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# The Crittenden Press

REP. BECHLER  
UNOPPOSED | PAGE 4

USPS 138-260 • MARION • KENTUCKY

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER SINCE 1879  
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\$1 NEWS  
STAND

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## Crittenden GOP meeting Tuesday

Crittenden County Republican Party will meet at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday at the courthouse to discuss plans for a Pennyville Area Dinner featuring GOP candidates in the May primary election as well as the party's upcoming presidential caucus on March 5. All Republicans are invited to attend.



## 62 names invalid on alcohol petition

Though the petition calling for the referendum on alcohol sales in restaurants seating 50 or more inside the City of Marion acquired 220 signatures, it was left with only 20 signatures to spare upon validation. The petition needed 138 valid signatures to send the question to the ballot for Marion voters only. Crittenden County Judge-Executive Perry Newcom has set the city election for March 22.

County Clerk Carolyn Byford said 62 signatures were declared invalid, including three that were duplicates, 36 that belonged to residents outside the city and 23 from individuals not registered to vote. Newcom declared the names invalid after meeting with Byford and County Attorney Rebecca Johnson.

A countywide question to approve alcohol sales in the county failed by a 3-to-2 margin in 2000. Graves County voters on Tuesday elected to deny packaged alcohol sales in a county that already allows alcohol in restaurants.

Crittenden County is one of 24 dry counties in Kentucky, as is Adair County, where voters also head to the polls March 22 to vote on alcohol sales.



## 427 canines saved by county shelter

In 2015, more than 400 dogs taken in at Crittenden County Animal Shelter were saved, according to Animal Control Officer Timmy Todd. Todd reports that last year, 185 dogs were adopted and another 177 went to rescue. Sixty-five pets were reclaimed by their owners. The shelter houses animals from Crittenden, Livingston and Lyon counties.

## Meetings

- Crittenden County Board of Education will meet at 6 p.m. today (Thursday) at Rocket Arena.

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



FACEBOOK IMAGE

Mike Crabtree and his wife Cindy have appreciated the show of support through "storm hat" posts to Facebook as the Marion barber battles health issues.

## Community tips hat to ailing man with social media

STAFF REPORT

When a community rallies behind one of its own, they often show it in unique ways. Most recently with storm hats.

Storm hats, you might ask? It's a quirky, yet uniquely heart-warming expression that encouraged Marion barber Mike Crabtree when recently presented with a shocking medical diagnosis.

Crabtree, who has cut hair in Marion

See **HATS**/Page 3

## County OKs mandatory use of trash service carts

### Freedom Waste residential pick-up rate, collection altered this spring

STAFF REPORT

Freedom Waste Service, the company that has a non-exclusive franchise contract to provide residential roadside garbage pick-up in the county, has been approved to change its rate and service structure starting this spring.

After some investigation and discussion, Crittenden County magistrates last week approved a new flat rate of \$15 a month for residential service. That is \$1 less than some customers are currently paying. The catch is that every customer must have a 96-gallon container provided by Freedom Waste. For customers who have been providing their own cans, this change will mean an extra 55 cents a month for trash pickup.

Freedom Waste has told the county that it will be using collection trucks fitted with robotic

arms that will grab containers and dump the trash into the truck without workers leaving the safety of the vehicle's cab. Crittenden County Judge-Executive Perry Newcom

said the company has told him this new procedure is necessary to meet current requirements by Freedom Waste's insurance carrier.

Freedom Waste bills its customers quarterly. All customers will be provided with a container and the new fee structure will begin April 1. The quarterly rate will be \$45.

The county is requiring Freedom Waste to properly notify customers of this change.

The company will require carts to be placed in a particular spot with a particular side facing the road. Those details will be explained by the company to customers new to the robotic-



INTERNET IMAGE

Sometimes called a herby curby, trash carts like this provided by Freedom Waste Service will soon be required for residential customers

container process. Newcom said Freedom Waste has already deployed the robotic-collection system in other communities.

The company will continue to provide back-door service for the elderly and residents who are medically unable to bring waste containers to the curb.

# Snowbound solution?



PHOTO BY DARYL K. TABOR, THE PRESS

Home from school Friday thanks to Winter Storm Jonah, Nelson Jennings, 15, ventured out in a heavy snowfall to clear a carport on West Carlisle Street with a blower. So far this school year, students in Crittenden County have missed six days of class due to weather. For more snow photos, see Page 3.

## Snow day instruction alternative considered

STAFF REPORT

A sounding board of parents, teachers and students on Wednesday heard an exploratory committee's suggestions for a plan to allow students to get credit for working from home on snow days in Crittenden County.

This academic year, 44 of the state's 173 school districts are participating in a non-traditional instruction, or "snowbound," program created by Kentucky lawmakers in 2011. It allows school districts to make up as many as 10 instructional days missed due to weather or other emergency through virtual or other unconventional means.

Initially, only 13 school districts were approved to offer the snow day alternative for students. Legislation passed in 2014 loosened restrictions, making all school districts in the state eligible to apply for the program.

In Crittenden County, it would

See **SOLUTION**/Page 3

## Rocket Docket propels savings, speeds judicial process

STAFF REPORT

It's only by coincidence that the state's initiative to save prosecutorial and corrections expenses is named Rocket Docket - sharing an ironic kinship to Crittenden County's sports moniker.

Truth is, the Rocket Docket is a statewide program aimed at a full-court press against lengthy and expensive court cases that cost taxpayers a fortune and often delay behavioral treatment

for defendants with substance abuse problems.

Commonwealth Attorney Zac Greenwell, who serves Crittenden, Union and Webster counties, successfully lobbied for a grant - among the first in the state - to implement the Rocket Docket program in his circuit.

So far, the savings have been greater than anyone

could have projected, and the court is pleased with the program's savings, but there is cause for caution, according to 5th Judicial Circuit Judge Rene Williams.

"It certainly saves the costs of incarceration by shortening jail time for some folks and, of course, any time cases are resolved and don't require a jury trial, it saves time and



Greenwell

money for everyone involved in the system, including our jurors," said Judge Williams.

But, she thinks the program may be so fast, it could zip right past defendants without them fully understanding the long-term ramifications or options they might otherwise negotiate.

"Sometimes, I fear a person wants to 'take the deal' just to get out of jail and doesn't understand what being a convicted felon

means in terms of their rights - or lack thereof - in the future," the judge added.

Because of that, she is careful to spend a little more time in court explaining what this means for someone accused of a crime. Pleading guilty to a felony is a life-altering event.

"I am always concerned when young folks enter pleas to felonies, fearing they just

See **DOCKET**/Page 4



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EDITORIAL

Open records laws exist in Ky. for reason

Open records laws exist for a reason. They not only allow citizens access to information about what their local, state and federal governments are doing with taxpayer money, they provide transparency so citizens can see if elected officials are performing appropriately. These are two of the most important aspects of open records laws.

All citizens have a right to obtain open records. As a newspaper, we often use open records laws to obtain information about government meetings, finances, etc., so the public can be informed about how our government is operating.

A few years ago in Kentucky, the wool was pulled over Kentucky citizens' eyes when a piece of legislation was passed in the Kentucky General Assembly that created a situation in which a private company offering a traditional government service and receiving taxpayer funds for it could keep records private.

State Rep. Chris Harris, D-Pikeville, was a magistrate when he tried to obtain records concerning the Mountain Water District. Because of the language in that 2012 legislation, he was denied.

So, Harris has filed legislation in this session, House Bill 80, that would ensure that entities offering traditional government services and receiving the 25 percent threshold of taxpayer dollars will have to open their records.

This is a fair and needed piece of legislation. Maintaining that any entity that offers services to a government body must turn those records over to the public if it is above the 25 percent threshold isn't asking too much.

Obviously, under the proposed legislation, if the 25 percent threshold isn't met, then those records wouldn't be subject to open records laws.

Society can live with that, but what we can't live with is the current law that exists and, quite frankly, should never have been passed in the first place.

Government agencies, if they are operating above board – and we believe the majority of them do – should have no trouble turning records, except those exempt from statutes, over to the public or the media.

Harris' legislation would simply level the playing field and allow taxpayers to know how their money is being spent when government bodies hire outside firms to perform traditional government agencies.

This is a good piece of legislation that Harris has brought before to the General Assembly to replace a bad law that reduced transparency. We urge lawmakers to pass it.

— The Daily News, Bowling Green, Ky.

The Press letters policy

Letters should be submitted by 5 p.m. Friday the week before publication. Submissions must include only the author's name, address, phone number and signature. Phone numbers and addresses are required, but will not be published.

Letters should be written in good taste and in most cases should not exceed 300 words or be submitted under the same name within 30 days of the last submission. The Crittenden Press reserves the right to reject or edit letters for clarity, brevity and otherwise at our discretion. Original submissions will not be returned.

Your letters to the editor may be brought into our office at 125 E. Bellville St. or sent to: Letters, P.O. Box 191, Marion, KY 42064-0191 or emailed to thepress@the-press.com. Call (270) 965-3191 for further information.

Pro-life, domestic violence bills taken up by Ky. representatives

Last week was a short week in the Kentucky General Assembly. On Monday, we celebrated the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday and Friday's session was canceled due to the inclement weather that blanketed the Commonwealth.

In the last few years, the legislature has been focused on expanding protection to victims or potential victims of domestic violence, and that focus continues.

House Bill 59 would strengthen existing protection by amending the current address

protection program. HB 59 would provide immediate protection to potential victims of domestic violence and abuse by allowing the court to issue a document to a participant in the address protection program as proof that he or she actually resides in a specific county. A substitute address may already be used for voting purposes and HB 59 would allow the substitute address to also be used on the victim's operator's license. I voted yes, and the bill passed.

The University of Kentucky houses the Kentucky Tobacco Research and Development Center where research is conducted on tobacco products. The federal government is looking to expand research that has been focused on cigarettes,

and awards grants for those studies. The federal government is now looking to include smokeless tobacco in those studies.

HB 83 addresses that intent by adding smokeless tobacco to existing legislation and by exempting smokeless tobacco that is used for research from being taxed in the Commonwealth, thus enabling Kentucky to compete for those additional federal grants. The original bill didn't allow all accredited universities and colleges in the state to

apply for those grants, so I offered an amendment to the bill to allow all of Kentucky's accredited colleges and universities to apply for those grants. It is unlikely that any college or university other than the University of Kentucky would invest the necessary resources for such a center, but I believe those institutions, not our state government, should make those decisions.

My amendment passed, as did HB 83 as amended. I, of course, voted yes on the amendment, and I also voted yes on the amended bill.

While passage of pro-life legislation during this year's session is far from certain, there is some hope of it finally happening. For a number of years, Kentucky



Rep. Lynn BECHLER  
R-Marion

Ky. House District 4  
Crittenden • Livingston  
Caldwell • Christian (part)

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Service  
House: 2013-present



Sen. Dorsey RIDLEY  
D-Henderson

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Henderson • Webster  
Livingston • Union

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Service  
House: 1987-94  
Senate: 2004-present

- Senate Bill 4 is an abortion-related measure that passed by a 32-5 vote. It would require a face-to-face meeting between the pregnant woman and a health care provider at least 24 hours before an abortion takes place. It is currently often done via a recorded telephone message.

- SB 45 is a pension transparency bill that passed by a unanimous vote. It would allow pension managers to disclose the name and benefit amount for any current or former lawmaker by making those figures subject to the state's open records laws.

