



## SCHOOL HOSTS ANNUAL VETERANS DAY SALUTE

Crittenden County School District's Heart to Heart Center is hosting its annual Veterans Day program at 9 a.m., Thursday at Rocket Arena. Masking not required as long as individuals are seated at least 3 feet apart. The event is open to the public and veterans are encouraged to attend and participate. For more information, call 270-965-3525.

## VETERANS DAY CLOSINGS

Crittenden County local government offices will be closed on Thursday in observance of Veterans Day. This will include the courthouse offices, road department, animal shelter and convenience center. The Crittenden Press and federal offices in the community, including the post office, will be closed Thursday.

## LONGTIME FORMER MAGISTRATE, COOK, DIES AT AGE 90

Longtime community leader Percy Cook, 90, died Friday afternoon in an Evansville hospital. Cook served for 21 years as a county magistrate from the Fourth District, a northern section of Crittenden County, where he had lived on the family farm for decades. First elected to the Crittenden County Fiscal Court in 1993, Cook completed his final term as magistrate in 2014. He suffered a broken hip in a fall at the courthouse a couple of weeks ago. Friends said he developed pneumonia after hip surgery and passed away late Friday afternoon. See obituary on page 2 of this issue.



## UPCOMING MEETINGS

- Marion City Council will meet in regular session at 5 p.m., Monday, Nov. 15 at city hall.
- Crittenden County Fiscal Court will meet in regular session at 8:30 a.m., Thursday, Nov. 18 at the courthouse.
- Crittenden County Board of Education will have a working session at 5:30 p.m., Tuesday, Nov. 16 at Rocket Arena.
- Crittenden-Livingston Water District will meet at 4 p.m., Monday, Nov. 22 at the Deer Lakes Golf Course meeting room.



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## Coping with Faith

### Young widow finds hope and healing in scriptures



Words are grossly insufficient to describe how painful it is to lose someone you love. Regardless of the relationship, whether it be an acquaintance, a child, a friend or a soulmate, death is not an easy pill to swallow.

When tragedy strikes, it makes for an even more complicated way of grieving a loss. And in a small town when something to that degree takes place, it's as if the entire community feels the sting of the loss regardless if you know the individuals who are suffering.

Recently I had the honor to sit with a woman on the stoop of her newly built family barn. A beautiful structure, with stalls across the left side. On the right, a wash area, plenty of storage and if you look above the door that faces a large field with cattle grazing, pictures are hung of the man who had dreamt the blueprint up himself. The barn sits almost precisely where a previous barn once stood.

In March of this year, Nathan Wright was working inside the original building behind the house when a welding explosion from the truck he was working on engulfed the shop in flames. Inside his home just feet away, his wife and four small children watched in horror as their lives changed in an instant.

Within hours the community sat in disbelief as the story unfolded. A young man, gone. A husband, father, son, friend and coal miner taken too soon. He had aspirations of teaching



Kayla MAXFIELD  
Press Columnist  
MAX-ED OUT



This family photograph was taken just weeks before the accident that left Jessica Wright a young widow with four children. The children are (from left) Jack, 7; Jansen Lane, 18 months; Jentry, 4; and Jhett, 9. Pictured at top inside their new barn is Jansen Lane.

his children how to farm, and planned on purchasing every acre around their home he possibly could so that one day his sons could share his dream, if they so chose.

His wife is Jessica. My mom grew up around her fa-

ther, so naturally I've always known her. When the incident took place, I remember looking at my own family and feeling so helpless. I couldn't imagine what she was going

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## REMEMBERING VIETNAM

### Local veterans share wartime memories, cold return home

BY CHRIS EVANS  
PRESS EDITOR

Folks around Marion know Dr. Steve Crider as the dentist who cleaned their teeth and doctored them with fillings from time to time.

They probably recognize David LaNeave as a minister who's served area churches for nearly 30 years.

Dr. Crider is now retired and LaNeave has resurfaced from retirement to lead a small church in Webster County. Their contributions to the health and faith of this community are self-evident, but what's less conspicuous is their decorated military service. Both have Bronze Stars from their wartime efforts in Vietnam.

Crider has a Bronze Star with a V for valor and two oak leaf clusters. His meritorious awards were earned for actions during hostile fire in

Vietnam.

Also among Crider's military honors is the Army Commendation Medal with a V for valor and two oak leaf clusters. He was drafted in 1969 at the age of 21 and spent 10 months and 27 days as a U.S. Army combat infantryman on a security mission near Saigon. By the time he was honorably discharged, Crider had attained the rank of staff sergeant E5.

Crider's 25th Infantry Division was in the thick of the fighting and his company regularly patrolled in an area well known as The Tunnels of Củ Chi. The tunnels clandestinely connected North Vietnamese fighters and other rebels to South Vietnam's capital, Saigon. Several military campaigns were fought around the Củ Chi tunnels where enemy Viet Cong hid out during combat

and used a network of caverns to supply and support the North Vietnamese war effort.

It was from a firefight at one of those tunnels where Crider and his unit captured 13 enemy combatants and he earned his second Bronze medal. His other Star came from a similar incident when Crider's platoon came under fire while on patrol. Crider, armed with an M-16 accessorized with a grenade launcher (officially known as an XM 203), was cited for his valor in returning fire and other actions during the skirmish.

His unit was also deployed to Cambodia in 1970, which was a politically charged situation. When President Richard Nixon ordered the

See WAR/page 4



Last Wednesday was the first day to formalize candidacy for local public office. On that day, eight local individuals filed to run in the 2022 elections. Since then, there have been more.

Candidates who must run in the spring primary election have until 4 p.m., Jan. 7 to formalize their candidacy. The county clerk has a candidate information package available and it can be found online at the clerk's Facebook page.

The 2022 primary election is set for May 17 and the general election will be on Nov. 8. Candidates running in non-partisan races in the general election have until June 7 to file.

Filing over the past week were the following candidates:

Daryl Tabor for County Clerk\*  
Robbie Kirk for 4th District Magistrate  
Dave Belt for 1st District Magistrate\*  
Chuck Hoover for Sheriff  
Heath Martin for Sheriff  
Bart Frazer for County Attorney  
Perry Newcom for Judge-Executive\*  
Dale Willingham for 5th District Magistrate  
Daniel Heady for Circuit Judge  
Ben Leonard for District Judge  
Paul Beard for 4th District Constable  
Brad Gilbert for County Coroner\*  
Travis Perryman for 5th District Magistrate  
Athena Perry-Hayes for County Jailer  
Greg Rushing for District 6 Magistrate



## Deaths

### Croft

Kenneth Ray "Fay" Croft, 91, of Salem, died Saturday, Nov. 6, 2021 at Livingston Hospital and Healthcare Services.

Croft was born in Crittenden County May 15, 1930 to Rhea and Edith Dixon Croft.

He was retired from National Distillers in Louisville. He was Baptist by faith and was a 50-plus year Mason of both Salem Masonic Lodge #81 and Shively Masonic Lodge. Being outdoors was a favorite pastime of his. He enjoyed his coffee and his morning newspaper every day and talking to his friends at Tambco.

Surviving are his wife of 72 years, Ida Larene Croft of Salem; two daughters, Linda (John) Uland of Elizabeth, Ind., and Bonnie (Dan) Klueber of Louisville; a son, Kenneth Robert "Bobby" Croft of Salem; a grandson, Jason Klueber; and two great-grandchildren, Alyx and Taylor Klueber.

He was preceded in death by his sister, Shirley; three brothers, Carol Randall, J. D., and Hershel; and his parents.

Funeral services were Wednesday, Nov. 10 in the chapel of Boyd Funeral Directors and Cremation Services. Burial was in Salem Cemetery.

*Paid obituary*

### Cook

Percy Lee Cook, 90, of Marion, died Friday, Nov. 5, 2021 at St. Vincent's Hospital in Evansville.

He had worked as a foreman for the Whirlpool Corporation in Evansville and was a veteran of the United States Marine Corps. He served as Crittenden County's Fourth District magistrate for 21 years from 1993-2014.

He enjoyed hunting and the outdoors.

Surviving are a son, Terry Lee Cook of Corydon; two granddaughters, Chelsey Cook and Meredith Cook, both of Henderson; three grandsons, Tucker Cook of Henderson, Ben Cook of Murray and Jon Cook of Frankfort; two sisters, Doris Brantley of Marion and Martha Kirk of Dawson Springs; a brother, Joe Cook of Vincennes, Ind.; and 10 great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Ira Walker and Harpye Jane Herrin Cook; a son, Stan Cook; and five brothers and sisters.

A celebration of life service will be held at 2

p.m., Friday, Nov. 12 at Myers Funeral Home. Visitation will begin at 11 a.m.

### Hardin

Guy Miles Hardin, 75, of Marion, died Thursday, Nov. 4, 2021 at Crittenden County Health and Rehabilitation Center.

He had lived in Marion, since 1984 and had been a meter reader for 37 years for Rural Electric. He was a 1964 graduate of Henderson High School, a lifetime member of the NRA and a member of Take Back Kentucky. He attended St. Paul Episcopal Church.

Surviving are a brother, John Hardin of Marion.

He was preceded in death by his parents, John Richard and Helen Blinn Miles Hardin.

Cremation was chosen and there will be no services.

Myers Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

### Yancy

Jerry Lynn Yancy, 73, of Fredonia, died Thursday, Nov. 4, 2021, at Mercy Health in Paducah.

He was born Sept. 3, 1948, in Paducah to his late parents, Jesse and Manola Baker Yancy. On June 7, 1969, he married his wife, Patricia Allison Yancy. He retired from Ashland Chemicals in Calvert City after 27 years as a chemical operator. He was a member of Eddyville Church of Christ and attended Fredonia First Baptist. He was often found outside his home tending to his garden, watching birds, squirrels and deer, and enjoying the outdoors. He loved to hunt, fish and watch NASCAR on Sundays. He was a loving husband, devoted father, and the best "granddog" sitter.

In addition to his wife of 52 years, surviving are two daughters, Brittany Yancy of Lexington and Ashley Yancy of Eddyville; three "granddogs," Scottie, Bentley and Carter.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Jesse and Manola Yancy.

Funeral services were Sunday, Nov. 7 at Morgan's Funeral Home with Rev. Presley Lamn officiating. Burial was in Fredonia Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to First Baptist Church of Fredonia Food Pantry, P.O. Box 123, Fredonia, KY 42411.

*Paid obituary*

### Blake

Ronald Bruce Blake, Sr., 72, of Ledbetter, formerly of Marion, died Sunday, Nov. 7, 2021 at the Ray and Kay Eckstein Hospice Center in Paducah. He was a United States Air Force Veteran, member of Seven Springs Baptist Church, Dycusburg Masonic Lodge Number 232 and the American Legion. He was employed at Peabody Coal Camp 11.

Surviving are two children, Ronald Bruce "Junior" (Tiara) Blake, Jr., of Manassas, Va., and Crystal Blake Mendiola of Rock Hill, S.C.; 10 grandchildren, Preston Blake, Ronald Bruce Blake III, Braedan Blake, Britton Blake, Brooklyn Blake, Brielle Blake, Kayla Mendiola, Christopher Mendiola, Ronalyn Mendiola and David Junior Mendiola; eight great-grandchildren, Asher, Abel and Cohen Blake, Isabella, Christopher Junior, Ma'liaa, Ryder and Zaybriel Mendiola; a brother, Clayton (Edna) Blake; and a sister, Mechelle (Larry) Cheek.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Oman Russell and Ruby Laverne Blake; his wife, Phyllis Blake; and sisters Wanda Dooks and Cheryl Blake.

Services are at 1 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 13 at Seven Springs Baptist Church in Marion with burial in Mapleview Cemetery. The family will receive visitors from 5-8 p.m., Friday, Nov. 12 at Gilbert Funeral Home and from 9 a.m. until service time Saturday at the church.

Military Rites will be held at the cemetery on Saturday.

Gilbert Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

### Marshall

Ruth Brooks Marshall, 70, of Marion, died Sunday, Nov. 7, 2021 at her home.

She was a career educator and served as a coach for the academic, cheerleading and swim teams. She was a member of Marion Christian Church.

Surviving are a daughter, Brooke Marshall of Marion; a brother, George (Christi) Brooks of Earlington; and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Ronnie Marshall; parents, Carl Raymond and Betty Jane McCulley Brooks; and a brother, Carl Raymond Brooks, Jr.

Memorial services will be scheduled at a later

date.

Myers Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

### Wring

Linda Louise Wring, 82, of Salem, died Monday, Nov. 8, 2021. She was a member of Mexico Baptist Church.

She was born March 15, 1939 in Dycusburg to Roy and Vernon Henry who preceded her

in death.

Surviving are her husband of 64 years, Tommy Wring; four children, Kenny (Arlene) Wring, Susie (Brad) Ditter, Barry (Marilyn) Wring and Jim (Jodi) Wring; 10 grandchildren, Andrew, Emily, Katie, Adam, Megan, Jeremy, Trent, Gabe, Canaan and Emma Kate; and 12 great-grandchildren.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her sister, Mary Alice Linzy; and a brother, Roy Leon Henry.

