



The Crittenden Press

CCHS FCCLA garners Seattle Gold | Page 9

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THURSDAY, JULY 18, 2024

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

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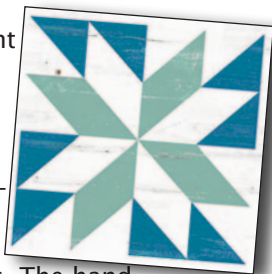
US 60 W closing for 3 days in early August

US 60 West will be closing for three days just east of Marion starting on Friday, Aug. 5. For complete details, see page 3.



Build Your Barn Quilt

Registration deadline is Aug. 8 for the next Barn Quilt Paint Party sponsored by Liz's Barn Quilts and the Crittenden County Extension Service. The event will take place from 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Monday, Sept. 9 at the Crittenden County Lions Club Building. There are eight designs from which to choose. Visit Crittenden County Extension Service on Facebook to see options. The hand-crafted outdoor signs are \$130 for a 2x2 foot sign or \$190 for a 3x3. Prices include brushes, paint, primed boards and lunch. Registration must be paid by Aug. 8. Participants are asked to bring 94-inch Frog Tape, a drink and hair dryer. Class size is limited. Call 270-965-5236 to register.



Heat on election security

Last weekend's failed assassination attempt against former U.S. President and presumptive GOP nominee Donald Trump at a Pennsylvania political rally underscores the necessity of higher security during the fall election, says Crittenden County Clerk Daryl Tabor. Heated political tensions can revibrate even into small communities like ours, the clerk said. The clerk is responsible for orchestrating elections and counting ballots. Tabor said that coincidentally, last week even before the Pennsylvania attack that he and Sheriff Evan Head had discussed the means for assuring a visible presence from law enforcement throughout all four days of voting in November. The assassination attempt "really turns the heat up on this election," Tabor said.

Rocket Online Registration

Crittenden County School District's online registration opened Monday and runs through Friday, July 26. Early registration incentives include teacher name and schedule information on or after July 26 with completed online sign up, and a chance for one school to win a free ice cream party from The American Ice Cream Truck for your school. Students can watch school district social media and the Parent Square app for further information and incentives.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- Crittenden County Fiscal Court will meet at 8:30 a.m., Thursday, July 18 at the county office complex.
- Crittenden County Conservation District will meet at 6:30 p.m., Thursday, July 18 at its office on East Bellville Street.
- Crittenden-Livingston Water District will meet at 4 p.m., Monday, July 22 at Deer Lakes meeting room.



The pond off Old Morganfield Road is known as Goose Lake because of a flock of domestic geese that hang out there.

Here fishy, fishy, fishy! City wants to improve angling opportunities

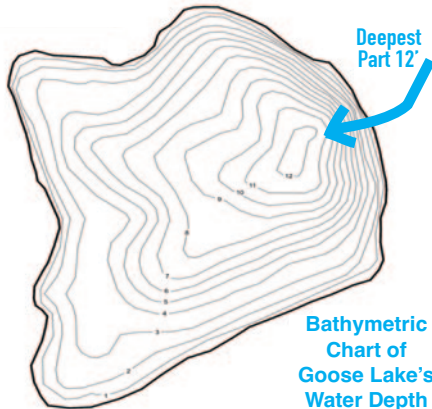
STAFF REPORT

Local leaders are trying to improve fishing opportunities at what's commonly called Goose Lake - the roughly 2½-acre pond off of Old Morganfield Road adjacent to Marion-Crittenden County Park and in front of the Victory Gardens.

It sits on about 70 acres of public property owned by the City of Marion.

Marion Tourism and Recreation Director Michele Edwards has contacted Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources (KDFWR) about getting the pond enrolled in the state's Fishing in Neighborhoods (FINs) program.

KDFWR has actually been monitoring the pond for a few years. It has done a fish count and sampled the aquatic life and water quality since 2022.



The fish study conducted by KDFWR was done via a method called electrofishing. Fish are temporarily stunned so they can be collected and measured, then released back into the body of

water. The survey found a good sunfish population and a moderate bass population. No catfish, or undesirable species were observed in the study.

There have been conversations around city hall about improving parking at Goose Lake. There are no formal parking spots and sometimes haphazard parking next to Old Morganfield Road creates traffic issues.

City Administrator Diane Ford-Benningfield says consideration is being given to adding more gravel and creating angled parking spots with concrete park stops to promote more uniform parking. She said parallel parking is taking up too much room, which is creating traffic problems when several cars are parked there. The city administrator also points

See FISH/page 3



Sharon Slayden is longest tenured employee at Crittenden Community Hospital, having been there for about half of the hospital's life.

Hospital celebrating 80 years

STAFF REPORT

Sharon Slayden isn't old enough to have been around when Crittenden Community Hospital first opened, but she's had a front-row seat to about half of its life.

Although partially retired now, Slayden is still considered the longest serving employee at the hospital. She started working there in 1979 with a contractor that provided respiratory services. The following year she went to work directly for the county hospital and has been there ever since, albeit

wearing a variety of hats along the way.

Crittenden Community Hospital (CCH) is celebrating its 80th anniversary on Friday from 11 a.m., to 4 p.m., with a celebration on the hospital campus that will include inflatables for kids, free hot dogs, popcorn, cupcakes, face painting and other games and activities. The community is invited to take part in the celebration.

The hospital first opened in the 1940s, healthcare was leaving the launch pad. Penicillin was first intro-

Do you know?

☒ The Oldest living person born at Crittenden County Hospital.

☒ A former or current employee with most years of employment.

☒ A former or current employee who has worked in the most departments.

Check in or call in with your name and birthdate to the hospital and be entered to receive a gift.

Can you?

☒ Name the most physicians who have supported the hospital?

Submit your answers by Noon Thursday, July 19
270-965-5281

Free Gift for Longest List



Murder trial date vacated

STAFF REPORT

Trial date for murder suspect Timothy W. Paris has been vacated for a second time as his court-appointed attorney is indicating some type of mental health defense will be presented and further tests may be needed prior to trial.

Paris, 39, of Marion is accused of shooting his father twice with a .41-caliber handgun on Feb. 28, 2022 in rural Crittenden County. Jerry Paris, 80, was killed in the confrontation at his home which is off Blackburn Church Road in the eastern quadrant of the county.

Paris has remained jailed on \$1 million bond. In October 2023, Paris was in court complaining to the judge about the court's failure to provide a speedy trial.

Last Thursday during a proceeding in circuit court, Judge Daniel Heady showed some reluctance in allowing further delay in the case, which was set for trial on Aug. 30. Yet at the behest of public defender Jason McGee and prosecutor Wes Hunt, the judge agreed to withdraw the jury trial date and he set a pretrial hearing for Sept. 12.

The defendant was not in court for the hearing.

A previous trial date had already been vacated because of a change in counsel for the defendant, and mediation failed to produce a plea agreement in January.

Based on statements made by attorneys on both sides of the



Paris

The Crittenden Press

USPS 138-260 / Marion, Ky.



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See HOSPITAL/page 3

See TRIAL/page 9

Deaths

Haire

Jeffrey Haire, 52, of Hot Springs, Ark., died Thursday, July 11, 2024. He was a devoted children's minister.

Surviving are his wife, Vicki Haire; parents, Larry and Donna Haire; seven children, Nikki (Matt) Blount, Miranda Haire, Abbigayle Haire, Mical Haire, Tory (Bryan) Burks, Daythan Sharp, and Alenea Sharp; three siblings, Daniel Haire, Brandi (George) Potter, Joshua (Kristy) Haire; and 11 grandchildren, Ayana, Hannah, Brayden, Camren, Chandler, Ryan, Zachary, Lilly, Charlie, Axel and Braxton.

He was preceded in death by his grandparents, Lafe and Inez Linzy, and Melvin and Nellie Haire.

Funeral services were Tuesday, July 16 at Gilbert Funeral Home with burial following at Rosebud Cemetery.

Sullenger

Jerry M. Sullenger, 82, of Princeton, died Thursday, July 11, 2024 at Princeton Nursing and Rehabilitation.

She was born May 9, 1942 in Morganfield to her late parents, Gilbert and Zula Mae Tabor. She led a life of kindness, compassion and deep faith. She graduated as a majorette from Crittenden County High School in the Class of 1960. She went on to

work in Human Resources at Bremner, originally starting her career when the company was known as Arvin, and she dedicated many years of service before retirement. She was an active member of Northside Baptist Church where her service included attendance at Sunday School and working in the nursery, nurturing the youngest members of the congregation with the same care and affection she bestowed upon her own family.

Her dedication to her family was apparent, as she filled their lives with love and guidance. She found joy in her 64-year marriage to her devoted husband, Eddie D. Sullenger; and cherished every moment spent with her son, David (Wendy) Sullenger; granddaughters, Mary Grace (Jamus) McAtee and Adison Sullenger; and great-grandson, Jiles McAtee, all of Princeton; and loving caregivers, Pat Puckett, Anita Cayce, Janet Cayce.

She was preceded in death by her loving parents; a daughter, Kimberly Dawn Sullenger; foster daughter, Sherry Tucker; and brother, Robert Hodge.

She will be remembered as the sweetest soul, whose loving and kind nature enriched the lives of those around her. Her faith-filled presence will be deeply missed, but her legacy of love and devotion will forever be cherished by her family and friends.

Services were Saturday, July 13 at Morgan's Funeral Home with Bro. David Royalty officiating and Bro. Israel Brooks assisting. Burial was in Mapleview Cemetery.

Hodge

Sam Morris Hodge, 86, of Marion, passed away Sunday, July 14, 2024 at Morganfield Nursing & Rehabilitation Center.

He retired as a truck driver for the Crittenden County Road Department and served in the National Guard. He was a member of Marion First Cumberland Presbyterian Church and enjoyed the outdoors and spending time with his grandchildren.

