

City leaf collection delayed for repairs

The City of Marion will continue its free service of fall leaf collection despite a few technical difficulties. The vacuum unit used to suck leaves from the curbside into a collection truck is in "very poor shape," according to City Administrator Adam Ledford, and is being sent to Louisville for repairs.

"We have not been given a clear return time yet so we are in a holding pattern as to the dates," he said.

Local GOP gearing up, seeking candidates

Wednesday, Nov. 8 is the first day to file paperwork to appear on the ballot in 2018, and the Republican Party of Crittenden County is looking for a few good candidates.

Fred Stubblefield, vice chairman of the local party, said next year's election will be one that shapes the county.

"From the economics of bringing money in, to finding the best ways to spend it; from keeping county roads in good shape, to making everything in the courthouse system work for all of us," he said.

In fact, all county offices will be on the ballot, and the GOP is hoping to put forward candidates for all seats. Currently, Republicans hold all countywide offices except county attorney and PVA. However, the fiscal court is currently comprised of five Democrats with one vacancy to be filled by Gov. Matt Bevin in the coming days.

The GOP will meet at 6:30 p.m. today (Thursday) in the courthouse to plan for next year's election. All prospective candidates and party supporters are invited.

Christmas charity sign-ups next week

The last chance to sign up for Community Christmas will be next Thursday at the Extension Service annex on U.S. 60 East. If you need help providing Christmas for your family, this will be the final opportunity to sign up for 2017. No late registrations will be accepted. Sign-ups will be from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Public meetings

- **Crittenden Fiscal Court** will meet at 8:30 a.m. today (Thursday) in the fiscal court room at the courthouse. There will be a public hearing on a Mediacom franchise agreement and subsequent vote on the matter.
- **Crittenden-Livingston Water District Board** will meet at 6 p.m. Monday at the district office on East Main Street in Salem.
- **Crittenden County Board of Education** will meet for its regular monthly meeting at 6 p.m. Tuesday in the middle school library.
- **Crittenden Health Systems Board of Directors** will meet at 6 p.m. Tuesday at the hospital administrative annex.





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City council OKs 'grocery list' for future

By **DARYL K. TABOR**
PRESS EDITOR

Anyone who has shopped for the week's groceries without a list knows how difficult an otherwise simple task can become. Adam Ledford said that's a good example of how the City of Marion has been operating for years.

"You're gonna buy more than you need, spend more than you would because you forgot your coupons, and you may go home and have to come back for something you forgot," the city administrator said, illustrating the issues that can arise with-

out planning.

But at Monday's Marion City Council meeting, the six-member body gave Ledford the "grocery list" he's sought – a catalog of priorities for city programs, projects, policies and initiatives.

"You don't know how important that priority list is to getting us moving," Ledford said.

With the list, he and department heads, as well as community interests, can sit down and begin addressing an approach to achieve each



Ledford

of the different priorities.

"It was a good night for us," Ledford said of Monday's meeting. "We now have a message from the council on where they want the city to move."

The council approved a list of about a dozen areas they feel need the most focus from city government, prioritizing them as major, intermediate and low. Most of the items were taken from a July goal-setting session that brought together all areas of city government and the public for

a couple of hours of brainstorming.

Atop Monday's approved priority list are:

- Better addressing the community's drug problem.
- Reviewing city staff size and department organization.
- Increasing training for city employees.
- And added new to the list of major priorities was addressing city finances, which have been stretched thin for several years.

But the major goals were void of any improvements to the city's crumbling infrastructure from streets to a

water utility with an outdated plant and holding tanks that can no long store water. Those, however, were included as mid-range priorities, along with improving the storm sewer system and addressing derelict commercial and residential properties. Creating city branding also appeared as an intermediate priority.

The lone low priority is making improvements to the sanitary sewer system, which has already been mandated by the state along with a storm sewer system

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How sweet it is



PHOTO BY MIMI BYRNS, THE PRESS

Tessa Potter and her grandfather Larry Haire work a sorghum press recently at Haire's home on U.S. 60 East. The entire family gets involved in not only the syrup-making process, but also in producing a number of byproducts from their annual sorghum crop. What is sorghum? That's a question many people ask when visiting the Haires for their sorghum-making demonstrations, but anyone who gets a jar of Rosebud Hill Sorghum (below) might also get a sheet of paper answering that very question.

Making syrup, byproducts from sorghum family affair for Haires

By **MIMI BYRNS**
STAFF WRITER

Larry and Donna Haire's yard in Crittenden County is a frequent stop for dozens of visitors attracted by the sign they have put in front of their house – "Sorghum-making demonstrations."

The family is eager to show passersby their family's 100-year-old tradition of making syrup from the sorghum plant as well as the newer businesses their teenage granddaughters Tessa and Megan have started. They use sorghum byproducts to make stationery, handmade paper, bookmarkers and other paper products. The family has an impressive assortment of creative ideas on how to turn every part of the sorghum plant into something that can be used in a household, from coasters to jewelry, soaps and lotions, even popcorn and candy.

The family yard is very well equipped with everything needed



for sorghum – a term that generally refers to the syrup made from the plant – from presses to a furnace, which is especially attrac-

tive to visitors who can see firsthand the entire process of turning the sorghum plant into sorghum juice, which is further processed into delicious syrup.

Not only has the Haire family mastered syrup-making, but they also pay special attention to their family tradition and heritage and serve the delicacies in a manner the previous generations have – on a communal plate over butter.

It takes Larry 5-6 hours and 50 gallons of sorghum juice to produce 5 gallons of syrup. He is enjoys this process, using three presses that are over a century old but still work very well.

"The juice is then cleaned of impurities and concentrated by evaporation in open pans into a clear, amber-colored mild flavored syrup," Haire said. "This syrup retains all of its natural sugars and other nutrients. It is 100 percent natural

See **SORGHUM**/Page 12A



PHOTO PROVIDED

Kenny Conger of Marion was a soldier in the Vietnam War. Amid the horrors and difficulties of the divisive conflict, he still recalls celebrities like Bob Hope entertaining the troops.

Vietnam War vivid memory for Conger

By **ALEXA BLACK**
STAFF WRITER

The Vietnam War is still an open wound in America's history, with mixed feelings from those who endured the 20 years of American involvement and many veterans still carrying the burden of the conflict.

Beginning Nov. 1, 1955, and lasting until April 30, 1975, the United States aided the South Vietnamese in fighting communist forces from the North backed by the Soviet Union and China. Part of the divide centered around the question of equality when it came to the draft. The draft called on 648,500 Americans to serve in the military. Draftees accounted for just more than 30 percent of combat deaths.

One of these draftees and highly decorated Vietnam veterans is Kenny Conger of Marion. A man of ambition, Conger has worked in a factory, the spar mines, police department and the post office. In fact, he said he held three jobs simultaneously in his younger days.

Conger has the National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal, Purple Heart, and Army Commendation Medal and more. He also received the Good Conduct Medal.

"(I'm) not sure how (I) got that," he joked.

He was drafted into the Vietnam War in 1966 and was sent

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Perry Newcom (R)
107 S. Main St.
Marion, KY 42064
270.965.5251 (w)
270.704.0457 (c)
crittjud2011@hotmail.com

District 1 Magistrate



Danny Fowler (D)
2019 U.S. 60 E.
Marion, KY 42064
270.965.3048 (h)
270.704.0114 (c)

District 2 Magistrate



Curt Buntin (D)
4736 S.R. 297
Marion, KY 42064
270.965.2902 (h)
270.704.0726 (c)
buntin4live.com

District 3



Vacant
Vacancy created by death of Magistrate Glenn Underdown to be filled by Gov. Matt Bevin by next week.

District 4 Magistrate



Mark Holloman (D)
457 Hebron Church Road
Marion, KY 42064
270.965.2618 (h)
270.704.9288 (c)

District 5 Magistrate



Donnetta Travis (D)
1447 Main Lake Road
Fredonia, KY 42411
270.988.3361 (h)
270.704.0785 (c)
dtravis@crittenden-health.org

District 6 Magistrate



Dan Wood (D)
602 Providence Road
Providence, KY 42450
270.667.5235 (h)
270.836.8368 (c)
dan_wood@hughes.net

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Is the courthouse open on Saturday? The office of circuit clerk is generally open only the first Saturday of the month from 9 to 11 a.m. The sheriff's department is open 9-11 a.m. each Saturday. All other offices are closed.
When is the solid waste convenience center (trash repository) on U.S. 60 East open? Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and Wednesday and Saturday from 8 a.m. to noon. It is closed Sunday.
Do I have to have a dog license? Yes. Licenses are available for \$5 through county Animal Control Officer Timmy Todd at Crittenden County Animal Shelter on U.S. 60 East. Call (270) 969-1054 for information.

Plan to fix pensions still not public

Current and retired public employees – city, county, state, teachers and other school staff – have been anxiously waiting since August for the governor's and Republican leadership's plan to address Kentucky's pension challenges.

While they have been working behind closed doors to draft a plan, thus far, I have not seen the proposal.

And the governor has not scheduled the special session he has been promising for months to pass pension reform.

As a state legislator coming from a family of teachers, I can sympathize with all sides on this issue. I know a lack of information breeds fear. And that fear is only compounded by the complexity of the pension system and retirement plans as a whole. While I'm unable to shed light on the details of the plan that will ultimately emerge, I hope I can alleviate some of the fear and create a healthier and more productive discussion with this column.

The Senate President has said he wants a pension solution that is morally right, legally defensible and fiscally responsible. He said Kentucky has an obligation to public employee retirees and he is going to try to meet those obligations. His comments appear to reinforce other statements indicating there is no support to slash benefits for many current retirees by 25 percent or more, as recommended by some Philadelphia consultants a couple months ago.

The plan being worked on would move future retirees to more of a defined contribution plan such as a 403 (b) plan, the Senate President has said. It's unclear to me if those proposals would affect current employees or will be restricted to new hires.

In simple terms, a 403 (b) is a 401 (k) designed for non-profit organizations like government workers, religious institutions and charity employees. Most employees who have a retirement plan in the for-profit world have a similar type of plan, which takes an employee contribution, often an employer match as well, and invests it with employee input in the stock and bond markets. And in practice, if invested properly, a retiree may do financially better under a 403 (b) than in a pension, though of course, it is also possible to do worse.

The Senate President has said defined benefit plans for future retirees, capping the state's exposure to pension liabilities and putting additional money toward the existing pension liabilities are part of the answer to the pension crisis.

I think most state employees want to be able to complete their service to the state under the belief or the parameters from when they were hired. And I will actively oppose any change in public pensions that violates what the Kentucky Supreme Court has ruled to be an irrevocable contract.

Be assured, I will keep you up-to-date on any developments.

We will return to Frankfort Tuesday, Jan. 2 for the budget session. I encourage you to stay in touch to share your input on the issues facing our Commonwealth. You may leave me a message by calling the toll-free Legislative Message Line at (800) 372-7181. You can also e-mail me directly at Dorsey.Ridley@lrc.ky.gov.

(Dorsey Ridley, D-Henderson, is a state senator from District 4 that includes Crittenden, Caldwell, Henderson, Livingston, Union and Webster counties. He is Minority Caucus Chair.)

LETTERS

Local historical museum shuts for 2017 Oct. 28

To the editor:

Crittenden County Historical Society would like to thank everyone who has shown their interest this year by visiting Crittenden County Historical Museum and supporting it financially by paying their yearly dues and making donations. We appreciate these efforts by the community and also our loyal members from out of state.

We appreciate everyone who came to our 50th Anniversary open house Oct. 6-7 and made it a successful event. The winner of the door prize of a pictorial history book was Bernadine Maxfield and the winner of the history scavenger hunt prize of a T-shirt was Eddie Rushing. Thanks to Classy & Grassy for an enjoyable afternoon of wonderful music which made for a memorable 50th anniversary celebration for the museum.

The museum will close for this year on Saturday, Oct.

28 at 3 p.m. Thanks to everyone for your support this year, and we look forward to the new season in April 2018.

Brenda Underdown
Chair, Crittenden County Historical Society

World War II vet paid tribute through words

To the editor:

On Friday, I learned from my wife of the death of our friend, Harry Gass (on Oct. 9 at 90). It makes me indescribably sad; I loved and greatly admired the man.

I am stranded in Ocean Springs, Miss., trying to recover from a severe head injury, with all of my physicians and therapists, and I am unable to drive. I have been here for 15 months; it is frustrating but unavoidable.

I know something about Harry that probably no one else knows (maybe his family does; I never asked). Harry was in some of the most hazardous, heart-breaking combat in World

War II; and he was a genuine hero. He lived with horribly painful memories of it, but he never talked about it – so far as I know – to anyone but to me.

Why? Because Harry was an extremely private person, and it was very difficult for him to trust anyone outside of his family, my family and the Donnie Phillips family. (If I have omitted someone here, I hope to be forgiven; I can only write that which I know).

