Rockets, Lady Rockets results Page 10

DURT NEWS

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Offices closing for New Year's holiday

All state, county and city offices will be closed today (Thursday) and Friday in observance of the New Year's holiday. Courthouse offices normally open on the weekend will also be closed Saturday. Additionally, the Ben E. Clement Mineral Museum and University of Kentucky Crittenden County **Cooperative Extension Service** will be closed today and Friday. Meantime, all federal offices, Crittenden County Senior Citizens Center and Crittenden County Public Library will be closed today only.

The Crittenden Press will also be closed today only in observance of the holiday.

Justice Scott gives up seat on court

Kentucky Supreme Court Justice Will T. Scott on Monday announced his pending resignation from the court, saying he wants to find



to fight from" without the restraints that are placed on justices. Scott. who has been con-

Patriot Coal idles 2 mines this week

Decision puts dozens of local miners out of work indefinitely

FROM AP AND STAFF REPORTS

Two large underground coal mines in western Kentucky have been idled, putting dozens of Crittenden County miners out of work.

Patriot Coal Corp. halted operations at its Highland No. 9 mine and Dodge Hill No. 1 mine in Union Čounty. The mines employ about 670 workers and produced about 3.9 million tons of thermal coal last year, The Gleaner in Henderson reported.

Patriot spokeswoman Janine Orf said in an email message Sunday that "these

actions are a result of the difficult coal markets." Sales volumes were lower last year at the Highland Mine, according

to the company's annual report. "A decision regarding future coal production at these

complexes will be made in conjunction with the company's ongoing review of strategic options," a news release issued Sunday by Patriot Coal read

Miners also began receiving phone calls Sunday advising them to not report to work. "That was pretty rough news to hear," said Crittenden County Judge-Executive Perry Newcom of Patriot Coal's decision to idle the two mines. "Who knows how long this will be for.'

Newcom has a brother-inlaw from Webster County who works at the Highland Mine.

The Crittenden Press made several unsuccessful attempts to contact local miners for comment.

"Right here, right after Christmas," said Union Union County Judge-Executive Jody Jenkins. This affects "a lot of people from Union County and Henderson County and Webster County and Southern Illinois. It will ripple for quite some time with banks and car payments."



Company halts work Monday at Highland, **Dodge Hill mines for** unspecified period.

The company's Heritage preparation plant near Waverly and the barge loading terminal on the Ohio River at Uniontown are expected to continue processing and shipping coal from on-site stockpiles.

Hints that a shutdown was imminent came early last

month, when Patriot Coal issued a notice required by federal law that said a major layoff or shutdown could come within 60 days.

In the weeks since that notice, miners and officials have been wondering whether a shutdown could be a precursor to a sale of one or both mines, or a mine opening that results in a new, non-union mining operation. The 400 hourly workers at the Highland Mine are currently represented by the United Mine Workers of America.

St. Louis-based Patriot Coal emerged from Chapter 11 federal bankruptcy reorganization one year ago, but

See MINES/Page 4

Flu, other illnesses slamming area hard

STAFF REPORT

Over the last few weeks and prior to the Christmas break, flu and other illnesses have been keeping children out of school, adults from work and health care workers busy.

Robin Curnel, chief nursing officer at Crittenden



sidering a run for governor in 2015, didn't reveal his future plans in a statement. Scott announced he will step down from the state's highest court effective midnight Friday, ending his 10 years on the court.

The 67-year-old Republican told the Lexington Herald-Leader last month that if he decided to run for governor, he would immediately resign his seat on the court.

Two Republicans already have announced their bids for governor next year – state Agriculture Commissioner James Comer and former Louisville councilman Hal Heiner. Democrats in the wide-open race are state Attorney General Jack Conway and former congressional candidate Geoff Young.

— The Associated Press

Driver's testing schedule altered

The schedule for driver's testing for the this week has been altered because of the New Year holiday, according to Crittenden Circuit Clerk Melissa Guill. There will be no testing on Friday.

Public meetings

- Crittenden County Chamber of Commerce will meet at 8 a.m. Tuesday at Marion Tourism Center.

- Crittenden County Board of Education will meet for a special called meeting at 6 p.m. Tuesday in the Rocket Arena conference room.



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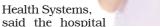


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PHOTO BY DARYL K. TABOR. THE PRESS

Fire destroys Dycusburg home

A fire that began late Monday morning destroyed the home of 91-year-old Frances Joyce on Ky. 295 in Dycusburg. According to a neighbor, Faye Stinnett, Joyce escaped the home with her help. Joyce had been on the phone with Stinnett when she told her the house was filling with smoke. "We were talking on the phone and she said something was burning on the stove, Stinnett said. After escaping the burning home, Joyce was complaining of shortness of breath, but was treated and released from the hospital. Stinnett said Joyce's son, Danny Joyce, also lived in the home but was not there at the time the fire started. Firefighters from Caldwell Springs, Crittenden County, Fredonia and Salem volunteer fire departments battled the blaze until well after dark, and some were called back to the scene twice to extinguish flare-ups, including one Tuesday morning, according to Scott Price, assistant fire chief with Crittenden County Volunteer Fire Department. Price said the home was a total loss, but the Joyces had insurance. Stinnett said Frances was staying with family while Shawn Stinnett, owner of Bobby Stinnett Used Cars in Marion where Danny works, said Danny was spending nights for now at the business. Faye Stinnett said the community of Dycusburg will soon be hosting a benefit to help the Joyces with their losses. Donations can now be made online at GoFundMe.com by searching for "Joyce Family Fire Fund."



has been very busy the last couple of weeks treating patients with flu-like symptoms as well as those suffering from a stomach virus

"Both are going around," she said. "It's a bit unusual for Christmastime.'

Meantime, Stephanie Mundy, an advanced practice registered nurse (APRN) at Marion Physicians Clinic, said her office has treated a high number of patients with the flu, strep throat and upper respiratory infections.

We've been covered up with them for about three weeks," she said Monday.

On Tuesday, Kentucky's flu activity level was rated at regional, a step below widespread,

See ILLNESSES/Page 4

Hard winter, Rogers' election victory top news of 2014

STAFF REPORT

A review of the previous year's top stories just wouldn't seem complete without Mother Nature making an appearance.

After enduring multiple wintry precipitation events and bitter cold in December 2013, Old Man Winter was relentless in the new year. Last January, a record deep-freeze that affected as many as 187 million Americans hit Crittenden County. A polar vortex brought sub-zero temperatures to the county for the first

time in many years. Temperatures of minus 1.3 and minus 1.5 degrees were recorded on Jan 6 and 7, respectively. Also during the month, Ohio River ice idled the Cave In Rock Ferry for a period and several days of school were missed due to hazardous road conditions

In February, with record cold in the rearview mirror, winter wasn't done. On Groundhog Day, Punxsutawney Phil gave an unwelcome forecast of six more weeks of winter. Ironically, on that same Sunday, a snow began in the early afternoon and continued into the morning hours, leaving 4 inches in Marion and varying amounts across the county, shutting down schools once again. The latest in a string of icy precipitation events throughout the season prompted Marion City Administrator Mark Bryant to sum up the feelings of many toward the 2013-14 winter when he simply said, "I'm tired of it.'

But winter still wasn't finished in March. The number of school days missed for the year was pushed to 17 due to yet another round of snow and ice. City and county officials called the March weather event the worst of the winter as far as road conditions.

With all the days missed, the final day of classes at Crittenden County schools was initially pushed to June 5, but so-called "snow days" legislation passed in Frankfort before the end of the 2014 General Assembly enabled the local school district to adjust its school calendar to allow for

May 30 as the last day of classes. School dismissal for summer was originally set for May 14.

The harsh winter, due to multiple freezes and thaws as well as plowing, took its toll on county roads and city streets. With limited funds to work with, many of the county roads are still in disrepair. Additionally, Crittenden County Judge-Executive Perry Newcom estimated the cost of snow and ice removal to be

See STORIES/Page 4

Private investor signs agreement to purchase country club

A California man with ties to the area has signed an agreement to purchase Marion Country Club.

According to Billy Fox, president of the club's board of directors, legal documents were signed Saturday in an agreement with James Edward "Eddie" King of La Quinta, a resort city in Riverside County, Calif.

Gareth Hardin, finance chairman of the club's board, said the purchase should close later this month.

Fox said King, who is in his early 70s, grew up in Fredonia and wants a reason to come back to the area for a few months at a time. He said the buyer plans to keep the club private, but will be making upgrades to the golf course and other club facilities.

"He wants to make it the best nine-hole course in this area," Fox said of King's plans for the course.

Hardin said King has also discussed improvements at the pool and clubhouse. Furthermore, he said the buyer has also talked about re-establishing a restaurant on

The board had been weighing several options to keep the

struggling club afloat, including a dues increase or offering additional stock. In November, the board chose to entertain the idea of selling it to a single investor.

The club first opened in the 1960s. It has operated as a private facility since that time. At one point, there were nearly 300 members. However, the last 10 years has seen a drastic drop in membership. Club leaders attribute the decline to general attrition, the opening of other golf courses in the area and a general decrease in the interest of golf in this area.

The club currently has about 60 members.

"We feel like this is a second chance for us," Hardin said, adding that planned improvements should breathe new life into the club.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

At best, the professionals said that I might live five years. That would be a miracle that happens only under perfect circumstances. With this in mind, my wife and I embarked on what was to be an epic

journey. Upon returning to Marion, there were already cards and other signs of support on our front porch. Keep in mind, we had only been living there for roughly a month. We were not firmly entrenched townsfolk by any means.

Unfortunately, for me and my Within the next few months, the people of Marion completely embraced us with the occurwere the size of a BB and some rence of fundraisers by the community, churches, schools, etc. I grape. Within the next few days, really feel this to be a rare occurrence when an entire community embraces and gives so much of their time, energy and resources chance of living until Christmas. to a family they barely know.

I was talking with someone the other day, describing how throughout my 40 years I've travelled quite a bit and lived in quite a few towns. I can honestly say

that the outreach from Marion (a town that I had only lived a month in) far surpassed that of any other town I ever called home.

When a family like mine is adorned with such a blessing as we have been, it's hard to adequately say thank

So, really, the only thing we can do is say thank you from the bottom of our hearts. We are so refreshed by your sweet kindness and giving spirit. If you ever need anything from us, please let us know.

Once again, thank you so much Marion. We love you! **Neville Palmer** Marion, Ky.

Supreme court reverses decision of Crittenden jury ing the January 2012 pro-

The Kentucky Supreme Court has reversed the decision of a 2012 Crittenden Circuit Court jury, freeing Ethan Thomas Hughes, who had been convicted and sentenced to 10 years in prison for raping an underage Marion girl in 2010.

Hughes, now 23, appealed his conviction to the Kentucky Court of Appeals, which upheld the local trial court's decision. However, the state's highest court reversed it in November, sending the case back to Crittenden Circuit Court on Dec. 18 where Hughes entered a guilty plea to an amended charge of third-degree rape.

Hughes will be formally sentenced in February. Commonwealth Attorney Zac Greenwell recommended an 18-month sentence based on the plea. The prosecutor said Hughes' recommended sentence will include five years of post-incarceration supervision and registry as a sex offender for 20 years.

The Central City man has already served enough prison time so that it is unlikely he will have to serve any further time based on the plea agreement.

The Supreme Court justices ruled in a 4-3 decision almost two months ago that the trial court erred twice durceeding. Hughes' had argued that four mistakes were made. They were allowing a prejudicial photograph of the victim to be admitted as evidence during the trial, part of the jury instruction was improperly stated, the defendant was improperly disallowed from calling a relevant witness and that the trial court conducted a pseudo-deposition of a defense witness without the defendant being allowed in the room

In its reversal, the high court agreed with the appellant that the trial court erred in allowing the photograph and that part of the jury instruction was improperly stated.

Hughes was found guilty of statutory rape of a 12-yearold girl who became impregnated and the victim gave birth to a child.

During the trial, the prosecutor, Greenwell, introduced two photographs of the girl. One was taken of the girl at a wedding unassociated with the case while the victim was dressed nicely and wearing makeup. The second photo was of the victim and her child in a hospital room on the day she gave birth to the child.

The supreme court also took issue with one sentence in the jury instructions. It said the final sentence in the in-

structions "unduly emphasize(d) the defendant's burden" that he was aware of the girl's age when they had a sexual encounter and she became pregnant.

The case was held under heavy security because Hughes had a history of questionable behavior in the courtroom. He had been removed from the courtroom during part of the 2012 trial because of verbal outbursts. It was during that time when he was disallowed from being in the judge's chambers while the minor victim's testimony had been watched on video. His not being allowed in the room during the video was cause for one of his points in the appeal. The supreme court did not rule on that matter because it said if retried, the chances of that happening again were unlikely.

Following the verdict two years ago, Hughes verbally lashed out at the jury in open court. He also directed comments at the victim and her family, who were seated in the courtroom. He cursed the jury, calling members "(expletive, expletive) whores.'

Hughes, who was 19 at the time of the sexual encounter which he did not deny - said he believed the girl was 16. That is the age of consent in Kentucky under most circumstances





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To the editor

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community support

One beautiful August after-

noon, I took off running from my

house toward Rocket Arena for

an after-church jog. Upon my ar-

rival back home, I noticed that I

was feeling somewhat strange.

lving in a hospital bed at Vander-

bilt University being told that I, at

only 39 years of age, had multi-

ple deadly cancerous tumors

family, I was told that I had tu-

mors in at least seven areas in

the brain. Some of the tumors

were as large as a Concord

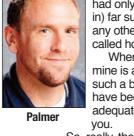
scans revealed tumors in the

I was told that I had little

bones and lungs as well.

throughout my body.

The next thing I knew, I was



Judge revokes probation of Indiana man convicted of flagrant non-support

STAFF REPORT

Circuit Judge Rene Williams revoked the probation on Dec. 18 of an Indiana man convicted of flagrant non-support, sending him to prison for five years. The judge said she would consider probation or work release if the defendant proves he has a job and can pay the child support.

