



US 641 meeting is July 11 in Fredonia

Kentucky Transportation Cabinet will host a public meeting from 5 to 7 p.m., on Tuesday, July 11 at Cumberland Presbyterian Church in Fredonia to announce a route for the final section of the new US 641 highway that will ultimately finish the super 2-lane between Marion and Eddyville. The first 5.5-mile section of the new highway between Marion and Fredonia was opened Dec. 6, 2018 after six years of construction. For more on the meeting in Fredonia, see Kentucky Transportation Cabinet's advertisement elsewhere in this issue.

Clerk will close, no court sessions during courthouse exodus

There will be no district, circuit or family court proceedings held during the week of July 17-21 while the courts and clerks pack up to temporarily leave the downtown courthouse, which will be torn down soon to make room for a new justice center. Crittenden County Circuit Court Clerk will reopen at its interim site at 208 South Main Street on Monday, July 24. All court proceedings beginning July 25 will be at Marion City Hall's council chambers. Family Court will convene at city hall for the first time on Tuesday, July 25. District Court's first session at city hall will be Wednesday, July 26 and Circuit Court will hear its first docket there Thursday, Aug. 10.

BY THE NUMBERS

Comparing Counties

Following are figures from the American Community Survey showing the percentage of population without a high school diploma in Crittenden and nearby counties.

Without a High School diploma	
Crittenden	15.2%
Webster	15.0%
Livingston	13.9%
Caldwell	12.6%
Lyon	10.3%
Union	8.1%

UPCOMING MEETINGS

•Crittenden County Economic Development Corporation will have its annual meeting at 10 a.m., Wednesday, July 12 at Farmers Bank.

•Chamber After Hours will be held from 5-7 p.m., Thursday, July 27 at First United Bank on Main Street in Marion.



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KENTUCKY BAR ASSOCIATION'S Distinguished Judge

BY CHRIS EVANS
PRESS EDITOR

Judge Brandi Rogers' first courtroom experience is chiseled conspicuously on her soul. That emotionally-driven event has continued to be a strong force behind her passion for the bench, and for helping people, particularly families and children.

Rogers, who was elected in 2014 as Family Court Judge for the 5th Circuit Court serving Crittenden, Union and Webster counties, was one of the youngest ever elected in the commonwealth since a constitutional change in 1977. A few days ago, the Kentucky Bar Association recognized her contributions to families and justice by presenting the 42-year-old jurist with its highly prestigious 2023 Distinguished Judge Award.

Rogers' childhood home was split by divorce when she was two. She recalls having to testify in front of a judge in his chambers. She was only 10 years old, and despite the kindness of the judge, Rogers was profoundly affected.

“When people come before me they are usually having one of the worst days of the lives. They're going to react, sometimes crying, sometimes cursing. They're defensive and yes, they sometimes lie. But those things don't offend me. I let them be mad. I let them know I would be mad, too, if I was in their place.”

foundly affected.

“I still remember what the walls looked like in his chambers,” Rogers said, explaining that the issue was simply to discuss which weekends she would spend with each parent.

“It was an overwhelming experience. It was a big deal to me at the time, but really such a nominal issue. The judge was very kind, but my knees were knocking and I was so afraid that I was going to say something that would hurt someone's feelings.”

Even though a calling to the law was absent from the radar until her college years, that first experience in a courtroom type setting struck a nerve with the pre-teen. It irrefutably set her on a course for what has become a highly decorated career.

reer.

As a child, Rogers spent time in Germany as the stepdaughter of a military man and lived stateside for a time with her biological father before settling in with her grandparents in Marion where she graduated from high school in 1999. Admittedly, Rogers didn't apply her self a great deal in high school, but she had plenty of sense. Pursing a business degree at Western Kentucky University lost its appeal somewhere along the way and she took a leap of faith in the world of juris prudence.

Raised largely by her grandparents, one a farmer and the other a factory worker, Rogers said she really never dreamed of being a lawyer.

“One-thousand percent, I

was not a typical law school student,” she says with a chuckle. “I was not a good student in high school. I wasn't in any trouble, but I just had no real direction. I was certainly not the valedictorian.”

Still, with moral support from her family and financial aid from the Kentucky Bar Association Scholarship and the Kentucky Legal Education Opportunity Scholarship – which was brand new at the time – she graduated from Salmon P. Chase College of Law 2006.

She returned to Marion and her private practice largely focused on domestic relations. She served regularly as Guardian Ad Litem for children in many counties and was Master Commissioner and school board attorney for the school districts of Crittenden and Webster.

“I am not a political person,” Rogers said, but in 2014, she ran for the family court judgeship of 5th Circuit Court, and won.

Other honors and recognition

See **JUDGE** / page 3



Legal alcohol sales continues to rise

STAFF REPORT

In eight of the last nine months, legal alcohol sales in Marion exceeded sales from the same month of any previous year since liquor was legalized in the city in 2019.

A five-percent tax is paid to the City of Marion on all legal sales of alcoholic beverages. Marion's Alcohol Beverage Control also collects an annual license fee for establishments selling alcohol by the drink or package sales of beer, liquor or wine at retail stores. Three restaurants in town serve alcohol.

In January, Marion collected \$9,879.52 in tax and licenses fees, its greatest monthly receipts ever.

Price increases due to inflationary pressures certainly play a role in the increase in tax receipts, but alcohol sales have steadily gone up since August 2019 when it became legal here for the first time since Prohibition. A

See **ALCOHOL** / page 4

STAFF REPORT

Major changes during reapportionment has happened so infrequently around here – more than 30 years since the last alteration – that hardly anyone perks up when the issue arises.

Reapportionment is the practice of redistributing seats of government based on changes in population. Changes are recorded by the U.S. Census, which is conducted every 10 years, and state and local governments have a certain amount of time to make any adjustment to district maps that determine representation in government. Local reapportionment has been a bit delayed this cycle due to the pandemic.

Three appointed commissioners have met a couple of times over the

Reapportionment, aka district map redrawing, is now in hands of fiscal court for final review

 **See Map with New Lines on Page 9**

past month to draw up a new county district map with some help from the Pennyryle Area Development District and County Court Clerk. Last week, their plan was formally presented to Crittenden County Fiscal Court, which introduced an ordinance to accept the proposal. It will take a few more weeks for the ordinance to gain final approval, but it appears that magistrates are ready to accept the new county voting precinct and district lines, which will affect a good number of voters.

The redistricting plan makes significant changes to district lines, but should simplify voting for both election officials

and voters, the commission said in its proposal to the fiscal court.

If approved, new districts will become effective Nov. 8, the day following the general election.

The commission's report to county government also included the following language:

This plan does not:

- Place current magistrates or constables in the same district, so they will not have to run against one another in 2026.

- Redraw any lines based on voter registration or any other differences.

- Place current voting locations in new districts.
- Place current board of

See **MAP** / page 9

Deaths

Belt

Zachery Lee Belt, 38, of Paducah, died Tuesday, June 27, 2023. He was an avid g a m e r a n d worked in the con- struction field.



Surviv- ing are his mother, Beth (Keith) Todd of Marion; three daugh- ters, Elizabeth, Jose- phine and Dianna; a brother, Jeff (Laura) Belt of Dittmer, Mo.; a sister, Chasity (Rob- ert) Old of Gallatin, Tenn.; the mother of his children and life partner, Amanda Sawyer of Paducah; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his father, Wayne Belt.

Private family serv- ices will be held at a later date.

Memorial contrib- utions may be made to a memorial fund established for his young daughters in Elizabeth Todd's name at Farmers Bank and Trust in Marion.

Lindsey Funeral Home of Paducah is in charge of arrange- ments.

Robertson

Ruth Evelyn Rob- ertson, 96, of Marion, died Friday, June 30, 2023 at Crittenden Health and Re- habilita- t i o n Center.



S h e was a homemaker and drove a school bus along with her husband Joe Robertson. She was a lifetime member of Freedom General Baptist Church and was active in 4-H and a member of Morning Glories Homemakers Club.

Surviving are her daughter, Bernice Tol- bert of Marion; two sons, Denver (Kim) Robertson of Marion, and Roger (Cathy) Robertson of Poole; a daughter-in-law, Nancy Robertson of Marion; multiple grandchildren, great- grandchildren and great-great-grandchil- dren.

She was preceded in death by her hus-

band, Joseph Robert- son; her parents, Rob- ert and Thelma Brannam McEuen; a son, Gary Robertson and a brother, Dennis McEuen.

Funeral services were Monday, July 3 at Myers Funeral Home with burial in Freedom Cemetery.

Memorial contrib- utions may be made to Freedom Cemetery Association c/o Den- ver Robertson at 1076 SR 120, Marion, KY 42064.

Rushing

David Lee Rushing, 62, died Wednesday, June 28, 2023. He was born in Cook County, Ill., Aug. 21, 1960 to the late James and June Rushing.



Rush- ing was a veteran of the United States Army and took great pride in his service to our coun- try. He loved old westerns, guns, real American heroes, driving on back coun- try roads and listen- ing to old country music. He was a good friend and devoted brother. He was very kind hearted and ex- tremely generous, the kind of person that would give you the shirt off of his back.

