it is not perfectly clear whether Crittenden County's contracted behavioral health care services with Mountain Comprehensive Care will meet the requirement, but he thinks it should. In that case, the local school district will likely already be in compliance with the new provisions aimed at making schools safer.

Crittenden County School District has 1,445 enrolled students this year. Each of the three schools in the district has its own full-time school counselor. Another three full-time counselors are provided through Mountain Comprehensive Care.

Clark said that almost 12 percent of Crittenden County students in K-12 are under the behavioral care of counselors from the "Mountain Comp" service, which is paid largely through federal funding.

Over the last couple of years, Clark said the district has spent thousands of dollars improving security by upgrading communications and video systems and entrances.

City proposes raising fee for natural gas franchise

STAFF REPORT

The City of Marion met in special session last Thursday and finalized terms set forth for franchise agreements for cable television and natural gas providers.

The city is doubling the franchise fee for natural gas from one percent to two percent while leaving the cable TV at one percent. Contract terms are for 10 years. The contracts are non-exclusive, meaning there can be multiple suppliers.

The city has customarily had only a single provider for each service, Atmos Gas for heating fuel and Mediacom for cable.

A franchise agreement gives the provider access to the city's rights of way in order to establish a delivery system.

At the current one-percent for both services, the city receives about $1,100 a month in cable fees and $650 a month for natural gas. By doubling the gas franchise fee, it would mean an additional $7,800 for the city.

Are you a Crittenden or Livingston County Resident

EXPECTING A BABY?

HAVE A BABY UNDER 3 MONTHS OLD?

Every parent needs a second pair of HANDS!

- Are you interested in more information about your pregnancy and delivery? HANDS CAN HELP!
- Are you curious if your child is reaching their developmental milestones on time? HANDS CAN HELP!
- Would you like information to increase your child's brain development? HANDS CAN HELP!

Call your local health department and set up an appointment with HANDS
Crittenden (270) 965-5215
Livingston (270) 928-2193
Pennyrile District Health Department
(270) 365-6571 ext. 616

Kentucky's HANDS
Every parent needs a second pair of HANDS

PDHD
PENNYRILE DISTRICT HEALTH DEPARTMENT
CALDWELL | CRITTENDEN | LIVINGSTON | LYON | TRIGG
Putting the Public back into Public Health

NOTICE OF PASSAGE
AND
SUMMARY OF ORDINANCE

ORDINANCE NO. 20-01: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE PAY PLAN FOR CLASSIFIED CITY EMPLOYEES AND NON-ELECTED OFFICIALS.

Notice is hereby given that the City Council of the City of Marion, Kentucky, at a special called meeting held on February 20, 2020 at 5:15 o'clock p.m., gave second reading and passed and adopted an Ordinance relating to the Marion Code of Ordinances, which Ordinance had been given its first reading at its regular meeting of the City Council held on February 10, 2020, at 5:00 o'clock p.m. A summary of the Ordinance is as follows:

This Ordinance sets the pay plan for all classified city employees and non-elected officials for services rendered on and after March 4, 2020 as follows:

EXHIBIT A
CITY OF MARION - EMPLOYEE PAY PLAN (AMENDED)
March 4, 2020 - June 30, 2020

Position	Current Pay	New Pay	$ Increase	% Increase
City Hall				
City Administrator	$ 62,000	$ 62,000	$ -	0.0%
City Treasurer	36,000	36,000	-	0.0%
City Attorney	12,360	12,360	-	0.0%
Planning & Zoning				
Planning/Zoning Coordinator	$ 28,858	$ -	(28,858)	-100.0%
Police & 911				
Police Chief	$ 45,080	$ 48,200	3,120	6.9%
Assistant Chief	42,084	45,204	3,120	7.4%
Sergeant	40,915	44,035	3,120	7.6%
Senior Officer	39,101	42,221	3,120	8.0%
Officer	38,597	41,717	3,120	8.1%
911 Coordinator	29,768	29,768	-	0.0%
FT Dispatcher	27,509	27,509	-	0.0%
Fire				
Chief	$ 3,018	$ 3,018	-	0.0%
Assistant Chief	1,030	1,030	-	0.0%
Fire Fighters (23 total)	$38.70 per run	$38.70 per run		0%
Water & Sewer				
Utilities Director	$ -	$ -	-	0.0%
Maintenance Supervisor	$ 40,110	$ 40,110	-	0.0%
City Clerk	32,304	32,304	-	0.0%
Lead Operator (Wastewater)	43,671	43,671	-	0.0%
Lead Operator (Water)	39,696	39,696	-	0.0%
Operator (Wastewater)	36,421	36,421	-	0.0%
Foreman	-	-	-	0.0%
Operator (Water)	33,148	33,148	-	0.0%
Operator (Water)	33,148	33,148	-	0.0%
Equipment Operator	28,858	28,858	-	0.0%
Laborer (Wastewater)	23,518	23,518	-	0.0%
Meter Reader	23,518	23,518	-	0.0%
Distribution & Collection Certification Adjustment	1,250	-	-	0.0%
Operator (Water - Part Time)	$16.87 per hour	$16.87 per hour		0.0%

The full text of the Ordinance is on file in the Office of the City Clerk in the City Building, Marion, Kentucky, where it is available for public inspection.

PREPARED BY:
/s/Robert B. Frazer
ROBERT B. FRAZER
CITY ATTORNEY
FRAZER & MASSEY
ATTORNEYS –AT- LAW
P.O. BOX 361
MARION, KY 42064
270/965-2261 February 21, 2020

Lifestyles The Crittenden Press

The Press Online
www.the-press.com

Photo hunt fundraiser

Deer Creek Baptist Church is having a picture scavenger hunt March 14 to benefit World Vision Global 6k for Water! Cost for a four-person team $20 per team. Contact Chad Bell at (270) 969-0385 or Sandi Bell at (270) 969-0041 for more information.

CCMS spring pictures

Crittenden County Middle School spring pictures will be taken March 6. Students who want spring pictures need to pick up a form in the office. Forms and payments are required when photos are taken.

Extension

• **Extension Advisory Council** will meet at 1:30 p.m., Feb. 28 at the Extension Annex.

• There will be a **Beef Cattle Series** at 6 p.m., March 2 at the Extension Annex. Join ANR Agent Dee Heimgartner to discuss different topics about beef cattle production. Call the Extension office at (270) 965-5236 to pre-register.

• **Hooks & Needles Crafter's Corner** will meet at noon, March 4 at the Extension office. Donations of yarn, needles, hoops etc. are accepted. Contact Nancy Lapp (270) 965-4469 for more information.

• A **minerals meeting** will begin at 6 p.m., March 5 at the Crittenden County Public Library. Dr. Katie VanValin will be speaking. A meal will be provided. Crittenden County Cattleman's meeting will follow.

• A Private Pesticide Applicator Training begins at 6 p.m., March 9 at the Extension Annex. This training is for those who wish to become certified private use applicators, or renew your certification. Call the Extension office at (270) 965-5236 to pre-register.

• **After Hours Homemaker Club** will meet at 5 p.m., March 10 at the Extension Office.

• **Challengers Homemakers** will meet at noon, March 11 at the Extension Annex.

4-H

• **Cloverbuds** will meet at 3 p.m., Feb. 27 at the CCES cafeteria.

• **Early American Heritage Club** will meet at 4 p.m., March 5 at the Extension Park (former Gun Club).

• **Dog Club** will meet at 3:15 p.m., March 9 and March 23 at the Extension Annex.

• **Stem Club** will meet at 3:30 p.m., March 10 for 4th-7th graders and March 24 for 8th-12th graders at the Extension Annex.

Garden club gearing up for auction

Submitted By Janet Hughes

We have had some people ask what the Salem Garden Club is up to? We post most of our updates on our Salem Ky Garden Club Facebook page.

When we're not planting, weeding or watering gardens in town, we take time to go on trips and visit private gardens. These trips are for members only, and now is the time to become a member. You can contact Janet Hughes on Facebook or call (270) 988-3835 and leave a message. Then you will be mailed information on the club and a membership form. The club meet on the second Thursday of the month. Often these meetings are held at members' homes or we skip the meeting and go on a trip to public garden tours in Henderson and Evansville. It is always a good time, and we would love to see new members.

Memory Bricks Sales continue throughout the year. The cost is $50, and we are about ready to send off another order if you're interested. They are placed in the Bicentennial Courtyard on Main Street in Salem or you may keep those for your personal garden.

We are excited to announce our second annual online Crittenden/Livingston scholarship silent auction. This is an online event on our Salem Ky. Garden Club Facebook page. Items may also be viewed March 12-22 at Harris Gas in Salem. To bid on the items, you must go to the original Facebook event post which will be accessible by March 12 when the auction begins.

We are currently accepting donated items to be auctioned off. You do not have to be a member of Salem KY Garden Club to donate or bid on auction items. If your item is too large to bring, you may take a picture and we will add it to the auction site. These items are not limited to gardening. They can include anything from Homemade Craft items, art, gift cards to furniture. This year we even have a piano donated for our auction.

One hundred percent of the money raised from our auction goes into our scholarship fund. SGC encourages students attending college in Fall 2020 and majoring in ag, agri-business or horticulture to submit a scholarship application to us before the May 1 deadline. We also extended eligibility requirements this year to include active members of FFA. Scholarship applications were sent to the guidance counselors at both Crittenden and Livingston high schools to be distributed to the 2020 graduating class.

For more information, contact Shannon Baize at (270) 969-1732.

Winners of the Woman's Club of Marion's youth writing contests (from left with club member Nancy Lapp) are Grier Crider, Zoe Foster, Isabelle Foster, Paris Foster, Caleb Combs, Abigail Hall and Paul Combs.

Woman's Club announces contest winners

Woman's Club of Marion held its annual writing contest in January for youth in grades K-12. The competition was open to students in public schools and home school students from Crittenden and surrounding counties.