Paul Lopez Sr., 33, of Lake Station, Ind., was convicted early last year of owing more than \$14,000 in child support payments. He was released on probation more than six months ago yet has failed to pay any of the child support.

Crittenden County authorities tracked him down in Indiana and had him brought back to Marion to face the judge.

- Catina J. Tolley, 37, of Marion pleaded guilty and was sentenced to five years on each of two counts of seconddegree trafficking in a controlled substance (hydrocodone). The terms are to run concurrently for a total of five years. However, the prosecutor said he would not oppose a motion for shock probation after Tolley serves a portion of the sentence.

- Lee Ann Vowells, 35, of Evansville, Ind., pleaded guilty to flagrant non-support of her minor child and was sentenced to five years. She was given a pre-trial diversion and ordered to get all the child support claims paid in full and to a remain current on payments as part of the terms of her release.

- Jimmy D. Rose, 27, of Marion pleaded guilty to possession of a controlled substance (methamphetamine), a Class D felony, and possession of drug paraphernalia, a Class A misdemeanor. He was sentenced to three years but awarded enrollment in the drug court program. By successfully completing the

going to prison.

- Jayce L. Smith, 29, of Marion pleaded guilty to felony theft by complicity for her involvement in the illegal taking of a set of wheels and tires form a residence on U.S. 641 in Crittenden County. Smith was sentenced to five years, but awarded pretrial diversion.

- Charles Brent Beard, 52, of Marion pleaded guilty to an





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The Crittenden Press Inc. management and staff Publisher ...Chris Evans

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program, Rose will avoid amended charge of possession of marijuana, a Class B misdemeanor, and was sentenced to 45 days in jail. Beard was originally charged with felony promoting contraband for bringing a marijuana cigarette into Crittenden County Detention Center on March 17. The jail time will run concurrent with a three-year sentence Beard is serving in another conviction.



You may email Serena for more information at esdickerson96@kynet.biz.

Quality Care Right At Home

G After talking with Dr. Maddux, my family doctor, I decided to have my gall bladder removed at Crittenden Hospital. The surgeon, Dr. Manayan, was fantastic. I was really pleased with him. I'd tell anyone about my experience. A lot of people drive to Nashville to have these things done, but for something like this, I wanted to stay close to home so it would be easier on my wife, Ramona. 🕤

-Don Brasher

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Clark reflects on 1st semester as superintendent

By JASON TRAVIS STAFF WRITER

On Monday, the spring semester begins for the 1,320 students enrolled in Crittenden County schools. As administrators, teachers and students prepare to return to the routine of the daily classroom schedule, Superintendent Vince Clark is motivated to provide students the tools needed to be empowered and engaged in their educational experience each day.

Reflecting on his first semester as superintendent, Clark has been actively engaged in providing an opportunity for each student to realize his potential and excel academically.

Clark, who succeeded Dr. Rachel Yarbrough as superintendent last July, said one of the first items on his agenda was to create a dialogue with stakeholders in the school system. Last summer, he surveyed both teachers and administrators to get their feedback on issues relating to education in Crittenden County. One of the first initiatives taken was developing a new mission and vision for the school district, which involved both empowering and engaging students.

Feedback is important to Clark. He strongly believes in order to be a good leader, one must also be a good listener. During his first semester, he made it a priority to regularly tour each school, meeting with administrators and teachers. Those walkthroughs included visits to



PHOTO BY JASON TRAVIS, THE PRESS

At a November Crittenden County Board of Education Council of Councils meeting, Superintendent Vince Clark speaks with (from left) Crittenden County Middle School student Walker Crittendon, Instructional Supervisor Diana Lusby and CCMS teacher Kara Hatfield.

classrooms where Clark wants to see students engaged and taking ownership of their academic careers.

"I love being in the classrooms. I love seeing what is going on in the classrooms," Clark, a former teacher and principal at Crittenden County Middle School said. "It's very important to me as a leader, and I believe it's important to our staff and students that they see their superintendent in the classrooms, hallways, cafeteria, at the ballgames and afterschool functions. Those are things that I've done. Those are things I'll continue to do." He admits there isn't any

such thing as a typical day in school administration and often has to deal with issues that can "come toward a person at 100 miles an hour." He said one of the greatest challenges all school districts face is implementing unfunded mandates and doing more with fewer resources.

Last month, school administrators across the Commonwealth saw an issue involving school funding come toward them at a very high speed. State Education Commissioner Terry Holliday announced Support Education Excellence in Kentucky, or SEEK, funding to school districts would be adjusted in the new year. Clark said last month the initial numbers for Crittenden County indicated the school district might be asked to operate on \$18,000 less than administrators thought they would be getting from that funding source.

"Those are some of the challenges I think all educators have across the state right now," he said.

In spite of working on a conservative budget, Clark said his No. 1 goal as leader of the school district is to make sure there is a strong, positive culture where students can learn in a safe environment. He believes

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success will follow a good, strong culture and pointed to the school district earning a Proficient rating on the most recent state assessment with all schools in the district making gains and the middle school being classified as a Proficient

school.

"I'm very proud of our proficiency rating. But we can't be satisfied," he said. "I think our challenge is to continue to grow that and find ways to get better and motivate students."

He emphasized 21st century learning involves applying and analyzing knowledge as opposed to just knowledge-based learning. In addition to students solving problems both individually and as a team, Clark believes technology greatly enhances a student's education. Currently, almost 850 computers and devices are available district-wide for instruction, including laptops, iMacs, iPads and a variety of electronic tablets Clark said are important for students to both use to interact and problem solve.

In addition to engaging faculty and staff, Clark believes it's equally important to engage all stakeholders in the community. Student advisory groups have been conducted at each school where Clark spent at least an hour with students and learned their opinions on their educational process. He also held a Soup with the Super-

intendent function where members of the community were invited to talk with him and learn about the initiatives and state of the school district. In both situations, he emphasized the feedback has been invaluable.

Like his predecessor, Clark said he has a great working relationship with members of the board of education and credits board members for having a common focus of acting on what's best for both the schools and com-

munity. He indicated newlyelected board member Eric LaRue would be sworn in and welcomed at a special called board meeting Tuesday.

Parents and community members can follow district updates by viewing Clark's superintendent's blog at crittenden.kyschools.us/ superintendentblog. Crittenden County Schools can also be found on Twitter at #TheRocketWay.

As he reflects on his first semester as superintendent, Clark offers appreciation to the community for its support and encouragement.

"(My wife) Alicia and I love Crittenden County. Crittenden County has been good to us and our family. We have two sons that are products of Crittenden County and the school district," he said. "We want to continue to grow our school district and provide opportunities for our students."





Clark

PHOTO BY JASON TRAVIS, THE PRESS

Mitchell retires from bench

Crittenden County Circuit Court Clerk Melissa Guill speaks with retiring 5th Judicial Circuit Family Court Judge William E. Mitchell of Clay during a retirement reception at Crittenden County Courthouse on Dec. 16. Mitchell, who has served on the bench since winning the seat in a 2002 election, presided over family court cases in Crittenden, Webster and Union counties. The position of family court judge was created in the 5th Judicial Circuit in 2001 in order to help manage a growing docket of custody and family court matters. The bench will be taken over Monday by Brandi Rogers of Marion, who won the post in last year's general election.



PHOTO BY DARYL K. TABOR, THE PRES

Cook retires from fiscal court

Crittenden County Magistrate Percy Cook was honored Dec. 19 with a retirement reception at Crittenden County Courthouse. Above, Cook (center) and State Rep. Lynn Bechler (right) listen as State Sen. Dorsey Ridley reads a proclamation from the Kentucky General Assembly honoring Cook's 21 years of representing District 4 in the county. Earlier, Crittenden County Judge-Executive Perry Newcom presented Cook with a plaque from the fiscal court recognizing Cook's years of service. "We've had our trying times, but it's been fun," said the 83-year-old Cook of the fiscal courts he's been a part of. "I'm leaving it in good hands." Cook plans to remain active in the community. back yard and detached garage \$74,900 hm.

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McConnell triumphs top 2014 news story in Ky. - A horrific house fire that

By BRUCE SCHREINER ASSOCIATED PRESS

U.S. Sen. Mitch Mc-Connell's clean sweep in the November election, winning a sixth term and landing his dream job as Senate majority leader on the strength of big Republican gains nationally, has been voted Kentucky's top news story for 2014.

When Senate control shifts to the GOP at the start of this year, McConnell will become the first Kentuckian to lead the chamber since Democrat Alben Barkley pushed President for Franklin Roosevelt's agenda.

McConnell, looking to make his own mark as Senate leader, promised to set a different course after years of Democratic control.

"It won't surprise you to know that I have a very different view of America than outgoing Majority Leader Harry Reid," McConnell told a Kentucky Farm Bureau audience after the November election.

"And so we will be debating and voting on things that

Continued from Page 1

close to \$250,000. Bryant es-

timated city expenses at a

selected the extraordinarily

harsh winter and its wide-

ranging effects as the top story

Brandi Rogers as 5th Judicial

Circuit Family Court Judge.

Rogers not only was the first

person from Crittenden

County elected to the bench in

the 5th Judicial Circuit, at 33,

she became the youngest family court judge to be elected in

Kentucky, according to 5th

Judicial Circuit Judge Rene

tion, Marion attorney Rogers

took second in a three-way

race for family court judge for

Crittenden, Webster and

Union counties, leaving her to

face top vote-getter Ben

Leonard in a run-off election

in November. In that contest,

Rogers edged out the Webster

County attorney by only 50

votes in a race where 12,336

after the Nov. 4 election,

Leonard filed a petition in Crittenden Circuit Court ask-

ing for a hand recount of the

votes across the three coun-

ties. Though Judge Williams

Just more than a week

ballots were cast.

In the May primary elec-

At No. 2 was the election of

The Crittenden Press staff

STORIES

more modest \$7,500.

for 2014.

Williams.

from what has been the case the last few years.'

McConnell started 2014 as a prime target for national Democrats hoping to dislodge a chief antagonist. Alison Lunder-Grimes, his gan chal-Democratic lenger, portrayed him as an out-of-touch Washington insider. McConnell But

lived up to his reputation as a shrewd strategist. He empha-

sized his seniority as an advantage for Kentucky and turned President Barack Obama into his foil. Mc-Connell and his allies repeatedly linked Grimes to the unpopular president.

defeated **McConnell** Grimes by 15 percentage points in a race that attracted nearly \$80 million in spending in the two years leading up to the election, mostly on attack ads bankrolled mostly by out-of-state interests.

Looking ahead, McConnell



to stop Obama's coal-plant regulations, saying overreaching environmental regulators are "strangling our economy." McConnell offered hope of reach-

ing agreement with Obama on tax reform, trade and infrastructure spending. McConnell's politi-

cal triumphs were selected as the year's biggest story in Kentucky in voting by subscribers and staff for The Associated Press.

Kentucky's No. 2 story was the car-swallowing sinkhole that opened in February at the National Corvette Museum in Bowling Green.

The sight of eight crumpled cars toppled like toys in the gaping pit turned into an Internet sensation.

The 60-foot-long, 45-footwide, 30-foot-deep hole opened when the museum was closed, and no one was injured. The attention spiked attendance, and the museum

are dramatically different said he would do all he could cashed in by selling sinkholethemed merchandise.

Work began late in the vear to plug the hole, a project expected to take about eight months at a cost of \$3.2 million.

evolving develop-Two ments tied for the state's No. 3 story - the enrollment of Kentuckians for health insurance through the state's marketplace and the legal battle over same-sex marriage.

More than 521,000 Kentuckians enrolled for health care coverage through the state's kynect website in its first few months of operation, Gov. Steve Beshear's administration said.

Kentucky's enrollment performance was held up as a national model, and it earned Beshear a White House invitation to attend Obama's State of the Union speech last January.

Kentuckv Meanwhile, found itself in the thick of the same-sex marriage debate when U.S. District Judge

John G. Heyburn II ruled in February that Kentucky must recognize same-sex marriages performed in other states.

Beshear hired outside lawyers to appeal the ruling after the state's attorney general, Jack Conway, announced he would not pursue the case.

Late in the year, the 6th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals upheld anti-gay marriage laws in Kentucky and three other states. Same-sex couples seeking the right to marry asked the Supreme Court to settle the issue nationwide.

The next story on the list was U.S. Sen. Rand Paul's continued emergence as a potential Republican presidential candidate in 2016. Paul found himself among a pack of prominent Republicans weighing possible presidential bids as the GOP ramps up efforts to retake the White House.

Other top 10 stories included:

tenden Health Systems became operational July 11. The opening of the medical helicopter base came less than four months after a lease agreement was signed for Air Evac to utilize the CHS cam-

pus for its base. - In what began as a seven-way race for county jailer, Republican Robbie Kirk defeated Democrat Daniel Kemper in the November general election to be the next top official at Crittenden County Detention Center. Interim Jailer Phil Parker, who

headed up the jail since August 2013 when he was appointed to fill the unexpired term of a retiring Rickey Riley, resigned his post following the election. Crittenden Fiscal Court appointed Kirk as the new interim jailer until he could be sworn in as the elected jailer on Tuesday of this week.

The U.S. 641 relocation project continued to make headlines in 2014, with local officials lobbying to return the project to a four-lane highway as initially planned instead of the so-called Super 2 that state transportation officials decided upon the previous year. Local legislators also lobbied in Frankfort during the Kentucky General Assembly for funding of the Fredonia-to-Eddyville phase of the 16mile, \$109 million project.

of the state's new six-year road plan through 2020. The Crittenden County portion of the road is expected to open late this year.

killed a mother and eight of

her children in western Ken-

state's first legal hemp crop

in decades on test plots for

ninth national basketball

championship fell short in a

60-54 loss to Connecticut in

control of the Kentucky

House, fending off a push by

Republicans looking to seize

tie in balloting. One was the

deployment of soldiers from

the 101st Airborne Division

to West Africa to help build

care centers as part of the

U.S. military mission to stop

the spread of Ebola. The

other story was an "ice

turned tragic when a central

Kentucky firefighter was fa-

tally injured when a power

line shocked him and an-

that

bucket challenge"

other man.

