

# The Crittenden Press

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**THURSDAY, JANUARY 25, 2018**  
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NEWS STAND

USPS 138-260 • MARION • KENTUCKY

24/7 BREAKING AND LOCAL NEWS [THE-PRESS.COM](http://THE-PRESS.COM)

## Former Mayor Wood, 80, dies in Tennessee

A former Marion mayor has died.  
Hayden "Bernard" Wood, 80, of Springfield, Tenn., died Friday. Wood was elected the head of city government in 1984 and served from January 1985 to June 1988, at which time he resigned. Mickey Alexander subsequently became mayor and served 29 years, resigning in February of last year.



Wood

Wood is survived by his wife Phyllis and two children, Kevin and Jay Wood. (See obituary on Page 7.)

## Buntin seeking 7th term on fiscal court

Curt Buntin, Crittenden County's longest-serving magistrate, has filed for re-election. Buntin, a Democrat, has represented District 2 since 1994. Tuesday marks the deadline to file to run as a party candidate in 2018.



Buntin

Prospective local candidates must submit paperwork and a filing fee to County Clerk Carolyn Byford by 4:30 p.m.

## U.S. 641 road plan funding \$44 million

More than \$44 million shows in Kentucky's recommended six-year road plan for completion of a relocated U.S. 641 from Marion to the interstate near Eddyville. But the legislation has a long way to go before becoming law. "The funding for 641 is huge, as it provides for design, right of way, utilities and construction, which will lock the project down," said Crittenden County Judge-Executive Perry Newcom. "Of course, now the hurdle is to get it passed as is."

The bill must receive House and Senate approval and the governor's signature before it can be enacted. The funding shown is for about 6 miles of new roadway in Caldwell and Lyon counties. Meantime, the Marion-to-Fredonia leg is scheduled to be completed this year.

Also shown in the proposed plan is full funding for the Cave In Rock Ferry, \$1.23 million to improve the Ky. 91 North bridge just outside of Marion, \$756,000 to upgrade a bridge over Hughes Creek on Cottonpatch Road, \$32 million for a new U.S. 60 bridge at Smithland and \$3.14 million to realign U.S. 60 from the bridge at Ledbetter to east of Rudd-Spees Road.

## Fiscal court adjusts February meeting

Due to a scheduling conflict for both magistrates and the county attorney, Crittenden Fiscal Court will push its February meeting back a week to Feb. 22. The meeting will still begin at 8:30 a.m. at the courthouse.

## Schools heighten alert after Marshall shooting

**STAFF REPORT**  
Crittenden County Schools officials want to reassure parents, students and the community that local educators remain on high alert following Tuesday morning's mass shooting at Marshall County High School in Benton.

The suspected shooter, a 15-year-old MCHS student, left two fellow schoolmates dead and a dozen more injured. A number of the victims have ties or family relationships with several in Crittenden County. One of the boys shot in the jaw was a longtime baseball teammate of

See **SHOOTING**/Page 4

# 1st-ever murder mystery game will involve business community Who done it?

**By MIMI BYRNS**  
STAFF WRITER

Downtown Marion will turn into a mock crime scene on March 10, when a murder mystery event is scheduled, aiming to bring the community, small businesses and visitors together for a day of fun and excitement.

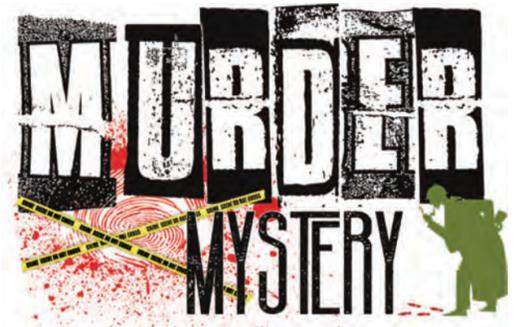


Ledford

The concept and the idea of this event are brought to Marion by its city administrator, Adam Ledford. While living in western Washington State, Ledford stumbled upon a similar community event in Lang-

ley - population 900 - that hosted a "mystery weekend" event every February. The success in Langley, which now draws tens of thousands of visitors for the mystery weekend annually, inspired Ledford to attempt the concept in Marion.

Crittenden County Chamber of Commerce found the idea appealing and decided to support it. The Chamber believes the event has the type of energy that can draw people to the local businesses where clues can be found and can grow



to become a tradition in the community.

"In Langley, they have had events with bad weather and events with good weather. When the

weather is good, they gather 30,000-40,000 people for a two-day weekend," said Ledford, who became

See **MYSTERY**/Page 4

## Ky. has largest fleet of mobile libraries



PHOTO BY DARYL K. TABOR, THE PRESS

Students from Denise Guess' Crittenden County preschool class make their picks Tuesday morning from three shelves of children's books on board Crittenden County Public Library's Bookmobile. Bookmobile Librarian Susan Smith visits the students every two weeks as part of her biweekly schedule around the county. Above, Newt Godwin takes a peek at Bradison Martin-Belt as she judges her book by its cover. Also pictured (from left) are Keegan Roberts and Eli Taylor. Kentucky has more bookmobiles than any other state.

# Bookmobile takes library to readers

**FROM STAFF AND WIRE REPORTS**  
Hardly able to climb aboard without the help of an adult, Denise Guess' preschoolers at Crittenden County Elementary School know their way around the bookmobile when their short gate gets them up the final step.

"They sure love their books," said Susan Smith, bookmobile librarian with Crittenden County Public Library (CCPL). That kind of enthusiasm has helped keep the largest fleet of bookmobiles in the nation operating in rural Kentucky, delivering books to people who often can't get to county-seat libraries.

Supporters say bookmobiles play an important role in promoting reading at all ages, but especially among children, helping them do better in school. But it's not just the children served by the mobile libraries.

"I get to run the gamut from Headstart to 90-plus years

old," Smith said of her patrons, most of whom are homebound adults.

In the most recent national count in 2014, 75 Kentucky counties had traditional bookmobiles, said Michael

Swendrowski, a board member with the Association of Bookmobiles & Outreach Services.

The next closest states were Ohio and California with just more than 50 each, he said. Several states reported having only a handful of bookmobiles - six in Texas, for instance, three in Kansas and two in Oklahoma.

"Kentucky definitely leads the way in the number of bookmobiles nationwide," Swendrowski said.

There are several reasons for that, including a history of efforts to get books to people in the farthest corners of the state, where libraries once were scarce and literacy needed all the help it could get.

In 1887, a literary club in

Louisville started a project to send crates of books to rural areas with no libraries, which people sent back after they'd read them, according to the Kentucky Encyclopedia.

During the Depression in the 1930s, women delivered books by horse to areas of Kentucky that would have been relatively isolated in those days. The federal Works Progress Administration backed the Pack Horse Library program in Eastern Kentucky. The program helped lay the groundwork for efforts to put vehicles into service.

The first bookmobiles in the state were an ambulance, a hearse, a Jeep and some panel trucks, according to the encyclopedia.

Supporters raised money to buy dozens of bookmobiles in 1954 and gave them to the state, the encyclopedia said. Crittenden County first got a bookmobile more than 50 years ago, according to a his-

See **BOOKMOBILE**/Page 3

# Study: Business climate mostly 'great'

**STAFF REPORT**

If not for difficulties in finding and keeping employees, and inadequacies in the local transportation infrastructure, business owners in Marion would be happy as a lark, according to a recent survey sponsored by the Crittenden County Chamber of Commerce.

With professional assistance from the University of Kentucky, the Chamber spent several weeks last fall getting merchants - mostly retail and one restaurant - to respond to questionnaires about the area's business climate. Results of the survey were presented last week during the Chamber's quarterly Leadership Breakfast at the Marion Ed-Tech Center.

UK's Kentucky Community and Economic Development Initiative of Kentucky (CEDIK) provided data assimilation and interpretation for the project which had a dozen respondents from the downtown merchant area.

Everyone surveyed said they intend on staying in business in Marion, and a majority plan expansion within the next three years. Overall, 66 percent said Marion was a "great" place to do business.

Luke Ramsay presented the survey figures for CEDIK. He said economic development can be compared to the way UK Coach John Calipari develops his Wildcats basketball program. He said Coach Cal must spend a great deal of time recruiting new talent, but he must also spend a great deal of time and effort building the team he has into a championship-caliber squad.

"You have to balance the two together,"

See **SURVEY**/Page 12

## Survey says...



**As a place to do business, what is your overall opinion of Crittenden County?**

Very good: 8%    Good: 58%  
Fair: 25%    Poor: 8%

Facebook icon    Twitter icon

**KPA** MEMBER  
Kentucky Press Association

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### Marion City Council

Marion City Council normally convenes in regular session at Marion City Hall at 6 p.m. on the third Monday of each month



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#### ON THE WEB

City of Marion-related websites  
Government: www.marionky.gov  
Tourism: www.marionkentucky.us

### EDITORIAL

## County, state take opioid fight to top 3 drug-makers

The ongoing opioid epidemic is costing Kentucky lives. And if you think the scourge doesn't affect you, think again. It's also costing Kentucky taxpayers. In fact, on top of the millions already spent annually to combat the plague, Gov. Matt Bevin is calling for an additional \$34 million in state funds to be thrown at the problem over the next two-year budget cycle.

Abuse of opioids, or painkillers, is not solely a personal problem. It's societal. It is costing us all in tax dollars, lost productivity, health care expenses and a swath of crumbling communities from sea to shining sea.

While personal responsibility must be taken in the case of substance abuse, physicians are partly to blame. They are overprescribing opioids. Many simply throw scripts at patients whose pain – real, imagined or altogether a deception – could be treated through alternatives. Dispensing the drugs, despite their addictive nature, can be a quick way to get a patient back through the door of an overcrowded waiting room.

But it's the drug manufacturers who are capitalizing, preying on the weaknesses of addicts and irresponsible providers in an overburdened health care system. That's why some in the public sector are taking the opioid battle to pharmaceutical distributors. Headlines from Monday show Kentucky Attorney General Andy Beshear is fighting back with a suit against "pill mill" McKesson Corp. for contributing to the state's drug epidemic. He says they are flooding the state with massive amounts of opioids like oxycodone and hydrocodone.

The suit alleges unfair, misleading and deceptive business practices for excessive distribution of opioids and failing to report the large volume of these drugs brought into Kentucky to state and federal authorities. Beshear filed suit against Endo Pharmaceuticals and Endo Health Solutions – makers of the drug Opana – just two months ago for violating state law and directly contributing to the state's 4,400 opioid related deaths from 2012 to 2015 as well as countless overdoses.

And counties are getting in on the action, too, including Crittenden County, which ranks in the top third of Kentucky counties for opioid doses per capita. In November, Crittenden Fiscal Court agreed to join a suit against the nation's top three pharmaceutical distributors – including McKesson – brought by a law firm in West Virginia, where the public health crisis from opioid abuse is nearly as bad as the nation's worst in Kentucky. All counties in the state are being approached.

Certainly, none of the counties courted by the filers of the litigation will get wealthy if the suit is eventually won in the courts. But there is little risk. If there is no settlement, it costs Crittenden County nothing. If one is reached, the county's portion would come back to the community for drug abuse and awareness education through the Coalition for a Drug-Free Community, schools and local physicians.

No amount of money will solve the crisis without addressing major societal issues, but by publicly recognizing the problem, our county's leaders have taken a significant step toward bringing about a change.

### LETTERS

## Sen. Ridley thanks road, street crews

To the editor:

The winter of 2018 has gotten off to memorable start. Rain and snow, compounded with the freezing temperatures, caused hazardous roads in most communities, including Caldwell, Crittenden, Henderson, Livingston, Union and Webster counties.

However, the road departments – as always – performed with a high level of professionalism and dedication. I want to thank the state, county and city road departments for doing such an excellent job of salting, scrapping and just generally attempting to keep the roads and highways free of ice and snow. The road crews never hesitate to go out in the cold of night or to work around the clock if that is what is necessary to keep the roads as clear and safe as possible. They work many long hours in the cold

to ensure that our roads are drivable.

Despite our gratitude, most of us take for granted the job they do. Without the salt truck running all hours of the day and night and the workers diligently trying to stay ahead of the snow by keeping the roads and highways scraped, our travel would be much more restricted and a lot less safe.

I do not share my gratitude often enough with the road departments, so I want to express my appreciation for their hard work and dedication. I encourage other citizens also to thank these workers for making our lives easier and for doing such an outstanding job. Without them, residents would have felt more repercussions from the last week's inclement weather conditions.

We are fortunate in knowing that they will be right back out there going over and above their job duties when the next winter storm blasts through.

Thank you to each of them.  
**Sen. Dorsey Ridley**  
Henderson, Ky.

# Governor's budget austere

Week 3 of the 2018 Regular Session is in the books. After celebrating Martin Luther King Day on Monday, Tuesday was the kick-off of crafting Kentucky's two-year budget. Gov. Matt Bevin presented the outline of his budget proposal to a joint session of the General Assembly during his annual State of the Commonwealth address. As expected, he proposed one of the trimmest, most austere budgets in recent Kentucky history. The Governor's budget proposal, in its entirety, has been introduced in the House as House Bill 200.

With HB 200 now in our hands, we can get to work on formulating our own budget. Kentucky state lawmakers have the final say on how much will be budgeted and where the money will be spent. Unlike the federal government, we are required to have a balanced budget, and we will be looking at ways to make the best use of the \$22 billion that will be spent in Fiscal Years 2019 and 2020. In doing that, I am sure that some of the Governor's proposals will be included, and some won't.

In his address, Gov. Bevin discussed the need for comprehensive tax reform, in-

cluding comprehensive modernization of our tax code to place Kentucky in a position to compete with surrounding states for jobs and residents. I agree that comprehensive tax reform is needed, but since no specific proposal has been made, I doubt that we will be able to address it in this year's Regular Session.

As has been widely reported – and as I have frequently discussed – Kentucky's public pensions are facing insolvency and pose a threat to the funding for other areas of the budget. Should the money proposed by Gov. Bevin for our pension obligations be in the budget that is ultimately passed, almost 15 percent of the state budget will go toward shoring up what is by many measures the worst funded pension system in the country. The takeaway here, however, is that the more money spent on public pensions, the less it is available for other areas.

The Governor addressed this by, among other things, proposing to eliminate 70 current programs and cutting 6.25 percent to all other state agencies.

The part of the Governor's proposal that most excited me was the money he wants to spend on adoption and foster care reform. This has been a major focus of mine



**Rep. Lynn BECHLER**

#### Kentucky House Legislative Review

R-Marion House District 4  
Crittenden • Livingston  
Caldwell • Christian (part)

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**Service House:** 2013-present

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as well as the executive branch. Gov. Bevin's proposal dedicated \$10.8 million to help children who desperately need families with another \$24 million going to the Department for Community Based Services in order to hire more social workers and increase their pay and that of their supervisors. I don't know if it is possible, but I would like to see even more money set aside for adoption and foster care.

Kentucky faces an opioid epidemic second to no other state in the country, and the erosion to communities and families as a result is devastating. In his budget address, Gov. Bevin proposed earmarking \$34 million to com-

bat Kentucky's opioid epidemic, with a significant portion pledged to helping pregnant mothers who suffer from addiction. While I understand the need to fight this scourge, I don't believe that the problem can be fixed by government spending. It seems that every time the government tries to address drug abuse legislatively, the problem gets worse. At some point, individual responsibility must take place.

HB 92, a bill that would allow jail canteen profits to also be used for the enhancement of jail safety and security, was brought to the House floor for debate. The language of the bill added to the language of the current law, which states that jail canteen profits are to be used for the benefit of and to enhance the well-being of prisoners. The bill passed, and I voted yes.

As always, thank you for reading my updates and thank you for contacting me with your concerns and thoughtful suggestions. It is a privilege to represent you in the Kentucky House of Representatives, and your input helps me make decisions that best represent the views of the Fourth District.

I may be reached through the toll-free message line in Frankfort at (800) 372-7181, directly at (502) 564-8100, by visiting the Kentucky Legislature Home page at [LRC.ky.gov](http://LRC.ky.gov) and clicking on the "Email Your Legislator" link or by mail to the Capitol Annex, Frankfort, KY 40601.

(Rep. Lynn Bechler, R-Marion, has represented House District 4 – Crittenden, Livingston, Caldwell and portion of Christian counties – in the Kentucky General Assembly since 2013.)

## Bevin's budget too harsh to support

Last week, ice, snow and frigid temperatures hit Ken-

tucky. As we were reeling to recover from the first winter storm of 2018, Gov. Matt Bevin proposed his 24-month spending strategy. It was immediately apparent that there were going to be deep cuts to services that Kentuckians depend upon and the elimination of programs that will have long-lasting effects in our communities.

As I am reading through this long and multi-faceted document, I am finding some areas that I can agree, such as more funding to fight opioid and substance abuse; fully funding the SEEK "per pupil" allocation; and funding for 75 new prosecutors and 51 new public advocates. However, I am finding there is more that I cannot concede with in the Governor's budget.

We should not ask the local school districts to contribute toward employee health insurance; use school reserve funds to educate children and support teachers, nor eliminate 70 programs that include cancer screenings, fine arts programs, scholarships for at-risk students and other programs that target our most vulnerable citizens.

The Kentucky General Assembly's only Constitutional requirement is to approve a two-year spending plan for the state. A budget proposal needs to be one that moves the Commonwealth forward,

not rescind the progress we've made. The Governor's budget is positioning our public education system for a "train wreck." In good conscience, I cannot be a part of tearing apart the very fabric of our future and will work not to let that happen.

For decades, we have invested in improving education, having our students compete globally, making higher education more attainable and providing avenues that allow Kentuckians to learn the skills to attract industry. We demand quality teachers and education staff and have high expectations for them. How can we continue to have these expectations if we are going to severely slash their funding and disable their efforts to even sustain the level to which they have realized? Many of our districts are already struggling and the Governor's proposed cuts would have catastrophic impact on the school districts and, most importantly, on our future – the students.

Fortunately, the Governor's plan is just the first step in this multi-faceted process. The House, the chamber from which the budget plan must originate, is writing its own plan. It may include some of the Governor's suggestions, but not all the cuts he proposed that could wreak havoc on education and other Senate priorities. Once the House



**Sen. Dorsey RIDLEY**

#### Kentucky Senate Legislative Review

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

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**Committees**  
Agriculture; Banking & Insurance; Committee on Committees; Rules; State & Local Government; Transportation

**Service House:** 1987-94  
Senate: 2004-present



LRC PUBLIC INFORMATION PHOTO

**Senate Minority Caucus Chair Dorsey Ridley, D-Henderson, asks a question concerning Senate Bill 25, a bill regarding collection of taxes by special purpose government entities, in the Senate State and Local Government Committee.**

budget gains approval there, it will be our turn to approve or present a budget of our own. Most likely, we will end up in a committee of House and Senate members working toward a compromise that will address the concerns of both chambers. That budget will then go to the Governor, who can sign it or make vetoes.

Along with digesting the governor's budget plan, we have been working on legislation making its way through the process. This week, we approved a bill that would provide civil immunity for damaging a vehicle if a person enters the vehicle with the reasonable, good-faith belief that a dog or cat is in immediate danger of death if not removed. Senate Bill 8 would be an extension of SB 16 from 2016, dubbed the Look Before You Lock bill. SB 16 became law and now protects prospective rescuers from being sued for any property damage caused in pursuit of saving the life of a child left in a locked vehi-

cle. SB 8 now goes to the state House for consideration.

As we progress through the session, we will vet and vote on hundreds of bills. But, an increasingly greater amount of our time will be spent on budgetary issues.

You can stay up to date on the budget negotiations and other legislative actions throughout the session by logging onto the Legislative Research Commission, LRC.ky.gov.

As always, you can stay in contact with me by calling the Legislative Message Line at (800) 372-7181 or contact me personally at Dorsey.Ridley@lrc.ky.gov. I always look forward to hearing from Kentuckians with an interest in the work of the General Assembly.

(Sen. Dorsey Ridley, D-Henderson, has represented Senate District 4 – Crittenden, Livingston, Caldwell, Union, Webster and Henderson counties – in the Kentucky General Assembly since 2004.)

# Jail notification system available for subscribers

STAFF REPORT

Area residents no longer need feel left in dark during an escape or other event of public concern at Crittenden County Detention Center.

Jailer Robbie Kirk briefed Crittenden Fiscal Court at last week's monthly meeting about a system the jail hoped to use to keep the community informed of any possible escapes from the lock-up. Magistrates liked the idea, and it is now up and running.

The Remind system, an app initially designed for New York City schools and utilized by Crittenden County Schools, allows anyone to subscribe to push notifications to be sent to their cell phone — or email for those who may not have a mobile phone. It will cost taxpayers nothing, and it costs nothing to sign up for alerts.

There are three ways to subscribe to Remind notifications for Crittenden Jail Public Announcements:

1. On any smartphone, open the

browser to [rmd.at/ccdcpb](http://rmd.at/ccdcpb) and follow instructions that ask for your name and cell phone number or email address. After submitting, you will then be sent a four-digit code to enter to complete the sign-up.

2. Visit [CrittendenCountyDetention.com](http://CrittendenCountyDetention.com) and click on the "Join class" button. It will take you to the same prompt to enter your name and cell number or email to receive the code. The Press Online and the jail's Facebook page will also host a link to join the Remind "classroom" for jail announcements.

3. If you don't have a smartphone, text "@ccdcpb" to 81010, or if you have trouble, try texting "@ccdcpb" to (919) 300-5843.

Kirk said messages are limited to 140 characters. Photos of inmates can also be sent, but may bog down the system if a large number join the Crittenden Jail Public Announcement classroom. In that case, a message would direct recipients to where they could find a photo.

# Revised trash agreement ups rates

STAFF REPORT

Freedom Waste Service will have to take another crack at renewing its solid waste franchise agreement with the county.

At last week's Crittenden Fiscal Court meeting, the Princeton-based garbage collection service returned with a new proposal after an agreement presented in December was rejected. The revision eliminated a new charge to county government for use of a compactor at the convenience center but placed a larger burden on residential subscribers to the service that was proposed last month.

Magistrates were not completely happy with the arrangement. Because the new rate for residential pick-up would go from \$15 monthly to \$18, they want to lock in the terms of Freedom Waste's agreement for five years, as opposed to an annual renewal that could see rates increase again as early as next year.

"I think we should look at a longer-term contract," said Magistrate Dan Wood.

The company will return Feb. 24 to present another contract to the county.

In January, Freedom Waste proposed upping residential rates to \$17.50 each month, a \$2.50 increase and charging the county \$350 monthly

for use of its compactor at Crittenden County Convenience Center. Currently, the county pays nothing for use of the compactor, and under the arrangement proposed last week would continue using it at no cost.

Company owner Joe Buchanan said the rate increase is necessary to cover the increased cost of doing business, chiefly the rising expense of employee compensation, workers compensation insurance and disposal of garbage at landfills.

"The cost for employees has gone up tremendously," he said.

Freedom Waste is now paying garbage truck drivers with their CDL up to \$20 per hour. Buchanan said they could not retain good drivers at a previous \$12-\$14 hourly rate.

Freedom Waste's agreement with the county to be the sole provider of residential collection actually expired Dec. 31, but has been continuing on the same terms until a new contract is agreed upon. The county's 1,100 or so customers, billed quarterly, are already paid up through March 31, so any rate change that may be agreed upon would not take effect until the second quarter of 2018.

Freedom Waste is the only solid waste company to have offered a bid for collecting garbage in Crittenden

County. And while residential customers have only Freedom Waste as an option, businesses have freedom to negotiate the best deal with any commercial collector.

Some magistrates took time to rake Freedom Waste over the coals for what they say is poor customer service, citing their own experiences as examples. They were not happy with the proposed rate increase, but with no other companies interested in collecting the county's trash, they have little choice.

But residents are apparently paying less for garbage collection in Crittenden County than most surrounding communities; less than half, in fact, of what Union County is asked to pay. Judge-Executive Perry Newcom said he called around to see what others were paying, and the county's neighbors to the northeast are paying \$35 per month to their solid waste provider.

"In conversations with other counties, we seem to be cheaper than most," Newcom said.

"You are the cheapest, except for maybe cities," Buchanan agreed, indicating that rates in agreements with cities are offered cheaper because of a tighter geographic area for collection.

Crittenden County has more than 360 miles of roads garbage trucks must travel to collect trash.



PHOTO BY DARYL K. TABOR, THE PRESS

Crittenden County Public Library Bookmobile Librarian Susan Smith speaks with preschool teacher Denise Guess during a visit Tuesday to the elementary school. Every two weeks, students get to climb aboard the bookmobile and make a reading selection based on their own interests. Smith said, though, that most kids judge a book by its cover.

# Surveillance videos posted online help to solve crimes

STAFF REPORT

Surveillance videos posted at The Crittenden Press Online have helped local police solve a couple of alleged crimes over the past few days.

The most recent was a counterfeit case early this week.

Another case, a "drive off" from the Ideal Market gas station last week, was solved thanks to surveillance video provided by the convenience store to police, who asked

The Press to post it online.

Marion Police Chief Ray O'Neal said a local man has been identified as the person allegedly responsible for passing a \$100 counterfeit bill on Jan. 12 at Five Star Food Mart in Marion.

The chief said Tuesday the man's identity would not be released until formal charges are made. He expected those to be filed Wednesday or today (Thursday). He said the man turned himself in after seeing the video online.

## The Crittenden Press

USPS 138-260

### The Crittenden Press management and staff

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- Staff writers.....Alexa Black, Mimi Byrns
- Advertising manager.....Allison Evans
- Operations manager.....Alaina Barnes

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### LETTERS POLICY

Letters should be submitted by 5 p.m. Friday the week before publication and include the author's name, address, phone number and signature. Contact information will not be published. Letters should be written in good taste and not exceed 300 words or be submitted within 30 days of your last submission. We reserve the right to reject or edit letters. Send submissions to: Letters, P.O. Box 191, Marion, KY 42064.

# BOOKMOBILE

Continued from Page 1

tory of CCPL. Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives (KDLA) sent the first bookmobile to the county on Sept. 10, 1966. Gustava McDonald was the first bookmobile librarian.

Nearly every Kentucky county ultimately set up bookmobile service, but the number later dropped because of funding cutbacks.

As with Crittenden County, the state once provided bookmobiles to counties, but stopped in 2008, said KDLA commissioner Terry Manuel. In 2007, CCPL replaced its aging bookmobile with the current version thanks to a \$30,000 grant secured from Gov. Ernie Fletcher's office by former state Rep. Mike Cherry.

The county's old bookmobile was like a bread truck, with few amenities. The current one is heated, cooled, lighted and outfitted with shelves tilted up at the front to keep the books secure. It carries hundreds of titles, including books and movies.

Some counties have switched to smaller, less expensive vans to deliver books to places such as nursing homes, though the number of counties with traditional bookmobile service has remained fairly constant in recent years, Manuel said. "Libraries have stepped up and bought their own bookmobiles," he said.

Manuel said he thought every county has either a bookmobile or a van delivery service.

Another reason so many counties have continued traditional bookmobile programs is that they see a continued need for the service, even in a digital age.

Many rural places in the state, including portions of Crittenden County, do not have good internet service, and some residents can't afford the service when it is

available.

### Meeting a need

Health problems keep people homebound. Many people don't have a car to get to a public library that can be as far as 18 miles away from the far reaches of Crittenden County, and there is little public transportation in much of the state. Work schedules often don't match library hours.

Smith said she has patrons with a variety of health issues, including a woman in her 90s who is legally blind. She relies on audio and large print books for enjoyment. Another, a man who suffered a debilitating stroke, looks forward to a new science-fiction title each visit from the bookmobile.

The bookmobile doesn't run every day, but it makes its way around the county on a regular schedule, returning every two weeks. Smith visits the county's preschool children and daycares, which are her busiest stops. Daycare kids account for as many as 50 checkouts per visit. And Smith invites home daycares and home-schools to join her route.

She goes to the nursing home and the senior center, and even makes a regular stop at the post office in Dycusburg for area residents.

Summer visits to homes help keep kids reading while school is out, countering the "summer slide" in reading skills.

If the weather is good enough for school to be in session, the bookmobile will go just about anywhere a delivery truck can make it up a drive. It does not stop at every house, but rather where people have requested service.

Smith would like to expand her rounds. Every other Wednesday, she works under roof at the library and free to create a new route. "I would love to see that Wednesday filled," she said of her bookmobile schedule.

"Just to add another half-day would be wonderful."

Whatever day, wherever she goes, the response is similar.

"I had one patron tell me it's just like Christmas when I come," Smith said. "That's the nicest thing anyone has said. It's nice to be compared to Santa Claus."

Some people, she claims, even plan their lives around her visit.

"I enjoy getting to see somebody in their home environment," she explained. "You get to meet their dogs. You know about their kids. I like to help people. People like to talk, and some may not have seen anyone in days."

Smith carries a stash of doggie treats and has even helped an elderly patron having trouble making up the bed. In short, she simply loves her job. "I'm making alliances, which is wonderful," she said. "That's the best part."

### Made to serve

For a lot of people, the bookmobile is their only library. Smith, who took over the driver's seat from Nancy Brock in September, delivers a wide array of titles and genres. She knows what her patrons want.

One lady in Sheridan calls herself a "blood and guts" reader. A male patron has told her that if the story doesn't have murder or sex in the first four pages, he's not interested.

"It makes it so much easier when someone tells you what they have in mind," Smith said.

But if she doesn't have what you like, Smith is happy to take requests. She will even make recommendations to those unsure of what they may want to read. And if they don't want to read, there are plenty of movies and television series on board.

"Some that come on never check out a book, just DVDs," she added.

In Iowa, where CCPL Library Director Brandie Ledford worked nine years in a similar role, there are no bookmobiles. Just a month on her new job, having a bookmobile is something that excites her.

"I think it's the coolest thing ever," she said. "It's a great service. You get to do things like visit shut-ins and just be a friend."

Ledford hopes to one day soon to ride along on one of Smith's routes to visit some of the library's homebound patrons.

Despite advancing technology and a general decline in reading interest, Ledford and Smith both believe books and the bookmobile are far from becoming irrelevant. Like bricks and mortar libraries, their mobile counterpart will evolve.

(Editor's note: The Crittenden Press contributed to an article from the Lexington Herald-Leader for this story.)

## Past CCPL bookmobile librarians

Crittenden County Public Library first got a bookmobile in 1966. Since that time, there have been 13 bookmobile librarians, including Susan Smith, who has operated the outreach service since September 2017. Past librarians are:

- Gustava McDonald
- Carol Winn
- Martha Epley
- Nellie Kirk
- Carolyn Paris
- Beverly Hearrell
- Ann Stewart
- Rose Kirk
- Wendy Brown
- Donette Perryman
- Tabby Tinsley
- Nancy Brock

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# Four facing indictments from January grand jury

STAFF REPORT

The Crittenden County Grand Jury indicted four individuals on felony and misdemeanor charges during its January meeting.

A grand jury does not determine guilt or innocence. It merely decides whether enough evidence exists to continue a case in circuit court.

Indicted on Jan. 11 were the following:

- Ryan Paul Parker, 26, of Marion was indicted for second-degree escape. Parker was being held at the county jail on Dec. 6 when he was taken to the local hospital for treatment. While here, he es-

## GRAND JURY

caped and was at large for several hours.

- Casey Leigh Freeman, 19, of Marion was indicted on felony charges of first-degree fleeing or evading police; first-degree wanton endangerment and first-degree wanton endangerment of a police officer. She was also indicted on misdemeanor charges of speeding 25 mph over the limit, reckless driving, improper passing and failure to illuminate head lamps. According to court records, Marion patrolman

Heath Martin attempted to conduct a traffic stop on a vehicle believed to be driven by the defendant on US 60 East on the evening of Dec. 13. The officer had outstanding warrants against the person he believed was operating the vehicle. After activating his blue lights, the officer's report says the 300 Chrysler sped up and reached speeds of 120 mph. The officer's report states that the driver turned the lights off on the vehicle at one point while passing traffic at a high rate of speed. The policemen terminated the pursuit for public safety concerns. Four minutes later, Deputy Don

Perry found the car wrecked on Fish Trap Road in rural Crittenden County. A male passenger was still with the vehicle when the deputy arrived on the scene, but Freeman, who was believed to be the driver, had allegedly fled on foot. She was taken into custody two days later.

In a separate case, Freeman was also indicted on a felony charge of possession of stolen mail matter and a misdemeanor charge of possession of a legend drug. Those charges stem from an August finding of prescription medication belonging to someone else in her vehicle and mail

belonging to someone else, which included a government check, in her car, too. Deputy Chuck Hoover was the investigating officer in that case.

- Justin Edward Rose, 26, of Marion was indicted on a felony charge of first-degree possession of a controlled substance (methamphetamine) and a misdemeanor charge of possession of drug paraphernalia. He was charged following a traffic stop on North Maple Street in Marion by Marion Patrolman George Foster. Rose's case was settled in circuit court on the Rocket Docket on Jan. 11 as he pleaded guilty to both

counts. Rose was sentenced to three years and received pre-trial diversion for three years.

- Andrew Lawrence Bryan, 21, of Marion was indicted on a charge of receiving stolen property (firearm), a Class D felony. According to court records, Deputy Hoover was investigating a burglary case and was questioning Bryan. During their conversation, Bryan admitted to having four guns in his vehicle, which was parked nearby. Hoover identified one of those as a .22 rifle with a special sling which had been reported stolen from the Hebron community.

## Jail revenue eclipses \$200,000 for 1st time

Crittenden County Detention Center appears to have eclipsed \$200,000 in monthly revenue for the first time in the history of corrections in the county.

Each month, Crittenden County Jailer Robbie Kirk provides the fiscal court with an inmate census and housing income report from the previous month. At last Thursday's meeting, he reported \$201,300 in revenue from December 2017 for housing federal, state and county-level inmates from nearby jurisdictions.

"That's been a goal of ours for more than year," Kirk told magistrates. Achieving that mark is "the first time that I know of in the jail's history."

In recent months, jail revenue has been around \$190,000. In October 2017, the detention center finished the month in the black for the first time.

Kirk said a typical day at the jail generates \$5,000-\$6,000 in inmate housing. He believes the lock-up can continue to finish above \$200,000 for the month on a regular basis, save short months like February.

According to Kirk, Prisoner Transport Services of America (PTS) is no longer bringing inmates to the local facility. PTS is the private transport company that allowed two inmates to escape custody last fall, one while offloading in Marion. In November, PTS accounted for only \$780 in jail revenue.

The following data were provided by Kirk at last week's fiscal court meeting:

### Inmate count as of Jan. 18

State inmates	139
Federal inmates	45
Other counties	2
Crittenden County (local charges)	14
<b>Total inmates</b>	<b>200</b>
Weekenders/work release	2
Out to court	0
<b>Actual total inmate bed count</b>	<b>202</b>

### December housing income

State housing	\$134,323.24
Housing days	4,286
Daily housing rate	\$31.34
Federal housing	\$63,135.38
Federal transport payments	\$6,645.38
Housing days	1,345
Daily housing rate	\$42.00
Other county housing	\$2,720.00
Housing days	85
Daily housing rate	\$32.00
Weekend/work release	\$1,120.00
Housing days	35
Daily housing rate	\$32.00
<b>Total housing</b>	<b>\$201,298.62</b>

### December Crittenden County inmate report

Housing days	609
Daily housing rate	\$25.00
Average daily population	19.65
<b>Cost of Crittenden County inmates</b>	<b>\$15,225.00</b>

## Union J-E's death looks to be natural

STAFF REPORT

Union County's embattled judge-executive died of apparent natural causes over the weekend, according to a coroner's report.

Jody Jenkins, 45, was found dead by a friend at his Morganfield residence early Sunday morning. Results of an autopsy

Monday indicate the preliminary cause of death was a combination of pulmonary edema, an enlarged heart and significant blockage of the coronary vessels. However, until toxicology results are received, a final cause of death cannot be determined.

Jenkins in 2017 was investigated by the FBI and indicted on charges of involving kickbacks and defrauding the citizens of Union County. His trial in U.S. District Court was set for May.

He had served as judge-executive since 2007. He has three teenage children.



Jenkins



PHOTO BY DARYL K. TABOR, THE PRESS

## Coaching kickoff

Sean Thompson, named last week as the 15th head coach of the high school's football team, gestures during a conversation with two students Friday evening at a reception to mark his sideline promotion. Thompson, a former quarterback who finished Crittenden County High School in 2004, is the first graduate of the school to head its football team. He replaces Al Starnes, who is retiring after 27 years.

## Snow forces city to average monthly water bills

STAFF REPORT

The recent snow will affect Marion water customers' upcoming bills, according to City Administrator Adam Ledford.

For the billing period of Dec. 15-Jan. 15, the city will be using a 12-month average usage to bill water customers. That is due to snow and ice covering most meters during the time they would normally be read. This temporary action will be reflected on February bills mailed at the end of January and due for payment by Feb. 10.

Ledford said the city's utility billing software has the ability to conduct the process seamlessly. He said reading meters after the snow had cleared late last week was considered, but it would have had an adverse impact on low-usage customers since

several cost factors are based on usage during the typical 28- to 31-day billing period. Extending that period could push some customers beyond 1,500-gallon minimum, upping usage charges and an incremental environmental assessment fee.

"By using the average usage method, we are avoiding those financial impacts to low use customers," the city administrator said.

Since water usage can vary widely month to month for some customers, it is possible the 12-month average will be noticeably different than a typical February bill. There has been no change to either water rates or fees, and sewage billed will remain at 75 percent of water usage.

Ledford said the city's software has a built-in function

to adjust March bills when actual readings from mid-February are used for billing. So a customer on March 10 will pay only the difference between total usage over the two-month period beginning Dec. 15 and what they were billed in February based on average usage.

"It is designed to factor in what usage was paid during the month of averaging and adjust the new usage amount to compensate for usage paid since the last reading on the meter," he explained.

For example, a customer's bill is for 5,000 gallons based on the average, so on Feb. 10, they will pay that amount. However, actual usage was 4,000 gallons during Dec. 15 to Jan. 15 and 6,000 during the current billing period that ends in mid-February for a

total of 10,000 gallons. Ledford said the system will automatically recognize that the customer paid for 5,000 gallons in February, so the March 10 bill will be for only the remaining 5,000 gallons of the two-month total.

If a water leak adversely affected the 12-month average, like the previous example, the system will adjust to bill for only the difference between actual two-month usage and what was already paid.

This is not the first time the City of Marion has been forced by some unavoidable circumstances to use this process.

"However, we wish to make the public aware of what is going on," Ledford said.

For anyone with further questions, they may call city hall at (270) 965-2266.

## MYSTERY

Continued from Page 1

Marion City Administrator in December 2016. "This is very important, because skeptics might say that we don't have enough people to put this event on. They only have 900!"

Ledford said the tiny community north of Seattle was like Marion in that there were few places to overnight. In fact, Langley had only two bed and breakfasts and a campground.

He believes Langley's proximity to Seattle - about 35 miles or 80-90 minutes by way of highway and ferry to the island community - is a help in the numbers it draws. Marion, too, can draw from a large population base, he argues.

"But look at us, and what is within 2 hours of us," Ledford said. "The big vision about this event - if people like it and if it sticks - is people from the Evansville, Nashville and Paducah areas visiting us in the future. That is the long-term goal of the event."

"For the first time we put it on, weather permitting, we would like to see 100-200 people, and that would be a

success."

The rules are fairly simple. Once visitors arrive at the Chamber of Commerce office, they will be handed an edition of The Crittenden Press with a special insert inside with a murder investigation going on in town. There will also be a map showing the businesses in town that will have clues helpful to solve the murder mystery. Those clues may be either on the counter or somewhere hidden.

Chris Evans, publisher of weekly newspaper, hopes businesses will see value in advertising in this section of the paper, which will also help the Chamber of Commerce offset the cost of organizing the event.

Also, somewhere in the newspaper, there will be a solution sheet that visitors will turn in at the end of the day.

"What visitors would do is spend the day in the community, going around town, in the businesses, looking for the clues," Ledford said. "In order for them to get to the clues, they would have to come into the businesses."

But there will be more to that just going around looking for clues and deciphering them.

"We will also have actors

roaming around that are the characters of the murder story. They may be in a building or on the street, but they'll be in the downtown core area."

The concept of the event, purely fiction, is that the previous owner of the Marion Bobcats has been murdered. There will be a story in the paper talking about the sale of the Bobcats and his death, and other fake things going on in the community. Visitors will be able to go around and ask characters questions in order to get to the solution of the mystery. They will be dressed for the character, and it will be easy to recognize them, according to Ledford.

To make the event seem more realistic, there will be a location cordoned off with crime scene tape in the downtown area representing the murder scene.

"There's likely to be clues located at the crime scene that all the investigators can go and look at," Ledford explained.

At noon on March 10, the coroner will have his autopsy completed and give a report from the downtown gazebo announcing his findings. There will likely be some clues discovered from the au-

topsy. So then visitors can put together all these clues and come up with a solution - who did it and why.

Sleuths will fill out a form and turn it in. Community Arts Foundation is going to have dinner fundraiser at Fohs Hall, and those who buy a \$10 ticket can mingle with the actors at the closing scene where everyone will find out who the murderer was.

"We will announce a winner and pull one grand prize," Ledford said. "Everyone else who got it right will get a small token gift, and we will post the end results on Facebook."

More detailed rules and information about the weekend mystery theater are forthcoming. Businesses in town are now being contacted to participate as locations for clues on March 10.

"People love these types of games," the city administrator and orchestrator of the event said. "We will give out enough information in order for people to have fun and enjoy the game."

"It's about the journey and not really about the solution"

A Facebook page entitled "Marion Murder Mystery" has been created to support this event.

## SHOOTING

Continued from Page 1

three Crittenden County teens and the nephew of a local family was among the injured.

"We want to assure everyone here at home that safety and security remain our top priority for students and staff every day," said

Crittenden County Superintendent Vince Clark. "Crittenden County Schools will continue to practice heightened awareness and remain vigilant to keep each of our campuses safe."

While school shootings have killed dozens of people across the country in the last few years, Tuesday's incident hit closer to home than any other. Benton is just more than 40 miles from Marion. Many local parents, students and faculty are friends with or know counterparts in Marshall County through athletic and academic competitions or other means.

"Crittenden County School District sends our thoughts and prayers to our friends in Marshall County

today," Clark said Tuesday afternoon. "We mourn with the students, parents, staff and community in the aftermath of the tragedy at Marshall County High School."

The massacre at MCHS was the first school shooting to claim a life in 2018, but came just a day after a teenage girl was wounded by a fellow high-schooler in Texas. It is also the second deadly school shooting in far western Kentucky in the last 21 years.

At Heath High School in 1997, Michael Carneal, 14 at the time, shot and killed three and injured several others. That incident was two years before Columbine, the mass shooting that left 15 dead and raised the entire nation's awareness to the threat of gun violence at schools.

Crittenden County schools have procedures in place for active shooter threats and regularly practice drills for such incidents. They also work with local law enforcement officers to host active shooter training inside each building and have unscheduled searches for weapons by specially-trained dogs.



Clark

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# Picnics, fishing simple pleasures

Let's go back many years ago to a time when picnics and fishing trips to our local places evoked much anticipation, compared to today when people look forward to far away vacations in exciting places with man-made amusements to entertain the whole family.

The Ohio River, Barnett Lake at Tolu, Winslow Park and Harrison Trestle were a few of the local sites that were popular. These happy day adventures were found in the archives of The Crittenden Press.

August 14, 1913  
A Delightful Fishing Trip

On the last day of July there was quite a number of us who went on a fishing tour at Barnett's Lake near Tolu. The party consisted of Grover White and wife, John Boyd and family, Charlie Boyd and family, Miss Denzil Beard of near Hebron, A. B. Griffin and family and several others joined our band before we reached the lake.