First place winners received $20. All participants received a certificate and journal. First place writing winners have been sent to the state competition. Those results will be announced in March at the GFWC Kentucky Annual Conference in Lexington.

Paul Combs won the high school short story category for his entry called "Pilot Down." Abigail Hall placed second on her short story "My Sunshine."

Paris Foster's short story called "War" won the category for 6-8 graders.

Caleb Combs' short story entry called "The Adventures of William and Edward" placed first in grades 3-5. Grier Crider placed second with "The Friendly Monsters."

"Lost in the Woods" was Isabelle Foster's winning short story in the K-2 grade category.

In the Poetry division, Zoe Foster placed first for her poem titled "Me" in the grades 3-5 category.

Senior Center

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

Upcoming menu and activities include:

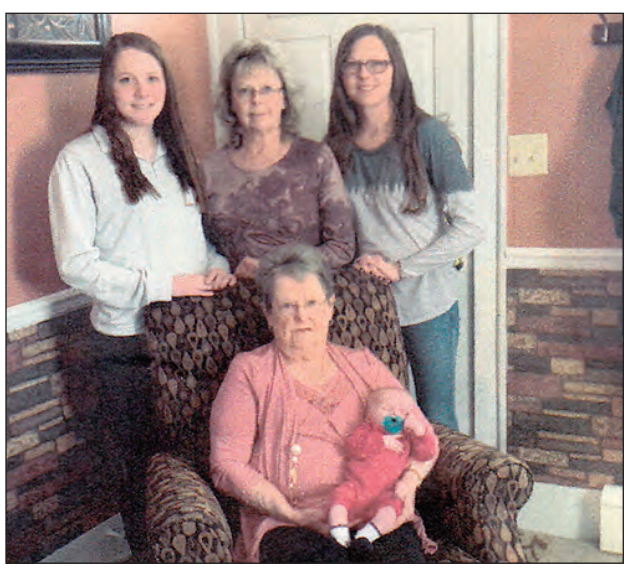
Thursday - Menu is pork roast, baked sweet potato, black-eyed peas, carrot and raisin salad and cornbread.

Friday - Menu is hot turkey sandwich, mashed potatoes, giblet gravy, buttered spinach and tropical fruit. Birthday cake will be served in celebration of February birthdays.

Monday - Menu is beef stew with brown rice, cole slaw, cornbread and chocolate pudding. Ladies exercise with Full Body Fitness Studio begins at 9:45 a.m.

Tuesday - Menu is chicken pot pie, baked potato with sour cream and margarine, green beans, Mandarin oranges and wheat bread.

Wednesday, March 4 - Menu is tuna noodle casserole, seasoned turnip greens, brownies, wheat roll with margarine. Bingo begins at 10:30 a.m.



Five Generations

This family of five generations includes Mary Lou McDaniel Long holding baby Charlotte Maleah Gallo and (standing from left) Madalyn Brie Knop, Delonda Joyce Mikolaitis and Melissa Ann Mikolaitis.

THROW BACK THURSDAY

OUR MEMORIES GO BACK TO 1879

50 years ago

Thursday, Feb. 26

• The Crittenden County Conservation District Awards Dinner was held at the Marion Cafe. Robert Lee White, John White, Brenda Croft, Franklin Stalion and H.D. Sullenger were recognized as award recipients.

• The Crittenden County Rockets, led by Bennett Smith with 34 points, downed the Dawson Springs Panthers during their homecoming game with a final score of 86-63. Following Smith in scoring was Stalion with 24 points.

• Western Kentucky Gas Company announced the opening of an office on Main Street in Marion.

25 years ago

Thursday, March 2

• The annual Crittenden County 4-H Variety Show attracted more than 100 people to Fohs Hall. Mickey Myers served as the emcee for the event. Andy Hunt and Tammie Jent of Crayne Crew 4-H Club were crowned 1995 King and Queen with their club earning 199,400 points.

• Crittenden County was notified that it qualified for a $5,000 grant through the Kentucky Department of Local Government's Community Rivers and Streams Program.

• Petey Patterson led the Crittenden County Rockets Weightlifting team in the annual Trigg County Iron Cat Classic in Cadiz. Patterson turned in a solid effort for the Rockets with a combined lift of 1,130 pounds.

Hailey Mathieu, 6, began the delivery process for 179 boxes of Girl Scout cookies. Also pictured is leader Vickie Belt.

10 years ago

Thursday, Feb. 25

• Crittenden County middle and high school speech Team members qualified for the state speech meet tournament. Qualifying from the middle school were Lauren Beavers, Cole Foster, Danielle Byarley, Katrina Mast, Micah Holloman, Lindsay Sizemore, Anna Schnittker and Marcus Hughes. Advancing in the high school division were Zach Sizemore and Cathy Hughes.

• Fohs Hall was the recipient of a grant to help the Community Arts Foundation defray the costs of performances. The grant was written for $2,786 and was awarded as a Kentucky Arts Partnership competitive grant.

• Don Hastie announced the reopening of the Hastie Mining Plant and its plans to dig near Klondike. The plant was the first active fluorspar mine in the United States in 15 years and was the first fluorspar mine in western Kentucky in almost 30 years.

Crittenden County Public Library

The following upcoming activities are offered for children, teens and adults at the Crittenden County Public Library in March.

Children

Lego Club, Tuesdays 3:30-4:30 p.m., for kindergarten through 5th grade.

Story Hour with Ms. Kathleen, Friday 10 a.m., for preschool-age children. On March 13, Janeen Tramble from UK Extension, will be at CCPL for Yoga Story Hour.

Cardboard Kingdom (Cardboard Build Day),10 a.m., March 2. Build things out of cardboard with Ms. Kathleen.

Teens

TAG Meeting, 3:15 p.m., March 24 for book loving teens ages 12 -18.

Ide' Better Eat Microwave Cooking Class Series, 3:30 p.m., March 16, March 18 and March 20. Learn recipes you can make in your microwave with Elizabeth.

CCPL & Extension Lego Robotics meets March 12 and March 26 at 3:15-5:00 p.m. for youth ages 9-18. Learn how to code EV3 robots in preparation for upcoming robotics challenges. Register at the circulation desk or at the UK Extension Office.

Adults

Tech Help with Carol, 10 a.m., Thursdays.

Genealogy Group meets at 10 a.m., March 14. Learn more about researching your family histories from local historians.

Google for Small Business Workshop Series—March 4, March 11, March 17, March 31. Register by calling (270) 965-5015.

Brown Bag Book Club—Bring your lunch at 11:30 a.m., March 25 and discuss "Belle," by Sarah Price.

Writer's Workshop is 6 p.m., March 9 for themed presentations about the craft of writing as well as one-on-one help from published authors.

Strollin' Through the Colon, 10 a.m., March 20 10 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Learn about colon health.

Nerds Nite at CCPL (Adult Game Night for 18+) is 7 p.m., March 27. Nerd Nite is held every other month at CCPL on select Friday nights.

Friends of the Library FOCCPL meets at 6 p.m., March 19.

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Religion The Crittenden Press

CrittendenPress.Blogspot.com

Try not to make it worse

There are some basic rules to living a moral life that most people recognize. One that shows up in several places is the principle of "first, do no harm." There is a myriad of variations of this principle. That probably means it is a good one. The only problem with it standing on its own is that it can be accomplished by a dead person, or a rock (if it stays where it is).

Sean NIESTRATH
Faith-based columnist
Guest Columnist

For those of us that are living and breathing and encountering other creatures and human beings, it can be difficult. There are some instances where "not making it worse" would be awful. For example, if there was a young child in danger and I simply walked by and let whatever was about to happen, happen. I didn't make it worse, but if it would have cost me nearly nothing to save him, there is no one who would excuse such lack of action. Such a hypothetical does not happen very often. Life is much more complex than that.

Not making things worse, then, requires some effort on our part. It requires that we pay attention to what is around us. If we walk through our days "minding our own business" and do not see what is happening around us, we may miss opportunities as clear as the hypothetical child in danger. There are so many times in our days that it costs us nothing to be a positive and uplifting presence.

Still, there are more challenging situations that may arise while we are at work or in social settings. Perhaps talk turns to dehumanizing humor or political rhetoric. It is very difficult not to join in such situations. I noticed it as I was watching the Democratic debate on Wednesday evening. The rules were such that the candidates were encouraged to engage each other directly, which led to some entertaining moments – complete with audience response. I could not help but be drawn into it. Early this morning I was watching some news commentators discussing it and one of them reminded us that applause and audience response has only recently been allowed. It explained my own responses as I watched – it was more like sports than a serious discussion of issues and platforms.

The reason I bring this up here is because we are so affected by the way things are presented to us. The process (how something is served to us) has become more important than the content (the substance of what is offered). That may be the case most of the time (how we say something is as important as what we say). We live in a snarky, sarcastic, and disrespectful trolldom, which is passed off sometimes as being "authentic." All of this, along with social media, has led to the well-documented bubbles that we inhabit. Bubbles require labels and labels require us to treat others according to those labels. All of this conspires to challenge the simple, gracious rule of life to "do no harm."

T.S. Eliot wrote something like this, "Half the harm that is done in this world is due to people who want to feel important. They don't mean to do harm – but the harm does not interest them. Or they do not see it, or they justify it because they are absorbed in the endless struggle to think well of themselves." The Cocktail Party, (1974), p. 111.

To make this thought even more challenging, the apostle Paul encouraged Timothy with these words, "Do not . . . participate in another person's sins; keep yourself pure." (I Timothy 5:22, RSV). It is for each of us to learn how to respond when the filthy, or racist, or dehumanizing jokes and stories break out. It is for each of us to decide whether to intervene or not when others are being mistreated in our presence. At the very least we can refuse to pile on.

