

# The Crittenden Press

CCHS baseball, softball start next week | Page 9

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THURSDAY, MARCH 7, 2024

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

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## Time to Spring Ahead

Daylight Saving Time officially begins in the wee hours of the morning Sunday. You'll need to move your clocks ahead by one hour before going to bed Saturday night, March 9 in order to meet the formal change at 2 a.m., Sunday. Your smartphones will automatically make the move. Daylight Saving Time will continue to be observed until Nov. 3.

## Insurance Tax Discussion

Crittenden County Fiscal Court will meet in special session at 3:30 p.m., Friday at the county office complex to discuss a number of items, including an amendment to the county insurance tax ordinance. The county's budget committee has proposed raising the insurance tax from 2% to 4%.



## Hayride Saturday at Fohs

Cutter and Cash and The Kentucky Grass present their biannual Old Kentucky Hayride starting at 7 p.m., Saturday at Fohs Hall. A music and variety show, the local band uses the event to raise money for Crittenden County Food Bank. Cutter and Cash and The Kentucky Grass will be performing for the last time in front of a hometown crowd before they appear on the Grand Ole Opry in April. Tickets to the Hayride are available by calling 270-704-5296 or 270-704-2591.

## Waste tire days this week

Crittenden County will be accepting waste tires on three straight days beginning Thursday. Tire collection will be at the County Road Department next to the County Convenience Center. Drop off is from 8 a.m., to 3:30 p.m., Thursday and Friday and from 8 a.m., to noon on Saturday. Any Kentucky resident is eligible to participate in this program with the exception of tire retailers, scrap or salvage yards and recycling facilities. See further information about what type of tires are not accepted on page 8 of this week's issue.

## By the Numbers

## Big Frankfort Figures

Kentucky General Assembly is now in session and the deadline has passed to file any new bills. This year, lawmakers have filed the highest number ever. Also setting a record in January was spending by registered lobbying groups. Kentucky Chamber of Commerce was the biggest spender. Here are the figures:

|                           |         |
|---------------------------|---------|
| New Legislation Proposed  | 1,220   |
| Bills Filed in the House  | 838     |
| Bills Filed in the Senate | 382     |
| Lobbying spending January | \$2.98M |

# Hospital converts to Rural Emergency status

STAFF REPORT

Crittenden Community Hospital has been approved for a designation change, and on March 15 it plans to transition from an in-patient Acute Care facility to a Rural Emergency Hospital.

This new designation has been available for only 14 months and Crittenden will be the nation's 23rd hospital to embrace the switch. It will be the first in Kentucky.

Designed by congress to help small, rural communities to remain financially vi-

To earn \$3 million in annual subsidies and 5% more in Medicare reimbursements, Crittenden Community Hospital makes move to new designation

able amid a challenging and rapidly-evolving healthcare environment, Rural Emergency Hospital (REH) status will allow Crittenden Community Hospital (CCH) to receive around \$3.2 million annually and to receive a five-percent increase for services rendered to Medicare patients.

In return, CCH will give up acute in-patient and swingbed services but will still be able to keep patients in observation beds, which have a shorter length of stay in the hospital. The change will largely affect part-time and as-needed employees.

Hospital CEO Shawn Bright said residents and pa-

tients likely will not notice a great deal of change in services, but the financial benefits will strengthen the hospital's position. CCH was purchased by the for-profit company Rural Health Group in 2018. The group owns four hospitals and manages others. This will be the group's first REH-designated hospital.

"Our goal is to be here, and provide access to quality care," Bright said. "When a

See HOSPITAL/page 3

# Plan to bring driver's licensing back to counties may be too fragile to win

## Residents unhappy with regional concept

STAFF REPORT

Former lieutenant governor candidate Robbie Mills of Henderson County is one of several lawmakers behind proposed legislation that could bring driver's license services back to every county in the commonwealth.

Senate Bill 91 would make it easier for residents to get and renew a license, but Crittenden County Judge-Executive Perry Newcom doesn't believe the plan will get enough support in the General Assembly to change anything.

Four years ago, Kentucky lawmakers voted to consolidate licensing services into regional centers. Rural Kentuckians have been bearing a great deal of heartache and inconvenience because of the move. Before, licensing was handled in each county at the circuit clerk's office. Now, people in Crittenden and Livingston counties have to travel to nearby regional centers, the closest being in Paducah and Madisonville.

Lines are long and if you don't have the correct documents or paperwork, you've wasted sometimes a two-hour round trip, local residents say.

"I can't imagine anyone supporting what we have now," Newcom said, but "what I am hearing is it's not going to make it."

Proposed legislation would require the Transportation Cabinet to expand driver licensing services so that every senate district has at least one center, and



Ella Travis has an updated driving permit in her hand. She said it was tougher than expected to get it and cost her an extra \$60 in lost time from work.

every county has its own if county clerks agree to it. The clerks would be able to issue operators licenses and "Real IDs".

Crittenden County Clerk Daryl Tabor says the state clerk's association appears to be undecided whether it would support or oppose the plan. If this legislation is approved, he believes clerks will eventually be required to administer licensing services.

Ella Travis is 23 years old and has a job in Marion. She's had a driver's per-

mit for more than three years, but never completed the paperwork and requirements to get a full driver's license.

"Because of a car accident when I was young, I have just been afraid of doing it," she said.

A few weeks ago, she realized the permit was about to expire. Travis also needed to update the address on her temporary permit.

"I got online and that was hard enough to figure out," she said, then there was a trip to Paducah's regional licensing center as part of the process.

"I don't have my own vehicle, so I have to rely on someone to take me down there. I was in line for two hours. I had to take off work to go do it and lost about \$60 off my paycheck."

Now, Travis has decided to get her full license. She needs to go back to Paducah or Madisonville in a few days, which will mean another full day off work.

"It also makes me nervous having to take the driving test in Paducah, a city I'm not familiar with. I live in Salem and we don't even have a stop light," she said.

Travis applauds the idea proposed by some lawmakers to bring licensing back to the community.

"It would make a world of difference for the older people and the teens getting their licenses for the first time, too," she said.

Marion's Dena Southerland's grandson had to make three trips to get his license, and Laura Bull has taken her son from Crittenden County to Paducah

See LICENSE/page 10

## School Board

# Formal start for \$11 million middle school

STAFF REPORT

Crittenden County Middle School students witnessing a ceremonial ground breaking Feb. 28 will be walking the halls of a new \$11 million building two years from now.

With a 72-year-old middle school and the construction site before them, students looked on as school officials officially blessed the project, expected to be ready to welcome students in the fall of 2025.

"The board has relentlessly pushed to make this project a reality," Superintendent Tonya Driver told students and special guests. "As we celebrate this monumental accomplishment for our students, educators and community, we look forward to a future in public education that invests in Crittenden County's core values of excellence, relationships, tradi-

See SCHOOL/page 8



The first new school built here in more than 25 years is officially under construction on the middle school campus. Pictured at last week's groundbreaking ceremony were (from left) CCMS principal Kara Turley, Board of Education Chairman Chris Cook, CCMS student council representatives Aliza Maraman and Jayden Jones and Superintendent Tonya Driver.

The Crittenden Press

USPS 138-260 / Marion, Ky.



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# Deaths

## Adams

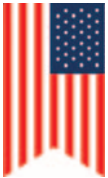
Roger Wayne Adams, 76, of Fredonia died Wednesday, Feb. 28, 2024 at Continue Care of Western Baptist Hospital at Paducah.

He was a retired line-man for Kenergy Corporation and served in the United States Army during the Vietnam era. He attended Emmaus Baptist and Bethel Baptist Churches. He was a fan of UK basketball and the St. Louis Cardinals and enjoyed acquiring antiques and collectibles.

Surviving are two daughters, Lisa Fox of Benton and Brooke Adams of Hardin; three sons, Stacey Adams of Eddyville, Rodney (Whitney) Adams of Benton, and Jake Adams of Kuttawa; and four grandchildren, Nikki Adams, Trace Adams, Kenyan Fox and Kollin Fox.

He was preceded in death by his parents, James and Willie Mae Travis Adams; a brother, Johnnie Adams; and a sister, Suzie Phillips.

Services were Sunday, March 3 at Myers Funeral Home with burial in Maplevue Cemetery.



### Group mission: Makes pillowcases

Four members of the Woman's Club of Marion participated in the General Federation of Women's Club Community Service project called the One Million Pillowcase Challenge. Members made pillowcases and laundry bags which will go to the Military Mission in Lexington. From left are Kathy Bechler, Roberta Shewmaker, Carolyn Belt and Gladys Brown. Military Mission sends care packages to deployed troops in order to provide a touch of home.



### FBLA competitors earn state bid

Several Crittenden County FBLA members are state-bound after competition Feb. 29 at Murray State. Taylor Haire earned first place in agribusiness and third place in local chapter scrapbook. Allie Beard won first place in healthcare administration. Winning second place was Macie Conger for local chapter virtual scrapbook and introduction to business communications. Jasmine Wooley earned second place in human resource management. All participants pictured with advisor Misty Tinsley are (front from left) Jordan Potter, Rianna Maness, Taylor Haire, Maddie Travis, Morgan Stewart, Elle McDaniel, Jasmine Wooley (second row) Raleigh Smith, Emme Lynch, Laney Hunt, Anna Boone, Andrea Federico, Elliot Evans, (third row) Carson Yates, Quid Cook-Brown, Brayden Poindexter, Hayden Hildebrand, Asa McCord, Macie Conger, Allie Beard, Cheyenne Starkey and Lacey Boone.



Randal and Sharon McEuen

### McEuen earns 50-year award

Everett "Randy" Randal McEuen was presented with a 50-year Past Master Award during a recent ceremony at the M.L. McClelland Lodge No. 357 in Hobart, Ind. His wife Sharon and three children were present.

The presentation was made by his son, 2023 Worshipful Master Scott Randal McEuen.

McEuen and his brother Bruce were raised by their grandmother, Lena Brown McEuen, near Freedom School in Crittenden County, after their parents Everett and Lorene died of tuberculosis in 1944 and 1945.

McEuen graduated from Marion High School in 1953 and has lived in Hobart since 1961. He and his wife have been married for 65 years.



### FVB honors long-time employees

Between them, Cindy Cruce and Rhonda Beavers devoted 74 years to small town banking. Their employer during those years, Fredonia Valley Bank, honored their careers with a celebration March 1. Cruce worked at Fredonia Valley Bank for 45 years and Beavers 29. Both reside in Crittenden County.

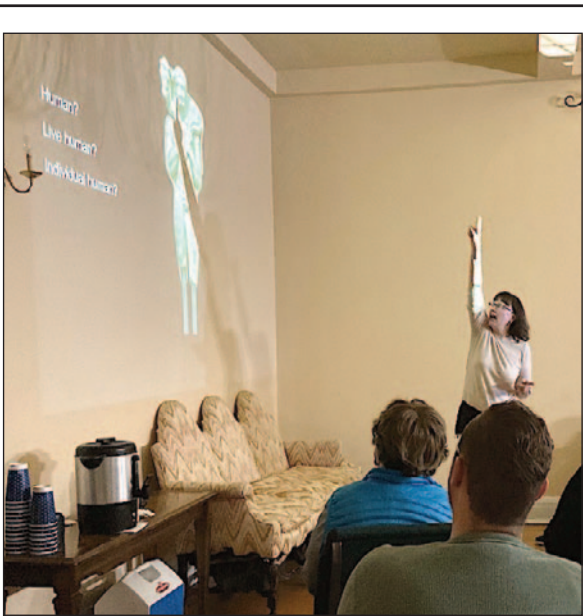


PHOTO BY KEITH TODD

### Guess shares Greek influence

Crittenden County art historian Kathleen Guess discussed characteristics of Greek art and architecture Feb. 27 to a group of about 20 individuals. Examples of classic, ancient Greece art and its importance and influence on Western culture were shared during a Fireside Chat sponsored by the Community Arts Foundation.

