



BACK TO THE GYM FOR SCHOLASTIC SPORTS
Coach McDonald, others encouraged by return, page 4

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THURSDAY, JUNE 4, 2020

YARD SALES, YES!

Yard sales are back on! Local residents are already hosting and planning yard sales. Contact The Press today to advertise your upcoming yard sale. Call us at 270-965-3191 or do it online under the My Ads menu bar at The-Press.com. City and county leaders urge residents to continue exercising caution and obeying social distancing and sanitization protocols as yard sales and auctions restart. Read more in this week's article "Community emerging from beneath capsized economy" that begins on this page.



HOSPITAL RELAXES RULES

Crittenden Community Hospital has adjusted its visitation policy to allow one visitor per patient at a time, and more family if it is an end-of-life situation. Hospital CEO Jon Gleason says the facility is safe for both patients and visitors. Also, he said the temporary drive-up testing station in front of CCH has been open a couple of times, but there has not been a great deal of response to it. It is currently not being used and likely will not unless demand for testing increases.

VOTING BEGINS FRIDAY

While the deadline for non-partisan candidates – such as school board and city council – running in this fall's general election ended Tuesday, voting will get underway on Friday for the postponed spring primary. Election Day is not until June 23, but due to COVID-19 there are lots of new ways to vote. See Page 8 of this edition for details on how to cast a ballot this week, and see who's filed for the fall.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- Crittenden County Board of Ed will have a work session at 5 p.m., Tuesday, June 9 at Rocket Area.
- Marion Tourism Commission will meet at 5 p.m., Tuesday, June 9 at the Welcome Center.
- Crittenden County Board of Education will have its next regular meeting at 5:30 p.m., on Tuesday, June 18 at Rocket Arena.

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Ronnie Heady, Crittenden County's property valuation administrator, swings open a new hinged door through which customers can conduct business at his courthouse office. Heady says the service window will reduce traffic inside the office, which will help it meet new state guidelines on protection from COVID-19.

Community emerging from beneath capsized economy

STAFF REPORT

As cases of COVID-19 begin to plateau in the commonwealth and Kentucky slowly emerges from a capsized economy wrecked by the coronavirus, there remain many questions and great debate with regard to how fast we should go and whether government benefits are perhaps hobbling recovery.

Little league and scholastic sports have been given a green light to move ahead. Yet some say the light is perhaps more yellow than green, because of challenging restrictions aimed at keeping everyone safe. (See information on page 4).

"We appreciate everyone's patience and understanding during this unprecedented time. We look forward to seeing kids being kids, playing a sport they love," the local youth sports organization that runs little league softball and baseball said in an official statement posted late last week on social media. The organization, which includes youth sports leaders from five counties, including Crittenden, said it

COMING SOON

Next week, a number of other facilities and services will begin to emerge from COVID-19 closure. On Monday, museums and cultural centers can reopen and by mid-week state parks will be back in business.

will begin practices June 15 and start playing in July following state guidelines as practically as possible. Waivers will be required before players can participate.

In public buildings, here and elsewhere, things are getting back to some semblance of normal. Crittenden County Courthouse is open, with some restrictions. All of the offices are now reopen and court began this week (see page 9 for details).

In the courthouse, there is tape on floors directing foot traffic and prompting proper distancing. Plexi-glass windows to provide a layer of separation between customers and service

providers are in every office. Otherwise, things are easing back toward normal.

City hall has been a bit slower to return. Its offices continue to limit face-to-face interaction as much as possible, City Administrator Adam Ledford said, and employees were continuing to stagger work days as of late last week.

Masks are encouraged in public buildings, but Crittenden County Judge-Executive Perry Newcom said they're not required because of a variety of reasons. They are, however, required during judicial proceedings at the courthouse.

Local restaurants are gradually opening under current restrictions that limit dining areas, but owners there – and at other businesses – say getting some employees to return to work has proven difficult because of attractive unemployment benefits. With the additional \$600 per week from the federal government stimulus package, a number of people are making

See **BACK**/page 3

Restaurant sales up in 1Q of 2020

STAFF REPORT

Restaurant and lodging receipts were up considerably in the first quarter of 2020 despite about half of March being affected by COVID-19 restrictions.

Based on calculations for receipts from the Marion tourism tax, restaurants had about \$1.7 million in sales from January through March. That was up by about \$100,000 from the same quarter in 2019.

Gov. Andy Beshear ordered all dine-in restaurants to close on March 16, restricting eateries to take-out and delivery only. Marion Tourism Director Michele Edwards said at least one local restaurant has reported greater receipts since the governor's edict, but she remains concerned about what the second quarter might look like for restaurants because others have likely not seen similar results. Restaurants were shuttered to dining for the entire month of April and most of May, and can now only operate at 33 percent capacity.

The tourism department gets nearly all of its operating revenue from Marion's three-percent prepared meal and lodging tax. Lodging receipts are only a small portion of the revenue.

In the first quarter of 2020, the tourism tax generated was \$53,435, a clear indication that the last half of March with curbside sales didn't have a negative influence on overall restaurant sales in Marion. The average tax generated in the first quarter over the last 10 years is \$47,000 and the average for all quarters in the same period is \$52,000.

Edwards said one restaurant paid some delinquent tax bills and that amount is reflected in the first-quarter money, making it slightly higher. The delinquent payment was for \$2,090.

The first quarter of this year was also the first time tax revenue included fees from alcohol sales at restaurants that serve drinks. The local alcohol tax is five percent, but at restaurants and bars an additional three percent is charged to cover the tourism levy.



Lakeside Resting

A lakeside resting place now exists at Mapleview Cemetery. A recent expansion and improvement project is continuing to mature. Although grass has yet to begin growing on the lake shore, it's slowly overtaking the dirt work. The new lake was dug on the north end of the cemetery.

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PERSONAL	• Wife, mother, grandmother • Alumna - Murray State University & University of Louisville Law School

Area Deaths

Glore

Charles Eugene Glore, 80, of Marion died Thursday, May 28, 2020.

He was a member of Barnett Chapel General Baptist Church, where he had served as a deacon since 2012, and a veteran of the United States Army.



Surviving are his wife of 54 years, Joanie Glore of Marion; a daughter, Michelle (Greg) Hewitt of Marion; grandchildren, Mitchell (Amber) Hewitt of Marion, Zach (Danyel) Hewitt of Paducah and McKenzie (Dakota) Lynch of Marion; great-grandchildren, Kaylee, Alex, Karlie, Gabe and Gabby Hewitt and Dalton, Anzeigh and Avery Lynch; brothers, Ronnie (Kaye) Glore, Bill (Judi) Smith, Bennett (Sharon) Smith and Ray Smith; sisters, Sue (Dennis) Barnes and Grace (Jimmie) Holman; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his son, Charles Eugene Glore; brothers, Eddie, D.L. and Harold Perry Glore; sister, Dora Mae Belt; father, Charles Eugene Glore; mother, Ocie Smith and stepfather, Aaron Smith.

Services were Sunday, May 31 at Gilbert Funeral Home in Marion. Burial was at Union Cemetery with Military Rites.

James

Gleneth Reed James, 90, of Marion died Thursday, May 28, 2020 at Crittenden Community Hospital.



He was a member of the First Cumberland Presbyterian Church in Marion.

Survivors include his children, Rickey (Kathy) James of Terra Haute, Ind., and Shirley (Gary) Buchanan, Angie (Dennis) Dooks, Lisa (Mark) French and Patty Brown all of Marion; brother, Ray James of Marion; sister, Norma Freeman of Marion; 10 grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Mary "Dolly" James; parents, Fred and Alma James; four brothers; and two sisters.

Services were Saturday May 30 at Gilbert Funeral Home in Marion. Burial was at Piney Fork Cemetery.

For Online Condolences
myersfuneralhomeonline.com
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gilbertfunerals.com

Holliman

Dale Lindsey Holliman, 70, of Salem died Thursday, May 28, 2020 at the Ray and Kay Eckstein Hospice Center in Paducah.

He was born Sept. 12, 1949 in Gary, Ind. He retired from Air Products in Calvert City in 2018 after 48 years in employment. He was an avid UK fan and enjoyed going out to eat and keeping his car clean.



Surviving are his wife of 46 years, Mary Koon Holliman of Salem; a son, Dale Shea Holliman of Florida; a grandson, Dalton Hayes of Florida; and a granddaughter, Caroline Mimilo of Gatlinburg, Tenn.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Alvie Jewell "A.J." and Annabelle Johnson Holliman.

Services were scheduled for 11 a.m., Wednesday, June 3 at the chapel of Boyd Funeral Directors and Cremation Service with Rev. Mike Jones officiating. Burial was at Salem Cemetery.

The Crittenden Press Obituaries

Most obituaries in The Crittenden Press are published at no charge. However, extended obituaries or those personalized by the family are available for a small fee. There is no charge for use of a photograph. Please ask your funeral director about fee-based obituaries. Obituaries that appear in the newspaper are also accessible on the Web to online subscribers.

Our online database includes archives of local obituaries dating back to the late 1990s. With a subscription to the online edition, you can access weekly obituaries as well as those from the past 20 years.

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Library summer reading sign up

"Imagine Your Story Summer Reading" is the theme for the annual summer program at Crittenden County Public Library.

Registration still is available on the library Facebook page. All reading challenges and programs will be held online so participants can complete from home. There are Facebook Live sessions for youth each Tuesday and Thursday, as well as special activities for teens and adults.

Visit the library Facebook page or call (270) 965-3354 to register.

