

BY THE NUMBERS

Our best armed states...

In the U.S., gun ownership rates vary greatly from state to state. In some states 6 out of 10 people own a weapon. In others, the rate is less than 1 in 10. The national average for gun ownership is 39.8 percent. Following is a list of the top and bottom five states in average of gun ownership, and rates for Kentucky and its neighboring states.

Top Five States	
State	Gun Ownership
1. Montana	65.7%
2. Wyoming	60.7%
3. West Virginia	60.6%
4. Idaho	57.8%
5. Alaska	57.2%
Contiguous States	
11. Missouri	52.8%
12. Kentucky	52.5%
18. Tennessee	46.9%
42. Illinois	22.6%
21. Indiana	42.4%
23. Ohio	41.9%
38. Virginia	35.3%
Bottom Five States	
46. New York	16.3%
47. Rhode Island	13.9%
48. Massachusetts	9.9%
49. Hawaii	9.1%
50. New Jersey	8.9%

Holy Week will climax with early Easter Sunday

Although Easter occurs in March only 23 percent of the time, you might be surprised to learn that the Christian celebration marking Christ's resurrection happens most commonly on March 31 as it will this year. At least that's the calculation for the first 500 years of the Gregorian Calendar, otherwise between 1753 (the first year America adopted the calendar) and 2252. Holy Week began with Palm Sunday and moves toward its pinnacle beginning with Maundy Thursday (commemorating Jesus's washing of his disciples' feet) and Good Friday (when Jesus was crucified on the cross). Sunday will be Easter when Christians here and around the globe celebrate Jesus's overcoming death, giving hope and promise to the living. Marion Baptist Church is hosting a big Easter egg hunt at the park on Saturday. See details on page 8.

Job Fair here next month

A job fair conducted by representatives of the West Kentucky Investment Board will be held from 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Friday, April 12 at the Crittenden County Public Library. Companies actively seeking employees will be present or provide information and/or training information. Local companies unable to attend but want to supply information can contact Fred Stubblefield at (270) 832-5730.

Good Friday closings

Local government offices and services and The Press office will be closed in observance of Good Friday. County animal shelter and convenience center are closed Saturday, too.

Day of Prayer next week

Residents are encouraged to meet each month on the first Saturday at 10 a.m., at the courthouse lawn for a community prayer. April's prayer vigil will be on the 6th.



Destiny Sealed

Final chapter in former school's story starts with city's formal condemnation

BY CHRIS EVANS
PRESS EDITOR

Marion leaders and the owner of a long-empty, Depression-era building are in agreement that the old Marion High School's days are numbered. The only variable is time.

Tommy Wright, a local insulator and real estate speculator, has owned the building for more than 40 years. His vision for it never really materialized, but Wright says he's done what he could to keep the South College Street structure from falling into complete disrepair, while hoping for a way to repurpose it one day.

Marion Code Enforcement officer George Foster says the building has been deemed unsafe and needs to be torn down or renovated. The city has formally condemned the building and has given Wright until April 21 to remove a clock cupola and some flashing that appear to be coming unattached to the building and "waving in the wind," as Foster described.

Beyond that, the city wants the building torn

Landmarks Razed

Two other landmarks are slated for demolition in the next couple of years – the western wing of Crittenden County Middle School (formerly the high school) and the county's 1960s-era courthouse.

down and the debris removed within a few months. Otherwise, Marion will force its sale with similar conditions for a prospective new owner. If it goes unsold, the city will pay to have the old school removed, then file action to recover costs from the owner.

Its destiny is obvious and certain, but Wright is hoping to buy just a little more time. If it were a house or small building, he says the job could be done quickly, but it's not.

The building opened as a school in 1938. Grades 7-12 were educated there. In 1957 when Marion High School was consolidated with Crittenden County, all of the city and county students in grades 9-12 started attending Crittenden County High School. In

light of that move, students in grades 4-8 were assigned to the school on North College Street and from thence forward it was known as the Junior High School.

Coincidentally, the original Crittenden County High School on the Gum Street campus in front of the hospital is also being razed next year to make way for a new middle school.

Wright purchased the old College Street high school in the early 1980s from the board of education. It had actually sold to another buyer at public auction, but that deal eventually fell through and Wright was able to acquire it.

Wright says he had big plans for it when from a local financier he borrowed the money to buy it.

"I was 20-something when I bought it," he said. "I just turned 71 and to be honest I never had much trouble out of it until now. All of this kind of caught me off guard."

For many years it's been vacant, its roof deteriorating

See **SCHOOL**/page 3

DOW head in Marion for look at water issues

STAFF REPORT

Local leaders from Crittenden and Livingston counties met Monday with Director Sarah Gaddis, who was recently appointed by Gov. Andy Beshear to head the Kentucky Division of Water (DOW).

Marion Mayor D'Anna Browning, City Administrator Diane Ford-Benningfield, Crittenden County Judge-Executive Perry Newcom, Livingston County Judge-Executive Teris Swanson, Pennyrite Area Development District Director Jason Vincent and a few other state and local officials rendezvoused here and toured Marion's water plant, Crittenden-Liv-



Among those meeting this week to discuss the latest plans to help Marion emerge from its water crisis were (from left) Tim Thomas, DOW's Jackie Logsdon, DOW Director Sarah Gaddis, City Administrator Diane Ford-Benningfield and Marion Mayor D'Anna Browning.

ington Water District's plant, Lake George and spent nearly two hours at a working lunch at the Crittenden County Office Complex.

The scope of Gaddis' trip from Frankfort to Marion was broad. It was primarily an orientation to the water crisis facing Marion and an examination of the county water dis-

trict's need to expand in order to help the city and meet demands of its other wholesale and residential customers.

Tim Thomas, the consultant hired by Marion to help it solve a now two-year-old water shortage, led much of the lunchtime discussion as plans and financing options were probed.

Marion's water crisis surfaced in the spring of 2022 when its water source, Lake George, was purposely breached in order to prevent a potential dam failure. Its earthen levee was discovered to be weeping, creating concern that it could fail and damage

See **WATER**/page 8

Eulogy spurs memories of our squad

We buried my last uncle on Sunday in Tennessee where I grew up. Suppose it is because I have made a career out of writing that I generally get asked to do the eulogy at family funerals. An honor, it is indeed to do it, and it always magnifies the process of finding peace and understanding.

As part of what was said at the funeral, a verse inside 1 Corinthians was used as testimony to my uncle Dale's life. Paraphrasing, the verse explains that some people plant and some people water while God provides the growth. We each have different roles in this journey on earth and we're called to be good stewards of our talents and terrestrial time, to do all the good we can to the glory and satisfaction of our creator.

In preparing for the eulogy I called Donnie Arflack, who as most of you know is a long-serving chief of the Crittenden County Rescue Squad. My uncle was the Paris, Tenn., version of Donnie. Uncle Dale was a leader on the rescue squad there for 48 years. In reflecting on his gifts and service to his community, I began to think of the altruistic efforts by those in Marion who give so much to the rescue squad and volunteer fire departments.

Thank God for those people, whom we sorely fail to adequately recognize and appreciate.

Beyond Donnie Arflack, who has been chief of the squad for more than 30 years, there are countless others. Naming them all would be impossible from my feeble memory, but there are a handful who have stuck out in the last 38 years that I've been writing news and observing the happenings of this community.

Greg Rushing, Billy Arflack, Dan and Geraldine Shouse, Mike Crabtree, Chris Cooksey, Rich Rozwalka, Red Howton, Gary Armstrong, J.D. Grimes, Sonny Brantley, Garland Trimble, Orman Hunt, Tony Alexander, Wayne West, Larry Brown, Bobby West, Bob Wilson, Brian Kirby, Gary Cruce, the Hurley Brothers (Scott and Jason), Barrett and Eugene Belt and Kenneth Davenport are among the faces and names that come to mind. I know there are others and I truly apologize for not being able to recall everyone. Donnie reminded me of Soupy Grady, Poncho Tinsley, Jerry Wright and a handful of others.

In many cases, wives were just as instrumental in the activities of squad and fire departments as were the men. It's important to also mention that Charlie Hodge and a few others were founding fathers of the squad. It started out as a civil defense, radio and rescue club in the 1960s.

More volunteers are needed. You can also financially support their efforts. Joining can be fulfilling because of the service, camaradery, fellowship and civic pride that comes with it.



Chris EVANS
Press Editor & Publisher
About Town

Deaths

Tolley

James Carroll Tolley, 82, of the Lola community, died Friday, March 19, 2024 at Deaconess Midtown Hospital in Evansville.

He was a member and board member of Lola Pentecostal Church. He worked in construction, coal mining and was a farmer over the years. He loved his family and church family and sang in many gospel quartets since the late 1970s.

Surviving are his wife of 59 years, Carol (Butler) Tolley; three daughters, Lisa (Steve) Holland of Calvert City, Kim (Gaylon) Spraggs of Paducah, Paja (Allen) Crider of Marion; seven grandchildren, Peyton Holland, Madison (Travis) Edwards, Keaton Holland, Ellie (Lucas) Englert, Wil Spraggs, Ross and Luke Crider; three great-grandchildren, Anna Englert, Carter Englert and Kendall Edwards; two brothers, twin Harold Tolley of Salem and Kenny (Pat) Tolley of Salem.

He was preceded in death by a son, Christopher James Tolley; a brother, Robert Tolley; a sister, Nellie Jean Robertson; and his parents, Rob and Mildred Bryan Tolley.

Services were Sunday, March 24 at Lola Pentecostal Church, with Bro. Tim Fouts and Bro. Ed Machan officiating. Burial was in Lola Pentecostal Church Cemetery.

Boyd Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Freeman

Charles "Buddy" Orlan Freeman, 91, of Marion, died Wednesday, March 20, 2024 at Livingston Hospital and Healthcare Services.

