



More antlerless deer
being taken locally | Page 4

The Crittenden Press

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Jobless rate drops in December 2014

Kentucky's unemployment rate plunged to a preliminary 5.7 percent in December 2014 from 6 percent in the previous month, according to the Office of Employment and Training (OET), an agency of the Kentucky Education and Workforce Development Cabinet. This is the lowest rate for the state since February 2008 when it was 5.7 percent.

Kentucky's latest jobless rate was also 2.2 percentage points below the 7.9 percent rate recorded in December 2013.

"2014 has been a defining year for the Kentucky labor market," said economist Manoj Shanker of the OET. "We have pulled ourselves out of the so-called 'jobless recovery' that followed the recession and brought down unemployment rates to levels last seen almost seven years ago."

2014 Ky. highway fatalities increase

Highway fatalities in Kentucky increased in 2014 after a record low in 2013. Kentucky Office of Highway Safety preliminary figures from a Jan. 16 report indicate 667 people lost their lives on Kentucky roadways last year, up from 638 in 2013. However, it was the second lowest total since 1949, when 573 fatalities were recorded.

Former governor, senator, Ford, dies

Former Kentucky governor, lieutenant governor and U.S. Sen. Wendell Ford died at the age of 90 last Thursday at his



Ford

home in Owensboro. He had been battling lung cancer.

Ford spent 25 years in the U.S. Senate and served as both majority and minority whip. He was the 53rd governor of Kentucky, serving from 1971 to 1974. He served as lieutenant governor from 1967 to 1971. He was said to have defined a generation of Kentucky Democrats.

Ford's body laid in state at the Kentucky Capitol on Sunday, when a public memorial service was held. He was buried Tuesday in Owensboro, with former President Bill Clinton and Vice President Joe Biden attending the service.

Legislators back to work Tuesday

Members of the Kentucky General Assembly will converge on Frankfort Tuesday for Part 2 of the 2014 legislative session. The Senate and House of Representatives have been adjourned since Jan. 9. The session will continue through March 24.

Public meetings

- Crittenden Fiscal Court will meet in special session at 8:30 a.m. Monday in the judge-executive's courthouse office.
- Crittenden County Chamber of Commerce meets at 8 a.m. Tuesday at Marion Tourism Center.



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Schools' emergency response plan reviewed

STAFF REPORT

In the event of a major crisis, Crittenden County School District's response plan has been carefully prepared. Administrators and police are confident any initial response would be effective, yet they say logistics and handling the aftermath would be very challenging.

Twenty-five community leaders met last Thursday on the high school campus to review and discuss the school district's Community Emergency Response Plan.

The group was clearly unified in its concern for post-crisis communications, transportation details for getting students away from the crisis itself and a suitable rendezvous point for students and parents.

Although tornados, ice storms, fires and earthquakes were part of the equation, everyone in the room knew the discussion was as much about school shootings as anything else. It's the most

feared issue these days, and schools are spending time and other resources to be ready if something horrible did happen.

Marion Police Chief Ray O'Neal said his officers have spent hours training for "active shooter" situations. The school system has helped pay for much of that training, which has been done on campus. O'Neal said he is confident that any scenario involving an active

shooter would be nullified within minutes.

"Our biggest concern is that something ends up on Facebook and 500 parents show up," he said. "We're not ready to handle that."

O'Neal and others expressed their genuine understanding that parental concerns would drive such responses. It's a natural reaction indeed. Fear and anxiety would prompt many to want to head straight to the scene.

Yet community officials say the chaos and confusion that

parents and onlookers would bring to a true crisis situation would present a difficult challenge. That is why they're brainstorming and honestly focusing on what do in the aftermath.

Preparedness for the initial minutes of a crisis is light years ahead of the plan for what happens next. Capt. Aaron Davis of the Kentucky National Guard pointed out that military procedures include details of how to handle

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PHOTO BY JASON TRAVIS, THE PRESS

From left, Bradley Harris, Greg Maynard and Gordon Hazel receive instruction from Crittenden County Adult Education Center Coordinator Missy Myers. Myers said the center's location is ideally located and allows students to walk to the site. In order to reduce operating costs, the center will have to relocate if funding to help pay rent isn't found.

Local adult education center facing relocation

By JASON TRAVIS
STAFF WRITER

Crittenden County's Adult Education Center will soon have to find a new location in which to operate. The center, located on East Bellville Street in Marion, is being asked to reduce its operating costs, which means it has to find a location that is less expensive to rent.

The Adult Education Center helps individuals in Crittenden County obtain their GED and provides study materials, use of computer equipment, tutoring, practice tests – and perhaps most important of all – encouragement to all students that they can succeed in obtaining their GED and enrich their lives by either getting a higher paying job or enabling them to attend college.

Missy Myers is the coordinator and an instructor at Crittenden County's Adult Education Center. Myers said the center has been op-

erating at its current location for about five years. Previously, it was located adjacent to Crittenden County Elementary School. Myers stressed the location on East Bellville Street is ideal, making it possible for many students to walk to the center to receive assistance.

"The center offers a wonderful service to the community and helps change lives," Myers said.

Susan Jackson oversees adult education centers in nine counties in western Kentucky through West Kentucky Education Co-Op., which is the fiscal agent for the adult education centers. She said like most agencies, local adult education centers have seen budget cuts from both federal and state levels. The center in Calloway County is currently facing a similar dilemma, forced to reduce its operating costs like the

Adult Education Center in Marion.

Jackson indicated all adult education centers operate on different budgets, which are based on the number of individuals within the county that are between the ages of 18 to 64 who don't have their high school diploma.

In 2008, Jackson said the budget for Crittenden County's Adult Education Center was \$82,000. The current budget is now \$60,000. In addition to the steady decline in funding,

the state is now requiring centers to operate on a 5 percent budget reduction for all operating costs, such as rent and utilities, including phone and Internet service.

Because of that requirement, a new location must be found by the end of the current fiscal year, which



Jackson

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Dry cleaners closing Friday

STAFF REPORT

Marion Dry Cleaners will be closing Friday with no apparent option for future services here.

The cleaners, now on South Main Street, was formerly a full-service, in-house dry cleaning operation on Carlisle Street in Marion for many decades.

Last summer, the Marion business sold to a Princeton couple, who eventually closed the Carlisle Street operation and opened on Main Street. At that point, all of the cleaning was outsourced to Princeton's Farmers Dry Cleaning.

Molly Thomas and her husband own both the Princeton and Marion dry cleaning businesses. She said the volume in Marion had not been sufficient to keep it open.

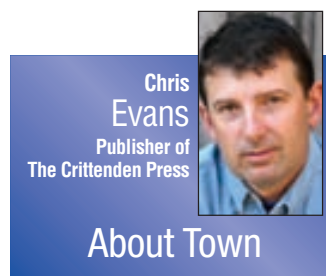
Anyone with items at the dry cleaners in Marion should pick them up by Friday at the Main Street location. Afterward, those items will be at the Princeton location, which is at 116 E. Market St., next to city hall.

More than just car lot lost with closing of Lynn Auto Sales

At the end of this week, Lynn Auto Sales on South Main Street will close for good.

The used car business has been busted for a while, Lynn says. Truth is, he's stuck it out as long as possible because his car lot has been much more than just that.

Some of the state's most powerful and influential people have graced the paneled confines at "the lot" – as it's been affectionately dubbed for many years. Gubernatorial candidates, U.S. senatorial candidates, congressmen, legislators of many stripes, judges and local politicians have all



Chris Evans
Publisher of
The Crittenden Press

About Town

chewed the fat with the myriad of personalities that generally hung out at Lynn's, especially around lunch or quitting time.

There's no roundtable under roof there, just a large, highly rectangle one. It has fulfilled a diverse role. There was always a conversation in

the proverbial smoked-filled room. Noses were counted around the table and political sausage was forged.

For a time, Lynn served on the city council and was mayor pro tem. During that era, local politics was always on the menu.

Rep. Ed Whitfield, Secretary of State Trey Grayson, Agriculture Commissioner James Comer, state and federal judges and countless others have spent time around the table at Lynn's shop. Local characters who frequented the lot have been just as colorful and perhaps

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PHOTO BY CHRIS EVANS, THE PRESS

Allen Lynn sits with one of his good buddies, Eddie Hunt, at the table where many bonds have been forged over the years and where many of the state's highest-ranking politicians came to visit.


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SUPERINTENDENT




Vince Clark
Central Office
601 W. Elm St.
Marion, KY 42064
270.965.3525 or 270.965.2281
vince.clark@crittenden.kyschools.us




District 1 representative
Voting precincts 4, 7, 8
Bill Asbridge
3863 SR 70
Marion, KY 42064
270.988.3271




District 2 representative
Voting precincts 9, 10
Eric LaRue
P.O. Box 412
Salem, KY 42078
270.988.3249



District 3 representative
Voting precincts 1, 5
Chairman Chris Cook
237 W. Bellville St.
Marion, KY 42064
270.965.0952



District 4 representative
Voting precincts 2, 11
Pam Collins
2743 U.S. 60 East
Marion, KY 42064
270.965.3216



District 5 representative
Voting precincts 3, 6, 12
Phyllis Orr
1701 SR 120
Marion, KY 42064
270.965.2175

ADDITIONAL CONTACTS

Elementary School, Principal Melissa Tabor: 270.965.2243 | Middle School, Principal Theresa Marshall: 270.965.5221 | High School, Principal Curtis Brown: 270.965.2248

School district on the Web: www.crittenden.k12.ky.us

Hunt days from Extension Service retirement

By JASON TRAVIS
STAFF WRITER

In just one week, Nancy Hunt will spend her last day on the job as Crittenden County's University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service Agent for Family and Consumer Sciences. After more than three decades of service, Hunt announced last fall she would retire next Thursday after 35 years with Extension Service.

During her tenure, Hunt served five years as the county's 4-H agent. In 1984, she assumed the position of family and consumer sciences agent.

But retirement from the Extension Service doesn't mean Hunt won't still be an active member of the community. She currently serves as the General Federation of Women's Club Kentucky 1st District governor. She's also involved with Woman's Club of Marion and Beta Sigma Phi Sorority.

"I can remember thinking years ago when I had worked about 15 years, retirement seemed so far away. It went by quickly," Hunt said. "An important part of our curriculum is financial planning so I have always told my co-workers to attend those retirement planning sessions when offered by UK early in their career while they still had time to make some changes."

Hunt said the highlight of



PHOTO BY JASON TRAVIS, THE PRESS
Nancy Hunt (left) looks on as Pat Fuller discusses quilting during the monthly meeting of the Extension Homemaker Quilt Club Monday. Hunt will be retiring from her longtime position of family and consumer sciences agent with the University of Kentucky Crittenden County Cooperative Extension Service next Thursday.

her career at the Extension Service was when the Extension district board purchased the office's current building on U.S. 60 East in 2010.

