



# The Crittenden Press

March Madness visits Crittenden County  
Public Library with showing of 'Hoosiers' | Page 4

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24/7 BREAKING AND LOCAL NEWS [THE-PRESS.COM](http://THE-PRESS.COM)

## Daylight saving time starts 2 a.m. Sunday

Spring is almost two weeks away, but one of the rites of the season arrives this weekend. Daylight saving time begins Sunday, moving an hour of sunlight to the end of the day. Though it officially begins at 2 a.m., clocks are generally moved ahead before heading to bed Saturday. Daylight saving ends Nov. 5.

## County leadership breakfast March 24

Community leaders are inviting to an event later this month anyone with a stake in making Crittenden County a better place to live. The community leadership breakfast on Friday, March 24 will kick off a series of similar activities aimed at offering insight to partnerships in the betterment of the life in the county.

Organizer Terry Bunnell, president of Crittenden County Economic Development Corp. (CCEDC), said the local school system will be first up. Superintendent Vince Clark said educators will offer insight into initiatives that have put laptops into the hands of all middle- and high-schoolers, offered



Bunnell

free meals to all students and more. He will also address the "Give 5 for Kids" campaign to inform the community on the need for school construction.

The school system and Par 4 Plastics have been key players in a pair of planning sessions Bunnell organized to set a better course for the community's future. Nothing has been off the table for discussions.

"This is one of the products of those sessions," Bunnell said of the breakfast.

"I'm really glad Terry is having this conversation," Clark said recently. "It's one that needs to be had."

The breakfast, sponsored by Par 4 and presented by CCEDC and Crittenden County Chamber of Commerce, is \$7 per person and begins at 7:30 a.m. March 24 at the Marion Ed-Tech Center, with doors opening at 7:15 a.m. On the menu will be eggs, sausage, biscuits, juice and coffee. Reservations must be made by the close of business March 20 by calling the chamber at (270) 965-5015.

## Public meetings

- **Marion Planning Commission** will meet at 5 p.m. today (Thursday) at Marion City Hall.

- **Crittenden County Board of Education** will meet at 6 p.m. Tuesday in the Rocket Arena conference room, immediately following the public forum on the "recallable nickel" tax.

- **Crittenden Fiscal Court** will meet at 8:30 a.m. next Thursday at the courthouse.

- **Crittenden Health Systems Board of Directors** will meet at 9 a.m. March 22 in the CHS Educational building for its annual meeting.



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## Fresh start



Larry and Peggy Escue have been operating Conrad's Harvest Foods for a few months after purchasing it from the previous owners, and after time to implement some changes and a fresh look, the grocery is hosting a grand opening this week and next with specials and giveaways.

PHOTO BY CHRIS EVANS, THE PRESS

## Conrad's new owners breathe new life into store with grand opening

STAFF REPORT

Conrad's Harvest Foods is celebrating its grand opening under new ownership with a number of special in-store deals and giveaways this week and next.

Larry and Peggy Escue have been operating the grocery for a few months after purchasing it from descendants of the late Mary Jane Conrad.

New owner Larry Escue has been in the grocery business in one shape or form for the last 40 years since he left the U.S. Army as a sergeant after more than six years if service.

Conrad's is one of two grocers in the community, and it has been operated under the same name since 1978 when the late Richard Conrad left the wholesale grocery business in St. Louis, Mo., to

purchase Gene's IGA on South Main Street. The store was then located a bit farther south of its current location. It sat where the Kentucky Cabinet for Families and Children offices are located today.

In 1989, Conrad's moved to where it is now, on the site of the former Ford automotive dealership. The Conrad family continues to have a hand in the long-standing firm as Richard Conrad's adult children – Margie, John and Lee – still own the real estate.

Richard Conrad passed away in 1995 and his widow Mary Conrad operated the grocery until her death in 2003. Her children controlled

ownership of the business until the Escues purchased it last fall.

Larry Escue, a native of Henning, Tenn., once owned 13 grocery stores in Mississippi, Alabama and Louisiana, many under the Piggly Wiggly and Harvest Foods banner. He left the retail grocery business for a time and worked with Prairie Farms.

When ownership changed at Conrad's, Escue added Harvest Foods to the name and changed the company's signature color from green to a deep red. Customers will notice employees donning the new company colors this

See **CONRAD'S**/Page 5



## Byford appointed new Marion mayor

By **DARYL K. TABOR**  
PRESS EDITOR

For the first time since 1988, someone besides Mickey Alexander carries the title of Marion Mayor.

Last Wednesday, Jared Byford was selected by his fellow Marion City Council members to be the next mayor after Alexander's resignation announced last month became effective. The vote was

unanimous, 5-0, with Byford abstaining. No one else was formally nominated.

Byford, 36, accepted the nomination as an honor, and after last week's special meeting, was sworn in to the job by his mother, County Clerk Carolyn Byford. The two shared a hug after the oath was administered.

"I'm excited about the opportunity to work with

an outstanding city council and city administrator for the next two years," said the new mayor, whose term will expire December 2018. "I'd also like to thank former Mayor Mick Alexander for his service to the City of Marion as mayor for the past 30 years. Mick spent countless hours working for the benefit of our com-

See **MAYOR**/Page 5

## Nickel knowledge

To give the community the knowledge it needs on Crittenden County Board of Education's consideration of a 5.8-cent tax increase, or recallable nickel, the school district is offering a variety of ways to share information and collect input from those who would be paying the tax. The campaign is called "Give 5 for Kids."



### Public forum

5:30 p.m. Tuesday, Rocket Arena conference room

### YouTube video

<https://goo.gl/v0YXHh>

### Survey

### FAQ

### Facilities need summary

<https://goo.gl/KHm78p>



## Schools seek public input on tax issue

STAFF REPORT

Despite being one of the landowners who would be hit hardest, Natalie Parish says she supports a tax increase being considered by Crittenden County Board of Education to give both middle- and high-schoolers

## Still open

Kentucky Commissioner of Education Stephen Pruitt will fill the seat left vacant on Crittenden County Board of Education by Phyllis Orr's resignation by April 26. Once applicants' interviews have been scheduled, KDE will release the names of candidates.

The Parishes, too, are facing the possibility of a similar tax increase on their Caldwell County acreage. The school board there is also considering a recallable nickel, but the family still supports the proposal locally.

"I understand we have a 70-year-old middle school. I respect that," Parish said in support of the board's proposal. "I also realize it's going to be costly for peo-

See **SCHOOL**/Page 5



PHOTO BY DARYL K. TABOR, THE PRESS

Jared Byford is sworn in as mayor of Marion last Wednesday by his mother, County Clerk Carolyn Byford, following his appointment by the city council.

## Concern mounts over expected eclipse crowds

STAFF REPORT



We're looking at this like they handle coastal evacuations during hurricanes.

- Keith Todd

Kentucky Transportation Cabinet spokesman



internet that they will rent eclipse enthusiasts a small space to set up a telescope or self-contained camper. There is no power, water or sewer available for campers at the fairgrounds.

Chamber members are promoting a weekend event just

ahead of the eclipse.

"We will be having a festival at our park on Saturday, Aug. 19 centered around the solar eclipse," said Angel Henry, vice president of the Chamber. "Several of us attended a regional meeting (last week) and left with tons of valuable information to make our festival a success. We plan to have live music, contests and will end the day with an outdoor viewing of the movie 'ET'."

A backdrop to all the planning for these opportunities is a bit of concern from Crittenden County Emergency Management and other groups responsible for safety, transportation

and other human needs. There are some who think a mass influx of thousands would create major traffic jams, consume all available fuel, overload cellular networks and create a significant, perhaps even crippling, stress on other limited resources.

Some schools in the area have already announced they will be closed on the day of the eclipse, Aug. 21, but Crittenden County is currently planning to stay on a normal course. School Transportation and Safety Director Al Starnes said the district has purchased 1,300 pairs

See **ECLIPSE**/Page 4



EDITORIAL

Both sides of school tax issue warrant thought

Ask 10 taxpayers if they would like to pay more each year, and all 10 will assuredly say, “No way!” But ask those same 10 people if they would like a better life for future generations in their community, and all would probably say, “Of course.”

But everything has a cost. That’s why the local board of education may be asking taxpayers later this year to pay another nickel, or 5.8 cents to be exact, on the school tax to replace a 68-year-old middle school that holds little future for adequately meeting the needs of students.

The board has begun its campaign to sell the property tax increase and weigh the community’s concerns. It has produced a variety of informative tools and invited the public for live input on Tuesday. Undoubtedly, there will be a vocal contingent to rise in opposition of the proposed tax.

We understand. Many taxpayers survive on fixed or poverty-level incomes, and we all seem to deal daily with news of increased expenses for utilities, health care, insurance, food and other basic necessities of life. Adding another hit may be the proverbial back-breaker for some.

We also understand that the consideration of adding almost 6 cents to the levy per \$100 of property comes on the heels of considerable 2016 assessment increases for the county’s largest property owners and lifeblood of the community, farmers. A tax could affect hundreds of acres whose true annual worth already depends on myriad uncertainties out of the owners’ control.

Finally, we will not argue that this sort of tax shakes the bedrock of the community, our property owners, while skipping over our high and ever-growing number of renters. These people would pay nothing, as motor vehicles are exempt from the nickel, but could still vote to approve the measure should it be decided at the ballot box. And non-resident property owners have no say at all. That’s not exactly what our forefathers had in mind, but this is the system within which we must operate.

On the other side of the coin, we know a pre-1950s building is a money pit for taxpayers when it comes to renovations. Classrooms are too small, virtually every system inside the building is outdated and the joists that support floors are slowly rusting away, among other concerns.

But what was good enough for you is good enough for them, right? The building looks just fine, and why, you may not even have any children in the school system.

We argue, though, that education is a community responsibility. Whether your children have already been educated or you never had any, the children of today will be tomorrow’s doctors, policemen, cashiers, mechanics, lawyers, plumbers and elected officials. Surely, you would like each of those future men and women to be as learned and capable as possible.

The needs of yesterday are not the needs of today or tomorrow. Our world is unrecognizable from 1949.

There are two sides to this issue and each has solid footing. We simply ask that each of you – taxpayers and decision-makers – carefully consider your own interests against those of your community.

Charter schools clear House

Last week saw a number of controversial bills come to the floor of the House for debate and a vote. Some of these were:

- House Bill 520 that dealt with charter schools.
- HB 333 that dealt with limiting prescriptions of certain controlled substances to a three-day supply and adding some drugs to the list of controlled substances.
- HB 305 that dealt with involuntary treatment for alcohol and drug abuse.
- SB 4 that dealt with medical review panels.

I voted against HB 333 because I felt it was too limiting to those in serious pain. The bill did pass.

Although I wasn’t totally comfortable with HB 305, I voted in favor of it because I felt the bill had enough safety provisions to make it a worthwhile attempt to help those who were in serious need of treatment and could be expected to successfully complete the program. The bill did pass.

I voted against SB 4 because although I believe that malpractice tort reform is needed, and I thought there were better alternatives to the bill that was brought before us. The bill did pass.

In this week’s update, I decided to focus on HB 520. Charter school legislation has been discussed in the legislature for a number of years, but this year is when the discussion finally made it into a bill that made it to the full House.

The debate was filled with much theatrical flourish with dramatic hand gestures, appeals to the gallery and accusations that the supporters lacked compassion for children and were against teachers – all accusations that I felt were absurd. Opponents of the bill tried to frame the issue as either “loving your public school” or “not loving



**Rep. Lynn BECHLER**  
*Kentucky House Legislative Review*

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**Committees**  
Transportation; Elections,  
Constitutional Amendments & Intergovernmental Affairs; Economic Development & Workforce Investment

**Service**  
House: 2013-present

it.” That’s crazy. It is not an either/or proposition. I love my wife, but I also love my children and grandchildren. Even some of the representatives who argued most vociferously against “evil” non-public schools admitted that their children attended private schools. Why then, should other parents be denied the right to send their children to charter schools? The reality, as I see it, is that Kentucky needs to do more for the education of our students.

The point was made that not terribly long ago, our education system ranked 49th out of the 50 states, and now we rank eighth. I’m not sure what data was used to make that claim, but I do know that it is much easier to improve a ranking when at the bottom of the pile than it is

to improve it when you have already moved up.

In Kentucky, schools are listed by such terms as “Distinguished,” “Proficient,” “Improving” and “Needs Improvement.” Schools are also given a letter grade. Sadly, the terms don’t easily correlate to the letter grades.

When I was in school, anything below 70 percent was an “F.” Unfortunately, a large number of students in schools rated Distinguished or Proficient score well below 70 percent when it comes to evaluations based on the Kentucky Performance Rating for Educational Progress, or K-PREP. In fact, statewide, we have an 88.6 percent graduation rate from high school, but in reading only 56.5 percent of those graduating students can read at grade level and a mere 42.3 percent can perform math at grade level. If those numbers put Kentucky’s education system in eighth-place countrywide, there is a much greater education problem in our country than I had ever imagined.

What’s left

Starting today (Thursday), the Kentucky General Assembly is on a short recess/work day period where no legislation will be debated or voted upon. They return Tuesday and Wednesday for Days 27 and 28 of the 30-day session. Those days will be used for concurrence, when the chambers come together to work out details of legislation passed by one chamber with changes made from the version already passed by the other. Lawmakers then take a veto recess March 16-28 and return for the final two days of the session to debate and vote on bills March 29-30.