He was a veteran of the United States Air Force, a member of Deer Creek Baptist Church and was passionate about his long career in the trucking industry.

Surviving are two daughters, Melinda Gipson of Marion and Carmen (John) Rodgers of Nashville; a son, Chris Freeman of Marion; seven grandchildren, Julie (Kevin) Young of Marion, Darren (Magen) Tinsley of Paducah, Andrew Freeman of Murray, Matthew Belt of Kentucky, Christin Freeman of Madisonville, John Luke Rodgers of Nashville and Kinley Freeman of Virginia; two great-grandchildren, Kaynan Freeman of Marion and Braxton Beller of Madisonville.

He was preceded in

death by his wife of 65 years, Norma Freeman; a son, Bobby Freeman; his parents, Carmel Elton and Laura Mae Bebout Freeman; a brother, Paul Freeman; and two grandchildren, Charlie Freeman and Casey Freeman.

Services were Saturday, March 23 at Myers Funeral Home with burial in Deer Creek Cemetery.

Fleming

Etta Lucille "Lou" Fleming, 72, died Tuesday, March 19, 2024 at her home. She was a homemaker and a member of Lake City Baptist Church. She enjoyed reading, Classic Car Club, spending time with her granddaughter, diamond art and jigsaw puzzles.

Surviving are a daughter, Jamie Lynn Diaz of Sharpe; a son, Rodney James Duncan (Fabrizio Dellabernarda) of San Francisco; three sisters, Annabelle (Phil) Brewster of Corydon, Nevalyn Hubbard of Henderson, Vicki Garrett of Kuttawa; two brothers, Joe "Buddy" Combs of Burna, Eric "Ricky" Combs of Kuttawa; a granddaughter, Kennady Paige Robinson of Reidland; and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Jackie Kenneth Fleming; her parents, Joseph Lynn Combs and Fronia Estelle Walker Combs; and two brothers, Charles Combs and James "J.B." Combs.

The family plans to have a Celebration of Life Service at a later date with burial in Kuttawa Cemetery. Lakeland Funeral Home of Eddyville is in charge of arrangements.

Memorial contributions may be made to: Gideon International, Lyon Caldwell Camp, P.O. Box 254, Princeton, KY 42445 or Wounded Warriors Project, P.O. Box 758517, Topeka, Kansas 66675-8517.

Smith

Sam J. Smith, 86, of Marion, died Thursday, March 14, 2024 at Livingston Hospital. He was born July 16, 1937 in Princeton.

He was a member of Marion Baptist Church, a past commander of American Legion Post 111 and past president of Marion Country Club. He never met a stranger. If he didn't know someone he would make it a point to meet and become a friend. He always wanted to make someone smile or laugh every day. He didn't take up the game of golf until age 35 and in 4 years won the Sycamore Hills Tournament at Marion Country Club. Through the game of golf he met many people and enjoyed a variety of experiences, including playing a round with a blind man and playing golf with JD Summers of the Stamps

Quartet. He and his wife owned and operated Clark Building Supply in Marion for 30 years.

Surviving are his wife, Linda; a daughter, Sharon K. S (Billy) McDaniel of Fancy Farm; a son, Brad Smith of Kuttawa; a grandson, Cameron (Jasmine) McDaniel and great-grandson, Baker McDaniel of Mayfield; two sisters, Rosie (Jimmy) Carner of Caldwell County and Pat (Mike) Jenkins of Christian County; and three brothers, Rufus Smith, Johnny (Gloria) Smith, both of Princeton, and Richard Smith of Parker, Colo.

He was preceded in death by his parents, John S. Smith and Louise Jackson Smith; two brothers, Charles and Shellie; and a sister, Linda Jane Brindley.

Services were Sunday, March 17 at Gilbert Funeral Home with burial in Mapleview Cemetery.

Runyan

Prudence Mason Runyan, 72 died Thursday, Jan. 25, 2024 at her home in Wyndmoor, Penn. Her family confirmed that she died less than two years after a diagnosis of

ALS (amyotrophic lateral sclerosis). Runyan was a Frankfort, Ky., native and was the wife of Marion native C. Stanley Runyan and the daughter-in-law of the late Edward A. and Dell Runyan of Marion.

She was born July 7, 1951 in Frankfort to Franklin Chinn Mason and Edna Henniger Mason. Her early years were marked by riding in American Saddlebred horse shows at county fairs and the World's Championship Horse Shows at the Kentucky State Fair in Louisville, singing in the junior church choir and performing in musicals.

She attended Hollins College and the University of Louisville, then graduated from the North Carolina School of the Arts with a BFA in Drama in 1974. Soon after, she earned her Actor's Equity card and moved to New York to become a professional actress. After several years, she made her way back to Frankfort and took a job with the Commonwealth of Kentucky Department of Commerce. It was in Frankfort that she met her future husband, architect Stan Runyan. They married in 1978 and their honeymoon took them to Japan where Stan had briefly lived as a child in Tokyo.

In 1980 in Philadelphia, Runyan began a career in marketing and advertising. She spent the last eight years of her career commuting to FCB Health New York, specializing in supporting marketing agencies to develop Customer Relationship Management (CRM) programs. As a

leader in the FCB office in New York City, she was considered a true partner, master of her craft, visionary and advocate. She became a Senior Vice President and retired in 2021. Colleagues say that their CRM practice would not be where it is today without Runyan's wisdom and sense of humor.

Prudence and Stan moved to Philadelphia in 1980 and established their home in Chestnut Hill, raising two children, Abigail and Benjamin. Runyan was dedicated in every way to maintaining a deeply loving and supportive home for her husband and children. She also shared her beautiful voice with the church choir at Saint Paul's Episcopal Church in Chestnut Hill, volunteered on several church committees, supported the Philadelphia Orchestra on the "Musical Cocktails" committee, and tutored children. Throughout her life she continued to find new avenues of creative expression, including trying her hand at comedy classes, learning to make jewelry, writing and becoming an accomplished gardener. Prudence and Stan traveled extensively at home and abroad including many trips with the children back to Kentucky.

Runyan embraced grandmotherhood in 2013, finding joy in sharing her passions with her grandchildren, Jack Arlington, Eleanor Mason and Charles Everett Romanul. A proud and doting grandmother, she delighted in teaching the kids to garden, organizing crafts, playing games, and traveling to Boston

to help care for them at every opportunity, all while still balancing a demanding work schedule.

She will be remembered for her dedication to family, humor, easy-going nature, work ethic, passion for gardening and love of reading. After she was diagnosed with ALS in 2022, she chronicled the childhood tales that she and her half-brother Sam Mason had woven together in her book "Postcards from Spongolia: A Memoir About My Brother Sam Mason."

Surviving are her husband of 45 years, Stan Runyan of Wyndmoor, Penn.; a daughter, Abigail (Devin) Romanul of Melrose, Mass.; a son, Benjamin Runyan of Philadelphia; and grandchildren Jack, Eleanor and Charles Romanul of Melrose, Mass.

Funeral services were Saturday, Feb. 17 at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Philadelphia. A graveside service and burial will take place at 11 a.m., Saturday, April 27 in the Frankfort Cemetery in Frankfort, Ky.. A celebration of life will follow. Memorial donations may be made to Bridging

Voice (www.bridging-voice.org), an organization that enables individuals living with ALS to better communicate through technology.

Asbridge

Patrick Edwin Asbridge, 56, of Marion, died Wednesday, March 20, 2024 at TriStar Centennial Medical Center in Nashville.

Surviving are his father, Tom (Diane) Asbridge of Kingwood, Texas; daughter, Marissa Asbridge of Madisonville; a brother, Jeff (Wendi) Asbridge of Marion; and girlfriend, Jessica Long of Marion, KY.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Victoria Bradford Asbridge; and a brother, Troy Asbridge.

A celebration of life will be held at a later date.

Gilbert Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Online Condolences


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gilbertfunerals.com

Community Calendar

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

Thursday, March 28










- Line dancing class is at 9:30 a.m., at the Crittenden County Senior Citizens Center.
- Passport Crew will have an outing to Wickliffe to visit Wickliffe Mounds State Historic Sight. They will leave from the Crittenden County Extension Annex at 8 a.m. Call (270) 965-5236 to register.
- Cooking Club will meet at 1:30 p.m., at the Extension Annex.



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The distinct clock cupola atop the old school building was actually saved from a previous Marion school and repurposed when the WPA constructed this former high school building in the 1930s.



SCHOOL

Continued from page 1 with time yet its brick exterior holding firm. After he first acquired the building it was regularly used as a storage facility. A men’s basketball league and Potter & Brumfield’s volleyball league used the old gymnasium. The late Joni Binkley rented it for gymnastics classes and a wrestling promoter had used it to hold matches. Wright said the wrestling events were big hits, particularly when they brought in a bear for men to wrestle.

“They brought in a portable ring for the wrestling,” Wright said. “They loved it. For months, I got calls from people wanting to know when the wrestling bear was coming back.”

“I’m not sorry I bought it,” he said.

Over the years Wright has had some near misses to offload the investment. Churches have looked at buying and the hospital wanted it once. Former Gov. Paul Patton even toured it once in the early 2000s when the City of Marion tried to secure a grant to save the building and transform it into city hall. None of that ever panned out and Wright slowly watched his property grow old without further purpose.

“I always intended to tear it down, at least in the last few years, but money has been the big thing,” said Wright, who

adds that he has planned to get it down while he’s alive rather than leave it as something of a liability to his heirs.

Local historian Brenda Underdown’s love of history drives a passion for landmarks in the community. Watching the educational landmark slowly die has been difficult.

“I have been expecting it,” said Underdown, who has often written about the old schoolhouse and its predecessor among the lines of her weekly newspaper column or online blog Our Forgotten Passages.

“Although I could see it coming, it still makes me sad to see it go because of its historical value and because of all those people who have gone to school there and all of those memories,” she added. “It was well constructed, built by the WPA (Works Progress Administration). I have hated to watch it decline through the years.”

