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

THURSDAY, MARCH 20, 2025

TWO DOLLARS

By the Numbers

Paying Your Debt

Here is a look at how much debt the average person has and how many days of work per year it takes to service that debt.

\$54,080 Average wage in KY **\$208** Average daily wage in KY **30%** Normal debt to wage ratio \$16,224 Anuual debt service

78 Work days a year to pay debt

\$379,956 Typical amount Kentuckians pay in their lifetime on debt and interest.

SOURCE: Various databases

Flower shop is sold

Teena York, owner of Louise's Flowers in Marion, announced on social media early this week that she has sold the flower shop to Brian and Michelle Hodge. They will assume ownership on July 1. Michelle has experience working at the flower shop. "I have been here 50 years, but I feel like now is the time to pass the torch to someone younger with fewer aches and pains," York said in an online post.

Free trees on Friday

Crittenden County Conservation District will once again offer free tree seedlings to county residents, with distribution set to begin at 10 a.m., Friday, March 21 at its office on East Bellville Street across from The Crittenden Press. Trees will be available until supplies run out.

This year's selection includes baldcypress, pecan, pawpaw, white oak, hazelnut, eastern redbud, swamp white oak, willow oak, Shumard oak and white pine. Thanks to a partnership with the Kentucky Division of Forestry, the district's purchase of white pine, Shumard oak and white oak have been matched to increase availability. Seedlings are bagged two per bag, with a limit of six bags, allowing residents to take home up to 12 trees. The initiative aims to enhance local landscapes, provide wildlife habitat and contribute to the county's forestry conservation efforts. Residents from both urban and rural areas of Crittenden County are encouraged to participate while supplies last.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

•Crittenden County Fiscal Court will meet at 8:30 a.m., Thursday, March 20 at the county office complex.

•Crittenden County Conservation District will meet at 6:30 p.m., Thursday, March 20 at its office on East Bellville Street.

 Crittenden County High School's Site-Based, Decision-Making Council meets at 3:30 p.m. Thursday, March 20 in the school library.

 Crittenden-Livingston Water District will meet at 4 p.m., Monday, March 24 at Deer Lakes. meeting room.

•Crittenden County Board of Education will meet at 5:30 p.m., Tuesday, March 25 at Rocket

•Livingston Fiscal Court will meet at 5 p.m., Tuesday, March 25 at the county office complex in Smithland.



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Chandler to be presented distinguished UK honor

Dr. Redonna Chandler, a Marion native and accomplished researcher in the fields of addiction and public health, has been selected to receive the 2025 College of Arts and Sciences Hall of

Fame Distinguished Alumni Award. The ceremony will take place on April 11 in Lexington. Chandler,

who



honored last year as a Distinguished of Crittenden Alumna County High School, has built a career dedicated to advancing health services research and implementing evidence-based practices to combat substance use and

was



A 1986 graduate of the University of Kentucky's College of Arts and Sciences with a degree in history and psychology, she went on to earn a Ph.D. in Counseling Psychology in 1993. Her work has gained national and international recognition, particularly in the areas of integrated care research and dissemination and implementation science.

Chandler's career includes leadership roles at the National Institutes of Health (NIH), where she has spearheaded efforts to bridge research with criminal justice and health systems. She currently serves as the Director of the HIV Research Program and the HEALing

Communities Study at the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA).

Among her many accomplishments, she led the largest implementation science study in addiction, aiming to reduce overdose fatalities across multiple states, including Kentucky. She has also been instrumental in expanding research networks to address addiction and related health concerns in legal settings.

The Distinguished Alumni Award recognizes graduates who have achieved excellence in their professions or made a significant impact on their communities or the world. Chandler's lifelong commitment to public service and scientific innovation has positioned her as a leader in her field, making her a fitting recipient of this prestigious honor.

George almost had it right

Predicting the future ain't exact science, but George Orwell came pretty doggone close.

Back in 1948, George Orwell sat down and wrote a little book called 1984, which I read in high school or college - been too long to remember exactly when. It was supposed to be a warning, but I will be darned if it didn't turn out



EVANS About Town

to be more of a prophecy. He envisioned a world where "Big Brother" was always watching listening to every word, keeping tabs on every move and making sure folks toed the line. Turns out, he wasn't too far off.

But there's a real world twist. It isn't government that's watching our every move - it's Amazon.

No, Uncle Sam isn't peeking through everyone's blinds or listening to them complain about a sore back. But your smartphone sure is. Say "I need a new mattress" out loud just once, and within minutes, you'll be knee-deep in smartphone adverisements for memory foam and adjustable bases. Coincidence?

Hardiy! Marketing folks aren't interested in controlling our thoughts like Orwell's Big Brother. They just want our paychecks. And boy, do they know how to get those wallets open. Their sneaky little algorithms track everything what we buy, what we browse, what we almost buy but change our minds about at the last second. And now, with artificial intelligence stepping in, the game has gone from clever to downright eerie. I was using an AI tool the other day to generate some copy and it not only gathered information from my input material, but included things I had talked about with another person a day before. It had no way of knowing those things, unless it was eavesdropping. Kind of creepy.

AI isn't just crunching numbers anymore. It's listening. It's studying our habits, learning our preferences, and predicting our next purchase before we even know we want it. Forget fortune tellers with crystal balls - AI knows more about us than we know about ourselves.

Now, you might not think you're using AI (artificial intelligence), but you're wrong. If you're on a smartphone or computer and conducting web searches, you're in knee

deep. Orwell got a lot right, but he missed a couple of details: Twasnt the Uncle Sam eyeballing us with remote cameras and microphones and there's no clandestine revolution forming to stop what's going on. We're handing over our information willingly, one online purchase at a time. Big Brother didn't have to force his way in - we sent him an invitation, and we're letting him save our credit card info for faster checkout.

If you ever wonder what the future looks like, don't ask a sci-fi writer. Just check your social media and email ads. Odds are, they already know what you're thinking.



Racing into **Spring**

Ten-year-old Kye Smith (right) and his eight-year-old brother, AxI, enjoyed some motorcyle fun on a neighbor's lawn on First Street last week during warm temperatures. The boys' dog, Tank, was having a big time, too.

MIA/POW among first flags to fly

Organizers of the Hometown Heroes project are working to ensure fallen service members from the community are honored this Memorial Day with commemorative banners displayed throughout town.

The initiative, which seeks to recognize local veterans, particularly those killed in action (KIA) and those who were prisoners of war (POW) or missing in action (MIA), has received limited funding so far. While one banner for a fallen hero has been sponsored, organizers hope to secure additional donations to expand the project.

Mayor D'Anna Browning says she is actively seeking contributions to help fund more banners, prioritizing the most recent fallen service members and working back through time to include those from earlier conflicts all the way back to World War I.

A recent donation of \$500

See VETS/page 3



Industrial Drive and Country Club Drive will be turned over to the Kentucky Department of Transportation and truck traffic once again will be allowed.

Big trucks will be back on CC Drive

Marion City Council has

approved a resolution to transfer ownership and maintenance responsibilities for two city routes to the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet's Department of Highways.

During Monday's council meeting a measure was adopted to add Industrial Drive and Country Club Drive to the State Primary Road System. The move will effectively facilitate the use of these roads as a bypass for larger vehicle traffic, alleviating congestion

at the intersection of U.S. 60 and U.S. 641, but that's not the primary reason for the change, said Mayor D'Anna Browning.

Local leaders have been trying to find a solution to problems along Country Club Drive and Industrial Park Drive for decades. The routes connect US 641 south of Marion to US 60 west of Marion. Over the years, particularly when industries on either end of the - lumber and streets

See DRIVES/page 3

Deaths

Hickey
Dorothy Emma Hickey, 95, of Marion, passed away peacefully at her

home on Tuesday, March 11. 2025. She was a devoted member of Marion Baptist Church, where she

found joy in her faith and community. She was well known for her kindness, generosity, and the homemade cakes she lovingly baked for family,

friends, and neighbors. Surviving are her honorary son, Gary Baulos of Marion, who lovingly called her 'Momma' throughout their 25 years of cherished friendship.

She was preceded in death by her beloved husband, Edward "Pete" Hickey; a son, Dennis

Hickey; and nine siblings. She was laid to rest at Green Hill Memorial Gar-

dens in Hopkinsville. In honor of Hickey's lifelong dedication to her church and community, memorial donations may be made to the Marion Baptist Church Family Life Center, 313 East Depot Street, Marion, KY 42064.

Paid obituary

Jennings

Michael Edward Jennings, 67, of Grand Rivers, died Tuesday, March

11, 2025 **Baptist** at Health Paducah.

He worked as a towboat captain for Three Rivers Rock and In-

gram Materials. He had a heart of gold and loved his family. He was the best advice giver and secret keeper ever. He was of the Baptist faith.

Surviving are two daughters, Shawanna (Dale) Oliver of Smithland and Nacole Walters of Paducah; five grandchildren, Hannah (Mitchell) Hicks of Grand Rivers, Kenslie Walters (Kenny Poloski) of Bandana, Hallie Oliver of Calvert City, Kyle and Whitney Walters of LaCenter; four great-grandchildren, McKenlee Walters, Kenlie Poloski, Bryscon Walters, and Kyleigh Walters; a brother, Roger Jennings of West Plains, Mo..; and several nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews,

He was preceded in death by his parents, Clarence and Alta "Jerry" (Burns) Jennings.

Funeral services were Saturday, March 15 in the chapel of Boyd Funeral Directors and Cremation Services, with Bro BJ Myrick officiating.

Community Calendar

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

Thursday, March 20

- CCHS SBDM meets at 3:30 p.m. in the library.
- · Line dancing begins at 9:30 a.m., at the Crittenden County Senior Center.
- •Time Well Spent will be at 2 p.m. at the Crittenden
- County Extension Annex. · Crochet Class will start at 5:30 p.m. at the Crittenden County Extension Annex.
- Take a Load Off will be at 7 p.m. at the Crittenden
- County Extension Office. Saturday, March 22

• An all-you-can eat breakfast will be held from 7-10

a.m. at Salem Masonic Lodge #81. The lodge is located at 237 W. Main St., Salem. Cost is \$6.

Monday, March 24

· Marion VFW located at 412 North College St., Marion, will serve breakfast from 7:30-10 a.m. Cost

- is \$8 or make a donation.
- Friends Forever meets at 5:30 p.m. at the Crittenden County Extension Annex.
- All About House Plants will meet at 5:30 p.m. at the Crittenden County Extension Office.

Tuesday, March 25

- EH Lesson Leader training will start 10 a.m. at the Crittenden County Extension Office.
- Hooks and Needles meets at noon at the Crittenden County Public Library.
- · Learn how to grow your own lettuce and radish at 5:30 p.m. at the Crittenden County Extension Annex.

Wednesday, March 26

- Green Clean will be held at 2 p.m. at the Crittenden County Extensoin Annex.
- · A Walk in the Park will start at 3 p.m. at the City-

Vietnam veteran service to be held in Fredonia

Fredonia Valley Heritage Society and Fredonia American Legion Post 103 will hold a service at 1 p.m. Saturday, March 29, at the Fredonia Valley Veterans Memorial to honor Vietnam War vet-

The ceremony aligns with National Vietnam War Veterans Day, designated annually on March 29 by the Vietnam War Veterans Recognition Act of 2017. The date marks the disestablishment of the U.S. Military Assistance Command in Vietnam and the departure of the last U.S. combat troops from the country in 1973.

All Vietnam War veterans in attendance will be honored with a gift.

The event will feature a flyover by an Air Evac helicopter, as well as speeches from Vietnam veterans. Attendees are encouraged to bring their own chairs.

Organizers urge the public to take time this month to thank Vietnam War veterans for their service and sacrifice.

Contest seeks new spay/neuter plate design

After more than 20 years, Kentucky's Spay and Neuter specialty license plate is ready for a new look and Commissioner of Agriculture Jonathan Shell is inviting the public to submit their artwork for the new design.

"Practicing responsible pet ownerships and the need to reduce the stray and homeless pet population are the messages surrounding this plate design," Commissioner Shell said. "With 411 animal shelters and animal welfare organizations in Kentucky, it's obvious we, as a society, need to do more to control the population. Since February is Spay and Neuter Awareness Month, this is the perfect time to refresh our design and send a call out to local artists."

The current Spay and plate, Neuter license which depicts a kitten and a puppy nuzzled together, was adopted to raise awareness of the need to reduce the population of stray and homeless animals in Kentucky. During its life-

time, sales have equated to more than \$600,000 in grants being awarded to organizations, resulting in more than 17,200 cats and dogs being spayed or

neutered.