Van window broken out in Dycusburg

STAFF REPORT
Crittenden County Sheriff's Department is investigating the theft of several items from a van parked at a residence in Dycusburg.

The incident happened last Thursday night. Deputy Ray Agent said someone broke out a window and took tools and numerous other items from the vehicle which was parked off of Spring Street.

Anyone with information can call 270-965-3500 and remain anonymous.

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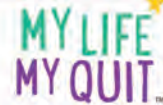

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PENNYRILE DISTRICT HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Baghdad Bob’s lesson on COVID realities

The big question around town is whether to wear a mask or not. For about 90 years after the automobile was first built we didn’t strap ourselves in. Didn’t think we needed to. As kids, we rolled around on that shelf in the back window like busted bowling pins. Wearing a seat belt simply wasn’t cool. It was uncomfortable.

In time, more and more people started wearing them because cars came equipped with buzzers and bells to remind us to buckle up. We pulled fuses and unplugged wires on those annoying beeps, but then seat belts became law. By the time I was a young adult, strapping one on was just as normal as putting on shoes. Today, it feels unsafe when I don’t buckle the seat belt and I make the children do it, too.

Our governor says masks are required just about everywhere



Chris EVANS
Press publisher
About Town

unless we’re sleeping (alone). In reality, masks seem to be largely optional. I see very few being worn at public places like markets, retail stores, parks and sidewalks. Perhaps in time, we will all not be opposed to looking like the Frito Bandito.

Which way will mask-wearing go? Will they evolve like seat belts? One day become compulsory?

I don’t know. My clairvoyance isn’t remarkable, but my hindsight is generally spot on. History and history alone will judge how we have responded to COVID-19. And it’s too early to flip over to the History Channel.

In March and April, Gov. Andy Beshear’s steady guidance and daily monologues helped his stock rise across the commonwealth. He even earned his own Bobblehead. Now, the governor is sounding more like Baghdad Bob. It’s as if he’s not looking out the window across the state where confusing, contradictory and often impractical guidelines are being met with a great deal of cynicism.

Why do restrooms at churches have to be cleaned between each use, but Walmart is carte blanche at the water closet? Are Christians more apt to contract this virus or are they just not as clean as department store shoppers?

Sure, you can find some inconsistencies in the Bible, but holy cow, this COVID-19 Guidebook includes a hodgepodge-mismatched menagerie of exotic contradictions.

Mohammed Saeed al-Sahhaf, aka Baghdad Bob, was the official Information Minister under Iraqi President Saddam Hussein’s regime during the so-called infidels’ modern invasion of old Babylon. His pronouncements that American soldiers were deserting and committing suicide by the hundreds – and that Iraq was turning back the enemy and winning the war – were a bit credulous. His news briefings, broadcast for the whole world to watch, were clearly inconsistent with what was happening a few hundred yards right outside his door where U.S. tanks were blasting away Saddam’s feeble last stand.

Let’s neither try to fool ourselves about the threat of this pandemic nor the civilian response. Whether we’re sleeping in the governor’s mansion or raising beans in Burna, the truth is the truth.

What we need to do is find a way to avoid cheating a generation out of its education, its jobs, its life. It’s illogical to imagine unmasked multitudes lined up at the grocery checkouts today, but their children not going to school this fall because of insurmountable guidelines.

As a youngster I found a baby bird that had apparently either fallen out of its nest or been kicked out for bad behavior. Snatched it up and put it in a fish tank with a wire screen over top to make sure it couldn’t flee. Fed it cornflakes and grass, but neither took. Dad’s advice was to turn it loose, back into the wild.

“But it will surely die!”

“Well, son,” he said, “It will surely die in this tank, too.”

Maybe somewhere in the future, history books will be able to trace the origins of our demise. Will they be from a virus

or famine?

According to current textbooks, humans have somehow overcome every viral and bacterial assault over the last several millennia. Whether we are unable to spell cat or have an IQ off the charts, it is true that our survival instincts are quite remarkable.

I am not advocating behavior that disrespects the threat from this virus. However, let’s open our eyes. Baghdad Bob missed seeing the missiles because of smoke. Most likely because he had a gun pointed at his head off camera, encouraging the nonsensical narrative.

Let’s be uncompromising in order to protect our most vulnerable, yet otherwise get back to business without a canon that hardly anyone is observing – at least around here, where we social distance by nature.

Chris Evans is editor and publisher of The Crittenden Press. His columns have appeared in this newspaper for more than 30 years. You can contact him at thepress@the-press.com.

UPDATE

C-VIRUS
CRITTENDEN COUNTY

7 cases confirmed

Crittenden County has had 7 positive cases of COVID-19 here since the pandemic started. The most recent were both women, one was a 37-year-old and the other a 77-year-old. Both of those cases were made public in the past week.

Since COVID-19 testing started here in March, one person who tested positive has died. Five of the remaining six have recovered. Of those testing positive here to date, four have been women and three have been men. The 37-year-old woman is the youngest, and first under 40, to test positive. The female who died was 59 and had underlying health issues.



McMask

Julia Davidson, like most restaurant workers in the area, is equipped with proper personal protective equipment (PPE) as she delivers a curbside order in front of the Marion McDonald’s. Gloves and masks are among a number of state guidelines issued for restaurant workers.

BACK

Continued from page 1

more money while unemployed than they would at work. (See unemployment article on page 10)

Although strict rules are guiding how barbers and hair stylists have returned to their shops, there’s a clear divide between real world activity and the post-COVID constraints on businesses. Inside, those cutting hair and doing nails are masked and gloved and using lots of disposable materials to avoid cross-contamination issues. Outside barber shops, unmasked men line up together and often sit shoulder to shoulder on benches around town, waiting their turn to go into the restricted zone for a trim.

Such scenarios are giving rise to considerable debate over whether government-mandated protection is necessary. State health officials and healthcare workers continue to stress that they are, but most agree that enforcing voluminous guidelines is difficult, if not impossible. In many settings, the guidelines are ardently enforced. In others, they are not.

Yard Sales

Local leaders continue to stress a commonsense approach to staying safe.

“I believe everyone should remember the COVID-19 virus is still active and should take every precaution to keep their family safe,” said Marion Police Chief Ray

O’Neal as part of his response to the question whether yard sales were permissible at this time.

The chief says such activities are okay at this time, but he cautions those having a yard sale or otherwise engaging in public commerce in any way to remember safety measures.

“We strongly encourage anyone who is thinking about having one to encourage social distancing and to have hand sanitizer available,” the chief said.

The county judge agrees that yard sales and similar activities may resume, but he urges precaution, and adds a few recommendations.

“I would not linger for an extended period of time at the location and remember to practice social distancing,” Judge Newcom said. “I would not be picking up items at all unless I intended to buy that item and then I would wear some type of protective hand covering (latex gloves, nitrile gloves, etc.) I would wear a mask if there is a large group gathered at the site. I would use hand sanitizer prior to going up to the yard sale and after getting back in the vehicle when leaving. If making a purchase at a yard sale I would certainly ensure the items bought were thoroughly cleaned before use or entering home.”

Auctions coming back

Curt Buntin, a local auctioneer and former

county magistrate, says his company is getting ready to reschedule consignment and personal property auctions.

“We’re going to fire back up in about two weeks,” he said. “I didn’t personally attend, but I know there have already been a couple of auctions in the area.”

In talking with other business owners, Buntin said it’s clear that getting workers back may prove difficult because of the lucrative benefits they are receiving while on unemployment.

“We have to get back to work,” Buntin said.

Remain Cautious

With a number of activities restarting that could draw crowds, Judge Newcom encourages continued caution.

“It is obvious that COVID-19 is still present and spreading and that will continue until there is a vaccine made available to combat the virus,” he said. “Simply understand that fact while exercising the utmost caution and hygienic practices.”

The judge explains that the virus is very serious and must be respected.

“As individuals we can accept the hazard and do the best we can possibly do to protect ourselves and others from the virus while continuing to live our lives as normally as we possibly can, or we can crawl in a bubble and hide,” he notes.

“If anyone expresses symptoms of the virus they should know to stay

out of the public. If anyone is expressing symptoms to the degree that requires testing then they should want to stay in their homes until the results are known so others are not exposed to what has the potential to be COVID-19,” the judge continued.

Bad Actors

Newcom also said that at least one person associated with a previous positive case, and required to be under quarantine, is not abiding by prescribed restrictions.

“Individuals know they should not be out and about until the test results return. Then, if negative, they drive on; or if positive, they quarantine according to guidance from health officials,” he said. “We recently had a situation where someone was tested due to being symptomatic and they refused to stay home. That forced a court order to be put in place on this individual, which is not what we want to do, but unfortunately, in some cases, must be done.”

Another failure-to-quarantine issue with another person came up last week. The judge said enforcement of public safety matters will be addressed with whatever means necessary.

“As long as we all help do our part to remain safe and virus free we can get past this but when there are bad actors we will deal with them accordingly,” he explained.

THROW BACK THURSDAY

OUR MEMORIES GO BACK TO 1879

50 YEARS AGO

June 4, 1970

■ Lorenza Davis, principal at Crittenden County High School, delivered the commencement address at the 1970 graduation ceremonies. Charles Aldridge, Vice-Chairman of the Crittenden County Board of Education, presented diplomas. Miss Lana Aldridge, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Aldridge, played the precessional and the recessional for the ceremony.

■ Mrs. Freida Crider Kinin, who was a sociology major, was selected as the Valedictorian of the 1970 graduating class at Kentucky Wesleyan College.