"It was so great to have a location with plenty of parking, accessible and attractive," she said. "Last year, we had 172 meetings at the office reaching 1,327 people. Also, 1,959 individuals came to the

office for information and 1,982 called the office."

During her career, Hunt said she has most enjoyed starting the American Private Enterprise System program in 2000. The program is offered to high school juniors and includes scholarship and trip opportunities.

"Many of the participants have told me over the years

how much they learned in those two days and many have said it helped them decide on their career choice," she said. "We have had several students from the county win \$600-plus scholarships which can be used at any university."

Another project Hunt started in the county for the Crittenden County Chamber of Commerce was Leadership Crittenden County. It included a series of all-day classes held over a year which helped to introduce current and future leaders to the past, present and future of the county. It was offered three different years.

"It was great seeing people develop leadership skills in the program. I wish I could have continued to offer it in the county but other job requirements did not allow me the time needed," she said.

Hunt highlighted working with Extension Homemakers as their advisor as another enjoyable part of her job.

"These individuals have an educational lesson each month, learn leadership skills and do so many things for the community," she said.

Some of the other programs over the years started while Hunt was Extension agent include the Diabetes Support Group, SOS-Sharing Our Selves classes, Quilt Club, Fourth-grade Manners Programs, Extension Home-

maker Scholarship and Walk Around Crittenden County.

Asked what she will miss most, Hunt said the individuals she has built relationships with over the years.

"I will miss the people I worked with the most. Many of the Extension Homemakers here are like family to me. They were here when I was hired and some are still involved in the program. They have watched my children grow up. I will miss seeing them on a regular basis," she said.

Her favorite aspect of the job has been keeping up-to-date with technology.

"I have been using a computer since 1984. I know some people my age are still afraid to turn one on. Extension is great about in-service trainings and introducing employees to new technology. A smartphone, tablet, Facebook, Twitter in addition to my laptop are all part of a regular day for me. Using technology to deliver Extension programs is necessary to survive. Plus, it saves money. We can email a document to a client cheaper than mailing it to them."

As for her plans after retirement, Hunt said it's important to take her own advice about taking better care of herself, much like she's been teaching others to do over the past 35 years. She is also looking forward to traveling with her

husband, Charlie, and spending time babysitting her grandson when needed.

"I want about six months to take it easy and get my house in order," Hunt said. "Of course, I will volunteer but I just haven't decided where."

She said the part that bothers her most about retiring is that the family and consumer sciences agent position will not be filled for at least a year. Budget cuts at the state level keep a number of positions vacant for a period of time.

"I am trying to leave my files organized where the office and the leaders will be able to find things," she said.

Another way Hunt reached out to educate the community was through her Homenotes column that has appeared weekly in The Crittenden Press for many years. The column will conclude with her retirement.

Editor Daryl K. Tabor said The Crittenden Press appreciates Hunt's dedication and efforts in making the column both interesting and informative for the newspaper's readers.

Meanwhile members of the community are making plans to celebrate Hunt's dedication to the community. Extension Homemakers are holding a public reception for Hunt from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. March 4 at the Woman's Club Building on East Carlisle Street.

Couple in need of help after losing possessions in mobile home fire

One of the most uncomfortable situations to be in for a journalist – at least for this one – is performing the job at the scene of a house fire. In all of the chaos of firefighters scurrying about to battle the blaze, you stand there with a camera in hand knowing someone in the crowd is losing not only a home, but probably most or all of their possessions except the clothes on their back.

Thankfully, I've never arrived at the scene of a fire where a person's life was part of the loss.

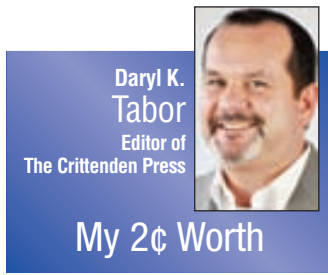
It may seem callous to some for a person to be taking photos of someone else's disaster. And trust me, it can be a difficult situation to be in, but it goes with the territory.

We are simply there to gather the facts to tell a story. Those stories can lead to help for the fire victims and share news of a job well done by firefighters.

Such is the case with a Saturday afternoon fire at 144 N. Yandell St. in Marion, where James Arflack and Jimmie Dale Abbott lost the mobile home they lived in and most of their belongings.

Arflack and Abbot made it out unscathed, but still inside the structure as firefighters quickly arrived to put out the fire were two pets – a cat and a dog.

With haste, the volunteers sprung into action with hoses to douse the flames



and keep them from spreading to a camper parked just inches from the burning mobile home. Once equipped with their air packs, a team of firefighters entered the smoke-filled home to better put out the fire and search for the animals.

It was a job done thoroughly and efficiently, as older mobile homes such as the one involved in Saturday's fire can go up like a matchstick and be leveled in a matter of minutes.

"I really appreciate the quick and caring response by the firefighters in getting the fire put out and checking to make sure everything was OK," said Shirley Arflack, James' sister who lives next door to the mobile home.

Marion Fire Chief Ronald "Red" Howton said the fire started on the stove, where the wrong burner was turned on, eventually igniting a pan of grease. I'm sure we've all been there at one point, turning on the wrong burner by simple mistake, but hopefully without such consequences.

"It was a total loss," Howton said of the living quar-

ters.

At the scene, not lost on me was the care the firefighters showed, combing the house for the cat and dog still inside the smoke-filled mobile home while Jimmie Dale paced around barefoot on the cold, wet ground, crying out for the pets. Both were found, but unfortunately, each had succumbed to smoke inhalation, according to Howton.

With regard to the love the couple had for their pets, the firefighters carefully removed the two animals from the home, covered in blankets and placed in plastic totes, so that their owners could say good-bye and find a proper resting place for them.

It was difficult to watch as an emotional Jimmie Dale hovered over one of the uncovered totes, looking for comfort as she rolled back the blanket to pet the dog. Meantime, James could be seen walking around with eyes full of tears.

A short time later, the firefighters emerged from the house with the couple's medicines they need to get through the day as well as two cell phones. I would dare say the level of compassion shown by the firefighters for the couple is not a requirement outlined in their many volunteer training hours.

For James and Jimmie Dale, after losing almost everything, the question is where to go from here. Both



PHOTO BY DARYL K. TABOR, THE PRESS
Firefighters with Marion Volunteer Fire Department respond to a mobile home fire Saturday on North Yandell Street. Though firefighters were able to quickly put out the blaze, most of the home's contents were ruined by smoke or water. The couple who lived there, James Arflack and Jimmie Dale Abbott, escaped unharmed, but lost a cat and dog to smoke inhalation.

live on fixed incomes and James is battling cancer. Since the fire, they have been staying with family in Marion, James' sister, Mary Millikan.

"They're gonna have a hard time getting set back up," said Millikan.

Though some donations have already trickled in, a

fund has been established at Farmers Bank & Trust Co. in Marion to help James and Jimmie Dale get back on their feet.

The couple could use some of the community's compassion that has been shown to be in abundance around here in times of need.

So if you read this, I hope

you find a desire to help the couple and turn the page with an understanding of the level of professionalism and compassion our city's volunteer firefighters have.

If that is the case, that uneasy feeling I had Saturday as I walked around with a camera and notepad was well worth it.

CLOSING

Continued from Page 1

more loyal.

There have been a few state politicians to whom Lynn issued "Do Not Come" orders, but he didn't want to go into details about who those were by name. At 58, Lynn says he's keeping his options open about what to do next. He's been in the automotive business in one shape or form for the last 30 years. He and a business partner also have a number of rental units, so that will occupy a good bit of time.

Friends have urged Lynn to open a restaurant. He's one of the best cooks around whether it is pork, beef, venison or wild turkey on the burner. Those culinary delights have been just as numerous at the lot as politicians. Meals fit for kings have been served at lunch time. The guest list wasn't always long,

but no one was ever turned away – save those unnamed politicians.

Incalculable are the faces and personalities that have passed through Lynn's door, but he says the relationships built over the years have been extraordinary and enduring.

"These friends, they're my family," Lynn says with a hint of emotion that makes you know it's absolutely genuine. "Some of them are no longer with us, and I think of those every day."

It is a sorrowful time indeed for those who've come to crave the fellowship at Lynn's shop. Oh, sure, they'll find a new place to rendezvous as gregarious people have for ages. For some, it just won't be the same.

As a fitting salutation for the end of a Marion institution, I will reiterate here a phrase that Lynn uttered many times during the car dealership's heyday, "It's been a good run."

Sheriff's department looking into burglaries

STAFF REPORT

Crittenden County Sheriff's Department is investigating two burglaries that apparently occurred during broad daylight on Saturday on opposite ends of the county.

Investigators do not have any reason to think the two burglaries are connected.

A MIG welder, child's motorcycle, 1,200-pound winch and a tool set were taken from a residence on Blackburn Church Road. A barn and vehicle were entered. The intruders cut a lock off the barn door and took the welder and motorcycle. They also took from an unlocked vehicle the tools and winch, which was mounted on the vehicle. Items taken were valued at nearly \$2,000.

Deputy Ray Agent said the burglary happened at an address about one mile from Ky. 139 on the Shady Grove end of Blackburn Church Road. He suspects the alleged crime occurred between daylight and 5 p.m.

On the other side of the county not far from the Livingston County line, a home was entered by intruders who took two flat-screen televisions, an X-Box gaming console, Blu-Ray player and two cell phones. The home was located on Ky. 838 about one mile from Ky. 723. The items taken were valued at under \$1,000.

Anyone with information on either of these cases may call the sheriff's department at (270) 965-3400.

PLAN

Continued from Page 1

curiosity seekers who show up at a crisis scene. He suggested inclusion of information in student handbooks about how parents should react to emergency situations at the school.

Superintendent of Schools Vince Clark and Safe Schools Coordinator Al Starnes discussed ways the district has planned to inform parents if something major happens on campus. The district's One Call system, which is used to alert parents of snow days and other important school information, would be activated. Independent news media outlets such as The Crittenden Press and WMJL radio would be notified as to how parents should react to the specific situation. And, Clark said, school-based social media networks would also be engaged.

Disasters don't come in one

form, Starnes said, so there are various options available to school administrators when it comes to notifying parents, informing the public and moving students away from campus.

"Our top priority is creating the safest place for our students, and that is why we called this meeting, to see what we can do better," he said.

Represented at the meeting last week were individuals from law enforcement, the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet, the military, rescue squad, emergency management, local government, hospital, health department and more. Many shared ideas and concerns.

After gathering input from the representatives at the meeting, Clark said the school district will review and update its emergency response plan. A follow-up meeting will be held at 1:30 p.m. Feb. 25 at Rocket Arena.



PHOTO BY DARYL K. TABOR, THE PRESS
Crooked Creek Baptist Church Pastor Mark Girtten stands beside a monument on the church's cemetery grounds that was caked in mud sometime Sunday afternoon by trespassers who drove a vehicle through the cemetery grounds, leaving deep ruts and untold damages.