About 7:30 a.m., most of the crowd had gathered at the home of A. B. Griffin, and we started from there. Then the fun began. There was one wagon load of men and quite a number of us in buggies.

There was one apple orchard visited and some of the crowd enjoyed a watermelon which some of us missed.

We drove over a long beautiful road, then came to a fine well of water, where we watered our teams and ourselves, then quickly ended our journey at the lake.

There the men prepared for seining the lake, after dragging the lake they drew out many large fish and the women began to prepare for frying them and making coffee. After this was done, the men were called for dinner, and the large baskets that had been prepared for that day were brought down to the edge of the water and the nice things were spread on the ground and was enjoyed by everyone present.

After the dinner was cleared away, the little children napped a while and the women were laughing and talking. About the grandest thing was the little people wading in the lake. We believe they were the prettiest children we ever saw before. They were little Annie Mae Boyd, Garland Griffin, Charline Boyd, Wilson Boyd and Bennett Hamilton. They waded in the water for quite a while, then they were redressed and we started for home.

We reached Mr. Griffin's and the fish were divided and each one started for their respective homes. So this ended our fishing trip and what a wonderful trip it was.

August 12, 1915  
A Picnic On The Ohio



Although the people in this vintage picture are unidentified, it gives us a good example of a long ago picnic on the ground in a beautiful setting somewhere in our county.

Wednesday morning, July 28, about 7:20 a.m., Mr. J. R. Vaughan and wife, Bert B. Stout, wife and baby, H. D. Vaughan, wife and children, Messrs Doyle Vaughan, Roscoe Stout, of St. Louis, Richard Rushing of Erie, Tenn.; Misses Dezzie Ford, Ruth Driver and Christine Rushing, of Erie, Tenn., all started for a picnic on the Ohio.



**Brenda Underdown**  
County Historian

Forgotten Passages

We arrived at Weston about 9:15 a.m., where we found a fine place to stay on the river bank, under some big sycamore trees. The breeze off the river was fine and kept the heat from being oppressive.

We had plenty of lemonade and ice cold cider all day. We all visited the city of Weston before dinner where we got plenty of candy and peanuts. We then returned to the river, rested a while and spread dinner which was plentiful and enjoyed by all.

The excursion steamer, John S. Hopkins came up the river just after dinner, and two towboats went up the river and a dredge boat came down.

After dinner, Mrs. T. A. Enoch and Miss Dollie joined us. The young people took a stroll on the bluff and the men went in bathing. The rest of the afternoon was spent in chatting, eating fruit and taking pictures.

About six o'clock we all started for home, but stopped on the road at a cool shady place and ate our supper. An auto came along and caused some excitement among the teams and some of the women.

We then had a nice cool drive the rest of the way home where we arrived tired and exhausted, but not sorry we had 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 Country 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, Okla., 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 color was so still.

But as for real fish, we caught about 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.

July 8, 1921 - Sunday School Picnic

On Tuesday evening Bob Elkins' big truck, together with several automobiles got busy and gathered up the Cumberland Presbyterians of the town and took them to Uncle Iva Hughes' Spring near Harrison Trestle for a picnic given under the auspices of the Marion Cumber-

land Presbyterian Sunday School.

They began gathering on the ground about 5 p. m. and kept coming until near 7 and it seemed that everybody brought a paper sack or some other form of package with something good to eat in it.

The little folks and Walter McConnell kicked all the mud out of the swimming hole, the big girls put in much time mule back riding. Watts Lamb and Jeff Travis erected a horizontal bar and passed an ordinance that everybody had to chin the pole before he got his supper.

Daniel Jasper Travis, "Uncle Dan," was the champion. He chinned the pole 14 times. It was good as any picture show to watch Jeff Asher's face while he was making it over twice.

In due time and just at the right time of day, the good women called us to supper and such a supper! There is not space to enumerate the variety of good eats but suffice to say that there was something plenty to satisfy any appetite or taste.

After the repast, the young people assembled and made the woods ring with such songs. "Old Kentucky Home," "Star Spangled Banner" and other songs. I never saw a more enjoyable occasion.

The ages of the children ranged from six months to Uncle Eli Nunn, 79, being the oldest. I am sure that it can safely be said that everyone there really enjoyed the whole affair.

A Sunday School Picnic. Did it do any good? Was there any religion in it? Yes. The favorable communicative side of the human life is sociality. If we win the world for Christ the world must know there is joy, peace and happiness in the Christian religion.

## County officials' email

Crittenden Fiscal Court, in an effort to modernize and streamline communication, is has a new website in development and has assigned elected county officials and county-level administrators personalized email addresses with the county's new web domain. Generally, county administrators and officials can be emailed with their first name and last name separated by a period followed by the "@crittendencountyky.org" domain. Some officials will continue to use their state-assigned email address. The email accounts are intended for both internal communication and business correspondence from the general public. Key email address are listed below:

### Elected officials email

#### Judge-Executive

Perry.Newcom@crittendencountyky.org

#### Magistrate, District 1

Danny.Fowler@crittendencountyky.org

#### Magistrate, District 2

Curt.Buntin@crittendencountyky.org

#### Magistrate, District 3

Zach.Bloodworth@crittendencountyky.org

#### Magistrate, District 4

Mark.Holloman@crittendencountyky.org

#### Magistrate, District 5

Donnetta.Travis@crittendencountyky.org

#### Magistrate, District 6

Dan.Wood@crittendencountyky.org

#### Sheriff

Wayne.Agent@crittendencountyky.org

#### County Attorney

Rebecca.Johnson@crittendencountyky.org

#### Jailer

Robbie.Kirk@crittendencountyky.org

### Administrators email

#### Treasurer

Sue.Padget@crittendencountyky.org

#### Tax Administrator

Lisa.Benson@crittendencountyky.org

#### Animal Control Officer

Timmy.Todd@crittendencountyky.org

### Unchanged email addresses

#### County Clerk

Carolyn.Byford@ky.gov

#### Circuit Clerk

MelissaGuill@kycourts.net

#### Property Valuation Administrator

RonnieD.Heady@ky.gov

## Mediacom best employer for women, people of color

Mediacom Communications earned high rankings within the cable and telecommunications industry as one of the top companies for women to work, and as a top employer for people of color.

Women in Cable Telecommunications (WICT) named Mediacom as a "2017 Best Company for Women to Work," based on survey data collected to measure gender-inclusion practices and the status of women employees in the cable industry. The survey's three main criteria assess pay equity, advancement opportunities and resources for work-life integration. Mediacom will be recognized as among the 'Best Companies for Women to Work' during an industry event to be held in New York City in April.

Following a separate assessment of workforce diversity, Mediacom was also named a 2017 Top Company for People of Color. Employment data compiled by the National Association for Multi-Ethnicity in Communications (NAMIC) recognize Mediacom for achieving a high level of diversity. The survey captured workforce demographics, diversity

practices, non-traditional employee benefits, and other indicators.

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Ad paid for by Marion Tourism Commission

## THANK YOU

We don't know your names, but you know who you are. "7 Good Samaritans" on Fords Ferry Road, Thursday, January 18th.

You stayed until you got us out of the ditch. So good to live in a place with good neighbors. Thank you and may God bless you.

Bill and Marlene James

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# Religion *The Crittenden Press*

The Press Online

www.the-press.com



## Roe v Wade

### Another day that should live in infamy

If we called Dec. 7, 1941 – a day when 2,403 Americans lost their lives in Japan's sneak attack at Pearl Harbor – “a day that will live in infamy,” then what should we call Jan. 22, 1973 – of that miscarriage of justice known as Roe vs Wade which led to over 60 million Americans murdered in the womb?

How does something like this happen?

Perhaps God can enlighten us through one of His Prophets, a fellow named Ezekiel. At the time of Ezekiel's prophetic ministry, God's people had gotten the idea because God had chosen them as His special people, they could do what ever they pleased.

Ezekiel 9:9 shows just what that was and what God had thought of it: “Then He (God) said to me (Ezekiel), ‘The iniquity [moral evil] of the house of Israel and Judah is exceedingly great, and the land is full of bloodshed (of the innocent), and the city full of perversity; for they say, The Lord has forsaken the land, and The Lord does not see!’”

The likeness of this verse to America's sin is uncanny. The sins are the shedding of innocent blood (abortion), perversion (including all forms of sexual immorality as defined by God in the Bible), and the rejection of God's authority.

How serious is all that? God said, “The iniquity of the house of Israel and Judah (and America) is ex-

ceedingly great....” In the next verse (Ezekiel 9:10), God says, “And as for Me also, My eye will neither spare, nor will I have pity, but I will recompense their deeds on their own head.”

Ezekiel, chapter nine, began with a vision of this very thing.

Americans, and even the very church of God, think they can sin and approve of sin without any kind of serious consequences. But there are serious consequences – over 60 million of them, and the wrath of God.

Many Americans, as well as many church members, have lost a healthy fear of God (respect). We tolerate what was once considered immoral, illegal, inhumane and ungodly. God's standard has not changed, but our hearts surely have. We have failed to heed the warning of Proverbs 4:23, which says, “Keep your heart with all diligence, for out of it spring the issues of life.”

America once held to a higher standard – God's standard. It honored God's words in Proverbs 14:34, which says, “righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people.” God's people were salt and light, influencing the culture rather than shamefully following an evil culture.



Mark GIRTEN  
Guest columnist  
Pastor's Pen

What happened? Cowardice? Apathy? Selfishness? Perhaps all of the above.

God knows those who act like His people. We read in Ezekiel 9:4, “and the Lord said to him, ‘Go through the midst of the city, through the midst of Jerusalem, and put a mark on the foreheads of the men who sigh and cry over all the abominations that are done within it.’” Proverbs 6:16-19 lists seven abominations – things God hates – one of which is “Hands that shed innocent blood.” Abortion fits the bill. Its supporters try to dress it up in pretty clothes, but God calls it what it is – an abomination. And all the euphemisms in the world, like “a woman's right to choose” and “reproductive freedom,” will not change the ugly reality of over 60 million lives snuffed out because of selfishness and sin. There is a thing called adoption, after all.

As Americans, we too often fail to connect the dots and see the big picture. You might say that we can't see the forest for the trees. The sins listed in Ezekiel 9:9 were shedding innocent blood, perversion and idolatry. Taking these in reverse order, we see how America came to the place of exceedingly great iniquity and the displeasure of God. Step one: Cease to respect and honor God as the supreme authority on all matters in life. Step two: Consider sexual freedom of greater im-

portance than God, perverting His design. Step three: Shed innocent blood in an attempt to cover up sexual sin and avoid its consequences.

The Apostle Paul, in I Cor. 1:24, speaks of our Lord Jesus Christ as the wisdom of God. Coupling this with Proverbs 8:36, we read, “But he who sins against me (Christ, the wisdom of God) wrongs his own soul; All those who hate me (Christ, the wisdom of God) love death.”

If six million dead Jews is a holocaust, what is over 60 million dead American killed through abortion? What difference would their lives have made? Yet we yawn, or even worse, give our stamp of approval. But God says, “... put a mark on the foreheads of the men (People) who sigh and cry over all the abominations that are done....” Jesus said, in Matthew 5:4, “Blessed are those who mourn....” We have much mourning to do ... for souls, and for sins. Will we be a culture of death or life?

In Jesus we find both wisdom and life, eternal and abundant. Jan. 22, 1973, has my vote for the greatest day of infamy. How about you? The question yet remains, what will we do about it?

Mark Girten, pastor at Crooked Creek Baptist Church, shares his views periodically in this newspaper.

### Church Events & Outreach

#### Clothes closet open in Fredonia

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

#### Pantry is available at First Baptist

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

#### Mexico Baptist clothes closet open Mondays

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

#### Fredonia clothes closet open Thursdays

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

#### Cave Springs blessing box open 24/7

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.

FLORIDA

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At The Crittenden County Health Dept.  
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# WORSHIP

*with us this week*

**FOR WHERE TWO OR THREE ARE GATHERED TOGETHER IN MY NAME, THERE AM I IN THE MIDST OF THEM.**

— MATTHEW 18:20

### St. William Catholic Church

Sunday Mass 11 a.m.  
Father Ryan Harpole

860 S. Main St.  
Marion, Ky.  
965-2477

### Mexico Baptist Church

175 Mexico Road, (270) 965-4059  
MexicoBaptist.org

Minister of Youth Robert Kirby | Minister of Music Mike Crabtree  
Pastor Tim Burdon

Sunday worship services: 10 am, 7 pm  
Sunday Bible study: 9 am  
Sunday discipleship training: 6 pm  
Wednesday worship service: 7 pm

### DEER CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

Interim Pastor: Larry Davidson  
Sunday Bible Study: 10 a.m.  
Sunday Worship: 11 a.m. & 6 p.m.  
Wednesday Bible Study: 7 p.m.

Approx. 5 miles from the intersection of Hwy. 60 & Hwy. 297  
Phone (270) 965-2220

*“Whatever It Takes!”*

### Emmanuel Baptist Church

Captured by a vision...

108 Hillcrest Drive, Marion | 270.965.4623  
Sunday School: 9:30 am | Sunday Worship: 10:45 am, 6 pm  
Wednesday Adult Bible Study, Children and Youth Activities: 6 pm

Curtis Preuitt, pastor

### Crooked Creek Baptist Church

261 Crooked Creek Church Road, Marion, Ky.

Sunday school, 10 am  
Sunday morning worship, 11 am  
Sunday evening worship, 6 pm  
Wednesday evening worship, 6 pm

Pastor  
Bro. Mark Girten

*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.

True Sanders, pastor

### Unity General Baptist Church

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

### Marion Baptist Church

College and Depot streets, Marion • 270.965.5232  
Dr. Mike Jones, pastor

Early worship service 8:15 pm  
Life groups/Sunday school 9:30 pm  
Late worship service 10:45 pm  
AWANA 5:45 pm

Limitless worship 8:00 pm  
Discipleship class 6:30 pm  
Wednesday nursery, preschool, Centershot and youth 5:45 pm  
Wednesday prayer service 6:15 pm

*Join us for praise and worship*

### SEVEN SPRINGS MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

Located between Dycusburg and Frances on Ky. 70

Sunday School: 10 am  
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Dr. Bobby Garland, pastor

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Visit one of our area churches for worship and fellowship

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“For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I in the midst of them.”  
— Matthew 18:20

### FIRST CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

224 W. Bellville St. • Marion, Ky.  
Dee Ann Thompson, pastor  
Sunday School 9:45 a.m. • Sunday Worship 10:45 a.m.  
Sunday Night Worship Service 6 p.m.

### Piney Fork

Pastor Junior Martin

CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday School 10 am  
Worship 11 am  
Bible study 6 pm

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Ky. 506 | Marion, Ky.