■ Crittenden County High School Senior Linda Lou Hunt of Marion was selected as a recipient of a \$150 Board of Regents Scholarship from Murray State University.

25 YEARS AGO

June 8, 1995

■ Crittenden County Extension Homemakers held its 47th annual meeting at the Marion Woman's Club building. Morning Glories received the outstanding club award for points earned on their scorecard and club project.

■ Representatives of the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet worked towards granting Marion residents

their wish of a U.S. 60 bypass alternative. Over 200 concerned citizens raised their questions and concerns to engineers during a public meeting.

• Kelly Garrison, member and team captain of the 1988 U.S. Olympics gymnastics team, hosted a clinic at the Marion Gymnastics, Dance and Fitness Center.

10 YEARS AGO

June 3, 2010

■ Crittenden County Chamber of Commerce presented a variety of community service awards during its annual dinner meeting at Fohs Hall. Those who received special recognition were Donnie Herron of Liberty Fuels, Customer Service Award; The Peoples Bank, Community Pride; Helen Lewis, Volunteer of the Year; Brenda Underdown, Unsung Hero; and Joe Yarbrough, Person of the Year.

■ Memorial Day activities were held throughout Crittenden and Livingston counties. American Legions and other civic groups hosted the events to honor America's military casualties from all wars and conflicts.

■ Ryan Guess of Marion was awarded an \$8,000 tuition scholarship to attend Nashville Auto-Diesel College. Guess was a 2010 graduate of Crittenden County High School.

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125 E. Bellville St. | P.O. Box 191 | Marion, KY 42064
270.965.3191 | www.the-press.com
thepress@the-press.com
Chris Evans, editor & publisher
Allison Evans, advertising director
Alaina Barnes, creative design

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YOUTH SPORTS

Masks optional on field as action returns June 15

Teams will be chosen in the coming days and practices will begin June 15 for teams participating in the Crittenden County Dugout Club’s summer little league baseball and softball programs. Kickball will start a bit later. Games will begin in July. The state has issued a number of guidelines for having youth outdoor sports this summer. Masks will optional for players on the field. More information about social distancing protocol will be made available as seasons get underway next month.

GOLF

Couples tourney

Marion Golf and Pool will host its annual couples Buck and Doe Golf Tournament on June 13-14. Cost is \$150 per team. To enter or get more information, call 270-704-0600.

OUTDOORS

Hunting Seasons

Bull Frog	May 15 - Oct. 31
Spring Squirrel	May 16 - June 19
Coyote	Year Round
Groundhog	Year Round
Turtles	Year Round



FOOTBALL

CC falls in helmet final

Crittenden County finished runnerup to Phelps in a statewide High School Helmet Contest on Twitter, which finished last weekend. Crittenden advanced in five rounds winning in online voting against over Martin County, East Carter, Belfry, Pikeville and Shelby Valley before falling in the state finals. Phelps advanced to the national championship bracket. There were 64 teams in the Kentucky bracket. Crittenden entered its chrome helmet in the contest.

Rockets land island invite

Three Crittenden County football players have been invited to play in the Hawaii Tiki Bowl Dec. 30 through Jan. 4 in Honolulu. Players from across the country are invited to spend six days at the event. Seniors Xander Tabor, Tyler Boone and Caden McCalister have each been invited. All three have also been offered collegiate football opportunities following graduation.



SPORTS RADIO

KSR disappoints

Several local residents who listened in on Kentucky Sports Radio’s Crittenden County segment last Friday were sorely disappointed. Andy Hunt, a local sports historian, provided a great deal of information to the station and it was scarcely used. The late George Hart’s son, Rob, who lives in Seoul, South Korea, was also credited with providing some information, but hardly any of it was used. Hunt and another local listener, Gina Brown, said the show’s hosts were more interested in talking about an unused bridge on the new U.S. 641 at the county line near Fredonia, calling it the “bridge to nowhere.” The bridge was originally built when the highway was first designed as a four-lane. Later, the plans changed and was completed as a two-lane highway. Hunt, who calls himself a 15-year fan of KSR, said he put in about 20 hours doing research for items to submit to the show.

High School Sports has Something to Cheer About

Coaches encouraged by KHSAA killing dead period

STAFF REPORT

Much to the surprise of local coaches, the Kentucky High School Athletic Association (KHSAA) late last week announced the loosening of restrictions that had stopped scholastic sports in its tracks in mid March.

In a Zoom virtual meeting of the KHSAA Board of Control that attracted over 2,000 viewers across the state, the KHSAA approved a measure that effectively ends what it called a “dead period” due to COVID-19. Although workouts must be voluntary, they may begin June 15. The KHSAA said its decision to lift the dead period came after Gov. Andy Beshear’s recent guidelines for reopening the state called for youth sports to begin in mid June. KHSAA Commissioner Julian Tackett said recent dialogue with the governor’s office made it clear that high school student-athletes are considered part of youth sports. Previously, he said KHSAA officials had interpreted youth sports to mean activities for younger children.

The state’s athletic association has now given the green light for coaches to begin in-person meetings with players, in small groups of 10 or fewer, and to begin formulating plans to return to practices in some sports one week from Monday. The KHSAA said it is important for coaches and players to be reunited, pointing out that athletics is a key part of life for many students across Kentucky and that the psychological and physical toll of not being able to interact with coaches or work out on school campuses was too great to continue. Starting back slowly, however, is important, KHSAA officials stressed. That’s why there are to be no workouts, only meetings with players from June 1-14. And, there should be no mandatory workouts for now, members of the Board of Control said.

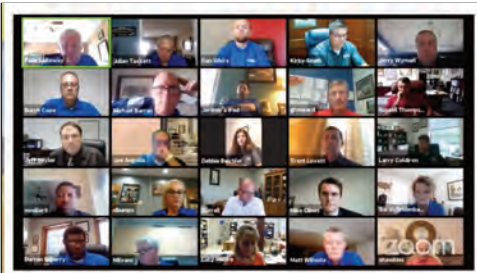
Based on state guidelines, practices of 10 or fewer people may not begin until June 15 in low-touch sports. Sports deemed as high-touch activities such as



McDonald



Thompson



The KHSAA Board of Control met last week via Zoom and decided to end the dead period, allowing student-athletes to get back to work on school campuses.

volleyball, football and soccer will be allowed to hold workouts and exercises starting June 15, but may not practice until June 29. Basketball also is considered a high-touch sport. Crittenden County head boys’ basketball coach Denis Hodge said that while his players will get back to work in the gym as soon as allowable in small groups, he isn’t ready to commit to typical summertime travel events such as camps and competition, particularly out of state.

Lady Rocket volleyball coach Bayley McDonald said the news from the KHSAA last week was a “great sign” and relieved a good bit of anxiety among players, particularly seniors, were having as they worried about the pandemic and its lingering effects on their lives.

“I really didn’t think we would see the girls until after July 9,” McDonald said, pointing to the end of what was to be the traditional dead period.

Most coaches believed workouts of any sort would continue to be prohibited through at least July 10.



Tune in to our weekly CrittendenPress NewsTalk

This week’s broadcast features coaches Sean Thompson and Bayley McDonald. Find the show on Facebook, The-Press.com and YouTube.

UK signee Jackson finds rhythm as HS senior

His junior season he played with Spire Academy in Ohio, a team that featured guard LaMelo Ball and Rocket Watts. That left Isaiah Jackson to fill a non-starting role while Ball, who played overseas last year and should be a top five pick in the NBA draft, and Watts, who averaged 9.0 points per game at Michigan State last season, were the team’s starters.

For his senior season, the 6-9 Jackson transferred to Waterford Mott High School in Michigan and became his team’s star. He averaged 19.7 points, 13 rebounds, 7.7 blocks, 3.3 assists and 2.1 steals per game.

“As the season went on, he got more acclimated and comfortable in his situation with us,” said Waterford Mott coach David McGlown. “He started hanging with the guys more. His game got better and better.”

“He was putting in work on his own away from practice. His whole game just kept improving. His jump shot improved. His court awareness got better. On the court, his work ethic was through the roof.”

He also handled being the center of attention, especially after signing with the University of Kentucky and coach John Calipari in November.

“He handled it with grace. I told him it would be really different. He had played with Ball and Rocket. He never had to worry about being the only star guy on the team,” McGlown said. “I told him he would have to take the bull by the horns with us because he would be a marked man.”

“Every game you could see him get more

comfortable with that. By the end of the season, he was just taking off. It really hurt that our season got cut short (by COVID-19) because I feel like we had a great chance to win the state championship and he was going to be the guy to get that done for us.”

McGlown says Jackson has worked out a lot with his cousin, a trainer, after the high school season was halted but has not been able to get inside a gym very often even though that should change soon when he gets to report to UK.

“Isaiah has not been able to do a lot with the basketball, just a little stuff outside. But he’s staying in great shape,” his coach said

McGlown had Jackson concentrate on his “all-around game” all season to get ready for Kentucky.

“I knew he could dominate here doing the same things he always has. My challenge to him was to shoot four or five 3’s a game to expand his offensive game and let people know he was not just a post-you-up, defensive player,” McGlown said. “I think he proved what he could do and let people know he is not just a back to the basketball offensive player and defensive rim guy. He’s got some offensive skills, too.”

Jackson has enough that Rivals.com writer Dan McDonald, program director at Lake Point Hoops, thinks he is the most underrated post player in the 2020 recruiting class.

“I honestly wouldn’t be too surprised if he ends up being the best post player in the class when all is said and



Larry Vaught
UK Sports Columnist
Vaught's Views

done,” McDonald said. “He’s not somebody I’ve seen a ton of, but I’ve really liked him the few times I have watched him. He’s long and athletic and plays super hard. He has good hands and finishes well. He’s productive.”