Vandals rut rural church cemetery over weekend

STAFF REPORT

A reward is being offered for information leading to the identity of vandals who rutted the cemetery grounds adjacent to Crooked Creek Baptist Church.

Sometime between morning and evening services at the tiny church, someone exited the parking lot and drove onto the soggy landscape surrounding the church, deeply rutting part of the cemetery grounds and running through the church's septic field. Donna Girtten, wife of pastor Mark Girtten, did not have an estimate of the damages, but said this is the worst vandalism the church has endured in recent memory.

At the end of Crooked Creek Church Road off Fords Ferry Road, the church has apparently become a popular spot for people to dump their trash and a target for vandalism. Girtten said she has arrived at the church on the weekends to find tobacco juice splattered on the front of the white building and trash on the parking lot and grounds, including everything from bags of trash to beer cans to condoms.

But Sunday's event has by far been the worst, Girtten

said. The tracks through the grounds – some 10 or more inches deep – may have crossed unmarked graves in the 200-plus-year-old cemetery or compromised the septic system. The tracks pass so close to one of the cemetery's newest markers that Crittenden County Sheriff Wayne Agent said the headstone may have been damaged.

"They really tore the heck out of it," Agent said of the grounds.

Mud caked the Horning family marker that may have suffered damage, making it almost illegible. Mud was also thrown several yards onto other monuments and the church's porch.

Agent said he was unsure if someone was making their way to the rear of the property to dump trash down a wooded slope toward the creek or if they were just up to mischief. Either way, the trespassers appear to have gotten stuck. The sheriff said there were signs that someone had placed branches and other items under the tires to try to gain traction.

"It looks like they got stuck, so it had to be more than one person," Girtten said.

Agent said it is apparent

from the mud tracks left behind that the vehicle headed toward Marion after exiting Crooked Creek Church Road.

"The vehicle had to be covered in mud," Agent said, urging anyone who may have seen a vehicle Sunday afternoon caked in fresh mud to notify authorities.

The vandalism occurred between 12:30 and 4:40 p.m., Girtten said. She added that it was pretty brazen for someone to commit such an act in broad daylight.

"It was just mean-spirited," Pastor Mark Girtten said of the criminal mischief. "There should be some consequences for whoever did this."

"It's just sad," his wife added. "We can't keep affording this kind of thing."

There is a \$300 reward for information leading to the identification of the individuals involved in the vandalism. The church is offering \$200 and TipLine is adding another \$100.

Anyone with information on the crime is encouraged to call the sheriff's office at (270) 965-3400 or TipLine at (270) 965-3000.

MOVE

Continued from Page 1

is June 30. Ideally, Jackson is hoping to find a location where there wouldn't be a charge for rent.

She said the Lyon County Adult Education Center is located in the housing authority. The location is provided free of charge, with the center only having to pay for its utilities. Jackson indicated one of two adult education centers in Webster County was facing a similar dilemma. Because of high operating costs, one center was allowed to relocate to the campus of Sebree Elementary School, which helped reduce expenses.

Jackson is confident a quality location can be found for the center. She recalls the community's generosity a few years ago when she approached both the Marion City Council and Crittenden Fiscal Court to help with operating costs. At that time, both entities pitched in to help meet expenses.

"We've had wonderful community support in Crittenden County," Jackson said, praising community leaders for their efforts to help the center.

Myers said every county in the state is required to have an adult education center. She hopes the new location will be as convenient and easy for students to access as the one currently in use.



PHOTO COURTESY OF LUKE CARLISLE
Philip Parish of Crittenden County pulls to victory at the 2015 Midwest Winter Nationals held earlier this month in Illinois.

Parish takes first place at national tractor pull

STAFF REPORT

Crittenden County resident Philip Parish recently placed first in the 10,000 pound pro stock tractor class at the 2015 Midwest Winter Nationals held earlier this month near Rantoul, Ill. Parish competed against 20 contestants in the first session and seven contestants in the finals.

Parish, a full-time farmer, said he competes about 12 times a year at events held in Indiana, Ohio, Tennessee, Kentucky and as far away as Wisconsin.

"I don't make them all. I just try to make a few of the big events. My work schedule on the farm doesn't allow me to go every weekend," he said.

Parish said his father began tractor pulling in the mid-1970s and he then began pulling regularly in the late 1990s.

In addition to the competition and the quest to build more horsepower, Parish said he's made a lot of good friends in the sport.

He plans on competing in the National Farm Machinery Show Feb. 13 in Louisville.

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the-press@the-press.com

The Crittenden Press Inc. management and staff

Publisher.....	Chris Evans
Editor.....	Daryl K. Tabor
Reporter.....	Jason Travis
Advertising manager.....	Allison Evans
Graphic design.....	Brian R. Hunt
Operations manager.....	Alaina Barnes

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Dean shared stories of Iron Hill, haunted bridge

Here are two very interesting articles written by Miss Ruby Dean. The Dean family loved their home and the surrounding countryside. Thanks to them, much of the history of the Deanwood area has been preserved through their writings.

Where's Iron Hill?
By Ruby Dean, July 1979

Three years ago, near the bicentennial celebration, Jim Brown Sr. (a big cattle rancher and tree farmer) beyond Piney Creek and just off the Ruby Laffoon Trail (Ky. 120), sent word to me that if I would go down to Kirk's antique shop, I would find something there that might be of great interest to me.

I hastened to Kirk's Antiques to satisfy my curiosity, and later, the circumstances were explained to me. Jim had been in this shop and witnessed a customer looking at the underside of an old platter and inquiring of Mrs. Kirk if she knew where Iron Hill was. She didn't, so he volunteered the information that it was where Deanwood is now situated.

The platter bore the inscription, "Compliments of J.N. Dean, Iron Hill, Ky." These platters had been given away by my father, Joe N. Dean, around the turn of the century to customers who bought as much as \$5 worth of merchandise at one time and paid cash. I lost no time in making it one of my possessions.

(I wonder if any of these old platters are still around anywhere? What a treasure they would be.)

The platter took me back into an area I had been in many times before, wondering where the name Iron Hill came from – certainly not from these lowlands and woodsy creek banks.

I began my search with little to go on except a fuzzy notion in my mind that the post office had once been located at my grandfather Dean's old home, which is now the Turner farm. I don't recall where I got this notion.

Also, notes compiled by my father stated that James W. Woolf was the first postmaster in this community and he had left that position in 1875 to go to Colorado. Was he postmaster at Iron Hill and, if so, where? The notes did not tell.

We do know at that period in time, rural post of-



fices were usually housed in or very near the homes of the postmasters. Now, if I could discover his home had been on a red, rocky hill or rusty hillside, I'd have it made.

I had one more thread to hang onto for help. In a history of the Travis family, Mr. E. Jeffrey Travis, a long-time superintendent of Crittenden County Schools, indicated that the neighborhood beginning at the John Stewart farm and north towards Cave Spring had been known as Tywhoppity. Could this have been a post office also, later changed to Iron Hill? If so, the name could be accounted for. The farm house was located on a rise which indeed could be called a hill as described. And did someone think there might be iron in that hillside?

Local knowledge being exhausted, I sought a correspondence with the postmaster general, which proved to be a short duration. He doesn't like me much. I'm always writing him, protesting rural route addresses, so he referred me to the next neighbor, which in this case was the National Records Center. In turn, I was referred to the National Archives and Records Service General Services Administration and others. I didn't know how I'd come out with General Services Administration, but luckily, so far as I could detect, it took no skin.

The answer to my first question was from the National Archives. It stated, "We have no site location reports concerning a post office at Tywhoppity, Crittenden County, Ky." But did that rule out the possibility that there had once been such a post office? I did not know.

My next question concerned the fuzzy idea that the post office had at one time been located at my grandfather's old place, and I asked for electrostats of geographical site locations which dealt with the Iron Hill Post Office.

The answer came in the form of a large sheet from the fourth assistant post-



master general, division of topography. The form, on one side filled in completely and signed by my grandfather, J.M. Dean, described the site location. The other side showed a map which pictured the location described. Also, it concerned the moving of the post office one-half mile east, May 22, 1890.

So my vague and hazy feeling turned out to make sense. I was right. The post office had, in reality, been located at my grandfather's place and he was postmaster. But it didn't help much as far as the name was concerned. The rambling old house did sit on a slight elevation for the rocky streams in back of it, but it definitely was not a hill.

So I tried again. Yes, they had some of the information I was seeking, but not a working force to tabulate it. They would send me a microfilm, for a price, and I would have to ferret it out for myself. After about six weeks, I received the film.

At that time I was in Livingston County and had the assistance of my sister, Dorothy Dean Cook. She combed Livingston County for a machine to read the film. No luck. Finally, it occurred to us that it would be read at the library in Paducah. So we trekked down there. They treated us royally. The only thing required of us was signing in and out.

By turning through myriads of torn, patched, blurred, run-together material in which we had zero interest, we found exciting things. The post office James W. Woolf had been postmaster of had indeed been Iron Hill. It was estab-

lished in 1843, but we found nothing which pertained to its geographical site location.

But there was encouragement. We found that a Robert Phillips followed James W. Woolf as postmaster, and we do know that some Phillips lived on the aforementioned Tywhoppity Hill around that time.

So, in all probability, Iron Hill Post Office gleaned its name from that hill and has been moved not once, but twice, despite the fact that there are no records in Washington, D.C. to prove it.

The Haunted Bridge
By Miss Ruby Dean, 1978

Near the turn of the century (1890-1910), there was in Crittenden County a small bridge which was known for miles around as the "ha'nted" bridge.

Where was it located and what were the circumstances which led to this strange phenomenon?

Well, it was on the old Shady Grove Road, then a dirt road, between Deanwood and Shady Grove.

Traveling toward the latter from Deanwood, you crossed Piney Creek by way of the iron bridge, long since gone, turned rather sharply to the right for a short distance, then to the left and began the long climb up Piney Hill.

About midway up this rocky steep, a stream cut through a sort of gorge on the left and made a swash across the road. This necessitated a crossing, which re-

sulted in a loosely thrown up bridge with wide cracks between the heavy boards.

Often, when I crossed it, I wondered what kept horses from stumbling there.

It was in a ravine just to the right of this spot that the haunting reportedly appeared in the shape of a person – headless, arms outstretched and draped in gauzy white. It floated back and forth, sometimes higher, sometimes lower, but always at a distance.

Now, this unidentified floating apparition never harmed anyone in anyway, shape or form during all the years of its habitation there and probably would never have been remembered except for the difficulty it caused those who passed by riding or driving horses. In such cases, always at night, the horses would rear, try to turn back, and in some instances absolutely refuse to go another step.

A doctor once had to return to his home and ask a friend to accompany him on his call. It seemed that when two or more persons crossed the bridge together, the ghost remained in hiding.

Whether this unknown phantom was the result of trickery and or devilry played by human hands or whether it was an inexplicable phenomenon of nature has not been determined to this day.