Wright says he spent a great deal of money renovating the building when he originally purchased it. Now, it’s going to cost even more to get rid of it.

“If it was the size of a house it wouldn’t be a big deal,” he explains. “The expense is not something I am looking forward to. I don’t think the city realizes what it’s going to take to get it down.”

Wright says that he re-

moved the building’s asbestos years ago. Asbestos is a construction material used in structures of its era, which has been proven unhealthy and perhaps the cause of mesothelioma, a rare cancer.

Removing debris will pose a challenge, Wright says, because there are no dumps in the immediate area that will accept such material. Transporting will be very costly, he figures.

“I am not disagreeing with (the city) that it needs to come down, but this all just sort of came out of the blue. They said they’ve had some complaints,” Wright said. “I know it needs to be done, but I guess I wanted a slower pace than the city envisions. It’s going to take some time. You can’t tear that thing down in a day. It is just a big building and I was hoping for a little slower pace than what they want.”

While the city has not defined a precise timeline for having the building either repaired or removed, it sent a Notice of Violation to Wright on Dec. 12, citing dangers the building poses to the public. Foster said there have been some reports of people inside the building at night with flashlights. The city is willing to allow the owner an appropriate amount of time to complete the work, but Foster says it must be done in 2024.

Ball complete’s sheriff’s 2022 audit

State Auditor Allison Ball has released the audit of the sheriff’s settlement from 2022 taxes for former Crittenden County Sheriff Wayne Agent. State law requires the auditor to annually audit the accounts of each county sheriff.

The former sheriff’s financial statement fairly presents the taxes charged, credited, and paid, for the period, Sept. 1, 2022 through Dec. 31, 2022, in conformity with the regulatory basis of accounting, the auditor’s news release says.

As part of the audit process, the auditor must comment on non-compliance with laws, regulations, contracts, and grants. The auditor must also comment on material weaknesses involving the internal control over financial operations and reporting.

The audit contains the following findings:

Ball said the former sheriff’s office lacked adequate segregation of duties. The same employee was required to perform multiple tasks such as collecting taxes from customers, preparing deposits, reconciling the bank accounts, processing monthly reports and preparing and signing checks for tax distributions.

“We recommend the Crittenden County Sheriff’s office segregate the duties noted above by allowing different employees to perform these functions. However, if those duties cannot be segregated due to a limited staff, strong management oversight by the sheriff or designee should be performed,” the news release said.

In a response noted in the news release, former Sheriff Agent responded that an employee short-

age was due to lack of funding.

The former sheriff failed to present a settlement to the fiscal court by March 15. The settlement was not presented to the fiscal court until August 2023, which was five months late. According to the former sheriff, he was not aware that a tax settlement was due by March 15.

The former sheriff failed to properly settle tax collections for the 2021 tax year. The sheriff had previously failed to settle prior year accounts which was noted in other findings, the auditor’s report said. At the conclusion of each audit, the sheriff is provided a detailed breakdown of the amounts due to the sheriff’s office and amounts the sheriff’s office owes in order to close out each tax year.

“However, the former sheriff has not taken proper action to settle the accounts before leaving office,” the auditor said. “We recommend the former sheriff settle taxes associated with the 2021 tax year by collecting receivables and paying liabilities as outlined with documentation provided to him.”

Former Sheriff Agent says the accounts have now been settled.

The auditor said the former sheriff did not distribute property tax collections in a timely fashion. In the news release, Agent said he was unaware of the deadline.

Ball said the amount of unpaid taxes transferred to the incoming sheriff was significantly understated. The official receipt of partially paid taxes transferred from the outgoing sheriff to the incoming sheriff was understated by \$39,489. Property tax bills post-

dated for December 2022 were not processed and marked paid in tax software until Jan. 3, 2023.

“With the incoming sheriff taking office on Jan. 1, 2023, these tax bills were included on the January 2023 monthly report instead of being processed on the outgoing sheriff’s monthly report. However, the official receipt of partially paid taxes transferred from the outgoing sheriff was calculated using a delinquent tax report dated as of Jan. 5, 2023 and did not include the post-dated tax bills processed on Jan. 3.”

“We recommend the Crittenden County Sheriff’s office ensure that tax bills are marked paid in the tax software in a timely manner,” the auditor said.

“In addition, we recommend the sheriff’s office use the correct reports when preparing the official receipt in the future,” Ball’s report said.

MARION POLICE activity report

Data below provided by Marion Police Department compare police activity for the month of February 2024 to the same month in 2023. The chart also includes the previous month’s totals, year-to-date police activity totals and last year’s monthly average.

CATEGORY	FEBRUARY 2024	JANUARY 2024	FEBRUARY 2023	2023 YR TOTALS	2023 MONTHLY AVERAGE
Miles driven/patrolled	1,340	1,750	2,917	24,766	2,063.8
Criminal investigations	16	10	15	133	11.1
Domestics	8	7	4	82	6.8
Felony Arrests	5	1	11	55	4.6
Misdemeanor arrests	5	2	7	93	7.8
Non-criminal arrests	13	5	8	99	8.3
DUI arrests	1	0	1	9	0.8
Criminal summons served	0	0	4	46	3.8
Traffic citations	9	6	21	189	15.8
Other citations	25	13	37	307	25.6
Traffic warnings	1	5	6	48	4.0
Parking tickets	0	1	0	1	0.1
Traffic accidents	0	9	4	63	5.3
Security checks/alarms	54	58	42	741	61.8
Calls for service	188	179	169	2,463	205.3



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March 30

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Salem & Marion Clinics

Michael P. Gavin, M.D.

Marion & Smithland Clinics

Jessica Y. Harris, APRN

Smithland Clinic

Justin J. Lewis, PA-C

Marion Physicians Clinic & Salem

Danielle Guminski, APRN, PMHNP

Salem & Smithland Clinics

Demetrius L. Patton, M.D.

Crittenden Hospital Annex & Salem Clinic

Kara A. Phillips, APRN

Salem & Marion Clinics

Ghassan Yazigi, M.D.

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Christine Huckabee, APRN

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Robin Leidecker, APRN

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Bob Wilkinson, APRN

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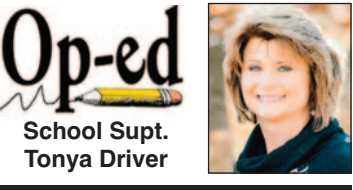
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To keep teachers we must pay Peter and Paul

We've all heard the old saying about robbing Peter to pay Paul. Unfortunately, many Kentucky teachers and staff are working second jobs. Here's the bottom line, Kentucky's budget, if not improved upon drastically, will equal about a \$58 per month raise for these dedicated professionals. On behalf of the 87 teachers, 1,300 students and 130 other school staff in Crittenden County, we must do better.

We urge Kentucky law makers to enhance the future of public education in our state. While we acknowledge the positive steps taken in House and Senate budget bills, we believe it still falls short in addressing a critical need – adequate funding for public schools. The main challenge we face in Kentucky is the ability to offer competitive pay for teachers and other school staff. This urgent priority needs additional attention as the Support Education Excellence in Kentucky (SEEK) Bases and SEEK Allotments, as proposed in the budget, do not provide the



funds necessary to make education salaries competitive. The SEEK funding program is a formula-driven allocation of state provided funds to local public school districts. The formula includes funding for transportation costs and special needs students as reported by districts.

While we appreciate the proposed increase in SEEK, in essence it will only provide enough revenue for districts to provide an approximate 2% raise for teachers and staff, even if every single dollar of the increased amount of SEEK goes directly to employee raises. We urge lawmakers to consider the broader picture. With record revenues and substantial budget reserves, now is the time to take a bold step toward prioritizing our public

education system. Investing in our public schools means investing in the future of Kentucky.

We do applaud proposed legislation that includes strong investments in the Teacher Retirement System (TRS) pension program, the Medical Insurance Trust Fund and increasing funding for student transportation, facility equalizations, school resource officers and student teacher stipends. We're also happy to see a pilot Teacher Recruitment Loan Forgiveness Program. Still, we must do better by our teachers and school staff, or they will leave Kentucky for higher pay or leave the profession entirely.

We cannot continue to rob Peter to pay Paul – we must find a way to pay Peter and Paul – both the SEEK Bases and SEEK Allotments are essential in providing the recurring funding necessary to provide crucial learning resources for students and increasing salaries for the professionals who serve them.

Education is a people business and the quality of the professionals working with and around our students is the key to our success.

When looking at our investment in the SEEK Bases and SEEK Allotments over the years, the math is simple – we are not keeping up with inflation. Not only does this impact our ability to provide critical learning resources for students in our classrooms and much needed salary increases for staff, the SEEK distribution formula ensures these funds are distributed equitably among public school districts.

We urge the Kentucky General Assembly to implement a funding plan to get P-12 Public Education Back on Track to the 2008 buying power over the next four years:

●To accomplish this, we are asking for a SEEK Base target of \$5,400 over the next four years which will provide the best funding our state has allocated to our public schools since 2008. Over four years, we would be restoring the buying

power of SEEK to the 2008 level.

●As a next step, we need to add \$300 each year to the SEEK base, which would raise the base to \$4,500 in FY25 and \$4,800 in FY26.

●This money will provide game-changing competitive salaries for teachers and staff serving our schools and districts as well as classroom resources to support student learning.

●These funds will also make our schools safer and address chronic absenteeism.

This funding will show our commitment to Kentucky's future workforce, economic and community development, all of which begin in our public schools where children learn to become the very best version of themselves.

A lifelong educator, Tonya Driver is Superintendent of Crittenden County Public Schools. Her email address is tonya.driver@crittenden.kyschools.us.

RV camping picks up with warming temps

Camping was already picking up in February at Riverview Park thanks to unseasonally warm weather.