But I fail daily. I find some encouragement in the words of Isaac the Syrian, a seventh century bishop, "If you cannot be merciful, at least speak as though you are a sinner. If you are not a peacemaker, at least do not be a troublemaker. If you cannot be assiduous, at least in your thought be like a sluggard. If you are not victorious, do not exalt yourself over the vanquished. If you cannot close the mouth of a man who disparages his companion, at least refrain from joining him in this."

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.

Church Events & News

■ There will be a benefit gospel singing for Vickie Hodges (cancer patient) at 6 p.m. on Saturday, March 7 at Mexico Baptist Church, 175 Mexico Road, Marion, Ky. All are invited. Come and be blessed.

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

■ First Baptist Church of Fredonia food pantry is open from 1 to 3 p.m. the third Thursday of each month in Coleman Hall of the church.

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

■ The clothes closet of First Baptist Church of Fredonia is open from 1 to 3 p.m. every Thursday. It is located at the back of the church's Family Life Center.

■ 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?

Email to thepress@thepress.com or call (270) 965-3191

Pass on what you have learned

ASK the PASTOR
By Bob Hardison

Question: As I grow older, I realize I've had many experiences in life. Some of them I've handled well and some I didn't. What can I do to help this generation coming on to learn from what I've learned through my hard knocks?

A: It's good you are concerned about the next generation. Many folks could greatly benefit from an ongoing relationship with someone who has already navigated through what they are facing.

But, remember, you must model on a daily basis what you desire to pass on to them. You will have no credibility if your actions are not in line with your words.

God often puts people in our path that we might help. Prayerfully watch for potential mentees. Invite them to allow you to come along side of them to help. If possible commit to meeting regularly (at least twice per month) with them over a cup of coffee or a burger. Be sensitive to areas they desire support and encouragement. Remember the old proverb, "As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another" (Prov. 27:17). You can be that iron in someone's life.

Mature Christians should prayerfully seek an opportunity to mentor another believer. The Apostle Paul is a good model. He admonished young Timothy, "The things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable men who will also be qualified to teach others" (2 Tim. 2:2).

Send your questions to: bob@bobhardison.com

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"Forever in our Hearts"

In Loving Memory of
Bruce Guess
February 28, 1942 — August 16, 2005

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

Visit one of our area churches for worship and fellowship
"For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I in the midst of them."
-Matthew 18:20

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

Marion Baptist Church
College & Depot streets, Marion • (270) 965-5232
Pastor: Bro. Aaron Brown • Children's & Youth Pastor: Bro. Shawn Holeman
Join us for praise & worship
SUNDAY CHURCH TIMES:
8:30 a.m. Coffee Juice Fellowship • 8:45 a.m. Sunday School • 10 a.m. Morning Worship
6 p.m. Youth Bible Study • 6 p.m. Evening Worship
WEDNESDAY CHURCH TIMES: 6 p.m. Prayer/Devotional Service • 6:45 p.m. Adult Choir Practice

Sugar Grove cumberland presbyterian
585 Sugar Grove Church Rd., Marion, Ky.
(270) 704-2455
Sun. School: 10 a.m. | Sun. Worship: 11 a.m. & 6 p.m.
Wed. Bible Study: 7 p.m. Rev. Jack Wieland

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

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

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

Mexico Baptist Church
175 Mexico Rd. (270) 965-4059 MexicoBaptist.org
Minister of Youth Robert Kirby | 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.

Crayne Community Church
Crayne Cemetery Road, Crayne, Ky.
Bro. James Driver, Interim Pastor
Sunday School 10 a.m.
Sunday Worship 11 a.m.

Tyners Chapel Church
Located on Ky. 855 North
Sunday: 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.
Wednesday: 6 p.m.
Pastor: Charles Tabor

DEER CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH
Pastor: Bro. Chris Cummins "Whatever It Takes"
Sunday Bible Study: 10 a.m. • Sunday Worship: 11 a.m. & 6 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study: 7 p.m.
Approx. 5 miles from the intersection of Hwy. 60 & Hwy. 297
Phone: (270) 965-2220

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

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

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...

Crooked Creek Baptist Church
261 Crooked Creek Church Rd., Marion, Ky.
Sunday School: 10 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship: 11 a.m.
Sunday Evening Worship: 6 p.m.
Wednesday Evening Worship: 6 p.m.
Pastor: Bro. Mark Girten

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

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

growing in grace
2 Peter 3:18
PLEASANT GROVE General Baptist Church
Located on Ky. 723, 4 miles north of Salem
Pastor Trae Gandee
Sunday School 10 a.m. | Sunday Worship 11 a.m., 6 p.m. | Wed. 7 p.m.

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

Barnett Chapel General Baptist
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m. Barnett Chapel Rd., Marion, Ky.
Sunday Worship: 11 a.m.
Wednesday Night Bible Study: 6 p.m.
Barnett Chapel...where everyone is welcome.

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

Marion Church of Christ
546 West Elm Street • (270) 965-9450
Sunday Bible Study: 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship: 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study: 6:30 p.m.
- The end of your search for a friendly church -

Marion, full of construction and on the rise

Brenda Underdown
County Historian

Forgotten Passages

To say that the city of Marion was on the rise in the year 1926 would be putting it mildly. All around the court square new construction and remodeling were being seen and heard. The sound of hammers and saws was familiar for many weeks, and a welcoming sound, for it meant that Marion was growing and a good place to be living. How proud the citizens must have been of their town. From the archives of The Crittenden Press, here are just a few of the exciting events that were taking place early in 1926.

___

February 1926

The two new business houses under construction for the local Masonic Lodge are now in the final stages of being finished. J. N. Boston & Sons is contracted for the erection of a two-story business house on the lot adjoining the Masonic Lodge and also a two-story house on the lot to the rear of the same property facing Bellville Street. The architecture of the building will be in conformity with the present building, making it have the appearance of only one building when the work is finally complete.

The new space facing Main Street is being plastered and trimmed, the front being ready for the plate glass show windows and the interior trim being underway. This is a handsome addition to the business section of Marion and is a splendid location. It is two stories high and the front harmonizes beautifully with the original Masonic building, now occupied by Taylor and Company.

___

Morris, Son and Mitchell the name of the new store to occupy this space is owned by D. B. Moore, better known as "Dave." Mr. Moore will merchandise groceries in this building and as Mr. Moore was formerly in this business in Marion, and is thoroughly familiar with every detail connected therewith, he will undoubtedly enjoy a satisfactory patronage. He is also opening a new meat market department in the store with a modern refrigerator showcase, meat slicer, sausage machine and storage refrigerator. Mr. Herbert Morris will be in charge of this department. He has had a number of years experience as a meat cutter.

He states that he will carry a stock of goods in every way worthy of as good a town as Marion, both in the staple and fancy lines. Workmen are now at work installing the fixtures and shelving for the new store. (This would be the space occupied in later years by the City Drug Store.)

___

New Press Location - The Masonic addition facing Bellville Street is practically complete, the trimming already being underway. It is a nice little building, well lighted and ventilated with a concrete floor downstairs. Upon completion, this building will be occupied by The Press on the ground floor. The new quarters will leave little to be desired in the way of modernity. Well lighted and ventilated and conveniently arranged, it is not going to be the fault of the building if you do not get a good paper.

The photography studio of George Travis will be on the second story. The studio will be modern in every respect.

___

New Theater Soon To Be Finished - The new theater which is to be operated in the Main Street location vacated by The Crittenden Press is rapidly approaching completion. The new theater is to be called "The Kentucky."

The new front is already in, the electric wiring completed and the metal projection booth installed. Also there will be a raised floor, for better viewing, and new seats. Ventilation will be provided by cooling breezes stirred by a battery of electric fans.

Mr. Guy Givens's and staff were ready for customers in his new restaurant located on West Bellville Street. It was beautifully furnished with each table having it's own personal wall mounted fan to keep the customers comfortable in the summertime.

Mr. W. W. Runyan is the proprietor of this new enterprise and has announced that he will open the theater with one of Harold Bell Wright's pictures, "A Son of His Father." Mr. Runyan states that he will play only the cream of the film industry, giving his patrons clean, enjoyable pictures at all time. (This space was located where the old Robards/Babb Drug Store used to be located. Thanks to the late Tink Hicklin who remembered when it was there.)

___

New Restaurant To Open Soon and Marion will have another place in which the hungry may satisfy a craving for food. Guy Givens, who formerly operated a restaurant on the north side of the square, and M. W. Thomason will be the proprietors of the new place. Mr. Givens is one of the best known restaurant men in this part of the state and will have charge of the cuisine and management.

The new restaurant in located in the recently constructed Shelby building, which also houses the new armory. The building is on one of the prettiest small town business blocks anywhere and is a strictly modern one. The floor is of concrete, the ceiling of metal, beautifully decorated. The show window is wide and spacious which will permit a tempting display of palatable food should the owners desire to use it for such.

The restaurant proves to be a popular place, and the crowds that went there for meals in the first few days continue. (The Shelby building was the cream colored brick building torn down to make room for the new Fire Station.)

___

Business House starts "White Way" in Marion. Mrs. Lottie Terry has added much to the attractiveness of her store on Bellville Street by the addition of a number of new lights.

The show windows of both departments of her store are lighted at night. The area in front of the store is now brilliantly lighted with a row of electric lights which not only adds to the looks of her place of business but brightens up that section of the street. This is the start of a new tradition in the business stores, lighted windows at night. (Terry's store was located where the Christian Church parking lot is now on West Bellville St.)

___

Cook's Auto Laundry Keeps Up To Date. There are at least a few other businesses besides The Press in Marion that believes in up to the minute appointments – one of them is the place where you may get your autos and 4ds washed.

When Levi Cook built his auto laundry it was the finest thing of its kind in America in a town anywhere near the size of Marion. Equipped for speed and this together with a desire to render service at a moderate price this establishment is always busy.

