

The Crittenden Press

Thursday, March 6, 2014

12 PAGES | VOLUME 132 | NUMBER 35

NEWSSTAND \$1.00

USPS 138-260 • MARION KY 42064

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Clocks spring ahead Sunday

Daylight saving time officially begins at 2 a.m. Sunday, so don't forget to move your clocks ahead an hour before going to bed Saturday night. Standard time returns Nov. 2.

Dems reset date for local event

Due to poor road conditions following Sunday's winter storm, Crittenden County's Democratic Party has rescheduled its candidate meet-and-greet originally slated for this week. The event will now take place at 6 p.m. Tuesday in the fiscal court meeting room of Crittenden County Courthouse.

The gathering will give the public an opportunity to visit with the party's candidates for office in 2014. Refreshments will be served.

Comer ahead in early GOP poll

A Republican polling memo obtained by The (Lexington) Herald-Leader shows Agriculture Commissioner James Comer with a commanding early lead over former Louisville Metro Councilman Hal Heiner in the 2015 gubernatorial primary. While neither man has announced a run for governor, both have indicated they're likely to do so. The poll, conducted by Robert Blizzard at Public Opinion Strategies, found Comer leading Heiner 42 percent to 14 percent among 400 Republican primary voters polled last week.

Public meetings

- Crittenden Fiscal Court will hold a special meeting at 8:30 a.m. today (Thursday) in the judge's courthouse office.
- Crittenden County Chamber of Commerce will meet at 8 a.m. Tuesday at the Marion Welcome Center.
- Crittenden County Board of Education meets for its monthly work session at 6 p.m. Tuesday at Rocket Arena.
- Marion-Crittenden County Park Board will meet at 5 p.m. next Wednesday at Marion City Hall.
- Crittenden County Extension District Board will meet at 5:15 p.m. next Wednesday at the Extension Service office.

What's your opinion? Web poll results

Last month, Gov. Steve Beshear rolled out a plan aimed at improving Kentucky's overall health. For this week's online poll, we asked, "What do you think is the biggest health problem facing Kentucky?" The majority of voters think an out-of-shape state is the top issue confronting its residents' physical well-being. The results were:

- Smoking: 16%
- Obesity: 48%
- Cancer: 28%
- Heart disease: 6%



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Victory Gardens to be without inmate labor

By DARYL K. TABOR
PRESS EDITOR

The community Victory Gardens in Crittenden County have suffered a setback weeks ahead of planting season.

Inmate labor used to tend the gardens during the spring and summer will not be available this year because a top county official claims the gardens' religious affiliation disqualifies it from the use of trustees. Crittenden County Jailer Phil Parker says utilizing labor from the detention center is in violation of a long-standing state statute dictating that prisoners cannot be used in conjunction with religious-sponsored projects.

The Victory Gardens, a series of vegetable plots established in 2012

and spearheaded by volunteers from Life in Christ Church in Marion, have offered fresh produce at no charge to the community for the last two summers. Other area churches have banded together to invest thousands of dollars in the project and keep it alive. Since its inception, former Jailer Rickey Riley allowed low-risk Class D felons from the jail to tend



Parker

the gardens.

However, Parker, appointed last August to fill Riley's unexpired term after the former jailer retired, said he plans to pull inmates off the Victory Gardens detail this year, so long as the project continues to be sponsored by area churches. Parker's review of policies and procedures at the lockup led to the decision.

Kentucky Revised Statute 441.125, which prescribes how prisoners can be worked at community service-related projects, limits labor to "a nonreligious-sponsored nonprofit, charitable or service organization."

Parker, who has a long career in

corrections and is the former warden of the Kentucky State Penitentiary in Eddyville, said he is simply following that regulation.

"Without the jail, there are no gardens," said Robbie Kirk, a parishioner at Life in Christ Church who has headed up the Victory Gardens since they were launched.

Crittenden County Judge-Executive Perry Newcom, who announced the change in procedure to magistrates at last month's Crittenden Fiscal Court meeting, is disappointed that the inmate labor will no longer be

See **GARDENS**/Page 4

Winter strikes...again



PHOTO BY CHRIS EVANS, THE PRESS

Kentucky Department of Highways maintenance employee Austin Turley of Marion was calling for a wrecker early Monday morning after his plow and salt rig went into a ditch along Ky. 70 in the Mexico community.

Number of missed school days now up to 15

By DARYL K. TABOR
PRESS EDITOR

It has certainly been a winter of discontent for most residents of Crittenden County, and the turning of the calendar to March brought no relief from the grip of Old Man Winter.

Take heed, however, spring is officially only two weeks away.

Schools, public offices and business were closed Monday around the county after the latest in a long list of winter storms this season dumped as

much as five inches of ice and snow on the area Sunday and into Monday morning.

Cars and even snow plows slid off roadways around the county on Monday and Tuesday, but no serious injuries were reported.

In fact, hazardous road conditions throughout the county forced school officials to cancel classes through Wednesday, bringing to 15 the total number of instructional days missed in 2013-14. It was unclear at press

time if sunshine and warmer temperatures on Tuesday and Wednesday would allow buses to run today (Thursday).

Al Starnes, director of pupil personnel for Crittenden County School District, said the days of instruction missed this week will be tacked on to the end of the academic calendar unless the board of education opts to go another route, perhaps utilizing days

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West giving up council seat to become trial commissioner

By DARYL K. TABOR
PRESS EDITOR

One of Marion's two first-term city council members is giving up his seat on the legislative body in favor of becoming the county's new trial commissioner.

Greg West turned in a letter of resignation to Mayor Mickey Alexander last Wednesday afternoon, the date on which he was sworn in as trial commissioner. West replaces Robbie Kirk, who is pursuing a bid for the Republican Party's nomination for Crittenden County Jailer.



West

Fifth Judicial District Judge Daniel Heady appointed West to the position.

West said he had expressed an interest in the position during a previous vacancy several years ago.

Trial commissioners are appointed in counties in which no presiding judge lives. In his new role, West will be responsible for signing emergency protective orders, domestic violence orders, search warrants and arrest warrants, as well as other court authorizations for law enforcement, when justices presiding over the county are unavailable locally.

"Mostly, the things a trial commissioner does is if the judge is out of pocket," said West.

None of the justices presiding over Crittenden County live here.

West, along with Frank Pierce, first joined the six-member Marion City Council in December 2012 following the November election. West had also served eight years as a magistrate on Crittenden

See **WEST**/Page 4

Union City museum rivals those in metropolitan areas

Back off Indiana Jones, Crittenden County Elementary School explorers have found the Holy Grail.

Yep, the Ark of the Covenant is in Union City! Find it right off new Interstate 69 at the Discovery Park of America along with more amazing artifacts, facts and a smattering of historic re-enacting.

Two bus loads of local fourth-graders made the nearly two-hour trip Friday to Obion County in western Tennessee to tour the museum, which opened in November. Although it's hardly had time to mature, the park is incredibly fascinating. It is a Smithsonian-quality store of cultural and historic exhibits rivaled nowhere in the area.

Some of the parents who went along to shepherd students last week say this museum is better than the big one in Nashville. I attest, too, that it is as interesting, if not more so, than the City Museum in St. Louis.

From dinosaurs to the



Chris Evans
Publisher of
The Crittenden Press

About Town

miracles of modern energy, Discovery Park of America is loaded with intriguing displays and hands-on activities for children and adults of any age.

Replicas of the now-missing ark that held God's 10 Commandments, the atomic bomb and the Liberty Bell are among attractions. An 1800s village, old farm equipment, Huey helicopter, race cars, Native American artifacts, Civil War letters and weapons, howitzers, a fire station and old drug store can be seen and toured. The list of attractions goes on and on and on.

Spread out on 50 full

See **MUSEUM**/Page 2



PHOTO BY CHRIS EVANS, THE PRESS

Crittenden County Elementary School fourth-graders visited the Discovery Park of America in Union City, Tenn., on Friday. Above, Jacey Butts, Harley Morris and Hannah Herrington pause from the tour in front of a dinosaur fossil display.

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MUSEUM

Continued from Page 1

acres, the park's centerpiece is a futuristic-looking building that houses many of the exhibits. The structure features a 120-foot high observation tower, tipped with a flagpole that you can almost see from Fulton.

The park was developed by The Kirkland Foundation. Primary benefactors of that foundation are Robert E. and Jenny D. Kirkland. He founded the Kirkland department stores and another wholesale business. Kirkland grew up in Union City and still calls it his home. The museum is sure to be a major economic boost there.

Most folks remember seeing reports on WPSD-TV about the city's Goodyear tire and rubber plant closing a few years ago. Leaders in this small city of 11,000 say they think the park will create a \$15 million annual impact. It

employs about 35, and they are the most friendly and helpful staffers I have ever encountered. You can tell they've been coached well to understand virtually everything in the museum. Went to Disney World in Orlando with the girls' basketball team over the Christmas holiday and found Mickey's crew to be overtly accommodating. The Union City group rivals, if not surpasses, Disney's hospitality.

The Kirklands headed up the \$100 million construction project and have pledged another \$40 million over the next 20 years for operating and improvements.

Admission is affordable. Prices range from around \$11 to \$14 for a one-day pass, depending on age.

Getting there is easy, too. Once you get to Eddyville from Marion, it's a four-lane road all the way.

Hint, hint Mr. Governor of Kentucky. We need a four-lane to I-24.

Work on budget needs to start

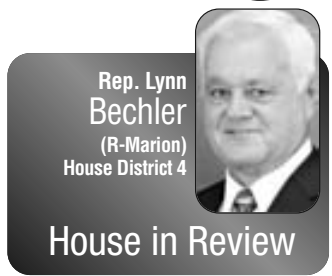
As I write this week's article, it has been more than five weeks since the governor presented his budget proposal to a joint session of the House and Senate.

Last week, I reported that the House Committee on Appropriations and Revenue had held only one meeting dedicated to the budget bill and that was only an overview from the state budget director on the governor's spending plan for Fiscal Years 2014-16. Another week has passed and nothing has changed; there still hasn't been another House Committee on Appropriations and Revenue meeting dedicated to the budget bill.

By the time you read this, there will only be about three-and-a-half weeks left in the current session, and my concern is that we risk running out of time to reach a consensus on the one duty Kentucky's Constitution requires the General Assembly to do – pass a budget. I am especially troubled by the fact that the governor's budget plan proposes nearly \$2 billion in borrowing, especially when only California and Illinois have a bond rating lower than Kentucky's.

Considering this, I believe it is urgent that we take up the budget bill right away and get it to the Senate in plenty of time to reach an agreement. If we fail to act in a timely fashion, we run the risk of leaving Frankfort without a two-year budget plan and consequently being called back into a special session to pass a budget.

With that possibility in mind, I filed House Bill 500, a bill stating that if the General Assembly is called into special session simply



to pass a budget that we failed to do during the regular session, we would not get paid for the special session.

HB 277 passed the House and was sent to the Senate for consideration. This bill would require prospective employees of most long-term care facilities and providers, as well as state employees who perform inspections of these facilities and providers, to be fingerprinted as part of a national and state background check program. This proposed change to state law is designed to crack down on abuse of those living in long-term care facilities or under the care of long-term providers. I voted yes on HB 277.

An issue that has been brought forth many times in the past is the right to work, and this year is no exception. The Kentucky Right to Work Act was filed last week. HB 496, simply states, "...no employee shall be required, as a condition of employment or continuation of employment to: a) Become a member or remain a member of a labor organization; b) Pay any dues, fees, assessments or other similar charges of any kind or amount to a labor organization; or c) Pay to any charity or other third party, in lieu of these payments, any amount equivalent to or pro rata portion of

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(800) 896-0305

dues, fees, assessments, or other charges required of a labor organization."

I am a co-sponsor of this legislation.

Those of us who advocate for right to work fully support a person's right to join a union, but at the same time, we also fully support the right for a person not to join one.