He will be sorely missed and is sur- vived by a son, David; and daughter Julia Dean of Des Moines, Iowa; four brothers, Jimmy Rushing of Pa- ducah, Mike Rushing of Fredonia, Billy Rushing of Mount Vernon, Ind., and Jeff Rushing of Danville; and a sister, Kathy Ramey of Madison- ville.

He was preceded in death by his father, James Marshall "Pop" Rushing; his mother, June Connor Rush- ing; a sister, Dorothy Knapp Rushing; and a brother, Elvis Rush- ing.

David, your strug- gles are over and your pains are no more and may your spirit find eternal peace. Our love goes with you always.

Private services will be held at Gilbert Fu- neral Home with pri- vate burial in Crayne

Cemetery. Rev. Roger Waters and Jeff Rush- ing will officiate.

Paid obituary

Sutton

Greg "Coach" Sutton, 67, of Dixon died Mon- day, July 3, 2023.

He was born in Mor- ganfield on Feb. 8, 1956, graduated from Union County High School's Class of 1975, worked at Island Creek and Dotiki (Alliance Coal) for 31 years, and was head coach of girls softball at Crittenden County High School, South Eastern Illinois College, Webster County High School and several travel teams and s u m m e r leagues. He finished up his coach- ing career g i v i n g catching lessons in George-



town the last three years after a total of 33 years. His greatest accomplish- ments were his children and his grandchildren. He was a member of Olive Branch Missionary Baptist Church in Han- son.

Surviving are his sig- nificant other, Joy Sut- ton of Dixon; two daughters, Kristy (Dustin) Owens of Nor- tonville and Misty Riley of Mayfield; a son, Heath (Brandy) Sutton of Georgetown; a sister, Karen Sutton of New- burgh;,, six grandchil- dren, Madison Grigg, Katelynn Owens, Dylan Riley, Jaci Riley, Emma Sutton, Avery Sutton and Judd Sutton.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Anna Dean Boswell; and grandson Landon Grigg.

Services were Wednes- day, July 5 at Olive Branch Missionary Bap- tist Church in Hanson with Bro. Gary Taylor and Bro. Ron Heady offi- ciating.

Green

Jane L. Green, 78, of Marion died Mon- day, July 3, 2023 at her home.

She worked in the meat department at Walmart for 15 years. She enjoyed working crossword puzzles in her spare time.

Surviving are a son, Thomas Green, Jr. of Marion; a daughter, Thomasa Green of Campbellsville; three sisters, Helen Kelly of Paducah, Mary Ann Peeler of West Padu- cah and Linda Brin- dley of Richmond; a brother, Jack Woods of Kevil.; two grand- children, Timothy Green and Joey Green; two great- grandchildren; and

several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her par- ents, Aubry K. and Mildred M. Robey Woods; two brothers, Kenneth Woods and Charles Woods; and her significant other, Herman Hammer.

Services are at 1 p.m., Thursday, July 6 in the chapel of Boyd Funeral Direc- tors and Cremation Services. Burial will be at Woodlawn Me- morial Gardens in Pa- ducah at a later date.

Friends may visit with the family from 11 a.m., until the fu- neral hour in the chapel of Boyd Fu- neral Directors.

Courthouse project board meets July 13

Due to the Fourth of July holiday con- flicting with the regu- larly scheduled meeting of the Crit- tenden County Project Development Board, the agency's meeting has been changed to 4:30 p.m., July 13 vir- tually.

A link for this meet- ing can be obtained by calling the Crit- tenden County Judge Executive's office at (270) 965-5251.

The PDB is the oversight board for the new Judicial Center construction project.

Online Condolences

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boydfuneraldirectors.com
gilbertfunerals.com

641 meeting July 11

The Kentucky Transportation Cab- inet (KYTC) has sched- uled a public information meeting to update residents on final plans for the reconstruction of U.S. 641 from U.S. 62 at Eddyville to the Cal- dwell-Crittenden County Line at Fredo- nia.

Final alignment for this project will be presented and public input accepted.

The public meeting will be held from 5 to 7 p.m., at the Fredo- nia Cumberland Pres- byterian Church Activities Building at 303 Cassidy Avenue in Fredonia.

Attendees may come and go at their

PUBLIC MEETING

U.S. 641 Connect

Tuesday, July 11
5 to 7 p.m.

Fredonia Cumberland Presbyterian Church
Activities Building
303 Cassidy Ave.,
Fredonia

convenience to view various exhibits, talk to KYTC representa- tives, ask questions about the project, and provide feedback.

The U.S. 641 Con- nect design team will be available to answer questions and glean additional input.



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Special delivery
An outpouring of community donations for Mother’s Day and Father’s Day flowers helped brighten the days of more than 100 residents of Crittenden County Health & Rehab and Salem Springlake Care Center. Above, Ruth Robertson accepts an arrangement from her daughter Bernice Tolbert. Robertson died this past weekend, one day after her 96th birthday. At left is a sample of the Father’s Day arrangements sent to male residents. Louise’s Flowers owner Teena York organized the event and plans to make it an annual endeavor.

Bold, bright flag reflects brave soldiers’ protection

Our sweet land of liberty. America was born from that beckoning call and remains the country where individuals risk their lives to pursue the unique opportunity that exists nowhere else on Earth.

On this day 247 years ago, representatives of the original 13 colonies ratified our Declaration of Independence and embarked upon the grandest experiment of self-governance in human history. They created a new form of government with checks and balances among the three branches of government we uphold today. A vision of protecting God-given inalienable rights is the cornerstone of a government that may not take away nor in-

fringe upon this pursuit.

“We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness,” is one of the most potent statements ever penned by man. Those words remain true and clear around the world as America has taken its foundation of freedom and become that city upon a hill, with the eyes of all people upon us.

The bold stripes and bright stars of our flag exist because of the brave hearts who fought to protect it. The sacrifice of more than 600,000 men and women who have died on the

battlefield these past two centuries is interwoven in the very fabric of this nation and the principles we hold dear. This country, even with her imperfections, remains the home of the free because of the brave. Keep our service members first and foremost in your heart as you enjoy holiday celebrations.

This republic has flourished for over 200 years because of our celebrated differences not despite them. For united we stand together across this commonwealth and this nation and in division, we fall.

As we reflect on our celebrations with family and friends, remember those principles of freedom, sacrifice and unity. We’re one nation under God, and together we will continue to live the lives our founding fathers envisioned for the future of this great nation.



Jason HOWELL
KENTUCKY STATE SENATOR
FROM FRANKFORT

JUDGE

Continued from page 1

tion have included the Kentucky Citizens Foster Care Review Board Outstanding Family Court Judge Award in 2017 and Kentucky Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) Network Judge of the Year in 2019. She was a National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (NCJFCJ) Judicial Engagement Network Fellow in 2020 and has served on numerous commissions, including the National CASA Judicial Leadership Council and the Child Support Guidelines Commission. She also serves as faculty for NCJFCJ and the Kentucky Circuit Judges Association.

Rogers credits her family, mentors such as her predecessor Judge William Mitchell, classmates, instructors and others who encouraged and supported her education.

“I have lived many lives it feels like and they’ve all equipped me to do a better job. I wouldn’t change a thing because it has given me resilience, determination and taught me self-preservation.

tion. I am not sure I could have gained all that without the experiences I’ve had in life,” she said.

That testimony as a 10-year-old was what the judge characterizes as a “core memory” in her life.

“That experience has equipped me to serve on the bench and to bring my perspective to the bench,” Rogers said.

A judge’s work is hardly ever done. Rogers sits on the bench one day a week in each of her three counties, Monday through Wednesday. She hears special cases and holds long hearings on Thursdays and Fridays. At night, she answers calls for protective orders and emergency removal orders for children who could be in danger.

Rogers tries to bring a calming effect to the bench.

“My court is not supposed to be a punishing court,” she said. “We intervene when it’s necessary. When people come before me they are usually having one of the worst days of their lives. They’re going to react, sometimes crying, sometimes cursing. They’re defensive and yes, they sometimes lie. But those things don’t offend me. I

let them be mad. I let them know I would be mad, too, if I was in their place.”

And there it is. She’s been there before... herself, sitting across from a judge, knees knocking long ago.

“I want them to know that there will be an ending to what they’re going through and it can be a positive one. My goal for family court is to help

Velomobile turns heads in Marion

Returning to the office mid-day last Thursday, I encountered what I first thought must be some sort of robotic Google mapping mobile. It looked like a miniature aircraft without wings rolling down East Bellville as it turned right and pulled into the parking lot behind the post office.

There must be someone around to intercept it, I thought, surmising it was making street maps.

But suddenly as I passed by I saw the hatch open and a thin, young male step out.

“What in the world,” I’m nearly certain I said aloud, though alone in my car. I admit, I was taking a video as I followed it down the street and pulled up next to it. I started to pull away bewildered; however, my journalist instincts kicked in and I thought, “I have to know more about this thing.”

Turns out it was a bicycle – a three-wheeled bike encased in aerodynamic material, and I wasn’t the only one whose head it turned as it strolled through town. Someone else was behind me, also taking a video.

The modified cycle had two tires on the front and one on the back and a seat with a back rest.

