# rittenden Press Historical Society seeks to rename post office

for man who championed its building

**Marion Post Office celebrating 100 years** 

12 PAGES / VOLUME 136 / NUMBER 49 **THURSDAY, JUNE 21, 2018** 

**Court news** 

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24/7 BREAKING AND LOCAL NEWS / THE-P

#### **NEWS**

#### 2 ILLINOIS ESCAPEES **MAY HAVE MARION TIES**

Crittenden County authorities are on the lookout for two of three escaped Illinois inmates who may have a connection to Marion. Johnny Tipton and Zachery Shock, a murder suspect, escaped Saturday from a jail in White County, Ill., on the southern Indiana border. They remained at large at press time and are considered dangerous. A third escapee from the jail has been captured.

Local officials searched on land and along the Ohio River Tuesday evening in Crittenden County looking for the two suspects.

Look to The Press Online for updates on this story.

#### **TOLU FIREWORKS JULY 7,** MARION RESTRICTS USE

Many area public fireworks displays this year are being held either before or after Independence Day, which falls on a Wednesday. In Carrsville, the annual display on the riverfront takes place at dusk Saturday. Two weeks later, Tolu hosts its annual display at dusk on July 7. Both events will offer refresh-

ments at their

respective com-

munity centers. In Marion, people are permitted to shoot fireworks only between noon and 10 p.m. starting June 27 and running through July 5. On July 4, however, fireworks are legal from noon to 11 p.m. It is illegal to shoot them within 200 feet of any structure, vehicle or person. Violation can result in a \$250 fine.

#### TODAY LONGEST DAY, **DEBUT OF SUMMER**

Today (Thursday) is the first day of summer in the northern hemisphere, when the sun reaches its apex in the sky overhead. That makes today the longest 24-hour period of daylight all year in Marion, with 14 hours, 44 minutes and 9 seconds between dawn at 5:32 a.m. and sundown at 8:16 p.m. Days will continue to get shorter until winter arrives on Dec. 21.

#### PUBLIC MEETINGS

- Crittenden Fiscal Court will meet at 8:30 a.m. today (Thursday) at the courthouse.

Crittenden-Livingston Water District Board will meet at 6 p.m. Monday at the district office in Salem.

 Crittenden Health Systems Board of Directors will meet at 6 p.m. Tuesday at the hospital administrative annex.

Crittenden Press



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# Judge reprimands 6 absent jurors

#### **Jury Duty 101: The basics**

A **circuit court** jury panel is chosen each summer. About 350 names are selected in a random process. Those eventually certified as jurors, will serve for one year and be subject to jury selection for criminal or civil cases.

Thirty-six of them will be chosen to serve on one of two grand juries. A grand jury meets monthly and those jurors serve for six-month terms.

**District court** jurors are also selected from the citizenry. Those jurors have historically served for six months at a time beginning each July 1 and Jan. 1. Beginning in 2019, the court is considering full one-year terms for district court jurors.

Don't report for jury duty and you could face contempt of court charges.

Simply ignoring a juror summons is not an appropriate response, Circuit Judge Rene Williams told six local citi-

zens who didn't show up the last time they were notified for jury

The court sent "show cause" or-

ders to those half-dozen local residents last week, compelling them to appear before the judge to ex-

plain themselves. Two women and

four men were called in and ordered to tell the court why they

failed to appear for recent jury duty. Their responses varied, including excuses such as having to

See **JURY DUTY/Page** 2

# 'Cash'ing in Local boys' musical talents featured on NBC's 'Little Big Shots' next week

By ALLISON EVANS STAFF WRITER

Everyone who knows Crittenden County brothers Cutter and Cash Singleton knows they're little big shots.

After next week, they'll have the title to back it up it.

The Singleton boys and their band Classy and Grassy are frequent performers at local and regional bluegrass events and have appeared several times on RFD-TV.

Now, their talents will be showcased on the national level as some of America's mosts impressive young performers when they appear on NBC's "Little Big Shots" at 7 p.m.,

June 28. "Little Big Shots," hosted by Steve Harvey, features performances and interviews with some of America's youngest, most talented kids. The show's host is also executive pro-

ducer, and Ellen DeGeneres, who hosts her own davtime talk show, is also a producer on the

Who knows? Their performance on "Little Big Shots" might help them achieve their goal of performing at the Grand Ole Opry or Ryman Auditorium in Nashville, Tenn.

"I was amazed and shocked that I had been called," said 8-year-old Cash Singleton upon learning of his invitation to the show. "I have watched the show before, and being on it was one of my dreams."

He is not allowed to say what



Cash Singleton, 8, of Marion is pictured with "Little Big Shots" host Steve Harvey during the recent taping of the show at Warner Bros. Burbank (Calif.) Studios in this NBC Universal promotional photography. The young musician and his older brother Cutter, 11, the sons of Shelley and Jason Singleton, will debut on the "pint-sized variety show" at 7 p.m. next Thursday on WPSD and all NBC affiliates. The weekly program features children demonstrating their incredible talents and having a conversation with comedian Harvey. Next week's episode, the ninth of Season 3, is entitled "Sreveosaurus Rex." The show is averaging more than 6 million viewers each week.

song he sings on the show, but said it is one he likes and one he and the producers selected. Older brother Cutter, 11, plays dobro on the segment with a group of musicians from Los Angeles and has a "ride," or solo, in the middle of Cash's song.

Cash said "Little Big Shots" might "help a little, maybe a lot," to help him achieve his goal of playing at the Grand Ole Oprv. but admits he "won't know until it happens."

Cutter and Cash Singleton's mom Shelley serves as the boys' driver, manager, roadie and publicist. It was Shelley who received the call last October, inviting Cash to be part of the show, in Burbank, Calif., the following Monday.

Shelley said Cash was discovered on YouTube, where some of

his performances are archived. Shelley, who is a life safety code inspector for the Kentucky Inspector General's office (their dad Jason is a horse trader), quickly planned the trip and off they went for a week at a five-star

See BIG SHOTS/Page 3



Ancelmo Flores (left) and Damon Harris tend a plot Tuesday morning at the Victory Gardens maintained by Crittenden County Detention Center. Inmates at the jail plant and maintain the vast garden spot that allows fresh produce to be distributed to the public for free.

# Victory Gardens ready to produce

Free, fresh tomatoes and vegetables will be available to local residents beginning next week at the Victory Gardens, several plots of produce maintained by Crittenden County Detention Center inmates.

As with last year, distribution will be each weekday until growing season ends. Starting Monday, handouts will be from 9 a.m. to noon daily at the onsite pavilion accessible from the parking lot of Rocket Tire & Pit Stop Oil & Lube (formerly Shopko) off Sturgis Road.

Jailer Robbie Kirk said the format allows more people a chance to get a handful of produce on a regular basis for lunch or an evening meal. The gardens have already been providing produce for use at the jail and the senior citizens center.

Kirk said green tomatoes, onions, banana peppers, cucumbers and squash will be available early on. "But there may be some ripe tomatoes by Monday," he added.

Despite a late start due to an uncertain future on the city-owned property, distribution starts just a week later than last year.

#### **Letters to the Editor**

P.O. Box 191, Marion, KY 42064 Must be submitted by 5 p.m. Friday

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Kentucky General Assembly is currently in session • 115th Congress is currently in session

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#### **LETTERS**

#### Fathers deserve equal legal rights

As we celebrated the Father's Day weekend, I found it ironic that the very day we are celebrating is in contrast to the legal battle we are facing over a law that would overrule a biological father's right to raise his child.

The de facto custodian law was implemented to alleviate the overburdened foster care system. It's a very good law at its core, as it allows individuals willing to accept responsibility for a child whose parents - for whatever reason - choose not to, to keep the child in a stable environment that the parent is unable or unwilling to provide.

However, it can be manipulated to take a child from a very loving parent who has always supported his child. It is this very manipulation that we are fighting in the court system, the very system that should uphold any biological parent's right to raise their child regardless of age, gender, marital, social or economic status.

I have asked for assistance from Frankfort to Washington, D.C., to

### What's your opinion?

The Crittenden Press encourages our readers to share their opinion on issues of local interest or to comment on stories found on the pages within.

Letters to the Editor should be submitted by 5 p.m. Friday for publication in the next week's issue. Letters should include only the author's name, either individually on behalf of a group. For verification purposes, they must also include the writer's home and e-mail addresses (if applicable), telephone number and signature. Phone numbers and addresses are required, but will not be published.

Letters should be written in good taste, and in most cases, should not exceed 300 words or be submitted within 30 days of the same author's last submission. Materials from other publications submitted as letters will not be printed.

Submit a letter by:

- Bringing it into our office at 125 E. Bellville St.

- Mailing to: Letters, P.O. Box 191, Marion, KY 42064.

- Emailing to: ThePress@the-press.com.

The Crittenden Press reserves the right to reject or edit letters for any reason.

correct this injustice fathers are facing in the judicial system. Each letter or email I received offered sympathy; however, each stated it was out of their jurisdiction.

In researching and talking with anyone who will listen, the course to take before more parents find themselves in the court system fighting for their child is a new law, a law that states in part, "If a biological parent

has supported their child financially and emotionally, no individual regardless of age, gender, marital, social or economic status shall supersede a biological parent's right to raise their child.

Fathers' rights have been championed for a long time by many good men - men who want to be fathers to their children, men who stepped up to the challenge

when they were blessed with children, men who have the God-given right to raise their child without any interference.

Now is the time for fathers to have rights.

Paula Berry Salem, Ky.

#### Recent headline educational insult

Your May 31 issue was very good, especially Page 2 with the essay praising the Crittenden County School System, the teachers, the students and education. However, Page 1 clearly indicates that who ever did the headline (Parasite bites on up'tick') needs further instructions in punctuation.

"Up-tick" is a hyphenated word to emphasize the tick portion. It could (would) have been more effective as up-Tick, meaning to increase. Of course, that is just the opinion of one old woman who graduated high school (in Indiana) in 1943.

I believe, strongly, in using the dictionary and that "life" from the first breath to the last is a learning process. And "haste makes waste."

Your up'tick' was an insult to education in

general. If I'm wrong in your opinion, please tell

**Ermine Clifford** Marion, Ky.

#### Support for Ky. Mesonet helpful

As the cold winds of early spring have given way to the warm breezes of approaching summer, the prospects of the Kentucky Mesonet at Western Kentucky University have brightened with the restoration of funding in the latest biennial budget for the Commonwealth of Kentucky. I would like to thank everyone who played a role, big or small, in championing the Mesonet as a valuable asset that benefits people in communities throughout the Commonwealth.

The proposed cut of state support for the Mesonet brought an immediate outcry. The print media highlighted the importance of the Mesonet, including a front-page feature in The Courier-Journal, an editorial in The Herald Leader and an Associated Press article that was picked up by news outlets nationwide. National Public Radio ad-

dressed the implications of the proposed cut, while TV meteorologists highlighted the value of the Mesonet in markets throughout the state.

Local officials and private citizens reached out to their state legislators to emphasize the contribution of the Mesonet to their communities. In response, Kentucky's legislators went to bat for the Mesonet and restored funding in both the House and Senate versions of the budget.

Thank you for recognizing the value of the Mesonet. Energized by your support and recognizing our responsibility to utilize tax dollars wisely, we will strengthen our efforts to work on behalf of Kentuckians

> Stuart A. Foster Kentucky Mesonet Director at WKU Bowling Green, Ky.

tucky Mesonet collects real-time weather data everu 5 minutes. 24 hours per day, throughout the year at 69 stations in the commonwealth. The first station was installed at the WKU Farm in May 2007. The Crittenden County site became active June 25, 2009.)

(Editor's note: Ken-

# Judge revokes probation of several

Crittenden Circuit Judge Rene Williams accepted a number of guilty pleas and revoked probation for a handful of individuals during the regular monthly court docket last Thursday in Marion.