Two stories finished in a

the title game.

power.

- Kentucky's quest for a

- Democrats held on to

research and development.

The planting of the

tucky.

- There were two significant retirements by public officials last year. Percy Cook, District

4 magistrate for the last 21 years, opted to not seek re-election to his seat on the fiscal court. Meantime, longtime law enforcement officer Greg Rushing turned in his sheriff's deputy's badge following a heart attack in May while trying to

subdue a suspect. He officially retired in July on doctor's orders after 25 years in law enforcement.

- In mid-November, Tyler Collins of Marion announced the kickoff of his Grow Marion campaign, an effort to legalize the sale of beer and wine within the city limits of Marion at restaurants seating 50 or more people. The petition, once circulated, will need only 237 signatures of registered voters inside the City of Marion to make it to the ballot. The effort has been met publicly with resistance from local ministers.

- On Sunday of this week, Patriot Coal Co. of St. Louis announced that it would be idling two Union County mines effective immediately, affecting 670 workers, dozens of whom live in Crittenden County. The shuttering of the



PHOTO BY DARYL K. TABOR, THE PRESS

Donning her judge's robe after a swearing in ceremony Tuesday morning at Crittenden County Courthouse, Brandi Rogers celebrates alongside her husband Grant and daughter Charlie. Judge Rogers will take the bench Monday.

denied re-tabulation by hand, a machine recount was approved and it began Nov. 24. Barely into the second day of a scheduled three-day recount of votes, Judge Williams ruled the process over once the integrity of two ballot boxes in Webster County came into question. The re-

count, to that point, had revealed no variation from Election Day totals.

Leonard then filed a motion in Crittenden Circuit Court on Dec. 8 asking Judge Williams to "alter, amend or vacate" her order with regard to the general election results in the family court judge race. Less than 24 hours later, he issued a Notice of Withdrawal, citing a need for an end to the litigation.

Rogers was sworn in earlier this week in the three counties she will preside over for the next eight years. At her swearing in ceremony in Crittenden County Tuesday, Rogers donned her judge's robe and addressed a full gallery in the courtroom.

"There is nobody who's going to work harder than I am," she said. "I promise to do great things."

Rogers replaces Judge William E. Mitchell of Clay, who opted to retire from the bench.

Coming in at No. 3, Crittenden County Board of Education remained in-house in unanimously deciding upon a replacement for Superintendent of Schools Dr. Rachel Yarbrough, who took the same position in Webster County after spending six years in Crittenden.

On May 13, the board chose Vince Clark over two other finalists to become the next head of schools. He started on July 1. Clark, who spent the last 23 years as an in Crittenden educator County, formally accepted a four-year contract for the position on May 27.

Other top stories included: - Crittenden County's new

Air Evac Lifeteam base at Crit-



Ky.'s jobless rate dips to lowest in six years

STAFF REPORT

Kentucky's preliminary unemployment rate dropped to its lowest rate in more than six years in November 2014 at 6 percent from a revised 6.2 percent in October 2014, according to the Office of Employment and Training (OET), an agency of the Kentucky Education and Workforce Development Cabinet. This is the lowest rate for the state since April 2008 when it was 5.9 percent.

The preliminary November 2014 jobless rate was 2.1 points below the 8.1 percent rate recorded for the state in November 2013.

"The labor market has improved markedly in 2014.

The 6 percent unemployment rate is the lowest in over six and a half years," said economist Manoj Shanker of the OET. "The 2.1 percentage point drop in November from a year ago was last seen over 30 years ago. To put that in perspective: the last time such a steep drop occurred was when Ronald Reagan was a month away from winning his second term in office and 'The Terminator' was just released.'

Also, unemployment rates fell in 119 Kentucky counties between November 2013 and November 2014, according to the OET.

The jobless rate in Crittenden County fell from 6.8 per-

Crittenden jobless rate 5.4 percent

Below are the jobless rates for select counties listed from the state's lowest in November 2014 to the highest, with rates for Crittenden and surrounding counties listed between.

AREA	NOV. 2014	OCT. 2014	NOV. 2013
Pennyrile Region	6.1	5.6	7.7
Boone County (1)	4.5	4.1	6.0
Woodford County (1)	4.5	4.2	5.9
Union County	5.0	4.8	6.4
Caldwell County			
Crittenden County			
Webster County			
Lyon County			
Livingston County			
Jackson County (120)			

cent in November 2013 to 5.4 percent in the most recent November. During the same period, in Livingston County, the unemployment rate fell from 8.3 percent to 7.2 percent

and Woodford Boone counties recorded the lowest jobless rates in the Commonwealth at 4.5 percent each. Jackson County recorded the state's highest unemployment rate – 12.3 percent.

The U.S. jobless rate for November remained unchanged from the previous month at 5.8 percent, according to the U.S. Department of Labor.

ILLNESSES

Continued from Page 1

which is the highest level of activity. Google Flu Trends on Tuesday rated flu activity in Kentucky and three other states as "intense.

But as Mundy indicated, it's not just the flu bug going around

'We've seen quite a bit of pneumonia," she said.

A number of people tend to feel rundown during the rush of the holidays, Mundy explained, which may be a sign of a weakened immune system. Additionally, people tend to cluster at gatherings at

Christmastime, making the spread of viruses more likely. She said medications such

as prescription Tamiflu only shorten the symptoms of influenza by about 18 hours. She advises an otherwise healthy person with the flu to simply let it run its course and to "stay in" and away from others as best as possible. However, she did urge that young children, the elderly and anyone with underlying health issues seek medical treatment if they begin to exhibit flu-like symptoms or respiratory distress.

For those who aren't sick, Mundy said proper nutrition to keep the immune system

INES

Continued from Page 1

its shares have yet to return to trading a major exchange such as the New York Stock Exchange or Nasdaq.

Earlier this year, a structural breakdown at the Heritage coal prep plant near

Waverly resulted in the temporary halt of production at the Highland Mine in May and June. And on Dec. 16, a miner died at Highland when he was struck by a motorized coal-hauling machine.

In April and September of last year, Patriot announced plans to idle mining operations in West Virginia.

up and thorough hand-washing are two good ways to stave off viral infections.

Flu shots are still available at local clinics, doctors' offices and pharmacies. The flu season in Kentucky generally peaks in January and February

Meantime, school officials are hoping the two-week break over Christmas will have given many students who were sick before schools dismissed for the holiday on Dec. 19 a chance to recover and quell the spread of infections before classes resume Monday.

"Time is what cures a lot of things, but I've heard it's pretty widespread throughout the county," said Al Starnes, director of pupil personnel and school health and safety with Crittenden County School District. "We'll just have to wait and see."

Starnes said prior to Christmas break, the middle school appeared to be hit the hardest by viruses. Attendance reached a low of about 88 percent. Meantime, the district as a whole was right at

91 percent.

"There are two or three things going around," said Superintendent of Schools Vince Clark, whose wife Alicia is an APRN at Family Practice Clinic in Marion. "We really needed the break.'

Clark said students appeared to be on the mend the latter part of the week prior to Christmas break, as attendance was up from the first three days of that week.

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Clark said 88 percent attendance district-wide is the point where administrators begin to consider dismissing classes for a few days to let illnesses run their course.

But it's not just the students who are a concern for school officials. Clark said when administrators, teachers and support staff start calling in sick, it puts a strain on the entire system.

Though Curnel said she's not confident that the illnesses will be gone by the time school resumes next week, Clark is hoping for the best.

"We'll keep an eye on it as we always do," he said.

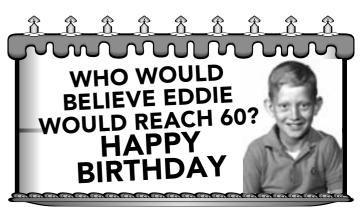
Ultimately, \$29 million for the relocation project in Caldwell and Lyon counties was reflected in the four "out years"

operations leaves the future of Dodge Hill and Highland mines and their workers uncertain.

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The family of Eddie Wheeler would like to thank our family and friends for their concern and many acts of kindness during the illness and passing of our loved one.

Thank you for all the calls, cards, visits, food, flowers and memorial contributions. Most of all, we appreciate all the prayers and thoughts.

We would like to thank Bro. Tim Burdon and Bro. Roger Waters for their comforting words and the members of Mexico Baptist Church for the delicious meal. Thank you to Teresa Beavers, Terry Boone and Sandra Tabor for the beautiful music and songs. Thank you also to the pallbearers.

A special thank you to all the Family Practice doctors and nurse practitioners, Crittenden County Health & Rehab and the staff of Gilbert Funeral Home for thier wonderful care, concern and service. May God bless each of you.

Karen, Kevin, Mike, Cassie, Kara & Dustin

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It took many moons to light Marion after dark

Living in the advanced technological times that we do, we sometimes forget to appreciate all the modern conveniences such as electricity. Here is some interesting history about the first electricity in Marion. It's interesting to think that the stores in Marion stayed open so late at night.

Information contained in this article was gathered from information of Gus Taylor and old copies of The Crittenden Press as well as other articles.

The Lights of Marion

Before the dawn of the 20th Century, the lighting of the streets in the City of Marion was the greatest problem before the city council. There was a discussion at each and every meeting about ways and means of improving the system.

At this time, the town was dependent entirely upon kerosene and lamp posts were placed at the intersections of the main streets of the city. The lamplighter was a familiar sight in the late afternoon, as he would go from one post to another, carrying his ladder and can of kerosene.

He would climb the ladder and remove the lamp, and after filling it with oil and cleaning the globe, would light it and replace it on the post. These lights would burn all night or until the oil burned out. The same task would be done again the next evening. Not only was this inadequate lighting, but also it was troublesome and expensive, for it was hard to keep a lamplighter on the job. The dark alley and the black cat were nothing to compare with the City of Marion after nightfall.

When going to church on Sunday night, especially under a dark moon, you would find dozens of lanterns parked in the vestibule or against the wall in the back of the church.

The business houses vied with each other as to who could have the best lit store. During this time all stores were open until 9 or 10 o'clock at night. Some had handsome oil lamps hanging from the ceiling, while others placed their lamps around the walls. However, none gave satisfaction.

In 1899, Orme Drug Co. nstalled a private electric



and was called the Air-Light System. There may have been other business houses that had private systems for lighting, but they all proved to be very expensive.

The city council continued to work on this problem. At the November 1899 meeting, they voted to offer for sale to the highest bidder the electric light franchise for the City of Marion. Mr. Boyce and Mr. Eddings of Princeton were the only bidders. Consequently, they became the purchasers of the franchise for a period of 20 years at their bid of \$25.

To hold the franchise, they were required to put in a light plant within 18 months. Having looked over the situation pretty thoroughly, they thought they would be able to make a contract and have a plant in operation within a year.

They made the following agreement with the council: To put into operation said plant.

- To maintain the plant and increase the capacity from time to time as the city may require.

- To plant such poles in the public streets and alleyways as necessary.

To furnish incandescent electric lights of not less than 50 candle power at a cost not exceeding \$2 per light per month in such numbers as the city council may designate.

- To furnish not less than 16 candle power for private and commercial lighting at a cost of 75 cents per light per month for lights not used later than midnight or for 90 cents if they were to be used after midnight.

They were to furnish the globes and wire the houses free to the consumer. The necessary arc lights for the streets were to be furnished for \$1,200 per year.

On March 29, 1900, the city council indefinitely postponed action on the Boyce and Eddings proposition to furnish electric light for Marion.

On Oct. 4, 1900, Mr



council meeting, Mr. Boyce failed to appear.

In February 1901, Mr. C.S. Nunn of Marion and E.T. Franks, U.S. Collector of Internal Revenue at Owensboro, purchased the electric light franchise from Boyce and Eddings expecting to begin at once the work of putting an electric plant in Marion. They considered also a water works franchise and made a proposition to the city council to furnish the city 16 arc lights for \$1,100 annually and also 16 fireplugs for \$1,100 annually.

The city council accepted the proposition, but the final passage of the contract could not be made until the March meeting. When the council met in March, the waterworks proposition was voted down 3-to-1, but the proposition for lights was adapted by unanimous vote. The contractors asked for time to consider the amended proposition and then refused to accept the same.

In April, Mr. John W. Wilson secured the franchise from Nunn and Franks. He called electricians from Cincinnati and Louisville to come and look over the field and help him in making an estimate as to the cost and size of a plant.

A few days later, 10 of the leading businessmen of Marion met and organized The Electric Light & Ice Co. with a capital stock of \$10,000. They promised the city 20 big arc lights to be in operation within the next 90 days. The company was incorporated with 200 shares at a value of \$50 per share.



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Shown above, The Marion Electric Light Company was located across from the railroad depot. At first, it would only run at night until it had acquired more horsepower to run during the day. There was a special day in which people with electric washers could wash their clothes. On another day it would run in the afternoon so housewives with electric irons could iron their clothes. Meanwhile, the first kerosene lamps in Marion would have looked similar to what is shown at left. They would have to be filled, cleaned and lit nightly.

E.J. Hayward, Sam Gugenheim, Dr. J.O. Dixon and Tom Clifton. The other stockholders were Dr. R.L. Moore, Gus Taylor and C.S. Nunn. Mr. John Wilson was in charge of the construction of the power plant, which was built across from the railroad depot. The ice plant was to be operated by the same power, and its capacity to be from 4 to 6 tons per day. The plant was estimated to cost from \$12,000 to \$15,000. The wiring of the homes was to be done free of charge to all who applied before the first of September

Thursday, Oct. 10, 1901, was a historical day in the City of Marion. On that day, 20 arc lights flashed their ravs up and down the streets of the city. The lights gave satisfaction in every way and no town could boast of a better system. Lights were turned on at 6 p.m. and burned all

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tertaining. This is priced to sell so

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Ranch, move in ready, this home needs

a family & furniture, home has central

neat/air, large living room, new carpet,

rge 2 car garage w/black top drive.