The driver, Nicklas Bostelmann, was a 22-year-old German completing the TransAmerica Bike Race from Wistoria, Ore., to Yorktown, Va. He said two velomobiles made the trek across America in 2018 during the annual TransAmerica race.

The velomobile is more common in Germany than the U.S., he said. Aerodynamics greatly improve its speed, in fact. He said downhill speeds exceed 70 mph, but he’s been too scared to allow it to go that fast.

Bostelmann has five years experience with composite manufacturing; is a certified lightweight aircraft builder; is a glider pilot; and is experienced with custom ultra lightweight composite parts, according to his website, www.nb-leichtbau.de.

A jar of cashews positioned snugly beside his left leg provide instant fuel, and the area behind his seat stows a sleeping bag and other necessities. Primarily, he stayed in hotels on his journey and was stop-



ping at the Marion Post Office to pick up some parcels before continuing eastward.

The velomobile has a taillight and high-beam headlight, making it worthy of nighttime travel. In fact, he mentioned riding through Yellowstone National park at 3 a.m. He said the lights increase safety, noting, “You can’t miss it. If you miss it, you miss everything on the road.”

His trip started out with a rough patch after he had a run-in with some rumble strips June 4, the first day of his ride, causing him to withdraw from the race and merely enjoy the remainder of the trip he anticipated completing this week.



Allison MICK-EVANS
THE CRITTENDEN PRESS
Write Now Commentary

Senior menu

The following is the lunch menu for the Crittenden County Senior Citizens Center for next week:

Thursday, July 6: Meatloaf, garlic mashed potatoes, green beans, whole grain roll, margarine, peaches and milk.

Friday, July 7: Sausage, egg patty, oven browned potatoes, whole wheat English muffin, fresh orange and milk.

Monday, July 10: Chicken tenders, mashed potatoes, Brussels sprouts, whole grain roll, margarine, orange-pine-apple gelatin and milk.

Tuesday, July 11: Chicken parmesan, whole wheat penne pasta, broccoli, whole grain roll, margarine, Mandarin oranges and milk.

Wednesday, July 12: Breaded pork chop,

baked potato, stewed tomatoes, whole grain roll, sour cream and margarine, diced pears and milk.

PACS senior service include the following:

- Senior Community Service Employment Program;
- SHIP - State Health Insurance Program;
- Transportation; and
- Homemaking and Home Delivered Meals.

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140 attended US 60 meeting at Ledbetter

More than 140 citizens attended a public information meeting on alternates for the reconstruction of U.S. 60 at Ledbetter in Livingston County on Tuesday, June 27.

In addition to some previously shared proposals, KYTC engineers offered some new options to provide more direct access to the U.S. 60 Tennessee River Ledbetter Bridge. Traffic currently has to stop twice and make two 90 degree turns to make the connection between existing U.S. 60 and the east end of the Ledbetter Bridge.

The project area runs along U.S. 60 from the U.S. 60 Connector at Lakeview Drive on the east end of the Ledbetter Bridge to near the Gillahan Road and Fern Road intersection, a distance of about 3.5 miles. Approximately 6,500 vehicles travel this section of U.S. 60 in an average day.

In addition to an earlier 4-lane proposal, the project design team shared options with a shortened section of 4-lane and the addition of a center turn lane along the existing roadway through much of Ledbetter.

KYTC District 1 Chief Engineer Kyle Poat says some of the new proposals are an effort to reduce costs to help speed funding for the improvements.

"We offered a couple of options that will meet our goal of enhancing safety and traffic flow through Ledbetter while providing improved access at the east end of the Ledbetter Bridge," Poat said. "Our project design team will glean through comments provided by the public to guide additional refinements going forward. Some of the new options are less expensive than earlier design proposals in an effort to improve the likelihood of gaining funding for construction."

Poat noted that anyone who was unable to attend the meeting may go to the KYTC District 1 Office at 5501 Kentucky Dam Road in Reidsland to review displays and provide input.

"If you would like to go by the office, you may contact KYTC District 1 at 270-898-2431 to arrange to review displays and make comments until July 27," Poat said.

The deadline for submitting written comments is also July 27. Comments may be submitted by mail to Chris Kuntz, P.E., Branch Manager Project Development, KYTC District 1 Office, 5501 Kentucky Dam Rd, Paducah, KY 42003.

Scammers target Atmos customers

Atmos Energy recently became aware of an ongoing "Search Engine Phishing" operation, where



cybercriminals use search engine optimization (SEO) techniques to place a fake website into a browser's top search results.

Any user who clicks on one of these "spoofed" websites will be redirected to what looks like a legitimate Atmos Energy page, but that fake page will feature a fake customer service number and other false information. If a customer calls the fake customer service number, they may be asked to provide login credentials or other sensitive information that the scammers can leverage to compromise bank, credit card, or other accounts belonging to the same customer.

Telephone scams are also on the rise, including one where impostors call customers directly and offer a discount on their Atmos Energy bill if they pay immediately over the phone. As a reminder:

Atmos Energy will never ask for payment using prepaid debit cards, gift cards, cryptocurrency, or unauthorized third-party payment or mobile application.

If you ever have concerns about the legitimacy of a call, simply hang up and call Atmos Energy customer service

at 888.286.6700.

Payment for an Atmos Energy bill should be made through the online Account Center or through other authorized payment methods.

Atmos Energy says it will provide multiple notices and work to assist customers with payment plans and assistance options before any service interruptions take place.

Unless there is an emergency, Atmos Energy employees will not call before 7 a.m. or after 6 p.m. Central time.

If you suspect an impostor, call the Atmos customer service phone number at 888.286.6700 to verify.

Whitetail group involved in big benefit auction

The Mason and Williams Land Team of Whitetail Properties Land Specialists successfully auctioned 354.74 acres in Christian County during a recent live and online buyer's choice auction. The property was gifted to Tennessee's Lipscomb University by a private donor. Leaders of the Nashville-based university decided the best way to maximize that gift was to sell it and use the money to better the school and students who go there.

The auction of five mostly timber tracts with some agriculture land mixed in generated \$1,438,355 for the university.

Mark Williams, Whitetail Properties Land Specialist with the Mason and Williams Land Team, said he was very pleased with the results and proud of his team.

"We were able to help out a university and a private family, and we can't wait to host more auctions in western Kentucky," he said. "One of the things that sets us apart from other auction companies is our auction style. We prefer the buyer's choice format rather than multi-parcel. The result is an easier-to-understand auction and more control to the high bidders."

All five tracts of the 354.74 acres were sold to four separate buyers, bringing more than the property's appraised value. Lipscomb University will be able to capitalize on its generous gift.

The Mason and Williams Land Team has an office located in Marion. It comprises seven Whitetail Properties land specialists and four support staff that help clients buy and sell land all over western Kentucky and southern Illinois.

State paying for work at Fedonia regional megasite

Gov. Andy Beshear announced last week over \$2.5 million in state funding to develop land and buildings to support economic growth and good-paying jobs across eight sites in 11 counties.

Projects in Logan, Washington, Henderson, Caldwell, Trigg and Nicholas counties, as well as a regional project including Caldwell, Crittenden, Livingston, Lyon and Trigg

counties, were approved by the Kentucky Economic Development Finance Authority (KEDFA).

The state funding comes from the Kentucky Product Development Initiative program which was established in 2022. To date, 30 site and building development projects statewide have been approved for approximately \$17 million in state funding.

The Lyon County Fiscal Court, on behalf of Caldwell, Crittenden, Livingston, Lyon and Trigg counties, submitted a regional project to conduct a floodplain analysis at the Pennyrile Westpark Industrial Park, with the beneficiary being Pennyrile Westpark Industrial Development Authority. The more than \$69,000 regional project was approved for nearly \$35,000 in state funding.

Fiscal court pays for pauper burial

Crittenden County Fiscal Court met in special session Friday to close out Fiscal Year 23. It also dispensed with a variety of other matters, including approval of a pauper burial.

By statute, the county is responsible for burials if the decedent is declared indigent. The fiscal court budgets \$4,000 annually for this responsibility, but seldom is called upon to pay.

"This is probably the first one we've had in six years," said Judge-Executive Perry Newcom.

Cost for the burial of the unnamed individual was \$2,000. The body was cremated.

Magistrates also approved repair of an ambulance at a cost of just over \$1,000 and scheduled repair of another ambulance at an anticipated cost of \$4,000 to \$6,000.

The court also approved changes to the Crittenden County Public Properties Corporation, which is overseeing construction of the proposed new justice center. Magistrates serve as directors of the corporation and Judge Newcom serves as chairman. Magistrate Scott Belt was elected secretary.

Auto theft remains under investigation

Marion Police Department is investigating an automobile theft and other mischief that occurred overnight last Thursday and early Friday morning.

A car was stolen from a residence on Maxwell Street and crashed into a dumpster at Marion-Crittenden County Park. The

suspect or suspects left the damaged vehicle and fled.

Police Chief Ray O'Neal said the incident happened sometime between midnight at 5 a.m.

There were four other incidents overnight where vehicles were rummaged through. Police believe all of the cases are connected. They occurred on East Bellville, East Depot, Old Shady Grove Road and Clark Street.