“I think those are all traits that will help him get on the floor early for Kentucky and make an impact. He does need to get better offensively as far as adding more polish to his post-up game and just overall skill.”

McGlown believes his star’s future ceiling is extremely high, too.

“If he gets confident in his outside game to go with what he already has he will be a NBA player in two years,” McGlown said before the season started. “I don’t mean a guy going in the second round, either. I mean a top 15 pick.

And now? “I still feel the same way, maybe even more,” McGlown said. “As I got to see him more and he showed flashes of things he could do, I knew for sure this guy will be a pro and a good one as long as he keeps that work ethic he has now. He will get plenty of extra work with Kentucky and I truly believe the sky is the limit for him.”

Yet Jackson is only ranked from 26th to 32nd by the top national recruiting services, a ranking that McGlown does not understand.

“I just feel like whoever does that ranking has not really watched him that much,” McGlown said. “He has played well and apparently some others have not seen the different things from him that I have seen. They have not seen the way he can hit a jump shot or his drop step or just the way he can dunk. I saw

his progress this season and I am more in awe of him now that I have been around him.”

If Wake Forest transfer Olivier Sarr is not ruled eligible by the NCAA, Jackson could be UK’s only real option at center — a role McGlown says he will fill if needed.

“He can play inside with no problems if needed,” McGlown said. “He’s not thick but he’s not soft or timid when he gets the ball down low. He plays stronger and bigger than what he is. He will put on more strength and weight when he gets there and he can easily do that. He’s also like a deer when it comes to running up and down the court. He has an unusual set of skills already.”

How good could first baseman Mallory Peyton and shortstop Lauren Johnson, both seniors, be for Kentucky softball in 2021?

Peyton hit .379 last season in 24 starts before the season was halted by COVID-19. She had a team-high 11 home runs (second best in the nation), drove in 35 runs and scored 24 runs. Johnson hit .323 in 24 starts, drove in 17 runs, scored 16 runs and walked 13 times.

“What is so impressive about them is that they are in-state girls (Johnson from Owensboro, Peyton from Madisonville). They are both so athletic,” said senior pitcher Autumn Humes. “I expect great leadership from both of them (next year) that we have not seen in the past.”

“We’ve had some calls with upperclassmen and leadership council about how to implement accountability and they are all over it. I can see they are both

on top of their games working out. They have a great mindset going into next season already. Both of them are extraordinary players.”

They will be counted on even more offensively to help offset the loss of Alex Martens, the team leader in runs batted-in the last two years.

“I believe if they do what it takes in the off-season, and I know they will, then I truly believe they will take up the slack from losing Alex,” Humes said.

Speed is the one thing that jumps out at everyone about 2021 Kentucky commit Dekel Crowdus of Frederick Douglas High School.

But just how fast is he?

“He is fast. That’s all I know. Nobody catches him,” said Frederick Douglas offensive lineman Jager Burton, the state’s top rated recruit in the 2021 class. “I think he ran a 4.3 (40-yard dash) at Ohio State.

“I just know he is pretty fast and is really working on his route running now and that is only going to make him better.”

Burton says Crowdus is one of the hardest workers he’s been around and just knows how to make plays because he understands the game so well.

“I think another big thing about Dekel is his ability in space. He is not just a run straight guy. He can stick his foot in the ground and turn up field really fast,” Burton said.

“I have been running right behind him blocking for him and he jukes me out. He is like a receiver’s dream. He is really, really good and is just going to get better.”

KHSAA Sports Designations

Low-Touch, Outdoor Sports — Track and field, biking, tennis, golf, mini-golf, horseback riding, and cross-country, and baseball/softball/teeball.

Low-Touch, Indoor Sports — Gymnastics, swimming, diving, bowling, solo-dance/solo-ballet, tap-dance, and archery.

■ All low-touch youth sports may resume practices June 15. Practices must be held in small groups of only 10 youths with one adult coach per group.

■ The following high-touch sports are limited to physical fitness training in groups of 10 or fewer starting on June 15.

High-Touch, Outdoor Sports — Football, soccer, lacrosse, flag football and field hockey.

High-Touch, Indoor Sports — Karate/martial arts, basketball, cheerleading, tandem or team dance, ice hockey, volleyball, fencing and wrestling.



We are changed

It would be foolish to compare today with the devastation wrought by the plague of the 14th century, what today we call the “black death.” Most of the destruction happened within a few years, but it recurred for at least another five decades after that. It took England 150 years to regain its population. The devastation in the work force changed the economy forever. The work force, for a time, gained the upper hand as landowners began to compete for labor to keep their land tilled.

The reasoned arguments of the church began to sound hollow as people continued to die. Hence, the church began to lose some of its power. It was, historically speaking, a short time before the Reformation swept across Europe. The plague, I believe, was a contributing factor.

There are other historical events that changed society and religion drastically, most notable for us are the world wars of the 20th century. The first world war was a death knell for colonialism and empire (of which we are still dealing with the consequences). The second world war was a massive blow to Christianity and science.

What is more usual are events that change us little by little. Some are more a reflection of changes that have already happened. These are seen in our national elections and passage of federal legislation or rulings from our courts. Some are events that catch us by surprise. We know things are going to happen – we just do not know what they are, when they will happen, or from where they will come. They all change us a little and we walk into

the future knowing that we will have to explain to younger generations the way things used to be. I remember walking freely around airports. I even carried on a ceremonial sword on an international flight back in the day.

We have seen how rapidly the structure of church gathering has changed in the last couple of months. We have also witnessed church gatherings, or lack thereof, being one of the lightning rods politically. The response from religious people has ranged from everyone stay home and wear a mask to heading to the courts to protests to almost literally storming a capital building. Many are following the advice of the CDC, or governor, or president, or my pastor, or my favorite doctor, or someone on YouTube. We are changed.

People all over the world are freightening new behaviors with moral judgment. Human beings are good at that sort of thing. I never thought going to the beach would be a moral issue for the reasons it is today. I would never have thought that I needed permission from the government to go to work or be deemed “not essential.” That very language coming from a government source is a little frightening regardless of the cause or intent. We are changed.

We are changed in ways that we do not yet understand and there is more to come. The “shut-down” was the easy part. The next year will be harder because we do not know what we have done to ourselves.

Religiously, the Black Plague led to a massive upswelling of mysticism. These were the years of Dante, Chaucer, Julian of Norwich, and Catherine

of Sienna. Reading the authors is to move in an entirely different thought-world (years and culture aside). Another well-known mystical work is The Cloud of Unknowing. As it is with mystical literature there is an emphasis on knowledge of the heart over reason (knowledge of the head). It is what happens to us when we simply cannot make sense out of our environment. When reason fails, we do not abandon it, but we do move toward other ways of knowing and reacting.

The language is archaic, but here is a passage concerning grace and truth that are worth contemplating today. Here is a slightly edited version, “And yet He gives not this grace, nor works not this work, in any soul that is unable thereto. And yet, there is no soul without this grace, able to have this grace: none, whether it be a sinner’s soul or an innocent soul. For neither it is given for innocence, nor withheld for sin. Take good heed, that I say withheld, and not withdrawn. Beware of error here, I pray thee; for ever, the nearer men touch the truth, more wary men need to be of error. I mean but well: if thou canst not conceive it, lay it by thy side till God come and teach thee. Do then so, and hurt thee not.”

The author’s statement on grace is quite remarkable given when it was written. His statement on truth is powerful. I believe that both these thoughts are worth carrying around as we navigate this odd world we now inhabit. The first is that all are capable of receiving and granting grace – we just need to do it. The second, if one cannot grasp a truth, let it sit for a while before speaking or acting.

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



Sean NIESTRATH Faith-based columnist Guest Columnist

Church Events & News

■ There will be a singing in Fredonia featuring The Gospelaire from Huntington, Tn. starting at 1 p.m., Saturday, June 13 at the Lions Club building on Shelby Street. Food will be served. Everyone is welcome.

■ Homecoming featuring Bro. Steve Stone and the Stone family will start around 1 p.m., Sunday, June 14 at Maranatha Baptist Church, 1442 Cedar Grove, Salem, Ky. Everyone is welcome.

■ Fredonia Unity Baptist Church’s clothes closet is

open from 9 a.m. to noon on the second and fourth Saturday of every month.

■ First Baptist Church of Fredonia food pantry is open from 1 to 3 p.m. the third Thursday of each month in Coleman Hall of the church.

■ The clothes closet at Mexico Baptist Church is open from 9 to 11:30 a.m. each Monday.

■ The clothes closet of First Baptist Church of Fredonia is open from 1 to 3 p.m. every Thursday. It is located at the back of

the church’s Family Life Center

■ 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.

Does Your Congregation Have Something Planned?

Let us know. We post church notes here at no charge.

Email to thepress@the-press.com or call (270) 965-3191.

God comforts amidst broken relationships

Question: I have been in a relationship with a young man for three years. I love him and thought we would marry in the near future. Now, he tells me, “I don’t want to see you anymore.” I’m devastated! Where do I find comfort when my heart is broken?

Answer: When we are broken-hearted, we want a parent or close friend to stand with us. The presence of a person who loves and cares about us makes all the difference.

Hopefully you have a person like that whom you can rely on. But, if you do and even if you don’t, you can



always depend on God for comfort and help. The Apostle Paul reminded the Corinthians, “Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort” (2 Cor. 1:3, 4).