Surviving are his wife, Sunny Hodge; a daughter, Julie (Chris) Crowdus of Morganfield; two granddaughters, Karen (Greg) Vaughn of Paducah and Alyssa (Clark) Ewing of Parson, Tenn.; a grandson, Cooper Crowdus; two great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren; several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Emil Guy and Stella Ruth Thomas Hodge; a son, Danny Hodge; two sisters, Mary and Ruth; and four brothers, Charlie, Don, George and Guy Edward.

Services are at 1 p.m., Thursday, July 18 at Myers Funeral Home with burial in Mapleview Cemetery. Friends may visit on Thursday from 11 a.m., until service time.

Online
Condolences

myersfuneralhomeonline.com
boydfuneraldirectors.com
gilbertfunerals.com



Tapped Out

Brad Dossett (foreground) monitors sound equipment during The Tapestry's live performance at Fohs Hall July 13. Dossett assisted with the show, which included local artists Corey Crider, Michelle Crider, Cade Crider and Cale Tabor, and some out of town musicians who perform with The Tapestry, which is co-owned by Corey Crider (back right) of Marion. The group performed the entirety of Pink Floyd's The Dark Side of the Moon album, along with other selections.

Free movie Saturday

Between Rivers Canine Search and Rescue will present a free movie at the Crittenden County Fairgrounds Saturday, July 20.

Local sponsors First United Bank, P&H Farms, Marion & Company and Hodge's Sports & Apparel are helping make this event possible.

The movie "Dog" is about a U.S. Army Ranger who takes his dog on a road trip to a fellow soldier's funeral. The movie will begin at dusk at the Crittenden County fairgrounds. Gates at 7 p.m.

Concessions will be available.

Community Calendar

Call (270) 965-3191 to share your organization's meetings in this free, weekly community calendar.

Thursday, July 18

- Virgil Jones VFW will meet at 6:30 p.m., at its building at 412 N. College St. Refreshments will be served.
- Friends of the Crittenden County Public Library meets at 6 p.m., in the library meeting room.

Saturday, July 20

- All-you-can-eat breakfast is served from 7-10 a.m. at Salem Masonic Lodge #81. The lodge is located at 237 W. Main St., Salem. Cost is \$6.
- Between Rivers Canine Search and Rescue will present a free movie, "Dog" at 7 p.m., at the Crittenden County fairgrounds. Gates at 7 p.m., movie begins at dusk.

Tuesday, July 23

- Hooks and Needles will meet at 1 p.m., at the Crittenden County Extension Annex.

Saturday, July 27

- Positive Employability class meets at Marion Baptist Church. This is a required class for Community Christmas. Call the Crittenden County Extension office to register at (270) 965-5236.

School insurance up \$29k

STAFF REPORT
Following regional trends, Crittenden County School District's insurance premium is increasing by just over \$29,000 for the current fiscal year.

The board was warned by its agent Lee Conrad earlier this month about the increase, a result of an unprecedented number of weather-related claims in the region in recent months.

Crittenden County Board of Education approved Tuesday night its annual insurance premium of \$150,180 for property, liability, fleet, umbrella and earthquake insurance from Higgins Insurance, Chubb and Church Mutual. The premiums cost the district \$120,757 a year ago.

"Insurance has changed in ways that have never been seen in this industry in terms of weather patterns, and what we are facing across the globe has property insurance in disarray," Conrad told the board during a late June working session, speaking of a plethora of wind and hail claims. "Zoom down to (western Kentucky) specifically, and we're ground zero in those changes.

"We have now become like Oklahoma and east Texas in terms of how we are treated by insurance companies; there are huge changes compared to 18 months ago," he said.

Conrad said before 2020, he had seen three or four wind and hail claims totaling \$300,000 in school districts he insures, but in the last four years he has seen about \$6 million worth of those claims.

School districts were once appealing to insurance companies because they had few claims, Conrad said; however, many insurance com-

panies have stopped quoting school district policies, and the ones who write them are doing so at much higher costs.

Crittenden County Schools experienced hail damage on most of its roofs during a destructive, community-wide 2023 storm and has been negotiating replacement costs for several months. Superintendent Tonya Driver said Tuesday that she hopes to have an agreement in place by week's end.

"Yes, that is a huge jump in premiums and our increases could have

been more substantial on the property side. The reason they weren't is because of the level of care the maintenance and custodial teams give to our facilities," board chairman Chris Cook said. "That was noted and I wanted our community to know that. It translated into dollars saved."

The board celebrated a decrease in its 2024-2025 workers compensation premium, down \$5,970.54 from a year ago. The board approved a policy with KEMI in the amount of \$24,747.98.



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No corner of democracy is remote enough to avoid political stovetop

By Daryl K. Tabor
Crittenden County Clerk

The heat on elections in this country was turned up over the weekend with the attempt on former President and Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump's life. Only time will determine if subsequent calls for dialing down the political vitriol and dialing up unity prove to be simply more rhetoric and soundbites.

No corner of American democracy has been remote enough to avoid the stench of four years of distrust, discourse and dysfunction related to elections and politics. Not even here in our own community, though that odor exists mainly on social media and in closed conversations among likeminded views. Certainly, violence has not yet made an impact.

But Crittenden County Board of Elections takes very seriously the potential for harm and intimidation at the polls and along the way to Nov. 5 balloting. The board, which statutorily consists of the county clerk as chair, the sheriff and local appointees from both major political party county committees, is committed to making elections here as safe and transparent as possible so that no voter feels intimidated or unsafe.

Ironically, just one day prior to Saturday's assassination attempt, Sheriff Evan Head and I began mapping a plan to have



a visible presence of security during the three days of Early Voting and at every voting precinct on Election Day. While we anticipate mostly well-behaved voters, the political climate can be a powder keg and bad actors from outside have a history of finding their way into unprepared communities to sow chaos.

Fortunately, Kentucky election laws do not have to be rewritten to protect voters from undue anxiety. Current laws already prohibit sketchy on-lookers who may linger at polls stirring uneasiness, though provisions for registered observers and challengers exist for the sake of transparency. And electioneering rules prohibit anyone from chatting up voters or having visible displays of campaigning within 100 feet of any entrance to a voting location.

At the busy Voting Center and Early Voting at the County Office Complex, security is enhanced with camera surveillance, while facilities used for our more remote precincts have their own protections in place.

Anyone who feels threatened during the voting process, intimidated or uneasy is encouraged to contact the County

Clerk's office for a prompt response, and you may also contact the state Office of the Attorney General. Local law enforcement, the FBI the U.S. Department of Justice also stand at the ready to address threats against election workers.

The face of elections has changed in this country, with growing scrutiny each day. It is likely that surveillance and a visible presence of security will be the norm for voting in Crittenden County and beyond.

For our democracy to work, elections must be secure and transparent. While election officials cannot control the media, private conversations or the environment outside our own walls, Kentucky county clerks and boards of election from Frankfort to Marion are ever-evolving and educated on how to meet the changing landscape of voting.

Rest assured, we want to hear your concerns or questions. Please feel free to call our office at 270-965-3403 or email daryl.tabor@ky.gov. Board of elections meetings are open to the public, regularly meeting the second Friday of each month at 3:30 p.m. at the County Office Complex unless otherwise announced.

Crittenden County Clerk Daryl K. Tabor is a lifelong Crittenden Countian. His office is statutorily charge of elections in the county.



County has new voting stations

Crittenden County last week received a shipment of new voting booths to improve elections.

The new booths are adjustable in height for both standing or sitting and offer a more stable, larger surface for marking ballots than the previous stands with four rather spindly legs. They also carry vivid red, white and blue colors with an American flag adorning the privacy panel.

"These booths should give voters a much better platform on which to mark their ballots," said County Clerk Daryl Tabor, the county's top election official. "The Board of Elections believes these are a vast improvement over the old booths that have served the county for many, many elections."

The 18 new booths are collapsible, making transport

and storage to precincts safer and more convenient for poll workers.

Though purchased by Crittenden Fiscal Court, they will be covered by an \$8,300 reimbursable Help America Vote Act grant. All 120 Kentucky counties have been offered the same amount for voting booths or security carts.

The general election, which features a presidential race, medicinal cannabis questions, two state constitutional amendments and races for city council, school board and legislative offices, among others, is Tuesday, Nov. 5. Early Voting will be Oct. 31 through Nov. 2 at the County Office Complex.

The deadline to register is Monday, Oct. 7. You may do so online atGoVote.ky.gov or in the county clerk's office.



Kentucky Transportation Cabinet crews were busy last week building shoulders on Tabor Road in rural Crittenden County because it's getting an unusual amount of traffic due to a bridge out on KY 295 between Dycusburg and Eddyville. The narrow country road is one of the shortest detours around the closed bridge. The bridge, which spans Livingston Creek on KY 295, will likely be closed through the rest of 2024.

US 60 West Closing Aug. 2-4

Work will also include period of one-lane traffic

Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC) plans an extended closure of US 60 West in Crittenden County starting Friday, Aug. 2.

US 60 will be closed near the 8 mile marker west of Marion between KY 981 (Old Salem Road) and KY 1668 (Crittenden Springs Road) to allow the Crooked Creek Branch Culvert to be replaced. The closure is immediately east of Airport Road in the 1300 Block of US 60.

The highway is expected to close at this site promptly at 7 a.m., on Friday, Aug. 2. It will remain closed through the weekend, but is expected

to reopen around 7 a.m., on Monday, Aug. 5, but traffic will be limited as additional finish work will be completed and a guardrail will be installed. During this portion of the work, US 60 will be restricted to one lane with alternating flow controlled by flaggers.

Portable message boards have been placed in this area to alert motorists to the location of this extended closure of U.S. 60.

There will be no marked detour. Commercial trucks should seek an alternate route appropriate to the gross weight of the vehicle.