Had I been able to be in Marion for the past 15 months, I would have visited with Harry, encouraged him and done what I could to help him, because those of us who knew him loved him and admired him.

Harry and I had plans to dig up some of the plants in his yard that his sweet wife loved, and plant them at the head of her grave; it didn't happen. And, had I been able to be there at his death, I would have arranged for him to have the military funeral, with full honors, which he richly deserved.

It couldn't happen. But when I am able to return to Marion, I will visit his grave

What's your opinion?

The Crittenden Press encourages our readers to share their opinion on any issue of local interest. Letters to the Editor should be submitted by 5 p.m. Friday for publication in the next week's issue.

Letters should include only the author's name. For verification purposes, they must also include the writer's home and e-mail addresses (if applicable), telephone number and signature. Phone numbers and addresses are required, but will not be published.

Letters should be written in good taste and in most cases should not exceed 300 words or be submitted within 30 days of an author's last submission. Materials from other publications submitted as letters will not be accepted.

Submit a letter by:

- Bringing it into our office at 125 E. Bellville St.
- Mailing it to: Letters, P.O. Box 191, Marion, KY 42064.
- Emailing it to: thepress@the-press.com.

The Crittenden Press reserves the right to reject or edit letters for any reason.

and salute him; and I will dig up some of those daffodils and plant them at the head of both graves.

Harry was as tough, hard-working and honest a man as I have ever known. When he was in his upper 80s – shrunk down to about 5 feet, 4 inches and maybe 100 pounds of muscle and gristle – I saw him

put an 80-pound bag of feed on his shoulder and carry it up and down hills, a half-mile or more to feed his cattle. If Harry told you something, you could put it in the bank, although, he seldom told most people anything.

Harry trusted me; and I guess he knew that, having been in two wars myself, I

would understand. Privately, he told me of his worst memories of World War II. The first time we talked about it he cried, while I held him and prayed for him.

He swore me to silence about his service in World War II; he just wanted someone he trusted to know. He told me that I could not publish anything about it and I have kept my promise. But Harry is dead now, and when I finish a difficult article for "Leatherneck" magazine and a book that was only half-written when I got hurt, I am going to find my notes from our private conversations and write Harry's story.

It is a story that should be told, he richly deserves it, and I think he will forgive me.

Tom C. McKenney
Ocean Springs, Miss.
LtColonel, USMC (Ret)

(Editor's note: Tom C. McKenney is a retired U.S. Marine Corps lieutenant colonel who maintains a home with is wife Marty in Marion. He served in the Korean and Vietnam wars.)

Half-dozen Rocket Docket cases speed circuit court

STAFF REPORT

Crittenden Circuit Judge Rene Williams accepted guilty pleas and revoked probation in a number of local felony cases last week.

The judge sentenced 10 to prison time, yet some received probation. The following cases were disposed of last Thursday in circuit court:

- Jerry L. Pruitt, 48, of Marion had his probation revoked for non-compliance. Pruitt admitted to violations and waived his revocation hearing. Pruitt was convicted of meth and other drug charges in 2016. He was ordered to complete a three-year sentence.
- Curtis Lee, 57, of Marion admitted to violating terms of his probation and waived a revocation hearing. He was ordered to complete a three-

CIRCUIT COURT

year sentence from a 2016 conviction on methamphetamine and other drug charges.

- Tyler Bivins, 22, of Marion had his probation revoked and a pre-trial diversion was set aside. Bivins was ordered to serve the original five-year sentence which stemmed from a felony fourth-degree assault, domestic violence (multiple offenses) conviction earlier this year.
- Shaun Daniel Brasher, 29, of Marion pleaded guilty to second-degree unlawful transaction with a minor. According to court records, Brasher provided marijuana to and smoked it with a person under the age of 16. Evidence in the case was gleaned

from a social media conversation between Brasher and the female juvenile. Police got a warrant to view the Facebook Messenger accounts of the two and determined based on the conversation that illicit activity had occurred. Brasher will be formally sentenced Dec. 14. The commonwealth has recommended a four-year prison sentence. Charges against his wife, Sarah R. Brasher, 31, of Marion were dismissed. She had originally faced a charge of trafficking in marijuana, less than eight ounces, second or greater offense, a Class D felony.

- Travis Ray Sosh, 35, of Marion pleaded guilty in a Rocket Docket case and was given pre-trial diversion on two felony charges related to his June arrest on DUI and

drug charges. According to court records, Sosh was found asleep behind the wheel of his vehicle at a parking lot of a Marion convenience store early one morning. Police found methamphetamine and another drug in pill form in the vehicle. Sosh was given a three-year sentence on the felony charges, which will be diverted for a period of five years. He also pleaded guilty to misdemeanor DUI and possession of drug paraphernalia.

- Jerome L. Brown, 21, pleaded guilty to receiving stolen property (firearm) in a Rocket Docket case. The commonwealth is recommending a five-year sentence, but would not oppose shock probation. Brown will be formally sentenced in December.

A Rocket Docket case is a

fasttrack felony conviction process which allows the defendant to admit to guilt and begin serving his or her sentence immediately. In other Rocket Docket cases last week:

- Chelsea Danielle Bryant, 24, of Marion pleaded guilty to DUI; possession of a controlled substance (methamphetamine); possession of drug paraphernalia; and illegal possession of a legend drug. Bryant received pretrial diversion on all charges. She was sentenced to three years on the felony meth charge and less time on the other misdemeanor offenses. The diversion period will be five years.
- Bruce James, 43, of Marion pleaded guilty to felony flagrant non-support. He was given a five-year sentence

probated for five years.

- Christopher Swan, 26, of Marion pleaded guilty to felony unlawful transaction with a minor, second degree and was sentenced to five years in prison. He was given pretrial diversion for five years, meaning he will not have to serve the jail time if he completes the diversion program. Swan provided marijuana to a minor and engaged in smoking it with the minor.
- Kindra Whitman, 25, of Marion pleaded guilty to charges of first-degree possession of a controlled substance (methamphetamine) and possession of drug paraphernalia. She was sentenced to three years, but the prison time was diverted for five years so long as she completes terms of the diversion program.

Grand jury indicts three on variety of charges

STAFF REPORT

The Crittenden County Grand Jury indicted three individuals last Thursday on a variety of charges.

A grand jury does not determine guilt or innocence. It merely determines whether enough evidence exists to continue prosecution of a case as a felony in circuit court.

Indicted last week were the following:

- James E. Hudson, 49, of Marion on a count of second-degree assault, a Class C felony. According to court records, Hudson is accused of

GRAND JURY

striking a male victim with a steel pipe on Sept. 10 during an altercation on Jarvis Street in Marion. The police report, filed by Marion patrolman Heath Martin, indicates that the alleged weapon was more than two feet long. The victim sought medical treatment for broken bones and internal injuries.

- Cassidy B. Kelley, 25, of Sturgis was indicted for flagrant non-support for allegedly being in arrears by the

amount of \$9,442.13 in child support payments.

- Jared J. Asbridge, 32, of Marion was indicted on felony charges of DUI, fourth offense with aggravator; being a convicted felon in possession of a firearm; and first-degree possession of a controlled substance, second offense; and a misdemeanor charge of third-degree terroristic threatening. Court records indicate that Crittenden County Deputy Ray Agent responded to a call of a man possibly dead on a tractor on Ky. 2132 in the Sheridan community. When the deputy arrived, he observed

the tractor pulling out of a field onto the highway. Behind the wheel was Asbridge, according to the deputy's report. The arrest report says Asbridge was uncooperative and refused to submit to a blood test later at the hospital. The deputy found a .22-250 rifle in the cab of the tractor and three alleged Oxycodone pills in his pocket. The terroristic threatening charge was filed after Asbridge allegedly told the deputy that he would "show up at my house to get me" after getting out of jail, according to the arrest report.

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PHOTO COURTESY OF SHIELA TRUITT

CCHS Class of 1964

Crittenden County High School Class of 1964 met at Riverview Park, formerly known as Dam 50, on Sept. 9 for its 53-year reunion. Pictured are (front, from left) Roger Linzy, Beth (Hunt) Mullen, Rozella (Matthews) Singleton, Marilyn (Truitt) Hunt, Linda (Woodall) Gilland, Raymond Love, (middle) Minnie Lou (Lilly) Brown, Sandra (McDonald) Belt, Barbara (Hendrix) Nunn, Patty (Wilkey) White, Patricia (Conger) Martin, Becky (Humphrey) Kirk, Linda (Travis) Mitcheson, Raymond Crowell, Barbara (Campbell) Hodge, Anna (Threlkeld) Easley, Ruth Ann (Wright) Belt, (back) Danny Joyce, Richard Binkley, Cletis Hunt, Bob Bellar, Johnny Howard, Mary Ruth (Andrews) Emge, Vernon Gilland, Harold King, Fred Brown, Linda (Stinnett) Hastings, Dwight Little, Larry Brantley, Charles Sisco and Lonnie Tabor.

Exam for prospective PVA candidates Nov. 17

STAFF REPORT

The Kentucky Department of Revenue (DOR) last week announced a location change for the Saturday, Nov. 17 Kentucky Property Valuation Administrator (PVA) examination for prospective 2018 candidates.

Due to a scheduling conflict, the exam site has been moved to the Holiday Inn Louisville East, 1325 South Hurstbourne Parkway in Louisville. It was originally to be held in Frankfort.

The 3.5 hour exam begins

at 9 a.m. Sign in and onsite registration begins at 8 a.m.

To ensure adequate seating, participants must pre-register by Nov. 10. Pre-registration for the exam is now open to prospective 2018 candidates.

According to Kentucky statute, before anyone can appear on the ballot as a candidate for the office of PVA in any primary or general election, that person shall hold a certificate issued by DOR, showing that he or she has been examined and

is qualified for the office.

Pre-registration can be done by email or traditional mail. For both, indicate your interest in pre-registering for the PVA test and include your name, mailing address, telephone number and email address. Send the email to Stacey.Brown@ky.gov with the subject line of "PVA test pre-registration." You may also send a letter or completed registration form to Stacey Brown, Department of Revenue, Office of Property Valuation, P.O. Box 1202,

Frankfort, KY 40602-1202.

Once pre-registered, applicants will receive via email, an admittance slip for the test and the address of the location. Individuals taking the exam must take their admittance slip and photo ID with them to be admitted to the testing facility. The required ID must include a photo. A driver's license is preferred; a passport is acceptable.

For more information and a registration form, visit Revenue.ky.gov.

Exam for prospective circuit clerk candidates Dec. 2

STAFF REPORT

Prospective candidates for the office of circuit court clerk must register for the Kentucky Circuit Court Clerk 2018 Election Qualifying Exam before Nov. 8. The exam will take place Saturday, Dec. 2 at Marriott Griffin Gate in Lexington. This is the only date and location for the exam.

The elected office of circuit court clerk will be on the bal-

lot for all Kentucky counties in 2018. Pursuant to Supreme Court Rule 1.060, anyone who wants to run for the office must score at least 70 percent on the exam. County clerks will be notified of applicants who are eligible to seek the office of circuit court clerk.

More information, including the registration form and study materials, is available at Courts.ky.gov/clerkexam.

Questions regarding the exam should be directed to the Administrative Office of the Courts at CircuitClerksExam@kycourts.net or (502) 573-2350, ext. 50792.

Circuit court clerks play an important role within the state court system. Circuit clerks are responsible for managing the records of circuit and district courts, Kentucky's trial courts. Circuit clerks file lawsuits and court

documents, record legal forms, provide legal documents and other legal materials, are present during trials, schedule juries, receive and disburse money, maintain the jury system, administer oaths, handle affidavits and issue driver's licenses and non-driver identification cards.

One circuit clerk is elected in each Kentucky county. They serve a term of six years.

CONGER

Continued from Page 1

off to basic training. Conger was eager to begin his tour, but recalls there were others willing to avoid the draft by any means necessary, some even resorting to self-harm.

In 1967, he began his first tour in Vietnam with the 9th Infantry Division. The 9th Infantry Division of the U.S. Army was charged with protecting territory and its population against communist insurgents seeking to hinder the South Vietnamese government efforts. Faced with unrelenting hardships, persistent enemies and the harsh environment, the 9th Division established strategies for their own survival while combating guerilla warfare.

Conger was assigned with being a "point man" and was made to assume the first and most exposed position in combat military formation. He led his fellow soldiers through hostile and unsecured territory in Dong Tang.

During an attack on the platoon, he was shot in the thigh and crawled away from enemy fire. When able, his comrades then found him and dragged him to a safer area away from the conflict. Through his multiple tours in Vietnam, Conger's first was the only time he sustained an injury.

Shortly after, he was flown out and shipped back to the U.S. He then began a seven-month recovery at Fort Campbell and had multiple operations. During the healing process, he longed to return to the war and eventually did so. Conger's main reason for wanting to go back Vietnam was to help prevent new soldiers from getting killed by using his own experience for guidance.