We typically view comfort as relief from pain. We want God to comfort us by removing our pain and restoring our broken relationship. However, God has never promised

to fix everything in our lives. But, He has promised to walk beside us.

We hope God removes the pain we experience but even if He does not, we can still experience comfort. We experience comfort because we know He is with us.

If you don’t know the Great Comforter (Jn. 14:16, 16), urge you to experience Him in your life by turning from sin (repenting) and by inviting Jesus Christ to come into your heart as your Savior and Lord. When He is in your heart, you are never alone..

Send your questions to: bob@bobhardison.com

Belt Auction & Realty

MARION / CRITTENDEN COUNTY

MIDWAY MINI FARM...This property has approx. 10.6 acres w/3 stocked ponds, a large barn w/stables. Home was constructed 2018 w/4 BR,3 BA, large living room, den, study/nursery. Gorgeous Kitchen & den over looking the farm. Master Bedroom has large private bathroom w/garden tub & full walk in Closet. Farm consist of fenced areas for horses, livestock. **QUIET LIVING**...3 BR, 2 BA home in Crittenden Co. on 1.64 acres. Includes all appliances, central heat/air. **SOLD**

CRAYNE RANCH HOME...Open Floor plan in this ranch conveniently located just south of Marion, in Crayne KY. Home has stainless appliances including a gas stove. Large master BR w/master bath & walk in closet. Large 24 foot above ground pool, single car attached garage, and detached carport. Storage shed in the back yard with plenty of play room for the children. **GREAT STARTER HOME**...This home recently remodeled in past 6 years, close to middle and high school

and downtown court square. Convenient access to major roads to Paducah, Eddyville, Princeton and Henderson.

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WORSHIP

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

Visit one of our area churches for worship and fellowship

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

Marion Baptist Church
College & Depot streets, Marion • (270) 965-5232
Pastor: Bro. Aaron Brown • Children's & Youth Pastor: Bro. Shawn Holsman

SUNDAY CHURCH TIMES:
8:30 a.m. Coffee Juice Fellowship • 8:45 a.m. Sunday School • 10 a.m. Morning Worship
6 p.m. Youth Bible Study • 6 p.m. Evening Worship

WEDNESDAY CHURCH TIMES: 6 p.m. Prayer/Devotional Service • 6:45 p.m. Adult Choir Practice

Freedom General Baptist Church Pastor: Ross Abwell

87 Freedom Church Rd., Marion (about 1 mi. from Marion off Ky. 91)

CHURCH TIMES:
Sunday School 10 a.m. Sunday Evening 6 p.m.
Sunday Worship 11 a.m. Wed. Bible Study 6 p.m.

Pastor Junior Martin

PINEY FORK

CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday School 10 a.m. Worship 11 a.m. Bible study 6 p.m.

A new beginning, going forward and looking to the future Ky. 506 | Marion, Ky.

St. William Catholic Church

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

Father John Okoro

SEVEN SPRINGS MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

219 Seven Springs Rd., Marion, Ky. 42064

Sun. School for all ages: 10 a.m.
Sun. Worship: 11 a.m., 6 p.m. • Wed.: 7 p.m.
Bro. Austin Weist, pastor

- We are an Independent Baptist Church seeking to know Christ, and to make Him known to the community around us -

Sugar Grove

cumberland presbyterian

585 Sugar Grove Church Rd., Marion, Ky. (270) 704-2455

Sun. School: 10 a.m. | Sun. Worship: 11 a.m. & 6 p.m.
Wed. Bible Study: 7 p.m.

Mexico Baptist Church

Minister of Youth Robert Kirby | Minister of Music Mike Crabtree
Pastor: **Tim Burdon**

Sunday Worship Services: 10 a.m., 7 p.m.
Sunday Bible Study: 9 a.m.
Sunday Discipleship Trainings: 6 p.m.
Wednesday Worship Service: 7 p.m.

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

Crayne Community Church

Crayne Cemetery Road, Crayne, Ky.
Bro. James Driver, Interim Pastor
Sunday School 10 a.m.
Sunday Worship 11 a.m.

Marion United Methodist Church

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

Bro. David COMBS

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

South College St.

DEER CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor: Bro. Chris Cummins "Whatever It Takes"

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

FIRST CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

Frances Community Church

Bro. Butch Gray

Wed. night prayer meeting & youth service: 6:30 p.m.
Sunday school: 10 a.m.
Worship service: 11 a.m.

Emmanuel Baptist Church

108 Hillcrest Dr., Marion | (270) 965-4623

Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship: 10:45 a.m., 6 p.m.
Wednesday Adult Bible Study, Children and Youth Activities: 6 p.m.

Captured by a vision...

Crooked Creek 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

Hurricane Church

Hurricane Church Rd. off Ky. 135 West

Sun. School, 10 a.m. • Worship, 11 a.m.
Sun. Evening services, 6 p.m.
Wed. Evening services, 7 p.m.

Tolu United Methodist Church

Bro. Alex Kirby, Pastor We invite you to be our guest

Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.

The People of The United Methodist Church
Sunday School 10 a.m. • Service 11 a.m.
Wednesday Night Youth 6:30 p.m.

growing in grace 2 Peter 3:18

PLEASANT GROVE General Baptist Church

Pastor Tracie Gaudin

Located on Ky. 723, 4 miles north of Salem
Sunday School 10 a.m. | Sunday Worship 11 a.m., 6 p.m. | Wed. 7 p.m.

Unity General Baptist Church

4691 U.S. 641 • Crayne, Ky.

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.

Barnett Chapel General Baptist

Sunday School: 9:45 a.m. Barnett Chapel Rd., Marion, Ky.
Sunday Worship: 11 a.m.
Wednesday Night Bible Study: 6 p.m.
Barnett Chapel...where everyone is welcome.

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." Lucy Tedrick, pastor

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.

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Open weekdays
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Advertising deadline
is 5 p.m., Monday

Prepaid ads of 20 words or less are \$6 for one week, with a 10-cent charge for each word over the initial 20. Run the same ad for consecutive issues for only \$4 each week. Now, all regular classified ads are placed on our Web site, www.the-press.com, at no extra charge. You can also reach more than one million readers with one call! Contact the classified department for more information about placing a 25-word classified in 70 newspapers for only \$250. It is the policy of The Crittenden Press Inc., to fully comply with the Fair Housing Act and to never knowingly publish advertisements that discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, disability or family status. If you believe an advertisement published in this newspaper is discriminatory, please contact the publisher immediately at (270) 965-3191. All phone numbers listed for ads on this page are within the 270 area code unless otherwise noted.

yard sales

YARD SALE 9 a.m.-?, Fri., June 5 and Sat., June 6 - Arlene Street off Chapel Hill Rd., Marion with misc. Items, books, sheets, curtains, flower pots and a lot more. Good prices. (1t-49-p)

YARD SALE Thurs., June 4, Fri., June 5, and Sat., June 6 from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. out Ky. 506 to 198 Country View Drive. Girls clothes 5-7 & 8, boys clothes 3T, 4T, 5-14. Toys, books, sheets, queen and full. Comforters full & queen, curtains. We moved. Jeanne Kirk. (1t-49-p)

pets

Use Happy Jack Skin Balm to treat hot spots and allergies on dogs and cats and relieve irritation without steroids. Akridge Farm Supply (270) 545-3332 (www.kennelvax.com). (3t-50-p)

real estate

Two bedroom brick home for sale near Mott City in Crittenden County. New windows, metal roof, carport. Asking \$42,000. Call (270) 704-0447. (49-tfc)

for rent

3 BR, 2 bath, central heat/air, stove and fridge, yard maintenance and trash pickup \$470/month. Deposit and references required. (270) 704-3234. (49-TFC-c)

agriculture

RETIRED POLICE OFFICER living in Eddyville, Ky., looking for hunting rights. Willing to share game. Also hunt nuisance animals in season. CALL (270) 388-4992. (8t-53-p)

employment

The Earle C. Clements Job Corps Academy is seeking employees. We offer a competitive salary, benefits package and advancement opportunities. Full-time, part-time, and substitute positions available. MTC is an equal opportunity employer-Minority/Female/Disabled/Veteran. To view current openings and qualifications and to apply, please visit our website: www.mtcjobs.com "Building Tomorrow's Futures Today." (4t-52-p)

services

VALLEY VIEW Windows, Custom Built Vinyl Windows, we install for new

construction and replacements. Aquila A. Yoder, Jr., 1240 Valley View Rd., Marion, KY 42064. (52t-28-p)

CONCRETE WORK: Parking lots, garages, steel buildings, walls, sidewalks, driveways, room additions. Call for quote (270) 724-4672, Joe Mattingly Concrete Construction. (24t-52-p)

wanted

Wanted: used lift chair. (270) 965-3019. (2t-49-c) ks

notices

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legal notices

Notice is hereby given that on May 27, 2020 Zac Greenwell of P.O. Box 341, Marion, Ky. 42064 was appointed executor of William S. Greenwell, deceased, whose address was 405 Cherry Street, Marion, Ky. 42064. Robert B. Frazer, attorney.

All persons having claims against said estate are hereby notified to present the same properly proven as required by law to the executor before the 27th day of November, 2020 and all claims not so proven and presented by that date shall be forever barred.

All persons indebted to the estate of the above-named decedent, will please call and settle debts immediately. Crittenden District Court Melissa Guill, Clerk (1t-49-c)

Notice is hereby given that on May 27, 2020 Joe E. Hunt of 824 Shelby Rd., Salem, Ky. 42078 and Janna L. Croft of

2668 State Route 723 N., Marion, Ky. 42064 was appointed executor with will annexed of Robert Wayne Hunt, deceased, whose address was 812 E. Depot St., Marion, KY. 42064. Darron L. Brawnner, 1302 Fredonia St., Owensboro, Ky. 42301, attorney.