### Sugar Grove

cumberland presbyterian

585 Sugar Grove Church Road, Marion, Ky. | 270.704.2455  
Sunday School - 10 am | Sunday Worship - 11 am and 6 pm  
Wednesday Bible Study - 7 pm

### Marion United Methodist Church

Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.  
The People of the United Methodist Church

WEDNESDAY Bible study 5:30 pm  
SUNDAY Sunday school 9:30 am  
Worship 10:45 am

Rev. David COMBS

South College Street | the-press.com/MARIONUnitedMethodist.html

### Tolu United Methodist Church

Bro. Selby Coomer, Pastor  
We invite you to be our guest

Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.  
The People of the United Methodist Church

Sunday School 10 am • Service 11 am • Wednesday night youth 6:30 p.m.

### Barnett Chapel General Baptist

Sunday school: 9:45 a.m.  
Sunday worship: 11 a.m.  
Wednesday night Bible study: 6 p.m.

Barnett Chapel...where everyone is welcome.

Barnett Chapel Road, Marion, Ky.  
Mike Jacobs, pastor

### Marion Church of God

334 Fords Ferry Road • Marion, Kentucky

Sunday School 10 a.m. • Morning Service 11 a.m.  
Sunday Evening 6 p.m. • Wednesday Evening 6 p.m.

*“Where salvation makes you a member.”*

Lucy Tedrick, pastor

### Marion Church of Christ

546 West Elm Street • (270) 965-9450

Sunday Bible Study: 9:30 a.m.  
Sunday Worship: 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m.  
Wednesday Bible Study: 6:30 p.m.

*— The end of your search for a friendly church —*

### Tyner's Chapel Church

Located on Ky. 855 North

Sunday: 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.  
Wednesday: 6 p.m.

Pastor Charles Tabor

### Crayne Community Church

Crayne Cemetery Road  
Crayne, Ky.

Bro. Tommy Hodge, pastor

Sunday school 10 AM | Sunday worship 11 AM

### Frances Community Church

Bro. Butch Gray • Bro. A.C. Hodge

Wednesday night prayer meeting and youth service - 7 pm  
Sunday school - 10 am • Worship service - 11 am

### Hurricane Church

Hurricane Church Road off Ky. 135 West

Bro. John Robertson, Pastor

Sunday school, 10 a.m. • Worship, 11 a.m.  
Sunday and Wednesday evening services, 6:30 p.m.

## Rushing

Robert Lavon Rushing, 65, of Marion died Wednesday, Jan. 17, 2018 at Crittenden Hospital.

Survivors include his wife, Donna Jo Rushing of Marion; daughters, Cambree Jade Rushing of Marion and Bobbi Jo Fowler of Lebanon, Ky.; a son, Robert Bart Rushing of Florida; brothers, Ronald and Charles Rushing both of Princeton; and Howard Rushing of Paducah; sisters, Debra Rushing of Louisville, Cindy Waters of Eddyville, Doreen Rushing of Morganfield and Dana Hill of Eddyville; her mother, Shirley Rushing of Eddyville; and several grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his father, Howard L. Rushing; and three brothers.

Services were Saturday, Jan. 20 at Gilbert Funeral Home in Marion. Burial was at Crayne Cemetery.

## Lundstrom

Kay Vinson Lundstrom, 79, of Princeton died Tuesday, Jan. 16, 2018 at Caldwell Medical Center.

She was a cashier at J.W. Quinn's grocery for 21 years prior to attaining her master's degree. She was a social worker for Master Care in Christian County and then an independent social worker of PADD.

She was a member of Gracey West Union Baptist Church in Gracey.

Surviving are her husband of 56 years, Ernest Lundstrom; two daughters, Jodell P'Pool and husband Richard of Princeton and Billie Kay Farless and husband Joe of Princeton; a son, John Lundstrom of Princeton; and 10 grandchildren, Holly Wyatt Patterson and husband Chris, Anna Kaye Cook and husband Milton, Richard Seth P'Pool and wife Stephanie, Laura MacKenzie Copeland and husband Chad, Ryals Farless and wife Taylor, Clay Farless and wife Chelsey, Alex Farless, John Brandon Lundstrom, Brandi Kay Noel and husband James and James Ernest Lundstrom and wife Heather; and 15 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Luther Alvin Vinson and Hazel Mae Farley Vinson; a great-grandson, Madux Wayne Copeland; a sister, Louise Peters; and a brother, Wayne Vinson.

Services were Sunday at Morgan's Funeral Home in Princeton with Bro. Bradley Cornelius and Rev. Joe Farless officiating. Burial was at Meeks Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to Gracey West Union Baptist Church Youth Fund, 185 Gracey Sinking Fork Road, Gracey, KY 42232.

## Phelps

Wilma Phelps, 91, of Kuttawa, died Sunday, Jan. 14, 2018 at Crittenden Hospital in Marion.

Surviving are a daughter, Teresa D. Avery and husband Mike of Kuttawa, a granddaughter, Meagan Jones and husband Mitchell of Kuttawa; two great-grandchildren, Abby and Eden Jones of Kuttawa; and a sister, Barbara Faye Conner of Grand Rivers.

She was preceded in death in 2004 by her husband Raymond Phelps; five sisters Ruby Peek, Alice Brown, Maggie Shewcraft, Helen Gray and Lula Belle Martin; three brothers, Russell Rednour, Vernon Rednour and Everett Rednour; and her parents, James Marion and Florence Lydia Sullivan Rednour.

Services were Friday, Jan. 19 at Dunn's Funeral Home in Eddyville with Rev. Mike Wimberly officiating. Burial was at Dycusburg Cemetery in Crittenden County.

## Area Deaths

### Wilson

Sue Brown Wilson, 86, of Lebanon, KY, died Wednesday, Dec. 20, 2017. She was born on Oct. 2, 1931 in Moreland, Ky.

She was a retired book-keeper.

Survivors include two daughters, Jeanne Kirk (Larry) of Marion and Debbie Wilson of Lebanon, Ky.; sister, Jean Donovan of Danville; two grandchildren, Jonathon Kirk (Cassidy) and Sami Jo Tate (Evan); four great-grandchildren, Hunter Kirk and Drake Kirk of Marion and Collins Tate and Callahan Tate of Hardinsburg.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Billy Ray Wilson; her parents; and three brothers.

Services were Dec 23 at Bosley Funeral Home with burial in Ryder Cemetery.

### McMican

Charles "Charlie" William McMican, 76, of Rockport, Ind. died Jan. 3, 2018.

Surviving are his son, Tim McMican and his wife Rhonda of Rockport; daughter Sherry Mosby and her husband Tim of Evansville; four grandchildren, Megan, Courtney, Jonah McMican and Rachel Mosby; a great-grandson, Aiden McMican; and a sister, Margaret Ann Parrish of Marion.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Charlie Howard McMican and Ivy Lela Kemp McMican; wife, Joyce McMican; sisters, Jane Elouise Baumrucker and Sarah Nickles; and a brother, G.H. McMican.

Services were Saturday, Jan. 6 at the Boultinghouse Funeral Home in Rockport with Bill McMican officiating. Burial was at James Parker Cemetery in Hatfield, Ind.

Memorials may be made to the Luce Township Fire Department.

### Wood

Hayden Bernard Wood, 80, of Springfield, Tenn., formerly of Marion, died Jan. 19, 2018.

He was born in Glasgow on March 26, 1937 to parents R.C. and Dorothy Isenberg Wood. He was mayor of Marion from 1985 to 1988, served in the National Guard and was a businessman who worked in sales and owned his own agricultural and recycling companies. He was an avid reader and served on the regional and local library boards, which helped build the new library in Springfield.

Surviving are his wife of 59 years, Phyllis Conger Wood; siblings, Jerry (Sherry) Wood, Marilyn (Dickie) Barrick and Steve Wood, all of Glasgow; children, Kevin (Lesia) Wood of Springfield, Tenn., and Jay (Keri) Wood of McMinnville, Tenn.; six grandchildren; Erin (Jonathan) Schaefer, Mitchell (Ginh) Wood, Hayden Wood, Hannah (Chad) Dunn, Harrison Wood and Hailey Wood; and a great-granddaughter Joanna Marie Wood.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his brother David Wood.

Graveside services were Tuesday, Jan. 23 at Mapleview Cemetery in Marion, KY.

Gilbert Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Memorials may be made to Stokes Brown Library 405 White Street, Springfield, TN 37172.

For Online Condolences  
myersfuneralhomeonline.com  
boydfuneraldirectors.com  
gilbertfunerals.com

### Simmons

Paul Andrew Simmons, Jr, 61, of Burna, formerly of Murray, died Friday, Jan. 19, 2018 at Ray and Kay Eckstein Hospice Care Center in Paducah.

He is survived by a sister, Barbara Simmons (Michael Denham) of Murray; a brother, Arville (Marilyn) Simmons of Murray; a half-sister, Debbie of Bowling Green; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by a half-sister, Wilma Houston; and his parents, Paul and Shirley Radar Simmons Sr.

There will be no services. Arrangements were under the direction of Boyd Funeral and Cremation Services.

### Prowell

Wayne Allen Prowell, 76, of Fredonia died Saturday, Jan. 20, 2018 at Baptist Health Paducah.

He was a farmer and a member of Walnut Grove Baptist Church where he served as a deacon for over 40 years.

Surviving are his wife of 58 years, Linda Prowell; two daughters, Jacqueline "Jacqui" Morris and husband Pat of Hopkinsville, Dorinda Workman and husband Mack of Paducah; a son, Matt Prowell and wife Angie of Fredonia; a sister, Demaris Hooks of Fredonia; six grandchildren, Vanda Adamson and husband Chuck, Cody Hunt and wife, Megan, Bristyn Prowell, Morgan, Emma and Trey Workman; five great-grandchildren, Hayden and Gage Adamson, Chloe, Kiley and Cutler Hunt.

He was preceded in death by his parents, A.O. and Mary Phelps Prowell; and three brother-in-laws, Gary Blackburn, Bob Hooks and Buddy Felker.

Services were Tuesday, Jan. 23 at Walnut Grove Baptist Church with Rev. Bill Bruce, Rev. Wayne Duncan and Rev. Curtis Franklin officiating. Burial was at Rowland Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to Bright Life Farms and Crittenden County Jail Ministry both c/o Walnut Grove Baptist Church, Highway 902 E., Fredonia, KY 42411.

## Local Obituary Archives

Searchable Database at The-Press.com Find electronic files from 2008-2018

## Correction; inmates get more time

The two defendants who got into a fight in the Crittenden County Circuit Courtroom Jan. 11 each received six-month sentences for contempt of court.

The Press incorrectly reported last week that the two received 60-day sentences.

Levi Brennan, 20, of Marion and Andrew Bryan, 21, of Hampton were co-defendants in a home invasion case from last January in Salem. They also face charges in Crittenden County. The two got into an altercation in the courtroom despite being cuffed and shackled. They were taken out of the courtroom and their appearances before Circuit Judge Rene Williams were postponed for a month.

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**FORDS FERRY RD...**3 BR, 2 BA brick home on corner lot in Marion. Central heat & air, city utilities, large kitchen with dining area. gh

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FAX: (270) 965-5272



Jim DeFreitas - Sales Associate (270) 832-0116  
Sharon Belt—Broker (270) 965-2358  
Raymond Belt—Owner / Principle  
Broker / Auctioneer (270) 965-2358

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## Marion native on Chicago Fire

Crittenden County High School graduate Matthew Collins will have a small acting role on the NBC television show "Chicago Fire," which airs at 8 p.m., Thursday (today).



Collins

Collins studied theater at Murray State and landed roles in several Community Arts Foundation productions in Marion as a teenager. The Chicago resident appeared on an episode of "Chicago Fire" in season one.

Collins is the son of the late Eddy and Joyce Collins.

# NTI days engage, benefit students

Crittenden County's first real bout with winter weather last week created the hazardous driving situations, resulting in the closure of Crittenden County schools for the entire week.

The school district initiated three NTI (non-traditional instruction) days, also called Rocket Way Snow Days, and two traditional snow days, which will be made up later in the school calendar. While the district has 10 NTI days available, superintendent Vince Clark said he and the Board of Education are very thoughtful about using them.

"Our focus is on learning every day," said Clark. "We

know that nothing takes the place of students in the classroom with our teachers, and we strive to protect that time. The NTI days, however, allow us the opportunity to continue learning when weather prevents students from physically being in the buildings."

Clark said that teachers carefully plan NTI lessons in October to coincide with state standards, reinforcing key concepts in all subject areas,



Vince CLARK  
Schools superintendent  
*Super News*

with a special emphasis on reading, math and critical thinking skills.

"These lessons are deliberate, well-planned and evaluated by colleagues and building administrators prior to being assembled for students," said Clark. "All of them are designed to reinforce skills essential to learning at their designated grade levels. No new content is ever introduced during an NTI day."

Currently, a bill that would eliminate the state's

Non-Traditional Instruction program in three years, is on its way to Kentucky's House of Representatives, after unanimously passing the Senate. Clark said he is concerned with that decision, adding that he feels the NTI days are beneficial to Crittenden County students.

"In situations like last week when it is impossible to transport students on hazardous roads, learning often can be derailed. With Rocket Way Snow Days, we can feel confident that students are continuing to read, practice computations, write and think critically. Even though the typical school schedule may be inter-

rupted, learning continues to occur, keeping students connected and engaged."

The added advantage of Chromebooks, especially for middle and high school students, further enhances NTI days. CCHS students take their devices home daily. CCMS students piloted this initiative over the snow break last week, with a near perfect return rate on the first day back to school. Students at the middle and high level had the option of completing their NTI work digitally or on paper, while elementary students used paper packets.

## Calendar

— **Brown Bag Book Club** meets at 11:30 a.m. Jan. 31 at Crittenden County Public Library. It's Reader's Choice Book Club Day, so bring a book you've read to discuss with the group and your lunch. Coffee and dessert are provided.

— **February is Library Lover's Month** at Crittenden County Public Library. Director Brandie Ledford urges patrons to go on a blind date with a book, check out the Presidential valentines and view the amazing Super Bowl of Books!

— **Saturday, Feb. 3 is Take Your Child to the Library Day** at Crittenden County Public Library. This is a come and go program from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. for families. There will be craft stations and treats.

— Crittenden County Elementary School will host its annual **Family Fitness Night** at 6 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 15 at the school. Many stations, including GoNoodle, free play/gymnastics, Zumba and yoga will be featured. Attendees also will learn more about healthy eating and can participate in an obstacle course.

## Extension events

— The Leader Lesson for Homemakers will begin at 1 p.m., Friday at the Crittenden County Extension office. The topic for the meeting will be Downsizing Your Home.

— The Quilt Club will meet at 9:30 a.m., Monday at the Crittenden County Extension office.