The reasons for filing the Right to Work Act are based on independent studies and data that show states with right to work laws have an advantage when attracting new businesses and expanding their economies.

The U.S. Department of Commerce reported the percentage growth in total private sector jobs over the past decade was 15.3 percent for states with right to work laws and 7.3 percent in states without right to work laws. Kentucky's rate was 6.9 percent.

According to the U.S. Labor Department's Bureau of Labor Statistics, the per-

centage growth in real private sector employee compensation in states with right to work laws was 14.2 percent, compared to 6.1 percent in states without right to work laws.

Kentucky's growth was 4.3 percent. These are only a few examples of why Kentucky must let the free market work.

Kentucky is a wonderful state, and I am saddened and deeply troubled by a recent USA Today report entitled "The Most Miserable States in the USA." Based on survey results, Kentucky was ranked as the second most miserable state in the country. Only West Virginia was ranked worse in the survey.

This is more proof that Kentucky's laws have remained stagnant for too long, and we as a commonwealth must take bold steps to move forward. There is absolutely no reason that Kentucky should rank so low; it should be at or near the top. Tax reform legislation that I mentioned in last week's column and right to work legislation are two ways to begin the process of moving forward.

As always, thank you for reading my updates and thank you for contacting me with your concerns and thoughtful suggestions. It is a privilege to represent you in the Kentucky House of Representatives and your input helps me make decisions that best represent the views of the Fourth District.

(Rep. Bechler is a first-term Republican representative from Marion. He represents House District 4, which is comprised of Crittenden, Livingston, Caldwell and a portion of Christian County.)

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USPS 138-260
125 E. Bellville St. | P.O. Box 191 | Marion, KY 42064
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The Crittenden Press (USPS 138-260) is published weekly by The Crittenden Press Inc., P.O. Box 191, 125 E. Bellville St., Marion, KY 42064. Periodicals postage paid at Marion, KY and at additional mailing offices. Subscriptions \$32 to \$55 per year. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Crittenden Press, P.O. Box 191, Marion, KY 42064.

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Senate passes several bills that update, tweak existing laws

As we welcome March at the capitol, we will see some of the legislature's biggest issues – like the state's biennial budget – brought to the forefront. For us, March brings late nights and hard decisions as we work to reach a consensus on the most fiscally-responsible way to keep our state moving forward.

Senate members have been following the House's work on the budget closely, meeting with state budget officials and preparing for when budget legislation is delivered to our chamber.

We also considered several bills last week that would tweak, update and improve policies, laws and services in the Commonwealth – legislation that would make government more efficient and more effective in common-sense, measured steps.

This is routine work that



is not likely to be heard on the nightly news or headlined in the papers. But it is essential to keep our state up and running and a principal function of the legislature.

Measures like Senate Bill 65, passed unanimously this week, would bring the state in compliance with new federal regulations and allow the same exchange of information for mental health providers as is currently available to other health practitioners.

SB 91, also passed unanimously, would allow

the Public Service Commission to send e-mail notifications – instead of mailed paper copies – to parties involved in certain case proceedings. The measure would still allow participants to request and receive paper notifications. The bill's sponsor says this measure will help expedite proceedings and save the PSC \$20,000 to \$30,000.

SB 142, passed 35-2, would make some minor changes to last year's pension reform measure, SB 2. Some of the pension spiking provisions of that legislation had some unintended consequences of capping overtime and secondary employment hours worked by police officers, firefighters and other state employees. Under this measure, an employee's annual salary increase above 10 percent in the last five years of employment will not be used

to calculate pension benefits. Additional contributions by the employee as a result of this increase will be refunded with interest. The additional employer's contribution will be used to pay down the retirement systems unfunded liability. SB 142 applies to legislative and judicial pensions. SB 2 did not.

Like SB 2, SB 142 would allow wage increases due to promotions and a return to work after authorized unpaid medical leave to be used in calculating retirement benefits. Supporters of the measure say this change will allow the state to continue to receive federal funding of certain overtime wages and will allow state employees to choose to work additional overtime hours.

These bills and others now go to the House of Representatives for further ac-

tion.

Several bills also received committee hearings this week. Some of these issues included banning the sale of e-cigarettes to minors; allowing honorably discharged service members to waive training requirements for a concealed deadly weapon license with certain documentation; and legalizing limited medical use of cannabis oils.

These bills now go to the full Senate for further consideration.

Last Thursday, in a break from my legislative obligations, I was honored to welcome students from across the state, especially from my district, to the state Capitol for the 13th annual Posters-at-the-Capitol. Undergraduates from public universities of Kentucky and the Kentucky Community and Technical College System were in

Frankfort to show off their research. This program exemplifies the high quality of the students in the commonwealth, and I enjoyed meeting with our future leaders as they explained their research and findings. To recognize the importance of this event, Gov. Steve Beshear proclaimed the day as Undergraduate Research Day.

The work of the legislative session will only intensify in the weeks ahead as we address our toughest issues. I welcome your input especially during the final leg of the legislative session.

(Sen. Ridley, a Henderson Democrat, has served in the Kentucky Senate since 2004 representing Senate District 4, which is comprised of Crittenden, Livingston, Caldwell, Webster, Union and Henderson counties.)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Sidewalks should be cleared of ice

To the editor

I would like to call to your attention and to everyone in the City of Marion a major hazard and liability issue that is being grossly overlooked by most businesses and city officials. With the intense winter weather we have had this season, it has been evident that there are only a few select businesses and individuals who seem to care about people's safety and actually uphold city ordinances.

I am referring to the fact that most people in downtown Marion do not clean their sidewalk of snow and ice, thereby creating a hazard for people who are walking the sidewalks, which for some is a necessity. Any individual who wants to live dangerously just needs to walk to the post office from the courthouse.

You might want to remember to bring your ice skates.

In case you do not care about people's safety, how about violating city ordinances. Ordinance 91.33 states that "all property owners, tenants or other persons in charge of or control of property within the city, shall hereinafter clear the sidewalks of the city which about the property of which they have control or charge, of all snow and ice."

This seems like something so simple that I am at a loss as to why this ordinance has not been enforced.

Then, one looks at Marion Main Street Inc., who is revitalizing "our appearance" to "revitalize downtown Marion." Just driving through town during bad winter weather, it is very apparent what we really think of our community.

As someone who a few

years back was walking these very sidewalks in conditions similar to these and just happened to slip and crack three ribs, I know the hazards of which I speak.

What I do not understand is that even in my ill health, I still manage to ensure that the sidewalk in front of my business not only complies with city ordinances but is safe for pedestrians. To the other individuals and business owners – the four or five – who do their duty and clean their section of sidewalk as well, I thank you.

One can only hope that in the future ice and snow storms more individuals and businesses will take heed of our actions and the city ordinance before someone is seriously injured, and they have a liability issue on their hands.

Larry Orr
Marion, Ky.

30 years of Mitch McConnell enough

To the editor

I received a fraud alert in the mail today. Many of you may have also received this document.

Opening it, I discovered it was from U.S. Sen. Mitch McConnell, warning me of what a liar Matt Bevin, his May 20 primary election opponent, is.

McConnell addressed five points:

- Matt Bevin, as a private businessman, signed a letter concerning TARP.

Senator, you voted for TARP. A breakdown of the latest numbers in our bailout database: \$700 billion TARP bill and the separate bailout of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac. Those recipients have received a total of \$421 billion, according to http://projects.propublica.org ac-

cessed on Feb. 24, 2014.

McConnell's action was a direct cost to taxpayers.

- Bevin took taxpayer-funded bailouts for his own uninsured business.

The fact is, The Wire from Aug 15, 2013, refers to Bevin's companies accepting \$200,000 in state grants. But the aid came after the company was destroyed by a fire and at the urging of town and state officials who sought to preserve jobs and a local historic treasure.

- McConnell says Bevin is a "Tax Cheat."

The fact, according to Breitbart News, is Bevin's uncle was the fifth-generation figure in his family running the company. There were some liens under his uncle's management – liens Bevin paid off when he took over in August 2011 after his uncle became sick.

Another fact: A town man-

ager credited Bevin with resolving the company's tax problems after taking control of the family business, and a tax collector said a change in mortgage companies was to blame for a missed property tax payment on the vacation home.

- Then there is MIT and 5. He's not a Tea Party member.

The Washington Post, PolitiFact, FactCheck.org and The Courier-Journal have run article after article basically debasing and debunking all of these claims.

- Then there's, "We need McConnell and his influence in the Senate."

Really? For years we have been sold out by politicians.

After almost 30 years in the U.S. Senate, is Mitch McConnell really the one you want to vote for on May 20?

Marty Workman
Marion, Ky.



PHOTO BY JASON TRAVIS, THE PRESS
Crittenden County Elementary School fifth-grader Audrey Croft portrays Abigail Adams last Wednesday for third-grader Ben Paris as part of a class history lesson on the Revolutionary War that culminated in allowing students to dress as a historical character from that era.

5th-graders portray historical figures for CCES schoolmates

By JASON TRAVIS
STAFF WRITER

Fifth-graders at Crittenden County Elementary School were asked to strike a pose last Wednesday and represent a historical figure during one of our country's most critical times.

It was all part of a fifth-grade history lesson on the Revolutionary War that culminated in allowing students to dress in character as a historical hero or heroine from that era and participate in a living statue museum attended by third- and fourth-graders.

Students, parents and school officials literally got the opportunity to push a button and watch such legendary historical figures as George and Martha Washington come to life and tell about their contribution to the development of the nation.

Fifth-grade teacher Tammy Brantley said students have

been working on the assignment since January.

"Before we began the Revolutionary War unit, students were given an opportunity to select a Revolutionary War hero or heroine. Or it could have been a loyalist on the British side. We have a King George here," Brantley said.

"They got their research together. Then they created a speech or monologue for this and a four paragraph biography essay. All these are standards that go along with fifth-grade history, writing, listening and speaking skills. We had them do the research at school. Then they would take their research home and look through that."

Students also received training on how to perform a monologue and present it to an audience. The information allowed the students to adapt the appropriate pose for the historical figure they represented.

"They got their pose and then developed their poster," Brantley said. "They found a picture and have some interesting facts that maybe someone would not know on their poster. They've actually done their research and had to learn to cite their sources. It all culminated in the event here today."

Third- and fourth-graders also took part by listening to speeches. They then analyzed how the students performed and determined if they stayed in character. Brantley said it will also help prepare those students for the lesson once they reach fifth grade.

Fifth-graders were expected to critique videos on their performance and analyze what was done right and what could have been improved. They'll also be able to determine the most important thing they learned from the historical figure they portrayed.



PHOTO BY CHRIS EVANS, THE PRESS

Education officials meet with legislators

Crittenden County Board of Education Chairman Chris Cook and Superintendent of Schools Dr. Rachel Yarbrough attended the Kid' First Advocacy Conference held Feb. 19 and 20 in Frankfort. Sponsored by the Kentucky School Board Association, the conference allowed district officials the opportunity to attend a reception and speak with local legislators Sen. Dorsey Ridley and Rep. Lynn Bechler. School districts across the Commonwealth have joined together to urge Kentucky lawmakers to limit unfunded mandates and keep funding for public education a high priority. Above, Sen. Ridley (left) meets with Dr. Yarbrough (center) and Cook in his Frankfort office.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Local contingent converges on Frankfort

A contingent of Crittenden Countians converged on Frankfort Feb. 20. Pictured above are (from left) Kentucky Supreme Court Justice Bill Cunningham; publisher of The Crittenden Press Chris Evans; Crittenden County High School freshman Meredith Evans, who served as a page for Rep. Lynn Bechler; Gov. Steve Beshear; Crittenden County Magistrate Dan Wood; Crittenden County Elementary school fifth-graders Kenlee McDaniel and Lilly Perryman, who both served as a page for Sen. Dorsey Ridley; and Mindy Wood.

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Mexico Baptist Church

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Number of missed school days deserves consideration in Frankfort

This winter has been horrible on so many levels. Our faces are dry, our lips chapped, our hands scaly, our county roads crumbly (let's not even think about our gas and electric bills.) And by all means, our kids are bored. And you know what they say, if mama, um, I mean the kids, ain't happy, nobody's happy.

With each snow day, the excitement level has diminished with the receipt of Al Starnes' no-school all-call. You know it's been a bad winter when kids have had enough snow days!

Heck, our sleds are broken and gloves are only available in mis-matched pairs, therefore our DVR is empty of pre-recorded episodes of "Duck Dynasty," our satellite television bills are sky high from teenagers renting movies and they're eating us out of house and home. At this point they'd rather be, just like we'd rather them be, in school – just not on spring break, not on Saturday and not in June.

No, beggars can't be choosers, and opinions are like... well, you know, everybody's got one.

Sure, desperate times call for desperate measures. But a little logic can go a long way in choosing the best way to make up the days missed – 15 as of press time Tuesday in Crittenden County.



I'm sure conversations are taking place among school administrators and legislators concerning the best way to avoid sending kids to school on spring break, Saturdays or in June. But I also believe the conversations about extending the school day should be given serious consideration.

It was once commonplace for school districts to add minutes to each school day to make up days missed. Get on the bus a few minutes earlier, get off a few minutes later and before you knew it, a couple of missed snow days were back on the books. And the kids hardly noticed.

Sure, taking away spring break (especially considering the argument that kids have had plenty of winter breaks) would seem an easy way to gain back five of the 15 days missed.

But many families – and our high school baseball team – have already paid for spring break trips. The baseball team wouldn't get its money back, nor would some of the families who booked beach vacations.

So what about school on Saturday? Besides the obvious arguments, many youth baseball and softball teams in our area have already paid for weekend tournaments, some beginning this weekend.

The optimistic mom in me always has a solution. But this one would require gracious action on the part of our legislators.

I think the best case scenario to ensure good attendance and effective instruction time would be for the Kentucky General Assembly to waive the requirement of actually attending 170 days and allow districts to add minutes to the school calendar.

A lot of folks will not send their kids to school on Saturday and will not cancel spring break plans; however, they will be much more willing to pick them up an hour later from school throughout the months of March and April. As a parent, I see that as the most effective and least disruptive for everyone involved in the education process.

Heck, my kids get on the bus at 6:40. What's 6:30?

I've never e-mailed my legislative representatives, and certainly there are more serious and pressing issues for them to consider while they are in Frankfort, but I think this issue is one that takes very little effort, just some simple logic to come up with a simple solution.

WINTER

Continued from Page 1

from spring break, Saturdays or Memorial Day.

Prior to this week's days missed, the last day of school was slated for May 29. Without board action, the final day of classes as of press time would be June 3, with graduation on June 6.

Crittenden County Board of Education could make alterations to the calendar to accommodate an earlier summer break for students, but that remains to be seen. The board would have to agree to any changes when they next meet later this month.

"That is the calendar that would be in effect until we make any formal change," said school board chairman Chris Cook of the early June

dismissal date.

Adding minutes to the school day is not an option to make up missed days in Crittenden County, as school officials originally scheduled the minimum 170 days of instruction required by the Kentucky Department of Education. Therefore, all days missed due to weather must be made up in their entirety.

Some school districts in Kentucky have missed more than 30 days of instruction.

State lawmakers currently in session in Frankfort could pass legislation that would provide relief for districts as they continue to amend their academic calendars, but to date, no such legislation has been passed.

As with each storm this winter, transportation crews with the state, county and city hit the roads and streets with snow plows and salt.

Both Marion City Administrator Mark Bryant and Crittenden County Judge-Executive Perry Newcom said this latest event from Mother Nature was the worst as far as road conditions. A solid layer of sleet and ice under another layer of snow made it difficult for plows to clear roadways.

Fortunately, the weather following the winter storm and forecast were favorable for clearing away the ice. Sunshine on Tuesday and temperatures forecast well above freezing for the rest of the week will quickly erase the hazards left by the rare March icing.

"It's not going to stick around long," Newcom said Tuesday.

The forecast for the next week, in fact, shows no snow or ice and the mercury rising into the 40s and 50s.

GARDENS

Continued from Page 1

available to keep alive a worthwhile community project. However, he said he agrees with Parker's decision and that the county has every intention to keep in compliance with the statute.

The gardens, which help feed the hungry and put healthy food on dinner tables around the county, have been well-received in the community and even drew praise from Frankfort when Kentucky Commissioner of Agriculture Jamie Comer visited the project last July during weekly distribution of produce. To a small degree, said Newcom, vegetables from the plots have also been used to feed inmates at the jail.

Kirk feels classifying the gardens as religious-sponsored is a bit of a misnomer.

"There are no church serv-

ices. There are no religious activities," he pointed out.

Kirk is one of six people running for county jailer in 2014. Parker is not seeking election to the post to which he was appointed.

The garden plots are located on 42 acres owned by the City of Marion located between Old Morganfield Road and Shopko. The land is leased to Life in Christ Church.

Kirk said, in fact, area churches did purchase equipment and supplies for the gardens and paid to have the area fenced and have underground water lines laid. He also said the churches have footed the water bill, but maintains that religious practices are not involved with the program.

"The churches got together to keep from using city and county money," Kirk explained. "It's a community garden for everybody. It's not

religious, it's community."

A resolution to the situation would most likely force the churches to forego any involvement so that inmate labor could once again be used or leave the churches to depend on volunteer labor from participating congregations or within the community to tend the gardens.

Kirk said the churches will step aside if Parker will allow inmate labor to return this summer.

"If he wants the churches out of the picture, the churches will bow out gracefully," Kirk said.

However, that would leave the gardens wanting for a financial backer. At this stage, there doesn't appear to be anyone else ready to step forward and sponsor the Victory Gardens.

"This is something we're going to have to look at a little harder," Newcom said.

WEST

Continued from Page 1

Fiscal Court.

The empty slot on Marion City Council will be filled soon, said Alexander.

According to state law, West's departure from city council will not become effective until council members convene at their next meeting to accept the resignation. The next scheduled meeting of the city council is March 17.

After the vacancy becomes official, it must be filled by appointment within 30 days. Alexander said he hopes to have nominations to fill West's vacant seat brought before the council at the next meeting. The mayor and each of the five remaining councilmen can bring forth names of nominees to be voted upon.

West's replacement will be determined by a majority vote. There was no indication of potential nominees at

press time.

Alexander, who said he was surprised to receive West's resignation notice, said the first-term councilman's thoughtful nature will be missed on the council.

"I wish him well and appreciate his service on the council. I think he's done a really good job," the mayor said. "He was a pleasure to work with and conscientious about his decisions and things he brought before the council."

West said he spent several days with Judge Heady going over his duties. He's also been studying up on the Fourth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, which governs searches and seizures and requires any warrant to be judicially sanctioned and supported by probable cause.

"I'm looking forward to it," West said last week. "I really enjoy being a public servant."

Mike McConnell

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Programs offset livestock losses

I am sure everyone is looking forward to spring. Hopefully, it doesn't take too long to get here.

We are excited that a new Farm Bill has passed; however, we do not have any specific details as of yet. We do know that there will be a retroactive livestock program for drought and death loss due to inclement weather that is targeted to start April 15.

Reminders for livestock producers

Livestock producers, please remember if you have an adverse weather event that causes livestock losses, you need to document these losses as accurately and detailed as possible, as we are going to have a retroactive livestock program that covers deaths due to adverse weather.

I have heard that several livestock producers lost cattle in the cold wintery weather we had in January and February due to the ice and snow. These losses will possibly be able to be claimed in the programs we have coming. However, the more documentation you have to support these deaths the better. So please make



sure to document the day the loss occurred and due to what event, as well as any additional information that will support the incident.

If you have losses in the future, please remember to adequately document the situation surrounding the event. Many producers these days have cameras on their phone, so a picture would definitely contribute to the documentation.

Again, losses need to be due to an adverse weather event. A few examples could be a lightning strike, flash flooding, a blizzard or some other act of nature. Following is additional information about the Livestock Indemnity Payment (LIP) program.

Livestock Indemnity Payments

LIP provides compensation to eligible livestock producers who have suffered

livestock death losses in excess of normal mortality due to adverse weather and attacks by animals reintroduced into the wild by the federal government or protected by federal law, including wolves and avian predators.

LIP payments are equal to 75 percent of the market value of the applicable livestock on the day before the date of death of the livestock as determined by the secretary. An eligible livestock owner must have legally owned the eligible livestock on the day the livestock death loss occurred.

Eligible livestock includes beef cattle, dairy cattle, bison, poultry, sheep, swine, horses and other livestock as determined by the Secretary of Agriculture.

Livestock Forage Disaster Program

Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP) is another program that will be part of the new Farm Bill. This program provides compensation to eligible livestock producers who have suffered grazing losses due to drought or fire.

LFP payments for drought are equal to 60 percent of the

monthly feed cost for up to five months. Livestock producers who own or lease grazing land or pastureland physically located in a county rated by the U.S. Drought Monitor in a D2 through D4 declaration for various numbers of weeks are eligible. For 2012, Crittenden and Livingston counties met at least one of these requirements.

We encourage any livestock producers to watch for additional information as it comes available on this program, as those producers who had grazing land in Crittenden or Livingston counties in 2012 will possibly be eligible for payments if they meet all the program requirements.

Upcoming

- July 28: Last day to apply for Emergency Loan (Livingston County).

(Laura Kessler is the U.S. Department of Agriculture Farm Service Agency executive director at the Salem service center, which serves both Crittenden and Livingston counties. She can be reached at (270) 988-2180.)

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Philip Parish (right), a Crittenden County farmer, directed a \$2,500 donation from Monsanto's America's Farmers Grow Communities program to Cali Cares, a local charity run by the Parish family that provides blankets for cancer patients. Pictured with Parish are his daughter, Cali (left) and a representative of Monsanto.

Parish directs money to Cali Cares

STAFF REPORT

Crittenden County farmer Philip Parish has directed a \$2,500 donation to Cali Cares. Funded by America's Farmers Grow Communities, the donation will help the organization purchase materials needed to make blankets. Cali Cares is run by the Parish family and operates solely on donations to make blankets for cancer patients in their community. Over the past four years, the family has donated around 1,300 blankets.

Thanks to the support of farmers across the country, more than \$3.2 million is being directed to nonprofits in 1,289 counties in 39 states.

"We are so excited to receive a donation again this year," said Natalie Parish, Cali's mother. "This donation will go a long way in helping us make blankets for cancer patients. We love that our children are learning the value of giving."

America's Farmers Grow Communities works directly with farmers to support nonprofit organizations like Cali Cares, who are doing important work in their communities. The program offers farmers the chance to win \$2,500, which is then donated to the farmer's nonprofit of choice. The search for funding to sustain and enhance programs is a year-round job for nonprofit or-

ganizations across the country. Through America's Farmers Grow Communities, farmers have been able to support a variety of groups, such as schools, fire departments, community centers and youth organizations like 4-H and FFA.

America's Farmers Grow Communities launched in 2010, and has since donated over \$13 million to more than 5,200 nonprofit organizations across the country. America's Farmers Grow Communities, sponsored by the Monsanto Fund, is part of the America's Farmers initiative, which highlights and celebrates the important contributions of farmers like Parish.



Featured at the America's Farmers Grow Community check presentation last Thursday in Ledbetter are representatives of Girl Scouts of Kentuckiana, Jessie Little of Monsanto (second from right) and Alex Mayfield (far right) of Crop Production Services of Hardin.

Calendar makes donation to Girl Scouts

STAFF REPORT

Livingston County farmer Tony Calendar has selected Girl Scouts of Kentuckiana to receive a \$2,500 donation. Funded by America's Farmers Grow Communities, the donation will go toward camp scholarships.