Following are cases that were before the judge:

- Christopher Paul Vinson, 28, of Fredonia had his pretrial diversion set aside for violating terms of his probation. Vinson was originally sentenced to three years in prison for possession of methamphetamine and careless driving. Court records say his vehicle almost hit a deputy's cruiser head on while traveling on Sulphur Springs Road in rural Crittenden County in May 2016. The court gave Vinson pretrial diversion, meaning that if he stayed out of trouble for five years, the charges would be dropped. That didn't happen. Vinson was charged in May with a number of traffic violations, including driving on a suspended license, possession of a controlled substance and tampering with physical

evidence. Vinson admitted that he violated terms of his pretrial diversion and Judge Williams set it aside,

#### **CIRCUIT COURT**

ordering him to appear in court next month for formal sentencing, which will likely be three years in prison based on his original sentence.

Wade H. Downs, 31, of Marion was formally sentenced to five years in prison after having his pretrial diversion set aside last month for failing to comply with terms of his early-release program. Downs was arrested in May for DUI. Downs had originally been convicted on two felony counts of second-degree trafficking in a controlled substance (less than 20 units) by complicity and first-degree trafficking in a controlled substance (less than 10 units) by complicity. He sold morphine and hydrocodone to a cooperating witness for the drug task force.

- Tanya Newcom, 43, of Marion had her probation revoked for allegedly committing other criminal violations while on early release from a January felony conviction for drugs (methamphetamine) and tampering with physical evidence. Newcom was recently charged in a new case with theft and fraud-

### **Grand jury indicts 1**

The Crittenden County Grand Jury indicted one person during its regular monthly meeting last week at the courthouse.

A grand jury does not determine guilt or innocence. It merely decides whether enough evidence exists in a case to merit prosecution of it in circuit

Mary E. Stone, 48, of Marion was indicted on three felony counts of forGRAND JURY

gery for allegedly signing her name to credit card purchases at Walmarts in Princeton and Morganfield and the Dollar General Store in Marion. The alleged purchases on a credit card belonging to another person were made prior to May 1.

Marion Police Department is leading the investigation in this case.

ulent use of a credit card. Newcom admitted to violating terms of her probation on the January conviction and was ordered to complete a oneyear prison sentence. The commonwealth will not oppose shock probation to an in-house treatment facility, at an appropriate time, according to prosecutor Zac Greenwell.

- Eric C. Shuecraft, 35, of Marion had his probation on a 2012 felony conviction revoked. According to court testimony, Shuecraft absconded from Drug

- Freddie Jackson, 47,

of Marion had his probation revoked for admitting to violation terms of his early release on a flagrant non-support conviction in 2016. He was ordered to

serve his original sentence,

which was five years. - Danny A. Sharp, 38, of Princeton pleaded guilty in a Rocket Docket case to flagrant non-support, a Class D felony. According to court records, Sharp is in arrears in the amount of \$7,495.62 on child support payments. He was sentenced to five years in prison. The time was probated for a period of five years as long as he makes

catches up on the delinquent amount.

- Rickey Charles D. Loomis, 32, of Marion pleaded guilty in a Rocket Docket case to flagrant non-support, a Class D felony. According to court records, Loomis is in arrears in the amount of \$23,258.82 on child support payments. He was sentenced to five years in prison. The time was probated for a period of five years as long as he makes regular payments and catches up on the delin-

quent amount. - Justin Kinnis, 27, of Marion pleaded guilty in a Rocket Docket case to firstdegree possession of a controlled substance and possession of drug paraphernalia. He waived formal sentencing and was ordered to begin a threeyear sentence on the drug charge and 12 months on the paraphernalia conviction. The terms are to run concurrently. Police reports say Kinnis was charged on Feb. 19 when Deputy Ray Agent served an unrelated bench warrant on him and found him in possession of methamphetamine and a rolled up dollar bill.

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### **JURY DUTY**

Continued from Page 1 work or simply forgetting.

"I don't do this very often," Judge Williams told them, pointing out that it is rare for perspective jurors to be compelled to service by court ac-

tion. But, the judge said, there's becoming too much complacency for jury frustrating

"Jury selection is a process," Williams said. "Our clerk's office has gone through about 100 jurors not wanting to serve.'

Circuit Crittenden Court Clerk Melissa Guill said about 350 letters were recently mailed to a new perspective set of ju-

rors, which will be seated in August and serve until next July. The Kentucky Administrative Office of the Courts sends the letters after a random selection process. Ju-

rors are selected through an automated system pulled from state databases for driver's licenses, Kentucky revenue records and voter registra-

The commonwealth sends out a summons 30 days before jury duty. Jurors are supposed to reply to their summons within five that At days. time, they can make any pleas for being excused. Guill said excuses can be granted for a variety of reasons. Per-

haps the most common

acceptable excuse is

health, if a person is phys-

ically or mentally unable

to serve. The judge reviews

all of the requests by se-

excused from service. "Trying to get ju-

rors is becoming more difficult because of the size of our community, and we have more older citizens who are sometimes unable to serve," Guill said.

Once certified, jurors are told when to appear for duty. automated answering system allows them check the status of case schedules via phone 24 hours a day.

Jurors are paid \$12.50 a day when they show up

lected jurors wanting to be for duty.

Those who were called before the judge last week were not charged with anything or fined, but the court has latitude for either. Instead, Judge Williams verbally reprimanded them and reminded them of their civic

would encourage you, that if you get summoned again from circuit court, to make every effort to be there," the judge said. "As a court, we cannot operate without our citizens."

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### **Burglary** suspect enters plea of guilty

STAFF REPORT

In a case originally set for trial this week in Crittenden Circuit Court, Rocky Bernard Odom, 46, of Sturgis changed his original plea and entered a guilty plea to an amended charge of thirddegree burglary and possession of burglary tools during a court proceed-

ing in Webster County.

According to court Crittenden records, County Sheriff's Deputy Chuck Hoover was called to a residence on Ky. 109 on Oct. 22, 2017. When the deputy arrived, the defendant was on the property and had in his possession a crowbar and hatchet. A building on the property had been broken into, and markings on the metal siding where it was breached appeared to match the hatchet, the deputy's report said.

Odom was originally indicted on charges of felony possession of burglary tools; Class B felony first-degree burglary; and third-degree criminal trespassing. The first-degree burglary charge was reduced as part of Odom's plea agreement and the trespassing charge was dismissed.

Odom is scheduled for formal sentencing next month in Crittenden Circuit Court.

He is also on probation for a misdemeanor terroristic threatening conviction in Union County and has a lengthy criminal record involving both felonies and misdemeanors dating back to the 1990s.

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### Marion City Council

**Byford** North Walker Street Marion, Kv.

270.965.4444



Arflack Old Shady Grove Road





Sherer Fords Ferry Road Marion, Ky





Marion City Council normally convenes in regular session at Marion City Hall at 6 p.m. on the third Monday of each month



Councilwoman Sykes North Walker Street 270.965.5080



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# Council seeks revenue, savings to address needs

By DARYL K. TABOR PRESS EDITOR

With only one item on the agenda after a flurry of activity over the last few weeks at multiple special meetings, Marion City Council spent much of Monday's regular June meeting discussing persistent problems inside the city. No action was taken on any of the matters, but the conversations continued a look at how to move the city forward.

The bulk of the conversation centered around various nuisances around town, from weeds to wavward homes. Code Enforcement Office Terri Hart took the lead, bringing before council memquestions and bers complaints of property neighboring owners derelict homes.

One concern centered around a rental home on South Yandell Street that is reportedly harboring black mold, a toxin-causing fungus that arises from water damage. Hart said the city has received reports from neighbors and renters of this and other properties with similar complaints.

But before the city can do anything to force cleanup, City Attorney Bart Frazer said a state inspector who would determine the safety of the structure for occupancy should look at the building. Frazer said homes used as rental units can be subject to such inspections based upon substantiated complaints.

Once an inspection shows a safety hazard, the city can move forward in the process to abate the nuisance through fines and even placing a lien on the property and forcing demolition if the problem is left unfixed.

#### Natural nuisances

Councilwoman Phyllis Sykes, who would like property owners to take care of their own grass, also raised weeds along city sidewalks as a concern. City Utilities Director Brian Thomas said a crew spent time last week spraying nuisance growth along some main sidewalks. Marion Tourism Director Michele Edwards said she will also pitch in to help alleviate the unsightly problem.

Councilwoman D'Anna Sallin, meantime, would like to see something to keep down a pesky mosquito population. The city no longer has anyone certified to spray chemicals to eradicate the insect. Thomas said requests to the Kentucky Department of Agriculture last year to meet the spraying needs fell upon deaf ears. City Administrator Adam Ledford will contact state officials again this year to request the state's pesticide services in problem

Sallin would also like to find money to put back into the recently OK'd budget to continue fall leaf collection. Due to increased environmental the approved costs, spending plan for 2018-19 did not contain enough money to continue the long-running program. Mayor Jared Byford said he has been discussing an idea with Crittenden County Jailer Robbie Kirk that may offer a solution to collection. But, he cautioned, it is too early to determine if the idea is feasible.

#### Hydrant mapping

Thomas said he and his staff should be able to determine and map late next month which city fire hydrants do not work. He has reported that about three dozen of the units do not work, but not all are marked for firefighters responding to blazes.

The utilities director said routine flushing of lines in July will see crews check each hydrant and catalog dysfunctional ones.

#### New revenue needs

To address some of the problems discussed Monday, as well as the rising costs of running government, Councilman Darrin Tabor is pressing for the city to find new sources of revenue – and not through higher taxes or fees on property owners. Annexation, revenue from legalized alcohol sales and even beginning municipal garbage collection were mentioned. At some point, the council has discussed

Marion Mayor Jared Byford (left) congratulates Eddie Myers on his retirement as a municipal water plant operator for the City of Marion. Myers started as a full-time operator at the water plant off Chapel Hill road in September 1982 and scaled back to part-time in February 2005. Myers was recognized Monday for his 36 years of dedication to the city during a Marion City Council meeting. "It's a testament to anyone who works in public service that long," said Marion City Administrator Adam Ledford.

all in some detail, but each has its own set of complications.

'Somewhere, we're going to have to find a perpetual source of income." Tabor said.

The councilman is concerned that without new revenue, crafting a budget in 2019 will see all but the most necessary funding stripped out to pay increased costs for retirement and health benefits. In the just-approved 2018-19 budget, the city

was forced to increase substantial outlays for retirement payments and will pay out thousands more for health premiums for workers and their families. The council did, though, vote to scale back benefits to new hires beginning Jan. 1, reducing the municipal contribution for family health plans down to 25 percent from the current 75 per-

"Our employees have to

come first," said Tabor.

Making the sacrifices, he said, would leave many services and organizations out in the cold.

"If we're not smart enough to raise revenue without raising taxes, (city residents) probably need to vote some other people in here," he said. "I'm 100 percent against implementing more taxes on residents.'

All six city council seats and the mayor's post are up for election this fall.

Councilman Donnie Arflack suggested there is a lot of money to be saved if not generated with new sources. He would like to see county government pay more in to the cost of operating the dispatch center for emergency services, what he says is a \$200,000-plus expense to city taxpayers for a service provided for the entire county.

Mayor Byford agrees that he would like to see Crittenden Fiscal Court better supplement the cost to operate the 911 center.

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### **BIG SHOTS**

Continued from Page 1

hotel – with a rooftop pool, the boys will quickly tell you. For Cash, the best part of the trip was making friends and the experience of his first trip on an airplane.

"I loved it. I absolutely loved it," Cash said. In addition to visiting

the "Little Big Shots" set, the two worked with Justin Beiber's choreographer, rehearsed, met with a clothing director, and even did school work, in addition to a little sightseeing.

"We did school work four hours a day, and we didn't slack off. It was very strict," said Cutter. "It was

cided he wanted to learn

to play the banjo at age 5. The boys come from a line of bluegrass musicians including their paternal great-grandfather Örr, who played steel guitar with the Lonesome Valley Boys, and their maternal grandfather Roger Singleton, who plays

dobro and guitar. Mature beyond his years, Cutter plays five instruments, maintains a garden and without a doubt is more immersed in bluegrass music than other 11-year-old you'll meet.