## Senior Menu

Crittenden County Senior Citizens Center is open weekdays 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Lunch is served at 11:30 a.m. each day and is \$3 for those 60 and older or \$5 for those under 60. Reservations are requested by 9 a.m. Upcoming activities and menu include:

— **Thursday (today):** Menu is pulled pork with gravy, mashed potatoes, peas and carrots, cornbread and pineapple delight.

**Friday:** Menu is beef stroganoff with noodles, cucumber salad, wheat roll and banana pudding. Bingo begins at 10:30 a.m.

**Monday:** Menu is baked potato soup, chicken drumstick, seasoned peas, cornbread and pear crisp. Ladies exercise with Full Body Fitness Studio begins at 9:45 a.m.

**Tuesday:** Menu is Southwest pork roast, baked sweet potato, peas and pearl onions, cornbread, apple crisp and margarine.

**Jan. 31:** Menu is hamburger on whole wheat bun with lettuce, tomato and onion, pork 'n beans, baked potato with sour cream and Mandarin oranges. Bingo begins at 10:30 a.m.

All menu items are subject to change based on availability. PACS provides milk, coffee, tea or water each day.

Aging Coordinator Jenny Sosh is director of the center. The center is a service of Pennyrite Allied Community Services.

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



## December Rocket Role Models

Chosen in December as Rocket Role Models for displaying the character trait of good citizenship at Crittenden Elementary are (front row from left) Jaelynn King, Sophie Watson, Kinley Copeland, Bowen Robison, Brinley Tramble, Alivia Sullivan, Angel Peters, Dawson Parker, Braxton James, Jett Champion; (second row) Eli Lovell, Junior Cowsert, Caden Penn, Cabot Sutton, Layken Gilchrist, Isaac James, Ashlee Sosh, Avery Thompson, Noah Byford; (third row) Georgia Holeman, Gavin Grimes, Landon Woodall, Chloe Hunt, Frances Guess, Hattie Hatfield and Rachel Mundy. Not pictured are Jase Fletcher, Baylee Pierson, Melina Keller, Carly Crider, Kendra Guess and Zane McBride.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

## UMWA representatives meet with Rep. Comer

Congressman James Comer, R-Tompkinsville, met with several members of the United Mine Workers of America (UMWA) last Wednesday in his office in Washington, D.C. UMWA members meeting with Congressman Comer included Tony O'Neal of Marion (left), George Tutor of Sturgis, Clifton Garner of Dunmore, Jim Staley of Morganfield and Eddie Embry of Hartford. The group met with Congressman Comer to discuss coal-related issues. Coal continues to be an important part of the economy of the 1st District of Kentucky. "Congressman Comer remains an ardent supporter of coal miners past and present," said a news release from his congressional office.

## Genealogy info sought locally

Emma (Bozarth) Tanner is looking for ancestry information on her mother's side. Tanner's maternal father's name was Henry Lindsey, and he had a brother named Frank. Their dad's name was possibly William H. Lindsey.

"One was in the army I think," said Tanner. Her maternal mother was Emma (Cowsert) Lindsey, and her mother was Ada Jennings. "I believe they were from Kentucky, but not sure," Tanner added.

If you have information that may help her in her search, email her at EmmaTanner76@yahoo.com.

## Submit your calendar item

Community calendar is designed for individuals, non-profit organizations and government entities to publicize meetings and events. The Crittenden Press reserves the right edit or reject any announcement. To submit your item, call (270) 965-3191, email pressnews@the-press.com or stop by our office at 125 E. Bellville.

The Community Arts Foundation presents

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appearing in our February 8 edition of The Crittenden Press.

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## Eco-Art contest deadline extended

STAFF REPORT

The deadline for the Kentucky Department for Environmental Protection's 2017-18 Eco-Art Contest has been extended due to recent adverse weather conditions. Kentucky high school students are encouraged to submit their nominations by midnight on March 2.

The contest, which is in its ninth year, provides an opportunity for students to gain statewide recognition for their artwork as it relates to Kentucky's environment. The Eco-Art Contest is a facet of environmental education, which is part of department's strategy to protect Kentucky's environment.

All nominations are due electronically and should be sent to envhelp@ky.gov. Visit <http://dca.ky.gov/LGGS/Pages/ecart.aspx> for the nomination forms and more information.

**CAPITOL Cinemas**

**Starts Friday, Jan. 26**

Best Western in Decades  
**Hostiles**  
Fri. 6:30, 9:15  
Sat. 1, 3:45, 6:30, 9:15  
Sun. 1:15, 4, 6:45  
Mon.-Thur. 6:30

**Paddington 2**  
Fri. 6:45  
Sat. 1:15, 6:45 • Sun. 4  
Mon. & Wed. 6:30

**The Darkest Hour**  
PG-13  
Fri. 9:15 • Sat. 3:45, 9:15  
Sun. 1:15, 6:45  
Tues. & Thurs. 6:30

**The Greatest Showman**  
PG  
Fri. 6:45, 9:15  
Sat. 1:15, 3:45, 6:45, 9:15  
Sun. 1:15, 4, 6:45  
Mon.-Thurs. 6:30

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## League Standings 5th District Basketball

Boys		
Team	Overall	District
Trigg County	9-6	4-1
Livingston Central	14-9	3-2
Lyon County	3-12	3-2
Crittenden County	4-12	0-5

Girls		
Team	Overall	District
Livingston Central	12-10	5-0
Crittenden County	9-9	3-2
Lyon County	12-5	2-3
Trigg County	6-11	0-5

## Crittenden Scoring Rockets

Player	Games	Points	Average
Sawyer Towery	13	153	11.8
Logan Belt	12	130	10.8
Preston Turley	15	141	9.4
Gabe Mott	15	132	8.8
Hunter Boone	13	61	4.7
Tyler Boone	14	63	4.5
Tyson Steele	15	23	1.5
Sean O'Leary	14	18	1.3
Jayden Carlson	12	11	0.9
Braxton Winders	114	11	0.8
Erik O'Leary	11	9	0.8

### Lady Rockets

Madison Champion	17	253	14.9
Mauri Collins	17	152	8.9
Nahla Woodward	17	139	8.2
Shelby Summers	17	102	6.0
Chandler Moss	17	65	3.8
Taylor Guess	8	11	1.4
Jaelyn Duncan	8	9	1.1

## Upcoming Games

**Friday**  
Rockets host Fort Campbell  
Lady Rockets host Union County

**Saturday**  
Lady Rockets at Caldwell County

**Tuesday**  
Rockets at Livingston Central  
Lady Rockets at Livingston Central

## Hunting Seasons

Raccoon Hunt	Oct. 1 - Feb. 28
Fox	Nov. 13 - Feb. 28
Squirrel	Nov. 13 - Feb. 28
Rabbit	Nov. 13 - Feb. 10
Raccoon Trap	Nov. 13 - Feb. 28
Quail	Nov. 13 - Feb. 10
Canada Goose	Nov. 23 - Feb. 15
Bobcat	Nov. 25 - Feb. 28
Duck	Dec. 4 - Jan. 28
Youth Waterfowl	Feb. 3 - Feb. 4
Coyote	Year Round
Coyote Nighttime	Feb. 1 - May 31
Spring Turkey	April 14 - May 6

## Coyote contest Feb. 2

The annual Hodge's Sports and Apparel coyote hunting contest will begin on Friday, Feb. 2. Hunting may begin at sundown Friday. Check in is at 5 p.m., on Saturday, Feb. 3. Cost is \$20 for a two-man team. Teams must be registered by Feb. 2 when the event begins. There will be a 75% payback to the winning team with the most harvested coyotes. The statewide night hunting opportunities begin on Feb. 1 for coyotes, so hunters will have about 24 hours of time to be afield. For more information, contact the staff at Hodge's in Marion.



Local hunter Jared Asbridge took advantage of the recent harsh winter to help lure and bag a song dog.

## Baseball Fundraiser Team sells strawberries

Crittenden County High School's baseball team has begun taking orders for its annual strawberry sale. The Florida-grown berries will be delivered in early March. The best value is \$29 for 8 quarts, but orders can be placed for any number of strawberries. See a Rocket baseball player to order before Feb. 19.



Crittenden County's Braxton Winders pivots and passes during last week's loss to Caldwell County in the opening round of the All A Classic at Rocket Arena.

## Caldwell sends Rockets home early from All A Classic hoops

STAFF REPORT  
Crittenden County couldn't generate anything offensively and made an early exit from the All A Classic Basketball Tournament, which they hosted last week around snow delays.

Crittenden, still without senior Logan Belt, was led in scoring by Sawyer Towery with a half dozen points.

Caldwell County stalwart Darrin Boyd scored a game-high 20.

The Tigers were beaten in the semifinal round by Livingston

Central, which lost to UHA in Sunday's championship game at Rocket Arena.

Caldwell County	13	31	49	57
Crittenden County	7	14	21	33
CALDWELL - Branch 4, Riley 6, Boyd 20, Blaine 4, Capps, East, Harris, Davis 7, Fralix 10, Riley, Scott 6, Smiley. FG 20. 3-pointers 1 (Boyd). FG 16-22.				
CRITTENDEN - Towery 6, Mott 5, Turley 5, T.Boone 3, H.Boone 6, Steele, S.O'Leary 2, E.O'Leary 3, Winders 1, Carlson 2. FG 12. 3-pointers 3 (Towery, E.O'Leary). FT 6-11.				

## No repeat in cards for Lady Rockets in All A

STAFF REPORT  
There will not be a magic carpet ride through the All A Classic Girls' Basketball Tournament this winter.

The defending Second Region champion Crittenden County girls were beaten 41-31 at Eddyville last week in the tournament opener.

The Lady Rockets missed more than a dozen shots right around the basket and were flat-footed defensively. Despite those inadequacies, Crittenden led at halftime 23-16.

CCHS was able to capitalize on Lyon's early foul trouble that set junior Allison Murphy on the bench most of the second period. With her out, Crittenden went on a 6-0 run at one point and took a seven-point lead into the break when freshman Chandler Moss hit a shot at the buzzer.

When Murphy returned to the game in the third period, it set Lyon ablaze. She made an immediate impact with an assist on her team's first bucket in the third period then she took the ball inside on the next trip down the floor and drew a foul on Lady Rocket leader Madison Champion. It was Champion's third and she drew a short spell on the bench as a precautionary measure, allowing Lyon to forge ahead. Murphy found a bank-shot three-pointer and shortly thereafter scored a layup at the 1:50 mark in the third period for a 24-23 Lyon edge. It was Lyon's first lead since early in the game.

Crittenden was dead cold in the third period, missing shot after shot around the basket. In fact, CCHS didn't score a point until Champion made the second of two foul shots with no



Crittenden County's Taylor Guess, just a seventh grader, and freshman Chandler Moss (23) apply perimeter defense during the All A Classic last week with eventual region champion Lyon County.

time left in the third period.

Lyon's Sophie Bingham scored five of her 13 points in the fourth period to help bury Crittenden down the stretch. Murphy finished with 15.

Senior Mauri Collins scored 14 for the Lady Rockets while Champion, who averages 15, was held to just four.

After Crittenden's early exit from the All A Classic, coach Shannon Hodge got on the phone and tracked down a game for early this week. Her schedule had been clear with hopes of the

## ALL-A-TOURNAMENT-RESULTS

### Classic Boys

**Opening Round Games**  
Livingston Central 59, Lyon Co. 41  
Caldwell Co. 57, Crittenden Co. 33  
Dawson Springs 82, Ft. Campbell 73  
University Heights, bye

**Semifinals**  
At Crittenden County  
UHA 75, Dawson Springs 39  
Livingston 70, Caldwell Co. 55

**Championship**  
UHA 78, Livingston Central 62

### Classic Girls

**Opening Round Games**  
Livingston 60, Ft. Campbell 9  
Lyon Co. 41, Crittenden Co. 31  
UHA 76, Dawson Springs 46  
Caldwell County, bye

**Semifinals**  
At Caldwell County  
UHA 63, Caldwell County 60  
Lyon County 52, Livingston 33

**Championship**  
Lyon County 50, UHA 35

## No quit in Crittenden's boys despite season's struggles

STAFF REPORT

Despite their struggles this season, Crittenden County's basketball spirits remain high, says coach Denis Hodge.

The Rockets lost 64-49 at Union County Tuesday night, falling to 4-12 on the season.

"We're not discouraged at all," the coach said. "If you look at where we're at now, compared to where we were, there's a huge difference."

The problem, Hodge admits, is that the schedule is pretty difficult as his boys move into the final stretch in February. Crittenden has two games upcoming with the Second Region's worst team record-wise, Fort Campbell, and another with Dawson, which the Rockets have already beaten this year.

"When you look down our schedule, there's no relief," Hodge said. "Fort Campbell and Dawson are pretty dang good teams, too."

The Falcons come to Rocket Arena Friday night. It will be a mixed varsity doubleheader with the girls hosting Union County.

According to the Litkenhous power ratings, Fort Campbell and Dawson Springs are the bottom two teams in the region, fol-

lowed by Crittenden, Lyon and Trigg - three Fifth District squads.

Hodge said the team's psyche is good.

"We love practice and we love it during games," he said. "These kids are competing their hind ends off and I don't see any quit in them. In fact, I don't think anybody does. It's just a product of the situation we are in, playing teams with more experienced and older players."

The Rockets, who start three freshmen at times, are 4-7 since Dec. 12 when the Rockets won their first game at Christian Fellowship after dropping the season's first five games.

They'll be hoping to end a three-game losing skid on Friday against Fort Campbell.

### Union 64, Crittenden 49

Crittenden County	9	20	29	49
Union County	18	37	52	64
CRITTENDEN - Mott 5, Belt 2, T.Boone 3, Turley 14, H.Boone, E.O'Leary, S.O'Leary, Carlson, Steele 6, Towery 19. FG 20. 3-pointers 9 (Towery 5, Steele 2, Turley, T.Boone). FT 2-6.				
UNION - Wilkes 1, Cowan, Campbell, Duncan 7, Thomas 26, Steward 5, Dunford 17, Sisk 2, Girten, Martin, Davis, Johnson, King 6. FG 25. 3-pointers 3 (Duncan, Steward, Dunford). FT 11-16.				

## Dossett's big game gets bumped in recordbook by late 2012 entry

Ethan Dossett's all-time-best receiving performance in the State of Kentucky last season has been trumped.

Oddly enough, by a performance from a few years ago. The Kentucky High School Athletic Association (KHSAA) had apparently been a bit slow to certify a game where Bryson Williams had 357 yards in 2012. Dossett had 349 receiving yards against Ballard Memorial this past season and when his numbers were origi-

nally turned into the KHSAA, his performance would have been enough to be the best ever in Kentucky.

However, shortly after the game film was certified by KHSAA to confirm Dossett's performance, the state's athletic association announced that it had also certified Williams' game from 2012.