There will be a special session later this year to restore financial solvency to Kentucky’s underfunded pension plans for government retirees, and possibly tax reform. No date has been set.

Party power

Of Kentucky’s 138 state legislative seats, Republicans hold a 91-47 advantage over Democrats, maintaining a super majority in each chamber.

**Kentucky Senate**

■	Republicans - 27
■	Democrats - 11

**Kentucky House**

■	Republicans - 64
■	Democrats - 36

Charter schools can be either private or public; HB 520 would only authorize public charter schools. The bill mandates that only students in a local school district are eligible to attend a public charter school in that district, so local funds stay in the local district. While all state and federal funds will follow a student attending a public charter school, local capital outlay and bond payments stay as they are now and don’t go to the public charter school. Transportation funds stay with the non-charter public school unless that school opts out of providing transportation to the public charter school. If that should happen, the transportation funds will go to the public charter school.

Furthermore, public charters will be subject to all of the same requirements as traditional public schools when it comes to state testing, transparency, safety and finance. They also will be required to hire certified teachers, and no teacher will be forced to teach at a public charter school.

Is HB 520 a perfect piece of legislation? No, of course not.

For example, the public charter schools have a much more relaxed regulatory environment and autonomy than do our non-charter public schools. I feel that our non-charter public schools have

too much of a burden placed on them by the legislature and state board of education and should have their burden relaxed as well. Toward that end, I am working to amend the bill in the Senate this year or in the House next year. In spite of that, I believe that HB 520 is a step in the right direction.

It is important to note that no district is required to have a public charter school and local school boards have the first vote on whether or not a charter school should be allowed in the district.

Therefore, I voted in favor of HB 520, and the bill passed to the Senate where I anticipate it will also be passed and sent to the Governor where he has said that he will sign it into law.

As always, thank you for reading my updates, and thank you for contacting me with your concerns and thoughtful suggestions. It is a privilege to represent you in the Kentucky House of Representatives, and your input helps me make decisions that best represent the views of the 4th House District.

*(Rep. Lynn Bechler, R-Marion, has represented House District 4 – Crittenden, Livingston, Caldwell and portion of Christian counties – in the Kentucky General Assembly since 2013.)*

Senate OKs bills to protect vulnerable

We have now entered the final stretch of the 2017 Legislative Session with the completion of the 26th day of the 30-day session on Wednesday. Everyone, regardless of the chamber in which they serve or their party affiliation, has a common goal – to pass public policy that will positively impact the citizens across the Commonwealth.

Several bills last week specifically addressed needs and protections for some of our most vulnerable and most valuable citizens – our children.

The intent of one such bill, House Bill 180, is to make it possible for children who are removed from their homes to be placed in homes with people they are familiar with during what is often an already traumatic time for them.

The legislation specifies that people with emotionally significant relationships with the child are among those with whom the child can be placed with in an emergency. Therefore, HB 180 would allow a child to temporarily live with a close family friend, a babysitter, a neighbor or a friend from church, even if the person wasn’t related to the child.



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*Kentucky Senate Legislative Review*

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**Committees**  
Agriculture; Banking & Insurance; Committee on Committees; Rules; State & Local Government; Transportation

**Service**  
House: 1987-94  
Senate: 2004-present

Senate Bill 190 would allow a foster child to remain in his/her home school by either placing the child with a family in the same district or, if the child is moved out of the district, providing transportation to that school.

With today’s families, our children are often entrusted to others during the time when both parents are working. SB 236 would help alleviate some of a parent’s worst fears by permitting a parent or guardian to request a background check when employing a childcare provider.

I was glad to support HB 180, SB 190 and SB 236 because I think these initiatives will help to alleviate stress and fear for some of our vulnerable young citizens.

HB 192 would remove hurdles for 16- and 17-year-olds in foster care that other teens their age do not face when seeking their driver’s licenses. The legislation would allow a teen’s foster parent to sign an application for a driver’s permit. Currently, state statute requires the application to be signed by a parent.

SB 195 would allow juvenile convictions to be expunged after 2 years if the conviction was not for a violent offense or sex crime. SB 224 extends the statute of limitations for certain civil ac-

tions, including child sexual abuse and child sexual assault, from 5 years to 10 years.

Taking care of those who take care of us was the intent of SB 112. This bill would help shore up the Kentucky State Police Retirement fund. It appropriates \$23.35 million in Fiscal Year 2016-17 and \$125 million in Fiscal Year 2017-18 from the Kentucky permanent pension fund to State Police Retirement System pension fund. Declared an emergency, the bill would go into effect as soon as it is signed by the Governor.

Some of the other legislation that cleared the Senate and moved to the House last week for further consideration were:

- SB 39 would require courts to annually pass a resolution detailing the duties and compensation of the jailer for the upcoming year.
- SB 32 would require the Administrative Office of the Courts to forward drug data to the Cabinet for Health and Family Services for inclusion in the KASPER electronic monitoring system.
- SB 81 requires the Department of Military Affairs to establish the criteria and procedures for death-in-the-line-of-duty benefits for National Guard or Reserve component

members.

- SB 136 would require any active member of the Kentucky National Guard to be treated as a Kentucky resident for tuition purposes when enrolling in a Kentucky public postsecondary institution.
- SB 218 would improve the framework of the industrial hemp program in Kentucky by establishing program requirements and licensure application procedures. It would make changes to the hemp bill passed during the 2013 legislative session make it better aligned with the 2014 federal Farm Bill.
- SB 62 is another step to update Kentucky’s business laws by streamlining limited liability company statutes.

With time running out, I encourage you to weigh in on the issues that are important to you. Please share your feedback through our Legislative Message Line at (800) 372-7181 or e-mail me directly at dorsey.ridley@lrc.ky.gov.

*(Sen. Dorsey Ridley, D-Henderson, has represented Senate District 4 – Crittenden, Livingston, Caldwell, Webster, Union and Henderson counties – in the Kentucky General Assembly since 2004.)*

**Stay informed**

There are several ways to keep up with the 2017 legislative session and share your thoughts with lawmakers.

**Legislative Message Line**  
(800) 372-7181

**TTY Message Line**  
(800) 896-0305

**Bill Status Line**  
(866) 840-2835

**Legislative Calendar Line**  
(800) 633-9650

**General Assembly website**  
LRC.ky.gov

**Write any lawmaker**  
Sen./Rep. First Last  
Legislative Offices  
702 Capitol Ave.  
Frankfort, KY 40601

**Email any lawmaker**  
firstname.lastname@lrc.gov



HONOR FLIGHT  
BLUEGRASS CHAPTER

Free honor flights allow Ky. vets to see DC memorials

Almost 1,200 American veterans of foreign wars are dying each day, and many have never had the opportunity to see the national memorials erected in their honor. But two Honor Flight chapters in Kentucky aim to change that.

Honor Flight Bluegrass (Louisville) and Honor Flight Kentucky (Lexington) offer all the necessities a veteran will need for the day trip to Washington, D.C., all free of charge. They can fly on their own or they can be assigned a guardian for the entire trip, someone who will take care of all the veteran’s needs for the entire trip. The veteran may request a guardian go with him/her on the trip for a \$500 tax deductible fee if he or she meets the guardian requirements.

“As of now, 366 World War II veterans, 426 Vietnam veterans and 400 Korean veterans pass every day,” said Johnny Allen, a field benefits representative with the Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs. “Time is of the essence. The World War II Memorial was constructed nearly 60 years after the war. These veterans deserve to see their memorial.”

For many veterans, the trip offers a closure they have yet

been able to achieve.

Flights run from March to November and are primarily for senior veterans, those from World War II, Korea and Vietnam eras. Terminally ill veterans receive top priority. The trip includes transportation, a deluxe bus tour, T-shirts, meals and other needs, such as oxygen and wheelchairs.

“This trip is all about the veteran,” said Allen. “Our goal is for him or her to have one of the best days of their lives.”

The next trip for the Louisville chapter is May 10. Veterans can be registered for a flight online at HonorFlightBluegrass.org or complete and mail a paper form. Those forms, as well as a brochure on honor flights can be found at The Crittenden Press or Crittenden County Public Library.

For more information on the flights or to make a tax-deductible donation, email info@honorflightbluegrass.org or call (888) 998-1941.

More information on flights through the Lexington chapter can be found on the internet at HonorFlightKy.org, by emailing info@honorflightky.org or calling (888) 432-2965.

In the future, the Honor Flight Network will begin transporting Veterans of more recent conflicts.



# Charter schools: Bechler, yes; Clark, no

STAFF REPORT

Public charter schools would be allowed to operate in Kentucky under a bill advanced Friday by the Kentucky House, but public schools superintendents, including Vince Clark in Crittenden County, are opposed to the measure.

House Bill 520, sponsored by House Education Committee Chairman and public school teacher Rep. John Carney, R-Campbellsville, passed the House by a vote of 56-39. Rep. Lynn Bechler, R-Marion, voted in favor of the measure. At press time, the bill was awaiting further action in the Senate.

The bill would allow local school boards and the mayors of Louisville and Lexington to authorize and oversee public charter schools in their school districts beginning with the 2017-18 school year. The charter schools would be public schools, established by contract and governed by independent boards, that would offer nonsectarian educational programs that "meet or exceed student performance standards adopted by the Kentucky Board of Education,"



Bechler



Clark

according to the bill.

Clark said the bill would essentially allow charter schools to rob from public schools because the \$9,000 or so in state monies attached to each student would follow the child to the charter school. It also gives charter schools a more relaxed regulatory environment than what Kentucky's non-charter public schools have.

"I am concerned, as the other superintendents are, for small rural public schools, which Kentucky mostly has," Clark said. "Our concern is charter schools and the funding for the services we provide for our kids."

"They've been saying, Don't worry, no charter school will land in Crittenden County. It's unlikely, but it is possible."

He illustrated that if a charter school were to open in Fredonia, for example, drawing 100 students from each surrounding public school districts, that would result in staff cuts from transportation to the classroom in each district.

"They are asking for too much, too soon," Clark said. "They need to pilot charters first in Louisville and Lexington with the same accountabil-

ity as public schools, then evaluate what happens next."

Forty-three other states currently allow charter schools.

As passed in the House, students would have to live in Kentucky to attend the schools, with preference given to students who live in the local school district. Enrollment would be voluntary and the schools would not have entrance requirements or charge tuition or fees, other than those fees that are allowed at other public schools.

Though Bechler voted for the bill, he says it is far from ideal.

"If charter schools are to be better because of lesser restrictions, why not lift the restrictions off public school districts," he reasoned. "It's not perfect by any stretch of the imagination, but I think it's a good start."

Gov. Matt Bevin, an advocate of charter schools, said the bill would give every public school student a chance to succeed.

"We have students that we know for a fact, their odds of even graduating are very, very slim – almost nonexistent in many of our schools," said

Bevin.

Bechler agrees with the Governor.

"I think everybody should have the opportunity," he said of paving the way for change with charter schools.

Clark said he knows public schools in Kentucky have struggled, but they are moving in the right direction and simply need more time.

"Public schools do have room for improvement, but we are improving," he said.

Clark added that Kentucky ranks 23rd in the nation in education, up considerably from 47th in the 1990s. But, he continued, Kentucky ranks 47 in the U.S. in funding for public schools.

"If the state has extra money they want to invest into public education, let's invest it in early childhood education and try to close this gap," he said. That gap is the 50-percent of kindergartners who enter unprepared for public education.

Bechler knows he will have some superintendents in his district unhappy with his vote.

"If the people of my district don't like that decision, I guess I'll find out next year," he said, referring to the 2018 elections.

## Forage school, meal slated for March 20 in Grand Rivers

STAFF REPORT

Warmer temperatures mean grasses are growing and it will soon be hay season for forage and livestock producers. To better prepare producers, a forage school will be held from 5:30 to 8:45 p.m. March 20 at Grand Rivers Community Center.

The forage school is hosted by Cooperative Extension Service in Crittenden, Livingston, McCracken, Marshall and Lyon counties. Featured

speakers will include University of Kentucky Extension Specialists Dr. Greg Halich and Dr. Chris Teutsch. Topics will range from summer annuals, pasture finished beef, baleage and extending the grazing season.

A meal will be served as part of the program and is sponsored by Regions Bank. All those interested in participating are asked to RSVP by calling Crittenden Extension Service at (270) 965-5236.

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Crittenden County Animal Clinic

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CRITTENDEN CO. PUBLIC LIBRARY  
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Special Children's Story Hour  
and Book Signing with local author,  
Betty Brantley

Story Time  
at 10 a.m.

Books Available  
until Noon

Program is free and  
open to the public.

Books available for  
purchase and signing.

RHYAN'S RAINBOW

Betty Brantley is trained in Early Childhood Development and worked much of her adult life with children. She is a very proud grandmother of three beautiful kids. After her second granddaughter was born with an undiagnosed heart condition, suffered a stroke during open heart surgery, required multiple medical interventions and was given only a small chance to thrive, Betty decided to retire and focus full time on the care and teaching of Rhyan. Warned by doctors that Rhyan's journey would not be an easy one, Betty found ways to reach Rhyan when no one else could. Therapy sessions for Rhyan focused on learning and memory skills that she lacked, and Betty found new, innovative ways to make learning fun. She wrote many stories and songs to assist in the recognition and retention of even the simplest things. One of Rhyan's favorite stories is that of Rhyan's Rainbow. She would ask Betty repeatedly to read it to her. Now, Betty is pleased to share it with all children.