"I used to have a bedroom, but I carpeted my garage and have cases everywhere – two pianos, a bass guitar, two steel guitars, two or three banjos, a mandolin - cases everywho played banjo for Lester Flat and the Nashville Grass.

Cash followed in Cutter's footsteps, and began to take guitar lessons from Martin when he too was 5. Cash is the singer of the

In April of 2017, the Singleton boys joined Brennan Cruce of Marion and Tori Fredrick of Murray to form the bluegrass band Classy & Grassy. They have played more than 100 dates and already have six dates booked for 2019.

"They don't get tired of playing music," Shelley said. "It can get hectic working a full time job and going every weekend, but I love bluegrass festivals, I have since I was a little

The boys will watch themselves on "Little Big Shots" next week with members of their family. Not doubt their experience was one of a lifetime with potential to open more doors for their young music careers.

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### Crittenden Press **USPS 138-260**

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Cutter Singleton, 11, plays the banjo. He and his younger brother Cash, 8, will be appearing on NBC's "Little Big Shots" next Thursday. It airs at 7 p.m.

CRITTENDEN COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1957 REUNION June 30 • 5 p.m.

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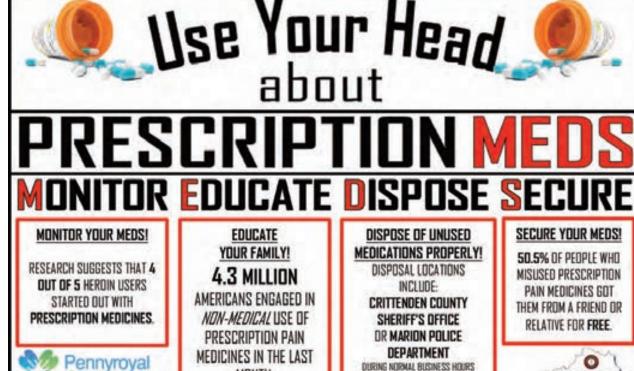
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**Crittenden County** 





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MONTH.

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#### Crittenden County Board of Education



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#### **NEWS BRIEFS**

#### Bechler on child welfare council

Rep. Lynn Bechler, R-Marion, has been appointed to the Child Welfare Oversight and Ad-



mittee in the Kentucky House tives.

**Bechler** 

of Representa-Bechler will serve on

the new statutory committee, which was created with the passage of House Bill 1 in the 2018

Legislative Session. HB 1 was the comprehensive overhaul of Kentucky's foster care and adoption programs. The Child Welfare Oversight and Advisory Committee was included in HB 1 to create a method to review, analyze, and provide ongoing oversight on child welfare, including foster care, adoption, child abuse, neglect, and dependency.

"Reform of Kentucky's adoption and foster care systems was a priority in 2018 because those systems support some of Kentucky's most vulnerable, particularly children who are in need of loving homes," said Bechler. "I'm honored to serve on this committee, and I look forward to affecting even more positive change for Kentucky's adoption and foster care systems, which will result in more homes for children all across the state.'

#### MHS reunion set for July 3 at Fohs

The Marion High School Reunion will take place Tuesday, July 3 at Fohs Hall. Doors open at 4 p.m. and reservations are not required. Snacks,

beverages and entertainment will provided. There is no charge.

dents, graduates and faculty at Fohs Hall, Marion and Crittenden County schools are invited to the annual alumni reception. The format is a casual come-and-

go gathering. The Marion High Memory Room at Crittenden County Historical Museum will be open the day of the reunion. To accom-



SUBMITTED PHOTO

### PAVE graduate

Crittenden County's Pathway Academy of Virtual Education, or PAVE, gave recognition to Sam Frazer at last week's Crittenden County Board of Education meeting. Above, Frazer accepts his diploma and congratulations from Superintendent of Schools Vince Clark for his accomplishments. PAVE is a program offered by Crittenden County Schools for approved students to earn their high school diploma online, at home or on campus. Many students have benefited from this ongoing nontraditional approach to education.

modate graduates and former MHS students interested in reliving the past with photos, yearbooks and more, the museum will be open from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Entrance is free, as usual.

For more information on the reception, contact Tom Crider at (270) 965or CriderTom4 @gmail.com or Tittle Ryan at (270) 625-8152.

#### Gov.'s race not vet clear in state

For two years, when asked if he'll seek re-election, Kentucky Governor Matt Bevin has demurred, pushing off his decision.

Surrounded by reporters in Louisville last month, the Republican said he'll make up his mind about pursuing another four-year "sometime before term January of next year," according Louisville. The deadline for candidates to file for office is Jan. 29.

If Bevin bails on the Govenor's Mansion, he would leave state Republicans scrambling for a candidate.

There's even more un-

certainty about which Democrats will emerge as frontrunners in the 2019 gubernatorial election.

Some of the biggest names in Kentucky's Democratic Party have started positioning themselves for a run at the state's highest office: House Minority Leader Rocky Adkins, D-Sandy Hook; Attorney General Andy Beshear; Secretary of State Alison Lundergan Grimes; and former state auditor Adam Edelen.

— The Herald Leader

#### China ups tariffs on Ky. products

In an escalating trade war between China and the U.S., Beijing will up its tariffs by 25 percent starting July 6 on 545 American products, including two that could hurt Kentucky - bourbon and soybeans. The increase is in response to higher U.S. tariffs on Chinese goods.

#### Library offers aid with FAFSA filing

Find out how to complete your Free Application for Federal Student Aid, or



### **New Tolu pavilion**

Tolu Volunteer Fire Department is constructing a pavilion across from the fire station. Work was being done last week by Eddie Tinsley, Larry Tinsley and Charlie Dalton.

FAFSA, at Crittenden County Public Library from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m next Wednesday. The workshop will be held in the meeting room and is sponsored by Hopkinsville Community College. Representatives of the college will help applicants through the process. While applicants still have plenty of time, in Kentucky, awards are on a first come, first served basis.

#### Ky. jobless rate up slightly in May

Kentucky's May 2018 unemployment rate was up the slightest of mar-

gins. According to the Kentucky Center for Statistics, the unemployment rate for May 2018 was 4.1 percent, up from the 4 percent reported for the previous month. However, the latest preliminary,

seasonally adjusted jobless rate was down 1 percentage point from the 5.1 percent recorded for the state in May 2017.

"An increase in the number of people looking for work pushed Kenunemployment tucky's rate slightly higher in May," said University of Kentucky's Center for Business and Economic Research Director Chris Bollinger, Ph.D. "However,

both surveys of employment point to continued growth, with the household survey indicating that nearly 3,300 more people were working in Mav.

The U.S. seasonally adjusted jobless rate for May 2018 was 3.8 percent, down 0.1 percentage points from the 3.9 percent reported for April 2018, according to the U.S. Department of Labor.

# Near record heat continuing

The hot weather that led to record warm temperatures in May continues across Kentucky, with no real end in sight, according to the National Weather Service.

Parts of western, northern and eastern Kentucky were placed under a heat advisory the last few days, where the heat index, a combination of temperature and humidity, topped 100

degrees. While all nine official weather stations had the warmest May in history, based on the average daily temperature, four of them are seeing among the 20 warmest Junes in history for the period June 1-17, despite June climate records being hotter than

Paducah, the nearest NWS weather station, is having its third hottest June with a daily average temperature of 79.7 de-In Crittenden County, through the first 18 days according to the local Kentucky Mesonet weather station, the average daily temperature has been 77.2 degrees, second only to June 2010's heat.

The local high for 2018was recorded Sunday, when the mercury reached 93 degrees. All but five of the first 18 days of June, according to Kentucky Mesonet, had the humidity reach 100 percent.

Joe Sullivan, forecaster for the NWS Office in Louisville, says this is a continuation of May condiwhich separates the cold north from the warmer mid-latitudes, is way up in Canada, leaving most of the U.S. under a broad ridge, leading to the heat and humidity. In fact, the area has

He says the ongoing heat wave is giving him cause for

'It started early this year, and prolonged heat can wear you down," he explained. "This could become a big health concern for people as the summer wears on.

According to Sullivan, there is not a big danger

'We have had isolated storms and downpours, and there is a lot of Gulf of Mexico moisture in the atmosphere, which has brought some heavy rain to some parts of Kentucky, al-

As for how long our hot and humid conditions will continue, Sullivan said, "We will see a couple of disturbances making their way across Kentucky, but not enough to break down the ridge that has been in control since May. I see no significant change in the weather pattern for the next

Kentuckians can expect

the continuing heat and

humidity. "As temperatures climb, air conditioners and fans have to work harder and use more energy to keep homes cool," said Cindy Wiseman, Kentucky Power's managing director external affairs and customer services. "During extreme weather, customers may see spikes in their next

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# Thank You

Terry and I want to thank all of our family and friends for celebrating our 50th wedding anniversary with us.

The cards and gifts are a wonderful reminder of a very special day.

A special thank you to our sons and daughters-in-law for a beautiful celebration. Love all of you so much.

Thanks to the Cumberland Presbyterian Church for the use of the social hall.

Terry & Sandra Gilbert

#### **Bikes race through Marion** nual race.

For several days, the 4,165-mile TransAm Bike Race has brought cyclists through Marion as they make their way east down Ky. 91 North and Ky. 120 after crossing the Cave In Rock Ferry along the TransAmerica Trail. Cave In Rock, III., in fact, is a checkpoint for the 114 contestants in the fifth an-

The race starts in Astoria, Wash., and ends in Yorktown, Va. Riders start at staggered times, and the fastest coast-to-coast time wins. Riders will continue to pass through Marion for several days, as some are still as far west as Wyoming. The race be followed at

TransAmBikeRace.com.

actually expanded."

concern.

from drought this summer.

though very little to others."

couple of weeks."

higher electric bills rise with

# PSC: Kenergy's digital metering accurate

By DARYL K. TABOR PRESS EDITOR

A Kentucky Public Service Commission (PSC) investigation into the accuracy of digital meters used by Kenergy Corp. has found the utility's devices to be measuring the use of electricity accurately.

The PSC decided to check into the performance of Kenergy's advanced metering infrastructure (AMI) based on customer concerns brought forward by Rep. Lynn Bechler, R-Marion, and the PSC's own Consumer Services Branch. Since July 2015 when Kenergy began converting analog meters to AMI, its customers have expressed concerns about the accuracy of the new meters. The last of the approximately 60,000 meters converted to AMI was installed at the close of

Each AMI meter tested more than two months ago met the state's allowable tolerance of plus or minus 1 percent accuracy as outlined by Kentucky Administrative Regula-

To make the accuracy check, the PSC randomly selected 54 digital meters across Crittenden, Caldwell, Lyon, Union, Webster and the nine other western Kentucky counties Kenergy serves, including at least one from each of its substations. The utility had no input on selection and was not informed ahead of time of the meters that had been selected for testing.

"The only assistance provided by Kenergy personnel was help in locating the meter to be tested, removing and installing the meter for testing at the customer's site and assisting Commission staff at Kenergy's office," a fivepage, PSC inspection report from June 5 stated.

Testing was conducted April 9-20 with PSC equipment used by two of the utility Commission's inpsectors with more than 13 years experience each. At each customer's meter during field testing, a staff member would record the reading. He would immediately call the second PSC inspector stationed at Kenergy's office, comparing the field reading to intransmitted electronically by the AMI meter to the utility's office.