Funeral services will be at 11 a.m., Friday, Nov. 12 at Boyd Funeral Directors and Cremation

Services with Rev. Jim Wring officiating. Burial will follow in Tyner's Chapel Cemetery.

Friends may visit with the family from 5-8 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 11 in the chapel of Boyd Funeral Directors.

## Online Condolences

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— Ferry Tales —  
**Outlaw River Tour**



# On the trail of local history

Those who participated in the Ferry Tales series of historic programs over the past several weeks are hailing it as one of the most fascinating programs ever staged in Crittenden County.

It reached an apex over the weekend with two day-long tours of the Ohio River sections of Crittenden and Hardin County, Ill., as guides and experts painted a colorful and sometimes horrific picture of pioneer days as families moved westward and outlaws operated on the fringe of conventional laws.

Much of what was portrayed is only folklore, said author and guide Todd Carr of Elizabethtown, Ill. Certainly, he said, stories have been embellished over the years to make them more interesting and in some cases his research have found them to be outright wrong. Still, Carr points out that river pirates did exist along this stretch of the Ohio River and they were largely centered around the natural shelter on the riverbank at Cave In Rock.

Local historian and author Brenda Underdown and entertainer and history enthusiast Brennan Cruce were among the enterprisers who led the tours Friday and Saturday steering an assembly of individuals from both sides of the river along paths of historic significance, some public venues and others seldom tread sites on private farms.

There were about 75 people who joined the roughly eight-hour driving – and sometimes hiking – tours that began in Marion and ended in Equality, Ill. Those who attended described their day as enlightening and engaging.

“This is one of the best programs I have ever seen,” said Underdown, widely known as the historian laureate of Crittenden County. She said much of the credit goes to Crittenden County Librarian Brandie Ledford, and Carr.

“Brandie is great, she has done something we should have done a long time ago and that’s put together a

tour like this,” Underdown said. “And Todd is so good, too, and he knows how to write grants and get things like this done.”

The project – which included a book and lecture series, public forums and free historically-based movies – was funded by humanities councils, historical societies and tourism commissions in Illinois and Kentucky.

Tour-takers learned seldom-heard tales and information about public landmarks such as the cave at Cave In Rock; Ohio River ferries; Tower Rock in Hardin County; Illinois’ oldest hotel, the Rose Inn at Elizabethtown; and legends of Pickering Hill. Yet, highlights of the endeavor, included rare glimpses of remnants of Ford’s Cemetery in Crittenden County and Potts Inn in Hardin County.

Susan Smith, who drives the Bookmobile for the local library, was on the tour. She grew up in southern Illinois hearing river pirate tales. She now lives in Marion and was excited about the storytelling series and tours.

“I had been to most all of these places before, but I had never been to Tower Rock. I think I’d like to take my grandsons back,” Smith said. “I had been to Billy Potts’ establishment many years ago and actually got to see the picture of Bill Potts. So it’s been nice to come back and rehash old memories.”

An artist rendering on the bluff behind the former Potts Inn site in Illinois has over time eroded and trees have grown up in front of the bluff on which it was drawn.

“It has been very interesting. I had heard these stories ... but when you actually see where these events took place they come alive,” said Sarah Ford of Marion, who was on the tour.

Interpretive maps are available at the library so those who were not able to make last weekend’s event can stage their own personal driving tour. However, the private property locations will not be accessible.



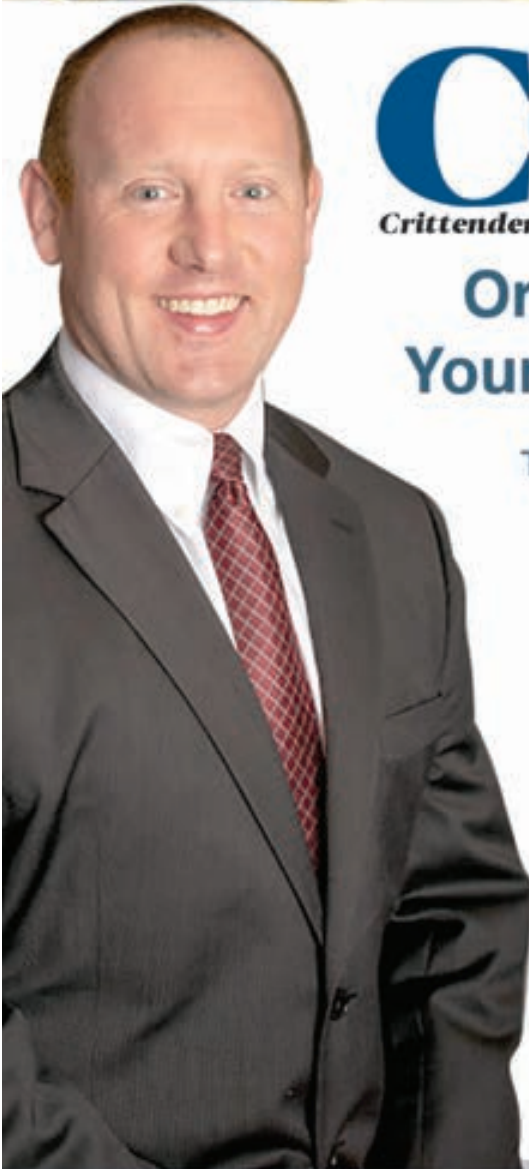
Smith



Ford



More than 80 individuals took tours Friday and Saturday of public sites and historic areas that are on private property and seldom open to tourists. The tours were a climax to a three-month long program developed by individuals and groups interested in telling and preserving local lore, including the Crittenden County Public Library, Humanities councils in Kentucky and Illinois and historical societies on both sides of the Ohio River. The two-state tour visited a number of sites, including some pictured here. Clockwise from top left are tourists overlooking the Ohio River from Tower Rock inside Shawnee National Forest in southern Illinois; tour guides Brennan Cruce and Todd Carr on top of a rock shelf at Cave In Rock State Park; locals Carole and Kathleen Guess at the historic Ford Cemetery near Tolu; the lawn of historic Rose Hotel in Elizabethtown, Ill., and hikers heading to one of the remote locations on the tour. Watch a video of the tour at The Crittenden Press YouTube Channel or at The Press Online.



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## Chamber emerging from restructuring hiatus; meeting planned to build new leadership team

STAFF REPORT  
Crittenden County Chamber of Commerce is beginning to emerge from a reorganizational period and is looking for interested individuals to be part of its retooled leadership team.

Essentially inactive for the past few months, the Chamber will meet at 8 a.m., Thursday, Nov. 18 at the Marion Welcome Center to restructure its

board of directors and elect officers.

The Chamber is one of the oldest community organizations. It serves local merchants and industry and acts as a liaison between the businesses and broader community. Over the last three decades, the Chamber has been active in organizing community events such as a fall festival, the Christmas Pa-

rade, a Shop Marion First program, Small Business Saturday and more.

A small group of Chamber members has been reworking its by-laws and other organizational details over the past few weeks.

Anyone interested in being part of the restructured Chamber should attend the upcoming meeting.





# Legion is hosting Thanksgiving meal on Sunday

In 1958, veterans wives and volunteers created the American Legion Auxiliary Unit 217 in Burna.

“They had no idea it would continue until today. They were hosting their first Thanksgiving dinner for all those in the community,” said Faye Gibson, an auxiliary member. “This fundraiser was used in helping veterans, military and community through Christmas and beyond.”

Due to the pandemic, the annual Thanksgiving meal was suspended last year. It was the first time since 1958 that the legion hall didn’t have a public event to celebrate the November holiday.

“This was a tough decision as so many look forward to this annual event,” Gibson said. “Families, community members, churches, etc., get together to share a meal and socialize. “Last year was unusual

with COVID and it was decided to postpone until it was better. The members of the post and auxiliary have had numerous requests to continue with the meal this year.”

Members are happy that they can once again continue with this tradition, she said.

Post and auxiliary members are largely from Livingston and Crittenden counties. Post 217 veterans will be serving

their traditional meal this weekend. The auxiliary will be busy cooking and serving. The meal will consist of turkey, mashed potatoes and gravy, stuffing, green beans, cranberry sauce, rolls, coffee, tea and home-made desserts of several varieties.

“As it is said, ‘It takes a community’ and it really does,” said Gibson. “Together we are able to make a difference in the lives of those serving in

our military as well as our veterans in need.

Each year visits are made to the Joseph "Eddie" Ballard Western Kentucky Veterans Center where individuals are gifted with needed items as well as activity funds for the residents. Also, the Pennyroyal Veterans Center in Hopkinsville has needs that the post and auxiliary help fulfill.

“Post 217 and auxiliary are looking forward to seeing you at the Burna

on Sunday, Nov. 14. Serving will be between 11:30 a.m., to 1:30 p.m..

“Come on down and enjoy a great meal,” Gibson said. Cost of meal is \$12 for adults and \$6 for children under 12. The post is located beside Livingston Middle school. Call ahead to have carry-out meals ready (270-988-4587).

The post encourages everyone to bring their church friends and enjoy a meal.

## School District developing plan to grow its own faculty Teacher shortage worse than ever

STAFF REPORT

Growing their own may be the key to combatting a teacher shortage in the Crittenden County School District.

The problem is not specific to this community. A declining number of college students are seeking teaching degrees nationwide. The problem is particularly troubling for the high school.

Crittenden County is developing a plan of attack. It’s strategy? To grow its own educators.

Beginning in January, a series of classes will be implemented at CCHS for students interested in the education field. The Teaching and Learning Pathway will join the school’s business, agriculture, biomedical, aerospace and family and consumer sciences pathways to provide students a taste of college coursework in those fields.

Superintendent Vince Clark said the teacher shortage is worse now than ever. Murray State Univer-

sity, he said, has been producing one high school math teacher every two years for the past decade. Clearly not enough to supply area schools.

On a positive note, Murray State and Western Kentucky universities honor dual credits in the education courses to be offered at CCHS. Students interested in education can take the five courses and have a semester’s worth of college coursework completed by the time they graduate high school.

Clark is proud that the board of education can assist with tuition for those courses. The board pays 50 percent of the cost of two college courses and Clark hopes to be able to increase that in the coming years as a result of the recently-developed Rocket Foundation.

The high school also is working to bolster interest in its Educators Rising program, formerly Future Educators of America.

“With Educators Rising, we hope to get students in, get them excited about education so they can pursue their degree and come back and start their career right back at home,” said Deonna McCord, an English teacher who will lead the first course in the Teaching and Learning Pathway next semester.

“Supporting kids and allowing them to get a head start on college and career readiness is my vision for Educators Rising,” Clark said, lauding the potential for students to finish college in three or four years and return to the district that produced them.

“We have to attack our teacher shortage,” Clark told the board of education in October. “We have more emergency- and alternative-certified staff than ever.”

Clark said teachers hired with emergency and alternative certifications have college degrees in areas other than education. Through the emergency-

and alternative certification process, they complete college coursework to obtain the required education credentials over a three-year period while employed by the school district.

“We have to find a way to capture kids that want to be educators, create experiences for them in the district,” Clark added.

“Anything we can do to grow our own – whether teachers, bankers, chiropractors, attorneys, whatever – we know local folks are more likely to continue making (Marion) their home,” said board chairman Chris Cook.

Clark said it is important to encourage future teachers who are invested in this community.

“Our kids are our resources in this community and when you invest in them now, it makes a difference down the road,” he said. “When they are in high school is the time to capture that opportunity.”

OCTOBER 2021

Weather Yearbook

Coldest Temp  
39.8

Warmest Temp  
85.1

Wettest Day  
1.06

Sun., Oct. 17

Sat., Oct. 9

Sat., Oct. 2

	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017
Average Temp	63.8	56.9	58.9	59.2	60.8
Coldest Temp	39.8	33.8	27.8	31.5	31.5
Hottest Temp	85.1	81.9	94.4	88.2	85.0
Precipitation	3.2	7.9	6.9	4.8	4.1
Wettest Day	1.06	2.7	2.44	2.96	1.41

■ October brought another dry month for Crittenden County. Rainfall during the 31-day cycle was the third lowest of any month in 2021 and it was the driest October in the previous five years. September was the second driest of the year so there have been two straight months with little rainfall. In October, there was measureable rainfall on 15 days, but most of the precipitation fell on just five of those days, with more than one-quarter inch on each of those, spread throughout the month. The weather in October was near perfect for farmers to gather their crops, plant wheat and prepare fields for the winter.

### WAR

Continued from page 1

United States military to enter Cambodia to ferret out North Vietnamese fighters who were hiding there, it touched off protests in America and led to the Kent State tragedy.

Perhaps partly for his endeavors, Crider earned a “kickback” position during his final month in Vietnam. Soldiers referred to those final days in country as “getting short” and when Crider was close to fulfilling his tour, the company captain was likely responsible for landing him a gig as a headquarters RTO, that’s an acronym for Radio Telephone Operator. The mission meant Crider didn’t have to go out on patrols any longer. His job was to stay behind and make sure all of the communications equipment remained operable and he stayed in constant contact with platoons in the jungle.