## CRH scores big on quality assurance assessement

Cumberland River Homes (CRH) of Salem earned a deficiency-free assessment in January after a quality assurance review conducted by the Division of Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities. The process ensures the facility, which approve the facility for a two-year extension of Medicaid certification.

Cumberland River Homes' examinations are

conducted by the Division of Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities.

Cumberland River Homes, located on Hayden Avenue in Salem, is a non-profit organization that began in 2004 with a vision by Sandy Barnes of Pinckneyville. It offers loving homes, jobs and care for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.



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### Community Calendar

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

**Thursday, March 7**

- Line dancing class is at 9:30 a.m., at the Crittenden County Senior Citizens Center.
- Friends Forever will meet at 5:30 p.m., at the Extension Annex.

**Monday, March 11**

- A cancer support group will be held at 10 a.m., in the meeting room of the Crittenden County Public Library. The group meets the second Monday of each month.

**Tuesday, March 12**

- Crittenden County Extension Service's Quilt Club will meet at 1 p.m., at the Extension Annex.
- Crittenden County's After Hours Homemakers will meet at 5 p.m., at the Extension Office.

**Wednesday, March 12**

- Crittenden County Challengers Homemakers will meet at noon at the Extension Annex.

**Thursday, March 14**

- Crittenden County High School SBDM will meet at 3:30 p.m., in the high school library.
- Marion's VFW post located at 412 N. College St., invites veterans to attend a monthly meeting with a meal to follow at 6:30 p.m.

**Saturday, March 16**

- An Easter breakfast will be held at 9 a.m., March 16 at Crittenden County Health & Rehab.

**Tuesday, March 19**

- Crittenden County Elementary School SBDM will meet at 4 p.m., in the high school library.

## Chamber wants to draw eclipse visitors

Plans for a local viewing party during the April 8 solar eclipse are continuing to take shape. The Crittenden County Chamber of Commerce is hosting a tailgate party at Marion City-County Park.

Vendors are welcome to set up during the event, and visitors from around the region are invited to Marion, which the Chamber is promoting as the closest point to totality.

Through local and regional advertising, the organization is encouraging visitors to make a day out of the viewing party by enjoying the free ferry across the Ohio River and visiting Amish greenhouses, the Clement Mineral Museum and local retailers.

The Chamber will partner with Marion Tourism to promote the event and purchase protective glasses for Chamber members.

## HOSPITAL

Continued from page 1

patient needs to be transferred, we will find a higher level of care for them.”

He said that’s typically about the way things have been operating for many years here. The emergency room, operating room, laboratory and diagnostics departments will all remain in place, the designation change does not affect any out-patient services. There will be no change in operations at Family Practice Clinic. Bright said plans are to focus on expanding out-patient services and the clinic.

“It’s a whole lot like what we do right now,” Bright adds. “We anticipate minimal effect on full-time staff.”

The hospital’s as-needed and part-time labor costs are more than \$1 million annually. That figure will be reduced significantly, Bright said.

Medicare reimbursements will go from 98 percent of cost of care – which is where it’s been for nearly 10 years – to 103 percent of cost of care. Additionally, the hospital will receive a facility fee from the federal government amounting to about \$266,000 every month. Almost half of CCH patient services are paid through either Medicaid or Medicare.

While eliminating the swingbed unit is required as part of this new designation, Bright said plans are to seek certification for a Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) that would allow the hospital to provide short-term, skilled rehabilitation which would be very similar to the swingbed unit. Swingbed is a Medicare-approved skilled-nursing option that provides a stable, therapeutic environment where patients can recover over short periods.

Under the new destination, annual average hospital stays per individual cannot be longer than 24 hours. Bright explains that patients who need to stay in recovery for more than a day will be able to. Short ER visits, some of which might be only a

couple of hours, will help balance the hospital’s patient-stay average over the course of a year, and keeping it in compliance with the new designation.

Congress established the REH designation in 2020 as part of the Consolidated Appropriations Act in response to the loss of essential health-care services in rural areas due to hospital closures.

More than 150 rural hospitals closed or converted services between January 2010 and November 2023. Additionally, 453 facilities had been identified as financially vulnerable rural hospitals at risk of closing, including Crittenden. The REH designation became effective in January of last year. For Crittenden County, it will basically signal the end to long-term, in-patient care. Otherwise, local hospital officials say there shouldn’t be an incredibly noticeable difference in operations.

“The goal of this designation is to stabilize emergency services for hospitals in rural communities,” Bright said.

He adds that CCH plans to seek an additional designation which would establish this hospital as an Emergency Room Trauma Center.

In light of the transition to REH, Crittenden County Judge-Executive Perry Newcom doesn’t expect to see a big difference in the way the hospital delivers health-care.

“The way it has been explained to me, they’ve had some trouble finding enough nurses,” Newcom said. “This will help those labor issues.”

“As far as the way it will be operated, I don’t know how much acute care they have actually been providing anyway. Most extended stays wind up going somewhere bigger as it is.”

For many years, CCH has been a 48-bed medical, surgical, pediatric provider of care for acute and chronic illnesses. Only hospitals with 50 or fewer beds can qualify for the new REH designation.

# First grade project attracts international letters & more

Crittenden County first graders got a lot more than they bargained for during a Love Makes the World Go ‘Round” project this winter. They got a cultural geography lesson with the receipt of 572 pieces of mail.

A Facebook request for mail went international. In fact, students received mail from all 50 state and all seven continents.

“We received postcards, pamphlets, Valentine cards, stickers, an Army patch and even some homemade elephants from Thailand,” said student teacher Alexis Long, who helped develop the project.

“We don’t know how it was shared in some places or why we got mail from some of the countries, but it brought us so much joy,” said teacher Mollie Tabor.

Long said classroom leaders walked to the school mailbox with their teacher to retrieve mail, which became quite a positive daily task. Once letters were opened and read, their origins were charted on a world map



Holding some of their favorite pieces of mail received during the first grade’s “Love Makes the World Go Round” campaign are (kneeling) Allie Phelps and Zander McFarland, (standing from left) Brayton Brown, Brighton Guess, Zaylie Tinsley and Weston Gilkey.

in the first-grade hallway.

They got a postcard depicting diamond mining in Arkansas, a note from a Sunday school class in Guam, letters from governors, pecos from Mexico, a postcard from the

North Pole and magazines and brochures telling about attractions in several states.

“It allowed them to connect with places were some of them had family and see places some had been like Florida,” Long

said.

“The kids were so excited,” Tabor said, expressing thankfulness for community involvement that started the chain reaction to result in such a far-reaching project.

## CITY OF MARION

The following tax bills for the year 2023, being unpaid, I will offer for sale on April 1, 2024 at 1 p.m to the highest bidder for cash. The following delinquent tax claims upon which a real assessment appears (the amount includes penalty, interest and advertising cost).