In fact, it has been years since I heard anyone even so much as mention the "ha'nted" bridge. But, sometime, when and if you



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Ruby Dean (shown above) loved to share her family history and stories of the area with other people. She wrote the Deanwood community news for The Crittenden Press for several years, plus other interesting family stories that had been handed down through the generations of the Dean family. At left is a vintage photo of one of the old iron bridges in the Piney area of Crittenden County. This photograph was shared by Nancy Hopkins Rushing. Her ancestors lived in the Shady Grove/Blackburn area of Crittenden County. This bridge is perhaps even the one visited by the ghost in Ruby Dean's story found in this week's column.

are traveling eastward on the Shady Grove Road at night and alone and you get about halfway up Piney Hill, you might just take a peek into the ravine to the right of the culvert – which bridges the self-same stream at the self-same place as did the "ha'nted" bridge – and see if, by any chance, you see any signs of a headless form in white.

Who knows? This "ha'nt" must at some point in time, at its own discretion and pleasure, choose to revisit old haunts!

I wish I could have known Miss Ruby and visited with her. I have a feeling we would have been very good friends. She died on Dec. 18, 1997, at the age of 102 and is buried at Sugar Grove Cemetery.

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

Publisher seeks stories from locals folks on days gone by

STAFF REPORT

Hometown Memories Publishing Co. of North Carolina intends to save a big slice of local history before it's lost forever.

Karen Garvey, senior editor at Hometown Memories Publishing, is asking local folks to share their memories for a living history book. She invites anyone over 60 with tales about the "good old days" in southwest Kentucky to write them down and mail them to her for possible publication in the book. The hardcover coffee table book will contain tales of bygone years from people who actually lived them.

To encourage participation, Garvey is offering a \$250 award for the most appealing story. There will also be two \$100 runner-up

awards and a cash award for best picture.

"I'm not looking for genealogy," says Garvey. "What we want to save are true stories about things that once were commonplace but are virtually unknown to today's generation. The contributor's descendants will love them for it. Life today is not what it used to be."

For example, any golden-ager could tell an interesting tale about things like wringer washing machines, downtown cowboy movies on Saturday, radio drama programs, feed sack dresses or old-fashioned outhouses.

"Stories like these are not only great fun to read, especially for old-timers, but they're usually left out of

the official history books," Garvey explains. "I hope some of these books will still be around in 200 years so that people will know that old-timers were more than a name or a faded picture. But that we were real people with real lives."

Especially wanted for the book are stories that involve humor, odd, unusual, frightening or mysterious events, romance stories, local myths and legends and ghost tales. The deadline for story submission is April 15.

Garvey requests that anyone interested in submitting material for the book call her toll-free at (877) 491-8802 for instructions or visit the website at hometownmemoriesonline.com.

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Don't fall into deception

Don't be deceived. Don't. Don't. Don't.

Jesus cried this out four times in one chapter of the Bible, Matthew 24. Paul also did the same in four of his letters.

The Revelator tells us the end will come after Satan deceives the nations which are in the four quarters of the Earth. He will gather all evil forces together to do battle against God's people worldwide and the end will be with fire coming down from God out of Heaven and devouring them, Revelation 20:8-9 tells us.

Today is the first time in world history that a militant force of evil dedicated to destroying millions has completely infiltrated and encircled the inhabited world.

Look at the horrible deception in all parts of the world. Some is of the vilest kind, with people believing they are pleasing God by slaughtering innocent people and in doing so, it will give them a special place in Heaven.

The subject of this column is the belief that a super half-human, half-devil will arise before the end of time and deceive the world. This is called the antichrist.

This is a very important subject, because, if people are looking for the wrong sign of the end of this world and miss the true Bible warning the cost will be astronomical.

There are many different ideas of this teaching. Let us look at what the Bible says and go only by what it says so we won't be deceived.

This word is found in four verses in the beloved John's letters. We will read each of them and see just what it says in print.

The first thing to settle is that the prefix anti means against. I am anti-abortion. So antichrist is against Christ.

From 1 John 2:18: "Little



children, it is the last time; and as you have heard that antichrist shall come, even now are there many antichrists; whereby we know that it is the last time."

This tells us pure and simple that there were many antichrists in the world when John wrote these words.

There were so many against Christ that they killed Him.

The next is verse 1 John 2:22: "Who is a liar but he that denies that Jesus is the Christ: He is antichrist that denies the Father and the Son."

This did not say "he is an antichrist that denies" but said "He is antichrist," against Christ.

The third verse comes from 1 John 4:3: "And every spirit that confesses not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that spirit of antichrist, whereof you have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world."

Here it very clearly is called a spirit, not an individual. Again, we are told it was already in the world then.

Now on to 2 John 1:7, which is the last time it is mentioned in God's Word: "For many deceivers are entered into the world, who confess not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh. This is a deceiver and an antichrist."

Again, what does the Word say antichrist is? One that confesses not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh. This also, again, states

it has already entered into the world.

Let us look at the danger of waiting for a special and deceitful human to appear before we can know the end is upon us.

Now, let us look at how Satan has deceived millions of people around the world to be against Christ. The millions of antichrist Muslims are in the four quarters of the earth, completely surrounding all of God's people and wanting to kill us. They believe they have to take over the world so the end of time will come and give them special privileges in Heaven. And there are many more antichrists who hate God's people, and people have been deceived to look for one person!

As John said, the spirit of antichrist was in the world then and certainly is in the world today. Look at part of the list: atheists, communists, Muslims, pagans and unconverted Jews, even though the Jews aren't militant.

All of this is fulfilling the Bible's prophesy. If Satan can deceive us to look for something the Bible has never told us to look for, he has done his job well and millions will go down in defeat.

These aforementioned four verses have been taken out of context and added with other verses out of context creating a whole theory that has permeated most of Christianity.

Many good people are looking for the wrong sign because they have listened to others who are led to look for the wrong sign. They have not taken their information straight from God's word.

It doesn't take a Ph.D. to understand God's word. It takes the Holy Spirit, and He tells us to ask for Him to give us His Spirit so we will be given His wisdom and understanding so that all will believe the same.

At the beginning of Jesus' ministry, His key warning was, "Don't be deceived." Close to the end of His ministry, the key warning was, "Watch."

"Watch therefore; for you know not what hour your Lord doth come," reads Matthew 24:42.

"Take you heed, watch and pray; for you know not when the time is. And what I say unto you, I say unto all, watch," reads Mark 13:33 and 37.

May God help all of us to get our information from God's Word so as to know what to watch for. We must live so that regardless of when Jesus appears in the clouds, we will be prepared to go with Him and live forever in a world where no evil will ever be. There, we will see Him face to face!

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

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Thank You

The family of Don Taylor would like to thank Dr. Gary James and the staff of Crittenden Health Systems for their care and concern during the illness and passing of our loved one. Our thanks goes out to those that sent food, flowers, cards, made calls and visited the funeral home. Our gratitude goes to Rev. Eddie Boone for his comforting words at the funeral, also to the U.S. Air Force members for their military rites at the cemetery. We appreciate every act of kindness shown to us at this difficult time.

May God bless you,

Mike Taylor & Family
Pat Taylor & Family
Laurie Taylor Daiken & Family
Nona Taylor Akridge & Family

Community church notes

- A community-wide prayer service will be held at 6:15 p.m., Jan. 28 at Marion Baptist Church.
- Victory Way will be at Maranatha General Baptist Church on Cedar Grove Road in Salem at 6 p.m., Feb. 14.
- A community Valentine social will be held at 6 p.m., Feb. 14 at Salem Baptist Church's Christian Life Center. Everyone is invited.
- Under His Armor, a youth retreat and lock-in for ages 10-16 will be held at 7 p.m., Feb. 20 to 7 a.m., Feb. 21 at Lola Pentecostal Church. Church youth groups are encouraged to attend and all denominations are welcome. Call (270) 704-6130 for more information.

Pastor's wife writes Biblical study guide

STAFF REPORT

A launch party will be held for a biblical study guide written by Codi Gandee, wife of Pastor Trae Gandee of Pleasant Grove General Baptist Church near Salem. The work is entitled, "Selfless in a Selfie World: Before Honor is Humility." The event will take place from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m., Feb. 7 at the Livingston County Library. Doors will open at 6:30 p.m.

This is the first work published by Gandee, who said she was prompted to write the study guide so more people would draw closer to Jesus and get to know Him better through the Word of God.

Topics in the work cover areas connected to humility including exaltation, servanthood and trust.



Gandee

"The whole process was a learning experience for me," Gandee said about writing the study guide. "I felt like the Lord was teaching me so I could share with others."

Gandee also has a Facebook page entitled, "Leaving a Legacy Ministries." Each weekday, she posts a devotional and provides updates on events in which she participates.

Originally from Ripley West, Va., Gandee and her husband have lived in the area for three years. Trae has been pastor at Pleasant Grove General Baptist Church for one year. He also works as a purchasing manager for AEP Riverboat Operations in Paducah.

The couple resides near Burna with their three children.

THANK YOU

The family of Willa Dean Driskill would like to thank our family and friends for the kind support during the time of her illness and passing.

Thank you to Dr. Scott Graham and Beverly Jones and the staff of Crittenden Health Systems. Also thanks to members of Walnut Grove Baptist Church and Paradise Methodist Church for the meal after the service. Thank you to the staff of Lakeland Funeral Home for the care they gave the family during this time and also to Marcia Floyd for the care she gave to her. Thanks to Rev. Dean Ray and Rev. Rich Gardner for the service they gave.

Preston, Robert & Family,
Charlotte, Sondra & Family

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

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• Sunday school: 9:45 a.m. Bro. Steve Tinsley, pastor
• Sunday worship: 11 a.m. Barnett Chapel Road
• Sunday evening: 6 p.m. Crittenden County, Ky.
• Wednesday night Bible study: 7 p.m.
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Marion Church of God

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Sunday School 10 a.m. • Morning Service 11 a.m.
Sunday Evening 6 p.m. • Wednesday Evening 6 p.m.
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Lucy Tedrick, pastor

Pleasant Grove General Baptist Church

Ky. 723, 4 miles north of Salem
Sunday School 10 a.m. • Sunday Worship 11 a.m.
Sunday Evening 6 p.m. • Wednesday Bible Study 7 p.m.
Rev. Trae Gandee

Life in Christ Church

A New Testament church 2925 U.S. 641, Marion
Sunday services 9 a.m. and 10:45a.m. | Wednesday services 7p.m.
➤ Chris and Sue McDonald, pastors

Crayne Community Church

Crayne Cemetery Road Marion, Kentucky
Pastor, Bro. Tommy Hodge
Wednesday night Bible study, 6 p.m.
Sunday school, 10 a.m. | Sunday worship, 11 a.m.