- SB 52 is a teacher certificate-related measure that passed by a 36-0 vote. It would allow military vet-

Stay informed

There are several ways to keep up with the 2016 legislative session and share your thoughts with lawmakers.

Legislative Message Line  
(800) 372-7181

TTY Message Line  
(800) 896-0305

Bill Status Line  
(866) 840-2835

Legislative Calendar Line  
(800) 633-9650

General Assembly website  
LRC.ky.gov

Write any lawmaker  
Sen./Rep. First Last  
Legislative Offices  
702 Capitol Ave.  
Frankfort, KY 40601

has had a law requiring consultation between an abortion provider and a woman considering an abortion to take place in an "individual, private setting" at least 24 hours before an abortion can be legally performed. The intent of the General Assembly was for that consultation to happen "face to face," but the Supreme Court ruled that the "individual, private setting" requirement could be accomplished by a phone call, with the result being a recorded message meeting the court's interpretation.

SB 4 clarifies the "individual, private setting" language to mean the patient and medical professional must meet physically in the same room. SB 4 passed out of the Senate and was sent to the House for its consideration. (See Sen. Dorsey Ridley's update

below for more on the measure.)

Before a bill can be voted on in the House, it must have three readings, and in the past, House leadership has not allowed even one reading. Through a procedural move, we were able to get the first reading of SB 4. The hard part will be getting the other two readings and forcing a vote on the House floor.

Another piece of pro-life legislation is HB 257. This bill would prohibit an abortion from being performed that would result in the dismemberment or crushing of an unborn child, prohibit abortion after 20 weeks of fetal development and prohibit the remains of an aborted child or deceased infant from being placed in a Kentucky landfill. Through another procedural move, we were able to force a vote allowing legislators to co-sponsor the bill through a vote on the House floor; and in a bipartisan show of support, more than half of the House joined in co-sponsoring HB 257.

While it is still a long shot, it is my hope that this is the year we are able to quash the wishes of House leadership and finally see meaningful pro-life legislation become law.

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 4th District.

Senate bill targets habitual drunken drivers

erans to receive a provisional teaching certificate after meeting certain criteria.

- SB 56 is a bill targeting habitual drunken drivers that passed by a 35-1 vote. It would change what is known in legal circles as the "look-back period" to 10 years from five years. What that means is that if someone is convicted of drunken driving multiple times in a 10-year period the penalties for the crimes can be increased. The bill would also expand the quarterly reporting window of pending DUI cases to 180 days from 90 days.

- SB 81 is a measure related to military families that passed by a 34-2 vote. It would require the Department of Education to create a system identifying students with military parents or families. (Sen. Ridley voted in favor of all five measures.)

Those bills are now in the state House of Representatives for consideration.

When we were not on the

floor debating bills, we met with constituents and agencies on issues facing citizens around the state. We also were busy with committee meetings. We passed out of committee several bills, topics ranging from education to breastfeeding to voter identification. These bills are headed to the Senate floor for further consideration.

The Martin Luther King Jr. Day holiday and snowy weather cut the third week of the session short. When lawmakers returned to the Capitol this week, they got their first glimpse of newly elected Gov. Matt Bevin's budget proposal late on Tuesday.

After the governor's address to the joint session, the budget recommendations were converted to bill form and introduced in the House. From there, the work continues.

Please stay up-to-date on the budget negotiations and legislative action of interest to you through the contact information on this page.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Marion voters encouraged to vote No on alcohol ballot

To the editor

Television shows, movies and commercials glamorize alcohol. Everyone is laughing and having a great time.

As I was reading a newspaper last week, I noticed an article. A 3-year-old was found wandering in an Evansville, Ind., grocery store parking lot. The toddler was not wearing a coat or shoes despite it being 30 degrees. A customer found the child and called 911. The police finally located the young mother who at the time was under the influence of both alcohol and drugs.

One drink may have been the beginning of this mother's alcohol problem.

The young mother is in jail and the child in custody of Child Protective Services. Glamorous, this is not.

We are facing a vote March 22. But

this will not be the last. We will face another vote on package alcohol. If that passes, we will see alcohol in our grocery stores, drug stores, department stores and gas stations.

Crittenden County has a drug problem and with alcohol so available, the two can be deadly.

This is the time for Marion voters, especially our older ones, to vote No.

Shirley Hinchee  
Marion, Ky.

Local teens' first taste of alcohol too often at college

To the editor

The upcoming wet-dry election in the City of Marion brings to mind a conversation I had more than 15 years ago with a veteran University of Kentucky housing official. She said that a serious and persistent problem is the student

who comes to UK with no prior socializing experience with alcohol. He or she – usually he – does not know how to handle his newfound freedom to consume and disastrous results too often occur.

A seasoned veteran, she readily acknowledged that, technically, under-aged students have nearly unfettered access.

The hard historical fact is that young people in Crittenden County, like the young everywhere else, live and will live in a world where wine, beer and distilled spirits are as much a part of life as iPads, video games and the Internet. They need to learn about them somewhere, and what safer place than in a town that, in my over 60 years of experience there, cares more about its young than most.

John Terry  
Marion, Ky./Palatka, Fla.

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Find daily updates from the Kentucky General Assembly while state lawmakers are in Frankfort through April

The Press Online





FACEBOOK IMAGES

Showing their support as he copes with leukemia, friends and acquaintances of local barber Mike Crabtree have donned a variety of “storm hats” and posted their photos on Facebook. Crabtree unwittingly started something of a trend a couple of years ago by donning a hat and posting it online, warning others to brace for an impending winter storm. From coast to coast, individuals have participated, including former fellow parishoners at Mexico Baptist Church, Brent and Amanda Highfil and their children in North Carolina (left); John Watson sporting his Racer pride outside Campbell Army Airfield on the Army base (above left); and Helen Moore of Marion. Pets have also participated in the well wishes.

## HATS

Continued from Page 1

since he graduated high school in 1986 and is song leader at Mexico Baptist Church, went to the hospital on the morning of Sunday, Jan. 17 complaining of shortness of breath and sluggishness. He feared a heart problem.

The initial news from Terry Boone, a physician’s assistant and client of Crabtree’s Main Street barber shop, was that his white blood count was extremely elevated. Boone ordered further tests and

immediate medical attention, suggesting Crabtree head straight to Vanderbilt University Medical Center.

There, the barber and his wife, Cindy, were stunned to learn he has leukemia.

As Crabtree was admitted and began undergoing diagnostic testing in Nashville, Tenn., a storm was bearing down back home in Crittenden County.

Crabtree loves snow. He unwittingly started something of a trend two years ago by donning a camouflage cap and posting his picture on social media warning others to bat-ten down the hatches and

brace for a winter storm. Many of his friends took note of that gesture and rallied behind the local barber last week by posting literally hundreds of photos on Facebook with everyone topped with some type of skull cap or extravagant headgear.

It was enough to draw a smile of appreciation from Crabtree, who is well known for his volunteer work as a firefighter, rescue squad member, youth sports coach and voice of Rocket football on WMJL radio.

“It was something silly I did back then,” Crabtree said Monday. “I’d gotten a new camo Duck Dynasty hat so I

took a picture and said ‘let’s see those storm hats,’ and people started taking their pic-tures. I bet I got 200 pictures.”

With his Facebook an-nouncement Jan. 17 that he was at Vanderbilt with the di-agnosis of either acute or chronic leukemia, people started sending their latest storm hat pictures. They ranged from common sock caps to an occasional football helmet, cowboy hat, fedora, beret, and numerous pets wearing hats. They came from across the region and beyond, including Washington, D.C., Oregon and Florida.

“When you’re stuck in a

hospital it’s easy to get down, but when you see pictures people are taking it is uplift-ing,” he said. “My wife has taken very good care of me, and people have been very nice and very supportive from my church, Mexico Baptist, and the community.”

Understandably, Crabtree is concerned about his cus-tomers at Mike’s Barber Shop, and says he hopes to return on limited hours in a couple of weeks.

His longterm prognosis is good as doctors believe they can control his leukemia with a daily regimen of medication.

“I go back to the doctor this

week and I’m supposed to start taking my medicine this week,” he said. “Since I was di-agnosed with chronic leukemia, I will take a pill every day for the rest of my life, and they say it will take a while but they can put it in re-mission and I will be back to normal.”

For now, Tim Harrison and Roy Rogers, the barbers down from Crabtree’s shop, will likely be cutting a few extra heads of hair. Harrison said so far the volume hasn’t been overwhelming.

Maybe it’s because every-one’s do is covered with those storm hats.

## SOLUTION

Continued from Page 1

allow teachers to provide stu-dents with either Internet-based assignments or a hard-copy packets of school work to complete at home on snow days designated for alternative learning. The idea would help prevent the school cal-endar from being ex-tended at the end of the school year due to missed days. But sav-ing summer is not the primary goal.



Clark

“We want to focus on learning, not just make up 10 days,” Superintendent Vince Clark said in a recent school board working session.

Some school districts in the mountains of eastern Kentucky regularly miss 30 or more days a year due to Old Man Winter. In Crittenden County, according to the Ken-tucky Department of Educa-tion, there was an average of 8-9 days snow days from 2009 to 2014. The last two years, the average has been more than a dozen, pushing the academic calendar to the end of May.

So far this year, local stu-dents have amassed six snow days, including two last week and another this week. The school calendar calls for one of these days to be made up April 11, with the remainder tacked onto the end of the cal-endar. All that, however, would have to be approved by the board of education.

The last day of school was originally set for May 13.

Parents in Crittenden County have been asked to fill out surveys in order to gauge the availability of Internet ac-cess by students throughout the district. Last year, the local district did not apply for

inclusion in the snowbound program due to concerns over poor of Internet access across the county.

“We are looking at several district plans and will adopt what is best for us,” Clark said Monday about tailoring the program to meet the needs of all students.

Snow day alterna-tives would be called Rocket Days.

Livingston County implemented its pro-gram this year using worksheets and as-signments provided to students in the au-tumn. Assignments are

to be completed on certain days missed due to inclement weather. Those snow day alternatives are called Live RED at Home Days.

In Webster County, where former Crittenden County Su-perintendent Rachel Yarbrough now heads the school district, the non-tradi-tional instruction is call Link2Learn. Over the sum-mer, instructors from Murray State University trained edu-cators there on how to incor-porate Internet applications like Google Docs and Ed-modo. Each teacher then cre-ated lessons for their students and uploaded it to the district’s website.

Also in western Kentucky, Graves, Hopkins and Todd counties offer snow day alternatives. For all 44 districts across the state, teacher and student participation is mon-itored both at the local level and by KDE.

Crittenden County’s ex-ploratory committee will have follow-up meetings in Febru-ary and March, with the in-tent of having the plan presented to KDE for consid-eration by May 1. If approved, the plan would take effect with the 2016-17 school year.



PHOTOS BY CHRIS EVANS AND DARYL K. TABOR, THE PRESS



A winter storm coated Crittenden County Friday with as much as a foot of snow in some areas, closing schools and shutting down most Marion businesses. Clockwise from top left, Russell Nelson cleans his drive off East Mound Park; (from left) Taylor Guess, 11, Jessie Potter, 12, and Parker Kayse, 10, cover friend Ashlyn Hicks, 12, in snow on South Yandell Street; Paul Beard uses a tractor to plow snow in front of a Marion business; and a state road crew works to remove piles of snow on Ky. 506.