**Tax Year Range 2023 To 2023**  
**Calculated As Of 03/04/2024**

| Bill Number | Account Name                                   | Unpaid Tax | Bill Number | Account Name                                    | Unpaid Tax |
|-------------|--|------------|-------------|---|------------|
| 7           | ABEGGLEN RANDALL L & DEBORAH L.....            | \$245.18   | 838         | JACKSON RUTH ESTATE .....                       | \$7.05     |
| 22          | ALBEN WILLIAM BARKLEY II TRUST AGREEMENT ..... | \$60.60    | 854         | JOE DAVIS ENTERPRISES INC .....                 | \$42.27    |
| 23          | ALBEN WILLIAM BARKLEY II TRUST AGREEMENT ..... | \$56.36    | 855         | JOE DAVIS ENTERPRISES INC .....                 | \$16.91    |
| 25          | ALBEN WILLIAM BARKLEY II TRUST AGREEMENT ..... | \$62.00    | 866         | JOHNSON JAMES EST .....                         | \$12.69    |
| 26          | ALBEN WILLIAM BARKLEY II TRUST AGREEMENT ..... | \$52.14    | 868         | JOHNSON NICHOLAS & LEEANN .....                 | \$121.18   |
| 27          | ALBEN WILLIAM BARKLEY II TRUST AGREEMENT ..... | \$64.82    | 875         | JONES BRAD LEE .....                            | \$2.82     |
| 28          | ALBEN WILLIAM BARKLEY II TRUST AGREEMENT ..... | \$60.60    | 894         | KENTFIELD JONATHON .....                        | \$101.45   |
| 29          | ALBEN WILLIAM BARKLEY II TRUST AGREEMENT ..... | \$71.87    | 938         | LANHAM ROBBIE .....                             | \$28.19    |
| 30          | ALBEN WILLIAM BARKLEY II TRUST AGREEMENT ..... | \$81.72    | 941         | LARUE JAMES D & SHARON .....                    | \$232.50   |
| 31          | ALBEN WILLIAM BARKLEY II TRUST AGREEMENT ..... | \$98.64    | 942         | LATHAM RONALD WAYNE & ANDREA DANIELLE .....     | \$33.82    |
| 32          | ALBEN WILLIAM BARKLEY II TRUST AGREEMENT ..... | \$50.73    | 950         | LEWIS JERRY & SHERRI .....                      | \$9.87     |
| 34          | ALBEN WILLIAM BARKLEY II TRUST AGREEMENT ..... | \$70.45    | 957         | LINDER TAKEKO .....                             | \$98.64    |
| 45          | ANDREWS REILLY B .....                         | \$288.87   | 970         | LONG SHAUN A .....                              | \$2.82     |
| 77          | BARNES LEONARD .....                           | \$5.64     | 1032        | MASON LISA M .....                              | \$8.46     |
| 107         | BELL LANELL EASLEY .....                       | \$5.64     | 1039        | MCCAIN J C .....                                | \$21.14    |
| 108         | BELL LANELL EASLEY .....                       | \$16.91    | 1041        | MCCLURE TROY EST .....                          | \$14.09    |
| 109         | BELL LANELL EASLEY .....                       | \$5.64     | 1042        | MCDANIEL BELINDA D .....                        | \$70.45    |
| 110         | BELL LANELL EASLEY .....                       | \$7.05     | 1057        | MCGOWAN GEORGE D & ASHLEY L .....               | \$7.05     |
| 132         | BELT MARILYN KAY .....                         | \$126.81   | 1058        | MCGOWAN GEORGE D & ASHLEY L .....               | \$224.05   |
| 157         | BLAINE AARON .....                             | \$84.55    | 1062        | MCKINNEY DUSTIN & MCKINNEY JUDITH .....         | \$92.43    |
| 158         | BLAINE AARON .....                             | \$14.09    | 1063        | MCKINNEY JANUARY MONIQUE .....                  | \$63.42    |
| 161         | BLAZINA JOSEPH J .....                         | \$59.18    | 1064        | MCKINNEY JUDY & MCKINNEY DUSTIN .....           | \$63.83    |
| 181         | BRADFORD CHARLES .....                         | \$15.51    | 1065        | MCKINNEY TYLER & KAITLYN .....                  | \$81.72    |
| 187         | BRONOSKY TERRI .....                           | \$126.81   | 1081        | MILLIKAN BRENDA & PAUL DEBOE JR .....           | \$25.36    |
| 206         | BUSH CHARITY DAWN .....                        | \$183.18   | 1082        | MILLIKAN CHANTEL ET AL .....                    | \$155.00   |
| 215         | CALE PHILLIP .....                             | \$28.19    | 1083        | MILLIKAN CHANTEL ET AL .....                    | \$140.91   |
| 220         | CAMPBELL MICHAEL & DONNA .....                 | \$408.63   | 1100        | MORRIES TIMOTHY & ASHLEY .....                  | \$49.33    |
| 248         | CLEARWATER SUSAN .....                         | \$140.91   | 1108        | MORRIS JILL .....                               | \$4.24     |
| 249         | CLEMENT ANDREA DAWN .....                      | \$279.85   | 1122        | MOXLEY LYDAWN .....                             | \$19.73    |
| 251         | CLIFFORD BRIAN .....                           | \$7.05     | 1128        | MYERS JASON SCOTT .....                         | \$97.65    |
| 252         | CLIFFORD BRIAN .....                           | \$16.91    | 1133        | NEEDLER KIP & RHONDA .....                      | \$191.63   |
| 254         | COFFER STORES INC .....                        | \$628.44   | 1134        | NELSON ANGELA DON .....                         | \$14.09    |
| 278         | CONNER MELBURN & MELISSA .....                 | \$98.64    | 1144        | NEW HAVEN ASSISTED LIVING .....                 | \$11.27    |
| 281         | CONYER ROBERT M & IMOGENE .....                | \$18.89    | 1145        | NEWCOM JAMES EDWARD .....                       | \$35.65    |
| 290         | COOPER PEGGY DEMOSS .....                      | \$81.72    | 1161        | NUCO2 SUPPLY LLC .....                          | \$6.60     |
| 297         | COSBY TIM .....                                | \$104.27   | 1203        | PEMBERTON JESSICA & ANDREW .....                | \$28.19    |
| 298         | COSBY TIM & JASON .....                        | \$118.37   | 1230        | PERRYMAN MICHAEL R .....                        | \$4.24     |
| 299         | COUNTS DANIEL KEN & CATHERINE .....            | \$98.64    | 1234        | PHILLIPS BEVERLY .....                          | \$19.73    |
| 305         | COX MARY ANN .....                             | \$140.91   | 1252        | POTTER WENDY & JOHN P .....                     | \$128.24   |
| 318         | CRIDER KENNETH O .....                         | \$352.26   | 1253        | PRECISION PLUMBING & SEPTIC INC .....           | \$70.45    |
| 370         | CRUCE HERBERT EST .....                        | \$3.39     | 1260        | PRYOR KENNETH R JR .....                        | \$56.36    |
| 374         | CURNEL RICKY EST .....                         | \$146.54   | 1273        | REDBOX AUTOMATED RETAIL LLC .....               | \$6.96     |
| 388         | DAVIDSON BARRY .....                           | \$32.41    | 1292        | RILEY CHARLES TERRY & .....                     | \$634.08   |
| 404         | DEBOE LARRY R & SADIE E .....                  | \$67.64    | 1315        | ROBERTS DARLENE .....                           | \$16.91    |
| 411         | DICKEY BRADLEY .....                           | \$21.14    | 1328        | ROBERTSON MICHAEL .....                         | \$5.64     |
| 413         | DICKEY DARREN .....                            | \$5.64     | 1329        | ROBINSON BETTY J .....                          | \$2.82     |
| 414         | DICKEY DARREN .....                            | \$5.64     | 1330        | ROBISON AUSTIN .....                            | \$273.36   |
| 415         | DICKEY DARREN .....                            | \$5.64     | 1339        | RODRIGUEZ GAGE & JULIE .....                    | \$394.27   |
| 418         | DILLINGHAM MATTHEW .....                       | \$18.00    | 1350        | RUSHING JAMES M & KELLY .....                   | \$98.64    |
| 426         | DOLLAR TREE STORES INC .....                   | \$641.59   | 1352        | RUSSELL AUSTIN SHANE .....                      | \$216.99   |
| 427         | DOLLAR TREE STORES INC .....                   | \$2.00     | 1358        | SCHETHE LISA & RITCHIE ROBERT L .....           | \$4.24     |
| 436         | DOWNS KENNETH WAYNE & .....                    | \$150.78   | 1380        | SHIELDS HAZEL OR .....                          | \$5.07     |
| 450         | DUNCAN JUNIOR EARL & DEBRA .....               | \$81.72    | 1387        | SHUECRAFT JANET .....                           | \$5.64     |
| 451         | DUNCAN JUNIOR EARL & DEBRA .....               | \$2.82     | 1390        | SILCOX LISA .....                               | \$211.36   |
| 464         | DUPASS DANIEL .....                            | \$5.07     | 1391        | SILCOX LISA DEEANN & BILLY JOE .....            | \$155.00   |
| 512         | FETTEROLF THADDEUS THOMAS JOSEPH .....         | \$112.73   | 1399        | SISCO CHRISTOPHER .....                         | \$78.91    |
| 525         | FLETCHER SANDRA .....                          | \$47.91    | 1416        | SMOCK MARVIN & REBA .....                       | \$112.73   |
| 573         | GARMON CHARLES & VIVIAN .....                  | \$183.18   | 1417        | SMOCK MARVIN DAVID .....                        | \$56.36    |
| 580         | GERHARDT CRAIG .....                           | \$11.27    | 1434        | STEPHENS BONNIE .....                           | \$49.34    |
| 596         | GIPSON DENNIS .....                            | \$16.91    | 1445        | STOLL CORI LYNAE .....                          | \$98.64    |
| 597         | GIPSON DENNIS DUANE & SARAH ROSE .....         | \$97.23    | 1457        | SUBCARRIER COMMUNICATIONS INC .....             | \$100.20   |
| 598         | GIPSON KEITH .....                             | \$11.27    | 1460        | SUN INDUSTRIES INC .....                        | \$104.27   |
| 599         | GIPSON SHELBY EST .....                        | \$98.64    | 1461        | SUN INDUSTRIES INC .....                        | \$8.46     |
| 600         | GIPSON SHELBY EST .....                        | \$2.82     | 1462        | SUN INDUSTRIES INC .....                        | \$8.46     |
| 608         | GRAHAM NATHAN & STEFANIE .....                 | \$195.87   | 1463        | SUN INDUSTRIES INC .....                        | \$8.46     |
| 609         | GRAHAM NATHAN EARL & STEPHANIE .....           | \$50.73    | 1464        | SUN INDUSTRIES INC .....                        | \$8.46     |
| 635         | GUGENHEIM INC .....                            | \$4.94     | 1465        | SUN INDUSTRIES INC .....                        | \$8.46     |
| 642         | HACKNEY EDDIE .....                            | \$8.46     | 1466        | SUN INDUSTRIES INC .....                        | \$8.46     |
| 649         | HAKE KATRINA & MICHAEL .....                   | \$118.37   | 1477        | T & A PROPERTIES OF MARION LLC .....            | \$231.09   |
| 650         | HAKE KATRINA & MICHAEL .....                   | \$14.09    | 1478        | T & D ENTERPRISES LLC .....                     | \$281.81   |
| 651         | HAKE KATRINA & MICHAEL .....                   | \$14.09    | 1489        | TABOR MELODY & TERRY .....                      | \$8.46     |
| 663         | HAMLET JO ANNA .....                           | \$45.09    | 1495        | TAX EASE LIEN SERVICING LLC .....               | \$14.09    |
| 670         | HARDESTY KENNETH JR .....                      | \$35.80    | 1513        | THOMAS DONALD & MELISSA .....                   | \$5.64     |
| 671         | HARDIN BOBBY & CRISSY .....                    | \$67.64    | 1514        | THOMAS DONALD & MELISSA .....                   | \$2.82     |
| 678         | HARRIS ALMA JEAN & JERRY LANHAM .....          | \$50.73    | 1518        | THOMPSON S D & MARY LOU .....                   | \$7.05     |
| 687         | HATHAWAY KEVIN BRUCE .....                     | \$15.51    | 1532        | TODD WILLIAM E & MARGARET .....                 | \$29.60    |
| 703         | HAZZARD PATRICIA & WILSON DWAYNE .....         | \$555.74   | 1560        | TYRIE SHELLY S .....                            | \$95.54    |
| 708         | HEALTHQUEST WELLNESS CENTER PSC .....          | \$21.09    | 1561        | TYSON CYNTHIA .....                             | \$18.74    |
| 729         | HENRY CECIL .....                              | \$157.82   | 1566        | UNKNOWN OWNER .....                             | \$5.64     |
| 734         | HERRIN JODY & JULIE .....                      | \$175.71   | 1567        | US BANK .....                                   | \$87.36    |
| 738         | HERTZLER FREEMAN P .....                       | \$84.55    | 1568        | US BANK .....                                   | \$11.27    |
| 792         | HUGHES DOUG & MILLER KELSEY .....              | \$9.87     | 1580        | WALKER ROCKY .....                              | \$8.46     |
| 794         | HUGHES LACY EST .....                          | \$7.05     | 1595        | WATSON MARY ELIZABETH .....                     | \$11.27    |
| 796         | HUGHES RONALD D .....                          | \$11.27    | 1602        | WESMOLAN JENNIFER .....                         | \$49.33    |
| 822         | HURT DANIELLE .....                            | \$23.96    | 1635        | WICKER WILLIAM EDWARD & TERRY LYNN WICKER ..... | \$76.09    |
| 823         | HUTCHESON ROBERT & LINDA .....                 | \$112.73   | 1710        | WOODWARD THOMAS .....                           | \$77.92    |
| 833         | ISELL DARRELL .....                            | \$13.53    | 1734        | YATES VALINA .....                              | \$16.91    |
| 837         | JACKSON ALVIE G .....                          | \$28.19    |             |   |            |





Mattoon VFD adds tanker

Mattoon Volunteer Fire Department has added a tanker to its fleet. The truck came from a Maine agency. The tanker is equipped with an 1,800-gallon tank. It will replace an older tanker owned by the department.

High number of bills aimed at changing constitution

An unusual number of bills aimed at changing the Kentucky Constitution have been introduced in the General Assembly and Kentucky voters in November may get a chance to endorse a few of them. Kentucky lawmakers have introduced at least 20 bills to establish constitutional amendments. The number of constitutional amendments allowed on any one ballot is capped at four. The Courier-Journal newspaper reports that this session's list of constitutional amendments is a lot longer than legislators have seen in 20-plus years. "People every session will come up with a constitutional amendment, but not like what's happening now," Rep. Derrick Graham, D-Frankfort told The Courier Journal. As expected, changing the constitution requires a great deal of support. Sixty percent of each chamber must approve the proposal. Then it goes to the ballot in the next general election. Voters in 2020 approved an amendment to make Marsy's Law part of the constitution. It added certain crime victims' rights into law. A couple of years ago, Kentuckians had questions on the ballot about abortion rights and



the length of its legislative sessions. Typically, the C-J reports, voters are more likely to oppose changing the constitution unless there is an overwhelming reason. Among proposals that could come out of the legislature this session aimed at altering the constitution include bills that would prohibit non-U.S. citizens from voting; would move state elections for positions like the governor, attorney general and other constitutional officers to even-numbered years; require all voting system equipment to be produced in the U.S.; allow convicted felons, with some exceptions, to vote starting three years after completing their prison, probation and parole terms; establish a Citizens Redistricting Commission consisting of 13 members randomly selected by the Secretary of State and creates a redistricting plan for the state; development of a process where people can propose laws that they want to see on the ballot; allow lawmakers to extend the legislative sessions beyond the usual constitutionally required dates and call itself into special session; whether the state should fund non-public schools like charter schools; and a plan to prevent property tax increases for homeowners 65 and older. There are other bills promoting constitutional amendments that appear to have a lesser chance of gaining legislative support, according to the Courier-Journal. Those are a proposition to legalize possession, sale and use of marijuana for anyone 21 or older; prohibit slavery as a punishment for a crime; and establish a constitutional right to a healthy environment, including clean air and water.

Mapleview Cemetery will begin mowing season; all unauthorized items must go

Area residents with loved ones buried at Mapleview Cemetery are being alerted that items on the ground in front of monuments will be removed during mowing season. By Easter, which is March 31, all figurines, flower vases and other items placed on the grass should be removed in advance of mowing season. According to the cemetery's bylaws, only shepherds hooks and concrete benches may be placed on the grass. Any flower arrangements or vases must be placed on monuments or will be removed by mowing contractor. Mowing expenses at Mapleview Cemetery are \$1,700 for each mowing, which is performed every seven to 10 days.