CCPL

Crittenden County Public Library

Information - Education - Relaxation

204 West Carlisle St., Marion, KY  
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Luck of the Irish!

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# County GOP meeting for reorganization

## Crittenden Republican numbers still growing as Democrat ranks shrink

STAFF REPORT

The county's loudest political voice will be reorganizing today (Thursday), as it does every four years.

Crittenden County Republican Party Chairman Mike McConnell said local GOP committees meet following each presidential election to restructure, electing precinct captains and county officers. He said, like anything else, it can sometimes be difficult to get volunteers, but he's hoping for a big turnout at tonight's meeting at the courthouse.

To be eligible to be one of the 12 precinct captains or a county party officer – chairman, vice chairman, secretary and treasurer – you must have been a registered Republican during November's general election. Anyone who was a member of the GOP at election time is encouraged to attend.

Registration for the

meeting is from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. at the courthouse. The meeting will follow.

For additional information, contact McConnell at (270) 704-0342.

### Party registration

In Crittenden County, the Republican Party continues to increase its distance in registration numbers from Democrats. As of Feb. 15, the latest figures available from the Kentucky Secretary of State's office, the GOP outnumbered Democrats 3,311-2,869, a gap of 442. There were also 513 voters registered as independent, "Other" or with another party.

At the time of last year's election, when Donald Trump won the county almost 5-1 over Hillary Clinton, the distance between the two major parties was

only 397. Until just a few years ago, Democrats had outnumbered Republicans in the county since the mid-1970s. However, the momentum began swiftly shifting to the right following President Barack Obama's election in 2008.

While only two of the countywide offices in Crittenden County are held by Democrats – County Attorney Rebecca Johnson and PVA Ronnie Heady – five of the six magistrates are Democrats. District 3 Magistrate Glenn Underdown is the only Republican on the fiscal court.

The local Democratic Party in Crittenden County has been rather dormant the last couple of years. Its Facebook page was last updated in March 2014 and is one of only 10 Kentucky counties whose organization and contact information is not listed on the Kentucky Democratic Party's website.



McConnell

## Voter registration in Crittenden County as of Feb. 15, 2017

PRECINCT	DEM	GOP	OTHER
Marion 2 .....	228	262	52
Rosebud 11 .....	214	199	40
<b>District 1 .....</b>	<b>442</b>	<b>461</b>	<b>92</b>
Sheridan 9 .....	300	385	42
Tolu 10 .....	213	234	25
<b>District 2 .....</b>	<b>513</b>	<b>619</b>	<b>67</b>
Marion 1 .....	389	381	76
Fords Ferry 5 .....	90	85	14
<b>District 3 .....</b>	<b>479</b>	<b>466</b>	<b>96</b>
Marion 4 .....	308	420	48
Frances 8 .....	111	123	24
<b>District 4 .....</b>	<b>419</b>	<b>543</b>	<b>72</b>
Frances 7 .....	290	284	44
Marion 6 .....	261	371	52
<b>District 5 .....</b>	<b>551</b>	<b>655</b>	<b>96</b>
Marion 3 .....	312	436	78
Shady Grove 12 .....	153	131	18
<b>District 6 .....</b>	<b>465</b>	<b>567</b>	<b>96</b>
<b>Countywide .....</b>	<b>2,869</b>	<b>3,311</b>	<b>513</b>

Other includes "other," independent and third parties.

Come and help celebrate,  
**Rosemary Collyer's**  
**75th Birthday!**  
**Saturday, March 11**  
**2-4 p.m.**  
**at Fredonia Cumberland**  
**Presbyterian Church**  
**Activity Building**  
**No Gifts Please - Happy Birthday Mom!**

## THANK YOU

We would like to thank everyone who organized and attended the benefit last weekend. Thank you to the Crittenden County Volunteer Fire Department and other fire departments who helped organize the event, to those who donated items to the auction and prepared the meal and to all those who attended.

*Billy, Lisa and Allison Arflack*

# March Madness arrives at library with showing of classic 'Hoosiers'

STAFF REPORT

March Madness arrives Friday at Crittenden County Public Library with a free showing of the 1986 classic basketball movie "Hoosiers." The Oscar-nominated drama stars Gene Hackman as a tough early 1950s basketball coach of a small-town Indiana high school team who leads the boys into the state playoffs.

The 115-minute film was selected for preservation in the United States National Film Registry by the Library of Congress as being "culturally, historically or aesthetically significant." It is ranked by IFC as the best basketball movie of all time.

The showing, which begins at 6:30 p.m., is part of an ongoing series of films shown at the library for the general public. It will be projected onto a large screen and snacks will be offered.

In April, "Risen," a 2016 biblical drama will be shown to correlate with Easter; and in May, the 1980s comedy "Ferris Beuler's Day Off" will be offered along with pizza.

Library Director Regina Merrick said the films offer the community a chance to gather together, share their love of movies and catch an outstanding movie on a screen larger than you get at

home.

Other upcoming events at the library include:

- Trivia Night returns to the library at 6 p.m. Friday, March 17. The event is offered as adult programming for the community, so children are asked to be kept at home. As Trivia Night is on St. Patrick's Day, questions will have a "green" theme.

- Three book-signings are on the calendar for the near future at the library. On Saturday, March 18 beginning at 10 a.m., Betty Brantley of Salem will be offering story time for kids in conjunction with the signing of her children's book, "Rhyian's Rainbow." At 10 a.m. Saturday, April 15, Merrick will be presenting her first book, "Carolina Dream," a Christian fiction novel. Then, at 10 a.m. Saturday, May 27, Crittenden County native John M.L. "Mike" Brown will return home to visit and sign his book, "The Kentucky Way," a murder mystery set in Crittenden County in the 1930s and 40s. Brantley and Brown's books can now be ordered on Amazon, while Merrick's is available for pre-order on Amazon.



Brown

- A card-making workshop led by Michele Hodge will be held from 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, April 8 at the library.

- Friends of the Library next meets at 6 p.m. next Thursday at the library. Anyone wishing to support the library and join the group is invited to attend. Last month, officers elected were President Brian Hodge, Vice President Brandie Ledford, Treasurer Glen Leslie and Secretary Carol Harrison.

The library offers audio books, periodicals, a reference section including local genealogy information, back issues of The Crittenden Press, a variety of children's programming, e-books, e-magazines, adult computer classes, free WiFi and public computer use, fax services and much more. You may also browse the card catalog online at Crittenden Library.org.

The library is open from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday and Tuesday; 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday, Thursday and Friday; and from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday. It is closed Sunday.

For more information, visit the library online or call (270) 965-3354.

## ECLIPSE

Continued from Page 1

of glasses for students to safely view the eclipse.

"We think this is a great opportunity for our students. We have activities planned in order to make it educational.

"We are listening and hearing what is being said, but right now we feel like our best option is to not close school," Starnes said.

Keith Todd, spokesperson for the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet, said state transportation officials are anticipating a potential swamping of major roads and highways.

"We're looking at this like they handle coastal evacuations during hurricanes," Todd said. "We handled major events in Kentucky like the Equestrian Games, Kentucky Derby and auto races, so we have some expertise."

Todd said there is potential for gas stations running out of fuel and bottled water being scarce because the event will be in August when temperatures in Kentucky can reach triple digits.

"We are looking at billboards that will tell people they can't stop on the sides of the highways," he said.

Todd said state transportation officials will be concentrating on Interstates 24 and 69, plus other major federal and state arteries that run through the area. The eclipse itself will last a maximum of 160 seconds. The area where it can be viewed the longest will draw the greatest number of people and that section will be along a line between Carbondale, Ill., and Hopkinsville.

Although there is a great unknown about how many people will actually come to this area, officials are starting to prepare for a rush of visi-

## Regional eclipse planning for area officials March 29

STAFF REPORT

Kentucky Emergency Management is hosting an Eclipse 2017 event planning meeting at the Kentucky Dam Village State Resort Park from 9 a.m. to noon on Wednesday, March 29.

This meeting is intended for county judge-executives, mayors, county emergency management Directors, local

commanders for law enforcement, fire and emergency services and state and federal partners. The event will compare and contrast existing gaps for services within the impacted cities and counties.

Those planning to attend may register for the Eclipse 2017 event planning meeting at <https://goo.gl/OvflTU>.

tors.

If there is a major overload on the infrastructure and resources, Crittenden County Emergency Management Director David Travis said Crittenden County will be on its own. He said other outside resources, such as assistance from the National Guard or other government entities, will not be immediately available.

"They are telling us we will be on our own for the first 72 hours," he said. "If we get 2,500 to 3,000 people in the community, we would be swamped."

Of course, no one knows yet when the guests will start showing up.

Todd said the biggest unknown is whether people within a few hours drive will come to the area to watch the natural event. Already state parks have booked all their rooms and other area motels are nearly full and charging enormous rates based on demand, Todd added.

Fred Brown, another emergency management official for the county, said many jurisdictions are already trying to declare a state of emergency in order to trigger funding and response mechanism.

"Our No. 1 concern in this county is road blockage," Brown said. "We have two-lane roads, and if drivers pull off the side to watch this, it could choke traffic and create accidents. If people get stuck here, we have nowhere to put them."

Todd said businesses that provide temporary toilets and other mobile resources are already booked solid.

"You can't rent from a port-a-jon anywhere in the area," he said.

Crittenden County emergency management hosted a round-table discussion last week with personnel from a variety of local agencies, including schools, law enforcement, transportation, fire departments and local government. They plan on meeting again as the event grows near. July 11 is the next scheduled meeting, but Travis said others could be scheduled between now and then depending on how those things develop.

Right now, it's too difficult to predict what can be expected when the skies go dark, but one thing is for sure, local leaders are starting to worry a bit and to plan for the worst.

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Conrad's Harvest Foods held its official grand opening under new ownership Monday. The store will continue celebrating its grand opening this week and next with a number of specials that can be found in advertising circulars in The Early Bird Shopper's Guide and this week's issue of The Crittenden Press. New owner Larry Escue (front, left) was joined by his father (front, center) and son (front, right) to cut the ceremonial ribbon this week. Local officials, staff and food suppliers were on hand for the event, as were members of the Crittenden County Chamber of Commerce.

PHOTO BY CHRIS EVANS, THE PRESS

CONRAD'S

Continued from Page 1

Escue says he plans to continue Conrad's commit-

ment to the community in the tradition that has made it a pillar of Marion for almost 40 years.

"We want to make sure the community is proud of the store," Escue said. "That is

why we have been so tedious about fixing it up."

Since taking over at the grocery, Escue has brought in a new supplier and made a concerted effort to improve the produce area. He also started

making fresh doughnuts on site every day, has expanded the gluten-free and organic foods selections and is pledging to continue keeping prices, especially on eggs, as low as possible.

SCHOOL

Continued from Page 1

ple, especially over 20 years. I respect that, too."

Last week, the school district on its website posted a 9-minute YouTube video explaining the need for school construction, as well as a survey and downloadable answers to frequently asked questions and an outline of a facilities plan. At 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, the information will be shared live with the general public during a forum in the Rocket Arena conference room.

As planned, Crittenden County Schools would need \$6.7 million to build a new

high school and another \$1.3 million to renovate CCHS for middle-schoolers, demolish the portion of CCMS built in 1949 and renovate the eighth-grade wing for a new central office.

CCMS suffers from myriad issues, including undersized classrooms; plumbing, heating, cooling and electrical systems in need of replacement; floor supports slowly rusting away; and more. Giving those students the two-story high school would provide plenty of breathing room and modern infrastructure in a building that is 40 years old and allow the top four grades to have a new, state-of-art high school with more accommodations for 21st century learning.

"This is not about whether you have a student in school," Parish urges. "It's about the future of our community. I want my kids to come back here and raise their family."

Parish, who is active in a number of civic projects, adds that she believes education is ultimately the responsibility of the community.

Currently, the school district has about \$4.75 million in bonding potential through a nickel construction tax automatically built into the 46.3-cent school levy. With a state match, the second, recallable nickel would generate about \$6 million more, which could be used only for construction. Only districts that implement the recallable nickel can re-

ceive the matching state monies, otherwise those public funds raised through taxes paid by all Kentuckians do not come back to the county.

Without the new 5.8-cent increase placed on property tax bills, the school system cannot afford a new school until current bonds are paid off in 2025. However, construction costs increase about 5-7 percent annually.

If approved by the board, voters can petition to recall the tax in a special election.

The tax would cost property owners \$5.80 for each \$10,000 worth of real property. Motor vehicles would not be assessed, therefore renters would foot no portion of the bill to build a new school.

USDA Ledbetter weigh-out sale | March 7, 2017

LIVESTOCK REPORT

Receipts: 327  
Last Week: 540  
Last Year: NA

Compared to last week: Feeder steers and bulls traded unevenly steady. Feeder heifers 2.00-6.00 higher. Slaughter cows traded 2.00-4.00 higher and slaughter bulls steady. Sale consisted of 16 stock cattle, 40 slaughter, and 271 feeders. Feeders consisted of 32% feeder steers, 39% feeder heifers, 16% feeders bulls and 18% of feeders were over 600 pounds.