Police may have a suspect in the case, yet no charges had been filed as of early this week.

Postage stamp is going up to 66¢ starting Sunday

First-class stamps are going up again next week. It has only been about seven months since the last increase. Beginning Sunday, July 9, forever stamps will cost 66 cents.

Stamps had gone up from 60 to 63 cents in January.

In April, the postal service made the announcement about the second increase this year. It will also bump up the price for sending domestic postcards to 51 cents. A 1-ounce letter or postcard mailed to another country will increase to \$1.50. There will be no change to the single-piece letter and flat additional-ounce price, which remains at 24 cents.

Between Printed Editions Tune in to The Press Online for breaking news.

We also ask that you subscribe to our YouTube Channel. It's a Free Service to Our Readers!

ALCOHOL

Continued from page 1 marked jump in sales was seen during the pandemic.

Based on tax receipts, it appears that in Fiscal Year 2022 the nine establishments in town that sell alcoholic beverages saw cumulative sales of \$1.6 million. Fiscal Year 2023 will end this month and based on trends over the past 11 months, it appears that sales have increased only modestly from the previous 12-month period. In the first full year of legal alcohol sales in Marion, local retailers and restaurants sold about \$1.32 million in booze.

Average monthly alcohol sales have gone up steadily since 2019. Average tax collection on alcohol sales in calendar year 2020 was about \$5,964. This calendar year it's been around \$7,385. Sales are the highest around the holidays in December.

Tax revenue derived from the legal sale of alcohol is primarily spent on law enforcement. The city also spends a portion of the funds toward a DARE program at the schools.



10 YEARS AGO

July 4, 2013

■ The Crittenden Press polled its readers by asking, "What is your biggest concern about Kentucky's future?" Most of the online voters viewed poverty and drug abuse as the major problems facing the Commonwealth. The results were as followed; Poverty, 31%; Drug Abuse, 26%; Education, 22%; Public Health, 9% and Other, 12%.

■ Retiring faculty and staff members were recognized for their dedication and service to the Crittenden County School System at the June 25 Board of Education meeting. Special recognition was given to Anna Jay, Dena Duncan, Lynette Miller, Janet Stevens, Ruth McClure, Freda Roberts and Marceia Ellis.

■ Crittenden County's 8-under Lady Wildcats softball team won the league championship and the post-season tournament. The girls beat Caldwell County A's 9-3 and knocked off the Caldwell County White Sox 15-3 for the championship. The girls finished the season with an 11-1 record and won two in the postseason for an overall 13-1 mark. Team members include Shayla Jones, Aubrey Conyer, Riley Smith, Macie Hunt, Emily Mattingly, Kailyn Stokes, Karsen Shouse, Callie Dempsey and Alyssa Woodall. They were coached by Michael Hunt, Stephen Smith and Mandy Hunt.

■ The Marion Stingrays swim team participated in three meets and had two more to go later in the month. The Stingrays lost 460-153 to Greenville and 553-496 to Calvert City, however, the team beat Calvert City 614-406 in its previous meeting. The leading scorers for the Stingrays have been Kaylee Graham, Micah Newcom and Xander Tabor.

■ Crittenden County students competed in the Kentucky Youth Seminar at the University of Kentucky. The students collectively earned \$1,800 in scholarships, cash awards and four expense-paid trips to the national conference. Students who won the competition were Brittany Buell, Anna Schnitter, Ashley Collyer, Dustin Perry and Ian Cartwright.

25 YEARS AGO

July 2, 1998

■ Members of the American Legion Post 111 hung 100 American flags throughout

downtown Marion in celebration of the Fourth of July holiday. The flags were purchased by the city and county through the "Show Your Colors, America" program.

■ Mr. and Mrs. D.C. Loveless of Marion celebrated 56 years of marriage. The couple married on July 3, 1942. The couple had 11 children, 22 grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

■ The foursome of Ryan Perry, Pat Perry, Blair Winders and Ken Rogers survived the heat and constant pressure of 26 teams vying for a championship in the 4-Person Golf Scramble at Marion Country Club. Three-fourths of the winning team hailed from Crittenden County, all except Rogers, who lives in the neighboring Caldwell County. They shot back-to-back rounds of 14-under-par to win the tournament with a final score of 58-58-116

■ Brandon Wagoner, 15, captured the Kentucky Junior Rodeo Association's All-Around Cowboy state championship during the state finals at Greenville. Wagoner became the third local cowboy or cowgirl to win a state all-around championship in junior or high school rodeo, joining former champs David Maddux and Michele Stone.

50 YEARS AGO

July 5, 1973

■ Non-members of the Marion Country Club had an opportunity for their youngsters to enroll in swimming lessons being given at the club five mornings each week. Instructors for the classes were Tina Perry, Melissa McKenney and Ann Greenwell.

■ Jim Maggard of Watkins and Associates, Inc., of Lexington, presented Dennis Woodall with a copy of the Comprehensive Countywide Plan and Housing Plan for Crittenden County. Woodall is chairman of the City-County Planning Commission which worked with Watkins and Associates to develop the plan.

■ The Crittenden County Hospital welcomed the new arrivals of six babies born in the month of June. These individuals were Alice Carol Gillette, Darla Kay Curnel, Brodwick Graham Shuecraft, Tammy Renee Phillips, Regina Lea Jones and Edward Troy Belt.

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

The Crittenden Press

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Reflections from a youthful nation

It is a very human exercise to express ideals that we all desire to live up to. Holidays give us opportunities to focus on the better parts of who we are: Christmas, New Year's Day, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Memorial Day, Labor Day, and this week, Independence Day. These days serve as reminders of who we want to be and call us to be better than who we are.

Speaking idealistic words gives us the opportunity to check our progress, or lack thereof. Letting the best of our thoughts flow a few times a year does, eventually, make us better tomorrow than we were yesterday. One of the reasons I enjoy history so much is that it gives us glimpses into the lives and thoughts of those who lived long before we did. What if, for example, we could overhear what was said on the Fourth of July in Philadelphia in 1794? At the time George Washington was president and it was the capital of

the newly formed United States of America.

One of the wonders of living today is our access to vast amounts of primary source documents unfathomable even 20 years ago. So, out of curiosity, I looked up a report of the July 4th celebration recorded on page three of the Aurora General Advertiser, Philadelphia, Pa. on July 8, 1794*.

There was a parade, some music, a large public meal and, of interest to us, a great deal of drinking associated with no fewer than 15 toasts, 'under the discharge of artillery.' The heat, the sweat, the horses, the ale, the food, and the gunpowder. I can almost smell it.

After two sermons and two readings of the Dec-

laration of Independence we read, "At three o'clock the officers of the brigade, and of the independent regiment of the artillery assembled at the old Coffee-House, where they sat down to a handsome dinner provided for the occasion. The day was spent in good humour [sic.], good order, and happiness, and the following toasts drank under the discharge of artillery."

Here are a few to consider.

"The Day. May it ever be auspicious to the cause of freedom; and may each returning anniversary bring some new blessing to our country."

"The Senate and the House of Representatives of the United States. May their decisions be guided

by wisdom, and the purest principles of patriotism, and may they meet with the cordial consent of the constituents."

"The heroes who have fallen in defence [sic.] of American freedom. Taught by their great example may we learn, that in the sacred cause of freedom our fortunes and our lives are at the disposal of our country."

"The rights of man. May they be clearly understood, and fully enjoyed."

At another gathering in the city at 4 o'clock these toasts were drunk.

"Science, may the sum of truth dissipate the clouds of ignorance."

"Equal rights – May the principles which gives each man his due be the basis of every political institution."

"May the soil of America be consecrated by the genius of universal emancipation."

"May America ever be an asylum for the persecuted and the oppressed."

One can hear in these

expressions hope for the future and the seeds of the incredibly challenging years ahead. Some of the thoughts expressed nearly 230 years ago we have yet to fully realize. Yet, the nation is still here and still moving forward. It is right for us to question what they may have meant. It is right for us to feel the pain of our failures to live up to our own ideals. It is right for us to continue to use the rhetoric of freedom and rights even as we fail to fully realize them.

This same process is at work in faith. The Bible gives us those ideals to which we are to live into. We, as believers, express those ideals in words, even when our deeds fail us. This does not make them untrue. This does not negate our faith. This does not give us a reason to give up on those ideals.

Nations and churches (and try not to put the two together too tightly) should never stop striving for who we should be and who we want to be. We should help each other to be who we say we are. This is hard. There is always a price to pay from moving to who I am to who I will be.

I am thankful for the free nations on this planet. None live up to their ideals, but all have something to contribute. I am thankful for the freedom that is found in faith, regardless of nation or government. I hope you had a wonderful Independence Day.

*Sourced from newspapers.com.

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.


In Jesus, you live in confidence instead of fear

Question: I'm about to lose my job! My sales are not enough to cover my salary. I fear how potential customers will reject me. I feel incredibly anxious in talking to people I don't know. How can I overcome my fear of asking strangers to buy my company's products?