DEER CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

Marty Brown, Pastor
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Wednesday Bible Study 7 p.m. • Tony Perryman, Pastor
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OBITUARIES

Travis

Laverne Hill Travis, 83, of Marion died Jan. 21, 2015, at Baptist Health Paducah. She is survived by her husband, Wendell Travis of Marion; a son, Mike Travis of Marion; two brothers, Buddy Hill of Marion and Robert Hill of Marion; four sisters, Betty Hill of Wichita, Kan., Louise Hill of Clay, Mayme Hill of Chicago and Mary Alice Hill of Chicago. Travis was preceded in death by her parents, Cloy Hill and Virgie Hill; and three brothers, James Hill, Cortis Hill and Roundy Hill. Funeral services were Friday at Gilbert Funeral Home in Marion. Burial was in Mapleview Cemetery.

— PAID OBITUARY —
Mutter

Edith R. Mutter, 73, of Hopkinsville, formerly of Salem, died Jan. 21, 2015, at Jennie Stuart Medical Center in Hopkinsville. She was of the Baptist faith. Mutter is survived by a son, Darrell Bebout of Salem; four daughters, Rhonda Bebout of Marion, Tammy Simpkins of Marion, Lucinda Williamson of Marion and Shelia Davis of Hopkinsville; a sister, Iva Nell Martin of Marion; four grandchildren, Leslie Simpkins, Timothy Davis, Kimberly Davis and Jason Williamson; and seven great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her companion of 17 years, James Cannon; her husband, William R. Mutter; two grandchildren, Danny Williamson and Edith Faye Limp; her parents, Ira Earl and Nora Miller Gilland; a brother, Earl Gilland; and two sisters, Louise Harris and Myrl Agent. Funeral services were Friday in the chapel of Boyd Funeral Directors in Salem with Rev. Deeann Thompson officiating. Burial was in Lola Cemetery. Condolences may be left online at BoydFuneralDirectors.com.



Mutter

Barnes

Pauline Barnes, 85, of Salem died Jan. 24, 2015, at Livingston Hospital and Healthcare Services in Salem. She was a homemaker and had been employed for 25 years at Crittenden County Convalescent Center prior to retirement. She was a member of Salem Baptist Church. Barnes is survived by four daughters, Carolyn Howard of Salem; Sheila Wilson of Salem; Kelli Nesbitt of Marion and Danielle Sherer of Salem; three sons, Dennis Barnes of Salem, James Barnes of Marion and Glynne Barnes of Salem; 18 grandchildren; 26 great grandchildren; four great great-grandchildren; two brothers, Robert Ramage of Louisville and Harold Ramage of Jamestown, Ky.; and a sister, Shirley Newsome of Salt Lake City. She was preceded in death by her parents, Ivory and Lenora Mae Walker Ramage; a son; a daughter; two brothers; and five sisters. Funeral services were Tuesday at Myers Funeral Home in Marion with burial in the Old Salem Cemetery.



Barnes

NEWS BRIEFS

Report shows plane had engine trouble

A preliminary report shows that the pilot of a small plane flying over western Kentucky lost sight of the airport and reported the right engine had stopped shortly before the plane crashed and killed everyone aboard except a 7-year-old girl. The National Transportation Safety Board's report says air traffic controllers lost contact with the plane about 5:55 p.m. on Jan. 2, about five minutes after the pilot had asked for assistance because of engine problems. The pilot's last contact with controllers was that he had lost sight of the airport. The Piper PA-34 landed upside down with the landing gear retracted. The crash killed pilot Marty Gutzler; his wife, Kimberly; their daughter Piper; and her cousin, Sierra Wilder. The couple's daughter Sailor survived the crash. — The Associated Press

Family Dollar OKs Dollar Tree's offer

The battle over dollar stores is nearly over. Family Dollar shareholders voted last Thursday to approve a

takeover bid by rival Dollar Tree, despite higher competing offers from Dollar General. The deal with Dollar Tree still needs to be approved by the Federal Trade Commission, but Family Dollar expects it to close by March. There is no indication as to how the deal might affect Marion's Family Dollar store. Dollar Tree first offered to buy Matthews, N.C.-based Family Dollar in July for about \$8.5 billion. Dollar General offered higher bids that were repeatedly rejected. Dollar General's pursuit of Family Dollar is now likely finished. It said in a statement that the vote was a loss for Family Dollar shareholders and shoppers, who would have benefited from lower prices in its stores. "Family Dollar's lack of engagement and a contracted transaction timeline ultimately prevented us from completing this transaction," said Dollar General's CEO Rick Dreiling. Dollar General's most recent bid for Family Dollar was about \$9.1 billion. Family Dollar said it rejected Dollar General's bids because it expected that it would be harder to get regulatory approval for the deal. — The Associated Press

ROADS

Continued from Page 1

form of revenue sharing for local streets and roads. The state's highway program is an example of a user fee system. Rather than being funded through general taxes on sales, income, payroll or property, Kentucky roads and bridges are paid for by those who use them. But declining revenue through the program is making it hard for local governments to keep pace with the need for road repairs. During the current fiscal year, Crittenden County has received \$980,758 in county road aid, an \$80,913 reduction compared to this time in the previous fiscal year, according to Crittenden County Judge-Executive Perry Newcom. The year's final county road aid payment from the state doesn't come until the end of June or early July, but Newcom isn't looking for the downward trend to change. "I look for another significant reduction since the average wholesale price of gas continues to fall," he added. Such reductions in road aid for local governments is a punch to the gut and the reason Crittenden Fiscal Court is looking to have its collective voice heard in Frankfort regarding the falling gas tax. Newcom said the resolution to be considered at Monday's fiscal court meeting will ask state lawmakers to essentially put a floor on the gas tax to keep it from further dropping. Sen. Ernie Harris, a Crestwood Republican, has already filed Senate Bill 29 to freeze Kentucky's gas tax at the rate it is today – 27.6 cents per gallon, thereby avoiding the 5.1 cent per gallon reduction anticipated April 1. The legislation as presented would set the minimum value

for the average wholesale price of gasoline used for computation of the gas tax at \$2.354 per gallon. Newcom supports Harris' bill. However, it's uncertain how the proposal will be met by lawmakers when they reconvene Tuesday. Last year, Gov. Steve Beshear tried to address the problem by proposing a minimum state gas tax at the rate it was in the final quarter of 2013, 31.9 cents per gallon. While the Democrat-controlled House passed the measure, the GOP-controlled Senate did not and the gas tax rate law was left unchanged. (The Courier-Journal and Kentucky Press News Service contributed to this story.)

†

In Loving Memory of
Steve Hackney
January 30, 2014
Dale Hackney
January 29, 2007
The Day You Went Away
They say that time is a healer but as time goes on I seem to find it just as hard to face the fact you've gone.
And today it's the anniversary of the day that you went away. And I'm standing here at your graveside and believe me when I say.
You'll never be forgotten and every year I shed a tear, but it's only because I love you and wish you were still here.
Sadly missed by family

†

Smith

Dorothy Nell Dortch Smith, 89, of Caldwell County, died Jan. 24, 2015, at Baptist Health Madisonville after a long illness. She was born Sept. 15, 1925, in Muhlenberg County. She was a homemaker and member of Beech Grove General Baptist Church. Smith is survived by a son, Larry G. (Diane) Smith of Caldwell County; two daughters, Donna June Hibbs of Madisonville and Sandy (Lee) Grider of Crestwood, Ky.; nine grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; a great-great-grandchild; and a niece. She was preceded in death by her husband, W.G. Smith; her parents, Robert Lee and Lily Durham Dortch; two brothers, Howard Dortch and Paul Raymond Dortch; a sister, Ruby Leon; and a son-in-law, Jerry Hibbs. Funeral services were Tuesday at Morgan's Funeral Home in Princeton with Rev. Barry Cullen officiating. Burial was in Beech Grove Church Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to: Beech Grove General Baptist Church Cemetery Fund, John Hicox, 40 Short 70, Princeton, KY 42445.

Gass

Frankie N. Gass, 87, of Marion died Jan. 12, 2015, at Salem Springlake Health and Rehabilitation Center in Salem. She was born Jan. 27, 1927, the daughter of John and Elva Martin. Gass is survived by her husband, Harry Gass; two sons, Monte C. Gass and Trent Gass; a daughter, Debra Gass Knight; five grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren. Private graveside services were held Jan. 13 at Mapleview Cemetery. Arrangements were under the direction of Boyd Funeral Directors in Salem.

Obituary policy

Most obituaries in the newspaper are published at no charge, but extended obits are available for a small fee.

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In Loving Memory of
Harold Perry Glore
— February 22, 1933 - January 29, 2014 —
Hon, Dad & Papaw:
It has been a long, lonely year since January 29, 2014 when God took you home. We know that you are happy and no more pain will you endure. Remembering you is easy, so many wonderful memories we have made. We miss you every day. It's a heartache that never goes away.
Rose Ann, Wife of 58 years, 4 mo. & 5 days and All Your Family

Thank You
We would like to thank everyone who came by the funeral home, sent flowers, food or showed any act of kindness during the sickness and death of La-Verne. It was greatly appreciated.
The family of La-Verne Travis

Thank You
On behalf of the family of Jerry Ritch, words cannot begin to express our heartfelt appreciation for the visits, calls, flowers, gifts and food brought to our home. Thank you to our neighbors for their monetary gift of love. Thank you to family and friends that came from out of town and state, and to our church, Emmanuel Baptist, and the ones that prepared and served our family and friends. To Dr. Truong and staff of Livingston Hospital, and staff of Lourdes Hospital. Thank you to Bro. Gerald White and Bro. Ed Clement for conducting a beautiful service and to Bro. Rodney Cude for taking care of contacting the ministers. We would also like to thank Brad and the staff of Gilbert Funeral Home for the love and care the gave us. Thank you to the ones we personally did not know and told us how Jerry had helped them and to anyone we may have left out, God knows you, thank you. May God richly bless you as He has us.
Wife, Peggy Ritch
Daughter, Angie Sloan & Lance
Daughter, Kim Ritch
Granddaughter, Azia
Grandson, Brayton Campbell Hurley

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Caregivers should be alert to Sundowners syndrome

If you care for someone with dementia or Alzheimer's disease you may notice that they get increasingly agitated, anxious, more confused or aggressive as the sun begins to set.

These symptoms may be associated with Sundowner syndrome. According to Amy Hosier, UK extension specialist for family life education, Sundowner syndrome causes people to be confused at the



end of the day and into the night. It is common for individuals who are sun-downer to pace, wander, ignore directions and not

sleep well.

While the cause of Sundowner syndrome is not fully understood by scientists, theories to its cause include changes in a person's internal biological clock, which is controlled by circadian rhythms; changes in body temperature; sleeping disorder; inadequate exposure to light and a side effect to some medication. The shorter and sometimes grayer days of winter can sometimes ex-

acerbate these symptoms.