**Feeder Steers Medium and Large 1-2**

Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
3	200-250	205	190.00-200.00	193.26
1	250-300	275	175.00	175.00
2	300-350	337	160.00	160.00
5	350-400	366	160.00-169.00	163.61
10	400-450	422	158.00-160.00	158.81
7	450-500	484	141.00-153.00	148.73
8	500-550	512	149.00-155.50	152.18
10	550-600	574	129.00-136.00	134.74
5	600-650	617	122.00-128.00	125.36
11	650-700	663	119.00-127.00	124.17
1	700-750	745	114.00	114.00
3	850-900	895	106.00	106.00

**Feeder Steers Small and Medium 1-2**

Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
1	250-300	260	165.00	165.00
3	350-400	395	115.00	115.00
1	450-500	463	140.00	140.00
6	500-550	530	124.00-135.00	129.11
3	550-600	568	126.00-127.00	126.35
2	650-700	695	115.00	115.00

**Feeder Heifers Medium and Large 2-3**

Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
1	250-300	278	132.00-135.00	133.54
1	300-350	305	123.00	123.00
3	350-400	363	130.00-136.00	133.32
5	400-450	429	119.00-127.00	125.51
4	450-500	478	120.00-125.00	122.75
3	500-550	515	110.00-120.00	116.60
3	550-600	573	108.00-110.00	108.69
1	650-700	695	95.00	95.00

**Feeder Heifers Small and Medium 1**

Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
2	350-400	395	115.00	115.00
1	550-600	555	90.00	90.00

**Feeder Bulls Medium and Large 1-2**

Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
1	300-350	300	162.50	162.50
7	350-400	378	154.00-163.00	159.22
3	400-450	423	151.00-156.00	153.98
12	450-500	456	143.00-151.00	149.47
6	500-550	521	134.00-142.00	137.96
3	550-600	570	124.00-130.00	126.60
1	600-650	640	116.00	116.00
3	650-700	668	105.00-115.00	108.27
2	700-750	722	102.00-105.00	103.55

**Feeder Bulls Small and Medium 1**

Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
1	300-350	325	150.00	150.00
1	350-400	355	150.00	150.00
1	450-500	475	130.00	130.00
1	600-650	600	105.00	105.00
1	650-700	650	108.00	108.00

**Slaughter Cows Breaker 75-90%**

Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
3	1200-1600	1368	52.00-57.00	54.52

**Slaughter Cows Boner 80-95%**

Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
2	800-1200	1045	60.00-62.00	61.09

**1** 800-1200 1090 65.00 65.00 HD  
**4** 1200-1600 1316 55.00-58.00 56.75

**Slaughter Cows Lean 85-90%**

Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
9	800-1200	998	52.00-55.00	54.05
1	800-1200	1005	62.00	62.00 HD
1	1200-1600	1335	58.00	58.00

**Slaughter Bulls Y.G. 1-2**

Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
1	1000-1500	1415	75.00	75.00
1	1500-3000	1770	72.00	72.00

**Bred Cows Medium and Large 1-2 Young**

Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
1	800-1200	830	700.00	700.00
1-3 Mos Bred				
2	800-1200	965	935.00-1025.00	978.60
7-9 Mos Bred				

**Bred Cows Medium and Large 1-2 Aged**

Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
1	800-1200	1180	700.00	700.00
7-9 Mos Bred				
1	1200-1600	1215	610.00	610.00
1-3 Mos Bred				

**Bred Cows Medium and Large 2 Young**

Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
1	800-1200	810	700.00	700.00
7-9 Mos Bred				

**Bred Cows Medium and Large 2-3 Young**

Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
1	800-1200	800	510.00	510.00
1-3 Mos Bred				

**Bred Cows Medium 1-2 Young**

Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
4	800-1200	841	725.00-975.00	912.56
7-9 Mos Bred				

**Stock Cows and Calves:** Cows 2 to 8 years old with baby calves at side 850.00-1050.00 per pair. Cow 2 years old with 350 lb calf 1475.00.

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**Source:** Kentucky Department of Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture Market News, Frankfort, Ky  
[ams.usda.gov/mnreports/SVL\\$ISO.txt\\_L\\$ISO.txt](https://ams.usda.gov/mnreports/SVL$ISO.txt_L$ISO.txt)

*This report reflects price of majority of cattle with a USDA grade, weight and sex on sale date. This report does not represent all animals at sale.*

MAYOR

Continued from Page 1

munity, and I would like to thank him publicly for all that he did on behalf of the citizens of Marion."

On Feb. 20, Alexander announced his retirement from public service, citing increased work responsibilities as an Edward Jones financial advisor. The resignation came as a shock to the council, who was faced with filling the seat within 30 days of the Feb. 28 effective date or have it filled by the governor. It took them only one day.

Byford becomes the sixth consecutive mayor of Marion to be appointed to the position following a resignation. The vacancy he leaves on the city council must now be filled by March 31 in order to avoid a gubernatorial appointment. Like mayor, any voting-eligible resident of the city can be selected by the council. Former Councilman Darrin Tabor's name has been mentioned as a possibility by multiple members of the current body.

Tabor is less than three months removed from the council. He told The Crittenden Press he did not file to seek re-election in November due to family matters that needed his attention, but is now ready to serve should he be nominated.

No other names being considered could be verified by the newspaper. An appointment is expected at the March 20 meeting.

A loan officer with Farmers Bank & Trust Co. since late 2004, Byford in November was elected to his fourth term on Marion City Council, and will now ascend to the head of city government. In the fall election, he received more votes than any of the other 10 candidates, and in January, was voted by the council as mayor pro-tem.

He graduated from Crittenden County High School in 1999 and has spent his entire life as a resident of the city or county. He currently lives on North Walker Street with his wife Amy, a registered nurse at Baptist Health Paducah, and their two sons, Noah, 8,

and Jordy, 3.

"I love our community, and I'm proud to call it home," he said. "I feel a responsibility to do everything that I can do to make sure that Marion continues to be a wonderful place to live for our children and grandchildren."

Byford remains opposed to the idea of a full-time mayor, doing away with the position of city administrator, and also remains committed to "reasonable and consistent code enforcement." With city government struggling financially and facing more than \$10 million in mandated upgrades to the wastewater treatment system, he wants a conservative approach to the new budget already being devised by City Administrator Adam Ledford.

The mayor said he also wants better planning for the future and more open lines of communication between all the interests in city government. Byford backs Ledford's initiative to create a five-year capital plan so that the elected leaders of the city "can be more prepared and less reactionary." Ledford, who started his position in December, at last month's meeting said he was shocked to find Marion had no blueprint for capital expenditures such as equipment and buildings.

"I want to improve communication between city government and the people we were elected to serve," Byford continued. "I want the citizens of Marion to know that I am here to listen to their concerns and to get their input as to how we can work together to improve our community."

With just under two years left on Alexander's unexpired four-year term, Byford is uncertain if he will run for the seat in November 2018.

"My focus is on doing all that I can in the next two years to work with the city council, city administrator and the people of Marion to improve our great city and to prepare it for the future," he explained. "If, at the end of the next two years, I feel that I can continue to benefit our community by running for mayor, I will do so."

The city council will next meet at 6 p.m. March 20.

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**MARION / CRITTENDEN COUNTY**

**GUM ST...3 BR, 1 BA** brick ranch. This property has been updated.. km  
**INVESTMENT PROPERTY...2 BR. 1 BA** home in Marion. Nice size lot is 100 x 300..ob  
**COTTAGE...3 BR, 2 BA** home in the country. Wood floors, spacious kitchen, storage space in the basement as well. All on 1.41 acres. ct  
**RENTAL PROPERTY INVESTMENT...3 BR, 2 BA** 14x70 mobile home located on quiet street w/all city utilities. Agent Owned. rb **SOLD**  
**TOWN & COUNTRY...3 BR, 1.5 BA** brick home. Features: Central heat & air, city utilities, eat-in kitchen, appliances stay w/home, laundry room, garden space, landscaped, paved drive. pa **SOLD**  
**BRICK HOME...3 BR, 2 1/2 BA, LG** den w/fireplace, kitchen w/breakfast area, all appliances stay, Master BR w/ LG master BA & walk in closet. Study w/a 1/2 bath. Large attached 2 car garage, covered back porch overlooking yard & remaining acreage. Included w/the sale of this home is a shop building w/3 bays, large work area, front of building could be used for commercial/ Retail use, building according to PVA is over 3500 SF. Remaining acreage is wooded & is abundant w/ whitetail deer & wild turkey rh  
**RUSTIC LOG HOME...4 BR, 2 BA** log home. The inside walls are logs & the outside is vinyl with metal roof on 2.38 acres. **SALE PENDING**

**GREAT CORNER LOCATION...**in Crittenden County, US 60 W and SR 855 N, this 5 acre tract per deed description, has several options available for potential commercial or residential uses. hk

**ACREAGE**

**HOUSE & APPROX. 20 ACRES...**If you want your privacy then this is the place for you. House has 2 bedrooms, 1 bath, gravel drive, shed, pa Priced at \$82,500 **SOLD**

**40 ACRES...**Nice hunting tract. Great trails to crop area. Ridges, hollows w/ creek bottom. Several places for good stand location. Frontage on Hwy 60, great place to build your home. **PRICE REDUCED.**

**78 +/- ACRES...**approx. 18 acres of marketable hardwood timber, approx. 44 acres of tillable crop land, w/ balance in draws, pond area. Located just outside the city limits of Marion.. 9 acres of road frontage that could be developed into future home sites, or the entire farm could be divided in to mini farm home sites.

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**COURT SQUARE...**Approx. 2400 SQ FT of office/Retail Building space w/ rear parking. Bldg. directly across the street from the Court House & several Restaurants, Banks, Attorney's, Retail Shops.. Street Parking. Agent Owned.

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**COZY...**This 2 BR, 1 BA bath cottage, would be a great starter home for young couple or retirement home when your ready to downsize, home has central heat/air. Small basement for additional storage, along w/finished bonus room in the attic. 1 car attached garage w/blacktop driveway all sitting on two lots. jh **SALE PENDING**

**GREAT STARTER HOME...2 BR, 2 BA** mobile home in Salem. Metal roof and siding, gravel drive, Pier foundation, propane fuel, city utilities, central air, appliances stay with home. cj

**LYON COUNTY**

**LAKE VIEWS...**beautiful 5 BR, 3.5 BA has plenty of room for you family. Vaulted ceiling in living room, open floor plan, master bedroom on main floor w/master bath, 2 BR upstairs w/ bath & loft area overlooking the living room w/views of the lake. Downstairs has a family room w/ 2 more BR & bath and a kitchenette area w/walk out to the lake. 2 car garage w/Mother In-law suite above that has kitchen, washer/ dryer. You have your own entrance to apartment from outside but it is connected from inside as well.

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# Religion The Crittenden Press

The Press Online

www.the-press.com



Pictured at left are male inmates who completed the program through HR Ministries and below are the women who completed the faith-based parenting course. Above is a cake that was shared on graduation day recently inside the detention center.

## Ministry's aim is to grow parenting skills for inmates ahead of release

By MIMI BYRNS  
PRESS CONTRIBUTOR

Ten inmates at Crittenden County Detention Center graduated from Malachi Dads and Rubies for LIFE programs recently. These prison outreach programs offered by HR Ministries of Princeton are designed to better prepare offenders for reentry into society.

The Bible-based programs – Rubies for LIFE (Live Inspired for Empowerment) for women and Malachi Dads for men – teach inmates how to grow into godly parents by equipping them to spiritually train their children to build a legacy of Christianity regardless of their circumstances.

Receiving certificates for completion of the 16-week programs on Feb. 20 were Gina Cox, April Mart, Barry Beard, Charles Breedlove, Rafael Garcia, Aaron Markin, Mahlon Ray Miller, Eric Morrison, Brenden Muquit and David Scarbrough.

"When I first got here, I had a prison mentality and bad habits," said Markin. "Since I have been in Crittenden County Detention Center, I have been able to attend programs such as Malachi Dads, and this helped me to humble myself,

to grow spiritually and to make positive changes to become a better person, better parent to my child and a productive member of the society when I return home. I am thankful to the staff for giving me this opportunity."

Inmates share their testimonies regarding how this experience helps them grow spiritually in their Christian lives and bond with their families, as well as to set the new path for their life after they leave the correctional facility. As a part of the graduation ceremony, the participants recited the Malachi Dads and Rubies Moms pledge.

"As a Malachi Dad, I solemnly pledge to glorify God and build His kingdom by prioritizing the raising of godly children, first in my family, and then in the influencing of other men to do the same in theirs. I firmly believe that my transformed life in Christ, my life of integrity, the pursuit of this vision and the pursuit of godly character will allow me to impact my children, family and others toward this end. I will practice a life of daily discipline and dependence on God through prayer and the study of God's Word, for the wisdom in how to nurture my children in the admonition of the Lord. I will

pursue this endeavor for a lifetime, whether my children are in my home or not. Finally, I believe that my end goal is not only for my children to walk with the Lord, but that this God-given vision would impact multi-generations to come. So help me God."

Jailer Robbie Kirk thanks HR Ministries for its engagement in the past months in order to enhance the resocialization process.

"Programs like these are vital for people to connect not only on a spiritual level but also on a family and community level," he said. "Because the inmates are soon going to be living in the neighborhoods all over the state of Kentucky, and we all want them to be a better fit and to have a better mind set on how they want to live their lives. The real question is when a person gets finished with incarceration what you want them to do, to go to church or break into

one. I pray for them to go home and to live godly lives and be productive citizens."