Gtchen complete w/Stove top, oven,

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nome w/ dining room, Living room, Large

asement, 2 car attached garage, horse

pam, 2 fenced pastures, 2 ponds, & lots

AKE GEORGE ESTATE ... 3-4 BR, 2

BA home w/fireplace, vaulted ceilings,

open floor plan in the kitchen, dining &

ien w/great views of the lake. Detached

arage w/large addition & has central

IVAC, fireplace, wired for sound, bath-

oom w/shower, closet space, on over 4

WEST ELM ST ... 3 BR, 1.5 BA, large

ving room, dining room, all appliances,

588 square feet of living space, black-

op driveway. np REDUCED \$40,000

EXECUTIVE HOME ON 4.5 ACRES ...

eatures:: Colonial, 2 story, 4 BR, 3 full

arlor & large formal DR w/gas log

replace. The island kitchen w/all major

BA & 2 half BA. Foyer w/open staircase,

cres. PRICED REDUCED \$309,000

of other buildings on 7.5 acres. kp

don't wait. rc

rectors included J.H. Orme, night. The work of wiring tricts. The first line ran houses and homes was pushed rapidly.

> On June 23, 1916, The Electric Light & Ice Co. plant was sold to Mr. S.M. Jenkins for the sum of \$8,000. Mr. Jenkins continued to operate the plant in the same manner as the original company, giving satisfaction at all times. In 1921, Mr. Jenkins put in two diesel engines. With this added horsepower, the plant was more equipped to serve the residents of Marion.

In February 1926, Mr. Jenkins sold the plant, business and equipment to the Kentucky Utilities Co. This company has constantly improved the system until Marion rates with the best in the state

down the Ohio River bottoms to Weston, to Dam 50 and to Tolu. From Tolu, the lines of the REA went all over the county.

Because of its rapid growth in the county, it became necessary in 1949 to establish a branch office in Marion, and Mr. Clyde F. Baker was sent from Henderson as manager of this district. In July 1954, a new, modern and complete office building was opened on South Main Street in Marion. Now. a new modern, larger facility has been built on U.S. 641 a few miles south of Marion.

Truly, Marion and Crittenden County had emerged into the light of day.

(Brenda Underdown is Crittenden Countu's historian and serves on the board of the historical and genealogical societies in the county. She is also active in maintaining Crittenden County Historical Museum.)

light system, which was run by a steam engine. In the same year, the R.F. Haynes Drug Store put in a plant that used gasoline

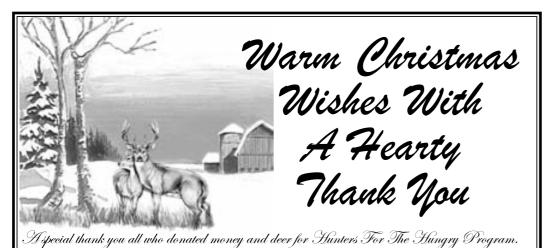
Boyce again came to Marion to submit a new proposition to the council offering to light the streets for about \$600 per year, but when time came for the

The following officers were elected: Tom Clifton, president; John Wilson, president; P.S. vice Maxwell, secretary and treasurer. The board of di-

In 1941, the Rural Electric Administration (REA) Crittenden came into County. The rural electric company furnished power and lights to the rural dis-

The Crittenden Press office is closed for **New Year's** Day





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How did America become wicked so fast?

There are shocking facts in this column about 80 percent of American pastors. Read and weep!

It frightens any thinking and caring senior citizen how America has fallen so low so fast. We remember when God was respected by the actions of even sinners, when people feared God, when total religious freedom was ours, when live-ins were a disgrace in the community, when homosexuals were seen as God sees them as reprobates and abominations and when Christianity was believed by most as the true religion and the only way to heaven.

We, as Israel of old, have left God, sowing to the wind and now we are reaping the whirlwind.

The question is, why has America replaced God Almighty with the god of flesh?

In 1831, French historian Alexis De Tocqueville came to America to see why she was so great. The following are some of his remarks:

- "The religious atmosphere of the country was the first thing that struck me on arrival in the United States. The longer I stayed in the country, the more conscious I became of the important political consequences resulting from this novel situation.

"There are sections of the population in Europe where unbelief goes hand in



hand with brutishness and ignorance, whereas in America, the most free and enlightened people in the world zealously perform all the external duties of religion.'

- "I sought for the key to the greatness and genius of America in her harbors...in her fertile fields and boundless forests; in her rich mines and vast world commerce; in her public school system and institutions of learning. I sought for it in her democratic Congress and in her matchless Constitution

- "Not until I went into the churches of America and heard her pulpits flame with righteousness did I understand the secret of her genius and power."

"America is great because America is good, and if America ever ceases to be good, America will cease to be great."

He also told of being in the County of Chester in New York State where a witness was called to testify. He did not believe in the existence of God and the immor-

tality of the soul. The judge refused to allow him to be sworn in on the grounds that the witness had destroyed beforehand all possible confidence in his testimony. The judge said he did not know that there even was an atheist in America.

De Tocqueville further stated: "For the Americans, the ideas of Christianity and liberty are so completely mingled that it is almost impossible to get them to conceive of the one without the other.'

He was amazed how people were well educated on American history, her government and how it worked and were so knowledgeable in the Word of God.

Forty-two years later, a solemn warning was given to America and her pastors from a famous preacher, Charles G. Finney, in his prophetic "Decay of Conscience" message. It gives all of the world the answer to the question in the heading of this column.

'Brethren, our preaching will bear its legitimate fruits. If immorality prevails in the land, the fault is ours in a great degree. If there is a decay of conscience, the pulpit is responsible for it. If the public press lacks moral discrimination, the pulpit is responsible for it. If the church is degenerate and worldly, the pulpit is responsible for it. If the world loses its interest in religion, the pulpit is responsible for it. If Satan rules in our halls of legislation, the pulpit is responsible for it. If our politics become so corrupt that the very foundations of our government are ready to fall away, the pulpit is responsible for it.

"Let us not ignore this fact, my dear brethren; but let us lay it to heart, and be thoroughly awake to our responsibility in respect to the morals of this nation."

The longest serving member of the U.S. Congress was Senate Majority Leader Robert Byrd. On June 27, 1962, just two days after the Supreme Court stopped school prayer, Sen. Byrd addressed Congress, saying, "Inasmuch as our greatest leaders have shown no doubt about God's proper place in the American birthright, can we, in our day, dare do less?"

He then listed all the buildings in Washington that have scriptures on them and how prayers are offered to open Congress and the Supreme Court. He then concluded by saying, "On the south banks of Washington's tidal basin, Thomas Jefferson still speaks, 'God who gave us life gave us liberty.' Can the liberties of a nation be secure when we have removed a conviction that these liberties are the gift of God? Indeed, I tremble for my country when I reflect that

God is just, that his justice cannot sleep forever. Jefferson's words are a forceful and explicit warning that to remove God from this country will destroy it."

President Ronald Reagan said, "If we ever forget that we are One Nation Under God, then we will be a nation gone under."

How very true are both statements.

The atheists, communists and the Left have been faithful to Satan's command to fill the gigantic void the pastors have opened for them.

A Barna survey found that 90 percent of pastors surveyed believe the Bible savs a lot about pressing political and social issues, but less than 10 percent actually preach about such topics.

Sam Rohrer, president of American Pastors Network, said. "When those in the pulpit choose not to preach the controversial portions or the portions that really affect our culture and the people in the pew, when that is done, confusion reigns."

He then said, "And I would say that the pastors in the pulpit have sinned. and they're going to have an awful lot to answer to before God himself when they stand before him.

An article from OneNews-Now.com said the Barna study "suggests that pastors do not want to offend people and want their congregations to leave feeling warm and fuzzy, so they fail to preach about sin, 'about the necessity of living a righteous life, making biblically obedient decisions, because they tend to be uncomfortable, those challenge us,' the APN president submits. "But that is what the Word of God is to do. When that happens the culture will suffer the results."

Another frightening list just released by the National Congregations Study shows that 48 percent say their church leaders allow gays and lesbians as full-fledged members, 26.4 percent say volunteer leadership positions in their church are open to gays and lesbians and 23.5 percent attend a white conservative church that accepts gay and lesbian members. To call those churches "conservative" shows just how sick the minds of those are that do SO.

No wonder the pastors won't preach about sin.

Remember, "Have no part in another man's sins, but rather reprove them."

That's a wonderful way to start the new year in order for God to restore this nation to its once goodness and greatness.

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



Crittenden County's Shelley Singleton, with Kentucky Transportation Cabinet District 2, recently earned designation as a Roads Scholar Road Master and through the Technology Transfer Program of the University of Kentucky **Transportation Center in** Lexington. She was one of 178 Roads Scholars and 160 Road Masters to have completed the 2014 Kentucky Roads Scholars/Road Masters Train-Program, which ina consists of 96 training hours. Pictured with Singleton at an awards presentation Dec. 12 in Lucas, Ky., is KyTC District 2 Chief Engineer Kevin McClearn.

Community church notes

Mexico Baptist Church's clothes closet is open 9-11:30 a.m., each Monday.

(Editor's note: Keep the community aware of your church's activities and celebrations. Email your church notes to The Crittenden Press at pressnews@the-press.com. Type Church Notes in the subject line. Items need to be received by 5 p.m., on Monday for the current week's publication each Thursday.)



SUBMITTED PHOTO



OBITUARIES

- PAID OBITUARY -**Byarly**

Jerry Byarly, 56, of Princeton died Dec. 19. 2014, at his home following a short illness.

He was a retired construction worker and a member of Fredonia Pentecostal Church.

Byarly is survived by his wife, Lynn Brown Byarly; a son, Terry Long of Princeton; four grandchildren, Ashton Chi-Town Long, Long, Terris Long and Angel Long; his foster mother, Sue Downing of Fredonia; three foster sisters, Carolyn Scott of Princeton, Donna White of Fredonia and Betty Sharp of Hopkinsville; a brother, Wayne Byarly of Princeton; six sisters, Lisa Strack of Eddyville, Joyce Noel of Madisonville, Kathy Henderson of Princeton, Sylvanelle Duncan of Princeton, Ann Canada of Fredonia and Kay Patton of Wood River, Ill.; and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were Dec. 22 at Morgan's Funeral Home in Princeton with Rev. Jerry Driver officiating. Burial was in White Chapel's Cemetery in Crittenden County.

- PAID OBITUARY -Roberts

Judith Ashley Chandler Roberts, 74, of Strasburg, Va., died Nov. 28, 2014, at Blue Ridge Hospice Inpatient Care Center in Winchester, Va.

She was born Sept. 1, 1940, in Princeton. She was a sign language interpreter for the Prince William County (Va.) Schools and was a member of the P. Buckley Moss Society.

Roberts is survived by her husband of 54 years, Thomas Butler Roberts; a daughter, Susan Roberts Snyder of Sugar Grove, Ohio; a sister, Carolyn Iborg of Swanzey, N.H.; and two granddaughters, Ashlev Elaine Snyder and Jennifer Virginia Snyder.

She was preceded in death by her parents, John William and Virginia Lee Elkins Chandler.

A memorial service was held Dec. 6 at Stover Memorial Chapel in Strasburg with Rev. Kathleen Haynes officiating. Inurnment was at Panorama Memorial Gardens in Warren County, Va.

Services were under the direction of Stover Funeral Home & Crematory Inc. in

Strasburg.

- PAID OBITUARY -Brown

Bobby Lynn Brown, 72, of Marion died Dec. 24, 2014, at Lourdes Hospital in Paducah

He was of the Baptist faith.

Brown is survived by a daughter, Shelia Brasher of Marion; his mother, Pauline Brown of Marion; a sister, Sandy Owen of Burna; two grandchildren. Jennifer Hardesty of Marion and Jada Alexander of Marion; and three great-grandchildren, Jordan Hardesty of Marion, Macibelle Hardesty of Marion and Collin Hardesty of Marion.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Faye Brown; and his father, Dudley L. Brown.

Funeral services were Sunday at Gilbert Funeral Home in Marion with interment in Frances Cemetery.

- PAID OBITUARY -Tolley

Otis C. Tolley Jr., 72, died Dec. 27, 2014, at the home of his son in Fredonia.

He retired from Three Rivers Rock Quarry in 2007. His hobbies included gardening, farming, fishing and hunting. He was a collector extraordinaire.

Tolley is survived by two sons, Ronald W. Tolley of Lola and James M. Tolley of Fredonia; two daughters, Nancy Tolley of Ledbetter and Peggy Sue Plunkette of Dawson Springs; two brothers, James Jackson of Hampton and Carlos Garrett of Salem; three sisters, Lucy Faulkner of Salem, Kay Tolley of Marion and Rave Croft of Sheridan; and five grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Otis and Maude Tolley and Isabelle Jackson Garrett and Herman Garrett; and a brother, Vernon Tolley.

Graveside services were Monday at White Church Cemetery in Hampton.

Myers Funeral Home in Marion was in charge of arrangements.

Memorial donations may be made to: White Church Cemetery, c/o Pat Moore, 202 Cold Springs Road, Paducah, KY 42003.

- PAID OBITUARY -Maxfield

Joseph "Joe" Wade Maxfield Sr., 59, died Dec. 21, 2014, in Little Rock, Ark. He was born Sept. 5,

- PAID OBITUARY -Van Pelt

James C. Van Pelt Sr., 93, of Norfolk, Va., formerly of Crittenden County, died Dec. 10, 2014.