"The endpoint readings for each meter matched what the AMI system was showing at Kenergy's office at the time of the testing. said PSC Executive Director Gwen R. Pinson in a June 7 letter to Bechler explaining the results of the testing. "While I realize these results may not be what you or your constituents were expecting. given that AMI is the next generation of metering equipment technology, the accuracy shown in the study results should come as no surprise."

representatives

PSC

met with Bechler earlier this year after he brought forward concerns in January from constituents who had been hit with what they believed to be abnormally high electric bills over the winter. During that meeting, according to Pinson's letter supplied to The Crittenden Press by Crittenden County Judge-Executive Perry Newcom, PSC officials touched on points similar to those made in a February 2017 letter to state Sen. Dorsey Ridley. That letter discussed why Kenergy customers had experienced higher bills in the last three years.

Among those reasons

Seasonal fluctuations in electric consumption driven by colder than normal weather in December 2016 and again by unusually cold temperatures in December 2017 and January 2018.

- The exhaustion of the Rural Economic Reserve billing credit in autumn 2016 that had offset customers' increasing bills by about 20 percent. - A small rate increase

approved by the PSC in September 2016 which bumped the average monthly residential bill by 2.3 percent, or about \$3.60. AMI installation,

which ended the practice of customers reading their own meters and reduced the lag between the meter reading date and billing.

To close that gap, Kenergy used a PSC-approved billing method that gradually reduced the lag over the course of 2017 by adding several days to each billing cycle.

"Because you still had concerns following our discussion of the above factors," Pinson continued in her letter, "the PSC agreed to devise a testing protocol to spot check Kenergy's AMI technol-

The testing cost the PSC about §18,600 in staff time, equipment and travel. Kenergy reported an investment of approximately \$9,000 in staff time and other resources. The PSC stated Kenergy cooperated fully with the inves-

Utilities are required to perform their own system inspection every two years.

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whether they want to

change career paths or

simply start one. West be-

lieves that it's never too

late for the pursuit and

that it can be done no

matter age or circum-

oughly enjoyed her time

as a Crittenden County

educator, she feels she is

ready for retirement. She

will, however, continue to

work as a substitute

means she will be able to

focus more on her chil-

dren and grandchildren,

have more involvement at

Life in Christ and even do

some traveling when time

is a calling, not just a job,

and feels she has fulfilled

that goal. Throughout her

career, she sought to build

relationships with stu-

dents, and adds that

many former pupils keep

in touch with her and up-

date them with their lives.

They even invite her to

enhance the educational

experience for students to

have a teacher who cares.

she stresses. "My favorite

thing was building rela-

tionships with the kids.

When you see the success

from that, it speaks for it-

facilitator, and they're the

ones that do an amazing

job. I'm proud to have

been with them on this

journey for the past 21

years. I loved having the

opportunity to be a part of

their educational journey,

and they'll all forever be in

my heart long after I'm

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"However, I'm just the

She believes it helps

"The kids are my job,'

their family gatherings.

West believes teaching

Retirement for West

teacher.

permits.

Though West has thor-

### **Local school district** sees abnormally high number retiring

The number retiring or having already retired from Crittenden County Schools during the 2017-18 school year is much higher than usual. In fact, the 19 who have made retirement official is about twice the number of a typical

Superintendent of Schools Vince Clark said a number of factors have come into play with the decisions by employees to retire from the educational system, some of which have been felt across Kentucky.

"I really think it's a combination of the lack of support from our governor and state leaders around pension reform, plus the fact that we had a lot of folks that were simply ready to retire," Clark said recently. "Countless superintendents across the state have stated this was the most exhausting year they've had in school leadership."

Clark said the has been the case here, explaining that locally, the protracted school tax debate and concerns related to the Great American Eclipse added pressure.

"Don't get me wrong, this was an outstanding school year, but very challenging," he said.

And the challenges may not be over.

"I'd say there is a decreased level in confidence that our pensions will be protected by the governor and certain lawmakers," Clark added.

Below is a list of Crittenden County Schools retirees and those who have submitted paperwork to retire during the 2017-18 academic year:

### West's non-traditional path to teaching equally as rewarding others to do the same,

By ALEXA BLACK STAFF WRITER

After 21 years in education, Carol West has put the wraps on a teaching career. And her story stands as an example that it's never too late to make a career move into the classroom.

West taught English at Crittenden County High School for the last six years, humanities and English in the middle school for seven and social studies to elementary school students for three. She also served as the school librarian in between. Her retirement was effective June 1.

Her path to teaching in Crittenden County was a bit unconventional, but no less admirable. As a child, she spent most of her life as a foster child in the community she would come to call home.

"I had no idea Crittenden would become my established home, and I was unsure what my future held," she said recently. "But I can say I'm glad to call it home now, and I know the profession was meant for me."

While many pursue a career followed by family, West took a non-traditional path and married first. She and her husband Wayne West had three children. It wasn't until after the family was started that she chose to pursue a career in education.

The couple owned the



SUBMITTED PHOTO

After 21 years, Carol West has retired as a teacher with Crittenden County Schools. She had taught at all three levels, last as an English teacher at the high school. Though her retirement was effective June 1, she plans to substitute teach in the coming year. Above, West is pictured with Superintendent of Schools Vince Clark.

88 Dip in Marion for a period, but West also served as a school bus driver for the district. It was during that time she realized her love for children and wanted to be a bigger part of their educational process.

So West stepped back into the college atmos-

must have an additional

64 hours of college credit

to qualify.

phere determined and ready to pursue her newfound dream. She took courses at various campuses, and eventually finished her degree at Murray State University, far removed from her initial career path as a

"Once I started working with kids, I had no doubt it was my calling," she recalls. "It tugged at my heart, and I've never regretted it.

"During my son's football games and daughter's basketball, I would watch them, all the while studying for tests that I was tak-

To apply for substitute positions at Crittenden ing. My determination © 2018, The Crittenden Press County Schools, visit critkept me focused, and it tenden.kyschools.us and was worth the challenge." click on "Employment Op-It took West little under portunities" on the left four years to complete her navigation bar. You may degree. She took a heavy phone Lusby at (270) 965class load - 18-20 credit 3525 for more informahours per semester. tion, as well. And she encourages Starts Friday, June 22 Jurasic World: Fallen Kingdom Fri. 3:30, 6:30, 9:30 PRESENTED BY COMMUNITY ARTS FOUNDATION at. 12:30, 3:30, 6:30, 9:30 Incredibles 2 Fri. 3:40, 6:40, 9:20 Sat. 12:45, 3:40, 6:40, 9:20 Sun. 1, 4, 6:45 Mon.-Thurs. 6:30 utlock stars in Oceans 8 Fri. 3:40, 6:40 Sat.12:40, 6:40 The featured movie tells the story of a group of Mon. & Wed. 6:30 young baseball players during the summer of 1962. ritics Call Scariest Movie of the Yea Together they go on a series of funny and Hereditary touching adventures, but the boys run into trouble Fri. 9:20 when one borrows a ball from his stepdad that Sat.3L40, 9:20 gets hit over a fence. Tues. & Thurs. 6:30

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### School district seeking substitutes

As Crittenden County Schools prepare this sum-

mer for the upcoming school year, the need for substitute employees remains. Personnel Director Diana Lusby said that substitutes play an integral role in a Rocket education.

"Our staff plan and deliver quality instruction, prepare and serve meals, clean and maintain our buildings and transport our students daily," said Lusby, "but sometimes sickness, professional development and other events occur that cause them to be away. That's when our

STAFF REPORT

With more

decade of experience as a

special education teacher

the classroom,

Michelle Orr has been

selected as the next

director of special ed-

ucation for Crittenden

tends to increase co-

education compliance.

Orr says she in-

collaboration, decrease gap

scores and honor special

through a growth mindset

for both teachers and stu-

"My goal is to increase

County Schools.

teaching

student

than a

and

achievement

provide continuity for our students. We value them.

> and we need more people to take on this important role of growing our students.' Lusby said new

contract details have recently been Lusby enacted to streamline the substitute teaching process.

Because the district desires to have active substitutes readily accessible, any individuals who have been approved as substitutes but have not worked within a six-month period will be removed from the call list. In order to work again, the individual must

Wehmeyer, who has re-

A graduate of

North Hardin High

School in Radcliff,

Ky., Orr completed

her undergraduate

studies at Western

Kentucky University.

She holds a master's

in special education

signed the position.

Additionally, the fee for first background check is paid for the district, but subsequent background checks due to not working within a sixmonth period will be the responsibility of the employee.

A new child abuse and neglect check also is required of all employees. these

putting measures into place, we are assuring that those individuals most desiring to work are easily accessible within our system," said Lusby

Individuals interested in becoming substitutes must have a minimum of a high school diploma or

**New special education director named** dents," she said. years. Her daughters, Orr replaces

> Other new hires in the school district include:

- Audie Cherry, CCHS agriculture teacher.

CCHS assistant principal. Jeff Hughes, Cross-

walk coordinator. - Stephanie Martin, FRYSC assistant.

bellsville University. Orr. her husband Josh and three children have resided in Crittenden County for the past 12

and is currently completing

her Rank 1 from Camp-

Emory and Gracie, attend Crittenden County Elementary School.

- Carl Schoensiegal, CCMS guidance coun-- Melissa Quertermous,

- Kaitlyn Berry, CCMS/CCHS special ed instructional assistant.

### Deep, angering disgust is mounting

To hear or read of anyone badmouthing this country – which has been bought with the lives, blood, sacrifice, suffering, labor, sweat and tears of thousands of our people from the Pilgrims, the Revolution, Civil War and all the wars since, plus our parents and grandparents - causes me more indignity and anger than

Yes, our nation has problems, and most are caused by the very ones badmouthing it.

anything else.

There are decisions made by unchristian people that impose unfair laws on the rest of us and it causes a lot of grief.

For anyone to say the awful, vulgar, evil things that have been said by the liberals and left of late, referring to our veterans and the ones who have given their lives in battle, makes me wish with all my heart that we had laws that forced such people out of this nation and into North Korea, any of the Muslim countries, China or many of the places I visited when I went around the world. They should be made to live there until they repented, taking a few years of the suffering these aforementioned en-

Jesus tells us to love our enemies and pray for them, and do them good.

The good would be for them to learn just how fortunate they are that first, Jesus died to help us have good places to live. They also need to know that all those others loved them enough to give their lives and time for them.

Loving them enough to pray for them is more than their likeminded do for them or others.

Most of them surely have enough money to buy a ticket to some other country, but they would not get to gripe and complain there. How sad if they think that would be the only thing they would not get to do.

If they don't like anything about America, they will find out they won't like Hell either.

When I saw the thousands of the little white crosses in the graveyards around the world, representing our men and women who died fighting there for us who stayed at home, I cried much of the 10 weeks of the trip. I could not wait to get back to America.

The deprivation, squalor, filth, poverty, hopelessness, sickness and death on the streets of other other countries made me shudder to think how many of our best died in those ungodly places. You know that they only wanted so desperately to get to come back home, like I was praying I'd get to do.

So very many of ours came back physically, mentally and spiritually

Yet, all who came back, whether with damage we could see or not,

were still effected to a degree, and lost those years of their lives with family and friends. And those days were never replaced.

When I was at Pearl Harbor, visiting the site of the sunken ship that went down with hundreds of our young men entombed therein during World War II, the grief was so great, and it has been with me all these years. So has the shame for any and all who ever complain about our veterans.

These complainers are planted by Satan and his workers. These misguided people in our country are communists, who, in their dishonesty, hide behind a false name.

That is why there is so much hate against all the conservatives in this nation. Their haters are fighting with everything Satan can give them because they fear their hold on our nation is slipping. My constant prayer is for God to wake up everyone who cares about their families, souls and future of this country. We must live for God and pray He will bring us back to Christ and sanity. And we must have and show our love and appreciation for all our people who ever donned our nation's uniforms.

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

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Dear friends and family,

SECTION 8



system to help us during this time. It has been a long year, starting in September with the passing of Stan and now eight months later the passing of Voncille. They set a wonderful example of what a marriage should strive to be and were wonderful parents and grandparents. However, we know that they are together again now and we will see them again one day as well.