As a caregiver, various environmental or behavioral changes can help alleviate some of the symptoms associated with sundowning. For example, morning light therapy may help alleviate restlessness, sleeplessness and agitation. Researchers suggest trying to shine a full-spectrum fluorescent lamp on the individual while they are participating in morning activities such as eating

breakfast or watching television.

Pulling the blinds and turning regular lights on earlier in the evening may also help alleviate stress associated with the sun setting.

When possible, it can be helpful to organize daily events and activities, including doctor's appointments, visits and outings early in the day. Exercise during the day can even increase evening tiredness

and lead to a more restful night. Ask your doctor about the supplement melatonin. It has also shown promise in helping individuals cope with Sundowner syndrome.

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



Byford-Collins

Danny and Carolyn Byford of Marion announce the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter Rachel to Jeremy Collins, son of Steve and Cindy Collins of Clay.

Byford is the granddaughter of the late Eldo and "Cookie" Todd of Tolu and Shirley Byford of Marion and the late Eugene Byford. She is a 2005 graduate of Crittenden County High School and a graduate of Murray State University with a bachelor's degree in IECE. She is employed by Audubon Early Head Start in Marion.

Collins is the grandson of Bruce Cowan of Clay and

the late Faunda Cowan and Junel Collins of Henderson and the late Wendell Collins. He is a 2004 graduate of Webster County High School and a graduate of Murray State University with a bachelor's degree in Career and Technical Education and is employed by Gateway Academy in Hopkinsville.

Wedding vows will be exchanged at 3:30 p.m., April 4 at Emmanuel Baptist Church. A reception will follow at Fohs Hall in Marion.

All friends and family are invited to attend. Only out of town invitations are being sent.



PHOTO BY JASON TRAVIS, THE PRESS

Partners Insurance recognized

Partners Insurance Agency was recognized with a First Dollar presentation by Crittenden County Chamber of Commerce. The company is owned and operated by Denise Byarley and Shelly Davidson and is located on East Bellville Street in Marion in the former Terry L. Ford Insurance Agency building. Shown above at the presentation are (from left) Chamber members Elliot West and Meredith Hall, Chamber Executive Director Susan Alexander, Marion City Administrator Mark Bryant, Byarley, Davidson, B.J. Minton, Chamber President Robin Curnel and chamber member Wendy Lucas.

2014 a milestone for donor registry

STAFF REPORT

The circuit court clerks of Kentucky made 2014 a momentous year in the fight to save lives. With 998 Kentuckians on the waiting list for an organ transplant, there is no better time to join the Kentucky Organ Donor Registry.

In 2014, 103 individuals in Kentucky were able to save 332 lives, and many more individuals were able to enhance someone's life or give sight through tissue and cornea donation. Still more than 124,000 patients are currently waiting for their organ transplant. Tragically, each day, 21 patients lose their fight and their lives waiting. Kentucky's Circuit Clerks are determined to make a difference and end the wait.

"When you get your license or state ID, we ask if you would like to donate \$1 to increase public education about the mission of organ donation in Kentucky. We also ask if you wish to be a registered organ donor. Every person who says yes gives hope to

all those patients on the waiting list," explains Crittenden Circuit Clerk Melissa Guill.

Currently, 44 percent of Crittenden County residents are registered donors. Regardless of medical history or age, everyone can register as a donor.

Last year was a record year for Kentucky, thanks to the circuit clerks and their staff. In 2014, 44.5 percent of Kentuckians donated \$1 to the organ donation awareness program. The Kentucky Organ Donor Registry reached a milestone and celebrated 1.5 million Kentuckians registered as donors.

"Without the circuit clerks and deputies, we may not have 50,000 names on the Kentucky Organ Donor Registry. Because of their questions at driver's license, over 1.5 million Kentuckians have joined," said Shelley Snyder, executive director of



Guill

the Circuit Clerks' Trust for Life program. "Until this mission touches your family, many don't realize how vital it is that everyone joins the Registry. If it was my husband or my friend who needed a transplant to live another day, I would want them to have one. That's why I'm a registered donor. If I can save a life when I'm gone, I'm willing to do it."

To kick off 2015, Guill's office is reaching out to those in Crittenden County who have been touched by the mission of organ donation. These stories will be compiled into an inspiring, online wall dedicated to raising awareness about this mission. Current stories can be found on the Trust for Life website www.trustforlife.org.

"Many people have been touched by the gift of organ and tissue donation here. By sharing these incredible journeys, we can inspire

others to say yes at the driver's license window," explains Guill. "We are such a supportive community. I hope more people will realize the need that is right here in our county. It doesn't cost anything to join the Kentucky Organ Donor Registry. We hope to have over 50 percent of Kentuckians registered by next year."

Local donor families, transplant recipients and families, and those who may need a transplant one day are invited to step forward, as your involvement will educate others about the powerful gift of donation. Visit the Trust for Life website at www.trustforlife.org or call (866) 945-5433.

"In 2014, Crittenden County residents donated \$1,434 to the Trust for Life, and 228 residents joined the Kentucky Organ Donor Registry. I am proud of the generosity of our community and appreciate your support of this life-saving mission," said Guill.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Monday, Feb. 2

- West Kentucky Regional Blood Center and Crittenden Health Systems will sponsor a blood drive from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., in the hospital's education building. Each donor will receive a T-shirt.
- Livingston County Middle School Efficiency Committee meeting has been scheduled from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m., in the Cardinal Room.

Tuesday, Feb. 3

- A Happy Feet meeting will be held at 4 p.m., at the Crittenden County Board of Education's central office location.
- Crittenden County Republicans will hold a meeting at 6:30 p.m., at the courthouse.

Monday, Feb. 9

- Crittenden County Elementary School SBDM Council meets at 4 p.m.

Wednesday, Feb. 11

- Crittenden County Middle School SBDM Council meets at 3:45 p.m., in the school's library.

Tuesday, Feb. 17

- Crittenden County High School SBDM Council will meet at 3:30 p.m., in the high school's conference room.

Wednesday, March 4

- Crittenden County Extension Homemakers will host a

reception for Nancy Hunt, who is retiring from the Crittenden County Extension Service after 35 years. The reception will be held from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., at the Woman's Club building on East Carlisle Street. The reception will be open to the public.

On-going events

- Relay for Life of Crittenden County will hold meetings at 5:30 p.m., the third Monday of each month at the Crittenden County Courthouse. This year's theme is "Every Hero has a Story."
- Veterans in Crittenden County looking for benefit information can contact Renita Duff with the Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., weekdays at (270) 322-9087.
- All veterans are invited for coffee and breakfast at 7:30 a.m. each Tuesday at the VFW building located at 412 N. College St. in Marion.
- The use of addicting drugs is on the rise. Narconon urges families take steps to protect themselves from drug use. Call for a free brochure on the signs of addiction for all drugs. Narconon also offers free screenings and referrals for counseling. Call (800) 431-1754 for information.

Kenergy promotes Palmer to crew leader

STAFF REPORT

Cody Palmer, a line tech in Kenergy Corp.'s Marion district, was promoted Monday to one of the district's crew leaders.

Among many duties, a crew leader oversees job orders for underground and overhead infrastructure. Also, crew leaders are re-



Palmer

sponsible for crew safety, welfare and work performed.

Palmer was hired on Nov. 3, 2008, as a line tech.

Fundraiser set to help victims of Salem fire

STAFF REPORT

A fundraiser to help a Livingston County couple who lost their home to a fire in November is scheduled for Friday.

According to Faye Gibson of American Legion Post 217 Auxiliary in Burna, the event to help Neil and Arlene Luster of Salem is slated to run from 4 to 8 p.m. at the Christian Life Center in Salem.

A meal of country cooking, beans and cornbread, chili and other food items will be available to purchase at Friday's fundraiser. Also, there will be raffles, a silent auction

and more. There is no admittance fee, but donations are appreciated.

The Lusters, who donated their time to several community service projects, lost their home to a fire on Nov. 26. They were not home at the time and lost all of their possessions. Also, the couple, both disabled and on fixed incomes, did not yet have insurance on their home or possessions. In addition, Neil is a veteran facing cancer surgery in the near future, while Arlene had a double mastectomy over the summer and is in need of additional surgery.

SENIOR CENTER CALENDAR

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

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

Upcoming activities and menu include:

- Today: Menu is meatballs with gravy, mashed potatoes, lima beans, wheat bread slice and dreamsicle gelatin.
- Friday: Bingo begins at

10:30 a.m. Menu is chicken and dumplings, buttered spinach, seasoned cabbage, apple cobbler and cornbread. January birthday cake will also be served.

- Monday: Ladies exercise by Full Body Fitness Studio begins at 9:45 a.m. Menu is franks and kraut, mashed potatoes, black-eyed peas, cornbread and fruit cobbler.
- Tuesday: Menu is barbecue chicken, whole kernel corn, mashed potatoes, whole wheat roll and tropical fruit.
- Wednesday: Menu is meatloaf, stewed potatoes, seasoned cabbage, cornbread and peach crisp.
- Next Thursday: Menu is chuckwagon on wheat bun, vegetable soup and baked apples.

State among leaders in graduating students

STAFF REPORT
The latest numbers on graduation rates are out from the United States Department of Education, and Kentucky is among the leaders nationwide. Meantime, Crittenden County School District's rate lags a bit behind the state average, according to the Kentucky Department of Education's online school report card.

The National Center for Education Statistics reports Kentucky's 86 percent graduation rate in the 2012-13 school year is fourth highest in the United States. Only nine states have a higher rate and six are tied with Kentucky. While the local school district's graduation rate of 83.5 percent for the same academic year fell below the state average, it was

above the national graduation rate of 81 percent. "This data reflects ongoing efforts that have been under way to keep students in school so they have a better opportunity to become college/career-ready," said KDE Commissioner Terry Holliday. "In the past four years we have not only increased the graduation rate, but also the college/career-readiness

rate of our students, which now stands at 62.4 percent, up from 34 percent in 2010. That's solid proof that we are on the right course and Kentucky is better preparing our children for postsecondary education and training than we ever have before." Kentucky's most recent data from the 2013-14 school year shows even more improvement with a

graduation rate of 87.5 percent, so it's expected that when the new national data comes out next year, Kentucky will once again be among the leaders, Holliday said. The local school district's graduation rate for 2013-14, according to KDE's report card, also improved to 85.1 percent. This is the first time in the past few years that Kentucky has been in-

cluded in the national graduation rate data release after the state adopted a new, more accurate four-year cohort graduation rate calculation – the same as what most other states use. The latest Kentucky public school data can be found online in the Kentucky School Report Card found at applications.education.ky.gov/SRC/Default.aspx.