He was born on May 23, 1921, and grew up in Mar-

ion, where he played several varsity sports for Marion High School. After graduating, he attended Columbia Military

Naval

and the U.S. Academy,

graduating in the Class of 1944. He joined World War II against Japan as a naval officer and served on the USS

Purdy and the USS Perkins. having survived the sinking of that ship by a kamikaze attack in November 1943.

Among many other military decorations, he was awarded the Bronze Star with Valor for heroism as a ship's gunnery officer in 1945 during the Battle of Okinawa. He served in the occupation of Japan, the Korean War and in a variety of other assignments in the Naval Supply Corps, including the Pentagon and as chief logistics officer of the U.S. Navy's 6th Fleet in Europe.

Van Pelt then taught at the Industrial College of the Armed Forces and the Naval War College and retired with the rank of captain. His name is inscribed at the U.S. Navy Memorial in Washington. D.C.

Having earned a master's degree from Stanford University and a doctorate at George Washington University, both in business administration, he served as a professor in that field at Old Dominion University and Christopher Newport College in Norfolk, Va. Afterward, he earned special recognition from the YMCA as a senior citizen for swimming in laps over a period of five years a distance equal to crossing America - about 3,000 miles.

Like his father and his grandfather, he was proud to be a lifelong Democrat; and like them, he was appointed Kentucky honorary an Colonel by the governor of the state.

Van Pelt is survived by two sons, James C. "Jeff" Van Pelt Jr. and wife Jane Rudnick of New Haven, Conn., and William T. "Tom" and wife Mariella Van Pelt of Virginia Beach, Va.; a daughter, Amanda Van Pelt Scott of Roswell, Ga.; a sister-in-law, Julia and husband N. Thomas Connally, M.D., of Arlington, Va; eight grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; a nephew; and two nieces.

Ball

Danney A. Ball, 66, of Chesterton, Ind., formerly of Crittenden County, died Dec. 5, 2014.

He was born on Nov. 15, 1948, in Dycusburg. He was

a veteran of the U.S. Army and had retired from U.S. Steel. Ball is survived

by three daughters, Lisa Zrodlowski of Wanatah, Ind., Cora Jakubin of Georgia, Ind., and Amy Sitz of Evanston, Wyo.; 12 grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; two sisters, Barbara Polk and Sandra and husband Don Case of Allegan, Mich.; and a brother, Leon Ball of Texas.

He was preceded in death by his parents, James D. and Cora Turley Ball; three brothers, Vernon Ball, Larry Ball and Jimmy Ball.

A memorial service was held Dec. 13 at the Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witness in Valparaiso, Ind. Cremation took place at Angelcrest Crematory and burial of ashes took place at Angelcrest Cemetery.

Moeller Funeral Home in Valparaiso, Ind., was in charge of arrangements.

Crider

James E. "Bud" Crider, 87, of Marion died Dec. 23, 2014, at Crittenden Health Systems in Marion.

He was a member of Emmanuel Baptist Church and UAW and was a

U.S. Army veteran. Crider was surband Alan Stout of Marion;

He was preceded in death by his parents, Guy and Gracie Crider; two daughters, Joyce Ann Crider and Linda Jones; a brother, Kernie Crider; and two in-

Funeral services were Friday at Gilbert Funeral Home in Marion with Bro. Kory Cunningham officiating. Interment was in Piney Fork

Donations may be made

Hershberger Svlvia J. Yoder Hersh-

- PAID OBITUARY -Ritch

Jerry Wayne Ritch, 71, of Marion died Dec. 29, 2014, at Lourdes Hospital in Paducah.

He was a U.S. Army veteran and a member of Emmanuel Baptist Church Ritch is survived

by his wife, Peggy Ritch of Marion; two daughters, Angie Sloan of Mt. Juliet, Tenn., and Kim Ritch of California; a sister, Linda Duncan of Providence; and two grandchildren, Asia Hurley of Lebanon, Tenn., and Brayton Hurley of Mt. Juliet.

He was preceded in death by a daughter, Christa Ritch; and his parents, Louis Ritch and Glady Ruth Bonnell.

Funeral services are at 11 a.m. Friday at Gilbert Funeral Home in Marion. Visitation will be from 5 to 8 p.m. today (Thursday) at the funeral home.

Donations may be made to: Gideon's International, P.O. Box 304, Salem, KY 42078; or Crittenden County Commissary for Use in the Jail Ministry, 208 W. Carlisle St., Marion, KY 42064.

Marvel

Doris Ann Marvel, 77, of Marion died Dec. 16, 2014, at Crittenden Health Systems in Marion.

She was a homemaker.

Marvel is survived by her husband, Escil "Eck" Marvel of Marion; a daughter, Debbie and husband Roger Hearell of Marvel Marion; а

grandson, David and wife Hannah Hearell of Ledbetter; great-granddaughter. а Lydia Hearell of Ledbetter; two sisters, Jewell Chittenden of Grand Rivers and Marie Rushing of Hender-

son; three brothers, Harold Fritts of Marion, Arnold Fritts of Payson, Ariz., and Joe Fritts of Tolu; and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Herbert and Ina Hughes Fritts; a brother: and a sister.

Funeral services were Dec. 20 at Myers Funeral Home in Marion with burial in Pleasant Hill Cemetery.

Perrin

Erma Dean Perrin, 79, of Enterprise, Ala., formerly of Livingston County, died Dec. 6. 2014, at Enterprise Health and Rehab.

She is survived by a daughter, Shannon Nelson of Enterprise; a son, Kevin Perrin of Enterprise; a brother, Nickie Orndoff of Burna; three grandchildren; and two nephews.

Perrin was preceded in death by her parents, Willis Albert and Mary Isabell Orndoff; and a son, David.

Graveside services will be at 2 p.m. Saturday at Mc-Murray Chapel Cemetery in Livingston County. There is no visitation scheduled.

Myers Funeral Home in Marion is handling arrangements.

Brown

Dorothy Yates Brown, 83, of Salem died Dec. 28, 2014, at Salem Springlake Health and Rehabiliation Center.

She was of the Baptist faith.

Brown is survived by a daughter, Nancy and husband Kenny Asbridge of Salem; three grandchildren; five great-grandchildren: two sisters, Mickey Wiggins and Shirley Hardin; and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by a daughter, Charlene Hardin Woodruff; a son "Billy" William Harmon Hardin: her husband, Charles Brown; and her parents, Guthrie and Hazel Hodge Yates.

Funeral services were Wednesday at Myers Funeral Home in Marion with burial in Union Cemetery.

'In God We Trust' signs now in capitol THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

State lawmakers will debate legislation in committees this year beneath "In God We Trust" signs.

The Lexington Herald-Leader reports state officials hung the new signs in 11 committee rooms in the Capitol and Capitol Annex, where legislators have offices and meeting rooms. Republican Senate President Robert Stivers said the signs were paid for with private donations, not taxpayer dollars.

The ACLU of Kentucky and Americans United for the Separation of Church and State are not happy about the signs, but say there is little chance a judge would order them removed.

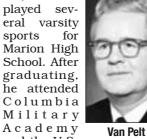
vived by his wife, Katie Crider of Marion; a son, Dr. Steve and wife Debbie Crider of Marion; a daughter, Doris and hus-

seven grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

fant brothers.

Cemetery.

to: Piney Fork Cemetery Inc., c/o Sarah Ford, 220 S. Weldon St., Marion, KY 42064.



Memorials may be made to: Blue Ridge Food Bank, 96 Laurel Hill Road, Verona, VA 24482.

Online condolences may be left at StoverFuneral Home.com

- PAID OBITUARY -Polk

Troy Polk, 79, of Kuttawa died Dec. 27, 2014, at his home following a short illness.

He was a retired correctional officer with 27 - plus vears of service at Kenthe tucky State Penitentiary and was a

member of Hebron Baptist Church.

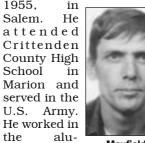
Polk

Polk is survived by his wife of more than 53 years, Bernice Griffin Polk of Kuttawa; a son, Kevin and wife Tammy Polk of Cadiz; a daughter, Beth and husband Bryan Cullen of Kuttawa; four grandchildren, Greg Creekmur of Cadiz, Dylan Polk of Cadiz, Josh Polk of Kuttawa and Jared Polk of Kuttawa; four brothers, Charles and wife Sue Polk of Kuttawa,; Harold and wife Arnella Polk of Louisville; Gregg and wife Deloris Polk of Fredonia and Rodney and wife Betty Polk of Kuttawa; two sisters, Yvonne Bynum of Eddyville and April and husband Tracy Woodall of Fredonia; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Willie Ray Polk and Doris Rushing Polk.

Funeral services were Tuesday at Lakeland Funeral Home in Eddyville with Dr. Jerrell White and Rev. Terry Davis officiating. Burial was in Dycusburg Cemetery in Crittenden County.

Online condolences may be sent from Lakeland Chapel.com.



Maxfield

minum industry for nearly 30 years in companies based in East Chicago, Ind.. Wabash, Ind., and Prescott, Kan. pos-Maxfield

the

sessed a strong penchant for storytelling, loved hunting and enjoyed, more than anything else, the value of time spent with his family. He was known to those who loved him and whom interacted with him as a listener, thinker and a caring, focused individual who often offered strong and sound advice to those in need. He leaves behind a legacy of shaping his children into strong, self-sustaining adults to whom he is regarded as nothing short of a hero.

He is survived by his loving wife of 40 years, Karen Joyce Maxfield; a daughter, Candace and husband Colt Umphenour of Prescott; three sons, Joseph W. Maxfield Jr. of Prescott, Thomas J. Maxfield of Lafayette, Ind., and Weston L. Maxfield of Lafayette; five grandchil-dren, Brianna Clayton of Valparaiso, Ind., Reagan O. Maxfield of Wheatfield, Ind., Canyon Umphenour of Prescott, Cooper Umphenour of Prescott and Luke L. Maxfield of Prescott; a brother, James N. Maxfield of Carrsville.; and three sisters, Myra Watson of Marion, Verna Doris Rushing of Marion and Roberta Joyce Trautvetter of Evansville, Ind

He was preceded in death by his parents; Louis Vernon and Emma Alberta Maxfield; three brothers; and a sister.

A graveside service was held Dec. 23 at Owen Cemetery.

He was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Mary Avery "Mitzi" Van Pelt.

Van Pelt's remains are to be interred beside those of his wife in Arlington National Cemetery with full military honors at a future date.

Nichols

Luther Nichols, 79, of Providence died Dec. 20, 2014, at Baptist Health Madisonville.

He was a member of Sec-

ond Baptist Church of Providence and Laborers International Union of North America Local 1214. Nichols is

survived by a daughter,

Tammy Todd of Marion; two sons, James Hamby of Providence and Eddie Nichols of Atlanta; a brother, Robert Nichols of Kuttawa; a sister, Evelyn Kirk of Dycusburg; eight grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Nichols

 $\bar{\mbox{He}}$ was preceded in death by his wife, Pauline Nichols; his parents, Robert Edward and Lula Belle Nichols; two brothers; and two sisters.

Funeral services were Saturday at Gilbert Funeral Home in Marion with interment in Mapleview Cemetery.

Sperry

Joanne Sperry, 76, of Salem died Dec. 29, 2014, at Livingston Hospital and Services Healthcare in Salem.

At press time, arrangements were incomplete at Boyd Funeral Directors in Salem.

berger, 91, of Marion died Dec. 13, 2014, at her home. She is survived by nine

children, Sadie and husband Raymond Mast of Marion, Elizabeth and husband Adlai Mast of Marion, Anna Hartly of Delaware, Barbara and husband Elmer J. Coblentz of Apple Creek, Ohio, John and wife Alma J. Byler of Crab Orchard, Ky., Ray and wife Martha L. Hershberger of Conneaut Lake, Pa., Eli and wife Anna Mae Mast of Dover, Ohio., Allen and wife Barbara Ann Hershberger of Canton, Ohio, and Melvin and wife Brenda Lowman of Dover, Del.; a sister, Tillie Bontrager; 35 grandchildren; 80 greatgrandchildren; and a greatgreat-grandson.

Hershberger was preceded in death by her parents; her husband; a son; three brothers; five sisters; great-grand childtwo ren; and eight step-grandchildren.

Funeral services were Dec. 16 at the home of Andy J. Yoder of Marion with interment in the Amish Cemetery of Marion.

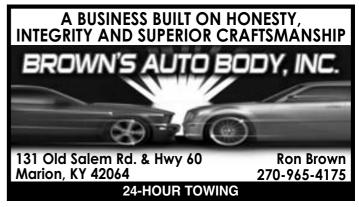
Crittenden Press obituary policy

Most obituaries in The Crittenden Press are published at no charge. However, extended obituaries are available for a small fee. There is no charge for use of a photo. Please ask your funeral director about feebased obituaries.

Obituaries that appear in the paper are also accessible on the Web for free at The Press Online dating back to 1999. They are updated each month at www.the-press.com.

"We just believe that government is supposed to represent everyone - the religious and non-religious," said Rob Boston, communications director for the Washingtonbased Americans United for Separation of Church and State.

Legislators approved the signs last year by passing an amendment sponsored by GOP state Sen. Albert Robinson of London. Similar signs already hang in the state House and Senate chambers.







713 E. Bellville St., Marion, Kentucky 270-965-0110 · Obituary Line 270-965-0155

Lifestyles The Crittenden Press

The Press Online

www.the-press.com



Caregivers need to take care of themselves too

Make time for yourself a priority

A new year always brings its share of resolutions aimed to improve our health, body and mind. As a caregiver, the most important resolution you can



make is to take time for yourself. When you take care of

yourself, you will be healthier, have more energy and enthusiasm to keep on caregiving and feel better about yourself overall.

Here are some tips on how to carve out some "me" time in the next year.