Answer: Begin by asking yourself, "Am I in the line of work I can handle with my personality and abilities?" Many people are not cut out to be salesmen. If not, quickly change your line of work. If you know you can do sales, here are two things you can rely on to give you confidence instead of fear:

- 1. Find peace with your Creator.** God loves you and wants to save you from

ASK the PASTOR
By Bob Hardison



sin and to offer you a new life of hope. That's possible through Jesus' sacrificial death for you on the cross. You receive the gift of forgiveness and eternal life by faith in Jesus alone (Eph. 2:8, 9).

- 2. Meet every customer with confidence instead of fear.** Start each day realizing, "If God is for us, who can be against us" (Rom. 8:31)? Also know, "In all (struggles and trials) we are more than conquerors through him who loves us. For I am convinced that (nothing) will be able to

separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Rom. 8:37-39). God's salvation is eternal, and once we are adopted into God's family, nothing can separate us from Him.

If you have sincerely asked Jesus to come into your life, God has saved you and He has welcomed you into His family. Don't base your assurance of your relationship with God on your emotional feelings. They vary greatly depending what's going on in your life. Base your assurance on the clear teachings of God's Word—the Bible. "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved" (Rom. 10:13). The moment your ask Jesus Christ to come into your

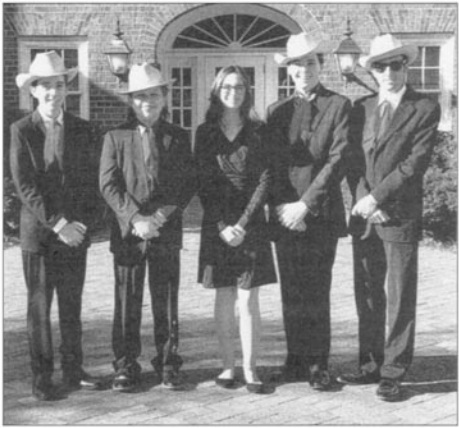
heart, He does so and gives you eternal life.

Send your questions to: bob@bobhardison.com

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HOMECOMING
Marion General Baptist Church
341 West Bellville St., Marion, KY
July 9
Service at 11 a.m.



Classy & Grassy singing following noon meal
Everyone is welcome!

Community Events & News

- Old Salem Baptist Church has a Blessing Box located next to the church at 117 Old Salem Church Rd. Everyone is welcome to take items or place them in the box for others to enjoy.
- 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 Fredo-

nia 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 1 to 3 p.m. the third Thursday 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.

Marion Baptist Church
WELCOME
FAMILY LIFE CENTER
Open to the Public
9am to 3pm
Monday thru Friday
Walking Track Gymnasium

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 John Okoro
860 S. Main St.
Marion, Ky.
(270) 965-2477


Mexico Baptist Church
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.
175 Mexico Rd.
(270) 965-4059
MexicoBaptist.org

DEER CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH
Sunday Bible Study: 10 a.m.
Sunday Worship: 11 a.m. & 6 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study: 7 p.m.
Approx. 5 miles from the intersection of Hwy. 60 & Hwy. 297
Phone: (270) 965-2220


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

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

Barnett Chapel General Baptist
Sunday School: 10 a.m.
Sunday Worship: 11 a.m.
Sunday Night Service: 6 p.m.
Bro. Ken Suits, pastor
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 Evening 6 p.m.
Sunday Worship 11 a.m. Wed. Bible Study 6 p.m.

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

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


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


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


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."


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

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


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

Frances Community Church
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 Hincee
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 -


Bridges over Tradewater into Webster county

The old one-lane iron bridges that were once scattered across the county are all gone now, all replaced with modern concrete bridges. And I'll admit, they do feel safer crossing over them. I remember as a child crossing the iron framed bridges with wooden flooring, and how the boards would rattle and seem to pop up and down as the car went over them. I was always afraid we wouldn't make it to the other side.

Taken from the archives of The Crittenden Press, here is some history of two of these old iron bridges that were located in the eastern part of the county. They were very much appreciated at the time they were built but became obsolete in later years and were replaced.

Tradewater Bridge at Fishtap

Sept. 2, 1919 - The Crittenden County Fiscal Court met at 9 o'clock. County Judge R. L. Moore, reported his efforts in trying to secure the issue of road bonds.

A bridge was ordered built across Tradewater River at Fishtap; not to cost more than \$7,000, to be paid jointly by this and Webster County, and it is estimated that Crittenden County's part will be 38 percent and that of Webster's will be 62 percent.

There had been two sites suggested for the location of the bridge, and J. E. Sullinger and Esq. L. E. Waddell were appointed to make a survey and a plot of the two proposed sites, and to make a written report to the Fiscal Court of their findings and to designate which location they considered the most suitable.

This committee did its work well with a splendid map and written report and suggested to the court that the site known as the lower site was the most suitable for the bridge. The Court adopting the committee's suggestion ordered the bridge built on what is known as the lower site. This location would be just down from the Enon Baptist Church where the village of Fishtap was located. At the time Mr. James Little ran the ferry there.

New Bridge Completed

The new iron bridge over Tradewater River at Fishtap connecting Crittenden and Web-



A large crowd attended the dedication meal, which included a large spread on the ground. These one-of-a-kind old photos made that day were taken by Ike Zachary, who then operated a photographic studio at Shady Grove.



Citizens of Crittenden and Webster counties attended the dedication of the new Montezuma Bridge. Seated on the front row are William Melton, John Ford, Elmer Gold, Glenn Castner (whose Model T. Ford was driven across the structure during the dedication), Press Ford, president of Union National Bank at Providence; Harv Ross, Dave Kelly and Jimmy Cole.



The iron Fishtap/Tradewater bridge built in 1922 served Webster and Crittenden counties. The cast iron plaque (circled in the photo) on the bridge is preserved in the Crittenden County Historical Museum. It says: Crittenden County: R. L. Moore, Judge, F. Davidson, J.P., W. D. Drennan, J.P., Webster County: A. R. Wall, Judge, O. C. Vaughn, J.P. R. W. Hoket, J.P.



Brenda Underdown
County Historian

Forgotten Passages

ster counties was completed without an accident and opened for traffic Saturday morning, Dec. 31, 1921.

On Dec. 31, after the bridge's formal opening, a celebration was held at Enon Church and Rev. C. T. Boucher preached. After the service a bountiful dinner was served by the good ladies of this community.

Everyone expressed their thanks to Judge Moore, Esquire Drennan, and the officials of Webster County, and all others who did anything to promote this new bridge. Both counties had looked forward to this important step for several years.

New Concrete Bridge

In October 1982, 61years later, the old one-lane iron Tradewater Bridge had become obsolete and the construction of a new bridge over the Tradewater River at Fishtap was in its final stages. Later that year it would be complete and the new modern concrete bridge would be ready for use to connect the two counties.

The Montezuma Bridge

Why did this new bridge built in the mid 1920s get the name Montezuma? After some researching, I found that once many years ago there was a small community in Webster County named Montezuma, which was located at the site they wanted for a new bridge, also there was a coal mine in this same vicinity that was named Montezuma Mine. Perhaps this is why the

people at the time decided to call the new bridge Montezuma.

In Nov. of 1924, three members of the Webster County Fiscal Court, met with the Crittenden County Fiscal Court to ask for an appropriation to aid in building a bridge over the Tradewater River at Montezuma, but they were told that the county levy had been already exhausted for this year and they would have to wait until next year to make a commitment.

It was a few years before the new bridge over Tradewater on Highway 120 into Providence was built. When built in the mid 1920s, the bridge was quite a structure when it was completed. The bridge spanned the Tradewater River and connected Crittenden and Webster counties. At that time, people in that eastern end of Crittenden County traveled to Providence probably more often than they did to Marion, and there was a ferry that was used to cross the river. Most of the money for the bridge was raised by the City of Providence.

There was a large group of people from Webster and Crittenden counties who turned out for the dedication. For the dedication ceremony, Glenn Castner's Model T Ford was the first vehicle driven across the structure for its grand opening.

After the ceremony the ladies of both counties supplied food and a dedication dinner was served on the ground.

New Concrete bridge

In 1977, plans for a new modern bridge over the Tradewater River were made available for public inspection. The new proposed plans called for the old, one-lane Montezuma bridge to be replaced by a three-span concrete structure 34 feet wide by

220-feet long, and the roadbed was to be raised to put the new bridge about normal flooding level.

After these new plans were approved, the old bridge was closed because of its age, condition and posted weight limit of only 10 tons. The Montezuma Bridge was the only direct route between Marion and Providence.

The detour would have to be Hwy. 132 to Clay.

The new concrete bridge was finished in November of 1978.

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

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LIVINGSTON COUNTY, KY 118.1 - \$299,000 - This property has the right habitat for deer and turkey hunting, with the added bonus of a rustic one-room hunting cabin located in a qdm neighborhood and has plenty of deer sign throughout!

LIVINGSTON COUNTY, KY 91.09 - \$236,869 - Property has a diverse mix of habitat types and topography, numerous entry points along road frontage, hunter-friendly topography, a creek, and planted pines.

CRITTENDEN COUNTY, KY 55.78 - \$255,000 - This tract has the right blend of habitat types and topography to grow and hold big bucks with the added bonus of a furnished pole barn cabin! Includes a Redneck hunting blind and feeders!

LIVINGSTON COUNTY, KY - 113.44 ACRES - \$269,422 - All timber hunting tract. This tract is located in an area known for big bucks and has timber diversity.

LIVINGSTON COUNTY, KY - 119.44 ACRES - \$235,906 - Mostly timber hunting tract geared toward turkeys and whitetails. This tract has a diverse topography with dynamic terrain features and timber diversity.

LIVINGSTON COUNTY, KY - 189.63 ACRES - \$501,265 - All timber hunting tract. This property is a timbered ridge top with food plots and a natural saddle.

LIVINGSTON COUNTY, KY - 427 ACRES - \$918,237 - Timbered ridge top hunting tract! This tract has the ideal blend of habitat types for mature whitetails and wild turkeys.

CRITTENDEN COUNTY, KY - 201.98 ACRES - REDUCED! \$759,000 - This property has a diverse blend of habitat types and topography with a home, outbuildings and a proven history of big bucks. The home has 2,025 square feet of living space with three bedrooms and two bathrooms.

CRITTENDEN COUNTY, KY - 31.5 ACRES - REDUCED \$725,000 - Beautiful home and acreage in a quiet rural area near Marion. This property has a sprawling 4,998-square-foot home nestled in scenic landscape.

CRITTENDEN COUNTY, KY - 0.9 ACRES - REDUCED! \$105,000 - This rustic cabin with storage buildings provides the ideal base camp for your hunting adventures! This cabin has 1,192 square feet of living space with three bedrooms and one bathroom, a spacious living area with a fireplace, a full kitchen with plenty of cabinet space, a full bathroom and laundry room.

CRITTENDEN COUNTY, KY - 265.67 ACRES - \$742,500 - Diverse hunting tract with waterfowl potential! This tract has the ideal habitat types for deer, turkeys and waterfowl hunting! This river bottom farm has approximately 1.5 miles of frontage along the Tradewater River.

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Cooper Towing of of 3425 Mott City Rd., Marion, KY 42064 (270) 704-0943 is hereby notifying Richard Mundy that a 2011 Hyundai Genesis with a Vin# of KMHT6KD6CU078675 and plate # AWZ223KY will be sold July 27, 2023 to recover towing and storage fees. Vehicle was picked up on US Hwy. 641 in Marion on April 23, 2023. (3t-29-p)

I, Samuel Frazer of 614 W. Elm St., Marion, KY 42-64, (270) 969-4058 is hereby notifying Noah Hilliegas that the 2006 Nissan Altima Vin# IN-43LIE96C142750 is to be sold on July 7, 2023 to recover labor and storage fees. (3t-27-p)

Notice is hereby given that on June 28, 2023 Christy Eastwood of 1060 S.R. 1668, Marion, Ky. 42064 was appointed administratrix with will annexed of Darren Wyatt Young, deceased, whose address was Rebecca Johnson, P.O. Box 415, Marion, Ky., attorney. All persons having claims against said estate are hereby notified to present the same properly proven as required by law to the administratrix with will annexed on or before the 28th day of December, 2023 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-27-c)

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FOOTBALL

Rocket preseason chatter

Rocket football fans are aware that Crittenden County will be playing up in Class 2A beginning this fall with Mayfield, Murray and Caldwell County but it could be short-lived. Changes could soon be coming to the KHSAA's alignment. Whether those changes would affect Crittenden's position is unclear. The Kentucky High School Athletic Association is looking to revise its football classification results, and lock schools into their class based strictly on enrollment. In the past, teams could play up in class – never down however – in order to achieve travel convenience or a competitive balance. The high school sports governing body is proposing new rules beginning in the 2025 season based strictly on enrollment. Class alignments typically run in four-year cycles, but the current classification makeup was scheduled for only two years. Schools with shifts in enrollment could ask for a change beginning with the 2025 season. Mayfield for many years played up in 2A despite having a 1A eligible enrollment. Other schools have done the same over the years. It remains unclear if CCHS will be reclassified back into 1A after the 2024 season. Its enrollment could remain up, keeping the Rockets in 2A through 2026. The Rockets were moved to 2A because its enrollment figures were 21 students above the 1A cutoff. The junior class is larger than most at CCHS, skewing its numbers upward. Ironically, only five juniors are on the 2023 football roster. Football's preseason workouts begin Monday. The team will be playing 7-on-7 tournaments at McCracken County July 13 and at Murray State July 21. The team will be attending a three-day workout at West Kentucky Youth Camp starting July 31.

GOLF

Upcoming events

- Deer Lakes Orange Jacket Invitational will be July 22-23 at the 18-hole course in Salem.
- July 10 Marion Baptist Church Junior League at The Heritage.
- July 15 Par 3 Tournament (18-hole Individual play) at The Heritage.
- July 24 Marion Baptist Church Junior League at The Heritage.
- July 26 Quarterback Club 4-Person Scramble at The Heritage.

HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS

Dead period ends

The Kentucky High School Athletic Association's mandatory two-week dead period will end later this week. From June 25 to July 9, middle school and high school athletes and coaches are prohibited from sports activities or even contacting one another. It's a strongly enforced rule that gives high school athletes a break from any type of school-related sports or fundraising activity.

BASKETBALL

Youth boys, girls camp

Boys and girls can sign up for the Crittenden County Youth Basketball Camp July 19-21 at Rocket Arena. Cost is \$30 per camper and there is a half-price discount for siblings. The camp is for participants in grades K through 8th. There will be two sessions per day with K-3 from noon until 2 p.m., and grades 4-8 from 2-4 p.m. All campers will receive a T-shirt. Instruction will be from Lady Rocket and Rocket coaching staffs and high school players. There will be daily ice cream and money shots. For more information, call boys' coach Matt Fralix (615) 975-3958.

OUTDOORS

Hunting Seasons

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

Bullfrog	May 19 - Oct 31
Coyote	Year Round
Ground hog	Year Round
Squirrel	Aug 19 - Nov 10
Dove	Sept 1 - Oct 26
Canada goose	Sept 1-15
Deer archery	Sept 2 - Jan 15
Turkey archery	Sept 2 - Jan 15
Wood duck	Sept 16-20
Deer crossbow	Sept 16 - Jan 15
Teal	Sept 16-24

Johnson signs for softball with Brescia

Infielder never played high school fast-pitch

STAFF REPORT

Hailey Johnson of Salem will be playing softball at Brescia University in Owensboro. The 2023 graduate of Livingston Central High School took what might be considered a unique route to the collegiate ranks because she never played an inning of high school fast-pitch. Johnson has spent plenty of time on the diamond, but it's all been as part of a travel team. She's currently playing for the Southern Indiana Hotshots out of Princeton, Ind. Since she was old enough to play, Johnson has been part of travel ball clubs, including the Talons out of Mayfield, a Marshall County squad and two Tennessee teams. Her father, Scotty Johnson, has oftentimes been her coach. "My dad has always been my biggest supporter and has encouraged me since I was eight years old," she said. "I doubted myself so many times about playing at the college level, but he would always tell me he knew I could do it." A defensive specialist of sorts, Johnson typically plays on the left side of the infield. During a workout with Brescia's



Brescia softball coach Traci Smith shares a laugh with Salem's Hailey Johnson on signing day, which was held at Livingston Central High School a few months ago.

team a few months ago, she saw action at shortstop. Johnson has earned a number of personal accolades playing travel ball, including being named to the United States Specialty Sports Association (USSSA) All-State team and the American Girls Fastpitch Softball All-Ameri-

can team. In college, Johnson plans to study chemistry in the pre-pharmacy program. She will join another Livingston Countian, Maddie Norton, who recently signed to play at Brescia. The team is scheduled to report to school in early August.



Kentucky Afield Outdoors – Kayak Fishing Tips for Summer

Common mistake is blowing up fishing hole

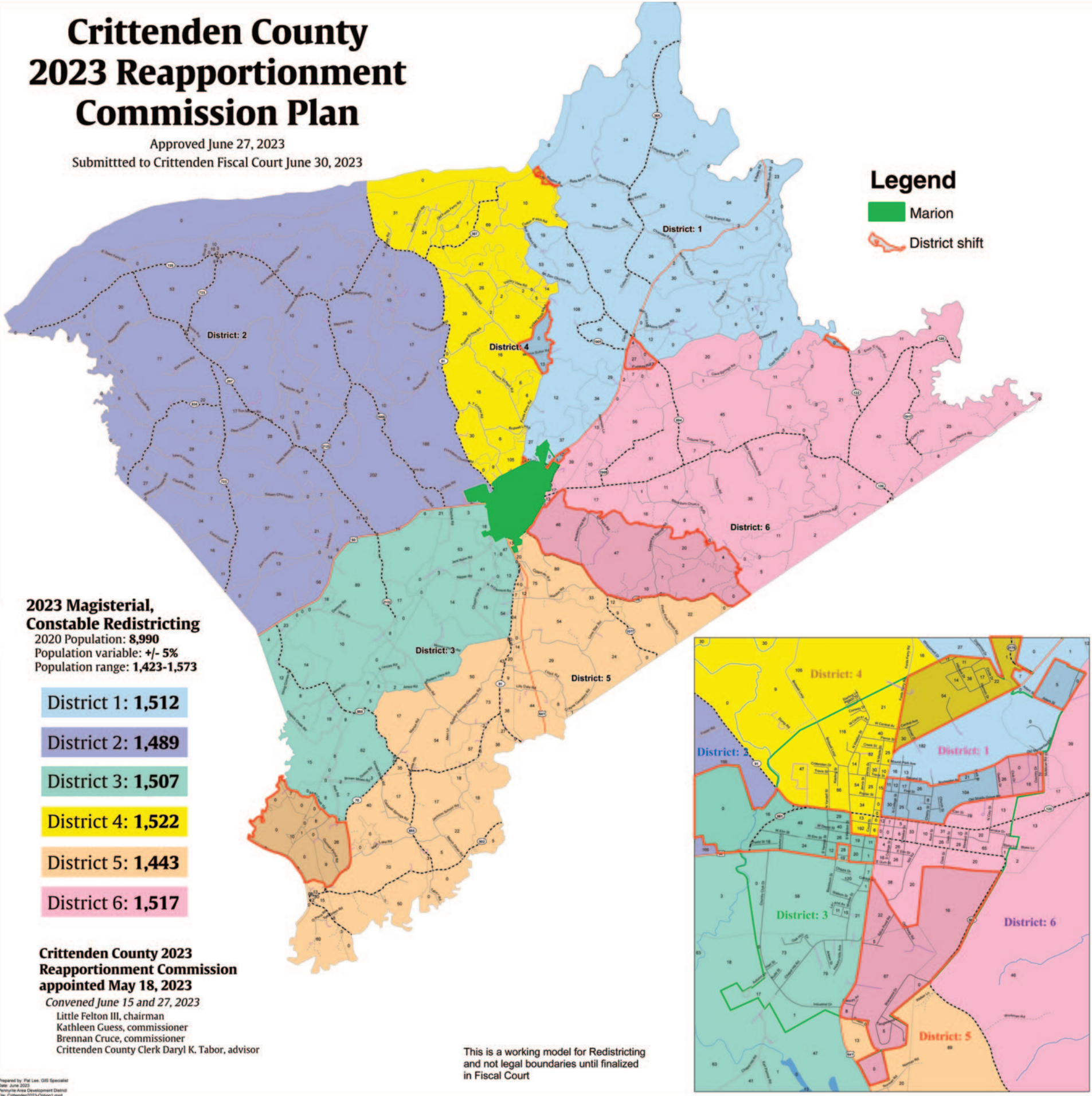
BY LEE MCCLELLAN
KENTUCKY AFIELD

The meat of the summer heat is here and will remain until late September. For many paddlers, the first days of summer mean the start of kayak fishing season and time to get their boats wet for the first time in months. Stream smallmouth bass bite willingly during the hottest stretches of the year. Floating and wading a smallmouth stream is one of the best ways to escape the suffocating heat and humidity of a Kentucky summer. However, if you're a little rusty because you haven't had your boat in the water since last summer, remember these five tips to improve the enjoyment of your summer float trips and put more fish in hand. 1. Do not bite off more than you can chew. This old saying has two meanings for a paddler: Do not attempt to paddle a stream with rapids greater than your skill level and avoid making the float too long if you want to fish. Do your research before floating a new stream or section. Start by consulting the Kentucky Fish and Wildlife website at fw.ky.gov. Click the Canoeing and Kayaking page then surf the Blue Water Trails tab and the Stream Fisheries tab. It is a good idea to consult the Kentucky list for the American Whitewater webpage; it classifies the rapids on many streams in Kentucky. If you are beginner or if you mainly paddle flatwater, such as a small state-owned lake, keep your choices to streams with rapids rated no higher than Class I. The higher the number, the more technical the rapid, with Class I being the easiest level. If you have little paddling experience, trying to negotiate rapids that are Class II or higher is dangerous folly. Learn to run the easier rapids before attempting hairier drops. If you're fishing, keep your

floats under 8 miles. At longer distances, you must pick and choose only the best-looking fishing spots to make sure you make the take-out by dark. Avoid floating in the dark at all costs. Even the best flashlight cannot show the proper line to take in a rapid or accurately reveal the depth of the water when it's dark. Walking a loaded kayak through a shallow swift rapid at 10 p.m. can lead to a painful slip and fall. Mother Nature does not make soft, spongy rocks. 2. Do not blow up the fishing hole. The two most productive areas for smallmouth bass in a stream are the areas above and below a stream drop. Once you hear the roar of a rapid, you need to plan how to fish it without spooking the fish. It's best to fish for stream smallmouth bass in a slow and stealthy fashion. Work your way toward the shallows in the flowing water above the drop (the "tailout"), and fish it slowly. If possible, walk your kayak through the rapid, then beach it and wade fish the deeper flowing water below the rapid. This is where the better smallmouth often hide. Many anglers don't want to get out of their boat to fish. They miss many smallmouth bass, often because their boat spooked the fish. A 16-inch smallmouth bass hiding behind a large rock in 5 feet of flowing water likely will not bite if you float right over the top of it, casting a huge shadow and making noise. They don't get large by being stupid. Walk the boat through the edge of the rapid (using a rope if necessary), then wade-fish the productive water below and above it. If you must make up some time, paddle through the deep, current-free stretches. You can burn this water without regret. 3. Keep down noise and

pressure waves as you wade. Slow and deliberate wading of small sections of stream with the best habitat greatly increases the chances of catching a memorable smallmouth bass. Look for larger fish holding in an undercut bank, behind a current break or in the seam where faster water meets slower water. Fish in these places will be wary. Make your approach stealthier by getting out of the water completely and walking along the bank. Approach the productive water from downstream. Once you enter the water to wade, feel the bottom with each foot for a secure hold before committing your weight. This keeps slips to a minimum and dampens the noise from your feet contacting bottom. Keep your body sideways to the current as much as possible to avoid creating pressure waves that go out over the water you plan to fish. Pressure waves from your body's movement through the water can spook smallmouth bass. 4. Fishing submerged woody cover can be tricky. Windstorms over the past several years knocked trees and branches into the streambeds of many of Kentucky's best smallmouth bass streams. Woody cover, especially in areas of the stream with current and depth, provides excellent smallmouth bass habitat. It can be tricky to fish. It's best to float past the woody cover then fish your lure parallel to the cover from downstream. You can more easily move a large smallmouth bass away from the sunken tree from downstream as the current helps push the fish away from the wood. Do not make the mistake of fishing a sunken tree from a perpendicular position, or straight across from the cover. All the smallmouth bass must do is dive straight down into the tree. You will

likely lose the fish and your lure in this scenario. A topwater lure is a good choice for fishing around sunken trees from now through early October. From June onward, early in the morning and dusk make the best times to fish a floating-diving Rapala style minnow lure over the woody cover. 5. Use the lightest weight possible. Fishing shows on television typically have anglers using large, heavy lures to catch largemouth bass from weedbeds or shoreline cover. For stream smallmouth bass, you need to think in the opposite direction. Use the lightest weight you can for fishing soft plastic lures with a weighted head or a jig. Observe baitfish or crayfish in a stream. They don't go straight to the bottom like a rock. They glide gracefully through the water and move subtly. You want your lures to do the same. In the low and clear water conditions commonly found in summer, a 3- or 4-inch Senko-style soft plastic jerkbait rigged wacky style falls slowly and tantalizingly through the water column. These lures are usually packed with salt and possess enough heft to get down without any weight, other than the hook. Green pumpkin and black make good color choices. A 4-inch, fluke-style soft plastic jerkbait rigged with just a 3/0 offset worm hook provides enough weight to get the lure down. Allow the rig to sink, slowly lift the rod tip and let the bait spiral back down. Wary smallmouth that won't hit anything else often crush this presentation. Albino shad, electric shad and pearl make productive colors for this technique. Summer is here. Kentucky is blessed with miles of floatable, productive smallmouth streams. Use these tips to improve your experience while beating the heat.



Livingston Hospital and Healthcare Services in Salem was recently named one of the top 20 critical access hospitals (CAHs) for Best Practices in Quality in the United States. The top 20 CAHs, including Livingston Hospital, scored best among CAHs as determined by the Chartis Center for Rural Health for Best Practices in Quality category designation. The rankings were recently announced by the National Rural Health Association (NRHA).

These top CAHs have achieved success in overall performance based on a composite rating from multiple categories, including quality, outcomes, patient perspective, cost, charge, finance, inpatient market share and outpatient market share.

The top 20 group was selected from the Chartis Center for Rural Health's 2023 top 100 CAH list, which was released earlier this year. The top 20 CAH best practice recipients have achieved success in

one of two following key areas of performance:

Quality index: A rating of hospital performance based on the percentile rank across rural- relevant process of care measures.

Patient perspective index: A rating of hospital performance based on the percentile rank across all 10 HCAHPS domains.

“Livingston Hospital is proud of the efforts of the physicians and staff who have contributed to our hospital achieving this

designation," says Shane Whittington, CEO. "Being named as a top 20 CAH for Best Practices in Quality means our community can count on us to deliver the care and services they need now and in the future."