HR Ministries offers the programs in 23 facilities in Kentucky, Tennessee and Alabama. In Crittenden County, coaches include many local volunteers. Malachi Dads and Rubies coaches involved here are Bill Bruce, Chris Oliver, Randy Poindexter, Bob Trowbridge, Bobby Wallace, Marilyn Iddings, Bonita Poindexter, Gay Ann Priest, Brenda Vinson and Kathy Wallace. They help inmates to develop godly habits in Bible study, prayer and memorizing scripture.

In the past three months, participants attended weekly meetings, wrote letters to their children, memorized scripture verses and focused on the practical biblical advice for life. They are going to continue to learn in the advanced class, "Kingdom Man."

### CHURCH ACTIVITIES AND OUTREACH

-Salem Methodist Church, located at the intersection of U.S. 60 and Lola Rd., will host a community singing at 6 p.m., March 18. Refreshments will be served

-Sturgis General Baptist Church is having revival March 20-24 at 7 p.m. nightly. The evangelist is Rev. Chris Brantley of Piggott, Ark., formerly of Marion.

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- 3-5 BR, 3 bath, 3 storage buildings with 2 additional houses on a total of 3 lots, located at 420 W. Bellville St., all for the price of one! \$69,900.
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- HISTORICAL 2 Story Home with basement, 3 BR, 2 Bath, detached garage. 251 W Bellville St. \$88,490.
- Hidden in town, 3 BR, 2 bath home with hardwood floors, sun room, shop with bath inside on 15.72 +/- ac. 232 Country Rd., Marion. \$127,900.
- This is a must see!! 3BR, 2 bath home sitting on 18+- ac along with barn, corn crib and storage building. 1961 US 641. \$179,900.
- 3 BR, 1 Bath, brick home located near city park. All appliances stay. City utilities. 262 Country Drive, \$49,900.
- Home on 14+- acres, barn, 3 large buildings, all fenced with a pond. Lafayette Heights \$129,900.
- 2 BR, 1 bath on corner lot close to school, all appliances stay, 306 W. Depot St. \$34,900.
- Quiet location on dead-end street in Marion with 3 lots, large detached garage, 217 W. Central Ave., \$49,900.
- You need too see this one. 4 bed, 2 1/2 bath with 2 car attached and 2 car detached. Big fenced back yard. Absolutely gorgeous. 136 Briarwood Dr., Marion, Ky. \$229,900.
- 3 bed, 2 bath brick home, 213 Fords Ferry Rd, city utilities, appliances stay. \$89,900.
- Remodeled house and large lot in town, walk to courthouse, 3 bed, 2 bath 313 East Bellville St. \$79,900.
- Walk to school, great town home with large rooms and fenced back yard and detached garage. **PRICE REDUCED** \$119,900.

#### COMMERCIAL

- Store front on Main, recently remodeled and rewired. 106 South Main St., \$55,900.

#### LOTS

- 110+- Acre tract, All wooded with possible land contract. 9285 US 60 W, Marion. \$199,000.
- 250+- Acre tract, Wooded, food plots, water with possible land contract. 9285 US 60 W, Marion. \$499,000.
- 6.55 acres within city limits, tract #2 is 3.25 ac and tract #3 is 3.30 ac. Can be sold together or separate. Located on Yandell St. in Marion, Ky. Total \$29,800.
- 1.2+ acres, country atmosphere, subdivision lifestyle, Grand View Estates, located on Ky. 506 in Marion, Ky. \$10,000.
- 70 wide x 220 deep city lot with all utilities, located on N. Weldon St., Marion, Ky. \$3,500.
- 11.18 acres +/- minutes out of town on Country View Dr., Marion. \$26,800.
- Large corner with city utilities, 110 Sunset Dr., Marion, Ky. \$9,900.
- 205-Acre Hide Away! This property has 40 open acres and 165 in woods. Three water holes and a new building on the highest point. Hunting property with income potential. Near Ohio River in Crittenden County. Very Secluded. \$389,900.
- 650 acres in Crittenden County, two cabins, one with power and water, spring-fed creek, two ponds, 50+- tillable acres, marketable timber, road frontage on US 60 and Baker Rd. \$1,300,000

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## WORSHIP with us this week

**DEER CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Sunday Bible Study: 10 a.m. "Whatever It Takes!"  
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 965-2220

**SEVEN SPRINGS MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Located between Dycusburg and Frances on Ky. 70  
Sunday School: 10 am  
Sunday Worship: 11 am, 6 pm • Wednesday: 7 pm  
Dr. Bobby Garland, pastor  
— Fundamental, Pre-Millennial, Independent —

**Crooked Creek Baptist Church**  
261 Crooked Creek Church Road, Marion, Ky.  
Sunday school, 10 am  
Sunday morning worship, 11 am  
Sunday evening worship, 6 pm  
Pastor Bro. Mark Girten

**Marion Baptist Church**  
College and Depot streets, Marion • 270.965.5232  
Dr. Mike Jones, pastor  
Early worship service 9:15 pm  
Life groups/Sunday school 9:30 pm  
Late worship service 10:45 pm  
AWANA 5:45 pm  
Limitless worship 6:00 pm  
Discipleship class 6:30 pm  
Wednesday nursery, preschool, Centershot and youth 5:45 pm  
Wednesday prayer service 6:15 pm

**Emmanuel Baptist Church**  
Captured by a vision...  
108 Hillcrest Drive, Marion | 270.965.4623  
Sunday School: 9:30 am | Sunday Worship: 10:45 am, 6 pm  
Wednesday Adult Bible Study, Children and Youth Activities: 6 pm  
Curtis Prewitt, pastor

**Mexico Baptist Church**  
175 Mexico Road, (270) 965-4059  
MexicoBaptist.org  
Minister of Youth Robert Kirby | Minister of Music Mike Crabtree  
Pastor Tim Burdon  
Sunday worship services: 10 am, 7 pm  
Sunday Bible study: 9 am  
Sunday discipleship training: 6 pm  
Wednesday worship service: 7 pm

**Marion General Baptist Church**  
341 W. Bellville St., Marion, Ky.  
Bro. Wesley Lynn, pastor  
Sunday School / 10 am  
Sunday Morning Worship / 11 am  
Sunday Evening Worship / 6 pm  
Wednesday Bible Study / 7 pm

*growing in grace* 2 Peter 3:18  
**PLEASANT GROVE General Baptist Church**  
True Gander, pastor  
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.

**Barnett Chapel General Baptist**  
Barnett Chapel Road, Marion, Ky.  
Mike Jacobs, pastor  
Sunday school: 9:45 a.m.  
Sunday worship: 11 a.m.  
Sunday evening: 6 p.m.  
Wednesday night Bible study: 6 p.m.  
Barnett Chapel...where everyone is welcome.

**Unity General Baptist Church**  
4691 U.S. 641 • Crayne, Ky.  
Barry Hix, pastor • 365-5836 or 625-1248  
Sunday School 10 a.m. • Sunday Worship 11 a.m.  
Sunday Evening 6 p.m. • Wednesday Night Service 6 p.m.

Visit one of our area churches for worship and fellowship  
...it might just be the best time you've spent this week  
"For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I in the midst of them."  
— Matthew 18:20

**Piney Fork**  
CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
Pastor Junior Martin  
School 10 am  
Worship 11 am  
Bible study 6 pm  
A new beginning, going forward and looking to the future  
Ky. 506 | Marion, Ky.

**Sugar Grove**  
cumberland presbyterian  
585 Sugar Grove Church Road, Marion, Ky. | 270.704.9433  
Sunday School - 10 am | Sunday Worship - 11 am and 6 pm  
Wednesday Bible Study - 7 pm  
Dennis Weaver, pastor

**FIRST CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
224 W. Bellville St. • Marion, Ky.  
Dee Ann Thompson, pastor • Sunday School 9:45 a.m. • Sunday Worship 10:45 a.m., • Sunday Night Worship Service 6 p.m.

**Tosu United Methodist Church**  
Bro. Selby Coomer, Pastor  
We invite you to be our guest  
Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.  
The People of The United Methodist Church  
Sunday School 10 am • Service 11 am • Wednesday night youth 6:30 p.m.

**Marion United Methodist Church**  
Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.  
The People of the United Methodist Church  
WEDNESDAY Bible study 5:30 pm  
SUNDAY Sunday school 9:30 am  
Worship 10:45 am  
South College Street | the-press.com/MARIONunitedmethodist.html

**Tyner's Chapel Church**  
Located on Ky. 855 North  
Sunday: 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.  
Wednesday: 6 p.m.  
Pastor Charles Tabor

**Marion Church of God**  
334 Fords Ferry Road • Marion, Kentucky  
Sunday School 10 a.m. • Morning Service 11 a.m.  
Sunday Evening 6 p.m. • Wednesday Evening 6 p.m.  
"Where salvation makes you a member."  
Lucy Tedrick, pastor

**Marion Church of Christ**  
546 West Elm Street • (270) 965-9450  
Sunday Bible Study: 9:30 a.m.  
Sunday Worship: 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m.  
Wednesday Bible Study: 6:30 p.m.  
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**St. William Catholic Church**  
Sunday Mass 11 a.m.  
Father Ryan Harpole  
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Marion, Ky.  
965-2477

**Hurricane Church**  
Hurricane Church Road off Ky. 135 West  
Bro. John Robertson, Pastor  
Sunday school, 10 a.m. • Worship, 11 a.m.  
Sunday and Wednesday evening services, 6:30 p.m.

**Frances Community Church**  
Bro. Butch Gray • Bro. A.C. Hodge  
Wednesday night prayer meeting and youth service - 7 pm  
Sunday school - 10 am - Worship service - 11 am

**Crayne Community Church**  
Crayne Cemetery Road  
Crayne, Ky.  
Bro. Tommy Hodge, pastor  
Sunday school 10 AM | Sunday worship 11 AM



Area Deaths

Harris

Peggy Jean Harris, 69, of Salem died Wednesday, March 1, 2017 at Baptist Health in Paducah.

She is survived by a daughter, Tina Harris of Burna; seven sons, Dale Harris of Indiana, Perry Blaine “PeeWee” Harris, Joseph “Dinky” Harris, Samuel “Sam” Harris, Michael Harris, all four of Salem, Everet Harris of Marion and Quinton Harris of Reidland; three sisters, Diann Shannon of Colorado, Joyce Baker of Beamount, Ill, and Helen Baker of Mt. Eagle, Tenn.; two brothers, Robert Cox and Ronnie Cox of Indiana; several grandchildren; and several great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by a daughter, Bonnie Jean Harris; son, Terry Wayne Harris; brothers, Walter Cox, Dale Cox and Oscar Fuller; and parents, Cecil and Dorothy Fuller Cox.

Services were Sunday, March 5, 2017 in the chapel of Boyd Funeral Directors and Cremation Services in Salem with Rev. Kenneth Odom officiating. Burial was at Lola Cemetery.

Roberts

Grace Evelyn Roberts 83, of Marion died Wednesday, March 1, 2017 at the Livingston Hospital.

Surviving are her husband, Marvin Roberts; a son, Roger Roberts of Marion; a brother, James Robert Henley of Marion; three grandchildren; and a great-grandchild.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Walter and Juanita Henley; a son, Dale Roberts; and a brother.

Services were Saturday, March 4, 2017 at Gilbert Funeral Home. Burial was at Sugar Grove Cemetery.

Brantley

Gregory Gerald Brantley, 59, of Marion died Tuesday, Feb. 28, 2017 at his home.

He was a longtime employee of Marion Feed Mill.

Surviving are his wife, Tammy Glenn Brantley of Marion; a son, Zach Brantley of Murray; his mother, Virginia Brantley of Marion; and sister, Teresa (Russ) Davidson of Princeton.

He was preceded in death by his father, Gerald Ross Brantley.

Services were Friday, March 3 at Myers Funeral Home in Marion with Bro. Russ Davidson officiating. Burial was at Maplevue Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to American Cancer Society, Memorial Hope Lodge, 2008 Charlotte Avenue, Nashville, TN 37203.

Lemon

Mrs. Donna Lemon, 65, of Salem died Friday, March 3, 2017 at Baptist Health Paducah.

She was a charter member of Faith Church.

Surviving are her husband of 46 years, John Lemon of Salem; two daughters, Kelly (Kevin) Pleasant of Paducah and Carla (Noah) Martinez of El Mirage, Ariz.; three brothers, Keith Suits of Grand Rivers, Doyce Suits of Salem and Ken Suits of Burna; two sisters, Vonna Damron and Joyce Kitchens, both of Salem; two grand-

daughters, Kaitlyn and Kendall Pleasant of Paducah; and three grandsons, Luke, Levi and Logan Martinez of El Mirage, Ariz.

She was preceded in death by a sister, Sue Suits; and her parents, William E. and Margaret Fryer Suits.

Services were Tuesday, March 7 in the chapel of Boyd Funeral Directors and Cremation Services with Rev. Israel Sanders, Rev. Phillip Sanders, Rev. Kevin Pleasant and Rev. Noah Martinez officiating. Burial was at Hopewell Cemetery.

Bigwood

Clinton Phillip Bigwood, 77, of Marion, formerly of New Hampshire, died Friday, March 3, 2017 at Crittenden Hospital.

Surviving are his wife, Sandra Bell Bigwood of Marion; a daughter, Cathy (Alex) Blake of Athol, Md.; sister, Doris Houseman; brother, Edward Bigwood; four grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by a son, Clinton Bigwood Jr.; and his parents, Robert and Bernice Bigwood.

A memorial service will be scheduled at a later date.

Boyd Funeral Directors and Cremation Services in Salem was in charge of arrangements.