Our family has truly been blessed with amazing people and lots of love, and we cannot fully express the gratitude and love that we feel for each one of you. You have lifted our hearts during this time and made things a little easier for us to breathe, and for that we thank you.

Thank you and May God Bless You, The Family of Georgia Voncille Hoover -Beth (Dave), Bill (Page), Chuck (Randi), Barbara, John, Emily, Jacob, Kendall and Ella.

#### Faith-Based Events & Church Outreach

TEDRICK

Political Views

#### Faith and Freedom Fellowship June 29

The annual Faith and Freedom Fellowship will begin at 7 p.m.. June 29. Activities include an outdoor gospel singing featuring the Millikin Family of Oklahoma, homemade ice cream and fireworks at dark. Bring a chair and set on the hill at Faith Church located at 1849 U.S. 60 East halfway between Burna and Salem. For information visit www.faithchurchsalem.com or call (270)

#### Homecoming at Piney Fork is Sunday

Homecoming will be held Sunday at Piney Fork Cumberland Church. Worship service is at 11 a.m., meal at noon and singing at 1:30 p.m. with Divine Mercy. Junior Martin, pastor, invites everyone to attend.

#### Clothes closet open in Fredonia

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

#### Cave Springs blessing box open 24/7

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.

#### Fredonia clothes closet open Thursdays

The clothes closet of First Baptist Church of Fredonia is open from 1 to 3 p.m. every Thursday at the church's Family Life Cen-



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# with us this week

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

-Matthew 18:20

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Barry Hix, pastor • (270) 365-5836 or (270) 625-1248 Sunday School 10 a.m. • Sunday Worship 11 a.m. Sunday Evening 6 p.m. • Wednesday Night Service 6 p.m.

#### **Alarion Baptist Church** College & Depot streets, Marion • (270) 965-5232 Coffee/Juice Fellowship 8:30-8:45 a.m. Sunday School 8:45-9:45 a.m.

Wednesday nursery Morning Worship (One Service) 10-11:15 a.m. Centershot & youth 5:45 p.r Awana 5:45 p.m. Wednesday prayer service Wednesday prayer service 6:15 p.m. Araise Limitless worship 6 p.m. SEVEN SPRINGS MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

#### **Barnett Chapel General Baptist**

Sunday School: 9:45 a.m. Barnett Chapel Rd., Marion, Ky. Sunday Worship: II a.m. Mike Jacobs, pastor Wednesday Night Bible Study: 6 p.m.

Tolu United Methodist Church

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# Catholic Church

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

Pastor: Tim Burdon

Sunday Worship Services: 10 a.m., 7 p.m.

Sunday Bible Study: 9 a.m. Sunday Discipleship Training: 6 p.m.

Mexico Baptist Church

Minister of Youth Robert Kirby | Minister of Music Mike Crabtree



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"For where two or three are gathered in my name,

for worship and fellowship

there am I in the midst of them.

-Matthew 18:20

#### Marion Church of God 334 Fords Ferry Road, Marion, Ky.

Sun. School 10 a.m. · Morning Service 11 a.m. Sun. Evening 6 p.m. • Wed. Evening 6 p.m.

"Where salvation makes you a member."



#### Marion Church of Christ

546 West Elm Street • (270) 965-9450 Sunday Bible Study: 9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship: 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. Wednesday Bible Study: 6:30 p.m.

- The end of your search for a friendly church -

Sunday: 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.

Crayne Cemetery Road, Crayne, Ky.

Bro. Tommy Hodge, pastor

Sunday School 10 a.m.

Sunday Worship 11 a.m.

Wednesday: 6 p.m. Pastor: Charles Tabor

Tyners Chapel

**DUPCH** Located on Ky. 855 North

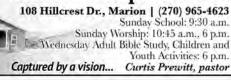
Orayne Community Church



#### Wednesday Worship Service: 7 p.m. DEER CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor: Larry Davidson "Whalever It Take" Sunday Bible Study: 10 a.m. • Sunday Worship: 11 a.m. & 6 p.m Wednesday Bible Study: 7 p.m. Approx. 5 miles from the intersection of Hwy. 60 & Hwy. 297 Phone: (270) 965-2220

**Emmanuel Baptist Church** 



261 Crooked Creek Church Rd., Marion, Ky. Sunday School: 10 a.m. Sunday Morning Worship: 11 a.m. Sunday Evening Worship: 6 p.m. Wednesday Evening Worship: 6 p.m. Pastor: Bro. Mark Girten



#### Pastor Junior Martin CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH







Frances Community Church Bro. Butch Gray . Bro. A.C. Hodge Wed. night prayer meeting & youth service: .....

..7 p.m. Sunday school: ..... 10 a.m. Worship service:......11 a.m.





Marion United Methodist Church Open hearts, Open minds, Open doors, Bro. The People of the United Methodist Church David

WED.: Bible Study 5:30 p.m. Contemporary Service 8:30 a.m. Sun. School 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:45 p.m.

South College St.



Hurricane Hurricane Church Rd. off Ky. 135 West Bro. John Robertson, Pastor Sun. School, 10 am. · Worship, 11 a.m.

# Kirby assigned to ministry in Tolu

### His preaching begins Sunday

STAFF REPORT

Although he's half the age of the average worshiper Tolu Methodist, Bro. Alex Kirby hopes to be a bedrock of spiritual faith that this small rivertown can bank on.

Kirby, 24, who is still working on his Master of Divinity degree, has been appointed minister at Tolu Methodist Church. It's his first appointment by the Kentucky Conference of the United Methodist Church.

Called to the ministry in 2013, Kirby says he was working at the Methodist Church's Camp Loucon in central Kentucky when the Lord spoke to him.

"At first, I didn't know if I was being called to be a youth minster or what because I always enjoyed working with youth," Kirby said. "Then I realized I was called to pastoral work and that's where I need to be.

Tolu Methodist was founded in 1908 and the current church and sanctuary was built and first dedicated in 1948 on land donated by the Lowery brothers, sons of Dr.

O.T. Lowery, according to local historian Brenda Underdown. Much of the lumber used to build the church had been salvaged from a chapel at Camp Breckenridge, a World War II prison camp in Morganfield.

Kirby grew up in the Methodist church in Marion where he is a member along with much of his family. His uncle, Robert Kirby, is a minister of youth at Mexico Baptist Church.

Although most of his ministry work to date has been with the homeless in Lexington and youth at his home church and at Camp Loucon, Kirby says he's ready and excited to lead a faithful congregation and believes his ministry can be of service to the greater community of Tolu. He says the tiny town continues to prove it is a vibrant village with activities and events year

"God has built a solid foundation with the church in Tolu," he said, "and I want this church to be something Tolu can rely on."

Kirby will be in the pulpit for the first time on Sunday.



Lifelong local Methodist Alex Kirby has his first assignment as a young minister and it's not too far from home at Tolu Methodist Church, which was founded more than 100 years ago.

### **Area Deaths**

#### Richardson

Jack Russell Richardson, 77, of Marion, formerly of Albany, Ga., died Wednesday, June 13, 2018 at Crittenden County Health and Rehabilitation Center in Marion.

He was retired from Jason Industries. Surviving are his long time companion Mary Rose Clark of Marion; a daughter Tammy Boettcher of Ashville, N.C.; two sons Jack S. Richardson of Atlanta, Ga., and Steve (Jamie) Richardson of Albany, Ga.; a granddaughter Erika Richardson; and two great-granddaughters, Hadley and Teegan Richardson.

Preceding him in death were his parents, Manie Lee Richardson and Lela May Avery Richardson; and brothers, Lee Richardson, Dempsey Richardson and David Richardson.

Services were Saturday, June 16 at Gilbert Funeral Home in Marion. Burial was at Love Cemetery.

### Drennan, 101

Kenneth C. Drennan, 101, of Marion died Saturday, June 16 at Salem Springlake Care Center in Salem.

Surviving are a daughter, Madeline (Joe) Henderson; a son-in-law,

Jerry "Bud" Travis; seven grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; and three great-great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Geneva Drennan; two daughters, Marcia Davidson and Marilyn Travis; a son, Kenneth C. Drennan II; two brothers, Charles and Winford Drennan; and two sisters, Lois Drennan, Margretta

Services were Tuesday, June 19 at Gilbert Funeral Home. Burial was at Sugar Grove Cemetery.

#### **Brown**

Pauline Brown, 95, of Marion died Sunday, June 17, 2018 at Salem Springlake Care Center.

She was a devoted Christian. Among various jobs during her life the most rewarding to her was working at the Crittenden Hospital where she developed many lifelong friendships.

Surviving are a daughter, Sandra Kay Owen (Coy) of Burna; two grandchildren, Shelia Brasher (Cal) and Rachel Birman (Chip); six great-grandchildren, Jennifer Hardesty, Jada Alexander, C.J. Birman, Katelyn Birman, Abigail Birman and Drew Birman; and three great-great grandchildren, Jordan Hardesty, Macibelle Hardesty and Collin Hardesty.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Ezra and Bertha Moran; husband, Lynn Brown; son, Bobby Brown; two infant sons; two brothers, Robert Moran and Billy Moran; and a sister, Martha McClure.

Services are at 11 a.m., Saturday June 23 at Gilbert Funeral Home in Marion. Visitation is from 10 a.m., until service time at the funeral home. Burial will be at Frances Cemetery.

### **Binkley**

Dorothy Binkley, 89, of Marion died Monday, June 18, 2018 at her home.

Surviving are two daughters, Virginia Hubbard (Gilford) of Vine Grove, Ky., and Gloria Tidwell of Marion; a son, Glenn Binkley (Jane) of Henderson, 10 grandchildren; 24 great-grandchildren; and 13 great-great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Roy Binkley; her parents, James and Maryettia Brannam; two brothers, James and Robert Brannam; a sister, Meddie J. Roberts; a daughter, Mary Ellen; and a great-granddaughter , Catherine A. Tidwell.

Services are at noon Thursday, June 21 at Freedom Church. Friends may call from 5-8 p.m., Wednesday June 20 at Gilbert Funeral Home. Burial will be at Freedom Cemetery.

### Ramage

Randel Lee Ramage, 80, of Burna died on Father's Day, June 17, 2018 at Baptist Health in Padu-



He was born Feb. 8, 1938 in Barlow, Ky. He grew up in Burna and spent the majority of his life there. In 1963, he married Stephanie Ann Henry of Marion. The Ramage family enjoyed camping at Kentucky Lake, water skiing on the Cumberland River and vacations in

Ramage was a third generation Star Route Mail Contractor for the U.S. Postal Service, transporting the mail at night between post offices in the region.

He is survived by a son, Aron Lee Ramage (Janis Lynne Piwonka) of Mem-

He was preceded in death by his wife of 49 years, Stephanie Ann Ramage; a son, Logan Edward Ramage; a sister, Bobbie Nell Massey; brothers Don L. Ramage and Elvie Wayne Ramage; and his parents, Doris Boyd Ramage and Norbin Edward Ramage.

Services will be at 1 p.m., Saturday, June 23 at Dyer Hill Baptist Church with Bro. Jim Greer officiating. Burial

at Dyer Hill Baptist Church. Boyd Funeral Directors and Cremations Services of Salem is in charge of arrangements. Memorial donations be made to Mary Hall Ruddiman Animal Shelter, 24 Just-A-Mere Road, Marion, KY 42064.

will follow at Dyer Hill Cemetery.

Friends may visit from 5-8 p.m., Friday,

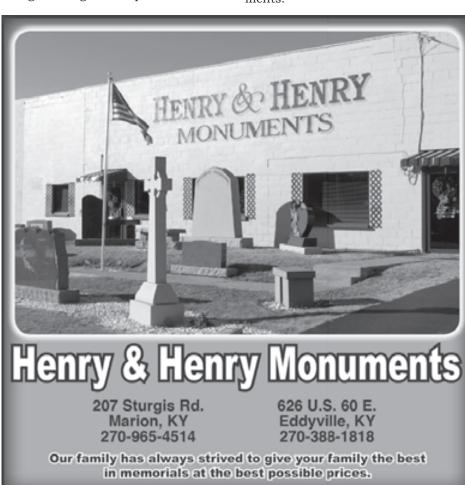
#### Lower

Charles Avery Lower Sr., 80, of Burna died Monday, June 18, 2018 at Livingston Hospital. He was a veteran of the U.S. Air Force and enjoyed crocheting, watching Western movies, cooking and gardening. In the past he had enjoyed race car driving and working as a truck driver.

