



Big Head Start Project
\$7.2 MILLION DEVELOPMENT Page 11

24/7 BREAKING AND LOCAL NEWS / THE-PRESS.COM

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CITY NEWS

STOP LIGHT IN RHYTHM

One of Marion's busiest intersections got a software update this week which should limit wait times at red lights. Motorists may have noticed the longer waits from the Bellville Street approach to Main Street since new blacktop was laid before the holidays. That construction project took out detectors woven into the pavement that tell the stop light when to change. Keith Todd, spokesperson for the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet, said new radar-sensing detectors were installed and wired up this week, which should make for more timely color changes on the stop light. "These radars detect when a vehicle pulls up to the light," Todd said. "We've had some complaints lately about the wait times from Bellville Street." An average of 9,825 vehicles pass through that intersection each day.

LOCAL WEATHER

10 YEARS OF RAINFALL

Here is a look at the last decade of precipitation totals for Crittenden County. The area weather gauge is located between Marion and Mattoon in the northern quadrant of the county. It's operated by Western Kentucky University's Kentucky Mesonet program:

YEAR	INCHES
2020 Total Precip	.54.01
2019 Total Precip	.58.20
2018 Total Precip	.59.84
2017 Total Precip	.43.34
2016 Total Precip	.55.95
2015 Total Precip	.63.25
2014 Total Precip	.41.39
2013 Total Precip	.57.34
2012 Total Precip	.34.69
2011 Total Precip	.72.74

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- School Board working session will be held at 5:30 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 14 at Rocket Arena.
- Marion City Council will meet in special session at 5 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 14.
- Crittenden County High School SBDM will meet at 3:45 p.m., Tuesday, Jan. 19 in the library.

COUNTYWIDE

Delinquent property taxes are currently being collected at the Crittenden County Sheriff's Department. Payment during January is considered late and taxpayers are penalized five percent. Tax bills that go unpaid after Jan. 31 are subject to a 21-percent penalty.



MLK DAY MONDAY

Monday is the federal Martin Luther King Jr. holiday. All federal and state government offices, including U.S. Post Offices; Crittenden County Courthouse and most other local government agencies; banks, schools and The Press office will be closed all day Monday.

LONG SHOT



The line of vehicles is apparent behind deputy Ray Agent and Police Chief Ray O'Neal, who were helping control traffic at last week's vaccine clinic.

Community's elderly show no signs of vaccine apprehension, supplies limited

STAFF REPORT

Cases of COVID-19 are rising among the most elderly in the community and that segment of the local population is anxious for the vaccine. Testimony to that was the number of hopefuls last week who showed up for Crittenden County's first public vaccine clinic.

The line was long yet supplies limited last Wednesday

as residents age 70 and above were given an opportunity to receive a COVID-19 vaccine at the Crittenden County Health Department. The line started forming before 7:30 a.m., and the doors opened at 9 a.m. By that point, more than 60 vehicles were lined up through the parking lot and onto nearby Industrial Drive.

All of the available vaccine in Marion was administered

within about an hour. There were 100 doses available to residents here.

The Pennyriple District Health Department announced later in the day that more clinics planned for late last week and this week were cancelled in Marion and other nearby communities because supplies were exhausted

See **VACCINE**/page 4

Just the Numbers

COVID-19

CRITTENDEN COUNTY CASES APRIL THROUGH DECEMBER 2020

Month	COVID Cases	GENDER		AGE RANGE OF CASES IN COUNTY							
		Female	Male	0-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60-69	70-79	80+
APRIL	4	2	2	0	0	0	0	2	1	1	0
MAY	2	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0
JUNE	3	2	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0
JULY	18	10	8	3	1	2	1	4	6	1	0
AUGUST	38	20	18	5	0	5	10	6	5	4	1
SEPTEMBER	58	34	24	10	8	6	12	10	5	5	2
OCTOBER	52	22	30	7	10	7	7	9	7	4	1
NOVEMBER	98	59	39	12	14	7	18	24	14	6	2
DECEMBER	141	75	66	21	9	10	14	28	17	26	16
TOTAL	414	225	189	58	42	38	63	83	56	49	22

Age of one diagnosed case in November is unknown. Source Ky. Dept. of Health



County judges from the area were among community and state leaders who met last week in Marion to further advance a plan to improve broadband access to rural areas. Pictured are from left, judges Perry Newcom, Crittenden; Larry Curling, Caldwell and Wade White, Lyon.

'Net Boosting

Communities initiate regional concept to improve broadband to rural areas

STAFF REPORT

Internet service in Crittenden and other nearby rural communities is far worse than portrayed in the testimony of providers, say local leaders.

"It makes my blood boil," said Amanda Davenport, executive director of the Lake Barkley Partnership, a four-county economic development group that represents Crittenden and other nearby areas. She says big companies are misrepresenting the strength of their internet signal and that's creating stumbling blocks

The Last Mile

The "Last Mile" is a term regularly used in the digital telecommunications industry that refers to connecting individual homes and businesses to the internet. It's a phrase you will likely be hearing more about in the coming months as community leaders work to improve service here.

that can hinder further development of broadband in rural areas like this one.

Fixing it will take time, she warns. "This will be a

long-term project that we will just have to chip away a little at a time."

County judge-executives from Crittenden, Livingston, Lyon and Caldwell counties met at Marion last Thursday with federal government officials, including Hilda Legg, the USDA Kentucky director for rural development, and James Wilson, USDA's field representative for utilities services.

The four counties are joining forces to explore ways and means to improve the

See **SIGNAL**/page 8

Yep, we're kind of like buggy whips

Almost every week someone asks, "How's the newspaper business?"

Most of them ask in a tone similar to the one grandmother used when she spoke of a friend having cancer – always in a near whispering, empathetic voice.

The standard answer to the query is that the newspaper business is much like the buggy whip business. At one time buggy whips were a hot item, then came the automobile. There are still a good number of buggy whips sold in the country, but nowhere near the volume moved by retailers during the 1800s.

So newspapering is indeed different. Every few weeks there's new revelation about cutbacks, closings and consolidations in our industry. The Courier-Journal announced last week that it's scuttling its printing presses and having the newspaper printed in Knoxville. There will be reverberations for other newspapers when the printing plant closes in Louisville. The Union County Advocate and Henderson Gleaner will be among those looking for a new place to ink up. According to the Kentucky Press Association there were 44 newspaper printing facilities across the commonwealth in 1994. There will be 17 when the C-J stops in a few weeks. The Crittenden Press was printed here on Bellville Street for decades until we sold our Goss Community web press in 2008 and outsourced printing to Quality Web in Elkton, Ky.

Also over the last few days, a fairly well known sports reporter from the Paducah Sun – Ed Marlow who has roots in Cadiz and family in Marion – announced that he is leaving the newspaper rather than taking a pay cut and demotion, according to a post he made on social media.

In 2019 BC (that's before COVID) our industry had lost one in five newspapers across the country. The pandemic has ushered in many more shutterings at an alarming rate. Staff reductions are putting community newspapers in a bind, leaving most of them a shell of their former selves. We're seeing that in nearby towns like Princeton and Eddyville.

One person reportedly said about his community, "We don't know ourselves anymore" because the newspaper has stopped putting local information on its pages.

All that said, The Crittenden Press might have fewer pages than it did in 1990, and we admittedly have fewer subscribers – which makes it tough to balance the books. However, our loyal advertisers help us keep the news rolling off the press every week, and just a few days ago we added to our staff. Kayla Maxfield has been freelancing for the newspaper for a few months. Going forward, she will be a more regular contributor. Does anyone have a buggy whip she can use to help us keep this carriage moving?



Chris EVANS
Press Editor & Publisher
About Town

The Crittenden Press

USPS 138-260 / Marion, Ky.



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Deaths

Hunt

Harold Hunt, 89, of Marion, died Jan. 8, 2021 at St. Vincent Hospital in Evansville. He was a United States Army veteran and member of Emmanuel Baptist Church.



Surviving are a son, Alan Ray (Stacy) Hunt of Marion; a daughter, Marilyn K. (Eddie) Belt of Marion; five grandchildren, Eddie Lee Belt, Adena (Dennis) Lewis, Tashena (Shane) Hill, Shanna (David) West and Wes (Cara) Hunt; and eight great-grandchildren, Layla Winn, Alana Winn, Lilly Lewis, Kobe Lewis, Sadie Hill, Liam Hill, Elee Belt and Eli Belt.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Bessie Hunt; his parents, Delmer and Erna Hunt; and four brothers.

Services were Monday, Jan. 11 at Gilbert Funeral Home with burial in Maplevue Cemetery.

Hodge

Donald "Bruce" Hodge, 93, of Hobart, Ind., died Tuesday, Dec. 22, 2020. He was born on July 31, 1927 in Fredonia to the late Asel and Mary (nee Vinson) Hodge. On Aug. 4, 1950, he married Luetta Matthews in Hobart. He loved his Kentucky farm and spoke of it often. He enjoyed resale shops, tools, tree cutting and fixing things. He will be remembered as a simple, sweet, and honest family man with a dry sense of humor. He had a quick wit and loved to laugh. Above all, he loved his children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren.

Surviving are two sons, Donald W. (Jane) Hodge of Muscatine, Iowa and Cliff (Betsy) Hodge of Moscow Mills, Mo; three daughters, Sandra L. (Ray) Love of Strongsville, Ohio, Carolyn (Rod) Warren of Hobart and Peggy (Mike) Carns of Valparaiso; 10 grandchildren; and 16 great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his beloved wife of 70 years, Luetta "Lu" Hodge; brothers, Randell, Willie, Vinson, Roy, Rawels, Wilber, Asel, Harold; and sisters, Mary Jo Corey, Mildred Matthews.

Memorial contributions may be made to the First Baptist Church of New Chicago, 401 Huber Blvd, Hobart, IN 46342.

Services were held Saturday, Dec. 26, 2020 with Pastor Jerry Stepp officiating at Rees Funeral Home, Hobart Chapel, 600 West Old Ridge Road, Hobart.

Paid Obituary

Brown

Iva L. Brown, 97, of Marion, died Wednesday, Jan. 6, 2021 at Crittenden County Health and Rehab. She was a member of Freedom General Baptist Church.



Surviving are three sons, Bobby (Sue) Brown of Adirondack, NY, Fred (Minnie Lou) Brown and Ricky (Linda) Brown, both of Marion; a daughter, Barbara Floyd of Marion; six grandchildren, Kara Phillips, Michael Brown, Philip Brown, April Dunning, Amy Brown and Cody Brown; and several great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Eugene Brown; parents,

Vernon and Ailene Hunt; son-in-law, David Floyd; one brother; and three sisters.

Services were Sunday, Jan. 10 at Gilbert Funeral Home with burial in Maplevue Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to Freedom Cemetery, Pleasant Hill Cemetery or Maplevue Cemetery.

Kirk

Janet Geneva Baldwin Kirk, 82, of Murray, formerly of Crittenden County, died Saturday, Jan. 9, 2021 at Baptist Health Paducah. She was a retired Human Resources Specialist and was baptized into the United Methodist Church.



Surviving are a daughter, Barbara Freeman of Murray; three sons, Scott (Linda) Campbell of Rineyville, Brian (Lisa) Campbell of Princeton, and Claude Kelley Kirk of Ft. Worth, Texas; a sister, Geri (Daniel) Jones of Edwardsville, Ill.; three brothers, Kenneth Baldwin, Jr., of Jerseyville, Ill, John (Valera) Baldwin of Bethalto, Ill., and Robert (Marlene) Campbell of Marion, Ill.; six grandchildren, Joseph (Myunghwa) Campbell, Michael Croft, Jace Campbell, Andrew Freeman, Anna Campbell and Christopher (Lindsey) Klein; four great-grandchildren, Brianna Croft, Tessa Klein, Taben Klein and Yena Campbell; and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her first husband, Joseph Campbell; her parents, Kenneth Baldwin, Sr. and Frances Halle Kelley Baldwin; a son, Michael Campbell; a grandson, Charles Freeman; and a sister, Lena Guse.

Celebration of life services will be held at a later date. Lakeland Funeral Home of Eddyville is in charge of arrangements.