For the most part, Crider doesn’t talk about his experiences in Vietnam and he is still a little bitter about the way soldiers were treated when they returned from the war. Around here, he never felt hostility, but in other places he understands that it was distinct.

“I heard of soldiers who were spit on and called baby killers, but I never saw anything like that,” he said.

He returned to Fort Hood, Texas after leaving Vietnam. There Crider remembers tenuous situations that left the military men with scars that are not easily covered by time.

“That bothered me for a while, but now I think people are trying to make it up to us,” Crider said.

For years after his service in Vietnam, David LaNeave kept something bottled up inside his spirit. There were sub-



Crider

liminal issues, pent up frustrations and emotions that he didn’t even realize existed.

He’d been out of the military for more than 30 years and was an ordained Cumberland Presbyterian pastor when a chance encounter with a former Army chaplain erupted those subconscious vexations. It was a milestone that he will never forget.

Soldiers like LaNeave who returned from the Vietnam War 50 years ago found cool receptions if any sort of welcome at all once they were back stateside. Seldom was there any fanfare or homecoming parades.

A paratrooper in the U.S. Army, SP5 LaNeave had top-secret clearance and was a special courier for high-ranking officers in the I Corps. His missions routinely took LaNeave through hostile territory.

“I was traveling, taking messages, and riding helicopters almost every day,” he said.

At times, he’d cover one of the openings on the side of the chopper, a job known as door gunner. It was typically considered one of the most dangerous places to be while flying above combat zones.

“You just never knew when somebody was going to take a pot shot at you,” he said. “And I am not just talking about flying in combat areas. Just about anywhere, someone was always looking to take a shot at you.”

LaNeave graduated from Crittenden County High School in 1966 and was drafted into the Army, but sent to Germany with the 101st Airborne Division. Twenty-four months later, he re-upped for another year. Within a few days, he was shipped to the war zone in South Vietnam, just 25 clicks (15½ miles) from the DMZ. He didn’t know it until after he was home from the war, but special agents had been dispatched to Marion to do a background check on LaNeave for his secret clearance.

“J.D. Orr said two guys, he thought were FBI agents, came and interviewed him about me,” LaNeave said. “About 72 hours later, I had a top secret clearance.”

The status was needed for the job military leaders had in store for him, because he would be handling messages that included orders, status reports and other briefings that could affect battles, and perhaps national security.

His memories of the battlefield are quite vivid, patrols outside the perimeter of his company’s firebase left lasting effects that aren’t easily put away. The trauma of wartime pales to some degree, however, to the shock he received back home. He’d flown from I Corps headquarters in Washington State back to Chicago for a connecting flight home. He and a soldier buddy were walking along a corridor at the airport when a group of young people approached them and a girl spit on him.

LeNeave said he didn’t know how to react, so he had no immediate response. The two soldiers turned away and went in another direction.

Fast forward to a minister’s retreat in Tennessee when LeNeave was in his 50s. His wartime experiences were a distant past until a discussion among a small group of Presbyterian pastors brought everything to the surface. A volcano of emotions spilled out. He wasn’t even sure where they came from.

“I don’t know what happened to me. It just stirred all kinds of crazy feelings. I started to cry,” he recalls.

Another minister, a retired colonel who had been a chaplain in Vietnam, walked over to LaNeave and gave him a huge hug, and said, “Welcome home!”



LaNeave

### In Their Own Words

These two local men who fought in the Vietnam War tell their stories in first person on our podcast at The Press Online. The war lasted from 1955 to 1975, and they served during the period of U.S. involvement.

“It was the most amazing thing that has ever happened to me. I was in my 50s at this point and I didn’t realize I had all those emotions. Since then, I have used that term, Welcome home, many, many times be-



Podcast

cause that’s what we didn’t get.”

There is no arguing that Vietnam-era soldiers struggled for years to cope with these types of issues. The war and its aftermath at home have for decades haunted many of these men. However, LaNeave says some have been vocal and instrumental in planning welcome home events and other military recognitions for soldiers involved in more modern conflicts, such as those in the Middle East.

“I think those have been spurred on by the people from Vietnam,” he said.

Retired U.S. Army Ranger Denis Hodge,

who teaches military history at Crittenden County High School, explains that the soldiers who came home from Vietnam made it their post-war mission to change the country’s attitude.

“Their generation made sure that our country never again allowed a generation of soldiers to be treated that way no matter the political climate back home or how we felt about a war. They’ve ensured that soldiers will be honored.”

That lasting legacy is perhaps far more important than the outcome of the war they fought.

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FAMILY  
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# Remembering Maurie Houston Kirk

*The price Americans have paid for our freedom*

## Local Events & News

This article was written by The Crittenden Press Editor Chris Evans in June of 2006. It is such an incredible story of a young man's terrifying experiences in World War II, it is worthy of being shared again. Virginia Kirk, Houston's wife, shared with me in the past that Houston never talked of his war days that he just kept them to himself. I knew he must have experienced some terrible memories.



**Brenda Underdown**  
County Historian  
*Forgotten Passages*

When this article appeared in The Press, I thought that maybe Houston thought it was time to share some of his experiences with us so that the younger generations could understand more what the young soldiers of World War II went through fighting for America.

### Freedom is not Free

When Kirk starts to talk he recalls the price Americans have paid for their freedom. Kirk, 84, has a keen sense of those sacrifices; in fact, he still feels the pain.

Leaning against his wooden cane, Kirk looks out across his 200-acre farm on U. S. 641 just south of Crayne and speaks of how beautiful a freshly-cut pasture can appear. Time and old war would keep Kirk mostly on the porch nowadays, but he still enjoys watching the tractors and savoring the smells that trail behind mowers and balers.

Nowadays, others do the work, but up until about three years ago Kirk was still tending to his prized polled Hereford cattle and putting up hay himself.

The years have dulled many things, among them are Kirk's step and his memories of World War II. Even his bloody arrival in Normandy, France is fuzzy six decades later. Dates often escape him, but the visions of buddies dying, grenades tossed into his lap and the deep battle scars remain quite vivid.

On July 9, Kirk will celebrate a dubious anniversary – the 60th year since he was severely wounded in France on D-Day. Blood clots and eight operations on his legs are telltale reminders of that day in 1944, when Kirk and the rest of the warriors in H Company of the 330th Infantry Division began an assault on the Germans near St. Lo.

### Bitter Battle

The bitter July battle gave Allied forces the push they needed to break through from the beachheads at Normandy and begin their assault toward Hitler's motherland that would eventually end the war. The fighting around St. Lo was among the most intense of the entire campaign as Americans and their allies battled the Germans in the hedgerows of France.

"We would throw a grenade over the hedgerows and the Germans would throw it right back," recalls Kirk. "It was a different kind of war than the ones being fought now. It was close. You looked the enemy right in the eye."

Kirk's company was a heavy weapons squad with two .30-caliber machine guns and a .50-caliber anti-aircraft weapon. The Germans were terribly frightened of the huge devastating round delivered by the "50-cal" as it became known.

The Germans were throwing everything they had at us, remembers Kirk, who was a trim 5-foot-9 and 142 pounds at the time. "We attacked them on the Fourth of July and there were 175 men in our outfit. After fighting all day there were 39 of us left that night."

Kirk was hit by shrapnel from a mortar attack on July 6 and knocked unconscious for most of the day. He remained with his company, however, and was better the following day despite a severe concussion from the blast.

Three days later near St. Lo, the Germans delivered a massive assault using American made tanks they had captured in Italy.

"We thought they were our own tanks and let them come right into the lines," Kirk recalled. "The Germans even had on our uniforms. They just slaughtered us that day."

A bullet grazed the top of Kirk's helmet and he and his comrades, who had survived to that point, knew they might be next.

"Every day you see your buddies getting killed and you know that the law of averages is going to catch up with you," Kirk said, reliving the fear and psychological turmoil that plagued him and other troops after days of intense combat.

It was July 9 when an-



**Houston Kirk was a handsome young soldier heading off to fight for our freedom. He was fortunate to return home, though injured several times on the front lines. Like others, he kept his painful war memories to himself for many years.**

other bomb exploded next to Kirk and mangled his leg. The blast knocked him cold and the Germans who overran his position thought he was dead. They took his billfold, watch and helmet which had the dent in it from the bullet a few days earlier. "Why they took that I don't know," he said.

After a while his own men and some German prisoners of war came through and evacuated the wounded from the area.

"I remember being on a gurney and those POWs were carrying me and handling me pretty roughly. The Germans forces started dropping artillery on the area and the guys carrying my gurney dropped me in the middle of the field and ran for cover."

Kirk finally ended up in an army hospital in England where he began a long recovery for a broken neck and the badly damaged leg. He wore a cast from the waist down for several weeks. He was eventually sent home to Washington D. C., then to hospitals in Nashville and Memphis where he finally recovered from the war wounds.

### Painful Memories

Kirk was discharged the next spring, on April 3, 1945 as a staff sergeant and decorated by a breast full of medals, including the distinguished Bronze Star and Purple Heart. He also earned medals from combat and the European campaign to liberate



**A wall of thick vegetation proved seemingly impossible to cut through as the Germans spent months preparing their defenses. The Germans had planted stakes near the most likely route of the American troops and mapped the locations, allowing the Germans to quickly and accurately call fire onto the advancing allies. The German machine guns pointed directly at these openings when the allies started trying to cut through them.**

France.

After the war, Kirk worked in the automotive industry in Evansville and St. Louis then retired and bought a farm next to his father near Crayne. Longevity runs in the family – his grandfather lived to be 89 and his father was 99 when he died. Maybe I'll live to be 100," he said with a coy grin.

Kirk counts himself very lucky. He doesn't care too much for talking about his warring days. It's too painful, he says.

"There were about 50 of us boys who got on a bus on Oct. 24, 1942 and left Marion to go to war. Fewer than half came home," he said. "My wife's brother James "Buford" Truitt was one of them. He was killed in Normandy and is buried in France. There was James Ellis Ordway, Reed Kemper, Victor Orr and a bunch of others who died over there."

"It seems like about all of the boys from Marion got killed," says Kirk as he leans back in his recliner in his living room and balances his cane across his waist. "It seems like all of my buddies got wiped out. World War II was really bad. I don't think they've come up with anything that bad since then."

### My thoughts

I attended the little Crayne Community Church with Houston and Virginia for several years. They are both gone now, Houston passed away on July 19, 2021. Finer folks you won't ever find. Houston was always a hero to

all of us.

He attended every Memorial and Veteran Day service at Maplevue until he passed away, always in the background, always humble about his service to our country. I like to remember his incredible story each year at these times.

So very thankful for our service men and women of today and for these veterans that fought and sacrificed so much for us to be free Americans.

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

**Maplevue Cemetery's anonymous donor has increased his commitment to a paving project in the cemetery.**

*The cemetery needs \$3,000 in donations for the individual to donate \$34,000 for the paving project.*

If you can assist in the final fundraising push, please send donations to:

**Marion Cemetery Association**

P.O. Box 544  
Marion, KY 42064

## THANK YOU

The family of Keith Hodge would like to thank everyone who showed so many acts of kindness during these difficult times. Thanks to everyone who visited, brought food, sent flowers, gifts of Gideon Bibles and made donations to the Jake Hodge Foundation.

The Hodge family wishes to express gratitude to Brad Gilbert and Gilbert Funeral Home staff for their kindness and compassion to our family. Thanks to Bro. John Robertson for the comforting words and continued prayers.

During a time like this we realize how much our friends and relatives really mean to us...your expressions of sympathy will always be remembered.

*Chris,  
Denis and Shannon  
Jessi and Brandon  
Jolea and Jaxson  
Jordyn*

## THANK YOU

The family of Solomon Mullins would like thank each and everyone for the food, prayers, flowers and all acts of kindness shown to our family following our loss.

Thank you to the staffs of Livingston Hospital and Boyd Funeral Directors for their care and comfort.

*Tommy Mullins,  
Norma Ramage and families*

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## THANK YOU

to all who had a part in repairing Rooster Lane with chip and seal. It was much appreciated.  
*Thank you.*



# Hats serve as reminders

Baseball caps are either earned, demanding or aspirational. Sometimes they look forward in anticipation, as in wearing a team's hat to a football game, or one given as a gift at the beginning of a project or career. Sometimes they look back. They may be well-worn and covered with the grime of work and play, but they are reminders of places we have been. And nearly everyone has that one hat – the preferred one, the lucky one, the one that is loved to the embarrassment of those who are seen with the wearer.

We use the image of wearing hats to describe what a person does and the roles they play. Most of those hats are of the aspirational variety and must be grown into. I think of parenting, or of caring for aging parents. They both are part of life, but by the time one fig-

ures it out, it is time to put on a different one. Some hats are given to us by life – illness, grief, or broken relationships. No one wants them but wear them we must. Ill fitting as they may be, they become part of us and cannot easily be hidden.