-Take an hour of each day to do things you enjoy exercising, reading, like spending time with loved ones, engaging in a hobby or doing nothing.

-Make your own health a priority. Exercise, eat a balanced diet, get enough sleep, balance stress and receive an annual medical checkup.

-Attend or start a caregiver support group.

-Adapt, as needed, the things you used to do with the person you are now caring for. Ideas include renting a movie instead of viewing a live theatrical

performance, holding hands and listening to music instead of dancing, and looking at photos if traveling is no longer possible

-Be strong, smart and brave enough to ask for help.

-Tell your loved one how much they mean to you. -Use respite services to take a break from the de-

mands of caregiving.

-Find the joy in caregiving by relishing the small things like a hug, knowing smile or shared laugh with your loved one.

(Nancy Hunt is the Family and Consumer Sciences Agent at the University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service for Crittenden County. For more information on programming, contact the Extension Service at (270) 965-5236.)



PHOTO BY JASON TRAVIS, THE PRESS

Students placing in the Crittenden County Conservation Art Contest include (front row, from left) Haylee Perrin, Andrea Federico, Madison Walker, Kaiden Travis, Soyeur Menser, Jantzen Fowler and Alyssa Bozeman; (second row) Noah Atchison, Isabella Wilson, Carlie Towery and Seth Blackburn. Not pictured are Cheyenne Starkey, Emily Henderson, Samantha Tinsley and Raina West.

Conservation winners named

STAFF REPORT

Winners were recently announced in the 2014 Crittenden County Conservation Art Contest.

The contest was open to first- through fifth-graders. Grade winners were chosen from the best three entries submitted by each public, private and home school association. County winners were chosen from among the first place grade winners.

Winners for first-grade include Andrea Federico, first place; Madison Walker, sec-

ond place; and Chevenne Starkey, third place. Secondgrade winners were Soyeur Menser, first place; Jantzen Fowler, second place; and Kaiden Travis, third place. Third-grade winners include Haylee Perrin, first place; Isabella Wilson, second place; and Noah Atchison, third place. Fourth-grade winners include Emily Henderson, first place, Carly Towery, second place and Seth Blackburn, third place. Fifth-grade winners include Samantha

Tinsley, first place; Raina West, second place; and Alyssa Bozeman, third place. First, second and third place winners received \$10, \$8 and \$5 respectively.

County winners were Emily Henderson, who took first place, earning \$100; Samantha Tinsley, second place, \$50; and Soyeur Menser, third place, \$25.

Prize money was awarded by Kentucky Farm Bureau and the Crittenden County Conservation District.

A lesson in etiquette



Crittenden County Elementary School fourth-graders participate in a program entitled "Manners Are Cool" prior to the holiday season. Extension Homemakers have provided this annual training for 14 years. Topics include table manners, technology, correspondence and introductions. Each student receives a drawstring cinch sack along with takehome materials covering subjects learned. Sarah Ford, Crittenden County Extension Homemaker assists stupresident. dents who are role-playing, introducing a parent to a teacher, including (from left) Deacon Holliman, Carson Montalta and Brylee Conyer. Additional Extension Homemakers and Extension Service staff assisting with the program include Darl Henley, Janet Stevens, Meredith Hall and Nancy Hunt.

SUBMITTED PHOTO





PHOTO BY JASON TRAVIS, THE PRESS

Business of the Month recognized

Atmos Energy was named Business of the Month for December by the Crittenden County Chamber of Commerce. Company representative Mike Coleman received the recognition from Chamber president Robin Curnel. Shown above are Chamber Executive Director Susan Alexander, board member Scott Belt, Curnel, Coleman, Wendy Lucas and Todd Perryman.

SENIOR CENTER CALENDAR

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

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

Upcoming activities and menu include:

- Today: The center will be closed for the New Year's holiday

- Friday: Bingo begins at

10:30 a.m. Menu is chili, pimento cheese sandwich on wheat bread, saltine crackers and tropical fruit.

- Monday: Ladies exercise by Full Body Fitness Studio begins at 9:45 a.m. Menu is baked potato soup, chicken drumstick, buttered broccoli, cornbread and caramel apples.

- Tuesday: Menu is Philly cheese steak on wheat bun, coleslaw, hash brown casserole, green beans and apple crisp.

- Wednesday: Menu is baked spaghetti, buttered carrots, seasoned peas, wheat garlic bread and ambrosia.

Next Thursday: Menu is hamburger on wheat bun, baked potato, baked pork and beans and an oatmeal cookie.

BIRTH

Conger

Ryan and Jessica Conger announce the birth of their son, Keegan Shane Conger, at 8:27 p.m, Sept. 25, 2014 at Baptist Health Paducah.

The baby weighed seven pounds, one ounce and was 19¹/₂ inches long.

Paternal grandparents are Becky Conger and Ricky Conger of Marion. Maternal grandparents are Keith and Tara Lee Woodall and Jennifer and Dwayne Day.

Paternal great-grandmother is Ann Conger. Maternal great-grandmother is Susan Cates.

He has four siblings: Dougie, Kaylee, Matthew Conger and Ethan Todd.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Livingston Central honors Riley

Long-time teacher, administrator and coach Mike Riley of Salem was honored recently during a ceremony at Livingston Central High School for his many years of dedication and allegiance to the school system. Riley graduated from Livingston in 1971 where he played basketball and baseball. He became a member of the school faculty in 1975 and served for the next 33 years as a teacher and administrator. During his tenure Riley was the school principal, athletic director and coached baseball and basketball. He coached basketball for 22 years, half of those seasons as head coach and was the Cardinals baseball coach for 18 seasons. He won seven Fifth District championships as head coach and his teams played 22 times at the post-season regional level. The school dedicated the No. 10 baseball jersey to Riley and gave him a framed keepsake marking the recognition. Pictured are (from left) Matt Hargrove, an LCHS teacher who played for Riley and now coaches in the system; Riley; LCHS Principal Scott Gray and Superintendent Darryl Chittenden.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Saturday, Jan. 3

■ EMT classes will begin at 6 p.m., at the Caldwell County Vocational School. The classes will be held from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., every Tuesday and Thursday, January through June.

Wednesday, Jan. 7

Cooking in the Dark will be offered at 1:30 p.m., at the Ed-Tech Center. The class will teach alternatives to cooking on the electric stove when the power is out. It will include campfire cooking, propane hot plates, wood stoves, tin can with a candle and using the gas and charcoal grill with a discussion on disaster preparedness. Register with the Crittenden County Extension Office at (270) 965-5236. The program is open to the public. Crochet Corner will be held from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m., at the

Crittenden County Extension Service. The club will also meet at the same time and location Jan. 21.

Marion Woman's Club will hold its next meeting at 1:30 p.m., at its club headquarters. Crittenden County Middle School SBDM Council will meet at 3:45 p.m., in the school library.

Monday, Jan. 12

Crittenden County Elementary School SBDM Council will meet at 4 p.m.

A welcome reception will be held for the new Crittenden County Extension Service 4-H Agent beginning at 4:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 15

■ The next beekeeping class will be held at 7 p.m., at the Ed-Tech Center.

Friday, Jan. 16

Diabetes Support Group will meet at 10 a.m., at the Extension Service.

Tuesday, Jan. 20

A Psoriasis and Fibromyalgia support group meeting will be held at 10 a.m., at the Extension Service. Monday, Jan. 26 The Quilt Club will meet at 9:30 a.m., at the Extension

Service.

On-going events

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

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

■ All veterans are invited for coffee and breakfast at 7:30 a.m. each Tuesday at the VFW building in Marion.

New AmeriCorps reps enjoy work at CCES

By JASON TRAVIS STAFF WRITER

It's a program that focuses on service to others while giving its members an opportunity to enhance their lives as they give back to the community. Referred to as the stateside equivalent of the Peace Corps, AmeriCorps engages more than 75,000 individuals in service each year through non-profits, schools, public agencies and community and faith-based groups across the country.

Locally, three new Ameri-Corps members have joined Crittenden County Elementary School during the current school year. They are Wendy Williams, Steven James and Crissy Williams. A native of Crittenden County, Wendy Williams began working as an Ameri-Corps member at CCES in September. Williams, who previously worked as a substitute teacher, learned about the open AmeriCorps position available at CCES.

"Several women here who are employed at the school now went through the program also and they absolutely loved it," she said. "So I did consider it, and said yes. And I love it."

Williams enjoys working with children of all ages and helps in kindergarten through fifth-grade. She

stressed it's not only important to help students with their education, but to provide encouragement in other areas not related to academics, such as self-esteem.

Like most AmeriCorps members, she works oneon-one with students on a variety of tasks. She also assists teachers in the classroom as needed and works with groups of students in helping them develop reading and math skills.

"I enjoy being here every day working with the children," she said.

In addition to coaching cheerleading, as an Ameri-Corps member, she is involved in other activities that benefit the community. A build-a-bed project will soon be under way, where beds are built and delivered to children in the community who do not have beds to sleep in.

Steven James has been an AmeriCorps member at CCES since August. Originally from Virginia, James works with students in all grade levels in special education. He also enjoys workwith students ing one-on-one and said being a member of AmeriCorps doesn't feel like a job.

"I wake up and say, 'I get to go to school today.' It's a

fun thing for me," James said.

In addition to the gift of helping others, James was especially moved when one of the students actually presented him with a Christmas gift before winter break.

Newly engaged over the Christmas season, James said his experience working at CCES as an AmeriCorps representative is only the beginning of his career in education.

"I joined AmeriCorps so I could get some experience working with the students because I want to be a teacher eventually," he said. "I definitely see myself becoming a teacher and, hopefully, going through college and getting a professorship. I definitely want to go all the way with this.'

Crissy Williams began as an AmeriCorps representative in November but was a volunteer at the school before joining the program. Born and raised in Crittenden County, Williams previously held a career in the banking industry for 13 years. She graduated from Murray State University with a business degree. She later became a stay-athome mom before her youngest daughter began attending school.

"I wanted to do some-



PHOTO BY JASON TRAVIS, THE PRESS

Wendy Williams (left), Steven James and Crissy Williams are new additions to the Crittenden County Elementary School family. As members of AmeriCorps, they not only help their community by assisting educators in schools, they also work to provide service projects that reach beyond the school's walls, such as an upcoming build-a-bed project.

thing to make a difference," she said, indicating that while she doesn't plan to pursue a career in education, her work at the elementary school is rewarding because it allows her to give back to the community.

'I enjoy working with the children and helping them," she said. "They have taught me probably as much as I have taught them." At the heart of the Ameri-

Corps program is service to the local community. Williams echoed that sentiment.

"You have to want to serve and help," she said. "I think it's something that has to be in you to want to help people."

Since the program's founding in 1994, more

than 900,000 AmeriCorps members have contributed more than 1.2 billion hours in service across America while providing much needed assistance to the communities in which they work.

For more information on becoming a member of the AmeriCorps visit www.nationalservice.gov/programs/americorps.



Contest deadline nears

STAFF REPORT

The deadline for submitting entries for a local writcontest is quickly ing approaching. Entries will be accepted until 12 p.m., Jan. 9.

The Woman's Club of Marion is sponsoring the youth writing contest that is open to students in kindergarten through 12th grade in Crittenden County. Students can enter the Youth Short Story Contest and Youth Poetry Contest.

Full details on the contest, including the different age

categories, can be found on Facebook by searching for "Woman's Club of Marion."

Entries can be submitted in one of three ways: by students delivering entries to their school office; delivering or mailing entries to the University of Kentucky Crittenden County Cooperative Extension Service office at 1534 U.S. 60 East in Marion; or by emailing as a Microsoft Word document attachment to Rebecca Zahrte, Marion Woman's Club president at rebecca.zahrte@gmail.com.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Farmers Bank & Trust Co. donated \$1,700 to the Crittenden County Booster Organization Inc. (CCBO), \$100 for each touchdown scored by the Rockets at home football games. Pictured (from left) are some of the CCBO members and officers, including Jeania Short, Rhonda Beavers, Kristi Drury, Carol Hodge, Nathan Boone, Stephanie Goin, Serena Dickerson, Mary Lynch, Andy Hunt, Marcie Greenwell, Julie Brooks and Stuart Collins.

Farmers Bank donates to local booster organization

STAFF REPORT

Touchdowns turned into cash for Crittenden County's county-wide booster organization.

Farmers Bank & Trust Co. recently donated \$100 for each of the 17 touchdowns the high school Rocket football team scored at home this season.

For a number of years, the bank has contributed \$100

for each touchdown to the Jake Hodge Scholarship Foundation. At the foundation's suggestion that the bank's contributions benefit other organizations, the bank changed the beneficiary to the Crittenden County Booster Organization Inc. (CCBO), which governs fundraising efforts of 17 committees.

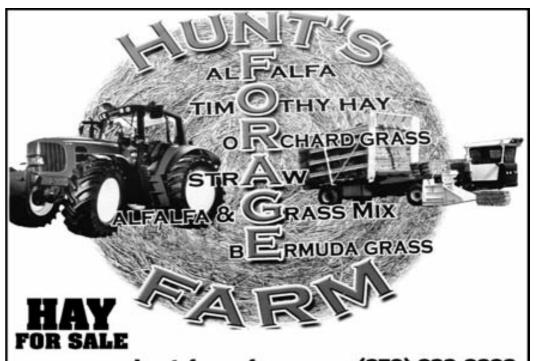
The bank will continue to donate to the CCBO during basketball season by contributing \$10 for each 3point basket made by the high school Rockets and Lady Rockets during home basketball games this season

CCBO was developed in 2013 to oversee fundraising efforts and provide liability

insurance for all school-affiliated booster committees, ranging from the Crittenden County Elementary School PTO to all Crittenden County High School athletic clubs.

CCBO is a 501(c)(3) organization that is managed by a volunteer board and representatives from each of the 17 committees represented.