Dossett's big game against Ballard now ranks second in state football history.



## Big duck days close season

Duck hunting ends Sunday across the state, but not before a pretty bountiful season. The recent cold weather conditions gave waterfowlers a late-season burst of activity. Pictured at left is local hunter Jaxton Duncan, who bagged a hooded merganser and mallard drake during a recent duck hunting to trip to Reelfoot Lake with his dad, Sonny. The Youth Waterfowl Season is Feb. 3-4.

# Michigan duo key storyline for UK football

Many Kentucky football fans were disappointed that the Wildcats finished 7-5 last season and lost their last three games, including the Music City Bowl game to Northwestern.

Former Kentucky quarterback Freddie Maggard, now an analyst for the Kentucky Radio Network as well as Kentucky Sports Radio, has a different opinion.

"I said Kentucky overachieved by going 7-5, and I am sticking by that," said Maggard.

He believes running back Boom Williams leaving for the NFL, receiver Jeff Badet transferring to Oklahoma, offensive lineman Ramsey Meyers opting to give up his final year of eligibility, receiver Dorian Baker and offensive lineman Cole Mosier going down with preseason injuries and defensive lineman Alvon Bell being put off the team took a bigger toll on UK in the 2017 season than most understood.

"All that created a big hole," Maggard said.

Kentucky doesn't figure to have nearly as many big holes to fill going into next season. Key players that debated leaving for the NFL all came back to UK. No one has given up a final year of eligibility. The December signing class has players that can help next season.

Maggard thinks two Michigan standouts — linebacker DeAndre Square and defensive lineman Marquan McCall — were the two top signees.

"To go into Michigan and get McCall was incredible," Maggard said. "He was rated the No. 1 (offensive) guard in the Midwest. I like that he is a technician already. He has the frame and skill that he could play guard now but he wants to play defense, and I like that. He can run and he is a plug and play nose tackle. He could play behind Quinton Bohanna and there would not be a significant

drop off. We saw how much better Kentucky was when it had a healthy Quinton Bohanna, and McCall is the same kind of kid.

"DeAndre Square is out a Cass Tech. It's a school a lot like Oak Hill Academy putting out (basketball) players for top colleges every year. He had a LSU offer. He was the top defensive player in the state of Michigan.

"That's why to me, getting those two kids out of Michigan was the storyline for this signing class."

The next biggest storyline in Maggard's opinion that was mainly overlooked by most was signing offensive linemen Darian Kinnard of Cleveland, Kenneth Horsey of Florida and Quinton Wilson of Cincinnati.

"Kinnard was an all-American, Horsey can really play and Wilson is my sleeper pick for the class. He's a top five center in the country and 4.0 (grade-point average) student. He played tackle in high school. All three of these guys are elite in the classroom," Maggard said.

Wilson reminds Maggard of a "better version" of Kentucky senior Bunchy Stallings coming out of high school. Stallings was not a high profile signee in 2014 but Maggard predicted then he would be a big-time player — and he has been.

"You could argue two years ago that UK had a better offensive line than Georgia and Alabama," Maggard said. "This year not so much. But these are the kind of signees you want in your offensive line to win in the SEC."

## Sitting out the dance?

Could Kentucky be in danger of missing the NCAA Tournament, something that no one even thought was a possibility when the season started?

Kentucky's home loss to Florida dropped the Wildcats

to 14-5 overall and 4-3 in SEC play. The Cats play at West Virginia Saturday and still have SEC road games at Auburn, Arkansas, Missouri, Texas A&M and Florida. It's possible UK could be the underdog in every game.

Plus, remember that UK barely beat Texas A&M and Georgia in Rupp Arena.

The Cats do not have a win over a team currently ranked in the top 25, a rarity in the John Calipari era. Kentucky's best two wins would be over Louisville and Virginia Tech.

Calipari said after the Florida loss that he was more encouraged about his team than he had been all season because of the way it played defense and he finally was close to having a healthy roster with both Jarred Vanderbilt and Quade Green playing. However, outside shooting, turnovers, rebounding and lack of toughness continue to be problems for this team.

The 2013-14 team struggled during the season, was an eight seed in the NCAA and then made the national title game. Could that happen again? Maybe, but remember there is no likely go-to scorer on this team like that team had with Julius Randle. And whether you liked him or not, there is no Andrew Harrison playing point guard for this team. His defense and toughness — and ability to pass the ball to others — would be welcome on this team.

## Sooner Trae Young

Oklahoma's Trae Young not only is one of the nation's top freshmen, but he has become one of the nation's top players.

Kentucky fans remember when the point guard was thought to be a lock — or at least a strong, strong lean — to Kentucky. However, he ultimately decided he wanted an offense where he could get more shots and freedom than he would have at Kentucky.

Young shoots a lot but has led the nation in scoring at around 30 points per game — and became the first Big 12 player to score 25 or more points in 13 straight

games — most of the year while averaging about 10 assists per game. But he's also been turnover prone. He had 12 miscues in a loss to Kansas State and 47 in a six-game stretch. He had 48 points and eight assists last Saturday against Oklahoma State but also had seven turnovers in the loss.

"I knew how good he was, but I didn't even realize he was this good. The biggest thing in this, and it's a great lesson, (Oklahoma coach) Lon Kruger, who I have unbelievable respect for, basically said, 'We're going to play through you. It's all going through you. You're going to shoot when you want.' And he did not lie. He did not lie," Kentucky coach John Calipari said.

No he did not. Calipari would never tolerate a 12-turnover game. He couldn't have one player taking that many shots — just ask John Wall, Anthony Davis, Malik Monk and others — because the Cats have other talented players. He wouldn't promise Young the green light that Kruger did, so Young made the best choice for him and stayed in state to play for the Sooners.

"Hopefully if he had come here I would have realized early, this kid needs a little more room than some other guys that I've had," Calipari said. "Hopefully I would have realized that. But I knew he was good, which is why we recruited him so long, but I didn't realize he would be able to do what he is doing, which is basically 80 percent of their baskets, 70 percent of their baskets, he either scores or assists. That's a ridiculous number."

"And he's got teammates that are letting him play and it's helping them and they're winning. And he's got a coach who, again, one of the best in our business. Said, 'Here's what we're gonna do,' and he went out and did it for the kid. So I'm happy for Trae. I hope we don't have to play him, but happy for him."

## Big salary, sure start

Ever wonder if the coach of a professional team had no choice but to play an athlete

because he had a high dollar contract? So did I, so I recently asked Toronto Raptors coach Dwane Casey, a former UK player.

"You have to consider salaries. I am entrusted with what is best for the organization and I have to look at the big picture," Casey said. "You never want to sit a big salary player. There better be a good reason or you are devaluing a team asset and you never want to do that. Players want to be coached. I don't care if he's making \$2 million or \$15 million per year. They want to be given information to make them successful."

Players do not want to be embarrassed and not prepared. But a difference is that this is a players' league. In college, the coach is king of the mountain. We (NBA coaches) all have to check our egos at the door when it comes to coaching."

Casey said he got a lesson about how to check his ego from being a role player at UK.

"That kind of humbles you. You come out of high school as the man and then you are just one of many stars," Casey said. "You learn the value of team chemistry, you learn about being a great role player, you learn the team and program are bigger than you. I learned all those things at Kentucky that help me now."

## Kentucky dance

Two top six finishes like Kentucky dance had at the national championship would be noteworthy at most schools. However, Kentucky dance cannot help but be in the shadow of UK's dominant cheer squad which is recognized as the nation's best annually.

"It does make it tough. We are so used to it," sophomore Sydney Prince, a dance team member from Lexington, said. "People will come up to us and say, 'UK cheer,' and we have to tell them we are UK dance. But we know they are amazing. It's easy not to get down about that."

She says dance members joke that they eventually hope to be able to hold up

one finger for winning one title where the UK cheerleaders can put up "23" for their titles after another recent win in Orlando.

"We were right in the front for their final performance. It was flawless," Prince said about the cheerleaders. "The energy in the room was crazy. Everyone wants to see them. People are packed in like sardines"

"They have so much pressure on them because of the high expectations. For us, we have a bumpy road to get to the top because in the dance world Minnesota is the top. For UK cheer, they have to win or it is a big upset that they did not. For us, since we have never won, we are pleased just to place. But UK cheer has so much pressure."

However, Prince said watching UK cheer there was no doubt who had the best team. She said other cheer teams this year had copied UK's "tricks" from last year to try and match the level of difficulty.

"Kentucky cheer is always pushing the boundaries. That's why they are so far ahead of everyone else," Prince said. "In the prelims they had a fall on a stunt but their raw score was so much higher than any other team's it didn't matter."

## Quote of the Week

"I don't care what they faced at Tennessee, LSU and South Carolina, it's going to be a lot tougher. This is UK's first game there since 1970. This is Hatfields versus McCoys. There's been bad blood between these fan bases for years," former Cats' Pause publisher Oscar Combs on UK's game at West Virginia Saturday that will be part of ESPN College GameDay.

## Quote of the Week 2

"No, I don't see confusion. I see somebody trying to get their own, and now it leads to a turnover or a missed play. When we move that ball, and we drive and find people, we're really good," John Calipari on whether his team gets confused during the scoring droughts it seems to have every game.

# Auditor finds numerous issues with Livingston Fiscal Court accounting

## STAFF REPORT

An audit of Livingston Fiscal Court released this week by State Auditor Mike Harmon cited numerous areas of concern. The 10 areas discussed in a 10-page news release include improper oversight of funds, failure to correctly pay into the state retirement fund for employees and failing to adhere to state rules for bidding and documentation of purchases.

The audit was for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016. The following points were outlined in the release, and

discussed in further detail in the actual 65-page audit:

- Cash transfers totaling \$961,700 were not approved until after the funds had been spent.

- The fiscal court did not adhere to bidding requirements, monitor small projects or maintain adequate documentation for items purchased at state contract price. Bids on metal culverts were not advertised, and \$30,474 was spent with one vendor. The fiscal court paid \$57,598 for a waterline project that was bid for only

\$39,579. And the fiscal court paid for a sheriff's vehicle, but failed to keep proper documentation.

- The fiscal court lacks adequate segregation of duties over accounting processes. Errors were found in federal tax payments and retirement withholdings. Transfers were not completed in a timely manner and accounts did not reconcile.

- The fiscal court failed to correctly pay retirement to the County Employee Retirement System. All 12 months

of the fiscal year contained errors in the retirement amounts.

- The fiscal court did not have adequate controls over reporting of capital assets to ensure accuracy. Two assets purchased throughout the year for a total of \$13,000 were not inventoried.

- Improper oversight of payroll led to a negative balance of \$6,681 at the end of Fiscal Year 2016.

- The fiscal court did not properly reconcile each fund.

- The fiscal court did not

maintain proper records for the public properties corporation and county library bond funds.

- Inadequate internal controls over debt reporting were found.

- There is a lack of internal controls over payroll. Time sheets were not properly

signed, a new hire was never approved by the fiscal court and an employee was paid at an incorrect rate.

Judge-Executive Chris Lasher took an opportunity to respond to each of the 10 comments, explaining the reasons for the errors or oversights.

# Ky. exits 2017 with lowest unemployment rate of year

## STAFF REPORT

Kentucky's seasonally adjusted preliminary December unemployment rate was 4.4 percent, the lowest in 15 years, according to the Kentucky Center for Education and Workforce Statistics (KCEWS). The unemployment rate for December 2017 was down from the revised 4.7 percent reported for November 2017.

"Kentucky's unemployment rate has reached its lowest level since December 2002," said University of Kentucky's Center for Business and Economic Research (CBER) Director Chris Bollinger, Ph.D. "The data continues to suggest that more people are entering Kentucky's labor force and finding work. Although payroll employment, as reported by the establishment survey, was essentially unchanged in December, Kentucky ends the year with 21,200 more jobs than last year."

Kentucky's civilian labor force last month was 2,063,106.

The preliminary December 2017 jobless rate was down 0.4 percentage points from the 4.8 percent recorded for the state in December 2016.

The U.S. seasonally adjusted jobless rate for December 2017 was unchanged from the 4.1 percent reported for November 2017, according to the U.S. Department of Labor.

## 2017 state jobless rates

The Kentucky Center for Education and Workforce Statistics tracks the state's monthly unemployment data. Seasonally adjusted figures show 2017 ended with a significantly lower jobless rate than it starts out in January. Nationwide figures are compiled by the U.S. Department of Labor.

MONTH	KY	U.S.
January	5.0	4.8
February	5.0	4.7
March	5.0	4.5
April	5.1	4.4
May	5.0	4.3
June	5.1	4.4
July	5.3	4.3
August	5.5	4.4
September	5.2	4.2
October	5.0	4.1
November	4.7	4.1
December	4.4*	4.1

\*Preliminary

Labor force statistics, including the unemployment rate, are based on estimates from the Current Population Survey of households. It is designed to measure trends in the number of people working. It includes jobs in agriculture and individuals who are self-employed.