His multiple 10-month tours led him to many different areas, though he mainly remembers being in Da Nang, Bearcat Base near Bien Hoa and Plain of Reeds, an inland wetland in Vietnam's Mekong Delta. Conger considered Plain of Reeds to be one of the most dangerous places, at the time. Soldiers were often met head-on in the swampy areas and most of the battles were hit-and-run, usually only lasting for 5 minutes at a time.

The Viet Cong, a guerrilla force backed by the North Vietnamese Army, would often try to ambush patrols, set booby traps, lay land mines, install trip wires and even plant bombs in towns. American troops were sent on patrols and were later supported by air and artillery when attacked.

Conger's platoon would oftentimes seek out the opposition and fight them later on when they retreated. There were not many moments where the soldiers could let their guard down, he recalls, as the enemy was constantly attempting to maneuver around the platoons through the brush and via a tunnel system.

Despite the number of battles he fought in, Conger never had to engage in any close quarters combat. He was an eventual tank commander as well.

In order to combat better-supplied American soldiers and South Vietnamese forces, the Viet Cong dug thousands of miles worth of tunnels. Conger recalls his platoon discovering an underground hospital the enemy had actually built in its tunnel system to house injured soldiers. Upon further inspection, Conger said he and his fellow troops realized there were better medicinal drugs in their possession than what the

U.S. was administering at the time.

At one point while patrolling through a graveyard, the soldiers stumbled upon a cache of enemy weapons and destroyed them, as was routine. He was involved in many of those situations, Conger said.

Like the majority who fought in Vietnam, Conger witnessed many fellow soldiers and friends die at the hands of the Viet Cong. The more he saw, the more it drove him to train the newer soldiers coming into Vietnam so they might avoid such a fate.

Instead of dwelling on the difficult and horrific situations, Conger fondly recalls Bob Hope, Martha Ray and Casey and the Sunshine Band entertaining the troops, which helped to lift morale.

For the typical American soldier, it was not just the communist forces they fought. The environment and lack of communication had potential to be lethal. After wading through swampy waters, he says his soldiers would have to take cigarettes to the leeches that had collected on their bodies. Some of the soldiers, including Conger, contracted jungle rot.

To avoid dysentery and other waterborne illnesses, soldiers had a pill to purify

the drinking water, sometimes collected with their helmets. Due to these threatening conditions, the soldiers were administered 12 shots every 6 months to prevent any infectious diseases.

Conger said at one point during a tour, helicopters were unable drop off rations. He and his brothers-in-arms were made to eat coconuts and bananas until they were resupplied. He remembers having to go without food or water for nearly three days.

Despite these factors, he and his soldiers prevailed.

During the war, the U.S. used Agent Orange, an herbicide and defoliant chemical, to destroy the thick plantation and jungle growth their enemies used to hide in. Often, American troops themselves would come into direct contact with it, which has been linked to severe medical problems experienced by those exposed to it.

Count Conger is among those whose health has deteriorated greatly because of it. He got out of the Army in 1977, and after about six years, he joined Marion Police Department. It was only a few years after retiring that his health began to manifest itself in a host of medical problems. Despite this, he remains optimistic, a testament to his strength and willpower.



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KENTUCKY LAND FOR SALE

LIVINGSTON COUNTY, KY - 208.5 ACRES - \$495,000 - This farm has everything a hunter could want, plus income! A good mix of timber and tillable ground, plus ponds and numerous access points.

LIVINGSTON COUNTY, KY - 696.27 ACRES - \$1,799,000 - No matter what you're looking for in a property, this place has it. Not only is it a great place to farm and hunt, it's also a great investment.

LIVINGSTON COUNTY, KY - 255.05 ACRES - \$790,000 - This mostly tillable tract generates more than \$30,000 annually and is a great property to hunt! Just enough timber and water scattered to attract deer & turkeys.

CRITTENDEN COUNTY, KY - 100.09 ACRES - \$295,000 - Talk about a great place to hunt and live! This farm has a spacious house and the opportunity to hunt in the back yard. 2+/- acres of tillable and 50 +/- of timber.

LIVINGSTON COUNTY, KY - 44 ACRES - \$137,500 - No matter what you're looking for, this tract is it. Tillable acres make it a great investment, the habitat is excellent for hunting, with several spots to build.

LIVINGSTON COUNTY, KY - 294 ACRES - \$699,000 - If a hunter designed his ideal farm it would look a lot like this. In an area known for big bucks and lots of turkeys, this tillable/timber tract also produces income.

CRITTENDEN COUNTY, KY - 181 ACRES - \$270,595 - Talk about a hidden gem! This all timber tract has no road frontage, but an established trail system and all the right things to attract big deer.

CRITTENDEN CO, KY - 8 ACRES - \$193,000 - Look no further, this is your dream home! **PRICE REDUCED** - This property is located with high-end finishes and is settled on tillable ground in a great location.

CRITTENDEN CO, KY - 119.72 ACRES - \$269,370 - Everything you could ever want! **PRICE REDUCED** - This property is located with high-end finishes and is settled on tillable ground in a great location.

CALDWELL CO, KY - 93.19 ACRES - Here's your opportunity to walk onto a "ready-to-hunt" property. **SOLD** - Mostly timber with no road frontage and several elevated box blinds included.

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CRITTENDEN CO, KY - 38.1 ACRES - \$72,500 - This is your chance to buy an affordable farm to kill! **SOLD** - This property has solar systems, deer corridors and power lines run through the property offering tons of options.

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Crittenden County Board of Education


SUPERINTENDENT



Vince Clark
Central Office
601 W. Elm St.
Marion, KY 42064
270.965.3525 or 270.965.2281
vince.clark@crittenden.kyschools.us


ELECTED BOARD MEMBERS

District 1 (Precincts 4, 7, 8)




Bill Asbridge
3863 SR 70
Marion, KY 42064
270.988.3271
kasbridge@tds.net

District 2 (Precincts 9, 10)




Eric LaRue
P.O. Box 412
Salem, KY 42078
270.988.3249
edlarue@mchsi.com

District 3 (Precincts 1, 5)




Chairman Chris Cook
237 W. Bellville St.
Marion, KY 42064
270.965.0952
Chris.Cook@farmers247.com

District 4 (Precincts 2, 11)



Pam Collins
2743 U.S. 60 East
Marion, KY 42064
270.965.3216
spcollins@bellsouth.net

District 5 (Precincts 3, 6, 12)



Ryan McDaniel
1575 Old Morganfield Road
Marion, KY 42064
270.965.2536
rmdaniel@par4plastics.com

ADDITIONAL CONTACTS

CCES Principal Jenni Gilkey: 270.965.2243 | CCMS Principal Tom Radivonyk: 270.965.5221 | CCHS Principal Curtis Brown: 270.965.2248 | District website: Crittenden.KySchools.us | District email: firstname.lastname@Crittenden.KySchools.us

Marion’s first baseball team debuted in 1908

From the archives of The Crittenden Press, let’s read about Marion’s first baseball team, its members, some of the action from their games, and how their popularity caused the businessmen of Marion to create a new ball park for the community.

June 1907 - The people of Marion have recently organized a first baseball team. This team will be called The Marion Baseball team.

J. W. Wilson and J. H. Orme are the financial managers, W. H. Clark is field manager or coach, Albert M. Shelby, owner and proprietor of the Marion Steam Laundry, has contributed suits to the team.

They haven’t any ground yet, but Mr. Clark is trying to get the junior baseball park on the Weldon and Blackburn addition in West Marion for their games.

Good order will be maintained during all games played by this team. (The Weldon-Blackburn addition was located in the area where Weldon Street is today.)

It didn’t take long to get the team ready for a game, for later that month The Press shows an ad for a game. There will be a match game of baseball today at the Baseball Park in the Weldon Blackburn addition, between Marion boys and the Princeton ball team. Come out and see a good game and encourage the homeboys. General admission will be 15 cents, ladies and children 10 cents.

Let’s recall some of the action of the team in August of 1908.

On last Wednesday, the baseball team of this place went to Morganfield to meet the hitherto undefeated champion of the thriving city. They went accompanied by the usual “pitiful few” and followed by the bright hopes and best wishes of every inhabitant in town and were received with the most gracious Kentucky hospitality, but instead of the rivalry expected they found only sympathy for their sad plight in being compelled to play the world beaters who represent that community. This feeling of pity changed considerably when umpires Justice and Gardner called the game at 3:30. Further change of sentiment was noticed as the game progressed.

Marion broke into the run column in the first inning. After Bunk Perryman and John Grimes proved “easy picking” for the fast Morgan-

field infield, Guess hit a scorcher over third base and on a combination of wild throws and his own brilliant base running, he scored.

In their half of the fourth inning, Morganfield made their lone tally. Taylor the first man, up hit a terrific drive directly to Paul Gossage. Instinctively, he jumped and grabbed at the ball with his bare hand. To the astonishment of all, he held it. It was a remarkable catch but probably was responsible for the run made later.

The next two men up hit safely as Gossage was pitching with a deadened hand. An error by Lamb on a difficult chance filled the bases, and Grimes’ error (which we can easily excuse, as he caught a wonderful game) let in the score.

The game went on without a score until the ninth inning, although several times Marion had men on bases.

Our boys, believing that the margin was a little too narrow, increased theirs by two runs. Lamb beat out a beautiful bunt to second, then Rochester next at bat hit one too hot for their star shortstop, and brought Lamb home. Gossage then made a clean hit to right field, scoring Rochester home. This ended the scoring as Morganfield couldn’t touch Gossage in their half of the inning.

The feature of the game was Gossage’s pitching as he had the local team completely at his mercy. Morganfield put up a good game, their infield being especially strong. But, good hitting by the entire Marion team and clever work on the bases by Guess, Lamb and Rochester easily defeated them.

This team went on to be the amateur champions of Western Kentucky in September of 1908. They went up against the Eastern Kentucky amateur champions, Russellville. Russellville came out the victor after two hotly contested games and was the champion amateur of Kentucky.

Public Park for Greater Marion, May 1909.

As the result of the baseball team’s successful ball playing, a number of Marion’s public spirited citizens wanted to have a public playground. It would be a

new and grand park for this ball team to play, something they could be proud of when they invited other teams to Marion.

They thought a permanent playground was a much-needed addition to the town and every person who takes pride in her advancement, or enjoys any of her pleasure, should help liberally and encourage this enterprise.

The first step was to form the Marion Playground Association Incorporated. This was done and members of the ground committee consisted of C. S. Nunn, J. H. Orme and W. V. Haynes. Others helping in this project were, E. J. Hayward, O. R. Hurley, C. W. Haynes, Gus Taylor, John A. Moore, John Wilson, C. V. Franks and T. H. Cochran.

Several areas were looked at, but the committee thought the best suitable ground was south of the Old Cemetery, in a beautiful lot of about three or four acres shaped by nature for a pleasure resort.


It was the intention of the promoters to purchase the ground and lay off a baseball diamond, tennis courts, and so improve it as to make it suitable for all athletic sports.

It will be dedicated to the people of town and county and the pupils of the school, where they may congregate for recreation and athletic games.

It is the closest to the town center and in all way the most suitable piece of property adjacent to town.


In August of 1909 the Marion Playground Association purchased this piece of property from Presley S. Maxwell.

They immediately got to work and started getting the land in fine shape. The grounds were laid out and prepared, a tall board fence was built on the front and side and a grand stand for seating was installed.



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Marion’s 1908 Baseball Team was one of the best in western Kentucky. It was a common procedure not to use first names in old pictures, so as many names as possible are identified. Pictured (front from left) are Butch Taylor, John Grimes, Gray Rochester, Mr. Brown, (middle) Mr. Moore, Bunk Perryman, Mr. Guess, Mr. Lamb, Mr. Clark, (back) Paul Gossage, Mr. Mirtchell, Manager Baird, Mr. Justice and Mr. Conley. A vintage postcard of Maxwell Park, with Marion’s 1908 team on the field. It was a new and grand park which Marion was proud of.



from whom the Marion Playground Association purchased the property. Mr. Maxwell also held with the preparation of the park.

The park was located where Riley Tool & Machine is today and it continued across the area to Blackburn Street and to where the Crittenden Farm Supply was located.

In November 1918, Levi Cook, well-known businessman of Marion, purchased this property from the Mar-

ion Playground Association and it was then known as Cook’s Park. County fairs, baseball games and other community activities were held here.

In the 1930s the Civilian Conservation Corp was located in this area. It was a community within itself, with housing and everything needed for maintaining the camp.

Work closes local roads

The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet plans daytime closures along a section of Ky. 1917 in eastern Crittenden County Thursday and Friday.

Ky. 1917 will be closed between milepoint 0.2 and 1.3 to allow several cross drains to be replaced. This is along Ky. 1917 between Wolf Creek Road and the end of state maintenance at the Providence Road intersection.

This closure along Ky. 1917 is expected to be in place between approximately 7:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m., each day.

There will be no marked

detour. This work is scheduled on a weather permitting basis.