All persons having claims against said estate are hereby notified to present the same properly proven as required by law to the executors with will annexed on or before the 27th day of November, 2020 and all claims not so proven and presented by that date shall be forever barred.

All persons indebted to the estate of the above-named decedent will please call and settle said debts immediately. Crittenden District Court Melissa Guill, Clerk (1t-49-c)

bid notice

The Crittenden County Fiscal Court is accepting sealed bids for survey, design, and engineering plans for a courtesy floating dock system to be located at Riverview Park in Crittenden County. Details may be requested by contacting the County Judge Executive's office at 270-965-5251 M-F 8:00 to 4:30. All bids must be submitted to the county Judge Executive's office by 8:30 a.m. CST June 18, 2020, at which time bids will be opened at the regular meeting of the Fiscal Court. Please indicate the item being bid on the outside of the envelope. The County reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids in accordance with KRS 45-A. (1t-49-c)

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Physicians– Current opportunities exist for a BC/BE Nephrologists. This opening is located in beautiful Bowling Green, KY. We offer an excellent salary and full benefit package. All viable candidates are encouraged to apply, especially 2021 graduates. Interested candidates should email their CVs to: juliei@bell-south.net

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Tuesday,
June 9, 2020
Kenergy
Owensboro
Operation Center
3051 Fairview Drive
Owensboro, KY
42303
Member registration at 10:30 a.m.
Business meeting at 11:00 a.m.
For more information go to
www.kenergycorp.com
or call
800.844.4832

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PECAN SALE HELPS LADIES AUXILIARY

Due to safety concerns over COVID-19 the Crittenden Hospital Ladies Auxiliary has not been available to greet those entering the facility. However, the group continues to prepare for its return and is currently conducting its pecan sale fundraiser. Pecan halves are now on sale for \$11.50 per pound and pecan pieces for \$10.50 per pound. Contact Sandy Gilbert at 270-965-4174 or any hospital auxiliary volunteer.

AIRPORT GETS UPGRADING

There are four upgrade projects either ongoing or getting ready to begin at Marion-Crittenden County Airport. The runway extension work is almost complete, making the landing strip 5,000 feet long. Construction on a new hangar and apron should begin soon along with new approach lights and trimming back some trees near the airport. The local airport has received almost \$10 million in federal and state funds since 1993 to turn the once grass airstrip into a modern airport capable of handling corporate jets. The fueling station has just been upgraded so that it can accept credit cards with electronic chips. Jim Johnson, airport board chairman, told county leaders during a recent fiscal court meeting that another \$3.2 million in grant funding is very likely to be approved in the near future to build a full-length taxiway. During the pandemic, Johnson said corporate traffic at the airport had been down, but local pilots had been using it more.

ONE NAY VOTE ON CITY BUDGET

Marion City Council met briefly last Thursday and gave final approval to its approximately \$8 million FY21 budget. Every council member voted for the spending plan, except Donnie Arflack, who opposed it. Arflack has advocated for a raise for Marion firemen which would amount to about \$200 a year per firefighter. He said their pay was decreased several years ago and wanted it restored. The city budget is dominated by about \$5 million in anticipated expenses to build a new sewer plant, which must be completed in 2021 or the city could face state sanctions.

SCHOOL DISTRICT POSTS SURVEY

The start of school in the fall will likely look different than ever before. Crittenden County School District says it continues to receive guidance from the governor's office and the Kentucky Department of Education, but it also values input from the community. The district has made available online a very short anonymous survey about possible scenarios for the 2020-2021 school year. Your responses will help the school district plan for the new school year.



“We realize that your answers are likely to change as the summer evolves, so we will be sending out another survey in July,” the district said in an announcement about the survey. “This early survey will help us develop tentative plans, however, so we would appreciate your feedback. As always, our students' health and safety remain our top priorities, and we thank you for partnering with us to achieve those goals.” The survey link can be found at The Press Online.

DRIVER TESTING

Kentucky State Police Driver Testing Branch announced Tuesday that it has resumed permit testing in select counties where the required CDC/Healthy at Work guidelines can be adhered to. While Crittenden County is not among the sites where license testing is available, nearby Lyon and Livingston will be restarting. “In an effort to ensure the safety of permit applicants and staff, we have implemented a registration process where everyone will be required to schedule a specific date for their permit test,” the KSP said. For a listing of counties currently offering permit testing and the contact information, use this URL <http://kentucky-statapolice.org/drivers-testing/> or find the link at The Press Online. At the website you will find a list of current open test locations and the phone number for the KSP Drivers Test Administrator or clerk at each location. KSP asks for patience as phone lines are limited and it anticipates high call volumes.

I-24 repair work will create traffic disruptions through November 30

Construction work on I-24 in Lyon, Caldwell and Trigg counties will continue through November and will include traffic restrictions. A contractor for the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet on Tuesday formed an eastbound traffic shift along the I-24 work zone between the 52 and 69 mile markers. Eastbound motorists on I-24 should now be prepared to encounter a traffic shift in Trigg County near the 52 mile marker. The shift establishes two-way traffic along the westbound lanes. Westbound traffic is already restricted to one lane in this extended work zone with a median

barrier wall through portions of Trigg, Caldwell, and Lyon counties. Eastbound motorists should be alert for slowing and merging traffic between the Ky. 139 exit and Cadiz-Hopkinsville exit. Due to the median barrier wall, this eastbound traffic shift creates a 12-foot maximum load width restriction for eastbound trucks. Westbound traffic has a 15-foot load width restriction in this work zone. There will be marked exit points for loads that exceed these width restrictions. Once this eastbound traffic shift is completed, the work zone configuration is expected to re-

main in place until sometime around Labor Day. Establishing two-way traffic on the westbound lanes will allow the contractor to reconstruct concrete pavement in Caldwell and Trigg counties. Ramp crossovers have been constructed for the Ky. 139 Cadiz-Princeton exit interchange. In addition to the 17-mile section of two-way traffic in Caldwell and Trigg counties, the work zone includes an additional section of one-lane traffic that extends to a point south the Cadiz-Hopkinsville exit. This work zone includes a 55 mph speed limit with an enhanced

enforcement presence. More than 22,000 vehicles travel this section of Interstate 24 in an average day. Hall Contracting of Kentucky is the prime contractor on this \$28 million highway improvement project. The project includes major rehabilitation work along the eastbound lanes of I-24, including spot concrete repairs and bridge work. Once reconstruction of the eastbound driving surface is complete sometime around Labor Day, additional concrete pavement repairs are planned along westbound lanes. The target completion date for all work is Nov. 30.

Voting starts Friday, 7 file for city council

STAFF REPORT Machine voting in the June primary election may begin on Friday during normal business hours at the Crittenden County Courthouse. Due to COVID-19, Kentucky's May primary election was postponed until June 23. On Election Day, there will be only one voting precinct open in Crittenden County. Generally, there are a dozen precincts scattered around the county, but because of fears of spreading the coronavirus, Kentucky has decided to allow absentee balloting for everyone, which it hopes

will cut down the number of people voting on Election Day. Crittenden County Clerk Carolyn Byford said voters should bring a driver's license or some sort of identification to the courthouse if they'd like to machine vote between now and June 23. A voting area has been set up in the clerk's office. While voting gets underway for the primary, a filing deadline passed on Tuesday for the fall election. School board incumbents Chris Cook, Tim Grau and Bill As-bridge each filed to run in the non-partisan race



Crittenden County Clerk Carolyn Byford displays the iPad scanner where voter rolls are now kept electronically. Behind her is the machine voting area where residents can cast ballots between now and June 23.

during the general election in November. Also, six city council incumbents Dwight Sherer, Mike Byford, Donnie Arflack, D'Anna Browning and Darin

Tabor have filed to seek re-election. A seventh candidate, Casey Winstead, will also be on the ballot. Winstead is a local hairdresser. Six of the seven will be elected.


Smithland bridge restrictions start Tuesday

Kentucky Transportation Cabinet plans a daytime work zone lane and load width restriction on the U.S. 60 Cumberland River Bridge at Smithland starting Tuesday, June 9. This daytime work zone is to allow a detailed inspection of U.S. 60 Cumberland River Bridge. Motorists should be prepared to encounter one-lane traffic with alternating flow controlled by flaggers between approximately 8 a.m., and 4 p.m., each day. Due to the placement of equipment on the bridge deck required to facili-


tate the work, this work zone will include an 8-foot maximum load width. Motorists should use appropriate caution where equipment, flaggers, and inspection personnel are on the bridge in close proximity to traffic flow. The inspection team will use climbers to help speed completion of the inspection process. This work zone lane restriction is expected to be in place during daylight hours through about Friday, June 12. All Kentucky bridges get a de-

tailed inspection every two years with long-span river and lake bridges getting an extra walk-through inspection annually. The U.S. 60 Cumberland River Bridge at Smithland, also known as the Lucy Jefferson Lewis Memorial Bridge and the Smithland Bridge, is at U.S. 60 Livingston County mile point 12.348. The 1,817 ft. through truss structure was opened to traffic in 1931. About 5,100 vehicles cross the bridge in an average day. The bridge is at Cumberland River navigation mile point 2.7.