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# Comer congressional campaign stops in Marion; Bechler running unopposed

STAFF REPORT

The Kentucky primary election campaign season is now in full swing.

With just 111 days remaining before the election, all candidates have filed for office and are scurrying for support across the state. In Crittenden County, James Comer, a Republican candidate for 1st District congressman, became the first to woo voters.

Comer, Kentucky's former commissioner of agriculture, a state representative from 2001 to 2012 and a candidate in last year's GOP primary for governor, made an early morning stop at Marion Feed Mill to kick off his campaign in the county. He said the intent of his visit to the county was to organize a local campaign base.

The visit came just a day before Kentucky's deadline to file for office. He and three other Republicans are jockeying for votes to replace 22-year Congressman Ed Whitfield, who will retire at the end of the year as the only Republican to have represented the district in Congress.

Another Republican representing Crittenden County, Lynn Bechler, seems poised to keep his seat in Frankfort. No other Republicans or Democrats are seeking the 4th District House seat Bechler has held since 2013. Seeking a third two-year term, Rep. Bechler could, however, face an independent or write-in candidates who have until summer to enter the race.

"(The) filing deadline has come and gone, and nobody filed to oppose me," Bechler posted on his Facebook page. "I am humbled and honored to be able to continue as your 4th District state Representative."

Meantime, Comer believes Washington is off course with the values held dear in western Kentucky. He expressed concern about the two job sectors most vital to employment in Crittenden County.



James Comer, a candidate for the 1st District congressional seat to be vacated at the end of the year by 22-year Republican Congressman Ed Whitfield, on Monday paid the first visit to Crittenden County by any 2016 congressional hopeful. Above, Comer, Kentucky's former commissioner of agriculture and a candidate for governor in last year's GOP primary, speaks with Charlie Hunt at Marion Feed Mill. Comer said his visit was aimed at organizing a campaign base in the county.

"Agriculture and industry are under assault by regulators in Washington," the 43-year-old said. "If we don't do something, we're going to lose our best and brightest in Kentucky."

Besides protecting and fostering economic development and agricultural growth in the congressional district, Comer wants to work with other new faces he expects to see next year on Capitol Hill to cut spending and pass a balanced budget amendment.

"Congress will never pass a balanced budget unless they are required to," said the family farmer who still calls Tompkinsville in rural Monroe County home.

Unlike states, the federal

government is allowed to spend more money than it takes in during a budget cycle. That deficit spending has created a national debt about to reach \$19 trillion.

For 27 straight years prior to 1998, Washington operated in the red. And the last time the federal government balanced the budget was in 2001, the fourth consecutive year of surplus under a spending plan proposed under former President Bill Clinton.

"People are fed up with politics as usual," Comer said.

Comer is no stranger to Crittenden County, having paid multiple visits as agriculture commissioner and as a candidate. On Monday, he also visited the local Farm Bureau office, the courthouse

and Par 4 Plastics before ending his day of campaigning in Henderson. A snow day cancelled his plans to read to Crittenden County Elementary School students.

Voters in the county have seemed to respond to Comer. He carried Crittenden County in his bid five years ago to head the state's Department of Agriculture and in last year's GOP primary for governor, which he lost by only 83 statewide votes to Gov. Matt Bevin. Comer also carried 21 of the 35 counties that comprise the 1st Congressional District.

"I'm just glad Louisville is not in the district," Comer joked, pointing to the overwhelming support the state's largest city gave Bevin in the primary. Incidentally, Bevin makes his home in Louisville.

Other Republicans having filed for the 1st Congressional District seat are Rep. Whitfield's longtime district director Mike Pape of Hopkinsville, Miles A. Caughey Jr. of Hernndon and Jason Batts of Fulton. Democrats running are Tom Osborne of Paducah and Samuel L. Gaskins of Hopkinsville.

**U.S. Senate**

Appearing on both March's GOP presidential caucus ballot and the May primary slate in Kentucky will be Sen. Rand Paul. He will face opposition on both, though none of the other candidates on either side of the aisle have statewide name recognition.

In the Republican primary, Paul will face Stephen Howard Slaughter and James R. Gould. Democrats having filed are Jim Gray, Rory Houlihan, Jeff Kender, Ron Leach, Tom Recktenwald, Grant T. Short and Sellus Wilder.

**U.S. President**

Only Democrats will vote for President in May. Having filed are Hillary Clinton, Bernie Sanders, Martin J. O'Malley and Roque Rocky De La Fuente.

## Livestock report

### USDA Ledbetter weigh-out sale

<b>Jan. 26, 2016</b>					<b>Feeder Bulls Medium and Large 1-2 (cont.)</b>				
<b>Receipts:</b> 278					Head Wt Range Avg Wt Price Range Avg Price				
<b>Last Week:</b> 537					10 450-500 472 179.00-194.00 186.08				
<b>Year Ago:</b> 557					7 500-550 524 161.00-177.00 170.03				
<b>Compared to last week:</b> Feeder steers and bulls traded mostly steady. Feeder heifers traded steady to 4.00 higher. Slaughter cows and bulls traded steady. Sale consisted of 0 stock cattle, 38 slaughter cattle, and 240 feeders. Feeders consisted of 23% feeder steers, 39% feeder heifers, and 28% feeder bulls.					5 550-600 579 146.00-156.00 148.73				
<b>Feeder Steers Medium and Large 1-2</b>					12 600-650 614 139.00-145.00 142.40				
Head Wt Range Avg Wt Price Range Avg Price					8 650-700 676 128.00-136.00 133.87				
1 200-250 200 260.00 260.00					3 700-750 723 119.00-126.00 121.65				
3 250-300 255 210.00-220.00 213.46					2 750-800 785 105.00-112.00 108.46				
2 300-350 335 203.00-210.00 206.55					5 800-850 843 121.00 121.00				
5 350-400 384 202.00-207.00 204.01					<b>Feeder Bulls Medium and Large 2-3</b>				
11 400-450 424 188.00-195.00 193.45					Head Wt Range Avg Wt Price Range Avg Price				
5 450-500 473 183.00-190.00 186.16					4 350-400 385 170.00-172.50 171.65				
8 550-600 560 162.00-163.00 162.87					2 400-450 420 168.00 168.00				
5 600-650 638 151.00-157.00 155.79					1 450-500 485 158.00 158.00				
5 700-750 700 146.00 146.00					<b>Slaughter Cows Breaker 75-80%</b>				
<b>Feeder Steers Medium and Large 2-3</b>					Head Wt Range Avg Wt Price Range Avg Price				
Head Wt Range Avg Wt Price Range Avg Price					1 800-1200 1180 61.00 61.00				
1 200-250 230 205.00 205.00					3 1200-1600 1542 60.00-65.00 62.98				
2 250-300 292 160.00-175.00 167.44					1 1200-1600 1265 57.00 57.00 LD				
4 300-350 327 184.00-193.00 190.94					1 1600-2000 1635 63.00 63.00				
2 600-650 605 144.00-145.00 144.50					<b>Slaughter Cows Boner 80-85%</b>				
<b>Feeder Heifers Medium and Large 1-2</b>					Head Wt Range Avg Wt Price Range Avg Price				
Head Wt Range Avg Wt Price Range Avg Price					3 800-1200 1130 63.00-66.00 64.66				
1 150-200 165 242.50 242.50					4 1200-1600 1393 62.00-67.00 64.50				
3 250-300 261 205.00 205.00					<b>Slaughter Cows Lean 85-90%</b>				
2 300-350 315 182.00-188.00 184.90					Head Wt Range Avg Wt Price Range Avg Price				
6 350-400 355 184.00-191.00 187.00					1 700-800 790 60.00 60.00				
14 400-450 422 173.00-185.00 179.05					1 700-800 735 56.00 56.00 LD				
3 450-500 473 157.00-161.00 159.63					5 800-1200 1010 59.00-63.00 60.44				
23 500-550 518 157.00-165.00 163.79					1 800-1200 1110 55.00 55.00 LD				
8 550-600 564 141.00-151.00 148.99					2 1200-1600 1216 58.00-60.00 59.00				
4 600-650 620 138.00-144.00 141.46					<b>Slaughter Bulls Y.G. 1-2</b>				
4 650-700 665 125.00-137.00 127.93					Head Wt Range Avg Wt Price Range Avg Price				
1 700-750 740 125.00 125.00					1 1000-1500 1220 68.00 68.00 LD				
1 750-800 790 117.00 117.00					<b>Stock Cows and Calves:</b> No test.				
1 800-850 845 103.00 103.00					<b>Baby Calves:</b> Beef breeders 270.00-300.00 per head. Dairy breeds no test.				
1 900-950 905 108.00 108.00					<b>Legend:</b> VA=Value added, LD=Low dressing, HD=High dressing, BX=Brahman X.				
<b>Feeder Heifers Medium and Large 2-3</b>					<b>Chip Stewart</b> , market reporter; (502) 782-4139				
Head Wt Range Avg Wt Price Range Avg Price					<b>24-hour toll-free Market News Report:</b> (800) 327-6568				
2 250-300 262 185.00 185.00					Source: Kentucky Department of Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture Market News, Frankfort, Ky				
4 350-400 380 171.00-178.00 173.77					ams.usda.gov/mnrreports/SVLS150.txt_LS150.txt				
4 400-450 424 165.00-170.00 167.96					<i>This report reflects price of majority of cattle with a USDA grade, weight and sex on sale date. This report does not represent all animals at sale.</i>				
7 500-550 540 141.00-153.00 151.40									
1 700-750 725 108.00 108.00									
<b>Feeder Bulls Medium and Large 1-2</b>									
Head Wt Range Avg Wt Price Range Avg Price									
4 350-400 378 196.00-197.00 196.25									
3 400-450 428 186.00-195.00 188.94									

## DOCKET

Continued from Page 1

don't comprehend how their future will be changed," Judge Williams said.

Right now, there is no way to expunge a felony from a person's criminal record short of receiving a pardon from the governor. Legislation is currently being considered to change that in Kentucky, but for now, felonies are for life.

"I can anticipate folks coming back later requesting to have their conviction set aside, saying they were not properly advised or didn't understand all the rights they would lose as a result of their plea and the negative impact it has on their lives," Williams added.

The Rocket Docket initiative, which was funded through comprehensive heroin legislation passed during the 2015 General Assembly, saved state taxpayers \$2.8 million in local jail costs in three months between August and October. This savings is more than twice the amount of funding the initiative received for the entire fiscal year, and the projected savings for the current year is \$11 million, according to those overseeing its implementation, former Attorney General Jack Conway and members of the Prosecutors Advisory Council.

In Crittenden County, about \$50,000 has been saved in jail housing costs and court-related time and expense.

Prosecutor Megan Randolph handles Rocket Docket cases in Union and Webster counties and Wes Hunt, assistant county attorney in Crittenden County, is helping usher these cases along locally. He also keeps statistical data for the circuit.

Hunt says the savings in Crittenden County alone have more than covered the state's investments in the three-county circuit. The financial benefits are even greater in other counties in the circuit.

"According to my stats, Union County has saved approximately \$75,680 and Webster has saved approximately \$61,985," Hunt explained.

The grant to implement the initiative in the 5th Judicial Circuit was \$15,000.

"Honestly, I knew we would save the county more than the cost of the program, but I

never thought the savings would be as much as they have been," Greenwell said.