Winter precipitation studied at CCMS

STAFF REPORT
For a student desperate for a snow day, even one or two snowflakes falling from the sky is cause for hope and excitement. In an effort to learn more about winter weather and separate facts from fiction, seventh grade language arts instructor Mattea Meadows recently teamed with meteorologist Beau Dodson on a project combining language arts, science and social media in an



Meadows

interactive approach to learning about weather. Dodson is a well-known meteorologist who has garnered a following on both Facebook and Twitter. He answered student-submitted questions on his weather blog after they re-

searched weather-related events and occurrences. During the class assignment, Meadows said many of her students expressed an interest in meteorology and developed a new-found appreciation of how science and math work together to make snow days more than just a student's wish. Currently, the first of four questions is featured on Dodson's blog at www.weathertalk.com.



PHOTO BY JASON TRAVIS, THE PRESS

Recognizing achievement

John Claude Duvall and Amanda Estes were recognized as winners in grades six through eight and received \$20 in the Woman's Club of Marion's Poetry and Short Story Contest. Woman's Club of Marion President Rebecca Zahrte presented the students with their awards on Monday.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Photo contest open to all middle school students

Entries taken until April 3

STAFF REPORT
The Kentucky Energy and Environment Cabinet (EEC) has kicked off its fifth-annual 'Capture the Earth' digital photography contest for all Kentucky students in grades 6-8. The Capture the Earth photo contest is open to all Kentucky middle school students. Judges will look for originality and creativity, photo composition and a brief explanation of how well the photograph celebrates the beauty and diversity of Kentucky and

encourages others to care about the state's environment through stewardship and conservation. "The goals of our photography contest are twofold," said EEC Secretary Len Peters. "First, we want students to get outside, explore their natural surroundings and connect with nature. Second, this contest enables students to use their creativity and critical thinking skills by taking photos and explaining, in writing, how their photo can encourage others to be better stewards of the envi-

ronment." EEC is accepting entries until 3:30 p.m. local time on April 3. The winner will receive a night's lodging at a Kentucky State Resort Park of the winner's choosing with his or her family. Middle school students may email one photograph as an attachment to kidsphotocontest@ky.gov. Official rules are at eec.ky.gov/Pages/earth-day.aspx. For more information, call Ricki Gardenhire at (502) 564-5525 or email ricki.gardenhire@ky.gov.

CCHS Speech Team competes

Three members of the Crittenden County High School Speech Team competed in Graves County at the "Speak Up and Think Disney Tournament of Dreamers," Jan. 24. Cole Foster was a fifth place finalist in Humorous Interpretation. Emily Tinsley and Alexis Tabor competed in Broadcasting, Prose and Improvisational Duo. Shown above (from left) are Tinsley, Foster and Tabor.

MCC announces its 2014 fall dean's list

STAFF REPORT
More than a half-dozen students from Crittenden County have made the Madisonville Community College dean's list for the 2014 fall semester. Those students include Tabitha Belt, Caitlin Dunbar, Andrew Kenyon, Dustin Perry, Melissa Riley, Stacey Stone and Abby Whitney, all of

Marion. "Being named to the dean's list indicates that a student has completed 12 credit hours with a minimum GPA of 3.5 in 100-level or above coursework," stated MCC Chief Student Affairs Officer Dr. Jay Parrent. "We are proud of the academic accomplishments of our students."

UK names dean's list

STAFF REPORT
For the first time, more than 6,000 students have made the University of Kentucky dean's list, and a student from Crittenden County was among the record number. Jesse Martin Highfil, a freshman kinesiology major, joined 6,365 other students recognized for their outstanding performance during the fall 2014 semester. To make a dean's list in one of the UK colleges, a

student must earn a grade-point average of 3.6 or higher and must have earned 12 credits or more in that semester, excluding credits earned in pass-fail classes. Some UK colleges require a 3.5 GPA to make the Dean's List. (Editor's Note: Some colleges and universities, like Murray State University, do not supply dean's lists to the media. Students are encouraged to contact their school to ensure local publication.)

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BASEBALL

Dugout Club meeting
Crittenden County Dugout Club will meet at 5:30 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 11 in the basement at Marion United Methodist Church. The club will be discussing plans for the upcoming recreational baseball and softball seasons hosted at Marion-Crittenden County Park. There will be some discussion about changing T-ball to youth kickball in 2015. The meeting is open to the public and anyone who wishes to have more information may call 270-704-0435.

PREP CALENDAR

Upcoming Games

Crittenden County Basketball

FRIDAY

Girls, Boys host Livingston Central

SATURDAY

Lady Rockets host Caldwell County

TUESDAY

Girls, Boys host Webster County

SMALL SCHOOL TOURNAMENT
Results from Last Week
GIRLS ALL A CLASSIC

OPENING ROUND

Lyon County 55, Crittenden Co. 48

SEMIFINALS

University Heights 82, Livingston 62

Lyon Co. 57, Dawson Springs 23

CHAMPIONSHIP

UHA 42, Lyon County 39

BOYS ALL A CLASSIC

OPENING ROUND

University Heights 91, Lyon Co. 70

SEMIFINALS

UHA 78, Dawson Springs 37

Crittenden Co. 76, Livingston 60

CHAMPIONSHIP

UHA 64, Crittenden County 34

OUTDOORS

Hunting seasons

Raccoon, Opossum	Oct. 1 - Feb. 28
Squirrel	Nov. 10 - Feb. 28
Rabbit	Nov. 10 - Feb. 10
Quail	Nov. 10 - Feb. 10
Bobcat	Nov. 22 - Feb. 28
Duck	Nov. 27 - Jan. 25
West Goose Zone	Nov. 27 - Jan. 31
Pennyrile Goose	Nov. 27 - Jan. 31
White-Front Goose	Nov. 27 - Jan. 31
Snow Goose	Nov. 27 - Jan. 31
Crow	Jan. 4 - Feb. 28
Snow Goose	Feb. 1-6
West Youth Waterfowl	Feb. 7-8
Snow Goose	Feb. 9 - March 31
Groundhog	Year Round
Coyote Daytime	Year Round

2015 deer season dates

Proposed dates for 2015-16

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

Coyote contest coming

The annual coyote contest sponsored by Hodge's and Marion Tourism will be held during a 24-hour period starting at sundown Friday, Feb. 6 and ending at 5 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 7. 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 at Hodge's by Feb. 6.

LBL turkey quota hunt

Turkey quota hunt applications for Land Between the Lakes will be available starting Feb. 1. Hunters may apply online at lblquotahunt.hometracker.com or by phone at 270-924-2065. There is a fee to apply.

BASKETBALL

Youth sports scores

Here are results from the Marion-based Kentucky Heat 9-under travel basketball team games over the past few weeks:

Kentucky Heat 36, Breman 19

Heat Scoring: Hanor 13, Rodgers 13, Champion 6, Crick 4.

Kentucky Heat 27, Greenville 8

Heat Scoring: Rodgers 8, Hanor 7, Champion 6, Crick 4, Sharp 2.

Tournament Championship Game

Kentucky Heat 38, Evansville Reitz 35

Heat Scoring: Rodgers 21, Hanor 6, Crick 7, Champion 2, Sharp 2.

Kentucky Heat tryout

The Kentucky Heat, a third-grade boys' travel basketball team, is seeking players interested in playing with the team starting the end of February. For more information, call 270-969-0965.

Riley plans on keeping goal for bigger cause

CCHS senior signs with Campbellsville

STAFF REPORT

If St. Jude had a soccer team, Marie Riley would be first in line to tryout.

Riley, 18, has a passion for helping people, especially young children. Her career plans of becoming a nurse took a bright turn Monday when she signed an athletic letter-of-intent to play soccer at Campbellsville University.

The senior is a four-year letterman in soccer where she was a decorated goal keeper. She also is a four-year basketball player at Crittenden County High School.

Although soccer is of great interest to Riley, it's primarily a means to an end. Going to college and getting her nursing degree are at the top of her plans. Riley's mission is to help people smile by helping them feel better.

About 10 years ago, her older sister became very ill and was diagnosed with cancer. Fortunately, her sister is okay now, but the experience left a lasting impact on Riley's life.

"I spent a whole lot of time at St. Jude's Hospital," she recalls. "I got to know several of the other patients

and it made me feel so good when I could do something to cheer them up."

Armed with that type of heart and perseverance, Riley says she will make the Campbellsville soccer team, despite some poor odds.

"The coach told me that he brings in about 30 freshmen every year and about six of them end up sticking with it," Riley said.

She plans on being one of those half dozen. Once school is out this spring, Riley intends on running to get into playing shape. She will receive a summer workout schedule from Campbellsville and says self-discipline shouldn't be an issue.

"At Campbellsville, when school starts, they have what's called Happy Week. That's where they have five practices every day for four days. They weed out a lot of players then," she said.

Her speed and good hands have made Riley an anomaly at goalie. Despite being just 5-foot-3, she's been very successful in the box. The physical play in front of the net is what has drawn Riley to be a goal keeper. Her play has helped the Lady Rockets improve over the past few years. Last fall, in Riley's last season, the girls made their best district run ever, finishing runnerup and earning a spot in the Second Region Tournament.

In her career, Riley has recorded about 300 saves, but statistics are



Pictured as signing day at Rocket Arena are (front from left) James Riley, Marie's father; Marie Riley, Curtis Brown, Crittenden County High School principal; and Ken Geary, CCHS soccer coach.

incomplete for most years.

Riley has been a fixture in the lineup since her ninth grade season when she entered a game at Todd Central and for the first time played

keeper. She was named MVP for that contest and has never looked back.

Now, with a college scholarship in hand, Riley is looking foward.

Rockets bounced out of All A Classic

UHA's reign over tournament goes back to its beginning

STAFF REPORT

Crittenden County's chances of an upset victory in the championship game of the Second Regional All A Classic were dashed early and soundly in the first minutes Saturday at Smithland.

The Rockets fell behind by 20 right out of the chute and University Heights Academy cruised to a 64-34 victory. It was not new territory for the Blazers, who have now won 20 of 25 Second Region small-school titles. UHA has gone on to win eight All A Classic state championships and played for a ninth.

If any team has owned the small-school tournament in Kentucky, it's the tiny private school in Hopkinsville. They won the first two All A Classic state championships in 1990 and '91 and have reeled off another six since then, mostly in the 90s.

Ironically, however, UHA has won only five games all season. Albeit, the Blazers have gone toe to toe with some of the best teams in the area, mostly much larger schools. UHA played three eighth graders in the first half it cruised out to a 23-4 lead in the first eight minutes. The Blazers' unbearable defensive pressure caused 18 Rocket turnovers in the first half alone.

Colby Watson double-double

Colby Watson scored a season-high 24 points and grabbed 13 rebounds to lead the Rockets in a 76-60 win over host Livingston Central in the opening round of the All A Classic.

Junior Dylan Hollis came off the bench to score a career-high one dozen points – nine the second half – and Landon Young had 17.

Livingston's defense kept plenty of pressure on Young, but it failed to keep a close eye on Watson, who drained a couple of threes from the wing just before the half to lift CCHS to a 16-point lead.