Community Arts Foundation & Crittenden County Extension Homeowners Association Present

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Fresh Pizza! Whole Hot Pizza \$13.99

\$3.99 combo \$2.49 slice

Served With: 1 Pizza Slice, 1 Bag Chips, 1 Fountain Drink

Our Roast Beef Plate Is Back!!

Open-Face Roast Beef Sandwiches \$5.99

Served With: Mashed Potatoes, Gravy and Slaw

All Made From Scratch!

Submit calendar items

Community calendar is designed for individuals, non-profit organizations and government entities to publicize meetings and events. Call (270) 965-3191, email press-news@the-press.com or stop by 125 E. Bellville St.

Sin deceived me, by it slew me

Like Paul, I was sinning against God, but I obtained mercy because I did it ignorantly.

That is also an understatement, to sin against God is the height of ignorance.

But as the headline reads, sin deceived me.

Every person who ever lived has been deceived by sin, not knowing how destructive and deadly sin is.

Again like Paul, I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who has enabled me, for He counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry, who was before a sinner, but I obtained mercy because I did it in ignorance.

And the grace of our Lord was exceedingly abundant with faith and love which is in Christ Jesus.

Yes, I knew I was sinning, but sin had become a habit, and most know how overpowering a habit is.

Looking back, I'm really astounded that I gambled with my eternal soul and its destination. The overwhelming uncertainty of life, and the very sure certainty of death should be enough to awaken anyone.

It was like I was in a stupor. So I feel for the lost because Satan keeps them from thinking about death that can come so suddenly as we all have just seen the tragic and sudden deaths in the horrific storms, and the slaughter in Las Vegas.

Just having been in the funeral homes four times recently – two of

them my own flesh – brings home the certainty and suddenness of leaving this world.

Again looking back, sin slips up on a person, slowly and a little at a time, until it is your master.

How I thank God He had people praying for me, and He sent the Holy Spirit to make me ashamed of myself, sick in heart and mind, even though it did not hinder my business, but sure wrecked my home.

One thing I want all to know who are lost: You do not have to know how to give your sins to Jesus, how to pray, etc., God will accept a simple honest confession of your wrongs. Confess them to Him and Him alone and He will do the rest.

You will know something happened, and then will come to pass this scripture: "Therefore, if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature, old things are passed away; and all things are become new, and all things are of God." Praise God."

That happened to me as soon as I began naming my sins to God, and asking for forgiveness. My whole world was turned upside down.

At that moment I determined to obey God, and learn His word so I



Rev. Lucy TEDRICK
Baptist minister
Religious and Political Views

could obey Him, or give my life trying.

Never did I even think of walking away from a business that was taking me into the million-dollar realm.

I became determined to give myself and all I was and had to God when asked to give my testimony in various churches.

As God led me, I studied, prayed and followed Him. It slowly became evident to some ministers and myself, that God was leading me into the ministry.

This was something I never dreamed of. I thought I was to keep making money and give it to missions. It caused me to take a trip around the world, to see how best to do it.

God wants to save every person in the world and to help each one to develop into the person He made him to be. He will never expect us to do something we can't do, but when He saves us, He refines us and we will be so shocked as to what He will help us do.

As Jesus said, "With God all things are possible" and as Paul said, "I can do all things through Christ which strengthens me." Phil 4:13.

•Editor's note: Rev. Lucy Tedrick, pastor at Marion Church of God, shares her views periodically in this newspaper. She can be reached at (270) 965-3269. Her opinions are her own and are not necessarily those of this newspaper.

Local Events & Outreach

Sturgis Gen. Baptist Revival

Sturgis General Baptist Church will host Revival Oct. 18-20 with services at 7 p.m., nightly. The evangelist will be Rev. Jeff Owens from Stonefort, Ill.

Tyner's Chapel planning Revival

Tyner's Chapel Church on State Route 855 North will host Revival Services at 7 p.m., Oct. 27 and 28 and at 11 a.m., on Oct. 29. The pastor is Charles Tabor and there will be special guest preaching at each service.

2nd Baptist Revival Oct. 22-25

Marion Second Baptist Church on East Depot Street is hosting Revival Services Oct. 22-25. There will be special music during the services and Bro. Joe Baker of Sullivan Baptist Church will be the evangelist. The Sunday service is at 11 a.m., and nightly services each weekday are at 7 p.m. Chris Lowery is the pastor.

Piney Fork hosting Revial

Revival Services will be held Oct. 22-25 at Piney Fork Cumberland Presbyterian Church on State Route 506. Services begin at 7 p.m., nightly. Guest speaker is Billy Parrish and song leader will be Billy Joe Rushing. There will be special music nightly. The pastor is Junior Martin.

St. William plans fall yard sale

St. William Catholic Church will have its fall yard sale from 9 a.m., until 4 p.m., on Thursday and Friday. The sale will be at the church on South Main Street in Marion.

Hurricane Camp fall work day

Hurricane Camp will have its annual fall work day at 9 a.m., Saturday, Oct. 28. Volunteers will be cleaning the grounds and winterizing buildings. Alternate rain date will be Nov. 4.

REGULAR CHURCH OUTREACH PROGRAMS

- Fredonia Unity Baptist Church's clothes closet is open from 9 a.m. to noon on the second and fourth Saturday of every month.
- First Baptist Church of Fredonia food pantry is open from 1 to 3 p.m. the third Thursday of each month in Coleman Hall of the church.
- The clothes closet at Mexico Baptist Church is open from 9 to 11:30 a.m. each Monday.
- The clothes closet of First Baptist Church of Fredonia is open from 1 to 3 p.m. every Thursday at the church's Family Life Center.
- Cave Springs Baptist Church between Lola and Joy in Livingston County offers food 24 hours a day, 7 days week at its outdoor Blessing Box in front of the church.

Does Your Congregation Have Something Planned?
Let us know. We post church notes here at no charge
Email your notes to thepress@the-press.com or call (270) 965-3191

Baptists host Hunting Expo on season's eve

Marion Baptist Church is celebrating its 10th year to host the community's only outdoors expo.

As it has for the past decade, the church, near downtown Marion, will have its Buck Expo: Deer Hunting Extravaganza on the eve of the rifle deer season, Friday, Nov. 10.

The faith-based event includes entertainment and fun for the whole family with an outdoors theme. The entire program is free and includes an all-you-can-eat meal.

In addition to door prizes, there will be gun giveaways and exhibits with monster bucks.

Participants can test their luck or skill on scoring trophy whitetails using the Boone and Crockett scoring system.

For more information, call the church at (270) 965-5232.

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SECTION 8 HOUSING

REVIVAL
Marion
SECOND BAPTIST Church
Bro. Chris Lowery, Pastor
730 E. Depot St., Marion, KY 42064

October 22-25
11 a.m. Sunday Morning
7 p.m. Nightly

For Heaven Sake
Oct. 22, 7 p.m.

Bro. Joe Baker
Evangelist
Pastor at Sullivan Baptist Church

Teresa Beavers
Music

Revival

TYNERS CHAPEL CHURCH
5455 SR 855 NORTH, SALEM

Pastor: Charles Tabor

REVIVAL SERVICES WILL BE AS FOLLOWS...

Fri., Oct. 27, 7 p.m.
Sat., Oct. 28, 7 p.m.
Sun., Oct. 29, 11 a.m.

SPECIAL GUEST PREACHERS FOR EACH SERVICE

EVERYONE WELCOME!!!

WORSHIP
with us this week

FOR WHERE TWO OR THREE ARE GATHERED TOGETHER IN MY NAME, THERE AM I IN THE MIDST OF THEM.

— MATTHEW 18:20

St. William Catholic Church
Sunday Mass 11 a.m.
Father Ryan Harpole
860 S. Main St.
Marion, Ky.
965-2477

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

DEER CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH
Interim Pastor: Larry Davidson
Sunday Bible Study: 10 a.m.
Sunday Worship: 11 a.m. & 6 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study: 7 p.m.
Approx. 5 miles from the intersection of Hwy. 60 & Hwy. 297
Phone (270) 965-2220

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

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

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.

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

Marion Baptist Church
College and Depot streets, Marion • 278.945.5222
Dr. Mike Jones, pastor
Early worship service 9:15 pm
Life groups/Sunday school 9:30 pm
Late worship service 10:45 pm
AMANA 5:45 pm
Limitless worship 6:00 pm
Discipleship class 6:30 pm
Wednesday nursery, preschool, Centershot and youth 5:45 pm
Wednesday prayer service 6:15 pm

SEVEN SPRINGS MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
Located between Dycusburg and Frances on Ky. 70
Sunday School: 10 am
Sunday Worship: 11 am, 6 pm • Wednesday: 7 pm
Dr. Bobby Garland, pastor
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Marion Church of God
334 Fords Ferry Road • Marion, Kentucky
Sunday School 10 a.m. • Morning Service 11 a.m.
Sunday Evening 6 p.m. • Wednesday Evening 6 p.m.
"Where salvation makes you a member."
Lucy Tedrick, pastor

Marion Church of Christ
546 West Elm Street • (270) 965-9450
Sunday Bible Study: 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship: 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study: 6:30 p.m.
- The end of your search for a friendly church -

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

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

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

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

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

Sugar Grove
cumberland presbyterian
585 Sugar Grove Church Road, Marion, Ky. | 270.704.2455
Sunday School - 10 am | Sunday Worship - 11 am and 6 pm
Wednesday Bible Study - 7 pm

Area Deaths

Myers

Charles W. Rushing, Sr., 79, of Princeton died Wednesday, Oct. 11, 2017 at Princeton Health and Rehabilitation Center.

He was a retired heavy equipment operator at Vulcan and member of Second Baptist Church.

Survivors include his wife of 44 years; Janis Rushing; two daughters, Star Corum (Tim) of Earlington and Deanna Michelle Rushing of Dale, Ind.; a son; Charles W. Rushing Jr. (JoAnn) of Hopkinsville; two sisters; Carol Croft (Deon) of Demont, Ind. and Freda Poindexter of Paducah; seven grandchildren, three step-grandchildren; 34 great-grandchildren and four great-great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Rev. Carlos Albert Rushing and Oma Campbell Rushing.

Services were Friday, Oct. 13 at Morgan's Funeral Home in Princeton with Bro. Wayne Duncan and Rev. Ryan Scott officiating. Burial was at Meeks Cemetery in Caldwell County.

Memorials may be made to Gideons International, Lyon Caldwell Gideon Camp, P.O. Box 421, Eddyville, KY 42038.

Jones

Jeanette Ann Jones, 76, of Lola died Friday, Oct. 13, 2017 at Springlake Health and Rehabilitation Center.

Surviving are two sons, Jimmy (Renee) Williams and Bobby (PeeWee) Williams, both of Lola; seven grandchildren, Jenny Orange of Lola; Jessica Pierson of Lola; Jada Williams of Marion; Paige York of Louisville; Ryan York of Carmi, Ill.; Kayla Claybrooke of Marion; Summer Phillips of Lola; eight great-grandchildren, Paysen Pierson and Taylyn Pierson, both of Lola; Brody Samuel of Marion; Kaden Quertemous of Lola; Landyn and Ethan Claybrooke, both of Marion and Emily and Hunter York, both of Carlisle, Ill.; a sister, Marie Whitworth of Marshall, Ill.; two brothers, Gene Heilman of Evansville, Ind., and Donald Heilman of Flint, Mich.; and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Vince and Eula Davis Heilman and three brothers, Junior, Ralph and Albert Heilmann.

Services were Tuesday, Oct. 17 at Myers Funeral Home in Marion. Burial was at White's Chapel Cemetery.



THANK YOU

We would like to thank the following for their kindness during the passing of our husband and father, Larry Easley. Thank you to the staff of Boyd Funeral Directors for their kind and expert care, Bro. Jimmy "Bub" Porter and Bro. Steve Tinsley for the beautiful words of comfort, Tolu Community Center for the wonderful meal, the nephews who served as pallbearers, all those who sent food, flowers and cards, the visits and for the donations of Gideon Bibles. We thank you for your kindness, compassion and prayers during this very difficult time.

With Love and Appreciation,
Dottie Easley, Darin & Terri Easley
Gayann & Mike O'Dell, Woody & Casey Easley

Carrsville
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New Look! New Sound!

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Sat., October 21, 5 p.m.
Carrsville Community Center

A fundraiser by the Carrsville Community Assoc., Inc., a 501C3 Non-Profit Foundation

THANK YOU

The family of Harry Gass would like to thank family and friends for the outpouring of love and support shown to us during this difficult time.

Many thanks to Myers Funeral Home, Dr. Yazigi, Terry Boone, Dr. Scott Graham, Livingston Hospital and Healthcare, Crittenden Health Systems, Baptist Health of Paducah and staff, Legacy Oxygen Co., Crittenden County Health and Rehabilitation Center, New Haven Assisted Living and Brother Joe Radosti for the comforting words.