Cases that qualify for Rocket Docket are crimes such as simple drug possession or flagrant non-support – which is often a result of substance abuse, say prosecutors.

A normal felony offender – outside the Rocket Docket – can have his or her case languish in the court system three months or more through arraignments, indictments, hearings and sentencing. During that time, the dollar meter is running for incarceration, legal staff, judges and police who must appear in court for hearings.

"Grand juries hear fewer cases, and my prediction is that we will have fewer trials, lessening the jury duty service of our communities," Greenwell said.

Defendants benefit from a speedy process. Instead of 12 or more weeks in jail or on bond awaiting sentencing, cases can be cleared up in a matter days.

"Offenders are going into a drug or alcohol treatment program, starting the road to recovery quicker," said Greenwell.

The judge says it's incumbent upon the court to make sure the fast-track is the most equitable program for everyone, including the defendant.

"Defense attorneys must take extra time with their clients to ensure they understand the seriousness of pleading to a felony," Judge Williams said. "It needs to be a knowingly, intelligent, informed and voluntary decision, and I am concerned at times that even though folks say they understand, they really don't."

Statewide, 1,472 cases went through the Rocket Docket in its first three months, ending in October. The initiative placed 361 defendants in drug treatment. Successful treatment reduces recidivism, said Conway, which saves additional time and resources for the criminal justice system.

"Rather than having someone with a drug or alcohol addiction sitting in jail at the cost of our counties, defendants can now be placed into drug court or a residential treatment center much faster at no cost to the local government," Greenwell explained.

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**LIVINGSTON CO, KY - 73.5 ACRES - \$125,900** - The only little patch of woods in the area, it's a deer magnet. It produces a large amount of cover and holds deer.



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# 1911 Vital stats reflect health of county

This week includes two interesting articles that appeared in The Crittenden Press in 1911. It was the first year that the Vital Statistics Law went into effect.

This law required doctors of the state to report births within 10 days and to make death certificates immediately after the death occurs. The time and place had to be included on the certificate, but most important was the cause, which would help determine the number of lives wasted by preventable diseases. It also recorded data in regard to the personal family history. The birth certificates would be the legal records of birth to determine the parents and age for voting, holding office, military service, etc.

Before the Vital Statistics Law was created, there were many births and deaths that were lost over time, as there was no legal documentation on file. Today, family genealogists find this very frustrating, for if some family ancestor died many years ago before the death certificates were recorded and no one in the family remembers the information, there may be no way to find their death information.

From The Crittenden Press archives:

## November 1911, Our County Leads in Health as Shown by Vital Statistics of Crittenden County for the Year 1911

Assuming that the report of deaths is complete in Crittenden County, and we have every evidence to believe that the physicians and undertakers have complied with the law in filing death certificates. The vital statistics for this county show that progress has been made in the fight against preventable diseases.

While it has been impossible to secure official records of the deaths previous to the year 1911, when the Vital Statistics Law became operative, a careful inquiry reveals the fact that these diseases are occurring less frequently.

The official records for the year 1911 for the first nine months, show that there have been reported 239 births and 92 deaths. Of these deaths, 23 have been of infants under 1 year, five children from the age of 1-5 and 31 aged 65 and over.

Tuberculosis consumption has been responsible for 16 deaths; typhoid fever, 3; diphtheria and croup, 0; scarlet fever, 0; measles, 0; whooping cough, 1; pneumonia and broncho-pneumonia, 7; summer complaint of children under 2 years, 4; meningitis, 3; influenza la grippe, 0; child bed fever, 0; cancer, 0; and violence, 3. Still births excluded.

The encouraging feature of this report is the relatively low death rate from the common preventable diseases. And while next year or later an unusual prevalence of some of the diseases in surrounding counties or in this county may sow a large increase in the death rate, there is every reason to believe that the practice of using individual drinking cups in the schools, the campaign conducted by the physicians of the County of Crittenden and her efficient board of health have been instrumental in saving a number of citizens of the county from death and sickness.

The State Board of Health



will watch Crittenden County's progress in this fight with great interest in the hope that she may be pointed out as a leader and practical example of what may be done in the protection of the health and lives of people.

Consumption, all forms, was responsible for 18 deaths of every 100 that occurred in the state the first eight months of the year. This death rate is enormous and constitutes a serious indictment against the intelligence of the state when it is observed that the average rate for 16 states that have a Vital Statistics Law is only 11 1/2 per 100.

It is very gratifying to see the advanced position that Crittenden County has taken in the educational effort that is being made over the state. The graded and high school of Marion is doing good work as is being done in the state and a high conception of what real teaching means is held by Superintendent J.U. Snyder and his corps of teachers. Systematic work is being done to develop the intellectual, moral and physical health in the young people under their care.

As a rule, schools under ordinary conditions are reduced in efficiency from 15 to 30 percent on account of preventable diseases, bad colds, la grippe, sore throat, diphtheria, whooping cough and scarlet fever. In this institution each teacher is required to report each day the number and name of pupils who are ill, or who have coughs and sore throats, if any, also the temperature of the room several times each day. A child that is ill is isolated if there is any suspicion of a contagious disease.

In this way school attendance is kept at its highest point. In addition the rooms are thoroughly ventilated and an abundance of fresh air, the best prevention in the world against cold, la grippe and bronchitis is admitted into the room constantly at the same time keeping an average temperature as shown by the records, of about 68 degrees.

## Thanks to the old assessor's reports, we have historical information from Dogs to Diamonds that were in Crittenden County.

### March 1911, What the Assessor's Book Shows About Crittenden

One would expect the books to show the largest increase in dogs, that is, if one may believe all the evidence that his ears hear, and his eyes behold. But the increase is only 208, and there are there are now but 1,278 dogs in the county. Since the tax is moderate, and the signs of increase many, we may expect the books to show it next year.

We have 4,863 sheep, an increase of 45 over last year. These are valued at \$2.50 per head. But for the work of some of the dogs listed, or not listed, the number of sheep would have been swelled to 4,943, as there



Dr. T.A. Frazer, a local health officer in 1911, had this to say about the new Vital Statistic Law: "Let us work together to put this law into effect without friction and have it carried out to the letter, and at the beginning of next year, every good citizen will be glad to take up a little pamphlet and see how many births there have been, how many little boys and girls that have come to gladden the homes of our people, and we can also see how many deaths there have been and how many of these should have been prevented."

were damage claims filed for exactly 80 sheep killed and crippled during the year. It is not surprising to see that the sheep killed, were in every case, the best of the flock, and that the average claim per head was \$5. The Crittenden County dog certainly knows a good sheep when he sees it.

It is not so easy to account for the loss of 5,665 acres of land, and 26 town lots. It may be that the surveyors have abandoned the old time way of calculating and measure from hilltop to hilltop. Certain it is, the assessors books show that we now have that number less of acres and town lots than we had one year ago. The total acreage is now 213,989, but the average value has increased 30 cents and it is now valued at \$7.90 per acre.

The missing town lots were worth \$15,038 and the value of the 782 remaining is \$448,657. Of the 213,989 acres, there were in cultivation, including meadows, only 53,288 acres, or about one fourth of all of it.

There are 34,456 acres of woodland and the woodland taken in connection with the land in cultivation shows that there are 126,243 acres, more than half the land in the county, cleared, but idle and unproductive. These figures, if not startling, at least contain enough food for thought to satisfy the hunger of The Farmers Union, The Society of Equity, and the defunct Commercial Club, and keep them from each other's throats. Some can find encouragement to the fact that the 34,456 acres of woodland is an increase of 2,876 over the year before. It is doubtful if a clearer example of reforestation exists anywhere.

We raised 38,826 bushels of wheat on 2,871 acres of land, and the year before raised 13,507 bushels on 967 acres; an average yield

each year of 14 bushels per acre.

From the hand bills posted at cross roads and other public places, one would believe the county to be the veritable home of thoroughbred stallions, yet there are only three, with a value of but \$500.

There are only two diamonds in the county, as against eight the year before, but the size and quality has vastly improved. The eight were worth \$955, while the two still in the county are worth nearly as much, to be exact, \$740.

In jewelry there are manifest signs of economy. Last year, there was \$1,110 worth of jewelry, while now there is only \$140 worth, and we know the man that owns it all. In gold, silver and plated ware, economy and retrenchment too is shown. Last year, there was \$190 worth of such ware, while now the stock is reduced to \$105.

It is good to note an increase of 300 in children of school age over last year and the number now stands at 3,769. As compared to 10 years ago, we now have 360 fewer children.

The adult males in the county number 3,083, a slight increase over last year, but a decrease in the last 10 years of 140. Children may come but they certainly go from us as soon as the age of discretion permits.

This very impressive and detailed report of the county was taken by Robert Thomas, who was the county assessor in 1911.

(Editor's note: Brenda Underdown is a Crittenden County historian, genealogist, chair of the Crittenden County Historical Society and a member of Crittenden County Genealogical Society. Much more local history can be found on her blog at OurForgottenPassages.blogspot.com.)

January 28, 2016

Public Notice

Legal advertisements for The Crittenden Press

## Rural property sold Jan. 29 at courthouse

**Commonwealth of Kentucky  
Crittenden Circuit Court  
Civil Action  
No. 15-CI-00093**

Farmers Bank & Trust Co.  
*Plaintiff*  
vs.  
**Notice of Sale**  
Anthony Wayne Conner,  
unknown occupants and/or  
tenants of, City of Marion,  
County of Crittenden, Ky.  
*Defendants*

By virtue of a Judgment and Order of Sale rendered by the Crittenden Circuit Court on the October 8, 2015, I will on **Friday, January 29, 2016, at the hour of 10:00 a.m or as soon thereafter as possible**, at the Courthouse door in the City of Marion, Crittenden County, Kentucky, proceed to offer for sale to the highest and best bidder the following described real property located in Crittenden County, Kentucky, to-wit:

**Property Address:** 8923 U.S. Highway 60 West, Marion, Kentucky

**Description:** A certain tract or parcel of land lying and being in Crittenden County Kentucky on the waters of Claylick Creek and bounded and described as follows:

BEGINNING at a stone in Mrs. Olive Kirk's line and on the North side of U.S. Highway #60; running with U.S. highway in a Northeasterly direction 60 years to a stone, a new corner to H.T. Hapending; thence in a Northwesterly direction 150 yards to a stone, a new corner to H.T. Hapending; thence in a Southwesterly direction 60 yards to a stone in Olive Kirk's line; thence with Kirk's line 150 yards to the beginning, containing tow (2) acres more or less.

**Source of title:** Being the same property conveyed to Anthony Wayne Conner, a single person, by Margaret

Bradford, a widow, by Deed dated July 1, 2011, and recorded in Deed Book 218, at Page 232, Crittenden County Court Clerk's Office.

**Subject to all restrictions, conditions, covenants, and to all legal highways and easements.**

**The description of the property conveyed herein was provided to the draftsman by the plaintiff and the draftsman does not certify the accuracy of same nor any existing easements.**

**The current year's property taxes will be paid by the purchaser of the property. Only delinquent taxes of parties to this action will be paid from the proceeds of the sale.**

Purchaser may pay cash or said property will be sold upon payment of 10% deposit, with the balance upon credit of 30 days, the purchaser shall execute a good and sufficient bond with approved surety thereon for the purchase price, the bond to bear interest at the rate of 12% per annum from the date thereof, until paid, and to have the force and effect of a judgment, but a lien shall be retained on said property to further secure the payment of the purchase price. At his option, the purchaser may pay cash or pay the bond with accrued interest at any time before its maturity. Said sale to be made free and clear of any and all liens, claims, rights, title, and interest of any and all parties to this action. The purchase will be prepared to promptly comply with these terms or the said property will immediately be offered again for sale.

Given under my hand this the 7th day of December, 2015.

Stephen M. Arnett, Special Master Commissioner

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Genealogical Society

Crittenden County Genealogical Society meets at 10 a.m. the second Saturday of each month in the meeting room at Crittenden County Public Library. The board includes Chair Crider, Secretary/Treasurer Underdown and Historian Doyle Polk.

Historical Museum

Crittenden County Historical Museum is closed for the season, but can be found online at CrittendenHistoryMuseum.org or Facebook.com/CrittendenCountyHistoricalMuseum.

Historical Society

Crittenden County Historical Society meets at 6 p.m. the second Tuesday of each month at the museum. The board includes Chair Brenda Underdown, Vice Chair Brennan Cruce, Secretary Steve Eskew, Treasurer Rita Travis, Fay Carol Crider, Sarah Ford, Pat

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# Religion

The Crittenden Press

Be ye angry, and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your wrath:  
— Ephesians 4:26

## Seven evils destroying America

Atheism, Islam, Marxism, racism, paganism, perverted sexism and false Christian doctrine are seven evils destroying America.

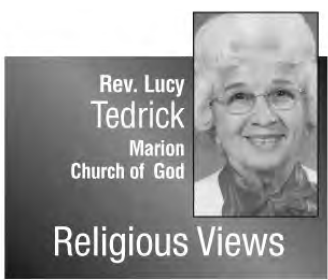
The Bible again is right on target: "As a man thinks in his heart, so is he." What we believe controls our actions.

Look at the last evil listed to begin this column. Many who believe they are Christian do many things the Bible says a true Christian cannot do. You can't hate a person, as the Bible calls that murder and says no murderer can go to Heaven.

The Bible tells us we cannot kill the innocent and can't practice, condone or support homosexuality, yet millions of professed Christians do all these things, and many professed Christian teachers are telling them they are going to Heaven.

All this is causing God to turn loose on America pagans and murderers of many stripes, just as He said He would do to a nation that forsakes Him.

Teachings of many of these seven evils are leading millions astray, deceiving them, taking away the true



Christian's freedoms and putting all of our rights and safety in jeopardy.

Nineteen out of 20 who become Christian do so before they are 25. After that, it gets more and more scarce. By the time they reach 75, only one out of 700,000 ever become Christian.

Now you know why Satan has so invaded and taken over the public schools and institutions of higher learning, convincing the youth there is no God and to support these other listed evils.

Look at the churches in America. Few teens are found there.

Look at crack houses and the penal institutions. Millions of teens are found there.

It is happening in the

homes and in the grade schools where God has been forsaken. Their soul that was to be fed on God is restless, unhappy and with no real purpose. They turn to drugs and premature sex, resulting in wasted lives, broken homes, murder, crime and suicide.

When America feared and honored God, the fear of man was scant. Peace and good will was the norm. Safety in the homes, on the streets, and at school, the workplace and church and out in the woods, fishing streams, parks and the highways a given.

The devil convinced millions to give up the God of those blessings for the deceptive pleasures of sin and the lie that there is no God. Look what he has given in exchange.

"They that sow to the wind will reap the whirlwind," reads Hosea 8:7.

Atheism is inherent in Marxism and paganism. False doctrine is inherent in Marxism, racism, and perverted sexism. Perverted sexism powers are doing the same damage to our religious rights as communism,

using the same tactics.

All of these pitfalls are abundant in America, and all of us are being damaged because so many are becoming victims of these evils. These evils would be exposed to honest hearts if only they would accept Jesus as their Savior and ask the Holy Spirit to live in them so He can teach them the truths of God and not man made ideas.

Marxism has infiltrated our schools, universities and politicians to the extent we are close to being so weakened by it that Islam is counting on the helplessness Obama and his minions have brought us to take us over.

All 46 of the demands of the Communist Party to take over America without a shot – which I've listed in this column many times – have already been implemented in our nation, except they do not yet have all of our guns.

Now we have some politicians out there fooling many of our unsaved citizens, claiming to be a member of certain denominations as if that makes them a Christian. However, these politi-

cians are well known to support every evil God hates, just like the one working against us right now made the same claims before the unsaved and uninformed who elected him.

Please wake up, people! Many of you will live to see much more horrible hell on earth than people my age if many more do not give in and truly be born again, changed and empowered by God Almighty.

Already many of you reading this are saying, "She told us seven years ago, but most would not listen."

Get saved and ask God to come live in. Jesus said in John 14:26 and 15:13 that God would "teach you all things and show you things to come."

Don't you want to "be as wise as a serpent and as harmless as a dove," as Matthew 10:16 reads?

(Editor's note: Rev. Lucy Tedrick, pastor at Marion Church of God, shares her views periodically in this newspaper. She can be reached at (270) 965-3269. Her opinions are her own and are not necessarily those of this newspaper.)

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Saturdays  
9am until Noon

## Alcohol leads to poisoned life

By JOEY DURHAM  
GUEST COLUMNIST

My devotion today is dealing with this thought, "The Foolishness of Liquor," and my text is Proverbs 23:29-32, where we read, "Who hath woe? Who hath sorrow? Who hath babbling? Who hath wounds without cause? Who hath redness of eyes? They that tarry long at the wine; they that go to seek mixed wine. Look not thou upon the wine when it is red, when it giveth his colour in the cup, when it moveth itself aright. At the last it biteth like a serpent, and stingeth like an adder."

The warning here from holy scripture is against drunkenness and the use of alcoholic beverages. A tremendous man of God from yesteryear, Bro. Billy Sunday, used to preach that alcoholic beverages

were "demons in a bottle!" More homes and lives have been ruined by alcohol than any other thing in human history. More marriages and careers have been destroyed by alcohol than any other vice.

Our text tells us "don't even look at it," or in other words, don't let yourself be destroyed by the sin of alcohol. I understand that prominent religions sanction the use of it and even use it in ceremonial and religious acts, but it is still sin in the sight of God.

Please notice how the scriptures bring out the deceptiveness and danger of drinking alcoholic beverages. At the last, it bites like a snake.

Snake handlers might be fascinated by the graceful form and prowess of a snake. However, handling them leads to inevitable snake bite with all its poisons.

The point is, though alcohol might entice, it will inevitably lead to being poisoned in life, and eventually, it can lead to physical death as well as being the vehicle used by Satan to plunge a deceived soul into eternal destruction. Please don't think you can handle it, because there is a long line of people who have been bitten to death by the "demon-snakes" of beer, wine and liquor who thought they could handle it.

Run to Jesus Christ, let Him save your soul by His amazing grace and He will make a new creature out of you and deliver you from the foolishness of liquor.

(Editor's note: Joey Durham, pastor of Sturgis Baptist Church, shares his views periodically in this newspaper. His opinions are his own and are not necessarily those of this newspaper.)

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Wednesday Bible Study / 6 pm

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- Sunday worship: 11 a.m.
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- Wednesday night Bible study: 6 p.m.

Bro. Steve Tinsley, pastor

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Marion United Methodist Church

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Marion, Kentucky

Wednesday night Bible study, 6 p.m.

Sunday school, 10 a.m. | Sunday worship, 11 a.m.

Hurricane Church

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Bro. John Robertson, Pastor

Sunday school, 10 a.m. • Worship, 11 a.m.

Sunday and Wednesday evening services, 6:30 p.m.



## Area Deaths

### Gregory

Leona Gregory, 90, of Tucson, Ariz., formerly of Marion, died Tuesday, Jan. 19, 2016 at her home in Tucson. She was of the Baptist faith.

Surviving are her daughter, Patti Gregory of Tucson; sons, Bill Gregory of Marion and Richard Gregory of Tucson; 5 grandchildren; and 6 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Elzie Gregory; parents, Richard and Rosie Hopkins; and several brothers and sisters.

Services were Sunday, Jan. 24 at Gilbert Funeral Home in Marion with burial at Maplevue Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, P.O. Box 1000 Dept. 142, Memphis, TN. 38101.

Johnnie Lou Conger, 83, of Marion died Saturday, Jan. 23, 2016 at Crittenden County Health and Rehabilitation Center.

She was a member of Seven Springs Baptist Church.

Surviving are her daughters, Jonna Leslie Lizak of Trenton, Mich., and Rita Perry of Marion; son, Dennis James Conger of Livingston County; brother, Pat McClure of Marion; sisters, Dot Doom of Marion, Dorcus Kline of Ohio and Joe Jones of Ohio; two grandchildren; an aunt, June Duvall of Madisonville; two grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Douglas James Conger; parents, Leslie and Dollie McClure; two brothers; and a sister.

Services are at 1 p.m., Friday, Jan. 29 at Gilbert Funeral Home in Marion. Burial will be at Dycusburg Cemetery. The family will receive visitors from 10 a.m., until service time Friday.

### Clark, 100

Melba Belt Clark, 100, of Radcliff, Ky., formerly of Marion, died Sunday, Jan. 24, 2016 at Signature of North Hardin in Radcliff.

She was a member of Second Baptist Church in Marion.

Surviving are daughters, Marilyn Shake of Radcliff, and Betty Nix of Louisville; eight grandchildren; and several great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her first husband, Audus R. Belt; second husband, Charles Clark; son, Bill Belt; and 10 brothers and sisters.

Graveside services were Tuesday, Jan. 26 at Maplevue Cemetery. Gilbert Funeral Home in Marion was in charge of arrangements.

### Barnett

Elaine Cheryl Barnett, 60, of Burna died Wednesday, Jan. 20, 2016 at Lourdes Hospice Care Center in Paducah.

Barnett was a member of Pinckneyville Baptist Church. She was a retired custodian for Crittenden County High School.

Surviving are her cousins and friends.

She was preceded in death by her sister, Patty Ann Sunderland; and parents, Elbert and Edna Mae Sunderland.

Services were Sunday, Jan. 24 in the chapel of Boyd Funeral Directors and Cremation Services with Bro. Jim Wring and Bro. Gerald Cannon officiating. Burial was at Salem Cemetery.

### Fricker

Jerry Dean Fricker, 72, of Elizabethtown, Ill., died Thursday, Jan. 21, 2016 at Baptist Health in Paducah.

He was the owner and operator of Fricker's Machine Shop and Salvage, and also a member of the Masonic Lodge and Shriners.

Surviving are children, Marshall (Pam) Fricker,

## THANK YOU

Many thanks to all the friends for all they have done for us. Thank you for the food, flowers, cards and all the prayers.

Thanks to the pallbearers, Bro. Tony Alexander and staff of Gilbert Funeral Home.

These acts of kindness will never be forgotten. God bless each and every one of you.

*Family of Tony Armstrong  
Gary, Charlene and Shane*

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**The Crittenden Press**

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## Brown

Clara Bell Brown, 88, of Marion died Monday, Jan. 25, 2016 at Livingston Hospital in Salem.

Arrangements are incomplete at Boyd Funeral Directors and Cremation Services in Salem.