Crittenden struggled from the foul line, making half of their 43 shots at



Landon Young, the Rockets' leading scorer this season with a 20-point average, goes up for a layup with Livingston's Cameron Dean on his heels. At right is Rocket Colby Watson trying to take the ball from Livingston's Colton Ramage. For more action photos, see The Press online. Pictures may be purchased and downloaded for 10 cents each.

Rockets, Lady Rockets fall in doubleheader at Union County

STAFF REPORT

With Rocket senior Landon Young getting the equivalent of a defensive selfie and junior Dakota Watson on the bench with a bad back, Crittenden was unable to handle Union County (5-13) on the road at Morganfield, losing 51-44.

Young, who was averaging 22 points earlier this season, has drawn a great deal of special defensive attention lately, frustrating the Rocket offense that appears one-armed without Young posting huge numbers. The senior guard was fronted the entire game and held to 14 points at Union – five below his current average. Meanwhile, Union's biggest scoring threat, Tyler Floyd, poured in 34 – more than a dozen above his normal output.

Floyd, a senior forward, also had a dozen rebounds and Union's Davis Joiner had 13 as the Rockets were wiped off the glass by a 48-27

margin. Crittenden missed Watson's inside work at Union. He was hurt in the Livingston game last week and needed a night off.

Rocket coach Denis Hodge said Watson is a blue-collar guy around the basket and was greatly missed in the physical game at Union.

"He does a lot of the dirty work that most people don't see," Hodge said.

Lady Rockets lose lead

The Lady Rockets were ahead the entire first half, but its halfcourt offense stalled down the stretch and Union County made its run.

Oliver and Moss were the only Lady Rockets who scored in the second half as Union took control of the game with driving baskets.

Despite its difficulties scoring, Crittenden was within five with four minutes to go. From there, the Bravettes outscored Crittenden 12-2 and won going away. Union made

10 of 12 foul shots in the final period to stretch its lead.

Oliver finished with a dozen points for Crittenden. Union's Mikayla Thompson had 18 and Hannah Bennett 15 – more than half of those in the third period as Union (9-10) made its move.

BOYS: Union 51, Crittenden 44

Crittenden County	10	8	18	8
Union County	15	10	12	14
CRITTENDEN - Young 14, Hollis 7, Dickerson 5, Driver 2, Hadfield 1, Hicks 4, C.Watson 11. FG 15-51. 3-pointers 3-16 (Young, Dickerson, C.Watson). FT 11-16. Rebounds 27 (C.Watson 7). Fouls 22. Fouled out: Hollis.				
UNION - Floyd 34, Seward, Robinson 2, Girten 2, Joiner 13, Jo.Girten, Stewart. FG 11-46. 3-pointers 3-14 (Floyd 3). FT 26-34. Rebounds 48 (Joiner 13, Floyd 12). Fouls 13.				

GIRLS: Union 49, Crittenden 35

Crittenden County	10	12	8	5
Union County	6	14	13	16
CRITTENDEN - McDowell 2, Oliver 12, C.Moss 9, Evans 6, Lynch 2, K.Moss 4, Pierce, Champion. FG 15. 3-pointers 0. FT 5-10. Fouls 15.				
UNION - Campbell 6, Thompson 18, Bennett 15, Ratley 2, Williams 2, Greenwell, Duckworth, French, Babb. FG 18. 3-pointers 0. FT 13-24. Fouls 13.				

BOYS 5TH DISTRICT STANDINGS

Team	Overall	District
Trigg County	9-9	5-1
Crittenden County	11-7	3-2
Lyon County	9-11	3-3
Livingston Central	1-15	0-5

the stripe for the game. The Rockets missed 11 free throws in the fourth period alone. Otherwise, Livingston (1-14) wouldn't have pulled to within four in the final period.

Watson scored four straight points and Hollis dropped in a layup in transition to quell the uprising and put CCHS back up by double-digits down the final stretch.

Crittenden will host Livingston Friday in Fifth District matchup. The Rockets beat the Cardinals 59-41 in December at Smithland. The game is of no consequence for the district's post-season pairings. A victory over Livingston will give Crittenden nothing better than second place during the league's regular season. The boys will play Lyon in the first round of the district tournament at the end of the season in Smithland.

UHA 64, Crittenden 34

Crittenden County	6	8	8	12
University Heights	23	14	15	12
CRITTENDEN - Young 12, Dickerson 4, Hicks, C.Watson 13, D.Watson, Driver 2, Hadfield, Hollis 3, James, Tolley. FG 9. 3-pointers 0. FT 13-18. Fouls 21.				
UHA - Russell 3, Hollowell 2, Nicholas 4, Summers, McGowan 5, Milburn 3, Tandy 2, Tr.Hollowell 19, Farron, Acree, Womack, Seebree, Wisdom. FG 24. 3-pointers 3. FT 13-19. Fouls 21.				

Crittenden 76, Livingston 60

Livingston Central	10	18	19	13
Crittenden County	16	25	11	24
LIVINGSTON - Ray 14, Ramage 14, Rodgers 6, Sloma 2, Dean 12, Gilbert 3, Hosick 8, Writtenberry, Head. FG 24-60. 3-pointers 5-15 (Ramage 2, Dean 2, Gilbert). FT 7-13. Rebounds 30 (Hosick 4). Fouls 30.				
CRITTENDEN - Young 17, Hollis 12, Dickerson 5, D.Watson 8, Hadfield 8, Hicks 2, C.Watson 24. FG 24-54. 3-pointers 5-10 (Watson 2, Young, Dickerson, Hadfield). FT 23-42. Rebounds 54 (C.Watson 13). Fouls 18.				

GIRLS 5TH DISTRICT STANDINGS

Team	Overall	District
Lyon County	13-5	5-1
Crittenden County	10-8	4-1
Livingston Central	9-8	2-3
Trigg County	7-10	0-6

Lady Rockets need win Friday for First

STAFF REPORT

The Lady Rockets can shore up a tie for the Fifth District's regular-season championship with a home win over Livingston Central Friday.

Crittenden has beaten Livingston twice already this season. Once at Smithland in a district game in December and once in the Russellville Christmas Tournament. The Rocket girls eked out a two-point win on the Lady Cardinals' home floor but then beat LCHS by nine at Russellville.

Crittenden's only district loss this year has been to Lyon County at Ed-dyville. A share of the regular season crown will mean Crittenden and Lyon will flip a coin to see who gets the post-season No. 1 seed for the district tournament at Livingston next month.



PHOTOS BY CHRIS EVANS AND JASON TRAVIS, THE PRESS



Family Fitness Night at Crittenden Elementary

Don't tell students at Crittenden County Elementary School it isn't fun to stay fit. The school invited students and their parents to participate in Family Fitness Night last Thursday at CCES. School district personnel, administrators, teachers and community members participated in a wide range of fun activities that encouraged students to be active, which is an important part of growing and staying healthy. Clockwise from top, on a rolling seat, Tristen Belt, 3, navigates his way under a hurdle with the help of third-grader Haylee Perrin. Luke Mundy tries to make the perfect basket. Second-grader Jaylea Bivins busts through a wall of foam fingers.

Low fuel costs saving school district thousands

By JASON TRAVIS
STAFF WRITER

Thanks to less of a reliance on buses running on diesel fuel and a decrease in diesel fuel prices, Crittenden County Schools could see significant savings in its transportation costs. Currently the school district has already saved money in fuel by replacing seven diesel buses with buses that run on propane auto gas.

Crittenden County Schools transportation official Wayne Winters said for the first half of the 2013-14 school year – from the first day of school through Christmas break – the district spent \$49,844.10 on diesel fuel and \$1,792.17 on propane fuel for a total of \$51,636.27.

By comparison, for the first half of the current academic year, the school district spent \$23,136.24 on diesel fuel and \$13,387.15 on propane for a total of \$36,523.39. That's a savings of more than \$15,000.

With the addition of the propane buses, Winters said diesel consumption was cut by more than 50 percent.

Diesel fuel is bid each year to have a markup over rack price on the day its ordered. For the current school year, the diesel supplier is Home Oil and Gas. The price of diesel fuel was down \$1.50 to \$2 per

gallon on average as of Friday.

Propane is supplied to the school district by River Region Propane for the current school year with this year's fuel price locked in at \$1.58 per gallon.

The school district runs school buses on 20 daily routes. There are 12 diesel buses, most of which run on shorter routes; seven propane buses running on the longest routes; and one hybrid bus in the transportation fleet.

Projecting ahead, Winters estimates the district could save \$30,000 running the seven propane buses and could see another \$20,000 on fuel savings the remainder of the current school year if diesel prices remain steady.

Winters said several events are occurring in the oil market. Prices went up so high a few years ago that nearly every old oil well in the country was rebuilt and put back in service. He feels there's more of a supply in this country, which is helping with the price.

"We are also seeing numerous amounts of alternative fuel vehicles across the U.S. which in turn cuts the demand for gas and diesel," he said, adding he believes oil and fuel prices will trend up as they have in the past causing some increase in price.



Winters

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Former teacher takes cancer battle online

By JASON TRAVIS
STAFF WRITER

In the midst of a personal battle, sometimes it's a revelation to realize one doesn't have to fight alone.

Marion resident and former Crittenden County Middle School social studies teacher Neville Palmer and his family are currently waging a very personal war against cancer. But support from friends, former colleagues and members of the community have already made the battle a great deal easier.

Last fall, a CT scan detected tumors in Palmer's brain after he was taken to the hospital after collapsing while jogging. Days later, tests also indicated cancer in his lungs and bones. Palmer was diagnosed with Stage 4 melanoma. Despite the crippling diagnosis, Palmer has a great deal to fight for. He's a happily married father of two sons and two daughters. He and his wife Crystal celebrated the birth of the newest addition to their family, a daughter, on New Year's Eve.

After receiving initial radiation treatments late last year, Palmer is now receiving specialized radiation treatments that pinpoint tumors in the skull.

"It doesn't hurt, but it will absolutely drain your energy," Palmer said of the treatments he described as surgery with a laser. "They point the lasers with intense focus on the tumors."

The results of the treatments have left him extremely fatigued. Palmer resigned his position at CCMS in December because the effects of the treatments left him too weak to continue working. In addition, mounting medical costs and travel expenses to Vanderbilt University Medical Center in Nashville, Tenn., has taken a toll on the family's budget.

To help with costs, a fund has been established for those who wish to donate toward Palmer's fight against cancer. Donations can be made at GoFundMe.com/nevsflight. Individuals can choose the amount to donate. Palmer said the goal is to raise \$25,000. More than \$7,000 has already been raised.

The site has a link to make a donation and individuals can share the page via Facebook and Twitter.

Palmer said he is grateful for the outpouring of support for the community of Marion and Crittenden County has already shown his family.

"What they've done already has gone above and beyond what a normal town would do for a family," he said. "I've told people from out of town how great this community is. They really reached out and embraced us."

On the GoFundMe.com website, Palmer describes his ongoing battle with cancer and expresses the importance of being with his wife and children for many years to come.



Palmer

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