The demand for this service grew to such an extent that Mr. Cook has added to the equipment by installing a deep well electric pump for supplying water for the radiators of such motor cars as need a drink as they go by and to her purposes around this place.

All you have to do now to water your radiator is to drive up and reach over and grab the hose and press the handle of the faucet while holding the nozzle in the proper place. A quick service gasoline station is also maintained.

A nice line of package groceries is kept there for the benefit of those who are disposed to take advantage of an opportunity to save a little money.

Creed Threlkeld – none other than the popular "Pid" is in charge of the entire establishment and those who know Pid are content in the knowledge that he will see that they are taken care of when they drive up, either for an automobile bath, for a quart of oil, to have the tank filled with gas or just some water. This place is quite an addition to the south part of town. (I have never been able to find out for sure where Cook's Laundry was located. I have an old advertisement that says it was located on North Main. It possibly was located where Five Star or Subway is today, because those two locations always had filling stations on them.)

___

Other places of importance that were being constructed at this time in Marion's colorful history was the magnificent Fohs Hall building, which from the standpoint of money invested was the largest building ever erected in Marion, and the impressive Woman's Club Building on Carlisle Street.

(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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CALDWELL COUNTY, KY - 127 ACRES - $307,900 - Property has a diverse mix of habitat types, a good trail system and no road frontage. Loaded with deer sign! Property also has a good population of wild turkeys.
CRITTENDEN COUNTY, KY - 23[illegible] Superb hunting [illegible] income, diverse blend of habitat types, gently rolling topography and a proven history of big bucks! REDUCED $639,000
CRITTENDEN COUNTY, KY - 100 ACRES - $222,500 - This farm is set up for livestock [illegible] property. The property has several ponds, a rock bottom creek and several awesome building sites. PENDING
CRITTENDEN COUNTY, KY - 40 ACRES - $90,000 - This is an established livestock farm with great views from the hilltops. The area is known for big bucks. There is a small pond on the property and a gated entry.
CRITTENDEN COUNTY, KY - 60 ACRES - $135,000 - This livestock farm has the potential for being an excellent hunting tract. Plenty of food plot locations, pond and rock bottom creek are located on the property.
CRITTENDEN COUNTY, KY - 457 ACRES - $1,199,900 - Well-kept hunting property with a cozy home, nice yard and spacious shop. Three ponds, elevated blinds, feeders and tree stands are all located on the farm.
CALDWELL COUNTY, KY - 192.9 ACRES - $535,000 - Beautiful log home sitting on a turn k[illegible] hunting tract with proven big buck history, couple ponds, food plots, along with an apple and grape orchard. SOLD

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HANDS aid available for new moms, newborns

STAFF REPORT

New and expecting mothers in Crittenden and Livingston counties can benefit from the advice and resources available through HANDS (Health, Access, Nurturing and Development Services). The program is offered by the Pennyrile District Health Department.

The program teaches parents ways to ensure the health and care of their newborn, including a safe home environment, ways to bond with the baby and tips to promote physical and brain development. HANDS also provides new moms with coping mechanisms for stress and postpartum depression and community resources that may be needed for young moms or single moms.

Monthly visits by a HANDS specialist, which is an employee of the Pennyrile District Health Department, include material and encouragement to reach growth and nurturing goals.

"We discuss the importance of nurturing and making a child feel nurtured and loved because the foundation of the child is built on that," explains HANDS coordinator Jeanette "JT" Pyle. "We teach them about communication, brain development, play and stimulation at various ages."

Pyle encourages expecting mothers to call the Crittenden or Livingston health departments and register for the program when they become pregnant. Infants and their families can remain under the care of HANDS until the baby is two years old.

Pre- and postnatal enrollees to the program receive a gift basket including bibs, books, burp cloths and other necessities.

She said HANDS teaches the importance of prenatal development and the importance of attaching to the baby. As the child grows and develops, HANDS specialists educate families on the availability of community resources, whether a crib mattress or baby gate, which oftentimes return to the program.

"We have a list of community resources for every county," Pyle said. "Families in HANDS are so generous when they outgrow items, a lot of them return them to us to share with others."

Assessments are administered every two months up until age 2 to ensure a child is developing appropriately, Pyle said.

To help ensure development, stimulating and educational activities are provided to HANDS participants.

"The more words children know by age 3, the bigger their vocabulary is by the time they are an adult," Pyle said.

To learn more, contact Pyle at (270) 365-6571 ext. 616 or call your local health department.

4-H opportunities galore

Kids successful at training camp, ready for camp

Now is the time for young people and their parents to begin making plans for an annual summer ritual, attending 4-H Camp.

Regional 4-H camps are open to all Kentucky youth between the ages of 9 and 14 and provide opportunities for personal growth, gaining independence, fostering friendship skills, learning about Kentucky's natural resources and just having fun.

Many exciting activities and adventures await 4-H campers. Youth can spend their days participating in activities such as swimming, canoeing, high and low ropes, archery, games, dances, singing, nature hikes and much more. These activities are a fun way to help young people learn new skills and develop a greater appreciation for the environment and wildlife.

Camper safety is a priority at 4-H Camp. Each camp has been accredited by the American Camp Association since 2005, and all staff and volunteers are trained and undergo background checks prior to camp. Each camp will have an on-site health care provider at all times.

4-Hers from Crittenden County will attend West KY 4-H Camp in Dawson Springs from July 13-17. Don't miss out on all the fun. Crittenden County camps with 3 other counties and takes about 100 youth to camp each year.

A $50 deposit will hold your child's spot, and scholarships are available. We also need teens ages 16-17 to be junior counselors and adult counselors to attend with us.

For more information about 4-H Camp, contact the Crittenden County office of the University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service or visit the 4-H Camp website at http://4-h.ca.uky.edu/camp.

Source: Joey Barnard, acting camping specialist

Four earn honor status

Three Crittenden County 4-Hers have achieved silver-level recognition and another one Clover Level 3 in the 4-H Achievement Program.

Earning silver status for their participation in the 4-H program are Maggie Blazina, Paul Combs and Maegan Potter. Clover Level 3 recognition was earned by Tessa Potter.

The 4-H Achievement Program recognizes 4-H participants who have outstanding accomplishments and provides incentives for youth to increase their knowledge, skills and abilities. By keeping records of their awards, participation and projects, the Kentucky 4-H Achievement Program is a cumulative compilation of a 4-Hers entire 4-H experience and work.

Achievement levels are cumulative and can increase each year from Bronze, Silver, Gold and the highest accomplishment – Emerald – before completing high school.

Kentucky 4-H Leadership Boot Camp was held in conjunction with the 2020 Kentucky Volunteer Forum. This year 42 youth from across the Commonwealth graduated from 4-H LBC with new knowledge and skills related to interviewing, cover letters, resumes, parliamentary procedure, etiquette, 4-H history, personal strengths, public speaking, expressing gratitude, and setting goals. Local 4-Hers that attended were (from left)Emma Williams, Maggie Blazina and Maegan Potter

Where in the World

Sandy Gilbert of Marion took The Crittenden Press to The Garden Tomb during a recent trip to Israel. Gilbert learned there are two sights that are believed to be Jesus' actual tomb, but this was the one she felt had more evidence that it was the acutal tomb where Jesus was buried.

Early American Heritage Day Camp March 16

Spring Muster will introduce youth in grades 6-12 to life in the American Revolution.

Tomahawk throwing, black powder firearms and cannon demonstrations will take participants back to the Revolutionary time period March 16.

The event is sponsored by the 4-H Early American Heritage Club led by advisors Adam and Leslea Barnes, both Extension agents in Livingston and Crittenden counties, respectively.

Kids will learn to cook over an open fire and learn what life was like in the 18th century.

The camp is from 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Monday, March 16 at West Kentucky 4-H Camp near Dawson Springs.

This is the third-annual Spring Muster designed for home school and public school history classes.

Deadline to sign up is March 5 by contacting the Crittenden County Extension Service at (270) 965-5236.

Cost is $6, which includes lunch.

4-H club members will be excused from school because this is an educational field trip.

For more information, contact Leslea Barnes at the Crittenden County Extension Service.

THANK YOU

The family of John 'JW' Floyd would like to thank everyone for their kindness to him over the years. He loved his talks with all of you, and you each had a special place in his heart. We also want to thank you for your support after his passing, especially for the stories you shared with us of how he touched your lives.

Special thanks to everyone at the Food Giant and their deli, Five Star, the Wonder Bread Man, the Coke Man, everyone at the Courthouse, The Crittenden Press for the article about him, and the police and fire departments.

Thank you,
Rhonda Ellis, Brian Floyd,
Lori Long, and families

Sawyer Towery of Marion recently compelted basic training and AIT and was sworn in as a cadet in Murray State Univeristy's ROTC program. He is the son of Tricia Boyd and Rob Towery.

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Half a Dozen Song Dogs

James Reece and Dustin Hill (right) scored six coyotes to win last weekend's 24-hour Coyote Contest. Six is one of the largest harvests to ever win the annual event. This year was a very successful hunt with several two-man teams turning in multiple song dogs. The contest is sponsored by Hodge's Sports and Apparel and Marion Tourism Commission.

Park board has new fence, scoreboard plans

STAFF REPORT

A new fence along the north end of the youth soccer fields at Marion-Crittenden County Park will be installed within the next few weeks.

The $5,820 project will be funded equally by Crittenden County Youth Soccer Association and the Crittenden County Park Board. The park board will be reimbursed by the City of Marion Tourism Commission, which annually provides reimbursement for maintenance projects at the park.

The decision to install the fencing was made Monday night during a meeting of the park board. The primary motive for adding a fence there is safety.

"We have had several close calls of kids chasing balls into oncoming cars and cars parked too close to the field," said CCYSA president Shana Geary.