Motorists traveling between Marion and Paducah should consider a self-detour via U.S. 641, U.S. 62, and Interstate 24 through Eddyville.

Due to the length of this planned closure, the extended detour that is required, and the considerable inconvenience created for commuters and truckers, notice of this project is being shared almost three weeks in advance. KYTC District 1 spokesperson Keith Todd says the highway department will provide additional reminders as the Aug. 2 closure date approaches.

FISH

Continued from page 1
out that the roadfront fence could be moved further off the street right of way to provide for better parking.

KDFWR officials say they plan to take another look at the lake in 2025, but there are no immediate plans to add the Marion pond to its program.

City officials have a list of criteria necessary for making application to the FINs program and Edwards says those are being examined to see what improvements can be made that could make the pond more attractive to the KDFWR program. If accepted, the pond could be routinely stocked with different species in order to maintain a balanced and healthy fish population.

In addressing some of the criteria, the parks and recreation team might need to improve

handicapped accessibility, create a creel limit for the pond, improve shoreline fishing areas and offer and promote organized fishing events.

Meantime, there is some discussion about local funding to stock the pond. Plans include seeking a cooperative agreement between the city, county, park board and tourism commission to buy fingerling sized fish to improve the pond's population.

It has for years been a popular place for local anglers, but fishing pressure has increased over the past couple of years because Lake George is no longer open to fishing.

Ford-Benningfield says the city has \$500 in its budget for community relations, which might be used for stocking the lake

The pond is 2.4 acres, has an average depth of 5.4 feet and is just over 12 feet in the deepest area near its levee.



Here is an undated photograph perhaps from 1960s or 70s from a hospital album of nurses at Crittenden Hospital. Pictured (from left) are Rose Belt, GLPN; Dorothy Young, LPN; Linda Watson, RN; Myrtle Ordway, LPN; Opal Cooper, LPN; Fay Garland, GLPN; Mary Gray, RN; Beverly Nall, RN; Gertrude Holloman, LPN; Suzanne Matthews, RN; and Donna Cardwell, RN.

HOSPITAL

Continued from page 1
babies was also a big part of the hospital's activity decades ago.

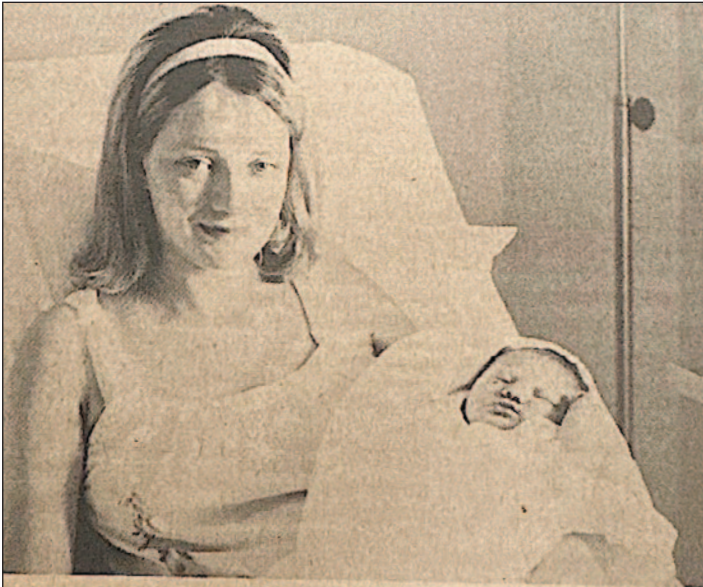
The intensive care unit and birth center are both gone now.

Slayden, 65, remembers getting her first degree after completing coursework through mail as part of a course offered by California College for Respiratory Science. She also attended Paducah Community College and did clinicals at Evansville before hiring on at CCH.

She has served previously as supervisor of cardiac rehabilitation, respiratory and sleep lab, helping to develop that particular unit at CCH. Nowadays, she works only a couple days a month, conducting stress tests for cardiologist Dr. Dr Sanjay Bose.

She spends most of her time restoring old cabins.

"Preserving the history of our community," she calls it. She also carries a great



The first baby born in the new Crittenden Hospital May 12, 1972 was Lisa Dawn Hina, who was born to Cheryl Hina.

deal of pride in the legacy of Crittenden's hospital.

"It is valuable to this community. We may not have some of the longterm care options that we used to, but it's still important to have

this hospital. When someone is having a heart attack they need an emergency room because it saves lives. We all need to continue to support our little hospital."



Crittenden County Animal Control Officer Timmy Todd spoke recently with Crittenden County Public Library's summer reading group about the ethical treatment of animals. His partner, Tripp, helped to spread the word on the do's and don'ts of animal care and the cost of proper pet care, including food and liquids. Also, representataives from Kentucky Forestry Division (pictured above) created an adventure with leaf identification and a leaf pressing project children to create and take home for refrigerator art. Additionally, summer program students learned about a variety of trees and their role in the environment.



Campbellsville U. list includes area students

Taylor Windell of Morganfield was named to the Campbellsville University Dean’s list and Savannah Eastwood, Emily Hibbs and Tiffany Knight, each from Union County, were named to the Dean’s List.

The spring 2024 academic honors list includes a total of 839 students. The President's List is for students achieving a 4.0 grade point average and the Dean's List is for achieving a 3.5 to 3.99 GPA.

Marion’s rapper friend in KY for movie making

T.O.N.E–z will be in Kentucky this weekend filming for a horror movie. The entertainer has been to Marion a couple of times and performed once at Fohs Hall. The New York entertainer developed a following here to his rap music and movies. The Emmy–award nominated musician also has the theme song to the FX Network series “Justified.”

“Cut 2 the Chase Entertainment cast me in a horror–thriller feature film “Blood On The Bleachers,” he told The Press recently. “I will be in Radcliff filming July 19–22.”

The movie, he says, traces a psychology instructor and her senior class investigating a string of unsolved murders targeting staff and students at their high school.

T.O.N.E–z has also appeared in other movies produced in Kentucky, including one filmed by a company in Owensboro.

Treasurer returns millions to taxpayers

Kentucky State Treasurer Mark H. Metcalf has announced that in the first six months of his administration, his office has returned a total of \$13.4 million to Kentucky taxpayers and families.

"Through the superior work of our staff, the Treasury has returned to Kentuckians over \$13 million," said Treasurer Metcalf. "This significant achievement underscores our commitment to serving the people of the Commonwealth and ensuring that all unclaimed property and funds are returned to their rightful owners."

Through the Treasurer’s Division of Unclaimed Property, a record \$12,488,310.05 has been awarded to Kentuckians since Metcalf took office on January 1, 2024. Unclaimed property refers to financial assets or belongings that have been left inactive or unclaimed by the owner for a certain period (usually three years), after which, such assets are relinquished to the Treasury to safeguard. Examples of unclaimed property include bank accounts, insurance policies, utility deposits, stocks, bonds, and the contents of safe deposit boxes. The Treasury maintains an online, searchable database at www.treasury.ky.gov where individuals can check to see if they have unclaimed property owed to them.

Additionally, the Treasury's Division of Accounting and Disbursements has begun reviewing escheated checks – checks that have expired without being claimed – issued by the Commonwealth to Kentucky taxpayers, including income tax refunds to residents and businesses of all sizes. Treasurer Metcalf has directed his office to evaluate these checks, investigate why they have gone uncashed, and reissue payments to those who have not received their funds. Through this process, the Treasury has returned an additional \$926,960.61 to taxpayers.

Under Treasurer Metcalf’s guidance, the Treasury is upholding its mission to support and serve the people of the Commonwealth, reinforcing trust and accountability in state government.

Health literacy class set for next week at Crittenden Hospital

Crittenden County Extension Service and Crittenden Hospital are partnering for a Health Literacy class at 5:30 p.m., Tuesday, July 23 in the hospital cafeteria. Stuart Collins, director of pharmacy at Crittenden Hospital, will discuss the importance of taking prescribed medications, questions you should ask your provider about your medications and will share tips to keep your medicines organized.

This is the second of a five–session series to improve health literacy. This class counts as required credit for Crittenden County’s Community Christmas program.

Each participant will register to win a gift basket that includes a medical journal, digital blood pressure monitor, pulse oximeter, thermometer, first aid kit and pill box.



Pictured are (from left) Ava Arnett, KFB President Eddie Melton and Will Clements at the conference at MSU in June.

Arnett, Clements are KFB Institute attendees

Ava Arnett and Will Clements, both from Union County, recently returned home from Kentucky Farm Bureau’s (KFB) Institute for Future Agricultural Leaders (IFAL). A total of 90 high school students from around the state attended the five–day summer leadership conference.

Two identical IFAL conferences were held this summer at Murray State University (MSU) from June 9–13 and at University of Kentucky (UK) from June 23–27, respectively. Forty–seven students, including Arnett and Clements, attended the conference at MSU while 43 students attended the conference at UK.

IFAL is designed to expose high school students to college life while helping them explore the different fields of study for careers in agriculture. During the week, attendees participated in learning and leadership opportunities that allowed them to gain a better understanding of the agriculture industry, including needs and challenges, how basic and applied science is utilized in agriculture and farming, and how the political process is leveraged to develop agricultural policy.

KY lowers tax rate on real property

Gov. Andy Beshear recently announced the commonwealth’s real property tax rate has dropped for the fourth consecutive year, decreasing to 10.9 cents per \$100 of assessed value in 2024.

Kentucky law requires the Kentucky Department of Revenue to set the real property rate no later than July 1 of each year.

The state property tax rate is based on the revenue generated from the increase in taxable real property assessments from 2023 to 2024. If the increase in revenue is more than four percent after the exclusion of both new properties added to the tax roll during 2023 and the property subject to Tax Increment Financing, then the prior year’s rate must be reduced.

The 2023 State Real Property Tax Rate was 11.4 cents per \$100 of assessed value. Because the assessment increase for 2024 is estimated at 7.66 percent, the state real property tax rate must be reduced to 10.9 cents per \$100 of assessed value to keep state revenues from real property tax to no more than a four percent increase over the 2024 receipts.

The rate was 12.2 cents per \$100 of assessed value in 2020. It decreased to 11.9 cents in 2021; 11.5 cents in 2022; 11.4

cents in 2023; and decreased for the fourth year in a row to 10.9 cents in 2024.

Revenue generated from the state property tax rate is deposited into the state's General Fund.

Area students earn AD’s list at Midway

Football player Zech McGahan of Marion, baseball player John Davis of Princeton and softball player Laney Jones of Princeton were among student–athletes at Midway University earning a spot on the Athletic Director’s Honor Roll.

To qualify, a student–athlete must hold a grade point average of 3.0 or better on a 4.0 scale.

As an athletic department, Midway had an accumulative GPA of 3.20, with 23 of 27 teams having at least 3.0. Women's swimming had the highest total GPA at 3.765.

Hancock is right at home as Union Super

New Union County School Superintendent Terra Hancock grew up going to school there and then became a teacher at her alma mater before accepting her latest role.

“This is my home and I want what’s best for it,” Hancock said for an article published by KentuckyTeacher.com.

Over the past 20 years, Hancock has served in various positions for Union County. Before she became superintendent, she was a high school math teacher, worked in an alternative school, spent time as a guidance counselor and did some curriculum specialist work at one of the elementary schools in the district. Hancock also served as principal at Earle C. Clements Victory Technical High School before beginning her role as Union County superintendent on July 1.

Show and Shine on 25th

Marion’s monthly Show and Shine Car Show will be held starting at 5:30 p.m., on Thursday, July 25 at Marion Commons located at 213 S. Main Street. Marion Tourism and Recreation Commission sponsors these events during summer months.

Deed room close for sale

The deed room in the county clerk's office at the Crittenden County Office Complex will be closed Friday, July 26 until noon for the delinquent tax sale that begins at 9 a.m.

Browning reappointed to Marion Code Board

Barbara Browning has been reappointed to the Marion Code Enforcement Board. She will serve a two–year term. Her current term expires this week.

Marion Code Enforcement Board members provide oversight for the code enforcement officer, who handles permitting, inspections and requests related to zoning.

City residents will vote in November on cannabis

Marion City Council on Monday unanimously approved a resolution to put a question on the ballot in November asking local residents if they want to allow medical cannabis dispensaries in Marion.

Crittenden County fiscal court approved a similar resolution last month so that county voters will have a say in the matter.

City Attorney Bart Frazer told the city council Monday night at its regular monthly meeting that the council can either vote to prohibit dispensaries or allow the voters to decide. If the city does nothing, it would be legally required to allow a dispensary. A state permit would be required for anyone wanting to start a dispensary or medical cannabis growing operation. Only a limited number of permits are available statewide.

*Between Printed Editions
Tune in to The Press Online
for breaking news.
We also ask that you subscribe to
our YouTube Channel.*



50 YEARS AGO

July 18, 1974

■ Head Start was in session at Fohs Hall Elementary School with preschoolers from all over the county in the program designed to better prepare boys and girls for entering school that fall. Activities included block building, hammering, sewing and painting. Teachers were Helen Moore and Margaret Thurman.

■ Work was nearing completion on Marion's mini-park with the installation of monkey bars, merry-go-round, slide, hobby horses and a basketball court. All that remained for completion were a swing set and a bike rack. The park was located at the intersection of Welton and Travis streets.

■ Lorena Bozeman of Midway grew a 12-inch cucumber in her garden and called it the biggest cucumber she had ever seen while Jesse Williams of Mattoon grew the oddest looking tomato he had ever seen. The yellow hybrid tomato was a three-in-one vegetable that grew from a single stem.

■ New head coach Jack Kenny held a week of summer basketball practice designed to help him get to know his boys. During the training session Kenny saw enthusiasm that made him feel hopeful toward a good season. Through the loss of three good players, James Willoughby, Jeff Shewcraft and Ron Kelly, he thought they had enough good young boys to replace them. Approximately 30 boys came out for the week, and two had returned from the previous year.

25 YEARS AGO

July 15, 1999

■ Judy Binkley, a local library staff member, and Carrie Newman, a professional storyteller, entertained youngsters during the Summer Reading Program at Crittenden County Public Library. The women portrayed mountain women. The storytelling was just one of many facets of the summer program at the library.

■ Courtne Hunt, a 1998 Crittenden County High School graduate, was prepared to sign a letter of intent to play college basketball at Shawnee Community College in Ullin, Ill. Hunt, who had been hampered by torn ligaments in both knees during two seasons of her varsity high school career, went on to tryout at Ullin and afterward was offered a full scholarship from Shawnee. Hunt made six 3-pointers during the tryout.

■ Mary Ann Schaibley of Marion was one of five youngsters participating in the Summer Challenge work program at Marion-Crittenden County Park. The program was designed to give young adults summer employment while benefitting the community. The federal program was coordinated by the Pennyryle Area Development District. The local park board, with help from Judge-Executive Pippi Hardin, procured the grant to pay the summer workers and a supervisor, Bryce Winders. The workers completed minor repairs and routine maintenance at the park.

10 YEARS AGO

July 17 2014

■ 4-H camp had started for Crittenden County youth. Mary Holeman and Cheyenne Lady were pictured waiting to board the bus for the West Kentucky 4-H Camp in Dawson Spings while Lisa Holeman gave some last-minute instructions to her daughter.

■ Crittenden County High School's FBLA had made an impressive showing at national competition. FBLA advisor Amy Hardin was in attendance with Cody Hayes who competed in Digital Video; Amber Wright, Digital Video; Anna Schnittker, Public Speaking; Brennan Jones, Voting Delegate; Maggie Collins, Job Interview; Logan Bingham, Digital Video; and Taylor Friitts, Word Processing.

*Read Brenda Underdown's
Forgotten Passages column
at The Press Online
between newspaper issues.*

Crittenden Press

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*Newsprint is a renewable resource.
Recycling bins are located at the
county's convenience center
on U.S. 60 east of Marion.*

“The rich” and “the poor”

I have heard them called, “spoiled,” “entitled,” “lazy,” and “greedy.” I have seen them behave in ways that justify being called such. I am of course speaking of “the poor,”...and “the rich.” The rich may say it of the poor, but the poor say it equally of the rich. It is our nature to ascribe negative traits to those whom we believe are taking from us things not deserved or earned. By some ways of thinking both groups have a case. Of course, “the middle” folks often feel justified in aiming such words in both directions.

There are two realities that are worth considering. The first is that whenever we assign such words (or any words – good or bad) to a group of people, we are speaking truth about ourselves whether what we are saying is true or not. The second is that there are those types of folks found among every walk of life. And the opposite is true.

I have experienced embarrassingly humbling generosity and kindness from people who live on less than \$20 a week. I have also experienced frustrating entitlement and greed

from people who have lived off trust fund money their entire lives. The opposite is also true. Character and wealth or poverty are only related in the sense that one's wealth or poverty is the canvass on which our character is painted.



Sean NIESTRATH
Faith-based columnist
Guest Columnist

The Bible has quite a lot to say about how we are to treat each other. Part of that message lets us know that God is consistently on the side of the poor and those whom we would call “disenfranchised.”

He calls for his people to speak for and act on behalf of those who have no political voice or are consistently taken advantage of by the systems that are in place.

As a nation, we are in better shape than most in this regard. However, there is still a lot of work to be done; here and in other parts of the world. Proverbs 17:5 says, “One who mocks the poor insults his Maker; the one who is glad at calamity will not go unpunished.”

When I consider the current state of affairs on the national political stage, it is apparent that we are reaching another point in our nation when a generational leader needs to rise

and begin the healing process of the damage that is being done. This happens in cycles, which is why I think that those who claim to believe in God need not be overly concerned. If how we treat others depends on who wins an election, we have some serious thinking to do about where our morality originates.

I write here frequently that there are those who have an interest in division of all sorts. The division of rich and poor is one of them. This is a time for wisdom. This is a time for giving some thought to ancient words of guidance and observation.

One of my favorite sources of wisdom outside of the Protestant Bible comes from the apocryphal book of Sirach. The value of this wisdom is that it is wisdom observed. Some of it guides us in how we behave. Some of it is observational, which should give us pause.

I think of such as ‘this is the way it is’, which is different than ‘the way it should be’. These sections are remarkably contemporary and challenge all of us to consider how we might do better concerning pride and humility and how we react to the rich and the poor.

Every creature loves its like, and every person his neighbor; all living beings associate by species, and a man clings to one

like himself. What fellowship has a wolf with a lamb? No more has a sinner with a godly man.

What peace is there between a hyena and a dog? And what peace between a rich man and a poor man?

Wild asses in the wilderness are the prey of lions; likewise the poor are pastures for the rich.

Humility is an abomination to a proud man; likewise a poor man is an abomination to a rich one.

When a rich man totters, he is steadied by friends, but when a humble man falls, he is even pushed away by friends.

If a rich man slips, his helpers are many; he speaks unseemly words, and they justify him.

If a humble man slips, they even reproach him; he speaks sensibly, and receives no attention.

When the rich man speaks all are silent, and they extol to the clouds what he says.

When the poor man speaks they say, “Who is this fellow?”

And should he stumble, they even push him down. (Sirach 13:15-23, RSV)

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

Religious Outreach

■ Open Mic Community Singing starting at 6 p.m., Saturday, July 20 at Tyners Chapel Church. Ky. 855 North between Marion & Salem. Refreshments will follow. Everyone welcome.

■ Suicidal thoughts? Stop! Email dbrantpc@tds.net and request a video link that hopefully will change your mind.

■ The Clothes Closet of the First Baptist Church in Fredonia is open to serve the area with free clothes. The Clothes Closet is operated from 1-3 p.m. each Thursday. The Clothes Closet will be closed in case of rain.

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

■ First Baptist Church of Fredonia food pantry is open from 4-5:30 p.m., third Wednesday of each month in Coleman Hall of the church.

■ The clothes closet at Mexico Baptist Church is open

from 9 to 11:30 a.m. each Monday.

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

FOR SALE
Small Square Bales of Hay

Breezy Acres Hay Co.
2865 Mt. Zion Church Rd. Marion

Rosebud Cemetery Association

Annual Meeting
will be held at the Cemetery
Saturday, July 27 at 1 p.m.

Please bring your lawn chair.
Cancelled if raining.

ENON General Baptist

1660 SR 152, Marion
Sunday, July 28
Service at 11 a.m.

Followed by meal and singing by



The Childress Family
Come worship with us!!!
For more information call (270) 584-2052

Everything in the church centers on Jesus church

Question: I see the church pretty much as a country club that is only after my money. What good is a church anyway? What makes it any better than any other organization in the community that is trying to do good things?

Answer: A church is different from all other organizations in that it is all about Jesus and the people in it are of His followers. Jesus Christ is the connerstone of church and His followers are seeking to obey His teachings, submitting to His

Ask the Pastor

By Bob Hardison



authority and imitating His example. They are rejecting their own selfish nature and are imitating His nature. The Bible teaches, “You also, like livings stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God

through Jesus Christ” (1 Pet. 2:5).

Everything in the church centers on Jesus Christ. He is what makes a church distinct from all other organizations in the community. To those who don't believe in Jesus Christ, He is a stumbling block. Churches

are first and foremost about Jesus Christ.


People in churches are a part of the body of Christ. He (God) places followers of Christ in a church to serve, to care for others, to learn, to teach, to give. They are Christ's hands and feet in the world. They are Christ's voice to share a witness of Jesus to help others come to God through turning from sin and trusting in Jesus as their Savior and Lord.

Send your questions to: bob@bobhardison.com

WORSHIP

with us this week

Visit one of our area churches for worship and fellowship

EMMAUS BAPTIST CHURCH


315 Emmaus Church Rd., Salem, Ky.
Rodney Phelps, Pastor
(270) 704-2400
emmausbaptistsalem@outlook.com
Follow us on Facebook

St. William Catholic Church


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

Mexico Baptist Church


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

DEER CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

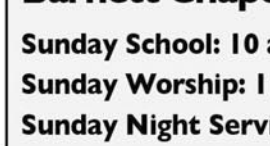
Sunday Bible Study: 10 a.m.
Sunday Worship: 11 a.m. & 6 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study: 7 p.m.
“Whatever It Takes”
Bro. Jamie Baker
Approx. 5 miles from the intersection of Hwy. 60 & Hwy. 297
Phone: (270) 965-2220

Emmanuel Baptist Church


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

Tolu Methodist Church

Pastor: David Brown
We invite you to be our guest
Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.

Barnett Chapel General Baptist

Sunday School: 10 a.m.
Sunday Worship: 11 a.m.
Sunday Night Service: 6 p.m.
Barnett Chapel Rd., Marion, Ky.
Barnett Chapel... where everyone is welcome.

Freedom General Baptist Church

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

Marion Baptist Church


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

SEVEN SPRINGS BAPTIST CHURCH

219 Seven Springs Rd., Marion, Ky. 42064
Sunday evening service 5 p.m.
Wednesday night service 6:30 p.m.
- We are an Independent Baptist Church seeking to know Christ, and to make Him known to the community around us. -
Pastor Justin Miller

Crayne Community Church

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

FIRST CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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


growing in grace
PLEASANT GROVE General Baptist Church
Located on Ky. 723, 4 miles north of Salem
Sunday School 10 a.m. | Sunday Worship 11 a.m., 6 p.m. | Wed. 7 p.m.

Marion Church of God

334 Fords Ferry Road, Marion, Ky.
Morning Service 11 a.m.
Sun. Evening 6 p.m. • Wed. Evening 6 p.m.
“Where salvation makes you a member.”

Crooked Creek Baptist Church


261 Crooked Creek Church Rd., P.O. Box 442, Marion, Ky. • (270) 704-0914
Sunday School: 10 a.m.
Sunday Worship: 11 a.m.
“Come and Worship with Us”

PINEY FORK


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

Sugar Grove

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

Marion Methodist Church

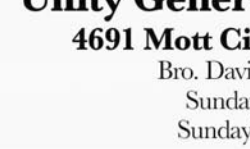
We love intensely, believe deeply, and pray zealously
SUN: Sun. School 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:45 p.m.
South College St.

Bro. Butch Gray

Worship service:..... 11 a.m.
Children's Church ages 3 & up ... 11 a.m.
“The little church with a big heart”

Hurricane Church

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

Unity General Baptist Church

4691 Mott City Rd. • Marion, Ky.
Bro. David Perryman, Pastor
Sunday School 10 a.m.
Sunday Worship 11 a.m.

Marion Church of Christ

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

Meet some merchants of Dycusburg in 1882

As The Press scribe journeyed around the county selling subscriptions and getting ads for the paper, he would often write of his experiences and share some history of the towns and of the people who lived there. These articles make for interesting reading and a wonderful glance into our past. One of their favorite places to stop and visit and tell about was town of Dycusburg. This visit was made in January 1882 when Dycusburg was a booming river town.

The Clifton House

Dycusburg is situated on the Cumberland River, and is one of the best shipping points on that river. Her merchants are industrious, attentive to business, and far above the average intelligence. We left our steed and entered the Clifton House. The proprietor, J. H. Clifton, is a man of the highest social order, and there is not a better landlord under the sun. After supper we encompassed ourself about with a soft bed and numerous comforts, and passed into a sound sleep, thus the night was passed, our slumbers being disturbed only by a steamboat blowing and puffing as it emptying her boilers of mud.

James H. Clifton

Next morning we proceeded to visit the merchants of the town. Mr. J. H. Clifton was one of Dycusburg's substantial citizens. When he began merchandising at Dycusburg, his business grew as the years went by, and today he has one of the leading business houses of the county. He handles dry goods, groceries, notions, clothing, hardware, and in fact, "everything," as he expressed it, "except whiskey and coffins." His stock is well kept and well arranged. The main building is devoted to general dry goods, notions, shoes and hats, and in the second story is his clothing. An adjoining room is filled with heavy groceries and hardware, and the fourth room is the office. Mr. Samuel L. Yancy is his popular clerk.

Thomas T. Martin

We next met Mr. T. T. Martin, an excellent gentleman in point of sociability, intelligence and business. He is proprietor of the Martin House, a superb hotel, and keeps a large stock of general merchandise. His sales during the year he estimates at \$20,000 and his stock on hand at \$5,000.

L. F. Bennett

L. F. Bennett, the finest looking man we saw on the trip, keeps a family grocery and salon on the corner. His sales amount to between \$6,000 and \$10,000 and his stock to \$2,500. Thomas Moore is the polite industrious clerk. Leaving Mr. Bennett, we called upon the genial Scotchman John Gellatly.

John Gellatly

John Gellatly is hardly as good looking as Mr. Bennett, but he is more popular with the fair sex, because he is a bachelor. He has a family of trained dogs that answer exceedingly for such families as other men have. Mr. Gellatly is a very popular merchant and has an excellent stock of general merchandise, and it is tastefully arranged. He carefully examined his bill and receipt books, and reported his sales. Mr. Percy K. Cooksey is his assistant salesman.

T. W. Wilson

Thomas W. Wilson has just recently commenced business at Dycusburg. He deals in hardware and



The Spot Cash Store had about everything anyone would want or need. Samuel Cassidy, William and Frank Dycus were the owners.

heavy groceries, and a good stock of these goods he has. A man of good address and fair business qualifications, and his prospects for success are flattering. We recommend Mr. Wilson to the people of that vicinity, and leave him to build up a trade worthy of his trust.

Yancy Brothers

Yancy Brothers firm keeps an elegant saloon and a good stock of family groceries. George M. and Samuel L. Yancy compose the firm. They are clever, accommodating gentlemen, and

judging from their stock we knew they carry a good trade.

Edgeworth Gregory

Mr. Gregory, the affable gentleman is proprietor of the drug store. After knocking the ashes out of his pipe and brushing back the mane of his upper lip he gave us a cordial greeting. He has a good stock of drugs and family groceries.

S. H. Cassidy & Co.

The Spot Cash Store is composed of Samuel H. Cassidy, William S. Dycus and Frank Brown Dycus and they deal in leaf tobacco, garden seeds, corn, oats, lime, agricultural implements and general produce. Mr. Cassidy waltzed us through the large tobacco houses belonging to

the firm. The houses are constructed with all the modern improvements for handling leaf tobacco, and are capacitated to hold half the tobacco crop in the county.

Last season they handled over 500,000 pounds of leaf tobacco and 9,000 bushels of wheat. During the tobacco season they employed from 85 to 40 hands in the stemmery. Besides the tobacco handled by themselves, they shipped over 800 hogheads for other parties.

They sell a great number of farming implements; last season they disposed of 18 sulky plows, the largest sale made by any one agent in the state. Recently the firm has taken charge of the Yandell spar mines for the Cincinnati Spar and Mining Company, and are employing 20 hands at the mines. The interest in the mines is growing daily, besides the spar, which is used extensively as a flux in the manufacture of iron, indications for lead in paying quantities are being developed. Dycusburg only needs the railroad to make her flourish like a green bay tree.

Wm. Micelberry Hill

This is one of the landmarks of Dycusburg. He located at Dycusburg in 1855 to take a position with Cobb, Gellatly & Co., one of the largest business houses of the community. He is at present engaged in his own hardware and grocery business, W. M. Hill Family Groceries. He carries a select stock of goods, keeps his house in splendid shape, everything having a tasty



W. M. Hill's Hardware and Grocery had good business in the mid 1800s.

appearance. His affable disposition, good humor, and social qualities make him a popular man, and then in a business way he is honorable and trustworthy. He has also served the town as police judge for several years.

Mayes & McKee

These are the millers at Dycusburg, and they have put up one of the best roller mills in the two counties. The mill has a capacity of 50 barrels a day and is supplied with the best roller process machinery now made.

It is conveniently arranged in every way, and from the very start it has had all the work it could do. The flour made is in great demand both at Dycusburg and in the surrounding county and a great deal of it is shipped to points along the Cumberland River.

Mr. W. H. Mayes is in charge of the mill, and he is one of the best millers in the county. He has been connected with mills all of his active life and there about but few points that he does not know. He has made milling a business, a profession, and the years of study and varied experience have placed him at great advantage. Mr. Mayes is a native of the county and he was reared near Marion.

Leaving the village to nestle cozily in the arms of the nearby hills, we left having formed many a pleasant acquaintance

and visiting many interesting places of business. (Brenda Underdown is chair of Crittenden County Historical Society and a member of Crittenden

County Genealogical Society. Much more local history can be found at OurForgottenPassages.blogspot.com).

THANK YOU FROM
TOLU FIREWORKS 2024
Tolu Community Center

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Akridge Farm Supply
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Akridge Farm Supply
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Nutrien Ag Solutions

VENDORS:

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Freeman's Chuck Wagon
Livers Farm Homemade Ice Cream
Poppy's Pizza Wagon
Rollin' Cones
The Lion's Club
What's Poppin' Kettle Corn

SPECIAL THANKS TO:

Buntin Trailer Sales
Boomland Fireworks
Crazy Train Fireworks
Gary Croft
Lane's Mobile John
The Crittenden Press
Thomas & Thomas Concrete

And all the individuals who volunteer to help make this event possible!!

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KENTUCKY LAND SPECIALIST,
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NEW! Crittenden & Union Counties, KY
4,690 Acres - \$23,500,000.00

With various landscapes, fantastic habitat variations, proven history, and multiple lodges with various improvements, this is your chance at a once in a lifetime opportunity!

NEW! Crittenden County, KY
57,285 Acres - \$250,000.00

This diverse hunting tract offers a classic 50/50 mix of tillable and timber, providing an excellent blend of habitat types and income potential!

NEW! Crittenden County, KY
64,328 Acres - \$256,000.00

Nestled in a tranquil rural area, this scenic hunting tract offers a diverse blend of habitat types and topography, making it a perfect retreat for outdoor enthusiasts. Features an ideal build site!

NEW! Livingston County, KY
84 Acres - \$325,000.00

This impressive timbered hunting tract is situated in an area renowned for its quality deer and turkey hunting, making it a prime spot for outdoor enthusiasts. Includes build site potential.

Crittenden County, KY
17,354 Acres - \$169,000.00

Nestled within the embrace of tranquil countryside, this charming 3-bedroom, 2-bathroom home offers the perfect retreat from the hustle and bustle of city life. Includes a 32' x 48' metal barn.

Crittenden County, KY
64,516 Acres - \$475,000.00

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Crittenden County, KY
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legal notice

Notice is hereby given that on July 10, 2024 Patricia Vied of 669 S.R. 1077, Marion, Ky. 42064 was appointed executrix of Portia Kleinik, deceased, whose address was 12 Love Cemetery Road, Marion, Ky. 42064. Hon. Rebecca Johnson, P.O. Box 415, Marion, Ky. 42064, attorney.

All persons having claims against said estate are hereby notified to present the same properly proven as required by law to the executrix before the 10th day of January, 2025 and all claims not so proven and presented by that date shall be forever barred.

All persons indebted to the estate of the above-named decedent, will please call and settle said debts immediately.

Crittenden District Court
Melissa Guill, Clerk
(1t-29-p)

On May 28, 2024 Cooper Towing & Recovery of Marion, KY at request of Crittenden County Sheriff's Department, picked up a 1998 Ford F-150 plate #928 DZK KY truck on Route 91, Marion, Ky., and took to 3425 Mott City Rd, Marion. Car with Vin# 1FTDF18W8VND29540 belonged to Robert Augustine. You can pay the tow and storage bill, if not

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Applications can be found at <http://marionky.gov/> under Forms and Documents section at bottom of website. Anyone interested in the position should submit a City of Marion Job Application to the City Administrator's office by 4 p.m. on Friday, August 16, 2024.

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SportsShorts

RUNNING McKenney 5K at park

The third annual Marty McKenney Memorial 5K and Walk will be held at 6 p.m., Friday, July 26 at Marion-Crittenden County Park. Proceeds from the race benefit the McKenney Scholarship for Crittenden County track and field athletes. Cost is a minimum donation of \$25 to receive a race shirt. Contact Lee Ann Keller at 270-969-0333 for more information.

FOOTBALL Rocket preseason rolls into full swing

Rocket football's pre-season camp opened last week and the team played 7-on-7 at Trigg County on Friday. Junior quarterback Quinn Summers looked good throwing the ball, said offensive coordinator Austin Berry. Receivers Caden Howard, Camron Belcher and Tyree McLean also caught the ball well. The team is looking for further depth at the receiver position. Daily workouts have continued this week and there is a 7-on-7 competition Thursday at Paducah Tilghman. CCHS will be participating in the Fellowship of Christian Athletes 7-on-7 and lineman challenge Friday at Murray State's Roy Stewart Stadium. Regular practice continues on campus through July 30 before the Rockets head to their annual retreat venue in rural Crittenden County at West Kentucky Youth Camp July 31 through Aug. 2. The team will host scrimmage games Aug. 9 and 16 against Marshall County and Madisonville, respectively. Season opener is Aug. 23 at home against Webster County.

Middle school players wanted

Middle School football has begun, but numbers are mighty slim, according to coach Ethan Dossett. Fewer than a dozen athletes are currently in pre-season camp. Practices are Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 5:30 to 7 p.m., on campus. Prospective players may report at any time to practice.

BASKETBALL Thomas back at Caldwell

After a five-year hiatus, Malissa (Bush) Thomas has returned as head coach of the Caldwell County girls' basketball team. Thomas, who is principal at Caldwell County Elementary School, compiled a 120-137 record in nine years as head coach of the Lady Tigers from 2010 to 2019. Her team won Seventh District championships four times. Thomas played high school basketball at Trigg and Caldwell counties. She graduated in 1997 from Caldwell County High where she was also an All-State softball player. Thomas played collegiate basketball at University of Memphis. She also previously coached girls' basketball at Lyon County.

OUTDOORS Hunting Seasons

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

Bullfrog	May 17 - Oct. 31
Squirrel Fall	Aug. 17 - Nov. 8
Canada Goose	Sept. 1-15
Dove	Sept. 1 - Oct. 26
Deer Archery	Sept. 7 - Jan. 20
Turkey Archery	Sept. 7 - Jan. 20
Canada Goose	Sept. 16-30
Teal	Sept. 21 - Sept. 29
Wood Duck	Sept. 21 - Sept. 25
Deer Crossbow	Sept. 21 - Jan. 20
Raccoon	Oct. 1 - Feb. 28
Turkey Crossbow	Oct. 1-20
Deer Youth	Oct. 12-13
Deer Muzzleloader	Oct. 19-20
Turkey Shotgun	Oct. 26 - Nov. 1
Woodcock	Oct. 26 - Nov. 8
Deer Rifle	Nov. 9 - Nov. 24
Turkey Crossbow	Nov. 9 - Dec. 31
Rabbit	Nov. 11 - Feb. 10
Quail	Nov. 11 - Feb. 10
Raccoon Trapping	Nov. 11 - Feb. 28
Woodcock	Nov. 11 - Dec. 11
Bobcat	Nov. 16 - Feb. 28
Squirrel Fall	Nov. 28 - Feb. 15
Dove	Nov. 28 - Dec. 8
Duck	Nov. 28 - Dec. 1
Canada Goose	Nov. 28 - Feb. 15



Signed, Sealed, Delivered

Jaycee Champion signed a letter of intent last week to play fastpitch softball at Midway University near Lexington. Pictured at the formal signing ceremony were (front from left) her father Jason Champion, Jaycee Champion, her mother Jesse Tabor, (back) CCHS softball coaches Shawn Holeman, Chris Evans, Jamie Brown and Matt Jent.

Champion signs with Midway softball

STAFF REPORT
Jaycee Champion, a 2024 graduate of Crittenden County High School, and six-year member of the Lady Rockets softball team has signed a letter of intent to play fastpitch at Midway University.
Champion was surrounded by family, coaches, teammates and supporters last Wednesday when she formally accepted the offer to join the Eagles softball program.
“I just want to thank everyone that has supported me throughout this journey. I’m so proud of myself for pushing through all the obstacles

and challenges I have faced,” Champion said. “I’m so grateful for all my coaches and teammates for helping me become the person I have always wanted to become. This is just the beginning of something great.”
Champion had a very productive senior season, raising her fielding percentage and batting average each by 50 percentage points over her junior year. She was chosen Defensive Player of the Year and Team Captain this past spring, hitting .315 with three doubles and a triple among her 28 hits in 89 at bats. Champion was second on the

team with 10 stolen bases.
Her off-season commitment to working on hitting and defense vaulted Champion into a solid everyday role where she had several clutch hits and key defensive plays.
“Jaycee made herself a great fielder by playing with extreme confidence and energy,” said her high school coach Chris Evans. “She was a good player as a junior, but really blossomed her senior season, making diving catches and anchoring our defense in centerfield.”
Champion has a softball pedigree as her father, Jason, was a longtime coach and her

older sister, Kalli, was an accomplished player.
“It wasn’t easy playing in the shadow of my sister,” she said.
The Midway Eagles compete in the NAIA River States Conference, which includes member schools in Kentucky, Indiana, Ohio and West Virginia.
Midway is a private Christian university located in Woodford County near Lexington. It ranks 76th in the 2024 edition of Best Colleges and Regional Universities in the South.

Bookworm Jackson wants to stop run for UK

Dennious Jackson might be a 6-5, 335-pound junior college defensive lineman now headed to the University of Kentucky to play but he didn’t grow up dreaming of being a college football player.
He admits he was more about academics in large part because his mother always put a book in his hands.
“I was reading when I was 3 or 4 years old. I would grab old textbooks that belonged to my aunts and uncles. I was a bookworm, kind of a nerd,” the recent UK commit said.
He remembers begging for a telescope at Christmas and had his own microscope at a young age.
“I loved telescopes and constellations. I can still point out constellations and identify them. It was just one of my things,” Jackson said.
Jackson is from a “big sports family” but he thought he would be a basketball player.
“I was a lanky, skinny kid. I grew up a Dwayne Wade and Miami Heat fan. That got me into sports in general,” Jackson said. “I was actually working at a jazz festival in California and met him. He was very human with me. He talked with me for like five minutes. I showed him clips (of him playing football) and he actually told me to keep on my path and I would be great. I needed that coming from him to make me believe even more in myself.”
Jackson went to Contra Costa (Junior) College in California after his prep career in Georgia and admits he had a “poor outlook on his future” at the time.
“My (high school) coach told me he knew a guy there who had some SEC knowledge and experience out there. He got on the phone with him. He understood me as a player and what my goals were. He knew I would be in good hands and what was best for my career,” Jackson said.
At age 12 going into middle school, he was 6-foot tall. At age 14, he was 6-2, 230. He didn’t hit above 260 until his junior year but then blew up.
“I went from 6-2, 265 to 6-5, 325 for my senior season.



Larry Vaught
UK Sports Columnist
Vaught's Views



Dennious Jackson
UK Run Stopper

It was no lazy weight. It was a really heavy workout we did and I just got bigger, stronger and faster,” Jackson said. “Now I am definitely a power rusher. I like to think of myself as a run stuffer. I like to bring the energy all I can. I know (UK defensive line) coach (Anwar) Stewart will help me get the skills to get to the quarterback, too.”
He watched Kentucky football games on ESPN and the SEC Network when he was in middle school and high school and remembers the 2018 and 2021 teams were “really good” when they each won 10 games.
He got hooked on football originally after seeing the Seattle Seahawks play and liked how Kam Chancellor would deliver big-time hits. He said he watched so often that he could name the entire Seattle defense.
“I was a defensive guy after that. I loved shutting down offensive players,” he said. “I take pride in that. I want to be a run stopper and more at Kentucky. If you do not remember me by the end of the season, I didn’t do my job. I want opposing players and also fans to remember who I am.”

LaMont Butler was a two-time Mountain West Defensive Player of the Year so it was no surprise when Kentucky teammate Otega Oweh said the toughest team to score against in summer practices has been Butler.
Butler could be one of the best defensive guards in the country. He averaged 1.4 steals per game in 131 games

at San Diego State the previous four years.
“His instincts are crazy, and his lateral movements are very good,” Oweh said. “He’s a strong guard. Lamont is a great defender. Great point guard, too. He brings everything to the game. So I’m really excited to play with him. And then on top of that, we go at it in practice.”
Another spirited practice battle has been at center between Amari Williams, a three-time Coastal Athletic Association Defensive Player of the Year at Drexel, and Brandon Garrison, an Oklahoma State transfer and former McDonald’s All-American.
Wake Forest transfer Andrew Carr said the 6-10, 245-pound Garrison had been “super physical” in practice.
“He’s made a really concerted effort to keep his super high motor all the time in practice and give it his all. And it’s been really apparent,” Carr said.

Kentucky’s football recruiting seems on pace to potentially have its highest ranked recruiting class ever and certainly had more verbal commitments in mid-July than even coach Mark Stoops and recruiting coordinator Vince Marrow have been able to gather before.
Not only does Kentucky have 17 commitments, but it has four four-star players in the latest On3 top 300 player rankings — Ohio running back Marquise Davis (64), Frankfort defensive lineman Javeon Campbell (136), Ohio edge rusher Cedric Works (178) and Paducah safety Martels Carter (282). Four-star receiver Quinton Simmons of Ohio is also a four-star recruit but is not in the top 300.
Kentucky’s class is currently ranked 20th nationally by On3 and could get a boost this week if Louisville offensive lineman Isaac Sowell Jr. picks the Cats over North Carolina State.
UK’s class is ranked 19th by 247Sports with Works 86th nationally and the No. 11 overall edge rusher. Campbell is 109th and the No. 15 overall defensive lineman. Simmons is No. 161 and the 16th best receiver in the rankings while Carter is 223rd overall and the 19th best safety.

Kentucky Radio Network

basketball analyst Jack Givens saw a “whole bunch of men as opposed to the 18-year-olds we’ve seen coming in” when he went to his first UK basketball practice with new coach Mark Pope.
Givens joined Tom Leach on The Leach Report recently and the former UK All-American admitted he was excited with the experience Pope has on his team.
“The guys are big and strong and know how to use it, they’re quick and don’t waste any motion, they know what needs to be done. I noticed that very quickly about this team — and that’s a good thing,” Givens told Leach.
He liked the way the older players talked a lot even in practice.
“That’s going to be a good thing,” Givens said. “I saw a lot of really, really good players, but I haven’t yet seen a really good team. There’s a difference. It’s going to take some time.”
“Everybody right now is in that trying to be nice stage, and teams go through it. They want to pass the ball, want to get the ball to this guy and that guy, want to make sure everybody is involved.”
Givens said Pope’s offense is built around getting the ball to midcourt in three seconds and if you have an open shot, shoot it.
“That keeps the defense from having time to get set up. You can’t zone this team when the offense is really working,” Givens said.
Trying to make sure he keeps players on his team from leaving and monitoring the transfer portal for new additions has not left much free time for Kentucky baseball coach Nick Mingione since his team’s historic run to the College World Series. That’s why he enjoyed going to Championships at Keene Trace last week with his son, Reeves, to watch his friend Josh Teater play in the ISCO Championship.
“I have to head to the field now to meet a recruit but it was awesome to spend time with my son and just talk to other folks about our season and the impact our team had on them,” Mingione said. “I met a gentleman who just said, ‘Coach, I just want to thank you. I brought my son to Omaha and my dad to Omaha.’ He said we had three generations and he’s like it was the greatest time.”



Crittenden County High School students were successful in Seattle at competition for Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) National Convention. Pictured (clockwise beginning at top left photo) are (front) Keira Chaney, Brianna Walker, Brittany Mardis, Marley Phelps, (back) Zoey Hodge, Laycee Lynn and Hayden Peak; Silver winners Brianna Walker, Zoey Hodge and Hayden Peak; Gold winners Laycee Lynn, Marley Phelps and Keira Chaney.



Successful In Seattle

CCHS FCCLA mines gold, silver on trip out West

High school family and consumer science teacher and Family, Career and Community Leaders of America sponsor Brittany Mardis took six students to Seattle, Wash., this summer to compete at the FCCLA national convention. She brought back six national winners.

Members Brianna Walker, Hayden Peak, and Zoey Hodge earned silver with their “Let Kids Be Kids” foster care bag project while Laycee Lynn, Marley Phelps, and Keira Chaney earned gold with their “A Very Merry Little Family Christmas” chapter service project.

Additionally, the group placed as a top 10 national finalist. While

there, Walker served as a state officer and led Kentucky as a voting delegate.

Mardis said the stellar rankings are testament to time and dedication the students poured into their work all year.

“I’m so incredibly proud of them,” she said. “They’ve worked so hard since fall of last year to serve our school and community, and it’s so gratifying to see them receive the recognition they deserve.”

Lynn, a 2024 Crittenden County High School graduate and past president of her chapter, said the honors are in large part due to the support the members received from their school and community.

“Thanks to our sponsors, a small school in rural Kentucky made it to nationals and placed in the top 10!” she said proudly. “We were also able to make a difference in our community and give back to the people in our hometown who have poured into us.”

Mardis said community and family are guiding forces in FCCLA. In fact, she said that more than once during the trip, people with whom they interacted commented on the positive dynamics of the group. One memorable experience, Mardis said, was of an Uber driver who called the Crittenden group of students and chaperones as the “happiest family I have ever seen.”

“That right there is a perfect example of what FCCLA is, and what we do,” said Mardis. “FCCLA is a family of students who love their community and will impact the lives of others around them.”

High school students wishing to learn more about the family and consumer science pathway and opportunities in FCCLA may contact Mardis by email at brittany.mardis@crittenden.kyschools.us.

TRIAL

Continued from page 1

case, Paris is looking at between 15 to 18 years if a manslaughter plea could be reached.

“We are not terribly far off,” the public defender representing Paris told Judge Heady when discussing negotiations for a plea deal.

Hunt agreed. He told the judge there are some evidentiary issues with the case and with the defense team requesting time for test results of a psychiatric examination ordered last month, he

approves of the trial date being withdrawn.

McGee indicated that he expects proof of mental health issues to be present in an anticipated report from a doctor. It’s unclear, however, whether those anticipated psychiatric issues would lead to some type of mitigation or an insanity defense.

Hunt said the victim’s family is being kept abreast of negotiations in the case and pointed out that a state police victim’s advocacy agent was in the courtroom listening to the discussions.

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Livingston County sets Back to School dates

Annual Cardinal Kickoff will be held Monday, July 29 from 5-7 p.m.

This is hosted by FRYSC and will have several vendors and local organizations giving away school supplies and other goodies.

Location of the event has yet to be determined due to work at Livingston Central High School. However, if it’s ready the event will be there.

Back to School night for the schools are as follows:

- South Livingston Elementary School - Aug. 1 from 3:30-6:30 p.m.
- Livingston Central High School - Aug. 5 from 3-6 p.m.
- Livingston County Middle School - Aug. 5 from 5-7 p.m.
- North Livingston Elementary School - Aug. 5 from 5-7 p.m.

Walmart heads Fortune 500 again

Walmart, Amazon, Apple are the top three companies listed among the 70th annual Fortune 500 list, which was recently released.

The iconic Fortune 500 list of the largest corporations in the United States ranks them by revenue for fiscal year 2023. Walmart was No. 1 for the 12th year in a row, followed by Amazon, Apple, UnitedHealth Group and Berkshire Hathaway.

In its first year of list in 1955, Fortune 500 com-

panies generated revenues of \$1.5 trillion (inflation adjusted), compared to \$18.8 trillion in 2023. Revenue threshold for making the latest Fortune 500 was \$7.1 billion, down 2 percent from a year ago. Retailers, utilities, and insurance companies led all industries with the most Fortune 500 companies on the list.

In total, Fortune 500 companies are two-thirds of the U.S. GDP, totaling \$18.8 trillion (up 4 percent) in revenues, net in-

come amounting to \$1.7 trillion (up 10 percent), and market capitalization reaching \$43.0 trillion, (up 30 percent), while the companies on the list employed 31 million people worldwide.

Top 10 companies on the latest Fortune list were: 1. Walmart, 2. Amazon, 3. Apple, 4. UnitedHealth Group, 5. Berkshire Hathaway, 6. CVS Health, 7. Exxon Mobil, 8. Alphabet, 9. McKesson, 10. Cencora.

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Grand Lakes Clinic

Samantha Samuels, APRN, FNP-BC
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Driver pleads guilty of crashing into deputy’s cruiser

STAFF REPORT

Circuit Judge Daniel Heady accepted a handful of pleas last week during a relatively light docket in Crittenden County Circuit Court.

Following is a summary of the cases heard by the judge.

•John E. Lutz, 34, of Marion pleaded guilty to a variety of charges stemming from a police chase on Mott City Road on a night back in March. Court records indicate that Lutz had fled from a Caldwell County deputy and headed into southern Crittenden County. When Crittenden County Deputy Boyd Bates attempted to stop the vehicle near Crayne on Mott City Road, Lutz rammed the deputy’s cruiser and was traveling 90 mph in a 45 mph zone. He later crashed at the

Circuit Court

intersection of US 641 and Mott City Road near Marion.

Lutz was sentenced to five years for a Class C felony for attempted first-degree assault of a police officer. For Class D felonies, he received five years on charges of first-degree wanton endangerment of a police officer and first-degree fleeing or evading police (motor vehicle), and he got one year for theft of a motor vehicle plate/decal. Further fines and lesser sentences were imposed by the judge for misdemeanors and traffic violations for public intoxication, possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of marijuana and traffic violations. All of the time will run concurrent for a total of

five years.

•Terry Dorris, 49, of Morgantown had his probation revoked for a 2022 meth conviction. Dorris testified that he was working in Bowling Green and living in Butler County in a remote location and didn’t know probation officers were trying to get in touch with him. Judge Heady reminded the defendant that reporting to probation and parole is the responsibility of individual on probation. Dorris is now facing a three-year sentence.

•Crystal Mills, 29, of Marion was sentenced to time served in a probation violation for admittedly using methamphetamine. Mills must return to rehab and follow rules of after-care programs. She faces a five-year probated sentence for a 2021 conviction for complicity to third-degree burglary of a

home in Crayne. In October of 2023, Mills was previously found to have violated terms of a pretrial diversion. She was formally re-sentenced at that point to five years in prison, but released on conditional probation.

•Jason F. Rushing, 42, of Marion, pleaded guilty to a felony charge of third-degree assault of a probation or police officer and misdemeanor charges of possession of drug paraphernalia, resisting arrest and third-degree terroristic threatening.

Rushing was arrested on Feb. 15 at a home on US 60 West after police were called to a disturbance. Rushing was found to be in possession of alleged drugs and drug paraphernalia. The police report

says he resisted arrest and was tased twice before being taken into custody. A possession of methamphetamine charge was dropped because trace amounts found on Rushing were not able to be successfully analyzed by the laboratory. Rushing was sentenced to one year on the felony charge and 365 days on the misdemeanors with all time to run concurrently for a one-year prison term.

•Ronald Frutiger, 46, of Louisville pleaded guilty to a felony charge of flagrant non-support. According to court records, Frutiger is in arrears on child support payments by more than \$21,000. He was sentenced to five years, which was probated on the condition that he makes regular child-support payments.



Pictured at Monday’s groundbreaking for the new housing complex on McMican Road are County Judge Perry Newcom, development manager Marty Collins, Mayor D’Anna Browning and Homeland, Inc. representative Katrina Myers.

Housing project under construction

STAFF REPORT

Local government officials attended a formal groundbreaking ceremony early this week at the site of a new, government-backed housing development on the eastern edge of Marion as dirt-moving equipment was busy in the background.

Marty Collins, who is in charge of the development phase of the project, said the 48-unit complex will be ready to occupy in eight months. Applications are being taken by Homeland, Inc., the management company that also runs Belville Manor in Marion. Backed by federal tax credits through the Kentucky Housing Corporation, the complex is required to have renters age 55 and over occupying at least 80 percent of its units.

Wabuck Development

of Leitchfield is building the facility. Wabuck is a non-profit organization organized in 1986 and headquartered in Leitchfield. Cost will be \$10.5 million with about \$9.8 million coming from federal sources.

The property, on McMican Road near the park and fairgrounds, was recently annexed into the city so that utilities could be provided to the development. Some adjoining property owners are finding out their fences and outbuildings are encroaching upon the development area’s 14 acres. They have been notified by the developer and will have to remove those improvements.

Mayor D’Anna Browning said she had requested that a privacy fence be built as a barrier between the housing units and the backside of homes on Country Drive.

Collins said the fence will indeed be included in the project, except for an area where natural vegetation provides an adequate barrier.

As designed, the housing complex will include single-story units, in eight-plex and four-plex sections. Most of the units will be one-bedroom or two-bedroom apartments. There will be four three-bedroom units. Rent for a basic apartment will run between \$145 to \$630 depending on the renter’s financial qualifications.

During a recent government-subsidized Opportunity360 study, Crittenden County emerged as one of the most under served communities in Kentucky when it comes to affordable housing. Because of that, federal assistance is available to developers like Wabuck.

City moves against blighted property, almost 10 sites pegged for inspection

STAFF REPORT

Nine blighted homes are on a growing list of properties in Marion that are being targeted for condemnation.

A stated initiative to clean up dilapidated areas of town has been underway in recent months with enforcement of codes and statutes that apply to everything from high grass to hazardous, collapsing structures.

Mayor D’Anna Browning said Monday night during Marion’s regular monthly city council meeting that state officials are providing guidance in the effort to help ensure all provisions of a legal condemnation are taken. Each one will cost about \$500 to have a state-licensed inspector examine the property and determine whether it is habitable.

The mayor said notification of the process will be provided to property owners that are subject to these inspections. At least seven had been identified prior to this week’s council meeting and after discussion of the matter two more were added during the meeting. Most of them are on East Depot and West Elm streets.

Scott Tabor, who lives on East Depot, was at the council meeting seeking relief from a home next to him that he believes is uninhabitable and driving down the value of his home. It was the second time in the last few months that Tabor has been to a council meeting seeking help.

“I am tired of living next to this,” Tabor told the city council. “With this place next to me, I couldn’t sell my house for what it’s valued at right now.”

A month-long legal process would begin for each property if its condemned by the building inspector. The owner would have an opportunity to either improve the property to make it habitable or tear it down. If the owner’s subsequent actions are insufficient, the city could pay to have the property cleared then force sale of it to recover its expenses.

“Although there are dozens of homes within city limits that need to be inspected, the first pass centered around West Elm and East Depot. As a courtesy, I will send a letter to each property owner to notify them of the state inspection.

“It shouldn’t have to come to this, as the property owners know these properties are unsafe and unsightly,” the mayor said following Monday’s council meeting. “Allowing properties to get to this level is disrespectful to the neighbors, as well as everyone living here.”

Browning said homes that become uninhabitable through neglect are negatively affecting nearby property values. They also provide a proliferation area for pests and can oftentimes lead to safety hazard for children and a hiding place for vagrants.

Lyon County Superintendent Tilford chosen to serve on advisory council

STAFF REPORT

Lyon County Superintendent of Schools Russ Tilford has been appointed to the Kentucky Local Superintendents Advisory Council (LSAC), pending ratification by the Legislative Research Commission.

His term will begin Aug. 1.

Tilford has been superintendent at Lyon County since 2014, prior to which he was director of pupil personnel at McCracken County. Also, in 2020, Tilford was appointed by Gov. Andy Beshear to serve on the Land Between the Lakes Advisory Board.

The LSAC advises the chief state school officer and the Kentucky Board of Education (KBE) on developing administrative regulations and education policies. Before seeking approval from the KBE, the chief state school officer

must present all proposed regulations and policies to the LSAC for review.

The council includes 11 LRC-appointed members, one member to represent each state supreme court district and four at-large members. Tilford will serve as a member-at-large.

Sen. Jason Howell congratulated Tilford on his appointment and noted his dedication to improving educational standards and oversight.

“Russ’s appointment to the LSAC highlights his commitment to advancing education in Kentucky, particularly in our region,” said Howell. “I have had the privilege of working with Russ for a number of years, and his experience and passion for enhancing educational outcomes will greatly benefit the council.”

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