Calendar was selected as Livingston County's winner in America's Farmers Grow Communities, which is sponsored by the Monsanto Fund. A check presentation was held last Thursday at Ledbetter Methodist Church.

America's Farmers Grow

Communities works directly with farmers to support nonprofit organizations doing important work in rural communities. The program encourages farmers to enter to win \$2,500, which is then directed to the farmer's nonprofit of choice.

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Pink Zebra

Christian division still very problematic

Our beloved nation is in perilous times because the majority of people have left God. Far too long, many in the professed Christian population have not held up a Christ-like role model for the rest of the world to see.

In obedience to 1st Peter 3:15, which reads "...Be ready always to give an answer to every man that asks you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear," I submit the following thesis.

The Word of God makes it very clear that every truly born again Christian in Paradise and earth is in the one and only church that Jesus built with His own blood.

Its headquarters are in Heaven. We can't join it. Man can't put us in or put us out. Jesus puts us in when we are born again, according to Acts 2:47, and sin puts us out, Revelation 22:19 tells us.

Please keep in mind the following subject was the most important one to Jesus as He talked to His Father just before He was crucified, making requests for His followers, the church God sent Him to build. It was the main topic in His prayer in John 17, as He pointed out to God four times in that prayer that they were to be



kept in God's name.

"I have manifested thy name unto the men which thou gave me out of the world," Verse 6 reads.

"And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to thee. Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one, as we are. While I was with them in the world, I kept them in thy name," verses 11 and 12 read.

"And I have declared unto them thy name, and will declare it: that the love wherewith thou hast loved me may be in them, and I in them," verse 26 reads.

What were the Whys? "That they may be one, as we are. That the love wherewith thou hast loved me may be in them, and I in them."

The divisiveness of the Christian community today is a blight on God's Church and a hindrance to the winning of souls.

In the case of immoral-

ity, all people know what is right and wrong. But there are other ways we have drifted way too far from the shore.

One way was a grief of St. Paul's in the church of God at Corinth caused by the division they had developed among themselves by dividing off into different groups and naming their groups after different men.

We read in 1st Corinthians 1:11-13, "For it hath been declared unto me of you, my brethren, by them which are of the house of Chloe, that there are contentions among you. Now this I say, that every one of you saith, I am of Paul; and I of Apollos; and I of Cephas; and I of Christ. Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were ye baptized in the name of Paul?"

In 1st Corinthians 3:1-6, Paul brought this same subject up again, calling it carnal (sinful and fleshly), reminding them it was caused by their not yet being spiritual: "And I, brethren, could not speak unto you as unto spiritual, but as unto carnal, even as unto babes in Christ."

"For ye are yet carnal: for whereas there is among you envying and strife and divisions, are ye not carnal, and walk as men?"

"For while one saith, I

am of Paul; and another, I am of Apollos; are ye not carnal? Who then is Paul, and who is Apollos, but ministers by whom ye believed, even as the Lord gave to every man?"

"I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase."

Many will say, "name doesn't matter." Go to the bank and write out a check in someone else's name and you'll get zero.

Jesus is the only name you can pray to God in.

Name is everything. It shows ownership. It is how people, places and things are identified.

Paul had been taught about the importance of a name by the Master Himself.

He reminded the Corinthians in Chapter 3, Verse 9, "For we are laborers together with God: you are God's husbandry, you are God's building."

Jesus bought the Church with His own blood, but never once said it was to be kept in His name. As He belonged to the Father, so does the Church.

God was in Christ reconciling the world unto Himself. So the church, the family of God and the congregation of God belongs to God. Real damage is done by attributing it to any other man or word,

than its true owner, God. This divides God's people, and Paul said that was sin.

God's church that His Son died for is fragmented by being named after a place, men, a method, an ordinance, a system, a group of men or a work of the Holy Spirit, which has caused division worldwide since the time of Paul.

The builders of the Tower of Babel in Genesis 11 caused division among themselves because they said, "Let us make us a name."

When Paul wrote his letters to the churches of God, the postman knew where to deliver the letters.

Some of the scriptural places of the name, church of God are 1 Corinthians 1:2, 10:32, 11:16, 11:22, and 15:9; 2 Corinthians 1:1; Galatians 1:13; 1 Thessalonians 2:14; 1 Timothy 3:5, 15; Acts 20:28; plus the ones Jesus told God in John 17 it was to be called.

In Acts 2, there were 3,000 souls saved and added to the church and the 47th verse tells us Jesus adds those to the church as they are saved: "...And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved."

The church that Hell cannot prevail against caused God's Son unmiti-

gated suffering and an agonizing death. It was at a high cost that God purchased it, so don't we think it should be not only preached that it is His, but kept in His name?

People can say, "I'm a this" or "I'm a that" - pertaining to every name of the different persuasions - but no one can say, "I'm a Goder," as there isn't such an adjective.

The only name we as Christians have the Biblical authority to call ourselves is "Christian."

We belong to the Church that carries only God's name in the Bible, whose headquarters is in Heaven.

He puts our name in that Church when we are born again, changed as much as a baby just out of the womb.

All the manmade methods used today in most of Christendom are substitutes and hide the real truth, bringing division among God's people and bringing them in terrible danger of being the victims of the punishment of adding to and taking from, so Revelation 22:19 tells us.

(Rev. Lucy Tedrick of Marion shares her views regularly in this newspaper. Her opinions are her own, and are not necessarily those of the newspaper.)

Church notes

■ All ladies are invited to attend the 15th annual Lola Pentecostal Church Ladies Retreat entitled Letting Go and Reaching Ahead at 7 p.m., Friday and 10 a.m. Saturday. Registration is \$15. It covers a meal after both services. There will be special services, skits, workshops, door prizes and more. Come and enjoy this uplifting retreat and bring a friend. For more information, call (270) 988-2190.

■ West Kentucky Association of General Baptists will hold a youth rally from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., March 15 at Camp David Tabernacle located at 134 SR 1668, just off U.S. 60 W. on Crittenden Springs Road. All youth ages fourth grade and older are invited to attend. For more information call Bro. Barry Hix at (270) 625-1248.

■ Salem Baptist Church will hold a flea market from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. March 15 at the Christian Life Center. For more information call (270) 704-1567.

■ Crayne Cemetery clean-up day is set for 9 a.m., March 15 at the cemetery. The rain day will be March 22.

■ Mexico Baptist Church's clothes closet will be open 9-11 a.m., each Monday.

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Sunday Evening 6 p.m. • Wednesday Evening 6 p.m.

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Worship 11 a.m., 6 p.m.

Wednesday Bible Study 7 p.m.

Frances Presbyterian Church

Bro. Bitch Gray • Bro. A.C. Hodge

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Sunday school - 10 am • Worship service - 11 am

Every fourth Sunday evening service - 5:30 pm

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College and Depot, Marion • 965-5232

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- AWANA: 5:45 p.m.
- Sunday worship: 10:45 a.m., 6:30 p.m.
- Wednesday: 6:30 p.m.
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Pastor Mike Jones

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Minister of Youth Robert Kirby

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- Sunday evening: 6 p.m.
- Wednesday night Bible study: 7 p.m.

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Wednesday Bible study, 6 pm

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Sunday Evening 6 p.m. • Wednesday Bible Study 7 p.m.

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Sunday Worship 11 a.m., 6 p.m.

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Crayne Community Church

Crayne Cemetery Road Marion, Kentucky

Wednesday night Bible study, 6 p.m.

Sunday school, 10 a.m. | Sunday worship, 11 a.m.

OBITUARIES

— PAID OBITUARY —

Davison

Phyllis Marie Osterhout Davison, 87, of Madbury, N.H., died peacefully at home on Feb. 21, 2014, surrounded by her loving family.



Davison

Born June 24, 1926, she was the oldest daughter to Earl and Hazel Dille Osterhout.

She grew up in a tiny town in Idaho with her siblings Dale, Twylla, Demar, Earl and Dorothy. Davison graduated from Albion High School in 1944, where she received her "A" for playing basketball. After graduating, she worked in the office at International Harvester and at Camp Rupert, a World War II prisoner of war camp.

In 1953, she moved to Riverside, Calif. It's there that she met the love of her life, Grover, at a New Year's Eve party. They were married six months later in Las Vegas. Their first date was bowling, something the two of them enjoyed together for many years to come. The family eventually moved to Massachusetts and Japan before finally settling in New Hampshire where they raised Skip, Darla, Tammy and Kim.

Having married a serviceman who was often gone, much of the household responsibilities and child-rearing fell on Davison. She never complained, but took joy from it. Summer days were spent at "our" beach or White Lake. Winter days were filled with playing board games and making snow cream. One Christmas, she even dressed up as Santa Claus and made an appearance at Kim's kindergarten.

Davison was a Camp Fire Girls leader and volunteered at an elementary school where she was affectionately called "Ma." In 1978, she and Grover purchased the Chestnut Hill Market in Rochester, N.H. She made many friends in the six years they owned it. After that, she held positions at A. Lipson Fruit Co., Foster's Daily Democrat and The Friendship Inn.

When she wasn't working, she liked to do anything "crafty," from making Barbie clothes to dried flower wreathes. She loved to bake. Homemade doughnuts or popovers on weekends were not uncommon. Her legendary stuffed hot dogs are a family favorite. She and Grover loved to travel, whether it was driving cross country or cruising the ocean blue. Washington is the only state she never got to visit. Saturday afternoons were often times spent at the mall – if it was purple and fit, it was coming home with her. She never, ever left the house without lipstick. Her style and elegance were timeless.

She is survived by her devoted husband of 58 years, Grover "Dave" Davison; three daughters, Darla and husband Jeff Donahue of Newmarket, N.H.; Tammy and husband Bill Whipple of Rochester and Kim Dustin of Nottingham, N.H.; a son, Gaylen Luke of Riverside, Calif.; a sister, Twylla Pfeiffer of Pocatello, Idaho; eight adoring grandchildren, Darla and husband Johnson Lent, Brandon Whipple, Billy Whipple, Hannah Gagnon, Haley Dustin, Kelsey Dustin, Lacey Luke and Cheryl-Ann Luke; and three great-grandchildren, Kyle Lin-teau, Aleeyah Johnson and Adrian Whipple.

Davison was predeceased in death by her parents, Earl and Hazel Dille Osterhout, brothers, Demar, Dale, Gary, sister, Dorothy George; and great-grandchildren Jade and Avery.

The family wishes to express their deepest gratitude to Linda from The Homemakers Health Services. She has been our matriarch's caregiver, daily companion and friend for eight years. Also, sincere appreciation goes to the staff at Beacon Hospice over the last few months for making a difficult time a little easier to understand.

A celebration of Davison's life was held Wednesday at Cedar Grove United Methodist Church with burial in Cedar Grove Cemetery.

Boyd Funeral Directors in Salem are in charge of arrangements.

Those planning an expression of sympathy are asked to consider sending a memorial contribution to: Beacon Hospice (BeaconHospice.com); or The Homemakers Health Services (TheHomemakers.org).

Condolences may also be left online at BoydFuneralDirectors.com.

Weldon

Elizabeth Weldon, 84, of La-Center died Feb. 26, 2014, at Select Specialty Hospital in Evansville, Ind.

She is survived by her husband, Edwin Weldon of La-Center; a grandson; a great-grandchild and three great-great-grandchildren.

Graveside services were Saturday at Mapleview Cemetery in Marion.

Gilbert Funeral Home in Marion was in charge of arrangements.

Ball

Jimmy K. Ball, 74, of Portage, Ind., formerly of Crittenden County, died Feb. 24, 2014, at Saint Mary Medical Center.

He was born on Sept. 27, 1939, to the late James and Cora Ball. He was a 48-year resident of Portage. Ball retired from Ford Motor Co. He was a member of Emmanuel Baptist of South Haven, Ind. He enjoyed fishing and hunting and loved spending time with his family.