PURSUANT TO KRS 424.290, “MATTERS REQUIRED TO BE PUBLISHED,” THE FOLLOWING RACES WILL APPEAR ON THE VOTING MACHINES AND PAPER BALLOTS IN THE PRECINCTS LISTED IN CRITTENDEN COUNTY FOR THE PRIMARY ELECTION, MAY 19, 2020.

REPUBLICAN PARTY PRIMARY ELECTION

1st Congressional District
PRESIDENT of the UNITED STATES (Vote for One)
<input type="checkbox"/> Donald J. TRUMP
<input type="checkbox"/> "UNCOMMITTED"
UNITED STATES SENATOR (Vote for One)
<input type="checkbox"/> Nicholas ALSAGER
<input type="checkbox"/> Wendell K. CROW
<input type="checkbox"/> Paul John FRANGEDAKIS
<input type="checkbox"/> Louis GRIDER
<input type="checkbox"/> Naren JAMES
<input type="checkbox"/> Kenneth LOWNDES
<input type="checkbox"/> Mitch McCONNELL
<input type="checkbox"/> C. Wesley MORGAN

ALL PRECINCTS

DEMOCRATIC PARTY PRIMARY ELECTION

1st Congressional District
PRESIDENT of the UNITED STATES (Vote for One)
<input type="checkbox"/> Pete BUTTIGIEG
<input type="checkbox"/> John K. DELANEY
<input type="checkbox"/> Joseph R. BIDEN
<input type="checkbox"/> Tom STEYER
<input type="checkbox"/> Tulsi GABBARD
<input type="checkbox"/> Michael BENNET
<input type="checkbox"/> Michael R. BLOOMBERG
<input type="checkbox"/> Amy KLOBUCHAR
<input type="checkbox"/> Bernie SANDERS
<input type="checkbox"/> Deval PATRICK
<input type="checkbox"/> Andrew YANG
<input type="checkbox"/> Elizabeth WARREN
<input type="checkbox"/> "UNCOMMITTED"

UNITED STATES SENATOR (Vote for One)
<input type="checkbox"/> Jimmy C. AUSBROOKS
<input type="checkbox"/> Charles BOOKER
<input type="checkbox"/> Mike BROIHIER
<input type="checkbox"/> Maggie Jo HILLIARD
<input type="checkbox"/> Andrew J. MAYNARD
<input type="checkbox"/> Amy McGRATH
<input type="checkbox"/> Eric ROTHMULLER
<input type="checkbox"/> John R. SHARPENSTEEN
<input type="checkbox"/> Bennie J. SMITH
<input type="checkbox"/> Mary Ann TOBIN

ALL PRECINCTS

NONPARTISAN JUDICIAL BALLOT
JUDGE of the COURT of APPEALS 1st Appellate District 1st Division (Unexpired Term) (Vote for One)
<input type="checkbox"/> Chris McNEILL
<input type="checkbox"/> Jenny HINES
<input type="checkbox"/> C. Rene' WILLIAMS
<input type="checkbox"/> J. R. "Jason" COLTHARP

ALL PRECINCTS

Crittenden courts back in session with big changes

STAFF REPORT

Circuit Judge Rene Williams says that preparing for a return to the courtroom amid precautions and challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic are quite daunting.

“In my 30 years on the bench, I have never experienced anything that has affected the court system so profoundly,” she said.

The Kentucky Supreme Court late last week provided updates on how court is to be conducted as they go back into session this week. Most courtrooms, including Crittenden County, reopened on Monday, as did the Crittenden County Circuit Clerk's office on a limited basis.

Family Court met Tuesday in Marion for the first time since the pandemic forced them to shut down earlier this spring. Judge Brandi Rogers heard cases in person, remotely over Skype on the internet and some telephonically. District Court was scheduled to resume at the Crittenden County Courthouse on Wednesday with Judge Daniel Heady presiding over probate and some criminal cases in person while arraignments were scheduled to be done via teleconference from the Crittenden County Detention Center.

Circuit Court will resume on Thursday, June 11 with Judge Williams hearing criminal cases, most of which will be done remotely on Zoom. Also most civil matters scheduled for this month will be handled electronically. Any individuals, including dependents, attorneys and court clerks, who will be in the courtroom in person are required to wear a mask, as ordered by the Supreme Court.

Masks must be worn during all civil, judicial and family court proceedings at the Crittenden County Courthouse.

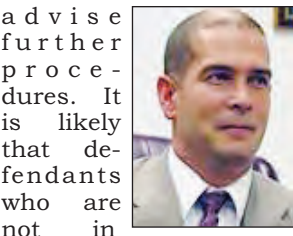
Commonwealth Attorney Zac Greenwell asks for patience and understanding while the court works through its dockets under unprecedented circumstances.

Greenwell said proceedings in Union and Webster counties – which are in the same circuit and were scheduled earlier this week – will allow the court to begin working through challenges it will face under the current guidelines and suggested that by the time circuit court convenes here next week more details may emerge as to the exact details of courtroom protocol. Every courthouse has different challenges, he said.

On Tuesday, the circuit court heard 34 grand jury cases and 43 regular docket cases in Morganfield and another large docket was anticipated for Thursday in Webster County.

In Marion next week, the grand jury will hear at least five cases and another 27 are on the regular docket. Only principal parties will be allowed inside the courtroom for in-person proceedings, which means family members will be prohibited.

Everyone appearing in court in Crittenden County, until further notice, must follow courthouse guidelines by entering and leaving through only the front doors. A bailiff will greet everyone as they enter the courtroom and will



Greenwell

advise further procedures. It is likely that defendants who are not in custody will be required to wait outside the courthouse until the exact time for their appearance. Parties for only the case presently before the judge will be allowed in the courtroom. When they leave, the courtroom will be disinfected and the next party will be escorted into the courtroom. That scenario will be repeated until the docket is completed.

Judge Williams said inmates will not be brought to the courtroom. Instead, their cases will be done via videoconference.

Judge Williams expressed her gratitude for local officials who have been working to meet the challenges of getting

back to court. She said cooperation from Judge-Executive Perry Newcom, Crittenden Fiscal Court, Sheriff Wayne Agent's department, Crittenden County Detention Center and the circuit clerk's office has been very beneficial.

“There are so many more who have continued to provide necessary services during this pandemic including the Marion Police Department, pretrial services, drug court staff, Judge Brandi Rogers, Judge Daniel Heady and attorneys to name a few,” Williams said. “It takes many agencies to operate the judicial system and so many have stepped up to the plate during this trying time. This will definitely be a trial and error period and I am hopeful the community will be patient as we all try our best to make this work.”

Crittenden County Circuit Court Clerk's office will be open to serve a

limited number of issues, including individuals seeking emergency protective orders, interpersonal protective orders and emergency custody orders. There is still no local driver testing planned at this time, but Lyon and Livingston are open for testing by appointment. For updates on driver testing information, Circuit Clerk Melissa Guill encourages residents to regularly check the clerk's Facebook page. The Circuit Court Clerk's office will continue to operate with limited staffing for the time being.

Additionally, when visiting the circuit clerk's office, purses or bags are prohibited inside unless they contain necessary medical supplies. And while masks are optional in parts of the courthouse, no one will be able to enter the circuit clerk's office without a mask. The circuit clerk operates under order of the Ken-



Williams

tucky Administrative Office of the Courts while other common areas and county offices in the courthouse operate under local orders.

Over the last several weeks, the Supreme Court has announced the court system's reopening plan, which provides guidance on how the Judicial Branch will gradually expand court services, including the most recent details as follows:

- Clarifying that remote proceedings should be scheduled through the judge's office.

- Clarifying that individuals who are exhibiting symptoms of COVID, are in quarantine, or have been diagnosed with COVID must be allowed to participate remotely.

- Expanding entrance to court facilities to individuals seeking orders under KRS 222.430 et seq. (Casey's law) and involuntary commitments under KRS Chapter 202A and KRS Chapter 645; individuals attending judicial sales; attorneys or parties to a case who need access to a physical case file and have scheduled an appointment with the local Office of Circuit Court Clerk; and, after June 15, 2020, other individuals who need access to a physical case file and have scheduled an appointment with the local Office of Circuit Court Clerk.

- Encouraging collaboration between clerks and judges to ensure there is sufficient staffing to cover in-person dockets.

- Clarifying that facial coverings are required for attorneys and facial coverings must be worn in any location where court proceedings are held.

Healthy at Work

PHASE 1 REOPENING

MAY 11: OPEN WITH REQUIREMENTS

- Manufacturing, Distribution and Supply Chain Businesses
- Construction
- Vehicle or Vessel Dealerships
- Office-based Businesses (50%)
- Horse Racing (No Fans)
- Pet Care, Grooming & Boarding
- Photography

10 RULES + INDUSTRY-SPECIFIC GUIDANCE

- Telework when possible
- Phased return to work
- Daily temperature / symptom checks
- Universal masks & PPE
- Close common areas (waiting rooms, cafeterias, break rooms, etc.)
- Social distancing
- Limit face-to-face meetings
- Sanitizer / hand wash stations
- Special accommodations
- Testing plan

NOT YET OPEN

May 20: Retail and Houses of Worship

May 25: 10 person social gatherings, barbers, salons, cosmetology businesses and similar services

[HEALTHYATWORK.KY.GOV](https://www.healthyatwork.ky.gov)

Minimum Requirements for All Businesses

1.0 – Effective May 11, 2020

All businesses that are currently closed will remain closed until it is determined it is safe for their sector to begin reopening.

Closed Businesses Reopening. Each business must meet the following minimum requirements before they can reopen. If any business in a sector being reopened cannot comply with the minimum requirements set out below, they must wait to reopen until they are able to do so or until some or all of these restrictions are lifted.