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The Crittenden County Board of Education invites you to sub-

mit sealed bids for the 2018-2019 yearbook and school pictures. Please submit bids to: Crittenden County Board of Education, 601 West Elm, Marion, KY 42064. Bids will be accepted until February 8, 2018 at 2:00 PM, at which time they will be opened. Any interested party may attend, however, no immediate decision will be made. For bid specifications, please contact Vanessa Shewcraft at 270-965-2281 or email: [vanessa.shewcraft@crittenden.kyschools.us](mailto:vanessa.shewcraft@crittenden.kyschools.us) (1t-29-c)

The Crittenden County Board of Education will be accepting sealed bid(s) on a 1989 Ford truck VIN # 1FTD-F15Y5KLB10452. Sealed bids must be marked as such on the outside of envelope and delivered or mailed to the Crittenden County Board of Education, 601 West Elm, Marion, KY 42064 ATTN: "Vanessa Shewcraft" no later than February 8th, 2018 by 1:00PM at which time they will be opened. The Crittenden County Board of Education reserves the right to decline any or all bids. Please contact Wayne Winters with any questions at 270.965.3866, or [winters@crittenden.kyschools.us](mailto:winters@crittenden.kyschools.us) (3t-30-c)

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**NOTICE TO CUSTOMERS OF KENTUCKY UTILITIES COMPANY**  
**RECOVERY BY ENVIRONMENTAL SURCHARGE OF KENTUCKY UTILITIES COMPANY'S AMENDMENT TO ITS 2016 ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE PLAN**  
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that Kentucky Utilities Company ("KU") is filing with the Kentucky Public Service Commission ("Commission") on January 26, 2018 in Case No. 2017-00483, an Application pursuant to Kentucky Revised Statute 278.183 for approval of an amendment to Project 36 of its 2016 Environmental Compliance Plan for the purpose of recovering the capital costs associated with new pollution control facilities ("Amended Project 36") through an increase in the environmental surcharge on customers' bills beginning August 30, 2018 under KU's existing Electric Rate Schedule ECR, also known as the environmental cost recovery surcharge. The total capital cost of Amended Project 36 in KU's 2016 Environmental Compliance Plan is estimated to be \$14.7 million.  
On August 8, 2016, the Commission approved KU's 2016 Environmental Compliance Plan, including the original Project 36, and granted an associated Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity in Case No. 2016-00026. The total capital cost of the original Project 36 was then estimated to be \$11.9 million. Following the approval of this project, KU continued to evaluate the timing of and capacity needs for Phase II of the landfill at the E.W. Brown Generation Station ("Brown"), and construction did not begin prior to the one-year expiration of the Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity authorization. The increase in the total capital cost between the original Project 36 and the cost of the now proposed amendment to Project 36 is estimated to be \$2.8 million.  
Federal and state environmental regulations require KU to build and upgrade equipment and facilities that produce energy from coal to operate in an environmentally sound manner. Specifically, KU is seeking Commission approval of a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity for the construction of Phase II of the landfill at Brown and to cap and close any remaining surface area of the Brown Main Ash Pond. This construction project is an amendment to Project 36 of KU's 2016 Environmental Compliance Plan that was approved by the Commission in 2016.  
Additionally, KU is seeking an order approving Amended Project 36 for purposes of recovering the costs of the new pollution control facilities through its Environmental Surcharge tariff. Amended Project 36 is required for KU to comply with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's federal Hazardous and Solid Waste Management System; Disposal of Coal Combustion Residuals from Electric Utilities ("Federal CCR Rule"), and other environmental requirements that apply to KU facilities used in the production of energy from coal. The total capital cost of the new pollution control facilities for which KU is seeking recovery at this time is estimated to be \$14.7 million. O&M costs related to amended Phase II will be similar to O&M costs incurred in Phase I and are not distinguishable. If Amended Project 36 is approved, KU plans to continue to recover its Brown CCR Landfill O&M costs through its environmental surcharge as part of Project 29 in KU's 2011 ECR Plan.  
The impact on KU's Group 1 customers is estimated to be a 0.05% increase in 2018 with a maximum increase of 0.13% in 2020. Group 1 includes Rate Schedules RS, AES, and all Lighting Rates. For a KU residential customer using 1,122 kilowatt hours per month (kWh/mo), the initial monthly increase is expected to be \$0.06 during 2018, with the maximum monthly increase expected to be \$0.15 during 2020. AES customers using 21,341 kWh/mo could expect a monthly increase of \$0.97 up to \$2.50. Lighting Energy customers using 9,307 kWh/mo could expect a monthly increase of \$0.34 up to \$0.87. Traffic Energy customers using 160 kWh/mo and Lighting Service and Restricted Lighting Service customers using 61 kWh/mo could expect a monthly increase of \$0.01 up to \$0.02.  
The impact on KU's Group 2 customers is estimated to be a 0.08% increase in 2018 with a maximum increase of 0.19% in 2020. Group 2 includes Rate Schedules GS, PS-Secondary (PSS), PS-Primary (PSP), Time of Day Secondary (TODS), Time of Day Primary (TODP), Retail Transmission Service (RTS), Fluctuating Load Service (FLS), School Power Service (SPS), School Time of Day Service (STOD), and Outdoor Sports Lighting Service (ODL).  
GS customers using 1,805 kWh/mo could expect a monthly increase of \$0.13 up to \$0.34.  
PSS customers using 39,535 kWh/mo could expect a monthly increase of \$1.85 up to \$4.78.  
PSP customers using 82,036 kWh/mo could expect a monthly increase of \$3.92 up to \$10.14.  
TODS customers using 245,344 kWh/mo could expect a monthly increase of \$8.76 up to \$22.67.  
TODP customers using 1,241,109 kWh/mo could expect a monthly increase of \$35.48 up to \$91.81.  
RTS customers using 4,160,317 kWh/mo could expect a monthly increase of \$106.75 up to \$276.26.  
FLS customers using 46,076,466 kWh/mo could expect a monthly increase of \$1,033.18 up to \$2,673.67.  
SPS and ODL customers could expect monthly increases consistent with PSS and PSP customers using the same kWh/mo.  
STOD customers could expect monthly increases consistent with TODS customers using the same kWh/mo.  
The Environmental Surcharge Application described in this Notice is proposed by KU. However, the Public Service Commission may issue an order modifying or denying KU's Environmental Surcharge Application. Such action may result in an environmental surcharge for customers other than the environmental surcharge described in this Notice.  
Comments regarding KU's Amendment to Project 36 of its 2016 Environmental Surcharge Plan and Application may be submitted to the Public Service Commission through its website or by mail to the Public Service Commission, Post Office Box 615, Frankfort, Kentucky 40602.  
Any person may submit a timely written request for intervention in Case No. 2017-00483 to the Public Service Commission, Post Office Box 615, Frankfort, Kentucky 40602, establishing the grounds for the request including the status and interest of the party. If the Commission does not receive a written request for intervention within thirty (30) days of initial publication, the Commission may take final action on the Application. Any person who has been granted intervention may obtain copies of the Application and testimony by contacting Kentucky Utilities Company at 220 West Main Street, Louisville, Kentucky, 40202, Attention: State Regulation and Rates.  
A copy of the Application and testimony will be available for public inspection on KU's website (<http://www.lge-ku.com>), on the Commission's website (<http://www.psc.ky.gov>), and in paper medium Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 pm at the office of Kentucky Utilities Company, 100 Quality Street, Lexington, Kentucky or the Commission's offices located at 211 Sower Boulevard, Frankfort, Kentucky, after January 26, 2018.

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# Camp allows youth Revolutionary experience

By MIMI BYRNS  
STAFF WRITER

Adam and Leslea Barnes are kicking off a 4-H early American history project by holding a day camp in March. It brings together both work and pleasure for the Crittenden County couple.

The camp is called "Spring Muster" and is focused on youth in grades 8-12. At the day camp, among other activities, kids will learn about black powder firearms and how to properly fire a cannon. An Ojibwa Indian from Indiana will be teaching them how to shoot Native American bows and how to use an atlatl, otherwise known as a spear-thrower. Participants at the camp will also train as infantry did in the Revolutionary War, even learning how to cook over an open fire as well.

"We are excited to collaborate through work and share our passion for American history," said Leslea, Crittenden County Extension Agent for 4-H Youth Development, whose husband is the Extension Agent for Agriculture and Natural Resources in Livingston County and a longtime early-American war re-enactor. "Adam has always had a passion for people learning the importance that American history has in our lives today."

Leslea, who participates in re-enactments alongside her husband and children, said the camp on March 29 will



Adam Barnes (left), an early-American war re-enactor and Livingston County Extension agriculture agent, and his wife Leslea, Crittenden County Extension 4-H agent, have paired to devise a day camp where youth can learn hand-on experience with early warfare. Also picture are (from left) are Nick Biggs, Ron Mathis and Tyler Parr.

combine 4-H curriculum along with agricultural and natural resources, civics, citizenship and leadership to develop a 4-H early-American history project.

"So if kids enjoy being outdoors, they like black powder firearms and enjoy learning about American history, this is something they don't want to miss out on," said Leslea.

"It's a great way to learn through living history and be a part of this fun hands-on

learning experience"

The project will take place at the West Kentucky 4-H Camp in Dawson Springs.

The cost for the day camp is \$5 and participants can sign up until March 16 by contacting the Crittenden County Extension Service office at (270) 965-5236. 4-H club members will be excused from school to attend this educational field trip.

The program focuses on the five upper-grade levels be-

cause there are certain age limits in order for participants to be able to fire weapons on the field during the re-enactment. However, if there are interested students in sixth and seventh grades who have a passion for history, they are welcome to come and be included in a variety of other activities.

The organizers say the American heritage series will encompass many major program areas that the coopera-

tive Extension service strives to teach citizens of the commonwealth. It meshes the service's 4-H core curriculums with agriculture and natural resources and family and consumer science programming to create a well-rounded event that can include youth and adults in a unique, fun, hands-on learning experience through living history.

The day camp is planned to be a starting point for monthly meetings in which young history enthusiasts will broaden their knowledge and actually participate in historical reenactments.

"We hope that kids will really get excited about this type of program and will want to continue learning about black powder firearms and American history," Leslea explained. "We hope to have monthly meetings, and youth will be able to actually re-enact a French and Indian War or American Revolution 4-5 times a year."

The Barneses hope that parents will see this as an opportunity to get involved as well. And volunteers will be needed.

"Youth can join as infantry, artillery and camp helpers," Leslea said. "So there is a place for everyone."

Down the road, the couple plans to include black powder

competitions and woods-walks. Many re-enactors already hold those types of competitions, she explained. A citizenship competition will also be held at the state fair.

"This program will also help youth promote public speaking at re-enactments and 4-H public speaking opportunities," she said. "We will add competitions for outdoor cooking and sewing as well."

The program will also provide leadership opportunities for the youth involved as they advance through the ranks each year. They will be able to mentor the younger students who join.

And as part of the living history experience, they will visit the numerous Kentucky state parks where historical reenactments are held throughout the year. Among them are Blue Licks State Park, Fort Boonesborough State Park, Old Fort Harrod State Park, Locust Grove, My Old Kentucky Home and Land Between the Lakes.

The muskets and black powder firearms will be provided so youth do not have to have their own to participate. If a student becomes involved in the reenactments, the organizers will work on finding uniforms and clothing that will be at a very minimal cost for the participants.



L. Barnes

## KDE commish wants NTI revamp

STAFF REPORT

Wintry weather has cost local students five days in the classroom so far. Most western Kentucky schools were out of class all last week, but a few - like Crittenden County - will not have to make up all of them. The local district has utilized three Rocket Way Snow Days, the monicker for non-traditional instruction (NTI) days meant to allow students to learn from home.

But one state lawmaker wants to end the experiment.

Last week, a bill passed out of the Senate Education Com-

mittee would ax the state's NTI Program that allows districts to utilize up to 10 NTI days each school year in 2020-21. Since adopting the program last school year, Crittenden County Schools has utilized only five days.

Sen. David Givens, R-Greensburg, told the committee last Thursday that rigorous learning is not consistently provided on those days in many of the 75 districts approved for NTI. Stephen Pruitt, Ken-

tucky's education commissioner, agrees the program needs an overhaul.

"I realize it has been both

Days missed  
**5**  
NTI days used  
**3**  
Original last day of school  
**May 22**

popular and needed by many districts," said Pruitt. "However, the next iteration must evaluate the quality of the experience as well."

NTI allows students to study from home and communicate with teachers on snow days, or for those without internet capabilities, they have hard copy assignments they can complete. Of neighboring counties, Livingston, Union and Webster school districts also use NTI.

Western Kentucky schools miss an average of 3-13 each year due to snow; about nine in Crittenden County.

## SURVEY

Continued from Page 1

Ramsay said. "You have to pay attention to business recruitment and retention."

Ramsay applauded the Chamber for its interest in probing the business community for information. Armed with such information, he said the Chamber can take a leadership role in the planning for the future.

Randa Berry, Chamber president, said CEDIK coached Chamber directors along the way and helped it develop the survey questions. The project began last June and surveys were collected in November.

Berry said the Chamber is committed to helping improve the local climate for business and Ramsay told the group that retention and expansion is the first place to look.

"It may not be the most sexy part of economic development, but its where you get the best returns," he said.

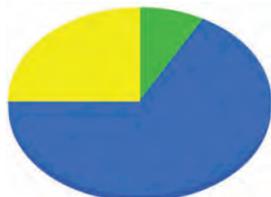
Recruiting new business is time-consuming, expensive and the success rate is low, the UK representative said. Investing in entrepreneurship is a great tool, but it's risky and slow, he added.

"The Chamber has gone out into the community to see what the needs are," Ramsay said. "That's a great step in the right direction."

Some of the greatest concerns voiced by the respondents were high and outmoded tax structures, drugs in the community and difficulty in recruiting and retaining quality employees who are willing to work.

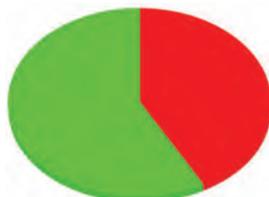
Perhaps the most common and resounding issue throughout the survey's findings was the need for a viable workforce. Those who responded indicated that the positions they most often need to fill require a high school education or less. About 40 percent of the respondents said they would provide specific training to new hires.

Transportation and cultural opportunities were among the other weaknesses, according to the findings.



As a place to do business, what is your overall opinion of Kentucky?

Very good: 8%  
Good: 58%  
Fair: 25%



Is your business experiencing recruitment problems with any employee positions or skills?

No: 42%  
Yes: 58%



Do you presently have unfilled positions?

No: 67%  
Yes: 33%



Does your business require employees to have a least a high school diploma or equivalent?

Yes: 25%  
No: 75%

The community received high marks for friendliness, pride and quality of life.

Although the respondents say they would like to see growth in their business, a majority were not marketing the products through advertising or other means. Those who were using advertising

found that newspaper and internet were the most effective.

Anyone interested in the complete survey findings may contact the Chamber of Commerce of (270) 965-5015.

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## FSA CoC election results final

STAFF REPORT

The votes are in. Last week, Crittenden-Livingston Farm Service Agency announced the winners of the County Committee elections.

Roger Simpson of Marion was elected to represent Local Administrative Area (LAA) 2 and Matthew Hardesty of Marion will serve as the first alternate. Mark Long

of Smithland was elected to represent local administrative area LAA 5 and Cliff Day of Tiline will serve as the first alternate.

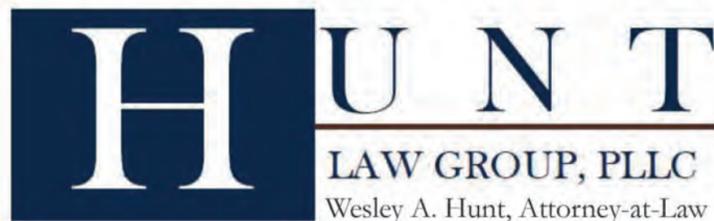
"County Committee members are a critical component of the day-to-day operations of FSA," said FSA Executive Director Nina Hunt. "They help deliver programs at the county level and work to serve the needs of local pro-

ducers. All recently elected County Committee members took office in January 2018, and will be joining the existing committee."

Every FSA office is required to have a County Committee, and they are made up of local farmers who are elected by local farmers.

FSA is an agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

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Wesley A. Hunt has served as Assistant Crittenden County Attorney since 2013. He graduated first in his class from Salmon P. Chase College of Law on the campus of Northern Kentucky University; graduated summa cum laude from Murray State University; and was a valedictorian of the Crittenden County High School Class of 2006.

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