Some hats get blown off by storms or knocked off because we are playing too hard. I have had to pick up plenty of hats that have come off my head while I still needed them. And some hats just get old and worn out, the only thing they are good for is to hang on the rack and remember.

Hats are an immediate identifier of tribe, purpose and intention. In some cases, they are a direct line from someone's head into their soul and expressions of allegiance. The person under it must be consistent with what is on it. When they do not match people notice.

There are some hats that come with immediate honor and demand recognition. I was walking into the grocery store a couple of weeks ago and out walked a man I do not know. He had more than a few years behind him and although steady and possessing strength, could not quite walk upright. His eyes betrayed experience that had earned him the right to wear a hat that said, "Vietnam Veteran."

I looked as we passed, nodded my head, and quietly said, "Thank you." He did not have to ask, "for what." He knew what that hat expressed. I don't know what he did "over there," but I suspect it was more than work in a warehouse.

This Thursday is Veterans Day. It is a day to remember and say thank you to all those who put on hats of service in our military to serve all our interests in a world that from time to time and place to place erupts in violence. It is worth remembering that we did not give anyone a choice before 1972. There is nothing in my life experience to compare to being

drafted into a life that I did not choose. Those were hats that were given to young men whether they wanted them or not. They deserve our gratitude and there have always been those who have chosen to wear such hats. Everyone has their own reasons. Some are noble and some less so. Some have some idea of what they are getting into, others not at all. All those who have served our nation deserve our thanks for wearing those hats.

It is no secret that I would prefer a world without such need. And if there is a need, I would prefer for mistakes not to be made in policy and execution. However, such a world does not exist at present. I want a world in which we all wear hats of love, kindness, and tolerance. We can each do our part there. Until then, we can thank all those who have served an imperfect nation in an imperfect world because we needed them to do it.

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



Emma Winchell (left) and Sammy Jo Richie were among the performers at a weekend fundraising event at Rosebud Church.

## Rosebud nears goal

Partitioners of Rosebud Church say they are close to reaching their goal to purchase their church building.

"God surely showed up through all this," said Sarah Hollis.

The church held a bake sale, meat sale and gospel singing Nov. 6 to help it raise \$10,000 to purchase its building from the heirs of its former owner, Ronnie Mayes.

"We here at the church feel so small in the big

scheme of all this because God produced a miracle for us," Hollis said. "We are so proud of our little community. They really came on board for us. We appreciate every gesture, every donation because this means our doors stay open."

Additional funds needed to help the church reach its goal can be arranged by contacting pastor Jeff Brasher at (270) 210-2301.

# Standing up for God's truths takes courage

**Question:** As I stood up for my faith in Christ at work, I feel antagonism from some of my fellow workers and it has cost me a promotion. I find it isn't easy to live for Christ in our culture. Is it worth the ridicule and rejection I receive?

**Answer:** Christ never promised His followers it would be easy living for Him. "If they persecuted me," declared Jesus, "they will persecute you also. They will treat you this way because of my name for they do not know the One who sent me," (Jn. 15:20, 21).

It's politically incorrect to say one religion is better than any other. It takes courage

ASK the PASTOR

By Bob Hardison

to proclaim that Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life, and no one comes to the Father except through Him (Jn.14:6). In a society that believes you shouldn't impose your religious views on others, it take courage to witness for Christ. When speaking up, we should always speak humbly with grace and love.

Is it worth the opposition we encounter to stand up

for Christian principles in our self-entered culture? Yes, because God will be with us and He will help us to stand. Just remember God's encouragement to Joshua long ago. "Be strong and coura-

geous. Do not be terrified, do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go," (Jos. 1:9).

Send your questions to: bob@bobhardison.com

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Marion, Ky.

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Father John Okoro

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175 Mexico Rd.

(270) 965-4059

MexicoBaptist.org

Minister of Music Mike Crabtree

Pastor: Tim Burdon

Sunday Worship Services: 10 a.m., 7 p.m.

Sunday Bible Study: 9 a.m.

Sunday Discipleship Training: 6 p.m.

Wednesday Worship Service: 7 p.m.

DEER CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor: Bro. Chris Cummins

Sunday Bible Study: 10 a.m. • Sunday Worship: 11 a.m. & 6 p.m.

Wednesday Bible Study: 7 p.m.

Approx. 5 miles from the intersection of Hwy. 60 & Hwy. 297

Phone: (270) 965-2220

Emmanuel Baptist Church

108 Hillcrest Dr., Marion | (270) 965-4623

Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.

Sunday Worship: 10:45 a.m., 6 p.m.

Wednesday Adult Bible Study, Children and Youth Activities: 6 p.m.

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Barnett Chapel Rd., Marion, Ky.

Sunday Worship: 11 a.m.

Wednesday Night Bible Study: 6 p.m.

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Pastor: Ross Atwell

87 Freedom Church Rd., Marion

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CHURCH TIMES:

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Sunday Worship 11 a.m.

Sunday Evening 6 p.m.

Wed. Bible Study 6 p.m.

Marion Baptist Church

College & Depot streets, Marion • (270) 965-5232

Pastor: Bro. Aaron Brown • Children's & Youth Pastor: Bro. Shawn Holman

SUNDAY CHURCH TIMES:

8:30 a.m. Coffee Juice Fellowship • 8:45 a.m. Sunday School • 10 a.m. Morning Worship

6 p.m. Youth Bible Study • 6 p.m. Evening Worship

WEDNESDAY CHURCH TIMES: 6 p.m. Prayer/Devotional Service • 6:45 p.m. Adult Choir Practice

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Bro. James Driver, Interim Pastor

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Wed. Bible Study: 7 p.m.

Marion United Methodist Church

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The People of the United Methodist Church

Bro. David COMBS

WED: Bible Study 5:30 p.m.

SUN: Sun. School 9:30 a.m.

Worship 10:45 p.m.

South College St.

Frances Community Church

Bro. Butch Gray

Wed. night prayer meeting & youth service: ..... 6:30 p.m.

Sunday school: ..... 10 a.m.

Worship service: ..... 11 a.m.

Hurricane Church

Hurricane Church Rd. off Ky. 135 West

Pastor: Bro. Danny Hincee

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

Sun. Evening services, 6 p.m.

Wed. Evening services, 7 p.m.

Unity General Baptist Church

4691 U.S. 641 • Crayne, Ky.

Barry Hix, pastor • (270) 365-5836 or (270) 625-1248

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

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

Marion Church of Christ

546 West Elm Street • (270) 965-9450

Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.

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Half price yard sale, St. William Catholic Church, Sat., 9-11 a.m. (1t-45-p)

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704-3244. (3t-47-p)

Help wanted: Filter installation service seeking part-time employee. May lead to full-time employment. Must be able to do light labor. Call or text (270) 314-3863. (2t-45-p)

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**legal notices**

I, Melissa Guill, Clerk of Crittenden County District Court, Marion, Ky. do certify that the following has filed notice of Final Settlement: Betty Willis of 930 Mardi Drive, Paducah, Ky. 42003, administratrix of Tony Hill, deceased, whose address was 649 S. Main St., Marion, Ky. 42064. The foregoing settlement is to be heard at the regular session of Crittenden District Court on December 8, 2021 at 9 a.m. All persons having exceptions to said

settlements are to file same at once.

Melissa Guill, Clerk Crittenden District Court (1t-45-p)

PUBLIC NOTICE The Defendant, Joshua Phelps, is hereby notified that on March 22, 2021, Plaintiff, Fischer & Van Thiel, LLP filed a Complaint for breach of contract, and common counts in San Diego Superior Court of North County, 325 S. Melrose Dr. Vista, CA 92081 (Case No. 37-2021-00012716-CL-BC-NC) seeking a judgment for costs of suit, for such relief as is fair, just, and equitable; and for damages of \$24,626.62 by Defendant.

COURT DATES

CIVIL CASE MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE: February 18, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. Dept. N-31. In the event the Defendant fails to respond to the Complaint within 30 days after this publication of this Notice, the Court may proceed to enter a Default Judgment and grant the relief requested by the Plaintiff. A letter, phone, or court appearance

call will not protect you. The attorney representing the Plaintiff is Michael A. Fischer, Fischer & Van Thiel, LLP 2424 Vista Way, Suite 200, Oceanside, CA 92054; phone (760) 722-7646. (4t-46-p)

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**PUBLIC NOTICE**

On October 19, 2021, Louisville Gas and Electric Company and Kentucky Utilities Company filed their 2021 Joint Integrated Resource Plan with the Public Service Commission of Kentucky. This filing includes a load forecast and resource plans of Louisville Gas and Electric Company and Kentucky Utilities Company to meet future demand with an adequate and reliable supply of electricity at the lowest possible cost for all customers within their service areas.

Comments regarding the Integrated Resource Plan may be submitted to the Public Service Commission by mail to Public Service Commission, Post Office Box 615, Frankfort, Kentucky 40602, or by email to at [psc.info@ky.gov](mailto:psc.info@ky.gov). All comments should reference Case No. 2021-00393. Any person interested in participating in the review of this Integrated Resource Plan should submit a motion to intervene in Case No. 2021-00393.

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**Location: 19 State Route 855 South, Marion, Ky.**

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CRITTENDEN HEALTH DEPARTMENT NOW OFFERS 5-11 SHOTS

Pediatric vaccine is now available at the Crittenden County Health Department and the four other health departments operated by Pennyrile Health District in Livingston, Caldwell and Trigg counties.

These are first-dose shots of Pfizer vaccine for ages 5–11. A followup dose will be due in three weeks once the first shot is administered.

Appointments are available weekdays other than Wednesdays at the clinic in Marion. To make an appointment, call 270–965–5215. Walk-ins are not prohibited, but appointments are highly encouraged to avoid wait times. The health department is open 8 a.m., to 5 p.m., Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 8 a.m., to 11:30 a.m., on Fridays.

The health department in Marion, which is located in Industrial Park South behind Siemens, will be open extended hours on Thursday, Nov. 18 specifically to accommodate children. The clinic will be open from 7 a.m., until 6 p.m., on that day so parents or guardians can bring their children before or after school or work. An appointment should be made ahead of time.

Pediatric shots contain a smaller dose of the vaccine than what adults receive, but the same ingredients.

“We also use a smaller needle to help make the children as comfortable as possible,” said Grace Donaldson of the Pennyrile Health Department.

There is no charge for the vaccine and Donaldson said there are virtually no health conditions that would prevent a child from receiving a shot. A fact sheet is available at the clinic.

**GUESS RISING STAR IN PUBLISHING BIZ**

Marion native Elizabeth Guess was named one of the rising stars in the book publishing industry in Publishers Weekly’s Star Watch program. Her selection was published in the Nov. 1 issue of the industry magazine.

Guess, who resides in New York City, is sales director of author brands and is the liaison between publishers and sales teams at Grand Central Publishing and Little, Brown.

In that role she is charged with generating ideas and executing promotional campaigns at retail outlets for select bestselling authors published by the Hachette Book Group.

Originally, Guess worked solely with James Patterson, but now also works with David Baldacci, Michael Connelly, Elin Hilderbrand and Nicholas Sparks.

She is a graduate of DePauw University and is the daughter of Gordon and Carole Guess of Marion.

On a side note, on Sunday Guess completed the New York City marathon.

**DENTIST AVAILABLE AT MIDDLE SCHOOL**

Crittenden County Middle School will have a visiting dentist to serve students Dec. 14–16. If your student is interested in seeing the dentist, have the student pick up a dental form in the middle school office or go online to MySchoolDentist.com.

Parents or guardians should complete the form and sign it. If this form is missing any information, a representative from the Big Smiles program will contact you.

Big Smiles and Crittenden County Schools will be following CDC and Healthy at School protocols to ensure student and staff health and safety.

The application is due by Dec. 1 at the middle school office. Call (270) 965–5221 for more information.

**KU OFFERS TIPS, ASSISTANCE TO GET READY FOR WINTER**

With national factors driving higher heating costs and cooler temperatures setting in, Kentucky Utilities is reminding customers of simple tips to help manage energy use and energy bills. Weather is a major factor in energy use, with heating your home accounting for approximately 42 percent of your energy bill, according to the web-

site Energy.gov. To keep the warm air in and cold air out this winter, here are five easy steps that can help make a difference:

- Maintain your system. Have a certified professional give your furnace a tune-up to make sure it’s operating efficiently and ready to perform at its best. Don’t forget to change your filter each month or according to the manufacturer’s instructions.
- Set your thermostat. If you have a programmable thermostat, you can set it lower when no one is home to maximize energy savings. Setting the thermostat to the lowest comfortable setting can help, and even just one degree can make a difference.
- Close up gaps. Take time now to caulk, spray foam or use weather-stripping to seal leaks and gaps around windows, doors and duct work.
- Use your ceiling fans. Set ceiling fans to run clockwise on low speed in the winter to circulate heat more efficiently. This creates an updraft that helps move warm air near the ceiling back out and around the room.
- Don’t block the heat. Open curtains and blinds on sun-facing windows to allow the sun’s rays to help naturally heat your home. Make sure registers are not blocked by drapes or furniture so warm air can easily circulate.