Drury

Kenneth Orval Drury, 64, of Marion died Monday, March 6, 2017 at Baptist Health in Paducah.

He was a long-time employee of Beavers Car Wash in Marion.

Survivors include his son, Kenton (Kristi) Drury of Marion; grandchildren, Kasyn and Kendyl Drury, both of Marion; brothers, Larry and Denny Drury, both of Marion and sisters, Darlene Beard, Sherry Ford and Helen Rushing, all of Marion.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Douglas and Arnella Drury.

Services are scheduled for 1 p.m., Friday, March 10 at Gilbert Funeral Home in Marion. Burial will be at Maplevue Cemetery. The family will receive visitors from 10 a.m., until service time Friday at the funeral home.

The Crittenden Press  
Obituary policy

Most obituaries in The Crittenden Press are published at no charge. However, extended obituaries are available for a small fee. There is no charge for use of a photo. Please ask your funeral director about fee-based obituaries. Obituaries that appear in the paper are also accessible on our Web site.

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VA benefits rep adjusts schedule

A Kentucky Department of Veteran’s Affairs Field Benefits Representative for Crittenden, Union, Webster and several other western Kentucky counties has revised his monthly schedule for meeting with clients in 2017.

Following is field representative Johnny Allen’s new schedule:

- Hanson: Each Monday and Thursday at the Hanson Veterans Center at 926 Veterans Dr.

- Morganfield: First Tuesday of each

month at the senior citizens center at 225. N. Richards Lane.

- Henderson: Second Tuesday of each month at Henderson Community College at 2660 S. Green. St.

- Owensboro: Every Wednesday and second Thursday of each month at the veterans affairs clinic at 3400 New Harford Road.

Veterans from Crittenden County can call Allen for an appointment at any of the aforementioned sites, but

other arrangements can be made for the disabled if they are physically unable to leave their home, Allen explained.

Also, appointments can be set up for other times by veterans living in Crittenden, Webster, Hancock, McLean and Muhlenberg counties.

To make an appointment or for more information, contact Allen at (270) 399-1618 or email Johnny.Allen@ky.gov.



To support its Trooper Island Camp for underprivileged children, Kentucky State Police are once again raffling a vehicle, but this year it is a new 2017 Jeep Wrangler Sahara Winter Edition 4x4. Its features include Rhino clear coat exterior paint and black interior, four-door design with black three-piece hard top, air, heated front seats, a 3.6L 285 hp engine, five-speed automatic transmission, 17-inch black aluminum wheels, remote start and keyless entry, tilt steering column, leather-wrapped steering-wheel with audio controls, all-terrain tires, all-weather slush mats, rear-window wiper/washer and defroster and nine speaker Alpine all-weather premium sound system. Tickets are \$10 each. To purchase a ticket, contact any KSP post or CVE region office located throughout the state. Only 20,000 tickets will be sold. The winning ticket will be drawn on Aug. 27 at the Kentucky State Fair.

State jobless rate at 16-year low

Kentucky’s annual unemployment rate dropped to 5 percent in 2016 from 5.3 percent in 2015, while non-farm employment gained 28,100 jobs, according to the Kentucky Office of Employment and Training (OET). It was the lowest annual jobless rate for the state in 16 years, when the rate was 4.2 percent.

“At 5 percent, Kentucky’s unemployment rate has reached a low not seen since 2000,” said Kentucky Labor Market Information Director Kate Shirley Akers, Ph.D. “Total nonfarm employment reached a historical high in 2016 at 1,914,200. Employment in the largest sector, trade, transportation and utilities, was also at historic levels.”

The U.S. annual unem-

ployment rate dropped to 4.9 percent in 2016 from 5.3 percent in 2015.

Annual unemployment rates declined in 39 states in 2016 compared to 2015.



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## Kindergarten fair March 18

The Ready for Kindergarten Fair will be held at West Kentucky Community and Technical College from 9:30 a.m. to noon March 18 in Haws Gymnasium.

The fair and is free and open to everyone with children ages birth to 5 years old. Giveaways and door prizes will be drawn throughout the fair.

For more information contact Greta Henry at (270) 534-3087.

## Calendar

– The Crittenden County **Genealogy Society** will meet at 10 a.m., Saturday in the meeting room at the Crittenden County Public Library. The program will be “Discussing and Sharing of our DNA findings.”

– Deer Creek Baptist Church will host Lading for a Cure soup and dessert auction Saturday. The **Relay for Life benefit** begins with the auction at 5:30 p.m., and the meal to follow at 6:30 p.m. Donations will be accepted.

– **Crittenden County Historical Society** will meet at 6 p.m. Monday at the historical museum on East Bellville Street. On the agenda will be setting an opening date for the museum next month.

– **Crittenden County Elementary School SBDM** will meet at 4 p.m., Monday in the school library.

– The **Crayne Cemetery cleaning day** is set for 9 a.m., March 18. Rain day will March 25.

– **Friends of the Library** next meets at 6 p.m., March 16 at Crittenden County Public Library. Anyone wishing to support the library and join the group is invited to attend. Last month, officers elected were President Brian Hodge, Vice President Brandie Ledford, Treasurer Glen Leslie and Secretary Carol Harrison.

– **Trivia Night** returns to the Crittenden County Public Library at 6 p.m., March 17. The game is designed for adults only. As Trivia Night is on St. Patrick’s Day, questions will follow a “green” theme.

– Deer Creek Baptist Church will host Lading for a Cure soup and dessert auction March 11. The **Relay for Life benefit** begins with the auction at 5:30 p.m., and the meal to follow at 6:30 p.m. Donations will be accepted.

The third annual **Lace Up for a Cure 5k** will be held April 1. Registration begins at 8 a.m. and the race at 9 a.m. at Marion City-County Park. Entry is \$20 dollars. Contact Chad Bell for more information at (270) 969-0385.

## Extension events

– **Evening Belles** Homemakers on March 9th, 1PM, will be meeting at the Extension Office. They welcome anyone who would be interested in joining or learning more about the Extension Homemaker organization.

– **4-H Rockology** (Geology Club) will next meet Thursday (today) the Mineral Museum. Open to youth ages 9-18. Call the Extension Office for more information (270) 965-5236.

– The final class in **Crochet 101** will be held at 9:30 a.m., Saturday at the Extension Office Annex.

– **Morning Glories** Extension Homemakers will meet at 10 a.m., Monday at the Extension Office.

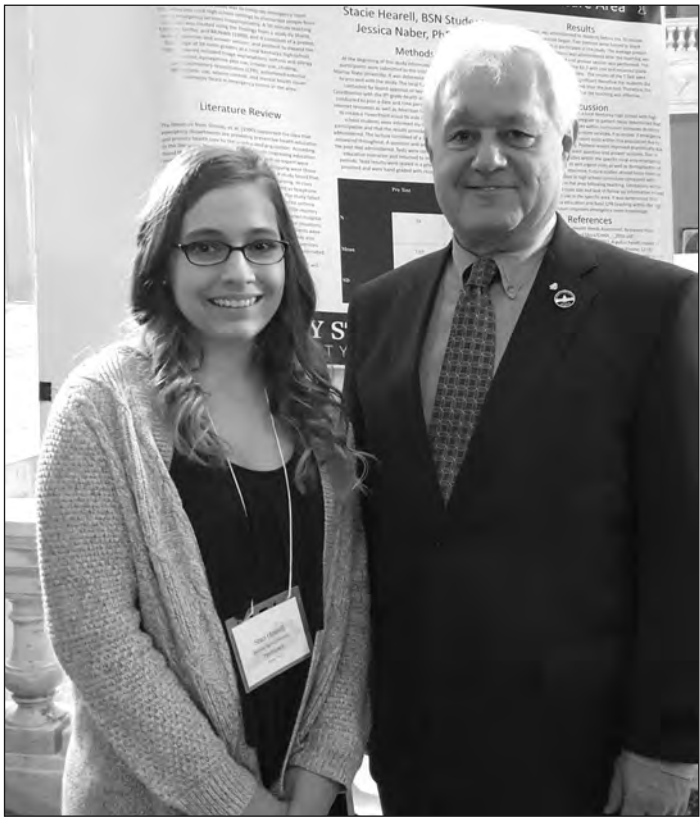
– **4-H Eyes In The Skies** (Astronomy Club) will meet Monday at the Crittenden County Public Library. For more info call (270) 965-5236.

– Crittenden County **4-H Council** will meet at 5 p.m., Thursday (today) at the Extension Office. Anyone interested in the 4-H program is welcome.

– **Private Applicator Pesticide Training** will be held at the Extension Office Annex at 6 p.m., Tuesday. Call (270) 965-5236 to register.

### Submit your calendar item

To submit your Community Calendar item, call (270) 965-3191, email [pressnews@the-press.com](mailto:pressnews@the-press.com) or stop by our office at 125 E. Bellville St.



## Capitol presentation

**A research study conducted by Stacie Hearrell, 22 of Marion, was selected to be presented at the 16th annual Posters at the Capitol last Thursday in Frankfort. Rep. Lynn Bechler of Marion stopped by to review the research project while at the Capitol building. The study was entitled Emergency Education to Students in a Rural Healthcare Area and included incorporating basic emergency response skills into high school curriculum. Hearrell will graduate from Murray State University in May. She is employed by Henry County Medical Center in Paris, Tenn., as a nurse extern in the ER.**

## Zumba benefits health, community

By MIMI BYRNS  
PRESS CONTRIBUTOR

Who says that staying active has to be a boring or lonely experience? Millions of people across the world are hooked on Zumba, a dance fitness program that involves aerobic movements performed to energetic music, such as hip-hop, samba, salsa and mambo. Marion is no exception.

Laura Harris Wood and Mary Jo Mills brought the popular exercise to Marion, bringing men and women together in the Crittenden County Schools’ multipurpose room for classes every Tuesday and Thursday.

"I was the first one to try Zumba during a Relay for Life event in Paducah," remembers Wood, a certified Zumba instructor and registered nurse at Livingston Hospital and Healthcare Services. "I loved it from the first time. I came back home and talked about eight of us into going to Paducah to try it."

The women enjoyed it despite being a bit self-conscious at first.

"We all loved it, but also laughed so much at how we must have looked," she added. "We all said that there is no way we are ever going to move like those ladies."

Five of those ladies became certified Zumba instructors.

"Marion didn't have anything like this for exercise, so Jo and I started the first Zumba class in September 2010," said Wood. "We had over 150 people to show up."

Mills moved to Crittenden County from Illinois in 1999. She is a certified dietary manager and certified food protection professional at Crittenden Health Systems, and a wife and a mother of



**Health professionals Jo Mills and Laura Wood inspire participants to be active, support local causes.**

two sons. Her passion for exercise brought her to Zumba fitness. She believes Zumba’s popularity is based partly on the fact that it doesn’t feel like a workout, it is free of a competitive element and participants move at their own pace.

"There are many benefits from this type of exercise," Mills explained. "It boosts the mood, and no one has ever left our classes not smiling. Other than that, Zumba boosts the metabolism, increases endurance and helps burn fat. Depending on effort, participants can burn between 400 to 700 calories."

"What I enjoy the most are the many friendships I have made through Zumba over the past six years in our community and all over the world. It makes me happy knowing that I might have made a difference in someone’s life," Mills said.

She recommends students to wear good shoes, but other than that, no special equipment is necessary.

Both she and Wood agree that anyone can do Zumba – men, women, elderly and

## Knights close at state tourney

Crittenden County’s Blue Knights Chess Team competed in the Kentucky State Individual Tournament last weekend in Paducah which drew over 146 of the best players from across the state. The event consisted of five rounds over two days for the K12 and K8 sections, while the K5 and K3 played five rounds all on Saturday.

The Blue Knights had 15 players compete, battling for the coveted State Individual Title in their respective sections.

The K12 section would prove to the most heart-wrenching, according to coach Don Winters. Three players, each having 4 out of 5 points, competed in a blitz off to determine the top spot. Skyler James came up just short in the end and tied for second, but would place eighth after tie breaks with 3 out of 5 points. Clay Stevens placed 11th with 2.5 out 5, and Gage Moore placed fourteenth with 1.5 out of 5.

The K8 section had 26 of the top players from the state, and the Blue Knights all placed in the top 15. Cole Swinford fought for a tough 4 out 5 points and tied for second but walked away

with the fourth place trophy after tie breaks. Chase Stevens, Trey Swaggirt, Evan McDowell, and Gage Russell all had an impressive 3 out of 5 points, but would place 5th, 9th, 11th, and 13th respectively. Swaggirt was also awarded the biggest upset in the K8 section for defeating an opponent that was 364 points above his rating.

The K5 section brought out 35 players and would prove to be very tough for the three Blue Knight players.

Marley Phelps scored 2 out of the 5 points and placed 20th, Hayden Hildebrand placed 26th with 1.5 points, and Abbey Swinford placed 28th with just 1 point on the day. The K5 section is very tough and I am extremely proud of each of them for holding their own and not giving up during the day.

The K3 section was the biggest section drawing 44 players from across the state. Zak Smith won an im-



**Winters**



pressive 4 out of 5 games tying for second and placing seventh on tie breaks. Wyatt Russell won 3 out of 5 games and tied for third, but just barely missed the top 10 placing 12th on tie breaks. Jake Rich placed 26th with 2 out 5 points.

Zeke Smith competed in the K1 section and placed 21st overall with 1.5 out 5 points.