Proceeds from the sales of the license plates go to the Animal Control and Care Fund, which is administered by the Animal Control Advisory Board. The Board was established in 1998 by an act of the Kentucky General Assembly. The duties of the Board include making recommendations to the Kentucky Commissioner of Agriculture relating to animal control issues and evaluating applications for spay and neuter grants to Kentucky counties and municipalities.

Artists are asked to consider the following in their designs:

Spay or Newter your Pets

Why Spay and Neuter? 1. Helps cut down on Kentucky's pet overpopulation problem

2. The more pets that spayed/neutered, are the more pets can be ad-

3. Spaying/Neutering can reduce bad behavior such as roaming, spraying and fighting

4. Reduces risk of dis-

https://shorturl.at/

The guidelines for designing a specialty license plate can be found

The contest deadline is April 20, 2025. Entries can be submitted to Michael Grant at Michael. Grant@ky.gov.



DISCOUNT

thru Feb. and

March, 2025

Monuments must be paid in full.



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MONUMENTS



CASA OF MIDWEST KENTUCKY, INC.

Child Abuse Proclamation is next week

At 8:30 a.m. on Tuesday, March 25 at Marion City Hall, Judge Executive Perry Newcom, Family Court Judge Brandi Rogers and CASA staff will hold a proclamation signing for April: Child Abuse Prevention Month. The community is invited to this event. Immediately following the reading and signing of the proclamation, pinwheels

will be planted. For more information



SURGICAL PROCEDURES

procedures including spays, neuters, a variety of small animal surgeries castrations, enucleations.

Crittenden Press

125 E. Bellville St. | P.O. Box 191 | Marion, KY 42064 270.965.3191 | www.the-press.com

The Crittenden Press (USPS 138-260) is published weekly by The Crittenden Press Inc., P.O. Box 191, 125 E. Bellville St., Marion, KY 42064. Periodicals postage paid at Marion, KY and at additional mailing offices. Subscriptions \$38 to \$75 per year. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The

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Recycling bins are located at the county's convenience center on U.S. 60 east of Marion.

Crittenden County Animal Clinic performs surgical lacerations, dentals and extractions. Dr. Elizabeth A. Maddux • Dr. Michelle Hughes 3841 US Hwy. 60 West, Marion, KY 42064 (270) 965-2257

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Extension close to goal on park story walk

countless hours at City-County Park. I was not the athletic one, so I was in the bleachers while my brothers played. They

were just far enough apart age to be in two differn t į leagues, meaning I spent dou- WOODALL the EXTENSION AGENT time there. FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCE



A trip to playground guaranteed to collect splinters, so there I sat in the bleachers.

My sister-in-law likes to tell people she first saw me sitting in the bleachers backward, reading a Boxcar Children book. She was wrong about what I was reading. I read Baby-Sitters Club books. How-

takeaway was that there was little for a younger sibling to do during long Saturdays at the park.

Looking back through the bored eyes of that little girl, I am so excited to see all the improvements at our park over the years. We have come a long way from splinterinducing playgrounds and porta-potties. The fields are so much nicer, we have a wonderful walking trail, and, of course, the newest addition – a playground that would make 10-year-old me super jealous.

community Many members and businesses have already contributed to what will hopefully be the newest positive addition to the park: A permanent Story Walk along the walking trail. Story Walks have proven to offer many benefits for children, families and communities, including:

Boosting literacy and education - By transforming stories into an interactive walking experience, Story Walks motivate families to bond while enhancing literacy

Encouraging outdoor activity - In today's digital age, Story Walks offer a compelling reason to step outside and connect with nature. Walking while reading promotes a healthy lifestyle.

Supporting early childhood development - For young children, physical movement and storytelling play a crucial role in cognitive development and help instill a lifelong love for reading.

Crittenden County Extension has long been involved in Story Walks. Years ago, dedicated 4-H volunteer Larry Haire transported many stories along the trail on his four-wheeler, enriching

the lives of our community's children. However, temporary Story Walks require several workdays to prepare and install, and they start looking unkempt after just a few days due to weather, vandals and people using the bucket stands as trash cans.

permanent With a Story Walk, children and families will still receive all the benefits while adding beauty to the park. Last year, a survey was placed at the end of the walk, and all responses requested that Story Walks become a regular fixture in the

We are now just five "pages" away from completing a full, permanent Story Walk. If you or your business would like to help sponsor one of the last five pages, you can send a check made out to Crittenden County Ex"Story Walk" in the memo to 1534 US 60. For more information, call 270-965-5236.

If you sponsor an entire page for \$350, we will place a plaque with your name on that page.

LAND **AUCTION**



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Time again for Easter flowers

As we move into the third week of March, the signs of spring are becoming increasingly evident. The weather in White Plains, Kentucky, has been a mix of cool and mild temperatures, with highs ranging from the mid-40s to the low 70s over the past two weeks. This fluctuation is typical for March, reflecting the transitional nature of the season.

One of the most delightful heralds of spring is the blooming of "Easter flowers," commonly known as jonquils or daffodils. These vibrant blossoms, belonging to the genus Narcissus, have started to appear in gardens and fields across the region, adding splashes of year.

March also brings the excitement of "March Madness," capti-

County

Livingston

the grand jury.

March session:

Grand Jury last week on

a short docket, heard

four cases and issued an

indictment in two. The

other cases were dis-

missed with no true bills.

A grand jury does not

The following indict-

•Robert Hall, 39, of

Grand Rivers was in-

dicted on a felony charge

of first-degree posses-

sion of a controlled

substance (methamphet-

amine) and other misde-

meanors and violations

for possession of drug

paraphernalia, improper

signal, rear license not il-

luminated, operating on

a suspended or revoked license and obstructed

According to court

records, deputies on Jan.

8, 2024 observed a white

pickup truck make a left

hand turn from the Lake

City Dollar General onto

US 62 without signaling.

Deputies also observed

the vehicle to have a large

crack spanning from the

vision or windshield.

ments were issued during the grand jury's vating basketball enthusiasts nationwide as the NCAA Tournament nears. In Kentucky, high school basketball has been particularly thrilling. The Crittenden County Lady Rockets, under the leadership of Coach

Shannon Hodge, clinched their third Fifth District Championship in four years and played in the Second Region championship for the second time in three years, losing both times to

CLARKE

Press Columnist

Happy Trails

basketball, March offers ample opportunities to engage in outdoor

tures make it an ideal time to tackle gardening tasks that may have been deferred during the colder months. Pruning landscaping plants in early March can promote healthy growth, and as the grass begins to grow, preparing lawn mowers for the upcoming mowing season is advisable.

March is certainly a time of transition as the dormant grass and trees begin to wake up and come alive once again. I love this time of the year because it reminds me of new life and the new life we have in Jesus Christ!

One of my favorite hymns actually refers to Spring: "Summer and Winter and Springtime and Harvest... Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me." There is much uncertainty in our world today. One thing we know for certain: God is always faithful, regardless of what month it is!

ATTENTION LAND OWNERS

FOR MORE DETAILS PLEASE CONTACT KENTUCKY LAND SPECIALIST, MARK WILLIAMS (270) 836-0819

New! Crittenden County, KY - 70 Acres - \$244,900.00 Located less than a mile from the Ohio River, this exceptional hunting property offers a diverse blend of habitat types, making it ideal for deer, turkey, and waterfowl hunting.

New! Crittenden County, KY - 80.92 Acres - \$307,500.00 With plenty of edge and transition cover, areas of dense bedding and security cover, and numerous funnels and pinch points, this property is tailored for successful hunting!

Reduced! Crittenden County, KY -19.6 Acres - \$81,124.00 This property offers an exceptional blend of features tailored for deer and turkey hunting enthusiasts. The landscape is

marked by areas of exposed rock that add a rugged charm and unique character. Reduced! Crittenden County, KY -

29.5 Acres – \$123,605.00
This diverse hunting property offers an exceptional blend of varied terrain and habitat types, made even more unique by

its history as an old quarry. Crittenden County, KY – 2.06 Acres – \$69,000.00 Three contiguous lots in the beautiful Hillcrest Estates #2 Subdivision offer the ideal build site!

Crittenden County, KY - 193 Acres - \$799,000.00 Whether you're a seasoned hunter or looking for a tranquil retreat, this diverse tract delivers a perfect balance of functionality and natural beauty. Includes 32+/- tillable acres and established food plots!

> Crittenden & Union Counties, KY -4,690 Acres - \$21,500,000.00

With various landscapes, fantastic habitat variations, proven history, and multiple lodges with various improvements, this is your chance at a once in a lifetime opportunity! A part of this listing is under contract - contact agent

Livingston County, KY - 88 Acres - \$303,600.00 Livingston County, KY – 159 Acres – \$548,550.00 Livingston County, KY – 161 Acres – \$575,575.00 These tracts are part of a trophy-managed hunting community designed for like-minded hunters dedicated to

growing and hunting mature deer. PENDING! Crittenden County, KY -

117 Acres – \$575,000.00

This phenomenal hunting property offers outstanding opportunities for deer, turkey, and waterfowl enthusiasts, making it a must-see for the avid outdoorsman. Includes 44+/- acres of open ground!

PENDING! Crittenden County, KY – 18.96 Acres – \$375,000.00

This beautiful 3-bed, 2-bath home offers an open-concept layout, gourmet kitchen with stainless steel appliances, vaulted ceilings, and an attached garage. The expansive 18.96-acre property includes a large detached foam-insulated

building with a lean-to. PENDING! Crittenden County, KY -64.3284 Acres – \$241,231.50

Nestled in a tranquil rural area, this scenic hunting tract offers

a diverse blend of habitat types and topography, making it a perfect retreat for outdoor enthusiasts. Features an ideal build site!

PENDING! Crittenden County, KY – 71.46 Acres – \$232,250.00

Situated in an area renowned for its big bucks, this all-timber hunting tract offers an exceptional opportunity for avid hunters seeking their next trophy.

SOLD! Crittenden County, KY – 119 Acres – \$699,000.00 Nestled in a picturesque setting, this diverse hunting property offers not only prime outdoor opportunities but also the comforts of a 4-bedroom, 2-bath lodge. Includes 7+/- tillable acres and established food plots!

SOLD! Crittenden County, KY – 83 Acres – \$259,900.00 Nestled along the picturesque Piney Creek, this diverse hunting tract offers an idyllic setting for outdoor enthusiasts and wildlife aficionados alike.

SOLD! Crittenden County, KY – 38.14 Acres – \$129,900.00 This unique offering combines a timbered hunting tract with a scenic lakefront lot on Maple Lake, providing exceptional recreational and development opportunities.

SOLD! Crittenden County, KY -

37.184 Acres - \$164,900.00
Situated in an area renowned for big bucks, this property offers the perfect habitat for deer and turkey hunting, plus the added convenience of a cozy cabin!

SOLD! Crittenden County, KY – 17.3541 Acres - \$169,000.00 Nestled within the embrace of tranquil countryside, this charming 3-bedroom, 2-bathroom home offers the perfect retreat from the hustle and bustle of city life. Includes a 32' x 48' metal barn.



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Henderson County, which has of yellow and white to the landscape. Their presence is a cheerful won nearly every regional title over reminder of the renewal and the past 20 years. growth that comes with this time For those less inclined toward

activities. The warming tempera-

Livingston Grand Jury indicts two

Fawaz Alghamdi, 27, Nashville, Tenn., was indicted on a felony charge for first-degree possession of methamphetamine and other misdemeanors and violations for speeding, failure to maintain vehicle inerage in a vehicle and possession of drug paraphernalia.

Court records indicated that at 10:30 p.m., on Jan. 6 during snowy road conditions, the suspect was observed operating a 2009 Hyundai Santa Fe at 93 mph on Interstate

Following a traffic stop, officers found a syringe allegedly loaded with methamphetamine and the citation says that more of the alleged drug was located in a baggie.

cab of the vehicle, says the citation. A traffic stop was conducted near the

decide guilt or innocence; rather, it determines whether enough evidence exists to proceed with prosecuting a felony case in circuit court. The prosecution is the sole source of evidence presented to license.

> During the consensual search of the vehicle,

driver's side and the license plate was not illuminated. Additionally, the driver was observed making er-

center of the windshield

to directly in front of the

ratic movements such as reaching around in the intersection of US 62 and Depot Road. It was determined that the driver had a suspended operator's

dles, the citation says. One of the needles tested positive for meth during a field test. Ghurmullah

deputies located behind

the driver's seat two nee-

surance, having no operator's license, possession of an open alcoholic bev-

DRIVES

Continued from page 1 manufacturing - began to grow, the road began to fail in many places, including at their intersection.