He is survived by his wife of 50 years, Kay Lowe Ball; two daughters, Regina Ball of Portage and Becky and husband James Cubbison of South Haven; five grandchildren; a great-grandchild; two brothers, Leon Ball of Texas and Danny Ball of Valparaiso, Ind.; two sisters, Barbara Polk of Valparaiso and Sandra and husband Don Case of Allegan, Mich.; and other family members and friends.

Ball was preceded in death by his parents, James and Cora Ball; and two brothers, Oliver Ball and Kenneth Ball. Funeral services were at Emmanuel Baptist Church of South Haven with Rev. John C. Allen officiating. Burial was in Angelcrest Cemetery. Rees Funeral Home in Portage was in charge of arrangements.

Online condolences may be left at ReesFuneralHomes.com.

Farley

Robert Lee "Bob" Farley, 71, of Hobart, Ind., formerly of Crittenden County, died Feb. 26, 2014.

He was born April 30, 1942 in Marion. He worked for the City of Hobart's street department for 42 years, retiring in 2006. He was a longtime member of the Bible Baptist Church in Portage, Ind., and enjoyed fishing and collecting antiques.

Farley is survived by his wife, Peggy Farley of Hobart; a son, David and wife Carrie Farley of Hobart; three brothers, Jessie Eugene Farley, Kenneth Farley and Billy Peters, all of Kentucky; two sisters, Sandra Fletcher and Debbie Fletcher, both of Kentucky; and two granddaughters.

He was preceded in death by his first wife, Linda Vannest Farley; four sons; four sisters, Elizabeth Jean Sigers, Betty Josephine McClurre, Vallie Mae Vasseur and Bonnie Kay Deckert; and his parents, Jessie and Clara Farley.

Funeral services were Saturday at Rees Funeral Home in Hobart with Pastor Don Good officiating. Burial was in Graceland Cemetery in Valparaiso, Ind.

Online condolences may be left at ReesFuneralHomes.com.



Ball

Garrett

Ada Ruth Garrett, 90, of Louisville, died Feb. 28, 2014.

She was born in Blackford. She was a member of Watkins United Methodist Church.

Garrett is survived by her children, Lonnie Steve and wife Sherry Garrett, Sue and husband Ken Hohman and Jack and wife Judy Garrett; three brothers, Joe B. Thurmond, Albert "Cotton" Thurmond and James Thurmond; grandchildren, Cyndi, Jeff, Brian, Shannon, Shawna, Jeremy and Ruthie; and 12 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death in 1970 by her husband, Lonnie Elmer Garrett; and her parents Joseph Black and Cora Waddell Thurmond. A celebration of life ceremony will be held at noon today (Thursday) at Rosebud Methodist Church in Sturgis with burial in Rosebud Methodist Church Cemetery. Visitation will be at 11 a.m. today until the time of service at Rosebud Methodist Church.

Ratterman Funeral Home in Louisville is in charge of out-of-town arrangements. Gilbert Funeral Home in Marion is in charge of local arrangements. Memorial contributions in Garrett's memory may be made to: Rosebud Cemetery Fund, c/o Donna Erickson, 10468 U.S. 60 East, Sturgis, KY 42459; or to Hosparus of Louisville.

Millner

Hazel Millner, 76, of Marion died Feb. 28, 2014, at Livingston Hospital and Healthcare Services in Salem.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Max Ray Millner; two sons, Eddie Millner and another son at birth; a brother, Jimmy Long; and her parents, Cleo and Elizabeth Taylor Brown. Graveside services will be at 2 p.m. today (Thursday) at Shiloh Baptist Church Cemetery in Lexington, Tenn. Visitation is today from 10:30 to 11 a.m. at Boyd Funeral Directors in Salem.

Gay-marriage ruling prompts state to use outside help

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS Kentucky Gov. Steve Beshear says the state will hire outside attorneys to appeal a judge's decision granting legal recognition to same-sex couples married in other states and countries.

Beshear's announcement on Tuesday came moments after Attorney General Jack Conway said he would not ask a higher court to review the decision.

Both are Democrats. Their moves come four days after a federal judge in Louisville gave the state 21 days to implement a ruling overturning a voter-imposed ban on recognizing same-sex unions.

U.S. District Judge John G. Heyburn issued a Feb. 12 opinion that Kentucky's ban on recognizing same-sex marriages violated the Constitution's equal-protection clause in the 14th Amendment because it treated "gay and lesbian persons differently in a way that demeans them."

Baptists say Sunrise homes short on funds

FROM AP AND STAFF REPORTS

The Kentucky Baptist Convention is asking its member churches, including those in Crittenden and Livingston counties, to assist with a \$5 million fundraising drive for the state's largest private child care agency.

Executive Director Paul Chitwood says Sunrise Children's Services, which is affiliated with the Baptist church, lost donations after the departure of its longtime CEO last year. Bill Smithwick resigned in December after floating a proposal that the agency open its employment to gays. The change was rejected by Sunrise's board.

Chitwood says "funding streams were severely damaged during the last three months of 2013." He said many donors did not give because they were unsure of Sunrise's future, and others withdrew donations in protest.

Chitwood says the agency has a funding gap of about \$7.5 million. He is asking the state's 2,400 Baptist churches to raise about \$2,000 each.

There are 16 KBC member churches in Crittenden County and another 24 in Livingston County.



Garrett

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Siblings: Arch-nemeses or best friends?

The worst sound to a parent's ears is the sound of their children fighting with one another. As adults, we know that the way we treated our siblings as children can have an effect on their relationship in later life. We also know how rewarding sibling relationships can be as adults. We want our kids to enjoy those relationships



too. It would be awful if they lost a lifelong relationship because of childhood

squabbling and disagreements. But how can a parent teach kids to get along? Most importantly, be a good role model. If you shout and call other adults unkind names when you disagree, don't be surprised when your kids do the same. If you can disagree kindly with your peers, your children are more

likely to mirror that type of communication with their siblings. When you catch your kids in the middle of an all-out, name calling brawl, there are a few things you can do. First, help your kids to see the issue from the other person's point of view. This can be especially helpful for younger children who don't

know how to express their feelings as well as their older siblings. You can also encourage your kids to play games or activities that they'll both enjoy. Building forts, riding bikes, playing house or other imagination games are easy for older and younger siblings to participate in. Finally, be sure to praise your children's efforts to

get along with one another. When they compliment each other or have patience with each other, take notice. Tell them you appreciate that and show them you notice their good efforts. Their relationships won't be perfect, but each positive interaction builds their love for each other and sets a path for a lifetime of good experiences.

CCES students celebrate Read Across America



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Crittenden County Elementary School celebrated Read Across America last week with fun and exciting activities. Read Across America honors famous author Dr. Suess. Last Wednesday, students and staff dressed up as their favorite book character. Winners were chosen from each home room and students were awarded books as their prize. They included (at left, front row) Lilly Fernlund, Braelyn Merrill, Hadley Myers, Elliot Evans, Jaxon Hatfield and Rien Tabor (second row) Hayden Cavanah, Jaylee Champion, Kaylee Hewitt, Kylie Bloodworth, Rachel Mundy, Lilah Sherer, Aubrey Hollis, Alexis Hughes, Carson Yates and Brayden Poindexter (third row) Logan Myers, Taylor Guess, Emily Henderson, Natalie Boone, Katie Perryman, Jacey Frederick, Leauna West, Chase Conyer, Grace Driskill and Ryleigh Tabor (back row) Leah Fritts, Cameron Suggs, Ben Dobyns, Jacob Hoover, James Crider and Xander Tabor. Read Across America character winners (shown above) included David Abshire III and Creea Whitfield for the afternoon preschool class. Guest readers from the community also read to the students during the week.

Incorporating more fruits, vegetables highlighted local healthy eating seminar

STAFF REPORT
Healthy Eating was the topic at a seminar Feb. 22 at the Woman's Club of Marion. An audience of 25 community members attended the event. Program chair Becky Zahrtz introduced Crissy Carter, a dietitian with Livingston Hospital and Healthcare Services. Carter explained that a healthy diet is one that helps maintain or improve general health. Carter provided information that focused on avoiding excess calories such as those in sugary beverages, and encouraged individuals to eat more fresh fruits and vegetables and manage portion control. Sue Parrent also spoke at the seminar. Parrent is the program assistant for the Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program offered through the Crittenden County Extension Office. Parrent works with families and county schools to encourage individuals to choose nutritious food, learn how to cook and seek out healthy recipes. Robbie Kirk, who over-



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Sue Parrent (left) and Crissy Carter speak to audience members at the Healthy Eating seminar held at the Woman's Club of Marion. sees the local victory garden, explained how the victory gardens became a reality and the increase of yields over the last two years. Kirk said the vegetables that are grown are free to any Crittenden County resident. As warmer weather approaches, Kirk said the gardens will be planted again this year. A question and answer session followed the seminar, allowing those in attendance to come away with a greater understanding of healthy eating. The educational seminar was a Community Christmas approved event.

CCHS 'Get Fit' program to focus on nutrition, health information

By JASON TRAVIS
STAFF WRITER
With spring only a few weeks away, many individuals are looking forward to getting outdoors and increasing their activity level. In the interest of better fitness, a Let's Get Fit Together program will be introduced at Crittenden County High School. The group will meet from 3 to 4 p.m. every Wednesday in Room 306 at the high school. The activity is sponsored by Crosswalk Learning Center as part of its health and wellness grant component. School officials are interested in helping students live a healthier lifestyle and build self-esteem. High school instructor Carol West said teams of teachers, administrators and staff members participated in a weight loss competition. Afterward, high school students wanted to know if they could have a similar program of their own. "I polled the classes and several students were interested," West said. "I then shared the students' interest with (Crosswalk Site Coordi-

nator) Cheryl Burks. Together, we came up with a fitness program designed just for the students. The program is not focused on losing weight but more on getting healthy. If they lose weight along the journey, that will just be a plus for them." The program will feature weekly weigh-ins, healthy snacks, sharing healthy recipes, guest speakers that will include personal trainers and nutritionists and Just Dance and other physical activity, including Wii games and GeoMotion Fitness. Students will also have the opportunity to participate in regularly scheduled zumba classes and the CCHS Walking Club. Burks said the program will target all freshmen. If there is enough interest, then the program will be opened up to all CCHS students. "We would love to partner with any local business or organization that is in the health and wellness field," Burks said. For more information, contact Burks or West at CCHS at (270) 965-2248.

Gaston named to WKCTC dean's list for fall semester

STAFF REPORT
Andrew Gaston, a graduate of Crittenden County High School, has earned recognition for his academic work by being named to the West Kentucky Community and Technical College dean's list for the fall 2013 semester. To be named to the dean's list, a student must be a full-time WKCTC student earning at least a 3.5 grade point average and successfully completing 12 hours or more of course work numbered 100 or above for the academic term. (Editor's note: Some colleges and universities, such as Murray State University, do not release dean's and president's lists to newspapers. This may also include graduation announcements and honors. If a student wants their information posted in a local paper, the student must request this information through their respective school.)

Community CALENDAR

Thursday, March 6
■ A MAPP meeting will be held at 1 p.m., at the Crittenden County Health Department.
Saturday, March 8
■ The Crittenden County Genealogy Society will meet at 10 a.m., in the meeting room at the public library (weather permitting). Member Phyllis Bradford will give a program on her family research trip.
Monday, March 10
■ The Crittenden County Coalition for a Drug-Free Community will hold its next meeting at 6:30 p.m., at the Ed-Tech Center.
Wednesday, March 12
■ The Crittenden County Middle School SBDM Council will meet at 3:30 p.m., in the school library.