Surviving are his wife of 55 years, Claudia Robinson Lower of Burn; sons, Charles Avery Lower Jr. (Ann) of Dickson, Tenn., and Paul Andrew Lower (Robin) of New York; daughters, Patricia Bashor (Cory) and Deborah Lower, both of Burna; a brother, Robert V. Lower of Fulton, N.Y.; 11 grandchildren; 14 great-grandchildren; and two greatgreat-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his brother, Carl Lower; and his parents, Van Avery Lower and Flossie Stacy

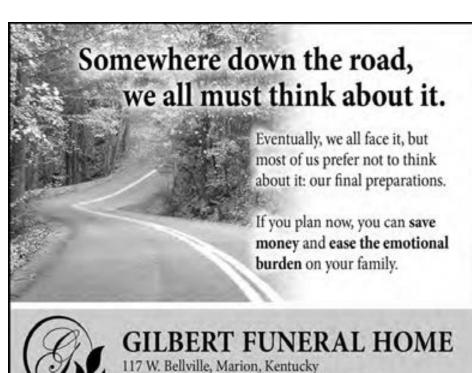
Boyd Funeral Directors and Cremation Services is in charge of arrange-







212 E Main St, Salem, KY 42078 (270) 988-3131 www.boydfuneraldirectors.com



(270) 965-3171 • Obituary Line (270) 965-9835

#### The Press Online

www.the-press.com

#### No driver's tests Friday

There will be no written or road tests administered to perspective drivers in Crittenden County Friday, according to Crittenden Circuit Clerk Melissa Guill.

#### **Extension**

Sue Parrent will do a nutrition class at the Senior Citizens Center at 10:30 a.m., Thursday (today) at the Crittenden County Senior Citizens Center.

- The Quilt Club will meet at 9:30 a.m., Monday at the Extension Office.

- There will be an Extension Homemakers Advisory Council Meeting June 28. Everyone planning to attend is asked to meet at the Extension Office at 10:15 a.m., to carpool to Pagliai's Pizza in Princeton

### **KCTCS** tuition bumped for '18

Though it was a modest bump of only \$7, Kentucky Community and Technical College System (KCTCS) regents voted Friday to increase the credit hour rate to \$169 for in-state students starting with the 2018-19 academic year.

The increase will affect the entire system, including West Kentucky Community and Technical College in Paducah and Madisonville, Henderson and Hopkinsville community colleges. However, a new scholarship program will help offset some of the increase.

The two-year option remains just more than half the cost of least expensive public university in Kentucky for undergraduates. For a full-time student taking up to 18 credit hours at Kentucky State University (KSU) in Frankfort, the cost is \$325 per hour.

After a 3 percent tuition increase approved earlier this year, Murray State University (MSU) remains one of the most affordable four-year options for student. The credit hour cost 3379 at Murray for any full-time student enrolling after 2016, ranking the university as third lowest in the state behind KSU and Eastern Kentucky Univer-

sity (\$375). Meantime, the general undergraduate cost as it stand today is \$442 per credit hour at Western Kentucky University (WKU), \$477 at the University of Kentucky and \$462 at the University of Louisville. WKU's board of regents meets Friday to decide on a proposed 4 percent tuition rate increase.

Along with the KCTCS tuition increase last week, regents also created a new scholarship program.

According to Kentucky Today, the 15 to Finish scholarship will pay \$500 to students who successfully complete 15 credit hours in a semester and re-enroll for 15 hours the next semester. Beginning this fall, students could start earning \$1,500 in scholarships on their way to an Associate in Arts or Associate in Science degree and up to \$2,000 if they are pursuing an Associate of Applied Science degree, which may take an additional semester.

#### **Submit calendar** items

Community calendar is designed for individuals, non-profit organizations and government entities to publicize meetings and events. Call (270) 965-3191 or email pressnews@the-press.com or stop by 125 E. Bellville St. in Mairon.

# Marion native writes about hometown

By ALEXA BLACK

STAFF WRITER

County Crittenden native Patrick Brown has recently published his book "A Kid From Kentucky.' Western publisher Brown's describes the work as religious, historical and even a self-help book, all told with Brown's unique sense of humor. Brown is president of Aquatic Management Inc., in Atlanta. He is also a minster, a calling he said certainly has influence in his writing. The book's undertones are religious, but it delves into the history of Crittenden County in the 1960s and 1970s. specifically transitions Brown went through during his childhood and vears.

"I wanted to write this book, firstly because I wanted to share my stories with others, and

something I could read about myself when I got and

forgetful,' Brown said. jokingly. Brown's

father, Earnest Marvin Brown, was

Crittenden County native and a Kentucky State Trooper Morganfield. Unfortunately, his father suffered a heart attack and died in the line of duty when Brown was just 21 months old. Years later, his mother remarried former Crittenden County Judge-Executive Bud Hunt, and the two raised Brown and his siblings.

Brown wanted to write a book not only talking himself. about but detailing his mother's struggles after dealing

with death of his father, the influence of his stepfather, moments with spent grandparents, and his siblings with whom he shares some of the colorful stories in the book. He also hopes it offers just as much entertainment value as it does insight for readers.

"The book talks about

a variety of topics, like the inspiration that helped me overcome many challenges, habits and addictions," Brown said. "Things I got into while skipping school to hang out at Cotton Patch, a small community near Matoon, and even shaking hands with the president of the United States. I also talk about Jim Crow in Marion, Ky., in the 1960s, and how music and the guitar changed life. my Most importantly, a lifetime of God's pursuit. He's been chasing and catching me my whole life."

Brown delves into darker moments in his life and explains how he overcame them, and how many turned positively based on his outlook and decisions. However, "A Kid From Western Kentucky" is not all about struggle and triumph, as Brown recounts bizarre and humorous moments within his life that some may find unbelievable, but stories he felt he should share. Brown wanted to include as many friends and stories from the early years to paint the picture as accurately as possible, yet without offending

"I wanted to tell about the interesting stories in my life, and be as transparent about myself when doing it. Some are pleasant, some were not, but I can tell you most of



them ended up well. I felt like writing this book was a God idea. And if it wasn't a God idea, it was at least a God-approved

"A Kid From Western Kentucky" can purchased for \$10 at Amazon, Barnes & Noble, or contact Patrick Brown at patbrown@post.com an autographed version, at the same price.

# **Program promotes literacy** for youth, teens and adults

STAFF REPORT

Registration for the 2018 Libraries Rock! Summer Reading Program at Crittenden County Public Library (CCPL) is still underway. It's not too late to make your summer even more fun by registering yourself or your kids.

children's The program is for kids up to age 12, and the teen and adult program is for those age 13 and up.

Since the program began the first week of June, children have enjoyed puppet concerts with The Beatles, an opera program presented by Michelle Crider and Ellen Merrick and a visit from Crittenden County High School marching band. They have explored sounds using popular music apps and created own musical their instruments using everyday items like food cartons, balloons and paper tubes. Check online for the schedule of events or grab a library program guide upcoming programs by Classy & Grassy and Appeal, Steel Campbellsville University Steel Drum Band.

Children are tracking their reading to prevent summer slide of reading skills. For every hour of reading, they earn tickets that can be entered into drawings for great prizes donated by the Friends of the Library. Those prizes include a bike, book gift cards, movie packages to Capitol Cinemas in Princeton and one of two ukulele packages that include the instrument, instruction book, tuner and a carrying case.

Adults and teens can



COURTESY OF CCPL

From left, Eli Lovell, Jayden Clarida and Whyatt Clarida play with a basic circuitry device called Makey-Makey. Whyatt is "playing" a guitar that has pennies attached to it. Alligator clips are fastened to the pennies, and when he touches the pennies, a sound is made.

register to start tracking books, eBooks. audiobooks and movies to win one of three themed gift baskets -

movie, book and music.

The library program for older kids and adults follows PBS's American Read programming that debuted on PBS May 22 concludes in September when the sixpart special airs on KET. https://goo.gl/JnMUxs

for more information. Vote for your favorite book on the list both online and at CCPL and participate in library programs including the Fit Lit Walking Book

Club that begins July 6

Marion-Crittenden

County Park trail at 8 a.m. as well as Movie Mondays that start July 9 at 2 p.m. Because of copyright, the full listing of movies and times is available in the library

Libraries Rock! encourages exploration of music, reading for fun and lifelong learning for all ages. A library card is not required to participate, and there is no cost to attend programs. Visit CrittendenLibrary.org to register online or stop by the library to pick up your how-to packet. You can participate from home or plan to attend a great program at the library.

### Senior Menu

Crittenden County Senior Citizens Center is open weekdays 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Lunch is served at 11:30 a.m. each day and is \$3 for those 60 and older or \$5 for those under 60. Reservations are requested by 9 a.m. Upcoming activities and menu include:

- Thursday (today): Menu is hashbrown ham casserole, lima beans, wheat roll and ambrosia fruit salad. A nutrition lesson presented by Sue Parrent will begin at 10:30

- Friday: Menu is baked chicken with cornbread dressing, giblet gravy, mashed potatoes, green beans and banana pudding. Bingo begins at 10:30 a.m.

- Monday: Menu is ham

and bean soup, hot spiced beats, buttered spinach, pear crisp and cornbread. Ladies exercise with Full Body Fitness Studio begins at 9:45

- Tuesday: Menu is tomato chicken parmesan with noodles, cucumber salad, whole wheat roll and peach cobbler. Tai Chi will be offered at 10 a.m.

June 27: Menu is meat balls with brown gravy, mashed potatoes, black-eyed peas, whole grain biscuit and pears. Bingo will begin at 10:30 a.m.

All menu items are subject to change based on availability. PACS provides milk, coffee, tea or water each day. Aging Coordinator Jenny Sosh is director of the center.

# **Congratulations to the 2018 Crittenden County Farm Bureau**



**Emmalea Barnes** 



**Mauri Collins** 



**Corbin Wilson** 



Samuel Winders

### Eagles donate to Cumberland River Homes' sensory room

Templeton, president of the Fraternal Order of Eagles of Kentucky, and wife Judy, his Cumberland River Homes in Salem was chosen to receive a \$5,000 donation from the Fraternal Order of Eagles to go toward a Sensory Room to benefit

individuals with autism. Sandy Barnes, her husband Phillip and son Shannon traveled to Louisville June 16 to represent Cumberland River Homes at the Fraternal Order of Eagles banquet and to receive the donation.

'We were amazed at the donations that were various presented to organizations that night, and were amazed at the work that the FOE puts into raising money to be donated to non-profit organizations," Sandy Barnes said. "CRH would like to thank the FOE for its generosity, and we commend them on the work that they do for non-profit organizations."



Sandy Barnes accepts a \$5,000 donation from the Fraternal Order of Eagles.



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For further information call Shyral Estes at 704-1068. You can also e-mail shyralestes@yahoo.com.

# Group wants to name PO for James

To honor the legacy of Ollie M. James and to commemorate Marion Post Office's 100 years, Crittenden County Historical Society is in the process of requesting the facility be named for James (1871-1918), who was instrumental as a member of Congress in getting the building approved.

The historical society has notified Marion Postmaster Rhonda Hunt and the U.S. Postal Service of its intention to seek the commemoration. A letter will be sent to Congressman James Comer requesting legislation be drafted to designate Marion Post Office as the "Ollie M. James Post Of-

An act renaming a post office requires unanimity of a state's congressional delegation for the movement of naming bills to the floor of the House or Senate. Both chambers must then ap-

Bills renaming post offices are among the most common types of legislation to gain passage.

Renaming the post office would have no direct impact on users of the post office. According to the pub-

lication "Naming Post Of-

Through Legislation" from the Congressional Research Service, "The practical effect of legislation renaming a post office is less than might be imagined. For operational reasons, post offices retain their geographical designations in the USPS addressing system, and there is no change in the way renamed post offices are identified in the USPS's listings of post offices. The tangible effect of naming a post office is the installation of a dedicatory plaque in 'a prominent place in the facility's lobby.'

It could be several weeks before the fate of the historical society's request is known.



The Crittenden County Historical Society is working to name Marion Post Office in honor of the late Sen. Ollie M. James.

### Marion Post Office celebrates centennial birthday

Most of us don't think much about one of our regular occurrences of daily life, the delivery of the mail. It's something we take for granted, but miss it when it doesn't appear each day. Here is some interesting history of our postal service and when it was first started.

In 1789, Congress authorized the postal service. A post office was established in Marion in 1843, and at the time was called Oxford. It is believed this was the post office of the former Livingston County (Crittenden County was formed from Livingston County 1842) that was at Oxford Academy. This was located near the former Creek Baptist Church site on Flynn's Ferry Road (now Ky. 1077). Early his-

tory states that academy the was named Oxford from its teacher. or who teachers, were from Oxford, N.Y.

other From history recorded, Oxford Academy must have been at the former site of the Brown Academy that closed in 1824. vou can imagine, history in this time period is hard to locate.

Brenda

Underdown

County Historian

Forgotten

**Passages** 

Since the new town of Marion was not on a main mail stage road until after its initial incorporation in 1842 (it was reincorporated in 1851), its mail was sent eastward to be mailed from the post office at Oxford Academy Flynn's Ferry Road.

When the new post office was established at Marion on April 29, 1843, Sumner Marble was the postmaster. The mail was postmarked Oxford until April 14, 1846, when the named was changed to Marion, almost two years after the town's incorporation. Other postmasters during this time were James M. Smith (July 12, 1844) and Milo L. Smith (Dec. 16, 1845).

The post office was discontinued on Jan. 21, 1862, during the Confederate occupancy. It was re-established on April 2, 1862, under David N. Stinson, and has been in continuous operation



ever since, although at different locations. Early post offices

It is not known for sure where the first post office was located. Marble first built a building that stood on the site where Bowtanicals Florist and Gift Shop is today, so it is quite likely that a corner of Marble's store served as Oxford Post Office

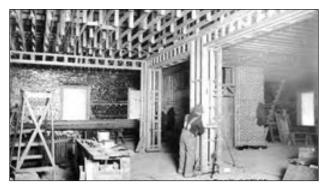
until Smith succeeded

Marble in 1844. original This Marble building burned in the 1905 fire and was then occupied by Woods and Orme Drugs.

Another known location of the Marion Post Office was in 1859 when George Perkins was postmaster (1859-January 1861). This building was known as the

Wilson building. It was west of the courthouse and on about the present site of the Ambassadors of Christ Church on the corner. When Perkins was postmaster, and he used the house as his home, post office and also a bookstore.

On July 1, 1904, the Post Office Department passed a ruling that was certainly a step forward and was a convenience to those who lived on or near any of the "star routes," or contracted delivery routes, in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. It was the beginning of the first rural free delivery mail route. After July 1, any citizen living on or near a star route had the right to erect a box for the receipt and dispatch of all his mail each and every day the mail was carried. Some of these routes were daily and some were two or three times per week. At this time, centering from Marion were five Star routes supplying 20 post offices.









Clockwise from top left, Marion Postmaster Rhonda Hunt looks through blueprints of the current Marion Post Office. Additional photos show the 100-year-old building in various stages of construction.

George M. Crider was postmaster during this time.

Finding a new home

As the mail volume grew, a new building was needed, so began the plans for a new post of-

In 1904, a new post office building was being Jennings Braswell were the contractors for the new building, which would house the post office on the ground floor and rooms for offices on the second floor. It was to be located on Carlisle Street and would add much to the looks as well as the value of Carlisle Street.

This new post office building was completed in August of 1904. The newness of the building hadn't worn off before the devastating Marion fire of 1905 destroyed it. During the fire, employees were able to save the mail, but the furniture and fixtures were a total

According to The Crittenden Press, the post office was rebuilt soon after the fire and was open again in August of 1905. This building stands today and still looks like the pictures of it that were taken in 1905. Marion Dry Cleaners was located here for many years, and today, the building is owned by Frank Pierce.

Growing pains

In 1912, an article in The Crittenden Press tells us that Marion Post Office had become too small and cramped for the immense volume of business that passed through it each day. The cancellations here entitled the community to a free day delivery under the law, and rural routes and the number of star routes supplied from Marion's post office grew beyond the capacity of the room then used.

Around that time, a petition was presented to Congressman Ollie M. James, D-Marion, asking him to present a bill in Congress before he stepped up to the U.S. Senate. The wish was for the government to build a federal building here.

"James will do so and assured his petitioner that he would leave no stone unturned to accomplish the wishes of his home city," the newspaper reported.

Although it took several years, a notice in 1917 was sent from Sen. James to S.M. Jenkins that bids for the construction of Marion's new federal building would be opened on March 15, 1917.

Thank to Crittenden County's own U.S. Senator, Marion was to have her new post office building at last. The location was chosen - not too far from the old building - at the corner of Carlisle and College streets across from the Marion Graded School.

In July of 1917, construction was well underway with the foundation in place. The building was completed in June of 1918 and was ready to open for business.

One hundred years later, the facility still stands as Marion Post

**Historic building** 

Rhonda Hunt, the current Marion postmaster, kindly took me on a tour of the 100-year-old building and showed me some of its early history.

There is a full basement, and at one time, several offices were located there. We have no history of what these oflices were, but there is a door on the ground floor that once led the people to this section of the building. Restrooms are also located here, a luxury for that time period. Other items from the past are still in evidence.

Stacks of original blueprints and sample pictures of light fixtures and other items used in the building and furnishing phases are still located there. In the near future. Hunt wants to organize these pieces of the past and put them in order. She was as thrilled as I was to see these old pieces of the past still in good condition. Hunt and her husband, Mike, have already put in many hours cleaning and organizing the basement area.

There is also a door in

the main lobby floor for the postal inspector. It is located in an obscure place so that any time the inspector may come into the building and go to a section on the upper level to view the goings on of the post office staff below without being known when they are there. And yes, Hunt says it is still used today. Also included in the original construction were two very large bank-type vaults which are still in use today for postal supplies.

Although some of the main lobby has changed. such as the addition of many more post office boxes across the front and plus postal lockers for parcels and packages that are too large for the small post office boxes, much is still the same as it was 100 years ago. The wood trim around the walls, tile floor, windows and inside front wooden door are a testimony to good craftsmanship and quality products used in its beginning.

It was definitely a new structure to be proud of in 1918, and 100 years later, it is still a beautiful building and one all of us can be proud of.

Although there have been several female officers-in-charge through the years, Hunt is only the second woman to fill the postmaster position. The first was Barbara Gard, appointed in September 1980.

### James Democrats' rising star in early 1900s

The man responsible for getting Marion's new post office in 1917 is one of the city's most notable

Ollie M. James was born July 27, 1871, in a double-log cabin about 2 miles southeast of the village of Sheridan in Crittenden County. He was the son of Lemuel H. and Elizabeth Braley James. His father, L.H. James, was a noted lawyer in Marion.

James received a thorough and excellent education in the common school and the Marion Academy. He was chosen as a Kentucky House of Representatives page in 1887, and was clerk of the Cloak Room for the Kentucky Senate 1889.

Young James studied law in his father's office at Marion and was admitted to the bar in 1891. He then went into partnership with his father, and the firm of James and James was soon one of the best known and highest respected law combinations in Kentucky. James first

statewide attention when he was one of the successful attorneys William Goebel's bid for Governor of Kentucky.

James soon gained high esteem among Kentucky Democrats. He was selected to go to the 1896 National Convention at Chicago, and to the same in Denver in 1908. He was elected chairman of the Kentucky Delegation both times.



Sen. Ollie M. James

He also gained recognition with the National Democratic Party through his brilliant seconding speech to William Jennings Bryan's nomination. He was elected chairman of the Kentucky Democratic Party's convention in 1900.

James was elected to

the U.S. House of Representative to serve in the 58th Congress, and was re-elected to the same position in four subsequent Congresses. He won the nomination for U.S. Senator in the 1911 Democratic Primary, and was elected to the Senate by the Kentucky Legislature for a six-year term beginning March 1913.

James was elected Permanent Chairman of the 1916 Democratic National Convention. He considered party's outstanding orator, and many thought him to be the favorite for the Democrats' 1920 presidential nomination.

His death on Aug. 28, 1918, at John-Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, where he was taken after

collapsing at his post in the U.S. Senate, cut short a most brilliant career. His death was from an incurable kidney disease. He is buried in the Mapleview Cemetery and is honored with an obelisk, the tallest monument in the cemetery.

### Library hosts Classy & Grassy

As part of its summer reading program, Crittenden County Public Library will host Classy & Grassy bluegrass band at 10:30 a.m., Tuesday. The band features Marion residents Cash and Cutter Singleton and Brennan Cruce.



#### The Press Online

The-Press.com
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### **Pitchers Only**

# Youth baseball clinic to focus on pitching

There will be a two-day Youth Baseball Pitchers' Clinic for boys ages 8-12 on Thursday, June 28 and Thursday, July 5 at Marion-Crittenden County Park. Cost is \$25 per player. This clinic will be limited to the first 12 paid registrations. It will be held from 9 a.m., until noon. Lunch will be included. Call Chris Evans at (270) 704-0435 for more information or register at The Crittenden Press.



# Local women win Princeton golf title

Phillis Hardin and her daughter Stefanie Shoulders won the Two-Lady Virginia Everett Golf Tournament at Princeton Golf and Country Club last week. The Marion women fired a five-under-par 67 and won by a stroke. Hardin said she plays in the tournament every year and this was the first time she'd ever won it.

#### **KDFWR Hunter Ed**

There will be a KDFWR Hunter Education Course from 8:30 a.m., until 4:30 p.m., on Saturday, June 30 at the Crittenden County Gun Club on Ky. 91 North. Those who complete this course will receive a Kentucky "Orange" Card, which is required of all hunters born after Jan. 1, 1975. This is a free class and will be taught by local instructor John Robertson.

#### **Hunting Seasons**

Coyote Groundhog Bullfrog

Sauirrel

Year Round Year Round May 18 - Oct. 31 May 19 - June 15

#### 2-Man Golf Event

The Heritage Golf Course at Marion Country Club will host its annual 2-Man Golf Scramble on Saturday and Sunday, July 7-8. Fore more information, call the pro shop.



#### **State of the Umps**

Three area umpires were chosen to call games at the KHSAA State Fast-Pitch Softball Tournament recently in Owensboro. They were Stacey Engle of Morganfield, Larry Thompson of Marion and Brian Thomas of Dawson Springs. Thomas is the City of Marion maintenance director.

#### Hill joins CCHS hoops

Rocket basketball alumnus Ethan Hill will join the Crittenden County High School basketball coaching staff this coming season. Hill graduated in 2013 after a playing basketball four seasons at CCHS. Coach Denis Hodge said Hill be a welcomed addition to the staff.

# Rocket football installing technology adding in-game playback to sideline

©The Crittenden Press

Greater technology is coming to the Crittenden County football sideline this fall along with a new head coach.

The Rockets will deploy a new electronic camera system that will give them video replay capabilities in real time on the sidelines. It will be used as a coaching tool, said new skipper Sean Thompson.

Game video will be captured on two cameras – one on top of the pressbox and the other 30 feet high on an endzone tripod that will be positioned behind the goal post and fence near Rocket Arena. The video footage will be delivered over a closed Wifi signal to an iPad on the Crittenden sideline. Coaches will use the hand-held electronic tablets to review game footage with players as they come off the field.