Sincerely,
Trent and Debbie

THANK YOU

Words cannot express how touched we were by all the outpouring of love and kindness shown during the difficult time faced by the passing away of our loved one, Evalyn Carter. Each phone call, text message, flowers, food, cards, gifts or kind word was appreciated so much.

Thank you for all the prayers. A special thank you goes to Brother Danny Starrick for his uplifting words and to the staff of Gilbert Funeral Home for their services. God bless and every one of you.

Tommy Carter, Kevin Carter, Bryan Carter,
Kathy Adams, Julia Adams, Chase Adams,
Asher Dalton, Jake Vinson, Trista Patterson

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Contact your PACS SHIP Counselor today at:
(270) 965-5229

Dear friends and family,

Our hearts were heavy with the passing of our beloved husband, father, and grandfather. Even though we know that we will see him again one day and had time to say goodbye it still hurt.

However, we are blessed and so was Stan with amazing friends and family. The outpouring of love and prayers for our family has been overwhelming, as well as all the letters, food, flowers, and gifts. God has been good to us in more ways than we can count and also by providing us with such a wonderful support system to help us during this time.

Thus, our family wanted to simply say thank you for everything that all our friends and family have done for us, whether prayers, letters, food, flowers, gifts, or hugs. We thank you. We cannot fully put into words the love and gratitude we feel for each one of you. You have lightened our hearts and made the hurt not so bad. We thank God for blessing us with a community of family and friends that truly supports one another.

Thank you and May God Bless You,
The Family of Dr. Charles "Stan" Hoover
-Voncille, Beth (Dave), Bill (Page), Chuck (Randi), Barbara, John, Emily, Jacob, Kendall, and Ella.

REVIVAL

October 22-25

7 nightly

Guest Speaker: Billy Parrish
Song Leader: Billy Joe Rushing

Special Music Nightly

Pastor Junior Martin and congregation invite everyone to attend and feel the presence of God!



Piney Fork
Cumberbund
Presbyterian
Church

Church is located on Highway 506, 6 miles from Marion



Crittenden County Chamber of Commerce recognized Signature Boutique as its Business of the Month during a recent Chamber meeting at the Marion Welcome Center. Pictured are (from left) Chamber directors Dee Brasher and Madison Qualls, Chamber President Randa Berry and Signature Boutique owner Tammy Owen, and Chamber directors Angel Henry, Elliot West and Elizabeth Floyd.

Chamber hosting park picture to bust ghosts ahead of Halloween

The Crittenden County Chamber of Commerce is teaming up with local business Auto Art to host another Picture in the Park.

The movie to be shown is Ghostbusters.

It will begin at dark on Oct. 21.

Those attending are encouraged to bring along lawn chairs or blankets for seating and dress appropriately for outdoor viewing of this show.

The Chamber is also in the process of collecting

data for its local business survey. Merchants can expect Chamber members to be calling with regard to a survey that is being conducted in conjunction with the University of Kentucky.

Tolu is site for softball tourney this weekend

Five teams will compete in a men's softball tournament beginning at 8 a.m., Saturday in Tolu. The public is invited to watch games and enjoy concessions at the community center. The tournament benefits softball field improvements at the Tolu field.

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"My Dad"

Don Hodge
1930-2016

It's been a year since I said goodbye
seems like only yesterday,
oh how I miss you sweet guy!

For all the locals, I'm sure you'll recall
how he rode his mower, and talked to all.

Yep, he loved many things, like his mower and truck,
his yard work, Bible study and missionary work.

His friends and his family time always came first,
well maybe after fried fish, which he ate till he burst!

Dad served in the Air Force and worked in the Forestry Service as well,
he returned to his Kentucky roots, with stories to tell.

You could hear his laughter wherever he went,
his joking was plentiful and his time well spent.

He devoted many years to our family tree,
and wrote many books on our ancestry.

My dad, Don Hodge, is greatly missed every day,
by a grateful daughter whom he lovingly raised.

I miss his laughter and our lengthy phone talks,
coming home to visit, and our occasional walks.

There was always something he had saved for me to do,
like re-paper the house or take him to buy shoes.

It really didn't matter, because we were together,
and those times meant a lot, in fact they couldn't have been better.

So remember him friends and think of him often, just the same as I
his daughter, who hated to say goodbye.

Love, Dannielle

Birth

Tucker

Stormie and Jeff Tucker announce the birth of a daughter, Raelynn Diane Tucker, Sept. 29, 2017. Raelynn Diane weighed 7 pounds, 10 ounces. Grandparents are Roy Lynn Fults of Marion and Lori Rae Day and A.J. Brallier of Paducah. Great-grandparents are Darlene and Ken Murray of Marion.

Calendar

– **Crittenden County Friends of the Library** will meet at 6 p.m., Thursday (today) in the meeting room at the Crittenden County Public Library.

– **West Kentucky Christian Home Educators** was scheduled to hold a support meeting at 6:30 p.m., Wednesday, Oct. 18 for homeschooling parents at the Oasis restaurant in Ed-dyville.

– **Carrsville Fall Fling**, a fundraiser for the community association, will be held at 5 p.m., Saturday at the Carrsville Community Cen-ter. There will be a new look with acoustical improve-ments inside the building. The meal will be soup and chilli.

Extension

– Extension Homemakers are selling raffle tickets for a beautiful quilt made by local quilter Mary LeFan. Tickets are \$1 each and can be purchased at the Extension Office or from any of the local Extension Home-makers. The **quilt drawing** will be held on Saturday at the Shoppe Next Door/Christmas in Marion Arts & Crafts show.

– Would your student like to join in on a "Rocking" good time!? Why not join **4-H Rockology Club**. It will meet at 3 p.m., Thursday (today) at the Mineral Museum. Call or stop by the Extension Office for more information.

– **CCES Cloverbuds** will meet at 4:30 p.m., Thursday (today) at the school. If your student ages 5-8 is inter-ested, please call (270) 965-5236.

– Learn more about how to maintain and help control diabetes during a **Diabetes Support Group** meeting at 10 a.m., Friday at the Extension Office. Sue Parrent will be the guest speaker.

– Who wants to learn how to cook? Children ages 9-18 are invited to a new **4-H Cooking Club**. Students will meet at 3:15 p.m., Mon-day at the Extension Annex. To sign up or for more infor-mation, contact Leslea Barnes at (270) 965-5236.

– **Meals on a Budget** will teach ways to stretch your food dollar by learning how to budget at the grocery store. Please call (270) 965-5236 by Friday to regis-ter. The class will be held at 5 p.m., Tuesday at the Ex-tension Annex.

MSU among top colleges

Murray State University has been ranked the top four-year college in Ken-tucky by an online source for education information. Schools.com evaluated against 13 different criteria to rank Murray State above the state's flagship college, the University of Kentucky, as well as the University of Louisville and Western Ken-tucky University.

The rankings praised Murray State for a variety of reasons. Having the most af-fordable tuition and fees as well as a higher percentage of tuition and fees covered by institutional aid than stu-dents of other schools in the state were a couple reasons for its high performance.

The list of top 10 schools was as follows:

1. Murray State Uni-ver-sity
2. Northern Kentucky University
3. Western Kentucky Uni-versity



Bowling champ

Five Crittenden County Rockets Special Olympics team members competed at the Area 1 Bowling Tournament Saturday at Cardinal Lanes in Paducah. Pictured with his first place ribbon is Justis Duncan. Other Crittenden bowlers who competed individually and qualified for state competition in their age categories were Amber Notestine, third place; Mandy McConnell, third place; David Walker, third place; and Tahla Trail, fourth place. The state bowling competition will be held in Louisville in Decem-ber.

Senior Menu

Crittenden County Senior Citizens Center is open weekdays 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Lunch is served at 11:30 a.m. each day and is \$3 for those 60 and older or \$5 for those under 60. Reservations are re-quested by 9 a.m. Upcoming ac-tivities and menu include:

– Thursday (today): Menu is ham and bean soup with hot spiced beets, buttered spinach, pear crisp and cornbread.

– Friday: Menu is baked spaghetti, broccoli salad, man-darin oranges and garlic bread-stick. Bingo sponsored by Lifeline Home Health begins at 10:30 a.m.

– Monday: Menu is beef stew with brown rice, cole slaw, corn-bread and margarine and pineap-ple delight. Ladies exercise with Full Body Fitness Studio will begin at 9:45 a.m.

– Tuesday: Menu is barbecue pork on bun, au gratin potatoes, cucumber salad and oatmeal raisin cookie.

– Oct. 25: Menu is beef potroast, mashed potatoes, brown gravy, squash casserole, wheat roll and peach cobbler

All menu items are subject to change based on availability. PACS provides milk, coffee, tea or water each day.

Aging Coordinator Jenny Sosh is director of the center. The center is a service of Pennyrile Al-lied Community Services.

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

Cumberland River Homes opens new gym

By MIMI BYRNS
STAFF WRITER

Cumberland River Homes (CRH) in Salem christened a new activity center Sunday with an open house. Located at 111 N. Hayden Ave., the center is designed to help in-dividuals with disabilities enjoy a better quality of life through sports activities.

CRH is a non-profit or-ganization that works with individuals with disabilities to achieve daily outcomes and life dreams by empower-ing their life choices and maintaining natural support networks.

"We provide services for adults with disabilities and we have outgrown our pres-ent activities site, so natu-rally, we built an activity center in order for our indi-viduals to split up and have more things to do during the day. We are expanding in order to provide more and better services. This also al-

lows us to use one of our present rooms for an autism sensory room for our indi-viduals with autism. This is for the individuals we serve to have a better quality of life," says Sandy Barnes, president at Cumberland River Homes.

The dream for this non-profit organization was born out of the love for Barnes' developmentally disabled son, Shannon. The primary goal for CRH is to provide a caring, home-like atmos-phere where clients may thrive and live as independ-ently as possible.

The organization serves recipients of three waivers – support for community liv-ing, Michelle P. and Ac-quired brain injury waivers.

The Michelle P. Waiver is a home and community-based waiver developed as an alternative to institu-tional care for people with intellectual or developmental



The public got a glimpse inside this new gymnasium for Cum-berland Rivers Homes in Salem on Sunday.

disabilities which allows them to remain in their homes with services and supports.

Among activities offered are meaningful routines in the community, training in

the activities of daily living, self-advocacy, adaptive and social skills and vocational skills.

Cumberland River Homes was certified in April 2006.

Woman’s Club tends to business

The Woman's Club of Marion held its Oct. 4 meet-ing with an informative pres-entation by Cheryl Burks, director of Crosswalk Learn-ing Center at Crittenden County High School.

Crosswalk Learning Cen-ter is an after school pro-gram that includes academic assistance, enrichment pro-grams, college and career readiness opportunities and family and student engage-ment presentations. Cur-rently over 170 students are participating.

Nancy Hunt welcomed members and guests. Becky Combs presented a timely devotional on how to deal with issues happening in our country.

Serving on the hostess committee were Kathy Bech-ler, Sandra Belt, Stacy Crawford-Hughes, Nancy Lapp, Ethel Tucker and Brooke Winterrowd.

Following Burks' presen-tation, Mimi Byrns and Judy

Conger were welcomed as new members.

Due to the resignation of Rebecca Zahrtre, who is mov-ing out of the county, Melanie Walker was elected treasurer. Other changes due to Zahrtre's leaving in-clude Nancy Lapp appointed as chair of the phone com-mittee and Nancy Hunt will be scheduling building rentals. Susan Alexander, Crittenden County Chamber of Commerce's executive di-rector, will maintain the club building's key for rentals. The fee to rent the building is \$80.

The club will have a booth at The Shoppe Next Door Saturday at Crittenden County Middle School. They will raffle two tickets to a UK basketball game, a UK gift basket and a gift card tree. The club recently held a suc-cessful yard sale.

The GFWC Kentucky Dis-trict 1 conference will be Oct. 28 in Benton. This



Cheryl Burks (standing center) discusses Crosswalk Learning Center with members of the Woman's Club of Marion.

event includes the annual arts, crafts, and photogra-phy contests.

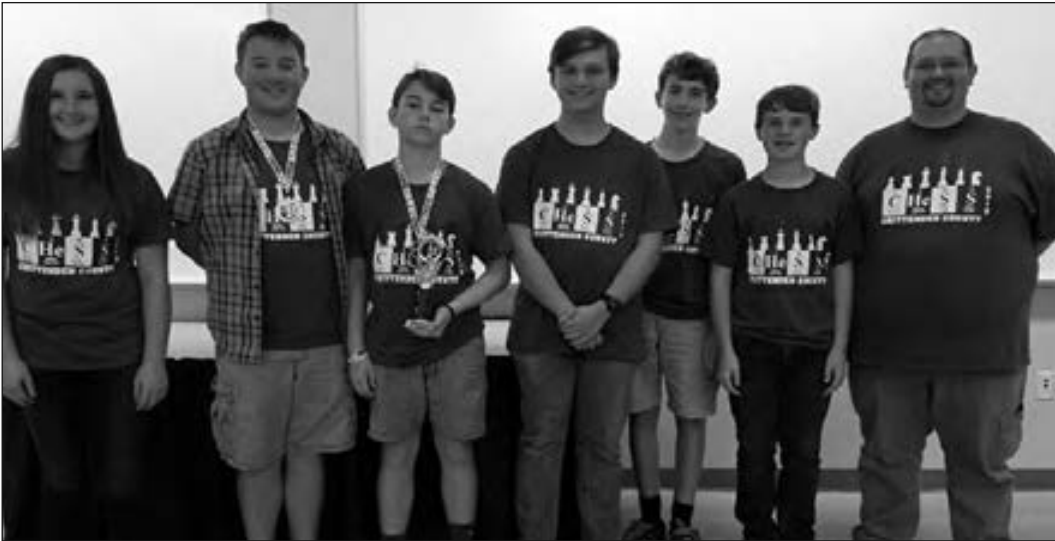
Roberta Shewmaker won the fall decoration door prize.

Next club meeting will be at 5 p.m., Nov. 9 with a pro-gram presented by Jessica Smith Cummins, owner of Rusty Gate Farm.

CCHS chess wins first tournament

The Blue Knights Chess Team opened its season Sat-urday at the free member-ship tournament in Paducah.

The high school team consisting of Clay Stevens, Skyler James, Lauren Gilchrist, Chase Stevens, Cole Swinford and James Crider won first place in the tournament.



Crittenden County High School's Blue Knights chess team includes (from left) Lauren Gilchrist, Clay Stevens, Chase Stevens, Skyler James, James Crider, Cole Swinford and coach Don Win-ters.

The competition for the K12 team proved to be tougher this year, as players only gained one point in round 3 and one point in round 4. The PACHEK home school gave the Blue Knights a scare in round 4 by beat-ing everyone they played and tying with 10.5 points. But tie breaks would go the Blue Knights' way and they took the first place trophy.

Individually Chase Stevens placed third with 3 points. Clay Stevens placed sixth also with 3 points. Cole Swinford placed eighth with 2.5 points. Skyler James and Lauren Gilchrist placed eleventh and twelfth with 2 points apiece. James Crider placed fourteenth, also with 2 points.

with eight and 10 players and the three of them man-aged to come away with the fourth-place trophy. Individ-ually Hayden Hildebrand tied for second with 4 out of 5 points. Nai'Zayah Bell placed twenty-fifth with 2 points. Cameron Hernandez earned 1 point in his first tournament and placed thirty-second.

each with 2 points; and Tyler Swaggirt nineteenth with 1 point.

Entry into the Paducah tournament earned each player a 12-month member-ship to play scholastic chess throughout the year. The tournament drew 127 play-

ers across four sections.

The Blue Knights have a full schedule with 11 more tournaments between now and April.

4. University of Kentucky
5. Eastern Kentucky Uni-versity
6. Berea College
7. University of Louisville
8. Morehead State Uni-versity
9. Kentucky State Univer-sity
10. University of the Cumberland

California-based Schools.com used data from the National Center for Edu-cation Statistics to evaluate schools on criteria important to students like cost of in-state tuition, fees for full-time undergraduates, number of degrees certificate programs offered and much.

View the complete rank-ings and methodology at <https://goo.gl/5qgJFK>.

Schools.com is a source for education information that connects current and prospective students with the tools, resources, people and schools they need to help them advance in life.

CAPITOL
Cinemas

Starts Friday, Oct. 20

Josh Brolin and Jeff Bridges
as Firefighters

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Sun. 1:15, 4, 6:45
Mon.-Thurs. 6:30

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Between Us

PG-13

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

Back by Popular Demand

IT

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

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PHOTOS BY JESSI BREWER
Rocket junior running back Devon Nesbitt (1) scored four times against Fulton County last week as the Rockets improved to 2-0 in district play. Crittenden hosts district foe Russellville this week.



Junior Devin Porter (54) was named lineman of the week for his play in the 50-0 victory at Fulton County last week and linebacker Caden McCalister (22) was 1 of 3 freshmen named player of the week.



Freshman Tyler Boone was player of the game on defense, but also caught a couple of passes from his brother, quarterback Hunter Boone, in the shutout at Fulton County.

Rockets post first shutout in five years; Russellville is next

Junior Devon Nesbitt showed off on offense and a group of freshmen flexed their defensive muscle Friday at Fulton County as the Rockets won the Class A First District matchup 50-0.

It was Crittenden County’s first shutout since the midway point of the 2012 season and much of the credit goes to a group of ninth graders.

“Those freshmen are playing with passion and they’re fun to watch,” said Rocket coach Al Starnes.

Caden McCalister, Tyler Boone and Braxton Winders – the team’s three starting linebackers at Fulton County – are all freshmen. They each were named defensive player of the week by the coaching staff. Combined, the trio recorded 35 tackles, including four behind the line of scrimmage. Additionally, freshman Xander Tabor, playing in the secondary, had eight tackles and ninth grader Lathen Easley, who was a nose guard until he injured his ankle, had four tackles and two sacks.

McCalister also had a Pick-6 – interception for a touchdown – in the fourth period.

“They’re proving they need to be in there,” Starnes said.

Easley, it appears, may have broken a bone in his ankle. Further tests will be needed this week to determine the extent of his injury.

Crittenden was playing without five starters at Fulton County due to injuries or disciplinary reasons.

Nesbitt, the Rockets’ leading rusher on the season and reigning player of the year in the district, scored four touchdowns and posted 122 yards on the ground. The junior ran for three TDs and caught one of Hunter Boone’s three touchdown passes to round out his big night.

Boone also had scoring strikes to Mason Hunt and Payton Riley. It was Riley’s first TD catch of the season after missing three games with a collarbone injury. The scoring catch was Hunt’s second of the season.

Junior Ethan Dossett caught five passes for 42 yards, leaving him just short of 1,000 yards receiving on the season. He now has 990 and holds the school record for most yards in a single season.

The defense’s shutout was the

first since Crittenden beat the now defunct Reidland Greyhounds at the midway point of the 2012 season. CCHS was in Fulton’s backfield all night and made stops 11 times behind the line of scrimmage.

Starnes also singled out the play of two special teams players. Sophomore Justin Phillips had four tackles on the the kickoff squad and freshman Noah Perkins made seven straight extra-point kicks at Fulton County. Since replacing injured Cody Belt last week, Perkins has made 10 in a row.

The Rockets host No. 6 Russellville Friday night in a game that will determine the district championship.

(Perkins kick) 8:50, 2nd
C-Nesbitt 49 run (Perkins kick) 4:51, 3rd
C-Nesbitt 35 pass from Boone (Perkins kick) 11:46, 4th
C-Caden McCalister 70 interception return (Perkins kick) 7:04, 4th

TEAM TOTALS
First Downs: Crittenden 10, Fulton 11
Penalties: Crittenden 4-40, Fulton 7-50
Rushing: Crittenden 12-128, Fulton 29-27
Passing: Crittenden 12-18-1, 175 yds., Fulton 20-27-1, 126 yds.
Total Yards: Crittenden 303, Fulton 153
Fumbles/Lost: Crittenden 1-1, Fulton 1-1

INDIVIDUAL TOTALS
Rushing
Crittenden: Nesbitt 9-122, Xander Tabor 1-(-1), Hunter Boone 2-7. Fulton: Chris Smith 8-13, Cameron Cole 4-(-7), George Scott 1-1, Cameron Smith 16-20.
Passing
Crittenden: Boone 12-18-1, 175 yds. Fulton: C.Smith 17-23-1, 128 yds.; Cole 2-3-0, 1 yd.; Jerome Warren 1-1-0 (-3) yds.

Receiving
Crittenden: Ethan Dossett 5-42, Tyler Boone 2-26, Hunt 1-27, McCalister 1-13, Riley 2-32, Nesbitt 1-35. Fulton: Andreous Smith 6-37, Chris Smith 11-44, Armani Yandalal 1-10, Cole 1-22. Josh Cole 1-13.

Defense
Brady Birk solo, 3 assists; Mason Hunt 4 solos, sack, TFL; Joe Estes 3 solos, 8 assists; Ethan Dossett assist; Mitchell Joyce 5 solos, 3 assists; Brannen Lamey 5 solos; Matt Lynn assist; Sean O’Leary 2 solos, 12 assists, caused fumble; Payton Riley solo, 5 assists; Riley Gobin 2 solos, assist, sack; Travis Guess 2 assists, caused fumble; Justin Phillips 4 solos; Tyler Boone 7 solos, 4 assists, 3 sack; Lathen Easley 2 solos, 2 assists, 2 sack; Caden McCalister 6 solos, 6 assists, TFL; Xander Tabor 5 solos, 3 assists; Braxton Winders 8 solos, 4 assists. Players of the Game: Defense: Braxton Winders, Tyler Boone, Caden McCalister. Offense: Hunter Boone, Devon Nesbitt. Lineman: Devin Porter. Special Teams: Justin Phillips. Records: Crittenden 4-4, Fulton 2-6



Crittenden County Middle School's basketball team includes (front from left) Hayley Barnhart, Brylee Conyer, Riley Smith, Macie Hunt, (middle row) Emily Mattingly, Ashley Little, Katie Perryman, Taylor Guess, (back) Jaylynn Tapp, Grace Driskill, Emma Waters, Natalie Boone and Addy Hatfield.

MIDDLE SCHOOL BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

CCMS LADY ROCKETS

Oct. 19	at Dawson Springs
Oct. 21	at John Paul II
Oct. 24	at Lyon County
Oct. 26	at Trigg County
Oct. 30	Livingston County
Nov. 2	Trigg County
Nov. 7	Caldwell County
Nov. 14	at Livingston County
Nov. 16	at Union County
Nov. 17	John Paul II (8th only)
Nov. 21	Lyon County
Nov. 28	Dawson Springs
Nov. 30	at Caldwell County
Dec. 5	Union County
Dec. 7-9	7th Grade Tournament, Marion
Dec. 14-16	8th Grade Tournament, Princeton

Crittenden County soccer statistics

Following are season-ending statistics for the Lady Rocket soccer team.

TEAM TOTALS			
Record 4-10-1			
Points Scored 39			
Points Allowed 78			

SCORING			
Player	Gms	Goals	Avg.
Ashley Wheeler	15	12	0.8
Jaelyn Duncan	15	8	0.5
Kacie Easley	15	8	0.5
Shelby Summers	15	7	0.5
Leah Fritts	15	2	0.1
Bree Schane	14	1	0.1
Allie Geary	15	1	0.1

ASSISTS			
Player	Gms	Asst.	Avg.
Ashley Wheeler	15	10	0.7
Bree Schane	14	1	0.1
Shelby Summers	15	4	0.3
Allie Geary	15	3	0.2
Jaelyn Duncan	15	2	0.1
Kacie Easley	15	4	0.3

SAVES			
Bailey Barnes	Unavailable		

Crittenden County Middle School stats

Following are season-ending statistics for the Critenden County Middle School football team.

RECORD 4-4	
Games Results	
Calloway 14, Crittenden 0	
Trigg 44, Crittenden 6	
Crittenden 36, Webster 6	
Union County 6, Crittenden 0	
South Hopkins 14, Crittenden 6	
Crittenden 20, James Madison 8	
Crittenden 28, Browning Springs 12	
Crittenden 28, Caldwell County 20	



Crittenden County soccer players who were named to the all-district team last week are (from left) Kacie Easley, Shelby Summers and Ashley Wheeler.

RUSHING			
Player	Carries	Yds.	
Morgeson	85	667	
Marshall	44	269	
Beverly	26	67	
Carlson	18	48	
Impastato	5	16	
Baker	2	1	
Derrington	2	(-1)	
Yates	11	(-47)	
Guess	11	(-58)	

PASSING			
Player	Att/Comp/Int.	Yds.	
Guess	17-49-4	231	
Crider	19-22-1	93	

RECEIVING			
Player	Catches	Yds.	
Wood	9	95	
Baker	14	55	
Bailey	2	29	

Carlson	2	17
Derrington	3	14
Morgeson	2	8
Adamson	2	8
Beverly	1	0
Marshall	1	(-2)

TACKLES			
Morgeson 52 (3 int., 2 fum. rec.)			
Stone 49 (5 TFLs, 1 fumble rec.)			
Yates 44 (6 TFLs, 1 fumble rec.)			
Nesbitt 36 (1 TFL, 1 fumble rec.)			
Evans 34 (1 sack, 1 TFL)			
Wood 30 (1 int., 2 TFLs, 2 fum. rec.)			
Sharp 19 (2 TFLs)			
Carlson 18 (1 int., 3 fumble rec.)			
Derrington 11 (3 interceptions)			
Impastato 10 (1 sack, 3 TFLs)			
Crider 8			
Guess 7			
Mundy 4			
Bailey 5 (1 interception, 1 TFL)			
Marshall 5			

Perkins 2
Baker 2 (2 interceptions)
Graham 1 (1 TFL)
Beverly 1
Blackburn 1
Adamson 1

Cross country team participates in meet at McCracken Co.

Freshman Kate Keller and sophomore Jayden Carlson paced the Crittenden County High School cross country squad at the McCracken County Invitational last weekend at Stuart Nelson Park.

Keller finished the 3.1-mile race in 22:47.22 which was good for 30th place overall.

Freshman Taylor Stoner was 110th for the CCHS girls. She finished in 32:00.17.

Carlson ran the 5K in 20:44.13 which was 77th overall in the boys’ event. Senior Tyson Steele was 75th at 21:16.99.

Junior Hunter Holeman finished 137th with a time of 22:44.73, junior Pate Robinson ran the race in 23:43.82 and eighth-grader Maddox Carlson finished in 27:32.37.

Class A high school football rankings

ASSOCIATED PRESS				
Rk.	Team	Rec.	Pts.	Prv.
1.	Paintsville (9)	7-1	161	1
2.	Beechwood (8)	6-2	160	2
3.	Hazard	5-2	121	3
4.	Ky. Country Day	7-1	116	4
5.	Raceland	5-3	91	6
6.	Russellville	6-2	72	7
7.	Paris	7-1	54	8
8.	Ludlow	7-1	47	5
9.	Pikeville	3-4	40	9
10.	Williamsburg	5-3	29	10
Others receiving votes: Bracken County				
12. Lynn Camp 11. Eminence 9. Frankfort 6. Holy Cross 3. Bishop Brossart 2. Fairview 1.				


Hunting Seasons

Squirrel	Aug. 19 - Nov. 10
Dove	Sept. 1 - Oct. 26
Archery Deer/Turkey	Sept. 2 - Jan. 15
Canada Goose	Sept. 16 - Sept. 30
Wood Duck	Sept. 16 - Oct. 20
Teal	Sept. 16 - Sept. 24
Raccoon Hunt	Oct. 1 - Feb. 28
Crossbow	Oct. 1 - Oct. 22
Youth Deer	Oct. 14 - Oct. 15
Muzzleloader	Oct. 21 - Oct. 22
Crossbow	Nov. 11 - Dec. 31
Rifle Deer	Nov. 11 - Nov. 26

Fox	Nov. 13 - Feb. 28
Squirrel	Nov. 13 - Feb. 28
Rabbit	Nov. 13 - Feb. 10
Raccoon Trap	Nov. 13 - Feb. 28
Quail	Nov. 13 - Feb. 10
Duck	Nov. 23 - Nov. 26
Dove	Nov. 23 - Dec. 3
Canada Goose	Nov. 23 - Feb. 15
Bobcat	Nov. 25 - Feb. 28
Duck	Dec. 4 - Jan. 28
Muzzleloader	Dec. 9 - Dec. 17
Dove	Dec. 23 - Jan. 14
Free Youth Deer	Dec. 30 - Dec. 31
Youth Waterfowl	Feb. 3 - Feb. 4

Ducks Unlimited event

Crittenden County Ducks Unlimited Chapter will be hosting its annual fundraising auction and dinner on Saturday, Oct. 28 at the high school multi-purpose room. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. Tickets are \$50 couple, \$40 single and \$15 greenwing. All tickets include membership to Ducks Unlimited, the national waterfowl conservation program. For more information, call Sandy Bell at (270) 969-0041.



4-Person event at Salem

The 4th annual Bob Caskey Livingston County DARE Golf Tournament will be held beginning with a shotgun start at 9 a.m., Saturday, Oct. 28 at Salem’s Deer Lakes Golf Course. Entry fee is \$340 per four-man team with a hole sponsorship or \$240 without a hole sponsorship. Call (270) 988-4653 to enter. Proceeds benefit the county Drug Abuse Resistance Education program.

LOCAL GOLF

CCHS fundraising glow ball golf tournament

The Rocket golf team is hosting a Glow Ball Tournament Saturday, Nov. 4 at Deer Lakes Golf Course in Salem. Cost is \$50 per team and it will be a 2-person scramble format. Tee time is 6:30 p.m. One glow ball will be provided for each player. Others may be purchased. For more information, call Deer Lakes at (270) 988-4653 or Zac Greenwell at (270) 965-1585.

Woodford County lineman getting chance at UK's center

He patiently waited on his chance to play, and never complained. Now redshirt freshman offensive lineman Drake Jackson of Woodford County has worked himself into the playing rotation at center and likely will only continue to play a bigger and bigger role in the seasons ahead for the Wildcats.



Larry Vaught
UK Sports Columnist
Vaught's Views

“The energy is really good around here. I am enjoying everything. We are all feeling good. I am playing both center and guard. I am doing left guard, center, right guard. It's all good,” Jackson said.

Here's a few other insights he recently shared.

Question: Was it easier to understand not being in the rotation earlier because of the players who were in front of you?

Jackson: “That is a coach's decision. If I pouted about it, only bad things were going to happen to me. It might sting a little bit, but I had to realize I have the rest of this year and three more years. Obviously I was going to push to get out there even more. That is everybody's goal and is the type of mentality I have. It's the mentality I have always had. I kept in communication with coach (Mark) Stoops, coach (Eddie) Gran, coach (John) Schlarman. They all tell me the same thing. 'Drake, the opportunity comes at different times for different people.' They all feel like they know I will take advantage of my chance, but they needed veteran guys in there. That's why you had those guys playing early.”

Question: Are you totally comfortable with snapping



Drake Jackson, right, had to wait for his chance to play last season while 2016 signees Kash Daniel, left, and Landon Young both played. (U.S. Army All-American Photo).

since you did not play center in high school?

Jackson: “I would not think that anybody says they have 100 percent snap rate. Just like quarterbacks sometimes miss check-downs, pitchers sometimes throw into the backstop. Snapping is something we all do well most of the time. Sometimes it is just a technique thing and confidence thing for all us. But we will get it figured out.”

Question: What player are you learning the most from?

Jackson: “That is a tough one. There is so much experience. Luke Fortner and I are kind of in the same position and we help each other learn. Either he is at guard and I am at center or he is at center and I am at guard. We are both learning from the older guys. I don't want to name names because there is really not one individual that you learn from. There are guys you learn technique from, guys you learn football IQ from, guys you learn attitude from. There are a bunch of different things and why our line has been so steady.”

Question: Does it mean if guys like you, Fortner and

Mason Wolfe had to wait for extensive playing time that this line is going to be really good for a long time?

Jackson: “Of course. That is how I am thinking because that is the truth. That is not a conspiracy or anything. Mason is starting to get his time. He did not play a lot last year. Against South Carolina, he played 52 snaps and played his tail off and fought through some nagging injuries. He's a big part of the offense. He is a prime example of a redshirt sophomore getting his number called to play. Same with Bunchy (Stallings) last year. It just happens any time.

“Luke was out all fall because of mono but he has come back and is practicing and playing really well. His third play against Missouri, Benny (Snell) breaks loose on a touchdown. It was fun chasing down the field and being out of breath, too, just trying to congratulate Benny.”

Question: Do you remind yourself that it is normal for an offensive lineman not to play regularly until his third or fourth year in college?

Jackson: “It is a mix of reminding myself and ignoring

that because you want to remind yourself to keep yourself patient but at the same time I am not going to say I probably should not play until my redshirt sophomore year. I am not going to study film. I am not going to loaf in practice. I am not going to slack in school. That's what will happen if you think that way about not playing for another year. You just keep treating it the same way and keep your mind ready, then you go in and you do play great. That is what I am doing. I don't know how much I will play, but I still think that I will play a lot the rest of the year.”

Question: Will the depth in this offensive line help the team get stronger the second half of the season?

Jackson: “I can promise you when they say, '52 (Jackson's number) go in,' I will be out there and will play my balls off. I love this school, I love this team, I love these coaches. Playing in that stadium is something I have always wanted to do. Whatever scenario, I stay ready. I was doing it on field goal and doing it the best I could. All I know is that when they say get in there, I am going to play the best I can and not worry about what has happened.”

Question: Does blocking on field goals for Austin MacGinnis give you a sense of pride?

Jackson: “He is such a good kicker. I know he will get it up over the line and through the uprights. Fortner and I are in the same position and we get in there and do hit some of the other guys and see if we can block these guys because they are coming full speed and you are just sitting there. It is a little bit of experience. You get your jersey dirty and see what it is like to get hit, so that is always good.”

Question: Does MacGinnis ever say anything after he makes a kick?

Jackson: “No. Austin is very humble. He just does his work and that is what makes him so good. He just focuses on what he is doing.”

Question: How beat up was this team physically before the bye week?

Jackson: “That is something to ask every person. I am sore. But everybody practices. Our strength and conditioning coaches and staff have prepared us for a long season. With all the little stuff we do, it prepares us. The SEC is no joke. You have a good opponent each week. Even though Missouri had been struggling, they had good players and will put a beating on you. So I don't think anybody would say they don't hurt at this point of the season.”

Shooting will not be Kentucky's forte this season. Even coach John Calipari admitted that when I asked him about it at UK's Media Day. However, it doesn't seem to worry him.

“My teams have always been downhill runners, fast in the break, unselfish moving the ball, lane touches. That's what I would expect this team to be,” Calipari said. “Then shooting, some of it is going to be guys committed to really working at practice and spending extra time shooting the ball. There may be lineups we put in



John Calipari enjoyed having entertainer Drake at Big Blue Madness. The coach said shooting will not be this team's forte – but also said that usually is the case with his teams. (Jeff Houchin Photo).

that will shoot better than others.

“That's not been our deal.

I mean, there are some teams that play, they get a bunch of shooters, they run back-cuts, curl cuts, hand-offs, shoot 3s. It's not how we play. You have got to be able to make shots. You can't have anything mechanically wrong with your shot. But if I'm to give up something, free-throw shooting, shooting, I'll give up a little bit of that as long as you have all those other intangibles that I think it takes.”

However, I reminded him his teams had been blessed with terrific shooters at times like Devin Booker, Jamal Murray, Malik Monk and Brandon Knight.

“It's kind of like comparing (freshman point guard) Quade (Green) to Tyler Ulis. That's not fair. Comparing any of these kids to Devin Booker, not fair. To say will they be able to hit game-winning shots like Aaron Harrison, it's not fair. That kid on the biggest of big stages made daggers, absolutely threw daggers. That's the great thing about what we do here,” Calipari said.

“None of you (in the media) know how we're going to be. Not one. Some of you guys can act like you know. You don't. You know why I know that? Because I don't know. This is what makes this Kentucky. They're not promised a starting position, minutes. We're not running every play to one guy. You're going to have to defend and rebound.”

The players insist they can have a good shooting team. Jemarl Baker, Kevin Knox and Shai Alexander all believe they can make shots. So does Green.

Maybe it's just preseason optimism, but sophomore Tai Wynyard thinks Kentucky has solid shooters, too.

“It is patchy but we have a team full of people that can shoot. It has a lot to do with

confidence I think, but we have a really strong team and should be really good shooters. I know people don't think that, but I see these guys shoot every day,” Wynyard said.

During his 40-year career at WKYT-TV in Lexington, sports anchor Rob Bromley dealt with a lot of personalities while doing the UK coaching shows. None could have been more different than football coaches Hal Mumme and Jerry Claiborne.

Claiborne defined a nonsense, straight shooter. Mumme was more of the riverboat gambler type.

“Hal was an interesting individual. He came in and quickly delivered what the university wanted,” Bromley said. “He was able to bring the fans back first, and then win and get to a bowl game. Mission accomplished in two years.

“I think Hal was just concerned with quarterbacks and receivers. Somebody else was left to run everything else. He got away from it and the program got out of control. I got along with Hal really well. But his ego grew quite a bit and he just ignored some things and let them get out of control and that cost him his job.”

Claiborne was an “old school” coach who had played for Bear Bryant.

“Unlike Hal, doing the TV show was kind of hard for him, but we got along well,” Bromley said. “He was an excellent football coach. I know it had to be very disappointing for Jerry to raise the level of the program and then not be able to build on the bowl appearance. I think that really hurt him a lot.

“He brought in good players. He was a good man. He always did things the right way and expected his players to do the same. He paid attention to everything and took great pride in everything about the program.”



Crittenden County's volleyball girls (3-14) will play Thursday for a berth in the regional tournament. They will be facing Trigg County (15-19) at Smithland in the Fifth District Volleyball Tournament. The Lady Rockets and Trigg's girls have split during their regular-season meetings. One win at the district level will earn CCHS a spot in the regional tournament. Pictured at top is Kenlee Perryman reacting to a recent play and, at right, is Kaitlyn Hicks returning a shot.



Photos by Greg Perryman

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Christmas in Marion, Shoppe Next Door arrive Saturday

STAFF REPORT

Looking for the perfect handcrafted gift or keepsake? Whether you're searching for unique one-of-kind Christmas gifts, personalized stocking stuffers, or a floral centerpiece for the holidays, you'll find it all at the 30th annual Christmas in Marion arts and crafts show and the seventh The Shoppe Next Door on Saturday in Marion.