Large truck traffic was destroying County Club Drive in particular, which leaders say was poorly constructed many years ago.

In 2017, some city council members wanted to close the road until the state took it over. At the time, there was no interest by transportation officials to do that, so the city reacted by prohibiting tractor-trailers and other large trucks from using it as a cut-through road between two of the town's major transportation arteries.

Routing big trucks through the intersection of US 641 and US 60 on Main Street created another set of problems. The tight turn is so difficult to navigate, AT&T eventually moved a utility pole it owned on the southwest corner of the

intersection because it kept getting hit by big trucks. State transportation officials then deemed it best to pull the traffic light from the intersection and install a four-way stop.

"We cannot afford to build up the full length of country club drive," mayor Browning said, pointing out that about eight years ago the city paid \$85,000 repair with concrete a small section that had badly deteriorated.

"The rest of Country Club Drive is insufficient for heavy traffic such as school buses and commercial vehicles," Browning said. "We are not handing over these roads in order to make it a truck route. We are handing them over to the state because we can't afford to rebuild them for general use."

Browning said the troublesome fourway at Main and Gum streets, is a secondary reason for the switch.

"Trucks cannot negotiate that fourway. Both of these issues are connected," she said.

County. I am currently reaching

rative poles that could hold up to 54 banners if they are doubled up on each pole. The mayor says wooden utility poles could even be used if demand increases. The banners could rotate for different periods so the number of available spots is almost limitless. The five decorative poles along East Carlisle have been set aside specifically for POW/MIA banners, with the mayor also advocating for a

Organizers have set a new deadline of May 15 for veterans and active-duty service members who did not die in combat to be included in future banner displays. These banners will be reserved for additional observances, such as periods before and after Fourth of July and

As Memorial Day approaches, organizers anticipate increased in-

terest once the banners start going

banner for a fallen service member or donating to the project are encouraged to contact city hall as soon as possible.

"We love our veterans," the mayor added. "We support our military as evidence by the large American Flag we commissioned to be painted on the side of the Johnson's Furniture building in Marion and we've painted our fire hydrants red, white and blue.'

VETS

Continued from page 1 from Kentucky Utilities (KU) will cover the cost of five banners dedicated to POW/MIA personnel, which may be displayed for longer periods along East Carlisle Street. However around \$6,000 is still needed to ensure all KIA banners can be produced in time. Marion Tourism Commission this week approved giving the city \$1,300 toward the project. "People are going to see the ban-

ners displayed then ask about them, I think," the mayor said about the slower than expected response from the public to participate in the project. "We will probably have bigger response next year and farther down

the road for years to come. My

biggest concern right now is the 86

fallen warriors from Crittenden

out asking for corporate donations to buy banners for each one of them," the mayor said. The city has identified 27 deco-

commemorative street sign in their honor. While not an official street renaming, the sign would serve as a lasting tribute.

Veterans Day. So far, 14 banners have been purchased by individuals at \$72

Those interested in sponsoring a

Nunn-Switch reparis

Nunn-Switch Road, closed since March 17 for repair, should reopen late this week so long as rain does not hinder the work. The road is closed between Cave Springs Road and Cool Springs Road for major base failure repairs. Rainfall this week could push completion time to Monday or Tues-

Bates sworn to board, serving Fredonia area

Jamie Bates has been appointed to fill the vacant District 1 seat on the Caldwell County school board.

A lifelong Cald-well County resident and a 1988 graduate of Caldwell County High School, Bates will serve the remainder of the term,



Bates

with the seat set to appear on the ballot in November 2026. Bates, who previously served

as booster club treasurer for the Caldwell County Middle School soccer team, said she felt a responsibility to advocate for students and families.

"As a parent, I decided it's my obligation to serve as a voice for the students and families in our district," Bates said. "I deeply care about public education and have a heart for serving others. This opportunity will be one of my most rewarding achievements."

She expressed gratitude to the board members for their confidence in her.

Bates and her husband, David, have three children: Lindsay, David Jr., and Nunie, a freshman at Caldwell County High School.

She was sworn in during a working session last week and replaces Stephanie Feagan on the school board. Bates represents District 1, which includes the areas of Fredonia, Donaldson and Briarfield.

Traffic will slow for 1-24 bridge inpsections

A contractor for the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet will impose daytime lane restrictions on the Interstate 24 Cumberland River Bridge starting Monday, March 24, for inspection work.

Crews will use an underbridge inspection vehicle beginning at 8 a.m. each day for about five days. Traffic will shift into the open lane as work alternates between sides of the bridge.

The twin structures, also carrying Interstate 69, are located at the Livingston-Lyon County line at mile marker 33.67 and accommodate more than 30,000 vehicles daily.

The inspection is expected to conclude by Friday, March 28, weather permitting. Motorists should watch for signage, trucks with arrow boards, and workers along the roadway.

Old Kentucky Hayride is March 29 at Fohs

Cutter & Cash and The Kentucky Grass, fresh off their appearance a few weeks ago on RFD TV, will host their spring Old Kentucky Hayride starting at 7 p.m., Saturday, March 29 at historic Fohs Hall. Doors will open at 6 p.m. All proceeds from ticket sales go to Crittenden County Food Bank. Concessions will be available. For ticket information, call 270–704–2591.

Trucker who fired at Marion woman is formally sentenced

A Texas truck driver who fired gunshots into a vehicle on Interstate 24 in Lyon County has been sentenced to eight years in prison, but legal arguments over his parole eligibility have taken center stage in the

Leland Blake, 60, of Dallas, pleaded guilty to two felony



counts of first-degree wanton endangerment back in December. Assistant Commonwealth Attorney Chad Nelson had recommended two consecutive four-year sentences, totaling eight years. However, debate ensued last week during formal sentencing in Lyon County Circuit Court over whether Blake should serve 85% of his sentence before becoming eligible for parole or just 20%.

The prosecution argued that under the Safer Kentucky Act, Blake's crime would fall under new guidelines requiring an 85% parole eligibility threshold. But before his final sentencing, Franklin Circuit Judge Phillip Shepherd ruled in a separate case that imposing an 85% requirement for offenses committed before July 15, 2023, violated the ex post facto clause of the U.S. Constitution. That decision meant parole eligibility should remain at 20% for such cases.

Blake's attorneys filed a motion requesting that Lyon Circuit Judge Natalie White designate in the final judgment that his parole eligibility be set at 20%. Prosecutors opposed the request, arguing that parole eligibility was not an ex post facto issue and should be determined by the Department of Corrections. Judge White ruled against the Commonwealth, holding that the 85% requirement was unconstitutional in Blake's case and designating in the final judgment that he would be eligible for parole after serving 20% of his sen-

According to the Kentucky Online Offender Lookup, Blake will be eligible for parole in September 2026.

In August of 2023, Blake fired multiple shots toward a vehicle driven on the interstate by Marion resident Laurie Yates. Yates had testified at a hearing three months ago when Blake pleaded guilty that she and her teenage nephew were traveling along I–24 when a blue Freightliner 18-wheeler began tailgating them. Moments later, at least two bullets struck their SUV. Fortunately, neither was injured.

Investigators later recovered bullets from the body of her vehicle. Yates' nephew, now a junior at Crittenden County Schools, saw Blake fire from the driver's side window with a 9mm Kahr CT9 handgun.

Yates called 911 and provided a description of the Freightliner. Police later stopped Blake in Livingston County and took him into custody.

Spring weather prompts school to remind about its dress code policies

With the arrival of spring and the approach of summer, Crittenden County Schools last week reminded students and parents with a direct electronic mesage to review dress code policies to ensure compliance during the warmer months. As temperatures rise, students often opt for lighter clothing, but schools emphasize the importance of dressing appropriately for the learning environment.

Most school policies require that tops provide adequate coverage, with restrictions on sleeveless shirts, crop tops and attire that exposes undergarments. Shorts, skirts and dresses must meet length guidelines to maintain a professional and respectful atmosphere. Additionally, clothing with inappropriate graphics, excessive rips or sheer materials that reveal undergarments is not permitted.

Administrators urge families to check with their respective schools for specific guidelines, as enforcement will remain in effect despite the seasonal shift. Violations could result in students being asked to change

or facing disciplinary action.
Parents are encouraged to
review the policy with their
children before shopping for
new clothes this season. With a
little preparation, students can
enjoy the warmer weather while
staying in line with school expectations.

Three deadly events in 1 week involving area police agencies

Western Kentucky has seen three officer-involved shoot-ings in the past week, spanning Lyon, Trigg and Christian counties. Each incident involved law enforcement engaging with armed suspects, resulting in the deaths of the individuals involved. The Kentucky State Police (KSP) is investigating all three cases.

The most recent occurred early Monday in Kuttawa, where a Lyon County Sheriff's deputy stopped a vehicle linked to a Marshall County shooting. The encounter at Huck's Travel Center led to a deadly force incident, leaving the suspect, Jedidah S. Skinner, 30, of Smithland, dead while the deputy remained unharmed.

Last Tuesday, a high-speed pursuit that began in Lyon County ended in Trigg County, where the suspect crashed, fled on foot, and fired at law enforcement, striking a deputy. Officers returned fire, killing 21-year-old Jermaine Terrell Jackson Jr. The injured deputy was transported to Vanderbilt Medical Center in stable condition.

Another shooting took place early Sunday in Crofton, where Christian County deputies responded to a domestic violence call. Upon arrival, 39-year-old Patrick J. Martinez opened fire on deputies, who returned fire and fatally shot him.

KSP's Critical Incident Response Team is conducting investigations into all three incidents, with further details expected after witness interviews and evidence reviews. Authorities urge the public to remain vigilant and offer support to officers and families affected by the violence.

Another charge issued from Facebook fallout

There has been further fall—out from social media banter that began over the winter following a December incident at Crittenden County Office Complex, leading to multiple misdemeanor charges against a local businessman. That businessman has now filed a criminal complaint against another individual over a verbal confrontation the two had outside a Marion City Council meeting in February.

Based on an allegation made by Kent Withrow, a harassment charge was issued last week against Craig Gilland. Several witnesses observed their verbal interaction following the Feb. 10 meeting as Gilland, 55, confronted Withrow about alleged Facebook posts the complaintant was making online. Following the exchange, Withrow went to the Marion Police Department and filed a complaint, alleging that Gilland threaten to beat him up. Gilland was last week served a summons to appear in court to answer to the alleged violation of harassment with no physical contact.

Withrow was also recently charged with three misdemeanors for harassing communications, falsely reporting an incident and criminal coercion, as well as a violation for harassment, involving three separate alleged victims. One alleged victim is the county attorney, whom Withrow alleged had choked him, although video evidence showed otherwise.

Gilland is scheduled for arraignment April 16 in Crittenden District Court. The penalty for a violation in Kentucky can be a fine of up to \$250 if convicted.

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

THROW THURSDAY

OUR MEMORIES GO BACK TO 1879

10 YEARS AGO

March 19, 2015

- The Cave In Rock Ferry was closed due to floodwaters from the Ohio River covering the Ky. 91 approach at the ferry landing. The service was expected to be closed for several days. There were multiple state highways and numerous county road closures due to the high water.
- Nancy Hunt was honored after 35 years of service during a retirement reception at the Woman's Club of Marion. Hunt was the former family and consumer sciences agent for Crittenden County's University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service. Pictured with Hunt during the reception were members of the Crittenden County Extension Homemakers Association: Sharon Giltz, Dot Boone, Kay Long, Micki Crider, Pat Carter, Dawn Hollamon, Darl Henley, Jerrell James, Glenda Chandler, Myrtle Dunning, Wanda Rudd, Sara Ford and Kathy Bechler.
- Members of the 2015 Lady Rocket softball team were Kayla Davis, Khyla Moss, Danielle Byarley, Hannah Easley, Megan Hunt, Kirsten Deboe, Bristen Holeman, Jenna Potter, Chaylee Wolf, Jessi Brewer, Emily Hall, Jaylin Blackburn, Sharon Collins, Courtney Beverly, Brandy Book, Hannah Cooksey, Josie Tapp, Ellie Smith, Kaitlyn Hicks, Emmie Smith, Cassidy Moss, Kiana Nesbitt and Kali Travis. Coaches were Cheyanne Warriner and Emily Bebout.
- The 2015 Rocket baseball team consisted of Will Tolley, Logan Belt, Ryan Belt, Bobby Stephens, Kyle Castiller, Taylor Yancy, Clay Croft, Dylan Hollis, Nick Castiller, Seth Birdwell, Jacob Hackney, Jake Ellington, Ethan Hunt, Alex Cosby, Maeson Myers, Noah Salin, Jared Lundy, Adam Beavers, Adam Driver, Ryan James and Brandon Wilson. Coaches were Donnie Phillips and Jeff Porter.