Businesses That Have Remained Open. For those businesses that have been deemed lifesustaining and remained operating, they will be expected to meet the following minimum requirements no later than May 11, 2020.

- 1. Continue telework where possible.** Businesses should operate via phone or Internet to the greatest extent practicable. Employees who are able to perform their job duties via telework (phone or Internet) must continue to telework.
- 2. Phased return to work.** Businesses are encouraged to implement a phased return to work, including generous telework, sick leave, and family leave policies for those employees who are not able to come into work due to illness, taking care of a family member(s), or lack of childcare options.
- 3. Enforce social distancing.** Businesses must ensure that employees who are not able to telework and must be physically present at the office remain a minimum of six (6) feet away from all other employees and customers unless closer interaction is absolutely required to perform their job duties (e.g., health care examinations).
- 4. Limit face-to-face interaction.** Businesses must ensure that employees minimize face-to-face contact with one another and with customers to the greatest extent practicable. Meetings should be conducted via telephone or Internet if possible.
- 5. Universal masks and any other necessary PPE.**

Universal Employee Masks: Businesses must ensure, to the greatest extent practicable, that their employees wear a cloth mask (a surgical or N95 mask is not required). A business need not require an employee to wear a mask when masking would create a serious health or safety hazard to the employee or when the employee is working alone in an enclosed space. Employers shall provide PPE at no cost to employees. A business should offer instruction on proper use of masks and PPE.

CDC guidelines on proper use of PPE can be found at: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/DIYcloth-face-covering-instructions.pdf>.

Encourage Customers to Mask: Businesses should encourage customers to wear masks, which the business may provide. A business may refuse to serve any customer who is not wearing a mask.

Access To Gloves: Businesses must ensure that employees whose job duties include touching items often touched by others (e.g., credit cards/cash, paper, computers) wear gloves that are replaced.
- 6. Adequate Hand Sanitizer and Encouraging Hand Washing.** Businesses must supply adequate hand sanitizer (60% alcohol content or higher) for both employees and customers and ensure that it is made available near high-traffic and high-touch areas (e.g., doors or door handles). Businesses must also encourage routine and consistent hand washing for employees and customers.
- 7. Restrict Common Areas.** Businesses must, to the greatest extent practicable, restrict common areas such as lobbies, waiting rooms, break rooms, smoking areas, lunch rooms, and concession areas to maximize social distancing and reduce congregating.
- 8. Proper sanitation.** Businesses must sanitize frequently touched surfaces and areas a minimum of twice daily (e.g., door knobs, credit card machines, shared computers). When they have identified an employee who has COVID-19 or the associated symptoms, businesses must further ensure that they immediately restrict access to contaminated areas and post signage and adequately clean impacted areas. Any contaminated area should be off-limits to all but essential personnel for a minimum of 24 hours if practicable.
- 9. Conduct daily temperature/health checks.** Businesses must require employees to undergo daily temperature and health checks; these checks may be either self-administered or administered by the business prior to workplace entry. Self-administered temperature and health checks may performed at home. Sick employees should be directed to their health care provider to be tested and then instructed to quarantine at home as soon as any illness is detected. This includes employees that passed a temperature and health check prior to reporting to work but became ill during the course of the day. Guidance on COVID-19 symptoms and how to conduct temperature and health checks is available at [healthyatwork.ky.gov](https://www.healthyatwork.ky.gov).
- 10. Create a testing plan.** Businesses must ensure that any employee with COVID-19 symptoms is tested by a health care provider immediately. Businesses must ensure that employees are trained on how to isolate individuals with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 and how to report possible cases. If an employee tests positive, the business must immediately notify the local public health department and provide the employee's information along with the information of other employees or customers with whom the COVID-19 positive employee came in contact.
- 11. Make special accommodations.** Businesses must, to the greatest extent practicable, make special accommodations for employees and customers at higher risk for severe illness. Individuals in these high-risk categories have been identified by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention – further information is available at: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/faq.html#Higher-Risk>.
- 12. Designate a “Healthy at Work” Officer.** Businesses must ensure that an employee is designated as its Healthy at Work Officer. This individual will be responsible for the business's compliance with this guidance and any other guidance provided. Businesses should allow for employees to identify and communicate potential improvements and/or concerns to the Healthy at Work designated Officer or management.
- 13. Educate and Train Employees.** Businesses must educate and train all individuals, including employees, temporary employees, contractors, vendors, customers, etc., regarding the Healthy at Work protocols. This training must be offered during scheduled work times at no cost to the employee.
- 14. Contact Tracing.** Businesses must ensure that managers and employees participate in contact tracing if an employee tests positive. This includes answering questions from public health officials.

If any business fails to comply with this guidance, they can be reported to KYSAFER at 833-KYSAFER or kysafer.ky.gov. To see more specific guidance for business and industry, visit: [healthyatwork.ky.gov](https://www.healthyatwork.ky.gov)

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STAFF REPORT


April's unemployment in Crittenden County reached its highest level since the Great Recession, but the county remains among Kentucky's least affected by the pandemic.

A jobless rate of 11.8 percent is indeed a record high experience since 12 percent in February 2010 as part of fallout from the Great Recession.

More than doubling over the previous several months, the unemployment rate in Crittenden County was about three points higher than the commonwealth's lowest in April, which was 8.4 percent in Clinton County, according to the

Area Unemployment Monthly Rates

KY Rate 15.4%
US Rate 14.4%



County	Labor Force	Currently Employed	Currently Unemployed	2020 APRIL	2020 MARCH	2019 APRIL
CALDWELL	5,599	4,782	817	14.6%	6.7%	4.5%
CHRISTIAN	25,960	21,389	4,571	17.6%	6.5%	4.9%
CRITTENDEN	3,822	3,372	450	11.8%	5.6%	4.7%
HOPKINS	17,828	14,412	3,416	19.2%	6.4%	4.4%
LIVINGSTON	3,663	3,093	570	15.6%	7.1%	5.3%
LYON	3,016	2,690	326	10.8%	5.8%	3.9%
MUHLENBERG	10,800	9,046	1,754	16.2%	8.0%	5.3%
TODD	5,349	4,705	644	12.0%	4.8%	3.6%
TRIGG	6,214	5,155	1,059	17.0%	6.2%	4.6%
BALLARD	3,494	2,969	525	15.0%	6.6%	5.2%
CALLOWAY	19,699	17,210	2,489	12.6%	5.9%	3.5%
CARLISLE	2,215	2,023	192	8.7%	4.9%	3.7%
FULTON	2,062	1,821	241	11.7%	6.1%	4.6%
GRAVES	16,109	14,053	2,056	12.8%	5.5%	4.2%
HICKMAN	1,710	1,527	183	10.7%	5.9%	4.1%
MCCRACKEN	29,958	24,942	5,016	16.7%	5.8%	4.4%
MARSHALL	15,637	13,444	2,193	14.0%	5.7%	4.2%

Below Crittenden County in unemployment figures and among the other lowest counties in Kentucky were Carlisle County, 8.7 percent; Cumberland County, 10.1 percent; Hickman County, 10.7 percent; Lyon County, 10.8 percent; and Fulton County, 11.7 percent. Some area counties that were just above Crittenden yet among the lowest in the state were McLean at 11.9 percent and Todd County at 12 percent.

It is likely that figures for May will be even higher because of the difficulties many residents had in filing and being approved to receive unemployment benefits, largely due to the volume of requests being made across the state. WalletHub.com, a financial services website, reported last Thursday that Kentucky had a 1,937 percent increase in unemployment claims between May 20, 2019 and May 18, 2020, the fourth highest rise in the United States. WalletHub also says Kentucky's 938 percent jump in unemploy-

“Given the temporary nature of the increase in unemployment benefits during the COVID-19 pandemic, it is a good thing that many Americans will have a few months during which they will make more money while unemployed than they did while employed,” said Jill Gonzales, a WalletHub analyst. “Some benefits expire in July, while others expire in December, which lets unemployed Americans have a short period of extra financial security as they try to find new jobs in the struggling economy.”

She adds, “In the long term, people naturally should not continue to make more while unemployed than they did while employed, as this will reduce the incentive to work and will lead to a lot more federal spending.”

STAFF REPORT

The Ben E. Clement Mineral Museum on North Walker Street in Marion will reopen on Monday, but plans for the Crittenden County Historial Museum on East Bellville Street remain unsettled.

Tina Walker, curator at the Clement museum, said that although the facility will be back in business next week, the

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STAFF REPORT
A largely, federally-funded sidewalk replacement project will get started this month downtown.

The grant money is being made available through the Transportation Alternatives Program. The city applied for a grant way back in 2016 for sidewalk rehabilitation.

The new sidewalk will run along South Main Street from West Elm to West Carlisle, heading down West Carlisle from the Farmers Bank & Trust Co., corner past the library and to the end of the 100 block of West Carlisle at South Weldon.

STAFF REPORT

Marion Tourism Commission spent almost three hours last week working through the first draft of its budget for the new fiscal year that begins July 1. The group discussed developing a new job description for its current part-time position and possibly adding another part-time position for maintenance at City-County Park.

Its budget includes several cost-cutting measures, including the elimination of its funding for Marion Main Street, Inc., which had been \$7,000 a year. The Main Street director, Susan Alexander, had also served as an office assistant to the tourism commission.

Board members discussed needing a

STAFF REPORT

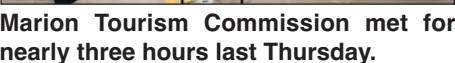
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