Livingston Hospital is a licensed 25-bed Critical Access Hospital with a reputation and rich history of providing high quality, compassionate care to the people of the surrounding communities, it said in a news release about the award.

Established in 1954 as the

Salem Community Medical Building, Inc. by the Salem Lions Club and a group of civic and community-minded citizens, the hospital was built to support Dr. Roscoe Faulkner in his efforts to meet the health care needs of the residents in the broader area.

In January 2022, Livingston Hospital entered into an affiliation agreement with Deaconess Health System of Evansville to manage and provide additional support for services.

STAFF REPORT

Marion has received a 12-month extension to its emergency declaration, which will continue its ability to seek financial assistance in response to its ongoing water crisis.

This is the second extension to the original order granted last summer by Gov. Andy Beshear. The first two orders were for six months. This one is twice as long.

"The Department of Water suggested 12 months instead of six to just cover the possibility that some of the stabilization construction work that is in the design stage could possibly run into next year," Mayor D'Anna Browning said.

"Bad weather, unforeseen geological conditions etc., could come into play."

The city has formally presented to the Energy and Environment Cabinet and Kentucky Division of Emergency Management its plans for emergency stabilization of Lake George's levee.

The Division of Water and Department for Environmental Protection were also involved in development of the plan.

of engineering and design efforts, the city will utilize its authority under KRS 45A.380 to separately procure construction services by non-competitive negotiation due to the existing emergency. The city and its engineering firm will coordinate all actions and secure necessary approvals from the Division of Water. Unforeseen developments and factors currently unknown could necessitate changes in the planned approach. Any changes will be coordinated with the Division of Water and Division of Emergency Management. The measures in this plan are beyond the immediate financial means of the city and are contingent on reimbursement of expenditures and other appropriate assistance pursuant to the state Declaration of Emergency."

In its formal proposal, Marion cites steps it will undertake to reduce "immediate threats to public safety that could be caused by an uncontrolled breach of the dam."

The dam was purposely breached last spring when a sink hole was discovered in the face of the levee. Fears were that the sink hole would continue to expand, weaken the levee and cause a catastrophic failure of the dam, which would damage property and perhaps threaten lives downstream along Crooked Creek. City officials feared an uncontrolled amount of water leaving Lake George, if the dam failed, could damage or destroy Old City Lake and/or the water plant.

The emergency response at Lake George will include the following:

- Design and construct a cofferdam spanning the



length of the compromised section of the dam and extending upstream of the 12-inch cast-iron pipe intake.

- Design and construct a temporary spillway such as a pumping system or siphon as a means for temporary water conveyance to Old City Lake and allow for emergency drawdown of the reservoir in a dam safety emergency.
- Dewatering of the area between the cofferdam and the existing compromised dam to isolate the intake pipe that has been found to be broken. Measures will be taken to make sure no water can exit the lake at the compromised intake pipe, which is a 12-inch diameter cast-iron pipe.
- Design and install erosion protection, including riprap, within the excavated channel, where it was breached last year.
- Perform hydraulic and hydrologic analysis to evaluate whether the control elevation and geometry of the excavated channel should be modified prior to installation of erosion protection.
- It is recommended that the city's engineering firm perform a detailed review of inundation analyses previously performed by Division of Water last

spring. Depending on the findings from that review, it may be recommended to perform a Two-Dimensional Breach Analysis to better characterize potential downstream consequences in the event of dam failure at various pool elevations.

- Develop an Emergency Action Plan (EAP) and perform an EAP tabletop exercise to simulate the response during a dam safety emergency.

Other short-term modifications are being proposed to improve stability of the dam under partial pool conditions. Partial pools means to an elevation of 591 feet above sea level. Normal pool prior

to the intentional breach was about 601 feet.

Modifications that could last about three years are warranted, officials say, because it would allow the city time to consider perhaps other long-term plans for Lake George and for evaluation of other long-term water sources.

To support short-term modifications, city officials say additional subsurface exploration and geotechnical engineering evaluation will be required at the lake.

Likely plans would include design and construction of a temporary spillway as a means for pool level control, completely grouting or clos-

ing off the 12-inch cast-iron pipe, work to shore up the existing pipe near the downstream toe of the dam and work to re-grade and backfill the sinkhole area and an area on the face of the dam that was excavated last spring. The reason for that excavation last year has never been explained, and documents have been a bit critical of its implications. Also, plans are to raise the excavated channel in the eastern abutment of the dam to serve as an auxiliary spillway by establishing a controlling elevation at an appropriate flood recurrence interval and there would likely be some type of erosion protection designed for the channel.

Interestingly, in this proposal is also a notation citing need for an "additional public safety measure" to coordinate with county officials and staff at the Crittenden County Detention Center to provide plumbing modifications and connection points to allow for the connection of mobile potable water tanks at the jail in case of severe water shortage or outage."

As summer recreation rolls into full swing, a new state law has begun taxing recreational vehicles with living quarters the same as motor vehicles. That means when a camper is sold in Kentucky, whether motorized or not, the buyer will pay the state's 6 percent motor vehicle usage tax.

Under House Bill 360, the definition of a motor vehicle is expanded to include recreational vehicles. The new tax law applies to motor homes, travel and fifth-wheel trailers and pull-behind and pop-up campers so long as they contain living quarters and are required to be licensed for operation on the public highways.

County clerks began collecting this tax Saturday, July 1.

Previously, county clerks were required to collect use tax on these vehicles only when they were purchased out-of-state and titled and registered in Kentucky. Buyers of a new camper trailer from a Kentucky dealer paid a 6 percent sales tax at the time of purchase, but buyers of a used model from an individual did not have to pay the tax.

Now, the same rules for motor vehicle taxation will apply to recreational vehicles, both moving under their own power and pulled by another vehicle.

The change comes as part of an ongoing overhaul of the Commonwealth's tax system, shifting from income-based levies to sales and use tax. This change is expected to bolster the state's Road Fund by \$16.1 million annually. The move from a general sales tax to motor vehicle usage tax, though, will rob the state's General Fund of about \$6.1 million in Fiscal Year 2024.

"Little notice of this change enacted by the 2023 General Assembly was re-

leased to the public and even to county clerks across the Commonwealth prior to enactment," said Crittenden County Clerk Daryl Tabor. "In fact, a presentation from the Department of Revenue a few days ago at the Kentucky County Clerk's Association meeting was the first time many local officials became aware of the change."

This legislative change does not affect the current tax treatment for sales of regular bumper hitch trailers that are designed for general hauling uses. The sale of these trailers continues to be subject to sales tax, and retailers must report the sales and remit the tax to the Department of Revenue when filing their sales and use tax returns.

On a new recreational vehicle, the tax will be based on affidavit or manufacturer's suggested retail price, or MSRP. If previously owned, the levy will be based on affidavit or the retail book value. Trade credit will be allowed for trailers against a motor home purchase.

Tax exemptions such as parent-to-child will also be applicable. However, the reclassification of recreational vehicles means Kentucky's "Occasional Sales" and other sales and use tax exemptions will no longer apply to the registration and titling of these vehicles.

Just like with an automobile, if a customer shows proof that the dealer charged and collected the state's 6 percent sales tax at the time of purchase, credit against the motor vehicle usage tax owed will be allowed, preventing the owner from paying double taxes at the time of registration.


Tabor said staff in the county clerk's office will work with customers to navigate and help understand the new law, yet some answers are still unclear at the local level.

PUBLIC MEETING

**Lyon County
Caldwell County**

for
**U.S. 641 Connect
Between
Eddyville and Fredonia**

Item #1-187.50 & Item #1-187.60



Tuesday, July 11, 2023

5 to 7 p.m., CDT

Fredonia Cumberland Presbyterian Church • Activities Building
303 Cassidy Ave • Fredonia, KY 42411

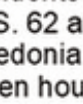
The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC) has scheduled a public information meeting to update residents on final plans for the reconstruction of U.S. 641 from U.S. 62 at Eddyville to the Caldwell-Crittenden County Line at Fredonia.

The meeting will be conducted in an open house format, allowing attendees to view various exhibits, talk to KYTC representatives, and ask questions about the project.

A form will be provided to make it easier to provide written comments at the meeting. Comments may be submitted by mail before August 15, 2023, to Kyle Poat, P.E., KYTC District 1 Office, 5501 Kentucky Dam Rd, Paducah, KY 42003.

Following the public meeting, displays and materials presented at the public meeting will be available for review at the KYTC District 1 Office in Paducah. Office hours are Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., CT, with comments accepted until August 15. Information will also be available online after the meeting at www.641connect.com

All written comments will become part of the official meeting record. Once compiled, the meeting record and supporting documentation will be made available for review and copying only after an Open Records Request has been received and approved. All Open Records Requests must be submitted to the Transportation Cabinet, Office of Legal Services, Transportation Office Building, 200 Mero St, Frankfort, KY 40622, or via kytc.openrecords@ky.gov.



641 CONNECT

Eddyville to Fredonia

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), if anyone has a disability and requires assistance, please notify Kyle Poat no later than July 10, 2023. Please call 270-898-2431, or mail request to the KYTC District 1 Office.