Financial assistance may be available to customers to help them catch up on their monthly bill.

**LAW ENFORCEMENT IS LOOKING FOR MAN WHO FLED CRASH SCENE**

Law enforcement is looking for man who fled crash scene

Crittenden County law enforcement is looking for Curtis Smith, 33, a local man who fled the scene of an automobile crash on U.S. 60 West last week near Moore Hill.

Deputy Ray Agent says Smith was involved in a three-vehicle crash near the intersection of KY 2132 and KY 297. Smith was driving westbound in a Dodge Stratus and attempting to pass a vehicle when he encountered stalled traffic ahead due to farm equipment being

moved along the highway. Smith tried to re-enter his lane of travel but hit a car in the rear, then crossed into the oncoming lane and hit another head on.

Agent said individuals in the other vehicles involved in the crash sought medical treatment. None of them were serious enough to require a hospital stay.

The deputy believes Smith was also injured in the crash. Witnesses told investigators that Smith got something out his vehicle, wrapped it in a garment and fled into the forest south of the highway. Agent said tracking dogs were brought to the scene, but Smith was never located. He believes the suspect may have been picked up somewhere nearby.

A warrant for misdemeanor of leaving the scene of an accident has been issued for Smith. Anyone with information about his whereabouts should contact the sheriff’s department at (270) 965–3400. You may remain anonymous.

**LIVINGSTON SCHOOLS TO HONOR VETERANS**

Livingston Central High School is hosting a Veterans Day program starting at 12:30 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 11. All Livingston County students will be gathering together to recognize and honor veterans. All veterans are invited.

**APPEALS COURT STAYS BIDEN VAX MANDATE FOR PRIVATE WORKERS**

A federal appeals court has temporarily halted the Biden administration’s vaccine requirement for businesses with 100 or more workers.

The 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals granted an emergency stay of the requirement by the federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration that those workers be vaccinated by Jan. 4 or face mask requirements and weekly tests.

At least 27 states filed lawsuits challenging the rule in several circuits, some of which were



made more conservative by the judicial appointments of President Donald Trump.

The Biden administration has been encouraging widespread vaccinations as the quickest way to end the pandemic.

**ADOPTION EVENT WILL BE AT COURTHOUSE**

The annual Crittenden County Adoption Day celebration on Nov. 16 will recognize a local family as the 2021 Adoptive Family of the year.

Also at the event will be information for those interested in learning how to adopt a child.

The program will be held from 9 a.m., to 10a.m., at the Crittenden County Courthouse.

“We are recognizing a grandparent adoptive family in 2021 and the focus this year is on such relative adoptions so hopefully anyone similarly situated can come and hear more information. There will also be an adoption specialist from CHFS present to give information about other ways to adopt,” the local adoption advocacy group said in a news release about the event.

**RECORD YEAR FOR HOME SALES STARTS TO COOL IN STATE**

It was only two years ago (2019) that the annual sales volume figure for Kentucky residential home sales topped the \$10 billion mark. It was a milestone that was the re-

sult of a booming economy and record low unemployment rates. This caused more homes to sell but the median price did not increase sharply.

The pandemic ushered in a time when home prices soared quickly. This, coupled with record sales counts, meant that sales volume would hit record highs more quickly than ever. For example, 2021 only needed the first three fiscal quarters to top that \$10 billion mark. Year-to-date sales volume through September reached \$10.74 billion (up 20 percent over 2020).

Closed sales were down slightly to 5,163 from September 2021 (5,199). Pending sales in September were down almost 14% over last year, signaling a continued slowing of the frenzied market pace of the spring and early summer.

“We anticipate a steady pace of listings coming to the market,” said Charles Hinkley, President of Kentucky REALTORS®. “A number of factors are pointing to more choices being available to those that are ready to purchase property.”

The median sale price of homes in Kentucky remained steady at \$200,000, which is up by 11 percent over last year.

Housing inventory continues to hold at 2.3 months in Kentucky, while the nationwide average sat at 2.4 months in September. Experts agree that a stable housing market contains about six months of inventory.

Take not our liberties for granted

The fall season has arrived in the Bluegrass, and families are beginning to turn their attention towards the Thanksgiving holiday. In Frankfort, the 2021 interim period is nearing its end as lawmakers are eager to enjoy treasured time with their families this holiday season ahead of our return to the state capital on Tuesday, Jan. 4, for the start of the 2022 legislative session.

With Thanksgiving and the most wonderful time of the year on the horizon, let us not forget one of America’s most valued holidays – Veterans Day.

I can think of no better national holiday to celebrate and unite during challenging times. As another tumultuous year comes to a close, we all share an even greater appreciation for the freedoms and liberties our military heroes have fought and died to defend.

In 1919, in recognition of the end of World War I, President Woodrow Wil-

son declared Nov. 11 to be Armistice Day. President Wilson stated that the day would be “filled with solemn pride in the heroism of those who died in the country’s service and with gratitude for the victory.” Armistice Day did not become a legal holiday until Congress officially ratified it in 1938. In 1954, after the United States participated in more armed conflict in World War II and Korea, Congress changed the name to Veterans Day to honor all former American military service members.

On Nov. 11, we celebrate this holiday with many businesses across the country closing in observance of the hardships our nation’s finest



Robby MILLS  
KY STATE SENATE  
Guest Commentary

have endured. While many of you will surely enjoy the day off from work, I would encourage you to take a moment to reflect upon the efforts of our men and women in uniform, both past and present.

However you choose to honor our heroes this Veterans Day, do so safely, but never take for granted the special liber-

ties our veterans sacrificed so much for.

We are blessed to live in the greatest nation on earth.

*Senator Robby Mills (R-Henderson) represents the 4th District, including Caldwell, Crittenden, Henderson, Livingston, Union, and Webster counties.*

thepress@the-press.com

The Crittenden Press

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CRITTENDEN COUNTY, KY - 100 ACRES - Diverse hunting tract with home and shop! This tract is a blend of habitat types with a new home, large shop and a proven history of big bucks! **SOLD**

CRITTENDEN COUNTY, KY - 947 ACRES - \$1,450,000 - This unique large acreage hunting farm is ideal for all of Kentucky's favored game species. The tract features a diverse blend of habitat types. **SOLD**

CALDWELL COUNTY, KY - 115 ACRES - \$710,500 - Established hunting tract with tillable acreage and open areas for food plots. Home with scenic views overlooking the property with finished walkout basement. **SOLD**

LIVINGSTON COUNTY, KY - 71.51 ACRES - \$150,164 - Hunting tract with hunter-friendly topography, food plot locations, a good trail system, a pond, creek, and security cover. **SOLD**

CRITTENDEN COUNTY, KY - 300.5 ACRES - \$560,000 - This farm is a solid hunting tract with everything needed to grow, hold and harvest big bucks! The tract includes a 7 +/- acre pond with fishing opportunities. **SOLD**

LIVINGSTON COUNTY, KY - 132.73 ACRES - \$238,914 - Great hunting tract with dynamic hunter friendly topography, mast producing timber, security cover, open areas for food plots and a good trail system. **SOLD**

CALDWELL COUNTY, KY - 128.55 ACRES - This tract has a diverse blend of habitat types and a history of big bucks. The farm features rolling topography, some tillable acres and an established hunting camp. **SOLD**

LIVINGSTON, KY - 99.954 ACRES - Hunting tract with a large creek, open ground for food plots, mast producing hardwoods and numerous funnels and pinch points! \$199,909. **SOLD**

CRITTENDEN COUNTY, KY - 239.27 ACRES - \$376,900 - This farm has a diverse blend of habitat types that provides excellent deer, turkey and waterfowl hunting opportunities. This area is known for producing big bucks! **SOLD**

CALDWELL COUNTY, KY - 257.32 - \$599,900 - Prime hunting tract with an area known for big bucks. Diverse blend of habitat types and topography. Well-managed property that is ready to hunt. **SOLD**

LIVINGSTON COUNTY, KY - 118.16 ACRES - Topography is a mix of semi-flat creek bottoms and timbered ridges. An established food plot on the main ridge is a hot spot for big bucks. Excellent hunting! Reduced \$209,751. **SOLD**

CALDWELL COUNTY, KY - 158.83 ACRES - Established hunting tract with a proven history of big bucks. Includes a 2006 Fleetwood mobile home for lodging. Includes approximately 30 acres of tillable ground! **SOLD**

CRITTENDEN COUNTY, KY - 103 ACRES - Located in big buck territory, this scenic property includes a mobile home, garages, a barn ideal for equipment storage and a diverse blend of habitat types! **PENDING**

LIVINGSTON COUNTY, KY - 50.26 ACRES - \$123,137 - Mostly timber hunting tract with habitat diversity! This tract has several improvements geared toward big bucks and is ready for the 2021 season! **PENDING**

LIVINGSTON COUNTY, KY - 57.16 ACRES - \$140,042 - Mostly timber hunting tract with habitat diversity! This tract has a blend of habitat types and improvements that are geared toward big bucks! **PENDING**

LIVINGSTON COUNTY, KY - 62.13 ACRES - \$152,218.50 - Mostly timber hunting tract located in an area known for big bucks! This tract has habitat diversity with improvements geared toward big bucks! Includes established food plot. **PENDING**

LIVINGSTON COUNTY, KY - 76.26 - Mostly timber hunting tract located in an area known for big bucks. Includes a groomed landing area ideal for hunting. **PENDING**

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The long-awaited dock for Riverview Park (Dam 50) has arrived, but it has yet to be deployed on the river.

# Dock, paving building judge’s frustrations

STAFF REPORT

Delays in paving projects approved months ago and installation of a dock at Riverview Park are creating frustration for Crittenden County Judge-Executive Perry Newcom.

The dock has been delivered to the riverside park in northern Crittenden County. It was supposed to have been installed months ago. In fact, the project, which was funded by a \$44,000 grant, has lingered for years.

The judge said everything from pandemic excuses and high water to employee shortage issues have created delays in the pier project and a series of asphalt jobs that were supposed to have begun weeks ago.

Paving projects are scheduled for about 20 roads once Rogers Group can mobilize a crew to the county. Newcom said the paving and aggregate company says a shortage of haulers is creating a delay in paving here and in other counties.

Amos, Cave Springs, Cecil Croft, Cotton Patch, Coy Watson, Fishtrap, Crayne Cemetery, Fords Ferry, Just-A-Mere, McMican, Red, Roe Wafford, Watson Cemetery, Weldon and Whippoorwill are among the roads or portions of roads that will get new pavement. The roads are being paved with rural secondary road funds appropriated from the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet. Emergency funds are available for projects to repair Jackson School, Frances and Mexico roads.

High water is now to blame for the dock not being installed. Water on the Ohio River has risen above the anchor points. Installers will have to wait for the level to drop before the dock can be deployed. Newcom isn’t sure on a timetable because the river is too unpredictable. He said the plan remains to put the dock in the water this fall and leave it until rising river levels force it to be temporarily removed.

## 50 YEARS AGO

### November 11, 1971

■ Janey Belt was crowned Homecoming Queen during ceremonies before the football game against Fulton County.

■ Senator Marlow Cook announced he had reached an agreement with opponents of his bill to shorten the period of Daylight Saving Time.

■ Three members of the Crittenden County football team were selected by conference coaches to the Class A All Conference Team. Wayne West, Gary Winters and Mike Tosh were selected.

## 25 YEARS AGO

### November 14, 1996

■ At 102-years-old, World War I veteran Milton Childress of Crittenden County served as the grand marshal of the Veterans Day Parade in Paducah.

■ McKenzie Jordan Fralix, the 13-month-old daughter of Barry and Christy Fralix of Fredonia, competed in three beauty pageants. The toddler was crowned Queen of her age division 12 months to 35



months in the Child Care Beauty Pageant in Salem. She also competed in two Paducah pageants where she was crowned queen in the Town and Country Halloween Pageant and also received most beautiful. She was also crowned queen, most beautiful, and best dressed in the Christmas Angel Pageant.

■ For the fourth straight year, Brooke Marshall earned a spot to represent Crittenden County in the state speech competition. Competing against 50 other students from Kentucky and Tennessee, the sophomore qualified in two areas in the Calloway County High School Tournament of Champions in Murray. She received a second place finish in broadcasting and fourth in extemporaneous speaking.

■ Crittenden County’s Middle School Chess Team took first place at a meet held at Garden Springs Scholastic High School

in Lexington. Crittenden won 14 matches and beat 10 other teams from Indiana, Tennessee and Kentucky to earn a first-place trophy.

## 10 YEARS AGO

### November 10, 2011

■ Republican candidates collected more votes in Crittenden County in all six races, and only James R. Comer overcame statewide Democratic support to win the race of Commissioner of Agriculture. All three Democratic incumbents won the rights to retain their office, including Gov. Steve Beshear.

■ The Peoples Bank welcomed Staci Belt and Madison Qualls to its staff.

■ Crittenden County Attorney Rebecca Johnson received the 2011 John R. Fendley Child Support Attorney of the year at a ceremony in Frankfort.

