



The Crittenden Press

Powder Puff Football « Thursday after parade

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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2024

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

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ONE DOLLAR



Events Schedule

Here are details for homecoming festivities late this week:

- Thursday, Oct. 17 is the parade at 5 p.m., on Main Street.
- Thursday, Oct. 17 at 6:30 p.m., will be powderpuff football at Rocket Stadium. Admission is \$6 on GoFan.
- Friday, Oct. 18 is crowning of the homecoming queen and king prior to kickoff of the football game against Mayfield. Kickoff is at 7 p.m. Tickets are available on GoFan app.
- CCHS Class of 1974 will have its 50th reunion with fellowship in the east end zone. The Class of 1985 will also have an informal gathering for classmates and friends in the same area of Rocket Stadium.
- Saturday, Oct. 19 is the homecoming dance at the multi-purpose room from 7 to 10 p.m. Cost is \$6 on GoFan.

Sen. Paul here Thursday, public town hall meeting

U.S. Sen. Rand Paul will be in Marion to hold a public town hall meeting at 10:30 a.m., Thursday at H&H Home & Hardware.

The senator will address various federal topics, hear comments and take questions.



Paul

Write-in candidates

Nikki Conger and Eddie Lee Belt have filed as write-in candidates for Marion City Council in the Nov. 5 election. Deadline to file as a write-in candidate is Friday, Oct. 25 at the county clerk's office.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- Crittenden County Fiscal Court meets at 8:30 a.m., Thursday, Oct. 17 at the county office complex.
- Marion City Council meets at 5 p.m., Monday, Oct. 21 at city hall.
- Fredonia City Council will meet at 7 p.m., Monday, Oct. 21 at city hall.
- Salem City Council will meet at 5 p.m., Tuesday, Oct. 22 at Deer Lakes meeting room.
- Crittenden County Board of Education meets at 5:30 p.m., Tuesday, Oct. 22 at Rocket Arena.
- Marion Tourism and Recreation Commission will meet at 8:30 a.m., Tuesday, Oct. 22 at the Marion Welcome Center.
- There will be a press conference from area school administrators regarding Amendment 2 at 5 p.m., Oct. 28 at WKCTC Emerging technology Building in Paducah.

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The Crittenden Press

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CRITTENDEN COUNTY SCHOOLS

Distinguished Alumni honors

Riley manufactures hometown success

BY CHRIS EVANS
PRESS EDITOR

Local entrepreneur and businessman Todd Riley, founder of Riley Tool and Machine, has been named one of two distinguished alumni from Crittenden County High School. Riley, a 1988 graduate, will be honored during a special ceremony on Friday as part of the school's homecoming week celebrations.

Riley has built a reputation for innovation in the industrial and mining sectors, with a knack for finding niche opportunities, including developing superior tools for the recycling industry. But his contributions go far beyond business success; Riley is deeply committed to giving back to his community, particularly through education.

One of his notable contributions is a partnership between Riley Tool and Machine, Saturn Machine in Sturgis and Crittenden County School District. This collaboration provides welding classes to high school students, with the two companies supplying materials and instructors while the school offers the learning environment. The goal is to introduce students to lucrative trade careers in welding, plumbing, electrical and construction.

"There are so many opportunities in the trades," Riley said. "We need to encourage students to explore these



Todd Riley

See RILEY /page 4

Addiction in crosshairs of Chandler's work

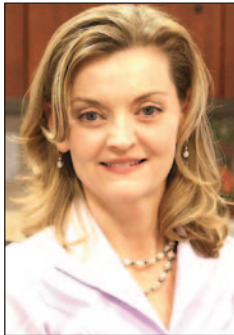
BY ALLISON EVANS
THE CRITTENDEN PRESS

A licensed psychologist and director of two national drug abuse initiatives is among this year's distinguished alumni from Crittenden County High School.

Dr. Redonna Chandler, Ph.D., credits her family support and community for shaping her during her upbringing in Marion. From her Girl Scout leader, who helped develop her entrepreneurial skills, to a local banker who played a crucial role in assisting Chandler with college financial aid and student loans, the influence of her community was significant.

"With age and hindsight, you grow to appreciate how the community shaped you," she said.

In the 42 years since leaving Marion, Chandler's professional expertise in substance abuse disorders and drug



Redonna Chandler

See CHANDLER /page 4

Recognition ceremony is Friday on high school campus



Distinguished Alumnus Roll

2011	Ken Winters
2011	Albert Michael Crider
2011	Forrest Carlisle Pogue*
2011	F. Julius Fohs*
2011	Ollie M. James*
2012	Scott Campbell
2012	Trish Melburn
2012	Jim Hatfield*
2013	Johnny Rushing
2013	Jeff McKenney
2014	David Newcom
2014	Helen Moore
2014	C.S. "Clem" Nunn*
2015	W.A. Franklin
2015	Stephanie Kelly
2016	Andy Mason
2016	Jerry Brown
2016	Juanita Burks*
2016	Bob Swisher*
2017	William O. Winstead
2017	Alan C. Stout
2017	Jared Ordway
2018	Corey Crider
2018	Barry W. Enoch
2019	Dr. Johnny Newcom
2019	Jonathan Burdon
2021	Beth Towery Davidson
2021	Jim Wigginton
2022	David Cozart
2022	Linda Schumann*
2022	Steve English
2023	None
2024	Todd Riley
2024	Redonna Chandler

*Posthumous

ON THE BALLOT - NOVEMBER 5 ELECTION

Amendment 1 is voting rights issue

In Kentucky's upcoming Nov. 5 election, voters will face an important question on the ballot. Amendment 1, which proposes changing the state constitution to explicitly prohibit non-U.S.-citizens from voting in any state or local elections will be on the ballot. Although non-citizen voting is already illegal in Kentucky, supporters argue that this amendment is necessary to safeguard against future legal changes at the local level that might allow non-citizen participation in some elections, as seen in other states.

Support for Amendment 1

Proponents of the amendment, largely led by Republican lawmakers, believe it is a proactive measure to prevent cities or counties from potentially changing their laws to allow non-citizens to vote in local elections. State Rep.



Michael Meredith of Bowling Green is a key supporter of the proposal. He argues that Kentucky is acting preemptively to ensure voting rights remain restricted to U.S. citizens, as other states have seen progressive pushes to allow non-citizen voting in municipal or school elections.

Supporters view this as a necessary safeguard to reinforce traditional rules requiring voter citizenship.

Opposition to Amendment 1

Opponents, however, argue that the amendment is redundant and fear it could fuel

anti-immigrant sentiment. They point out that non-citizens are already prohibited from voting under state law, making the amendment unnecessary. Critics, including some legal experts and Democrats, also warn that this measure could be a political tool to energize anti-immigrant voters during election season, rather than addressing a real issue in Kentucky.

Voters supporting the Amendment will need to vote Yes on their ballot. Those opposing the idea should vote No.

Amendment 2 would fund private schools

Kentucky voters will decide on Nov. 5 whether taxpayer money should be used to support private schools.

On the ballot will be a question labeled Amendment 2, which proposes allowing public funding for private schools. This issue has sparked widespread debate, with both supporters and opponents voicing strong opinions.

Supporters of Amendment 2

argue that it is a step toward educational freedom. They believe the amendment will provide school choice, giving parents more control over their children's education. Advocates claim that this change would create more equitable opportunities for families who may not have access to quality public education. By allowing state funds to be used for private schools, they argue, the

amendment would help level the playing field and give low-income families access to private education options that were previously out of reach. Proponents often point to states which have implemented similar policies with reported success.

On the other hand, opponents, including educators

See AMEND 2 /page 3

Three Rs consumed by beyond

Conservative politicians have long sounded the alarm about supposed failures of public education. Their solution? To push for public support of private and charter schools, possibly diverting funds away from traditional schools in the process.

They argue that public schools have lost their way, bloated by responsibilities that go far beyond teaching reading, writing and arithmetic. Critics claim that schools have taken on roles they were never meant to fulfill, like feeding students 24/7, addressing behavioral issues and offering emotional support. They claim schools are coddling students, not holding them accountable for their actions or their academic performance. But here's the irony: many of these problems were created by the very political institutions that now want broad privatization of education.

For the past 50 or 60 years, political decisions – championed by lawmakers – have eroded the traditional family unit, leaving schools to pick up the slack. The same people who rail against "nanny-state" schools have pushed policies that weakened social safety nets, eliminated community resources, and, in some cases, undermined family stability. This left schools to act as de facto caregivers, responsible not only for education but also for the social, emotional and physical well-being of children.

It's not that schools chose to take on these roles; they were forced into them by the runaway bus of bureaucracy.

When families fall apart, when poverty rises, when drug abuse goes unchecked, when mental health issues are overlooked, when church pews are empty and when social services are dysfunctional, schools become the last resort. They are where children's problems end up when we fail them elsewhere.

Ironically, both extreme left-wing and right-wing ideologies have fueled this shift. Legal challenges and ideological battles from both sides have distracted schools from their core mission, which is to educate.

Perhaps it's time to reconsider and restore what public education was meant to be in the first place. Schools should not have to serve as babysitters, mental health counselors, nurses, seven-day a week restaurants and social workers. Those roles belong elsewhere in society. In fact, we already have institutions designed to address many of these issues – the Cabinet for Families and Children, for example, exists to help struggling families. Churches also do



Chris EVANS
Press Editor & Publisher
About Town

See SCHOOL /page 3

Deaths

McIntosh

Rhonda Gina McIntosh, 63, of Taylorsville died Sunday, Sept.15, 2024 at Norton Womens & Childrens Hospital of Louisville.



She was dedicated to her career at L a n t e c h where she impacted many for 45 years. She loved antiques, yard sales and spending time with her grandkids. You could often catch her watching Star Trek, Godzilla or a classic sci-fi movie.

She was a loving daughter, wife, mother, Granny, and friend.

Surviving are her father, Ronald (Freida) Brackett; a brother, Ronnie Brackett; a sister, Amanda Boettcher; two step-daughters, Rebeka and Kym McIntosh, two sons, Jacob (Brooke) McIntosh and Ethan McIntosh; four grandchildren, Aaron, Annabella, Nolan and Eleanor.

She was preceded in death by her mother, Judith LaFrance; her husband, Eddy McIntosh; and a sister, Colleen Harris.

Graveside services were Saturday, Oct. 12 in Hampton Cemetery.

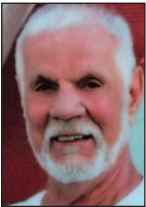
Memorial contributions may be made to Hampton Cemetery, c/o Boyd Funeral Directors, P.O. Box 26, Salem, KY 42078.

Paid Obituary

Birk

Michael Joseph Birk, 77, of Hampton died Tuesday, Oct. 8, 2024 at Baptist Health Paducah.

He was a member of Hampton Methodist Church and was the pastor in years past. He also attended Miracle Word Church. He was a Veteran of the Vietnam War, serving in the United States Army.



Surviving are his wife of 51 years, Fleshia Birk; a daughter, Alicia Ann (Anthony) Jewell of Burna; two sons, Vincent Keith (Emily) Birk of Louisville and Paul Michael (Michelle) Birk of Hampton; a sister, Cindy Lee of Naples, Fla.; eight grandchildren, Britney, Collin, Austin, Brady, Blake, Faith, Bailey and Lilly; and two great-grandchildren, Meagan and Carter.

He was preceded in death by parents, John Birk and Gloria Rigazzi; and a brother, James Birk.

Services were Sunday Oct. 13 in the chapel of Boyd Funeral Directors and Cremation Services with Rev. Gregory Waldrop officiating.

Burial was in Hampton Cemetery.

Yehling

Bob Yehling, 65, died Tuesday, Oct. 8, 2024 at his residence in Marion.

He was a 1977 graduate of Carlsbad (Calif.) High School, an award-winning author, writing coach, book editor, journalist and poet. Yehling was owner of Word Journeys, a writing and marketing firm for authors and publishers.

A native of California, Yehling had lived in Crittenden County on and off for the past 20 years. He was a volunteer assistant track and cross country coach for Crittenden County High School. Personally, he completed five Boston Marathons during his career as an amateur distance runner.

Surviving are a daughter, granddaughter, brother and sister, all of whom live in other states. Locally, he is survived by longtime friend Theresa Jenkins and her family.

Gilbert Funeral Home was in charge of local arrangements. The body was cremated and returned to his family out of state.

A memorial service will be held at a later date.

Maxfield

Kevin Ray Maxfield, met His savior Jesus Christ face to face on Sunday, Oct. 13, 2024 after enduring and winning the most courageous battle of his life. His legacy is one of love, light and forgiveness. He was a true servant of the Lord Jesus, and a man with a great calling of service and witness to those in need.



Born in Livingston County, Oct. 11, 1978 to Richard Maxfield and Beverly (Stanley), the youngest of four children, Kevin, was always following in his siblings' footsteps. A true family man, Kevin's heart was always full of love for all of them. After moving to Crittenden County, Kevin found many friends who quickly became family. Known to bring a carefree deposition and a smile to each and every life he touched, Kevin was happiest outdoors, traveling around the world, playing disc golf, enjoying time with his family and friends, and also taking a lot of time in private to reflect on all the things God had done for him in his life.

After finding Jesus in 2010, from that point on, Kevin was known to "serve the Lord like crazy," always willing to give whatever he had to ensure others were taken care of before himself, and was always willing to lend a listening ear or a helping hand to anyone who needed it. He took many trips to foreign lands as a missionary to both Haiti and Thailand. Kevin's heart was truly with the ones less fortunate in every aspect of his life.

Honored to serve as the chaplain of Crittenden county Detention Center for several years, he never treated an inmate as their circumstance, yet as an opportunity to make a difference in their lives. Kevin rarely knew what a person was incarcerated for, because it didn't matter to him. He loved each and every one of them dearly, and saw them as Jesus sees them - and saw him - loved and chosen, and given the opportunity to make a change.

With a yearning to always have a family of his own, God saw fit to give him what his heart had always desired most. In the last seven years of his life, Kevin met and married his wife Kayla, and they created a beautiful family together. Their daughter Annie was born one year and two days after their wedding day, and the two of them were the light of his life.

Kevin was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer after being in and out of the hospital for many months, battling many complications from procedures prior. Many people in his hometown and soon those around the world began to follow his journey and have received much encouragement from his attitude of "I'm a winner, either way this goes." Not one moment did he give up his faith in God's plan, yet he knew the entirety of the battle was to be used for God's glory, and was so grateful for the opportunity and blessing to have more time with the ones he loved most. It gave him an even greater perspective of how to be thankful for life, even in its ever-changing circumstances. He did not die questioning God, but with complete peace that he would be going to his real home when the day came. He knew his journey was to help him trust the Lord even more than before, and it did just that. Kevin was a humble man. He did not realize how loved he was by others until he was diagnosed with cancer. His beloved community of Marion, as well as those from all over the world, helped him and his family in their great time of need and he was eternally grateful for every single thing that they did for them. Kevin's life is a testimony of true faith, determination, grace and mercy. And anyone who was privileged enough to know him, loved him.

Surviving are his wife, Kayla; their daughter, Annie Rae Maxfield; parents Richard (Bernadine) and Beverly Stanley; parents-in-love, Keith and Chris Davis; five siblings, Regena (Tommy), Doug (Tamra), Teresa, Jamie and Taylor (Bess); and 14 nieces and nephews, Andrew, Douglas, Patrick, Juan, Kayden, Leighton, Miranda, Tabby, Joena, Ashayla, Brooklyn, Rebecca, Elisabeth, and Edie.

He has been reunited in heaven with his daughter Adeline Mae Maxfield; his beloved

cousin Anna Katherine; and many other loved ones who helped mold him into the man he was earth side.

Kevin is no longer in pain or suffering and was ready to meet his Lord. His true heart's cry was for all those who he loved and knew to know Christ is real, He is good, and He cares for you no matter your circumstances. His last wishes were for those who love him to not lose hope, but to look to heaven and celebrate his life on earth, for the day is drawing close where we will all be together again.

Kevin's celebration of life is scheduled at Fohs Hall in Marion on Thursday Oct. 17. His family will receive visitors from 10 a.m.-1 p.m., with service following directly after, with Kevin's uncles Rev. David Davis and Rev. Charlie Merritt and close friend, Bro. Tim Maness officiating. All are welcome.

Gilbert Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Paid Obituary

Turner

Bonnie Joyce Turner, 86, of Marion, died Saturday, Oct. 12, 2024 at Red Banks Nursing Home in Henderson.

Surviving are seven children, Joyce (David) Travis, Cindy (Mike) Crabtree, Tricia Watson Summers and Keith (J e n n y) Watson, all of Marion, P a u l (L a u r a) Madden of Henderson, R o n n i e (D i x i e) Watson of Marion and Dale Taylor of Providence; three sisters, Linda Carlton and Madeline Blythe, both of Evansville and Annette Guess of Paducah; 22 grandchildren and several great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Hubert and Clara Orendoff; her first husband, Harold Watson; second husband, Marvin Turner; three children, Donald Watson, Dion Watson and Wanda Duvall; and two brothers, Marion Orendoff and Wincell Damron.

Services were Wednesday, Oct. 16 at Gilbert Funeral Home with burial in Whites Chapel Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to the Alzheimer's Association, 225 North Michigan Avenue, Floor 17, Chicago, IL 60601.

Online Condolences

myersfuneralhomeonline.com
boydfuneraldirectors.com
gilbertfunerals.com

Most obituaries in this newspaper are free. Ask your funeral director about custom, fee-based obituaries.

Community Calendar

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

Thursday, Oct. 17

- Line dancing begins at 9:30 a.m., at the Crittenden County Senior Citizens Center.
- A reception for current and potential Crittenden County Homemakers members will begin at the Extension Office immediately following the homecoming parade.
- Friends of the Crittenden County Public Library meet at 6 p.m., in the library meeting room.

Friday, Oct. 18

- The annual Pennyrile Area Extension homemakers meeting will be held at 10:30 a.m., in Grand Rivers.

Saturday, Oct. 19

- All-you-can eat breakfast will be held from 7-10 a.m., at Salem Masonic Lodge 81. The lodge is located at 237 W. Main St., Salem. Cost is \$6.

Monday, Oct. 21

- A Wits Workout begins at 1 p.m., at the Crittenden County Public Library.

Tuesday, Oct. 22

- A Positive Employability class begins at 9 a.m., at the Crittenden County Extension Office.
- Hooks 'n Needles Homemakers Club meets at the Crittenden County Extension Annex at 1 p.m.

Wednesday, Oct. 23

- A Walk in the Park begins at 3 p.m., at Marion City-County Park.
- Crittenden County Public Library's Brown Bag Book Club meets at 12:30 p.m., to discuss this month's selection, The Girl on the Train by Paula Hawking.

Thursday, Oct. 24

- Line dancing begins at 9:30 a.m., at the Crittenden County Senior Citizens Center.
- Crittenden County Public Library Board meets at 5 p.m., in the library meeting room.

Tuesday, Oct. 29

- Crittenden County High School SBDM will meet at 3:30 p.m., in the school library.



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CCHS HoCo 2024

To culminate Homecoming Week at Crittenden County High School, one of three senior queen and king candidates will be crowned during festivities at Rocket Stadium Friday night. The court includes (front from left) freshman Bella Williams, senior candidates Brooke Winstead, Carly Porter and Hannah Mott, junior Nai'Zayah Bell, freshman Ayanna Matthews (back) freshman Drake Young, seniors CamRon Belcher and Blake French, sophomore Jake Rich and junior Caden Howard. Not pictured is senior king candidate Tyree McLean. Crowning will take place at 6:30 p.m.



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CWD case found on Kentucky deer farm

National Veterinary Services Laboratory (NVSL) notified Kentucky Department of Agriculture's Office of the State Veterinarian of a positive Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) test from a deceased deer at a deer farm in Breckinridge County. The farm, a participant in the state deer program, has been issued a quarantine restricting movement into or out of the facility, including live deer or deer products.

The Office of State Veterinarian established a management (5 mile radius) and surveillance (15 mile radius) zone for herds near the affected deer farm. The Office of State Veterinarian is diligently reviewing recent movement records, and all deer farms in the management and surveillance zones are under restricted movement until further order of the State Veterinarian.

The Office of State Veterinarian is implementing the Chronic Wasting Disease Response Plan that was approved by the Kentucky Department of Agriculture and the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources in 2022.

In December 2023, Chronic Wasting Disease was detected in Ballard County, marking the first time CWD has been documented in Kentucky. A CWD Surveillance Zone is also still in effect for Ballard, Calloway, Carlisle, Fulton, Graves, Hickman, Marshall, and McCracken counties. Special regulations regarding check stations, a ban on deer baiting and carcass transportation restrictions apply in this zone. Inclusion in a CWD Surveillance Zone does not change deer seasons or bag limits in the county.

CWD is a fatal neurologic disease that affects white-tailed deer, elk and other members of the deer family.

County's food bank gets \$1K from Atmos

Atmos Energy has donated \$1,000 to Crittenden County Food Bank as part of September's Hunger Action Month, a nationwide campaign to raise awareness about food insecurity and inspire action to combat hunger.

Atmos Energy donated \$2 million to food banks across eight states it serves, which will help provide food security for the natural gas company's



Dates: Things to Do

- Saturday nights in October, the **Tolu Haunted House** will be open.
- Cutter and Cash and Kentucky Grass will present their fall **Old Kentucky Hayride** music and variety show starting at 7 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 19 at Fohs Hall.
- Follow the Livingston County Bale Trail and vote for your favorites. Winners will be announced Nov. 2 at the Livingston County Bale Blast at the Extension office parking lot. Go to **Liv- ington County KY Bale Trail** on Facebook for details on how to vote and how kids can participate in Bale Blast.
- Octoberfest** is Saturday, Oct. 19 in Smithland as the town at the confluence of the Cumberland and Ohio rivers celebrates its 225th anniversary. Historical tours, 5K race, vendors, entertainment and more will be on tap during the festival.
- Friday, Oct. 25 is deadline for **write-in candidates** to file for the November election.
- Thursday, Oct. 31 **Trick-or-Treat on Main Street** in Marion. It will be followed by a First Responders Truck or Treat at the fairgrounds from 6–9 p.m.
- Tuesday, Oct. 29 at 1 p.m., there will be a formal **dedication ceremony** for the planned new Crittenden County Judicial Center.

neighbors in need.

Fred Brown, one of the volunteers who oversees the local food bank, said the money will be put to good use. It amounts to a significant percentage of the program's non-government funding. The county donates \$4,000 annually to the effort, otherwise the rest of its \$24,000 budget comes from donations. A number of churches give regularly. Hunters for the Hungry is the food bank's single largest meat contributor. Deer can be donated at Family Butcher Shop near Mattoon.

Crittenden County Food Bank feeds about 150 families every month.



Listen to our morning podcast on your drive to work. Stay informed on local news & sports. Find it at The Press Online.

“Food banks play a critical role in caring for vulnerable populations that face food supply inadequacy and nutritional instability, while also offering essential services such as nutrition education, advocacy and assistance programs that address the root causes of hunger,” Atmos said in its news release about the contribution. “Providing these nonprofit organizations with resources to collect, store and distribute food to those in need is an essential part of Atmos Energy's Fueling Safe and Thriving Communities initiative.”

While Atmos Energy's \$2 million donation will be distributed across the 1,400 communities it serves, the following other nearby food banks were also among area organizations that received grants:

Owensboro Help Office
Ohio County Food Bank
Madisonville Salvation Army
Hopkinsville Salvation Army
Dawson Springs Food Bank
Paducah Salvation Army
Paducah Coop Ministry
Paducah Community Kitchen
Paducah Martha's Vineyard
Mayfield Food Pantry
Bowling Green Salvation Army
Glasgow Community Relief Fund

Hogwarts Howl event at LBL Nature Station

Woodlands Nature Station at Land Between the Lakes National Recreation Area is inviting aspiring witches and wizards to experience a magical Halloween at A Hogwarts Howl-o-ween: Detention with Hagrid. The event will be held on Saturday, Oct. 19 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Attendees will embark on an immersive adventure in the Forbidden Forest, where they will "serve detention" by searching for magical creatures, attending wizarding classes, and crafting magical items. The event will also feature a series of natural history programs inspired by the fantastical world of wizards, offering visitors the chance to meet and learn about live animals as well as their magical counterparts. Organizers encourage visitors to come in costume. The event will be family-friendly and not scary.

SCHOOL

Continued from page 1

a great job of trying to fill the gap. The problem is not that schools have lost their way, but that society has demanded they take on responsibilities far beyond their scope.

In a room full of elephants, drug abuse and our ability to solve its ill consequences has become the most weighty of them all.

So instead of delivering what could turn out to be a gut punch to public education, perhaps we should return schools to their original mission. Let them teach and hold students accountable for their academic work and behavior. Meanwhile, strengthen other pub-

lic institutions to handle the complex social and family issues that have been dumped on schools for far too long.

A fundamental overhaul of those social institutions is necessary before they can be effective. Our courts are full of unemployed, drug-abusing individuals who all too often happen to be parents. Their kids are suffering, set back by their parents' transgression. Among the most successful treatment programs for these drug abusers are faith-based, non-government lifelines to sobriety. Let's find ways to prop up those programs and whack away at the root of this and other societal ills.

Everyone needs to get back in their own lanes. Schools should

teach. Families should raise their children. And the government? If it has be involved, should empower both to succeed. Only then can we rebuild and return values to public education that will allow it thrive and work for everyone. We should fix what we've broken, restoring public education to the focused, accountable institution it was meant to be and expecting equal accountability from students and their parents.

Chris Evans has been editor of The Press for over 30 years and is the author of South of the Mouth of Sandy, a true story about crime along the Tennessee River. You can find it on Amazon or wherever books are sold.

AMEND 2

Continued from page 1

and public school advocates, argue that Amendment 2 could severely harm the public school system. They contend that diverting public money to private schools would reduce funding available for public schools, which serve the majority of students. This could lead to larger class sizes, cuts to

essential programs and even job losses for staff such as bus drivers and cafeteria workers. Critics, including Lt. Gov. Jacqueline Coleman, argue that the amendment opens the door for the legislature to send public funds to institutions that are not accountable to the same standards as public schools. They believe it undermines the state's constitutional duty to adequately fund public ed-

ucation.

Ultimately, voters will need to weigh these arguments carefully as they decide whether Amendment 2 offers a beneficial expansion of educational choice or poses a threat to the future of public schools in Kentucky.

A Yes vote on Nov. 5 will support taxpayer money for private schools. A no vote opposes the idea.

Crittenden Press Letter to the Editor

Broadband plan needs deadlines

To the Editor:

I was excited to see the headline “Kenergy’s move to provide fiber internet is picking up steam here” in last week’s paper, but then I read the article.

During my career I managed many projects and I can’t ever remember one where the list of “to-do’s” were well documented, but without a

date tied to completion of any of them.

When we set goals we followed the “SMART” goal process. SMART stood for:

Specific
Measurable
Achievable
Relevant
Time Bound

In reading the article there’s a great list of specific tasks, measuring seems simple, achievable yes, and “Relevant” speaks for itself.

But with no Time Bound objective it’s nothing more than a nice list.

Whoever is managing this project, (is there anyone with overall accountability?), needs to sit down with each group and document a completion goal for each task. Where tasks are dependent on others, that is taken into account when setting the dependent goal’s completion date.

Seldom does everything go per plan, and

that’s where the project manager’s, (again, who is he/she?), role is to bring the team together, to re-plan and minimize any delay.

Without a project leader and specific date driven goals, I’m guessing it’s going to be a while before we see high speed internet here in Crittenden County.

Bob Glinke
Marion, Ky.



10 YEARS AGO

October 16, 2014

■ Shelley Singleton earned the 2024 Governor’s Ambassador Award for Professional Achievement for her work as a transportation engineering technologist and safety coordinator with District 2 of the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet.

■ Staff Sgt. Ronald Durfey earned the Steel de Fleury Medal for professional excellence in the U.S. Army.

■ Rocket Role Models at Crittenden Elementary were Gunner Topp, Wyatt Russell, Cash Singleton, David Abshire, Austin Martin, Cheyenne Starkey, Addison Wood, Macie Hunt, Chloe Hunt, Lilly Collins, Bristyn Rushing, Jason Lineberry, Jayden Conner, Micah Newcom, Brady Belt, Noah Atchison, Addison Mundy, Tallyn Tabor, Cutter Singleton, Hunter Phillips, Emma Waters, Callie Brown, Dennon Wilson, Evan McDowell, Ethan Torres, Olivia Lanham, Lance Greenwell and Daley Defoe.

■ Winners of the Farmers Day scarecrow contest were Quaid Cook-Brown, first place; Dylan Yates, second place; and Tessa Potter, third place.

25 YEARS AGO

October 21, 1999

■ Chrystal Campbell and Joey Rich were crowned Crittenden County High School’s homecoming queen and king. Other members of the court were senior attendants Matt Jent, Kindra Carnahan, Brandi Travis, Jordan Yates and Tim Grau; sophomores Leigh Browning and Tanner Tabor; freshmen attendants Dani Harrison and Brad Madden; and juniors Rhannon Jenkins and Brandon Carlson.

■ Boy Scouts participating in the inaugural raising of a flag at the Crittenden County Public Library were Dustin Hillyard, Josh Urbanowski, Ronnie Howton and Steven James.

■ CCHS student Brad Combs won \$36 for his successful attempt to catch a greased pig. The activity was held in conjunction with a homecoming pep rally.

■ Crittenden County was third in the nation per capita with counties of similar size after receipts from Relay for Life were tabulated.

25 YEARS AGO

October 17, 1974

■ Architect’s drawings of a proposed new Crittenden County Library were shared publicly. Construction was scheduled to begin after the Crittenden County Jail at the corner of Carlisle and Maple streets was razed.

■ Hutch Goad, 24, joined the staff of The Crittenden Press’ advertising and photography departments.

■ Finalists for the Crittenden County High School homecoming court were Sandy Boone, Cindy Wright, Linda Woodside, Janie Peek, Markeata Brown, Gayle Perryman, Michele Ramage and Ann Stalion.

■ Golf league winners honored at Marion Country Club were Dick Moore, Clinton Easley, Joe McCord, Dickie Gough, Bill Morrill, Willard Stone, Rev. Wilbur Webb, Carson Davidson, Jim Hatfield, Albert Henry, Steve Davidson, Pete Hickey, Bill Stout, Bill Jones, Nelson Hughes, Buck Travis, Sam Smith and Johnny Gibbs.

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

Election Letters Policy

No letters will be accepted supporting or opposing political candidates in the week prior to the election. Email your letters to us at thepress@the-press.com. ATTENTION: The Press will accept no letters regarding local elections for publication the Thursday before the Nov. 5 Election. Deadline for endorsement letters is Oct. 18 for publication Oct. 24, 2024.

Crittenden Press

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Jobs for Graduates active inside CCHS

Choosing a career isn't always an easy decision, but Emma Coleman is dedicated to providing as much information and hands-on experience as possible to help students make more informed decisions.

Established in 1980, Jobs for America's Graduates (JAG) provides elective classes for credit taught by specialists in high and middle schools.

Coleman, formerly with the UK College of Engineering Paducah campus, has joined the Crittenden County High School staff as the school's new JAG instructor. Short for Jobs for America's Graduates, JAG is a year-long program that high school students may take as an elective to prepare them for

post-secondary education.

Coleman says that JAG not only equips students with important competencies that boost employability, but also it allows students to interact with employers, solving real-world problems both in the classroom and through project-based learning opportunities. Recently, students have learned from guests from the UK College of Engineering, as well as Ben Stinnett, Director of Marketing and Community Engagement with BFW/Marcum Engineering.

"My goal is to make sure students are exposed to a variety of different professions and professionals this year," said Coleman. "I want them to leave



Crittenden County High School students listen to a speak during a JAG event on campus.

the program knowing what is necessary for them to obtain their personal and professional goals after high school."

The JAG curriculum also focuses on soft skills such as public speaking, resume building and financial literacy. Graduation rate among JAG seniors is 96 percent, 10 percent greater than the national

average.

Freshman Katie Allsbury feels the program is off to a great start. "I'm so happy to be in JAG," said Allsbury. "We've just started the year, and I'm already learning so much. I know JAG is going to help me become a better leader and help me set and accomplish my goals."

Senior Micah Hardin agrees. "JAG will help me prepare for my career in the military by connecting me with recruiters and helping me get prepared in the classroom," he said.

Students may take JAG each of their four years in high school if they choose.

CHANDLER

Continued from page 1

treatment programs led to her selection as the director of two programs at the National Institute on Drug Abuse.

She is the director of the HEALing (Helping End Addiction Long-term) Communities Study, which began in response to the alarming number of opioid-related overdose deaths nationwide. The study supports 67 communities across four states—including Kentucky—in identifying interventions, treatment options, and safer prescribing practices for opioids. Chandler also directs the HIV Research Program, which addresses the needs of HIV patients with substance use disorders.

Before graduating high school, Chandler mapped out her career as a clinical psychologist and took extra science classes, knowing they would help her in college. A 1982 graduate of CCHS, she earned her bachelor's, master's, and Ph.D. in psychology from the University of Kentucky.

"I knew the Ph.D. was part of the science track, so I wanted to do as much as I could to be prepared for that in my undergraduate classes and to be competitive for graduate school applications," said Chandler, 59. "With my Ph.D., I initially intended to focus more on clinical work, but I ended up teaching and getting involved with research. Research in the area of addiction has been the focus of my career."

Chandler resides in Maryland and is married to Ken Rehffuss. They have three children: Alejandro, 24; Ryan, 32; and Whitney, 37. She is the daughter of Glenda Chandler of Marion and the late Randall Chandler.

After college, she worked at Berea College and spent six years with the Bureau of Prisons, where she developed and managed drug treatment programs for individuals facing serious mental health and substance abuse challenges.

Beginning in 2015, the HEALing Communities Study developed a strategy to work with 16 eastern Kentucky counties, as well as areas in Massachusetts, New York, and Ohio, that were

most affected by the opioid crisis.

"We examined the problems they were experiencing, identified different interventions known to lower risk—such as Naloxone to reverse overdoses—and explored ways to improve access to medications for treating opioid use disorder while promoting safer prescribing practices," Chandler said. "Each community developed implementation plans and assessed their impact on overdose rates."

The study concluded around the same time as the national opioid settlement disbursements.

"We hoped some of what we learned would inform how settlement funds could be utilized to help communities organize and form coalitions," she explained. "These funds could support activities to gather data on what is happening and identify care gaps that need to be addressed."

Issues such as distributing overdose-reversing Naloxone and improving transportation for medical care, particularly in Kentucky, were highlighted by the study as areas that could be improved with settlement funds.

"Some of the frameworks established to evaluate applications for settlement funds are based on key components of the study," Chandler noted. "Without a doubt, this study has been a highlight of my career."

"To conduct a study of this magnitude is quite unusual, and being able to serve as its director while having Kentucky involved has been fantastic. It feels like my career's capstone project," she added. Today, the study continues to yield positive effects on communities as data is analyzed and published nationwide.

Chandler is honored to be named a distinguished alumna of Crittenden County.

"My hope is that seeing a former Crittenden County graduate build a career combining public service and science will inspire others—especially young women—to pursue similar paths. We need more smart, talented people working to tackle some of our most challenging global issues," she said.

RILEY

Continued from page 1

fields. Investing in our local youth is important for our community's future."

Riley Tool and Machine also employs three high school students through a co-op program, giving 04 them the chance to earn money while gaining valuable hands-on experience. Many continue to work through the summer, further enhancing their skills.

For Riley, 54, community involvement has always been a priority, whether as a youth sports coach, the voice behind the Rocket football games as the public address announcer, or through his support for local organizations. His motivation to help young people stems from the guidance he received as a student, particularly from his shop teacher, Larry Duvall.

"Larry taught me how to weld and was a huge influence on me," Riley shared. "Helping others and making an impact on young people is what I find most rewarding."

Raised in nearby Salem, Riley transferred to Crittenden County High School during his teen years. He developed a strong work ethic early, holding jobs at Dairy Queen, Druther's Restaurant and local welding shops. After high school, Riley earned an associate of science degree from Vincennes University in Indiana in 1993. His career took him through

positions at Collins Engineering and Quality Tooling and Service Tool and Die, where he honed his expertise in tooling and fabrication.

"I've always had a mechanical mind," Riley said. "I love taking things apart, figuring them out, and seeing a finished product come together."

Despite his natural talent for mechanics, Riley admits the business side of things didn't come easily at first.

"To be honest, I knew nothing about business," he laughed. "But I wasn't afraid to ask questions and learn."

Over the years, Riley bolstered his business acumen through leadership courses, conferences and relentless self-education.

In 2001, Riley took a leap of faith, purchasing the former Marion Machine Works and launching his own company while still working another job during the day. It was a challenging time, especially as he and his wife, Sarah, were raising a young family.

"We relied heavily on Sarah's teaching salary," Riley recalled.

Sarah, who Riley calls the "rock" of the family, is now the principal of Crittenden County Elementary School, but she also lends support to the business.

One of Riley's early breakthroughs came when he innovated stronger, more durable blades for the tire recycling industry, a development that led to contracts nationwide. Today, Riley

Tool and Machine employs 47 people and provides services to a wide range of industries, from quarries and mines to agriculture and maritime enterprises.

Riley's key to success is simple.

"If you just do the little things, like answering the phone and showing up when you say you will, you can be successful," he said.

Hiring and retaining quality employees has also been crucial, allowing the company to grow while keeping its operations largely regional.

In addition to his industrial ventures, Riley has invested in local real estate, building a portfolio of rental properties. Despite his many business achievements, Riley remains grounded in his roots.

"I love the small-town environment where you know your neighbors and it feels safe," he said. "It's a great place to raise children, and we have a fantastic school system with staff who truly care about our kids."

Riley is deeply honored to be recognized as a distinguished alumnus.

"This community means everything to me," he said. "I'm proud to give back and help make it even better for the next generation."

Riley's recognition highlights his lifelong dedication to hard work, community involvement, and his commitment to empowering young people through education and opportunity.

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Jennifer Johnson, APRN, FNP-BC

Family Clinic

Theresa White, APRN

Eddyville Family Clinic

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Eddyville Family Clinic

Family Clinic (Marion)

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(270) 362-8246

(270) 388-0620

(270) 704-4131

The world has an abundance to harvest

Fall is a colorful time of year. Not just the leaves will soon be changing, but the fruit and vegetables that are harvested from our gardens – the myriad shades of greens, reds, oranges and yellows from even our more common vegetables are beautiful. Gourds, squashs, and potatoes add more color and shapes to the fruits we are blessed with this time of year.



Sean NIESTRATH
Faith-based columnist
Guest Columnist

We live in a world of abundance. According to the first creation account in Genesis we have enough food for ourselves and to “be fruitful and multiply.” We have been given the charge of caring for the creation that we have been blessed to inhabit.

And God said, “Behold, I have given you every plant yielding seed which is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. And to every beast of the

earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.” And it was so. (Genesis 1:27-30, RSV).

Part of caring for the planet is caring for each other. In the Bible we read of a few famines. They were mitigated by going to a place where there was food, preparing for the “lean years”, or by donations of money so that the available food could be purchased.

It is impossible to express how fortunate we are in the United States to have enough food for ourselves and to feed many others in the world. We also have enough resources to buy foods we like that do not grow here. There is enough. Even when a crop fails in one part of the world, there is enough for all of us.

In the 1930s crops failed on the great plains

of the United States resulting in massive migration westward. There was excruciating poverty and there was a lot of hunger, but even then, there was enough. Not a surfeit, but enough. It was the generosity and care of human beings for each other that kept that disaster (a combination of manmade and natural) from becoming far worse.

I came across a poem published in the Paducah Sun-Democrat on Nov. 12, 1934, right in the middle of the Great Depression and Dust Bowl years. It is poignant in its thanksgiving and sensitivity to those who were hungry.

—
Harvest
God be thanked for harvest yield,
Whatever be the sowing;
Wheat that bent with golden weight
Through the summer days,
Corn that ran in endless rows
Yellow-eared and glowing,
Or apples scarlet on the hills
In the autumn haze.
God be thanked for all of these,

But oh, help us remember
Those whose hearts are sad;
Who would have toiled the summer through
For heaped bins in November
If they could...Lord, meet their need
And some way make them glad.
God be thanked for yielding fields,
And for strong men to till them;
Grant them faith to plant again,
The winter left behind.
But oh, the empty cupboards, Lord
Reach out a hand and fill them,
And open up the old lost fields
Of service to mankind.
Grace Noll Crowell

In 1977, Kentucky author Wendell Berry published The Unsettling of America. He wrote, “It is possible, I think, to say that... a Christian agriculture [is] formed upon the understanding that it is sinful for people to misuse or destroy what they did not make. The Creation is a unique, irreplaceable gift, therefore, to be used with humility, respect, and skill.”

Working the ground and keeping healthy forests and fields so that we can extract from it what we need to live is not to be taken lightly. It requires skill and work. It requires knowledge and sensitivity to the climate and the soil. It is enough work for us to not take our sustenance for granted, but not so much as to make it too hard.

Famines that cause starvation on a mass scale are not because of crop failure. This is what Thomas Keneally (Shindler’s Ark author) argues in his 2011 book, Three Famines. They are caused by failures in human systems, usually precipitated by war or oppression. He opens his argument with a stunning quote by Nobel Prize in Economics winner, Amartya Kumar

Sen, “No famine has taken place in the history of the world in a functioning democracy.” (p. 7).

This is important for all of us to understand. God has given us a planet where there is enough. It is true that crops fail in different times and places. It is not that failure, however, that causes people to starve. It is the failure of human beings to care for each other and the planet. I am thankful for those who step into the dangerous places in this world to attempt to overcome the contempt that some have for the lives of others.

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.

Religious Outreach

■ Old Salem Baptist Church has a Blessing Box located next to the church at 117 Old Salem Church Rd.

■ Suicidal thoughts? Stop! Email dbrantpc@tds.net and request a video link that hopefully will change your mind.

■ The Clothes Closet of the First Baptist Church in Fredonia is open to serve the area with free clothes. The Clothes Closet is operated from 1-3 p.m. each Thursday. The Clothes Closet will be closed in case of rain.

■ Fredonia Unity Baptist Church’s clothes closet is open from 9 a.m. to noon on the second and fourth Saturday of every month.

■ The clothes closet at Mexico Baptist Church is open from 9 to 11:30 a.m. each Monday.

Methodists welcome new pastor

This Sunday morning, Marion Methodist Church will welcome Jamie Mandrell as its new pastor. With 27 years of ministry experience, Mandrell brings a wealth of knowledge and a deep commitment to service.

Mandrell, 58, has spent most of his life in the Methodist discipline, having been raised in the church in Big Sandy, Tenn. He earned his bachelor’s degree in religion with a minor in Greek from Union University in Jackson, Tenn., in 1993, followed by a master’s in religious education from Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in

Kansas City, Mo., in 1996. Throughout his career, Mandrell has served congregations across Missouri, west Tennessee and middle Tennessee, including recent roles at Methodist churches in Clarksville and Erin, Tenn. He has recently transitioned from the United Methodist Church and is set to be ordained as an elder in the Global Methodist Church in June.

In addition to his pastoral work, Mandrell is a licensed funeral director, a role that highlights his dedication to supporting families in times of need. His wife, Cissy has worked

at Austin Peay State University for over 25 years in the psychology department as an administrative assistant. She is nearing retirement.

Originally from Big Sandy, Mandrell moved to Kenton, Tenn., from where he graduated high school. He currently resides in Clarksville, where he enjoys golf, fitness and reading in his spare time. The couple has two grown children, a son and daughter, who both live in Texas.

Marion Methodist Church have recently disaffiliated with the United Methodist Church and is now affiliated with the Global Methodist denomination, as has many other congregations across the Southeast.

Mandrell

Western Kentucky Regional Blood Center

BLOOD DRIVE

CRITTENDEN COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 23

8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

Ladies Retreat

Saturday, Nov. 2, 9 a.m.-noon

(Doors will open at 8:30 a.m.) Lunch will be Provided

"Stand in the Gap"

Ezekiel 22:29-30

Guest Speaker: Rhonda Horack

A relaxing day of fun and fellowship! Worship in music, prayer and praise! A funny skit performed by our ladies!

Pre-registration is appreciated by text (270) 704-0349

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2416 Cave Springs Church Rd.

Prizes Craft Songs

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315 Emmaus Church Rd., Salem, Ky.
Rodney Phelps, Pastor
(270) 704-2400
emmausbaptistsalem@outlook.com
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St. William Catholic Church

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

Mexico Baptist Church

Minister of Music Mike Crabtree
Pastor: Morgan Smith
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

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
"Whatever It Takes"
Bro. Jamie Baker

Emmanuel Baptist Church

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

Tolu Methodist Church

Pastor: David Brown
We invite you to be our guest
Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.

Barnett Chapel General Baptist

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

Freedom General Baptist Church

Pastor: Ross Atwell
87 Freedom Church Rd., Marion
(about 1 mi. from Marion off Ky. 91)
CHURCH TIMES:
Sunday School 10 a.m. Sunday Evening 6 p.m.
Sunday Worship 11 a.m. Wed. Bible Study 6 p.m.

Marion Baptist Church

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

SEVEN SPRINGS BAPTIST CHURCH

219 Seven Springs Rd., Marion, Ky. 42064
Sunday evening service 5 p.m.
Wednesday night service 6:30 p.m.
- We are an Independent Baptist Church seeking to know Christ, and to make Him known to the community around us. -
Pastor Justin Miller

Crayne Community Church

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

FIRST CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

growing in grace

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

Marion Church of God

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

Crooked Creek Baptist Church

261 Crooked Creek Church Rd.,
P.O. Box 442, Marion, Ky. • (270) 704-0914
Sunday School: 10 a.m.
Sunday Worship: 11 a.m.
"Come and Worship with Us"

PINEY FORK

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

Sugar Grove

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

Marion Methodist Church

We love intensely, believe deeply, and pray zealously
SUN: Sun. School 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:45 p.m.
South College St.

Frances Community Church

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

Hurricane Church

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

Unity General Baptist Church

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

Marion Church of Christ

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

Tidbits of interest from the past

This article is another collection of some of those interesting tidbits that I have saved. Not enough information for an individual article on each item, but definitely some informative and fun facts from yesteryear. From the archives of The Crittenden Press come these interesting stories.

November 1930 – Hugh Mastodon Tooth

On display in the office of Tax Assessor Robert Corley is a Mastodon tooth found by Bill Gibson some days ago.

The tooth was taken from a gravel bank in Crooked Creek on the farm of Allie Hughes. As the water reached an unusually low level in the creek this fall as a result of the prolonged drought, the tooth was exposed in the creek bed, allowing Mr. Corley to see the tooth and dig the relic from the gravel in which it was embedded.

The tooth, in an almost perfect state of preservation, is a giant molar with six long roots measuring eight inches in length. The tooth weighs six pounds.

Several other mastodon teeth have been found recently in various sections of the county, arousing quite a good deal of interest in the prehistoric story of Crittenden County. (Wonder what happened to these pieces of history?)

January 25, 1935 – Red Front Will Open New Store

Largest of entire chain to be completed during this week. The Red Front Cash and Carry Store will open Saturday, Feb. 2, with complete new equipment throughout.

The establishment is located in the Stone & Fowler Building at the intersection of Main and Belleville streets.

W. G. "Bill" Stout has been placed in charge, and he will employ six assistants regularly with others to be added within the near future.

The store is the largest, most modern and best arranged of the entire group of their 45 stores.

Mr. Stout states that the refrigeration is the best obtainable and all other equipment is the highest type.

The store will be the leader of the group and the illumination and lighting is unsurpassed being the best west of Louisville.

The best quality of foods and meats at extremely low prices will be offered to customers.

Sept. 4 1936 – Rain Shatters Heat and Drought Waves

Rain Saturday morning and Tuesday and Wednesday was of material benefit to farmers of Crittenden and surrounding counties.

Temperatures were greatly reduced, ranging from 100 degrees and better, all time records were reported. The rain of Saturday forced the mercury down to 87 at 10 o'clock while the day before at the same hour a reading of 94 was shown.

The past month was the most severe and trying for many years, normal temperatures were reported for the initial 10 days, but the heat had become record breaking by the 15th. During the



The Red Front Store was at the corner of Main and West Bellville streets, later housing Western Auto and today the site of Marion Fire Department.

remainder of the month record after record for temperatures were surpassed when the heat wave was finally broken by the showers of the past week.

May 7, 1937 Easley and Watson Claim Boxing Tournament Titles in Paducah Meet



Brenda Underdown
County Historian

Forgotten Passages

Not much has been documented about Marion boys being involved in the art of boxing. Here is an interesting article from The Crittenden Press, May 7, 1937.

Clinton Easley and James Watson fought their way to tri-state titles in the tournament sponsored by the Sun-Democrat being held in Paducah.

Clinton Easley gained his title with one of the most powerful knock-out punches ever displayed in Paducah and had no trouble in winning over Willard Camp of Camden, Tenn., in the light-heavy weight division. The bout lasted only one round. Camp was floored twice before being counted out. Swinging a punch loaded with dynamite Easley was master of Camp at all times and clearly demonstrated that his near victory over last year's champion was not a flash-in-the-pan type.

James Watson, in the opening session, in the 113 pound class, scored a technical knockout over Henry Jordan of Paducah in the third round, and Wednesday night downed Bill Walton of Benton in a decisive fashion, leaving no room for doubt as to his superiority in the division. Walton was floored three times in the first round and would have scored a knockout if the fight had not been called at the end of the second.

Other in meet include:

- Douglas Travis lost to Jack Gatlin of Benton in the feather-weight division in one of the fiercest battles of the meet. A terrific jab to the heart gave the victory to Gatlin after Travis had fought one of the most surprising battles of the evening.
- Dick Moore drove power punches into the body of Clyde Swift of Camden, Tenn., in the 135 pound class but lost to one of the fastest and cleverest of entries.
- Mose Johnson refused to claim victory in the middleweight scrap with Tynes Benton on a foul.
- Harold Winn lost his bout after putting up one



Outbound Marion air mail would be picked up by the mail plane. A cable and hook from the plane would pick up the mail bag as it flew over the station, and mail was delivered by being dropped from the plane with special equipment.

of the best bouts on the opening card.

The local fighters have had no ring experience and very little training, conditioning themselves as best they could within the past few days. All of the Marion boys have plenty of spirit. Some of them hitch-hiked to Paducah in order to fight. Paducah sports writers highly praised the squad as the gamest and hardest punching of all entries.

April 1941 – Air Mail Pickup and Delivery Service

Wm. C. Gage, operations manager Mercury Dev. Corp., was in the city Wednesday consulting with Postmaster McConnell and other authorities regarding establishment of air mail pickup and delivery service for the city. No planes will land and

no passengers received or discharged. The schedule calls for mail and express only.

The proposed schedule calls for two south and west bound deliveries and pickups daily and a like number of north and east. The field picked for erection of the pickup device must be level and within a short distance of the city according to McConnell. Average speed of the plane when picking up the mail was set at 130 miles per hour.

McConnell points to the fact that many business and commercial firms will be benefited by establishment of the service and points further to the fact that express will also be handled.

Description of mail pickup and delivery will be: Outbound Marion air mail will be picked up by the plane, as the mail plane approaches the station for pickup, a cable and hook are unreel from the craft through a hatch. The mail will be placed in a rubber container that was suspended between a pair of 15-foot-high posts. The airplane outfitted with a hook will fly over the posts, and hook the mail and reel it in. Mail will be delivered by dropping from the plane with special equipment.

(Interesting to read about, but I don't know if this ever came to pass in Marion or not. I was unable to find any further information about the purported Air-Mail service.)

Fun and exciting items from yesteryear, bring back good memories from a different time in Marion and Crittenden County.

(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).



PUBLIC NOTICE

Crittenden County Board of Elections will offer excused in-person absentee voting Oct. 23-30 during regular business hours, weekdays 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., inside Crittenden County Clerk's Office at Crittenden County Office Complex at 200 Industrial Dr. in Marion for general election voters who will be unable to vote in-person for Early Voting or on Election Day.

Voters must attest to their reason for being unable to vote during three days of Early Voting (Oct. 31-Nov. 2) or on Election Day (Nov. 5).

This notice is given pursuant to Kentucky statutes

BIG YARD SALE

OCT. 18-19
8 a.m.-4 p.m.

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Furniture, Antiques, Glassware,
Costume Jewelry, Comforters, Vases,
Exercising Equipment, Toys,
Men & Women Clothes (M-2XL),
too much to list.

FAMILY BUTCHER SHOP DEER PROCESSING

CUSTOM PROCESSING

DEER • PORK • BEEF
SUMMER SAUSAGE • SNACK STIX
DEER JERKY

Participant: Hunters for the Hungry

NO NEED TO CALL, BRING YOUR DEER
346 Rooster Ln.
(just off KY 654 N. 3 mi. from US 60 E., Marion, Ky.)
DEER DROP OFF 6 a.m.-9 p.m.
CLOSED SUNDAY

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SEARCH PUBLIC NOTICES published in Kentucky newspapers.
www.kypublicnotice.com

This website is provided by Kentucky's newspapers as a free service for the purpose of and engaging the citizens and maximizing the availability of this information.

Buying and Selling New and Gently Used Clothing at Yard Sale Pricing Everyday!

Have you checked out the hottest consignment shop in Marion?

SHOP MON.-FRI. 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

Children and Adult Clothing
We make shopping fun...and oh-so affordable!

Round 2 Boutique

220 S. Main St., Marion, KY

Write-In

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Marion City Council

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Open Enrollment for Medicare is
October 15 to December 7.

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"THANK A TEACHER"

KENTUCKY RETIRED TEACHERS
APPRECIATION WEEK
October 21-27, 2024

Kentucky's Retired Teachers have:

- devoted their careers to the education of thousands of KY youth
- retrained and/or provided educational opportunities to hundreds of adults who fell behind in formal education needed for jobs
- rendered valuable services in community leadership roles throughout careers and retirement
- represent the profession, which is given the basic responsibility for launching the careers of state and national leaders and society members' welfare foundation
- toiled ceaselessly to improve the quality of life in the state and nation, too often in less than adequate circumstances and for less than adequate pay
- represented a tremendous pool of experience and training which remains dedicated to the betterment of all society and continue doing so today.
- represented a loyal, patriotic, and concerned citizenry and continue doing so today.

(taken from KY Retired Teachers Association President Dr. Rick Tatum's 2024 Proclamation)

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Your Licensed Pre-Need Agent

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for information on obituaries, funeral arrangements, pre-need arrangements and background information about the funeral home.

Johnson is named new CCMS principal



Nita Johnson, a 32-year veteran of education, has been named interim principal at Crittenden County Middle School for the rest of the 2024-25 school year.

A native of Webster County, Johnson graduated from the University of Southern Indiana and Western Kentucky University with bachelor's and master's degrees in elementary education. She also holds an education administration

degree from Murray State University. For 23 years, Johnson was an elementary and middle school educator before transitioning into school administration. She began as a college and career readiness coach at the high school level and then served as an assistant middle school principal and later an elementary school principal before retiring in June of 2023.

"I want to maintain a profes-

sional culture and make school a place where kids love to come to each day," said Johnson. "I want to continue to focus on an environment that provides excellent learning opportunities for students and a positive, quality work environment for staff."

Citing a desire to return to the classroom, Kara Turley announced prior to fall break that she was vacating the role as prin-

cipal at CCMS.

Turley will teach sixth grade language arts, a subject with which she has more than a decade teaching experience at Crittenden County.

Johnson lives in Slaughters with her husband of 33 years, Keith. In her free time, she enjoys being with her family and attending cattle shows and rodeos.

Wow moments from Congress punctuated by fall's grand glory

What comes to mind when you think about October? Fall festivals at your school, church, or community? Halloween? Family get-togethers? Beautiful fall foliage? The fall harvest for farmers? Friday night football? Frost on the pumpkin? Fall revivals at your church? If you're a horse person—especially someone who shows American Quarter Horses – you know exactly what October means. In the words of Fred Sanford from the old TV sitcom Sanford and Son, who often spoke these words while clutching his chest: "This is the big one!"

Last month, I shared a story about a particular horse show my family attended in Bowling Green over Labor Day weekend in 2002. It was an event that God used to change my life forever – all in His perfect timing, of course! Today, as I reflect on October events, including some horse shows that stand out in my memory, I've realized that we attended very few horse shows in October – except for the Big One: the All American Quarter Horse Congress in Columbus, Ohio.

Known by Quarter Horse folks simply as "Congress" (not to be confused with the one in Washington), this is the largest horse show in the world. This year's Congress runs nearly the entire month, from Sept. 29 to Oct. 27, drawing some 20,000 entries, with horses and exhibitors coming from all 50 states and numerous foreign countries. It's so large that it almost defies description, except to simply say, "Wow!"

Just how big is Congress? How does it impact the Columbus area? While I don't have exact figures on the economic impact of the upcoming deer season on the Marion and Crittenden County economies, I believe it would be safe to say that deer hunting season generates tens of thousands of dollars for the local economy. In contrast, Congress creates an economic impact of – are you ready for this? – \$409 million on the greater Columbus area, according to figures posted on the Congress website. Wow!

When we began Happy Trails Ministry back in 2004, everything was brand new. Every time we went to a different city for a horse show, I would approach the show manager and inquire about the possibility of setting up and leading a Sunday morning cowboy church service, along with our other ministries. I was never declined.

You see, we weren't simply going to these folks to minister; we were part of the horse show community, as our daughter was showing her horse at these events. This simple fact opened many doors for our ministry. When we arrived at Congress our first year (2004), we intended to hold a cowboy church service if none was already planned. To my delight, there was indeed a worship service scheduled, and we attended, introducing our-



Chris CLARKE
Press Columnist
Happy Trails

selves to the leadership afterward. For the six years we attended Congress, we always made it a point to be at the worship service, which was led by a dedicated group. What a blessing!

A really interesting thing happened one year at Congress. Quarter Horse folks come from all over the nation, so it's not unusual to meet people from faraway places. One year (around 2008, give or take), as our daughter finished showing in her Western Horsemanship class and was exiting the arena, she was approached by a woman who asked if her horse's name was "The Way to Win."

Our daughter had never met this woman before and was surprised that she knew her horse's name. Sure enough, his name was "The Way to Win." He was a 1995 chestnut gelding standing 17 hands tall, unusually tall for a Quarter Horse.

"Winn," as we called him, also had a large white heart-shaped patch of hair on his right shoulder. As the conversation continued, it turned out the woman was Winn's breeder and recognized him instantly by the distinctive white heart. What an amazing opportunity for our daughter to meet Winn's breeder – especially considering the woman lived in Florida. It was yet another one of those "Wow" moments from Congress.

Whatever you look forward to in October, let's take time to thank God for the beautiful fall foliage we'll all enjoy. What a wonderful time of year, and what a blessing!



As part of the Lafayette Tour Bicentennial, a new marker was recently unveiled denoting Smithland as an official stop on the Lafayette Trail. The trail commemorates, maps and marks Gen. Marquis de Lafayette's footsteps during his Farewell Tour of the United States in 1824 and 1825. Gen. Lafayette, a Frenchman who fought with the Colonies during the War of Independence, made significant contributions to American independence and documented its culture in writings he left of the 19th century tour. The marker was placed at the confluence of the Ohio and Cumberland rivers. Gen. Lafayette stayed overnight in Smithland during his tour. Pictured are dignitaries who attended the unveiling ceremony in Smithland. From left are Kathy Toy, Kentucky Society Daughters of the American Revolution; Teris Swanson, Livingston County Judge-Executive; Julien Ischer, founder of Lafayette Trail; Linda Conrad, Kentucky State Regent Kentucky Society Daughters of the American Revolution and Kathie Grassham, Paducah Daughters of the American Revolution Regent.



Golfers from The Heritage at Marion Golf and Pool won the sixth annual Ryder Cup styled two-day golf competition last weekend over Salem's Deer Lakes Golf Course competitors. The event was played at Deer Lakes on Saturday and The Heritage on Sunday. Marion beat Salem by one point, 15½ to 14½. Pictured is the winning team (from left) Jeremy Shoulders, Shawn Holeman, Jim Tolley, Jim Pinrod, Charlie Day, Tom Heaton, Dakota Watson, Devin Belt, David Tharp, Jonathan Kirk, Aaron Brown, Eddie Perryman and Roy Rogers. Golfers representing Deer Lakes, which led by one point after the first round, were Craig Dossett, Brad Gilbert, Kevin Barnes, Collin Barnes, Ric Hughes, Bobby Tucker, Darit Barnes, Scott Martin, Chris Martin, Aaron Owen, David Cowan, Jeremiah Foster and Sammy Greenwell. Deer Lakes won last year's title.

Shoulder injuries and shoulder surgeries are among the most difficult to overcome. That is why it is important to receive skilled therapy.

Jim Tolley knew that and turned to the professionals at Crittenden Community Hospital's Rehabilitation Department after surgery to repair three rotator cuff tendons in his shoulder and a tendon in his bicep.

In August, Tolley began seeing Occupational Therapist Andrea Lovett three days a week.

"After 6 weeks I was released by my physician, and he was amazed that I could heal and have full range of motion after 6 weeks of therapy," Tolley said.



Occupational Therapist Andrea Lovett and Jim Tolley

The Rehabilitation Department at Crittenden Community Hospital ensures positive results through

- Ongoing assessment of progression of therapy or modifications.
- Patient education on safety and precautions to prevent set backs
- Prevention of frozen shoulder and other complications
- Facilitating normal movement patterns
- Safe progression back to normal daily activities

To increase the speed at which he could get back to fishing and golfing, Tolley added one hour of walking three days a week to increase blood flow and promote healing to the recovering shoulder.

"I appreciate the Rehabilitation Department staff and their knowledge and expertise," Tolley said. "I had no setbacks. Adhering to therapy and walking really accelerated my progress."

Crittenden

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Caldwell County General Election Ballot

STRAIGHT PARTY

☐ Republican Party

☐ Democratic Party

☐ Kentucky Party

☐ Libertarian Party

PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES
(Vote for One)

☐ Donald J. TRUMP
Republican Party

☐ Kamala D. HARRIS
Democratic Party

☐ MI STEIN
Samson KIPPENDOU
Kentucky Party

☐ Robert F. KENNEDY JR.
Nicole SHANAHAN
Independent

☐ Shiva ARYADURAI
Crystal ELIS
Independent

☐ Chase OLIVER
Mike TER MAAT
Libertarian Party

Write-in _____

UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE
1st Congressional District
(Vote for One)

☐ James R. COMER
Republican Party

☐ Eric MARSHALL
Democratic Party

Write-in _____

STATE SENATOR
3rd Senatorial District
(Vote for One)

☐ Crista B. RICHARDSON
Republican Party

Write-in _____

STATE REPRESENTATIVE
8th Representative District
(Vote for One)

☐ Walker Wood THOMAS
Republican Party

Write-in _____

COMMONWEALTH'S ATTORNEY
56th Judicial Circuit
(Vote for One)

☐ Carrie L. OVEY-WIGGINS
Republican Party

Write-in _____

CIRCUIT CLERK
(Vote for One)

☐ Christie D. STORM
Republican Party

Write-in _____

ALL PRECINCTS

NONPARTISAN JUDICIAL BALLOT
JUDGE OF THE COURT OF APPEALS
1st Appellate District
2nd Division
(Unexpired Term)
(Vote for One)

☐ Lisa Payne JONES

☐ Jason Shea FLEMING

Write-in _____

ALL PRECINCTS

NONPARTISAN "SCHOOL CANDIDATES"
MEMBER BOARD OF EDUCATION
1st Educational District
(Vote for One)

☐ Josh RAMAGE

Write-in _____

FREDONIA, DONALDSON, AND BRIARFIELD

MEMBER BOARD OF EDUCATION
4th Educational District
(Vote for One)

☐ Stacy R. BRANTLEY

Write-in _____

WHITE SULPHUR AND DULANEY

MEMBER BOARD OF EDUCATION
5th Educational District
(Vote for One)

☐ Anna M. RAY

Write-in _____

BUTLER AND AIRPORT; PART OF BULL RUN

NONPARTISAN CITY BALLOT
CITY COUNCIL
City of Fredonia
(Vote for up to Six)

Write-in _____

PART OF FREDONIA

CITY COUNCIL
City of Princeton
(Vote for up to Six)

☐ Sheila GATES

☐ TyQuan BUMPHUS

☐ Carl COPELAND

☐ Patricia "Pat" GEORGE

☐ Rick BLACKBURN

☐ Kim JOINER

☐ Brian CONGER

Write-in _____

BUTLER; PART OF WHITE SULPHUR, BRIARFIELD, BULL RUN, WARDS CREEK, AIRPORT, BIG SPRING, EDDY CREEK, AND DULANEY

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT 1
Are you in favor of amending Sections 145 and 155 of the Constitution of Kentucky to prohibit persons who are not citizens of the United States from being allowed to vote in the Commonwealth of Kentucky, as stated below?

IT IS PROPOSED THAT SECTION 145 OF THE CONSTITUTION OF KENTUCKY BE AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

Every citizen of the United States of the age of eighteen years who has resided in the state one year, and in the county six months, and the precinct in which he or she offers to vote sixty days next preceding the election, shall be a voter in said precinct and not elsewhere. No person who is not a citizen of the United States shall be allowed to vote in this state. The following persons also shall not have the right to vote:

1. Persons convicted in any court of competent jurisdiction of treason, or felony, or bribery in an election, or of such high misdemeanor as the General Assembly may declare shall operate as an exclusion from the right of suffrage, but persons hereby excluded may be restored to their civil rights by executive pardon.
2. Persons who, at the time of the election, are in confinement under the judgment of a court for some penal offense.
3. Idiots and insane persons.

IT IS PROPOSED THAT SECTION 155 OF THE CONSTITUTION OF KENTUCKY BE AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

The provisions of Sections 145 to 154, inclusive, shall not apply to the election of school trustees and other common school district elections. Said elections shall be regulated by the General Assembly, except as otherwise provided in this Constitution. No person who is not a citizen of the United States shall be allowed to vote in said elections.

☐ YES

☐ NO

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT 2
To give parents choices in educational opportunities for their children, are you in favor of enabling the General Assembly to provide financial support for the education costs of students in kindergarten through 12th grade who are outside the system of common (public) schools by amending the Constitution of Kentucky as stated below?

IT IS PROPOSED THAT A NEW SECTION BE ADDED TO THE CONSTITUTION OF KENTUCKY TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

The General Assembly may provide financial support for the education of students outside the system of common schools. The General Assembly may exercise this authority by law, Sections 59, 60, 171, 183, 184, 186, and 189 of this Constitution notwithstanding.

☐ YES

☐ NO

ALL PRECINCTS

In Caldwell County on Election Day, voting will be at four locations: Butler Gym, Donaldson Baptist Church, Crossroads Christian Church and Fredonia Lions Club.

In-person excused absentee voting is from 8 a.m., until 4 p.m., on Oct. 23, 24, 28, 29 and 30 at the county clerk's office in Princeton. In-person excused early voting is for Kentucky voters who will be absent from the county of his or her residence on the day of an election and during the days of no-excuse in-person absentee voting for a variety of reasons. It's for students, people with medical conditions that would prevent them from otherwise voting, voters who work out of the county, election officials and various others.

In-person no-excuse voting is from 8 a.m., until 4 p.m., Oct. 31, Nov. 1 and 2 at Butler Gym.

Polls are open 6 a.m., until 6 p.m., on election day.

Classifieds The Crittenden Press

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sales

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wanted

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services

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notice

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legal notices

Notice is hereby given that on October 2, 2024 Catherine Asbridge of 2030 S.R. 2132, Marion, KY 42064 was appointed executrix of John Earl Asbridge, deceased, whose address was 2030 S.R. 2132, Marion, KY 42064. All persons having claims against said estate are hereby notified to present the same properly proven as required by law to the executrix before the 2nd day of April, 2025 and all claims not so proven and presented by that date shall be forever barred.

All persons indebted to the estate of the above-named decedent, will please call and settle said debts immediately.

Crittenden District Court
Melissa Guill, Clerk (1t-42-c)

Certificate of Assumed Name; Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 333; Assumed Name: Jeffrey Marshall Gernigin. Registration at the office of Minnesota Secretary of State; Work Item: 1499251400029; Original file number: 1499251400029; filed Oct. 5, 2024 at 11:59 p.m. Nameholder: Gernigin, Jeffrey Marshall; Active/In Good Standing. (2t-43-p)

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Lady Rockets avenge Region 2 loss

STAFF REPORT

Lady Rocket volleyball’s only loss of this year’s regular season was avenged Monday night when the girls beat Henderson County (13-14) in straight sets 25-20, 25-14, 25-12 in front of a large crowd at Rocket Arena.

Crittenden County (18-4) is the top-ranked team in the Second Region and a strong favorite to win the Fifth District Tourna-

ment, which CCHS opens Tuesday against Livingston or Trigg at Cadiz. CCHS has long dominated the Fifth District, winning six straight post-season championships and sweeping the regular-season six consecutive years.

CCHS Coach Savannah (Tays) Harper said the team will use Monday’s win as momentum heading into postseason as the favorite to win the school’s first-

ever regional title.

Against Henderson, Carly Porter had 9 kills and 2 blocks. Braelyn Merrill, Lacey Boone and Hannah Mott had 5 kills each. Mott also had 3 aces. Mary Stephens posted 13 digs and Lilah Sherer had 25 assists.

The victory closes out the Lady Rockets regular-season slate and they will spend the coming days preparing for postseason.



CCHS senior Mary Stephens digs a shot during Monday’s key Second Region matchup against Henderson County at Rocket Arena.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Rocket sports schedule

FRIDAY
Football hosts Mayfield (homecoming)

SATURDAY
Junior Pro Football at Trigg County
Cross Country at Graves County

TUESDAY
Volleyball District Tournament at Cadiz

GOLF

The first Pig Glow event

The inaugural Pig Golf Tournament, named in honor of longtime club member and volunteer Doug Phelps, is Saturday, Oct. 26 at The Heritage Golf Course in Marion. The event will feature a glow golf format with a 2-person scramble. Participants will play 9 holes in the afternoon followed by 9 holes at night. Entry fee is \$50 per person, which includes 18 holes of golf, food, a glow ball, mulligans and tosses. To register, call or visit the pro shop a 270-965-5415.



Geary



Berry

SOCCER

2 named to All District

Crittenden County High School junior Ella Geary and freshman Adri Berry were named to the All Fifth District Soccer Team last week. The two led the Lady Rockets in scoring this season. Berry had 22 goals and Geary 20 as their team finished 5-11 on the season after losing the first round of the district tournament.

RUNNING

Veterans 5K at park

Registration is now open for an upcoming 5K Fun Run and Walk at Marion-Crittenden County Park to benefit veterans. On Saturday, Nov. 9, check in will be at 8 a.m., with the run starting at 9 a.m. A free event T-shirt will be given to participants who register by Oct. 25. Cost is \$30. All proceeds benefit Mission 22, a veterans organization. For more information, call Andrea Lovett at Crittenden Community Hospital at 270-965-1137. An entry form is available online at the hospital’s Facebook page.

OUTDOORS

Youth deer weekend

Crittenden County’s youth hunt deer harvest continues to decline. Over two days of hunting last weekend, young gunners took only 19 deer. That’s down from an average that had hovered around 50 or 55 for the past several years. More than a decade ago, the harvest figure was closer to 100. In Livingston County, youth hunters took 7 deer, 18 in Caldwell, 5 in Lyon and 8 in Union County. Up next for deer hunters is the two-day muzzle-loader hunt this Saturday and Sunday.

Hunting Seasons

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

Bullfrog	May 17 - Oct. 31
Squirrel Fall	Aug. 17 - Nov. 8
Dove	Sept. 1 - Oct. 26
Deer Archery	Sept. 7 - Jan. 20
Turkey Archery	Sept. 7 - Jan. 20
Deer Crossbow	Sept. 21 - Jan. 20
Raccoon	Oct. 1 - Feb. 28
Turkey Crossbow	Oct. 1-20
Deer Muzzleloader	Oct. 19-20
Turkey Shotgun	Oct. 26 - Nov. 1
Woodcock	Oct. 26 - Nov. 8
Deer Rifle	Nov. 9 - Nov. 24
Turkey Crossbow	Nov. 9 - Dec. 31
Rabbit	Nov. 11 - Feb. 10
Quail	Nov. 11 - Feb. 10
Raccoon Trapping	Nov. 11 - Feb. 28
Woodcock	Nov. 11 - Dec. 11

STAFF REPORT

Crittenden County returned to the familiar surroundings of Rocket Stadium Friday and put on a stunning display, dominating Ohio County with a resounding 49-0 victory. It marked the Rockets' first shutout in 38 games, a streak that dates back to 2021.

The Rocket defense was relentless, leaving winless Ohio County unable to establish any rhythm on offense. In a dominant first half, CCHS held the Eagles to a staggering minus-48 yards rushing. The Eagles managed only two completed passes, both resulting in lost yardage.

On the offensive side, junior quarterback Quinn Summers showcased his precision, completing 13 of 16 passes for 253 yards and five touchdowns. Crittenden County scored on every possession in the first half, except for one fumbled punt return by senior CamRon Belcher—his first fumble in high school. Belcher quickly redeemed himself, catching two touchdown passes and leading the Rockets with five receptions for 96 yards.

Junior Caden Howard also had a notable game, securing two touchdown passes and moving closer to the team's career record for touchdown catches. He now sits just one shy of the 25-touchdown mark set by Preston Morgeson, and Howard is only six catches away from breaking the Rocket receptions record, having tallied three catches against the Eagles.

Leading 35-0 early in the second half following Belcher's second touchdown and operating under a running clock for the rest of the game, CCHS unloaded its bench, which preserved the shutout and tacked on 14 more points. Reserve quarterback Conner Poindexter connected with freshman receiver Eli Lovell for a 36-yard touchdown pass in the third quarter, marking a highlight for the young duo.

In a bid to avoid the shutout, Ohio County made a late push into the red zone, but their efforts were thwarted by a fumble. Rocket sophomore Davis Perryman scooped up the loose ball and returned it 85 yards for a touchdown.

Crittenden's defense was stunning against the Eagles, recording four sacks and throwing Ohio County's offense for a loss on more than half of its plays. Several players stepped up with stand-out performances. Defensive end Kaiden Travis led the charge with an impressive six solo tackles, two assists, three tackles for loss (TFLs), and a sack, con-



Brayden Mahnke outruns an Ohio County defender during a rushing play in the first half of Friday's shutout win at Rocket Stadium.

stantly pressuring the offense. Linebacker Brayden Poindexter also made his presence felt with three solo tackles, two TFLs, and a fumble recovery. Freshman Eli Lovell added four solos, an assist and a sack, while Gaige Markham and Trent Todd each contributed sacks of their own. Landon Curry forced a fumble to go with his two solos and two assists.

After struggling on the road with three losses in their last four games, the Rockets may now have some momentum as they prepare to host Class 2A's No. 4 Mayfield Friday night for homecoming.

Ranked in the top 10 just two weeks ago, Crittenden County faced tough competition, including road losses to No. 1 Owensboro Catholic and No. 5 Murray over the previous two weeks. CCHS was 14th in this week's 2A poll.

SCORE BY QUARTERS

Ohio County	0	0	0	0
Crittenden	13	14	15	7

SCORING PLAYS

C-Caden Howard 19 pass from Quinn Summers (Adri Berry kick) 6:26, 1st
C-Dakota Sosh 13 pass from Summers (Berry kick failed) 1:57, 1st
C-Howard 35 pass from Summers (Berry kick) 9:35, 2nd
C-CamRon Belcher 19 pass from Summers (Berry kick) :54, 2nd
C-Belcher 45 pass from Summers (Howard pass from Summers) 11:06, 3rd
C-Eli Lovell 36 pass from Conner Poindexter (Berry kick) 8:12, 3rd
C-Davis Perryman 85 fumble return (Mitchell Brown kick) 5:00, 4th

Berry breaks tradition to fulfill football legacy

STAFF REPORT

As a freshman kicker for the Rocket football team, Adri Berry is breaking down traditional barriers and carrying on a family football legacy that goes back for decades. Her grandfather Todd was part of Crittenden County's 1985 state championship and her father Austin was a standout Rocket quarterback in the early 2000s before moving on to play football at Murray State. He currently is offensive coordinator for CCHS.

Adri Berry is the first female to play high school football in Crittenden County. As the placekicker, she's been remarkably accurate, making almost all of her chances this season unless blocked or hurried by a rushing defense. She kicked a Fourth-quarter, game-tying extra point at Murray a couple of weeks ago following a five-yard penalty. Had CCHS been able to win that district contest, her kick would have been a point-after memorialized as one of the most important in history. Its significance may be lost in time, but her coolness in a tight spot will long be remembered.

A talented soccer player since she was three-years-old in Graves County, Berry played her first season for the Lady Rockets soccer team this fall and led the squad scoring.

Until this summer, she'd never kicked a football, but it had crossed her mind many times.

"I always thought about it but never thought I could," she said, explaining that kicking a football involves keeping the body upward and striking low on the ball.

She routinely attended Rocket preseason football practice with her dad, just watching, but when he told her to go out there and give kicking a shot, she quickly accepted the challenge.

"As soon as my dad told me to get on my cleats and get out there, I got out there as fast as I could," she said. "The first one I kicked, he heard the sound, and he turned around and said, 'Is that my daughter?' And I said yeah, that's me."

There was no stopping her from that point on, she was determined to make the team and for dad – the coach – there have been mixed emotions.

"It's a blessing to watch her play, and all-out nervousness every time she goes out there," said Austin Berry. "I am really proud of how she's handled everything, and done things the right way just trying to be part of the team."

Adri says that being part of something that has been such



Adri Berry on the Rocket sideline waiting for her chance to take the field.

a Berry tradition is a dream come true.

"I always wanted to be on the football team since I was a little girl, and seeing my dad after I hit a field goal makes me hope he likes me being out here, too," she said.

She's grateful for the opportunity, and her family is proud of her carrying on the family legacy.

"I'm proud to be out here and proud to get the opportunity, I'm glad my dad and (Coach Courtney) gave me the opportunity," she said.

Her only reservation wasn't in her ability – she had confidence in that. Instead, her biggest concern was that the boys on the team wouldn't approve of their coach's daughter being on the sideline with them.

"I wanted to make sure the team and coaches accepted me, I just really wanted to be a part of it and hoped they would accept me," she said.

"As a freshman, she's doing those things like carrying water to the field and anything else just to help this team win," her father said.

Berry is provided a separate dressing room for home and away football games. Transferring from Graves County to Crittenden as a ninth grader this year, football practice in July and early August was the first time she met most of the boys on the team. Now, she rubs shoulders and cheers with them on the sideline each Friday night until her name is called to make a kick.

"Dad was definitely the main one to think that I could get hurt because he doesn't want it to be his fault, and my stepmom said the same thing. But they said it was my decision ultimately," Berry recalls.

Her grandparents and extended family also approved and were among the first to express their excitement to have another Berry on the field.

"They gave me big hug, told me they are proud of me carrying on the Berry legacy as a girl."

Her father says she developed a great deal of toughness from playing soccer since early childhood and that helped prepare her for football. Soccer is a contact sport, too, he said.

"In soccer, she's always been one of the roughest girls since she was three," her father-coach adds. "So as far as the contact goes, it really doesn't scare me as much knowing all of that experience she has with it in soccer. But, still I hold my breath every time she goes out there."

So far, so good, as Berry has been on the field in every game except one and has scored 14 points on point-after tries. The only game she didn't play was against Owensboro Catholic when CCHS was shutout.

"Yeah, she was complaining about standing on the sideline the whole game (at Owensboro) and not getting a chance to be on the field," her dad said with a smile.

It appears father and daughter are both much more at ease with the situation seven games into her first season at Crittenden County's first female football player.

Caldwell Springs VFD proposes merger with Salem

STAFF REPORT

Caldwell Springs Volunteer Fire Department (CSVFD) is working on a plan to consolidate with Salem Fire Department in a move aimed at improving resources, response times and services to the community, according to Fire Chief Jason Hurley. The merger, which has been under consideration for some time, is expected to be operational before the end of the year, although full financial integration will take about a year.

The decision to merge comes after recommendations from state auditors and fire commission officials who, two to three years ago, suggested that smaller departments like CSVFD might benefit from merging with larger ones.

“We sort of looked at it then, but not too seriously,” Hurley said.

However, the idea resurfaced last year and CSVFD began to explore it in more depth. Hurley said it became clear that merging with a neighboring department could be beneficial.

“Geographically, it makes more sense to unite with Salem,” Hurley explained.

After discussions with CSVFD members and board members, Salem was identified as the best choice for the merger.

“We had no negative feedback about the idea during our meetings,” Hurley added.

The merger process is still in its early stages. Letters of intent and paperwork are required, and final approval must come from county judge-executives in Crittenden and Livingston counties.

Hurley is optimistic the merger will be finalized.

As of now, CSVFD has 17 members, but only three live within the Caldwell Springs district. The rest, including Hurley, come from surrounding areas, including Salem.

Salem Fire Department has about 30 members, and its proximity and resources make the merger a practical move.

“Salem is a lot better equipped, so co-mingling the equipment will be beneficial,” Hurley noted.

A merger would help CSVFD access better equipment and manpower, which is essential for improving service to the community.

CSVFD is currently financially stable, Hurley said, but struggles to plan for future growth due to limited resources. The merger with Salem would allow the departments to consolidate equip-

ment by year’s end, though financial accounts will remain separate for another year to ensure a smooth transition.

One of the main goals of the merger is to improve the Insurance Services Office (ISO) rating for the Caldwell Springs area. This rating, which helps determine insurance premiums, currently stands at 9 for CSVFD, while Salem has a rating of 4. A lower rating indicates better fire protection, which could lead to lower insurance costs for residents.

Hurley explained that the merger could help reduce Caldwell Springs’ ISO rating by improving manpower, equipment and response times.

In a post on the department’s Facebook page, CSVFD emphasized that the merger would bring several positive changes.

“The same firefighters will be responding to your homes in times of need, plus additional manpower from Salem’s roster,” Hurley wrote. He also reassured residents that the merger would not result in a loss of financial support and that tax revenues would continue to be used within the Caldwell Springs district.

The Facebook post also mentioned plans to improve equipment, including moving a newer brush-fighting vehicle to CSVFD and upgrading other firefighting resources.

Crittenden County Judge-Executive Perry Newcom said he is examining the proposal. He said county government has traditionally paid insurance on the Caldwell Springs equipment. He is not certain at this point how such a merger would affect that arrangement.

Local leaders working to sell Marion as franchise city

STAFF REPORT

Selling Marion as a destination for franchise expansions is a bit like speed dating, according to Steve Watson and Diane Ford-Benningfield.

The two represented the Crittenden County Chamber of Commerce and City of Marion recently at a Retail Academy event in Nashville designed to expose franchisees to expansion opportunities in this region of the country.

Watson and Ford-Benningfield had just minutes to pitch Marion to franchisees they feel would be a good fit for Marion and leave an impression. They were alerted ahead of time to types of franchises that would be present and specifically targeted those that Marion needs and those that would succeed here. About 85 franchises were in attendance.

“I got business cards from six interested in our area and will send more information,” Ford-Benningfield said. “They were shocked at the leakage, millions of dollars of leakage,” Ford-Ben-

ningfield said, describing the exodus of retail dollars spent outside Marion and Crittenden County due to the unavailability of certain products and services. She said Crittenden County’s unique geographical location on both the Trail of Tears and Lewis and Clark route is also a playing card.

As a follow-up to that August event, Ford-Benningfield is developing a spreadsheet of available property suitable for franchisees’ expansion.

“They know what they want, the types of land and what needs are, and I want to create a flip chart to show them what is available here,” she told the Chamber of Commerce during a recent meeting.

“We are asking business owners who have vacant property in Marion or Crittenden County or available buildings for purchase or lease to let me know,” she said. Her office is in Marion City Hall.

Watson said Madisonville city officials have successfully lured four franchises to Madisonville as a result of their par-



Developers want to know what type of properties are available in Marion.

ticipation in retail academy. Repeatedly attending events where franchisees are present and continually pitching their city resulted in the establishment of a Zaxbys, Starbucks and Aspen Dental, Watson said.

He said Madisonville’s retail academy leaders have opened their arms to Marion representatives, giving them encouragement and sharing tips they used to connect with companies who are interested in small communities.



Teen will compete in state pageant

Kaylee Brooke Williams, 15, was earlier this summer crowned Miss Teen Livingston County. She will represent Livingston County in this weekend’s Miss Teen Kentucky State Fair pageant, which will be held at the Crowne Plaza in Louisville Oct. 18-19.

Williams is the first contestant in several years to represent Livingston County at the state level. She is the daughter of T.J. and Stacy Williams of Smithland.

A sophomore at Livingston Central High School, Williams is also a member of Lady Cardinals volleyball team.



Local businesses donate \$10,000 to sheriff’s dept.

STAFF REPORT

Three local entities that are part of Kent and Mindy Withrow’s local business enterprises have donated a combined \$10,000 to the Crittenden County Sheriff’s Department.

Sheriff Evan Head said the contribution will be used to purchase Mobile Data Terminals (MDTs) for cruisers. MDTs are heavy duty laptop-like computers that are made tough to withstand the strains of the environment.

“They can tolerate temperature extremes,” the sheriff said, and they are more

durable than a normal laptop.

The devices connect remotely to the internet so deputies can have ready access to information about vehicle registrations, warrants and other data.

“You can input citations and cases on these,” Head adds.

The funds were pledged a few weeks ago and delivered to the sheriff’s department last Thursday by the Withrows on behalf of Marion and Company, Crittenden Collison and Allied Construction.

The sheriff says the money should be enough to buy two, perhaps even three, computers

New site dedicated to elections

STAFF REPORT

Last week was Election School. Hosted by Crittenden County Clerk Daryl Tabor, poll workers assigned to the Nov. 5 election were on hand for annual training.

It’s somewhat of a family affair, Tabor said.

“We have three married couples, mother-daughter and sisters,” he said.

Additionally, the clerk has launched a new website, which for now is dedicated to the election information.

“The switch is to offer a more trusted election resource in this age of misinformation, as .gov domains are reserved strictly for government entities. We will eventually migrate the entire county clerk’s website to the new domain.”



Present for the donation presentation last week were (from left) Sue Padget, sheriff’s department; Ashley Farmer, sheriff’s department; Sheriff Evan Head; Mindy Withrow; Kent Withrow; Alan Boone, manager Crittenden County Collision; Deputy James Duncan and Deputy Boyd Bates.

and printers.

The Withrows say they were moved to make the contribution in order to help improve safety in the community. They have seen the brutal effects of

addiction firsthand in their own family and believe that enforcement is a key factor in reducing drug use and other crime.

FINANCIAL FOCUS® Saving for college or retirement?

If you’re a parent, you want to do everything you can to help your children succeed in life. Therefore, you might think that one of the best things you can do is to save for your children’s college education. And this is certainly admirable, but could it conflict with your ability to prepare for another key goal — your own retirement?

Of course, this would not be a problem if you had unlimited means, but most of us don’t fall into that category. So, given the financial resources and income you do have, how should you approach the college-versus-retirement issue?

Fortunately, it’s not necessarily an “either-or” scenario. However, it may make sense to prioritize saving for retirement over college, for two reasons.

First, your children



have a lot more time to pay for college than you have to save for retirement. In addition to any grants or scholarships your children may receive, they might need to take out loans. While it’s a good idea to keep this debt load as manageable as possible, it’s also true that most student loans can be repaid over a long period of time.

And here’s the second point: One of the best gifts you can give your children is to be self-sufficient in your retirement. You could easily spend two, or even three, decades as a retiree, so you will need to build considerable financial re-

sources to pay for all those years. Your adult children will have their own financial needs to address, so you’ll be doing them a great favor by relieving them of any financial responsibilities on your behalf.

Taking these factors into account, you may want to direct most of your saving and investing efforts toward achieving a comfortable retirement. Consequently, think about putting away as much as you can afford into your IRA and 401(k) or other employer-sponsored retirement plan.

Even with this focus on retirement, though, you may find opportunities to save and invest

for your children’s education. For example, if you receive bonuses or income tax refunds, or your salary goes up, or you’re able to free up money from your budget by reducing your debts, you could use these funds to invest in an education savings vehicle, such as a 529 plan. When you invest in a 529 plan, your earnings and withdrawals are federally tax free, provided the money is used for qualified education expenses such as tuition, room and board, books, and computers. Depending on where you live, you may also get some state tax benefits from your 529 plan. And a 529 plan



Grant Rogers Financial Advisor

isn’t just for college — it can be used for K-12 private tuition costs, plus expenses from qualified apprenticeship programs, such as those found at trade schools eligible for Title IV federal student aid.

It might not be easy to save and invest consistently for your retirement and your children’s education. But both goals are worthy — after all, retirement can last a long time and college is expensive. So, try to develop a financial strategy that can allow you to make progress in both areas — your efforts may well be rewarded.

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