25 YEARS AGO

March 23, 2000

- Julius Fohs' bust was unveiled during an event featuring Fohs' grandson, Mark Sohn. Sohn, author of several cookbooks, discussed the origin of many Appalachian recipes in his cookbook following a meal prepared using recipes from Mountain Country Cooking. Sohn was pictured talking to Ann Revel about the bust.
- Crittenden County was represented with 28 exhibits at the Pennyrile Area Cultural Arts Display in Princeton. First-place winners were eligible for state competition in Lexington. First-place winners and categories included Barbara Vaughn, needlepoint; Ann Revel, quilting; Dawn Hollamon, basketry; Birdie Farmer, hand weaving; Priscilla Parmley, wall hanging; Helen Springs, rug making; and Brandi Haire, nature craft.
- Second- and third-place finishers were Patty Gilbert, crochet; Birdie Farmer, stuffed doll; Priscilla Parmley, apparel and tole painting; Helen Springs, counted crossstitch; Ann Revel, rug making; and Barbara Simpson, stuffed doll. Other Homemakers who participated included Sarah Ford, Alice Mills, Marie Hoshaw, Louise Nelson and Merle Myers.
- Family of the late Dr. Roscoe Faulkner stood in front of a memorial unveiled at Livingston Hospital as members of the original Board of Incorporators of Salem described Faulkner's caring nature and how he had purchased medical equipment needed to open the hospital in 1955. The memorial was located at the base of the hospital's flagpole to serve as a lasting reminder of the physician's legacy.
- The Lady Rockets kicked off their season at University Heights with a roster of Patti Johnson, Christi Aull, Lindsay Thompson, Amanda Waters, Kandice Levell, Jackie Robertson, Ashley Johnson, Sara Green, Courtney Rushing, Nicole Langan, Dustie Witherspoon, Karie Powell, Lyndsey Hall, Leslie Belt, Brodi Travis, Kindra Brisby, Rayln Hunt, Latisha Clark, Amber Polk, Stacy Green, Andi Turley, Brandy Perry, Meagan Tabor, Savannah Farmer, Jenny Doyle, Jessica Quisenberry, Olicia Hall and Cindy Howton.
- The Rockets baseball team opened at home for the season vs. Hardin Co. On its roster were Ryan Beavers, Brad Guess, Joey Rich, Matt Jent, Brandon Sherer, Rodney Travis, Derrick Dooms, Matt Mattingly, Chris Combs, Scott Belt, Zac Brantley, Daniel Campbell, M.J. Watson, Eric Watson, David West, Shannon Epley, Zac Beverly, Derrick Holloman, Josh Jackson, Ryan Dunn, Jay Thompson, Jordan Roberts, Grant Patton, Chad Copeland, Matt Collins, Jason Guess and Ben Aull.

50 YEARS AGO

March 20, 1975

- On the front page was the heading "Highest water since completion of dam causing flooding along lower Cumberland." A photo showed a reluctant horse being evacuated from its nearly flooded barn in Dycusburg. When the horse balked at going into the water, Kerry Green and Steve Peek simply tied it to a tractor and pulled it through. The flooded lower Cumberland had inundated one house and four trailers in Dycusburg. The Army Corps of Engineers at Lake Barkley announced they were keeping Lake Barkley "low" to make room for anticipated rains and lessen the chances of severe flooding along the Ohio River.
- Vern Kirk and Dwayne Croft were prize winners at the grand opening of Tractor Parts Company on Hwy. 60 south of Marion. Kirk won a clock, while Croft won a welder. Tractor Parts Company was owned by Brad Lan-
- Students from Tolu Elementary School's reading program happily displayed some new reading books they had received. The books were supplemental to the regular reading texts also available in all other Crittenden County schools. Students shown with their books were Edna Underdown, Mathew Saberniah, David Holliman, David Hardin, Harold Belt and Eunice Clark.

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

Religion The Crittenden Press

Doubt can be life-changing in good and bad ways

a resurgence of "question everything." One of the problems that I had with that at the time was that

it was being encouraged by some people teaching teenagers. I don't know why anyone would ever think that a teen needed to be taught such a thing, but it was happening. In that environment, question everything led to a disregard (and in some cases) disrespect for rules and authority of any kind. This is nothing new, but it is

worth thinking through from time to time.

NIESTRATH

Guest

Columnist

Faith-based columnist

I firmly believe that questioning things is necessary. In fact, many in the political and religious realms do not do enough of it. "How did we get

question to ask. The problem is that questioning everything, for the sake of questioning everything,

without having a firm understanding of the "rules" is silly or dangerous - usually both. We have arrived at a point in our society (secular and religious) in which those answering the questions are familiar with the historv or rules that are being questioned.

> I constantly see and hear popular "influencers" in the religious realm

who clearly are not familiar with even the basics of the Bible or the doctrines which they are questioning. Their goal seems to be to damage Christianity, rather than challenge it. There are others who

an dogma that they come across as condemning all who may think or teach otherwise. They will keep doing their thing. The same is true in the political realm. I see opinion presented and accepted as fact frequently. Many of those opinions are ignorant (or purposefully deceptive) of the founding documents of the United States or how government

Trying to correct some of this is difficult for a couple of reasons. First, I must recognize my own limitations and understand that there is far more that I don't know than I do know. Second, I must understand the emotion and fear will often overrule evidence. I was recently in a conversation about the perfection of a popular version of the Bible, which is now over 400 years old. The person had been convinced that it was perfect in its first edition. I have an electronic copy of that page of the introduction that demonstrated that the translators did not make such a claim. He could not read it (yes it was in English, and he is an English speaker). His response, "It's all Greek to me. I just know that..."

I didn't press any further. I may be able to continue providing information to be considered, which is all we can do in most cases. There may be a day when a bit of information hits a chink in the armor, and he will be free to ask questions without putting his faith in jeopardy.

Which brings me to some thoughts about doubt. Sometimes questions are mislabeled as doubt. It is possible to question a teaching, a belief, or an assumption without doubting God. I may doubt a source, a long-held belief, or a cultural norm without ever doubting God. I may even doubt God's action or inaction without doubting

realm of questions for me. If we want to call this doubt, then let's think of it as suggested by medieval French philosopher, Peter Abelard. "By doubting we come to enquiry, and by enquiry we reach the truth."

Doubt that comes from a heart or mind that is seeking truth is constructive. The origin of this doubt may come from within us or from a source we know has our best interest in mind. Doubt from this direction is life-changing in a good way.

However, doubt that comes from one who is angry and vengeful should be checked quickly. Doubt that comes from one whose goal is to undermine faith, not just challenge it, is subversive and can infect us before we realize what has hapgarden of Eden was for the deceiver to say, "Did God really say ...?"

We live in a time of advertising, "click-bait." likes, and follows. The goal of many is to be seen and heard without regard to how others may be affected. There is good information out there. There are wonderful places to have constructive dialogue and informed learning. They are not likely to be the ones that we see and hear about

When we bump into something that causes us to question or doubt, check the direction from which it is coming. Proceed with caution.

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.

It's always worth it to do the right thing

Question: I had a good job, and learned our company was cheating our clients. Because of my Christian convictions, I confronted my superiors and was promptly fired. I'm working at jobs that barely pay my family's bills. For more than a year I have searched for a well-paying job in my field with no luck. Was it worth it?

Answer: Yes, it was absolutely worth it! Granted, doing the right thing is



sometimes personally painful. If you hadn't confronted the leaders in the company, you would have compromised your convictions. By standing up, you gave a strong witness to your employers. Also, you are a

powerful example to your

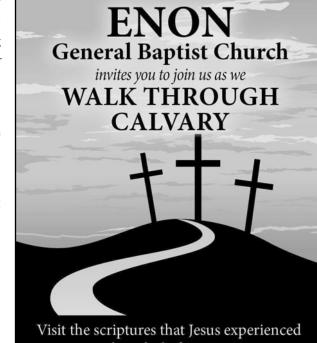
wife and children of a good

character. Personal integrity is extremely important. God uses circumstanc-

es to bring about His will in our lives. Of course, not all things that happen to us aere good, but God uses the bad things that happen to us to bring about good. God's Word reminds us, "We know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose" (Rom. 8:28). In short, this is saying working through the lives of those who follow Him, who give themselves to Him whole-heartedly.

God can use your job loss to position you for your next strategic job opportunity. In the meantime, be at peace in the will of God knowing "...that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us" (Rom. 8:18).

Send your questions to: bob@bobhardison.com



each night before Easter. April 16 - April 19, 7 nightly

April 20 Visit the Blessed site of the **Empty Tomb**

Easter Services start at 7 a.m. Everyone welcome!! 1771 SR 132

Bro Michael Stewart, Pastor

Religious Outreach

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

■ Salem Baptist Celebrate Recovery meets Monday's 5:30 p.m. with a meal at 6 p.m., at 209 Highland Street, opposite side of the building from the Thrift Store. ■ Old Salem Baptist Church has a Blessing Box located

next to the church at 117 Old Salem Church Rd. Everyone is welcome to take items or place them in the box for others ■ First Baptist Church of Fredonia food pantry is open

from 4-5:30 p.m., third Wednesday of each month in Coleman Hall of the church.

■ 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.

■ Salem Baptist Church Thrift Store is open 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Tuesday and Saturday at 209 Highland St., Salem.

■ The Clothes Closet of the First Baptist Church in Fredonia is open to serve the area with free clothes. The Clothes Closet is operated from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. each Thursday. The Clothes Closet will be closed in case of severe weather.

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

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

with us this week

Visit one of our area churches for worship and fellowship

EMMAUS BAPTIST CHURCH



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

Catholic Church

Freedom General Baptist Church Pastor. Ross Atw. 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.

Alarion Baptist Church College & Depot streets, Marion • (270) 965-5232 Pastor: Bro. Aaron Brown • Children's & Youth Pastor: Bro. Shawn Holeman SUNDAY MORNING SERVICES: 9 a.m. & 11 a.m., ONLINE 11 a.m., SUNDAY SCHOOL: 10:05 a.m. WEDNESDAY: BIBLE STUDY/PRAYER 6 p.m., AWANA FOR CHILDREN & YOUTH GROUPS 6 p.m.

CHOIR PRACTICE: 6:45 p.m., PRAISE TEAM: 7:30 p.m.

CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH Ky. 506 | Marion, Ky

We love intensely, believe deeply,

and pray zealously

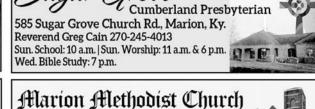
Cumberland Presbyterian 585 Sugar Grove Church Rd., Marion, Ky. Reverend Greg Cain 270-245-4013 Sun. School: 10 a.m. | Sun. Worship: 11 a.m. & 6 p.m. Wed. Bible Study: 7 p.m.

Sunday Mass 11 a.m. 860 S.Main St. Marion, Ky. (270) 965-2477 **Mexico Baptist Church** MexicoBaptist.or Minister of Music Mike Crabtree Pastor: Morgan Smith Sunday Worship Services: 10 a.m., 7 p.m. Sunday Bible Study: 9 a.m. Sunday Discipleship Training: 6 p.m.

261 Crooked Creek Church Rd.

P.O. Box 442, Marion, Ky. • (270) 704-0914 Sunday School: 10 a.m. Sunday Worship: 11 a.m. "Come and Worship with Us" Hank Cayce





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

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

Tolu Methodist Church

Pastor: David Brown

We invite you to be our guest

Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.

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



Hurricane Church Rd. off Ky. 135 West

Sun. School, 10 am. • Worship, 11 a.m.

Pastor: Bro. Danny Hinchee

Sun. Evening services, 6 p.m.

Wed. Evening services, 7 p.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 Captured by a vision... Youth Activities: 6 p.m.





FIRST CUMBERLAND

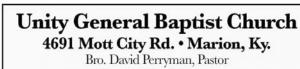
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

224 W. Bellville St., Marion, Ky.

Sunday School 9:45 a.m.

Sunday Worship 10:45 a.m.

David LeNeave, Pastor



Sunday School 10 a.m. Sunday Worship 11 a.m.

Barnett Chapel General Baptist

Sunday School: 10 a.m. Sunday Worship: II a.m. Sunday Night Service: 6 p.m.

Barnett Chapel Rd., Marion, Ky. Barnett Chapel... where everyone is welcome.

Marion Church of God 334 Fords Ferry Road, Marion, Ky. Morning Service 11 a.m. Sun. Evening 6 p.m. · Wed. Evening 6 p.m.

"Where salvation makes you a member."





- The end of your search for a friendly church -

Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.