Clerk's auto inspection finds clean bill of health

An inspection of 2023 motor vehicle transactions made through Crittenden County Clerk's Office wrapped up earlier this week with no reported findings. Early each year, the Auditor of Public Accounts reviews all 120 Kentucky county clerks' motor vehicle records to ensure accuracy and uncover potential fraud. The auditor looks at taxes and licenses collected for and distributed to the state. This year's analysis looked at almost \$1.28 million in state-related fees and taxes. "We're very proud of the accurate and honest work we do here on behalf of all Crittenden Countians," said County Clerk Daryl Tabor. "Our front line staff are to credit for the continued clean audits." Later this year, state auditors will look at other financial aspects of the office related to fees and taxes that made up the \$2.51 million budget. For 2022, the county clerk qualified for an abbreviated audit that saves taxpayers thousands of dollars over a full inspection. Tabor has again ap-

plied for this money-saving agreed-upon procedures (AUP) to look at 2023 financial records. While clerks and sheriffs can qualify for an AUP for up to three years in a row if no findings are reported, a full audit must be completed every four years at minimum.

Farmer & Foodie in area

The cast and crew from KET's The Farmer & The Foodie was in Princeton for two days this week to tape an episode at Newsom's Old Mill Store on Main Street. The Farmer & The Foodie is a KET series that follows hosts Maggie Keith (the farmer) and Lindsey McClave (the foodie) as they explore Kentucky, talking with farmers and food producers and learning about the ingredients behind the delicious dishes they create each week. The Farmer & The Foodie episode, which is scheduled to air in January 2025, explores the Newsom family's smoking traditions at its Old Mill Store, learning the story behind the family's country hams and other meats that have been made at the Princeton site for more than 100 years.

McConnell to step down

Mitch McConnell has announced that he will step down as Senate Republican leader in November. McConnell, 82, was cagey enough in his announcement to leave room for guessing about whether he might seek another term in 2026, reports the Associated Press. Those who know him well are coming down on both sides of that question, but most believe he will not seek re-election to the Senate. McConnell is Kentucky's longest-serving senator and won his seventh six-year term in 2020. He has wielded great influence over the years as senate majority leader and minor leader, depending on which party has been in power.



McConnell

Crittenden Press Letters to Editor

Homeschooling misconceptions

To the Editor: I am writing this letter to the editor regarding an article printed in the Feb. 22 edition of The Crittenden Press. In that article a concern was raised by the Crittenden County School System about the rise in school absenteeism and the increase in families choosing to homeschool over public education. I found the article mostly inaccurate and opinionated, especially the comments made by former school board member Keith Hart. I respect Mr. Hart greatly and commend him for his contributions to our public education system and community. Everyone has a right to their opinion, and I respect that, but his comments had no factual backing and were full of misconceptions. Mr. Hart made three misleading statements. First it was said that homeschool students have no association with other peers, and secondly, it was said that homeschool students are not participating in the community. On the contrary, according to an article printed September 15th, 2022, by the National Home Education Institute

and the Kentucky legislature, it states that.... •87% of peer-reviewed studies on social, emotional, and psychological development show homeschool students perform statistically better than those in conventional schools. •Homeschool students are regularly engaged in social and educational activities outside their homes and with people other than their nuclear-family members. They are commonly involved in activities such as field trips, scouting, 4H, political drives, church ministry, sports teams, and community volunteer work. Many homeschool students in Crittenden County actively participate in 4-H, little league sports, and community plays offered by the Community Arts Foundation. Finally, his last statement was that homeschooled students have no rules. In other words, there is no discipline. I believe a top indicator of discipline would be a student's academic achievements. According to the same report: •78% of peer-reviewed studies on academic achievement show homeschool students perform statistically better than

those in institutional school. And another report given in 2021 by the Coalition for Responsible Home Education states that... •Kentucky homeschool graduates who attend Kentucky postsecondary institution maintain a higher GPA than other Kentucky high school graduates: 61% of home school graduates have a GPA of 3.5 or above, compared with 41% of public-school graduates. How can Kentucky homeschool students perform academically in such a proficient way considering we have no rules? I believe the statistics are indicators of well-disciplined homes. I understand that there are a few families that claim they're homeschooling but aren't. But that is not the vast majority. Homeschool is not for everybody and it takes sacrifices. That's why we have local Co-ops. We keep each other accountable and encourage each other in time of need. Don't believe the misconceptions. Homeschool students are interactive, they contribute to society, and are disciplined in academics. Keith Wilcox Marion, Ky.



50 YEARS AGO

March 7, 2074 ■ For the first time in many years, the nation's farmers were asked to make an all out effort to increase their output of foodstuffs, especially grains.A developing fertilizer shortage made the government request harder to meet and was expected to raise the price of foods grown that year. Fertilizer was costing the farmer about twice than it did the prior year. ■ Donna Hodge, a freshman at Crittenden County High School, received a superior rating in the concerto division of the KMEA and KMTA piano contest at Murray State. She played the "Greig Piano Concerto." She played a portion of the concerto for a Women's Club of Marion entry in the contest judging. ■ Eight people were honored at the Crittenden County Conservation District awards dinner at the Marion Café. Recognized at the dinner were Lee Etta Faith, Cynthia Hendrix, Mary Katherine Chandler, Helen Jane Jones, Jerry Cloyd, B.A. Phillips, Howard Wheeler and Beverly Herrin.

25 YEARS AGO

March 11, 1999 ■ A safety seminar in the parking lot of Crittenden County High School was designed to show student drivers the possible dangers of hanging out in the "No-Zone". The zone represented danger areas around trucks where crashes were likely to happen. The shaded areas on the trailer roughly depicted danger areas. The program educated people about the blind spots that truckers dealt with by exhibiting its seven trailers across the nation. ■ 4-H'ers showed a wide variety at their annual county variety show. Members of

the Blast Off Blues 4-H Club won top club prize at the show and Robert Holloman and Jesse McDowell were crowned king and queen at the program. Specialty act winners were Kaylyn Herrin, John Brantley, Robert Holloman, and Jeremy Binkley for their short skit called "Motorcycle Gang." ■ Mandy Gardner's kindergarten class participated in a wedding of sorts at Crittenden County Elementary School. Since "Q", the groom, who rarely stands without "U," the bride. The ceremony was used to symbolize the joining of the two letters in the English language. "Kindergarteners need something concrete rather than abstract to remember their letters," said Gardner. She went on to say that all of the letters in the alphabet were presented to students by some form of visual effect.

10 YEARS AGO

March 6, 2014 ■ Kentucky Department of Highways maintenance employee Austin Turley of Marion called for a wrecker after his plow and salt rig went into a ditch along Ky. 70 in the Mexico community. As winter struck again in early March, the number of missed school days was up to 15. ■ Crittenden County Elementary School fifth-grader Audrey Croft portrayed Abigail Adams for third-grader Pen 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. ■ Phillip Parish, a Crittenden County farmer, directed a \$2,500 donation from Monsanto's America's Farmers Grow Communities program to Call Cares, a local charity run by the Parish family that provides blankets for cancer patients.

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

Parents homeschool for various reasons

To the Editor: My husband and I have a deep love and respect for the people within this community from many different backgrounds. I support others in whatever role God places them in because I believe they are there for a greater purpose, as I desire to be treated. Many children need the love and encouragement school staff provide everyday. These priceless individuals, including my husband, are a valuable asset to our community. The homeschooling families I know that have quietly served this community are as well. Very few ask why we homeschool; instead, many encounters included people inserting their opinions, striving to change our minds without seeking to understand. Baseless speculation does not serve this community well. Questions

need to be asked that would lead to real solutions for roots of problems. As a grad of Tolu Elementary, faith and simplicity were our initial reasons. Reinventing education with new programming are not enough to grab our attention. Increased governmental control, moral decline and the lack of parental accountability along with increased pressure to conform has only strengthened our commitment to homeschool these past few years and consider private school. Homeschool is an unexpected blessing and right that many families sacrifice for. We abide by law, pay for books and pay school taxes. I trust God and those we surround ourselves with do keep us accountable. Our children have never attended public school but we do not isolate them and we do have rules. We love sharing our

children with those who positively invest in them. We meet regularly to socialize, teach and share resources. The evidence is starting to show especially in our youngest who is supposed to be in fourth grade but is proficient in fifth grade work. Homeschooling has built a strong work ethic early on in our children and others, provides extra opportunities to serve, teamwork and they interact with people of all ages, not only their peers. This is true of many families whose children attend public school. A few bad apples will spoil the viewpoint for the rest. The homelife is the common denominator on all sides. Those already contributing to this community may be the least expected.

Suzette R. Todd Wilcox Marion, Ky.

Crittenden Press

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



# Learn to live with dissonance

Some things are best done by one person being in charge with no room for discussion. My brother and I needed to clear out our parents' house quickly. Forty years' worth of stuff had to be sorted and moved. We are both pretty good at packing efficiently – however we have slightly different opinions about what goes where. We had a discussion before we started as to which one of us was going to do it. Both of us working on it would have taken three or four times longer. We didn't have time for that. There was only one voice that mattered, everyone else sang the same notes.

There are things that cannot be done by one person. It happens faster or better if the people working together know their jobs and understand how the other people in the group move around. This is seen when a team that plays well together defeats a team that has better athletes. Harmony looks wonderful on a basketball court or soccer field. There are differences of style or of opinion, but the coach is the one in charge and responsible for pulling everything together. He is the conductor and ensures everyone is playing the same piece of music and gets tuned to the same notes.

Then there are difficult things, and no one knows what to do. There are differences of approach even on how to begin, different

styles and strengths that people can bring to bear, and may be a question of who is in charge. There may be, for a moment, some discord. When the participants are adults and act like it, solutions are found. If it is a process that needs to be repeated, improvements are made as time passes.

Success on an athletic team or group of people solving a problem requires that dissonance be solved. This is the place where we grow and learn. Unwillingness to change for the sake of the group is a symptom of immaturity, insecurity, or defiance. These are the ones who are "un-coachable" or uncooperative and either end up on the outside or prevent success.

Dissonance is necessary for growth and maturity. Without dissonance education is impossible. We do not notice it so much when we are young because we are still trying to figure things out – even the things we are pretty sure about are not what they seem. Think about mispronunciation of words or misunderstanding lyrics to songs. We have little trouble with dissonance when learning

language or a new skill – it goes with the territory.

Something happens to us as adults. It happens in the religious world, politics, and industry. We learn a good way to do something or how to think about things that works, and we get comfortable. The problem is that we live in a dynamic world with dynamic beings. Habits change. Language changes. Culture shifts one way or the other. Natural disasters reshape the landscape. We grow old. Manufacturing changes. What we think we need changes. If we are not comfortable with dissonance, we will retreat into a smaller and smaller world that blocks out all the notes that we do not like. We may deny they exist. We may dismiss them as unimportant. We may stop listening. We may hivel off into a group of like-minded people and allow someone else to speak for us and mistake this as thinking. The thing we will not do is grow.

Growth of any sort is painful. It requires learning how to manage the pain in such a way as to continue growing but not do damage. This is why life changes are better taken in small steps. This is why

changes in religious practice can take decades to happen. Those that do not change and grow will die. It is true for business, for universities, for churches, and political parties.

The key is to learn how to live with the dissonance, or even to seek it out. There are some things that will forever stand in tension with each other or on which we will never agree. I don't even agree with myself if I consider thoughts from one decade to the next. The tension between unconditional love and teaching to accept responsibility. The tension between free speech and love of neighbor. The tension between punitive sentences and rehabilitation.

For people of faith there are dissonant voices in the Bible. There are dissonant voices on what a faithful response to that book looks like. If we are focused on "the answer" we may close ourselves off to growth. I heard a wise man recently say, "Maybe we should stop treating everything as a problem and accept some things as a mystery." I want to grow toward that mystery.