The fence will create a safety barrier between the soccer fields and an adjacent parking area and gravel driveway.

Geary said additional field work is needed; however, the fence is the soccer association's top priority.

C&C Fence Company of Mayfield will install the fence.

There is also a plan now in place to purchase new electronic scoreboards for the three youth baseball/softball fields. The current scoreboards often malfunction. They were first installed in the late 1990s.

Park Board President Tanner Tabor said the Crittenden County Dugout Club and park board will share in the cost of this project, too. Cost will be around $10,000 for the boards.

State exploring new basketball season format

Kentucky High School Athletics Association is going to begin exploring the idea of finishing both state basketball tournaments before the NCAA Tournament begins, according to a tweet last week by Louisville Courier-Journal sports reporter Jason Frakes.

The idea is possibly starting season the Monday before Thanksgiving, keeping a 12-week regular season in place.

"One concern is more conflicts with football. More discussion in May," Frakes said in the tweet.

Rocket football coach and athletic director Sean Thompson says he does not think the idea will gain much momentum.

Versatile TN guard could be real treasure for UK

She's a top 10 national recruit and has participated in USA Basketball events. However, Kentucky signee Treasure Hunt always had one other dream.

"My whole life I dreamed of making the McDonald's All-American and Jordan Brand Classic," she said. "Now that I have done it, it's a bit unreal. I guess when I get to Chicago (for Jordan Brand) and then Houston (for McDonald's) it will really get to me."

Larry Vaught
UK Sports Columnist
Vaught's Views

Hamilton Heights Christian Academy (Chattanooga, Tenn.) had a 22-1 record going into play this week. One of Hunt's teammates is 6-7 Syracuse signee Kamilla Cardoso of Brazil, who will also play in the McDonald's All-American Game and Jordan Brand Classic.

"We have a good team and the players are all easy to play with," Hunt said. "We don't just have to rely on one person to win."

The 6-2 Hunt is a versatile player who can make jump shots, finish in traffic, disrupt passing lanes with her length and runs the court well. She believes her shooting and ability to get to the basket are her best traits.

"I am a big guard and it is easier for me to play defense and get blocks and steals now. It's easier for me to score because I am bigger than most players guarding me and can use my body against them," Hunt said.

Is her defense ready for the demands UK coach Matthew Mitchell places on that end of the court?

"I am not going to lie. Toward the beginning of last season my defense was not as good as it is now. I keep working on it to get better. I stand up too much on defense. I've been working on getting low like coach Mitchell wants," Hunt said.

Hunt would like to be part of a dynamic duo at UK with former AAU teammate Rhyne Howard, the consensus national freshman of the year for the 2018-19 season and a likely All-American this year. As good as Howard has been — she got to 1,000 points quicker than any UK player except Valerie Still — remember that Hunt is rated higher.

"Rhyne was a huge impact on me because me and her were always together when we were little. It's going to be really fun to play with her again," Hunt said. "She's a big guard, too, a really strong guard who knows how to use her body to go through contact. Our chemistry has always been great. We knew how each other plays and what we were both best at and tried our best to help put each other in the right spots."

Mitchell understood the role Howard played in getting Hunt to sign with the Wildcats over a host of other big-time offers that included South Carolina, Louisville, Baylor, Mississippi State, Tennessee, UCLA, North Carolina State and Auburn.

"I definitely think that them growing up together and playing a lot of basketball together, that bond certainly didn't hurt us," Mitchell said. "That made her probably look at us maybe a little bit harder than she would have, but I think it was just our overall atmosphere here. She felt really comfortable and she has tremendous, tremendous upside as a player and so we're excited about her."

Kentucky was Hunt's last visit and she said it "just felt totally different" on the UK campus than other places she visited. She even texted her mom — who coached her and Howard in AAU — that she was ready to commit. Her mother told her not to say anything until she got home to make sure she didn't change her mind.

Kentucky signee Treasure Hunt said it meant a lot to her that UK coach Matthew Mitchell came to Chattanooga to see her receive her McDonald's All-American jersey earlier this month.

"I sat in with the team and coaches and it just really clicked and that's why I love Kentucky," Hunt said.

The love affair didn't end after she signed. Mitchell came to Chattanooga to see her get presented her McDonald's All-American jersey on Senior Night for the boys team (the girls play a national schedule and did not have a senior night game).

"That meant a lot to me that he took the time to come," Hunt said. "He came just to watch me walk and get that McDonald's jersey and then left without even staying for the boys game. He was just there for me."

Her name, obviously, is a bit different but one she has embraced. She said her sister had a best friend named Treasure and people would call them "Treasure Hunt" when they were together.

"My mom said if she had another girl she would name her Treasure," Hunt said. "So I just enjoy it but I get asked about it a lot."

Rivals.com and Yahoo.com recruiting writer Krysten Peek believes guard BJ Boston is the best player in Kentucky's 2020 recruiting class even though he is not ranked quite as high as signee Terrence Clarke, another guard. Boston has made a significant climb in the recruiting rankings to where he is also a top 10 recruit now like Clarke.

"I have seen a lot of Boston this year. He has even grown a little from the summer," she said. "He has a tight handle and his shot release is so high. He's confident from shooting 2-3-4 steps behind the (3-point) arc. He also likes to get to the rim and has a swagger about him. Confidence is not an issue for this kid."

Point guard Devin Askew — who had 43 points in a recent playoff game — is also part of the 2020 Kentucky recruiting class. Three of UK's top players this year — freshman Tyrese Maxey, sophomore Immanuel Quickley and sophomore Ashton Hagans — are all guards. Maxey is listed as a lottery pick in NBA mock drafts but what if Hagans and Quickley both stay at UK? Could they coexist with Boston, Clarke and Askew?

"Maybe they could. I'm not sure," Peek said. "Ashton would stay at the one and Devin would fall in line behind him. With Immanuel and BJ, it would be a battle for playing time."

Peek knows Quickley is playing as well as he has in his two years at UK and thinks he might opt for the draft. He had a career-high 26 points against Florida last week, including 22 in the second half, and had scored 20 or more points five times in nine games before the Florida win.

"If he waits a year, that next draft class is so talented and so good," Peek said. "Players have to take that into consideration. I think Immanuel now is a second rounder and it might be time for him to make the move."

Blue Ribbon College Basketball publisher Chris Dortch, who also writes for NBA.com, says a player believing he's ready for the NBA and actually being ready are two different things as shown by over 80 underclassmen declaring for the draft last year when only 60 draft spots were available.

"Maxey is undoubtedly in the best position in terms of overall draft stock because he's forecast as a high lottery pick by many," Dortch said. "I wonder if Quickley and Hagans might be like (Nick) Richards and still think they have more to learn. But you just never know what might drive guys."

Losing Kahlil Whitney unexpectedly early in the SEC season has not really had an impact on UK as the Wildcats are 8-1 since he bailed out in late January.

The former McDonald's All-American seems set on testing his NBA draft stock rather than transferring to another program.

Kentucky coach John Calipari said at the time he was sad to see Whitney leave just like he said a year before when Quade Green transferred at midseason to Washington.

On his radio show, Calipari still is saying nothing but good things about Whitney.

"I miss Kahlil. I loved him," Calipari said. "The one thing at the end of the day I felt that he was the guy that we needed in case we play somebody with size and athleticism so he could come in and help us."

Whitney came to UK projected as a likely one and done player by some despite his limited offensive skills because of his enormous athleticism. Calipari even admits he might have been expecting too much too soon.

Whitney left because things "had not gone as he had hoped," he wrote in his letter to Big Blue Nation, but Calipari said he saw early on that Whitney might be one that would need a little more time.

"After he was here, I thought,this may take a little time like it did with Ashton (Hagans) and PJ (Washington) and Immanuel (Quickley), probably not as much time as Nick (Richards), but I thought it was going to take time," Calipari said.

Apparently Whitney never felt the same way.

NOTICE OF PASSAGE
AND
SUMMARY OF ORDINANCE
ORDINANCE NO. 20-02: AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF MARION, KENTUCKY AUTHORIZING AN INTERLOCAL RECIPROCITY AGREEMENT FOR EFFECTIVE COLLECTION OF OCCUPATIONAL LICENSE FEES AND TAXES.

Notice is hereby given that the City Council of the City of Marion, Kentucky, at a special called meeting held on February 20, 2020 at 5:15 o'clock p.m., gave second reading and passed and adopted an Ordinance relating to the Marion Code of Ordinances, which Ordinance had been given its first reading at its regular meeting of the City Council held on February 10, 2020, at 5:00 o'clock p.m. A summary of the Ordinance is as follows:

This Ordinance authorizes the Mayor to execute on behalf of the City an interlocal agreement with the County of Crittenden for the collection of occupational license tax and fees.

The full text of the Ordinance is on file in the Office of the City Clerk in the City Building, Marion, Kentucky, where it is available for public inspection.

PREPARED BY:
/s/Robert B. Frazer
ROBERT B. FRAZER
CITY ATTORNEY
FRAZER & MASSEY
ATTORNEYS –AT- LAW
P.O. BOX 361
MARION, KY 42064
270/965-2261 February 21, 2020

NOTICE OF PASSAGE
AND
SUMMARY OF ORDINANCE
ORDINANCE NO. 20-03: **AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF MARION, KENTUCKY, PROVIDING FOR THE CREATION AND SALE OF A FRANCHISE FOR THE PRIVILEGE OF CONSTRUCTING, TRANSPORTING, OPERATING, MAINTAINING AND DISTRIBUTING TELECOMMUNICATION SERVICE ALONG AND UNDER PUBLIC RIGHT OF WAY WITHIN THE CITY OF MARION, KENTUCKY, FOR A TERM OF TEN (10) YEARS IN CONSIDERATION FOR WHICH THE SUCCESSFUL FRANCHISEE SHALL PAY TO THE CITY AN ANNUAL SUM; AND FURTHER ESTABLISHING A BID PROCEDURE FOR THE AWARD OF SAID FRANCHISE TO THE SUCCESSFUL BIDDER.**

Notice is hereby given that the City Council of the City of Marion, Kentucky, at a special called meeting held on February 20, 2020 at 5:15 o'clock p.m.,, gave second reading and passed and adopted an Ordinance relating to the Marion Code of Ordinances, which Ordinance had been given its first reading at its regular meeting of the City Council held on February 10, 2020, at 5:00 o'clock p.m. A summary of the Ordinance is as follows:

This Ordinance authorizes the City of Marion to advertise for bids for the sale of a nonexclusive franchise for telecommunication system placement in, on, along, and under public right of ways located within the corporate city limits upon conditions and terms for a period not to exceed ten years.

