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Two have filed to run for open council seat

Sitting City Councilwoman Tracy Cook has filed to keep her appointed seat in city government. She filed last week to run for city council in a special election to fill the unexpired term of Glenn Conger, who was elected last fall, but resigned before officially taking office. Cook was later appointed by the city council to fill the role until the special election in November. Cook is a former Marion business woman. The term to be filled in the general election will end Dec. 31, 2024. Deadline to file for the race is 4 p.m., Tuesday, June 6. Taylor Davis, who ran unsuccessfully for city council last fall, has also filed. Davis is a public school educator in Union County.

State bowfish June 10

Marion will host the Kentucky State Championship Bowfishing Tournament June 10 hosted by Marion Tourism and Recreation Commission. Check in and weigh in will be at Crittenden County Fairgrounds. Registration is at 5 p.m. Fishing will be on public water of Kentucky from 6 p.m., to 7 a.m. There will be cash drawings at weigh in. First place is guaranteed \$1,000. Fish disposal will be provided by Aquatic Protein.

KY gas tax up in July

Kentucky's gas tax is set to go up 2.1 cents starting July 1. In June 2022, Gov. Andy Beshear signed an emergency regulation to prevent the Kentucky state gas tax from increasing. Under Kentucky law, when the average wholesale price of gas goes up a certain amount, the gas tax will increase as well. Without the governor's action, the law would have increased what Kentuckians were paying at the pump by 2 cents per gallon starting in July last year. The emergency regulation was estimated to help Kentuckians save up to \$35.4 million through January 2023, said the Kentucky Retail Federation. Legislation aimed at maintaining the tax freeze failed last winter and as a result beginning in a month, the tax on fuel will go up.

Apple ending Photo Stream

Apple's My Photo Stream is shutting down on July 26. Go to Apple.com to learn more about this transition and how to use iCloud Photos to keep photos up to date across all your devices, including iPhone, iPad or Mac computer.

Former county judge dies

Henry M. "Roni" Asbridge, 89, of Marion died at his home Sunday. He served as Crittenden County Judge-Executive one term from 1982 to 1985 and was sheriff from 1978 to 1981 and jailer from 1994 to 1998. See page 2A for a complete obituary.



Asbridge



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Graduation Special

SEE SECTION B FOR OUR CELEBRATION OF THE CLASS OF 2023



Crittenden County High School graduate Zach Counts poses with family members while another snaps a post-graduation memory with a conventional camera. A standing-room-only crowd at Rocket Arena watched as diplomas were conferred upon 94 seniors who met the standards for graduation.

Another record sales quarter for restaurants

STAFF REPORT

Local lodging and restaurant receipts reached a new first quarter record in 2023. Based on tax receipts collected by the City of Marion for overnight stays and meals ready to eat, Marion's retailers grossed \$2.46 million in the three-month period from Jan. 1 through March 31. Last year, restaurants and lodging facilities took in \$2.32 million. This year's figure was up six percent.

Restaurants, motels, bed and breakfasts and vacation rentals by owners are responsible for reporting quarterly income and paying a three-percent tourism tax to the city. Most revenue generated from the tax comes from restaurants as Marion has just one motel, a couple of bed and breakfasts and a few VRBOs.

The tourism and recreation tax generated \$73,831.32 in the first quarter of this year. That's up from \$70,872 last year and \$62,509 in 2021.

As prices rise, local observers say inflation is no doubt driving the increase in the amount of taxes paid. Sales have been trending upward in the restaurant sector since the pandemic.

Over the course of the last couple years I've become acquainted with a family who has left a rather large impression on my spiritual walk with God. Many of you within the community I am sure can relate and understand how powerful of a calling the Clement family has on the people in our town. Now is a great opportunity to bring light to their story with this weekend's annual Mineral and Gem Show going on at the Ben E. Clement Mineral Museum.

This story is a special one, one I have felt unqualified to convey based on how important it really is. Many know



Kayla MAXFIELD
Press Columnist
MAX-ED OUT

Memorial Day Salute



Federal Bankruptcy Judge Alan Stout (above) was the featured speaker Saturday morning at the annual Memorial Day Weekend ceremony at Blackford Veterans Walk of Honor in rural Crittenden County. At left are Jason Hurley and Bruce Von Dwingelo from the Burna American Legion folding the flag, closing out the hour-long ceremony.

Annual gem show prompts emotional reflection



Pictured are the late Ed Clement and his daughter Andrea in the mineral museum's memory room before his death.

about the museum, just a "rock-skip" away from Fohs Hall. Though I'm not sure how many truly know how re-

markable of a story that surrounds the history of how it

See **ROCK**/page 2A

Marion leaks money, says recent study

Leakage. How much Crittenden County cash is lost to nearby retail markets when it comes to consumer goods and services?

Our leak is more like a gusher. It was recently quantified by a marketing group hired through a grant to help Marion and other bordering communities to dial in on retail recruitment and retention.

Once a thriving sector of the local economy, Marion's retail commerce has been slipping since music shops, TV repair, cobblers, laundries, boutiques and many other shops began to abandon small towns for shopping malls and population centers. Ghost towns are being left in the exhaust of a mass exodus from rural areas, and online giants like Amazon are slowly wiping out what's left. Feels like gut punches from all angles.

In an effort to help rural communities fight back, grants were recently awarded to Crittenden, Livingston, Trigg, Lyon and Livingston counties to study trends and opportunities. Pennyrile Area Development District helped facilitate the study.

Retail Strategies, a real estate and marketing group with headquarters in Birmingham and Fort Worth, compiled data and presented a plan to Marion and others. Last month, a group of local leaders heard details of the study's findings. Revealed is what appears to be an optimistic strategy for a town tethered to an ongoing water crisis and struggling with retail losses over the past three decades.

Michele Edwards, Marion's tourism director, was among individuals serving on the local team participating in what was called Retail Academy.

"The mission of the program is to fill empty buildings in town, but the number one priority to come out of it, from my point of view, is to recruit a grocery store," Edwards said.

What the study found is that Marion is losing about \$132 million annually in what's referred to as "leakage" in the marketing and analysis world. Leakage is the amount of money your community loses because it cannot meet consumer demand for products or services. Those dollars are lost, never to be recaptured or recirculated in your community. It's a problem, local leaders say.

Data show the greatest leakage from Marion is in food and drink. That can include groceries, diners and drinking establishments. According to numbers provided by the Retail Academy, Marion is leaking about \$35 million a year in the grocery, food and drink sector.

Gross sales at Marion restaurants are up in recent years to around \$8 million annually. Grocery sales, including food transactions at dollar stores, are not in-



Chris EVANS
Press Editor & Publisher
About Town

See **RETAIL**/page 8A

Deaths

McClure

Patrick Henry McClure, 84, of Marion, died Sunday, May 21, 2023 at his home.

He served as a rural mail carrier for 38 years for the Marion Post Office Route 10. He was the owner and operator of TLC Turkey Calls and was an avid rose gardener and cultivator. He was a talented cabinet maker and a great fan of Elvis Presley. He



was a member of Frances Baptist Church for 42 years.

Surviving are his wife, Jeri McClure; a daughter, Penny (Charles “Bub”) Adams; two sisters, June Duvall and Dorcus Kline; and several nieces and nephews, great-nieces and nephews and great-great-nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Leslie and Doll Doom McClure; four sisters, Jane Ray, Jonnie Lou Conger, Dottie Doom Manley and Betty Jo Jones; and two brothers, Northern McClure and Herbert Rudolph McClure.

Private burial services were conducted at Dycusburg Cemetery.

Myers Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Asbridge

Henry M. "Roni" Asbridge, 89, of Marion, died Sunday, May 28, 2023 at his home. He was a good man who got the Crittenden-Livingston Water District formed, served as Crittenden County Sheriff, Judge-Executive, Jailer, two terms as deputy jailer, was a part-time farmer and a member of Repton Baptist Church.

Surviving are his wife, Janie Driver Asbridge; a son, Maronia Lee Asbridge of Eddyville; a daughter, Betty (Ricky) McDaniel of Princeton; six grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; two nieces, Becky Childress and Hazel Christine Asbridge; and two nephews, Allen Asbridge, Jr. and Johnny Lee Childress.

He was preceded in death by a daughter, Janie Pearlene Cox; three brothers, Elmer, Allen and Roy Keith Asbridge; three sisters, Cora Alice Childress, Thelma Martin and Mary Asbridge; a nephew,

Danny Childress; and his parents, Allie Martin and Mary Christine Lewis Asbridge.

Services are at 1 p.m., Thursday June 1 at Gilbert Funeral Home with burial in Asbridge Cemetery.

The family will receive visitors from 5-8 p.m., Wednesday and from 9 a.m., until service time Thursday at the funeral home.

Online Condolences

myersfuneralhomeonline.com
boydfuneraldirectors.com
gilbertfunerals.com

Most obituaries in this newspaper are free. Ask your funeral director about custom, fee-based obituaries.

Extension Events

- Natural Resources Agent Dee Heimgartner will present “Succulent Gnomes” at 5:30 p.m., Tuesday, June 6 at the Extension Annex. Learn how to care for succulents while making a potted gnome. Call (270) 965-5236 to register.
- Family and Consumer Sciences Agent Rebecca Woodall hosts “A Walk in the Park” at 8 a.m., every Wednesday at Marion City-County Park. Meet in the top parking lot to walk the trail. Regular physical activity has been shown to reduce the risk of developing cardiovascular disease, stroke, diabetes, and certain cancers. It is never too late or too early to become more physically active.

ROCK

Continued from page 1

came to be and why. I’m honored to share my view of a family that loves like Jesus. They love this community and its history. And they love the beauty in this universe we behold.

Museum heritage

I’ll start by telling a little about the man who opened the mineral museum. Anyone who knew the late Ed Clement, who passed away in February, is aware he was one of a kind. Best described as tenacious, full of life and joy in all he did, his daughter Andrea says it best when she told me “to the finish line of his life, it was all love, forgiveness and truth.”

I met him and his wonderful wife Nancy a few times, and each conversation we had, both of them made me feel like I had known them my entire life. Ed had a way of knowing what to say. Words full of love and comfort. Compassion and understanding. A guiding light in almost any conversation. Real people led by a real God.

Upon meeting Ed Clement and now hearing about his life through the eyes of his daughter Andrea, the most remarkable thing I take away is the fact he spent his entire life honoring both his Heavenly, and earthly fathers. He enjoyed learning, and really couldn’t get enough knowledge about anything of intrigue.

Upon opening the Ben E. Clement Mineral Museum in May of 1991, Ed and the community honored his father with a world-renown collection dedicated largely to the area’s fluorspar legacy.

His father, Ben, had spent the majority of his life collecting precious minerals and artifacts that he knew would mean something way down the road. A man who could be described as light years ahead of his time, Ben was born in the late 1800s an intelligent man intrigued by the ways of God through the universe. As a young child he had an encounter with a traveling salesman who left him with a telescope, and a map of the sky.

Gem show June 3-4

The annual Ben E. Clement Gem, Mineral, Fossil and Jewelry Show will be held at the Clement Mineral Museum next to Fohs Hall on June 3-4. There will be free children’s activities, hourly door prizes, a silent auction, vendor tables and museum tours during the two-day show, which runs 10 a.m., to 5 p.m., Saturday and 10 a.m., to 4 p.m., Sunday.

For more information call (270) 965-4236. The event is sponsored by Marion Tourism and Recreation Commission, and the children’s activities are underwritten by River View Coal.

From that moment, he never lost his desire for learning more and sharing that knowledge with others.

After a very impressive resume of military service, which molded a love for aviation, Ben began pursuing an education from Vanderbilt University and decided to follow a career in fluorspar mining in western Kentucky. He arrived in Crittenden County just before 1920 when mining was a large part of economic growth in America, and more particularly in Crittenden County.

The little boy who had an interest in the sky and the One who created it, grew up to be one of the most monumental people in Crittenden County history.

Ben had three children with his wife, the youngest being Ed, who was born when his father was on up in his 50s.

Prophesied to be a minister while his mother was pregnant with him, Ed looked up to his father and followed his footsteps.

Ben Clement’s impact

Ben was able to leave many notes, including detailed analyses of his own research and work, that created somewhat of a map for Ed to follow for the rest of his life, interesting him in the ways of God through the universe and geology that had inspired him his entire life.

Ben was detail oriented, particularly in his research and fo-

cused on the things that matter in life. God, family and the ways of appreciating everything around us.

In 1968, he was facing an operation in the hospital he wasn’t sure he’d survive and left a letter to his son. Here is what he wrote:

My Dear Ed,

I am leaving for the hospital and hope to be back soon.

If the worse should come to pass I am asking that you go and follow your work as you have started. Also I ask that you be the man I have dreamed about and that you will take care of Mother and Sarah. Be patient with them. Study the minerals so you can know the values.

Do not worry about me just go on and follow the right road. Be a good man in all ways and read your Bible and pray for help and leadership.

All my love, Daddy.

Though his father lived until 1980, the letter impressed on Ed the importance of being the man his father expected.

Ben had spent his entire life preserving artifacts to highlight the rich and detailed history he lived through. For nearly six decades this man collected enough to create the largest fluorspar museum in the United States. An impressive one, as you can imagine.

Ed felt a calling on his life to honor his father’s life work and wanted nothing more than to know everything there was about it. So, he dug deep. Educated with a bachelor’s degree in psychology and double minoring in sociology and archaeology, Ed was no stranger to the way both the universe and the people in it operated. He, like his father, never stopped learning and never lost the desire to share that knowledge with others in hopes of helping them understand who created them both.

He never planned to conclude his life’s work yet to share it with his children, Andrea, Ben and Christen so they could continue the dream.

This story is full of many twists and turns, adversities and challenges, just like

any other. What I think made Ed so special aside from his truly genuine interest and love for the things of God would have to be his life’s mission to continue the work of his father, a man who was no stranger to the ever changing world around us. A man who had a swift way of looking ahead and planning accordingly. A man who cared so deeply for the miners who loved him and worked tirelessly to follow the dreams surrounding fluorspar mining. Ben was known to spend every penny he had, multiple times, to work toward that dream and mission in the mining industry in Crittenden and Livingston counties, yet so much more the mission of life to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ. He shared that love to others, and aided his employees in making a living and helping the community around him thrive.

Third generation

If you’re anything like me, you ran around the countryside many days and nights with no knowledge of what was below your feet. Much like her father, and his father before him, Ed’s daughter Andrea can take you outside and point out just about anything you can see to tell you the purpose it serves in the bigger picture of life. That’s no exaggeration. That’s because the majority of her childhood was spent outdoors with her

dad, traveling through the country during family vacations that doubled as research.

Her dad took Andrea and her siblings along on many adventures, constantly teaching the importance of our surroundings and the purpose they served.

Andrea moved away after high school to attend college at Campbellsville University. She spent 20 plus years away from Marion, living in Poland for a time, and landing her feet in Pensacola, Fla., for the better part of 10 years. However, she found herself on a path back to Marion as her father Ed was given a cancer diagnosis that surprisingly did anything but stop them in their tracks. In the words of Ed himself, “We’ve got some things to do, so we’re going to have to take some time to get some things done real quick.”

That brings the story to a beautiful beginning, if you will, for his children – the memorial room at the museum. It is a place, Ed poured the last 10 years of his life into with the ultimate goal of commemorating his father’s legacy.

He had many different visions of how to pull together the story of the miners who poured their hearts and souls into their work. Ed researched for years the miners and their families who had a part to play in the fluorspar industry in western Kentucky.

He took time to find and meet any and all who had anything to do with his father’s work and recorded their stories. We can’t understand today the magnitude of grit, determination and dedication it took to build a life in that underground environment, working day in and day out.

Ed felt telling the mining story through his father’s words would be best.

Late in his cancer battle, Andrea asked her father what his dream would be for the memorial room. Ed, with loving and wise words, told Andrea in the most “Ed Clement, spiritually philosophical” way possible, the job should be completed by her and her siblings. It was theirs to make their own.

Ed enjoyed being in the memorial room, honoring his father and the miners, and he has created a truly beautiful world class collection of stories, artifacts and yes, minerals. I have no doubt his aspirations are in the able hands of his children.

If you have not explored this incredible collection, I guarantee you will be captivated.

“The main thing I would like for (those visiting) to experience is that geology is not earth terrestrial, geology is all the heavens above. It’s really an exciting time to be alive,” Ed Clement once said.

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CCHS bestows awards

Academic awards for Crittenden County High School students were presented last week to the following students:

Vocational Animal Tech, Baylee Muff

Intro to Greenhouse, Adam Holt

Ag Power and Machine, Keegan Cummins

Digital Literacy, Jasmine Wooley

Marketing Principles, Mary Martinez

Marketing Applications, Laney Hunt

Advertising and Promotion, Isaac Sarles

Microsoft Office Sys-



Crittenden County High School students received academic awards from their teachers recognized last week.

tems, Jadob Hoover	lie Blazina	Concert Band, Hunter Kirk
FACS Essentials, Brianna Walker	Yearbook, Jaycee Lynn	Intro to Guitar, Mya Moore
Relationships, Alexis Partee	English II, Baylee Muff	Humanities, Madisyn Switzer
Lifespan Development, Marley Phelps	English II Advanced, Mary Martinez	Art, Kairi Mefford
The Learning Community, Layla West	English III, Maine Sanderschaefer	Advanced Art, Jayden Duncan
The Learner-Centered Classroom, Jaylen Tapp	English III Advanced, Karsyn Potter	Health & Physical Education
English	English IV, Jazmyn Lineberry	Health & PE, Macie Conger
English I, Hailey Rose	Creative Writing, Braylynn Ennis	Fitness & Conditioning,
English I Advanced, Mol-	Humanities	

Jaxon Hatfield	Hughes
Fitness for Women,	Chemistry I, Gabe Keller
Make Sanderschaefer	Principles of Biomedical Science, Madison Walker
Math	Human Body Systems, Danielle Riley
Algebra I, Gavin Grimes	Medical Interventions, Allie Beard
Financial Literacy, Collin Epley	Social Studies
Math Concepts, Keira Chaney	Integrated Social Studies, Chloe Rushing
Geometry, Layla West	Military History, Wyatt Hodge
Advanced Geometry, Brayden Poindexter	World Civilizations, Taylor Haire
Probability & Statistics, Brylee Conyer	Advanced World Civilizations, Madisyn Switzer
Algebra II, Hannah Long	Psychology, Carly Towery
Advanced Algebra II, Carly Porter	U.S. History, Ashayla McDowell
Pre-Calculus, Gabe Keller	Advanced U.S. History, Marley Phelps
Science	Motion Picture History, Jaxon Hatfield
ICP, Gracie Orr	Foreign Language
Physics I, Gavin Peek	Spanish I, Chloe Rushing
Physics II, Nicholas Pendley	Spanish II, Chloe Rushing
Computer Science Essentials, Quinn Summers	
Biology, Taylor Haire	
Advanced Biology, Madisyn Switzer	
Integrated Science, Lexie	

Livingston board talks successes, construction update

The Livingston County Board of Education conducted its monthly meeting May 8 at Livingston Central High School.

To open the meeting the board recognized three Livingston Central students on summer opportunities. Chelsea Ray was chosen to participate in the Governor's Scholar Program. Rinna Quertermous was selected for the Commonwealth Honors Academy. Daniel Ramage was also chosen to participate in the Governor's School for Entrepreneurs. Each of these highly competitive academic programs offer scholarship benefits and the opportunity to earn college credit for students about to head into their senior year of high school.

The LiveRED Staff award for the month of May went to Nola Rodgers, who serves as a bus monitor. She loves the students on her route and considers them her kids. She is genuinely dedicated to them, and they love her in return. Recently, Rodgers went above and beyond her duty to transport a stu-

dent and family to a doctor's appointment in Nashville after they experienced a recent tragedy. She did so at a moment's notice and at a crucial time. She is an example of how many employees "go the extra mile" for students, families and the community.

There were a few activities highlighted during the LiveRED Report. Elementary schools were participating in some fun end of year events. LCMS students participated in the annual Reality Store event to see what life could be like in a chosen career field and was tasked with managing finances. LCHS hosted a Career Signing Day for seniors May 3 for students who have accepted an apprenticeship, are joining the military, have accepted a job, or are going into a trade/vocational program, STEM field, or CTE education. Nine students signed out of the class of 81 students.

Communication updates given by Dr. Meinshein included the opportunity to follow the softball team to the state

All A Classic, which was their first trip since 2014. He also shared that the current week in the district was staff appreciation week. Regarding the Performance Service contract, the high school will soon be on a four-pipe system that will help regulate the temperature better in all rooms. That work will begin as soon as Project Graduation is completed.

At the new central office being constructed, roof trusses were delivered and installed, and the project was running about a week ahead of schedule. It was also shared that the district had made \$189,000 in interest from the grants and bonds on current building projects.

The district recognized new North Livingston Principal Kenley Ringstaff-Hefner, who is a product of Livingston Central High School and North Livingston Elementary.

Two recipients of the KSBA scholarship this year are Maddie Norton and Casen Render. Finally, the board was informed that after

necessary repairs the north campus will not require a second septic lagoon after all.

Board action included the following:

- Approval of the personnel report, the LCHS class dues for 2023-2024, and the 22-23 amended school calendar.
- Approved annual renewal of the nurses' contract with Graves County Health Department; the emergency certification of substitute teachers; the contract with the auditing firm Duguid, Gentry and Associates; and a contract with McGee Pest Control.
- Accepted the tentative budget for the fiscal year

2024 including a decrease in SEEK funding by about \$320,000 because of the decrease in student enrollment.

- Approved payment for the Performance Service Contract in the amount of \$319,198.28 for equipment and supplies.
- Approved a change

order for the fire suppression system at the new board office; services from BFW for march testing and inspection; and various payment approvals for the project.

The next board meeting is 6 p.m., June 12 at South Livingston Elementary School.

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(Owner)

Proposals will be received by the Crittenden County Fiscal Court (Owner) for labor, materials, equipment, and incidentals to complete the Crittenden County Food Pantry Project in Marion, Kentucky. Work is to be performed in accordance with the plans, specifications, and addenda prepared by Ronald Johnson & Associates P.S.C., (Architect).