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

## Does it really matter which “truth” I believe?


**Question:** I don't understand how people can believe the Bible. It's old-fashioned and out-of-date. It's full of myths that people need to make sense of the world before we understood scientific facts. How can we know what is really true?

**Answer:** Many think it doesn't really matter which "truth" we believe. Many think there is no objective or absolute truth, especially related to matters of faith and religion.

In our post-Christian era, it really does make a difference what we believe and where we get our moral standards. What one believes becomes his moral compass for making priorities and moral decisions. What one believes determines where he ends up in life and throughout eternity to come.

The Bible is totally trustworthy. In it, God has revealed the truth about

**ASK the PASTOR**  
By Bob Hardison



Himself, Jesus, people, and the way we can be restored to relationship with Him. For 60 years now, I have been reading what it says. I've found that it truths speak to the needs of my soul and it has shown me the path to living a truly abundant life.

If we want to experience true freedom from our spiritual imprisonment of the sins we committed and the greatest blessings associated with being close to God, we must believe in Jesus—He is the only way to true freedom. Jesus taught, "You will know the truth, and the truth will set you free" (Jn. 8:32). Speaking about Himself, he said, "So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed" (Jn. 8:36).

Send your questions to: bob@bobhardison.com

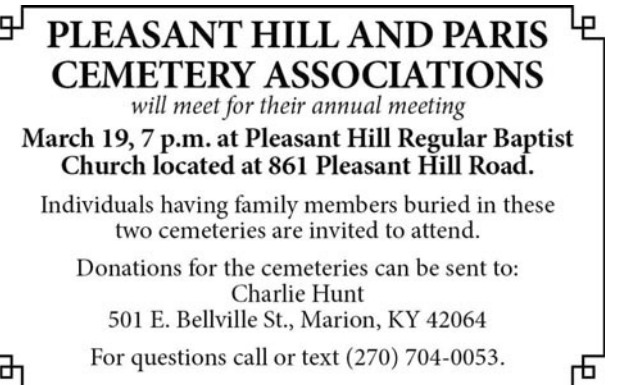
### Religious Outreach

- Old Salem Baptist Church has a Blessing Box located next to the church at 117 Old Salem Church Rd. Everyone is welcome to take items or place them in the box for others to enjoy.
- Suicidal thoughts? Stop! Email dbrantpc@tds.net and request a video link that hopefully will change your mind.
- Cave Springs Baptist Church between Lola and Joy in Livingston County offers food 24 hours a day, 7 days week at its outdoor Blessing Box in front of the church.
- The Clothes Closet of the First Baptist Church in Fredonia is open to serve the area with free clothes. The Clothes Closet is operated from 1-3 p.m. each Thursday. The Clothes Closet will

- be closed in case of rain.
- Fredonia Unity Baptist Church's clothes closet is open from 9 a.m. to noon on the second and fourth Saturday of every month.
- First Baptist Church of Fredonia food pantry is open from 4-5:30 p.m., third Wednesday of each month in Coleman Hall of the

- church.
- The clothes closet at Mexico Baptist Church is open from 9 to 11:30 a.m. each Monday.
- Salem Baptist Celebrate Recovery meets Monday's 5:30 p.m. with a meal at 6 p.m., at 209 Highland Street, opposite side of the building from the Thrift Store.

**PLEASANT HILL AND PARIS CEMETERY ASSOCIATIONS**  
*will meet for their annual meeting*  
**March 19, 7 p.m. at Pleasant Hill Regular Baptist Church located at 861 Pleasant Hill Road.**  
Individuals having family members buried in these two cemeteries are invited to attend.  
Donations for the cemeteries can be sent to:  
Charlie Hunt  
501 E. Bellville St., Marion, KY 42064  
For questions call or text (270) 704-0053.




**Marion Baptist Easter Egg Hunt**

Hop on over to our annual Easter Egg Hunt! With thousands of eggs to find, and divided age groups, every child in the family will have a blast!


The Egg hunt will begin at 10AM!

**30** March 10AM

City County Park Soccer Fields


**EMMAUS BAPTIST CHURCH**  


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

**Freedom General Baptist Church**  
*Pastor: Ross Atwell*  


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

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

**PINEY FORK CHURCH**  
CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
*Speaker: Greg Rushing*  
*A new beginning, going forward and looking to the future*  
Ky. 506 | Marion, Ky.

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

**St. William Catholic Church**  

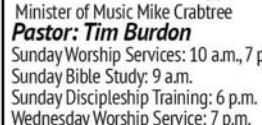

Sunday Mass 11 a.m.  
860 S. Main St.  
Marion, Ky.  
(270) 965-2477  
*Father John Okoro*

**Marion Baptist Church**  
*Join us for praise & worship*  


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

SUNDAY MORNING SERVICES: 9 a.m. & 11 a.m., ONLINE 11 a.m., SUNDAY SCHOOL: 10:05 a.m.  
WEDNESDAY: BIBLE STUDY/PRAYER 6 p.m., AWANA FOR CHILDREN & YOUTH GROUPS 6 p.m.  
CHOIR PRACTICE: 6:45 p.m., PRAISE TEAM: 7:30 p.m.

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

**Mexico Baptist Church**  


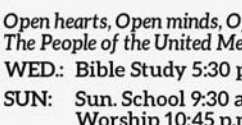
Minister of Music Mike Crabtree  
**Pastor: Tim Burdon**  
Sunday Worship Services: 10 a.m., 7 p.m.  
Sunday Bible Study: 9 a.m.  
Sunday Discipleship Training: 6 p.m.  
Wednesday Worship Service: 7 p.m.

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

**SEVEN SPRINGS MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH**  


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

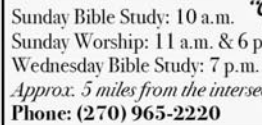
*- We are an Independent Baptist Church seeking to know Christ, and to make Him known to the community around us. -*

**Marion United Methodist Church**  


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

Steve English,  
Interim  
Pastor

South College St.

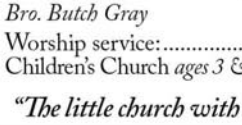
**DEER CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH**  
*"Whatever It Takes"*  


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


Bro. Jamie Baker

**Crayne Community Church**  



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

**Frances Community Church**  



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

**Emmanuel Baptist Church**  


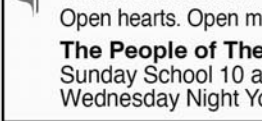
108 Hillcrest Dr., Marion | (270) 965-4623  
Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.  
Sunday Worship: 10:45 a.m., 6 p.m.  
Wednesday Adult Bible Study, Children and Youth Activities: 6 p.m.  
*Captured by a vision...*

**FIRST CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  


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

**Hurricane Church**  


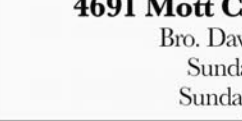
Hurricane Church Rd. off Ky. 135 West  
Pastor: Bro. Danny Hinchee  
Sun. School, 10 a.m. • Worship, 11 a.m.  
Sun. Evening services, 6 p.m.  
Wed. Evening services, 7 p.m.

**Tolu United Methodist Church**  


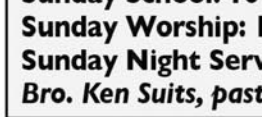
Pastor: David Brown  
*We invite you to be our guest*  
Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.  
**The People of The United Methodist Church**  
Sunday School 10 a.m. • Service 11 a.m.  
Wednesday Night Youth 6:30 p.m.

**PLEASANT GROVE General Baptist Church**  
*growing in grace*  


2 Peter 3:18  
*Pastor Tracie Gaudin*  
Located on Ky. 723, 4 miles north of Salem  
Sunday School 10 a.m. | Sunday Worship 11 a.m., 6 p.m. | Wed. 7 p.m.

**Unity General Baptist Church**  


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

**Barnett Chapel General Baptist**  


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

**Marion Church of God**  


334 Fords Ferry Road, Marion, Ky.  
Morning Service 11 a.m.  
Sun. Evening 6 p.m. • Wed. Evening 6 p.m.  
*"Where salvation makes you a member."*

**Marion Church of Christ**  


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



# Community news shared in paper

Many years ago the way most people got their hometown news was through the local paper. The community reporters shared their neighborhood news and through these old items from the archives of The Crittenden Press and Crittenden-Record Press, we get a glimpse of the past and the way life was over 100 years ago. Here are some interesting community items from those days.

**1913 - Crayne is a hustling little burg.**

Crayne was first named Crayneville, but in 1907 the Post Office Department at Washington, D.C. decided to change the name of the post office and depot to Crayne because of its similarity to Caneyville, (Grayson County) as it caused confusion with the delivery of the mail.

There are two churches, both Presbyterians, one Cumberland Presbyterian and the other Presbyterian U. S. A., one school, two Sunday schools, two general stores, one drug store, and barber shop. Mr. Forest Pogue and Dr. Vernon Fox own and run the drug store, Dr. Fox takes care of the sick. The barber shop is run by W. H. McCaslin.

Mr. Brown is the depot agent. There are two blacksmith shops run by Mr. Dobbs and Mr. W. B. Binkley and one grist mill, also run by Mr. Binkley. They labor daily at the forge making iron parts to repair machinery, wagons and also horse shoeing. The coal dealer, Mr. W. Weldon, is also the postmaster.

Crayne is always on the alert looking for business and she is doing good.

**Lily Dale, March 1917**

We guess some, if not all, who read the Record-Press, would like to hear from Lilydale again. Your correspondent was born and principally reared in this vicinity; therefore, we love to think, talk and write about our community as long as we can say anything good about it.

Years ago we had no church at Crayne. We had protracted meetings in our school house. Ever Green Sunday school had prayer meeting once a week for all, and a young men's prayer meeting once a week.

Our mother C. P.

church at Piney Fork was five miles away of which five of the elders lived in our vicinity. We will name them: Wash Deboe, Jesse McCaslin, Crockett O'Neal, James Odway, Sr., and Harvey Jacob. We had one or two deacons also.

We built a C. P. church at Crayne, it was dedicated four years ago next June. We are glad that four elders of our community were elected for that church: James Ordway, Jr., William O'Neal, James Loyd, William Brown and one or two deacons. Wash Deboe is an elder in the U.S.A. Church at Crayne. (A county road marker about half way between Crayne and Mott City is the only reminder of the little community area known as Lily Dale.)

**Fords Ferry, Nov. 1917**

A number of splendid potato crops have been harvested in this part of the county during the past few weeks. The potatoes of the present year are unusually large and thrifty and some of the crops in the county have averaged at least 100 bushels per acre.

The river is rising, rising and the steamboats are chugging, chugging as they ply backward and forth up and down the great stream. The river commerce seems to be unusually active during the present year and a large amount of stuff is being shipped by water.

The transportation facilities of the railroads are completely over crowded at the present time which explains in a large measure the greatly increased activities of the steamboats.

A patent medicine vender recently visited his community and he endeavored in a most conscientious manner to convince some of the people that his medicine was the real, genuine for all people who are afflicted with bad health. He refused to pay any satisfactory guarantee behind his medicine, however, and was somewhat disappointed on account of his lack of success in this neighborhood. Your correspondent has got but little confidence in the great majority of the medicines which are being advertised and sold at the present time. There is no medicine in the world which is equal to the pure air, good water and bright sunshine

which God has given us.

A large amount of splendid sorghum has been produced in this neighborhood during the present season, which is quite remarkable when we take into consideration the unsunny inclement weather which prevailed during the month of October. Uncommonly large frosts and even freezes failed to damage a large part of the cane in this vicinity and only one crop was damaged so badly that it could not be made up. There is something rather strange and unexplainable about sugar cane. Sometimes a single frost will ruin a crop of cane but there are other times when even a series of continuous freezes will not seriously damage it.