The full text of the Ordinance is on file in the Office of the City Clerk in the City Building, Marion, Kentucky, where it is available for public inspection.

PREPARED BY:
/s/Robert B. Frazer
ROBERT B. FRAZER
CITY ATTORNEY
FRAZER & MASSEY
ATTORNEYS –AT- LAW
P.O. BOX 361
MARION, KY 42064
270/965-2261 February 21, 2020

NOTICE OF PASSAGE
AND
SUMMARY OF ORDINANCE
ORDINANCE NO. 20-04: **AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF MARION, KENTUCKY, PROVIDING FOR THE CREATION AND SALE OF A FRANCHISE FOR THE PRIVILEGE OF CONSTRUCTING, TRANSPORTING, OPERATING, MAINTAINING AND DISTRIBUTING NATURAL GAS ALONG AND UNDER PUBLIC RIGHT OF WAY WITHIN THE CITY OF MARION, KENTUCKY, FOR A TERM OF TEN (10) YEARS IN CONSIDERATION FOR WHICH, THE SUCCESSFUL FRANCHISEE SHALL PAY TO THE CITY AN ANNUAL SUM EQUAL TO ONE PERCENT (1%) OF ITS REVENUES; AND FURTHER ESTABLISHING A BID PROCEDURE FOR THE AWARD OF SAID FRANCHISE TO THE SUCCESSFUL BIDDER.**

Notice is hereby given that the City Council of the City of Marion, Kentucky, at a special called meeting held on February 20, 2020 at 5:15 o'clock p.m., gave second reading and passed and adopted an Ordinance relating to the Marion Code of Ordinances, which Ordinance had been given its first reading at its regular meeting of the City Council held on February 10, 2020, at 5:00 o'clock p.m. A summary of the Ordinance is as follows:

This Ordinance authorizes the City of Marion to advertise for bids for the sale of a nonexclusive franchise for natural gas distribution system in, on, along, and under public right of ways located within the corporate city limits upon conditions and terms for a period not to exceed ten years.

The full text of the Ordinance is on file in the Office of the City Clerk in the City Building, Marion, Kentucky, where it is available for public inspection.

PREPARED BY:
/s/Robert B. Frazer
ROBERT B. FRAZER
CITY ATTORNEY
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P.O. BOX 361
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Sports The Crittenden Press

The Press Online
The-Press.com
Twitter @CrittendenPress

Mott

Turley

Guess

BASKETBALL
All Region Selections

Crittenden County put three players on the boys' and girls' All-Second Region teams, which were announced this week. Junior Rockets Gabe Mott and Preston Turley and freshman Lady Rocket Taylor Guess were chosen to their respective teams by area coaches.

FIFTH DISTRICT STANDINGS

BOYS		
Lyon County	21-9	5-1
Trigg County	11-19	4-2
Crittenden Co.	16-15	3-3
Livingston Cent.	3-28	0-6
GIRLS		
Trigg County	23-8	5-1
Crittenden Co.	18-9	5-1
Lyon County	13-17	2-4
Livingston Cent.	5-19	0-6

2ND REGION MEDIA RANKINGS

FINAL BOYS POLL

1. Madisonville
2. Henderson County
3. Webster County
4. University Heights
5. Lyon County
6. Hopkinsville
7. Caldwell County
8. Christian County
9. Crittenden County
10. Union County

FINAL GIRLS POLL

1. Henderson Co.
2. Madisonville
3. Webster County
4. Hopkinsville
5. Caldwell County
6. Christian County
7. Trigg County
8. Union County
9. Crittenden County
10. Lyon County

Regionals, Sweet 16s

The boys' baskestball Second Region Tournament will be at Hopkinsville and the girls' regional at Christian County. Regional champions advance to the Sweet 16s at Rupp Arena in Lexington, with the girls event set for March 11-15 and the boys March 18-22.

YOUTH SPORTS
Registration is open

Registration is now open for youth soccer, softball, baseball and kickball. Registration for soccer is Saturday at H&H Home and Hardware from 9 a.m., until noon and again from 5-8 p.m., on Thursday, March 5 at Marion's Dairy Queen store. Online registration will be open until April 3. Deadline to sign up for baseball and softball is March 7. There will be an assessment from 10 a.m., until noon at the middle school gym on March 7. Find a form at the Dugout Club Facebook page, Press Online or in paper form at The Press office.

SWIMMING
2 in for state meet

Two Marion swimmers who are members of the Paducah Swim Team have qualified for the state meet in March. Aubrey Hollis competes in the 12-under division and has qualified in five events including 50- and 100-meter backstroke; 50-meter breaststroke; and 50- and 100-meter butterfly. Braelyn Merrill, a 10-under competitor, qualified in the 50-meter backstroke. The state meet is March 13-15 in Louisville.

GOLF
First tourney of year will benefit shelter

There will be a 4-Person Golf Scramble on Saturday, March 21 at Deer Lakes Golf Course. Entry fee is $240 per team. Shotgun start will be at 9 a.m. Proceeds benefit Mary Hall Ruddiman Canine Shelter. For more information call 270-988-4653 or 270-704-9082.

Preston Turley (31) and Erik O'Leary (2) defend Trigg County's Khyran Vaughn at the basket during the first half of Tuesday's Fifth District opener at Lyon County.

FIFTH DISTRICT TOURNAMENT

BOYS

Tuesday's Results
Lyon County 101, Livingston 76
Crittenden Co. 61, Trigg County 59
Friday's championship
At Lyon County, 7 pm

GIRLS

Monday's Results
Crittenden 48,Livingston 35
Trigg County 44, Lyon County 43
Thursday's championship
At Lyon County, 7pm

Turley's late basket beats Trigg

STAFF REPORT

Preston Turley didn't play much at all in the second half, but he scored the last basket of the game with three seconds to go, lifting the Rockets to a 61-59 win over Trigg County in Tuesday's opening round of the Fifth District Tournament at Eddyville.

Fouls haunted Turley the whole way. He collected three in the first half – two of the offensive variety – and missed some early playing time. Then, the junior center and all-region performer picked up No. 4 early in the third period. He sat much of the rest of the way, coming into the game with about three minutes left and Crittenden ahead by three.

The game was closely contested the entire way. Crittenden trailed by as many as seven points and led by as many as nine in the second half alone.

"Our kids just love tournament play," said Rocket coach Denis Hodge, whose team will be heading to the district tournament championship for the fourth straight season.

"A lot of people think tournament play is a lot of pressure, but I don't look at that way and I don't think our kids do either. They just enjoy the atmosphere and let others deal with the pressure," the coach said.

When Braxton Winders fouled out, Turley was re-inserted into the lineup. He scored four points down the stretch as Crittenden eked out the win.

"Yeah, we got some quality minutes out of him in the second half, about three and half," the coach said with a smile.

"But he came back, stayed out of foul trouble and was huge down the stretch. When we went to him there at the end he finished it off with a really nice bucket," Hodge said, describing Turley's game winner in the final seconds.

Turley scored just six points, well below his 14-point average, but four were in the closing minutes.

Gabe Mott led the Rockets with 17 points and Erik O'Leary and Tyler Boone had 15 apiece.

The Rockets face Lyon County on its home floor Friday for the district championship. Both teams have already clinched a berth in the Second Region Tournament, which will be at Hopkinsville next week.

Crittenden 61, Trigg 59

Crittenden Co.	12	27	43	61
Trigg County	9	30	43	59

CRITTENDEN - Morgeson 3, O'Leary 15, Winders 2, Mott 17, Boone 15, M.Carlson 2, J.Carlson 1, Turley 6. FG 21. 3-pointers 2 (O'Leary, Boone). FT 17-22

TRIGG - K.Thompson 23, Miles 7, J.Vaughn 9, Adams 8, K.Vaughn 5, Bridges 5, Terrell 2. FG 22. 3-pointers 4 (Thompson 2, Miles, Bridges). FT 11-21.

Game Summer of Final Regular-Season Game
McLean 63, Crittenden 49

CRITTENDEN - Turley 19, Morgeson 11, O'Leary 8, Mott 5, Boone 4, J.Carlson 2, M.Carlson. FG 19. 3-pointers 6 (Morgeson 3, Turley, Mott, O'Leary). FT 5-10.

McLEAN - Patterson 19, Clark 17, Springer 10, Dame 7, Bishop 6, Englehardt 4, Phillips, Hampton, Bracket, Mimms, Johnson, Arnold. FG 27. 3-pointers 4. FT 5-10.

Lady Rocket Chandler Moss (23) at left drives against Livingston's Kerah Davidson to the basket during second-half action Monday in the opening round of the Fifth District Tournament. Above, Lady Rockets Jaelyn Duncan (22) and Taylor Guess (11) trap Livingston's Gracie Downey.

Lady Rockets take aim at Trigg for title

STAFF REPORT

It was pretty clear that Crittenden County's girls had quickly moved past their win over Livingston Central just minutes after the final horn at Eddyville Monday.