The Owner may consider informal any bid not prepared and submitted in accordance with the provisions hereof and may waive any informalities or reject any and all bids. Any bid may be withdrawn prior to the above scheduled time for the opening of bids or authorized postponement thereof. Bid opening will be public and all contracts will be with the owner. All questions concerning plans and specifications should be directed, in writing, to the architect's attention:

C. Frank Williams, P.E., President
Ronald Johnson & Associates, P.S.C.
24 W. Center St.
Madisonville, KY 42431
Phone: 270-821-6392
Email: fwilliams@rjaengineering.com

For Plans and Specifications go to www.bxkentucky.com or www.lynnimaging.com or call Builders Exchange of Kentucky, Phone: 502-459-9800 or Lynn Imaging, Phone: 800-888-0693. Contractors will have the option to purchase a printed set of plans and specifications. All payments for Plans and Specifications will be made to Builders Exchange of Kentucky or Lynn Imaging. Contractors that receive plans and specifications from other sources will not be registered as a planholder and will not receive addenda. Plans and Specifications are non-refundable. These websites will be for ordering and planholders list only.

Bid documents will be on file at the following locations:

1. Crittenden County Fiscal Court, 107 South Main, Suite 208, Marion, KY 42064.

2. Ronald Johnson & Associates, P.S.C., 24 W. Center St., Madisonville, KY 42431.

They may also be viewed online at the following:

1. Builders Exchange of Kentucky at: www.bxkentucky.com

2. Lynn Imaging at: www.lynnimaging.com

Bids will be due by June 13, 2023, at 10:30 a.m. CST, at the Crittenden County Courthouse located at 107 South Main, Suite 208, Marion, KY 42064, and will be opened and read aloud on this date at this time and location. Proposals must be accompanied by a five percent (5%) Bid Bond. No bidder may withdraw a bid for a period of ninety (90) days after the date set for the opening of bids. The successful bidder will be required to furnish the Owner with a 100% performance and material payment bond.

Preparation of Bid

Each bid must be submitted on the prescribed form and accompanied by Certification of Bidder Regarding Equal Employment Opportunity, Form 950.1; Certification of Bidder (Contractor) Concerning Labor Standards and Prevailing Wage Requirements, Form 1421; Certification of Bidder Regarding Section 3 and Segregated Facilities; and Contractor Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension and Other Responsibilities. All blank spaces for bid prices must be filled in, in ink or typewritten, in both words and figures, and the foregoing Certifications must be fully completed and executed when submitted.

Each bid must be submitted in a sealed envelope bearing on the outside the name of the bidder, address, and the Bid Package Number for which the bid is submitted. Only the original Form of Proposal is required, no additional copies are required.

If a bidder wishes to mail a bid, it should be mailed to the Crittenden County Courthouse located at 107 South Main, Suite 208, Marion, KY 42064. If the bid is mailed, it must be received prior to the bid time and date noted. Facsimile bids will NOT be allowed. Bids received after the deadline will not be opened. If forwarded by mail, the sealed envelope containing the bid must be enclosed in another envelope addressed as specified.

Attention of bidders is particularly called to the requirements as to conditions of employment to be observed and Davis/Bacon Act and/or State of Kentucky Prevailing minimum wages to be paid under contract, Section 3, Segregated Facility, Section 109, and E.O 11246 and Title VI. Minority bidders are encouraged to bid.

May 25, 2023

Date

Perry A. Newcom

County Judge Executive

AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Marion was growing and prosperous in 1894

Although Marion was only 54 years old in 1894, it was a growing and prosperous town. The people were very proud of their town and the way it had grown and developed in such a short period of time. In August of that year, The Crittenden Press put out a special edition of the paper and called it the Illustrated Edition. In it was a wonderful history of the town and its people. Here are a few of the items in that paper about the town, its churches and civil societies.

August 16, 1894 Marion's Churches

It has often been remarked, and truthfully too, that the people of Marion are a church going people.

The substantial character of their church buildings, as indicated by our illustrations, is evidence that the people are interested in Christianity of the active kind.

The Methodist Church was organized in the seventies and has had a steady growth ever since. A large brick structure was built soon after the organization, but owing to defects in the architecture, it had to be torn down, but soon the handsome building shown in the illustration appeared.

Many big revivals have been held in this church, and it has been a great power for good in the community. A Sunday school numbering nearly 200 officers and pupils has been running for years. Rev. R. V. Guthrie is the present pastor.

The Presbyterians have a handsome structure and a growing congregation, a fine Sunday school, an attractive choir, and above all, a devout membership. Rev. W. H. Miley is pastor of the church.

In 1890 he was called to pastorate of the Marion Presbyterian Church. He is one of the most popular preachers we have; his popularity is not based on an ephemeral foundation. His ministry has none of the sensational feature, but as an earnest preacher of the truth, an attractive speaker, and a close reasoner he is highly appreciated by his prosperous and growing congregation.

His congregation is one of the largest and wealthiest in the county, and the organization of the church antedates all other institutions of Marion.

The church was organized in 1804 and a building erected on the site of what is now known as Crooked Creek. The church was then called Bethany, and Rev. Mr. Dickey was the pastor; later the property at that place was sold to the Baptists and a brick building erected where Marion now stands. (on the location of the old Marion Cemetery). Here the congregation worshiped for years and grew in strength, under the pastorate of such men as Hawthorne,

Rankin, Perkins, Allen, Matthews and others.

A few years ago the church divided, part of the congratulation going to Chapel Hill, while most of the members formed a new congregation under the Southern branch of the church, and built the handsome house of worship that now adds to the substantial appearance of Marion.

Since then the congregation has grown steadily until is is now almost as strong as it was before the division. This church has done great good in the county. Founded when civilization first set up her standard in this section of the Dark and Bloody Ground, she has administered to the spiritual welfare of the living and buried the dead with the consolations of Christianity. The records of this church have been preserved since 1807 at which time there were 39 members. These records show that the members were subject to discipline in those early days as well as now, and perhaps the lines were drawn a little more taut then than now. One sister was before the session for talking about a neighbor, a brother was disciplined for getting intoxicated and one member was lectured for going off after the disorganizing part of the Cumberland church.

The Baptist congregation is under the pastoral care of Eld. T. C. Carter, one of the most earnest and successful ministers of the county. This church has a live membership and of course is annually increasing in members. It has a prosperous Sunday school, well attended prayer meeting and is doing a good work in the community. The building is a model of neatness and convenience.

The Cumberland Presbyterian Church only a few years organized, has doubled its membership within the past two year. The pastor is Rev. Mr. Price, and under his care no church ever grows lukewarm. When the building was put up, the congregation was small; now the rapid growth, both in numbers and in devotion to the cause, has set the congregation to looking forward to the time in the near future when a more commodious house of worship shall take the place of the present modest but cozy house.

With its Sunday school and prayer meetings, their church is doing its part for the spiritual well being of Marion.

Civil Societies
This feature of the town will always be found a safe and reliable standard from which to judge the propensities of the men who constitute the business element of the town and surrounding country. Banded together by solemn and irrevocable ties for the purpose

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.



The Presbyterian Church, the oldest church building in Marion, was built in 1881. It is located at 124 E. Bellville Street and is now the home of the Crittenden County Historical Museum.

of friendship, morality, brotherly love, sympathy, counsel and support, there are four of these societies and each has a strong membership.

Bigham Lodge F. A. & A. M. is the oldest and strongest. It has a membership of 70 and is one of the best working lodges in this section. It owns its own hall and the lodge room is well appointed. Within the last two years it has grown rapidly.

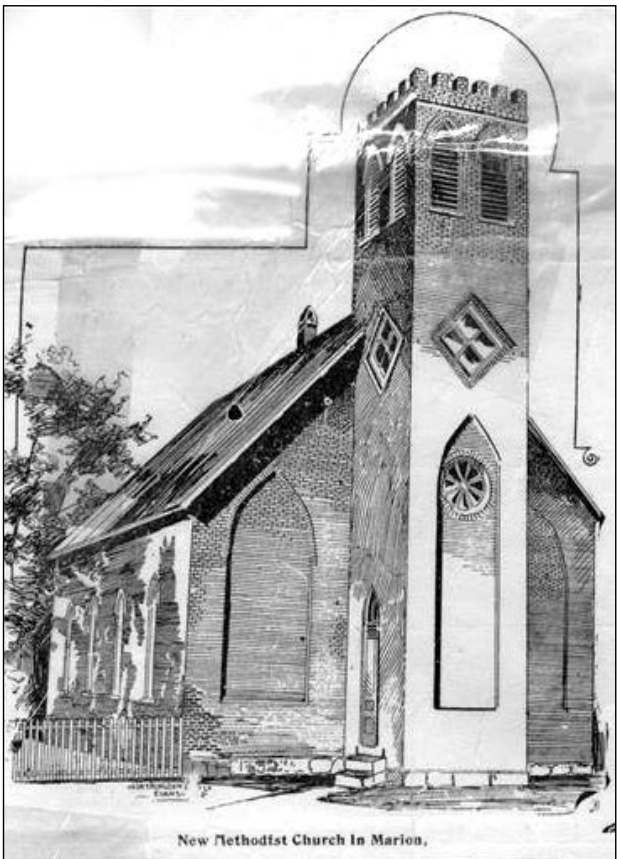
Blackwell Lodge Knights of Pythias was organized seven years ago and has a membership of over 50. It has just completed paying for its hall, a picture of which is in this paper. From the start this institution grew rapidly, and it now embraces in its membership many of our best men, especially among the young. The lodge room is elegantly furnished and is one of the most attractive in the county. The membership is not confined to Marion, but young men from various parts of the county have united with it and it is now one of the fixed institution of the place.

The Ancient Order of United Workmen has a membership of 40 and is growing. Its members take a great interest in lodge meetings and are devoted to the order, which is very popular in the town and country.

The Knights of Honor have had a lodge here since 1870, and its members embrace some of the oldest and most substantial citizens.

The society at Marion is as good as it is anywhere. The people are unostentatious, friendly and social. We have no aristocracy. For the purpose of hearing the leading men of the country and bringing the best talent to Marion, 40 of the young men of the town have organized a Lecture Club and through the influence of this club the people of Marion are enjoying a distinction not often had, accorded to a town of this size.

Here are a few things about Marion, the beautiful capital of the county. Anything one would need or want we have in our town.



An artist-drawn picture shows the new Methodist church building from a special edition in 1894. Later it became home of the now defunct Marion Christian Church on West Bellville Street.

tillery, two saddle and harness makers, one carpenter shop and one dairyman.

(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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for sale

Farm fresh eggs, \$2/dozen, Wilson Farm Rd. Text or call (217) 379-7690. (2t-23-p)

Use Happy Jack® Kennel Dip as an area spray to control ticks, fleas, stable flies & mosquitoes where they breed. Akridge Farm Supply 270- 545- 3332 (www.fleabeacon.com) (3t-22-p)

sales

Moving sale at 112 Autumn Lane, Friday, June 2 and Saturday, June 3 starting at 9 a.m. Lots of miscellaneous and some furniture. (1t-22-p)

Saturday, June 3: Cardinal Lane, Fredonia, 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m., weather permitting. Fishing rod, books, queen size headboard and frame, shag golf balls, puzzles, men's, women's and kids' clothes, bikes, kids' telescope and much more. (1t-22-p)

4 FAMILY YARD SALE: June 1 and June 2, 7 a.m. – 4 p.m., Johnetta Taylor, 869 Lola Road, Salem. Solid wood entertainment center, flat screen tv, patio furniture, (table & 4 chairs), camo clothing, name brand men, women, and girls clothing, shoes, purses, books, bookcase, picture frames, lots and lots of home décor, Christmas decorations, small table, old items, lots of little girl clothes (3 months to 18 months), toys, outside decorations, new items, and lots more too much to mention! Please no early sales, we will be very busy getting ready. Thank you! (2t-22-p)

agriculture

FREE: Approximately 25 acres of hay. You cut and bale it and it is all yours. Ezra McDowell, (270) 871-2143. Located in the Shady Grove area. (1t-22-p)

wanted

Needed: Someone to repair John Deere 328 square baler. Not tying properly. (270) 704-0022. (1t-22-c)sh

for rent

Two units for rent: 2 bedroom, 1 bath mobile home, \$475 plus deposit, zone

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legal notices

Cooper Towing of 3425 Mott City Rd., Marion, KY 42064 (270) 704-0943 is hereby notifying Tiffany D. Willingham that a 2002 Chevrolet Suburban C1500 with a Vin# of 3GNFK16Z12G215019 will be sold June 10, 2023 to recover towing and storage fees. Vehicle was

picked up on Clark Street in Marion on 12-31-22. (3t-23-p)

Cooper Towing of 3425 Mott City Rd., Marion, KY 42064 (270) 704-0943 is hereby notifying Brance Cain of 1961 S.R. 189 S. Greenville, KY that a 1996 Chevy S-10 with a Vin#1GCCS1448WK234846 will be sold June 2, 2023 to recover towing and storage fees. Vehicle was picked up at Food Giant in Marion Feb. 24, 2023. (3t-22-p)

Notice is hereby given that on May 24, 2923 Deanna L. Jenkins of 1553 Shirley Rd., Summit Point, W. Va. 25446 was appointed executrix with will annexed of James P. Armstrong, deceased, whose address was 204 Hillcrest Drive, Marion, Ky. 42064. Rebecca Johnson, P.O. Box 415, Marion, Ky., agent for service of process. All persons having claims to said estate are hereby notified to present the same properly proven as required by law to the agent for process with will annexed on or before the 24th day of November, 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-22-c)

I, Melissa Guill, Clerk of Crittenden County District Court Marion, Ky. do certify that the following has filed notice of final settlement:

Joseph Wayne Hower-ton of 324 Sturgis Rd., Marion, Ky. 42064 administrator of Melinda Gaye Brasher, deceased, whose address was 324 Sturgis Rd., Marion, Ky. 42064.

The foregoing settlement is to be heard at the regular session of Crittenden District Court on June 8, 2023. All persons having exceptions to said settlements are to file same at once. Melissa Guill, Clerk Crittenden District Court (1t-22-c)

Notice is hereby given that on May 24, 2023 Rhona Huber of 6699 S.R. 91 North, Marion, Ky. 42064 was appointed executrix of Ronald L. Ebersohl, deceased, whose address was 6699 S.R. 91 North, Marion, Ky. 42064. Rebecca Johnson, 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 24th day of November, 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-22-c)

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Free smoke detector with fish at Mattoon

Free smoke detectors will be available at the Mattoon Volunteer Fire Department’s annual fundraising fish fry from 4 to 8 p.m., on Saturday, June 10. The meal will include fish, hushpuppies, beans, slaw, potato salad, dessert and a drink. There will be a 50/50 raffle and fellowship available at the event. Cost is \$10 for adults and \$4 for children age 6–12. Younger ones are free. Proceeds benefit the local fire department.

Local students on MCC Dean’s List

Nine Crittenden Countians were named to the Dean’s List at Madisonville Community College. They were Natalie Boone, Morgan Burke, Caden DeBoe, Preston Bradley Driver, Jeremiah Foster, Jacey Frederick, Raven Hayes, Carson Montalta and Kailyn Rebecca Stokes. To qualify for the Dean’s List, students must have attained a grade point average of 3.5 or higher during the semester and have been enrolled in 12 or more credit hours at the 100-level or higher, excluding developmental courses.

Dr. Knox is opening chiro clinic in Salem

Crittenden County native Dr. Robert “Bobby” Knox is opening a chiropractic clinic in Salem. Knox Chiropractic Center will formally open on Monday at 503 East Main Street across from the Salem Dollar General Store. A 2013, graduate of Crittenden County High School, Knox studied at Murray State and received a bachelor’s degree from Logan University in Chesterfield, Mo. He received a

Doctor of Chiropractic degree from Logan in 2019, graduating cum laude. In high school Knox was three-sport athlete and attended the governor’s scholar program. For the past four years, Knox has been practicing at Barrett Chiropractic in Draf-fenville. At the Salem office, he will open six days a week. In addition to chiropractic services, he will offer dry needling and therapeutic ultrasound. A grand opening is planned later.



Knox

River Crossing work for I-69 limits lanes

Commuters and travelers going through Henderson toward Evansville will this week begin seeing some lane closures as work ramps up on the I–69 Ohio River Crossing. Lane closings on KY 351 near the US 41 Overpass started Wednesday and traffic is expected to shift on US 41 as early as this weekend. On KY 351, one lane will be closed in each direction. Lanes will only be reduced under and near the overpass to accommodate demolition work and to begin building the overpass for the new US 41 alignment. The lane closures will be in place for the summer with all lanes expected to reopen to traffic by the time school resumes in early August. The US 41 traffic shift is expected to shift to the new crossovers being built on US 41 between the 2nd Street/KY 351 and US 60 interchanges. Northbound traffic will be shifting west to use the southbound roadbed. The shift is tentatively scheduled for early Saturday. Short-term rolling closures are expected that morning to finalize the traffic shift. Once traffic shifts, two lanes will be open in each direction, but the lanes and shoulders will be narrower. This is



Denis Hodge (center) was at Livingston Central’s Class Night recently to present Jake Hodge Foundation Scholarships to graduates (from left) Luke Vinson, Casen Render, Jude Ferrell, Ryle Culver and Alex Parks. Bella Chittenden also earned a scholarship, but is not pictured.

a long-term traffic change to accommodate the construction of the future lanes of mainline I–69. It’s expected to be in place through late 2024. Motorists are encouraged to slow down and pay attention to signage in the area. It’s also important for drivers to observe the lower speed limit posted in the construction zone. The actual starting date of the lane closures and the traffic shift may be adjusted if inclement weather or other unforeseen activities occur.

IRS warns businesses on aggressive tactics, misleading claims

You may have gotten one of these letters in the mail. At least a few Marion businesses say they have received multiple aggressive marketing letters. The IRS says it continues to issue renewed alerts for businesses to watch for tell-tale signs of misleading claims involving the Employee Retention Credit. The IRS and tax professionals continue to see a barrage of aggressive broadcast advertising, direct mail solicitations and online promotions involving the Employee Retention Credit. While the credit is real, aggressive promoters are wildly misrepresenting and exaggerating who can qualify for the credits. The IRS has stepped up audit and criminal investigation work involving these claims. Businesses, tax-exempt organizations and others considering applying for this credit need to carefully review the official requirements for this limited program before applying. Those who improperly claim the credit face follow-up action from the IRS.

Bid will be let on school turn lane this summer

It will be a couple of months at least before work will begin to build a turning lane and widen US 60 (Gum

Street) between Crittenden County High School and Crittenden Community Hospital. Bids are not scheduled to be let for a few more weeks. This isn’t the first time bids have been let for the project with no takers. If a contract is awarded, work is not likely to begin until after school starts, which will create some congestion and traffic issues in front of the school and hospital.

911 is asking for livestock numbers

Marion–Crittenden County 911 has issued a request, asking livestock owners to provide their name and contact information. Dispatchers are getting a number of calls when livestock get loose and end up on local roads or on private lawns. Dispatching maintains a list of contact information for individuals who own livestock, but it’s incomplete. If you’re a livestock owner, send your name and two phone numbers via email to kdalton@marionky.gov.

Free Summer Food program Mondays

The free summer meals program organized by Crittenden County School District begins Monday. Meals are available each Monday for the entire week through July 24. Connection points are at Crittenden County Elementary School, around back from 10:30 a.m., to 12:30 p.m.; at the Farmers Market on Main 10:30 a.m., to 11:35 a.m.; Shady Grove Fire Department from 11:20 a.m., to 11:35 a.m.; Williams Mobile Home Park from 10:30 a.m.,

available for anyone 18 and younger. The packages include five breakfasts and five lunches.

Livingston’s Helping Hands fundraiser

Livingston County Helping Hands annual will be conducting its annual fundraising yard sale June 15–17 in Smithland. Proceeds from the sale will go toward the Helping Hands Christmas baskets program later this year and to buy meat and canned goods to provide a Christmas dinner for over 250 families during the holidays. The sale will be at 509 Mill Street near the Smithland Dollar General. Thursday and Friday’s sales will be 8 a.m., to 4 p.m., and on Saturday it will be 8 a.m., until noon.

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KENTUCKY LAND SPECIALIST,
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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 a pond system, 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 well-constructed 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.

LIVINGSTON COUNTY, KY - 139.95 ACRES - \$318,386 - Great hunting tract with dynamic hunter friendly topography, mast producing timber, security cover, open areas for food plots and a good trail system.

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Dr. Robert Knox

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Phone: (270) 895-6035
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ATTENTION PARENTS

HURRICANE YOUTH CAMP

June 12-17, 2023
Campers must have completed 2nd grade

Camp arrival June 12 at 10 a.m.
Camp departure June 17 at 9 a.m.
Evangelist, Steve Stone
Cost is \$200 • Day Camp Fee \$185

Registration deadline is June 1.
Limited space is available. Mail your registration to:
Mandy Gardner, 184 Wilson Farm Rd., Marion, KY 42064 or
Janet Kemper P.O. Box 358, Grand Rivers, KY 42045
or call (270) 704-5216 or (270) 836-3133 for more information.

Camper's Name _____	Name Used _____
Address _____	City, State, Zip _____
Grade Entering Fall _____	Age _____ Sex _____ Birthdate _____
Parent's Name _____	Phone: Home _____ Office _____
Emergency Contact (not parent) _____	Phone: Home _____ Office _____
Doctor's Name _____	Phone: Home _____ Office _____
Circle T-Shirt Size	Youth S M L Adult S M L XL



BASKETBALL

Fraliex new skipper

Crittenden County High School on Tuesday named Matt Fraliex the new high school boys' basketball coach. The 2007 graduate of Caldwell County High School remains the boys' basketball career scoring leader with 2,941 points. He was the boys' assistant coach at Caldwell last season after a two-year stint as head girls' coach at Todd Central. He's an elementary school teacher and has taught at Tennessee schools in Nashville and Clarksville. Fraliex played college basketball at Murray State and Mid Continent University at Mayfield before the school closed.

GOLF

Upcoming events

- The summer men's league begins play June 1 at the Heritage Golf Course in Marion.
- Deer Lakes Golf Course in Salem will host a 2-Man Scramble June 3-4 with a shotgun start 9 a.m., each day.
- Marion Baptist Church Junior Golf League begins June 12 at the Heritage Golf Course in Marion.
- The annual Buck and Doe Couples Tournament will be June 24 at the Heritage Golf Course in Marion.

OUTDOORS

Leave wildlife alone

Late spring brings a flurry of young wildlife. However, it can also bring danger for these young animals found by the well-meaning public who thinks the animal is orphaned, abandoned or in danger. Local game warden Randy Conway and Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife biologists recommend leaving wild animals alone. Keeping your distance increases the chances the mother will return to them and life will go on as nature intended. This goes for songbirds that have fledged from the nest and are learning to fly as well as white-tailed deer fawns concealed in thick cover.

They may look adorable, but they should be left where they were found. Only permitted wildlife rehabilitators may possess injured or orphaned wildlife, and only persons with a captive cervid permit may keep deer in captivity. Reports of white-tailed deer fawns thought to be abandoned are common in June. That timeframe coincides with the peak of fawning season. Newborn deer spend much of their time bedded down until they build up enough strength to keep up with their mother. Their reddish-brown coat patterned with pale spots aids in their concealment.

Fawns may get up and move, sometimes to very populated areas. They don't know what to fear and often times will be found in people's garages, bushes or in nearby shrubs looking for cover and a good hiding spot. Often these fawns are found by people who do not see the mother. In reality, the mother likely is not far away. The mother also may distance herself to draw a predator's attention away from the vulnerable young animal. In cases when a fawn is visibly injured, has been calling for its mother for hours on end, can't get to its mother on the other side of a fence, or if the mother has been hit by a car, it's appropriate to take action. Landowners may encounter deer fawns and ground-dwelling birds and other mammals while mowing fields or walking around their property.

Hunting Seasons

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

Spring Squirrel	May 20 - June 16
Bullfrog	May 19 - Oct 31



Pictured are Crittenden County High School athletes who will be participating in this week's Kentucky Class A State Track and Field Meet at Lexington. They are (from left) Preston Morgeson, Jordan Hardesty, Rowen Perkins, Devon Carr, Ella Geary, Aubrey Grau, Presley Potter, Mary Martinez, Payton Maness, Karsyn Potter and Payton Hall.

State Meet Qualifiers

11 CCHS athletes headed to Lexington Finals

Crittenden County's STATE QUALIFIERS	
Athlete	Grade
Jordan Hardesty	12
Rowen Perkins	12
Karsyn Potter	11
Payton Maness	11
Payton Hall	11
Mary Martinez	10
Preston Morgeson	12
Devon Carr	9
Ella Geary	9
Aubrey Grau	9
Presley Potter	8

STAFF REPORT

Eleven Crittenden County athletes, including three freshmen and an eighth-grader, are headed to the Kentucky High School Athletic Association's Class A State Track and Field Meet Thursday on the University of Kentucky campus at Lexington.

Three CCHS athletes earned automatic berths to the state meet. They were Rowen Perkins, Payton Maness and Karsyn Potter.

Perkins, a senior, qualified for state by winning a regional championship in the long jump with a leap of 19-feet-1.5. Maness, who is a junior, qualified by winning the regional high jump championship at 4-foot-10. Potter, a junior, was runnerup in the regional discus with a throw of 98-feet-7.

Eight other Crittenden County track and field members received at large berths in the KHSAA state meet. Regional champions and runnersup qualify automatically, but other



athletes can receive state bids based on their performances throughout the season in regular meets.

Earning at large invitations to the state meet were the Lady Rockets' 4x800 relay team, which has been on a record-setting pace all season long. Twice the squad has topped its own school record this season, including in the regional meet with a time of 11:27.66. The relay was highly contested and fast with CCHS finishing fourth in the region, yet still earning a state meet bid. Members of the relay team are freshman Aubrey Grau, sophomore Mary Martinez, eighth-grader Presley Potter and freshman Ella Geary.

Junior Payton Hall, who was third in the regional high jump at 4-foot-6, is going to the state meet.


The boys' 4x400 relay team rounds out the Crittenden County state qualifiers. The squad finished third at the regional meet a couple of weeks ago with a time of 3:45.44, just narrowly missing one of the automatic berths. Members of the relay squad are senior Jordan Hardesty, Perkins, freshman Devon Carr and senior Preston Morgeson.

Field and running events begin at 9 a.m., Lexington time on Thursday. Tickets are available online at Go Fan.

Crittenden County Rocket Baseball 2023 Final Statistics

Batting																	Fielding						
Player	GP	PA	AB	AVG	OBP	H	1B	2B	3B	HR	RBI	R	BB	SO	HBP	SB	CS	TC	A	PO	FPCT	E	
Summers, Quinn	23	85	64	.375	.506	24	22	2	0	0	19	20	17	8	2	6	1	51	22	27	.961	2	
Belt, Tyler	21	80	61	.328	.463	20	18	2	0	0	11	26	15	17	2	32	2	39	1	36	.949	2	
Conyer, Chase	13	50	45	.311	.380	14	11	3	0	0	14	8	4	10	1	5	0	36	7	27	.944	2	
Gobin, Case	22	79	63	.302	.443	19	10	8	1	0	13	21	16	29	0	9	2	39	6	30	.923	3	
Foster, Jeremiah	23	78	53	.283	.487	15	12	3	0	0	13	15	16	9	7	2	1	52	18	32	.962	2	
Belt, Evan	21	74	54	.278	.473	15	13	2	0	0	15	14	17	18	3	14	0	61	13	42	.902	6	
Guess, Seth	15	46	40	.275	.370	11	11	0	0	0	4	8	1	17	5	4	0	20	4	9	.65	7	
Cates, Casey	23	86	63	.270	.465	17	16	1	0	0	9	18	19	20	4	8	1	198	29	163	.970	6	
Smith, Hunter	14	44	32	.250	.432	8	7	1	0	0	12	8	9	21	2	3	0	9	1	6	.778	2	
Duncan, Jaxton	16	39	33	.212	.316	7	7	0	0	0	8	6	5	11	0	0	0	15	0	11	.733	4	
Pierson, Keegan	2	5	5	.200	.200	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	4	0	0	0	2	0	0	.000	2	
Stokes, Hudson	9	25	22	.182	.204	4	3	1	0	0	5	5	2	4	0	1	0	57	22	18	.702	17	
Travis, Kaiden	11	27	16	.125	.481	2	2	0	0	0	3	8	8	10	3	3	2	4	0	4	1.000	0	
Lovell, Eli	1	0	0	.000	.000	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	0	
Gibson, Jayden	3	4	2	.000	.500	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	0	
McCord, Asa	9	5	4	.000	.200	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	3	0	0	1	7	4	2	.857	1	
Dayberry, Brady	0	0	0	.000	.000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	0	
Team Totals	23	727	557	.282	.438	157	133	23	1	0	127	161	132	183	29	87	10	591	127	407	.904	57	

Pitching Statistics																
Player	IP	GP	GS	BF	#P	W	L	S	H	R	ER	BB	SO	HBP	ERA	WHIP
Foster, Jeremiah	51.1	15	8	259	970	1	1	0	65	51	30	26	71	7	4.09	1.77
McCord, Asa	39.2	12	8	199	677	4	1	0	49	35	29	22	44	10	5.11	1.79
Gobin, Case	21	10	5	124	477	2	1	0	33	39	23	23	29	3	7.66	2.66
Conyer, Chase	11	2	2	54	200	1	1	0	6	11	4	12	11	0	2.54	1.63
Duncan, Jaxton	0.1	1	0	5	21	0	0	0	3	1	1	1	1	0	21	12
Guess, Seth	8.2	5	0	50	174	0	0	0	6	15	15	16	4	4	12.1	2.53
Belt, Tyler	1.1	3	0	10	35	0	0	0	3	2	2	2	2	2	10.50	3.7
Summers, Quinn	1	1	0	7	27	0	0	0	2	2	0	1	3	0	0	3
Gibson, Jayden	1	1	0	5	24	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	0	0	7	2
Cates, Casey	0.1	1	0	8	40	0	0	0	1	7	0	5	1	0	0	18
Team Totals	135.2	23	23	721	2645	8	4	0	168	166	101	110	166	26	5.211	2.049






Crittenden County Lady Rocket Softball 2023 Final Statistics

Batting																	Fielding							
Player	GP	PA	AB	AVG	OBP	H	1B	2B	3B	HR	RBI	R	BB	SO	HBP	SB	CS	TC	A	PO	FPCT	E		
Boone, Anna	28	96	84	.476	.510	40	30	8	0	2	22	27	7	5	2	12	3	67	8	58	.985	1		
Evans, Elliot	28	99	88	.409	.469	36	30	4	2	0	7	30	6	6	4	19	4	65	7	51	.892	7		
McDaniel, Elle	28	93	80	.400	.473	32	20	7	3	2	27	19	11	7	1	2	0	171	9	158	.977	4		
Jent, Hannah	28	89	75	.320	.416	24	20	4	0	0	17	12	11	8	2	7	2	69	2	57	.855	10		
Federico, Andrea	28	86	63	.270	.442	17	7	2	3	5	19	17	20	10	1	4	1	59	8	40	.814	11		
Champion, Jaycee	27	89	81	.259	.315	21	18	2	1	0	10	9	3	17	4	2	3	20	0	15	.750	5		
Guess, Taylor	23	55	49	.245	.327	12	9	2	1	0	6	10	1	9	5	3	1	24	1	16	.708	7		
Piper, Morgan	16	32	26	.231	.375	6	5	1	0	0	7	7	4	12	2	1	0	28	0	26	.929	2		
Conyer, Aubre	29	81	71	.183	.284	13	8	4	1	0	12	13	6	24	4	6	1	73	9	54	.863	10		
Conyer, Brylee	14	30	25	.120	.267	3	3	0	0	0	2	5	4	10	1	3	0	29	4	21	.862	4		
Holeman, Georgia	21	22	17	.118	.286	2	1	1	0	0	3	6	4	9	0	4	1	3	0	0	.000	3		
Hunt, Chloe	11	13	9	.111	.385	1	1	0	0	0	1	6	3	4	1	0	1	10	0	8	.800	2		
Woodall, Alyssa	28	15	8	.500	.733	4	3	0	1	0	4	7	5	2	2	4	0	17	0	13	.765	4		
Buchanan, Natalee	27	51	46	.217	.294	10	9	1	0	0	7	8	3	13	2	3	0	2	0	0	.000	2		
Maraman, Aliyah	3	4	2	.500	.750	1	0	1	0	0	3	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	.000	0		
Rushing, Bristyn	2	5	4	.250	.400	1	0	1	0	0	1	3	1	1	0	0	0	4	0	3	.750	1		
Beavers, Karli	7	13	8	.125	.462	1	1	0	0	0	4	4	5	3	0	2	0	7	1	6	1.000	0		
Maraman, Aliza	2	3	0	.000	1.00	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	3	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	.000	0		
Matthews, Ayanna	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	0		
Moore, Haley	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	0		
Team Totals	30	876	736	0.304	.405	224	165	38	12	9	152	187	99	140	31	73	18	650	49	526	.885	75		

Pitching Statistics															
Player	IP	GP	GS	BF	#P	W	L	H	R	ER	BB	SO	HBP	ERA	WHIP
Boone, Anna	104.2	23	15	508	1,840	7	9	116	90	49	44	97	4	3.27	1.52
Evans, Elliot	65	21	13	335	1,158	5	6	88	90	57	32	60	8	6.13	1.84
Conyer, Brylee	2	1	1	10	46	1	0	0	1	0	4	2	0	0	2.00
Conyer, Aubre	2	2	1	8	38	1	0	0	1	1	2	3	1	3.50	1.00
Federico, Andrea	1	1	0	5	21	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	1	0	2.00
Jent, Hannah	0.1	1	0	2	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	.000
Beavers, Karli	0.1	1	0	4	17	0	0	1	1	1	3	0	0	21.0	12.0
Team Totals	175.1	30	30	871	3126	14	15	185	108	87	165	53	15	4.312	1.665







Mexico Baptist Church is located in the southern part of Crittenden County.