Memorial contributions may be made to: Life House Center, 602 Poplar St., Murray, KY 42071.

Martin

Opal L. Martin, 92, of Valparaiso, Ill., formerly of Hobart, died Wednesday, Jan. 6, 2021. She was born March 15, 1928, in Crittenden County to the late Gus and Grace (Asbridge) Crouch.

Throughout her life, Martin was lovingly referred to as "Johnny" by her childhood friends and family in Kentucky. Opal attended Frances High School and made her career as a saleswoman in the shoe department at Goldblatt's

in Gary and Merrillville for over 30 years. She was a member of Emmanuel Baptist Church in South Haven, and enjoyed crocheting, traveling to the Smoky Mountains and spending winters in Florida with her husband.

On July 21, 1945, she married Billy W. Martin, who preceded her in death in 2017. She is survived by their son, Dennis (KiKi) Martin of Valparaiso; three grandsons, Todd (Brandy) Martin, Kyle (Kristyn) Martin and Drew Martin; three great-grandchildren, Kali, Kellen and Korbyn; and a sister-in-law, Bonnie (Claude) Daughtrey.

She was preceded in death by her brother, Samuel "Milton" Crouch, and sisters: Marie Short, Imogene Brown and Louise Duncan.

Service were held Sunday, Jan. 10 at Moeller Funeral Home in Valparaiso with burial at Angelcrest Cemetery.

Belt

Madeline Crider Belt of Marion, died Saturday, Dec. 26, 2020 at Crittenden County Health and Rehabilitation Center.



She was the youngest child of William E. and Rose Crider.

Surviving are two daughters, Terri (Rick) Weir of Paducah and Sherri (Stephen) Corbin of Smyrna, Tenn; two grandchildren, Adam and Amanda Weir of Paducah; two brothers, Wayne (Allen) Crider and Roger (Rhonda) Steward, both of Marion; two sisters, Claudean Cone of Ft. Pierce, Fla., and Phyllis Clowers of Oliver Springs, Tenn.; a brother-in-law, Frank Catilla of Marion; and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Leonard J. Belt; siblings, Bill Crider, Juanita Freer, Martha Scott, Robert Crider, Rosa Nell Hill-yard, Lonnie Craze, Helen Catilla, James C. Crider and Iris Brantley.

She was of the Baptist faith and enjoyed attending religious seminars with family and friends. She enjoyed traveling, computer, quilting, baking, storytelling and especially spending quality time with her grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Thursday, Dec. 31, 2020 at Myers Funeral Home with Bro. Gary Hardesty officiating. Burial was in Maplevue Cemetery.

Online Condolences
myersfuneralhomeonline.com
boydfuneraldirectors.com
gilbertfunerals.com



Tank heading out

The tank that's been in front of the former Kentucky National Guard Armory for several years is getting ready to be gone. The Department of the Army has already moved it off a concrete pad in front of the building to the parking lot where it will soon be loaded onto a trailer and taken to an undisclosed location. The armory building was recently donated to the county. Plans are in the works to utilize the building in a variety of ways, including storage and a recreation center.

Kids can receive free books

The county's youngest Rockets can get a head start on reading through a partnership with Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, which offers free books to each child, ages birth to five who will be attending Crittenden County Schools.

About 80 percent of a child's brain develops before age 5, one of the

many reasons reading is so important, school officials say. The benefits of reading to children at any age are numerous and include school preparation, vocabulary development, education advancement, stress management and instilling a passion for books and life-long learning.

To register, visit imaginationlibrary.com and click the "Can I Register My Child" button. Soon your child will begin receiving high-quality, free books once a month until his or her fifth birthday.

Call Crittenden County Schools' Central Office at (270) 965-3525 for assistance.

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we all must think about it

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Crittenden Hospital Education Building

Come meet Dr. Dyanna Fountain
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Light snacks provided

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COURT ACTIVITY CURTAILED AGAIN DUE TO PANDEMIC

Trials, grand juries and other court activities will continue to be curtailed due to the pandemic.

In Crittenden County, virtual grand jury seating was completed last week and orientation was completed for all 21 jurors via Zoom.

The Kentucky Supreme Court entered two new Administrative Orders last week that further extend restrictions on jury trials, grand juries, show cause dockets, judicial sales and in-person meetings of Kentucky Court of Justice committees, commissions, task forces and boards. This action was necessary to address the continued surge of COVID-19 cases across the commonwealth, say court officials.

Here are some provisions of the order:

- Postpone all jury trials until April 1.
- Require grand juries to either be conducted remotely or suspended.
- Postpone all show cause dockets until April 1.
- Require judicial sales to be conducted either remotely or outside and in accordance with CDC guidelines.

HEAD ON SIU LIST

Cameron Head of Burna was named to the President's List at Southeastern Illinois College in Harrisburg, Ill. Head recorded a 4.0 GPA for the fall semester. He is also a member of the SIC baseball team.

NEW DEVELOPMENT ON GUM IS WHITETAIL

New development underway on West Gum Street in Marion is an expansion project by Whitetail Properties and its local agent Mark Williams.

Mitchell Construction of Paducah has begun work to build a 7,000-

square-foot facility that will serve multiple functions for Whitetail Properties and other associated entities.

Williams says Superior Whitetail Habitats is a division of the company that will have a contracting, warehousing and limited retail presence at the location.

The habitat division of Whitetail Properties manages properties and sells materials and supplies aimed largely at outdoors enthusiasts. Williams said there will be some inventory for sale on a retail basis. The division will handle seeds, blinds, trail cameras and many other items associated with land management, hunting and the outdoors.

The building will also become Whitetail Properties' local headquarters. Williams said he hopes the facility will be ready to occupy in eight or nine months.

PEEK GRADUATES USAGE TRAINING

W. Seth Peek graduated from the United States Coast Guard boot camp at the Coast Guard's Training Center at Cape May, New Jersey on Dec. 17.

Fireman Apprentice Peek successfully completed eight weeks of basic training at Cape May.


Following boot camp he reported to his new unit in Cordova, Alaska.

Peek is a 2020 graduate of Crittenden County High School.

BABBS ON UK LIST

Jacie Babbs of Sturgis was one of more than 2,100 undergraduate students who qualified for the fall College of Arts & Sciences Dean's List at the University of Kentucky.

Babbs is majoring in



Mathematical Economics. Students on the Dean's List earned 12 or more credit hours as letter grades with a minimum 3.60 GPA for the semester.

CITY APPROVES ITS PRIORITY LIST FOR STREET REPAIRS

Marion City Council on Monday during its regular monthly meeting accepted a priority list for street repairs and improvements for the coming year.

The list was prepared by the city streets and maintenance department and presented to the council by City Administrator Adam Ledford.

Factors such as funding, timing and weather are variables as to when and whether work will be done this year.

The list, in priority order, includes Cherry Street from East Belville to Rochester Avenue; North Yandell Street from West Belville Street to Travis Street; North Maple Street from Travis Street to West Mound Park; Sunset Drive from Sturgis Road to East Central Avenue; West Central Avenue from Fords Ferry Road to North Weldon Street; Pierce Street from Fords Ferry Road to North Maple Street; Moore Street from Chapel Hill Road to Leiland Avenue; Tanglewood Drive 395 feet; West Elm Street from South Weldon Street to South Yandell Street; and Chapel Hill Road from Country Club Drive to Tyler Manufacturing.

For Breaking News Between Issues See The Press Online Go to The Press Online

Alcohol sales dip for late fall after brisk start to year

STAFF REPORT

Revenue from the sale of legal spirits dipped a bit through the fall months. Legal liquor sales began in Marion in August of 2019. The city receives a five-percent tax on the sale of wine, beer and distilled alcohol and places that sell must buy a license. Those revenues are reported monthly by the city.

In November, Marion took in \$5,905.22 in

taxes and license fees. That's just below average for the calendar year. The most revenue generated in a single month was \$8,050.47 in January. In three months in 2020, the city took in more than \$7,000 in alcohol taxes and fees.

Tax revenue derived from the legal sale of alcohol is primarily spent on law enforcement.

The city council approved a measure last

month waiving the license fee for restaurants and bars that sell liquor by the drink, because of challenges those establishments have faced during the pandemic.

From calendar year 2020, the city collected almost \$66,000 in alcohol tax revenue. December's figures will complete the year. They will be available later this month.

Cumberland River Bridge construction benefitting from mild winter weather

A project to build a new U.S. 60 bridge over the Cumberland River at Smithland, in Livingston County, is benefitting from comparatively mild winter weather.

The bridge is expected to be ready for traffic in late 2023.

Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC) engineers say good weather helped Jim Smith Contracting, prime contractor on the \$63.6 million project, to move ahead more quickly than expected.

"Being a month or two ahead of schedule this early in the game is good," said KYTC District 1 Chief Engineer Kyle Poat. "But there's still a long way to go. Let's remember we are just over five months into a project that will take more than three years to complete."

Jim Smith Contracting hopes to begin placing beams on the approach

spans in the next couple of months, with construction on the main piers to begin after the spring flood season. The construction schedule calls for moving traffic to the new bridge in spring 2023.

The 700-foot main truss for the new structure will be assembled off-site, floated to the construction site by barge, and lifted into place. The new bridge will have a 40-foot-wide, two-lane deck with 12-foot-wide driving lanes and 6-foot-wide shoulders, allowing motor vehicles to share the bridge with most farm equipment.

In addition to providing a significant link for U.S. 60 through western Kentucky, the new bridge will be a critical connector for commuters, commerce, school buses and emergency responders in Livingston County, which is

divided by the Cumberland River.

The new bridge will replace a span built in 1931. It is known as the Lucy Jefferson Lewis Memorial Bridge and the Smithland Bridge.

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VACCINES ARE OUR BEST DEFENSE IN OVERCOMING COVID-19

GET YOUR COVID-19 SHOT!

Salem Springlake Health & Rehabilitation Center has been selected to be in Phase 1A of COVID-19 vaccine distribution.

Through clinical research of the COVID-19 vaccine developed by Pfizer, Inc. it has been found to **reduce the rate of symptomatic disease by 95% with significant protection after the first of two injections.**

The vaccine offers new hope in the fight to protect the health and wellness of our residents and staff as they fight the challenges of this virus on the front lines.

Atrium Centers has been selected for Phase 1A of the COVID-19 vaccine distribution and will be working in conjunction with CVS pharmacies to deliver the vaccine through clinic services to Salem Springlake Health & Rehabilitation Center.

The vaccination has been approved and the government is making a supply of the vaccine available to CVS provide on-site vaccination clinic services to Salem Springlake Health & Rehabilitation Center.

PLEASE NOTE:
Staff that do not receive the vaccine at one of our clinics will have to wait until it becomes available to the general population.

VACCINATIONS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR STAFF AND RESIDENTS JAN. 18 AND FEB. 8

How the vaccinations will be administered:

- The vaccines require two separate injections administered approximately three weeks apart.
- Side effects may include those similar to the regular flu vaccine: fever, headache, fatigue, muscle and/or joint pain.

Please visit [FDA.gov](https://www.fda.gov) for additional information

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Senate moves swiftly to limit governor’s power

The Kentucky General Assembly has officially begun legislative business for the 2021 Regular Session. Our first official few days back in Frankfort have been productive. Diligent work throughout the 2020 Interim and handling initial procedural responsibilities bring me confidence in what this 30-day session has in store.

This year’s legislative session will be unlike any other. Standard procedures have been altered to avoid the spread of COVID-19, such as limiting the number of people within the Senate Chamber, committee rooms, and legislative suites at one time. Our excellent staff will remain socially distanced, workstations will be adequately sanitized, and masks will be worn to be as safe as possible while still fulfilling our constitutional obligations to the

Commonwealth. Also unique about this year’s legislative session will be the responsibility to pass another state budget. For the first time in state history, a biennial budget was not passed. Instead, during the 2020 Session, as COVID-19 made its way into our lives, and not knowing what impacts it would have on state revenue, the General Assembly determined the best course of action was to pass a 1-year budget rather than a 2-year budget. The 2021 budget will be among the most critical efforts in this new 30-day session.

Some priority legislation of the majority caucus has been outlined.