■ Months after applying for and being se-

lected as a recipient for a new hybrid-electric bus, Crittenden County’s school district received its “green” bus. The purchase of the hybrid bus became possible after the Kentucky Department of Education received assistance from the Kentucky Clean Fuels Coalition, which was awarded a \$12.9 million grant from the U.S. Department of Energy in late December 2009.

■ Winners of the 2011 Crittenden Health Systems Costume Contest were Gunner Topp, 0-2 years; Addison Wood, 3-5 years; Carsen Easley, 9-12 years; and Dennon Wilson, 6-8 years. Judges were Andy Hunt and Scott Belt from Farmers Bank and Trust.

■ The Class of 1966 held its 45th class reunion with 33 classmates in attendance. The reunion was held at the home of John Claud and Caroline Kieffer. Those in attendance were: John William Hunt, Billy Hilliard, John Walker, Lynette Bragdon, Connie Hunt Bostick, Barbara Stallion Hunt, Bernice Robertson Tolbert, John Ashley Hunt, Donnie Orr, Pam Gilland Orr, JoAnn Hodges McClure, Percy Belt, Linda Cook, Tina Frazer Jones, Sherry Turley Lanham, Brenda Duvall Hodges, Patricia Adams Rice, Henry Doom, Arlena Maroney Fowler, Caroline Faith Keiffer, Gayle Dollins Alvis, David Smith, Nancy Vaughn Churchill, Peggy Campbell Ritch, Joe Lanham and Freida Crider Alexander.

# 6-7 Compass player could be a Wildcat-type baller

It was about a year ago that Pete Kaffey, program director at Arizona Compass, was telling anyone who would listen just how good point guard TyTy Washington was.

Now he’s spreading the word about another Arizona Compass player — 6-7 junior forward Mookie Cook.

“He’s a big, long athletic wing that can play four positions,” said Kaffey. “He’s a great teammate. He plays well on both sides of the ball. He competes at a crazy level every day. He’s a really good passer. “He’s a five-star player for a reason and he’s getting better every day. The kid has put himself in a position to where he can play at a place like Kentucky and maybe be a high draft pick one day.”

Cook already has over 20 Division I scholarship offers, including one from Kentucky. The only official visit he’s taken so far is Kentucky.

Kaffey says Cook’s versatility makes him different. At 6-7, he can initiate the offense and he can go inside to guard bigs.

“He can score. Defensively, he’s just a monster because of the energy he has. I watched him volleyball a kid’s shot off the backboard in practice and then get out on the fast break to finish it with a tip dunk. He just has that kind of motor, but he also has a pretty high basketball IQ. I really think he’s a prototypical NBA wing.”

Kaffey said Arizona Compass coach Ed Gibson gets players to play with a purpose, something that helped Washington. This is Cook’s first year at Arizona Compass after he played the previous two years in Oregon.

“These kids come here to compete and get better. He’s very coachable. He is 6-7 and jumps like he has a trampoline in

his shoes,” Kaffey said. “He really passes the eyeball test. He looks like that sexy girl on the beach that makes you just say, ‘Wow,’ when you see her. Mookie is the same way when you see him in the gym and he’s always working hard to get better.”

Recruiting is going well for Cook who leans on his family to help him with the process.

“I know he embraces the recruiting process but every school that lays eyes on him offers him,” Kaffey said. “He’s ranked where he is for a reason.”

Kaffey admits that a program like Kentucky with its history resonates with Cook.

“He has other great universities recruiting him but it is Kentucky,” Kaffey said. “It probably helps that he is friends with TyTy and Mookie can call him and get feedback.”

“Over the past few months since we got in contact with Kentucky about him a lot of other people have called and let them know about him. I’ll just say for me it’s kind of the same way I told them about TyTy and now he’s the best player at Kentucky. Mookie could be the same way.”

Kentucky fans will have a chance to watch Cook and Arizona Compass play during the McCracken County Mustang Madness Jan. 6-9. By then 6-2 junior point guard Kyran Boswell might also have a Kentucky offer.

He was regarded as the top sophomore in California last season before transferring to Arizona Compass. He led his 16-and-under team to a EYBL championship and also made the USA Under-16 team. Boswell has recent scholarship offers from Michigan, Florida, Oregon, Auburn and Arizona State to go with ones he already had from Kansas, Louisville, Illinois, Creighton, George Mason, USC, UCLA, Texas, Arizona, Texas Tech and Stanford.

“Kylan doesn’t have a

Kentucky offer yet but he is a no-brainer,” Kaffey said.

-----

A 6-0 start put Kentucky in great shape to think about everything from the national championship playoffs to a New Year’s Day bowl game to a 10- or 11-win season.

Now consecutive losses to No. 1 Georgia, Mississippi State and now Tennessee 45-42 when UK had 99 plays and over 600 yards of offense have deflated much of the Kentucky fan base.

However, with games left against Vanderbilt, New Mexico State and Louisville, Kentucky can still have a historic season.

Kentucky has won 10 or more games three times — 1950, 1977 and 2018 — in 129 years. Kentucky has won nine games three times — 1904, 1909 and 1984 — in 129 years. Kentucky has won eight games six times — 1947, 1951, 1976, 2006, 2007 and 2019 — in 129 years.

That means Kentucky has won eight or more games only seven times since 1950. If the Cats win out, they would be 9-3 going into a bowl game. Even if UK wins just two of the next three, it would be 8-4 going into a bowl game.

Kentucky coach Mark Stoops made no excuses after Tennessee shredded his defense even easier than Mississippi State did a week earlier. In the last two games, opposing quarterbacks have completed 51 of 59 passes for 660 yards and five touchdowns with no interceptions.

“We’ve been a part of so many games where we’ve played so good on one side of the ball, maybe defensively and just come up a little bit short on the other side,” Stoops said after the Tennessee game. “We’re a team. We’ll stick together. They’re all big boys. We can all handle the criticism and the things that come with it.”



# Flippin' Fantastic

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**Sun Hats - Artificial Flowers**  
**Water Bottles - Garage Door Kit**  
**LED Utility Lights**  
**Patio Furniture**  
**Indoor Furniture**  
**Ceiling Fixtures**  
**Pressure Washers**  
**Grilling Utensils**  
**Grills - Range Hoods**  
**Golf Nets**  
**Safety Gates**  
**Craftsman Tools**  
**Kobalt Tools**  
**Shop Vac - Garden Hoses**  
**Yard Cart - Utility Wagon**  
**Utility Cord - Flower Pots**  
**Jack Hammer**  
**Drywall Hopper Gun**  
**Weed Eater**

**Weighted Blankets**  
**Down Comforters**  
**Curtains - Sheets - Blankets**  
**Wall Décor - Ceiling Fans**  
**Bathroom Accessories**  
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**DISCONTINUED AND SEASONAL ITEMS**

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# SportsShorts

## FOOTBALL Jr Pro Jamboree action

Here are Western Kentucky Junior Pro Football scores from last week-end's post-season jamboree at Sturgis.

**3-4 Grade Division**  
**Saturday's First Round**  
Crittenden Co. 12, Webster Co. 6, 5OT  
**Saturday's Semifinals**  
Union County 26, Trigg County 18  
Caldwell County 36, Crittenden Co. 0  
**Sunday's Championship**  
Caldwell County 24, Union Co. 0

**5-6 Grade Division**  
**Saturday's First Round**  
Trigg County 25, Caldwell County 0  
**Saturday's Semifinals**  
Webster County 30, Crittenden Co. 0  
Union County 36, Trigg County 14  
**Sunday's Championship**  
Union County 16, Webster Co. 0

## FOOTBALL Tickets for title game

Tickets for Friday night's First District Class A football championship at Russellville will be sold for \$6 at the gate. Kickoff is at 7 p.m.

## KHSAA Playoffs

The following high school football teams won last week and advance to play in respective district championship rounds of the KHSAA playoffs:

**Class A**  
Crittenden County at Russellville  
Louisville Holy Cross at Bethlehem  
Frankfort at Kentucky Country Day  
Dayton at Newport Central Catholic  
Nicholas County at Bishop Brossart  
Paintsville at Raceland  
Hazard at Pikeville  
Pineville at Williamsburg  
**OTHER GAMES OF INTEREST**  
**Class 6A**  
Henderson County at Daviess County  
**Class 5A**  
Graves County at Owensboro  
Bowling Green at South Warren  
**Class 4A**  
Hopkinsville at Logan County  
**Class 3A**  
Paducah Tilghman at Union County  
Taylor County at Glasgow  
**Class 2A**  
Murray at Mayfield  
Hancock Co. at Owensboro Catholic



## TOURNAMENT FISHING Local duo wins first

Crittenden County anglers Bob Campbell and Jeff Joyce won last weekend's two-day Legacy Marine Fall Classic Bass Fishing Tournament out of Kuttawa Landing, splitting first-place prize money of \$3,000. The local duo boated 13.63 pounds the first day of fishing on Saturday, and closed out the event on Sunday with 14.1 pounds for a tournament total of 27.73 pounds. Their weight beat the second-place finishers by almost three-quarters of a pound and the third-place finishers by more than four pounds.

## New York marathoners

Former CCHS principal Curtis Brown and his daughter, Laura Brown, 31, ran in last week-end's New York Marathon. The race was not held last year because of the pandemic. Brown finished the 26.2-mile run in 4:36:07. His daughter completed it with a time of 5:17:08. The winning time was under three hours. Brown, 61, says this is his last marathon.

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# Playoffs: Rockets 60, Pilots 16 Crider, Yates set new marks in win

## Rockets head to Russellville Friday

STAFF REPORT  
How apropos.  
After 60 years of Crittenden County football on hallowed ground the school calls Rocket Stadium, CCHS posted 60 points on the scoreboard Friday, beating Fulton County in the opening round of the Class A First District playoffs.  
It was perhaps the final contest to be waged on the existing field because plans are to build a new school on that site. A new stadium is scheduled, too, to be built next summer. That's if plans stay on schedule.  
Senior quarterback Luke Crider was clearly the catalyst in the playoff win, setting a single-game record for being responsible for eight touchdowns as the Rockets scored on all but three of their 11 offensive possessions, and once on defense.

Crittenden will play in Friday's First District championship game at Russellville where the Rockets are seeking a fifth straight trip to the KHSAA Class A regional championship game.  
Russellville beat CCHS 27-0 during the regular season, but the game was perhaps closer than the score indicated. Three big plays cost the Rockets in that game, including an interception returned for a TD and a special teams breakdown. Crittenden was unable to get its offense going in the last matchup, gaining no positive yards on the ground and only a handful through the air, but its defense played well, holding the Panthers in check most of the way.  
Russellville has the highest KHSAA RPI power ranking in Class A while CCHS is No. 15.  
The 9-1 Panthers were off last week because the First District has just three teams. Russellville is ranked No. 4 in Class A by the Associated Press.  
In last week's playoff opener, Fulton County brought its gadget bag, deploying trick plays, onside kicks and unorthodox formations that helped it create an early illusion of misfortune for the Rockets. The Pilots managed an early 8-0 lead, but it was short-lived. CCHS bit back at the trickery, scoring five unanswered touchdowns to take a 33-8 lead, then went on to post a 60-16 victory.  
Rocket senior defensive end Dylan Yates posted the 19th sack of his career on the third play of the game, setting a new career record, eclipsing a mark previously held by Sean O'Leary.  
Crider rushed for a career-high 165 yards, all in the first half, and scored three times on the ground with runs of 78, 44 and 7 yards. He added five more TDs through the air, connecting twice with junior Kaleb Nesbitt and once each with seniors Tanner Beverly and Brysen Baker and sophomore Gattin Travis.  
It was a remarkable offensive performance for a team that's struggled at times to score. Most of the Rocket damage came on big plays as it finished with more touchdowns (9) than first downs (5).  
Senior linebacker Coleman Stone put a punctuation mark on the final score



## Pick 6 Senior Coleman Stone picked off a Fulton pass and returned it for a touchdown in the third quarter Friday, helping the Rockets to a big playoff win. Buy photos online at RocketsFootball.com.