Sunday, March 23
■ Lady Rocket Basketball will host a Be Joyful painting party at 2 p.m., at the multi-purpose room at Crittenden County High School. All materials are provided, many styles of door hangings available. Cost is \$35. Find Be Joyful on Facebook for samples of painting projects. Registration is encouraged to ensure the project of your choice, by calling Christy Moss at (270) 836-2040 or Allison Evans at (270) 704-0447.
Saturday, March 29
■ The track team will be selling ribeye sandwiches from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., at Conrad's.
Thursday, April 3
■ Crittenden County Elementary School will hold Family Fitness Night from 6 p.m. to 7

p.m., for students and their families.
On-going
■ Livingston County Preschool/Head Start is now accepting applications for the 2014-2015 school year. Parents can call (270) 988-2867 or (270) 928-2244 to schedule an appointment.
■ The Crittenden County Health Department Relay for Life team is designing a T-shirt fundraiser for survivors and loved ones lost to cancer. Due to limited space, only names of Crittenden Countians are being accepted. To submit names for T-shirts or for more information, call the health department at (270) 965-5215 before March 14. T-shirts will be available for purchase in

April.
■ All veterans are invited for coffee and breakfast at 7:30 a.m. each Tuesday at the VFW building in Marion.
■ The Crittenden County Public Library hosts Lego Club at 3:30 p.m., each Tuesday when school is in session.
■ Narconon reminds families that abuse of addictive pharmaceutical drugs is on the rise. Learn to recognize the signs of drug abuse and get your loved ones help if they are at risk. Call Narconon for a free brochure on the signs of addiction for all types of drugs. Narconon also offers free assessments and referrals. Call 800-431-1754 or visit drugabusesolution.com for more information.

SENIOR CENTER CALENDAR

Crittenden County Senior Citizens Center is open weekdays 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Lunch is served at 11:30 a.m. each day and is \$3 for those age 60 and older. Milk, coffee or tea are available each day. Reservations are requested.
Every day, the center at 210 North Walker St. in Marion offers billiards, card games, Wii games and use of the exercise equipment. Call the center at 965-5229 for further information.
This week's activities and menu include:
- Today: Bible study with Bro. Tim Burdon begins at 10:30 a.m. Menu is barbecue pork sandwich on wheat bun, creamy coleslaw, scalloped potatoes, oatmeal cookie and pears.
- Friday: Bingo begins at 10:30 a.m. Dress in Blue Day

to raise colon cancer awareness. Menu is beef stew, corn, coleslaw, cornbread and pineapple delight.
- Monday: Menu is grilled chicken on wheat bun, baked potato, Brussels sprouts and tropical fruit.
- Tuesday: Sue Parrent of the Crittenden County University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service's Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program will host a nutrition class. Menu is roast pork, oven-brown potatoes and carrots, broccoli casserole, whole wheat roll and pineapple fluff.
- Wednesday: Menu is oven-fried chicken, baked sweet potato, black-eyed peas, fruit cobbler and wheat bread slice.
- Next Thursday: Menu is baked catfish, navy beans, beets, turnip greens, cornbread and ambrosia.

Wheeler remembered as pioneer in education

Miss Armina "Mina" Wheeler was elected Crittenden County School Superintendent in November 1893. This was very unusual, especially in a time when women were not even allowed to vote.

Wheeler was a native of the county. She educated herself, and at the time of her election, was one of the best teachers in the county. At first, there were those who would not vote for a woman, but when they met her or heard her addresses, their prejudice vanished. When the election came and the votes were counted, she had a majority of two.

Her opponent contested the election. After hearing the contest, the board gave Miss Wheeler a certificate of election and declared one majority elected her.

Superintendent Wheeler made regular visits to all the county schools. She shared some of her journey's with The Crittenden Press. This is one of the articles she wrote and submitted in 1894. Even today, she sounds like a remarkable and brave young lady.

Nov. 4, 1894

The schools as I find them
At 10 o'clock on Oct. 25, I left Marion in company with Bonaparte (her trusty steed) in quest of those little temples of learning seen occasionally near the highway, but more often found perched like an observatory on the brow of some overhanging hill or hiding away in some sylvan dell.

Bonaparte and I were only slightly acquainted, but we began the journey with the hope – on my part at least – that we would be firm friends before it ended. What his name may have been in the past, I know not; the one he now honors was suggested by his appearance on first sight. Since becoming better acquainted, I am thinking of re-christening him Gunpowder after the favorite steed of Hans Van Ripper.

We took the Morganfield



Road and noon brought us to Moore's schoolhouse. We found the teacher and pupils eating dinner under the trees. We at once lent a helping hand. The schoolhouse is situated on the side of a long hill a short distance from W.C.L. Moore's. The house is not very good; it is not very old, but was not properly built.

The district reports 58 pupils; 49 have been enrolled and a goodly number was in attendance. Some were at home with sore eyes.

The order was good, and the recitations were interesting. Mr. E.C. Wilcox is teaching. He is very methodical in all his work. He has a neatly written program and follows it to the minute. His school is very well graded; a few of the pupils need more books. His plan of grading on studies is a good one. He reviews Friday on lessons recited that week and grades on this review. His school records are the neatest I have yet found, but I expect to find as good when I visit his father, for in point of order and neatness, Edwin is only a "chip."

I spent the night at Mr. Field Crider's. The next morning, his son showed me the way to Nunn's Switch; from there I went up, up, up to Hoods Creek schoolhouse. The house is situated on the brow of a very high hill a short distance from the "switch." It is a primitive one built of logs. The wall is tolerably well preserved, and it is ceiled; but the floor is open, and it is not well lighted. I at once wrote it down in my book under this class: "Not nearly good enough to keep and a little

too good to throw away."

Miss Cleo Nunn is teacher. She has taught here two or three terms before. The lessons were good and the school seemed to be moving harmoniously. I noticed some of the children whispering a little; I hope they had quit doing so. A Crittenden teacher is credited with saying, "A child should never be sent to school until he has taught a term."

I remained long enough at noon to divide the teacher's dinner with her, and then hurried on by the nearest and roughest route to Applegate. The schoolhouse is in Meadow Creek Valley a short distance from Mr. Sam Woodsons. It is a nice, new house with good furniture and a fine well of water near. The teacher told me that the children were very pleasant and obedient; they appeared so to me. I saw more good maps and diagrams made by the classes in geography and physiology.

After school, Bonaparte and I were joined by the teacher, Miss Corda Wheeler, and we all went together to Mr. Ira Nunn's to spend the night. Many individuals in the county, both men and beasts, know that is a good place to stay.

I started early next morning, taking with me pleasant memories and a well-filled lunch basket. My next destination was Seminary Spring. My route lay along the pretty little valley of Meadow Creek. It is a narrow valley, skirted on either side by high hills. It seems to me that woods and fields have put on brighter colors this autumn than ever before; and the valleys and hills near Tradewater, having been touched by keener frosts, were far more brilliant than I have seen elsewhere.

One hill had been swept by the cyclone of 1890. Its trees had been stripped of their branches and their tall trunks now thickly

covered with short tufts of limb and foliage and slightly curved in the direction the wind had bent them, presented the appearance of nodding plums of every conceivable line. Back through the valleys toward Tradewater, fog was drifting like a soft veil being removed from the fair face of nature.

As I whirled along to the merry time of Bonaparte's feet and took in the shifting scene of hill and vale, I longed for the soul of a poet that I might have full enjoyment of all its beauty.

I soon reached Seminary. Mr. H.H. Powell is teaching. It is a pretty situation, a good house and one of the best springs in the county. They have a good set of charts; but the seats are not lawful. The teacher is tireless in his efforts, and I saw some good work done by the students. I noticed only one thing that I thought needed amending; a few of the children made too much noise while studying.

I had expected to take dinner with Mr. John W. Cook, but finding it too late when school adjourned, and remembering my lunch basket, I started on up the Morganfield Road hoping to reach Going Spring near 1 o'clock. As I hurried along – reins over my arm, biscuit in one hand and chicken in the other – the only thing that marred my enjoyment was the fear that somebody would meet me while I was at dinner.

Going Spring has one of the best houses in the county. It is well supplied with patent seats and has a teacher's desk. I said to Mr. Blackburn that all they lacked was a revolving chair for the teacher. Mr. W.A. Blackburn is teaching his second term at this place. He has a good school; his average last month was 43. The school was very orderly in every particular. I think for his age and experience, Mr. Blackburn is an excellent teacher.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Mina Wheeler, superintendent of Crittenden County Schools from 1894 to 1901, is pictured when she retired. The county was sad to see her leave the position, for she was a very popular superintendent and served her county well.

At sunset Friday evening, Bonaparte and I reached Marion very well satisfied with our trip, though we had held up a freight train in the meantime.

Signed, Mina Wheeler.

Just reading this article written all those many years ago by Wheeler is incredible when you stop and think the area that Wheeler and her faithful steed, Bonaparte, covered in their two-day journey.

Back then there were more winding country roads, probably more like paths through the countryside which would help make the journey not so long. Even though, just consider that she started her journey from Marion, her home base. She first traveled to Moore's school, which was located near the Repton-Mattoon area; went to Hood's school, which is located on a bluff overlooking Nunn Switch; went cross country to Applegate, which was located not too far from the Union County line on U.S. 60

East; made her way to Seminary School, which was located on Seminary Loop Road; then to Going Spring, which was located at Winlow Park area; and then from Going Spring back to Marion.

Wheeler served her four-year term (1894-98) and was elected again for another four-year term (1898-1901). She won over John B. Paris by 21 votes.

She was a very popular superintendent and served her county well. She retired at the end of her term in January 1901.

Armina "Mina" Jane Wheeler was the daughter of Isaac and Nancy Elvira Crider Wheeler. She was born April 6, 1861, and died Oct. 14, 1905, and is buried in the James Wheeler Cemetery on Just-A-Mere Road.

(Brenda Underdown is Crittenden County's historian and serves on the board of the historical and genealogical societies in the county. She is also active in maintaining Crittenden County Historical Museum.)

KHEAA mobile classroom visits high school campus

By JASON TRAVIS
STAFF WRITER

Crittenden County High School juniors and seniors got the opportunity to visit the Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority (KHEAA) mobile classroom as the College Information Road Show rolled onto campus last week.

David Scott, the outreach counselor for the program, said the purpose of the road show is to provide juniors and seniors throughout the state the opportunity to learn more about KHEAA and the many resources that are available to them.

Students learned more about Kentucky Educational Excellence Scholarships, or KEES. KEES provides all Kentucky high school students with money for tuition and education-related expenses for college.

Students must earn a 2.5 grade point average or better each year of high school to qualify for KEES money. The better they perform in high school, the more money they earn. Students

don't even have to apply for the KEES award; the KHEAA and local schools work together on KEES scholarships.

Students can also receive a bonus award based on their highest ACT composite score made on any tests taken before graduation, as long as it is 15 or above. Students must qualify for at least one base award to receive the bonus.

KEES money works for students at the very beginning of their freshman year of high school. As an example, if a freshman earns a 3.0 GPA, the student would receive \$250 in KEES awards.

If the same student earns a 3.5 GPA during the sophomore year, \$375 would be added to the KEES scholarship. If the student earned a score of 20 on the ACT, \$214 would be added to the KEES award.

KEES awards are funded by Kentucky Lottery revenue.

CCHS juniors and seniors got the opportunity to

log in and check their KEES money while in the mobile classroom. Scott said it's a good opportunity for students to better learn about KEES. It's also used as a motivator for students.

"I explain to them the difference in money from just 1 percentage point in their grade point average and how that, for KEES, accumulates over the course of time and into college over the course of four years," Scott said.

Junior Danielle Byarley said the mobile classroom was a great opportunity for students to learn more about KEES awards. Byarley, like all juniors, is preparing for the ACT test scheduled March 18. Teachers have been prepping all juniors with practice tests and offering assistance in areas that need additional study. Byarley said after graduation she wants to pursue a career in nursing.



PHOTO BY JASON TRAVIS, THE PRESS

Danielle Byarley listens as KHEAA outreach counselor David Scott speaks to juniors about how to log on and check their Kentucky Educational Excellence Scholarships, or KEES, money. The KHEAA mobile classroom visited Crittenden County High School last Thursday and Friday. Booked through April, Scott will visit approximately 20 schools each month statewide.