Baptists in Mexico begin searching for new pastor

STAFF REPORT

One of the largest Baptist congregations in the county is preparing to search for a new minister for the first time in two decades.

Mexico Baptist Church will select a five-person committee on Sunday, June 11 to develop its plan to replace longtime pastor Tim Burdon. The search could last months.

Burdon, 60, will have served the congregation for 20 full years this October. Chances are he will still be in the pulpit at that point, said Deacon Chairman Chad Mott.

“We appreciate what Bro. Tim is doing, staying with us until the search is over,” said Mott.

Burdon announced his looming retirement, but he doesn’t plan to leave. He and wife Joyce have purchased a home and will be moving from the church parsonage, but they’re planning to stay in the county. After he



Burdon

leaves the pulpit, Burdon will remain active in a unique ministry he formed a few years ago that revolves around hunting dogs. He conducts on-site worship services, counseling and training at Retriever Hunt Test events around the region.

Burdon’s longevity at Mexico is quite unique for a Baptist minister.

“He’s served longer than any other preacher,” Mott said. “I was raised in this church and have attended here my whole life and Bro. Tim is the sixth preacher we’ve had in my life, and I will be 52 this summer.”

The search committee will be comprised of active members 18 years or older. The church is a member of the Ohio River Baptist Association and the Southern Baptist Convention which will be great resources during the search for a new minister.

Mexico Baptist was founded more than 100 years ago. It has more than 200 members and typically around 150 in morning worship. The church is located between Mott City and Frances in the southern part of Crittenden County.

RETAIL

Continued from page 1

cluded in that figure. Local leaders believe that grocery leakage alone could equal \$10 million or more.

Amanda Davenport, economic development specialist for Crittenden and surrounding counties, said the leakage figure can be used as a strong recruitment tool. Even when the community doesn’t meet population or financial expectations that some retailers may want before committing to expand here, Davenport said the study proves there is plenty of financial incentive.

Right now, Marion is capturing less than \$4 out of every \$10 our resident consumers are spending on groceries, food and drink.

“How much is Marion losing on a weekend when a family goes out of town to shop and stops to eat dinner?” Davenport rhetorically asks. “Well, it’s \$35 million.”

Local banker Steve Watson represents the Chamber of Commerce on the Retail Academy committee. Retention is a big part of keeping a community strong, he said.

“There are people in the community working to make it better,” Watson adds, pointing out that the recent study was very comprehensive, using trade area data and mobile phone movement data to highlight consumer trends.

Not surprisingly, southern Illinois and eastern Livingston County from Salem to nearly Smithland showed strong activity in Marion’s retail mar-

ket.

As for a grocery store, there is some ongoing, active recruitment, but nothing is imminent. A discount grocer such as Ruler might be a possibility, some of those involved with recruitment said. Ruler is an affiliate of Kroger and has stores in Princeton and Henderson. Marion is located on a routine supply route, they said.

Davenport points out that Marion’s Food Giant is a great store, describing it as one of the best small-town groceries she’s ever seen, with a nice selection of name brands and discount labels, a full-service deli and fresh produce.

“You can tell a whole lot about a community from its grocery store,” Davenport said.

Yet competition, she said, would result in better prices and greater options for people. It can also lead to more and perhaps better employment options. The same could be said for franchise restaurants, some of which the study identified as possible good fits for Marion, include Little Caesar’s Pizza, Taco John’s, Burger King and a few lesser known chains. Of course any development of a grocery store, fast-food restaurant or other enterprise will take private investment. While there were government funds for the study to advise this community on what it’s missing, there will be no money to spearhead a solution.

The former Hometown Foods grocery store building is currently listed for sale online at a price tag of \$355,000.

City water conservation order back to Stage 3

STAFF REPORT

Beginning Thursday, Marion is reinstating the State 3 Conservation Order to begin hedging against drier months ahead.

The city’s water crisis began with the intentional breaching of the levee at Lake George in April 2022 in order to prevent possible failure of the earthen dam. Engineers recently determined that a broken discharge pipe through the levee was the likely cause of the leaking that prompted last spring’s emergency response.

Mayor D’Anna Browning in March had eased restrictions on water use that had been in place since last summer. However, she now says it is

prudent to reinstate the more strict conservation order.

“I don’t want anyone to panic,” she said. “This is being done out of an abundance of caution.”

The mayor said Kentucky Division of Water has recommended stepping up the conservation measures as drier summer and fall months approach.

“The next 30-to-60 day forecast is showing drier than normal,” Browning said.

In March, the mayor lifted the tougher regulations because numerous heavy rains had filled both Lake George and Old City Lake to their capacities. Those lakes provide Marion’s raw water for making drinking

water.

Stage 3 restricts water application on surfaces like streets, sidewalks, patios and decks. Under Stage 3, landscape irrigation is restricted to two days per month on designated days and the washing of automobiles is disallowed.

Browning said some of the large stores of water at the two lakes has dwindled.

“The water stopped flowing over the spillway at Old City Lake last week,” Browning said, signaling notice by city officials.

“We just need people to be aware of the situation and scale back on water for pressure washing and recreational usage.”

Thirteen graduates were at the Sixth Annual Preschool Graduation May 18, 2023



Pictured front from left: Elise Driver, Hayden Carr, Kendall Wilcox, Quinn Maddux, Harper Qualls, Alaina McKinley, middle row from left: Diesel Wood, Lane Wheeler, Colby O’Leary, Nellie Singleton, Henley Zimmer, Eliza Nelson and Chandler Epley. Back row are teachers from left: Lily Cox, Sandy Fletcher, Bev Hackney, Melissa Fletcher and Michelle James.



U.S. 60 West,
Marion, KY

(270) 704-3895

FREE SHRED DAY

Sponsored by



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9 AM - 12 PM

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100 LBS. SHRED LIMIT PER PERSON OR BUSINESS
RAIN OR SHINE!

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For More Information Call 270-965-3106

VBS 2023

June 5-7
12:45-4 p.m.

Registration:
June 5 @ 12:45 p.m.
or register online
www.marionbaptist.church

MARION BAPTIST
131 E. Depot Street, Marion
Church Office: (270) 965-5232



CRITTENDEN COUNTY

Class of 2023

Graduation Edition
Thursday, June 1
PAGE 1B



CCHS GRADUATION

Valedictory addresses 2023

Macie Hunt



Daughter of:
Michael and Mandy Hunt

Murray State University
Majoring in Pre Dental

Good evening teachers, family, and friends and of course the class of 2023. Today we become Crittenden County graduates. We all leave here separating in many different paths whether that be heading to college, joining the workforce, or just taking some time for yourself. One

thing we must never forget is where we came from or the great potential each one of us holds. Throughout these 13 years of us walking the halls together we have

learned so much about each other. None of us is sure where the future will take us, but I hope we all remember the memories that we have made together in the

past and present. I would like to thank my family for supporting me and being by my side for every decision and dream I have had. Even if that meant driving me all around the world to become competitive in the sport I love. I know mom you still wish that was basketball, but you chose to support me anyways.

I'd like to thank my little sister for making me who I am today and truly being my best friend. Last but

surely not least Alyssa, you have truly helped me make it through high school. Crittenden County Schools you have been amazing, and I would not be where I am standing today without you.

Now to the Class of 2023 we finally can say we did it. High school was not meant to last forever but it has shaped us, and it is now time to say our goodbyes. Personally, I hate goodbyes and would rather say "hello." We say hello to the new

adventures and new possibilities this brings us. As we turn the page in this book, we should look forward to the next chapter in life but never forget the memories we have made together.

Lastly, I want to leave all of you with a quote that we should all remember. Proverbs 16:9 says, "In their hearts the humans plan their course, but the Lord establishes their steps." Class of 2023 Congratulations we did it!

Nathan Bozeman



Son of:
Jason Bozeman, Shannon Stewart
and Abby Medlock

Western Kentucky University
Exploratory/Undeclared

Hello fellow goobers, goobetes, or goobs if you go by that. I'm very happy that I'm able to deliver a final word to you all before we leave and go our separate ways. Before I begin though I'd like to just give a quick thank you to my

father, Jason, and my sister, Alyssa, for being the biggest helpers in getting me this far in my life.

Anyways I'll be honest;

I'm going to get a bit sappy, but I'll keep it short and sweet. I know that these past four years and even now, we have been through

a lot of change both in our surroundings and as people, through all of this though I sincerely mean that I am glad that I have spent it with all of you.

Whether I met you in preschool, met you just this semester, or anywhere in between, I cherish each of the memories I made with you all even if I haven't spoken to you in years or maybe not spoken to at all.

I thank you for being one of the biggest factors in making me who I am today, and that goes for those that may not be on the best terms with me as well. All I can say to those that seem to think that is that I'm sorry. I won't ask for your forgiveness for any hurt that I have caused but I can promise that I will work to be a better man. I genuinely have no feelings of resentment

for any of you and hope that you all find whatever you've been seeking in your life, even if you don't know what that is yet.

All in all, I'd just like to say that whether it be 7 to 70 years from now when the only thing I can eat is soup every day that I will always look very fondly on this class.

Thank you all for being my classmates.

Natalie Boone



Daughter of:
Nathan and Lee Anna Boone

University of Kentucky
Human Health Sciences

Good afternoon teachers, family, friends, and most importantly the class of 2023. My name is Natalie Boone and I am proud to be a valedictorian for this year's CCHS graduating class.

First of all, I would like to show my appreciation to all who made this day possible. Thank you to all the families, friends, teachers, and administrators who have shown their support to those graduating here today. To my parents, and family, thank you for providing me with me every possible opportunity throughout high school,

whether it be through sports, academics, or extra-curricular activities, you have supported me through it all. You have been a big part of my success and I couldn't have done it without you. To my sister and Taylor thank you for being my best friends. To my coaches and teammates, thank you for being my biggest supporters and number one fans.

Most importantly, I would like to congratulate the class

of 2023. We are here today to celebrate all of our hard work over the past 13 years and reflect on the memories we have created during that time at CCHS. I have walked with many of you since we first stepped into the doors of our kindergarten class in August of 2010, and to those, it has been nothing short of a pleasure to grow up with you.

As I sat down to write this speech, a flow of memories came rushing into my mind,

along with the frightening reality that soon I would walk the halls of CCHS for the last time. When I think about my favorite memories that we as a class have made over the years, I think of dancing at prom, screaming lyrics to music on the way to basketball games, I think about Taylor carrying our powderpuff team so that we could beat the juniors, I think about playing Just Dance in English instead of doing actual work, and the time that Mr. Suggs let us have a water balloon fight in World Civ. I think of recess, the time Deacon ran away in first grade, that embarrassing music video the school posted on YouTube, scholastic book fairs, field

trips, pep rallies, winning the district tournament in basketball and spending way too much time talking in the school parking lot. Most of all I think about the incredible people I got the chance to meet and form bonds with along the way. We've truly grown-up sharing laughter and inside jokes within the walls of our classrooms since 2010.

As we leave here today, we will all go our separate ways. Some of us will go to college, some will go right to work, some of us will take some time to ourselves and some of us have no idea what's to come. Before I leave this stage tonight, I'd like to leave you all some parting words of

wisdom. Some of the best advice I've been given was from my dad, but there was no way Dr. Q was going to let me repeat his exact words, so here is the PG version. First of all, just don't suck, second if it was easy, everybody would do it, and thirdly, if you decide you are going to do something, don't just half-butt it. Lastly, I wanted to conclude with a Bible verse that would be beneficial for us as a class moving forward. Proverbs 3:5-6 states, "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding, in all your ways acknowledge Him and he will make your paths straight." Class of 2023 congratulations we did it.