Juniors Jaelyn Duncan and Chandler Moss were already talking about Thursday's rematch with Trigg County (which narrowly found its way into the title game by eking out a one-point win over Lyon Monday.

The two Lady Rockets certainly knew all of the particulars. They started reciting the desire for retribution, and the need to prove themselves. The goal, they said, was cutting down the nets.

Of course all of that can come to fruition with a win Thursday, but the girls know Trigg County has been a formidable opponent of late.

Last year, the Lady Wildcats beat CCHS three times, including in the district tournament opener. Prior to those three straight losses to Trigg, Crittenden hadn't been bested by TCHS since 2012. Trigg's win in the playoff opener last season ended a four-year string of regional tournament appearances by the Lady Rockets.

"We're happy, but not satisfied," said Duncan after she and the Rocket girls dispatched Livingston 48-35 in a game that was mighty close for three periods.

Livingston (5-19) was the fourth seed in the tournament, but actually led by one in the second half before CCHS turned on the defense in the final frame to outscore the Lady Cardinals14-2.

"We beat Trigg last time we the played them, but before that they'd beat us four in a row," said Moss.

The Lady Rockets (18-9) have one of the best records in the entire Second Region. Their 18 wins rank among the best in school history. In coach Shannon Hodge's 27-year coaching career, Crittenden's girls have won more only twice (2016-17 and 2010-11).

All of that will mean nothing, however, when the Lady Rockets tip off against Trigg in the finals. Trigg, too, has had a record-setting season, rolling up a 23-8 record.

"I love this team," coach Hodge said. "I wish we'd have played a little sharper (against Livingston), but survive and advance, that's what it's about at this point."

CCHS and Trigg both qualify for the regional, which is at Christian County.

Crittenden 48, Livingston 35

Livingston	9	20	33	35
Crittenden	11	27	34	48

LIVINGSTON - G.Downey 7, Davidson 6, Salazar, Wring 12, M.Downey 3, Joiner 6, Jennings, Ramage 1. FG 14. 3-pointers 1 (G.Downey). FT 6-17.

CRITTENDEN - Guess 21, Boone 6, Moss 4, Woodward 7, Duncan 10, Easley, Driskill, Smith. FG 17. 3-pointers none. FT 14-18.

Area Deaths

Quertermous

Joyce A. Quertermous, 70, of Marion died Monday, Feb. 24, 2020 at her home.

Survivors include her husband, Danny Quertermous of Marion; daughters, Angie (Bobby) O'Leary, Billi Wyatt and Brandie Fox all of Marion; brothers, Bennett Redd of Marion and Kenneth Redd of Indianapolis, Ind.; seven grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Trice and Lala Redd.

Services are scheduled for 11 a.m., Thursday, Feb. 27 at Gilbert Funeral Home in Marion. Burial will be at Freedom Cemetery. The family will receive visitors from 5-8 p.m., Wednesday at the funeral home.

Archives of Local Obituaries for more than 20 years are available online at The-Press.com

Consolidating polling places part of new voter legislataion

A bill that would change Kentucky mail-in absentee ballot procedures and clarify that more than one voting precinct may vote at a single location has passed the state House.

House Bill 388 sponsor and House Elections, Constitutional Amendments and Intergovernmental Affairs Committee Chair Rep. Kevin D. Bratcher, R-Louisville, said the bill is the result of months of work with the Kentucky County Clerks Association and others.

"We'd been working on it all summer, both parties. All the (county) clerks are for this," said Bratcher.

The change in mail-in absentee ballot rules would prohibit those ballots from being mailed to a voter's residence unless the voter is required to work outside of the county throughout the in-person absentee voting process or for other eligible reasons, such as having a disability or being away on military service.

Bratcher said the bill would also require that mail-in absentee ballots be verified the day before an election. He emphasized that the ballots would not be counted the day prior, only verified.

"They will count them on election day," he said.

Using a single voting location for more than one precinct is already part of election procedures in some larger counties, said Bratcher. One voting machine could be used by different precincts, per the bill, if the machine is capable of tabulating separate ballots.

SIGNS

Continued from page 1

comply with federal or state minimum requirements as prescribed by the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) traffic devices.

Often time, Maraman said, drivers go around barrels, move them, vandals steal them or toss them into ditches, leaving unsuspecting motorists at risk of driving into floodwaters.

It was 11 years ago when a two-year-old child drowned in Crittenden County on Ky. 855 North in what's known as Rieter's Flat. A barrier was not in place on the state highway that day, only a "Water Over the Road" sign on the right of way. The child's mother driving the vehicle went past the sign, driving into the deep water and submerging the vehicle. The mother escaped but the child was swept away in the swift current and drowned.

County magistrates approved spending almost $8,000 for Type 3 Road Closed Barricades.

The barriers are each eight feet wide with aluminum poles and plastic boards. They will include a road closed sign, Maraman said.

Public assistance reform finds support in House moves now to Senate

A House initiative to reform how Kentucky provides low-income cash assistance, food assistance, and certain Medicaid benefits to its citizens passed the chamber last week by a vote of 58-32.

House Speaker Pro Tempore David Meade, R-Stanford, said House Bill 1, as amended on the House floor, would remove barriers to public assistance by those who need it most while holding those who may abuse the system accountable. Meade and House Speaker David Osborne, R-Prospect, are primary co-sponsors of the measure.

"I would say that if we save one life from drug addiction, or we make sure one child does not go hungry because their parents are trafficking (their benefits) card, then it's well worth the cost that we've spent," Meade told his colleagues in the House.

Key reforms that the state would be required to implement under House Bill 1 would: require most cash assistance beneficiaries to use one single electronic benefit transfer (EBT) card for all programs with penalties for selling or otherwise misusing the card; provide "transitional" benefits through SNAP – the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program formerly known as food stamps, and; allow implementation of a Medicaid work requirement should state matching funds required to cover Kentucky's expanded Medicaid population reach a certain level.

Those with earnings between 138-200 percent of the federal poverty level who no longer qualify for Medicaid because of increased income, but who otherwise qualify for Medicaid, could participate in a state health insurance option under HB 1. The program would provide the optional insurance to a qualified individual for 12 months or longer.

Some lawmakers opposing the legislation said it could potentially cost the state more than it would save. House Minority Whip Angie Hatton, D-Whitesburg, said fraud and "perceived fraud" among public cash assistance beneficiaries in Kentucky is estimated to cost taxpayers less than $400,000 a year at most. The impact of HB 1 would cost more than 50 times that amount, she estimated.

"We'll spend $20 million to ferret this out," she said. "And why? ... The reasons are that we want to encourage people to work. Well, statistics show us that 62 percent of people who are on Medicaid are working compared to the general public's percentage which is 58 percent."

Meade said most of the money to pay for the initiative would be federal, not state. He also countered some legislators' comments that HB 1 would hurt low-income families and individuals by saying the legislation would "drastically" increase benefits while helping individuals become more self-sufficient.

"Only those who lose these benefits can do so in two ways – they are either fraudulently misusing the card, the benefits that they've been given, or they are a completely able-bodied adult with no dependents and simply choose not to participate in a community engagement program," said Meade.

HB 1 would also require the Cabinet for Health and Family Services to report to the state Public Assistance Oversight and Advisory Committee regarding possible changes to childcare assistance programs, and propose a legislative work group to review and report to the General Assembly on state substance abuse recovery efforts.

The bill now goes to the Senate for consideration.

Brennan Cruce and Phyllis Sykes aka Minnie Pearl will be among the featured entertainers at the March 14 Old Kentucky Hayride variety show at Fohs Hall.

Hayride hooked up for spring show on March 14 at Fohs

STAFF REPORT

All the way back from Grinder's Switch, Marion's version of Hee Haw's Minnie Pearl will be among the entertainers featured in March's latest production of the Old Kentucky Hayride.

Portrayed by former school teacher and city councilwoman Phyllis Sykes, Minnie will be there to greet guests and tell some good ole stories.

Besides the house band, there will be a number of new entertainers on stage including Leah Hawes Story portraying Martina McBride on March 14. The show begins at 7 p.m., at Fohs Hall. Tickets are just $5 and proceeds benefit the Crittenden County Food Bank.

Only a few tickets remain. It's sure to be a sellout so call quickly to get a seat, 270-704-5296 or 270-969-1066

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Elizabeth A. Maddux, D.V.M.
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3841 US Hwy. 60 West, Marion, KY 42064
(270) 965-2257

Part of Crittenden County's recycling program includes this collection wagon which was recently stationed at Tolu next to the community center (former school). The trailer is a self-serve device aimed at creating a convenient way for residents to recycle. Plastic bottles and aluminum cans can be dropped off at the recycling trailer. For more about the county government-sponsored recycling program, contact County Judge-Executive Perry Newcom. This particular trailer is rotated weekly between Tolu, Dycusburg and Sheridan. There are other recycling trailers in the county. One is at the park and another is at the road department/recycling center on U.S. 60 East. Glass is not accpeted.

Ferry back in operation now

Cave in Rock Ferry, which had been closed since Feb. 15 due to high water, re-opened on Tuesday morning at 6 a.m.

High waters on the Ohio River had kept the ferry idle for several days.