Joseph Habedank in Concert
Marion 2nd Baptist
would like to invite the
community to hear
Joseph Habedank in concert
on March 16 at 6:00 p.m.

Joseph Habedank is an award winning and Dove award nominated singer/songwriter, and he was awarded Singing News Magazine's Young Artist of the Year in 2009 and Songwriter of the Year (Artist) at the Absolutely Gospel Music Awards in 2011.

A Love Offering Will Be Taken

Bro. Chris Lowery, Pastor
Sunday School 10 a.m.
Worship 11 a.m.
Team Missions Sunday Nights 5:30 p.m.

Happy 100th Birthday
Effie Shaffer

Our Mother, Mama and Great-Mema Effie Shaffer will be celebrating her 100th birthday on Thursday, March 13th.

We are asking her friends and family to assist us in celebrating this very special birthday, by sending her a birthday card to: Crittenden County Health and Rehabilitation Center, 201 Watson St., Marion, KY 42064.

Her family and friends have always been a special blessing to her. Your cards will be a highlight.

Thank you in advance,
Her family;
Linda and Virgil Cook
Chris and Tracy Cook
Charles and Natasha Cook
Caroline and Ashleigh Cook

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- BATHROOM UPGRADES

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Upstairs	\$125
Basement	\$125
Nunn Room (parlor)	\$100

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

Ad paid for by Marion Tourism Commission



The new Rocketman mascot

BASKETBALL

Alumni hoops Sunday

There will be age-specific Rocket alumni basketball games starting at 1:30 p.m., Sunday at Rocket Arena. The gym will open at noon. Games will be two 15-minute halves with a running clock. There will be two age brackets: 39-under and 40-over. Players 40-up may play with the younger group. Pull-over scrimmage jerseys will be provided. For info, call Travis Perryman at (270)-969-1168 or travis.perryman123@yahoo.com. Admission will be \$5.

Lady Rocket banquet

The Lady Rocket basketball team's annual awards banquet was scheduled for this weekend, but it has been postponed because of the regional tournaments and changes in schedules because of this week's snow.

OUTDOORS

Hunting seasons

Groundhog	Year Round
Coyote Daytime	Year Round
Coyote Nighttime	Feb. 1 - May 31
Turkey Youth	April 5-6
Spring Turkey	April 12 - May 4

Hunter safety course

A free Kentucky Hunter Education course will be held March 14-15 in Marion with the Friday portion starting at 6 p.m., and the Saturday class starting at 8 a.m. Online pre-registration is required by visiting the Hunter Education page at fw.ky.gov. The class will be at the Marion Ed-Tech Center. For more information, call Greg Rushing at (270) 704-0334.

SOCCKER

Registration Tuesday

Registration for Crittenden County's youth spring soccer leagues will be from 6-8 p.m., March 11 at Dairy Queen. March 14 is the final day to register. Season begins March 24. Contact Shana Geary by email for more information, shanawg@yahoo.com.

British camp in June

British Soccer Camp will be held June 2-6 at Marion-Crittenden County Park. Sponsored by Challenger Sports, the clinic is an annual camp for local youths age 3-19. For more information, call 419-233-3821.

BASEBALL

March 15 is deadline

Registration for recreational softball and baseball for boys and girls ages 4-12 is now under way. Crittenden County Dugout Club is accepting registrations via mail or during a skills assessment from 9-11 a.m., March 15 at Crittenden County Middle School gym. Only players age 7-up will attend skills assessment. Registration forms are available online at The-Press.com (follow the Sports link), on the Dugout Club's Facebook page, at Crittenden Middle School office or The Crittenden Press. Forms were in CCES student backpacks last week. For information, contact Chris Evans at (270) 965-3191. Deadline to register without penalty is March 15. No registrations accepted after March 21 because the local teams will be participating in a league that includes Princeton, Dawson Springs and Eddyville, and rosters will be frozen.

Rec umpires wanted

Anyone interested in being an umpire for Crittenden County's summer youth baseball and softball games should contact Lafe Riggs at (270) 564-5000. There will be two area clinics and umpires need to attend one of them. The clinics are at 2 p.m., April 20 at Princeton's Legion Field and April 27 at Fredonia's Buddy Rogers Park.

Rockets get best draw possible

STAFF REPORT

Crittenden County won a game of Russian roulette (aka regional tournament drawing) over the weekend, but the bullet they'll need to dodge might be just as lethal considering the venue and their history.

The Rockets (9-20) and runnerup in the Fifth District will face Seventh District champion Madisonville (18-9) in Friday's Second Region. Theirs will be the late game, starting at around 7:30 on Madisonville's home court.

Crittenden avoided a first-round meeting with Hopkinsville (27-2), Kentucky's No. 1 ranked team ac-

Second Region Tournament

cording to the latest Associated Press poll. And, they missed having to play Henderson County (19-7), which has a club capable of winning the region were it not for Hoptown being such a solid favorite.

Even though Crittenden has received the best draw possible for the regional tournament, odds are not good against the Maroons, who have won 14 regional championships in their storied history.

Madisonville beat the Rockets by

25 earlier this season. The Maroons have one of the best sophomores in the state, 6-foot-1 Javion Eaves. He's a good shooter and leaper. Mix in some very athletic seniors – including a very good point guard – and Madisonville will be a formidable opponent.

"They're not going to hold the ball on us," quipped Rocket coach Denis Hodge, whose team hopes to get forward Colby Watson back for the regional tournament. Watson missed both district tournament games last week with an ankle injury.

"They like to get up and down the floor on you," Hodge said, describ-

ing coach Matt Beshear's Maroons. "They will not run too many structured sets against us."

The Rockets are playing perhaps their best basketball of the season, as attested by Trigg County coach Payton Croft, whose team barely best CCHS in overtime last week in the Fifth District title game. Croft had high praise for Hodge's Rockets.

Hopkinsville is clearly the region's best team, however. The Tigers have not lost to an in-state opponent all season. They're rated fourth in the latest Litkenhous ratings behind Ballard, Trinity and Scott County.



Rocket coach Denis Hodge (left) congratulates Trigg County coach Payton Croft after Friday's overtime game in the Fifth District championship.

FIFTH DISTRICT

Old blue gets black Rocket nets

STAFF REPORT

Rocket basketball coach Denis Hodge is a true visionary. Perhaps only he could have predicted that his team would have been centimeters from winning the Fifth District Tournament for just the second time in more than a half century of basketball.

Truth is, he did believe. Hodge knew his team was capable of the front seat from start to finish, testifying to the credibility of that premise weekly from the start of season in December until last week's near miss in the title game at Marion.

Yet instead of discussing a remarkable run from unlikely to unbelievable, Hodge was in his office post-game Friday night talking about what could have been as if he was still fuming that it wasn't.

Trigg County, clearly the most athletic team in the Fifth District, had dispatched Hodge's Rockets 54-42 in overtime. Despite going scoreless in the extra period, Crittenden battled the Wildcats tooth to toe nail.

The teams were never more than eight points apart and it was tied at the half. Crittenden had led very early behind a couple of treys by junior shooting guard Landon Young, but Trigg led by a slim margin much of the game. A three-pointer by senior Rocket Travis Gilbert gave CCHS its first lead of the second half with 1:30 to play.

From there, the Wildcats' feet got faster and their arms longer, snatching nearly every rebound from that point until the final horn. Still, the battle-fatigued Rockets fought on, finding the fortitude to have a chance to break the tie in the closing seconds from the field and line. A Crittenden foul shot rimmed off with eight seconds to go as Trigg coach Payton Croft – a former Rocket who holds the school record for assists and ranks 15th in all-time scoring – breathed a sigh of relief.

Croft's 'Cats dominated the overtime as Crittenden missed its first



Dejected Rockets (above) can hardly watch as Trigg collects the district trophy. At right, the CCHS student section keeps the heat on while guard Travis Gilbert looks for an open teammate.



four fielders and allowed Trigg a couple of putbacks.

"We take two shots right at the end of regulation to win and we had a chance at the foul line to win it in regulation," said Hodge. "If we make one of those, we don't have this conversation about what could we have done differently to win it."

Hodge thought his team defended very well and gave itself a chance for triumph in the district for the first time since 1998. Prior to that title, you'd have to dust off the archives back to 1957 to find a crown.

"I thought we would have to play our best game to win it and we did play pretty close to our best game," Hodge said. "I always thought this team would have a chance to win it, or at least to get in (the championship game)."

In it, indeed. Just short of the coveted title, Crittenden earns a chance to play in this week's regional tournament against Madisonville.

Croft, as a youth, played under Hodge who was then assistant to his father Jimmy Croft. Now coaching,

Croft had nothing but adulation for his alma mater. Croft's Trigg team adopted a family concept this year, he said, which helped it rise to a district championship. Croft said Coach Hodge and his staff are like family to him, too.

Dressed in Trigg colors, wearing a dark sports coat and a black and white striped tie, the first-year head coach found conflicting emotions as his team cut down the nets at Rocket Arena, something he never did despite growing up in that gym and starting five years at point guard for CCHS.

"I never got to cut these down wearing blue and to be honest it's a little bittersweet," said the 2005 CCHS graduate. "But this is something I've dreamed of since I was little, and unfortunately we didn't have the luck we needed (as a Rocket)."

Croft praised his colleagues. "I can't say enough about coach Hodge, coach (Matt) McMains and coach (David) Perryman. They have these guys playing the best basketball they've played all year."

Crittenden Middle School held its post-season awards banquet last weekend. Among those honored were (front from left) Chaylee Wolf, Defensive Award; Madison O'Dell MVP; Emmalea Barnes, Sportsmanship Award; Madison Champion, Offensive Award; Mauri Collins 110 Percent and MVP, (back) Morgan Barnes; Ellie Smith 110 Percent Award; Emmie Perryman, 110 Percent Award; Kenlee Perryman, Offensive Award; Sydney Cooms, Hanna Easley, Sportsmanship award; and Shelby Summers Defensive Award and 7th grade MVP. Not pictured: Meighan Koon, 8th grade most improved, and Brandy Book, 7th grade Most Improved.

POST SEASON

5th District Tournaments

At Rocket Arena, Marion

Girls' Semifinals

Lyon County 64, Trigg County 38
Livingston 60, Crittenden 43

Boys' Semifinals

Trigg County 67, Lyon County 45
Crittenden 50, Livingston 48

Girls' Championship

Livingston Central 57, Lyon Co. 50

Boys' Championship

Trigg Co. 54, Crittenden 42, OT

FIFTH DISTRICT Championship Game

Trigg 54, Crittenden 42, OT

Trigg County	8	13	14	7	12
Crittenden County	10	11	6	15	0
TRIGG –	Gardner 25, Estes 6, Nance 5, Mayes, McKenzie 4, Mabry, Wilson, Day 14. FG 18-61. 3-pointers 3-17 (Gardner 1, Estes, Nance). FT 15-22. Rebounds 55 (Estes 12, Day 10).				
CRITTENDEN –	Owen 11, Young 8, Dickerson 1, Gilbert 11, Champion, D.Watson 6, Belt 5. FG 15-53. 3-pointers 6-19 (Young 2, Owen, Gilbert 3). FT 6-9. Rebounds 33 (Belt 13).				

ROCKET STAT LEADERS

Player	Pts. Avg	FT	Reb. Avg.
A.Owen	12.5	98-162	2.3
D.Belt	10.8	40-82	5.8
L.Young	7.1	27-42	1.9
T.Gilbert	5.8	25-91	1.1
D.Watson	4.3	28-49	3.1
N.Dickerson	3.8	12-25	2.5
C.Watson	3.4	25-45	2.6
Z.Tinsley	2.3	8-21	1.6
T.Champion	1.3	4-14	1.3

2nd Region Tournaments

Boys' at Madisonville

Friday

Trigg Co. vs. UHA, 6 p.m.
Henderson vs. Caldwell Co., 7:30 p.m.