**Rocket senior defensive end Dylan Yates broke the school record for most sacks in a career with his 19th shown above on the third play of the game Friday against Fulton County.**

with a 37-yard interception return in the fourth quarter, with a little blocking and a steadying hand from teammate Yates, who was on his flank, clearing the way to the end zone.  
"The offense got rolling. I felt like Luke Crider put them on his back, with his legs, his arm everything," said CCHS coach Gaige Courtney.  
The defense was imposing, too. Ten of Fulton's first 14 rushing plays from scrimmage were stopped behind the line of scrimmage. The Pilots managed just 20 yards on the ground, including the yardage it gained against CCHS reserves under a running clock in the second half. Fulton's only success was through the air where it rang up 154 yards, but there was a cost to that, too. The Rockets intercepted the Pilot QB four times. Senior Trace Derrington, junior Preston Morgeson and Nesbitt also picked off passes.  
**SCORE BY QUARTERS**  
Fulton County 8 8 0 0  
Crittenden Co. 6 33 21 0  
**SCORING PLAYS**  
F-Dakyran Dossett 11 pass from Max Gibbs (Damien Hill pass from Gibbs) 3:46, 1st  
C-Luke Crider 78 run (run failed) 2:53, 1st

C-Kaleb Nesbitt 19 pass from Crider (kick failed) 10:13, 2nd  
C-Crider 44 run (Preston Morgeson pass from Micah Newcom) 6:42, 2nd  
C-Crider 7 run (Morgeson kick) 5:22, 2nd  
C-Tanner Beverly 50 pass from Crider (pass failed) 3:06, 2nd  
F-Gossett 26 pass from Gibbs (Gibbs run) 1:26, 2nd  
C-Nesbitt 36 pass from Crider (kick failed) :55, 2nd  
C-Brysen Baker 39 pass from Crider (Baker kick) 10:12, 3rd  
C-Gattin Travis 71 pass from Crider (Baker kick) 6:16, 3rd  
C-Coleman Stone 37 interception return (Baker kick) 1:23, 3rd  
**TEAM TOTALS**  
First Downs: CCHS 5, FCHS 8  
Penalties: CCHS 9-96, FCHS 6-40  
Rushing: CCHS 13-189, FCHS 24-20  
Passing: CCHS 11-16-1, 279, FCHS 13-32-4, 154  
Total Yards: CCHS 468, FCHS 174  
Fumbles/Lost: CCHS 0-0, FCHS 1-0  
**INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS**  
**Rushing**  
Crittenden: Crider 9-165, Travis 4-24, Fulton: Hill 1-(-8), Jones 3-1, Isbell 2-7, Beard 5-7, Gibbs 8-13.  
**Passing**  
Crittenden: Crider 1-16-1, 279 yds. FCHS: Gibbs 13-32-4, 154 yds.  
**Receiving**  
Crittenden: Baker 3-80, Travis 3-77, Morgeson 2-17, Nesbitt 2-55, Beverly 1-50. Fulton: Johnson 1-58, Jones 2-15, Dossett 5-65, Brown 1-8, Hill 2-7, Gibbs 1-(-7), #20 1-8.  
**Defense**  
Coleman Stone 3 solos, 2 assists, interception; Luke Mundy 2 solos, Trace Derrington 3 solos, assist, interception; Dylan Yates 5 solos, 2 assists, 3 TFLs, sack; Logan Bailey solo; Tanner Beverly assist; Zech McGahan 3 solos, 2 assists; Sam Impastato 5 solos, 3 assists, 4 TFLs, Case Gobin 8 solos, 3 assists, TFL; Rowen Perkins 2 solos, 2 assists; Kaleb Nesbitt solo, assist, interception; Briley Berry 6 solos, 2 assists, TFL, sack; Preston Morgeson solo, interception; Seth Guess solo; Levi Piper 2 assist; Gattin Travis 5 solos, assist; Bennett McDaniel solo; Travis Blazina assist; Austin Whitt solo; Grayson James assist.  
**Players of the Game:** Offense Luke Crider, Defense Dylan Yates and Sam Impastato, Linemen Holden Cooksey and Tucker Sharp.  
**Records:** Crittenden 5-6, Fulton 1-10

## Crittenden County Middle School Basketball

## BASEKTBALL Middle School Results

**7th GRADE BOYS**  
**Crittenden 30, Union Co. 26**  
CCMS Scoring: Isaac James 21, Garner Stallins 6, Colt Bailey 1, Hudson Stokes 2.  
**Crittenden 44, Lyon County 21**  
CCMS Scoring: Isaac James 11, Garner Stallins 10, Davis Perryman 2, Colt Bailey 5, Hudson Stokes 6, Drake Young 1, Jack Porter 2, Coby Larue 4, Jacob Embrey 2, Connor Poindexter 1.  
**Livingston 40, Crittenden 31**  
CCMS Scoring: Walker 11, Suddeth 9, Poindexter 4, Garrison Hall 2, James 5. LCMS: Logan Wring 19, Avery Zaim 6, Jase Paris 3, Ethan Garner 5, Ryder Watson 7.  
**8th GRADE BOYS**  
**Union Co. 55, Crittenden 44**  
CCMS Scoring: Bryson Walker 19, Levi Suddoth 11, Brayden Poindexter 3, Caleb Riley 5, Quinn Summers 2, Isaac James 4.  
**Lyon County 55, Crittenden 39**  
CCMS Scoring: Bryson Walker 12, Levi Suddoth 9, Brayden Poindexter 6, Quinn Summers 2, Isaac James 2, Garner Stallins 8.  
**Crittenden 31, Livingston 14**  
CCMS Scoring: James 12, Stallins 5, Bailey 6, Stokes 2, Young 5, Embrey 1. LCMS: Jace Paris 7, Ethan Garner 1, Easton Smith 4, JonJon Stewart 1, Clay Calendar 1.  
**8th GRADE GIRLS**  
**Crittenden 34, Union County 23**  
CCMS Scoring: Anna Boone 11, Elliot Evans 10, Georgia Holeman 2, Ellie McDaniel 6, Andrea Federico 1, Chloe Hunt 4.  
**Crittenden 38, Trigg County 10**  
CCMS Scoring: Evans 12, Boone 11, McDaniel 6, Hunt 3, Taylor Davis 2, Aubrey



**Crittenden County Middle School's leading scorer on the season, Bryson Walker, drives around the top of the lane against Livingston County Monday while coach Ethan Hill delivers directions from the bench.**

Grau 6, Maeson Martin 2.  
**Crittenden 51, Livingston 32**  
CCMS: Evans 22, Boone 19, McDaniel 2, Federico 4, Taylor Davis 4. LCMS: T.Leahy 6, Hargrove 11, Burns 2, A.Leahy 11, Tharp 2.

**7th GRADE GIRLS**  
**Union County 23, Crittenden 14**  
CCMS Scoring: Jordyn Hodge 6, Maeson Martin 3, Morgan Stewart 4, Charlee Munday 1.  
**Crittenden 43, Trigg County 16**  
CCMS Scoring: Hodge 12, Martin 2, Stewart 15, Munday 10, Alexis Mattingly 4.  
**Crittenden 29, Livingston 13**  
CCMS: Champion 5, Martin 2, Stewart 12,

Munday 4, Mattingly 6. LCMS: T.Leahy 3, Collins 4, Jennings 2, Davisson 2, Burns 2.  
**CCMS homecoming**  
Crittenden County Middle School will host its basketball homecoming game Saturday. Coronation for royal court begins at 5 p.m., with boys' and girls' eighth-grade basketball games to follow.  
The CCMS eighth-grade girls remain undefeated after a couple of wins last week.  
**Upcoming Schedule:** The boys' team will host Webster County Monday and Trigg County Tuesday. The girls play at Lyon County Tuesday in a key district game.




## OUTDOORS

### Hunting Seasons

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

Squirrel	Aug. 21 - Nov. 12
Deer archery	Sept. 4 - Jan. 17
Turkey archery	Sept. 4 - Jan. 17
Deer crossbow	Sept. 18 - Jan. 17
Raccoon hunt	Oct. 1 - Feb. 28
Deer gun	Nov. 13 - Nov. 28
Turkey crossbow	Nov. 13 - Dec. 31
Squirrel	Nov. 15 - Feb. 28
Raccoon trap	Nov. 15 - Feb. 28
Quail	Nov. 15 - Feb. 10
Rabbit	Nov. 15 - Feb. 10
Bobcat trap	Nov. 15 - Feb. 28
Fox hunt/trap	Nov. 15 - Feb. 28
Dove	Nov. 25 - Dec. 5
Duck	Nov. 25 - Nov. 28

# RIFLE DEER SEASON OPENS SATURDAY FOR 16 DAYS



### CRITTENDEN COUNTY DEER HARVESTS

1993 ... 2,357	2007 ... 2,927
1994 ... 1,826	2008 ... 2,707
1995 ... 1,857	2009 ... 2,549
1996 ... 2,065	2010 ... 2,952
1997 ... 1,874	2011 ... 2,829
1998 ... 2,728	2012 ... 3,010
1999 ... 2,201	2013 ... 3,033
2000 ... 2,597	2014 ... 3,224
2001 ... 2,272	2015 ... 3,359
2002 ... 2,695	2016 ... 3,081
2003 ... 2,586	2017 ... 3,451
2004 ... 3,032	2018 ... 3,302
2005 ... 2,593	2019 ... 3,498
2006 ... 3,085	2020 ... 2,966

### 2020 KENTUCKY'S TOP 25 DEER HARVEST COUNTIES

County	Buck	Doe	Total	Washington	1111	1088	2199
Hardin	1827	1652	3479	Pulaski	1191	993	2184
Christian	1782	1445	3227	Trigg	1162	1018	2180
Crittenden	1438	1528	2966	Ohio	1195	980	2175
Shelby	1439	1513	2952	Webster	956	1144	2100
Breckinridge	1558	1386	2944	Caldwell	1015	1074	2089
Graves	1333	1517	2850	Logan	1115	963	2078
Pendleton	1281	1483	2764	Livingston	905	992	1897
Hopkins	1328	1413	2741	Bracken	853	1028	1881
Hart	1293	1212	2505	Green	962	909	1871
Grayson	1265	1229	2494	Grant	919	911	1830
Owen	1164	1286	2450	Calloway	941	871	1812
Nelson	1187	1225	2412	Spencer	869	905	1774
Muhlenberg	1213	1160	2373	Todd	864	847	1711

## HOPE

Continued from page 1 through. As the days passed, she began sharing some of her feelings on social media. Strength poured through her fingertips as she described the precious gift her husband and father was to her children. How thankful she was to have had the time with him she did, and how life would never be the same.

When I pulled into her driveway a few days ago, I was met by Jessica and their youngest son, Jansen, who turned a year old just a month after his father passed. They were riding an ATV to the mailbox with Christian music blaring through the speakers. She smiled and said they'd be right back. When they arrived, I jumped on the rig and she drove us to the new barn.

We tend to tip-toe around tragedies like this. I told her that, and we both laughed. She assured me that sometimes there are just no words, but all you have to do is listen.

We walked inside the new barn built by Mennonites. Jessica beamed with pride as she explained that it was everything Nathan dreamed it to be. She spoke of his thoughts to have a loft for hay, and an area to break his horses right in the middle. The entire time I stood in amazement at her strength and memory surrounding stories of him and their children. She walked us to the right side of the building and explained the meaning behind the pictures that hang above the door.

Nine pictures, some with their children, one at an Alabama football game that she had taken him to for his birthday. Another was of him with the truck that was lost in the fire. She thought it was special to him and she wanted their kids to be able to see and remember what it looked like.

As we walked through the door underneath those photos, she spoke about the tragedy, and how so much was lost. Yet, two things in particular stood out in her mind as surviving the fire. On the northeast corner of the barn still stands a post from the original building. Half charred yet half un-

touched. She said it was an option to take down during new construction, but she thought it should stay. Along with the post, the most important thing remaining was Nathan's Bible, protected from the flames. Jessica brought me inside their home to show me the book that, although charred around the edges, still held Truth in the words on It's pages.

Within our conversation, the message of their love became clear. You could hear it in Jessica's voice how much they truly loved and cherished each other. Many of us saw their story through social media. Others saw it in person. No matter the view, it was obvious that the compassion and support shone through their eyes was genuine. There's no doubt in my mind Jessica and Nathan had that connection.

Asked to describe Nathan, Jessica chuckled a bit and said, "He was one of a kind."

As we walked out of their home towards the barn, she told me he was always dressed to the nines. He never thought for a second about slouching around.

"We were complete opposites on that," she said with a laugh.

We sat down on the front stoop of the barn, and Jessica described further their story.

They were a couple of lovebirds, high school sweethearts. They stayed together as she went off to college and she missed him like crazy. The longing became too great so she came back home and they got married. She finished school at a community college, and later went on to nursing school.

Four children later, the two were still inseparable. Nathan was working underground in the coal mines, and Jessica, a hospice nurse.

Until Nathan's passing the two were caring for Jessica's grandmother, who required extra love. They never thought twice about allowing her to move into their home.

"He was one of a kind. He would talk about how he would be telling the guys at work about Mamaw and they wouldn't understand why she lived here. He'd say 'Well, because my wife loves her and she takes care of her.' And he knew I'd be

burning the road up if she wasn't here. He knew to make room for her. And he did that for me."

The two shared a prayer journal. Jessica says Matthew 6:33 is a verse of which their pastor constantly reminds his congregation. It reads, "But seek first His kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well."

Jessica says Nathan was driven and goal oriented. "He worked hard for what he wanted. We did it the hard way, but we worked hard to get what we wanted... this farm, everything we have."

She said that Nathan had written down in an excerpt of his nightly prayer in their journal, "Dear Lord, show me that if we live Matthew 6:33, that all of our needs and wants will be met."

"The first time I read it after he died, I cried so hard," she said. "It obviously isn't the same without him here. But he lived his life that way, and in turn he left us with our needs met. We aren't okay without him, but we are taken care of."