Coach Winters said the Blue Knights proved that they are not a team to be taken lightly.

"While this wasn’t a team event, they all individually held their own against the toughest competitors from the across the state of Kentucky, and I am extremely proud of how they played," Winters said. "We will now regroup and set our sights on the State Team Tournament which is in two weeks."



**Crittenden Health Systems employees are wearing blue this month to bring awareness to colon cancer awareness month.**

## Colon screenings encouraged after 50

March is Colon Cancer Awareness Month and employees at Crittenden Health Systems are going blue to raise awareness.

Colon cancer is the third most common cancer in the United States and the second leading cause of cancer death. In Kentucky, both men and women are more likely to get colon cancer than any other state, and are more likely to die from it than in any state but Arkansas.

Through screening, it is one of the most preventable diseases. Colon cancer often has no symptoms until it is at an advanced stage, the American Cancer Society suggests that at age 50, or earlier if there is a potential for high risk, adults should talk to a doctor about getting a screening test for colon cancer.

There are currently more than 1 million colon cancer survivors in the United States.

toes, buttered broccoli, whole wheat roll and pears. Bingo begins at 10:30 a.m.

Every day, the center at 210 N. Walker St. in Marion offers billiards, card games, Wii games and the use of exercise equipment. Call (270) 965-5229 for more information.

The center is a service of Penryrile Allied Community Services. Aging Coordinator Jenny Sosh is director of the center.

## Senior Menu

Crittenden County Senior Citizens Center is open weekdays 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Lunch is served at 11:30 a.m. each day and is \$3 for those 60 and older or \$5 for those under 60. Milk, coffee or tea is available each day. Reservations are requested by 9 a.m. Upcoming activities and menu include:

– Thursday (today): Menu is beef lasagna, buttered broccoli, whole wheat garlic breadstick, Jell-O fruit salad. A nutrition lesson taught by Sue Parrent begins at 10:30 a.m.

– Friday: Menu is chicken pot pie, baked potato with sour cream and margarine, green beans, mandarin oranges and wheat bread. Lifeline Home Health will offer Bingo at 10:30 a.m.

– Monday: Menu is spaghetti with meatballs, Brussels sprouts, whole wheat garlic bread and fruit cocktail. Ladies’ exercise with Full Body Fitness Studio begins at 9:45 a.m.

– Tuesday: Menu is ham and bean soup, hot spiced beets, buttered spinach, cornbread and pear crisp.

– March 15: Menu is oven fried chicken, buttered new pota-



**The Woman’s Club of Marion held its 97th Annual Meeting and Membership Luncheon March 4. Pictured are (from left) Rebecca Zahrt, treasurer; Susan Alexander GFWC Kentucky Immediate Past President; GFWC Kentucky First District Governor Paula Robinson; Nancy Hunt, president; Carolyn Belt, Club Woman of the Year and Secretary; and Kathy Bechler, Vice-President.**

ing as president of the club 70 years ago. Tucker, who will be celebrating her 100th birthday this fall, said the club has been important to her and she wants it to continue in the future.

Woman’s Club of Marion accepts new members in March and September. Applications have been distrib-

uted and are available from Sandra Belt, club membership chair, and Nancy Hunt, club president. New member installation will be held March 30.

Guests attending the luncheon were Brandie Ledford, Angel Henry and Nancy Lapp.

## Age change for kindergartners

Beginning with the next school year, children entering kindergarten must be 5 years old on or before Aug. 1. Until now, the cutoff was Oct. 1.

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Sun. 1:15, 4, 6:50  
Mon.-Wed. 6:30

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Sat. 1, 3:45, 6:40, 9:20  
Sun. 1:15, 4, 6:50  
Mon.-Thurs. 6:30

**Kong: Skull Island**

Fri. 3:50, 6:40, 9:20  
Sat. 1, 3:45, 6:40, 9:20  
Sun. 1:15, 4, 6:50  
Mon.-Thurs. 6:30

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## BASKETBALL

### Second Region Scores At Hopkins Central

#### GIRLS TOURNAMENT

##### OPENING ROUND RESULTS

Webster County 50, Lyon County 40  
Christian Co. 57, Hopkins Central 32  
Hopkinsville 56, Madisonville 53, OT  
Henderson Co. 64, Crittenden Co. 38

##### SEMIFINALS

Webster County 49, Christian Co. 48  
Henderson Co. 66, Hopkinsville 53

##### CHAMPIONSHIP

Henderson Co. 54, Webster Co. 49

#### BOYS TOURNAMENT

##### At Hopkinsville

##### OPENING ROUND RESULTS

Webster County 73, Lyon County 68  
Christian County 74, Madisonville 63  
Hopkinsville 97, Livingston Central 49  
Henderson Co. 84, Dawson Springs 47

##### SEMIFINALS

Christian Co. 73, Webster Co. 39  
Hopkinsville 73, Henderson Co. 67

##### TUESDAY'S CHAMPIONSHIP

Christian County vs. Hopkinsville

### Moss all-region again

Crittenden County senior basketball player Cassidy Moss was selected to the All Second Region Tournament Team by coaches participating in the regional tournament last week at Hopkins Central. Moss scored 11 points in Crittenden County's opening round loss to eventual regional champion Henderson County. Moss was also selected to the All Second Region Team by the coaches' association for her play during the regular season.

### Henderson draws Knott

Second Region champion Henderson County (27-5) will play 14th Region champion Knott County (28-6) Thursday in the opening round of the Girls Sweet 16 State Championship at BB&T Arena in Newport. Murray (25-6) won the First Region championship and will play Nelson County (30-3) in the state tournament.

## TRACK

### Fundraising ribeye sale

Crittenden County's track and field team will be selling ribeye sandwiches Saturday at the Conrad's parking lot from 10 a.m., until 2 p.m. Cost is \$5. Track team member are taking pre-orders.

## BASEBALL

### Late registration penalty

Anyone interested in playing youth baseball, softball may still register although the first deadline has past. Players registering after March 4 must pay a \$25 penalty in addition to the normal registration fee. Forms may be mailed to Dugout Club, PO Box 5, Marion, KY 42064. No registration forms will be accepted after March 20. There has been a slight fee increase this year for most age divisions. One child is now \$40 for baseball or softball. Kickball fee is the same at \$25 and it is for boys and girls ages 4-5. There are leagues available for boys and girls age 4 to 15. Babe Ruth registration fee for ages 13-15 is \$50. Games in that league will not start until later in the summer. Teams 6-under play only in Marion. Those in older divisions will play at Marion, Dawson Springs, Princeton, Eddyville and maybe Cadiz. For more information or a registration form, go online to The-Press.com or use the following URL: [www.the-press.com/2017DCRegForm.pdf](http://www.the-press.com/2017DCRegForm.pdf). The Crittenden County Dugout Club, which organizes summer diamond sports leagues, is also on Facebook.

## SOCCKER

Anyone born between 2009 and 2014 can still register for youth soccer. Bring completed form to practice on Monday at 5:30 p.m. at City-County Park. The form is available online at The-Press.com.

## FITNESS

Crittenden County Extension Service will host its Run Through the Clovers 4-H 5K and Fun Run at 9 a.m., on March 18 at City-County Park. Registration forms are due Friday to guarantee a T-shirt. See Facebook's Crittenden County Extension Service page for a registration form or stop by the office.

# Advice for young baseball players: Slow the Game Down Defense makes Gilbert everyday catcher

STAFF REPORT

Slow the game down. That's the advice collegiate baseball player Travis Gilbert has for young ball players.

Gilbert, 21, is a junior pitcher-converted-to-catcher at Capital University in Columbus, Ohio. Recruited as a hurler after winning a school-record 22 games at Crittenden County High School, Gilbert realized after one season that a logjam on the mound would likely prevent him from progressing on track as a pitcher. So, he flipped his role.

With the coaching staff's blessing, Gilbert worked behind the plate as a sophomore on the junior varsity squad and earned enough stripes to nail down a platoon role at catcher this year with the varsity team.

Defense is his speciality and Gilbert is working hard on improving skills that will help him control the running game.

"I have some personal goals for my caught stealing percentage and batting average," Gilbert said, a few days after opening the season with

a three-hit day that included four RBIs and two runs scored.

"I'm just working on trying to become a complete player," he said. "Trying to improve my offense. I am real comfortable defensively. That's the strongest part of my game, but I had a hot start offensively and just want to keep pace and provide some consistency."

Gilbert grew up playing travel baseball with a team based in Marion and coached by his father Brad, Denis Hodge and high school baseball coach Donnie Phillips. Hodge and his father both played college baseball. Gilbert knows he is the product of good, early training. He says travel teams sometimes get a bad rap because they play too many games and fail to focus on fundamentals.

Not true in his experience. "The best experience you can get is playing all those games. In baseball you don't know what will happen until it happens and you can't simulate those types of things in practice," he said.

It's that keen baseball IQ that has helped him transition from pitcher to catcher without any real difficulty. Behind the plate, the receiver must act as the team's leader in setting the defense, choreographing cutoffs and calling pitches, among other things. That mental aspect of the game is the most challenging part of his metamorphosis from the front of the battery to the backside.

"Just being able to control the game is the biggest thing," he said. "The college game is more complex than it ever was in high school. We have about 20 different pitchers and we have to know what each of them throws and what to call, what they are comfortable with in certain situations."

Gilbert has always been above the fold in baseball. He earned a spot on the all-region team as an eighth grader and earned many other honors and accolades throughout his early career. Those experiences have helped him be a quick study at the collegiate level.

His background and maturity on the field helps his mental approach, which often focuses on idling things back.

"Slowing the game down is important," he said. "Sometimes as a player or even a coach it seems like things speed up in certain situations. You need to be able to slow it down. We talk a lot about working fast, but not too quick."

If he could give young players one tip it would be to spend more time hitting off a batting T.

"We do it every day. It seems easy and mundane, but it lets you focus on situations such as placing a ball on the outer part of the plate and hitting it the other way. It really helps me a lot."



Gilbert



The 2017 Rockets baseball team includes (front from left) Brock Langston, Hunter Holeman, Ethan Dossett, Taylor Yancy, Maeson Myers, Bobby Stephens, Paxton Riley, Shelby Robinson, Ethan Hunt, Jake Ellington, Pate Robinson, Kyle Castiller, (back) coach Brian Hunt, coach Jamie Brown, Erik O'Leary, Jake Gibson, Hunter Jones, Cody Belt, Noah Sallin, Logan Belt, Briley Brown, Payton Riley, Jayden Carlson, Sean O'Leary, head coach Donnie Phillips and manager Jacob Hackney.

# Options mixed with grit bolster Rockets for spring

STAFF REPORT

A measure of grit, sound determination and multiple moving parts have second-year Rocket baseball skipper Donnie Phillips encouraged by what he's seen in pre-season camp.

Crittenden County, one of the most successful Fifth District baseball teams over the past 30 years with 19 regional tournament appearances, opens spring play at home Thursday against Mayfield.

The Rockets were 9-24 last year, but made a solid post-season run that ended with a district runnerup slot in the regional tournament where they lost 5-3 to eventual Second Region champion Caldwell County.

Four everyday starters return from last year's club that lost 15 games by three or fewer runs. Those narrow losses have stuck in the coach's craw during the offseason and he's pledging to change the culture.

"We got beat so many times last year by a run or two because we just didn't finish," Phillips said. "The guys who are back didn't like that and they have a great attitude. Of all the years I've coached and been around sports this group has the best attitude and are more coachable than any other."

Phillips likes the options he has and predicts that competition at almost every position will provide stronger game-day focus from start to finish.

"We may not be the fastest and I don't think we will hit it harder than everyone else, but it is a very determined group. That's what I like about them."

Assistant coach Jamie Brown is handling pitchers and catchers and Phillips likes what he sees. Although the Rockets may not have any big-time pitching prospects, they have a plethora of guys who can throw. First among them will be lefty craftsman Maeson Myers who commands a number of off-speed pitches. The next three or four hurlers are pretty close as far as where they fit into the rotation. Sophomores Pate Robinson and Ethan Dossett, junior Kyle Castiller and senior Taylor Yancy will get

Measure of Success 30yrs	
FIFTH DISTRICT FINISHES	
1988	District Runner-up
1989	District Runner-up
1991	District Runner-up
1993	District Champion
1995	District Runner-up
1997	District Runner-up
1998	District Runner-up
2000	District Runner-up
2003	District Runner-up
2004	District runner-up
2007	District Champion
2008	District Champion
2009	District Champion
2010	District Champion
2011	District runner-up
2012	District Champion
2013	District runner-up
2014	District runner-up
2016	District runner-up

many of the starts. In the bullpen are seniors Ethan Hunt and Shelby Robinson, sophomore Payton Riley and freshman Hunter Jones, who the staff is figuring will be the closer.

Dossett and Castiller will handle most of the catching chores with Jones adding some depth behind the plate. Dossett will be a key offensive player. He's a line-drive hitter and hits well with runners in scoring position. The sophomore is currently penciled in to the three hole in the lineup.

The infield will be anchored by three seniors. Myers will start at first base, Bobby Stephens at shortstop and Shelby Robinson at third. A competition for the first-team second baseman is underway between Pate Robinson and Castiller.