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Sports The Crittenden Press

PREP CALENDAR

Upcoming Games Crittenden County Basketball Monday Lady Rockets at University Heights Tuesday Rockets host Fort Campbell

BASKETBALL

Youth sports scores

Here are results from the Marion-based Kentucky Heat 9-under travel basketball team games over the past few weeks: Kentucky Heat 25, Marshall Young Guns 23 Champion 9, Hanor 6, Crick 5, Rodgers 5

Kentucky Heat 25, Marshall Mayhem 7 Rodgers 9, Hanor 8, Crick 3, Champion 3.

Plex Thunder 28, Kentucky Heat 26 Hanor 13, Rodgers 6, Champion 4, Crick 3.

Kentucky Heat 34, Paducah Bulls 10 Rodgers 12, Champion 9, Crick 6, Hanor 5, Sharp 2 Kentucky Heat 42, Mustangs 9

Rodgers 14, Hanor 12, Crick 6, Belt 4, Champion 4, Sharp 2.

PREP SPORTS

Umpires wanted

Anyone interested in umpiring fast-pitch, high school softball in Region 2 should contact Del Brantley at (270) 836-0649. There will be a regional meeting on Jan. 4 in Providence for those interesting in working as an umpire. Anyone interested in umpiring baseball should contact Matt Bell at (270) 871-6956. The Second Region Policy Board is also accepting applications for three assigning secretary positions for officials in soccer, volleyball and wresting. Fax applications to Al Starnes at (270) 965-9064 or email application to Starnes at al.starnes@crittenden.kyschools.us.

OUTDOORS Hunting seasons

Deer Archery Turkey Archery	Sept. 6 - Jan. 19 Sept. 6 - Jan. 19
Raccoon, Opossum	Oct. 1 - Feb. 28
Deer Crossbow	Nov. 8 - Dec. 31
Turkey Crossbow	Nov. 8 - Dec. 31
Squirrel	Nov. 10 - Feb. 28
Rabbit	Nov. 10 - Feb. 10
Quail	Nov. 10 - Feb. 10
Bobcat	Nov. 22 - Feb. 28
Dove	Nov. 27 - Dec. 7
Duck	Nov. 27 - Jan. 25
West Goose Zone	Nov. 27 - Jan. 31
Pennyrile Goose	Nov. 27 - Jan. 31
White-Front Goose	Nov. 27 - Jan. 31
Snow Goose	Nov. 27 - Jan. 31
Dove	Dec. 20 - Jan. 11

Record start ends

Tourney host bumps Rockets out of undefeated's hot seat

STAFF REPORT

HODGENVILLE, Ky. - Rocket coach Denis Hodge always seems to find the silver lining.

His Crittenden County basketball team lost Tuesday for the first time in nine games, but Hodge found something to take from it. Despite falling 57-47 to the host team in the semifinals of the National Guard Holiday Classic at LaRue County, Hodge wasn't too distressed.

He knows that taking on the school having the tournament can be very challenging. On top of that, the loss may have taken a bit of pressure off his boys, who reeled off a record-setting start to the season.

"Now we can just focus on one game at a time and not be worrying about streaks or records," Hodge said.

LaRue County (4-5) got away with some bumping and pushing, drawing the whistle just eight times in the contest. Yet, Hodge said that's to be expected.

"Going up against the host team, you have to learn to fight through it," he said.

Crittenden played Carroll County in Wednesday's consolation match. Results were unavailable at press time.

Landon Young led the way against LaRue with 17 points and Colby Watson had 13. The night



Landon Young receives game MVP honors from a tournament official.

before Young scored 26 and was named National Guard Player of the Game in a win over Cumberland County.

The Rockets were in control of that one from start to finish, leading by double figures most of the way. Crittenden was up almost 20 in the second half and everyone on the bench got in on the action. Cumberland is winless this season. LaRue 57, Crittenden 47

Crittenden County 11 14 7 14 LaRue County 12 16 14 15 CRITTENDEN - Young 17, Dickerson 5, Hicks 5, C.Watson 13, D.Watson 2, Driver 2, Hadfield 2. FG 18. 3-pointers 2 (Young, Hicks), FT 8-9, Fouls 14,

LARUE - Milby, Dawson 16, Hobb 9, Metcalfe, Wiseman 9, Sheffer 19, Devary 4. FG



Noah Dickerson works on blocking a shot by Livingston Central's Briley Ray during the Rockets' win at Smithland before Christmas.

20. 3-pointers 5. FT 11-16. Fouls 8.

Crittenden 58, Cumberland 45 Crittenden County 17 15 13 13 Cumberland County 7 7 14 17 CRITTENDEN - Young 26, Dickerson 3, Hicks 5, C.Watson 15, D.Watson 5, Driver, Hadfield 2, Hollis 2, James, Coleman, Stephens, Greenwell, Lundy. FG 18. 3pointers 3 (Young 2, Hicks). FT 19-28. Fouls

CUMBERLAND - Flowers 6, Young 8, Booher 4, Owens 3, Hale 6, Smith 7, Dyer 2, Poole, Dubre, Jessee, Cowles 7, Fulkerson 2. FG 15. 3-pointers 1 (Hale). FT 11-20. Fouls 19.

Lady Rockets win 2 of 3 at tourney; Oliver gets Big K

STAFF REPORT

Lady Rocket skipper Shannon Hodge has been at this business for 22 seasons. So when something totally different comes into play, she focuses on it with full attention.

On Tuesday, her Crittenden County girls' basketball team captured fifth place - or more flatteringly the championship of the consolation bracket – at the FSNB Christmas Classic at Russellville.

And here's the kicker. The Lady Rockets beat next-door neighbor and heated rival Livingston Central 59-50 in the final game. Now, playing Livingston (5-5) in a big-game setting is nothing new. Quite frankly, it's pretty common. This year, for example, Crittenden could see them five times.

What was unique is that this game was played in an almost empty gym on a neutral floor.

"It was just us and them. That



They missed several layups and Chelsea Oliver and Mallory Mc-Dowell worked the second half in foul trouble. Both played limited minutes, but McDowell was the only casualty to fouls. She left the game with just under three minutes to go.

Oliver finished with 19 points. and Cassidy Moss got 10. Meredith Evans came off the bench to score eight, including seven in the second period helping the Lady Rockets take their only lead of the game.

Although Russellville led most of the way, its biggest margin was no more than five until final period.

Crittenden 59, Livingston 50

Crittenden County 12 21 12 14 Livingston County 11 10 13 16 CRITTENDEN - McDowell 12, Oliver 23 C.Moss 6, K.Moss 4, Nesbitt 4, Evans 5, Riley 1, Pierce 4, Lynch. FG 19. 3-pointers 0. FT 21-29. Fouls 19.

LIVINGSTON - Leidecker 5, Barnes 9,

Local fisheries meeting

The Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources will conduct a public meeting Thursday, Jan. 15 to discuss fisheries issues affecting western Kentucky. While the primary focus will be on crappie and bass fishing in Barkley and Kentucky lakes, officials will also provide updates on Asian carp, habitat projects, catfish and paddlefish. Kentucky Fish and Wildlife employees also want to hear from the public on these topics. This meeting is at 7 p.m., at the Kentucky Dam Village State Resort Park Convention Center in Gilbertsville.

Higginson-Henry change

The Kentucky Fish and Wildlife Commission has proposed allowing crossbows on the Higginson-Henry WMA near Morganfield starting next fall. The wildlife management area is currently open to bowhunting only. All commission recommendations require Kentucky legislature approval before becoming law.

2015 deer season dates

Proposed dates for 2015-16 •Archery: Sept. 5, 2015 - Jan. 18, 2016 •Crossbow: Oct. 1 - Oct. 18 •Crossbow: Nov. 14 - Dec. 31, 2015 •Youth Hunt: Oct. 10 - 11, 2015 •Muzzleloader: Oct. 17 - 18, 2015 •Firearms Nov. 14 - Nov. 29, 2014 •Muzzleloader Dec. 12 - Dec. 20, 2015 Late Youth Hunt: Dec. 26 - 27, 2015



Logan Davidson of Salem harvested this eight-point buck during the late muzzleloader season.

Sixth Man wasn't a factor," coach Hodge said. "I wanted to see what this meant to us. To our girls."

She found out because it was perhaps the most physical the Lady Rockets have played this season en route to an 8-2 start that has been a pleasant surprise to Hodge and the team's followers.

Senior Chelsea Oliver scored 23 and classmate Mallory McDowell had a dozen as Crittenden led by 12 at the half then fended off a late Livingston run. The Lady Rockets made 7-of-8 foul shots in the final minute to pull away after Livingston was within two with 52 seconds left.

Oliver scored 57 points in three games at Russellville, including her career 1,000th. Coach Hodge was pleased with Oliver's play, and the rest of her starters. She was just as pleased with the girls off her bench, who scored 10 points against Livingston and 12 against Russellville.

Livingston's Hannah Leidecker got into foul trouble and scored just five points in limited time. Kalynn Campbell shot well and led Liv-

Coach Shannon Hodge presents Chelsea Oliver with the game ball after the senior scored her 1,000th career point. Oliver's brother, Casey, also scored 1,000 in his basketball career at CCHS. See the CCHS basketball blog online for action photos from the holiday tournament.

ingston with 16 points.

Oliver reaches

Oliver's 1,000th career point couldn't have come at a more opportune moment. When she scored a putback with 2:21 left in the second period, Central Hardin was ahead by eight.

However, the pause in the action to present Oliver with the game ball which she duly took into the stands for her mom and dad Cathy and Joey Oliver - helped change the momentum. From there, Crittenden went on a 19-3 run and never looked back.

In the fourth period, the Rocket girls led by as many as 10 points over winless Central Hardin and cruised to an easy win despite many struggles to start the game.

"It took us a while to get going, but basketball is a game of spurts and runs," Coach Hodge said.

Manned out by Russellville

The host team treated the Lady Rockets with contempt in the first game of the FSNB Christmas Classic. Russellville's 3-2 zone wasn't too hard on the Lady Rockets who managed a 31-all halftime tie, but when Russellville switched to a tight man-to-man defense in the third period, it frustrated the Crittenden girls and CCHS got just five points that quarter.

Crittenden had led by two in the first half, but Lady Panther sophomore Loreal Cheaney was unstoppable. The left-handed forward scored 19 in the first half en route to a game-high 27. Russellville coach Calvin Head said Cheaney's mother, Sarah (Higgins) Cheaney played basketball at Murray State in 1990s. Cheaney only missed two shots the entire game.

Foul trouble and poor shooting also plagued the Lady Rockets.

Adams 2, Padon 11, Campbell 16, Stafford 7, Williams, Wright, Kaszuba. FG 15. 3pointers 3 (Campbell 2, Stafford). FT 15-24. Fouls 24. Fouled out: Campbell.

Crittenden 52. Central Hardin 45

Crittenden County 6 18 18 12 Central Hardin 13 9 12 11 CRITTENDEN - McDowell 3, Oliver 15, C.Moss 15, K.Moss 12, Nesbitt 3, Evans 2, Lynch 2, Riley, Pierce, Davis, Beverly. FG 18. 3-pointers 0. FT 16-32. Fouls 17. CENTRAL HARDIN - Helton 5, Powell 4, Humphrey 16, Jaggers 11, Zaehringer 3, Nichols, Wright, Kerr, Wilson, Ball 2, Lanford, M.Kelley 2, S.Kelley 2. FG 17. 3-pointers 1 (Zaehringer). FT 10-16. Fouls 22.

Russellville 57, Crittenden 48

Crittenden County 12 19 5 12 13 10 16 Russellville 18 CRITTENDEN - McDowell 5, Oliver 19, C.Moss 10, Lynch 4, Evans 8, Pierce 2, K.Moss, Nesbitt, Riley, Davis, Beverly. FT 14. 3-points 1 (McDowell). FT 19-29. Fouls 22. Fouled Out: McDowell.

RUSSELLVILLE - Bryant 13, Cheaney 27, Stovall 9, Hendley, Wells 2, Gray, Kennedy, Phillips, Day, LeBlanc 6, Allen, T.Gray. FG 14. 3-pointers 2 (Cheaney, Stovall). FT 27-36. Fouls 22.

Boys, girls sweep 5th wins at Livingston

STAFF REPORT

It may very well be the best start in school history. For certain, the Rockets' 7-0 record out of the chute is the best December beginning in more than 50 years. And perhaps for the first time ever, the Crittenden County boys and girls are simultaneously 3-0 in the Fifth District and leading the standings outright.

Both CCHS teams won at Livingston Central Dec.19.

The Rockets fended off a young, but pesky Livingston Central squad Friday night with offensive catalyst Landon Young in foul trouble most of the game. Crittenden won 59-41 as Noah Hadfield came off the bench to lead the way with 15 points.

Crittenden's girls (6-1) won a nailbiter, closing out Livingston in the final seconds to win 42-40 thanks to a couple of late foul shots and some good defense down the stretch.

In the boys' game, Hadfield was on fire at times. He scored 10 points in the second period alone, knocking down a couple of threes and

helping extend Crittenden's early lead to 13 points.

Livingston paid particular attention to trying to stop Young's hothanded scoring. The senior went into the bout average 24 points, but the Cardinals' box-and-one defense kept a defender in his face the entire game. The extra attention frustrated Young a bit and he stayed in foul trouble, eventually leaving with just under five minutes to play with five personals.

Colby Watson, the team's second leading scorer, struggled from the floor, too. He finished with eight points and Young had just five. With those two posting sub-par nights offensively, Hadfield, Dylan Hicks and Noah Dickerson stepped up their games. Hicks hit some timely foul shots late and a firsthalf three that sparked a crucial run. He finished with 11 and Dickerson had nine.

Crittenden scored 17 of its 23 fourth-quarter points at the line to finish off the victory.

Mallory McDowell, who was sick with flu-like symptoms just two days earlier, was the inspiration for the Lady Rocket victory at Smithland. She had two key threes in the game and finished with 11 points. Cassidy Moss led the scoring with a dozen and Chelsea Oliver had 10.

Crittenden led early by eight but Livingston's zone defense frustrated the CCHS girls as the Lady Cardinals clawed their way back behind Kalynn Campbell's long-range shooting in the second period. LCHS took its first lead in the second period and led by as many as six in the third quarter before Crittenden closed the gap in the final two minutes.

McDowell stole the ball off Livingston's point and went the distance for a layup to tie the contest at 40 with just under a minute to go. Crittenden took its first lead of the second half with 10 seconds left when Oliver dropped in the front end of a two-shot chance at the charity stripe. She missed the second one and Livingston rebounded, but turned the ball over once the Cardinal girls had pushed the ball into their front court. There were

just three seconds left at that juncture and a last-ditch foul let Crittenden score another point at the line just before time expired.

BOYS GAME Crittenden 59, Livingston 41

Crittenden County 8 22 6 23 Livingston Central 9 8 8 15 CRITTENDEN - Young 5, Dickerson 9, Hicks 11, C.Watson 8, D.Watson 6, Hadfield 15, Driver, Hollis 5. FG 16. 3-pointers 5 (Hadfield 3, Hicks 1, Dickerson 1). FT 22-37. Fouls 17. LIVINGSTON - Ray 4, Ramage 12, Rodgers 4, Sloma 2, Dean 6, Miracle 4, Hosick, Gilbert 7, Kitchens 2. FG 19. 3-pointers 1 (Gilbert). FT 2-12. Fouls 18.

GIRLS GAME Crittenden 42, Livingston 40

Crittenden County 14 7 9 12 Livingston Central 10 13 12 6 CRITTENDEN - McDowell 11, Oliver 10, C.Moss 12, K.Moss 3, Nesbitt 2, Evans 2, Pierce 2, Lynch. FG 17. 3-pointers 3 (McDowell 2, C.Moss). FT 5-11. Fouls 10. LIVINGSTON - Campbell 10, Padon 13, Adams 2, Barnes 3, Leidecker 8, Stafford 4, Williams, Wright. FG 17. 3-pointers 2 (Campbell). FT 4-7. Fouls 12.

Classifieds The Crittenden Press

The Crittenden Press

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All phone numbers listed for ads on this page are within the 270 area code unless otherwise noted

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real estate

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for rent

In Marion, nice 2 BR, 2 bath house, carport, basement, washer and dryer hookup, \$450/mo. plus deposit. (270) 898-7287. (1t-26-p) 3 BR, 1 bath house for rent in Fredonia. Full basement, nice clean home. \$600/mo. plus deposit. (270) 556-1225. (3t-28-p)

3 BR mobile home for \$450/mo., 2 BR mobile home for \$425/mo., both with appliances and garbage pickup, also mobile home lots for \$100/mo. with garbage pickup. (270) 704-0877. (3t-27-p) 2 BR, 1 bath, 1 car garage, washer and dryer hookup, country setting in Marion city limits. \$425/mo. (270) 969-0391. (2t-26-p)

Four lots for rent, utilities on site: Three in Marion, 722 Crittenden Drive, \$100/month,

719 Crittenden Drive \$200/month, 128 Pierce St. (corner of Weldon) \$250/month, One-acre lot in Crayne 25 Railroad, \$100/month. Call (516) 790-0164. (4t-27-p) Creekside Apartments is taking applications for 1, 2 and 3 BR apartments. Within walking distance to grocery store, pharmacy, restaurant and dollar stores. Laundry room on-site. Call (270) 965-5000 or come to the office Monday - Friday mornings. Equal Housing Opportunity. (tfc)

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Buying Indian arrowheads and artifacts, especially interested in pipe, pottery and bannerstones. Single pieces to entire collections. (812) 686-3865. (52t-29-p)

employment

Job openings at Cumberland River Homes, full-time or part-time employees, must have high school diploma or GED, must pass background check, drug screening and CAN check. Applications may be picked up at 111 N. Hayden Ave. in Salem. (1t-26-c)

Pennyrile District Health Department is accepting applications for full time Senior Support Services Associate I - Clinical to work mainly in Crittenden and Livingston County Health Centers. Starting pay \$8.40/hour, Grade 9, full benefits. Application and full listing of gualifications may be picked up at Caldwell, Crittenden, Livingston, Lyon, or Trigg County Health Centers, PDHD, or online at http://chfs.ky.gov/dph/LHD.htm. Completed applications and transcripts (if applicable) must be returned to same health centers or mailed to: HR Manager, PDHD, P.O. Box 770, Eddyville, Ky. 42038 by COB January 12. Resume will not substitute for completed application. Successful applicants must pass criminal background check. EOE. (2t-27-c)

Crittenden County Schools is accepting applications for bus drivers and monitors. Candidates should have a willingness to work with students and demonstrate an understanding of student behavior and meet all state and federal regulations. You must be 21 years old pass a MVR and background check. Drivers must have or be willing to obtain their CDL and meet all state and federal regulations for transporting students. Please fill out application at www.crittenden.kyschools.us/ or contact Wayne Winters at (270) 965-3866. (2t-27-c)

Light duty mechanic and tire tech position, experience preferred, some training provided. Apply in person at Tabor's, 433 S. Main St., Marion. No phone calls. (1t-26-p)

services

Do you need a sitter for an elderly loved one? Call Linda Chandler, (270) 704-0798. (3t-26-p)

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notices

Legal Notice

Notice is hereby given that on December 3, 2014, Terry L. Emrick of 201 S. Main St., Marion, Ky. 42064 was appointed administrator of Judy Barnes, deceased, whose address was 202 Watson St., Marion, Ky. 42064. Robert B. Frazer, attorney. All persons having claims against said estate are hereby notified to present the same properly proven as required by law to the administrator on or before the 3rd day of June, 2015 and all claims not so proven and presented by that date shall be forever barred. All persons indebted to the estate of the above-named decedent, will please call and settle said debts immediately.

Crittenden District Court

Melissa Guill, Clerk (1t-26-c)

Legal Notice

Notice is hereby given that on December 17, 2014, Donna Winstead of 3140 U.S. Hwy. 60 E., Marion, Ky. 42064 was appointed guardian of Miyah Moore, a minor whose address is 3140 U.S. Hwy. 60 E., Marion, Ky. 42064. All persons having claims against said minor are hereby notified to present the same properly proven as required by law to the guardian on or before the 17th day of June, 2015 and all claims not so proven and presented by that date shall be forever barred. All persons indebted to the estate of the above-named decedent, will please call and settle said debts immediately.

Crittenden District Court

Melissa Guill, Clerk (1t-26-c)

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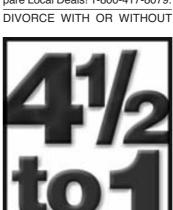
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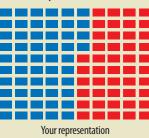
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2015 Kentucky General Assembly



Kentucky House of Representatives Democrats - 54 Republicans - 46





Rep. Lynn Bechler R-Marion

House District 4 Crittenden • Caldwell • Livingston Christian (portion)

Contact 702 Capitol Ave.

Annex Room 424C Frankfort, KY 40601 (502) 564-8100, ext. 665 lynn.bechler@lrc.ky.gov

Committees Ag & Small Business (vice chair) Economic Development Labor & Industry

> Service House: 2013 - present

Kentucky Senate Republicans - 26

Democrats - 12



LRC PHOTO

Sen. Dorsey Ridley D-Henderson

Senate District 4 Crittenden • Caldwell • Henderson Livingston • Union • Webster

Contact

state in the nation. Last year, the Commonwealth ranked 13th worst on the list, meaning we went

from bad to worse. This is like getting the same ugly tie for Christmas year after year. It's always the same thing, and over time, you begin to dread opening the box. Unfortunately, in the Kentucky House of Representatives,

of Representatives, we are suffering from a bout of the status quo woes. Legislation that could move Kentucky from one of the worst run states up toward the best run states oftentimes ends up sitting

Bechler hopes lawmakers will put Ky. first

in committee, never to see the light of day.

Legislation addressing issues such as public-private partnerships, expansion of broadband services and real reforms to combat the growing problem with heroin in our communities is

oftentimes held hostage by leadership who would rather

play political games than truly try to tackle the very real problems facing our Commonwealth.

These bills, and others like them, were proposed during the last legislative session, but to no avail. Political gamesmanship such as this is simply unacceptable. The whims of a few should never be placed

above the needs of the many. We will see similar legislation in the next session, but trying to pass these important pieces of legislation delays proposals such as comprehensive tax reform, government overreach, foster care reform and others that need our attention.

As the new year dawns, it is my hope that we in the House and Senate on both sides of the aisle are able to put our citizens first in 2015 and help Kentucky grow and prosper.

The 2015 legislative session begins Tuesday, and I look forward to again keeping you abreast of the happenings in the Kentucky General Assembly as the session unfolds.

Community Christmas surpasses 2014 goal

Bechler

STAFF REPORT

Thanks to the generosity of others, it was another successful year for Community Christmas in Crittenden County. According to organizers, \$17,772 was donated to the local holiday charity. The goal was \$12,000.

By REP. LYNN BECHLER

With 2014 behind us, we

can be thankful while at the

same time hoping for a new

start in 2015. This month,

Kentuckians will turn their

attention to the state capitol,

expecting the Kentucky Gen-

table for improving our econ-

omy and raising the quality

Recently, the financial

news and opinion website

24/7 Wall St. ranked Ken-

tucky as the fifth worst run

of life for our families.

eral Assembly to take the

necessary action to set the

GUEST COMMENTARY

"We truly appreciate everyone who donated to help provide Christmas for these children. This event could not take place without community support," said Crittenden County Inter-Agency Council President Nancy Hunt.

Since the money was raised by citizens in the county, food and gift vouchers were required to be used at businesses within the county.

For example, this year, 43 teens received \$100 gift certificates. The teens had a choice of eight local stores at which to use those certificates.

Last month, 110 children whose parents attended the required three educational classes for Community Christmas participation received a \$20 gift voucher to be used at a local store in addition to the sponsored gifts from the wish lists placed on Angel Trees. Furthermore, they were able to select one additional toy on distribution day at the Carson Davidson National Guard Armory in Marion.

Meantime, there were 57 children whose parents didn't attend the required educational classes who received a \$15 gift voucher. On distribution day, they were also able to select toys donated by school children, organizations and individuals.

All households received either a \$20 or \$25 food voucher based on family size, plus they were able to pick up additional food items at Marion Baptist Church.

Hunt received many positive comments regarding the three-class requirement for participation in the charity.

"It helped the families take responsibility for their children's Christmas," she said.

The classes included money management, preserving food, child discipline, cooking, first-aid, gardening and more.

"They were all things people need to know to help their families. Several parents participated in more than the required three classes," Hunt said, adding that Crittenden County was the last county regionally to have a class requirement to participate in a charity such as Community Christmas.

"We told participants in 2013 we would require three classes in 2014, so everyone knew a year in advance. If people couldn't attend classes due to work or lack of transportation, we offered a take-home activity where they could select six of the eight activities to complete."

Last year marked the 40th anniversary for Community Christmas in Crittenden County. Hunt, who has been a part of the charity for more than 25 years, said each year volunteers say it is the best one yet.

"The hugs and thank yous from participants make it all worthwhile," Hunt said. "When I hear negative comments, I always tell people we do this for the children. We are not responsible for the actions of the parents."

Over the years, the number of sponsors has increased for the charity. Hunt remembers when only three



PHOTO BY JASON TRAVIS, THE PRESS

Donations, sponsorships and volunteers all help to make Community Christmas possible each year. Volunteers Meredith Hall of the University of Kentucky Crittenden County Cooperative Extension Service (left) and Melody Smith of Siemens unload a bicycle before distribution day at the Carson Davidson National Guard Armory in Marion.

churches were sponsors, and everyone received gifts and food vouchers. She said the vouchers were certainly smaller, but appreciated just the same.

Community Christmas is coordinated through the Crittenden County Inter-Agency Council, which has a separate Community Christmas committee. The purpose of the council is to learn what agencies, businesses and churches are conducting in the county to support families. The council shares what is happening in the community so separate entities will be able to, in turn, share with their clients.

Hunt, who is retiring next month as the family and consumer sciences agent at the University of Kentucky Crittenden County Extension Service, will step down as president of the Inter-Agency Council later this month. The council's next meeting is scheduled for Jan. 15, when a new president is expected to be selected.

"I will miss Community Christmas since it has been such a big part of my life. However, since I am retiring from my job Feb. 5, it is time for me to spend more time with my family and on some new projects I never seem to get around to," Hunt said.

"I will continue to be a sponsor because I know it is important and could really make a difference in a child's life," she continued. "Twice I have known about individuals who were sponsored one year and were able to be a sponsor the next year. I am sure there have been others. This is what we have always hoped the program would do – be a helping hand to families when needed.

"We are not able to personally thank everyone who donates or sponsors because we don't know who they all are but we want them to know whatever they did, no matter how big or how small, it helps make the program possible. All of the money collected is spent on the families. Any expenses we have such as postage is donated."



702 Capitol Ave. Annex Room 255 Frankfort, KY 40601 (502) 564-8100, ext. 655 dorsey.ridley@lrc.ky.gov

Committees Agriculture Banking & Insurance Transportation

Service House: 1987 - 94 Senate: 2004 - present

Important dates

Legislative session Part 1 Jan. 6-9

Legislative session Part 2 Feb. 3-March 24

Last day to introduce Senate bills Feb. 13

> Holiday: Presidents' Day Feb. 16

Last day to introduce House bills Feb. 17

> Veto recess March 10-20

Legislature adjourns March 24

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"May the Lord bless you and protect you." Numbers 6:24

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Memorial Christmas Ornaments for those individuals listed above are now ready to be picked up at Gilbert Funeral Home.

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