Saturday

Hopkinsville vs. Union Co., 6 p.m.
Madisonville vs. Crittenden, 7:30 p.m.

Monday

Semifinals, 6 & 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday

Championship, 7 p.m.

Girls at Henderson

Wednesday

Union Co. vs. UHA, 6 p.m.
Livingston vs. Madisonville, 7:30 p.m.

Thursday

Caldwell vs. Lyon Co., 6 p.m.
Henderson vs. Christian, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday

Semifinals, noon & 1:30 p.m.

Sunday

Championship, 4 p.m.

Most 2nd Region Boys' Titles

17 – Christian County

14 – Madisonville

6 – Dawson Springs, University Heights, Hopkinsville.

3 – Henderson County, Union County.

2 – Trigg County

1 – Caldwell County, Hopkins County Centra, Livingston Central, Lyon County.

0 – Fort Campbell, Crittenden County, Webster County.

Livingston Central All District

All Fifth District Players from Livingston Central were Tabby Padon, Hailee Lampley, Hannah Leidecker, Austin Woodward and Colton Ramage.



Crittenden All Fifth District Players: Aaron Owen and Devin Belt.



Crittenden All Fifth District Players: Cassidy Moss, Chelsea Oliver and Mallory McDowell.

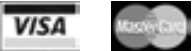
Classifieds

The Crittenden Press

The Crittenden Press

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It is the policy of The Crittenden Press Inc., to fully comply with the Fair Housing Act and to never knowingly publish advertisements that discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, disability or family status. If you believe an advertisement published in this newspaper is discriminatory, please contact the publisher immediately at 965.3191.

All phone numbers listed for ads on this page are within the 270 area code unless otherwise noted.

for sale

1993 Honda 200 4-wheeler, good to excellent condition, good tires. \$650. (270) 841-0197. (1t-35-p)

22nd Anniversary sale on Porta/Grace number 1 metal roofing, siding and trim. 40-year warranty. Call for low prices. Gray's Carports and Building, 907 Hopkinsville St., Princeton, KY. (270) 365-7495. (13t-45-p)

Quality handmade leather belts. Made in the U.S.A. by Yoder's Saddlery. Available at Marion Feed Mill 501 E. Bellville St., Marion. (270) 965-2252. (tfc)ys

for rent

Creekside Apartments is taking applications for 1, 2 and 3 BR apartments. Within walking distance to grocery store, pharmacy, restaurant and dollar stores. Laundry room on-site. Call (270) 965-5000 or come to the office Monday - Friday mornings. Equal Housing Opportunity. (tfc)

real estate

3 bedroom 2 bath home for sale, 310 N College St. 1,900 square ft with 2-car detached garage & fenced in back yard, \$82,000. Serious inquiries only please (270) 704-6404. (4t-36-p)

House for sale, 1508 sq. ft., extra nice, move-in ready. 3 BR, 1 bath, 114 Autumn Lane, Marion, Ky. Lot size 1.4 acres. Serious inquiries only, call (270) 965-3896 or (270) 969-8739. (4t-36-p)

agriculture

For sale, reg. angus, 22 months old, easy calving, top bloodline; Reg. ½ sim, ½ angus, 27 mos. old, easy calving, super pedigree. (270) 704-2099 (1t-35-p)

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notices

Public Notice

Second reading of a proposed ordinance amending the Crittenden County budget for fiscal year 2013/2014, to include unanticipated receipts from insurance refunds, miscellaneous revenue and Evercom Commission in the amount of \$18,581.15 increasing expenditures in the area of reserve for transfer in the general, road and jail funds will be held on March 18, 2014 at the Crittenden County Fiscal Court meeting. A copy of the proposed ordinance with full text is available for public inspection at the office of the county judge-executive during normal business hours. (1t-35-c)

Bid Notice

Notice is hereby given that on February 26, 2014 Kyle Jones of 1100 Claylick Road, Marion, Ky. 42064 was appointed Administrator of Joanna Lynn Binkley Heady, de-

ceased, whose address was 104 Creekside Circle, Apt. A, Marion, Ky. 42064. All persons having claims against said estate are hereby notified to present the same properly proven as required by law to the Administrator on or before the 26th day of August, 2014 and all claims not so proven and presented by that date shall be forever barred. All persons indebted to the estate of the above-named decedent, will please call and settle said debts immediately.

Crittenden District Court
Melissa Guill, Clerk (1t-34-c)

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Pennyrile Allied Community Service, Inc.

Taking applications for **Center Director Position** at the Crittenden County Senior Citizens Center. Applicants must reside in Crittenden County. All resumes must be submitted by Friday, March 7, 2014 at 3:00 p.m. Please submit resumes/applications to the following address: Mrs. Judy Peterson, PACS Executive Director P.O. Box 549, 1100 S. Liberty St., Hopkinsville, KY 42240 Fax: 270-885-6078 Email: judy.p@pacs-ky.org PACS is an equal opportunity employer

Pennyrile Allied Community Service, Inc.

Taking applications for **Cook Positions** at the Crittenden County Senior Citizens Center. Applications can be picked up at 210 N. Walker St., Marion, KY. All applications/resumes must be submitted by Friday, March 7, 2014 at 3:00 p.m.

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Propane bus saving district money

By JASON TRAVIS
STAFF WRITER

It's a report officials in Frankfort and Crittenden County schools are very interested in studying, and it could play a significant role in the future of propane school buses in Kentucky's school districts.

At the Feb. 25 meeting of the Crittenden County Board of Education, transportation official and lead bus mechanic Wayne Winters provided board members with a six-month report on the operation of the state's only propane bus used for transporting students.

After tracking its performance, Winters said the numbers are better than expected, especially relating to fuel economy. After 6,935 miles on the road beginning in early August, Winters said the propane bus is averaging 4.63 miles per gallon while using 1,499 gallons of propane at a cost of \$1,792.17. That is an average of \$1.03 per gallon.

By comparison, six diesel buses with model years ranging from 1996 to 2012 are averaging 6.82 miles per gallon on 35,227 miles during the same six-month period. The diesels used 5,166 gallons of fuel and average \$3.75 per

School officials reapply for Kentucky Clean Diesel Grant

STAFF REPORT

Crittenden County School District has reapplied for the Kentucky Clean Diesel Grant.

The district was initially told in December it had not been awarded the grant. However, the school district was allowed to reapply after all grants were withdrawn due to processing issues.

The grant application is tailored toward being eco-friendly with the reduction of emissions from diesel school buses. The local school dis-

trict was awarded the grant last year.

Competition for the grants is competitive. Commercial industries can also apply for clean diesel grants.

Crittenden County is the only district in the state allowed by the Kentucky Department of Education to pilot a propane bus for transporting students. The school board recently voted to purchase two more propane buses and expects them to be on-site sometime in the spring.

gallon including all diesel additives.

Winters, who regularly sends status reports on the propane bus' performance to Kentucky Department of Education officials, called the numbers impressive and broke them down at a cost of cents per mile. He indicated the school district averages 55 cents per mile to operate the six diesel buses. It costs only 22 cents per mile to operate the propane bus.

Last spring, the school board approved River Region

Propane as the district's supplier. The company placed a fueling station with a 500-gallon fuel tank near the bus garage at no cost to the district and locked in a price at \$1.289 per gallon for the year without a prepay option. Winters said despite the cold winter across the country and widespread difficulties with propane distributors getting fuel to customers, there hasn't been any disruption in getting fuel for the school bus.

Winters also compared cost of oil changes. At 32

quarts, a diesel bus costs \$138 each time the oil and filter are changed. At 7.5 quarts, the propane bus costs \$26 to change the oil and filter. Oil changes occur at around 6,000 mile intervals.

Electrical use for block heaters was also compared. Winters estimated the cost of running block heaters for diesel engines during the past two months averaged \$1,000 per month.

"We don't have to use a block heater for a propane bus. We started the bus during the coldest part of the winter. The wind chill was around 20 below with the temperature at 2 degrees," Winters told school board members. "It fired up flawlessly."

The only issues Winters reported regarding use of the propane bus was a recall on an updated antifreeze reservoir. A check engine light also required re-flashing or recalibrating of a computer component.

Board members have been pleased with reports on the bus' operation since its first month of use, when it was averaging 4.5 miles to the gallon. Last December, they approved and ordered two additional propane buses that are expected to arrive sometime in the spring.

Binkley named president of state association

By JASON TRAVIS
STAFF WRITER

Crittenden County Schools maintenance supervisor Greg Binkley has been named president of the Kentucky School Plant Management Association.

"I think it's an honor that they voted for me and wanted me to be president," Binkley said. "I'm only the fourth president out of 25 years from western Kentucky."

Known as the caretakers of the educational environment, the Kentucky School Plant Management Association is dedicated to promoting and enhancing the educational process through proper management practices related to school operations and maintenance.

Membership includes school personnel ranging from superintendents, maintenance and custodial super-

visors, college and university personnel and others employed in school operations and maintenance.

Binkley previously served as Region 1 Director for two years in the association, holding office in 2008-09 and again in 2010-11. He has also served as vice-president of the association.

Recently Binkley also celebrated another career highlight. On Feb. 22, he celebrated his 20th anniversary with Crittenden County School District. Superintendent Dr. Rachel Yarbrough congratulated Binkley on receiving the nomination for president of the association.



Binkley

"It is certainly an asset to the Crittenden County school district to have Mr. Binkley as the president of the Kentucky School Plant Management Association," Dr. Yarbrough said. "His 20 years of work experience and knowledge as a school plant manager will strengthen the organization. He will represent the district and his colleagues well across the state."

In addition to overseeing monthly meetings, Binkley will direct the association's 2014 conference, which will be held in October in Lexington. He will preside over the first general session at the conference. A number of vendors from across the state will also be in attendance. That will provide association members an opportunity to network.

Binkley said networking is

important in any profession and played a key role when bleachers recently needed repair at the elementary school. Binkley was able to contact a vendor who found a part that would fix the bleachers, despite the fact they are nearly three decades old.

A native of Crittenden County, Binkley is an electrician and plumber by trade. He said a typical day in maintenance involves planning your day out and then receiving a telephone call about a problem that completely alters the schedule. Ultimately, he said it's all about the students and making sure teachers and staffs have what they need for student instruction in the district's facilities.

Binkley and his wife Judy, who is his high school sweetheart, have two children and three grandchildren.



PHOTO BY JASON TRAVIS, THE PRESS

CCES remodel continues

Winter weather has not only affected the number of instructional days missed by students, but it has also slowed down exterior construction and remodeling at Crittenden County Elementary School. Construction crews hoped to have all exterior work completed in February, but snow and ice have forced delays. At the Feb. 25 board of education meeting, Crittenden County Schools Superintendent Dr. Rachel Yarbrough said much of what is left to complete at the elementary school is weather dependent, with concrete being poured at the school's new front entrance as weather permits. Above, work crews took advantage of Friday's above freezing temperatures to prepare a new section to be poured at the facility.

Friends common source of abused prescription meds

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Most people who abuse addictive prescription painkillers get them for free from friends or relatives, while drug dealers are a relatively uncommon source for those at highest risk for deadly overdoses, a government study found.

People who abuse the most frequently often doctor-shop; more than 1 in 4 who used these drugs almost daily said they had been prescribed by one or more physicians. Almost as many said they got them for free from friends or relatives; only 15 percent of the most frequent abusers said they bought the drugs from dealers or other strangers.

Those abusers "are probably using at much greater volumes and simply asking a friend for a pill now and then

is not going to be sufficient," said Dr. Leonard Paulozzi, a researcher at the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

According to the study, two-thirds of abusers said they used the drugs infrequently and well over half of these users said they got them free from friends or relatives.

Paulozzi and CDC colleagues analyzed four years of nationwide health surveys on nonmedical use of pain relievers including oxycodone and hydrocodone. These include the brand-name pills OxyContin and Vicodin, in a family of drugs called opioids - chemically similar to opium.

The study was published online Monday in JAMA Internal Medicine.

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