Coach Phillips expects a handful of other players to figure into the infield as he works the starting lineup to account for whose pitching in any particular game. Payton Riley will play some middle infield, senior Paxton Riley is a first baseman and the coach has high hopes for junior Logan Belt and freshman Jayden

CCHS 2017 Baseball Roster						
Player	Grade	No.	Pos.	Bats	Throws	
Cody Belt	11	37	Utility	R	R	
Logan Belt	11	4	Infield	L	R	
Briley Brown	10	20	P/1B	R	R	
Jayden Carlson	9	23	Utility	R	R	
Kyle Castiller	11	0	C/P	R	R	
Ethan Dossett	10	10	C/P	R	R	
Jake Ellington	10	12	Outfield	R	R	
Jake Gibson	10	8	Outfield	R	R	
Jacob Hackney	12	mgr	-	-	-	
Hunter Holeman	10	1	Outfield	R	R	
Ethan Hunt	12	24	OF/P	R	R	
Hunter Jones	9	18	P/3B	L	R	
Brock Langston	10	30	Infield	R	R	
Maeson Myers	12	3	P/1B	L	L	
Erik O'Leary	9	7	Outfield	L	R	
Sean O'Leary	10	19	Infield	R	R	
Paxton Riley	12	15	1B/OF	R	R	
Payton Riley	10	11	P/Inf.	L	R	
Pate Robinson	10	26	P/Inf.	R	R	
Shelby Robinson	12	21	P/Inf.	R	R	
Noah Sallin	11	6	Outfield	R	R	
Bobby Stephens	12	2	Infield	R	R	
Taylor Yancy	12	12	P/OF	R	R	

Carlson to make quick strides toward everyday work somewhere. Both are just now getting into the baseball routine because they played basketball. Belt didn't play baseball last year, but has been a solid player in the younger ranks. Another newcomer this year is Cody Belt, a junior, who the coach says can play anywhere on the field. Carlson is also a versatile young player who has a strong arm and could eventually see some varsity time on the mound.

Hunt anchors the outfield. He's played the other two outfield slots in the past but gets his first start in center. Hunt has perhaps the strongest bat in the lineup and will likely be the centerpiece of the club.

Junior Noah Sallin will be the likely starter in right field and Yancy in left. However, Paxton Riley and sophomores Jake Ellington and Jake Gibson are options in the outfield.

Assistant coach Brain Hunt will be working on building the outfield skills this season.

If there's a clear favorite in the Fifth District it would be Livingston

## Rocket Baseball Schedule

March 9	Mayfield
March 10	St. Mary
March 13	at Webster County
March 14	at Graves County
March 16	at Caldwell County
March 17	at Mayfield
March 20	at Lyon County
March 28	at Trigg County
March 30	at St. Mary
March 31	McLean County
April 2-8	Florida
April 10	at Lyon County All A Tourn.
April 11	Graves County
April 14	at McLean County
April 15	at Todd County
April 17	Trigg County
April 20	at Calloway County
April 21	Carlisle County
April 24	Webster County
April 27	Livingston County
April 28	Hopkins Central
May 1	at Union County
May 2	at Livingston County
May 5	at Madisonville
May 8	Union County
May 9	at Dawson Springs
May 11	Calloway County
May 13	Lyon County
May 15	Madisonville
May 16	Dawson Springs
May 18	Caldwell County
May 19	at Hopkins Central
May 22-26	District Tournament
May 29-June 2	Regional Tournament

Central with Lyon County close behind. Trigg lost a couple of good pitchers, but tradition knows the Wildcats will be district contenders.

"We didn't win a regular-season district game last year and I don't know exactly where we will fit in, but I know we're a hungry bunch," the Rocket coach said.

Crittenden will play five games during spring break in Florida. Phillips said the extended road trip gives the team a chance to grow and to find itself against competition that most of the players know nothing about.

"We are always closer when we come back from down there," the coach said.

# Courtney joins Rocket coaching staff



Courtney

STAFF REPORT

Former Crittenden County football player Gaige Courtney is back in Rocket Nation after accepting a position as an instructional assistant in the computer lab at Crittenden County Elementary School.

Rocket football coach Al Starnes said Courtney will become an assistant coach for football and basketball.

Courtney played collegiate football four years at Kentucky State University. He was a standout linebacker and full back on Crittenden County's state semifinalist team in 2008. He graduated from CCHS in 2009 and has a bachelor's degree from KSU. He is also working toward a master's degree in elementary physical education.

Starnes said Courtney will be a wonderful addition to the football staff, which includes only Rocket football alumni.

At KSU, Courtney played linebacker. In high school, he set the career tackles record at Crittenden County.

For the past few seasons Courtney had been an assistant coach at Webster County. "He's the one we wanted on

our staff," Starnes said. "Things are coming together nicely."

It is no secret that Starnes has been building a coaching staff with deep roots in Rocket football. Starnes is planning to retire after the 2017 football season and has already named offensive coordinator Shawn Thompson as the associate head coach.



# Classifieds

The Crittenden Press

The Crittenden Press

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## agriculture

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## for rent

House for rent, 3 BR, 1 ½ bath, central heat/air and carport. References and proof of income required. \$500/mo. plus \$500 deposit. (1t-35-c)pj

Land contract or rent - 115 Mill St., Salem. 3 BR, 1 bath, upstairs loft, 75x25 workshop, \$500 rent or \$30,000 on contract. Call (270) 836-9048. (2t-36-p)

## hunting

Ethical senior hunter seeks deer lease for this season, smaller tracks okay, (352) 205-6787. (4t-37-p)

## real estate

100 acres, 26 tillable, pond, deer and turkey plentiful, just outside of Marion. \$135,000. Call (802) 579-1361. (4tp-38-p)

For sale: Hunting lodge/bed and breakfast, 6000 sq. ft. on 7 acres with detached processing/storage building, built in 2007, located in Crayne, Ky. (270) 559-2061. (4t-36-p)



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## services

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## notice

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## legal notice

NOTICE OF PASSAGE AND SUMMARY OF ORDINANCE ORDINANCE NUMBER 17-01 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING MARION CODE OF ORDINANCE No. 16-09 ANNUAL BUDGET

Notice is hereby given that the City Council of the City of Marion, Kentucky, at it's special called meeting held on March 1, 2017, at 5:00 o'clock p.m., gave second reading and passed and adopted an Ordinance relating to the Marion Code of Ordinances, which Ordinance had been given its first reading at it's regular called meeting of the City Council held on February 20, 2017, at 6:00 o'clock p.m. A summary of the Ordinance is as follows: This Ordinance amends the City Budget by increasing the General Fund Appropriations to \$38,606 and the LGEA Fund Public Transportation to \$7,000.00.

The full text of the Ordinance

is on file in the Office of the City Clerk in the City Building, Marion, Kentucky, where it is available for public inspection.

PREPARED BY:  
/s/ Robert B. Frazer  
ROBERT B. FRAZER  
CITY ATTORNEY  
FRAZER & MASSEY  
ATTORNEYS -AT- LAW  
P.O. BOX 361  
MARION, KY 42064  
270/965-2261  
March 1, 2017 (1t-35-c)

I, Melissa Guill, Clerk of Crittenden County District Court Marion, KY do certify that the following has filed notice of Final Settlement:

Justin Miles Rice of 1024-B Rodney Drive, Nashville, TN 37205, executor of Bobbie Jean Rice, deceased.

The foregoing Settlement is to be heard at the regular session of the Crittenden District Court on April 12, 2017. All persons having exceptions to said settlements are to file same at once.

Melissa Guill, Clerk  
Crittenden District Court (1t-5-c)  
Melissa Guill, Clerk (1t-34-c)

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The 2017 Lady Rockets varsity fast-pitch softball team includes (front from left) Ashlyn Hicks, Jada Hayes, Chaylee Wolf, Kalli Champion, Chandler Moss, Matthia Long, Jenna Potter, (back) coach Tory Baker, Brandy Book, Ellie Smith, Courtney Beverly, Jessi Brewer, Cassidy Moss, Kaitlyn Hicks, Emmie Smith, head coach Stephen Smith and coach Ronnie Moss.



43	Cassidy Moss	P/SS	Sr
11	Jessi Brewer	C/3B/1B	Sr
37	Courtney Beverly	P/2B	Sr
10	Kaitlyn Hicks	P/3B/SS	Jr
0	Chaylee Wolf	CF/1B	Jr
13	Brandy Book	1B/3B	So
34	Emmie Smith	LF/3B/SS	Fr
20	Ellie Smith	C/1B/3B	Fr
16	Jenna Potter	P/OF/2B	Fr
1	Ashlyn Hicks	SS/OF	8
3	Jada Hayes	2B/OF	8
24	Chandler Moss	P/3B/OF	8
35	Matthia Long	C/OF	8
31	Kalli Champion	OF	8

# Returning personnel has excitement level high

**STAFF REPORT**  
Although first-year Lady Rocket softball skipper Stephen Smith is brand-spanking new to the high school coach's box, he doesn't expect too many surprises.

In fact, he will only be surprised if his team isn't highly competitive.

"I'd love to see us win over 20 games and that has never been done here," said Smith. "With our team, the pitching and talent we have, if we don't win, if we fall short it will be on the coaching."

As if a new coach doesn't have enough pressure already, Smith, 41, is taking responsibility right out of the chute for what he says could be an outstanding year.

Crittenden returns all but a couple of regular starters from last season and senior Cassidy Moss is chief among those. She has already committed to play college softball and basketball at Brescia in Owensboro and is among the top returning hurlers in all of western Kentucky.

"Cassidy can be unhittable," said Smith, who's been around softball for many years as a successful travel league coach.

"In the past, she's just tried to throw the ball by everyone. This year we're going to mix it up a lot more and she could be even more dominant than she has been."

Look for the Lady Rockets to be a bit more varied on the

mound this year. Moss will remain fresh for the biggest matchups because Smith says his pitching staff is four deep at the varsity level and there are more young arms getting ready at the lower levels. Moss has been the No. 1 starter since she was an eighth grader. This year, senior Courtney Beverly and Moss's younger sister, Chandler (herself an eighth grader) are battling for the first-up slot in the rotation and junior Kaitlyn Hicks is perhaps the most improved arm in the stable and she will press the others for time on the mound.

"They all have five pitches. Beverly has a really good screwball that she will use to get a lot of ground balls. Chandler is very close to being an ace. She has a drop change that's uncatchable," the coach said. "I anticipate more innings out of more pitchers."

The Fifth District is loaded with good pitchers with junior Sophie Bingham at Lyon and Hannah Colbert at Trigg. Livingston's ace Allison Doyle is returning from an injury, but can also be very tough to hit.

"Our district is going to be an absolute war," Smith said. "It will be pitching and defense dominated. Whoever can eke out a

run or two could win the game."

To complete the battery, Crittenden will look at senior Jessi Brewer and two youngsters, freshman Elle Smith and eighth-grader Matthia Long. Smith said any one of them is fully capable of being the varsity starter.

"Jessi has worked hard on hitting this year and she's a great leader," the coach said.

Sophomore Brandy Book is getting a strong look as the starting first baseman, but Ellie Smith and Brewer could also see time there.

Beverly has the starting job at second base locked up. She too is a collegiate softball signee who will join Moss at Brescia. Eighth-grader Jada Hayes, who had one of the team's best batting averages last year, may also see some action there. The coach says Hayes, just an eighth grader, could be a varsity starter on any other team in the area.

At shortstop, Kaitlyn Hicks returns to the starting lineup. She's a sure glove, strong arm and has been a fixture there for almost four years. Her eighth-grade sister Ashlyn Hicks is right behind her on the depth chart and freshman Emmie Smith (twin sister to Ellie, and both daughters of the coach) is a candidate for some playing time

there.

The only infield position where there's a question mark is third base. Chandler Moss is a likely candidate to win the hot corner's starting spot, but Ellie Smith and Brewer can handle the job, too.

The new coach says Crittenden's outfield will be much improved this season. He anticipates an athletic group to patrol the yard and take away would-be hits from opponents. Emmie Smith started in left last season and is the top prospect for getting that job back. However, eighth-grader Kalli Champion and freshman Jenna Potter are options. Leading the outfield at center will be Chaylee Wolf, a junior who has played in the past but didn't last season. She's incredibly athletic and has a great bat, the coach said.

In right field, Hayes and Ashlyn Hicks are battling for playing time. Both are solid fielders and swing strong bats.


Crittenden has a very tough schedule this season, starting right out of the gate with Henderson County. Then, Graves, Caldwell, Union and Tilghman are some tougher non-district matchups the Lady Rockets can expect this season.

## Lady Rocket Softball Schedule

March 13	at Henderson County
March 14	Dawson Springs
March 16	at Trigg County
March 17	McLean County
March 18	at Harrisburg, IL
March 20	Hopkins Central
March 21	Ballard
March 24-25	at Trigg County Tournament
March 27	Webster County
March 28	at Union County
March 30	Lyon County
March 31	at Trigg County
April 7-8	at TN Coaches Tournament, Clarksville
April 10	at University Heights All A tournament
April 17	Caldwell County
April 18	at Graves County
April 24	at Hopkins Central
April 25	at Lyon County
April 27	Livingston County
May 1	Paducah Tilghman
May 2	at Ballard
May 4	at Webster County
May 8	at Caldwell County
May 9	Union County
May 12	at Livingston County
May 15	at Dawson Springs
May 16	at Paducah Tilghman
May 18	at McLean County
May 19	Graves County
May 22-26	at Trigg County District Tournament
May 29-June 2	Regional Tournament

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# GO BIG BLUE

Wishing our Rocket and Lady Rocket Spring Athletic Teams much success in the 2016 season!



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