Piney Fork: A historic area of the county and its heritage

Church and the ground it sits on are both deeply rooted in the history of our county. It is the oldest Cumberland Presbyterian church in Kentucky and sits next to the oldest county road once known as the Chickasaw Trail and later Flynn's Ferry Road. The church was known many years for its great annual camp meetings. Here are some interesting items from the archives of The Crittenden Press about those early camp meetings.

August 24, 1899

Piney camp-meeting closed Thursday after a very successful revival of the church. There

were a number of conversions and a number of additions to the church. It was one of the best meetings held there for years, Revs. Boone, Hughey, Price and Oakley did the preaching.

Piney campground is one of the oldest in the country, the first meeting held there in 1812, and with the exception of two years, meetings have been held there regularly

there regularly every year since, making 85 annual camp-meetings held on that spot. We doubt if there is another campground in the United States now used as such, that will out date old Piney.

Brenda

Underdown

County Historian

Forgotten

Passages

____ August 13, 1903

The Piney camp meeting closes this week. The crowd that attended the services Sunday was estimated at 3,000. The congregations this week have been small.

The Piney camp meeting is an old institution. The first meeting was held in 1812, more than 90 years ago, and the meetings have been held annually up to this time with the exception of the years of the Civil War.

It is the mother church of Cumberland Presbyterianism in Crittenden and adjacent counties. The C. P. Church of Marion, Fredonia, Flat Rock, Sugar Grove, Crayneville and Cave Spring are fruitions of this maternal

August 23, 1906

The Piney Fork annual camp meeting will begin Monday night, Sept. 10, where there has been a camp meeting held for over 80 years with the exception of two years. It will be an old time camp-meeting conduct-

ed by Rev. J. L. Hudgins, of Union City, Tenn. Rev. Hudgins is a strong gospel preacher and preaches with power.

The first camp meeting which has made this church so famous was held in May 1812. The services were held under an arbor on the beautiful knoll now occupied by the campground and the people who attended the meetings lodged "in camps" or rude huts, hastily constructed of round poles with clapboard roofs. ministers present were Messrs. Finis Ewing, Alexander Chapman and Wm. Harris.

The following is a list of the original members who perfected the or-

ganization of this grand old church: John Travis, Rebecca Travis, James Travis, Ra-Travis, chel John Wheeler, Susamn Wheeler, James Clin-Ann ton. Clinton, Rev. Wm. Henry, Mary Ann Henry, Mrs. McGough, Mrs. Zacha-

Bivens

and Mrs. Wm.

Leach. For a year of two, this small society met for preaching occasional at the residence of Mr. John Wheeler who lived four miles southeast of Marion, opposite the place where Rev. Frank Paris now lives. In 1812 the organization was completed by Rev. Finis Ewing at a school house in the neighborhood of Mr. Wheeler's home. Being situated between the forks of Piney Creek, it was called Piney Fork Church.

riah

John Travis donated a tract of land to the church of about 13 acres. Afterward George Green donated three acres. A log church house was at once erected upon it, situated in what is now the cemetery, about 100 yards from the western boundary of the cemetery. A second log church was built in 1843.

The present church, a brick, was erected in 1867 at a cost of \$3,000. The brick was burned on the ground and the building erected by L. M. Hill and W. C. Turk. The following were on the building committee: James Ordway, L. M. Hill, T. M. Butler, and W. B. Crider. Two large sheds have been built, the present one is 60 x 80 feet and has a seating capacity of about 2,000.



The historic Piney Fork Church built in 1867 was built of locally-made bricks burned on the church grounds, and was erected by local men W. C. Turk and L.M. Hill. It was used until 1957 when the present brick building was built.



This wooden shed, the second on the property, was built in 1886 and was built to seat 1,000 people. The building was built from logs located on nearby farms. The sides were open slats to let the air in.

historic church have been per-eminently selfmade men, as they ere nearly all, in early life, without the advantages of a liberal education or any large degree of social culture. They have been chiefly poor men, obliged to assist in supporting themselves in their early ministry by their daily secular labors. Rev. Finis Ewing was the first pastor of Piney Fork Church. He was born 1773 and died 1841.

The camp meeting began in 1812 and has continued until the present time with two exceptions. It is reasonable to assume that more annual camp meetings have been held on Piney Fork hill than any other place in the world, these meetings having commenced at this place soon after their origin and continued almost successively down to the present time. Thousands have been converted on this sacred hill and the shouts of the redeemed have seemed to

The pastors of this storic church have en ring. During the earliest meetings it was not uncommon for them to have 100 professions of faith at a meeting.

Piney Fork is a name sacred to all Christians who have visited these annual camp meetings and have seen the power of God so marvelously displayed. Thousands claim this as their spiritual birth place. It is sacred because of the fathers of the church who have preached there. It is sacred because of the hallowed association of the past.

The membership of Piney Fork Church is somewhat depleted by the organization of other churches from their ranks and by an excessive emigration to the "far west", but noble men and women still stand by it and we hope it may live long to bless the world with the precious gospel of the kingdom of God.

August 3, 1911 The Piney Fork annual camp meeting will begin at the Piney Fork Camp Ground Friday evening at four o'clock, Aug. 11. We earnestly invite all denominations to come over and help us to win souls for God and make this the greatest camp meeting in the history of the church, which has been an organization near 100 years.

Let us pray to God for a meeting like we had years ago. If we worship as father and mother did these good times are sure to follow. Let us come together with our hearts burning with the love of God, then we will see greater and good results.

Our meeting will be conducted by Rev. V. B. Costellow, of Erin, Tenn, a man we are sure is sufficiently able to conduct this meeting to the glory of God and the salvation of souls.

We the session of Piney Fork have resolved to publicly announce through the county paper our rules and laws by which we are to be governed during the coming camp meeting.

1st. That we have no smoking on the camp-ground in the enclosure, as it is very offensive to most people.

2nd. That we have no driving on the campground with horses and buggies and wagons

except when they are moving in or out of the campground, also that no one hitch to the wire fence as this is dangerous for stock.

3rd. That there is no stand to be on the campground or near the campground within the distance prescribed by law, except the located place of business of J. S. Crayne, which will be prepared to furnish the public with refreshments, bread and ice.

4th. Also we kindly request the public not to talk near the shed during service as this disturbs the preacher, also those who sit just within.

This done by the order of the session of Piney Fork Church. Signed: C. T. Boucher, Mod., W. F. Wilson, Clerk

Piney Fork Church is still active today, with some of the descendants of those early members still attending. The wonderful old camp meetings of long ago continued through the years and the last one was held in 1955.

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

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CITY OF MARION

The following tax bills for the year 2024, being unpaid, I will offer for sale on April 1, 2025 at 1 p.m to the highest bidder for cash. The following delinquent tax claims upon which a real assessment appears (the amount includes penalty, interest and advertising coef).

Tax Year Range 2024 To 2024 Calculated As Of 03/03/205

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THANK YOU

The family of Homer Ray Travis would like to thank the staff at Livingston Hospital, Gilbert Funeral Home, Louise's Flowers and all who helped in any way. We greatly appreciate all the kind words, flowers, food and expressions of sympaty.

Special thanks to Bro. Royce Pyle for officiating. Thanks to Bro. Timmy Shelton and Marlene James for the beautiful music and to Bro. Billy Parish for holding the family up in prayer.

Homer was truly blessed with great friends and family.

Peggy Easley and Jill Croft

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friends and family.

Bill No.	Account Name ALL L & DEBORAH L	Unpaid Tax
11ABEGGLEN RANDA	ALL L & DEBORAH L	\$251.54
20ADAMSON KENNE	TH & MELISSA	\$59.36
)	
99 BELT BORRY L SR	(deceased)	\$131.07
145 BLAZINA INSEPH		\$45.03
165 BRADEORD CHAR	LES	\$17.78
171 DDONOCKY TEDDI		C121 07
100 DIICH CHADITY DA	AWN	C100 42
	AVVIV	
200CALE PHILLIP	SAN	\$30.69
232 CLEARWAIER SUS	SAN	\$145.42
235 CLIFFURD BRIAN	NO.	\$26.39
237COFFER STORES	NC	\$97.52
241COFFER STORES	NC	\$45.05
242COFFER STORES	NC	\$850.57
264 CONNER MELBUR	N & MELISSA	\$102.39
265 CONYER DAVID S	& CATHERINE	\$137.52
274COOPER PEGGY D	EMOSS	\$85.18
301 CRIDER KENNETH	0	\$360.53
340CRUCE HERBERT	EST	\$5.45
344 CURNEL RICKY ES	ST	\$151.15
352 DAVIDSON BARRY		\$35.00
374 DICKEY BRADI FY		\$23.52
378 DICKEY GORDON		\$138.67
381 DILLINGHAM MAT	THEW	C13 47
202 DILLINGHAM MAT	THEW	£12.47
404 DOWNE VENNETH	WAYNE &	\$13.41
472 FETTEROLE THAT	DEUS THOMAS JOSEPH	\$133.40
510FUX SHIRLEY		\$12.47
538GERHARDT CRAIG		\$13.47
552GIPSON SHELBY E	ST	\$105.26
568GRAYHAWK LEASI	NG LLC	\$12.33
575GREGORY INC		\$82.02
591GUGENHEIM INC.		\$7.02
597HACKNEY EDDIE		\$10.61
605HAKE KATRINA &	MICHAEL	\$151.15
623HARDESTY KENNE	TH JR	\$38.42
637HATHAWAY KEVIN	BRUCE	\$17.78
655HEALTHQUEST WE	ELLNESS CENTER PS	\$19.77
670HENRY CECIL		\$162.62
677HERRIN JODY & J	ULIE	\$180.85
714HOLLOMAN THOM	AS LESTER & ALTHEA J	\$30.69
719HOMETOWN FOOL	OS .	\$84.51
732 HUGHES DOUG &	DS MILLER KELSEY	\$12.05
734 HUGHES LACY ES	T	\$9.17
	D	
774 IACKSONI DITTU	STATE	\$0.47
814 IOHNSON INMES	EST	\$14.02
022 IUNIOUN JANES	DIANNE	\$10.01
OZSJUNINGTUN LISA L	JIANNE	\$19.21
OZOJUNES BRAD LEE		\$4.87
880 " FANHAM KORRIF"	OUADON	\$30.69
884LAHUE JAMES D	& SHARON	\$238.63

927	MANESS MICHAEL	\$24.95
959	MASON LISA M	\$10.61
966	MCCAIN J C	\$23.52
968	MCCLURE TROY EST	\$16.34
969	MCDANIEL BELINDA D	\$73.70
084	MCCEE WAYNE D	\$16.34
000	MCGEE WAYNE P	20.30
990	MCKINNEY TYLER & KAITLYN	\$90.00 \$05.10
1010	MILLER JOANNIE MARIE	\$05.10 \$4.50
1010	MOXLEY LYDAWN	
1040	MURRAY BRADLEY	\$22.00 \$151.15
1001	NELSON ANGELA DON	\$131.13
1122	PEMBERTON JESSICA & ANDREW	\$20.60
1167	PRECISION PLUMBING & SEPTIC INC	\$30.09 \$72.70
117/	PRYOR KENNETH R JR	950.26
1100	READER LACEY	\$39.30 \$47.90
1102	READER LACEY 1/2 & RENNER RUSTY 1/2.	\$47.03 \$12.47
	READER LACEY 1/2 & RENNER RUSTY 1/2.	
1004	ROBERTS DARLENE	
1224	ROBERTSON MICHAEL	\$19.21
1234	ROBINSON BETTY J	
1233	ROBISON AUSTIN	\$4.07
1230	RUSSELL AUSTIN SHANE	\$280.22 @222.05
1001	CHIEF DO HAZEL OD	\$222.85
1291	SHIELDS HAZEL ORSISCO CHRISTOPHER	\$7.16
1314	SISCU CHRISTUPHER	\$82.31
1319	SMITH DEVINSMITH JAMES RAY & DEVIN	\$7.74
1321	SMITH JAMES HAY & DEVIN	\$93.49
1322	SMITH JEFFERYSMOCK MARVIN DAVID	\$6.31
1333	SWUCK WARVIN DAVID	\$59.36
1349	STEPHENS BONNIE	\$14.92
1350	STEPHENS BONNIE	\$14.92
1351	STEPHENS BONNIE	\$14.92
1352	STEPHENS BONNIE	\$13.47
1361	STOLL CORI LYNAE	\$102.39
13/4	SUN INDUSTRIES INC	\$159.76
1401	TAX EASE LIEN SERVICING LLC	\$16.34
1457	TUCKER DAVID D	\$108.12
1460	TURNER JOE D	\$73.70
1461	TYRIE SHELLY S	\$99.23
1467	UNKNOWN OWNER	\$7.74
1469	US BANK	\$13.47
14/5	WALKER CHAD	\$131.07
1480	WALKER ROCKY	\$10.61
1489	WATSON CHARLES	\$189.88
1496	WATSON MARY ELIZABETH	\$13.47
1507	WESMOLAN JENNIFER	\$52.20
1514	WESTDALE ASSOCIATES	\$3,149.59
1550	WILLIAMS DAVIDBELLSOUTH TELECOMMUNICATIONS	\$36.42
1630	BELLSOUTH TELECOMMUNICATIONS	\$1,458.69
1631	KENTUCKY UTILITIES CO	\$12,046.12

1632 KENERGY CORP\$378.61

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legal notices

Notice is hereby given that on March 12, 2025 Peggy Easley and Jill Croft of 136 Whipporwill Dr., Marion, KY 42064 and 2265 Lewis Croft Rd., Salem, KY 42078 was appointed co-administratrix of Homer Ray Travis, deceased, whose address was 6770 Mott City Rd., Fredonia, KY 42411. Rebecca Johnson, 217 W. Bellville St., Marion, KY 42064, attornev.

All persons having claims against said estate are hereby notified to present the same properly proven as required by law to the administratrix before the 12th day of September, 2025 and all claims not so proven and presented by that date shall be forever barred.

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

Crittenden District Court Melissa Guill, Clerk (1t-11-c)

Notice is hereby given that on March 12, 2025 Athena Marie Hayes of 4464 S.R. 70, Marion, KY 42064; Donald Earl Perry of 875 S.R. 902, Fredonia, KY 42411; Dustin Cole Perry of 727 1st St. Apt. E, Henderson, KY 42420 was appointed co-administrators of Donald Wayne Perry, deceased,

whose address was 131 Joyce Rd., Marion, KY 42064. Hon. Rebecca Johnson, P.O. Box 415, Marion, KY 42064, attornev.

All persons having claims against said estate are hereby notified to present the same properly proven as required by law to the co-administrators before the 12th day of September, 2025 and all claims not so proven and presented by that date shall be forever barred.

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

Crittenden District Court Melissa Guill, Clerk (1t-11-c)

Notice is hereby given that on March 12, 2025 Emm Brown of 712 East Delaware St., Evansville, IN 47711 and Ethel Diana Stroud of 1100 Erie Ave. Unit 406, Evansville, IN 47715 were appointed co-executrixes of Roxie Gayle Haire-Binkley, deceased, whose address was 305 Pine Street, Marion, KY 42064. Rebecca Johnson, attorney.

All persons having claims against said estate are hereby notified to present the same properly proven as required by law to the co-executrixes on or before the 12th day of September, 2025 and all claims not so proven and presented by that date shall be forever barred.

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

Crittenden District Court Melissa Guill, Clerk (1t-11-c)

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Salem Cemetery *IS ACCEPTING BIDS* to mow and weedeat Salem Cemetery.

The bid that is accepted will have to do the following: Mow, weedeat, and blow off monuments every week. Roundup may not be used around monuments.

We ask that bids be dropped off at Boyd Funeral Directors during normal business hours or may be emailed to andy@boydfuneraldirectors.com. Salem Cemetery has the right to reject any and all bids.

ESTATE AUCTION Sat, Mar. 29th - 10:00 A.M. Don Spurrier Estate - 181 DN Spurrier Rd, Marion, KY jamesrcash.com For Pictures

TRACTORS - SPRAYER - DOZERS - TLB - COMBINES JD 9400 · JD 4960 MFWD · JD 4840 · JD 4430 · JD 2950 MFWD, JD 260 Loader · JD 2640, w/ JD 146 Loader · JD 4700 Sprayer • Cat D6C Dozer, 10K • Cat D6D Dozer • Cat 416 Tractor Loader Backhoe • 16" Backhoe Bucket • JD 9600 Combine 4WD · JD 7720 Combine 4WD · JD 843 Corn Head · JD 643 Cornhead · JD 925 Platform · Header Wagons

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lane RD 4100, 4135 Durareel Reel Disc, 35' Kinze 2600 Planter, 16/31 · JD 7000 Planter, 6 Row · Brillion XL 144, 36 X Fold Roller • Brillion WP-108 Fold Roller, 27' • J&M TF212 X Fold Crumbler • Tye 118-610 Paratill, 6 Shank • Great Plains 3000 Turbo Till, 30' JD 750 Drill w/Dollie . JD 1500 Drill Case IH 3900 Disc, 32' . IH 490 Disc, 25' . IH 55 Hi Chisel Plow · JD 3 Bar Chisel Plow · JD 7 Shank Ripper · 3 Pt Forks · Poly 2100 & 1300 Tanks · Forks · BH 2620 Cutter Ditch Mower
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GIRLS SWEET 16 Last wWeek at Rupp Arena **FIRST ROUND**

North Laurel 51, Ashland Blazer 42 George R Clark 64, Franklin-Simpson 42 Frederick Douglass 48, Simon Kenton 39 Taylor Co. 53, Knott Co. Central 35 Danville Christian 53, Daviess Co. 40 Henderson Co. 45, Marshall Co. 30 Sacred Heart 71, Johnson Central 25 Cooper 70, Mercy Academy 45 QUARTERFINAL ROUND

George R Clark 50, North Laurel 42 Frederick Douglass 61, Taylor Co. 53 Danville Christian 60, Henderson Co. 45 Sacred Heart 78, Cooper 61 **SEMIFINAL ROUND**

George R Clark 75, Frederick Douglass 52 Sacred Heart 60, Danville Christian 44 **CHAMPIONSHIP**

Sacred Heart 65, George R Clark 60

BOYS SECOND REGION

At Madisonville

Last week's semifinals Madisonville 73, Union County 69 Henderson Co. 59, Lyon County 55 Tuesday's Championship Henderson Co. 52, Madisonville 34

Mattinglys drain FTs

Olivia Mattingly sank 19 of 25 free throws to win the 11-year-old division of the Knights of Columbus Free Throw contest at a clinic last weekend in Bardstown. Her sister, Alexis. drained 20 of 25 to



Olivia Mattingly

finish runnerup in the 14-year-old divi-

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Guess gets 8 in NAIA loss

No. 14-seeded Lindsey Wilson fell to No. 3 William Carey 70-61 in the first round of the NAIA National Tournament on Friday at Xavier University of Louisiana. Crittenden County graduate Taylor Guess contributed with a three-pointer in the second quarter that helped cut the Blue Raiders' deficit to 20-18. She later hit a three in the third quarter and added a pair of free throws to bring Lindsey Wilson within six at 43-37. She finished with 8 points. The Blue Raiders finished the season with a 16-14 record.

BASEBALL I SOFTBALL Softball wins opener

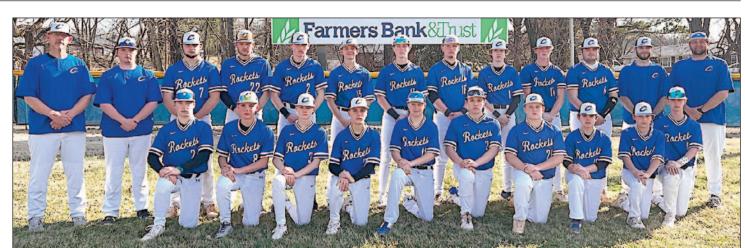
Junior slugger Andrea Federico hit 2 home runs – her first on the first pitch she saw of the season - and drove in 5 runs as Crittenden County beat Hopkins Central 7-1 to open the spring season. Lady Rocket Elliot Evans was 3-for-3 in the leadoff position and scored twice. Georgia Holeman and Anna Boone also had two hits. Eighth-grader Brodi Rich went four innings in the circle for the win. Evans and Boone both pitched in releif. The Lady Rockets will be back in action Thursday at Mayfield.

Rockets roll in first game

Crittenden County's offense erupted for 21 runs in the second inning Tuesday on the road against Christian Fellowship, winning 23-1 in three innings. Hudson Stokes had four RBIs on two hits, and Jaxton Duncan drove in three runs. Quinn Summers, Chase Conyer and Drake Young had two hits apiece. Stokes, Eli Lovell and Kaiden Travis scored three runs each. Duncan and Jake Rich pitched, allowing no hits while striking out three and four, respectively. The Rockets will be at home Thursday, Friday and Saturday. They host Union County on Thursday, Heritage Christian on Friday and play a doubleheader Saturday against Fort Campbell and John

Jankowski moving again

Outfielder Travis Jankowski signed a minor-league contract with the Chicago White Sox on March 12 after opting out of a similar deal with the Cubs. The former Marion Bobcats baseball player joined the Cubs on Feb. 24 after spending the past two seasons with Texas, where he won a World Series in 2023 as the Rangers' fourth outfielder. Jankowski, 33, batted .231 with three RBIs in 13 at-bats over seven spring training games before being reassigned to minor league camp last week. Last season, Jankowski hit .263 with 30 RBIs while providing solid defense during Texas' championship run. However, his production dipped in 2023, as he batted .200 with 12 RBIs over 104 games. A veteran of 10 major league seasons, Jankowski has a career .236 average with 11 home runs and 96 RBIs, having played for San Diego, Cincinnati, Philadelphia, the New York Mets, Seattle and Texas.



Rocket Baseball team members (front from left) are Eli Lovell, Roane Topp, Hayden Hughes, Jett Champion, Cameron Nesbitt, Zack Rustin, Jake Rich, Eli Herrin, Brier Brown, Drake Young (back) coach Jason Stokes, coach Trace Adams, Kaiden Travis, Asa McCord, Jaxton Duncan, Hudson Stokes, Quinn Summers, Keegan Pierson, Brady Dayberry, Davis Perryman, Chase Conyer, coach Riley Jones and head coach Devin Belt.

Baseball Rockets young, hungry for success

With a roster full of underclassmen and a deep pitching staff, Crittenden County baseball coach Devin Belt is optimistic about the upcoming season. The Rockets return key contributors but will rely heavily on a talented but youthful core to compete in a tough district.

Only five of the 26 players in the program are juniors or seniors, and the Rocket coach says he will need freshmen and sophomores to continue filling significant roles.

"We are going to be a very young team, four or five freshmen and sophomores will be starting," Belt said. "Some got experience last year, and we're asking young guys to continue to step up.

One of the biggest strengths for the Rockets this season is pitching depth. Seniors Asa McCord and Chase Conyer, along with freshman Hudson Stokes and sophomore Jaxton Duncan, will anchor the starting rotation. Crittenden typically operates with a three-man rotation, but this year's team has the arms to expand that strategy.

"I feel better than I have in a while about the length in our pitching and the spots where we can bring people in," Belt said.

Most of the staff can hit 80 mph, and some have been clocked in the mid 80s. Belt says that's a change for re-

Quinn Summers, Jake Rich, Eli Lovell and Keegan Pierson will also see time on the mound, and Drake Young is expected to contribute as both a spot starter and long reliever.

With so many interchangeable parts in the infield, defensive alignments will often depend on who is pitching, the coach explains. Summers, a junior, is the most experienced infielder and will hold down shortstop, with Stokes serving as his backup. Young and Brady Dayberry will split time at second, while Stokes, Young and Rich will handle third base duties.

At first base, Conyer and Pierson provide power, with Pierson also expected to serve as the designated hitter when not playing first or pitching.

Behind the plate, Crittenden is less experienced than in past years. Zack Rustin, Eli Lovell and Cameron Nesbitt are the primary catchers, with Summers also available if needed, but moving him off of shortstop would be too risky, the coach said.

"Over the last seven or eight years we've had just two guys who've pretty well handled the everyday catching duties," Belt said. "That's a spot we will have to figure out as we move along."

The Rockets will rotate several players through the outfield. Kaiden Travis returns as the everyday left fielder,

share time in center. McCord will see action in right field, along with Davis Perryman.

"We have to make improvements tracking balls in the outfield," Belt said. "That's something we're really focused on.

Losing three senior starters Casey Cates, a reliable catcher; Jeremiah Foster, a four-year pitching standout; and Tyler Belt - who broke both the single-season and all-time stolen base record leaves a void, but this year's group is expected to play with overall team speed and confidence on the base paths.

"We will be more athletic than normal," Belt said. "Hudson is our leadoff, Lovell and Quinn are quick and Asa is a great runner. One area we've really been working on is being more aggressive on the basepaths, getting good leads and reading dirt balls, the coach explains.

The emphasis on plate discipline continues as well, with Farmers Bank donating money for every walk drawn this season as part of the "Farmers Bank Free Pass" program. The Rockets had 10 walks in their first scrimmage against St. Mary.

Lyon County enters the season as the district favorite and is one of the top teams in the Second Region. Crittenden finished sixth in the region's power rankings last season and narrowly lost to

ROCKET ROSTER

HOCKL	ı nı	JOILN
Player	Grade	Position
Chase Conyer	12	1B, LHP
Asa McCord	12	OF, RHP
Kaiden Travis	12	OF, RHP
Quinn Summers	11	SS, RHP
Keegan Pierson	11	3B, RHP
Jaxton Duncan	10	OF, RHP
Jake Rich	10	3B, RHP
Davis Perryman	10	OF
Brady Dayberry	10	SS, 2B, RHF
Hudson Stokes	9	IF, RHP
Drake Young	9	3B, RHP
Eli Lovell	9	OF, C, RHP
Eli Herrin	9	С
Zack Rustin	9	С
Cameron Nesbit		C, OF
CJ Nelson	9	OF
Wyatt Gibson	9	OF
Hayden Hughes	8	OF, RHP
Jett Champion	8	SS, RHP
Roane Topp	8	OF, C, RHP
Daryl Sherer	8	OF
Brier Brown	7	1B, OF, P
Gage Adamson	7	OF
Draven Farmer	7	OF
Carter Tyner	7	2B, SS
Bentley Rushing	7	OF

Coaches: Devin Belt, Riley Jones, Jason Stokes, Trace Adams.

Union County in the regional tournament.

"We won 18 games last year, the fourth most in program history," Belt said. This is a young group that is very hungry to win. It all depends on these young guys stepping up."



The Lady Rocket softball includes (front from leftr) Abigail Champion, Caroline Martin, Brodi Rich, Alexis Mattingly, Karlee Jent, Brooklyn Lovell, Fiona Louden, Lilly Cappello, Brenna Kemmer, Sadie Green, (back) head coach Chris Evans, coach Shawn Holeman, coach Jamie Brown, Kayliegh Weathers, Elliot Evans, Georgia Holeman, Anna Boone, Morgan Stewart, Andrea Federico, Macibelle Hardesty, Hannah Jent, Ellie McDaniel, Morgan Stewart, coach Ashley Frederick and graduate assistant Jaycee Champion.

Lady Rockets working for improved defense

Crittenden County's softball girls opened their spring campaign Monday and are looking forward to a competitive season on the diamond.

With seven returning starters, CCHS would typically be in excellent position to challenge for a top-tiered spot in the district and region. As its turns out, nearly every other team in the area is in the same shape. Livingston Central, last year's All A Classic state champion, returns virtually in tack with one of the best young pitchers in the state. Trigg County and Lyon County are both improved from last season, making the Fifth District one of the toughest in the region from top to bottom.

With slugger Andrea Federico, three-year catcher Elle McDaniel and veteran pitchers and playmakers Elliot Evans and Anna Boone at the heart of the lineup, the Lady Rockets have a strong nucleus from which to build around. Sophomores Hannah Jent and Morgan Piper add slugging to the lineup.

Eighth-grade pitcher Brodi Rich emerged last season as a stopper in the circle, drawing some of the team's toughest assignments, particularly after Boone was sidelined with a hand injury. Another middle schooler, Brenna Kemmer, will give CCHS additional pitching depth.

lineup this season will be outfielder Georgia Holeman, third baseman Caroline Martin, infielder Abigail Champion and hitter Macibelle

Hardesty. Another junior, Holeman saw spot time last year behind graduated centerfielder Jaycee Champion, who signed to play collegiately at Midway University. Hardesty got some opportunities to hit in key spots last year as a first-year player with the Lady Rockets. Her role could expand a bit this spring and middle schoolers Martin and Champion are likely to be regular fixtures on the infield.

Third-year coach Chris Evans said the basketball team's success, playing late in the postseason, always slows the softball team's start. Several of the starters are key members of the basketball team and only joined the softball camp last week.

"We anticipated this," the coach said. "We are very proud of our basketball team's prosperity and understand that is typically something we have to deal with early on. Three of our four pitchers are members of the basketball team, so it will take them a few weeks to get into softball form. We know

and understand that." Additionally, a couple of players were members of the cheerleading squad which

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LAD I NOCK		JILI
Player	Grade	Position
Kayleigh Weathers	Sr	Infield
Anna Boone	Jr	P, 1B
Elliot Evans	Jr	P, OF
Andrea Federico	Jr	SS, 1B
Georgia Holeman	Jr	OF
Elle McDaniel	Jr	C, Utility
Hannah Jent	So	OF
Morgan Piper	So	C, Utility
Macibelle Hardesty	So	1B
Morgan Stewart	So	1B, 3B
Brenna Kemmer	8th	P, OF
Sadie Green	8th	Infield
Caroline Martin	8th	3B
Brodi Rich	8th	P, Infield
Abigail Champion	8th	SS
Lilly Cappello	8th	OF, P
Alexis Mattingly	8th	OF
Brooklyn Lovell	7th	Infield
Fiona Louden	7th	1B
Karlee Jent	7th	Infield

Coaches: Chris Evans, Jamie Brown, Ashley Frederick, Shawn Holeman and grad assistant Jaycee Champion.

precluded them from most of the preseason softball work-

The team has just one senior, Kayleigh Weathers, and five juniors. Ten of the team's 20 players are middle school-

Federico, an all-region selection last season, returns to chase the school home run record. The junior has 21 -

after hitting 2 Monday - and

the career record is held by

Brandy Book with 31. Fed-

season and has 95 career RBIs, which is well within striking distance of the team record of 137, also held by

The coach says the team's offense has been good enough to win over the past two years, but wants to see the girls running the bases with more intellect. Defense, he explains, is the key to improving on the team's 14 victories in each of the past two

"Another product of not having much of a preseason with most of our starters has been the inability to adequately work on improving our defense and create better communication among the nine players we have on the field," the coach said. "Once we get started playing, there are three or four games a week and that leaves scarcely little time for improving defensive skills. That's just the nature of where we're at and what's going on. We're constantly trying to learn and improve while under heavy

Once again, CCHS is playing a tough schedule that features no assured wins on any given outing. Henderson County, Christian County, Marshall County, Graves County, Paducah Tilghman and other regional lions area among the non-district schedule.



Crittenden County 4-H Horse Club attended an event last week at Murray State University. The horse judging clinic was organized by the District 7 4-H Horse Program and Murray State. Local students learned the basics of horse judging and were asked to apply what they learned in judging horses at the arena. The Crittenden group judged two conformation classes and two performance classes. Students found the program interesting and informative. Pictured are (front from left) Harper Riley, Jasely Guess, Brooklyn Suggs, and Presley Herrin, (back) Aerie Suggs, Dally Millikan, Adley Sutton, Raylee Millikan and Paige Tinsley.

US 60 West closing spring break

During the week that Crittenden County students are on spring break, the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet plans to close a section of U.S. 60 between Salem and Marion, starting at 7 a.m. Tuesday, April 1.

closed between KY 855 and KY 297 in the New $\,$ Salem area. Crews will remove and replace an existing concrete box culvert that carries a tributary of Dry Fork Creek under the roadway at the 1.13-mile marker.

Work is expected to be completed by 5 p.m. April 2, Wednesday, weather permitting.

Scheduling the work spring break during disruption of avoids school bus and other school-related traffic.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Chickens denied space; rec complex can proceed

Marion City Council on Monday approved a request for a zoning change at the corner of Old Morganfield Road and Adams Street.

Marion's Planning and Zoning Board recommended affirming the request by Colby Davis to change the zoning from agricultural to business so he can develop an indoor recreation and fitness center there.

The approval included a caveat that the entrance to the development must come off Adams Street instead of

Old Morganfield Road. While the recreation complex gained a favorable outcome, chickens were not so lucky.

Council members discussed recent requests by residents who want the town to create new regulations or alter existing ordinances to allow backyard chicken flocks in the city. With egg prices exceeding \$6 a dozen, many people are considering raising chickens.

No formal action was taken, but based on discussion, it appeared clear that council mem-

bers have no appetite for making changes to current prohibitions on barnyard animals on properties inside the corporate city limits unless properties are zoned for agriculture.

Council members cited concerns about potential issues associated with allowing chickens in Marion, such as effects on groundwater, noise pollution, and the likelihood that chickens would attract predators like raccoons, snakes and other varmints.

Mayor D'Anna Browning said the idea of hostbackyard flocks would be akin to developing a "long-term solution for a temporary problem" because egg prices will almost certainly not stay high.

There were no positive comments from individuals attending the meeting, but some did speak against allowing the chickens.

In other city business, council members elected Councilman Randy Dunn as mayor pro tem. He will preside over meetings when the mayor is unavailable.

•Kelsey Berry was ap-

pointed to the City of Marion Code Enforcement Board for a threeyear term.

•Callie Courtney was appointed to the Marion Planning and Zoning Commission for a fouryear term.

The council approved accepting an alley into the city street system and naming it Free Will Street, a reference to a church that was formerly located nearby street connects Moore Street to Main Street and had been in disrepair for several years.

A request was made by Karen Cruce to rename Wilson Hill for her late father, Richard Cruce, a local businessman who developed Hillcrest Subdivision on top of the hill above the city's eastside.

No formal action was taken, but council members appeared favorable to the idea. Research will be conducted to determine what steps must be taken to get the name changed on official maps and whether the city has any jurisdiction over renaming such natural landmarks.

Marion summit draws small turnout **Broadband options improving**

A recent meeting billed as an "Internet Summit" regarding broadband access in Marion drew only a handful of attendees, including Mayor D'Anna Browning, Judge-Executive Perry Newcom, a local IT specialist and four area businesspeople. Despite the low discussions highlighted ongoing frustrations with broadband availability and potential solutions for businesses and residents.

One key outcome was confirmation that AT&T is a potential contact for businesses seeking fiber internet. However, concerns were raised about the high cost of AT&T's fiber services. Barkley Hughes, a longtime IT specialist and local resident, advocated for Starlink as a viable and more affordable alternative for both business and residential use.

AT&T received a lot of government funding for broadband expansion but hasn't made it easy for businesses to access fiber, Hughes said. He

emphasized that Starlink has been a gamechanger, offering reliable connectivity without the logistical barriers of fiber installation.

Mayor Browning recently met with AT&T representatives to discuss fiber availability for businesses in Marion. AT&T stated that fiber infrastructure is present in the city but varies in strength and capability. The company prefers to address connection requests on an individual basis and provide cost estimates for build-outs based on specific business needs.

The mayor expressed uncertainty about why AT&T could not provide a public service map, citing proprietary concerns. also

The meeting touched on other broadband options. Judge Newcom discussed Kenergy's partnership with Conexon Connect, which is expanding fiber-optic broadband to rural communities. He encouraged local leaders to support Conexon's application for federal funding through

the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Program. If approved, the initiative could extend high-speed internet to approximately 49,000 unserved and underserved homes and businesses across 13 counties, including Crittenden.

Beyond improving inaccess, ternet Conexon project aims to enhance electric grid reliability by integrating smart-grid technology. This would allow for better communication between electrical systems, reducing power outages and improving energy efficiency.

For businesses in Marion, the choice largely comes down to AT&T fiber or Starlink, while residents may also have the option of Conexon in the future. With highspeed internet access becoming essential for economic growth, education, and healthcare, local leaders continue to push for expanded broadband solutions to bridge the digital divide in rural Kentucky.

Pickleball courts ready in April

Marion Tourism Commission met Tuesday morning to discuss several topics, including a request from Marion Mayor D'Anna Browning for financial support toward purchasing veteran banners to hang on downtown light

Commissioners approved contributing \$1,300 toward purchasing the decorative banners, which will depict images of local veterans who have died in action during wars and conflicts since World War I. The city hopes to have the banners purchased and displayed for Memorial Day in May.

Banners may also be purchased by individuals to recognize family or friends who served in any branch of the military. Those, too, will be hung for periods on downtown light poles (see related article elsewhere in this edition).

Tourism Director Michele Edwards said the new pickleball courts at Marion-Crittenden County Park should be painted, striped and have nets installed for play to begin at some point in April. She said it will probably be later in the month before all work is complete.

The board also set dates for upcoming events, including a disc golf tournament at the park on April 12, a bowfishing tournament headquartered at the fairgrounds on May 10, and the Marion Show and Shine car shows, which start May 22. Show and Shine events will also take place every fourth Thursday of the month through Sep-

Marion Baptist Church will host a Community Block Party at the park on April 13 and an Easter egg hunt on



FFA to host vendor fair at greenhouse

Crittenden County FFA chapter is gearing up for a spring event, kicking off its greenhouse season with a vendor fair on Saturday, April 12, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., on the school campus.

The fair, designed to provide a marketplace for handmade and homemade goods, is expected to feature a variety of small businesses. Shoppers can browse a selecproducts, including soaps, beef tallow, local honey, arts and crafts, and more.

Concessions will be available, provided by the Lions Club. Organizers encourage community members to attend and support local vendors. Those interested in reserving a vendor booth can find contact details on the event flyer or reach out to chapter sponsors Jessica Ambercrombie at 859-396-5185 or Marlee Lanham at 270-704-

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FINANCIAL FOCUS®

Time for financial spring cleaning

· Cut back on "over-

Spring is here which means it's once again time to wash the windows, organize your cabinets and steam your carpets. This year, in addition to tidying up around your house, why not also consider some financial spring clean-

Here are some suggestions to consider:

· "De-clutter" your investment portfolio. When you embark on your home cleaning mission, you might notice that you have redundancies - three blenders, two vacuum cleaners, and so on. Similarly, you might find duplications in your investment portfolio, perhaps in the form of multiple, near-identical stocks or mutual funds. If so, then it might be worthwhile to consider selling some of these investments and using the proceeds to boost your portfolio in other areas in which you may be lacking.

Edward Jones MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

grown" investments. Now that winter is over and you're venturing outside more, you may notice some overgrown shrubbery or some tree branches that need pruning. And while it may sound counterintuitive, you might also have some investments that have grown too big for your needs. For example, you might own some growth-oriented investments whose value has increased so much that they now take up a larger percentage of your portfolio - and

carry a higher degree of

risk — than you origi-

nally intended. If that's

the case, you might be

some of these invest-

ments and purchasing

better off by selling

others to help bring your investment mix back to its desired alignment.

 Dust off your investment strategy. With more sunlight now pouring in your house, you might notice that the corners of your walls and ceiling may need a good dusting. And as you continually work to strengthen your financial foundation, you may need to dust off your investment strategy, especially if you've recently experienced changes in your life, such as a marriage, addition of children, new job, and so on. And as you move closer to retirement, you may also need to adjust your strategy in some ways. For one thing, you might want to adopt a more conservative investment approach in the years immediately preceding your retirement, though you'll still need to have some growth potential in your portfolio to help keep

March 20, 2025

you ahead of inflation. Protect yourself from financial dangers. As you go about your household spring cleaning, you may find actual physical dangers that need to be removed or stored more safely, such as sharp objects or broken tools. And as you navigate daily life. vou may also find threats to your financial safety - the need for an expensive home improvement, or a major car repair or an unexpectedly large medical bill. If you don't have the money available to pay



Grant Rogers

these expenses, you might be forced to dip into your retirement accounts or run up your credit card or take out a high-rate loan. To protect yourself from having to make these moves, you may want to maintain an emergency fund containing several months' worth of living expenses, with the money kept in a liquid account, separate from those you use for your daily living expenses.

Of course, some of these moves can take some time - but by getting started on them soon, you can help put your financial house in better shape by the time the next spring cleaning rolls around.

Teen drivers could get earlier permit

But legislation tightens down on their phones

STAFF REPORT

Now that the legislative session has concluded, several bills impacting student drivers and school policies are set to take effect.

Among the most notable changes is House Bill 15. which lowers the minimum age for obtaining a learner's permit from 16 to 15. The legislation, sponsored by House Majority Leader Steve Rudy, R-Paducah, still requires permit holders to complete a 180-day waiting period before they can test for an intermediate driver's license at age 16, according to a news release from the Legislative Research Commission.

New drivers must complete a driver training course and hold an intermediate license for at least 180 days before qualifying for a full operator's license.

Kentucky lawmakers have also proposed strict requirements for these new drivers,. Among the measures is a requirment for teens to accumulate 60 hours of supervised practice, including 10 hours of night driving. During each session, they must be accompanied only by an adult at least 21 years of age. After six months of supervised driving, teens can apply for an intermediate license, but they must complete their driver training and maintain their intermediate license for another six months.

If signed by Gov. Andy Beshear, the law would change the state's driver licensing process for the first time in

Currently, Kentucky teens must be 16 to apply for a per-

Supporters argue the measure allows teens more time to practice under supervision before driving independently. However, some opponents have expressed concerns over younger, less experienced drivers sharing the road.

Another major policy change coming to schools is House Bill 208, which bans student cell phone use during instructional hours. The legislation, approved by a 35-0 vote in the Senate, requires school districts to adopt policies prohibiting student phone use in classrooms, though teachers may grant exceptions for educational purposes.

Additionally, Senate Bill 19 mandates a moment of silence at the start of each school day,

giving students up to two minutes to pray, meditate, or reflect as they choose.

Lawmakers also passed an education-related measure allowing students to take an hour off weekly for "moral instruction," though specifics on implementation remain un-

With the session now closed, attention turns to Gov. Andy Beshear, who will decide which bills to sign, allow to become law without his signature, or veto. Lawmakers will reconvene later this month to consider overriding any vetoes before adjourning for the year.

The governor has already

signed into law Republican-led signature legislation to shave another half percentage point from the personal income tax rate, the third such cut since 2022, bringing the rate to 3.5% Jan. 1. Beshear



signed that measure in early February. Lawmakers also approved easier conditions for lowering the state's personal income tax in the future.

Judge denies plea for leniency in jail contraband case

The attorney for a woman who last fall tried to throw drugs over a wall into Crittenden County Detention Center's recreation area asked for leniency for his client, but Circuit Judge Daniel Heady denied the request.

Attorney Cody Hooks of Princeton said Rebecca Rednour, 36, of Hopkinsville, was under the influence of multiple drugs and not making good decisions when she attempted to intro-

duce contraband into the jail. He said judges in Christian and Hopkins counties, where Rednour has additional unrelated charges, were willing to work out a deal so she could enroll in drug court.



Rednour

A woman who has custody of Rednour's daughter in foster care testified that she would allow the defendant to live in her home if released to participate in drug court.

Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney Wes Hunt argued that Rednour should not receive special consideration because she was "literally inches or feet" away from facing a much more serious crime of promoting contraband into the jail, which could have made her eligible as a persistent felony offender.

Rednour was seen trying to throw something behind the jail's exterior wall, but despite efforts to find the contraband, officials did not discover what it was. They found only what the defendant failed to throw over the wall. which were prescription pills. Hunt said had she been able to toss them into the

jail rec area, and the evidence located

CRITTENDEN COUNTY

inside, a stiffer charge and penality would have been appropriate.

"She would be looking at 10 to 20 years," Hunt said, suggesting that the previously agreed-upon sentence of one year was already favorable considering other potential consequences.

Rednour also has an active case in

The judge said there were too many cases for him to release Rednour into drug court, effectively probating her sentence to time served. Held since her arrest for the crime, she has already been incarcerated for 157 days toward the one-year sentence.

Heady formalized Rednour's sentence at one year for felony first-degree possession of a controlled substance (hydrocodone) and 365 days each on two misdemeanors, attempting to promote contraband and possession of drug paraphernalia. The time will run con-

·A Marion couple accused of first-degree criminal abuse of a child under 12 pleaded guilty to lesser charges last week and were granted pretrial diver-

Brittany Pitre, 36, and Justin Pitre, 35, had been jailed since last fall on Class B felony charges but were sentenced to five years of pretrial diversion on Class D felonies and Class A misdemeanors for second-degree criminal abuse and endangering the welfare of a child. As part of their diversion, they

are prohibited from being alone with the child.

CIRCUIT COURT

Authorities were called to their residence on KY 365 on Sept. 28 of last year following a request from the Department of Community Based Services regarding a child welfare complaint. Law enforcement found an 11-year-old girl who had been largely confined to her bedroom, which was in an unsanitary state, with human feces on the floor.

Initially believed to be a physical abuse case, the prosecutor said it was later determined the situation was more "environmental" in nature, leading to the revised charges. After hearing the commonwealth's recommendation, Judge Heady accepted the plea deal.

The Pitres were released from custody Friday following the agreement.

•Jonathan Richard Luis Kentfield, 41, of Marion pleaded guilty to one amended felony count of first-degree sexual abuse, a Class D felony, and distribution of obscene material to a minor, a Class A misdemeanor. He had originally faced a more serious charge of procurement or promotion of a minor under the age of 12 involving sexual or other prohibited activities (electronic

Court records say that Kentucky State Police received a complaint about the situation that reportedly occurred on Aug. 23, 2023. As part of the probe, Kentfield's smartphone was confiscated and searched. On it, police found sexu-

ally explicit material. Police also say they found evidence in the victim's journal.

•Alexis Ann Parker, 23, of Marion pleaded guilty to a felony charge of second-degree criminal abuse of a child under 12 years old.

Parker was given pretrial diversion. Under the diversion plan, the charges will be dropped if no further offenses are reported over the next five years.

•Josh Hunter, 44, of Salem was sanctioned for violating terms of his probation on a 2022 conviction for flagrant non-support. The court added three years to his probationary period, meaning he will be on probation until September 2026. The sanction was issued for Hunter's failure to take the proper dosage of medication prescribed to him.

 Lonnie Ray Moore, 53, of Marion pleaded guilty to a Class C felony for second-degree burglary and misdemeanor charges of third-degree terroristic threatening and resisting arrest. He was sentenced to 10 years on the burglary charge and 365 days on the other charges. The time will run consecutively, and the commonwealth does not oppose shock probation after 30 days so long as he immediately enters a long-term treatment program.

Court records say Moore broke through the window of a family member's home on Nov. 25 and threatened her life. The victim filed an emergency protective order against Moore. Police later found him down the road from the victim's home. He refused to get out of his vehicle, and officers had to remove him by force.

Methamphetamine suspected in all three March indictments

STAFF REPORT

Crittenden County indicted Grand Jury three individuals last week in a light docket. Methamphetamine played a part in all of the cases.

A grand jury does not decide guilt or innocence; rather, it determines whether enough evidence exists to proceed with prosecuting a felony case in circuit court. The prosecution is the sole source of evidence presented to the grand jury.

The following indictments were issued during the grand jury's March

session: •Allison D. Robinson, 25, of Marion was indicted on a felony charge of first-degree possession of a controlled substance (methamphetamine) and misdemeanor charges of second-degree possession of a controlled substance and possession of drug paraphernalia.

According to court records, a deputy was

CRITTENDEN COUNTY

preparing to transport Robinson to the jail on another matter warned her about taking contraband into the detention center. She allegedly told the officer about a syringe in her bra. Three syringes were found inside her clothing and, according to the citation, she admitted that meth was inside the syringes. She also told officers that she was 13 weeks pregnant.

•Jerry David Rodney Jr., 35, of Clay was indicted on a felony charge of first-degree, second-offense possession of a controlled substance (methamphetamine) and misdemeanor charges of prescription medication not in original container, third-degree possession of a controlled substance, first-offense operating a motor vehicle under the influence of a controlled

GRAND JURY

substance, operating on a suspended or revoked license and failure of owner to maintain insurance and a violation of having no or expired registration plates. Court records indicate

that local law enforcement observed in October of last year Rodney operating a vehicle on Sturgis Road with an expired license plate. A traffic stop and subsequent investigation led to further charges.

•Kevin W. Bingham, 59, of Marion was indicted on a felony charge of first-degree possession of a controlled substance (methamphetamine) in a direct submittal to the grand jury by Marion Police Department. The indictment alleges that Bingham was in possession of meth on Jan. 1,

lcbee Law Ut MCGEE-LAWOFFICE.C (270) 928-2178 115 East Adair St., Smithland, Ky.



Schools apply for summer program

Crittenden County School District is applying for the Kentucky Department of Education's (KDE) Summer Boost: Reading and Mathematics Program, an initiative aimed at promoting family engagement in literacy and math while ensuring students have access to meals during the summer months.

The program, a collaboration between KDE's Office of Teaching and Learning and the Summer Food Service Program, provides participating districts with free books for students in grades K-12, along with interactive materials such as bracelets, bookmarks and book bags to encourage daily reading.

Districts selected for the program will also receive digital math games, training on how to engage families using the provided materials, and creative strate-

gies for incorporating literacy and numeracy into everyday life. Additionally, a guest reader will have the opportunity to visit and read to students.

"Summer meal programs play a critical role in ensuring hunger doesn't keep students from reaching their full potential," said Danielle Ward, KDE's Summer Boost coordinator. "With the Summer Boost: Reading and Mathematics Program, your district will have the opportunity to feed children and promote supports for reading and mathematics throughout the summer."

To be considered, districts must submit an application confirming their interest by March 28. Families wanting to participate can contact the district's Summer Food Service Department for information about local meal service