There are many people who claim that the steamboat has long since passed its greatest era of usefulness. We do not deny this assertion which so many people are making, but we do deny any statement which says that the steamboat is of no further use whatever. For many years to come the river commerce will be profitable and beneficial for quite a number of people. The railroad may still be the principal means of transportation but it is certainly not the only means. There is no likelihood whatever of the steamboat being entirely done away with any time during the immediate future.

Walter Hughes of 'Possum Ridge, who is now a member of Uncle Sam's National Army at Camp Zachary Taylor, has recently won a gold medal in a big fiddling contest which was held at that place. According to some reports, this medal was emblematic of the championship of the American soldiers who are situated at the camp and the people of Crittenden should be proud that one of our boys was fortunate enough to win this important honor. In addition to his musical accomplishments he is also a good marksman and this qualification combined with his husky strength and endurance will enable him to make a splendid soldier, one which our country can well be proud of.

**July 1918 - Oak Hall**

The ice cream supper given for the Red Cross by the Oak Hall basketball team Saturday night, July 13, was attended by a large crowd and was enjoyed by all. A profit of \$28 clear of expenses, was realized. This shows that the basketball team is not organized entirely for play, but are endeavoring to do their bit for their country.

The ladies of this neighborhood have organized a Red Cross Society and are ready to do sewing for the boys over there.

The boys leaving for the U. S. Army Monday are: Elzie and Rodger Marvel and David Postleweight.

Last Friday morning J. U. Claghorn and family and W. G. Conditt and family went down on Crooked Creek near the Dunn Springs bridge for a fish fry. They purchased a nice 16-pound fish and with that and other good things they had a dinner to long be remembered.

**March 1917 - Shady Grove**

Well here we come again with the Shady Grove items. Shady Grove is a fine town and it is still on a boom. We have two prosperous dry goods stores, Messrs. Hubbard and Tudor the merchants are certainly upon their job. Owen Beard also has a grocery store and buys chickens and eggs paying good prices for them.

Well it is right amusing to be at Shady Grove and hear them discuss the road question. When you see some of the old farmers peck the tobacco out of their pipes, you better listen for you are sure going to hear something.

We have a B.Y. P. U. organized in our church, a prayer meeting every Saturday night, and we have a fine preacher again this year Bro. Rufus Robinson. They also have a new preacher at the Methodist church and we think he is going to be fine.

Say, you folks ought to come out to church and hear the choir sing with Dennie Hubbard as leader, it will certainly cure the blues.

These small communities and towns were once such a vital part of our county, after reading these old articles and their news of the day, I always feel like I've made a visit to our past, a bittersweet journey, as the little busy towns and close-knit communities are no more.

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



**REVIVAL**  
**New Union General Baptist Church**  
invites you to Revival Services  
**Monday-Wednesday**  
**March 11-13**  
**7 p.m.**  
*Evangelist: Bro. Lance Johnson*  
**EVERYONE WELCOME!**

Location:  
726 New Union Church Rd., Salem

You may call  
Bro. Keith Wilcox  
(270) 339-7591  
should you need a ride



**MARCH MAYHEM**


Stay on schedule in our busiest month by dropping off

**MARCH RENEWALS**  
**for your Fleet of Commercial or Farm Trucks**

*We will prepare your transactions while you go about your busy day and call later that day when we are ready to accept your payment.*




For some owners, this could save you as many as 2-3 hours waiting in our office.  
**Call Crittenden County Clerk at**  
**(270) 965-3403**  
**to inquire.**

★ ★  ★ ★


**GoVote.ky.gov**

Your one-stop site for first-time or updates to voter registration.



**It is important**

Crittenden County Clerk's Office has your current address so you will receive notice of your new voting precinct following redistricting.



You may also call  
**(270) 965-3403**



**WELCOME**

**FAMILY LIFE CENTER**

Open to the Public  
**9am to 3pm**  
Monday thru Friday

**Walking Track Gymnasium**

**SEARCH PUBLIC NOTICES published in Kentucky newspapers.**  
[www.kypublicnotice.com](http://www.kypublicnotice.com)  
This website is provided by Kentucky's newspapers as a free service for the purpose of and engaging the citizens and maximizing the availability of this information.

**2024 REPUBLICAN MASS MEETING**  
**6 p.m., March 21**  
200 Industrial Drive, Marion  
All Crittenden County Republicans registered by 12/31/23 are invited to vote on the delegations to the KY 1st District Nominating Convention!  
Photo identification required.

**Veterans, the Local VFW NEEDS YOU!**  
Come join us  
**6:30 p.m., March 14**  
at our monthly meeting.  
Veterans enjoy a free meal to follow.  
**412 N. College St., Marion**

Join us as we're

**“Growing in Faith”**

At The West Kentucky Associations  
Annual Women’s Conference  
**Saturday, March 9**  
**9 a.m.-noon**

**Registration 8:30-9 a.m.**  
**Lunch immediately following services**

**Located at Camp David**  
**134 Hwy. 1668, Marion**

**GUEST SPEAKERS:**  
**Rhonda Horack & Teenie Murray**  
EPHESIANS 3:17-18

*That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height of the love of Christ.*







# Lanham’s deer brings in top youth prize from Big Buck Contest

STAFF REPORT

Hutson Lanham was five years old last November and just big enough to handle a deer rifle. What became a truly memorable outing wasn’t his first hunt, but it was his first chance to be the designated shooter.

Everything fell into place on a cool fall morning, the second day of the modern firearm season. Young Hutson was huddled in a hunting blind with his parents, Tiffany and Shawn, waiting for an opportunity.

“I’ve been going hunting with my mom, dad and brother ever since I was born, probably before that,” Hutson said “I was just never big enough to shoot the .223.”

It was about 36 degrees and a very light wind was moving when Lanham got his chance at a buck. He had picked the spot for the blind and was ready at the trigger as dawn broke.

“At daylight some deer started coming on the field in front of us. (My parents) said I had to be quiet and that was really hard to do,” he said.

The first sightings were all does, then out of nowhere a wide-racked buck appeared and chasing the females.

“I looked through the binoculars and said, ‘Oh wow, that sucker is huge,’” Lanham recalls. “My dad looked and said he was a wide six point. Mom and dad asked if that was the deer I wanted, I said, ‘No.’”

The buck and his harem left the area as young Hutson’s decision began to set in. Maybe he should have taken that deer.

“Then wouldn’t you know, here they come back,” he said. “I decided I wanted to shoot that deer. My dad helped me get the gun up and ready,” Lanham said, but the buck was standing in a position that didn’t offer a good shot.

“I had to wait to see him good in the scope. Then he turned and I shot.”

The buck ran off a bit before falling. Lanham had his first buck.

“I wanted to run to him right away, but my parents made me wait. When we finally made it to him, we noticed he had an infected eye and it was nasty,” Lanham said. “That was the best hunt ever. I sure love deer hunting.”

Registered in the Marion Big Buck Contest, Lanham took his harvest to Hodge’s Sports and Apparel to be weighed and measured. His deer was tops in the youth division.

Sponsored by Hodge’s and Marion Tourism and Recreation Commission, the contest rewards a registered youth hunter who harvests the biggest buck using a formula that includes the weight of the deer, scoreable points and spread of the antlers.



Hutson Lanham’s November buck has won Marion Tourism and Hodge’s Sports and Apparel’s annual Youth Division of the Marion Big Buck Contest.

## Week 9 Legislative Review from State Senator

# Lawmakers introduce record number of bills in House, Senate

Kentucky General Assembly wrapped up the ninth legislative week of the 2024 Regular Session on Friday. The week marked the final period for lawmakers to submit new bills. By the end of the week, 838 bills were filed in the state House of Representatives and 382 in the state Senate.

Tuesday brought our annual Military Kids Day event, where children of military families engaged in various Capitol activities, from a committee meeting introduction to enjoyable experiences like flight simulators, cornhole, and a Capitol tour and scavenger hunt. The event is a day dedicated solely to children of military moms and dads. It was a joy to recognize them and hopefully sow some seeds that may one day grow into their own public service.

We also celebrated Small Business Day in the Capitol on Wednesday. Small businesses are the backbone of our communities and provide a strong foundation for communities to thrive. As a small business owner myself, I appreciate this celebration and a recognition of how we help build our communities.

I am excited to announce that I have filed my priority legislation, Senate Bill 3. SB 3 would move the Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources under the Department of Agriculture, allowing for a more efficient management of that Department. I will keep you updated as the bill progresses through the Senate.

We passed a number of bills this week including:

- Senate Bill (SB) 1 which would establish an endowed research fund managed by the Council on Postsecondary Educa-

tion (CPE) to support collaborative research initiatives across higher education institutions. CPE would oversee the application process, including soliciting, accepting, and reviewing applications from universities to select five eligible research groups for seed funding over a five-year period. Additionally, the legislation establishes a review mechanism to assess ongoing eligibility for funding and directs the CPE to address any vacancies that may arise if a consortium becomes ineligible.- SB 71 is a public safety measure that would provide transportation services for individuals who wish to voluntarily leave a chemical dependency treatment program. The bill puts in place safety provisions such as requiring notifications for family, court officials, the county attorney, and local law enforcement that a resident has left the treatment facility. It also ensures the individual is only transported to their home, a public transportation location, or a ride-sharing service.
- SB 118 aims to safeguard property rights and address criminal trespassing by permitting private property owners to use purple paint marks as a clear notice of no trespassing. It eliminates the need for a written notice, allowing property owners to rely on the visual indicator of purple paint on trees, fences, or other objects. The bill establishes spe-



cific requirements for using purple paint to mark private property, providing a legal means for property owners to communicate and enforce boundaries without the necessity of written warnings.- SB 174 would improve efficiency and service to Kentucky consumers. The bill would exempt communication service providers from the requirement to call 811 before they hook up residences and other properties to communication terminals. This process typically only requires communication service providers to dig down a few inches, where it is highly unlikely, they would impact other utilities in the area. The requirement to call 811 in advance can delay hooking up the service.
- SB 193 proposes a streamlined structure for the Kentucky Animal Control Advisory Board, reducing its membership from twelve members to eight. It also adjusts representation from affiliated organizations from two members to one per organization. A new member from Kentucky Animal Action is added to enhance spay and neuter advocacy representation since the board’s revenues are derived from the spay/neuter license plate. SB 193 implements staggered appointments after the effective date to ensure balance. The changes aim to address quorum issues and promote efficiency in board decision-making.
- SB 198 aims to enhance Kentucky’s energy sector by incorporating nuclear energy and establishing the Kentucky Nuclear Energy Development Authority (KNEDA), managed by the University of Kentucky’s Center

for Applied Energy Research. KNEDA’s role is to inform communities about advanced nuclear energy, disseminate information to the public, promote economic opportunities, interact with regulators, and facilitate collaboration in the nuclear energy ecosystem. The bill empowers KNEDA to conduct a site suitability study, address workforce and educational needs, run an educational campaign on nuclear technologies, initiate a financial assistance grant program, and define criteria for a voluntary nuclear-ready community designation, which includes public meetings, suitable sites, and community support.- SB 229 enhances the representation and focus on blockchain technology in municipal utilities by replacing key members with designated representatives from the Kentucky League of Cities. Additionally, it grants more autonomy to address operational needs efficiently by doubling the maximum spending limit for superintendents employed by electric plant boards contracting with the Tennessee Valley Authority.

**Joint resolutions**

- Senate Joint Resolution (SJR) 140 is complementary to Senate Bill 198. It focuses on equipping Kentucky for a robust nuclear energy ecosystem and provides

specific direction to the Public Service Commission. Once passed, the PSC will survey nuclear regulatory staff in other states for insights, hire experts in nuclear regulatory matters, provide training for existing staff on nuclear siting and construction issues, amend administrative regulations to mandate electric utilities consider all generation resources, including nuclear in their planning, and review current regulations to remove any hindrances to effective regulation and the growth of the nuclear industry in the state.- SJR 149 would ensure a more focused representation of municipal utilities’ interests in the development of blockchain technology by replacing specific members on the Blockchain Technology Working Group and Kentucky Infrastructure Authority board with designated municipal utility representatives from the Kentucky League of Cities. Additionally, it would acknowledge the significance of their roles by proposing an increase in the maximum annual pay for municipal utility commission members and granting greater autonomy to address operational needs by suggesting a raise in the spending limit for electric plant board superintendents without extensive board approval.

- SJR 175 Addresses the lack of access to broadband connectivity, especially in rural areas, by expediting the deployment of internet service and eliminating impediments that cause backlogs. This will require the Public Service Commission (PSC) to establish emergency regulations within 45 days for utility pole attachments and requires utilities owning poles to align with new tariffs. The PSC will be required to submit quarterly reports to the Legislative Research Commission to track progress.

**Bills headed to governor**

Two bills made their way to the governor’s desk in week nine. They include:

- SB 5, recognized as a 2024 legislative priority, addresses a specific public concern by eliminating the five-acre ownership requirement for residential landowners seeking exemptions from sport hunting and sport fishing license requirements.

House Bill 18 prevents local governments from imposing restrictions on landlords and ensures they cannot demand emergency response fees from property owners for incidents outside their control.

*Sen. Howell, R-Murray, represents the 1st Senate District including Calloway, Crittenden, Fulton, Graves, Hickman, Lyon and Trigg counties.*

## SCHOOL

Continued from page 1 tion, kids first and safety.

“As our mission statement says, we are cultivating excellence. Having a new building will help in our mission to do just that.”

MP Lawson of Paducah won the contract to build the new school – the first construction project in the district since the Crittenden County High School annex was built in 1998.

The two-story building will feature classrooms and science laboratories. It will be connected to the back of the existing middle school. Near the end of the construction phase, the west wing of the middle school – used first as Crittenden County High School in 1949 – will be torn down.

During its monthly meeting the night before the ceremony, Crittenden County Board of Education approved several items related to construction, including the following:

- Purchase of builders risk insurance for the construction project with Chubb Insurance at a cost of \$14,636 through

July 2025.- Payment to MP Lawson in the amount of \$238.50.
- Paying Schucker’s Ornamental Iron \$42,615 for fabricated materials related to construction.
- Change order #2 in the amount of \$446,000, which adds heating, ventilation and air conditioning to the middle school gym, which was constructed in 1952.
- Change order in the amount of \$219,000 which will install fire alarm devices in the new building, gym and five classrooms that will remain in the old middle school, along with fire alarms in the existing high school, all of which will function as one operating system. That price also includes the purchase of a folding partition and necessary steel beam for one of the classrooms.
- Other action approved by the board unrelated to construction included:
- Approval of a 3-year re-inspection with Air Source Technology Inc., in the cost of \$3,950 and required asbestos training and awareness.
- Approved the pre-school calendar for the

2024-2025 school year. The first day will be Aug. 26 and the last day May 15, 2025.- Approved purchase of a 2023 handicap van for \$82,949 paid by special education funds. The van should arrive in about a month and will be used to transport wheelchair-bound students.
- Approved a \$20,000 agreement with the Marion-Crittenden County Park Board for annual use of facilities, and continuation of a 10-year lighting project through Dec. 31, 2035.
- Heard a report from technology coordinator Ben Grainger concerning the Internet Protection Act of 2001 and usage of security filters in place for internet use by students.
- Approved SBDM allocations of \$100 per student.
- Approved payment to Jackson Knob for biannual emergency response training for the school district, which includes the Marion Police Department and Crittenden County Sheriff’s Office. Cost for the training, to be conducted fall 2024, is \$3,604.

CRITTENDEN COUNTY

WASTE TIRE COLLECTION EVENT

March 7 and 8

8 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

March 9

8 a.m. -noon

Location: 1901 U.S. Hwy 60 E., Marion, KY (Co. Road Garage)

TIRES NOT ACCEPTED:

Foam Filled Tires, Calcium Filled Tires • Off road Construction Tires (OTR)

Rubber Tracks • Solid Tires with/without Press on Rims

\*Tires will be accepted on or off the rim

(Truck, Light Truck, Passenger, Implement, Lawn Tractor, Bicycle, Motorcycle, Golf Cart Etc.)

Tire Retailers, Scrap/Salvage Yards and Recycle Businesses are Expressly Prohibited from Participating

Crittenden County, in Partnership with the KY Division of Waste Management, is sponsoring this event.

Please take advantage of this opportunity to properly dispose of any unwanted tires.

Any Kentucky Resident is eligible to participate in this program, with the exception of tire retailers, scrap/salvage yards or recycling facilities.

For questions or clarification, please contact the Judge Executive's office at 270-965-5251





BASKETBALL

Guess MSC Freshman of Yr

Crittenden County's Taylor Guess has been named 2024 Mid-South Conference Women's Basketball Freshman of the Year. The freshman at Lindsey Wilson becomes the program's fifth player all-time to be tabbed the conference's top freshman.

Guess scored 19 points, was named player of the game and led her team to an opening round win over Freed-Hardeman in the Mid-South Conference quarterfinals. Her team lost to Campbellsville in the semifinals.

Guess appeared in all 12 of the Blue Raiders' conference games during the regular season. She scored in double-figures five times, including back-to-back 19-point performances against Bethel (Tenn.) and Freed-Hardeman (Tenn.) in February. Her conference scoring average was 8.9 points per game. She also added a 34-for-42 effort from the charity stripe and contributed the team's second-most rebounds, along with 13 assists, 8 steals and 4 blocks.

On the season, Guess scored 9.4 points an outing and ranked second overall on the team for total blocks and rebounds.



Champion



Walker

Walker, Champ All-District

Crittenden County sophomore Bryson Walker and senior Travis Champion were named to the All Fifth District Basketball Team. Champion was selected despite playing in just 6 games due to a knee injury. Walker played in 27 games and averaged 19 points. Champion is among the school's all-time leading scorers. He averaged almost 14 points in the games in which played this season.

5th District Tournament

**GIRLS AT LYON COUNTY MONDAY'S FIRST ROUND**  
Lyon County 80, Trigg County 31  
Crittenden 52, Livingston Cent. 44

**THURSDAY'S CHAMPIONSHIP**  
Lyon County 77, Crittenden Co. 74

**BOYS AT LYON COUNTY TUESDAY'S FIRST ROUND**  
Lyon County 88, Crittenden Co. 48  
Trigg Co. 73, Livingston Central 48

**FRIDAY'S CHAMPIONSHIP**  
Lyon County 100, Trigg County 50

2nd Region Tournament

**GIRLS AT TRIGG COUNTY MONDAY'S FIRST ROUND**  
Henderson Co. 72, Crittenden Co. 44  
Christian County 56, Madisonville 51

**TUESDAY'S FIRST ROUND**  
Hopkinsville 56, Union County 47  
Hopkins Central 61, Lyon County 59

**FRIDAY'S SEMIFINALS**  
Henderson Co. vs Christian Co., 6pm  
Hopkinsville vs Hopkins Central, 7:30

**SATURDAY'S CHAMPIONSHIP**  
7pm at Trigg County

**BOYS AT HOPKINSVILLE WEDNESDAY'S FIRST ROUND**  
Henderson Co. vs. Trigg County, 6pm  
UHA vs Caldwell County, 7:30pm

**THURSDAY'S FIRST ROUND**  
Madisonville vs Union County, 6pm  
Lyon County vs. Christian Co. 7:30pm

**MONDAY'S SEMIFINALS**  
Henderson/Trigg vs UHA/Cald., 6pm  
Mad./Union vs Lyon/Christian, 7:30pm

**TUESDAY'S CHAMPIONSHIP**  
7pm at Hopkinsville

COACHING

New golf, football assignments

Crittenden County School District has announced new coaching assignments at the school and all of them are former Rocket athletes. The new middle school football head coach will be Ethan Dossett. Assistant middle school football coach will be Hunter Boone. Devin Belt will be the new golf coach. He is also baseball coach and assistant basketball coach.



Sophomore guard Anna Boone scored 21 points Monday against Henderson County to move up to No. 7 on the Lady Rockets' career-scoring leaderboard.

Lyon spoils CCHS shot at three-peat

As long as grasses grow and rivers flow, beating Lyon County at Eddyville in girls' basketball is going to be tougher than chewing down the edge of a bone.

Crittenden County's second-quarter 15-point lead wasn't even enough to hold the fort as the Lady Lyons beat Crittenden County 77-74 in the Fifth District Tournament championship Thursday, spoiling the Rocket girls' hopes of trimming the district nets three years in a row.

It would have been an unprecedented post-season run for the CCHS – which had won the last two district tournaments – but Lyon was on point in the last half, overcoming a deficit that could have wilted most opponents.

Home-court advantage came complete with a couple of scoreboard malfunctions, flashing white lights because someone pulled the gym's fire alarm at one point and then there was another brief fourth-quarter delay to clean popcorn off of the floor.

None of it rattled the home-standing Lyons.

Trailing by a point with just over a minute to go, Crittenden turned the ball over on a five-second call trying to inbound the ball at midcourt. From there, Lyon had an opportunity to run some valuable time off the clock before Elliot



District runners-up

Evans gave up her fifth foul to stop the timer, sending Lyon guard Piper Cotham to the line with 52 seconds left. Cotham sank both foul shots then dropped in a couple more seconds later after CCHS turned the ball over on a jump ball in front court, and fouled the Lyon point guard again.

Crittenden's Anna Boone hit a three from the top of the key with 14 seconds to go, pulling her team to within one again, 75-74, which kept the crowd engaged for a time. However, Cotham's last two free throws with two seconds left sealed the deal.

Boone, who scored 27 in the championship game, was chosen Fifth District Player of the Year and teammates Jordyn Hodge and Evans were named to the all-district team.

SECOND REGION  
Lady Rockets fall to Henderson in opener; finish with 19 wins

One victory shy of a coveted threshold, Crittenden County just missed its fifth 20-win season in coach Shannon Hodge's 31 years as the Lady Rocket skipper, losing 72-44 to Henderson County Monday in the opening round of the Second Region Tournament.

Sophomore Anna Boone, the Fifth District Player of the Year, scored 21 points against the Lady Colonels, moving up to No. 7 on the Lady Rocket career scoring list with 1,131 points, just two shy of being in the sixth spot.

Crittenden kept the game close for a half. With under two minutes to play in the second period, the Lady Rockets trailed Henderson (23-7) by just three. However, two quick threes gave the Colonel women a nine-point halftime cushion. They expanded it quickly in the

third and led by 16 by the start of the final quarter.

Henderson was more physical and beat CCHS to the basket often, prompting Crittenden to deploy a zone defense. Henderson had an answer. It was able to get some back door cuts and finished with seven three-pointers.

For Crittenden it brought their season to a close against the same team that defeated the Rocket girls in the regional championship a year earlier.

|   |    |    |    |    |
|---|----|----|----|----|
| Crittenden County   | 12 | 20 | 34 | 44 |
| Henderson County  | 17 | 29 | 50 | 72 |
| CRITTENDEN – Boone 21, Evans 6, Hodge 9, Federico 2, Rushing 4, Champion 2, Holeman, Stewart, Munday, Walker. FG 16. 3-pointers 1 (Boone). FT 7-9.          |    |    |    |    |
| HENDERSON – Gish 7, Gardner 4, Kemp 4, Rideout 16, Cansler 9, Green 16, Gibson 16, Stanley, Burnett, Locher, Estabrook, Hall. FG 28. 3-pointers 7. FT 9-13. |    |    |    |    |



Named to the All Fifth District Team were (from left) Elliot Evans, Player of the Year Anna Boone and Jordyn Hodge.

Crittenden forward Andrea Federico scored a career-high 16 points and center Bristyn Rushing tied her career best with 14, but it still wasn't enough to help CCHS overcome Lyon's home-court edge. Five of the last nine Fifth District Tournaments have been won by the home team.

Crittenden County 25 47 59 74  
Lyon County 20 44 62 77

CRITTENDEN – Boone 27, Evans 7, Hodge 8, Federico 16, Rushing 14, Stewart 2, Holeman. FG 29. 3-pointers 8 (Boone 4, Evans, Hodge, Federico 2). FT 8-12.

LYON – Taylor 15, Cotham 28, Corsey 4, Wynn 12, Akridge 1, Holland 9, Perry 8. FG 27. 3-pointers 10 (Cotham 4, Wynn 4, Holland). FT 13-17.

Multiple arms give Rockets bright baseball hope

There's a common mantra in baseball, no matter the level, attesting that, "You can never have too much pitching."

Third-year Rocket head baseball coach Devin Belt isn't getting cocky, but he's certainly doing some crowing about his pitching staff this spring.

"We're about as deep in our rotation as we've been since I've been here," said Belt, a former Rocket pitcher himself and owner of a no-hitter.

Belt's 2024 version of the Rockets will no doubt be buoyed by a cast of arms, both righties and lefties, with a blend of young and old stuff. Senior Jeremiah Foster is the veteran mainstay of the staff, but he's shelved from pitching for the first few weeks due to a shoulder injury. Belt won't push his return until the senior ace is ready to go.

"We need him in May much more than we need him in March," Belt said.

Foster has been a starter since his freshman season and he's among career leaders in wins, innings pitched and strikeouts.

Rounding out the pitching corps are southpaws senior Tyler Belt, junior Chase Conyer and sophomore Jayden Gibson; and righties, junior Asa McCord; sophomores Quinn Summers and Keegan Pierson; freshman Jaxton Duncan; and middle schoolers Hudson Stokes and Drake Young.

Senior Casey Cates has been on the team since he was in seventh grade and has been an everyday starter for much of it. He will catch with eighth-grader Zack Rustin as his backup.

Softball on Deck

CCHS's softball team opens its season Monday at Hopkins Central. The Press will feature the girls team in next week's season outlook. Track and field will also be previewed next week. Its season opens March 15.

Around the horn, Conyer and Foster are likely first basemen when the season starts next week. Stokes and freshman Brady Dayberry are working out at second base and Summers is holding down shortstop.

"Quinn has really become an incredible player," Coach Belt said. "He's on a trajectory that could take him to being in a conversation about player of the year in the region one day."

Summers hit over .500 for a time last spring before settling with a .375 average and leading the team in batting, just ahead of Belt at .328 and Conyer at .311.

At third base Foster will figure into the mix when his arm is right, but early on fans will likely see a medley of options including Stokes, Young and Pierson.

Belt will anchor the outfield in center.

"He flies around out there. He's quick as a cat and has the freedom to go get everything he can," the coach said.

Belt stole 38 bases last spring to set a new school record. His coach thinks there is more in the tank and expects Belt's speedy baserunning to continue, so long as he finds a way on base.

McCord should lock down left field when he's not on the mound, and in right field the coaching staff is looking at a

ROCKET SCHEDULE

March 12 Community Christian  
March 14 Heritage Christian  
March 15 at Christian Fellowship  
March 16 Fort Campbell  
March 18 at Trigg County  
March 19 at Dawson Springs  
March 21 at Livingston Central  
March 22 at Hopkins Central  
March 26 Mayfield  
March 29 at Lyon County  
April 1 Rutherford at Panama City  
April 3 Clinton Co. at Panama City  
April 4 Casey Co. at Panama City  
April 5 Lincoln Co. at Panama City  
April 8 Livingston Central  
April 15 Trigg County  
April 16 Livingston Central  
April 18 at Community Christian  
April 19 Lyon County  
April 22 Caldwell County  
April 23 at Heritage Christian  
April 25 University Heights  
April 26 Hopkins Central  
April 29 at Webster County  
May 4 at Union County  
May 6 Dawson Springs  
May 7 Union County  
May 9 at University Heights  
May 10 Christian Fellowship  
May 14 Webster County  
May 16 at Caldwell County

ROCKET ROSTER

|                 |    |             |
|-----------------|----|-------------|
| Casey Cates     | 12 | C, RHP      |
| Tyler Belt      | 12 | CF, LHP     |
| Jeremiah Foster | 12 | 3B, 1B, RHP |
| Chase Conyer    | 11 | 1B, LHP     |
| Asa Mccord      | 11 | OF, RHP     |
| Kaiden Travis   | 11 | OF, RHP     |
| Quinn Summers   | 10 | SS, RHP     |
| Ethan Thomas    | 10 | 1B          |
| Caleb Riley     | 10 | 2B, OF      |
| Keegan Pierson  | 10 | 3B, RHP     |
| Jayden Gibson   | 10 | OF, LHP     |
| Jaxton Duncan   | 9  | OF, RHP     |
| Jake Rich       | 9  | 3B, RHP     |
| Davis Perryman  | 9  | OF          |
| Brady Dayberry  | 9  | SS, 2B, RHP |
| Hudson Stokes   | 8  | IF, RHP     |
| Drake Young     | 8  | 3B, RHP     |
| Eli Lovell      | 8  | OF, C, RHP  |
| Eli Herrin      | 8  | C           |
| Zack Rustin     | 8  | C           |
| Colt Bailey     | 8  | 2B, RHP     |
| CJ Nelson       | 8  | OF          |
| Whyatt Gibson   | 8  | OF          |
| Hayden Hughes   | 7  | OF, RHP     |
| Jett Champion   | 7  | SS, RHP     |
| Eden Bryant     | 7  | OF, RHP     |
| Roane Topp      | 7  | OF, C, RHP  |

Rockets are having split practices with older guys working out right after school and another younger group coming in a couple of hours later.

"Managing so many players, getting everyone enough reps has been a challenge," Belt said. "But it's a great problem to have."

Lyon County is widely considered the top team in the region and will be the odds on favorite to win the Fifth District. Belt thinks his club has enough weapons to become a significant challenger in the district this season.

"We are very excited about the season. I think we have a chance to be pretty good and make some noise in the district," he said.





Lake George’s temporary rock dam is about halfway complete based on this aerial photo taken late last week from above the adjacent failing levee. The temporary dam will provide a safety net in case the earthen levee fails.

## Temporary coffer dam about halfway to 35,000-ton project

**STAFF REPORT**  
Contractors are about halfway finished with a coffer dam being built at Lake George to provide a safety mechanism for the failing earthen levee. By the time the temporary barrier is finished, there will have been 35,000 ton of rock poured into the lake. An emergency permit to build the temporary dam was issued months ago and the Kentucky Department of Emergency Management is paying for the work. It recently reimbursed Marion for the initial \$750,000 on the project that could cost around \$4 million. The temporary fix is designed to last not more than five years, which will buy Marion time to find a long-term solution to its water situation. A permanent repair of the Lake George levee would cost an additional \$4-5 million, based on estimates. For now, Marion is banking on Crittenden-Livingston Water District being able to eventually meet its demand for drinking water. The district is moving toward an expansion that will double the size of its plant.

# Clerk: Adding DL duties weakens performance

BY DARYL K. TABOR  
CRITTENDEN COUNTY CLERK

In Kentucky’s rural communities, we have lost much of our identities and self-sufficiency over the decades. Locally, the amount of goods and services to leave town and never come back has made life more inconvenient for us. One of the latest hassles is driver’s licensing. Frankfort bureaucrats felt it a good idea a few years ago to remove issuance of IDs from each county in favor of regional offices. Now, Crittenden Countians are forced to drive at least an hour to Paducah, Madisonville, Mayfield, Henderson or Hopkinsville to get, renew or update their driver’s license or ID. Now, lawmakers and bureaucrats see their mistake. Their solution is to offer it back to communities through county clerks... in a typical move, put what was a state-administered program on the backs of local government. Kentucky would pay for equipment and software, but not staffing and redesign of offices to

## Guest Commentary

accommodate the service. To be frank, as Crittenden County Clerk, I oppose what Senate Bill 91 proposes – giving county clerks the ability to opt into providing driver’s licensing services. This is not because I believe the regional model works for our residents. It doesn’t! My reasoning is that our office cannot sufficiently handle the added duties and provide the level of service it requires without adding additional staff and reconfiguring an office less than six months old. While some clerks across the state are on board with optional licensing, many in western Kentucky are not. We expect that “optional” would soon become mandatory and spread our offices even thinner across motor vehicle licensing, election administration, property taxes and recording and maintaining land and other vital records. That means each department

## LICENSE

Continued from page 1  
twice and Madisonville twice. As a first-time driver, he’s been working toward a full license in the graduated license program. Bull tries to schedule appointments on days she’s not scheduled to work. That isn’t always possible, but by checking openings at centers in both cities, she is sometimes able to get appointments on her days off. Bull likes the proposed legislation, but says she isn’t “holding her breath,” figuring it will never happen. Alaina Barnes of Salem said her experience at the Paducah regional licensing center has been mixed, but inconvenient on all counts. “My mom had to drive to Paducah three times

to finally get her license, and she’s almost 80. Every time she’d go they needed something different,” Barnes said. “When my son went it took an hour and half. It was packed. People make appointments but it doesn’t really matter because you’re in the same line with everybody else. I didn’t have any problems getting my license renewed; it took at least an hour waiting in line.” “I know people are inconvenienced by the current system,” Tabor, the county clerk, said. “But we will not be able handle it any better. Lines would probably be like they are in Paducah because we have lot on going on.” The clerk’s office handles motor vehicle registrations, deeds, elections, public records, delinquent tax collection and

other tasks. “Some days we’re really busy and there could be an hour wait before we could get to you,” he said. Tabor fears that the cost will also be passed along to counties. The clerk believes lawmakers have taken heat from the public and are trying to put the burden on someone other than the state transportation department to solve the matter. “We would have to hire someone and would have an expense to set up an area to process licenses,” he adds. “It never should have left counties in the first place. It’s a major inconvenience, I know,” Tabor said. Circuit clerks, who administered driver’s licensing before 2020, are supported by the Kentucky Administrative Of-

fice of the Courts while county clerks are local government fee-based offices without a great deal of financial support from the state. “Every county official in Kentucky wants it back in counties, but how do you do it, how do you pay for it?” Crittenden’s county judge asks. A similar bill passed in the House this week to expand availability of driver’s license centers. It would allow “third-party” vendors to administer them. There are 120 counties in Kentucky, and currently only 32 regional licensing centers. The senate version passed out of committee 37-0 with a committee substitute and committee amendment. It was sent to the House Committee on Committees and has been stalled there since Feb. 21.

FEBRUARY 2024

Weather Yearbook

Coldest Temp  
16.2

Warmest Temp  
74.3

Wettest Day  
0.69

|               | Sun., Feb. 18 | Mon., Feb. 26 | Sat., Feb. 10 |      |      |      |
|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|------|------|------|
|               | 2023          | 2022          | 2021          | 2020 | 2019 | 2018 |
| Average Temp  | 46.9          | 45.9          | 42.1          | 30.5 | 39.4 | 41.9 |
| Coldest Temp  | 16.2          | 16            | 12.2          | 0    | 12.1 | 16.8 |
| Hottest Temp  | 74.3          | 76.3          | 66.6          | 66.8 | 71.5 | 68.2 |
| Precipitation | 1.7           | 3.1           | 6.3           | 6.3  | 5.24 | 8.8  |
| Wettest Day   | 0.69          | 1.88          | 2.63          | 1.85 | 1.7  | 1.52 |

■ February was the warmest and driest in several years. With an average temperature of 46.7 degrees, it was milder than anything Crittenden County has seen for February since 2017 when the average temp was 47.6. Precipitation wise, 2017 was almost as dry as this year’s February, but 2024 wins the measure with 1.7 inches. The average precip in February since 2016 is 5.7 inches. In 2017, the county saw the second driest February in the last 10 years with 1.9 inches.

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