There were nine RV camping nights and two tent night rentals last month, according to a report presented at last week's Crittenden County Fiscal Court meeting.

There are seven concrete RV pads with power, water and wastewater available. The campground includes a dock, restrooms, park, basketball goal, pavilion and primitive camping.

Tent camping is \$5 per night and RV camping is \$20 with amenities.

Fees go toward maintenance and upkeep of the park, formerly known as Dam 50. Reservations can be made online at CrittendenCountyKy.org.

Movement toward McMican Rd. complex

There is beginning to be some movement toward development of Cole Springs, a proposed 48-unit housing complex that will be built on McMican Road near Marion-Crittenden County Park.

On or about April 16, the Kentucky Housing Corporation will submit a request to HUD for the release of HOME Program funds under Title II of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act for the purpose of developing Cole Springs, which will consist of seven buildings in the multi-family apartment complex and one single-story com-

munity building. The complex will be constructed on 14.78 acres of what has been farm land along a tributary of Crooked Creek. The tract is also bisected by McMican Road. Estimated amount of HOME funds in the project is \$2,275 million and the total estimated development cost is \$10.56 million.

Kentucky Housing Corp., has determined that the project will have no significant impact on the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) is not required. Further information can be found at cpd.hud.gov/cpd-public/environmental-reviews. Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments the housing corporation by April 15. See legal notices in this week's newspaper for further information on how to make a comment.

HUD will accept objections to its release of funds and KHC's certification for a period of 15 days following the anticipated submission date or its actual receipt of the request.

Big traffic expected for April's eclipse

State and local agencies urge residents, tourists and truckers to prepare for heavy traffic when the moon's shadow sweeps across the commonwealth's western counties and a dozen other states during the afternoon of Monday, April 8. Travelers planning to view the total solar eclipse should expect congested highways and limited parking at rest stops, and pack



essentials to ensure a safe and comfortable ride if they experience prolonged delays.

To prepare for increased traffic, transportation officials are lifting lane restrictions in select work zones and are informing commercial truck drivers of expected traffic.

State highway crews will be staged throughout western Kentucky to detour or move traffic along in case of backups – especially after the eclipse – but traffic congestion and delays are likely.

The event is expected to bring at least 150,000 visitors to the path where it crosses several western Kentucky counties, with more than 1 million travelers predicted to drive through Kentucky to nearby viewing spots along the main path in Ohio, Indiana and Illinois.

Based on traffic patterns seen during the 2017 total solar eclipse, congestion was light as visitors traveled into the area over several days. However, heavy traffic occurred when visitors made their exit.

In April, motorists are advised to expect several hours of traffic congestion at Ohio River crossings and along north-south routes across Kentucky similar to what major cities regularly experience during rush hour. KYTC personnel will be stationed at key interchanges and pinch points.

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

LIVINGSTON COUNTY, KY 91.09 - \$36,869 - Property has a diverse mix of habitat types and a well-managed system, numerous entry points along road frontage, hunter-friendly topography, a creek, and planted pines.

CRITTENDEN COUNTY, KY 55.78 - \$275,000 - This tract has the right blend of habitat types for deer, turkey, and wild turkey grow and hold big bucks with the added bonus of a fully furnished pole barn cabin! Includes a Redneck hunting blind and feeders!

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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50 YEARS AGO

March 28, 1974

■ Crittenden County High School's drama club presented three one-act plays, two of which were written and directed by CCHS students Robin Webb and Louis Whitt. Other actors were Mike Cline, Stanley Woodard, Gail Moore and Jack Burkes.

■ New members of the Crittenden County Lions Club installed during a dinner meeting were Bob Wilson, Bert Papineau, Stephen Davidson, Harley Haegelin, R.C. Hamilton, Danny York, Donnie Phillips and Jack Easley, Jr.

■ The Marion Junior High Historian Club, led by officers Bruce Jay, David Cruce, Cindy Wright, Ronald Murray and Stewart Whitt, was recognized for its \$400 contribution to the Lions Club Telethon of Stars, collecting \$250 from the sale of license plates to benefit the Crittenden County Museum and its "Johnny Horizon" clean-up campaign of streets and alleys in Mar-

ion. The group also raised over \$4,000 in one of western Kentucky's most successful walk-a-thons benefitting March of Dimes.

25 YEARS AGO

April 1, 1999

■ The first of a series of complaints over odor emitting from a Tyson chicken-growing facility on the eastern edge of Marion was relayed to company officials by Judge-Executive Pippi Hardin.

■ Lady Rocket Basketball held its annual awards banquet, recognizing the following: Misty Sutton, Jessi Roberts, Cortne Hunt, Summer Smith, Shelly Johnson, Lyndsey Hall, Johnna Asbridge, Carrie Roberts, Kindra Carnahan, Kayla Bebout and Ashley Turley.

10 YEARS AGO

March 27, 2014

■ Air Evac Lifeteam announced plans to lease the helipad at Crit-

tenden Hospital for \$1,700 a month the purpose of offering air ambulance service from Marion.

■ Eight-year-old Jeremiah Foster won the National Field Archery Association Championship, shooting a perfect score of 300 at the state qualifying event. He also won the Southeast Sectional where he shot two scores of 300 to make a perfect score of 600.

■ The Crittenden County Board of Education was making plans to initiate a superintendent search committee to replace Dr. Rachel Yarbrough, who resigned to take a job with the Webster County School District.

■ Lady Rocket softball was off to a slow start, winning one of its first eight games. The Rocket boys opened their season with a 1-3 record.

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

The Crittenden Press

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Newsprint is a renewable resource. Recycling bins are located at the county's convenience center on U.S. 60 east of Marion.



Humility should be a prerequisite in communication

When I was at seminary, like many others, I had an opportunity to preach at a small congregation about an hour from school. I recall a conversation with one of my professors about what I had taught in class the previous Sunday. I was pleased that I had been able to impart such knowledge to them. It was not out of context. It was a question that came up as we were discussing something related. His response was something like, "Oh, dear."

Another mentor once suggested to me that it would take a few years to get over my education. I think this is generally true, but perhaps more so in social sciences than natural. If a person tends to run away from humility it can take longer, or it may never happen. Those are people whom I have heard described as, "educated beyond their capacity to understand."

All of this is to say what we already know. Knowledge can be dangerous and has the potential to turn us into people with whom it is difficult to communicate. In my ex-



Sean NIESTRATH
Faith-based columnist
Guest Columnist

perience, however, most people who have learned much in life (whether it be academic, professional, trade, or by life experience) have also learned humility. There is a point in our learning when we realize that with everything new, we learn there are multiples of things that we do not know. The higher we climb the more we can see the vastness of knowledge and experience in every direction is both beautiful and overwhelming.

There is no way for anyone to know how their interactions in a single day have affected those with whom our paths have crossed. As we see often when trying to pass laws, there are always unintended consequences. Which, of course, means that we need more laws to explain or limit the ones we just passed. We need laws, but we would need many less if we could learn two things. First, for each of us to treat other human beings fairly and assume that other human beings are trying to treat us that way. Then, if there is a problem, it would be

much easier to solve. Second, if so many of us were not so certain that we are so right as to pass laws to force others into our mold of morality, there may be a little less conflict. Both would be necessary.

There is another truth that we all know about but have a hard time accepting as truth for ourselves. This is in the same category of asking people to rate their driving skills with everyone else's. Such a self-graded test will put everyone in the 90th percentile of being a good driver. No one is right all the time. In fact, given the complexities of people, culture, language, families, and other contexts, I am not certain that any of us are right even half the time when it comes to deciding how others should conduct themselves.

This is not a rejection of morality or goodness or rightness. It is a realization that humility is a prerequisite when communicating with others. There are nearly always different ways of showing kindness, love, and concern. There is a myriad of ways to correct and encourage each other to do the right things. I believe most of our shortfalls in this arena have to do with how we say things rather than what we are trying to

say.

These problems are most easily seen when a few people are trying to make decisions for many people. One of the reasons that good leaders can be hard to find is that confidence to lead and humility to listen can have a hard time living in the same person. But it can be learned and when we see it in others it is attractive.

There are some words in Proverbs and Hosea that should promote humility in us. Proverbs 18:2, 17 says, "A fool takes no pleasure in understanding, but only in expressing his opinion.", and "He who states his case first seems right, un-

til the other comes and examines him."


Hosea speaks more to all of us. We are all part of each other. We all play a part in making our society what it is. When we chase after leaders who we think will solve our problems, we run into trouble. Leaders should make it possible for us to solve our own problems. When our allegiance gets out of hand then, "There is no faithfulness or kindness, and no

knowledge of God in the land." (Hosea 4:1). What we need is more of what is said in Hosea 6:6, "For I desire mercy and not sacrifice, the knowledge of God, rather than burnt offerings."

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.

LEGAL NOTICE
The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet
In accordance with KRS 176.051, Kentucky's noxious weed law, the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet will control noxious weeds on state-owned right of way at the request of the adjoining property owner. The noxious weeds named in this law are Johnson grass (*Sorghum halepense*), Canada thistle (*Cirsium arvense*), Cutleaf Teasel (*Dipsacus laciniatus*) Nodding thistle (*Carduus nutans*), Common teasel (*Dipsacus fullonum*), Poison hemlock (*Conium maculatum*), Maretail (*Conyza canadensis*), Amur Honeysuckle (*Lonicera maackii*), Multiflora Rose (*Rosa multiflora*) Japanese knotweed, (*Polygonum cuspidatum*), Spotted Knapweed (*Centaurea stoebe*) and Kudzu (*Pueraria montana*).

Persons who own property adjacent to state right of way and who are involved in eradication efforts on their property can submit a written application to the highway district office in their area. Contact information can be found at transportation.ky.gov/DistrictPages

**PUBLIC NOTICE**
Crittenden County Board of Elections will offer a drop box for deposit of excused mail-in absentee ballots for the primary election for voters choosing to not mail their ballot back to Crittenden County Clerk's Office. The drop box will be located inside Crittenden County Office Complex at 200 Industrial Dr. in Marion, available during regular business hours, weekdays 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

As required by statute, the drop box will be under camera surveillance 24/7 and clearly marked.

This notice is given pursuant to Kentucky statutes
GoVote.ky.gov
To register or update your registration for the primary election

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MARION, KY
fohshall.org


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26-27 APRIL
3-4 MAY
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The Musical JR.
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**PUBLIC NOTICE**
Kentucky State Board of Elections offers to voters an online portal at GoVote.ky.gov from Saturday, April 6 to Tuesday, May 7 in order to allow requests for a mail-in absentee ballot for the primary election. This is for voters who will be unable to vote in person during the election period, and voters must attest to their reason for being unable to vote in person. Ballots may also be requested during the same period by contacting Crittenden County Clerk's Office during regular business hours at 270-965-3403. Be prepared with your Social Security number.

This notice is given pursuant to Kentucky statutes
GoVote.ky.gov
To request a mail-in ballot for the upcoming primary election

EMMAUS BAPTIST CHURCH

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

Freedom General Baptist Church *Pastor: Ross Atwell*

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

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

Speaker: Greg Rushing
PINEY FORK
CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

A new beginning, going forward and looking to the future
Ky. 506 | Marion, Ky.
SUNDAY School 10 a.m. Worship 11 a.m. Bible study 6 p.m.


St. William Catholic Church

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

Marion Baptist Church *Join us for praise & worship*
College & Depot streets, Marion • (270) 965-5232
Pastor: Bro. Aaron Brown • Children's & Youth Pastor: Bro. Shawn Holean
SUNDAY MORNING SERVICES: 9 a.m. & 11 a.m., ONLINE 11 a.m., SUNDAY SCHOOL: 10:05 a.m.
WEDNESDAY: BIBLE STUDY/PRAYER 6 p.m., AWANA FOR CHILDREN & YOUTH GROUPS 6 p.m.
CHOIR PRACTICE: 6:45 p.m., PRAISE TEAM: 7:30 p.m.

Sugar Grove Cumberland Presbyterian


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


Mexico Baptist Church

Minister of Music Mike Crabtree
Pastor: Tim Burdon
Sunday Worship Services: 10 a.m., 7 p.m.
Sunday Bible Study: 9 a.m.
Sunday Discipleship Training: 6 p.m.
Wednesday Worship Service: 7 p.m.
175 Mexico Rd. (270) 965-4059
MexicoBaptist.org

SEVEN SPRINGS MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

219 Seven Springs Rd., Marion, Ky. 42064
Sun. School for all ages: 10 a.m.
Sun. Worship: 11 a.m., 6 p.m. • Wed.: 7 p.m.


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


Marion United Methodist Church

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


DEER CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH *"Whatever It Takes"*

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

Crayne Community Church

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


Frances Community Church

Bro. Butch Gray
Worship service: 11 a.m.
Children's Church ages 3 & up ... 11 a.m.
"The little church with a big heart"

Emmanuel Baptist Church

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

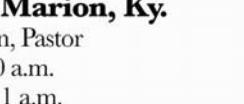
FIRST CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

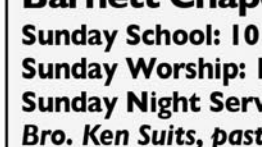
Hurricane Church

Hurricane Church Rd. off Ky. 135 West
Pastor: Bro. Danny Hinchee
Sun. School, 10 a.m. • Worship, 11 a.m.
Sun. Evening services, 6 p.m.
Wed. Evening services, 7 p.m.

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

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

Unity General Baptist Church

4691 Mott City Rd. • Marion, Ky.
Bro. David Perryman, Pastor
Sunday School 10 a.m.
Sunday Worship 11 a.m.

Barnett Chapel General Baptist

Sunday School: 10 a.m. Barnett Chapel Rd., Marion, Ky.
Sunday Worship: 11 a.m. Barnett Chapel...
Sunday Night Service: 6 p.m. where everyone
Bro. Ken Suits, pastor 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."

Marion Church of Christ

546 West Elm Street • (270) 965-9450
Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.
- The end of your search for a friendly church -

Museum adds new items in time for upcoming season

The Crittenden County Historical Museum will open for the season at 10 a.m., Wednesday, April 3. The museum is open 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Wednesday through Saturday. Additionally, the museum has a new phone number (270) 997-2593.

Stewart Family Tools

Two new displays at the museum this year include a 200-year-old collection of unique wood-crafting tools owned by the Stewart family.

The tools and their history have been handed down through seven Stewart family generations, beginning with Matthew Stewart, who came to America from Renfrewshire Scotland in 1739.

Family history tells that Matthew disembarked at Philadelphia, Penn., and made his home in the area for a period of time, then migrated to North Carolina, where the local family history truly begins.

Although no paper documentation has been found to prove its authenticity, oral family history indicate the tools belonged to a Stewart ancestor that built ships overseas and Matthew brought them with him when he came to America.

These tools were to be kept in the Stewart family and passed down to the first grandson of each generation.

Included in the tool collection are several different sizes of block style wood planes, a spoke shave, which is a shaving and smoothing tool for round pieces such as a spoke of a wheel, and a hand-turned metal reinforced drill with its own box of several different size drill bits.

One of Matthew's sons was William H. Stewart [1763-1856], a Revolutionary War soldier wounded at the battle of Camden, who originally came to Kentucky with his wife, Mary Jane Newell, around 1805 and settled on land adjacent to and including portions of Graveyard Knob, near



The Stewart family tools have a long history dating back to the 1700s. They came from Scotland and eventually to Crittenden County.

the Sugar Grove Cumberland Presbyterian Church and Deanwood community. The Stewart family was some of our very early pioneers to settle this area while it was still part of Livingston County.



Brenda Underdown
County Historian

Forgotten Passages

William and Mary Jane Newell had seven children. According to family history, Mary Jane Stewart is buried in an unmarked grave on Graveyard Knob.

After her death, William moved to Illinois to live with another son, Dr. Josiah Stewart. He is buried with a Revolutionary War marker in the Old Cemetery in Carmi, Ill.

William and Mary Jane's fifth child, (third generation) Robert Cunningham Stewart, (1805-1870) was their first child born in Kentucky. He stayed in Crittenden County and lived on the Stewart land originally settled by his father and married Janet "Jane" Black. He is buried in the Kilpatric Cemetery on Nunn Switch Road.

Robert and Mary Jane had a son, William Irvin Stewart, (1837-1915) the fourth generation, who was next in line to receive the family wood-working tools.

William Irvin Stewart was a life-long resident of Crittenden County. He was a farmer, carpenter, expert rifleman, gunsmith, blacksmith and woodworker. A highly

regarded member of the Sugar Grove community, he was widely known for his expertly crafted early flint lock Kentucky Long Rifles and molded bullets. The museum is also proud to have a unique handmade oxen yoke that William Irvin crafted, most likely with some of these family tools.

William Irvin Stewart married Mary Saraphine Walker in 1859 and they became parents of four children, one of which was John Thomas Stewart [1866-1943], who would be the fifth generation to inherit the tools.

John Thomas Stewart, married Mary Rosella Travis in 1893, and was a lifelong Crittenden County resident and an elder in the Sugar Grove Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

Their second child, Bert Eschol Stewart (1906-1971) would be the sixth generation to own tools.

Eschol Stewart married Hazel Brown and their son, Thomas Daniel Stewart, seventh generation, was next in line to inherit the tools. Thomas is responsible for the donation of the tools to the museum.

Tommy lives in Georgia and wanted the tools to be returned to their home in Crittenden County, where much of their history was formed. Tommy and his sister, Sue Stewart Parrent, a lifelong Crittenden Countian, wanted the museum to have the tools so others could enjoy them and know the story behind their journey. They are given in memory of their grandparents, John and Rose Stewart.

Blooming Rose School

1894 - 1949

Another new item to the museum is a large photograph of one of the little one-room community schools known as Blooming Rose School. Its location was about one mile from the Livingston County line and about three miles from Lola in Livingston County. (2215 Lewis Croft Rd.)

In April of 1894, in Deed Book 4, page 79, Robert A. Hearrell and his wife, Nancy, sold land to the Crittenden County trustees of District 20 for the purpose of a site for a new school house. It would be a one-room building, and the name of the school would be Blooming Rose.

History told through the years is that this colorful name was given to the new school because of the number of wild pink rose bushes that grew in the fence rows where the school would be built. This story was confirmed by two of the past students.

The school closed in 1949 and students were sent to Tolu Elementary School.

Local Crittenden



Tommy Croft preserved the history of the old Blooming Rose School with this picture enlarged and a frame made from a window frame of the school.

Countian Tommy Croft, in 1986, was going to build a home on the location where Blooming Rose school was located. Tommy attended the Tolu School.

Although the old school building (72 years old in October 1986) was in very bad shape due to sitting empty for many years after the school closed in 1949. Someone wanted it and planned to have it moved to a different location, so it could be saved. But after examination of the building, it was found that the foundation had deteriorated so badly that the middle section of the floor had actually come apart, making it impossible to move the structure without it collapsing.

Before Tommy had it taken down, he made several pictures, inside and out, and saved some wood from a couple of the wooden window frames that were still in good shape. He didn't want the historic old school to be totally forgotten after it was gone from the landscape.

One of the pictures he made was suitable to be enlarged, and with the

wood from the window frames he had a beautiful frame made to hold the picture.

This beautiful picture, plus several more that Tommy made, is located in the school room at the museum to hold its place of honor with other schools of long ago.

The Crittenden County Historical Society, caretaker of the museum, hopes you can find time in your busy schedule to take time to visit this wonderful museum and see many items from the county's history and perhaps some items from your own family's past. The society's goal is to collect and preserve Crittenden County history for future generations.

(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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ALLISON BALL
AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS
Independent Auditor's Report

To the People of Kentucky
The Honorable Andy Beshear, Governor
Holly M. Johnson, Secretary
Finance and Administration Cabinet
The Honorable Perry Newcom, Crittenden County Judge/Executive
The Honorable Wayne Agent, Former Crittenden County Sheriff
The Honorable Evan Head, Crittenden County Sheriff
Members of the Crittenden County Fiscal Court

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statement
Opinions
We have audited the accompanying former Crittenden County Sheriff's Settlement - 2022 Taxes for the period September 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022 - Regulatory Basis, and the related notes to the financial statement.

Unmodified Opinion on Regulatory Basis of Accounting
In our opinion, the accompanying financial statement presents fairly, in all material respects, the taxes charged, credited, and paid for the period September 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022 of the former Crittenden County Sheriff, in accordance with the basis of accounting practices prescribed or permitted by the Commonwealth of Kentucky as described in Note 1.

Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles
In our opinion, because of the significance of the matter discussed in the Basis for Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles section of our report, the financial statement does not present fairly, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the taxes charged, credited, and paid of the former Crittenden County Sheriff, for the period September 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022.

Basis for Opinions
We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS) and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, and the *Audit Program for Sheriffs' Tax Settlements*. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statement section of our report. We are required to be independent of the former Crittenden County Sheriff and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

Basis for Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles
As described in Note 1 of the financial statement, the financial statement is prepared by the former Crittenden County Sheriff on the basis of accounting practices prescribed or permitted by the laws of Kentucky to demonstrate compliance with the Commonwealth of Kentucky's regulatory basis of accounting and budget laws, which is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The effects on the financial statement of the variances between the regulatory basis of accounting described in Note 1 and accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, although not reasonably determinable, are presumed to be material and pervasive.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statement
Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statement in accordance with accounting practices prescribed or permitted by the laws of Kentucky to demonstrate compliance with the Commonwealth of Kentucky's regulatory basis of accounting and budget laws. Management is also responsible for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of a financial statement that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statement
Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statement as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not an absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgement made by a reasonable user based on the financial statement.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statement, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statement.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the former Crittenden County Sheriff's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statement.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the former Crittenden County Sheriff's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

To the People of Kentucky
The Honorable Andy Beshear, Governor
Holly M. Johnson, Secretary
Finance and Administration Cabinet
The Honorable Perry Newcom, Crittenden County Judge/Executive
The Honorable Wayne Agent, Former Crittenden County Sheriff
The Honorable Evan Head, Crittenden County Sheriff
Members of the Crittenden County Fiscal Court

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards
In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated October 20, 2023, on our consideration of the former Crittenden County Sheriff's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements, and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the former Crittenden County Sheriff's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Based on the results of our audit, we have presented the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Responses, included herein, which discusses the following report findings:

2022-001 The Former Crittenden County Sheriff's Office Lacked Adequate Segregation Of Duties
2022-002 The Former Crittenden County Sheriff Failed To Present A Settlement To The Fiscal Court By March 15
2022-003 The Former Crittenden County Sheriff Failed To Properly Settle Tax Collections For The 2021 Tax Year
2022-004 The Former Crittenden County Sheriff Did Not Distribute Property Tax Collections By The Tenth Of The Month
2022-005 The Amount Of Unpaid Taxes Transferred To The Incoming Sheriff Was Significantly Understated

Respectfully submitted,

Allison Ball
Auditor of Public Accounts
Frankfort, Ky

October 20, 2023
State law requires the Auditor of Public Accounts to annually audit fiscal courts, county clerks, and sheriffs; and print the results in a newspaper having general circulation in the county. The complete audit and any other audit of state agencies, fiscal courts, county clerks, sheriffs, and property valuation administrators may be viewed in the reports section of the Auditor of Public Accounts' website at auditor.ky.gov or upon request by calling 1-800-247-9126.

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for sale

2008 Harley Davidson Sportster custom \$4,500. (270) 969-2427. (2t-14-p)

Natural gas fireplace, 1,500 BTU, 43" height, 44 ½ " wide, 16 ½ " deep. Can text pics. \$1,000. (270) 704-5047 (1t-13-c)ks

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7 ft. tall oak pantry, 18" wide, 24" deep. \$100; oak pedestal table, \$75. Can text pics. (270) 704-5047 (1t-13-c)ks

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Hay equipment for sale: John Deere 270 disc mower, good condition, \$4,200; John Deere 662 rake, completely rebuilt, \$3,200; Vermeer 505 Super I 5x5 round baler, very good condition, \$7,200. Call Brad (270) 210-5620.

real estate

For sale: 3 BR house w/ large LR, kitchen and utility room, new roof and seamless gutters and fenced in back yard, \$69,500. Nice, clean and move-in ready. (270) 965-3658. (2t-13-p)

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Will sit with elderly or clean houses. (270) 963-8297. (1t-13-p)

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notice

NOTICE OF INTENT TO FILE APPLICATION AND

PUBLIC HEARING

The City of Marion, Kentucky, intends to file an application with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Rural Utilities Service, for funding for the Lake George Dam Rehabilitation Project. A public meeting will be held on April 10, 2024, at the Marion City Hall at 12:30 p.m. Central Time, 217 South Main Street, Marion KY 42064, for the purpose of providing general information on the project. The public is invited to attend and comment on issues such as economic and environmental impacts, and alternatives to the project or any other pertinent issues. Additionally, anyone wishing to submit comments may also do so by emailing Layten Croft at lcroft@marionky.gov up until the time of the hearing. (2t-13-c)

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NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT AND NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS

March 28, 2024

Kentucky Housing Corporation
1231 Louisville Road, Frankfort, KY 40601
502-547-7630; environmentalreview@kyhousing.org
Responsible Entity Certifying Officer: Winston Miller

These notices shall satisfy two separate but related procedural requirements for activities to be undertaken by the Kentucky Housing Corporation.

REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or about April 16th, the Kentucky Housing Corporation will submit a request to HUD for the release of HOME Program funds under Title II of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act, as amended, for the purpose of carrying out Cole Springs, the new construction of seven (7) buildings, for the creation of 48-unit multi-family apartment complex and one (1) single-story community building. The subject property consists of 14.78 acres of undeveloped grassland, agricultural farmland, and undeveloped wooded land. In addition, an intermittent tributary of Crooked Creek transects the northern and eastern portions of the subject property. The estimated amount of HOME funds in the project is \$2,275,000 and the total estimated development cost is \$10,566,150.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The KHC has determined that the project will have no significant impact on the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) is not required. Additional project information is contained in the Environmental Review Record (ERR) on file at Kentucky Housing Corporation office located at 1231 Louisville Road in Frankfort, KY from the hours of 8:00A.M. to 5:00 P.M. It can also be viewed online at <https://cpd.hud.gov/cpd-public/environmental-reviews>.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to KHC, ATTN: Winston Miller at 1231 Louisville Road, Frankfort, KY 40601 or via email to environmentalreview@kyhousing.org. All comments received by April 15, 2024, will be considered by KHC prior to submitting a request for release of funds to HUD. **Comments should specify which Notice they are addressing.**

ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION

The KHC certifies to HUD that Winston Miller in his capacity as Executive Director and Certifying Officer consents to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to the environmental review process and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. HUD's approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities and allows the KHC to use Program funds.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

HUD will accept objections to its release of funds and KHC's certification for a period of fifteen days following the anticipated submission date or its actual receipt of the request (whichever is later) only if they are on one of the following bases: (a) the certification was not executed by the Certifying Officer of the KHC; (b) KHC has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by HUD regulations at 24 CFR part 58; (c) the grant recipient or other participants in the development process have committed funds, incurred costs or undertaken activities not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of a release of funds by HUD; or (d) another Federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality. Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedures (24 CFR Part 58, Sec. 58.76) and shall be addressed to the HUD Louisville Field Office, CPD Director at 601 W. Broadway, Room 110, Louisville, Kentucky 40202. Potential objectors should contact HUD to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Winston Miller, Executive Director
Kentucky Housing Corporation

Chambliss scores another big buck for family domination

STAFF REPORT

The Chambliss clan has sure figured out the formula for taking big bucks... and winning Marion’s annual Big Buck Contest.

This past hunting season, Logan Chambliss downed a heavy eight-point buck that dressed over 200 pounds and he was recently presented for the second time in five years the contest’s grand prize – a check for \$1,000.

Sponsored by Hodge’s Sports and Apparel and Marion Tourism and Recreation Commission, the Big Buck Contest has a unique formula for scoring contestants. The measuring scheme calculates the weight of the field dressed animal, width of its inside spread and the total number of score-able antler points.

Since 2013, the Chamblisses have scored five contest champions and this is Logan’s second. He first won the adult contest in 2014. His brother, Jacob, won the youth division in 2014 and dad, Kevin, has won the adult division twice, last year and in 2013.

Logan Chambliss, now just 19, bagged the 2023 biggest buck scored by



Logan Chambliss and Sonny

contestants and he took the deer with a bow and arrow in September. Still in velvet, the trophy buck had been given the nickname, Sonny, as he was observed during pre-season scouting.

“When we first laid eyes on him, we knew he would grow into a shooter,” Chambliss said. “It was early summer and he was feeding in a bean field. He still had some growing to do although he was already out past his ears and looked heavy.”

There was already a stand in place on a well-used trail leading to the bean field. As is customary for this deer-hunting tribe, the Chambliss fellows had trail cameras deployed in their favorite hunting spots.

“We immediately begin getting Sonny on camera. He wasn’t on camera every day, but he was fairly regular,” Chambliss explains. “We would glass him feeding in the beans several times each week leading up to archery season.”

As September rolled around and season opened for archery, Sonny was a primary target. On the third day of bow season, the wind was right.

“Trail cameras told us that it’s now or never. We know that each year, around the first week in September, red oak acorns begin to fall,” the Fredonia hunter said. “Deer will change patterns over night when this happens.”

Chambliss got to the stand several hours before dark on that afternoon, hoping the wind would remain steady. Several small bucks and does came down the trail early and fed past him without alarm. Light was quickly fading and time was running out on his hunt.

“I looked behind me thinking the buck may have somehow used a different trail to the field. When I turned around, he was broadside at 25 yards. With him slightly quartering to me, I was able to get an arrow right where it needed to go,” he said.

The buck didn’t go far before crashing.

“As we all do, I called my parents and hunting buddies to tell them that I had just taken what was likely my biggest archery buck,” he remembers.

The heavy eight had nice a kicker point and its velvet had already begun to shed.

“What is most impressive about the buck was his body. I was truly blessed to have everything come together and go as planned,” Chambliss said.

Now, the tough part is finding wall space for the trophy.

City meeting in special session over water

STAFF REPORT

Marion City Council will meet in special session twice next week to consider action with regard to general obligation bonds that are anticipated for the Lake

George levee project.

The first meeting will be at 5 p.m., on Monday, April 1 and the second will be at 5 p.m., Thursday, April 4. Both meetings will be held at Marion City Hall.

A coffer dam has been constructed with rip rap at Lake George to allow dewatering of an area of the lake where repair work will be done on a pipe that runs through the earthen dam.

WATER

Continued from page 1

property and perhaps endanger lives downstream.

Beyond allowing the new DOW director to get her eyes on the problems facing Marion, there was a great deal of information sharing. Talks included topics like regionalization, redundancy in the water supply, economic development consequences to further delays in improving the water situation and dollars.

Mayor D’Anna Browning said money is clearly the need. Beyond repairing Lake George, which is being done mostly with state emergency funds, Marion has an aging water treatment plant and needs to replace aged water lines in order to improve the overall quality of drinking water.

Browning said old lines, particularly on the south side of town, are largely responsible for discolored water coming out of taps.

“The water coming out of our treatment plant is clear,” she said. “If the water coming out of the plant was discolored, every home in the city would have discolored water. That’s not the case. It obviously points to a water line issue.”

Browning believes the meeting with Gaddis this week was very productive.

“I found her to be very engaged and understanding of our situation,” the mayor said.

While Marion continues to support Crittenden-Livingston Water District’s expansion plan, which would allow the county to fully provide all of the city’s drinking water, Browning said Marion will need to press forward to develop a reliable short-term solution. The county project could take up to 10 years to complete in multiple phases. Meantime, Mar-

ion’s demand for water will be on the very edge of what it can produce and/or the county can provide. A drought could create a big problem for Marion. Stabilizing and perhaps fully rehabilitating Lake George remains a primary focus and upgrading the city water treatment plant is among considerations, if adequate funding sources emerge.

The proverbial elephant in the room is the

huge debt on Marion’s new waste water treatment plant. It’s scheduled to begin operating in the coming weeks. Built for about \$15 million, Marion has already been forced to raise water and sewer rates and saddle customers with expensive environmental fees.

“We must have further financial assistance,” Browning said. “We cannot go it alone on all of this.”



FEBRUARY 2024

Activity Report

Here is Crittenden County Sheriff Evan Head’s monthly activity report for his department.

	February	2023 Avg Monthly
Collision Investigated	5	5.25
Complaints	55	54.58
Papers Served	51	28.83
Service Attempts Failed	6	8.17
Total Service Attempts	117	56.17
Transports	6	3.17
Special Detail	49	37.83
Training Hours	11	11.42
Verbal Warning	10	11.25
Criminal Citation	18	5.33
Officer Assist	6	4.75
Building Checks	62	59.92
Total Manhours	785	486.46
Bailiff Court Hours	62.75	47.48
Cases Opened	10	9.58
Felony Arrests	6	3.67
Followup Investigations	8	9.42
Misdemeanor Arrests	12	6.92
Motorist Assists	6	6.08
DUIs	1	0.42
Traffic Citations	13	6.42
General Policing	143	69.83
Call for Service	13	23.75
Vehicle Inspections	85	-
Meet w/Schools	0	-

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Remi Grace Tabor (in foreground) was among those first out of the chute during last Sunday’s children’s Easter Egg hunt at Mexico Baptist Church. Christians across the county and globe will celebrate Easter this weekend.



Allison Mick-Evans of The Press (left) and Servpro’s Kelsey Goode were speakers at last week’s Chamber of Commerce Digital Makeover luncheon at The Venue in Marion.

Crittenden County Detention Center



DETENTION CENTER REPORT

MARCH 2024

The Crittenden County Detention Center report is provided monthly to magistrates during Crittenden County Fiscal Court meetings. The inmate count is an average for last month.

- Federal Inmates \$57 Per diem
- State Inmates \$35.34 Per diem
- Lyon County Inmates \$36.00
- Other County Inmates \$32.00

FEBRUARY

Total Receipts \$300,029.31
Disbursements \$281,073.70

JAIL CENSUS	Feb. 2024 Avg	Jan. 2024 Avg	Montly Average 2023
State Inmates	87.45	85	99.25
Federal Inmates	77.86	76.3	57.85
Other County Inmates	20.76	15.1	12.78
Crittenden County Inmates	17.21	17.1	13.81
TOTAL INMATES	203.28	193.5	183.75
Highest Daily Count	211	217	—
Lowest Daily Count	201	188	—

Last Month REVENUE	February 2024	January 2023	Montly Average 2023
State Housing Payments	\$89,622.24	\$93,085.56	\$105,704.89
Federal Housing Payments	\$128,706.00	\$134,748.00	\$85,958.25
Federal Transport Payments	\$13,744.00	\$14,021.60	\$8,245.58
Lyon Co. Housing Payments	\$20,196.00	\$14,832.00	\$14,880.00
Other County Housing Payments	\$1,312.00	\$1,760.00	\$666.67
Weekend/Work Release	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$296.00
TOTAL HOUSING	\$253,580.24	\$258,477.16	\$208,736.23

Last Month ANALYSIS	February 2024	January 2023	Montly Average 2023
Cost of Crittenden Inmates	\$15,968.00	\$15,968.00	\$14,986.67
Numbers of Co. Housing Days	499	499	468.33
County Daily Housing Rate	32	32	\$32.00
Avg Daily Population Co. Inmates	17.21	17.1	15.44



Marion Baptist
Easter Egg Hunt

Hop on over to our annual
Easter Egg Hunt!

With thousands of eggs to find,
and divided age groups,
every child in the family
will have a blast!

The Egg Hunt
will begin at 10 a.m.

 **30** March
10 a.m.

 **City-County Park
Soccer Fields**

SportsShorts

SPRING SPORTS UPCOMING GAMES

THURSDAY
Softball at Lyon County
Track at Caldwell County Quad

FRIDAY
Baseball at Lyon County

SATURDAY
Softball at Livingston Central
Track at Laker Invitational, Murray

SPRING BREAK

NEXT WEEK'S SCHEDULE
Baseball at Panama City, Fla.

April 1 vs. Rutherford
April 3 vs. Clinton County
April 4 vs. Casey County
April 5 vs. Lincoln County

Softball at Clarksville, Tenn.
April 5 vs. Bishop Chatard, Ind.
April 5 vs. Obion County, Tenn.
April 6 vs. Clarksville Northwest
April 6 vs. TBA

DISTRICT SOFTBALL STANDINGS

Team	Overall	Dist
Trigg County	6-5	2-0
Lyon County	3-4	1-1
Livingston Central	5-2	0-1
Crittenden County	3-4	0-1

DISTRICT BASEBALL STANDINGS

Livingston Central	5-3	1-0
Trigg County	4-4	1-0
Lyon County	2-4	0-0
Crittenden County	6-3	0-2

Games through 3-26-24

BASKETBALL

Lyons win state title

For the first time, a current member of the Fifth District has won the Sweet 16 Boys Basketball championship. Lyon County beat Harlan County Saturday for the school's first title in history. UK commit Travis Perry, who was named MVP of the tournament, scored 27 points. Jack Reddick scored points 17 as Lyon won 67-58. Perry and Reddick both have deep roots in Crittenden County. Reddick has committed to play basketball at Division 1 Florida Gulf Coast. The Lyons have won three straight Second Region championships, but this was the first time they had advanced past the state quarterfinal round.

FOOTBALL

Boone MSU spring game

Crittenden County graduate Tyler Boone will be participating in the Murray State Racers' spring game, which will be held at 7 p.m., on Thursday at Roy Stewart Stadium. The Racers are under the direction of new head coach Jody Wright. Boone says much has changed in the Racer camp and he's looking forward to a stronger season in 2024 both individually and as a team.

OUTDOORS Hunting Seasons

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

Youth Turkey	April 6-7
Turkey	April 13 - May 5
Bullfrog	May 17 - Oct. 31
Squirrel	May 18 - June 21
Coyote	Year Round
Ground hog	Year Round

Youth Turkey Hunting

The first weekend of April will signal the annual youth turkey hunt. On Friday and Saturday, April 5-6, hunters age 15 and under may hunt wild turkeys with a shotgun or other legal methods. Hunters age 11 and under do not have to have a license or permit. Hunters age 12-15 must have proper licensing. All youth hunters must be accompanied by an adult and must abide by KDFWR bag limits. The statewide turkey season opens April 13 and runs through May 5. Adults who accompany the youth hunter do not have to be licensed.



PHOTO BY KAYLIN STOKES

Crittenden County's Chase Conyer has a strong focus on the ball as he awaits a pickoff attempt in a recent CCHS baseball game. The Rockets will play their next district game Friday at Lyon County. The Rockets are 0-2 in district play so far this season.



Eighth-grader Hudson Stokes got the win last week when CCHS beat Hopkins Central on the road.

BASEBALL

Rockets fall to Mayfield

The Rockets gave up two runs in the top of the last inning to lose 4-2 at home to Mayfield on Tuesday.

The game was tied at two from the second until the seventh. Asa McCord started pitching for CCHS and Jeremiah Foster threw the last 2.2, suffering the loss.

Quinn Summers had 3 hits and Foster 2 for the Rocktes.

Rockets rattle Storm

Crittenden scored 8 runs in the sixth to beat Hopkins Central 17-2 on the road Friday.

Hudson Stokes got the win, going 3.1 innings and striking out 3. He also was 5-for-5 at the plate with a double and 2 RBIs. Jeremiah Foster and Drake Young had 3 hits apiece.

Streak ends in district

Crittenden County's 2024 winning streak came to an end last week with back-to-back Fifth District losses to Trigg County and Livingston Central.

On the road last Wednesday, CCHS gave up too many free passes, left too many runners on base and struck out 17 times in an 8-3 loss.

Chase Conyer and Jaxton Duncan had 2 hits apiece. Conyer and Quinn Summers each doubled in the game as CCHS had 6 total hits, the same as Trigg.

Asa McCord, Jeremiah Foster and Summers shared the pitching duties.

Livingston beats boys

On the road last Thursday, Livingston Central bested the Rockets 10-4 as the Cardinals used three pitchers – Jackson Duncan, Skylar Padon and Daniel Ramage – to throw a 4-hitter.

CCHS threw Chase Conyer nad Jaxton Duncan, who allowed jut five hits and struck

out a dozen. However, 10 Rockets errors were insurmountable.

Tyler Belt had 2 hits for Crittenden and Casey Cates scored 2 runs.

Drew Barrow and Carter Ray had 2 hits apiece for LCHS.

SOFTBALL

Madisonville beats CCHS

Crittenden's Andrea Federico hit a 2-run homer to tie the game 8-8 in the last of the fourth, but the Lady Rockets couldn't hold the line as Madisonville plated 9 runs the final two frames to win 18-8 in seven innings.

CCHS used Elliot Evans, Anna Boone and Brodi Rich in the circle. At the plate, Federico and Boone had 2 hits apiece. Federico drove in 4 runs.

After starting the season 3-1, CCHS has lost 3 straight and will host Lyon for a district game Thursday.

Slow start vs Tilghman

After spotting Paducah Tilghman 7 runs in the first two innings, the Lady Rockets settled in and made a game of it Friday at home.

Elliot Evans was hit hard early then Anna Boone took the circle to calm the Tornado bats. In her third varsity appearance of the season, seventh-grader Brodi Rich worked the final 2 innings.

Evans had 3 hits and knocked in a run. Boone had 2 hits and Elle McDaniel and Andrea Federico had a hit apiece.

District disaster at Trigg

Crittenden County opened Fifth District softball action last Wednesday with a 12-2 loss at Trigg County. The Wildcats scored 10 runs over the first three innings and CCHS couldn't keep the pace.

Anna Boone pitched 3.2 innings and Elliot Evans one. Boone had 2 hits, including at double, and Andrea Federico 2. Elle McDaniel and Aubre Conyer drove in a run apiece.

CCHS was outit 15-7 and committed five errors. Trigg played error free.

The Lady Rockets will face its other district opponents, Lyon and Livingston, this week on Thursday and Saturday, respectively.

TRACK AND FIELD

Middle school meet

Crittenden County had a handful of top 20 finishes in a large middle school meet last weekend at McCracken County.

Noah Martinez finished 20th in the 800 meters and 14th in 1600 meters. Cameron Nesbitt was 16th in long jump and the



PHOTO BY ALLISON EVANS

Crittenden County's seventh-grader Brodi Rich has appeared in three varsity games so far this spring, giving the Lady Rockets extra pitching depth early this season.



Crittenden County senior Karsyn Potter established a new school record in discus last weekend whle medaling at the Invitational of the South at Draffenville.

CCMS 4x400 relay team was third out of four teams racing in that event.

High school results

Crittenden County participated in the Invitational of the South at Marshall County on Saturday, which included hundreds of athletes from the region and out of state.

Senior Karsyn Potter finished third out of about 40 throwers in the discus competition, breaking her own school record with a toss of 98-09. She was the only CCHS athlete to medal at

the highly-competitive meet.

BOYS

1600 Meters Freshmen 14. River Rogers 5:33.50, 25. Jaxton Duncan 5:54.84.
1600 Meters 24. Asa McCord 5:43.07.
3200 Meters 9. Asa McCord 12:00.74; 20. Landon Starkey 12:50.28.
4x400 Freshmen 5. Crittenden 4:15.67.
4x800 Relay 12. Crittenden 10:24.22.

GIRLS

800 Meters 19. Ella Whitney 3:22.77.
1600 Meters 11. Mary Martinez 6:21.50; 18. Ella Whitney 7:35.25.
3200 Meters 9. Mary Martinez 13:57.53; 14. Ella Whitney 16:27.81.
100 Hurdles 20. Susana Suggs 23:79.
300 Hurdles 15. Susana Suggs 1:08.47.
4x100 Relay 15. Crittenden 1:03.04.
4x400 Relay 9. Crittenden 5:15.62.
4x800 Relay 5. Crittenden 11:52.30.
High Jump 9. Presley Potter 4-00; 9. Shelbi Belt 4-00.
Discus 3. Karsyn Potter 98-09; 24. Aubrey Grau 62-03.05.
Shot Put 23. Layken Gilchrist 21-11.05.

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PHOTO BY MELORA POTTER

Sophomore Aubrey Grau takes off from the block in a relay event during last weekend's meet.

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McDonald finds niche in Marion industry

BY ALLISON EVANS
THE CRITTENDEN PRESS

Cody McDonald has found his niche in an industry most people know very little about.

Up before the sun with lists in hand, McDonald spends his days shopping so his family’s unique business can provide groceries and other necessities to tow boats on local rivers.

McDonald does all the shopping for McDonald Midstream of Marion, which is approaching its 10-year anniversary.

The business was started by his father Tony, a retired riverboat pilot for Ingram Barge Company.

Within a couple months of his retirement, Tony McDonald began working out of his garage to purchase and deliver to tow boats on the Mississippi and Ohio rivers.

His son helped out when he wasn’t on a shift at Alcoa, but moved back within a few months to become an integral part of the business.

“It’s a hidden industry,” Cody McDonald said, describing the process of loading up jon boats and meeting barges as they travel down the river. “Nobody thinks of it unless they’ve been in the industry.”

McDonald, 32, spends many hours every day at Walmart as the primary shopper for an average of 120 orders each month. The company also delivers about 30 orders monthly to riverboat crews that purchase groceries from Grand Rivers’ Village Market.

“At first I was surprised by how many different items they request; I figured it would be more systematic, but a lot of the cooks get really creative – they are sort of servicing a restaurant, moreso than deer camp,” he said.

They deliver when it’s -10 degrees or 110 , any time day or night, meeting boats when and where the company requests.

It can be rough, McDonald said.

The uniqueness of his career and the service it provides led to McDonald’s selection in The Crittenden Press’



2024 10 Under 40 Community Recognition Program.

His brother-in-law Ben Tucker launches McDonald Midstream’s delivery boat and ties up to tow boats as they’re moving on waterways near Wickliffe, Henderson, Smithland, Birdsville, Dam 50 or Uniontown.

“The boat companies we deliver to – Ingram, Hines Furlong and Florida Marine – mainly like mom and pop delivery people like us who go and get exactly what they want,” McDonald said. “One of the plusses is our meat, because custom meat is better than grocery store meat and that’s our biggest ‘play,’ something they always compliment us on... that, and how we show up when we are supposed to.”

During its first four years of operation, the McDonalds purchased meat from a local grocery store, but in 2018, Tony and Sharon McDonald opened A Cut Above Meat Market in Marion. Its primary purpose was to have inventory to service riverboats; however, they have a retail storefront that continues to grow.

In 2023, McDonald Midstream spent \$1.4 million at Walmart.

“I spend about \$2,000-\$3,500 a day at Walmart and get there at 6:15 a.m., right after they open seven days a week,” he said. “On Sunday I do the first two orders then go to church and sometimes go back after church.”

If you’re wondering, he can load four to six carts per hour, has his own reserved checkout lane (#14) and unlike the rest of the general public, he loves it when Walmart changes the location of products.

“Everybody hates when they move

stuff but I love it because it works my brain,” he said. “I get tired of blindly reaching for things.”

Understandably, he can practically shop with his eyes closed.

His system? Grab dry goods and baking ingredients first, followed by drinks, cleaning supplies, produce then frozen. What he can’t find he gets at a local grocery store.

Many days he has a helper with him who moves filled carts to the checkout area while he continues shopping.

“If I have help with me, I can knock out four orders before noon with both of us shopping.”

When Tony McDonald started the company, he was servicing 30 boats a month. Ten years later he does five times that, utilizing the labor of eight individuals including himself and his wife, who works in the office. Tony handles communications with boat companies and purchases tobacco products requested by the crew.

When he first started, the younger McDonald was impressed by the quality of supplies he was sending out on the river – king crab legs, fresh steaks – then he realized, quality food is one of the only luxuries boat crews have while they’re on the river for 28 days.

“It’s a tough job,” he said. “There are usually nine people on each boat including the cook, and they cook three meals a day plus they have snacks.”

Some of the staples are stored in McDonald Midstream’s Marion warehouse, like sauces and spices, but for

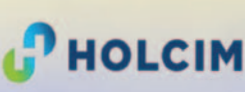


the most part, everything is purchased when an order comes in, which is about every 10 to 12 days for most boats.

There is job security in servicing river boats, which are part of an efficient system of moving grain and gravel. For example, it takes 60 semi trucks to fill one barge, and McDonald said most tugs push 15 barges.

McDonald said there are other companies who operate similar businesses, but there is “plenty of room for all of us to exist.”

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