CLASS OF 2023 • CLASS OF 2023 • CLASS OF 2023 • CLASS OF 2023 • CLASS OF 2023

2023

CRITTENDEN COUNTY
Class of 2023

 <div>Hayley Allen ∞</div>	 <div>Brian Alvarez ∞</div>	 <div>Paris Anderson</div>	 <div>Evan Belt ∞ •</div>	 <div>Briley Berry ∞</div>	 <div>Seth Blackburn ∞ ^</div>	 <div>Natalie Boone ∞ ^ •</div>	 <div>Nathan Bozeman ∞ ^ •</div>	 <div>Natalee Buchanan ◇</div>	 <div>Tanner Campbell *</div>
 <div>Hanna Collins</div>	 <div>Brylee Conyer ∞ ^</div>	 <div>Zachary Counts ∞</div>	 <div>Brilee Crittendon ∞</div>	 <div>Zackary Damron *</div>	 <div>Callie Dempsey ∞ •</div>	 <div>Hunter Denney</div>	 <div>Collin Epley ∞ •</div>	 <div>Nathan Faith *</div>	 <div>Anthony Federico ∞ •</div>
 <div>Wesley Fritts * +</div>	 <div>Kara Fulkerson * +</div>	 <div>Colton Gilland * •</div>	 <div>Case Gobin</div>	 <div>Taylor Graw</div>	 <div>Lanie Greenwell ◇ ^</div>	 <div>Seth Guess ∞</div>	 <div>Taylor Guess ∞</div>	 <div>Jordan Hardesty ∞</div>	 <div>Addie Hatfield ∞ ^</div>
 <div>Raven Hayes ∞ ^</div>	 <div>Izabella Hearn</div>	 <div>Abigail Hickman ◇</div>	 <div>Wyatt Hodge ∞</div>	 <div>Deacon Holliman</div>	 <div>Jacob Hoover ∞ ^ •</div>	 <div>Laken Hunt ∞ •</div>	 <div>Macie Hunt ∞ ^ •</div>	 <div>Samuel Impastato ∞ +</div>	 <div>Haylee Jackson ∞</div>
 <div>Alexandria Jones ∞</div>	 <div>Parker Kayse ∞ ^</div>	 <div>Keakoa Kuamoo ∞</div>	 <div>Jazmyn Lineberry ∞ •</div>	 <div>Johnathan Minton</div>	 <div>Carson Montalta ∞ ^ •</div>	 <div>Mya Moore ◇</div>	 <div>Preston Morgeson</div>	 <div>McKenna Myers ∞</div>	 <div>Kaleb Nesbitt ∞ ^</div>
 <div>Kadynce Parrish ∞ ^</div>	 <div>Alexis Partee ∞ •</div>	 <div>Reagan Peak ∞</div>	 <div>Gavin Peek ∞ ^ •</div>	 <div>Nicholas Pendley ◇ ^</div>	 <div>Rowen Perkins ∞</div>	 <div>Isaac Phillips</div>	 <div>William Renschler •</div>	 <div>Emilee Russelburg ∞</div>	 <div>Isaac Sarles</div>
 <div>Karsen Shouse ∞ ^</div>	 <div>Preston Sisco *</div>	 <div>Emilee Sizemore *</div>	 <div>Kali Skaggs *</div>	 <div>Daniel Tinsley</div>	 <div>Tessa Todd ◇</div>	 <div>Carly Towery ∞ ^</div>	 <div>David Valentine *</div>	 <div>Shaun Wardwell ◇</div>	 <div>Brayden Williamson</div>
 <div>Alyssa Woodall ∞ ^ •</div>	 <div>Alyssa Yates *</div>	 <div>Levi Dickey</div>	 <div>Kaylynn Jackson *</div>	 <div>Jenna Newland</div>	 <div>Zackrey Stiles</div>	 <div>Lillian Wesmoland</div>	 <div>Colten Easley</div>	Not pictured: Jacob Fritts ∞, Kaden Langston *, Thomas Nickless, Addison Steward, Trey Swaggirt, Derek Beckner, Carson Craddock, Nash Craddock, Lexi Dean, Darius Hughes, Victoria Ladd, Caden Langston *, AshLynn Miller, Jenna Newland, Reanna Partee ◇, Tyler Swaggirt, Elexis Wesmoland	

2023 Valedictory addresses

Kady Parrish

Hello everyone, it makes me proud to see each and every one of you here today. As I look upon the faces of the class of 2023, it is so great to see how much each of you has grown and changed throughout the years. We were once tiny



Daughter of:
Joey Parrish and Karisa Smith

EKU
Wildlife and game management

freshmen learning how to live in a world that seemed impossible to survive and now we are graduation seniors, convinced we are

ready to take on the world. I have spent the past four years learning lessons that have molded me into the person I am today. The most

important lessons being to learn from my mistakes, face challenges head on, and to make my failures into opportunities for growth. I learned all of these lessons by walking through the halls of Crittenden County High School every day and I hope all of you have too.

My wish for everyone sitting here today is that we become good people. People who inspire others. People

who treat each other with kindness. People who want to try hard and accomplish amazing things. People who have faith. I want all of us to be people we were proud to have gotten to grow up with. I have no doubt that all of us can go on to do great things and be good people. Our teachers and parents have spent our whole lives giving us what we need to be good, accomplished, respectable

people and now it is time for us to prove it. Thank you to all of my friends, family, and teachers who have taught me everything I need to know to feel confident in myself to make the decisions I need in order to succeed in my future. Your endless support has been appreciated. And thank you to my classmates, I can't wait to see what life has in store for you.

Addie Hatfield

Well, here we are. The class of 2023 is finally graduating. Some may have had doubts about us making it to this point, but I'm so proud of all of you. Before we all part our ways, I would like to leave you with some of the advice that I have been given by the adults in my life. This, in particular, is what they wish they had known when they graduated. Always be patient; sometimes the results that you're



Daughter of:
Heath Hatfield and Vicki Hardin Hatfield

Murray State University
Occupational Safety and Health

after just require more hard work. Continue to learn every day and always treat people with humanity and respect. Never give up on yourself, but make a living doing what you love. Don't sweat all the little stuff that will mean nothing in time.

I would like to finish by

thanking all of the people who have gotten me to this point in my life. Starting with God, who has already blessed me with so much. My family, friends, teachers, and coaches who have taught me all throughout my life. I seriously do not know what I would do without you all or if I would

even be in the position I am today. You have all made me into the best person I could be and have encouraged me through the good and challenging times. I know that I could always come to one of you for a good laugh or even a mini therapy session. I would especially like to give credit to my Mom and Dad for always believing in me and pushing me to complete the goals I have set for myself. You both have supported me through so much, and I know I can always look to you for sound advice in any life event. You both have truly been the

best parents I could ask for, and I can't thank you enough for being so. To my cousin Malaika and my best friend, Fed, I love you so much. You both have been the little sisters I never had but the best ones I could ask for. Whether asking for your brutal honesty or looking for someone to cry with, I know I could come to either of you for both and everything in between. I am so excited to see what the two of you accomplish in life and hope that I will get to experience being right in the middle of it.

Lastly, I would like to

thank and remember the people that couldn't be here today. The ones that got called home a little too early and didn't get to experience all of these milestones that we completed this past week.

For my class, I have so many great memories to look back on when I think of high school and the bonds that I have created with all of you. I can't wait to see where this next chapter takes us, but I hope it's the best one yet! And as Jessie Mathieu would say, make good decisions. Thank you.

Brylee Conyer

Good evening class of 2023, this speech has been one that I have looked forward to writing since middle school. I've thought of countless memories and bits of advice to include in this brief speech. Today, as I look



Daughter of: David and Sissy Conyer

Madisonville Community College
University of Louisville
Psychology

back at the last 12 years of my life, I can proudly say I have little regrets. Those outfits and hairstyles I wore in middle

school though, I can't say I'm proud of.

I am very grateful to be part of this class, and want

to take a moment to thank those who have helped me throughout every school level. My parents, I thank you all for being strong, dependable role models for me to be inspired by. I love you and appreciate everything you've done for me. My sister, thank you for being a built in best friend, who no matter what I say or do still supports me. I can't wait to see what you

accomplish in life. There are countless teachers and coaches who've molded me into the girl I am today. I would love to name them all, but we're on a time limit. Lastly, I'd like to thank my Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, for getting me through every battle stronger and loving me unconditionally with my faults.

Valedictorian speeches are about giving advice for the

next chapters to come in life. The only piece of true advice I could ever give any of you is to always put God first, then everything else will fall into place. Never let others affect your decisions, and strive to be successful in life. I love each and every single one of you and will cherish the memories we've made while growing up together. Thank you.

Jacob Hoover

Hello everyone and thank you for coming to the 2023 graduation ceremony. I'm sure I can speak for all of the graduates when I say that it means a lot that you all are here to celebrate one of the biggest days of our lives so far. When I was told that I had to write a speech for graduation night, I treated it like every assignment I ever got in high school. I waited until the night before it was due to start it. The inspiration came from a conversation I had a few



Son of:
Chuck and Randi Hoover

Western Kentucky University
Mathematics

weeks ago with some friends, and they talked about how good life was during quarantine. Now I don't know about you all, but my experience with quarantine was not the

best. I remember that during Covid everyone talked about how bad it was, and that the time before quarantine was amazing. I recognized a cycle where we tend to hate the times we're in, only to reminisce about them later on in life. This leads to people not appreciating the times we are in right now. By focusing on the past we end up losing valuable opportunities to make the present better. I know it's fun to look back on

our early years with fondness. However, no one should live in the past. Just like how no one should worry about the future too much. Whether you like it or not, you are here, now, in this time, and this place. We are meant to be here for a reason, and I don't think it is to fantasize over a time we've already been through. I don't think any of us wants to live with regrets and the only way to not have any is to make use of the time

you have now. I want to leave you all with one of my all-time favorite quotes. It comes from Master Oogway in Kung Fu Panda who said, "Yesterday is history, tomorrow is a mystery, but today is a gift, and that is why we call it the present." I challenge the Class of 2023, and those in attendance tonight to focus on the present and live with no regrets. Thank you!

Parker Kayse

Hello classmates, teachers, administrators, role models, friends, family, and others. I am honored to be a Valedictorian for this graduating class of 2023. These past years have not been easy by any means, unless you ask Jacob Hoover because he would tell you that anything is easy. As my classmates and I graduate this evening from Crittenden County High School, I believe it is a time to be thankful and inspired. Within Crittenden County, we should be thankful for how we were raised, as a tight knit family,



Son of:
Scott and Teresa Kayse

Eastern Kentucky University

who all strive to help each other and better this community; after all, bettering this community is what myself and the other 92 students graduating tonight will do in the near future.

Each of us will now part ways with being a student of the Crittenden County School systems and look forward to what success will follow. Although we are parting

ways with the student aspect, our journey for the last four years will not be parted; and it will certainly not be forgotten through all the memories and trials we have all been through together and individually. Every person that I have encountered throughout high school has inspired me in one way or another, and very significantly. From being inspired by Vicki Hatfield to

be the best golfer that I could find within myself, while also finding inspiration to be a role model for the youth that will tread through the footsteps that my classmates and I have printed here at Crittenden County High School. From being inspired by multiple different faculty that I have encountered here at this school to strive for success at the greatest capacity within my academics, such as Mrs. Stefanie Shoulders, Dr. Derrick Ford, Dr. Melissa Quertemous, or Mrs. Carol West.

From being inspired by fellow Christians such as my family, Mrs. Jessica Hill, Mrs. Glenna Rich, and Tanner Tabor, have I learned how to

walk through life with great purpose and faith.

From these inspirations that I encounter on a daily basis, I have found drive, success, leadership, and accountability for myself. If I have one piece of advice to leave with this class, it is to chase your dreams now and don't wait for opportunities to come because you will be waiting forever.

Joshua 1:9 is a powerful piece of scripture that I believe we should follow while chasing our dreams and advancing in life: "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go."

As said in the scripture, chase what you desire in life and do not be afraid as God is with us throughout everything. Turn to God and thank Him for the good and the bad, and always lean on Him throughout it all. Lastly, learn to appreciate the people that go out of their way to encourage you and help you succeed at what you want in life.

To everyone here today at this ceremony, remember to always strive to be an inspiration to others, just like you have been to me and my classmates countless times. It has been an unbelievable last four years here at Crittenden County High School, but watch out, because our best is yet to come. Thank you.

Raven Hayes

Teachers, families and fellow classmates, good evening. It is crazy to think that we have finally grown up and are about to take one of the biggest steps in our lives. I would not be who I am, or where I am, today if it were not for my family



Daughter of:
Randy and Dana Hayes

Northern Kentucky University
BS in College of Health and Human Services
of Pre-Med Radiologic Science
Minor of Journalism

and friends. Mom and dad: thank you. Thank you for everything you have done for me. I could not ask for

better parents than you two. You push me to be the absolute best I can be, even if I am hard to keep up with.

I will forever be grateful for y'all. Jada and Will: I would like to say thanks for always trying to stay connected with me. I cannot wait for the adventures we all get to go on without a curfew. Lastly, I would like to thank Tay. Without you, I would be lost. I will always be appreciative of the laughs that we had together, which is every single second of our lives.

Classmates, throughout our course of high school, we have had our moments, but I would not trade any of those for the world. I am extremely proud of every one of you and what is in store for your futures. I will never forget the time where we all were competing in water games in elementary school, or even the time that Briley, Case, and Deacon risked being late

to work to help me fix my tire. In or out of school, I will always love you guys.

I would like to leave everyone with a quote led by Barack Obama. "Don't just get involved. Fight for your seat at the table. Better yet, fight for a seat at the head of the table." Class, keep fighting, keep fighting for the best things for you. And never give up.

Summa Cum Laude & Valedictorians

Natalie Raye Boone
Nathan McAllister Bozeman
Brylee Ann Conyer
Addie Nichole Hatfield
Raven Joleigh Hayes
Jacob Edward Hoover
Macie Nichole Hunt
Parker Aaron Kayse
Kadynce Ann Parrish

Magna Cum Laude

Carson Ray Montalta
Karsen Layne Shouse

Class of 2023

Cum Laude

Evan Coy Belt
Briley Morgan Berry
Lanie Morgan Greenwell
Taylor Brooke Guess
Alexandria Lee Jones
Jazmyn Renae Lineberry
Johnathan Reed Minton
McKenna Jaylynn Myers
Gavin Dale Peek
Emilee Jean Russelburg
Alyssa Morgan Woodall

Madisonville Community College Senior Academy

Seth Matthew Blackburn
Natalie Raye Boone
Lanie Morgan Greenwell
Macie Nichole Hunt
Carson Ray Montalta
Karsen Layne Shouse
Alyssa Morgan Woodall

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Vice President: Callie Dempsey
Secretary: Natalie Boone
Treasurer: Reagan Peak
Executive Council President: Raven Hayes
Executive Council Vice President: Brylee Conyer
Executive Council Secretary: Lanie Greenwell
Executive Council Treasurer: Addie Nichole Hatfield

SCHOLARSHIPS

EASTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY
Parker Kayse and Cadence Parrish

LINDSEY WILSON
Taylor Guess

NORTHERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY AND NATIONAL HONORS SOCIETY OF HIGH SCHOOL SCHOLARS AWARD
Raven Hayes

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY
Carson Montalta and Natalie Boone

WESTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY
Nathan Bozeman and Karsen Shouse

AMERICAN LEGION FUND SCHOLARSHIP
Alyssa Woodall

DEMOCRATS FOR KIDS SCHOLARSHIP
Raven Hayes

POWERED BY INCLUSION SCHOLARSHIP
Collin Epley

CRITTENDEN COUNTY EDUCATION ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIP
Brilee Crittendon

PAUL F. RILEY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
Raven Hayes

PAUL E. MICK MEMORIAL JOURNALISM SCHOLARSHIP
Natalie Boone

CRITTENDEN HEALTH SYSTEMS AUXILIARY SCHOLARSHIP
Addie Hatfield

KY ALL A CLASSIC SCHOLARSHIP
Addie Hatfield

FOHS HALL, INC. SCHOLARSHIP FUND
Alyssa Woodall

CRITTENDEN COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT SCHOLARSHIP
Brilee Crittendon, Parker Kayse, Addie Hatfield, Alyssa Woodall and Raven Hayes

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McKenna Myers

MORRIS SISCO MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
McKenna Myers

CRITTENDEN COUNTY NANCY HUNT EXTENSION HOMEMAKER SCHOLARSHIP
Natalie Boone

CRITTENDEN COUNTY RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIP
Callie Dempsey and Raven Hayes

HAYES CONSTRUCTION TRADESMAN SCHOLARSHIP
William Renschler

CHS CHARLOTTE FOWLER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
Addie Hatfield and Natalie Boone

GARETH W. HARDIN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
Brilee Crittendon

CRITTENDEN COUNTY FARM BUREAU
Evan Belt and Carson Montalta

FRYSC SCHOLARSHIP SEGAL EDUCATION AWARD
Addie Hatfield

H&H HOME AND HARDWARE TRADES SCHOLARSHIP
Briley Berry and McKenna Myers

JAKE HODGE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
Addie Hatfield, Raven Hayes, Alyssa Woodall and Evan Belt

SALEM KY GARDEN CLUB SCHOLARSHIP
McKenna Myers and Briley Berry

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Hats off to the hardworking Class of 2023!

We wish you continued success as you turn the page to an exciting new chapter. Good luck, and best wishes.

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Charlee George
Taylor Graw
Kekoa Kuamoo
Scott Quertermous
Austin Whitt

CLASS OF 2023

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On this festive occasion, we'd like to take a moment to say how proud we are of your achievement. You've worked hard, and now the best is yet to come!

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Graduation Scene



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2023
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2023
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Congratulations
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Best wishes to the Class of 2023!
We applaud your hard work and dedication.

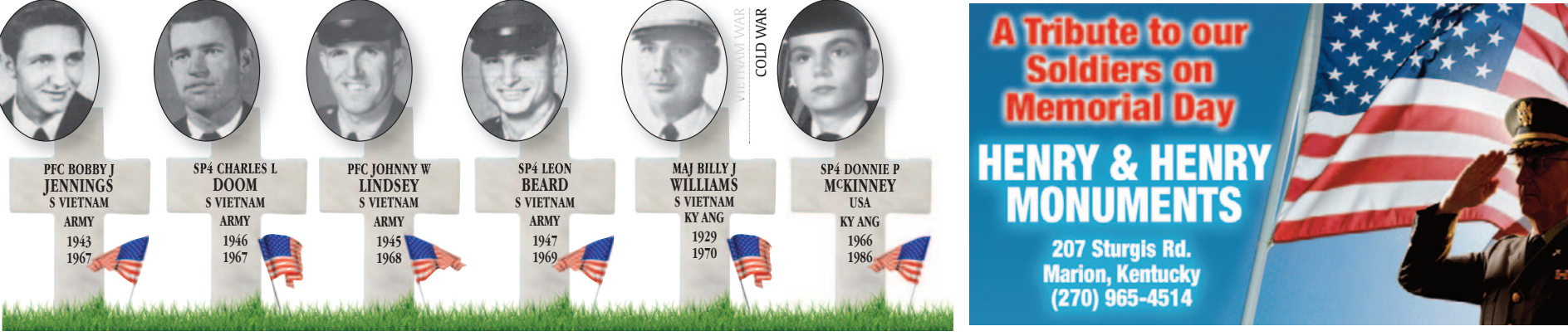


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Staff and administrators welcome the Class of 2023 into Rocket Arena prior to Friday’s ceremony.

Special thanks to Project Graduation supporters

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Brunch of Sandwiches
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Thank You from the Class of 2023

CONGRATULATIONS
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CONGRATULATIONS
VALEDICTORIAN
BRYLEE CONYER

AND THE CLASS OF 2023

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Congratulations

Class of 2023 Graduates

A Special Congratulations to
Zach Counts
Paris Anderson
Tessa Todd
David Valentine

May you acheive great
success in all your
future endeavors.

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Marion, Ky.
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Congratulations All Around To The
Class Of 2023

For All Their Hard Work & Dedication

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- Local Investment

- Local Decision
- Local Commitment

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GRADUATES!

Congrats on your
outstanding achievement.

Wishing you all the best for
the future and all its challenges
and opportunities.

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Congratulations

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2023

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CRITTENDEN COUNTY

Class of 2023



Congratulations

SENIOR

Class of 2023

Callie Dempsey!



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HAPPY

GRADUATION

Special Congratulations to

Sammy Impastato, Preston Morgeson,
Kaleb Nesbitt, Kekoa Kuamoo, Seth Guess,
Rowen Perkins, Deacon Holliman,
Briley Berry, Case Gobin, Zach Counts,
Evan Belt and Anthony Federico

HealthQuest

CHIROPRACTIC & WELLNESS CENTER

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CONGRATULATING

the

CLASS OF

2023!



CE

Cobie D. Evans

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Crittenden Community Hospital would like to
congratulate the following students...

Natalie Boone
Carson Craddock
Nash Craddock
Jacob Fritts
Jordan Hardesty

Parker Kayse
Carson Montalta
Reagan Peak
Preston Sisco

and everyone in the Class of 2023!

Good Luck!

CONGRATULATIONS

CLASS OF

2023 GRADS!



Evan Belt

Evan is the son of Barrett & CJ Belt. He graduated from Crittenden County High School. He plans to attend Murray State University for Occupational Safety & Health.



Gavin Dickerson

Gavin is the son of Serena & Eddie Dickerson. He graduated from Murray State University with a Degree in Finance. He will begin his career in banking as Accounting Clerk at Farmers Bank & Trust Co in Marion.



Callie Dempsey

Callie is the daughter of Rose & Jeremy Dempsey. She graduated from Crittenden County High School. She plans to attend Western Kentucky University for Business/Marketing.



Bella Chittenden

Bella is the daughter of Beth & Devin Chittenden. She graduated from Livingston Central High school. She plans to attend Western Kentucky University to pursue a degree in Engineering.



Ellie Hughes

Ellie is the daughter of Jeff & Stacy Hughes. She graduated from North Hopkins High School. She plans to attend The University of Southern Indiana for Radiology.



Shelby Summers

Shelby is the daughter of Tricia Summers and Von Summers. She graduated from Western Kentucky University with a Bachelors of Science in Geological Science with a minor in Chemistry.

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