Thompson said other teams have been doing it and Crittenden is getting on board to provide the latest in sophisticated instructional tools to its players.

"Instead of the coaches huddling up at halftime and making adjustments based



Rocket football coach Sean Thompson has been setting up the program that will run the sideline video program this fall.

on what we think we've seen in the first half, we will know what happened and make adjustments between each series or between each play if we need to," said Thompson.

The new system is Hudl Sideline. It sets up in minutes and will be used at home

and on the road

Thompson said the coaching staff saw it being used last year by teams of all classes in state championship games. He'd seen it once before being used by Mayfield.

"When we saw it, we knew we had to have it," Thompson explains. "When our guys come off the field, now we can show them what's going on and coach them up between each series." Longtime videographers Ronnie Myers,

Dwight Sherer and Frank Pierce will man-

age the system from the pressbox. The end zone camera can pan with the play thanks to a control toggle in the pressbox. An iPad captures the sideline view footage from the pressbox.

Thompson said the end zone camera

will be cropped on the trenches from tackle to tackle while the sideline camera will follow the ball.

The system will also be used during practice sessions.

Such sideline video systems are perfectly fine, according to KHSAA policy.



#### Baseball Awards

Crittenden County High School held its annual Rockets' baseball post-season awards ceremony and banquet last week at the Italian Grill in Marion. Among those honored were (from left) Tyler Boone, Best ERA 1.59; Cody Belt, Defenisve Award (.984 field percentage), Most RBIs 19, All Fifth District Team and All Second Region Team; Kyle Castiller, Four-Year Senior Award; Caden McCalister, Best Batting Average .419 and Best On Base Percentage .511; Jayden Carlson, Most Runs Scored 25 and All Fifth District Team; Ethan Dossett, Most Stolen Bases 14; and Payton Riley, Most Innings Pitched 37.1. Not pictured was Viki Carlson, who received the MVP award as treasurer of the booster club.

### UK recruit will not reclassify in Texas

Despite injuring his ankle in a pool play win over Puerto Rico, Kentucky commit Tyrese Maxey certainly made a big impression with his play for Team USA in the FIBA Americas

Championship.

Maxey admitted playing with so many talented players was fun and enabled him to expand his game in various

said he would have no trouble going back to Texas to play his senior season at South Garland High School.

ways. However, he

"It doesn't make it hard to go back at all. I like playing with my friends on the high school team," Maxey said. "My senior

season is going to be fun and I'm excited about it."

Maxey averaged 22.5 points, 7.0 rebounds, 3.1 assists, 2.3 steals and 1.1 blocked shots per game last season while leading South Garland High School to its first state tournament berth. In his three-year prep career of 75 games, he's averaged 21.7 points, 6.1 re-

and 1.4 blocks per game.

At one time he had talked about reclassifying to the 2018 recruiting class but insists that no longer is his plan even though he could easily pass classes in time to make it hap-

bounds, 3.3 assists, 2.1 steals

"I don't think he'll reclassify. This class coming in (at Kentucky) is pretty guard heavy and it just wouldn't make sense to have him forgo his senior year and head to Kentucky when there isn't an immediate need for him on the team," Rivals.com recruiting writer Krysten Peek said. "I've talked to other players as well and the general consensus is he'll stay and finish his senior year.

"Tyrese is an excellent shooter and I know that was an area where Kentucky was hurting last year. If you had him and Tyler Herro on the court at the same time that would be a huge offensive threat with both players being almost automatic from the 3-



Tyrese Maxey may have been the best player on Team USA before he hurt his ankle. He says he would love for his Texas high school team to play in Kentucky next season. (USA Basketball Photo)

point range."

Herro is one of the freshmen guards already on campus. Another one is Georgia point guard Ashton Hagans, who reclassified from the 2019 class to the 2018 after graduating last week.

"Tyrese is a pure shooting guard. He's one of those players that can pull up for a 3 in transition and knock it down with confidence. He's also explosive in the lane and can surprise people with his dunking. If you have Maxey and Hagans on the court at the same time, the defense can't really help that much on Hagans since they'll have to stay home on Maxey because he's a shooter. That's a great offensive scenario to have if you're coach Cal."

That's a scenario Calipari likely will have in the 2019-20 season unless Hagans goes from high school junior to a one-and-done college player. It could happen, but doesn't seem likely.

Maxey may have trouble finding challenges during his high school season. Most recruiting analysts believe his game is ready now to play for a major college team

major college team.

"When you look at high level guards like Maxey, there isn't

much that needs improvement but I would say he needs to get a little stronger and tighten up his ball handling," Peek said. "Tyrese has such a quick release in his jump shot, it's very hard to guard him already.

"Since he's such a good shooter he can knock down a few 3's and then get his defender up in the air with a fake and drive right by them the next time down the court. I love his intensity on defense and how quick he pushes the ball up the court after a transport or in transition."

turnover or in transition."

Maxey admits his verbal commitment to Kentucky generated a lot of social media in-

terest for him from UK fans.
"It is cool, I enjoy it," Maxey said. "I don't pay that much attention to it. I am happy with my decision and commitment."

What if his team had an opportunity to play in a showcase event in Kentucky next season like the Marshall County Hoop Fest or McCracken County Mustang Madness?

"I don't feel like it would put any pressure on my team," Maxey said. "We could just go down and compete and have fun. One thing we do, we like to have fun on our team. I would love for that to happen and for all the Kentucky fans to get a chance to see me play. It would be cool to watch them and for them to watch my team."

Peek said that attitude is why Kentucky fans are going to like Maxey so much when he does get to Lexington and why he will be the perfect fit for UK on and off the court.

"Tyrese is a great kid. He loves the game of basketball and he puts so much work into his own game. He has a great attitude and is easy to talk to," Peek said. "I think he'll be very popular in Kentucky."

During a radio appearance on WJOX-FM in Birmingham last week Kentucky coach Mark Stoops said he expects outside linebacker to not only be one of the best at his position in the SEC but also one of the best in the country.

e best in the country.
"He's a difference maker.

He's a guy that does a lot of things well," Stoops said. "He's good on his feet, he has good instincts and drops and leverage, playing pass defense but he's also a dynamic pass rusher. He's good in the run game. Josh really is the whole

Allen is already projected as a first-round pick in the 2019 NFL draft and is on numerous preseason all-SEC teams. But Stoops also believes senior safety Mike Edwards is capable of a special season, too.

"Mike Edwards has been around a long time, played a lot of football and he came back as well," he said. "Physically he is in great shape."

Smith said on the show that UK's defense need to "make a big jump" but he believes he has the players to do that this year.

"We have some experience. We are getting some decent depth, so I feel like defensively we need to make a big jump as far as being more consistent. We've shown flashes and done good things at times but across the board, I'd like to see consistency there," he said.

On offense, he said he's counting on fifth-year receiver Dorian Baker, who missed last year with a knee injury, to supplement what running back Benny Snell can do.

"Hopefully, he'll give us some playmaking ability at wide receiver because we need that," Stoops said.

Matthew Hurt, a five-star prospect out of Minnesota, got in-home visits from Duke, North Carolina, Kentucky, Kansas, Indiana, UCLA and Memphis earlier this spring. He said Kansas told him he would be used as a guard and Kentucky told him it needed players that could shoot well from outside, a new point of emphasis for John Calipari in recruiting.

Kentucky expects a major recruiting battle with Memphis over James Wiseman, one of the nation's top 2019 prospects, but Hurt is enamored with Memphis and new coach Penny Hardaway because of a prior relationship.

# Classifieds The Crittenden Press









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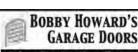
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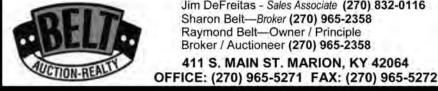
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### Rogers Group donates 300 tons of rock to Lions

STAFF REPORT

When it comes to pulling off the Crittenden County Fair, Lions Club member Natalie Parish says it takes a village do the job.

A perfect example was the recent donation of rock by a local quarry.

Rogers Group donated 300 tons of aggregate for the driving and parking areas at Crittenden County Fairgrounds and Parish said businesses like Rogers Group are a big part of the fair's success.

"This is community helping community," Parish said.

She explained that the Lions Club allowed the high school baseball team to use the Hatfield Building at the fairgrounds for preseason training. The son of Rogers Group's senior sales representative plays on the baseball team and saw the need for gravel at the fairgrounds. That's how the process of the donation got started.

"It was clear they could use the rock, and we were in position to help," said Rogers Group's Amanda Dossett.

The rock was donated this spring and county road maintenance crews helped spread it.

Parish said this year's fair should be an exciting event for the community. Carnival rides will be back, too, she said.

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Amanda Dosset (left), senior sales representative for Rogers Group Inc. of Marion, stands alongside Crittenden County Lions Club member Natalie Parish at Crittenden County Fairgrounds with 300 tons of rock in the background donated by the aggregate company for improvement at the grounds. Crittenden County Road Department donated the time and equipment to help spread the rock. This year's county fair starts July 28 and runs through Aug. 4.







CHRIS EVANS/THE PRESS

# Hurricane hijinx

Ice cream and a heavy dose of spiritual learning are among the staples at Hurricane Camp each June. For 130 years the camp has been a bastion of faith and fun for youngsters who stay all week. They have Bible study during the morning, games in the afternoon and chapel in the evening. At top, the canteen is open twice a day for ice cream and these boys never missed an opportunity. They are (from left) Caden Hutchison, Gavin Penn and Junior Cowsert. Above left, Olivia Cowsert and Blakelee Gardner were on the lookout for boys with shaving cream. Above right, Jaxon Belt has one of the best senses of humor at camp, so he didn't mind getting doused pretty good during a shaving cream fight with some of the girls.

# **Ky.** participation in summer feeding programs lags behind other states

STAFF REPORT

More children in Crittenden County and across Kentucky are getting the nutrition they need during the summer, according to a report, but the commonwealth still ranks near the bottom as far as participation in federal food service

programs.

According to the Hunger Doesn't Take a Vacation: Summer Nutrition Status Report released by the national anti-hunger advocacy group Food Research & Action Center (FRAC), 844,834 lunches were served in the Summer Nutrition Programs in Kentucky during June 2017. Those initiatives include the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) and the National School Lunch Program, and 2017 participation represents an increase of 14.1 percent in meals served compared to

The growth is not duplicated nationally, with programs serving summer lunch to 14,000 fewer children across the state in July 2017 than in July

the previous summer.

#### Free summer lunch schedule

Crittenden County's 2018 Summer Food Service Program serves free lunches to children weekdays through July 27, except for Independence Day. Locations and delivery times are as follows:

- 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.: **CCHS multipurpose room/CCMS gym**. Only through June 29 and July 16-27.

- 11 to 11:20 a.m.: Crittenden County Public Library and Veterans Park

- 11:30 to 11:50 p.m.: **Hickory Hills Avenue** and **Market on Main** 

Noon to 12:20 p.m.: Marion-Crittenden County skate park and Williams Mobile Home Park 12:30 to 12:50 p.m.: Nesbitt's Pawn Shop and Bellville Manor Apartments

- 1-1:20 p.m.: Creekside Apartments

- Meals will also be served at band and little league football camps over the summer

2016.

"When school lets out, too many children lose access to the school breakfasts and lunches they rely on during the school year, increasing childhood hunger and stretching family budgets during the summer," said Kate McDonald, KY Kids Eat Campaign Coordinator at the Kentucky Association of Food Banks. "Summer meals help fill this gap by providing meals to chil-

dren at sites where they can eat, learn, and play."

Crittenden County participates in SFSP, and has expanded distribution of free summer meals to children 1-18 through July 27. In 2016 and 2017, the light lunches were offered only in June.

were offered only in June.

Despite the rise in participation in the Summer Nutrition Programs, Kentucky ranked 46 out of 50 states and the District of Columbia.





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