Obituaries that appear in the paper are also accessible on the web for free at The Press Online

## Conger

## Area publisher is president of press assoc.

Loyd Ford, publisher of The Lake News in Calvert City, has taken the reins as President of the Kentucky Press Association. KPA, the nation's 10th oldest state press association, celebrating its 147th year, was able to hold part of its Winter Convention at the Hyatt Regency in Lexington before a severe winter storm forced its cancellation.

Ford takes over as President from Rick Welch, publisher of The Madisonville Messenger.

Other officers elected for 2016 are Ryan Craig, publisher of the Todd County Standard, Elkton, President-Elect; Peter Baniak, editor of The Herald-Leader, Lexington, Vice President; and Jay Nolan, publisher of The Mountain Advocate, Barbourville, Treasurer; and, Welch, Past President.

The cancellation also postponed the announcements of the 2015 Advertising Excellence in Kentucky Newspapers and 2015 News Excellence in Kentucky Newspapers. Banquets announcing all winners in the two competitions will be held in the near future.

## COLD MONTH

### JANUARY

#### Average Temps

2016	30.3
2015	33.4
2014	28.7
2013	36.8
2012	39.7

The snow-covered countryside was especially picturesque Saturday night with a large, bright moon providing a luster of daytime on the night Crittenden County landscape as temperatures plunged to around 15.

## January among coldest in last 5 years

STAFF REPORT

January has a few days left, but so far it's been one of the coldest in recent years.

The average temperature so far this month, according to Western Kentucky University's Mesonet weather station near Mattoon, is 30.3, almost two degrees below freezing.

The coldest January over the last five years was 2014 at a frigid 28.7. According to U.S. Climate Data, the average temperature for January in western Kentucky is 31.4 degrees and the average snowfall is two inches.

Most observers agree that last Thursday and Friday's snowfall outdid the average by a landslide. Several reports of 10 to 12 inches were noted in the community.

On average, 13 inches of snow equals one inch of rain. The precipitation figures for January 2016 show that there has been 2.02 inches to date. That is not close to the five-year average of 3.53 inches. That number is a bit skewed, however, because 2013 was a particularly wet January with 8.43 inches.

The coldest temperature this month was 4.5 degrees on Monday, Jan. 11 and there were four days when the average temperatures were in the teens. There have been 15 days with average temps below the freezing mark.

The warmest day was 58.6 on Thursday, Jan. 14.

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## Hodge graduates Ky. nursing school

Jesse Hodge of Marion graduated magna cum laude Dec. 18 from the University of



Louisville Nursing School. She is employed by Baptist Health Paducah's critical care unit. She is a 2011 graduate of Crittenden County High School and is the daughter of Denis and Shannon Hodge of Marion.

## Hollamon named to president's list

Freed-Hardeman University has released the names of students who made the president's list for the fall 2015 semester. One Crittenden County student was recognized.

Micah Hollamon, a junior mathematics major, achieved this distinction with a 4.0 GPA. Students on the president's list must be full-time.

A 2014 graduate of Crittenden County High School, he is the son of Greg and Dawn Hollamon

Freed-Hardeman University is located in Henderson, Tenn.

## Community events set for next week

- Bigham Masonic Lodge No. 256 in Marion will have stated communication Tuesday at the lodge on Sturgis Road. The meal will be at 6:30 p.m. followed by the meeting at 7:30 p.m. All members and fellow Master Masons are urged to attend.

- A tax preparer will be on hand each Friday in February at Crittenden County Senior Center to answer questions related to the filing of 2015 taxes. Seniors should call the center at (270) 965-5229 to make an appointment.

## Senior calendar for coming days

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. Milk, coffee or tea are available each day. Reservations are requested by 9 a.m. Upcoming activities and menu include:

-Today: Menu is beef pot roast with gravy, mashed potatoes, squash casserole, whole wheat roll and fruit cobbler.

-Friday: Bingo begins at 10:30 a.m. Menu is chili, pimiento cheese on whole wheat bread, saltine crackers and tropical fruit salad. Cake will be served to recognize January birthdays.

-Monday: Ladies' exercises will be led at 9:45 a.m. by Full Body Fitness Studio. There will be a pool tournament at the center as well. Menu is spaghetti with meat sauce, broccoli salad, whole wheat garlic breadstick and peach crisp.

-Tuesday: Craft Day starts at 10 a.m. Menu is turkey and gravy, cornbread dressing, green beans, mashed potatoes and cranberry salad.

-Wednesday: Bingo begins at 10:30 a.m. The center is also chartering a trip to Walmart with lunch. Seniors will be expected to buy their own meal. Call the center to reserve a spot on the bus. Menu is franks and kraut, mashed potatoes, black-eyed peas, cornbread and fruit cobbler.

-Next Thursday: Menu is hash brown casserole with ham, lima beans, whole wheat roll and snickerdoodle.

All menu items are subject to change based on availability. Every day, the center at 210 N. Walker St. in Marion offers billiards, card games, Wii games and the use of exercise equipment. Call the center at (270) 965-5229 for further information. The center is a service of Pennyryle Allied Community Services. Aging Coordinator Jenny Sosh is the director of the center.

# Crochet Corner donating to nursing home

STAFF REPORT

About a year and a half ago, a new group was created at the Crittenden County Cooperative Extension Service called the Crochet Corner. This group is open to all who crochet, beginners or perhaps those who may want to just come and observe a time or two before they make any real decisions.

Instructor Rebecca Zahrte was approached by those attending the group on a couple of occasions about some sort of charity project to work on. This set the wheels into motion.

After much research on

the Internet about different organizations and their needs, Zahrte made the decision that she would like to keep the group's projects local instead of sending donations out of the county. She had a few conversations with local organizations and ended up talking with Amanda Alvis at Crittenden County Health and Rehabilitation Center about some of the needs they had.

Alvis told Zahrte that something like a scarf would be great, but also something with pockets to keep the residents' hands warm would be nice.

"I have seen pocketed

scarves online recently, let me see what I can come up with," Zahrte told Alvis.

With that idea in hand, Zahrte looked at several different patterns online, but couldn't find exactly what she was looking for, so she made her own pattern.

"I have been crocheting for 30 years now, and enjoy playing around with patterns and making my own changes to them, but I have never actually written my own pattern until now," she said.

After writing the pattern

and making a pocketed scarf herself to show the group, she presented the idea to them. They loved it.

After accumulating enough of the scarves for a first delivery, Zahrte met last week with Alvis and Candy Yates, the activities director at the nursing home, to present Crochet Corner's products. She also presented them the first of the donations to the center.

"The residents love them and are showing them off to all the visitors," Yates said.

They were delighted with



Zahrte



PHOTO BY DARYL K. TABOR, THE PRESS

Youth services librarian Kathleen Guess (left) and Director Regina Merrick of Crittenden County Public Library show off a wood carving donated to the library by Daniel McKenzie.

# McKinzie gives hoot about library, donates carved owl

STAFF REPORT

As a youth, Daniel McKinzie of Crittenden County spent a lot of time in the library. As a gesture of appreciation for how it enriched his life, he recently donated one of his elaborate wood carvings to Crittenden County Public Library.

McKinzie, an accomplished wood carver, created a statue of an owl perched on a stack of books from a single piece of wood and pre-

sented it to the library earlier this month.

"He said he thought the kids would enjoy it," said Merrick.

The statue sits near the children's section, but is easily visible as one enters the library.

McKinzie, a radio technician for Kentucky State Police, was first introduced to the art form while living in California. It has now be-

come his hobby of choice.

He typically uses three chainsaws while working on a project. A larger saw is used to block out big pieces of wood. Two smaller

saws that have quarter- and dime-tip carving bars are used for detailing. A side grinder further helps refine the wood, and a

torch is used to highlight the wood grain and texture.



McKenzie

# Average price of groceries in Ky. falls to close 2015

STAFF REPORT

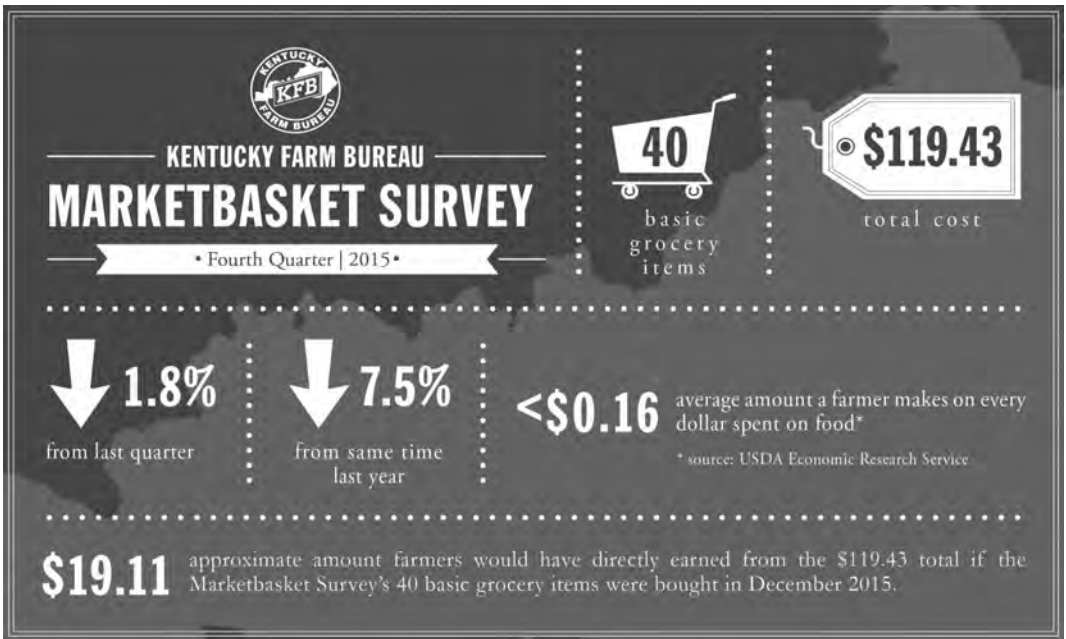
The fall in the cost of food continued its year-long pattern as the average price of retail food items across the Commonwealth decreased to end 2015.

Kentucky Farm Bureau Federation's quarterly Marketbasket Survey showed the average total cost of 40 basic grocery items during the final quarter of last year fell 1.8 percent from \$121.64 recorded in the third quarter to \$119.43.

This latest decline marks the fourth quarter in a row where retail food prices have fallen in Kentucky. Overall, the cost of the surveyed items fell \$9.71, or 7.5 percent, since January 2015.

The continued drop in food prices across the state is in contrast to last year's increases that were indicated in all four of the KFB Marketbasket Surveys. The final quarter of 2014 showed the average price of surveyed items to be \$129.14.

Price decreases were denoted in three of the six surveyed categories. The most notable decrease came from pork, which experienced an 8 percent decline followed by dairy with a 5.8 percent drop.



The most prominent increases came in the grains category, which saw a rise of 4.2 percent, followed by poultry with a 3.4 percent bump.

While economists are slow to credit lower food prices with lower commodity prices, KFB Commodity Division Director Joe Cain said it is conceivable to think the two are connected.

"Just as we have seen the decline in oil prices bring

prices down at the gas pump, at some point lower commodity prices should show up in the grocery store," he said. "That's good news for consumers, but unfortunately, that means our farmers are seeing lower revenues."

The index for food at home fell in 2015 with a drop of 0.4 percent, marking only the third time it has declined in the past 50 years, noted the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

However, the USDA Economic Research Service predicts supermarket prices to rise 2-3 percent – a rate of inflation that remains in line with the historical average. Furthermore, with the presence of one of the strongest El Niños in several years, normal weather conditions may not be the case for several areas of the country in the coming months, which could drive up prices.

## Have an announcement?

Find forms for submitting anniversary, wedding, engagement and birth announcements at The-Press.com/Forms.html.

## CCES 2ND NINE WEEKS HONOR ROLL

### 3rd Grade

#### Tobey Capps

**All-A Honor Roll:** Addy Wood, Andrew Candelario, Rachel Mundy and Ethan Rhodes.

**A-and-B Honor Roll:** Breanna Gibson, Tyree McLean, Baylee Muff, Braelynn Pate, Layla Winn, Zac Purvis, Kaiden Travis and Curtis Smith.

#### Ashley Frederick

**All-A Honor Roll:** Anastazja Ingalls, Jantzen Fowler, Danielle Riley, Madisyn Switzer and Kaitlyn Wood.

**A-and-B Honor Roll:** Jayson Ford, Christopher Gemigin, Micah Hardin, Ethan Long, Sierra Patrick, Hunter Phillips, Jayden Duncan and Tiphani Wright.

#### Mandy Perez

**All-A Honor Roll:** Taylor Haire, Hannah Mott, Brooke Winstead and Carson Yates.

**A-and-B Honor Roll:** Preston Beverly, Justus Coleman, Chase Conyer, Will Jarvis, Aliyah Maraman, Austin Martin, Asa McCord and Mary Rachel Stephens.

#### Kinsee Potts

**All-A Honor Roll:** Hunter Duncan, Thatcher Parrish, Carly Porter and Tallyn Tabor.

**A-and-B Honor Roll:** Dalavoun Coffey, Matthew Conger, Dawson Jones, Trinity Parrish, Blake French, Hattie Hatfield, Riley Kirby and Caleb Whobrey.

#### Ashley Roberts

**All-A Honor Roll:** Caden Howard, Jenna Maxfield and Rien Tabor.

**A-and-B Honor Roll:** Brady Belt, Jaylea Bivins, Seth Henry, Hayden Hildebrand, Braden Sunderland and Kayleigh Weather.

### 4th Grade

#### Jennifer Bell

**All-A Honor Roll:** Emily Adams, Jeremiah Foster, Sophia Madden, Haylee Perrin and Cutter Singleton.

**A-and-B Honor Roll:** Lizzie Campbell, C.J. Conger, Quail Cook-Brown, Mason Crider, Laycee Lynn, Samantha Parish, Levi Piper, Turner Sharp, Conner Simpkins and Tia Stoner.

#### Heather Bloodworth

**All-A Honor Roll:** Addison Mundy, Micah Newcom, Karsyn Potter and Riley Smith.

their new gifts, and Crochet Corner will continue making these for the residents of the convalescent center as long as there is a need.

For those who crochet or would like to learn how, Crochet Corner meets the first and third Wednesday of every month from noon to 1 p.m. at the Extension office. The next meeting will be next week.

If you already know how to crochet but would like to help make these scarves for local residents, please stop by the Extension office at 1534 U.S. 60 East to pick up a pattern or call Zahrte at (270) 965-5236.

#### A-and-B Honor Roll:

Jaylee Champion, Travis Champion, Keira Chaney, Ckyli Corriveau, Jessenia Medina, Hurst Miniard, Katie Perryman, Brynn Porter and Jaylen Tapp.

#### Becky Bryant

**All-A Honor Roll:** Aubre Conyer, Luke Drawdy, Lucy Haire, Abbey Swinford and Mad-die Travis.

**A-and-B Honor Roll:** Michael Crawford, Marley Phelps and Gattin Travis.

#### Johnna Fitch

**All-A Honor Roll:** Kiley Croft, Caden DeBoe, Jaxon Hatfield, Gabe Keller, Aria Kirk, Payton Maness, Kailyn Stokes, Ethan Torres Abbot, Carly Travis and Tristan Yates.

**A-and-B Honor Roll:** Jaycee Champion, Jayden Conner, Marissa Stollenburg, Kira Belt, Chloe Brandsasse, Mia Hackney and Lane West.

#### Victoria Lee

**All-A Honor Roll:** Ava Henry, Jacey McDowell and Jacie Rick-etts.

**A-and-B Honor Roll:** Brenna Belt, Shayla Jones, Sofie Watson, Tyler Belt, Casey Cates, Riley Curnel, Tristain Long, Jasmine Wooley and Joey Myers.

### 5th Grade

#### Cindy Crabtree

**All-A Honor Roll:** Ricky Alvarez, Jordan Hardesty, Jacob Hoover, Macie Hunt and Evan McDowell.

**A-and-B Honor Roll:** Brylee Conyer, Reubin Guess, Taylor Guess, Wyatt Hodge, Hailey McCann, Caden Riley and Alex Smurawa.

#### Sara Omer

**All-A Honor Roll:** Callie Dempsey, Trevor Eifler and Mya Moore.

**A-and-B Honor Roll:** Natalee Buchanan, Anthony Federico, Raven Hayes, Jazmyn Lineberry, Isaac Sarles, Preston Sisco and Alyssa Woodall.

#### Sarah Riley

**All-A Honor Roll:** Seth Blackburn, Natalie Boone, Addie Hatfield and Karsen Shouse.

**A-and-B Honor Roll:** Zach Counts, Carson Craddock, Brilee Crittendon, Lexi Dean, Collin Epley, Sam Impastato, McKenna Myers, Kaleb Nesbitt, Gavin Peek, Emilee Russelburg and Braydon Williamson.

#### Mandy Winders

**All-A Honor Roll:** Evan Belt, Kady Parrish and Lyli Wesmolan.

**A-and-B Honor Roll:** Briley Berry, Seth Guess, Parker Kayse, Genesis Calderon, Tanner Campbell, Kara Fulkerson, Lanie Greenwell, Carly Towery and David Valentine.

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Sun. 1:15, 6:45  
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## BASKETBALL

### Upcoming Schedule

**CCHS Basketball**  
**FRIDAY**  
Boys & Girls at Livingston Central  
**SATURDAY**  
Rockets at Madisonville  
Lady Rockets at Caldwell County  
**TUESDAY**  
Boys & Girls at Webster County

### 2nd REGION All A Classic Girls Basketball Tournament

**OPENING ROUND**  
Crittenden 47, UHA 30  
Livingston 70, Dawson 47  
**SEMIFINALS**  
Lyon 41, Crittenden Co. 24  
Livingston Central 51, Caldwell 42  
**CHAMPIONSHIP**  
Livingston Central 40, Lyon Co. 39

### Tri-River Tournament Boys Basketball Tournament at Lyon County High School

**TUESDAY**  
Crittenden 58, Livingston 33  
Lyon 85, Christian Fellowship 41  
**CHAMPIONSHIP**  
Cancelled due to snow

### Rocket schedule change

A Crittenden County High School boys' basketball game against Hardin County, Ill., has been rescheduled for the second time, most recently due to last week's snow. The game is now set for Thursday, Feb. 4 at Rocket Arena.

## OUTDOORS

### Hunting seasons

Rabbit, Quail	Nov. 16 - Feb. 10
Squirrel	Nov. 16 - Feb. 29
Western Goose	Nov. 26 - Jan. 31
Pennyrile Goose	Nov. 26 - Jan. 31
White-front Goose	Nov. 26 - Jan. 31
Snow Goose	Nov. 26 - Jan. 31
Wilson Snipe	Nov. 26 - Jan. 31
Duck	Dec. 7 to Jan. 31
Snow Conservation	Feb. 1-5
Snow Conservation	Feb. 8 - March 31
Youth Waterfowl	Feb. 6-7
Coyote Nighttime	Feb. 1 - May 31
Coyote Daytime	Year Round

### Night hunting now open

Coyote hunting is open year round in Kentucky, but during a special upcoming season from Feb. 1 through May 31, predator hunters may take coyotes at night with a spotlight. There is a big difference on weapon usage for nighttime hunting, however. During the day, coyote hunters may use shotguns, rifles, bows, crossbows or air guns with a minimum size of .22 caliber. At night, the only firearm a hunter may use is a shotgun. Night hunters must use shells which contain more than one projectile. See the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources Hunting Guide for further details.

### Coyote contest Feb. 19

The annual coyote contest sponsored by Hodge's and Marion Tourism will be held during a 24-hour period starting at sundown Friday, Feb. 19 and ending at 5 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 20. This includes opportunities to hunt coyotes during nighttime hours. This contest is for two-man teams and cost is \$20 per team. Teams must register by Feb. 19 by 5 p.m.

### Mexico Wild Game

The annual Mexico Baptist Church Wild Game Supper is set for Feb. 27.

### Sign up to hunt turkeys

Turkey quota hunt applications for Land Between the Lakes are available through Feb. 29. Hunters may apply online at [lbqlquotahunt.hometracker.com](http://lbqlquotahunt.hometracker.com) or by phone at 270-924-2065. There is a fee to apply, \$5 online and \$7 by phone. Quota hunts are: Youth April 9-10, Adult April 12-13 and Adult April 16-17. The non-quota turkey season at LBL is April 18 through May 1.

## SOFTBALL

### Softball, baseball meeting

Crittenden County Dugout Club will meet at 5:30 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 11 in the basement at Marion United Methodist Church. New board members are being sought for the coming seasons. The club will be discussing plans for the upcoming recreational baseball and softball seasons hosted at Marion-Crittenden County Park. The meeting is open to anyone interested in youth sports, and anyone who wishes to have more information may call (270) 704-0435. The club is looking for new members to help organize and operate the league. Tanner Tabor will be league president for 2016.



Lady Rocket guard Madison Champion (1) moves to set a screen while forward Meredith Evans (24) posts up against Lyon County last week.

## Rockets would share third seed with win at Livingston

### STAFF REPORT

Crittenden County will get a third shot at Livingston Central Friday night at Smithland. The Cardinals beat the Rockets in a closely contested Fifth District game at Marion back in December, but Crittenden whitewashed the Cardinals by 25 points in last week's Tri-River Tournament at Eddyville, which does not affect league standings.

"It's a huge game for both of us," said Rocket skipper Denis Hodge.

Crittenden (2-17) would like to get a win Friday to force a tie for the third seed in the district, thus potentially avoiding a first-round matchup in the post-season tournament against Trigg County (12-5). Crittenden sets at 0-5 in the district while Livingston is 1-4. A coin flip would determine

the third and fourth seeds if Crittenden wins Friday's matchup.

Livingston (5-13) had lost nine straight before ending the skid with a victory over Community Christian Tuesday.

At home against Union County Tuesday, Dylan Hollis had an early hot hand, drilling three treys in the first period to keep it close a while, but the Braves pulled away before the half and won 60-48. Will Tolley did not play because of injury.

**Union 60, Crittenden 48**  
Union County 14 18 14 14  
Crittenden County 15 8 12 13  
UNION - Robinson 14, Tapp 16, Girten 9, Thomas 15, King, Perry, Sisk 3, Dunford 3. FG 23. 3-pointers 5 (Robinson 2, Tapp, Girten, Dunford). FT 7-9. Fouls 11.  
CRITTENDEN - Hicks 1, Hollis 19, Watson 15, Dickerson 6, Stephens 4, James, Coleman 1, Belt 2. FG 17. 3-pointers 6 (Hollis 5, Watson 1). FT 8-12. Fouls 13.