We talked about Nathan's resting place. It is about 10 minutes from their home. "There's something about his physical body being there, that comforts me. I never thought it mattered before, especially being a Christian. I thought, 'Well, they're not there'. And I never focused on eternity. But after he died, my whole perspective changed. So I went to my preacher and said, 'Okay, what's next? Where's he at? What's he doing? That's my other half. I need to know!'"

Jessica says through this process, it has drawn her closer to God. She's always been close to the Lord, but a bit of advice from her pastor has been a source of comfort. He told her to think about what she's reading in the Word of God, spiritually before naturally. After Nathan passed away she found a verse in Proverbs that reads, "If you live your life devoted to God, you will have a long and prosperous life." She admits being a bit haunted by it. It provoked so many questions.

"I was like why? He did everything near perfect. Why didn't he get that long and prosperous

life? We were not done, we were supposed to grow old together! But then I guess I was just stewing on it and I was like, 'You know what? Our long and prosperous life is not this life, it's that life. He's going to get that because he was a Christian. We will have that long and prosperous life together up there.'"

The biggest thing she's figured out through her grief and tragedy is how to be comfortable in the uncomfortable. She has read that Jesus was always that way, too. And He is clearly her inspiration.

"So many people say, 'Call me if you need something.' I read something in one of my other books that said, 'Grief is like drowning and someone is standing on the sidewalk saying, 'Call me if you need help!' And you just want to be like, jump in the water! I'm drowning!'"

It's true you can become overwhelmed by the outpouring of love from others, and it should always be appreciated. Friends quietly sitting in the moment, helping feed her kids

around supper time and even brushing her daughter's hair after bath time were a few of the sweet gestures received from friends and family during those early, very difficult hours without her husband.

"The biggest thing I tell people is that there's so much that I don't know, and I don't understand. So all I do is cling to what I do know and what I do understand."

She heard on KLove radio that it is important to have a soundboard, someone you can catch up with every day just to communicate whether or not it was a good or bad day. She agrees.

Jessica has her children and that's an immediate salvation. In a world where four kids might seem overwhelming to most single moms, she says they keep her going.

"I read a lot," she said, explaining that there is an excerpt from a book written by another widowed mother that says, "My children have already lost one parent. If I lay down, it's as if they've lost both."


She spends free time

poring over pages of books and running. In those activities, she finds personal therapy.

Her confidence has soared in harder tasks that she never had to worry about before. After moving a dog kennel across their property with the ATV, she felt stronger than ever.

"I do have more confidence. It's like 'Hey! I can do hard things!' Not that I didn't know before, but Nathan spoiled me. I never had to do anything. He took care of everything. He even saddled my horse. It stinks that it has to be like this, but I just keep telling myself that I can do hard things."

Jessica is a walking, talking, firm testament to the strength Jesus can provide even in the most horrific times. She's undoubtedly one of the strongest people I've ever met. That strength also comes from within, because her other half, Nathan, always made her feel strong and capable, building that inner power for a day she'd truly need it.



## THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE UNDER 40 HOSPITALIZED WITH COVID-19 RECENTLY HIT AN ALL-TIME HIGH.

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Ayrika Winters

# Nurse Practitioner Winters joins Family Practice Clinic

Ayrika Winters has joined the staff of Family Practice Clinic in Marion, joining Dr. Jonathan Maddux and nurse practitioners Lee Anna Boone, Marcie Ellington and Jennifer Brown.

Winters resides in Sturgis but grew up in Ballard County. She obtained her nursing degree from Murray State University in 2015 and completed a doctor of nurse practitioner/family nurse

practitioner from MSU in 2021.

She was employed as a critical care nurse at St. Thomas West in Nashville before returning to western Kentucky to complete the nurse practitioner program. While completing her Doctor of Nurse Practitioner at Murray, Winters spent three years in same-day surgery and recovery at Deaconess in Evansville.

Winters welcomes the opportunity to work in family practice in the community where she has family connections.

She also enjoys getting to know her patients, which was virtually impossible in same-day surgery.

“I like interacting with people and having a chance to get to know patients,” she said. “I enjoy treating patients with chronic conditions, like hy-

pertension and diabetes, particularly in older people.”

Winters’ grandmother, Doris Brasher Hook, is from Frances and her great-uncle is the late Don “Sucky” Brasher of Dy-cusburg.

Her husband Derrick’s grandparents are Kay Winters of Marion and the late Wayne Winters.

Appointments are available Monday through Friday for patients of all ages.

Just the Numbers											
COVID-19											
CRITTENDEN COUNTY CASES APRIL 2020 THROUGH OCTOBER 2021											
Month	COVID Cases	GENDER		AGE RANGE OF CASES IN COUNTY							
		Female	Male	0-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60-69	70-79	80+
APRIL 21	4	2	2	0	0	0	0	2	1	1	0
MAY 21	2	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0
JUNE 21	3	2	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0
JULY 21	18	10	8	3	1	2	1	4	6	1	0
AUGUST 21	38	20	18	5	0	7	10	6	5	4	1
SEPTEMBER 21	63	35	28	10	8	7	13	10	5	7	3
OCTOBER 21	52	22	30	7	10	7	7	9	7	4	1
NOVEMBER 21	98	59	39	12	14	7	18	24	14	6	2
DECEMBER 21	141	75	66	21	9	10	14	28	17	26	16
JANUARY 21	134	71	63	15	15	22	15	17	11	21	17
FEBRUARY 21	46	23	26	7	2	14	10	8	5	1	1
MARCH 21	51	25	26	12	6	8	11	8	2	0	0
APRIL 21	45	28	17	12	2	6	7	9	3	4	2
MAY 21	9	3	6	2	1	1	4	1	0	0	0
JUNE 21	22	13	9	3	0	3	3	7	3	1	2
JULY 21	74	42	32	12	14	11	14	11	5	1	2
AUGUST 21	234	127	105	80	36	34	29	15	24	11	5
SEPTEMBER 21	230	117	113	73	29	36	24	27	20	12	8
OCTOBER 21	109	62	47	52	15	10	13	7	8	4	0
TOTAL	1373	737	637	326	162	186	194	193	137	106	60

Age, gender and/or date of diagnosis unknown for some cases, which can explain why rows may not reconcile. Source Kentucky Department of Public Health



Ben Evans of Jent Construction puts together a roof for a picnic shelter that's going up behind the Ben E. Clement Mineral Museum on North Walker Street in Marion.

## Museum expanding with special events shelter

### STAFF REPORT

A new picnic shelter is going up at the Ben E. Clement Mineral Museum and visitor counts continue to be high.

Museum Curator Victoria Blaine said the roughly 800-square-foot shelter will be a gathering place for museum goers to eat lunch or fellowship. The structure is next to the historic mining equipment on display behind the museum.

“We had 85 school kids here recently and it started to rain and they were outside on the picnic tables eating lunch,” said Blaine.

The shelter will also be available for special events, such as birthdays. Jent Construction is building the addition to the museum.

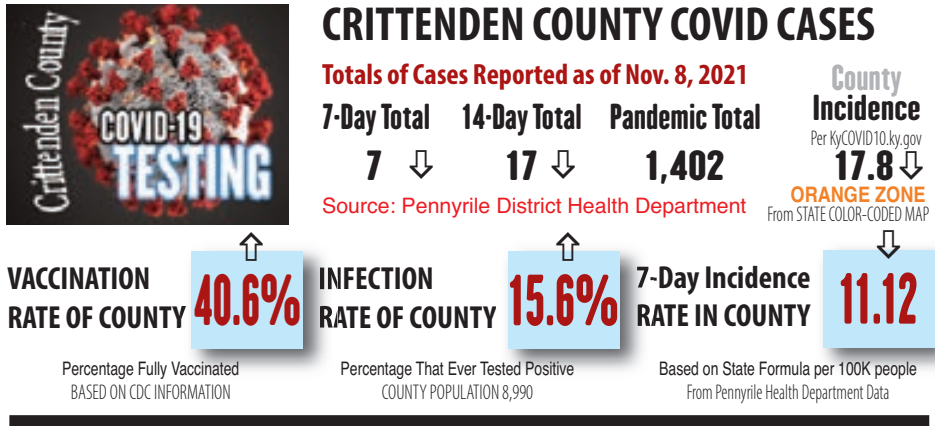
“I think half of Chicago was down a couple of weeks ago,” said Fred Stubblefield, a museum director. “We have been really busy.”

He said northern Illinoisians visiting southern Illinois sites such as Garden of the Gods have been regular day-trippers to the museum this summer and fall.

The museum is a showcase of the mineral collection of the late Ben

E. Clement, a giant in Kentucky mining. The collection is comprised of thousands of fluorite crystal specimens, ranging in weight from a fraction of an ounce to hundreds of pounds. Each specimen was “a rare accidental find” among regular ore bodies. In addition to the fluorite, there are many other rare mineral samples, fossils and exquisite mineral carvings.

Also preserved in the museum is an extensive collection of journals, photographs, mining tools and artifacts.



## All indicators show pandemic improvements in past 2 weeks

Crittenden County’s vaccination rate continues to climb, gaining about half of a point over the past week to 40.6 percent. The local health department is also now offering vaccine for ages 5-11 (details on page 8).

Meanwhile, cases continue a rapid decline after some difficult weeks over the past two months. As of Monday, there had been just seven cases reported here over the previous week. Because cases have begun to moderate considerably, Crittenden County schools modified their masking policy starting Monday of this week.

According to policy developed earlier this year by the school district, students will not have to wear masks all day because the county is no longer in the state’s so-called Red Zone. There

are periods, however, when masks will be required such as while students are moving between classes. They are also required on buses per federal guidelines. Masks do not have to be worn if students are in classrooms, sitting three or more feet apart.

“We will continue our Healthy At School practices, including contact tracing, quarantining, test to stay, extra cleaning/sanitizing, and social distancing,” the school district said in an announcement late last week. “We also encourage parents to keep their children home when they are symptomatic. We appreciate everyone’s cooperation while we protect our in-person learning option for all students.”

The district has developed a policy based on the state’s color-coded COVID-19 map, which

can be found online. Crittenden emerged from the so-called Red Zone late last week. The county is now in the Orange Zone, which means the number of new cases is fewer than four per day on a seven-day rolling average. The county incidence rate, as reported on the state map, was 17.8 on Monday.

The Pennyrlie Area Health Department’s figures indicate an even lower rate over the seven-day period ending Monday. Data lag could be responsible for the varied rates.

Crittenden County’s rate of infection began to moderate in October after a two-month period with the highest number of cases since the pandemic began in the spring of 2020. See the chart above for details on the county’s monthly infection figures.

Dr. Michael Gavin

Member of the KY Army National Guard

Jan. 28, 1988-Sept. 30, 2014

Terry W. Boone, PA-C

Served in the Army, 82nd Airborne

Feb. 1983-Feb. 1987

Robert M. Wilkinson, APRN

U.S. Army, Active Duty, Aug. 1972 -Aug. 1980, U.S. Army Reserves, Jan. 1979 - Sept., 1993, Feb. 1983-Feb. 1987

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(270) 928-2146

National Diabetes Month 2021

small steps big difference

PREVENTING DIABETES IS WITHIN YOUR REACH

Prediabetes is a serious health condition that puts you at an increased risk for developing type 2 diabetes. Prediabetes affects more than 1 in 3 U.S. adults—that's 88 million people—but most people don't know they have it.

The good news is that by making healthy lifestyle changes, it is possible to manage or reverse prediabetes and prevent it from turning into type 2 diabetes.

Follow these tips to manage your prediabetes

01

Take small steps.

Making changes to your lifestyle and daily habits can be hard, but you don't have to change everything at once. Start small.

02

Move more.

Limit time spent sitting and try to get at least 30 minutes of physical activity 5 days a week. Start slowly by breaking it up throughout the day.

03

Choose healthier foods and drinks most of the time.

Pick foods that are high in fiber and low in fat and sugar. Build a plate that includes a balance of vegetables, protein, and carbohydrates. Drink water instead of sweetened drinks.

04

Lose weight, track it, and keep it off.

You may be able to prevent or delay diabetes by losing 5 to 7 percent of your starting weight.

05

Seek support from your doctor.

People are more successful at managing their prediabetes if they have regular contact and support from trusted health care professionals.

06

Stay up to date on vaccinations.

The COVID-19 and flu vaccines are important for people who may be more likely to get very sick from COVID-19 or the flu, such as people with diabetes.

Visit [niddk.nih.gov](https://niddk.nih.gov) for more information on managing prediabetes.

For information contact Kelly Dawes, Diabetes Care and Education Specialist with the Pennyrlie District Health Department at the following clinics:

Caldwell County Health Center

Crittenden County Health Center

Livingston County Health Center

Lyon County Health Center

Trigg County Health Center

(270) 365-6571 (Closed every Monday)

(270) 965-5215 (Closed every Wednesday)

(270) 928-2193 (Closed every Tuesday)

(270) 388-9763

(270) 522-8121 Ext. 212 (Closed every Thursday)

\*Message from the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases.