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

AN INDEPENDENTLY-OWNED, LOCAL NEWSPAPER SINCE 1879

ONE DOLLAR

KENTUCKY HAS MORE THAN 9,000 BRIDGES

An interesting point made as part of the governor's budget plan released last week noted that Kentucky owns and maintains over 9,000 bridges and over 63,000 lane-miles of pavement. "That's the seventh-largest bridge system and eighth-largest pavement system in the nation," Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC) Secretary Jim Gray said. "It is critically important that KYTC manages and maintains these assets in a state of good repair for the health, safety and economic vitality of the state." Gov. Andy Beshear wants \$250 million to spend on infrastructure projects. The Kentucky House has introduced its own budget plan.

JUDGE STOUT GETS TERM ON FED APPEALS PANEL

The Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals has appointed Judge Alan C. Stout to a three-year term on the Sixth Circuit Bankruptcy Appellate Panel (BAP). Judge Stout currently serves as the Chief Judge for the US Bankruptcy Court for the Western District of Kentucky. Judge Stout succeeds Judge Tracy Wise (EDKY), whose term expired. The BAP is comprised of six bankruptcy judges and hears bankruptcy appeals from the states of Michigan, Ohio, Tennessee and Kentucky. Stout was appointed to the federal bankruptcy bench 10 years ago after practicing law in Marion and Paducah for many years. He also formerly served as Crittenden County Attorney.



UPCOMING MEETINGS

- Crittenden County Fiscal Court will meet at 8:30 a.m., Thursday, Jan. 20 at the courthouse.
- Crittenden-Livingston Water District will meet at 4 p.m., Monday, Jan. 24 at the Deer Lakes meeting room.
- Marion Tourism Commission will meet at 8:30 a.m., Tuesday, Jan. 25 at the Welcome Center.
- Crittenden County Board of Education will meet in regular session at 5:30 p.m., Tuesday, Jan. 25 at Rocket Arena's conference room.

CVS PHARMACY IS NO LONGER OPEN SUNDAYS

CVS Pharmacy in Marion recently began closing on Sundays, reportedly due to staffing issues. Although there are three pharmacies in town, none is open on Sundays.



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What's Driving Inflation?



Shawn Stinnett says used car inventory is tight and prices reflect the nationwide pressures of inflation. At one time in recent months, his lot was down to just 10 vehicles. He says keeping his vehicle stock up is a challenging proposition during the current climate.

Lawmakers working to ease tax burden on rising vehicle values

BY CHRIS EVANS
PRESS EDITOR

Looking for a used vehicle? Good luck. They are extremely difficult to find, and prices and taxes are rising faster anyone could have ever foreseen.

Shawn Stinnett, a used car dealer for many years on the north side of Marion, says it's somewhat of an unprecedented supply and demand issue.

"I've never seen anything like it in my life," said Stinnett, who points out that the stage was set as early as 2009 when the federal government under President Barack Obama initiated the so-called Cash for Clunkers program that gave owners a \$4,500 incentive to trade in their old gas guzzlers for newer more fuel-efficient cars.

"The government crushed all of those cars and there has

Some economic experts, and even President Biden, are blaming inflation partly on the price of used cars

been a shortage ever since," said Stinnett.

Now, pandemic pressures are exacerbating the situation and cars – particularly previously owned ones – have increased in value at record levels.

Late last summer, prices for used vehicles were starting to come down a bit after months of record gains, but that didn't last long. The last three months have shown steady increases of 2.5 to 3.5 percent, and according to the latest Consumer Price Index used vehicles are fetching 37 percent more than they did a

year ago. New vehicles are up 12 percent over the last year, but they remain in short supply, too, due to the global microchip shortage.

Some consumer experts are now pointing to the rising cost of used cars as a key component in what's driving inflation. In the past 20 years used cars' contribution to inflation averaged zero. It's now more than 1 percent on a year-over-year basis, according to data from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Because vehicles are reassessed every year for tax purposes, the Kentucky De-

partment of Revenue is warning taxpayers of the sticker shock they could experience when motor vehicle registration and taxes show up in the mail.

The revenue department in a letter to Kentucky county clerks cites well-documented recent trends in the automobile industry, including new vehicle production constraints, increased new vehicle prices and limited used car supply, as factors contributing to the jump in used car prices. Because of that it is telling Kentuckians to expect to pay 40 percent more in vehicle taxes.

As its tax basis, Kentucky uses trade-in values provided by J.D. Power.

Crittenden County Clerk Daryl Tabor said several

See **AUTOS**/page 4

Main & Gum temping as 4-way

STAFF REPORT

A temporary four-way stop has been deployed at the intersection of Main and Gum streets in Marion to further test the feasibility of removing the traffic light at the busy intersection.

A two-week trial period with a four-way stop will give highway officials more data on traffic flow, and will ultimately determine whether the intersection can function as a four-way stop. Local leaders have indicated a split in whether the traffic

light should be removed. A recent online poll by The Press found that most residents want the red light to stay.

The extended study will particularly examine peak traffic flow periods between 7-9 a.m., and 3-5 p.m., when traffic from local plants and schools create busy streets. Approximately 8,127 vehicles pass through that intersection in an average day.

A pole that supports the existing traffic signal at the

intersection has been hit by large tractor-trailers and other trucks from time to time, prompting traffic engineers to look into various options to provide a better turn radius while enhancing traffic flow.

State traffic engineers will be processing information gathered during the next two weeks to help develop an improved traffic flow plan for the intersection, the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet said in a news release last week.



It's been a hot topic for months, now state transportation engineers want to gather data to help them decide if the traffic light can be turned into a four-way stop at Main and Gum streets in Marion.

Local Amish, minerals highlighted in state's newest tourism guide

STAFF REPORT

Crittenden County has two mentions in the newly released 2022 "Kentucky Inspiration Guide," Team Kentucky's official visitor's guide for travelers in the commonwealth.

As part of its feature on Western Waterlands on page 52 of the publication, Crittenden County's Amish community is mentioned. "Come to Marion and sit a spell in Kentucky's largest Amish Community," it reads while promoting the area as a destination for cultural, food, furniture and more.

"Less than an hour away, amble about a recreated historical log cabin village at Patti's

1880's Settlement in Grand Rivers and enjoy homestyle cooking, mini golf, gardens and a gift shop," it says in the following sentence.

Marion's Ben E. Clement Mineral Museum is listed among just six Regional Highlights on page 55 of the magazine. "See historical mining equipment and memorabilia, plus the world's largest collection of Kentucky/Illinois fluorspar and related minerals. Learn how it helped the United States win World War II," it reads.

Tourism spending in Marion has increased over the past 20

See **TOURISM**/page 9



GOP SPEAKER DIES DAYS BEFORE HIS APPEARANCE HERE

Crittenden County Republican Party posted a statement on its Facebook page last week offering condolences to the family of Scott Hofstra, a spokesperson for the United Kentucky Tea Party. Hofstra had been scheduled to speak at a local GOP meeting last Thursday, just a few days after his sudden death.

“It is with a heavy heart we say goodbye to a friend, a true Patriot and a huge influence to the grassroots movement,” the local party said in the social media post by Chairperson Donna Girten.

MARION MAN FACING RAPE CHARGE FROM PRISON INVESTIGATION

A Marion man employed as a corrections officer at the Western Kentucky Correction Complex near Fredonia was arrested and jailed last week accused of rape and sexual abuse. The victim was allegedly an inmate at the corrections center, which is in Lyon County. Kentucky State Police said in a news release that they received a call from the corrections complex on Tuesday, Jan. 11 with regard to a complaint of a sexual relationship between an inmate and a correctional officer. State Po-



lice investigated the incident and charged Jonathan S. Hackney, 35, of Marion with third-degree rape and four counts of second-degree sexual abuse. Hackney was arrested on Thursday, Jan. 13 and lodged in the Crittenden County Jail.

CPAC RATES BECHLER NEAR TOP OF STATE LAWMAKER RANKING

Based on his voting record in Frankfort, Rep. Lynn Bechler (R-Marion) has graded the second most conservative representative among all 100 Kentucky House members by Conservative Political Action Conference (CPAC). Bechler and a number of other Kentucky legislators will be formally recognized in Orlando, Fla., by CPAC for their conservative voting records based off of a just released analysis from ACUF’s Center for Legislative Accountability. Lawmakers received high marks for combatting Gov. Andy Beshear’s excessive COVID-19 shutdown policies and for their efforts to advance conservative legislation protecting life and expanding school choice. Bechler rated at 92 percent, second only to Rep. Savannah Maddox

(R-Dry Ridge), who was at 96 percent. Other representatives who rated 90 percent or above were Matt Lockett (R-Nicholasville), Kevin Bratcher (R-Louisville) and Felicia Rabourn (Turners Station). No Kentucky senator rated 90 percent or higher.

GOV. BESHEAR AIMS TO BOOST HEALTHCARE

KY TODAY Gov. Andy Beshear last week outlined the part of his budget that will deal with health care, which includes fully funding Medicaid and a plan to deal with Kentucky’s critical nurse shortage. “World-class companies are looking to Kentucky to invest, and one of their priorities is a strong and healthy workforce,” he said. “Health care is a basic human right. It’s also a key component to a growing economy. This budget promotes our Kentucky value of caring for our neighbor, while also working to capitalize on our unprecedented economic momentum.” The governor’s budget fully funds the Medicaid program, on which one in three Kentuckians rely, including more than 660,000 Kentucky children. In addition, the Governor’s budget provides funding for 500 additional slots in the Michelle P. Waiver program and 100 additional slots for the Supports for Community Living waiver program. “Families across the commonwealth depend on Medicaid. It’s simply the right thing to do to fund this program and expand the services offered through it,” Beshear said. The critical nursing shortage in Kentucky, which led the governor to declare a State of Emergency in December 2021, was followed by an Executive Order to help boost enrollment in nursing training programs. “Our nurses are the brave, compassionate health care heroes who care for our people daily,” he said. “We knew before how important they are, but now we’ve seen just how critical as we’ve navigated COVID-19. We’ve got to act and support Kentucky’s nurses as they’ve supported us since Day 1 of this pandemic.” To help recruit and retain nurses, the governor is providing \$6 million each year to increase the number of scholarships awarded to potential nurses. Current scholarships are financed by a portion of nursing licensing fees, which only supports around 150 students. The governor’s budget doubles the maximum award from \$1,500 per semester to \$3,000 a semester.

Another burden many nursing students face are student loans, a hurdle which the Governor’s budget addresses head on through a student loan forgiveness program that would begin in May 2022. It would provide \$5 million each year for five years to provide student loan forgiveness up to \$3,000 annually, for each year a nurse or nursing faculty member is employed in

their position in Kentucky. The governor’s budget also directs \$2 million from the American Rescue Plan Act State Fiscal Recovery Funds to finance a marketing and outreach program for the nursing profession to enhance recruitment.

KU RECEIVES SECOND JD POWER AWARD

Residential customers have again ranked Kentucky Utilities Company first in electric residential customer satisfaction among the utility’s peers in the Midwest mid-size region. The honor was awarded by J.D. Power, a global leader in consumer insights, advisory services and data and analytics, following the company’s recently released J.D. Power 2021 Electric Utility Residential Customer Satisfaction Study. This is the sixth consecutive year KU has ranked highest in its region. KU’s sister utility, Louisville Gas and Electric Company, ranked sixth in this year’s study. KU has received six J.D. Power awards for Electric Utility Residential Customer Satisfaction. Awarded in December, this honor marks KU’s second J.D. Power award for 2021, and comes on the heels of the utility earning top honors in electric business customer satisfaction. Overall satisfaction is examined across six factors: power quality and reliability; corporate citizenship; price; billing and payment; communications; and customer care.

CANDIDATE DRAWING WILL BE DONE IN SHIFTS BECAUSE OF PANDEMIC

Since the state legislature and governor have agreed on a measure to move the filing deadline for the May primary from Friday, Jan. 7 to 4 p.m., local time on Tuesday, Jan. 25, there will be some changes locally. The drawing for candidate position on the ballot was scheduled for last Thursday. However, the drawing will now be Thursday, Jan. 27, beginning at 2 p.m. “You do not have to attend the drawing. You may send someone to represent you, or one of our staff will draw for you. We will send a reminder prior to the drawing,” Clerk Daryl Tabor told candidates in an email last week. “If you are unopposed after the Jan. 25 filing deadline, your name will not appear on the primary ballot. You may call our office at 270-965-3403 to inquire, but we will also send an email to those who need not attend the drawing,” Tabor added. Also, because there are so many candidates currently who will be on the primary ballot, and because the spread of COVID is so pervasive, Tabor said drawing for ballot position will be done in shifts in order to limit the number of people gathered at one time. “We ask that you have no more than one person present to represent your candidacy. The drawing will be held in the downstairs area of the county clerk’s office, accessed

from the hallway in the courthouse basement. Please do not enter through our main, upstairs office. Signs will point you in the right direction,” the letter said. The process will begin promptly at 2 p.m, with the drawing for all countywide offices (judge-executive, sheriff, county clerk, PVA, etc.). The drawing for magistrates and constables will be held promptly at 2:30 p.m. The order of drawing will be based upon the order of filing for that respective office.

AARP LAUNCHES NEW DIGITAL RESOURCE FOR VETS, FAMILIES

AARP launched the AARP Veterans and Military Spouses Job Center, a new digital platform bringing together valuable information and resources to help Kentucky’s 330,000 veterans and military spouses compete in today’s job market. The job center includes a new Veterans Career Advantage Course to build on career planning and skills development to help navigate the job market. According to an AARP survey, more than half (56%) of employers say experience and the use of skills in previous positions are very important when evaluating applicant’s skills. “The job skills, experience and character of our veterans and military spouses can be an important asset during a job search, but we know it can be a challenge to know where to start,” said AARP Kentucky state president Charlotte Whittaker. “AARP Kentucky is honored to continue supporting those who proudly served our country by arming them with this free, one-stop resource to gain an edge in today’s competitive job market and avoid underemployment.” The AARP Veterans and Military Spouses Job Center features a range of free resources: •New Veterans Career Advantage Course, which focuses on career planning and skills development. •The AARP Job Board features a “Veterans Wanted” filter so transitioning and former service members can quickly find employers

that value their military experience. •New AARP Veterans and Military Spouses Job Search Toolkit – a comprehensive guide to find and secure employment. •New AARP Video: Tips for Veterans to Ace A Civilian Job Interview. •AARP Webinar: Re-thinking Work for Veterans, Military and their Families on hiring and career trends to help adapt to a quickly changing job market. According to the most recent U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics jobs report, veteran unemployment fell to 3.2% in December 2021. While unemployment has decreased over the past year, underemployment continues to hold many veterans back. Two-thirds of all veteran employees reported having a job unequal to the level of skills and qualifications that they had gained in the military, according to the 2018 Blue Star Families’ annual Military Family Lifestyle Survey. Further, two-thirds of employed active-duty spouses (67%) reported they are underemployed in some way, indicating their current employment does not match their desires, education, or experience, according to the 2020 Blue Star Families’ annual Military Family Lifestyle Survey.

On Jan. 26, AARP’s Online Career Expo will feature live veterans forums/panels, webinars, opportunities to ask other veterans for advice, and jobs from military-friendly employers. Other resources include AARP Resume Advisor, AARP Skills Builder for WorkSM, Be Your Own Boss, and Small Business Resource Center for the 50+. To learn more about the AARP Veterans and Military Spouses Job Center, visit www.aarp.org/vet-sjobcenter. For more information and other free resources on how AARP supports veterans and military families on caregiving, fighting fraud through Operation Protect Veterans, and connecting with earned service benefits, visit www.aarp.org/vet-erans.

In between issues of the newspaper turn to The Press Online for breaking news

Judge Williams hears short docket of felony cases in Crittenden

STAFF REPORT

A Union County man given pretrial diversion in a 2020 case involving damage to Crooked Creek Church Cemetery in Crittenden County is in more trouble and facing revocation of the earlier agreement. James M. Belt, 23, of Morganfield appeared before Circuit Judge Rene Williams last Thursday and admitted that he “screwed up” by being arrested for DUI, criminal mischief, trafficking in methamphetamine, disorderly conduct, fleeing or evading police, second-degree escape, resisting arrest and other drug charges on Jan. 4 in Union County. The judge ordered his pretrial diversion set aside in the Crittenden County conviction from the church cemetery inci-

Circuit Court

dent and he faces a similar revocation on separate 2020 felony conviction in Union County. He had been sentenced to five years on each of those earlier cases. A formal re-sentencing will be held next month for Belt. •The judge issued a bench warrant for Edward F. Piper Jr. for failure to appear for a felony revocation hearing. •Jonathan Paul Langston, 31, of Mayfield pleaded guilty to flagrant non-support and was sentenced to five years. Langston was granted pre-trial diversion for five years as long as he pays arrears on his child support and keeps payments current.



50 YEARS AGO

January 20, 1972 ■ John M. Ramsey, a commercial service adviser for Kentucky Utilities Company in western Kentucky, was named KU manager for Marion. ■ Awards for agricultural and general 4-H project records were announced for county members by the Extension Office. In the junior division (under 14 years) championships were awarded to Joan Sanders, horse and pony; John Sanders, veterinary science and woodcraft; and Carol Stevens, poultry. Other awards in this division went to Sandra Boone, red ribbon in lawn improvement; Cindy Brookshire, blue in veterinary science, and red in horse and pony; Vicki Brookshire, red in photography; Joan Sanders, blue in veterinary science; and Paul Steves, blue in woodcraft. In the senior division (14 to 19 years) winners were Debbie Boone, horse and pony; Eddie Boone, electric; and Terry Boone, forestry. In addition, Terry Boone was awarded a red ribbon for his record entered in the garden project.

25 YEARS AGO

January 23, 1997 ■ An exchange of land at Lake George, where Marion draws its drinking water, enabled the City of Marion to raise the levee an additional five feet. ■ Sabrina Rustin of Marion was one of nine Murray State University students who attended the National College Media Convention at Walt Disney World in Florida. ■ A total of 571 students applied for degrees at Murray State University at the end of the 1996 Semester.

10 YEARS AGO

January 19, 2012 ■ Deer Creek Baptist Church and its members started renovating the church's main sanctuary. ■ Crittenden Health Systems held a reception for new nurse practitioner Jill Croft. ■ A fundraiser for the Jake Hodge Scholarship at Oasis restaurant yielded 456 customers and raised \$5,704.42 in donations.

LOCAL CANDIDATES CURRENTLY FILED FOR PRIMARY

CRITTENDEN COUNTY JUDGE-EXECUTIVE

*Perry Newcom - R

CRITTENDEN COUNTY CLERK

*Daryl K. Tabor - R
Ashley Guess - R

CRITTENDEN COUNTY SHERIFF

Chuck Hoover - R
Heath Martin - R
Evan Head - R
Ray Agent - R
Don Young - D
George Foster - R

CRITTENDEN COUNTY ATTORNEY

Bart Frazer - R

CRITTENDEN COUNTY JAILER

Athena Perry-Hayes - R
Michael Puckett - R
Tony Harper - R

CRITTENDEN COUNTY CORONER

*Brad Gilbert - R

CRITTENDEN COUNTY PVA

Todd Perryman - R
Misty Dalton Hicks - R
Jason Champion - R

DISTRICT 1 MAGISTRATE

*Dave Belt - R

DISTRICT 2 MAGISTRATE

Matt Watson - R
Matt Grimes - R
Daniel Kemper - R

DISTRICT 3 MAGISTRATE

*Willard Guill - R
Robert Kirby - R

DISTRICT 4 MAGISTRATE

Robbie Kirk - R
*Chad Thomas - D

DISTRICT 5 MAGISTRATE

Dale Willingham - R
*Greg Rushing - R
Travis Perryman - R

DISTRICT 6 MAGISTRATE

Jeff James - R
Scott Belt - R
Bob Rowley - R
Van Hunt - R
Jason Martin - D

DISTRICT 1 CONSTABLE

Barry Brown - R

DISTRICT 2 CONSTABLE

Jamie Davis - R

DISTRICT 3 CONSTABLE

*Paul Beard - R

DISTRICT 4 CONSTABLE

Lynn Goodrich - R

DISTRICT 6 CONSTABLE

*Don Herrin - R

MARION CITY MAYOR

Phyllis Sykes
Austin Valentine Jr.

CIRCUIT JUDGE

Daniel Heady

DISTRICT JUDGE

Ben Leonard

FAMILY COURT JUDGE

*Brandi Hagan Rogers

STATE DISTRICTS (Pending)

12TH DISTRICT HOUSE

*Jim Gooch - R
Alan Lossner - D

PRIMARY ELECTION FILING DEADLINE IS NOW JAN. 25

R-Republican D-Democrat
* Incumbent

Former Webster educator will face Heady in primary

STAFF REPORT

Democrat Alan Lossner of Slaughters has entered the race for State Representative in District 12.

District 12 has been redrawn by the General Assembly to now include Crittenden, Union, Webster and McLean counties.

Crittenden County PVA Ronnie Heady, who is retiring from his post after six terms in office, had filed to run in what will soon be the former District 4 Democratic Primary on May 17. Heady has not refiled for District 12, saying he is still formulating a decision.

Redrawing of the state's legislative districts has drastically changed the political landscape for Crittenden County, altering the district to which it belongs. The new legislative division takes Crittenden

out of its current District 4 and puts the county into District 12.

Redistricting, which is done every 10 years following the U.S. Census to allow for shifts in population, now pits two current House incumbents, Lynn Bechler (R-Marion) against Jim

Jr. (R-Providence). Bechler, 75, is a four-term representative of District 4. Gooch, 70, has served in the Kentucky House since 1995, representing District 12.

Gooch has formally filed to seek re-election in District 12. Bechler, although he said he



Lossner

plans to run, has not formally filed.

Lossner has lived in Webster County since 1984. He taught elementary school in Providence, served as principal at Clay and ended a 30-year career in education as assistant superintendent of Webster County Schools.

Candidates have until Jan. 25 to file. The original filing deadline was set for earlier this month, but it was extended following an announcement about the legislature's redistricting plans.

Crittenden's House district over the past several years has included Livingston, Caldwell and part of Christian County.

Road closing only a formality

STAFF REPORT

A couple of housekeeping measures have been approved as Crittenden County Schools moves forward with an estimated \$14 million construction project on the middle and high school campus.

Earlier this month, the Marion City Council and the school district reached an agreement to close School Street and a portion of West Elm Street to fulfill legal requirements for the Kentucky Board of Education.

School Street, which served as the main drive onto the middle and high school campus from U.S. 60 West, and West Elm,

in front of the board of education office, were officially closed as public thoroughfares by the Marion City Council on Jan. 11. The council wanted assurances from the school district that those roads would not be barricaded or inaccessible.

School officials emphasize that the street closings are merely a formality and they will not be gated. Four nearby homeowners on West Elm will continue to be offered passage on school property to enter and exit their street.

Another housekeeping measure involved the combination of deeds to about 60 different parcels

of property. Since Crittenden County Middle School was built in 1948, the board of education has purchased adjacent properties. The deeds to some of those were never formally recorded in the Crittenden PVA office.

For about six months, RBS Consultants and school board attorney Roy Massey IV have worked to combine all of those properties into one map to fulfill Department of Education legal requirements.

A \$1 million construction bid to Princeton Lumber was awarded in December to renovate science classrooms, restrooms and install an elevator in the current

high school, which will become a 5-8 grade middle school when the new high school is built on campus.

On Jan. 11, the board of education approved a \$10,000 asbestos abatement project to remove tile flooring in the high school renovation areas. School Maintenance Director Greg Binkley said asbestos is not in the tile but instead in the mastic adhesive used to install the flooring in the mid-1970s.

Binkley said the elevator, which will be located near the high school office, has been ordered along with science cabinets for the second floor renovation.

AUTOS

Continued from page 1
pieces of legislation are aimed at giving some relief to Kentucky taxpayers. For instance, House Bill 6 would require the state to use the "average" trade-in value instead of the "clean" trade-in value when assessing a vehicle's valuation, Tabor said. That would lower the assessed value, against which motor vehicle taxes are applied; thereby costing automobile owners less.

The bill would also allow those who had already paid 2022 vehicle property taxes to seek a refund. Other bills propose different plans. A couple propose using previous year values when assessing vehicles in 2022 and 2023.

Economists are unsure how long these pressures on the automobile industry will last, that's why local insurance agent Ricky Brown recommends "gap" insurance for individuals who are buying and financing a vehicle at or near its current value. Gap insurance, he explains, comes in a variety of forms. What it does is protect the buyer if the market drops and the vehicle you bought is suddenly worth much less.

"If you had a wreck and totaled it, gap insurance would make up the difference," says Brown, who points out that insurance companies use current replacement values when paying claims.

Therefore, if you paid \$20,000 for a car that was destroyed in a wreck months later, you might only get \$15,000 from your insurance provider even if you still owed more than that on it. Gap insurance would pay the balance.

Stinnett says wholesale prices on automobiles are higher than he has ever seen. He goes to

the auto auctions regularly and says finding what he's looking for – what will sell in Marion – is getting tougher and tougher. His lot was down to 10 vehicles a few months ago, but he's stocked up right now.

"The market is just crazy," he said. "We're

selling a lot of cars, but I will tell you we're having trouble finding them. We're still moving a lot of cars and we're moving them when we have them."

Stinnett says trucks are the hottest right now, with prices skyrocketing. "Nice trucks are 40

percent higher and some cars I have seen are 40 percent higher, too," Stinnett said. "Even older cars are rising. I would say you're seeing anywhere from a 25 to 40 percent increase in what they selling for."


MIKE HARMON
AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

To the People of Kentucky
The Honorable Andy Beshear, Governor
Holly M. Johnson, Secretary
Finance and Administration Cabinet
The Honorable Perry Newcom, Crittenden County Judge/Executive
The Honorable Wayne Agent, Crittenden County Sheriff
Members of the Crittenden County Fiscal Court

Independent Auditor's Report

Report on the Financial Statement
We have audited the Crittenden County Sheriff's Settlement - 2020 Taxes for the period May 16, 2020 through April 15, 2021 - Regulatory Basis, and the related notes to the financial statement.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statement
Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statement in accordance with accounting practices prescribed or permitted by the laws of Kentucky to demonstrate compliance with the Commonwealth of Kentucky's regulatory basis of accounting as described in Note 1. Management is also responsible for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of a financial statement that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility
Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial statement based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, and the Audit Guide for Sheriff's Tax Settlements, issued by the Auditor of Public Accounts, Commonwealth of Kentucky. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statement is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statement. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statement, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statement in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statement.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Basis for Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles
As described in Note 1 of the financial statement, the financial statement is prepared by the Crittenden County Sheriff on the basis of accounting practices prescribed or permitted by the laws of Kentucky to demonstrate compliance with the Commonwealth of Kentucky's regulatory basis of accounting, which is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

The effects on the financial statement of the variances between the regulatory basis of accounting described in Note 1 and accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, although not reasonably determinable, are presumed to be material.

Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles
In our opinion, because of the significance of the matter discussed in the Basis for Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles paragraph, the financial statement referred to above does not present fairly, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the taxes charged, credited, and paid of the Crittenden County Sheriff, for the period May 16, 2020 through April 15, 2021.

Opinion on Regulatory Basis of Accounting
In our opinion, the financial statement referred to above presents fairly, in all material respects, the taxes charged, credited, and paid for the period May 16, 2020 through April 15, 2021 of the Crittenden County Sheriff, in accordance with the basis of accounting practices prescribed or permitted by the Commonwealth of Kentucky as described in Note 1.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards
In accordance with Government Auditing Standards, we have also issued our report dated September 2, 2021, on our consideration of the Crittenden County Sheriff's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements, and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with Government Auditing Standards in considering the Crittenden County Sheriff's internal control over financial reporting and compliance. Based on the results of our audit, we have presented the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Responses, included herein, which discusses the following report comments:
2020-001 The Crittenden County Sheriff Has Failed To Settle Taxes For The Past Four Years
2020-002 The Crittenden County Sheriff Lacks Adequate Segregation Of Duties

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Harmon
Auditor of Public Accounts

September 2, 2021
State law requires the Auditor of Public Accounts to annually audit fiscal courts, county clerks, and sheriffs; and print the results in a newspaper having general circulation in the county. The complete audit and any other audit of state agencies, fiscal courts, county clerks, sheriffs, and property valuation administrators may be viewed in the reports section of the Auditor of Public Accounts' website at www.auditor.ky.gov or upon request by calling 1-800-247-9126.
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The Crittenden Press
USPS 138-260

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CRITTENDEN COUNTY, KY - 100 ACRES - Diverse hunting tract with home and shop! This tract is a blend of habitat types with a new home, large shop and a proven history of big bucks! **SOLD**

CRITTENDEN COUNTY, KY - 947 ACRES - \$1,450,000 - This unique large acreage hunting farm is ideal for all of Kentucky's favored game species. The tract features a diverse blend of habitat types. **SOLD**

CALDWELL COUNTY, KY - 115 ACRES - \$710,500 - Established hunting tract with tillable areas and open areas for food plots. Home with scenic views and a finished property with finished walkout basement. **SOLD**

LIVINGSTON COUNTY, KY - 71.51 ACRES - \$150,164 - Hunting tract with hunter-friendly topography, food plot locations, a good trail system, a pond, creek and security cover. **SOLD**

CRITTENDEN COUNTY, KY - 300.5 ACRES - \$560,000 - This farm is a solid hunting tract with everything needed to grow, hold and harvest big bucks! The tract includes a 7 +/- acre pond with fishing opportunities. **SOLD**

LIVINGSTON COUNTY, KY - 132.73 ACRES - \$238,914 - Great hunting tract with dynamic hunter friendly topography, mast producing timber, security cover, open areas for food plots and a good trail system. **SOLD**

CALDWELL COUNTY, KY - 128.55 ACRES - This tract has a diverse blend of habitat types and is a hot spot for big bucks. The farm features rolling topography, some tillable acres and an established hunting camp. **SOLD**

LIVINGSTON, KY - 99.954 ACRES - Hunting tract with a large creek, open ground for food plots, mast producing hardwoods and numerous funnels and pinch points! \$199,909. **SOLD**

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

LIVINGSTON COUNTY, KY - 118.16 ACRES - 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! Reduced \$209,751. **SOLD**

CALDWELL COUNTY, KY - 158.83 ACRES - Established hunting tract with a proven history of big bucks! Includes a 2006 Fleetwood mobile home for lodging. Includes 30 acres of tillable ground! **SOLD**

CRITTENDEN COUNTY, KY - 103 ACRES - Located in big buck territory, this scenic property includes a home, garages, a barn ideal for equipment storage and a diverse blend of habitat types! **PENDING**

LIVINGSTON COUNTY, KY - 50.26 ACRES - \$123,137 - Mostly timber hunting tract with habitat diversity! This tract has several improvements geared toward big bucks and is ready for the 2021 season! **PENDING**

LIVINGSTON COUNTY, KY - 57.16 ACRES - \$140,042 - Mostly timber hunting tract with habitat diversity! This tract has a blend of habitat types and improvements that are geared toward big bucks! **PENDING**

LIVINGSTON COUNTY, KY - 62.13 ACRES - \$152,218.50 - Mostly timber hunting tract located in an area known for big bucks! This tract has habitat diversity with improvements geared toward big bucks! Includes established food plot. **PENDING**

LIVINGSTON COUNTY, KY - 76.26 - Mostly timber hunting tract located in an area known for big bucks. Includes a groomed land-ing area ideal for hunting. **PENDING**


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Marion 1894: A modern, growing town

Marion was a growing town in 1894 and had many places of business lining Main Street. A special edition of The Crittenden Press in August of 1894 praised the many quality places of business that Marion had to offer. From the archives of The Crittenden Press we can read about just a few of these businesses townsfolk were so proud of. All these places of business were destroyed in the 1905 fire.

J. H. MORSE, Mercantile Store

There are many things for which the City of Marion is justly famous, and one of its prominent features is the magnitude of its mercantile houses, for in this she rivals many larger towns of the state.

Foremost among our solid business concerns is the mercantile establishment of J. H. Morse. Mr. Morse was born in Caldwell County in 1863 and spent his early life on a farm. He started in business for himself with a capital of brains and energy, which have by their proper use surrounded him with the comfort of life, nor are the luxuries debarred.

While he was poor even for that time, he was rich in the possession of energy and business qualifications. He was for six years engaged in the tobacco business at Shady Grove, when on closing out there three years ago he moved to Marion and opened up this large retail house. His business daily increased, and J. H. Morse commenced taking immense strides in business affairs that placed him in the ranks as a prominent businessman. He has put in a large, carefully selected stock of dry goods, boots, shoes, options, hats, caps, clothing and makes a specialty of ladies shoes and dress goods.

In buying his goods he pays cash, gets the best discounts and so is able to sell lower, as he sells for cash only, and does not intend that his paying patrons shall pay noncollectable debts. Thus low prices are made on every article of merchandise and it is one price to all, so the prices are eminently satisfactory to all.

In this department we found the ladies drawn as by a magnet, by the low prices and excellent quality of the goods, at the same time looking at the goods, and chatting good-naturally over the caprices of modern fashion, ordering dress patterns of the latest fabrics, beautiful trimmings that match exactly and carrying their parcels away with a satisfied air, confident that they had the latest thing in both good and trimmings, for Mr. Morse has long since proven that he buys only such good as give the utmost satisfaction.

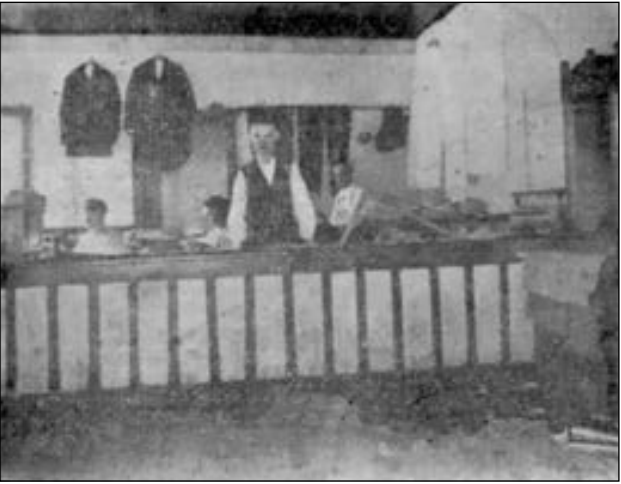
Morse carries a \$12,000 stock of good filling his fine two-story building, 22x80, with a choice stock in excellent display shape. He has two polite clerks who render him valued assistance in waiting on his numerous customers. Morse is quite an inventor and has patented a button exhibitor, ribbon case and a rack for kitchen utensils, all of which are unique in design, useful and ornamental. Marion numbers him with her live, progressive citizens, and he is an honor to the town of which he is a citizen.

S. D. HODGE & CO.

From its early history to the present time, Marion has been wonder-



Singleton D. Hodge and Company was one of Marion's popular dry good stores in the late 19th Century. This store was located on Main Street.



Mark E. Fohs' tailor shop was located on Bank Street, today known as East Carlisle Street. It and Singleton D. Hodge and Company were destroyed in the great fire of 1905. Fohs was an excellent tailor known for his expert cuttings and fittings.

fully favored with men of capital and advanced ideas who have sought the dry goods and clothing parade located within its precincts and through its tempting displays, and made it a mart where dry goods are dispensed in volumes that would do credit to much larger cities and brought to its doors a trade that is far-reaching and steadily

growing. In this respect S. D. Hodge & Co., must have place as leaders, for their enormous annual sales speak in terms more elegant than are at the writer's command.

The individual members of the firm are S. D. Hodge and R. E. Bigham, both men of superior business qualifications and marked executive and financial abilities, such as are destined to lead successfully an important mercantile life.

Their store building is 22x80, beautifully finished in hard wood, and made attractive by tasteful decorations and has 10,000 stock in in fine display. They carry dry goods, clothing dress goods, boots, shoes, etc., the very best of goods that can be bought in the best wholesale houses of the North and East, in variety and quantity sufficient to give a choice to the most exacting and fastidious.

Hodge is a native Ken-

tuckian and been for 10 years in the mercantile business and received his schooling from J. N. Woods, the merchant of Marion, who has sent from behind his counters into the active business world scores of men whose success has been imminent since they opened their business to the public, and Hodge's success has been exceeding flattering.

A good business and large patronage were his at once and his treatment of both has made him a very popular merchant and his partner's experience and good management have done their part toward building up a solid business whose foundation was fair and square dealing. Bigham is the bookkeeper of the firm, a quick and accurate accountant and a man of honor and integrity.

S. D. Hodge & Co., gained a fine reputation as dealers in clothing and just opened up a stock to which they respectfully invite attention. These suits are made from the most fashionable cloth, cut in the latest styles, so you can not fail to be suited, and they guarantee to fit you perfectly. They can fit you out in a good business, traveling or dress suit in this department and any department of the store is as equally as completely stocked.

The people of the city have learned to place implicit confidence in the proprietor and employees of S. D. Hodge & Co, and have the best of assurance that it will not be betrayed.

Mark E. FOHS

One of the latest additions to Marion's business concerns, and one that is rapidly growing into public favor is M. E. Fohs' tailor shop. The proprietor came here from New York and commenced the business on a small scale. He proved to be a fine tailor and his work gave such general satisfaction that a few customers grew to be many, and now he employs three persons to assist him in the shop. He has an expert cutter, a man who thoroughly understands his business. He has filled his house with the best and latest fabric in the way of cloths and can give as good a suit as can be purchased from the city tailor.

He fits perfectly, guarantees his goods and does straight, honest work in the make up. His suits equally as stylish, fully as well made, and fit as neatly as any suit you can get from Evansville, Louisville or Paducah tailors, while his prices are below those of the city tailor.

Tailor made suits or pants cost but little more at the start than the Eastern-made store clothes; from the shop always get a fit, and the clothes look better while you are wearing them, last much longer and in fact are more serviceable in every way; consequently it is much cheaper in the long run to patronize a first-class tailor, such a one as there is in Marion.

Fohs cordially invites the people of Marion and those of the surrounding country to call at his shop. He will take pleasure in showing his goods and the styles, giving you prices and will convince you that he does a superior grade of work.

He makes the everyday suits for rough wear of cloth and work that have the staying qualities, and they fit and are nice too. He makes the medium suits, and he makes the finest dress suits. If you have not been wearing tailor made clothes, drop into his shop on Bank Street and have a chat with him on the subject of clothes. He has permanently located here, wants to make your acquaintance and may be able to tell you something of value.

As will be seen from his advertisement he will make an all wool pants for \$4 and upwards and fine suits from \$18.

(Mark E. Fohs was the father of Julius Fohs.)

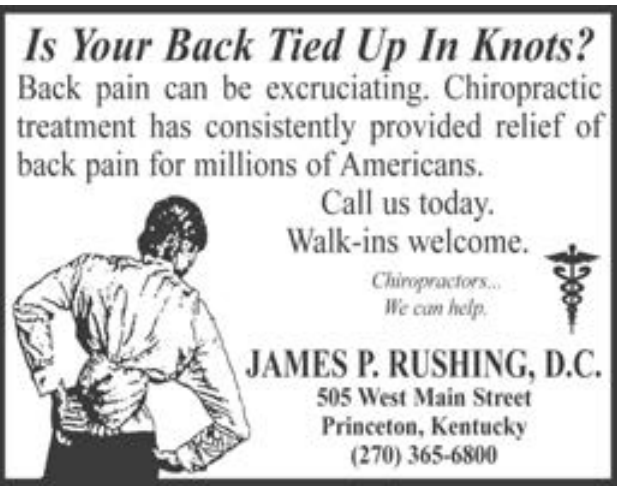
Marion in the early days was an up-and-

coming young town, bustling with many different kinds of businesses. Although all these places of businesses burned in the 1905 fire, it didn't take Marion businessmen long to rebuild and start over again.

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



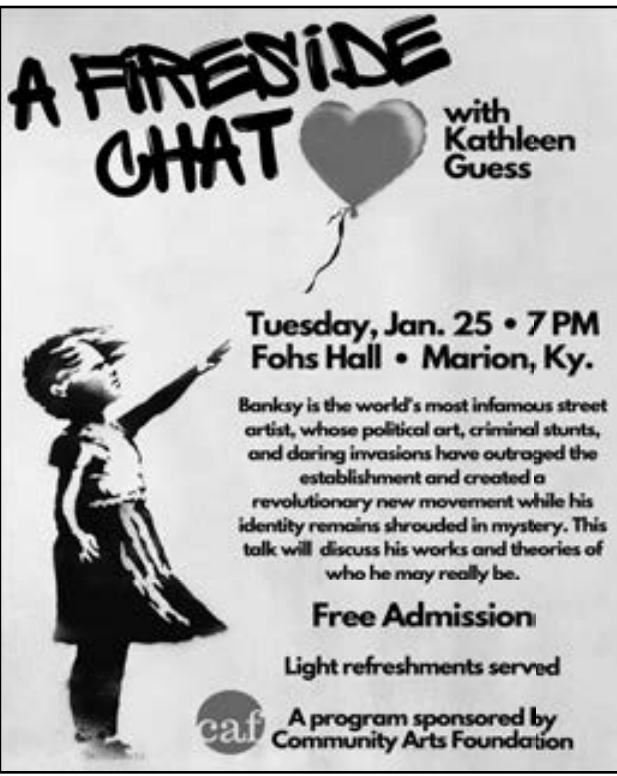
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A FIRESIDE CHAT with Kathleen Guess
Tuesday, Jan. 25 • 7 PM
Fohs Hall • Marion, Ky.
Banksy is the world's most infamous street artist, whose political art, criminal stunts, and daring invasions have outraged the establishment and created a revolutionary new movement while his identity remains shrouded in mystery. This talk will discuss his works and theories of who he may really be.
Free Admission
Light refreshments served
A program sponsored by Community Arts Foundation



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Pole-bearers, forgiveness, and civil rights

There is no excuse for racism. It is based on ignorance, the sins of previous generations, and fear. There is nothing to commend it – ever. It is also true that we human beings are forever tribal in our thinking. That is not a bad thing unless it causes us to mistreat those who are not in our “tribe.”

It is obvious to anyone who lives in the United States (or anywhere else in the world) that racism is alive and well amongst us. Progress is painfully slow, especially for those who are victims, and there are occasionally massive steps backwards. One day I think that this will never go away until we stop talking about it so much. The next I think that we must talk about it more to understand its roots and kill those attitudes and structures that sustain it.

The history of “race re-



Sean NIESTRATH
Faith-based columnist
Guest Columnist

lations” in our nation is ugly, painful, and hard to look at. What is worse is our tendency to think that we would have behaved any differently than those whom we condemn. We are all products of our culture and environment and to think otherwise is just as ignorant as the racism that is justly condemned.

One thing I have come to appreciate in my life is the gracious forgiveness that has been offered repeatedly by those groups who have been treated shamefully. There is still violent rhetoric (and sometimes violent actions), but the balance has been toward forgiveness and reconciliation.

On Monday, Jan. 17, we celebrated the life of one whose rhetoric was bluntly honest and still sought peace. As so often happens to those who challenge the status

quo and seek to maintain peace, his life was ended by violence. I am part of the society that produced both the one who challenged all of us and the one who took his life – we all are.

There was another shocking event in Memphis 93 years before Martin Luther King, Jr. was shot standing on the balcony of the Lorraine Motel. It involved one of the most infamous racists in our history – Nathan Bedford Forrest.

A little background. Life insurance was virtually unheard of before the Civil War. After the war it began to be offered in the South, but not to African Americans. There grew up several “pole-bearer (pallbearer) societies.” They were black civic organizations whose primary service was to give respectable burials to its members. On another historical note, the ancient church was also known for this.

In July 1875, Nathan Bedford Forrest, the now repentant and converted founder of the KKK, was asked to speak to the Independent Order of

Pole-Bearers Association at the annual picnic at the Memphis fairgrounds. His speech was short. Here is the opening.

“Ladies and Gentlemen, I accept the flowers as a memento of reconciliation between the white and colored races of the Southern states. I accept it more particularly as it comes from a colored lady, for if there is any one on God’s earth who loves the ladies I believe it is myself. (Immense applause and laughter.) I came here with the jeers of some white people, who think that I am doing wrong. I believe I can exert some influence, and do much to assist the people in strengthening fraternal relations, and shall do all in my power to elevate every man, to depress none.”

At the conclusion of his speech, he kissed the young woman, Miss Lou Louis, on the cheek, who had offered flowers to him.

His language borders on the offensive to our current sensibilities. We know that this is a political speech and so much be considered in

that light. We also know that Forrest underwent a nearly miraculous spiritual conversion, which some consider genuine, and others have serious doubts. I am amazed that the Pole-Bearers Association was gracious and forgiving enough to hear him. After that, it is complicated and open to interpretation.

There is no imagining what those who heard what he was thinking or what they experienced because of what he stood for. Such is the nature of things when attempting to right great wrongs.

I am thankful for Martin Luther King, Jr. and what he stood for. I am thankful to all those who are courageous enough to speak the truth in love. I

am thankful for forgiveness, reconciliation, and repentance.

For those who may wonder why I (a white man) need to repent for what my ancestors might have done (I know they didn’t because the weren’t here), I need only to look to Jesus. He was baptized by John the Baptist (a baptism of repentance). He did this, I believe, to identify with his people who had sinned. Hurts a little, but I believe I should do the same when it comes to civil rights and the eradication of racism.

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.

Can we be sure a religion actually delivers?

Question: Many religions claim to offer people a way to God, but can I know which one actually reaches God and a person attains eternal life?

Answer: Islam teaches that paradise awaits those who are obedient to the practices of Islam. Hinduism says reincarnation might eventually get you to enlightenment. Cults that include a belief in Jesus add an element of works to what is required to get to heaven. The problem with all of these is when does

Ask the Pastor
By Bob Hardison

one know he has obeyed enough to “make it.”

Christianity points us to Christ as the only path to a relationship with God. Jesus Christ came from heaven, lived without sinning in His life 2,000 years ago, died on the cross pay-

ing our sin-debt, and arose from the grave on the third day proving He was God and that He was victorious over sin, Satan and death.

We can add nothing to what Jesus Christ did for us. The Bible promises, “Everyone who believes

that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the Father also loves the one born of him” (1 Jn. 5:1).

Is your life overcome with fear and doubts because you have never truly given your heart to Christ? Why wait? Do it right now! Recognize God loves you. Then, turn from your sins (repent) and simply trust in Christ as your Savior and Lord (Romans 10:8, 9, 13).

Send your questions to: bob@bobhardison.com

Local Events & News

Local Events & News

Does your group have something planned? Let us know. We post events and notes here at no charge. Email to thepress@the-press.com or call (270) 965-3191.

observe social distancing. The Clothes Closet will be closed in case of rain.

■ Fredonia Unity Baptist Church’s clothes closet is open from 9 a.m. to noon

month in Coleman Hall of the church.

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

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

EMMAUS BAPTIST CHURCH

315 Emmaus Church Rd., Salem, Ky.
Rodney Phelps, Pastor
(270) 704-2400
emmausbaptistsalem@outlook.com
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St. William Catholic Church

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

Mexico Baptist Church

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

DEER CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

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Wednesday Bible Study: 7 p.m.
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Phone: (270) 965-2220

Emmanuel Baptist Church

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

Tolu United Methodist Church

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

Barnett Chapel General Baptist

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

Freedom General Baptist Church

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

Marion Baptist Church

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

SEVEN SPRINGS MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

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

Crayne Community Church

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

FIRST CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

growing in grace

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

Marion Church of God

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

PINEY FORK CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

Sugar Grove Cumberland Presbyterian

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

Marion United Methodist Church

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

Frances Community Church

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

Hurricane Church

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

Unity General Baptist Church

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

Marion Church of Christ

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

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

for rent

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employment

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services

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Will sit with elderly. Janey Heidrich, (270) 836-3463. (2t-4-p)

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legal notices

The Defendant, Joshua Phelps, is hereby notified that on March 22, 2021, Plaintiff, Fischer & Van Thiel, LLP filed a Complaint for breach of contract, and common counts in San Diego Superior Court of North County, 325 S. Melrose Dr. Vista, CA 92081 (Case No. 37-2021-00012716-CL-BC-NC) seeking a judgment for costs of suit, for such relief as is fair, just, and equitable; and for damages of \$24,626.62 by Defendant.

COURT DATES
CIVIL CASE MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE: January 14, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. Dept. N-31. In the event the Defendant fails to respond to the Complaint within 30 days after this publication of this Notice, the Court may proceed to enter a Default Judgment and grant the relief requested by the Plaintiff. A letter, phone, or court appearance call will not protect you. The attorney representing the Plaintiff is Michael A. Fischer, Fischer & Van Thiel, LLP 2424 Vista Way, Suite 200, Oceanside, CA 92054; phone (760) 722-7646. (4t-6-p)

Notice is hereby given that on January 12, 2022 Ann Lecompte of 2224 N. Almond, Mesa, AZ 85213 and Robert E. Crawford of 1420 Mill Creek Rd., Bloomington, IL 61704 were appointed co-executors of William O. Crawford, deceased, whose address was 7089 US 60 W., Marion, Ky. 42064. Vance W. Cook, agent for service of process.

All persons having claims against said estate are hereby notified to present the same properly proven as required by law to the agent for process on or before the 12th day of July, 2022 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-03-c)

Notice is hereby given that on January 12, 2022 Melinda Gipson of 100 Twin Lake Dr., Marion, Ky. 42064 was appointed executrix with will annexed of Stanley Gipson, deceased, whose address was 872 S. Main St., Marion, Ky. 42064.

All persons having claims against said estate are hereby notified to present the same properly proven as required by law to the executrix with will annexed on or before the 12th day of July, 2022 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-03-c)

Notice is hereby given that on January 12, 2022 Stacy Crawford-Hughes of 220 E. Gum St., Marion, Ky. 42064 was appointed executrix of Michael Coughran, deceased, whose address was 219 Country Drive, Marion, Ky. 42064. Cobie D. Evans, attorney.

All persons having claims against said estate are hereby notified to present the same properly proven as required by law to the executrix before the 12th day of July, 2022 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-03-c)

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SportsShorts

BASKETBALL UPCOMING GAMES FRIDAY

Lady Rockets host Livingston Central
Rockets host Livingston Central
SATURDAY
Rockets at St. Mary Shootout
TUESDAY
Lady Rockets at Caldwell County
Rockets at Caldwell County

FOOTBALL Yates on All Purchase

Crittenden County senior Dylan Yates has received yet another post-season football honor. He was named late last week to the All Purchase Team, as chosen by the Paducah Sun newspaper. Yates has received one All-State selection, was a First Team All WKC and the Rockets' MVP, and he was chosen as the team's most valuable defensive player and most valuable lineman. Yates finished the season with 91 tackles, including 21 tackles for loss and 63 solos. He has received multiple college football offers, but has not committed.

MOTORCYCLING Gilland wins series title

Local competitive motorcyclist Colton Gilland has been crowned the 2021 Fly Series Showdown champion at Lincoln Trail Motosports in Casey, Ill. His title was earned in the Open C Class.

Gilland was one of very few in that division who rode a 125cc bike. Most were on either a 250cc or 450cc. Gilland will receive his trophy at the Feb. 12 post-season banquet and awards ceremony in Illinois.

Also during the 2021 racing season, Gilland advanced from an area Loretta Lynn amateur national qualifier at Archview MX in St. Louis with a berth in a regional qualifier at Spring Creek MX Park in Millville, Minn. Although he didn't qualify there for Loretta's national event, it was a great experience to compete at that level. Gilland also competed at Mini O's in Gainesville, Fla., the week of Thanksgiving with riders from all over the world.

OUTDOORS Hunting Seasons

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

Raccoon hunt	Oct. 1 - Feb. 28
Squirrel	Nov. 15 - Feb. 28
Raccoon trap	Nov. 15 - Feb. 28
Quail	Nov. 15 - Feb. 10
Rabbit	Nov. 15 - Feb. 10
Bobcat trap	Nov. 15 - Feb. 28
Fox hunt/trap	Nov. 15 - Feb. 28
Canada goose	Nov. 25 - Feb. 15
Bobcat hunt	Nov. 27 - Feb. 28
Duck	Dec. 7 - Jan. 31
Youth Duck	Feb. 5-6
Spring Youth Wild Turkey	April 2-3
Spring Wild Turkey	April 16 - May 8
Coyote	Year Round
Groundhog	Year Round
Turtles	Year Round

Deer, turkey final figures

The final opportunities of the winter for hunting deer and wild turkeys came to an end on Monday. Crittenden County hunters took 2,746 deer this fall and winter. That's down more than 200 from last year and the lowest harvest in 13 years. Crittenden County hunters bagged only a dozen wild turkeys during the entire fall. Nine were taken by firearms, 2 by bow and 1 by crossbow. Five were gobblers and 7 were hens.

Coyote contest upcoming

The annual coyote hunting contest sponsored by Marion Tourism Commission and Hodge's Sports and Apparel will be held Feb. 4-5. Entry fee is \$40 per two-man team. Hunters must be registered by 5 p.m., on Friday, Feb. 4. Check in time at Hodge's at 5 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 5. 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.

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Lady Rockets upset in quest for 8th title



After CCHS junior Taylor Guess fouled out in the fourth quarter, the Lady Rocket offense went flat in the All A Classic semifinal game.

Lady Rockets beat Tornado by 6

STAFF REPORT

Despite not shooting well and being out-rebounded, Crittenden County's girls won its 13th game Tuesday, beating Paducah Tilghman 51-45 at Rocket Arena.

The Lady Rockets fell behind early in the face of the Lady Tornado's athletic defense, but turned a seven-point deficit around and grabbed the lead just before the half. CCHS took its first lead on a three-pointer by Elliot Evans. Then Grace Driskill and Taylor Guess scored consecutive buckets before Anna Boone nailed a trey for a 21-17 edge.

Crittenden led most of the second half, but Tilghman (9-7) managed to tie it at 38 then took a two-point advantage with less than five minutes to play. Lady Rocket Taylor Guess, who struggled from the field at times, got on track and scored nine points down the stretch to close out the win.

Paducah Tilghman 12 23 29 45
Crittenden County 9 27 36 51

TILGHMAN – Gray 5, Wurth 2, Garland 8, Shumpert 6, Minto 7, Smith 13. FG: 21. 3-pointers 1 (Smith). FT: 2-8.
CRITTENDEN – Guess 19, Boone 5, A.Boone 12, Hatfield 2, Driskill 10, Evans 3. FG: 16. 3-pointers 3 (Guess, A.Boone, Evans). FT: 16-23.

Rockets win by one at Hickman, fall in 11-point loss at Webster

STAFF REPORT

The Rockets managed to stay close and were within single digits in the second half, but couldn't hang on down the stretch at Webster County Monday. The Trojans beat CCHS 66-55.

Crittenden has lost 15 of the last 17 meetings in the series.

Travis Champion scored seven of his team-high 17 points in the final period, but the Rockets fell 7-8 on the season.

Webster County improved to 9-9 on the season.

CCHS wins by one on road

Crittenden County struggled to overcome serious foul trouble, but had enough fight in the fourth period to beat host Hick-

man County 67-66 Friday night.

The Rockets trailed by five early in the fourth period, but outscored the Falcons 18-12 down the stretch behind Travis Champion's eight fourth-quarter points and four from Trace Derrington.

Crittenden (7-7) was whistled for 23 fouls in the game, but Hickman (4-10) drew just 14. The Falcons scored 23 of their points at the stripe while CCHS was 11-for-18 there.

Champion led all scorers with 28 points. For both games, CCHS was without second-leading scorer, Preston Morgeson, who had a two-game suspension for receiving two technicals in the previous game.

Webster Co. 18 36 50 66
Crittenden Co. 12 27 43 55

CRITTENDEN: Champion 17, Beverly 8, Adamson 6, Davidson 11, Derrington 9, Cooksey 4, Crider, Yates. FG: 21. 3-pointers 8 (Champion, Beverly 2, Adamson 2, Derrington 3). FT: 5-8.

WEBSTER: Baker 2, Harmon 11, Murphy 20, Michalek 3, Starks-Scott 1, Ma.Austin 20, Nelson 9, FG: 25. 3-pointers 4 (Harmon, Murphy 2, Michalek). FT: 12-19

Crittenden Co. 14 27 49 67
Hickman Co. 14 35 54 66

CRITTENDEN: Champion 28, Beverly 8, Adamson 5, Crider, Davidson 8, Derrington 14, Conyer, Cooksey 4. FG: 27. 3-pointers 4 (Derrington 2, Adamson, Champion) 11-18
HICKMAN CO.: McClanahan 6, Ward 9, Pettit 10, Prince 19, Johnson 22, Burpo. FG 20. 3-pointers 2 (Ward, Prince). FT 23-30



Crittenden County's youth basketball programs got started last weekend at local gyms. Action will continue through February. Pictured at left is Abigail Champion working against a Trigg County defender. Above left is Tyler Atwell reaching for an inbound pass and (above right) is Bode Merrill protecting a loose ball he'd gathered in.

STAFF REPORT

Crittenden County lost a heartbreaker in overtime at Lyon County Thursday, spoiling the Rocket girls' hopes of defending their Second Region All A Classic title and earning an 8th trip to the state tournament.

The game was close the entire way and Crittenden took a one-point lead with 6 seconds left when eighth-grader Anna Boone dropped in two foul shots. However, Lyon got to the foul line itself with 0.9 on the clock and Calista Collins hit the back end of the double bonus to send the game into OT.

From there, Crittenden (12-3) was scoreless and Lyon (7-7) claimed a berth in the Second Region small-school championship game scheduled for Saturday against Livingston Central.

There were 49 fouls called in the game, and neither team shot well from the line nor the floor. CCHS made just 19 of 34 at the stripe.

CCHS had already beaten Lyon twice this season, but a rematch is likely in the KHSAA postseason. Lyon beat Livingston to win the All A regional crown.

Crittenden Co.	9	24	42	55	55
Lyon County	9	22	40	55	65
CRITTENDEN – Guess 24, N.Boone 17, A.Boone 5, Hatfield, Driskill 7, Evans 2, Hunt, McDaniel, Federico. FG 17. 3-pointers 2 (Guess, N.Boone). FT 19-34. Fouls 22.					
LYON – Cotham 7, Butler 6, Smith 8, Ca.Collins 18, Taylor 1, Holland 3, Defew 4, Perry 18, Co.Collins. FG 26. 3-pointers 3 (Perry 2, Holland). FT 10-24. Fouls 27.					



Although Crittenden County's basketball teams didn't get to the regional championship games in the All A Classic, two CCHS products did. Matt McMain, a former Rocket basketball player, is an assistant coach at Murray, which won the small-school First Region title. His Tigers beat former Rocket Payton Croft's Mayfield Cardinals 67-40 in the All A title game last weekend.

2REGION TOURNAMENT

Girls All A Classic Results
MONDAY'S OPENING ROUND
Livingston Cent. 57, Ft Campbell 21
Caldwell Co. 64, Dawson Springs 34
Crittenden Co. 53, UHA 29
Lyon County, bye
SEMIFINAL RESULTS
Livingston Cent. 50, Caldwell Co. 38
Lyon Co. 65, Crittenden Co. 55 (OT)
CHAMPIONSHIP
Lyon County 68, Livingston Cent. 45

Boys All A Classic Results
TUESDAY'S OPENING ROUND
Caldwell Co. 91, Livingston Cent. 52
Dawson Springs at UHA
Lyon County 75, Crittenden Co. 63
Ft. Campbell, bye
SEMIFINAL RESULTS
Caldwell County 87, UHA 78
Lyon Co. 96, Heritage Christian 54
CHAMPIONSHIP
Lyon County 74, Caldwell Co. 63

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Dollar store combo

Site work on a 10,500-square-foot Family Dollar/Dollar Tree combination store in Salem is nearing completion. Parker Excavating is doing the dirt work, which will pave the way for Mike Measel, Inc., to build the metal building for a dollar store that is projected to open March 1. General Contractor Kevin Measel said rain and the Dec. 10 tornados stalled work in Salem, but he hopes to begin pouring footers soon. Mike Measel, Inc., based in Eubank, Ky., has been building Family Dollar/Dollar Tree combo stores for two years. The store will be similar to the nearby Dollar General with non-perishables, home products and freezer cooler space. The building will be located on the site of the former Pantry, a couple doors down from Salem Food Market.

Joe B. Hall, former UK coach, dies at 93

KENTUCKY TODAY
Former University of Kentucky men's basketball coach Joe B. Hall passed away Saturday, Jan. 15. He was 93. The legendary coach replaced late Kentucky coach Adolph Rupp and led the Wildcats to an NCAA Championship in 1978. He compiled a 373-156 record in his 13 seasons as coach of the Wildcats. He retired following the 1984-85 season. "Joe B. Hall took over a program and carried on the winning tradition and legacy of excellence of Kentucky basketball,"



Kentucky coach John Calipari said. Calipari often invited Hall to his practices and forced a relationship with the Cynthiana native and kept Hall close to the program that he once presided over. Calipari visited Hall on Thursday, Jan. 13. "Coach Hall always met me with a smile, including two days ago when I went to see him and hold his hand," Calipari said. "He understood everything that was said, and as I prayed for him, he squeezed my hand tight." As Kentucky's head coach from the 1972-73 season through 1984-85, Hall compiled a

record of 297-100 (74.8%). Hall won National Coach of the Year honors in 1978 and four Southeastern Conference Coach of the Year awards. He had seven players win All-America honors 11 times. Hall's squads recorded a 172-62 (73.5%) record versus SEC competition during the regular season, winning eight regular-season titles in 13 seasons and one league tournament championship in seven tries. While Coach Rupp witnessed 44 of his players drafted by the NBA, Hall saw 24 players drafted during his 13-year tenure, six in the first round.

Local students named to WKCTC Dean's List

Several area students were among more than 500 recently named to the Dean's List for the Fall 2021 semester at West Kentucky Community and Technical College (WKCTC). The semester ended on Dec. 10. To be named to the Dean's List, a student must be a full-time student earning at least a 3.5 grade point average (GPA). On the list from Crittenden County: Trace Adams, Shannon Renae Bozeman, Meredith Conger, Marissa Dawson, Jaelyn Duncan, Ian Ellington,

Erik O'Leary, Rhett Parish, Caitlyn Riley, Braxton Winders
From Livingston County: Adrianna Paige Beller, Mary E. Clark, Mishel Nicole Crowe, Tana S. Durard, Isabella Grace Ferrell, Zachary Garlon Hall, Olivia Faith Henson, Angela Ruth Lee, Rebecca Elizabeth Lowrance, Christy McIntosh, Jessalyn Shey Morrical, Dylan Lee Paris, Annaliese Paige Pope, Amanda Hope Spinney, Madalyn G. Walker, Kaylie Rae Yaw

TOURISM

Continued from page 1
years since the development of a local tourism commission. In Kentucky, tourism is an \$8.9 billion industry. The other five regional spots of interests were Columbus-Belmont State Park in Columbus on the Mississippi River, Paducah's Quilt Museum, the 1880's styled town Cartwright Grove in Mayfield, Lake Barkley and Kentucky Lake and the Trail of Tears Commemorative Park in Hopkinsville. The 2022 Kentucky Inspiration Guide serves as the state's primary tourism advertising and promotional piece with nearly 350,000 copies

distributed worldwide. This year's guide highlights Kentucky as a premiere travel destination that is open and ready to attract new, diverse travel markets to the commonwealth. Gov. Andy Beshear's budget presented last week calls for \$10 mil-

lion in pandemic relief funds to be spent in Kentucky's tourism industry through a targeted marketing campaign, another \$10 million in ARPA funds to bolster Kentucky's travel industry and another \$10 million to help non-profit arts organizations.

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Freedom Church Road closed for repairs

STAFF REPORT
Freedom Church Road off KY 91 North will be closed Thursday so Crittenden County Road Department crews can make repairs. The closure will begin at 7 a.m., and last through 4 p.m. A failed

cross drain will be replaced and the road work will be done near 447 Freedom Church Road. This is a dead end road, which means addresses beyond 447 will be inaccessible until the work is complete. Judge-Executive Perry

Newcom said crews are aware of the inconvenience and will be working in earnest to complete repairs in one day to get the road back open. "All citizens living on this road have been notified or a note left at their residence," Newcom said.



Firemen believe a space heater malfunctioned, causing the blaze on Quail Hill Road.

Fire reignites after being extinguished

STAFF REPORT
Multiple Crittenden County fire departments were called to the scene twice for a fire on Quail Hill Road Wednesday, Jan. 12. The first call to the doublewide mobile home was shortly before 8 a.m. Sheridan Fire Chief Evan Head said an electric

heater malfunctioned, causing the initial fire. After an extensive battle, firefighters extinguished the blaze and left the scene after using an infrared camera which found no remaining hot spots, Head said. However, firemen were summoned back later that evening when flames

erupted again. When firemen arrived the second time, the home was fully engulfed. The home is owned by Penny and Billy Wells. Responding departments included Sheridan, Crittenden, Shady Grove, Salem, Caldwell Springs, Mattoon, Marion and Fredonia.

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Bart Frazer welcomes

Jonathan K. James and Wesley A. Hunt, of counsel

Jonathan K. James holds a Juris Doctorate from University of Kentucky School of Law. He joins the firm with a focus on bankruptcy and civil litigation.

Wesley A. Hunt, who will serve the firm of counsel, was Assistant Crittenden County Attorney from October 2013-October 2020 and opened Hunt Law Group, PLLC. His emphasis is on real estate, probate and civil litigation.

Both are now accepting appointments.

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✓ Be willing to fully comply with prescribing instructions

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✓ A co-occurring substance addiction

✓ A severe physical limitation, such as lung or heart condition that opioids agonists might complicate

✓ A low level of motivation to get sober

Kara Phillips, APRN

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Pictured above are Tanner, Doug and Cameron Lasley with Telecast Communications of Hodgenville. The father and two sons are doing the lighting and sound upgrades at Fohs Hall. At left Melissa Croft and Melissa Agent of The Peoples Bank in Marion present Fohs Hall President Alan Stout with a contribution toward the fundraising effort to pay for the upgrades.

Fohs Hall continues fundraising effort for upgrades

Fohs Hall is getting a big upgrade to its sound system and theater lighting. Work has begun even though a fundraising effort to pay for the project has not reached its goal.

The project will cost \$50,000, but the community center’s board of directors has raised only \$31,000. Contributions are still being accepted. You can make a donation on Go Fund Me or mailed directly to Fohs Hall at PO Box 1, Marion, KY 42064.

The upgrade has started despite being short on fundraising in order to have the project completed by the next Old Kentucky Hayride variety show, which is scheduled for Feb. 12 at Fohs Hall.

The improvements will include removal of the existing, fragmented, outdated and undersized audio system and installing a new audio system in the auditorium. It will be specifically designed for the venue to ensure the entire audience will receive a high quality, balanced listening and visual experience. Audio hardware, microphones, wiring, amplifiers, lights, dimmers and fixtures will all be overhauled.

Fohs Hall, Inc., was incorporated in 1981 to manage the building, which was given to the community in 1926. It was formerly a school, but has been a community center for years.

CRITTENDEN COUNTY COVID CASES

Totals of Cases Reported as of Jan. 12, 2022

7-Day Total	14-Day Total	Pandemic Total
65 ↑	122 ↑	1,693

Source: Pennyriple District Health Department

County Incidence

Per KyCOVID10.ky.gov

118.4 ↑

RED ZONE

From STATE COLOR-CODED MAP

VACCINATION RATE OF COUNTY

43.05%

Percentage Fully Vaccinated
BASED ON CDC INFORMATION

INFECTION RATE OF COUNTY

18.2%

Percentage That Ever Tested Positive
COUNTY POPULATION 9,315

Total COVID Deaths in Crittenden County

38

Based on State Formula per 100K people
From Pennyriple Health Department Data

New COVID death; cases close schools

STAFF REPORT

Crittenden County has seen its 38th confirmed COVID-related death, marking its third since the beginning of December and its 12th since August.

Meanwhile, Crittenden County School District announced on Tuesday that it will remain closed the rest of the week, and it updated its quarantine guidance.

Pennyriple District Health Department issued a notice on its social media page in recent days stating that infections are at a record high across the region. Lyon and Livingston counties also canceled classes for this week.

The classes Crittenden students miss this week will not have to be made up because of emergency remote learning days approved by the state legislature and/or days “banked” by going to school earlier and staying later this year. Since they did not go home with Chromebooks on Friday, NTI is not an option this week.

Students initially were given an extended Martin Luther King, Jr., holiday in hopes of easing pandemic pressures on staff. However, on Tuesday the district announced it would be canceling classes through Jan. 21.

A week ago, there were 194 students and staff quarantined because of positive COVID cases or because they were close contacts of someone who tested positive. That included 42 positive cases and 64 classroom contacts. Fourteen staff members were out mid-week.

Because of a shortage of COVID tests, the Test To Stay program offered by Crittenden Community Hospital has also been suspended. The Test To Stay program allowed students who were contacts of positive cases to continue attending school as long as they received a negative test daily from the hospital. Now, students must obtain a doctor’s order for a COVID test.

The length of required COVID-19 quarantines updated Jan. 11 was based on guidance from the Kentucky Department of Education.

New guidance is as follows:

- Students who test positive may return on Day 6 as long as they are fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications and symptoms are resolving.
- Students identified as contacts may return on Day 6 unless symptoms have developed.
- Students returning from quarantine on Day 6, regardless of being a positive or contact, should mask when at school for the following five calendar days.

The district also has announced a return of temperature checks for students and staff at entry to school buildings.

Superintendent Vince Clark said Crittenden County Schools will continue to offer in-person class when feasible.

“We know there is a possibility of a lot of quarantines among kids, but we plan to plow through it until there are not enough bus drivers or substitutes,” Clark said.

Gov. Andy Beshear this week approved granting 10 additional remote learning days which can be used in addition to 10 non-traditional instruction (NTI) days granted to Kentucky school districts.

Any quarantined student will still be able to work remotely thanks to the school district’s Chromebooks.

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AADAE American Association of Diabetes Educators

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Shawn McCoy, CEO, Deaconess Health System