JAMES SEPTIC SERVICE
and Porta-Potty Rentals
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FEBRUARY 29, 2020 at 5 P.M.
Speaker:
TERRY MITCHESON
Former pastor, Ohio Valley Baptist Church
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All phone numbers listed for ads on this page are within the 270 area code unless otherwise noted.

yard sales

Pre-moving sale - rain or shine! Feb. 27th, 28th, 29th, Thur. and Fri., 8 a.m.-4 p.m., Sat., 8 a.m.-12:00. 5100 State Route 1668, Marion, KY (Crittenden Springs Rd.) Work bench, curio cabinet, chairs, jewelry, antiques, glassware, bedspreads, linens, wedding décor, knives, mens, womens and juniors clothing and shoes, purses, new never used items, too much to list. Everything must go! (1t-34-p)

for sale

Used 6 ft. heavy duty flex shaft; 6 in. Craftsman jointer, Bostich construction nailer; new martin houses made for 6x6 treated pole. Milo Yoder, 1417 Yoder Rd., Marion, Ky. 42064. (1t-8-p)

automotive

2006 FORD F150 XLT, 5.4 Triton engine, 146,000 miles, $6,900 obo. (270) 704-3960. (2t-9-p)

for rent

Remodeled 3 BR, 2 bath home for rent in quiet at Marion neighbrohood, all electric, stove and refrigerator furnished, (618) 499-7680. (2t-35-c) ih

agriculture

Grass hay for sale (270) 704-0114. (2t-34-p)

employment

The City of Marion has a full-time permanent position available in the Police Department. Minimum qualifications include graduation from high school or equivalent; some experience in law enforcement is desirable, but not mandatory. A combination of experience and education will be considered for compliance with these standards. Primary activities will include, but not limited to patrolling and other such duties common to the department's operations. The successful applicant will work under the general direction of the Chief of Police. All resumes must be accompanied by a City of Marion job application. A Job description for the position is available from the City Administrator by request. Upon completion of a probationary period, employee benefits include; 100% of the employee's health insurance premiums; 25% of any covered family members; and vacation/holiday pay. Interested candidates will need to submit their application to the City Administrator by 12 pm on Friday, March 13th 2020. The City of Marion is an Equal Opportunity Employer and a Certified Drug-Free Workplace. (1t-34-c)

LOCAL CDL-CLASS A DRIVERS! Now hiring Local Drivers: Class-A CDL Required. Min 1 yr recent experience. Clean MVR. Great pay, benefits, home daily. Submit application in person at Liberty Tire Recycling, 2071 US 60 West, Marion KY or fax resume to (270) 965-3618 or email to hmaloney@libertytire.com. Call (270) 965-3613 for more info. EOE. (2t-35-c)

The Pennyrile District Health Department is accepting applications for a full time Public Health Director II. Starting Salary: $30.02 - $39.03 hr negotiable with additional experience. Grade 28 Applications and information packets may be picked up at Caldwell, Crittenden, Livingston, Lyon or Trigg County Health Centers, Pennyrile District Health Department OR application online at https://chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dph/dafm/lhpb/Pages/vacancies.aspx and request information packet at one of our locations. Completed application and transcript must be returned by 11:00 am CST on March 6, 2020 to Crittenden County Health Center, 190 Industrial Dr., Marion KY 42064 or Mailed to: Human Resources Manager, Crittenden County Health Center, PO Box 392, Marion KY 42064. Resume will not substitute for completed application. Qualified applicants/employees are subject to a pre-screening, selection for interview and/or demonstration of skills testing. Pre/Post employment may be contingent upon a successful drug screening test and background check. Equal Opportunity Employer. (1t-34-c)

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services

VALLEY VIEW Windows, Custom Built Vinyl Windows, we install for new construction and replacements. Aquila A. Yoder, Jr., 1240 Valley View Rd., Marion, KY 42064. (52t-28-2021-p)

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notices

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legal notice

I, Melissa Guill, Clerk of Crittenden County District Court Marion, Ky. do certify that the following has filed notice of Final Settlement:

Jeannie Griffin of 1267 State Route 295, Marion, Ky. 42064, executrix of Curtis Wayne Griffin, deceased.

The foregoing settlement is to be heard at the regular session of Crittenden District Court on March 25, 2020. All persons having exceptions to said settlements are to file same at once.

Melissa Guill, Clerk
Crittenden District Court
(1t-34-c)

statewides

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Public Service Commission of Kentucky will hold a hearing on Tuesday, March 17, 2020 and Wednesday, March 18, 2020, at 9:00 a.m., Eastern Daylight Time, at the Commission's offices, located at 211 Sower Boulevard, Frankfort, Kentucky, for the purpose of cross-examination of witnesses in Case No. 2019-00366, which is the Electronic Investigation of Home Energy Assistance Programs Offered by Investor-Owned Utilities Pursuant to KRS 278.285(4).

This hearing will be streamed live and may be viewed on the PSC website, psc.ky.gov.

The address for Louisville Gas and Electric Company and Kentucky Utilities Company is 220 West Main Street, Louisville, Kentucky 40202.

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Improving rural roads impetus for buying $177K chipping rig

Fiscal Court

STAFF REPORT

County leaders have approved spending $177,560 to buy a piece of road equipment they think will help improve rural roads.

After nearly three months of exploring the advantages and perhaps weaknesses of a device known as an Asphalt Zipper, magistrates voted unanimously last Thursday during the regular meeting of the Crittenden County Fiscal Court to purchase the implement that attaches to the bucket of a backhoe.

In simple terms, the equipment will allow the county road department to mill or grind up damaged sections of chip and seal rural roads into aggregate. That aggregate will then be repacked with the county's drum roller. Ideally, the residual oils in the aggregate will help it re-bond into a firm road surface.

Judge-Executive Perry Newcom and other magistrates visited Henry County, Tenn., where the road department has been using a similar device for about year. Road Foreman Audie Maraman said he'd spoken with another Tennessee county road department that had been using one even longer. All reports were expressed as positive by local leaders exploring the device's operation and reliability.

Magistrate Greg Rushing made the motion to purchase the machine.

"For two years now we have been promised we'd get our roads chip and sealed and they never get here to do it," Rushing said. "We need to do something about our roads."

Previous discussions about the matter revealed that there are very few chip and seal contractors in the area and Crittenden County has had money to spend the last two construction seasons, but couldn't get a contractor to come do the work. Other counties are in a similar situation, it was noted.

The base machine with a couple of add-ons will be purchased from Asphalt Zipper, a Salt Lake City, Utah company that has been in business for 26 years.

Current price for building a mile of chip and seal roadway is about $40,000, the county judge said.

Bridge Replacement Plans

Cave Springs Road in rural Crittenden County is back open. The local contractor replacing a bridge over Olive Branch Creek on the south end of the road completed the project ahead of schedule early last week. The road had been closed since Feb. 10. M&G Services of Marion won the bid to replace the bridge. There is a short list of other bridges in the county that may soon have to replaced, including the one on Ky. 91 North just out of town toward Cave in Rock, one on Ky. 2113 near Glendale Church and another on Phin Croft Road. Pictured in the above photo is Magistrate Dan Wood at the Cave Springs Bridge.

County wants more 411 on 911 before making taxing decisions

STAFF REPORT

Crittenden County Fiscal Court continues to discuss a formal request by the City of Marion for additional funding for the 911 Call Center inside city hall.

There have been organized meetings and other discussions between city and county leaders with regard to the matter, but it appears the sides are no closer to a resolution based on conversation at last week's fiscal court meeting.

Judge-Executive Perry Newcom gave magistrates an update last Thursday on talks between the two government entities. Newcom says he does not question that the city is experiencing financial losses annually to operate the center. However, the judge believes there is need for further information sharing with greater focus on detailed expenses before a resolution can be formulated.

According to city figures, the shortfall was $128,211 last fiscal year. In fiscal year 2018, the red ink was $86,6766, in FY17 it was $65,420 and in FY 16 it was $75,138.

"There are more questions than answers at this point," the judge told magistrates. "We need to know exactly what the need is to supplement it. I don't see that yet."

Newcom told magistrates that he has questions about projected salary and pension figures he's been provided by the city. He also says there are reasons to further examine the city's practice of paying 100 percent of the health insurance costs for 911 Call Center employees. Newcom said he realizes that is a common benefit for other city employees, but he questions how the county can justify supplementing benefits at that rate when it doesn't provide an equal benefit to its own employees. The City of Marion also pays 25 percent of an employee's dependants' health insurance premiums. The county offers a 70-30 cost-share with its employees and no dependant benefits. The employee's share is 30 percent.

Through deliberations between the two agencies, four options have been put on the table for further examination. Three would require a new tax or fee on county residents, levying those against either vehicles, insurance or property. A fourth option would be outsourcing the 911 Call Center's operations to the Kentucky State Police, which has a call center in Hopkins County.

Magistrate Greg Rushing, a former deputy and policeman and longtime emergency management director, suggested creation of an independent agency for management of the center and its fiscal responsibilities.

"In order to get this on track, we will need to set up a 911 line-item budget and set up a board to govern it so that's more or less it's own entity," Rushing said.

Newcom told the fiscal court that the city wants to move rapidly to solve the matter, but without further insight into cost detail and other issues he doesn't see the sides moving closer to a remedy.

There is also a holdup on getting a firm price structure from state police on what it would cost to outsource the service.

In Other Fiscal Court Business

- The court approved taking its earned income from an investment with Woodmen of the World and putting it into a higher-interest-bearing account at Farmers Bank. The county has earned almost $55,000 in less than five years on the investment with Woodmen but its rate has declined as the prime rate has fallen. Crittenden has a contract rate for interest-bearing accounts at Farmers Bank, which is two percent. The Woodmen investment was paying 1.6 percent. The county invested $500,000 in a Woodmen annuity almost five years ago. It matures in May.
- A resolution was passed to make way for the county receiving $1,044,300.33 in County Road Aid for FY 2021. The money will come from the state in there payments, beginning with 60 percent in August. The rest will be received in 2021. The county's priority list on where to spend those funds has not yet be developed.
- The county has agreed to loan the Senior Citizens Center a white Ford Escape, formerly a sheriff's patrol vehicle, which will be used for the Meals on Wheels program.

Census on Tap

Local leaders attended an informational forum last week featuring Kisha Jeffrey-Mische, a partnership specialist for the U.S. Census Bureau. The county's effort to make sure the Census is successful here is called C5 or Crittenden County Census Complete Count. Self reporting online begins March 12. Forms will be mailed April 1.

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