Robby MILLS
KY STATE SENATE
Guest Commentary

The bills are relevant to the topics at the forefront of discussions through the interim. They include measures to address the economic impacts of COVID-19 and the state’s response to it, liability protections for businesses and health care providers, police reforms, and better defining executive authority during a state of emergency. All of these and more have been the issues that have motivated constituents to contact lawmakers’ offices. They will be key topics of discussion and debate, along with other legislation aimed at addressing concerns that matter to the people of Kentucky.

The Senate moved swiftly this week to pass a pair of bills out of the chamber that would place limits on the governor’s use of executive orders and regulations. Senate Bill (SB) 1 would

dictate that executive orders that place restrictions on the function of schools, businesses, or nonprofits expire after 30 days – unless extended by the General Assembly. The same would go for executive orders that regulate political, religious, and social gatherings or impose mandatory quarantines or isolation requirements. This bill has been designated as a 2021 legislative priority because the pandemic brought to light “fractures” in the current laws concerning executive orders. Provisions of SB 1 would also allow chief executive officers or local governments to seek emergency executive orders for their communities beyond 30 days in length.

The second measure, SB 2, would have similar effects and would require some administrative regulations to last no longer

than 30 days if, for example, they imposed restrictions on gatherings or mandatory quarantines. The goal of SB 2 is to provide a more logical administrative process, transparency, and legislative oversight to hamper the ability of executive agencies to legislate through regulation, as when regulations are promulgated and accepted, they become law.

Other priority bills passed in the Senate this week include SB 3 and SB 9.

SB 3 would reorganize the Governor’s Office of Agriculture Policy under the Kentucky Agriculture Commissioner’s Office. SB 9, better known as the Born-Alive Infant Protection Act was passed out of the Senate again. That bill assures any baby born alive will receive lifesaving medical care, even in cases of a botched abortion. SB 9 was passed last year but was vetoed by the governor. Unfortunately the veto occurred beyond the veto override period. That will not be an issue this year if the bill is vetoed again.

We continued legislative business through Saturday, completing five days of the 30-day session. It was a very productive day for the General Assembly, as we passed three House bills. Meanwhile, the House was able to pass Senate bills that are now being delivered to the governor’s desk for either a signature or a veto.

House Bills passed in the Senate on Saturday:

- HB 1 aims to provide clarity and reassurance amid a state of emergency for businesses, schools, parents, teachers, students, and religious institutions and that any business or school may remain open and operational if they follow a comprehensive operating plan, detailing how the business or school will adhere to the Center for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines to ensure safety.
- HB 2 gives Kentucky’s Attorney General the authority to seek an injunction and civil or criminal penalties for violations of statutes and administrative regulations guiding the practice of abortion. Current law only allows the Attorney General to take action if the Cabinet for Health and Family Services secretary requests that he or she intervene.
- HB 5 would require all executive branch reorganizations and board reorganizations to require a vote of the General Assembly as well as refining gubernatorial authority when the legislature is not in session.

I am honored to be representing the 4th District in the Kentucky State Senate again this year. Though things will be different this year, I will be keeping you updated throughout the 30-day session and look forward to hearing from you. Do not hesitate to contact my office.

If you have any questions or comments about these issues or any other public policy issue, please call me toll-free at 1-800-372-7181 or email Robby.Mills@LRC.ky.gov. To review the legislature’s work online go to www.Legislature.ky.gov.

Sen. Mills (R-Henderson) represents Caldwell, Crittenden, Henderson, Livingston, Union, and Webster counties.

This is weighed in the balance

And found wanting was the sad indictment of God’s handwriting on the wall to wicked Belshazzar, King of Babylon, and his kingdom was destroyed and he was killed.

His crimes were that he had not humbled his heart before God, he had lifted up himself against the Lord of Heaven, had desecrated sacred vessels of pagan gods.

Seeing everything that is transpiring all over the world, and reading all the signs God gives us in His Word, it is very clear that time for judgment and all our balance sheets to be weighed is growing near. Millions are going to find themselves wanting.

All the political wickedness going on proves they do not realize God is in the mix. “For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good or whether it be evil.” Ecc. 12:14.



Lucy TEDRICK
Guest Columnist
Religious and Political Views

All of us live on borrowed time, and as Jesus said to the hypocritical Jewish scribes and pharisees, after He had given them chance after chance to change and they would not, “Your house is left unto you desolate.”

God has like message for America.

The lying, cheating, hating, and hypocrisy going on in our government, rounding out the egregious evils of legalizing, supporting and demanding abortion and same-sex marriage has God weighing America in the balance. He finds her wanting.

God made man in His own image. Think of what that really says.

Then man takes that image, the very image of God Himself, and dares to desecrate God that way. Some go even deeper into evil and say the Holy Bible condones it. That is a bridge too far.

God has turned loose the virus on the whole world and it is slowly doing the Great Red Dragon’s work. Communism is slowly putting our nation in limbo, loosing everything.

Sickness makes the nation weak. Closed churches make people wicked, children out of school makes the young ignorant and businesses being closed and people out of work destroys our economy. It is making us a nation of welfare.

Where is all that relief money coming from as America is already in debt? We have been borrowing money from China.

When people are sick, poor, ignorant and broke they are easily overtaken.

The spiritual condition of America, I fear, has God saying, “Your house is left unto you desolate.”

Jesus’ ultimatum “Repent or perish” is our hope and may we all pray there will be a lot of repenting, and that God would respond kindly.

Sister Lucy Tedrick is a local pastor and conservative-values columnist who lives in Marion.

Crittenden County Detention Center Census



DETENTION CENTER REPORT

DECEMBER 19, 2020

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

JAIL CENSUS	Dec. 17, 2020	Nov. 19, 2020	2020 Average
State Inmates	88	91	95.2
Federal Inmates	80	78	73.9
Other County Inmates	18	18	14.2
Critenden County Inmates	13	21	13.7
TOTAL INMATES	199	208	196.9
Weekenders	6	7	3.3
Work release	0	0	0.0
Out to Court	0	0	0.5
Actual Inmate Bed Count	205	215	117.0

REVENUE	November 2020	October 2020	Month Avg. 2020
State Housing Payments	\$85,464.18	\$81,578.02	\$93,241.73
Federal Housing Payments	\$119,862.60	\$109,904.93	\$108,338.85
Federal Transport Payments	\$9,710.60	\$7,347.93	\$9,105.68
Other County Housing Payments	\$17,784.00	\$20,052.00	\$16,278.00
Weekend/Work Release	\$1,184.00	\$2,304.00	\$7,226.67
TOTAL HOUSING	\$576.00	\$288.00	\$392.00
	\$224,870.78	\$214,126.95	\$217,337.41

ANALYSIS			
Last Month			
Cost of Crittenden Inmates	\$17,440.00	\$20,736.00	\$13,107.83
Numbers of Co. Housing Days	545	\$648.00	407.8
Daily Housing Rate	\$32.00	\$32.00	32.0
Avg Daily Population Co. Inmates	18.16	20.9	13.4

- Federal Inmates \$49 Per diem
- State Inmates \$31.34 Per diem
- Lyon County Inmates \$36.00
- Other County Inmates \$32.00

Pandemic creating local jail vacancies

Pandemic issues continue to leave empty beds at the Crittenden County Detention Center. Normally, that would be good news to society, but Jailer Robbie Kirk says it it’s really not.

Kirk told magistrates last week that mostly transportation issues are to blame for overcrowding in some state prisons while others, like here, have plenty of room.

Kirk said the are 10 female beds and three restricted custody beds vacant right now.

Because of the vacancies, jail housing revenues for state inmates continues to be well below the typical yearly average.

VACCINE

Continued from page 1

and there was no new information on when more vaccine might be made available here.

School teachers, originally expected to be among the first to receive the vaccine, are now likely to not get it until February, according to Crittenden County School Superintendent Vince Clark.

Only a handful of school personnel have been inoculated, including the resource officer, who is also a first responder and qualified for the vaccine; school nurses, who qualified for early vaccinations because they are healthcare workers; and any substitute teacher age 70 or older who received a shot last week.

Carolyn Rose of Marion was in line last Wednesday at the health department about 60 vehicles from the clinic when it opened. She was hoping to get the vaccine that day, but understood the situation.

“If not, I will just come back later,” she said.

Rose said personal health issues had prompted her to go to the clinic on the first day it was available.

“My doctor says I need to get it,” she said. “I’ve been just mostly staying home since this (pandemic) began.”

Barbara and Eddie Hunt of Marion were among the first to receive

a vaccination. They have plans for a vacation later this year and want to be assured their plans can be kept.

“I got here about 7:30 a.m.,” Eddie Hunt said. Both say the vaccination was painless and were proud to have been able to receive it.

Nancy Lacy was at the front of the line, too, but when she spoke to nurses inside, she learned that she couldn’t get the shot that day.

“I had the shingles vaccine on Dec. 28 so it has to be at least two weeks before I get another vaccine,” Lacy said.

Local leaders say they’re a bit frustrated by the lack of vaccine being made available. Some say the dearth is a breakdown in the federal government’s distribution system. Others say the state and perhaps leaders in other regions of the commonwealth are being overtly systematic in doling out vaccine supplies on hand, which is slowing the overall process.

“We have had a great plan and it’s been successful when we’ve had the vaccine,” Crittenden County Judge-Executive Perry Newcom said.

Trigg County health officials told reporters in Hopkinsville last week that it had distributed 800 doses of the vaccine through offerings by the health department and the hospital. Crittenden County has had far fewer doses than that available for distribution.

Trigg County Hospital CEO John Sumner told WKDZ radio that more than 500 people 70 and older were vaccinated during a two-day vaccination clinic at the Trigg County Recreation Complex last week.

Public health officials have sounded the alarm for months, complaining that they did not have enough support or money to get COVID-19 vaccines quickly into arms, according to a report in the Louisville Courier-Journal.

“As they work to ramp up the shots, state and local public health departments across the U.S. cite a variety of obstacles, most notably a lack of leadership from the federal government. Many officials worry that they are losing precious time at the height of the pandemic, and the delays could cost lives,” the C-J reported late last week.

The federal government recently approved \$8.7 billion for the vaccine effort, but some say more is needed. Operation Warp Speed, the federal vaccine program, had promised to distribute enough doses to immunize 20 million people in the U.S. in December. It missed that target, and as of Friday, about 6.6 million people had received their first shot, according to a tracker from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. About 22 million doses have been delivered to states.

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LIVINGSTON, KY - 99.954 ACRES - \$204,907 - Hunting tract with a large creek, open ground for food plots, mast producing hardwoods and numerous funnels and pinch points!

CALDWELL COUNTY, KY - 146.78 ACRES - \$322,000 - Great hunting tract with dynamic hunter friendly topography, mast producing timber, security cover, open areas for food plots and a good trail system. **SOLD**

CRITTENDEN COUNTY, KY - 41.74 ACRES - \$115,000 - Highly sought after tract conveniently located about 10 minutes outside of town offering crop yields, building sites, road frontage and a wet weather creek. **SOLD**

CRITTENDEN COUNTY, KY - 239.27 ACRES - \$376,900 - This farm has a diverse blend of habitat types that produce excellent deer, turkey and waterfowl hunting opportunities. This area is known for producing big bucks! **PENDING**

LIVINGSTON COUNTY, KY - 36.944 ACRES - \$77,584 - Mostly timber hunting tract with softwoods, mast producing hardwoods, open areas for food plots, a good trail system and a hunter friendly topography. **SOLD**

CALDWELL COUNTY, KY - 257.32 - \$599,900 - Prime hunting tract with an area known for big bucks. Diverse blend of habitat types and topography. Well-managed property that is ready to hunt.

CRITTENDEN COUNTY, KY - 35.66 ACRES - \$114,900 - Livestock farm with a large shop and garage doors. Property is close to the Ohio River and has exceptional scenic views. **PENDING**

LIVINGSTON COUNTY, KY - 118.16 ACRES - \$223,913 - Topography is a mix of semi-flat creek bottoms and timbered ridges. An established food plot on the main ridge is a hot spot for big bucks. Excellent hunting!

LIVINGSTON COUNTY, KY - 96.042 ACRES - \$182,480 - Property has a diverse mix of habitat types, good trail system, numerous entry points along road frontage, hunter friendly topography, a creek and planted pines. **SOLD**

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Summertime outings and disasters

During these cold winter months, with the dark and dreary days we've been having where people and pets alike are getting cabin fever, it's nice to think of springtime and going fishing or on a picnic.

We truly do have some beautiful countryside to do these activities when the weather is right. It seems the beautiful rocky bluffs around Piney Fork and Deanwood were special places for many of these earlier outings.

With the help from the archives of The Crittenden Press, let's visit the days of yesteryear and some summer activities. It's fun to read of these days gone by, when a day of fishing and picnicking on some of our beautiful creeks and bluffs was a special occasion.

And we are lucky that some interested person put these amusing little articles in the paper for us to read 100 years later. I know many of the names aren't familiar to us all, but many were prominent lawyers and businessmen and their wives and friends.

June 21, 1894, "A Fishing Party"

Misses Lena, Ina and Kitty Woods, Elvah Crider, Nellie Wilson, Nellie Walker, Ettie and Pat Larkin, Taylor Woodard, Mattie Blue, Lizzie James, Lemah Barnes, Mesdames J. P. Pierce, W. B. Yandell and Lizzie Williams, and Messrs. H. J. Loving and wife, George M. Crider and wife, E. H. James

and wife, J. T. Franks, H. K. Woods, Thomas Cochran, Sam Gugenheim, C. S. Nunn, R. C. Daniel, S. D. Hodge and O. M. James, composed a party that spent yesterday fishing on the banks of Big Piney.

The deep, silent sylvan shades, the majestic rocks, the mossy banks, the rosy dells and soft notes from the music throat-ed birds, make that almost a hallowed spot, and visitors are not only charmed, but enchanted as they drink in the classic surroundings reveling in thoughts akin to those that stirred the soul of Virgil when the muses taught him to write of the forests.

They say that the party yesterday had a delightful time, faintly expresses the situation. The catch of trout, bass and carp was not extravagant, but the catch of sand-ticks will be good for some day to come; to say nothing of the famous little entertainers knows as the chigger, whose native health is found in that section.

Another fishing adventure happened in May of 1900 somewhere on the banks of Piney Creek. Messers. Jim Paris, Henry Stone, Mark Terry and Henry Haynes composed a party that went to Piney Creek fishing.

They watched the fickle cork all day Wednesday and fished without corks all that night and not a bite did they get. Thursday morning they hitched up early and started for home. After driving some hours they came to a



A vintage photo of a group of Marion's young people was taken on the beautiful rocky bluffs of Piney Creek out near Deanwood. All are unidentified except for Ollie M. James standing in the center with light colored suit and holding his hat.

strange town to them, and upon inquiry found that they were at Shady Grove, some miles further away from home than when they started.

The moral to the tale is this: Unless you want to travel in a circle, don't take "snake medicine" at daylight without a hearty breakfast.

An Unfortunate Jaunt happened in November of 1903 and took place on a hunting trip. James Jennings, Calvin Corley and Clarence Terry went on an opossum and coon hunt one night.

On the way they stopped to rest, sat their guns down and were joking each other about the incidents of the trip. Just at this time an old sow came along and the dogs started to chase her, when, to the dismay of the party, she stamped and ran right through the crowd, the result of which was disastrous to two of the gentlemen.

In her rush through the camp she ran over the double barreled shotgun and it was discharged, one shot striking Mr. Corley in the toe and another

striking Clarence Terry in the heel as he ran away down the hill, thinking a bear was after him.

Dr. Frazer was called and dressed the wounds of the unfortunates, and they are on the high road to recovery, although pretty badly used up as a result of their experience.

They all swear they will never hunt coons or opossums again but will go after the larger game, such as buffaloes and bears. Clarence Terry says there is not a bear in America as big as that old sow looked to him that dark night.

Titanic Disaster Recalled is another humorous story told about the mishap on another fishing outing in May of 1913.

It is in a way quite remarkable how history repeats itself. It's not so long ago as to be forgotten that the world was thrilled at the sinking of the great steamer Titanic and the loss of so many valuable lives. Even at this date the remembrance of the ultra bravery of the passengers and crew as all hope of safety was gone, joining in singing that wonderful hymn of hope

and promise makes one proud of his manhood.

An accident on or in the water is always, to say the least interesting. The other day down at the Keystone mine, where water is as plenty as the flowers that bloom in the spring, a fishing party was organized, red worms and fish hooks were found, a ball of twine and several section of fence rails for fishing rods were made ready.

The four ladies set sail on an old log lying across the creek. Throwing their fishing tackle into the depths they patiently waited for results, they got them. No wireless p-d-q was available, no band of music was at hand, no voices were raised in any triumphant hymn, the old log just quietly broke in two and landed the party in the deep.

Of course we don't know just what expressions were used but we assume that for the moment that evening prayer, "Now I lay me down to sleep," was for the moment forgotten. The four brave hearts were floundering in the creek, but not a murmur escaped. It was all right.

When asked what they caught, as with one voice they replied, a million chiggers and several colds.

Somewhat tired and very damp Mrs. George Roberts, Miss Evelyn Roberts, Mrs. Daily and Miss Daily reached Marion later in the day by the Guess limited and are receiving the plaudits and compliments of their numerous friends for the wonderful bravery exhibited when all hope of reuniting that old log was gone.

Fishing Party, June 1917. A recent event of interest in society was a fishing party at Walker

Pond. It was composed of a party of young people of the Hebron community and several visitors.

Those in the party were Misses Lettie and Grace Conditt, Gladys and Evelyn Graves, Thelma Duvall and Minnie Cleghorn and Messrs John and Eugene Graves, Barney and Morrison Cleghorn.

The visitors were Miss Ada Duvall of Ada, Okla., who is visiting her parents Mrs. and Mrs. William Duvall. Mr. Walker Cleghorn, also of Ada, Oklahoma who is visiting his people, the family of Mr. J. G. Cleghorn, Mr. Marion Conditt of Lexington who is spending the summer with his people and Mr V. P. Henry of Marion.

The trip was fine, there being present besides those mentioned above four mules and a road wagon for the convenience of the crowd and horse and buggy driven by Mr. Walter Cleghorn assisted by Miss Wanda Duvall.

Fishing was fine, bites were plentiful and catches not a few. Miss Thelma Duvall boasts that she caught one good one, but he could not be eaten because his collar was so stiff.

But as for real fish we caught about a 125 little fellows. Miss Wanda Duvall caught 15 which was the largest number caught by any one person. Mr. Henry caught 14. He says he had never caught but one fish before and it weighed 14 pounds, and the second time he caught 14 and all together they would only weigh one pound.

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

Robins absent of hatred; accepting of differences

Acts 10: 34 "Then and said, of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons."

In our backyard is a holly tree. That tree is about forty feet tall and in December, the berries turn red. It usually takes about two days for a flock of hundreds of robins to move in and strip the tree of all the berries.

We have three bird feeders full of black sunflower seeds for the Kentucky cardinals that often flock into the woods. Woodpeckers, various types of finches and dozens of other multi-colored birds, keep me busy refilling those feeders.

Also, there are bird baths we try to keep full of water. Sitting this morning, watching the robins around the watering pan, I noticed a dove and two other species of birds sitting on the pan edge with the robins.

Sitting here at the keyboard, looking through the shutters, I see dozens of birds flocking through the sunlight filtering through the trees.

Several squirrels are in the yard and they occasionally look up at all the birds with questioning expressions. They must be curious about all the excitement above them. Then, their minds quickly return to the item in the ground they're searching for.

At least four species of birds are now on one of the watering pans. They are different colors, sizes; some are fat, some appear skinny. Their flight is different and their choices of food differ. Some will eat the black sunflower seed and others will not. They do not realize they are different.

My imagination cannot fathom that in the bird world, there is not someone to tell them they are supposed to hate each other. Apparently they

have no way of communicating those feelings of negativity. How sad it is for them not to realize these simple concepts of hatred and disdain. They have no idea what they're missing! I'm sure you recognize sarcasm.

Humans are in many ways the most disgusting species on earth. None of us would know we're supposed to hate each other unless someone taught us that. This is going to sound like an opinion (and it is), love comes naturally but hatred must be taught, brainwashed into, and cultivated to survive.

Many have found, when hatred exists, in its beginning there was no problem because of skin color or ethnic origin. It stems from cultural differences and refusal of accepting those differences. We have different values and priorities, but are those really good reasons to hate someone?

With so many in America promoting diversity and inclusiveness, why is this trend of hatred proliferating as it is? Could it be many see hatred in the actions of others but not in themselves?

It is extremely alarming to me to see a new level of negative feelings toward others that are different from us. In an

age of assumed tolerance, we have become more and more intolerant. I have come to believe, there is only one race and that is the human race.

I've seen levels of hatred in other countries that pale this state in America. In the United Kingdom, to try to spend an English pound in Ireland can result in a beating. In Australia, the hatred directed toward the Aborigines by the English settlers is appalling.

In the mission work in Africa, I soon realized there was a presence of negative feelings between the tribes. They spoke different dialects of Swahili, and for the most part, existed to themselves. In traveling in the Middle East, one is best to visit Israel last. Having the Star of David stamped in one's passport can result in disastrous consequences when crossing borders.

Hatred is not new. Cain killed Abel because of hatred (Genesis 4: 8). God refused to accept Cain's fruits of the soil (organic) sacrifice and that created a situation in which the first murder was committed.

Jacob's son Joseph was hated by his brothers (Genesis 37) so intensely they sold him into slavery in Egypt (Genesis 37: 28). Saul hated David because the people loved David (1Samuel 18: 29) for killing the giant Goliath. Saul tried fourteen times (www.welcome-to-grace.com) to kill David because of his jealousy.

Saul approved the

stoning of Stephen (Acts 8: 1). The Jews plotted to kill Paul (Acts 23: 12-35) for the preaching of Jesus. This was only because of disagreements over religious teachings.

Matthew 26: 4-5 "And they schemed to arrest Jesus secretly and kill him. But not during the festival," they said, "or there may be a riot among the people." Our Jesus was hated because He preached forgiveness of sin based on a faith based belief. This contradicted the Old Testament Mosaic law the Jewish hierarchy had lived under for two-thousand years.

We live in a world today in which hatred exists because of religion. Christians are persecuted because we believe Jesus is the only salvation (Acts 4: 12) and we do not approve of non-Biblical lifestyles. Many in our progressive, permissive world see these teachings as hate speech and the proliferation of hate.

It is all a matter of perspective. Proverbs 12: 15 "The way of a fool is right in his own eyes." No matter how strange or sinful a lifestyle may seem, those that practice it, justify it in their minds. We are all foolish at some point in time by this scriptural

definition.

Our attitudes, feelings and opinions are certainly foolish in the eyes of others. Everyone is foolish to someone. By our human nature, we are bound to disagree, but our level of understanding leaves a lot to be desired.

Perhaps we could take a lesson from the robins. Matthew 6: 2 "Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are ye not much better than they?"

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The whirlwind and the third commandment

I, as I suppose many of you, was fascinated and deeply troubled by what I witnessed on my TV screen on Wednesday. I am equally fascinated by the various responses that followed. It was a wake-up moment for us. The change in tone and words in a usually mundane procedural event in congress was nothing short of amazing. The senator from Oklahoma (with a significant delay) changed his speech, quite literally, in mid-sentence.

I am limited in my perspective and inconsistent in my expression of ideas. Limited because we all are. Inconsistent because I rarely have the information to make definitive, once for all, accurate assessments of any situation. I also have days when I think like the story of Noah where everyone dies because of their wickedness, and others like Jonah where everyone lives because of God's patience and people's repentance.

It is my vocational goal to bring to bear a balanced theological and

historical perspective on events and attitudes that we live with today. It is not my job to determine who is in good standing with their God and who is not. I have a robust belief system that allows me to tenaciously hold to my faith while withholding judgment on others.

Now, concerning what we all witnessed during the ratification of the presidential election. There will continue to be those who seek to lay blame and hold responsible those who created the atmosphere and those who acted in criminal ways. I will leave that to those whose job it is to do that and encourage them in their pursuit of understanding and justice.