## Lyon spoils Lady Rockets' hopes of Classic title berth

### STAFF REPORT

The Lady Rockets' hopes of a berth in the Second Region All A Classic championship game were dashed early in the semifinal round game last Thursday at Lyon County.

With a snowstorm bearing down on the area, the game time was moved earlier and Crittenden and host Lyon tipped off at 5 p.m.

It wasn't long after that when Lyon (13-4) established the fact that it was poised to beat the Lady Rockets for a third straight time this season. Crittenden lost 41-24. The Lady Lyons have beaten the Lady Rockets 13 of the last 14 meetings.

Coach Shannon Hodge was frustrated by her team's performance.

Crittenden (9-12) missed 12 straight shots in the first half and hit just 22 percent for the game as Lyon County won a spot in the regional championship game. She finished with a game-high 14 along with teammate Allison Murphey.

Lyon senior Becca Somers scored her 1,000th point in the third quarter.

The game was physical with few fouls called - just 18 total.

Crittenden had seven turnovers in the first half, but poor shooting was its undoing.

The Lady Lyons were upset by

Livingston Central in Sunday afternoon's championship game. The Lady Cardinals won the game 40-39, after coming back from a 12-point second-half deficit. Livingston was scheduled to play Newport Central Catholic at 7 p.m., Wednesday at the Frankfort Convention Center.

At Union County Tuesday, the Lady Rockets shot well early and led by four. However, third-quarter turnovers let Union get some easy layups and the Bravettes ran off a 20-6 run to win by double digits.

**Union 52, Crittenden 41**  
Crittenden County 12 9 11 9  
Union County 11 9 21 11  
CRITTENDEN - Moss 24, Champion 5, Lynch 6, Pierce, Nesbitt 2, Evans 2, Collins 2, Summers. FG 16. 3-pointers 3 (Moss). FT 6-9. Fouls 14.  
UNION - Conway 11, Campbell 7, Wright 2, French 23, Duckworth, Beaven 2, Williams 7. FG 19. 3-pointers 1 (French 2, Conway). FT 11-15. Fouls 11.

**Lyon 41, Crittenden 24**  
Crittenden County 4 5 8 7  
Lyon County 10 11 12 8  
CRITTENDEN - Moss 8, Lynch 6, Champion 2, Pierce 2, Nesbitt 3, Evans, Collins 2, Summers 2, Perryman, Woodward. FG 8. 3-pointers 0. FT 8-12. Fouls 9.  
LYON - Ellis 2, Somers 14, Johnson, Taylor, White, P'Poole 6, Doom, Holloman 5, Murphy 14, Sutton. FG 16. 3-pointers 1 (Murphy). FT 8-11. Fouls 9.



Crittenden County's Will Tolley (5) and Dakota Watson defend the basket against Livingston Central's Cameron Kitchens during a game last week in the Tri River Tournament. Crittenden was set to play Lyon in the tournament championship on Friday, but snow cancelled the tournament. The four-team tournament had been originally designed to take the place of the All A Classic for Crittenden, Livingston and Lyon counties, who were boycotting the All A because it is dominated by private schools.



## After-school track camp hugely successful for CCES students

Crittenden County track and field coach Angela Starnes said January's Run Like a Ninja Track Camp was a huge success. Dozens of chil-

dren participated in the after-school camp despite some delays due to snow. Above is a photograph of campers and coaches.

Following is a list of participants from the youngest division:

Blazina, Mollie  
Bloodworth, Kylie  
Boone, Lacey  
Brown, Davis  
Castanedda, Blue  
Clifford, Brennan  
Clifford, Breylene  
Crawford, Cooper  
Duncan, Jaxton

Evans, Elliot  
Geary, Ella  
Grau, Aubrey  
Herrin, Eli  
Hodge, Jordyn  
Lovell, Eli  
McDaniel, Elle  
Merrill, Braelyn  
Murray, Dalton

Myers, Hadley  
Nesbitt, Cameron  
Orr, Gracie  
Pate, Bryston  
Penn, Caden  
Poindexter, Brayden  
Poindexter, Conner  
Pollard, Emery  
Potter, Jordyn

Potter, Presley  
Rich, Callie  
Shaffer, Logan  
Stewart, Morgan  
Stokes, Hudson  
Stoner, Kodi  
Suddoth, Levi  
Summers, Quinn  
Thomas, Ethan



A couple of former Crittenden County classmates bumped into one another at a recent college basketball game Jan. 16 as part of opposing forces. Bailey Brown, playing at Asbury College, was competing in a game against Indiana University-Kokomo, whose assistant women's coach is former Rocket basketball player Cody Dunham. Brown's team won the game 87-57 at Wilmore, Ky. Brown is a sophomore at Asbury where she is averaging 3.4 points a game for the 12-8 Lady Eagles. Dunham, a graduate of Georgetown University, is a graduate assistant at UI-Kokomo while working toward his masters in business administration.



CCHS cheerleaders keep the crowd alive at a recent game.









SUBMITTED PHOTO

# December Crittenden County Elementary School Rocket Role Models

December Rocket Role Models at Crittenden County Elementary School are (front, from left) Kaidyn Malloy, Landon Lanham, Armani Julius, Cameron Nesbitt, Cabot Sutton, Natilee Travis, Winston Lynch, Logan Martin, Jake Rich, Morgan Piper, (middle) Brayden Poindexter, Hadley Myers, Emme Lynch, Wyatt Suitts, Taylor Jones, Brady Belt, Caleb Whobrey, Ethan Rhodes, Ethan Long, Karli Beavers, (back) Avery Belt, Luke Drawdy, Emily Mattingly, Tyler Smith, Rylee Remus, Gavin Peek, Olyvia Lanham, Genesis Calderon and Callie Dempsey. Rocket Role Models appearing in last month's paper were incorrectly identified. They should have been November Rocket Role Models.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Local resident Dena Joiner got stuck in deep snow between Fredonia and Madisonville returning home from work Friday night. Through Facebook, she was able to aks for help.

## Facebook helps woman stuck in snow get rescued

STAFF REPORT

If not for the use of a social media app, Dena Joiner would have been stuck even longer in thick snow in the middle of the night last week.

Joiner headed for Marion after finishing her shift at Elk Creek Coal Mine in Madisonville around midnight Friday, just hours after the heaviest snowfall of the winter in western Kentucky. It is estimated that the Providence/Madisonville area where she worked received between 9-12 inches of snow, with conditions complicated by blowing and drifting snow.

Joiner made it about halfway home on Ky. 70 between Madisonville and Fredonia before encountering a patch of thick snow that

stopped her Toyota Camry in its tracks.

In the absence of cellular service, she turned to Facebook. Fortunately, Cindi Short was up late enough to see her request for help.

Short called Caldwell County Sheriff's Department who sent a deputy to wait with Joiner until two truck and state plow arrived. Other friends maintained an online conversation with her to keep her company and check on her well-being until help arrived. One friend reminded her to check to make sure her vehicle's exhaust wasn't buried in the snow, a serious hazard that can lead to carbon monoxide poisoning.

"Thank goodness for Facebook early this morning," she said.

## Plan would raze blighted houses, place mobile homes

STAFF REPORT

Marion Planning Commission will meet Thursday, Feb.11 to consider a zoning change on Jackson Street in Marion.

Terri Hart, the city's planning and zoning coordinator, says a new property owner is planning on tearing down blighted houses there and replacing them with mobile home units.

The planning commission will have to recommend and city council subsequently approve the change, giving the property a new designation from its current Residential 2 status to a Manufactured Home Residential status on the city zoning map.

Hart said there are at least 30 homes in the city which have either been condemned or are in the process. One of the homes in the target area on Jackson Street has previously been condemned.

She said the new property owner on Jackson Street, David Williams, has four lots and three homes. He plans on demolishing all of the houses and revitalizing the area.

The meeting will be held at 5 p.m., at city hall for discussion of the matter.

## Study: Crittenden 8th best county in commonwealth to own home

STAFF REPORT

For six-figure earners, Crittenden County is one of the best places in Kentucky to own a home as opposed to renting, according to a second annual study from a New York financial technology company.

SmartAsset gathered data on average rent and home prices and compared buying to renting in every county in America. For 2016, Crittenden County ranked eighth among Kentucky's 120 counties. Nationally, the county rank 70th out of 3,139 U.S. counties, boroughs and parishes.

However, the study considered only housing choices for households earning \$100,000 or more. Those are few in Crittenden County, where the median household income is only \$34,261, according to the U.S. Census Bureau.

With an average monthly mortgage payment of \$382

### Ranking of best places to own home in United States

For six-figure earners, Crittenden County is one of the best places in Kentucky to own a home as opposed to renting, according to SmartAsset, which ranked all 3,139 counties, parishes and boroughs in the United States based on the amount of time it would take to break even by owning rather than renting. The state rank for Kentucky counties is in parentheses. If the figures below, seem high, remember they apply only to households earning \$100,000 or more annually.

COUNTY	BREAKEVEN YEAR	AVERAGE MONTHLY MORTGAGE	AVERAGE MONTHLY RENT	AVERAGE HOME PRICE
1. Allegany County, N.Y.....	1.2	.....\$164	.....\$907	.....\$40,488
4. Harrison County, Ky. (1).....	2.0	.....\$358	.....\$747	.....\$88,206
70. Crittenden County, Ky. (8).....	2.0	.....\$382	.....\$798	.....\$94,228
303. Caldwell County, Ky. (39).....	2.1	.....\$381	.....\$796	.....\$93,922
305. Livingston County, Ky. (40).....	2.1	.....\$393	.....\$822	.....\$97,062
459. Webster County, Ky. (59).....	2.2	.....\$471	.....\$985	.....\$116,309
2,463. Lyon County, Ky. (110).....	3.9	.....\$333	.....\$695	.....\$82,066
2,596. Union County, Ky. (118).....	3.9	.....\$369	.....\$770	.....\$90,922
3,139. Santa Clara County, Calif. ....	9.1	.....\$3,023	.....\$2,771	.....\$745,842

versus \$798 rent, it would take a homeowner only two years to break even versus renting, said SmartAssets. That is the point at which the total costs of renting become greater than the total costs of buying, assuming a mortgage

rate of 4.5 percent, 20 percent down and closing costs of \$2,000. The average home price, per the study, is \$94,228 in Crittenden County.

Meantime, that compares with a statewide average

monthly housing expense of \$420 for a mortgage or \$877 rent. It would take a buyer 2.5 years to break even with those figures. The average home price in Kentucky is \$103,658.

Not a single county in the

state was it judged a better deal by SmartAsset to rent rather than buy after two years.

Nationwide, the break-even point was 3.3 years for 2016.

Santa Clara County, Calif., where Super Bowl 50 will take place next month, would take the longest time to break even at 9.1 years. In Allegany County, N.Y., it would take only 1.2 years. That was best in the nation.

The findings of the study, perhaps, are a bit skewed.

Last year, Crittenden County ranked 90th in the state with a break-even point of 3.7 years. The average monthly mortgage of \$493 was considerably higher than the most recent study, while rent averaged \$808. The average home price was reported at \$27,000 higher in 2015 than this year.


Complete findings of the study can be found online at <https://goo.gl/hRe2Xp>.

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