We all know mixing religion and politics is dangerous. It is dangerous because those in power tend to want to coopt religion (or ban it) for their own purposes. There have always been large swaths of Christianity quite willing to cooperate with or support leaders to take moral stands that agree with the religious

leadership. We need only to look at the horrors of the 1930s and 40s in Italy and Germany to see where this can lead. Further back we can look at the Reformation or even further to the time of the Crusades. Doesn't stop us from doing it.

It is tempting when a secular leader is willing, by force of policy, to promote a Christian moral principle, to support such a person on that basis. History teaches us that such decisions do not end well. Here is the difficulty. When Jesus' disciples, James and John got into an argument with the others about who would be the greatest in the kingdom of God Jesus reminded them that it is not by lording over that we are to lead. He says in Matthew 20:25-28, "You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great men exercise authority over them. It shall not be so among you; but whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be your slave; even as the Son of man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

I have no doubt that James and John meant well, but Jesus quickly checks them. He knows the dangers of lording

over others to change behavior.

There is another warning in the prophet Hosea 8:3-4,7.

"They made kings, but not through me.

They set up princes, but without my knowledge.

With their silver and gold they made idols for their own destruction.

For they sow the wind, and they shall reap the whirlwind."

Hosea mentions idols. I might suggest that there are two of the Ten Commandments which address idolatry (three if you count the first). The second commandment has to do with images – easy enough. The third, however, has to do with taking the name of the Lord in vain. This is not a commandment about cussing. It has to do with taking up God's name and declaring him on your side to promote your own agenda. We can make idols of good things such as our morality. Remember the golden calf? It represented the G(god that Israel believed rescued them from Egypt. Christians still need to learn not to give away our calling to accomplish our goals. Do it the right way and let God take care of the rest.

I am thankful that our congress completed its

task in a timely fashion, making the fiasco something that should get our attention, rather than something much more serious. I remain hopeful for the future. I am thankful for our political leaders. I am thankful for

those of faith who serve in such a way. Peace.

Dr. Sean Niestrath is a minister in Madisonville, Ky. He holds a doctoral degree in ministry. You may contact him at sean.niestrath@outlook.com.



Sean NIESTRATH Faith-based columnist

Guest Columnist

In a church, we grow stronger together

Question: I love Jesus. I read the Bible and pray regularly, but I'm not affiliated with a church. Why do I need to be a part of a church anyway?

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ASK the PASTOR

By Bob Hardison

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Sunday Worship 11 a.m.

Sunday Evening 6 p.m.

Wed. Bible Study 6 p.m.

Marion Baptist Church

College & Depot streets, Marion • (270) 965-5232

Pastor: Bro. Aaron Brown • Children's & Youth Pastor: Bro. Shawn Holman

SUNDAY CHURCH TIMES:

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SUN: Sun. School 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:45 p.m.

Bro. David COMBS

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Bro. Butch Gray

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Sunday school: 10 a.m.

Worship service: 11 a.m.

Hurricane Church

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Pastor: Bro. Danny Hinchee

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Sun. Evening services, 6 p.m.

Wed. Evening services, 7 p.m.

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Sunday Evening 6 p.m. • Wednesday Night Service 6 p.m.

Marion Church of Christ

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Notice is hereby given that on January 6, 2021 Larry Woodall of 227 Rochester Ave., Marion, Ky. 42064 was appointed administrator of Robert Earl Woodall, deceased, whose address was 229 Rochester Ave., Marion, Ky. 42064. Rebecca J. Johnson, attorney. All persons having claims against said estate are hereby notified to present the same properly proven as required by law to the administrator before the 6th day July, 2021 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-27-c)

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Extension offering cancer program



Are you or a loved one managing cancer treatment or in remission? Would you like some information about managing physical and emotional health for you and your loved one during this time? People might have questions but don't know who to ask when it comes to maintaining overall health during cancer treatments. You might have questions about cancer-related words your health-care provider is using, what foods to eat, or even how to talk to someone who has cancer. Fortunately, there may be a program that is just right for you.

According to the CDC, Kentucky has the highest rate of cancer-related deaths in the country. Each year, cancer affects millions of people in Kentucky whether as a patient, caregiver, family member, or friend.

Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service has developed the Kick Kentucky Cancer program to provide practical information regarding the management of cancer

treatment and recovery.

Crittenden County Extension office will be hosting a five-lesson program called Kick Kentucky Cancer beginning this month.

The first session, "Understanding the Basics of Cancer," will be offered remotely by Zoom at 6 p.m., on Jan. 21 and again at 10 a.m., on Jan. 25.

Call the Crittenden County Extension office at 270-965-5236 to get the Zoom link and lesson material.

The program will provide an overview of physical health, nutrition, mental and emotional health, as well as communicating and helping caregivers. This program is for anyone whose life has been touched by cancer. You could walk away from this program with practical tips to use right away, the Extension service says.

For more information contact Janeen Tramble, Crittenden County Family Consumer Sciences Agent at Jtramble@uky.edu or 270-350-0395 or 270-965-5236.

THROW BACK

THURSDAY

OUR MEMORIES GO BACK TO 1879

50 YEARS AGO

January 14, 1971

■ For the second consecutive year, Marion was named an "All-Kentucky City" by the state Chamber of Commerce. Eleven other cities in Kentucky were also given the title.

■ The Rockets basketball team beat Lyon County 77-63 at a home game.

■ Willard Mott of Crittenden County invented a remote control unit that would start his car automatically. He entered the invention with the U.S. Patent Office.

■ Six Crittenden County residents were appointed to leadership posts in the 1971 Heart Fund Drive. They were: Mrs. Wendell Roberts to serve as Crittenden County Heart Fund Chairman; Mrs. Marjorie Yandell, as Marion Heart Sunday Chairman; Mrs. R.M. Bran-

don, as Marion Business Gifts Chairman; Mrs. H.D. Sul-lenger, as Marion Business Gifts Co-Chairman; Mrs. Don Watson, as Crittenden County Publicity Chairman and Mrs. Maggie Helen Davidson as Crittenden County Heart Fund Treasurer.

25 YEARS AGO

January 11, 1996

■ Karen Woodall was sworn in as Assistant Crittenden County Attorney. She had several responsibilities including covering for county attorney Alan Stout when he was unable to attend District Court.

■ Asbridge Taekwon-Do in Marion held a black belt test and seminar. Students that participated in the seminar were James Ivy, Justin Asbridge, Scott James, Billy Marvel, Will Ford, Scotty Hop-

kins, Drew Hopkins, Ashley Travis, Ashley Turley, Scott McClellan, Evan Morris and David West. Justin Asbridge, James Ivy and Billy Marvel were all promoted to first-degree black belt.

10 YEARS AGO

January 13, 2011

■ Dr. Rex Manayan joined Crittenden Hospital as a general surgeon. Manayan received his undergraduate and graduate degrees in biology from the University of California at San Diego. His doctoral degree in medicine comes from Tufts University School of Medicine in Boston where he received clinical and pre-clinical honors in surgery, medicine, cardiology, cell development, biochemistry and tissue and molecular biology.

■ Rachel Byford of Marion graduated from Murray State University. She earned a bachelor of science degree in interdisciplinary early childhood education.

■ Jordan James of Marion earned a spot on the President's List at Southeast Illinois College.

SIGNAL

Continued from page 1 strength and availability of internet signal for residents and businesses. They are toying with ideas that could include local government investment in building a regional internet service provider, but they would prefer to have a private ISP do it, or partner with government in developing a reliable internet connection for folks from Needmore to Lamasco, Burna to Shady Grove and all points in between.

How USDA is involved

To reach homes, farms and businesses in remote places like Cresswell, Sheridan and Hampton, local leaders are looking to USDA's Department for Rural Development for help.

Legg said USDA Rural Development can help with funding and help provide some expertise to the regional effort. She applauded the four counties for their time and effort.

"Congratulations to you four county judges. Your leadership is extraordinary in Kentucky where we are not seeing as much as we need to see," Legg said.

Understanding the landscape of digital telecommunication can be overwhelming, Legg said. She encouraged local leaders to continue aggressively pursuing broadband options. Such efforts can prompt large providers to drop prices, improve quality and expand services because they don't particularly want further competition.

USDA is the entity for providing "last mile" funding to projects, Legg said. It was the same agency that helped provide electricity and water to rural areas last century.

The lack of quality internet service has been grossly exposed by the pandemic, county leaders say. With schools, meetings, business and sporting events all being cast simultaneously on the World Wide Web it's overloading the pipe, explains Crittenden County Judge-Executive Perry Newcom.

At December's Crittenden County Fiscal Court meeting, Newcom and Davenport led discussions of broadband issues, including misrepresentation of download and upload speeds by ISPs, past and future grants available for improving access to high-speed internet and the proposition of seeing improvements, with service perhaps being provided by local electric cooperative Kenergy.

Davenport traces a long, bureaucratic story about how service providers, including



Livingston County Judge-Executive Garrett Gruber checks a message on his smartphone as he and other area leaders listen to USDA Rural Development Director Hilda Legg at last week's meeting in Marion.

AT&T which is a prevalent source for internet in this area, received millions of dollars from the government to build a fiber-based backbone that could serve customers in rural western Kentucky. The companies are supposed to be held accountable by the FCC, she explains. Several states, including Kentucky, are starting to feel like they've gotten the shaft, she added, believing the service is not as broad nor signal as strong as is being portrayed in reporting by providers to the FCC.

Bad data slow progress

Newcom said the FCC has built a database – largely from information given to it from service providers – that shows 16,000 homes in Crittenden and neighboring counties are served by high-speed broadband. He said that same database indicates there are only 400 underserved homes.

"That's ridiculous," he said. "We have 400 underserved homes in this county alone."

"Internet is a huge issue," adds Davenport. "It's a huge issue in our region. It was a huge issue a year ago, before the pandemic, and it will probably still be a huge issue a year from now."

What's even more frustrating, adds Davenport, is that in some cases fiberoptic line capable of beefing up anyone's internet speed is a stone's throw away, installed years ago with government subsidies by AT&T to rural areas all over western Kentucky, including Crittenden County.

"There are people with fiber literally in their yards, but they cannot tap onto it because (the provider) will not provide service," she said.

The Lake Barkley Partnership, Pennyryle Area Development District and judge-executives from Crittenden, Lyon, Caldwell and Livingston counties have been working on a joint regional effort to expose flaws in the system and open the door for a new commercial provider to step in

and provide what's commonly called "the last mile." That means taking the internet infrastructure that exists and plugging it into homes where kids can do homework, families can watch Netflix and mom and dad can telecommute for their jobs.

"It's going to take a while," Davenport admits, but the wheels are in motion and state and local leaders are starting to see through the bureaucratic fog that's hampered progress over the past several years.

Early stages of change

Davenport says the effort is still in its "educational" phase where local leaders are learning the landscape before they can develop a plan to either attract a new provider or become one themselves.

Legg, the USDA's liaison for rural development in Kentucky, has extensive experience in rural utilities and telecommunications. She said the USDA's Department of Rural Development – or its preceding governmental agencies – was instrumental in bringing power and water to rural America decades ago and it's the logical conduit for improving broadband access to remote parts of the state.

"The USDA specializes in the last mile," she said because for-profit, private companies will likely never finish the job of taking high-speed internet to far-flung areas.

"If they haven't gotten to you by now, they're probably not going to," Legg told county leaders last week.

That's where government steps in, she explains. The USDA is charged with developing programs that benefit

rural America, and with the demand growing ever so rapidly for reliable broadband, that's where millions of taxpayer dollars are being aimed.

To get the ball rolling, this coalition of local leaders from surrounding counties has commissioned some specialized work by experts in the telecommunications field.

"We have partnered together to fund a regional internet feasibility study that evaluates the best type of internet infrastructure – fixed wireless, fiber or a combination of the two – design of the tower network, identification of existing service providers, design recommendations, grant funding analysis, rate of return and overall cost to build the network," Davenport wrote in a presentation that was delivered recently to county magistrates.

"This study gives us more information we need to identify potential private sector partners to bring reliable and affordable internet to the region," she adds.

Key is finding a provider

She said there are possibly USDA and FCC funds available to help improve broadband options here. Again, finding a provider to finish the job and qualify for grants

takes time. However, just a few weeks ago, Rural Electric Cooperative Consortium, Windstream Services and Space Exploration Technologies Corporation were among bidders for millions of dollars in support from the Rural Digital Opportunity Fund (RDOF). Those providers will be jockeying for about \$5 million from the FCC to wire homes in the four-county area with high-speed internet. About \$1.3 million is earmarked for Crittenden County.

Davenport said more information about those companies' plans should be forthcoming in February. Right now they cannot even discuss their bids or plans for providing service. Local leaders say Kenergy, which is a rural electric cooperative, could be a natural provider for Crittenden, Lyon and part of Caldwell counties.

If existing telecommunications companies do not show a willingness to be a broadband provider to the region, it appears that the four-county group is ready to explore the idea of either building its own system or entering into some type of public-private agreement with an existing or emerging provider.

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Echols flop, recognition make for special bowl

Ally Echols grew up a Kentucky fan in Shepherdsville and met her husband, Thomas Paine Echols, a few months before he graduated high school there.

Tom Echols, who was a year older, was from a military family. His father was in the Coast Guard and he had numerous other family members who had been in the military. His older brother joined the Marines when he graduated high school and Tom did the same in 2004.



Larry Vaught
UK Sports Columnist
Vaught's Views

“He was a military brat and was always interested in the military and knew that’s what he wanted to do,” Ally Echols said.

She graduated in 2005 when Tom, a Michigan native who moved to Kentucky at age 10, was on his first tour in Iraq. He came home in October of 2005 and they were married. He got orders to return to Iraq in 2006 and deployed in September. She found out a week before his deployment she was pregnant with their daughter, Julia. However, he died Dec. 4, 2006, about five months before Julia was born.

“It was kind of ironic her birth ended up being the day his unit got home from Iraq,” Ally said. “Tom was in Ramadi, one of the world’s most dangerous cities in 2006. If Tom had to go, that’s how he would have wanted it. He loved being in the Marines. They (other Marines with him) were his best friends. He would not have wanted to go any other way.”

Ally Echols now lives in Elizabethtown — a block away from her sister and her children — and was running on a treadmill one day when Kentucky was playing football on TV. That’s the first time she heard the name Brandin Echols, a UK cornerback.

“I was more focused on running and breathing but thought, ‘Did I just hear my name?’ Echols is not a common name. I looked it up and it was so cool to hear your last name said correctly on national TV and he turned out to be such a crucial player,” Alyson Echols said.

Several family members and friends have

memory bracelets honoring her husband. Some had broken and she was ordering more recently when her daughter, Julia, suggested sending one to Brandin Echols.

“I did some research to see if we could get one to him,” Alyson Echols said. She reached out to Susan Lax, director of athletic communications and public relations for UK football. Within 24 hours, she heard back from Lax.

“She gave me her personal information, so it was pretty easy to get the bracelet to Brandin,” Alyson Echols said.

Ally was watching the Gator Bowl on what would have been her husband’s 35th birthday with his sister when Brandin Echols flopped to help draw a personal foul penalty on North Carolina State. She loved it.

“Tom’s sister and I laughed until we cried when he got pushed and flopped,” Alyson said. That was something Tom would have done. He was a goofball just like that. We were hysterical.”

Brandin Echols made it clear before the game he was honored to be wearing the memorial bracelet of Tom Echols.

“I want to thank Thomas Paine Echols and his family for allowing me to support him and wear his wristband. It’s a big honor,” the UK cornerback said.

It was also a gesture that Ally Echols and her family will never forget.

“Any opportunity I get to where people can learn about him and his name, I’ll do it. That’s how you keep people alive. Just tell their story,” Ally Echols said. “These men were husbands, fathers. Any chance I get to share Tom’s story, I will. I’m just so appreciative UK and Brandin were willing to do this for us.”

Recently Kentucky coach John Calipari tried to compare the emergence of Dontaie Allen to former UK stars Shai Gilgeous-Alexander and Immanuel Quickley because they both did not emerge as standout players until the middle of the season.

However, the comparison is not quite the same. Gilgeous-Alexander started just two of UK’s first 15 games his freshman season before becoming the starting point guard, earned SEC Tournament MVP honors and being picked 11th in the 2018 NBA Draft.

Quickley also started just five of UK’s first 15

games last year. But like Gilgeous-Alexander, he played in every game he did not start. Plus he had played extensively as a freshman. Quickly blossomed into the SEC Player of the Year and became the 25th pick in the NBA draft a few months ago.

Calipari cited the patience both Quickley and Gilgeous-Alexander had before they became stars. Allen could not play last year due to injuries but played just 20 minutes in UK’s first seven games before getting 23 points at Mississippi State, 14 against Vanderbilt and six points against Florida. He’s 11-for-16 from 3-point range in the three SEC wins.

“I think he has given us hope with this team,” Keaton Belcher, Allen’s high school coach at Pendleton County, said. “We don’t know what might happen the rest of the year. COVID could wipe it out. Games get bigger and more exciting. “Dontaie has become a fan favorite not only in Kentucky, but nationally. What he has done has been super for the whole state, but especially Pendleton Countians.”

Belcher knows many questioned Allen’s ability because of the level of competition Pendleton County played. He didn’t have an elite national schedule like prep teams play.

“But our schedule was not bad. We played in Marshall County Hoopfest. We traveled a lot to play teams in different regions,” Belcher said. “Him scoring a lot in college is not surprising to me but it probably is to an average fan for him to do it at this level. But he can shoot. Always could and always will be able to do that.”

Allen is not going to blossom into a first-round draft pick this year like Gilgeous-Alexander and Quickley did but he’s doing what he can to take advantage of his extended playing time.

“He’s a much more well rounded in the game of basketball than people think,” Belcher said. “I’m just glad people have been getting a chance to see that.”

He’s also intensely loyal. Teammate Brandon Boston was booed during UK’s win over Vanderbilt when he missed a shot.

“I don’t like that. That’s my teammate. That’s my brother. At the end of the day, I’m always going to have his back. I feel like everyone in BBN, everyone should be there for him and support him during this time because when he’s doing good, I think people are going to

switch and they’re going to be supporting him,” Allen said.

Kentucky defensive lineman Josh Paschal learned a lot from former All-American linebacker Josh Allen, a national defensive player of the year at UK before becoming a first-round draft pick of the Jacksonville Jaguars.

“He played the game with extreme passion. I remember the jump that he made from his junior year to his senior year was tremendous,” Paschal, who announced last week he would stay at UK for another season, said.

That jump in play made Allen a lot of money with his first NFL contract but Paschal said Allen’s success his senior season was no accident.

“You could really tell that it was going to happen just because of his work ethic and the way that he would work when we had workouts and not only during the workout, but the work that he’ll put in after as well,” Paschal, who played two years with Allen at UK, said.

“It was much more than just a game to Josh. You could tell that once he had (his son) Wes, he really turned things up. Everything that he has now is a byproduct of his hard work and him being appreciative of everything around him and what it took to get there.”

Philadelphia felt like it got a steal in the NBA draft when Kentucky guard Tyrese Maxey fell to the 21st pick and the rookie has done nothing to disappoint the 76ers. He averaged 10.1 points, 2.2 rebounds and 18.6 minutes per game while shooting 49 percent from the field.

He really turned heads in his first start in game 10 against Denver. He went 18-for-33 from the field and scored 39 points in 44 minutes. He also added seven rebounds, six assists and two steals.

“He was great,” 76ers coach Doc Rivers said. “We needed him to be and we told him that before the game. He didn’t do it in a way where it looked like he was searching for shots. He did it in a way where he ran the offense and got it in the flow. I’m really happy for him and not only just his scoring, he really didn’t turn the ball over, he had a great assist night, he had a great rebound night, he did a lot of things for us tonight.”

It was the highest-scoring game by a rookie this season and most points scored by a

Philadelphia rookie since Allen Iverson got 40 in 1997. It was also the most points by a 76ers rookie in his first career start since 1970. Maxey became the youngest 76er at 20 years, 66 days to have a 35-point game and just the 14th NBA player to score 39 points at age 20 or younger while shooting 55 percent from the field.

That’s not all. Maxey became just the eighth NBA player with 35 points, five assists and five rebounds in one of his first 10 career games. The others are Frank Selvy, Oscar Robertson, Geoff Petrie, Alvan Adams, Tom Gugliotta, Iverson and Brandon Jennings. Only Maxey and Jennings have done it in the last 20 years.

The former UK star became just the fifth rookie to have 39 points, six or more assists and two or fewer turnovers. The other four are prominent names — LeBron James, Michael Jordan, Donovan Mitchell and Steph Curry.

Rivers did not think Maxey’s performance was a fluke

“I’m telling you, he’s going to be a terrific player,” Rivers said after the game. “He’s going to keep getting better. He’s gonna keep getting smarter by just playing with all these vets.”

Several Kentucky basketball players have turned off their social media accounts this season because of fan criticism over UK’s 1-6 start. Freshman Brandon Boston was even booed in Rupp Arena and has had coach John Calipari publicly pleading for fans to support him.

What impact does negative social media have on recruiting? Do other schools use the passion of Kentucky fans when they are upset against

UK in recruiting?

“It’s Kentucky. You come here because it is the highest level of college basketball. With everything there’s going to be the pros and cons. People will probably try and negatively recruit against us,” Kentucky assistant coach Jai Lucas said.

The newest UK assistant said Calipari and his staff recruit players who understand what they are walking into with the Cats.

“They understand what they’re coming into and the expectations and everything that comes along with it. It’s something that he does a great job of laying out in front of them,” Lucas said.

“Even when we were talking about the job (as assistant coach) and everything, he explained it to me, too. So, it’s something that you kind of embrace and it’s something you kind of want if you’re a competitor.”

Quote of the Week: “He’s looked predetermined and at times outright selfish jacking tough pull-ups and barreling into traffic for offensive fouls. His lack of strength has made it difficult for him to play through contact and will likely be an issue in the NBA early on,” ESPN NBA draft analyst Jonathan Givony on UK freshman Brandon Boston.

Quote of the Week 2: “I enjoyed it. I am a football junkie. I love football and that was a chance to show fans who I am not so much as a player and not to be politically correct all the time and talk how you all talk. But you all go crazy though. I saw that. You all go crazy on the Internet,” UK nose guard Quinton Bohanna on tweeting live during games this season when he was injured.

CRITTENDEN MIDDLE SCHOOL BASKETBALL SUMMARIES

CCMS 8th Grade Girls

Webster 39, Crittenden 26

Anna Boone 8, Elliot Evans 1, Andrea Federico 2, Ma-diosn Walker 4, Bristyn Rushing 8, Chloe Hunt 2.

CCMS 7th Grade Girls

Crittenden 40, Webster 16

Anna Boone 17, Elliot Evans 4, Andrea Federico 2, Elle McDaniel 2, Madison Walker 2, Bristyn Rushing 5, Chloe hunt 2, Haylie Hunt 2, Georgia Holeman 4.

CCMS 8th Grade Boys

Crittenden 38, Trigg 26

Brady Belt 1, Avery Thompson 6, Cam'Ron Belcher 2, Brysen Walker 2, Chase Conyer 16, KaidenTravis 11.

CCMS 7th Grade Boys

Crittenden 33, Trigg 31

Isaac James 1, Avery Thompson 6, Brysen Walker 15, Quinn Summers 3, Levi Suddoth 6, Brayden Poindexter 2.

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LOCAL SPORTS

With basketball game attendance sharply curbed by the pandemic, all home boys' and girls' games, and some on the road, will be broadcast on NFHS Network. Subscriptions to the network start at \$10.99 a month.



BASKETBALL

2nd Region Preseason

Area Media Poll

GIRLS

Rank	Team	Last Week
1.	Henderson County	1
2.	Webster County	2
3.	Christian County	3
4.	Crittenden County	5
5.	Madisonville	4
6.	Hopkinsville	6
7.	Union County	9
8.	Lyon County	NR
9.	Trigg County	7
10.	Caldwell County	8

BOYS

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

FOOTBALL

2021 CCHS schedule

Here is Crittenden County's 2021 high school football schedule:

Aug. 20 Murray

Aug. 27 at Webster County

Sept. 3 at Madisonville

Sept. 10 Caldwell County

Sept. 17 at Hancock County

Sept. 24 at Union County

Oct. 1 Bethlehem

Oct. 8 Bye

Oct. 15 at Fulton County

Oct. 22 Russellville

Oct. 29 Warren Central

Nov. 5 Playoffs

OUTDOORS

Coyote hunt contest

The annual coyote hunting contest sponsored by Marion Tourism Commission and Hodge's Sports and Apparel will be held on Friday and Saturday, Feb. 5-6. Entry fee is \$30 per two-man team. Hunters must be registered by 5 p.m., on Friday, Feb. 5. Check in time at Hodge's at 5 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 6. Coyotes must be taken with legal firearms and night hunting is allowed in accordance with KDFWR regulations. The team that harvests the most coyotes wins the jackpot.

New regulations allow some rifles to be used while hunting coyotes at night. From Dec. 1 through March 31 nighttime hunting is allowed with a spotlight. Hunters shall not use any weapon other than a shotgun or a rifle of 6.5mm Creedmoor caliber or smaller (equivalent to a .264 caliber; .223 and .243 calibers may be used) on private land. Shotgun slugs are not allowed.

Local archer champs

Tucker Boudro and Jeremiah Foster, both of Crittenden County, were first-place winners in a Daviess County Indoor Regional archery competition on Saturday. Boudro won the Youth Male Open and Foster won the Young Adult Male Open.

Hunting Seasons

Here are some of the key hunting opportunities currently in season or coming up soon:

Deer Archery	Sept. 5 - Jan. 18
Turkey Archery	Sept. 5 - Jan. 18
Deer Crossbow	Sept. 19 - Jan. 18
Quail, Rabbit	Nov. 16 - Feb. 10
Turkey Crossbow	Nov. 14 - Dec. 31
Squirrel	Nov. 16 - Feb. 28
Bobcat Trapping	Nov. 16 - Feb. 28
Fox Hunting	Nov. 16 - Feb. 28
Fox Trapping	Nov. 16 - Feb. 28
Canada Goose	Nov. 26 - Feb. 15
Bobcat Hunting	Nov. 28 - Feb. 28
Duck	Dec. 7 - Jan. 31
Youth Waterfowl	Feb. 6-7
Coyote	Year Round
Groundhog	Year Round



LADY ROCKET ALL A CLASSIC REGIONAL CROWNS 1998, 1999, 2001, 2008, 2011, 2017

Lady Rockets vying for 7th All A Classic crown

STAFF REPORT

The Lady Rockets will play Dawson Springs at 6 p.m., Thursday at Smithland in a semifinal of the All A Classic.

Crittenden beat University Heights 70-32 in Monday's small-school tournament opener at Hopkinsville. The Lady Rockets, ranked fourth overall in the Second Region, are favorites to win the Classic, which concludes with Friday night's championship on Livingston Central's floor.

Crittenden last won the All A Classic Second Region Tournament in 2017. This year's state

All A tournament starts Feb. 16 at Eastern Kentucky University.

Freshman Riley Smith was two points from her career high in the UHA win. She led CCHS with 15 points.

The girls are now 4-0 on the season after beating Livingston Central and Union County last week.

Taylor Guess hit two free throws with nine seconds to play to give Crittenden a 40-39 win over Union on Saturday. Guess scored 19 points in the girls' 61-30 district win last Thursday over Livingston.



Crittenden County senior Ben Dobyns (right) looks for a way toward the basket against Union County in a high school basketball game last week at Rocket Arena.

2020 CRITTENDEN COUNTY ROCKET FOOTBALL AWARDS

Due to pandemic concerns, the typical post-season Rocket football awards banquet was not held. Instead, there was a virtual awards presentation made on YouTube with CCHS coaches. You can watch it at The Press YouTube channel.

JV Captain, Micah Newcom

Most Valuable JV Offensive Player, Gattin Travis

Most Valuable JV Defensive Player, Rowen Perkins

Tackling Points Leaders, 1. Tyler Boone, 2. Caden McCalister, 3. Dylan Yates, 4. Noah McGowan.

RBI Leaders 1. Tyler Boone, 2. Dylan Yates, 3. Caden McCalister, 4. Preston Turley, 5. Braxton Winders.

Roach Award Preston Turley

Hitman Award, Caden McCalister

Caused/Recovered Turnover Champion, Caden McCalister

Most Improved Special Team Player, Braxton Winders

Most Improved Offensive Players, Kaleb Nesbitt, Preston Morgeson

Most Improved Defensive Player,

Trace Derrington

Solid Rocket Coaches Award Logan Bailey, Noah McGowan

Rocket Football Captains, Caden McCalister, Tyler Boone

Most Valuable Special Team Player, Noah Perkins

Most Valuable Lineman, Dylan Yates

Most Valuable Defensive Player, Tyler Boone

Most Valuable Offensive Player, Xander Tabor

Marion Feed Mill "Grit Iron" Award, Ian Ellington

Crittenden Press/Paul E. Mick Leadership Award, Tyler Boone

Greg "Dozer" Belt Award, Braxton Winders, Caden McCalister

Most Valuable Player Award, Tyler Boone



PHOTOS BY KAYLA MAXFIELD

Flying High

At left, Lady Rockets Kacie Easley and Nahla Woodward crash the boards in a game at Rocket Arena last week against Livingston Central. Above is freshman Riley Smith driving to the basket in the same game. Smith scored a team-high 15 points in Monday's All A Classic victory at University Heights. Crittenden jumped to No. 4 in the regional rankings this week, after starting the season at No. 5.

GAME SUMMARIES

Crittenden County 26 42 60 70

University Heights 12 21 25 32

CRITTENDEN - Guess 8, Boone, Moss 2, Duncan 14, Woodward 9, Smith 15, Hatfield 6, Perryman 2, Easley 5, Conyer 9, Tapp. FG 30. 3-pointers none. FT 10-22.

UHA - Agree, Daniel 3, Davis 23, Smith, Bass 2, Northington 4, Litchfield. FG 11. 3-pointers 1 (Davis). FT 9-16.

Union County 15 25 33 39

Crittenden County 11 22 31 40

CRITTENDEN - Taylor Guess 15, Jaelyn Duncan 8, Natalie Boone 8, Chandler Moss 8, Brylee Conyer 1, Addie Hatfield, Riley Smith, Nahla Woodward, Lilly Perryman. FG: 15. Fouls: 11. Free Throws: 10-14.

UNION - Jralee Roberson 9, Mati Hagan, Reese Hagan 1, Madison

Morris 9, Raelle Beaven 3, Amelia Mackey 13, Ella Gough. FG: 15. 3-Pointers 3: (Morris 1, Mackey 2). Fouls: 10. Free Throws: 6-13

Crittenden 15 27 50 61

Livingston 9 16 23 30

LIVINGSTON- Lauren Wring 12, Maggie Downey 2, Victoria Joiner 4, Kennedy Croft, Emersyn Ramage 5, Aubrey Leahy 4, Erica Quattermous 2, Mikaela Holeman 1, Hadley Hargove, Kaliegh Valandingham, Yvonne Flores, Jody Gingerich.

CRITTENDEN - Taylor Guess 19, Natalie Boone 6, Chandler Moss 2, Jaelyn Duncan 12, Nahla Woodward 12, Riley Smith 9, Addie Hatfield, Lilly Perryman, Kacie Easley, Brylee Conyer 1, Jaylen Tapp.

Rockets beat Union; fall to Muhlenberg

STAFF REPORT

Crittenden County overcame a big outing for Union County's Izaiah Manuel, who scored 35 points in a loss, Saturday at Rocket Arena.

The Rockets beat Union 68-64 in a nail-biter. Balanced scoring led the way with Preston Turley getting 20 points and Gabe Mott and Tyler Boone adding a dozen apiece.

The boys hosted Muhlenberg County in COVID-substituted game for one they lost from the schedule this week. Crittenden lost 71-53 to the Mustangs, who drained 10 treys. Preston Turley scored a game-high 27 for the Rockets.

Crittenden County is now 1-2 on the season. The boys received a first-round bye in the All A Classic and will play Caldwell County on Friday in the semifinal

round at Lyon County. Winner plays Lyon in title game Saturday.

Muhlenberg Co.16 31 54 71

Crittenden Co. 15 27 35 53

MUHLENBERG - Lovell 11, Rose 3, Divine 13, Summers, Lovan 18, Carver, Vincent 18, Johnston, McCoy 8. FG 24. 3-pointers 10. FT 13-18.

CRITTENDEN - Morgeson 5, Champion 2, Winders, Mott 11, Beverly, Boone 8, Adamson, Dobyns, Carlson, Derrington, Turley 27. 3-pointers 2 (Morgeson, Mott). FT 9-14.

Union County 11 27 46 64

Crittenden Co. 11 34 59 68

UNION - Corbet 2, MacKey 7, Hughes 4, Kanipe 4, Johnson 4, King 5, Manuel 35, Mayes 4, K.Manuel. FG 22. 3-pointers (Manuel 4, MacKey). FT 15-21.

CRITTENDEN - Morgeson 9, Champion, Winders, Mott 12, Boone 12, Adamson, Dobyns 9, Carlson 6, Turley 20. FG 23. 3-pointers 4 (Morgeson, Dobyns 3).



Senior Tyler Boone was named most valuable player and he earned several other awards. The award presentation was done virtually on YouTube. Watch it at The Press YouTube channel.

Audubon’s Big Head Start

\$7.2 million center coming to Chapel Hill Rd.

STAFF REPORT
Within a few weeks, Audubon Area Head Start will break ground on a new \$7.2 million preschool education center on Chapel Hill Road that’s billed as “state of the art” and could welcome students early in 2022.

Marion City Council will meet in special session Thursday night to formally approve a zoning ordinance change that will clear the way for Audubon to begin construction. Marion Planning and Zoning Commission has already given its blessing to the proposal and the city council introduced a measure Monday to accept the plan.

“I am extremely excited about this,” said City Councilwoman Phyllis Sykes, who taught three decades at the elementary school where Audubon has shared the campus for many years.

Head Start is a nationwide program and has been providing local students with a preschool options in Crittenden County since 1985. Audubon, the regional entity that received a grant to build the center, has Head Start programs in 16 counties from the Green River west to Livingston County in Kentucky.

Lynda Dennis, a for-



mer Crittenden County teacher, manages the program, here. She says excitement is building for the project which will allow Head Start to expand beyond its current service, which currently includes 62 early Head Start and preschool students.

She said the 16,000-square-foot facility will provide plenty of room for growth in the popular program that helps to ready young students for kindergarten.

Brad Wright, operations manager for Audubon Head Start, said the new facility will be able to take care of about 84 students.

Head Start began on Sturgis Road in Marion 35 years ago with Angel McDonald and Denise Croft as teachers. It moved to the Crittenden County Elementary School campus years later where it has out-

grown its space. Early Head Start is currently held in two mobile homes on campus and preschool students are integrated into the elementary school. Wright said the local school district had gently urged Audubon over the years to look for a more spacious facility.

“We desperately need a more spacious location,” said Wright. “We have had mold and standing water issues at our current site. Last year we spent \$90,000 trying to fix the water issue.”

Dennis said Head Start students are now on campus for half-day sessions to avoid overcrowding. The new facility will allow for all-day preschool.

The proposed building will be complete with a self-contained 1,600-square-foot indoor multi-purpose room that will double as a cafeteria and

storm shelter. Students will learn cafeteria etiquette along with other curriculum that will provide sound groundwork for a start to elementary school classes.

The center will be a net-zero building meaning its efficiency will be greatly enhanced to control costs. Plans are for solar panels on the roof to curb power expenses. There will be two outdoor playgrounds and the center will employ 25 people. Some will be new hires to augment current staffing, Wright said.

Buses will enter and exit the proposed new facility off Chapel Hill Road and car-riders will enter campus from Rudd Street. The city council had previously questioned the necessity to increase traffic on the narrow city street, but Audubon leaders say traffic will be minimal because 60 to 70 percent of the students are bus riders.

The building will be located directly across from Tyler Manufacturing, the former Potter and Brumfield plant.



Major Investment in Marion

Billed as a “state of the art” facility, the proposed new Audubon Head Start center will be built with efficiency in mind, including solar panels to supplement power and a geo-thermal heating and cooling system. The new facility will be 16,000 square feet and will be able to expand preschool opportunities in Crittenden County. Audubon administrators say it will be one of the most advanced preschool buildings in Kentucky.



Audubon Head Start’s operations manager Brad Wright thumbs through blueprints and skematics of the new building during his presentation to the city council Monday while site manager Lynda Dennis goes over some specifics with Councilman Darin Tabor.

HB 1 aims to keep things open

The first day of the 2021 Regular Session of the General Assembly was certainly different from those of previous years. Face masks, social distancing (although there is nothing social about it), technology

allowing members to participate virtually from anywhere on the Capitol campus, and no guests in the gallery all worked together to make it a very strange day. Nevertheless, the oath of office was taken and the General Assembly got down to business.

The first bill passed by the House this session was House Bill 1 which is aimed at keeping businesses, schools, nonprofits, and other organizations safely open during the remainder of the pandemic that was brought to our shores by China. HB-1 provides clarity and reassurance for businesses, schools, parents, and nonprofits. It would allow any of these entities to remain open and operational if they follow a comprehensive operating plan detailing how they will adhere to safety guidelines established by either the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) or the executive branch, whichever is least restrictive. HB-1 also prevents the Cabinet for Health and Family Services (CHFS) from restricting, modifying or suspending in-person non-custodial parental visitation for children in state care. Furthermore it requires the CHFS to establish guidelines for long-term care facilities that choose to allow in-person visits if it is deemed necessary to the residents’ health and mental well-being. I voted YES, HB-1 passed the House, and was sent to the Senate for its consideration where it also passed. It has been sent to the Governor for his action.

In the 2020 session the General Assembly passed a bill giving the Attorney General authority to regulate abortions, but the Governor vetoed the bill

and there was no time for the legislature to override his veto. This year’s House Bill 2 (HB-2) does the same thing. It gives the Attorney General rather than the CHFS the authority to enforce the Commonwealth’s abortion laws and to seek both criminal and civil penalties for any violations of these laws. In addition, the bill defines abortions as elective procedures rather than essential procedures as the Governor has mandated during the pandemic. I voted YES, HB-2 passed the House, and was sent to the Senate for its consideration where it also passed. It has been sent to the Governor for his action.

Senate Bill 1 is a bill that limits the Governor’s power – that of the current Governor and all future Governors - during emergencies such as the current pandemic. The original language in SB-1 was amended several times before it was finally passed in the Senate. The version that came to the House for its consideration was also amended. One House amendment ensured that in an emergency any property taken for use as a result of the Governor’s orders can only be for the duration of the emergency, only for public use, and that any goods taken as a result of the Governor’s orders can only be taken during the time that there is a shortage of goods. Another House amendment limits emergency Executive Orders, administrative regulations, or other directives issued by the Governor that effect local governments to 30 days and specifically asserts that governmental entities may not impose restrictions on peaceable assembly or worship.

As a result, the final language of SB-1 better defines limits of executive authority during States of Emergency. SB-1 balances the need for Kentucky to act quickly in an emergency while ensuring that a Governor does not overstep the boundaries of executive branch authority. The measure limits to 30 days any Emergency Orders issued by a Governor that place restrictions on the

functioning of schools, colleges, private businesses or non-profits, political, religious, or social gatherings, places of worship, or imposes mandatory quarantine or isolation requirements. It also keeps a Governor from issuing another Emergency Order based upon the same or substantially similar facts and circumstances as the original order unless there has been prior approval of the General Assembly. Additionally, the General Assembly, by joint resolution, may terminate a declaration of emergency at any time. I voted YES, SB-1 passed the House and was sent to the Senate for consideration of the House amendments. The Senate agreed to those amendments and SB-1 has been sent to the Governor for his action.

Senate Bill 9, known as the “Born Alive Act” states that medically appropriate and reasonable life-saving and life-sustaining medical care and treatment must not be denied to any infant who is born alive. A born-alive infant may not be deprived of nourishment with the intent to cause or allow the death of the infant. It prohibits a person from denying or depriving a born-alive infant of medically appropriate and reasonable medical care, medical treatment, or surgical care. It requires a physician performing an abortion to take all medically appropriate and reasonable steps to preserve the life and health of a born-alive infant.

SB-9 specifies that if a physician chooses not to perform those duties, then an attending physician assistant, advanced practice registered nurse, nurse, or other health-care worker shall assume those duties. It mandates that a born-alive infant shall be treated as a legal person under the laws of the Commonwealth and specifies that any born-alive infant whose parents file a petition for voluntary termination of parental rights shall become a ward of the CHFS.

Due to space constraints, Rep. Bechler’s entire column is being published at The Press Online.



LYNN BECHLER
KY STATE HOUSE
Guest Commentary

Crittenden Community Hospital,
Jonathan Maddux, M.D., F.A.A.F.P.,
Lee Anna Boone, A.P.R.N., NP-C,
Marcie A. Ellington, A.P.R.N., FNP-C,
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MPD activity report

Data below provided by Marion Police Department compares December 2019 to 2020 and reflects annual totals for past five years.



CATEGORY	DEC. 2019	DEC. 2020	2016 TOTAL	2017 TOTAL	2018 TOTAL	2019 TOTAL	2020 TOTAL
Miles driven/patrolled	2,921	3842	32,496	32,000	33,312	34,380	37,101
Criminal investigations	15	17	209	207	203	144	113
Domestics	5	3	156	106	92	116	90
Felony Arrests	7	2	29	61	27	38	71
Misdemeanor arrests	11	19	86	113	113	97	80
Non-criminal arrests	9	6	70	78	99	78	65
DUI arrests	0	0	16	10	12	6	9
Criminal summons served	5	3	37	43	41	20	14
Traffic citations	19	6	268	185	287	247	141
Traffic warnings	6	1	118	97	123	141	35
Other citations	29	31	257	236	273	254	155
Parking tickets	0	0	4	3	2	2	1
Traffic accidents	8	6	91	62	81	78	50
Security checks/alerts	63	35	934	658	617	754	610
Calls for service	159	127	3,407	2,196	2,681	2,287	1,987

COVID blunts criminal activity in Marion

STAFF REPORT

The pandemic created its share of chaos for most of the world, but in Marion it's had one positive affect. That's less crime and other personal mishaps.

Marion Police Chief Ray O'Neal says COVID-19 is probably responsible for curbing interactions between people and slowing traffic. With that came a decline in criminal cases and traffic accidents.

"People are just staying home more," said the chief as he reflected on year-end data that show police activity in the city for 2020.

"March and April were flat out stay home months," O'Neal said. "COVID is a big reason for some of our numbers being down."

Traffic accidents were down 36 percent from 2019 and the lowest they've been in the past five years.

Likewise, criminal investigations were 35 per-

cent from the five-year average. The 113 cases opened in 2020 were the lowest the chief recalls.

"I remember years when we had more than 230," he said.

While available data cannot be parsed to detail when most criminal activity occurred, the chief anecdotally saw a trend.

"The whole year was a whole lot slower, particularly day shift," he said.

All types of calls for service were down 21 percent from the previous year.

The chief said schools were out for lengthy periods of time, which meant less traffic in town, and that meant fewer traffic issues.

Police did spend more time in their cruisers during 2020 and investi-



O'Neal

gated more felony cases.

The chief said those felony cases reflect something other than a trend. Much of the increase can be attributed to how data are kept. One individual with multiple felonies can skew the figures, says O'Neal, which is the reason for an increase in those types of cases. Misdemeanor arrests were up, too, but likely for the same reason.

From 2019 to 2020, traffic citations were down by 37 percent across town and warning tickets down 66 percent.

Alarm checks were down quite a bit, too, probably because folks were home more during the pandemic.

Ironically, domestics were down in 2020 with about 20 fewer than the average over the past five years in Marion. That despite more families being home and spending more hours together. That, the chief said, is nice to see.

Police pursuit from Providence includes 5 officers and a suspect's lodging hopes

STAFF REPORT

A police pursuit that started in Providence Sunday night ended in Marion near the courthouse square shortly after 11 p.m., because the suspect had a preference on his looming incarceration.

Problem is, his lodging arrangements didn't end up as he'd hoped.

James Allen II, 25, of Providence was arrested in Marion after fleeing a traffic stop in Webster County.

Three Providence police units and two Marion police officers, Donald Crawford and Eric Gray, were involved in the apprehension of Allen, who local authorities say has a criminal history in

Marion, too.

Two Providence policemen initially stopped the 2002 Grand Prix that Allen was driving on Baptist Hill Road. The driver sped off when they exited their vehicles to complete the traffic stop.

The pursuit left Providence and continued into rural Webster County through Clay and along Ky. 139 and Ky. 120 into Marion.

Marion officers were able to block off his path of travel on Court Street behind the courthouse, less than a block from the county jail. Allen told the policemen that he led the pursuit into Crittenden County because he preferred to be jailed at the Crittenden County

Detention Center as opposed to the Webster County Jail.

The plan didn't work, however, as he was arrested and taken back to Webster County facing multiple charges including, third-offense DUI, driving on a DUI suspended license, wanton endangerment, fleeing or evading police, reassisting arrest, possession of marijuana, three counts of disregarding a stop sign and several other misdemeanors and traffic violations.

He is also facing charges in Crittenden County of failure to produce proof of insurance, no or expired license plate and driving on a suspended license.



FIVE-COUNTY AREA

Some information current as of Jan. 8; Most cases current as of Jan. 12

County	Confirmed Cases Ever	Currently in Home Isolation	Currently Hospitalized	Recovered Cases	Deaths
Caldwell	876*	47	0	796	21
Crittenden	492*	79	3	391	9
Livingston	536*	30	1	484	16
Lyon	422*	26	0	380	12
Trigg	752*	63	2	667	6

*Includes new cases this week. Source: Pennyriple District Health Department

Three new COVID deaths reported in county

Late last week, health officials have confirmed three new deaths in Crittenden County related to COVID-19. Those deaths occurred in late December or early this month.

Among those deaths were longterm care residents. In Marion, the local nursing home reported to state health officials that as of Dec. 31, there were 52 active cases of the virus among residents and 30 among staff. Prior to these cases, the nursing home had been virtually coronavirus-free during the months long pandemic.

Vaccine has been provided to long-term care residents as part of Phase 1A of the governor's plan to distribute it. Kentucky will continue the rest of this week in Phase 1A of its four-phase plan to roll out vaccine to the entire population.

Locally, the process was so efficient, some communities, including Crittenden, began offering the vaccine to individuals in Phase 1B, including those age 70 and over.

The county was early this week provided with 40 new doses of vaccine, but

it's reserved first for health-care workers. Once the entire demand is met in that class, individuals age 70 and over who are currently on oxygen will be given an opportunity to receive the balance of the vaccine.

Crittenden County Judge-Executive Perry Newcom is a bit frustrated by the lack of vaccine being made available here; however, he understands it's a daunting task. He said the Pennyriple Health District has been particularly efficient at getting vaccine to healthcare workers, first responders and others.

"We have plenty of people here who want it," the judge said. "We just need the vaccine."

Based on his conversation with state leaders and healthcare professionals, Newcom said it appears that broad distribution of the vaccine is still a few weeks away.

"By February this is supposed to get a whole lot faster," he said.

He also pointed to the \$40 million that Sen. Mitch McConnell helped to secure for Kentucky from federal funds as a great start

toward getting more vaccine into the arms of citizens.

Crittenden County has seen its COVID numbers spike in recent days. Case totals have gradually risen almost every month since the pandemic began. See the chart on Page 1 for details of the growth in cases.

Over the past couple of weeks, the county has seen its seven-day rolling average well into the Red on the state's color-coded COVID-19 map which is used to set protocol and policy. Crittenden has averaged between 40 and 50 cases every seven days since the holidays.

Gov. Andy Beshear says the state's Rainy Day Fund is at its highest level ever and wants to make sure struggling businesses get some of it. Details are to be announced soon.

Meanwhile the House and Senate have taken up a plan to limit the governor's authority when it comes to using executive orders to close schools and businesses. Both chambers introduced and approved similar bills and that have been sent to Gov. Beshear for action.

COVID-19

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