Both shows will be held at

the Crittenden County Middle School located at 519 W. Gum St. Shows will be from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.. Admission is free and door prizes will be drawn throughout the day and you do not have to be present to win.

In the middle school gym crafters from the area will be selling handmade items including ceramic Christmas trees, custom metal signs, repurposed furniture, acrylic and watercolor paintings,

jewelry, lotions, purses, American doll clothes, ornaments, wreaths, candles, wood items, knitted items, holiday favorites, and more. You can also shop for homemade breads and candy from the Crittenden County Extension Homemakers.

In the multi-purpose room of the Middle School The Shoppe Next Door will feature dealer representatives, home businesses, and organizations. Dealer reps include

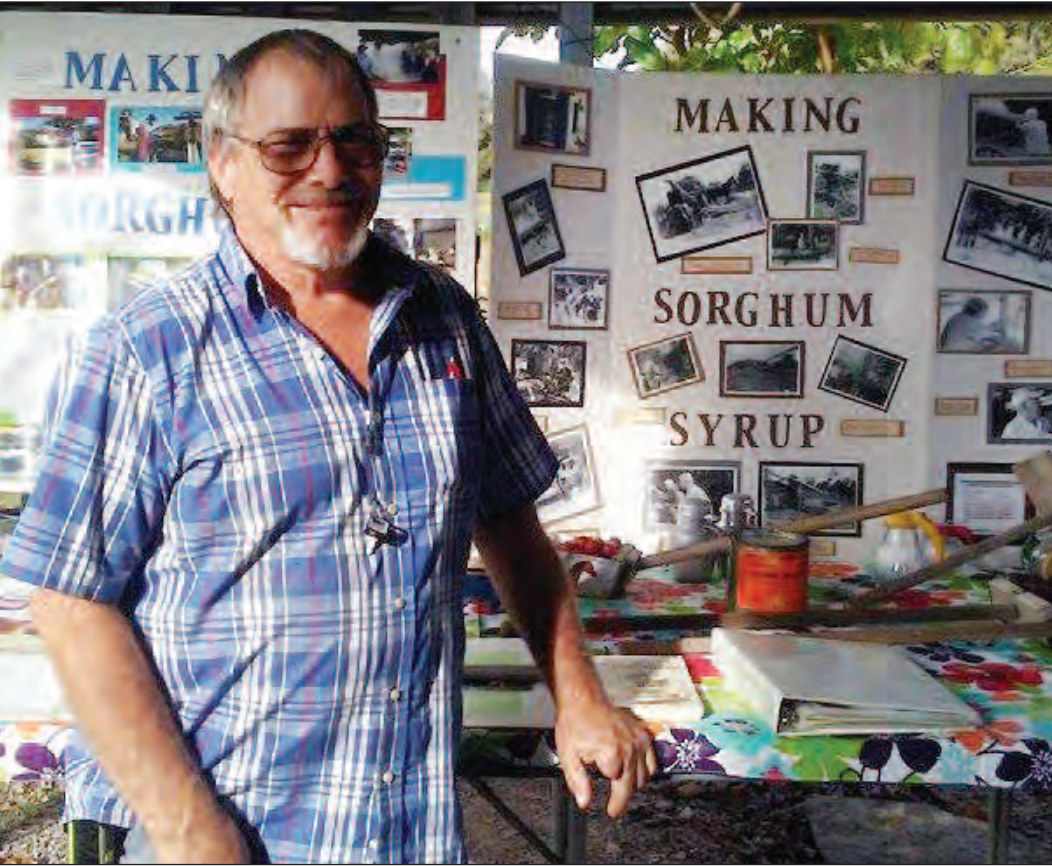
Avon, Mary Kay, Thirty-One, Pampered Chef, Tupperware, LulaRoe, Lipsense, Young Living Essential Oils, Lime-light by Alcone, MojiLife, Tastefully Simple, It Works and Watkins. Other home businesses include Haleigh-Claire's Cupcakery, Ranch Dressing Designs, Juanita Crouch, Pokerneys Kettle Korn, Elizabeth Mast and The 3 Girls from Southern Illinois. Organizations include the Mary Hall-Ruddi-

man Canine Shelter, The Woman's Club of Marion, American Legion Auxiliary Unit 217 and Caldwell Springs Volunteer Fire Department. A Crafter's Café is also available for lunch or a snack.

With so much to choose from the 70-plus booths, shoppers are sure to mark off most of their Christmas lists at the shows and can spend the holidays enjoying their family and friends without

having to worry about long lines and crowded parking lots.

Christmas in Marion is sponsored by the Community Arts Foundation. For more information on this show visit ChristmasInMarion.com. The Shoppe Next Door is sponsored by the Crittenden County Extension Homemakers Association. For more information on either show call (270) 704-0057 or (270) 965-5236.



The history of sorghum is presented by Larry Haire (at top) on handmade posters with pictures which the family uses them in their presentations and demonstrations for guests who enjoy sorghum syrup and byproducts like paper (bottom left). At bottom right, unprocessed sorghum lies on a trailer inside a barn.



PHOTOS BY MIMI BYRNS, THE PRESS

SORGHUM

Continued from Page 1

and contains no chemical additives of any kind.”

Everyone in this family is very passionate about the sorghum plant and is engaged in the process of turning it into a delicious treat or useful home item. The history of sorghum is presented on handmade posters with pictures, which the family uses in their presentations and demonstrations for guests.

The family has come up with all kinds of products mixed with sorghum byproducts they recycle and reuse.

“My granddaughters Tessa and Megan started their own business, ‘TessPress’ for handmade paper,” Hair explained. “Besides the sorghum, we grow our own herbs as well, and some of the paper has these herbs in it, like thyme or sage. People love the patterns herbs create on the paper.”

The girls even package their products themselves.

“I am proud that two young teenagers started a business on their own,” Hair continues.

The family processes the sorghum in fall in order to avoid the summer humidity.

“There is the scientific term for the part of the sorghum plant that we call ‘pummies.’ But we don’t use it out of respect for the previous generations who have used the term pummies,” Hair said. “We want to continue that tradition.”

The pummies have to be dried and their fibers broken down. They are then run through a mulcher, and once they get 5 gallons, the pummies are cooked down until a pudding texture.

“I usually add recycled paper in there and mixed it up together,” said Donna Haire, demonstrating the process. “Then we blend everything together and get the paper pulp. Afterwards, we use screens, and we measure the pulp so that each piece of paper gets the same amount of pulp in it. We flip this on a screen, let it dry and that is how we get the paper.”

Depending on the type of recycled paper they mix with the sorghum byproducts, Tessa and Megan get a unique and different feel and thickness of the paper every

time. Not a piece of the special plant goes to waste in this family. Even the seed heads of the sorghum are used as decoration on the paper.

Syrup-making is not an easy job.

“It takes six men to cook it,” said Donna.

Sorghum is one of the oldest natural sweeteners known. It was the principal sweetener used as America was being settled. The sorghum cooking pan traveled westward with the frontiersmen. It then became a part of America’s heritage.

Besides being energy food of the settlers, sorghum made foods more tasty and nutritious. Sorghum contains such nutrients as calcium, iron, potassium and phosphorus. The settlers found many ways to use sorghum – sweetening drinks, making confections and flavoring meats – but its most popular use was in baking. It was used in place of sugar in pies, bread, puddings and countless cakes and cookies.

The versatility of sorghum is being rediscovered by today’s nutrition-conscious homemakers.

Pumpkin chuckin’

BraylInn Ennis (left) receives a first-place certificate and cash prize at the “Pumpkin Chunkin” event during the Pumpkin Festival earlier this month. The contest requires innovation and creativity, as the contestants are required to design and build their own working catapult for chucking pumpkins. Ennis is shown alongside her entry.

PHOTO COURTESY OF LESLEA BARNES

FUTURE

Continued from Page 1

overhaul to the tune of estimates as high as \$12 million.

Missing altogether on the list are adding and repairing sidewalks and addressing the city’s 40 or so dysfunctional fire hydrants.

There was a long discussion between council members as to what should, in fact, be atop the priority list.

“I’m not sold on the idea the drug problem is a council issue,” said Councilman Darin Tabor. “I’m not sure if this is not somebody else’s problem.”

Tabor said the primary responsibilities of city government, as he sees it, should be streets, water and sewer utilities and fire and police protection. The drug scourge, he suggested, is a social and legal issue that goes beyond the work of city hall.

“If this is a guideline,” he said of the priority list, “then infrastructure has to be a priority on our list. The main priority has to be infrastructure. Without it, you have nothing.”

But Councilwoman Phyllis Sykes and drug awareness advocate Linda Schumann think the major priorities on the list – drugs, employee training and staffing and revenue stream – go hand-in-hand with what the city needs to accomplish.

Schumann urged the council to delve deeper into the issues surrounding priorities before dismissing them as unimportant or beyond the scope of the council’s work.

“I doubt anyone in this room knows much about any of these,” she told the council from the floor. “We think we

know what can be done and what can’t, but I think we don’t know what we don’t know.”

Ultimately, though, the council voted 6-0 to approve the priority list as presented. Ledford said the city will now be able to create action items from the priority list that will ultimately lead to a capital improvements plan for Marion.

Approving the list was important to the budgeting process, the city administrator said. Further delays would have jeopardized putting any money toward the goals until the 2019-20 budget cycle.

Changes as a result of the overall process will not happen overnight, Ledford cautions.

“We’re looking at a 3- to 4-year approach to moving toward these goals,” he said. “It just takes time.”

Sewer system upgrade

One priority that is on the clock is improving the city’s sanitary and storm water sewer system. Marion is under an agreed order with the state to upgrade the overall wastewater system to prevent ongoing violations of environmental protection laws.

The city has until July 2021 to build a new sewer plant and upgrade the collection system in order to prevent influx and infiltration from storm water that results in the current plant being unable to properly treat wastewater at times of heavy rainfall. This results in untreated sewage being dumped into Rush Creek below the plant at the northern edge of town. If the city does not meet Frankfort’s timeline for improvements, water and sewer customers will ultimately be on the hook

for fines of up to \$10,000 per day for each violation.

Alan Robinson, president of Eclipse Engineers and project manager for the city’s compliance efforts, is meeting with city officials this week to update them on the project’s progress. In a recent report to the Kentucky Division of Enforcement, Robinson said the timeline is being met.

- Wastewater treatment plant design is 40 percent complete.
- Improvements to collection system lines are about 70 percent complete, with all problem areas identified. Construction could begin as early as April 2018.
- Construction of the new plant in Industrial Park North is likely to start August 2018.
- Community Development Block Grant and Kentucky Infrastructure Authority applications have been submitted to help finance the project.
- A water and sewer rate study is about 25 percent complete and will be finalized when project costs are known.

Sidewalk grant

The council gave Mayor Jared Byford the power of the pen to continue a nearly \$200,000, 1,700-foot project to upgrade the sidewalk along South Main from West Elm to West Carlisle and down to the end of the 100 block of that street at South Weldon. It will be funded with an 80/20 federal transportation grant to extend previous installation of new walks through the Safe Routes to Schools program.

Ledford said it will likely be spring before any construction begins on new walks.

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fall home improvement

Multi-generational businesses building bright future locally

A family tradition

By ALLISON EVANS
STAFF WRITER

Talk to James Penn, Pat James or Terry Croft – owners of multi-generational construction companies – and you'll understand their sense of pride for their sons joining their family business. Working side-by-side with an offspring has its challenges, each father admits, but the fulfillment of seeing their sons' skills and aspirations evolve leaves them feeling blessed.

"The most fulfilling thing is knowing someone will take over the business and keep learning the skills of the trade," said Pat James, whose son Ryan is just starting alongside his father.

Pat's father Perry got him

into the business, and he admits working with family has its ups and downs. With Ryan living at home and his wife Debbie doing the bookwork for Ivy Construction, there is no leaving work behind when they arrive home at night.

Summer breaks are how most second- or third-generation carpenters learn – and many times with the most menial of tasks.

Ryan James, 19, said he learned years ago how to push a broom, and laughs as he recalls the day he thought he was getting a promotion. His dad left with him with a block of wood and a pile of nails and told him to learn how to drive them properly.

"He did pretty good. He didn't bend that many," Pat says with a grin.

"So then he told me to do it with my left hand," Ryan says.

Brian Penn, 36, learned on the job with his father James, and after earning an associate degree in drafting, joined the family company, which has built over 200 homes since it began as Mott & Penn Builders in 1979.

"There is no telling how many people I've inherited as good friends just because of working for them," James said. "We are blessed, I have some great guys working for me – Rusty Miniard and Steve Lynn have been work-

See **FAMILY**/Page 3B



PHOTO BY ALLISON EVANS, THE PRESS

James (left) and Brian Penn are one of several father-son construction teams in the area, keeping family businesses thriving for multiple generations.

Local labor helps businesswoman fulfill dreams



PHOTO BY ALLISON EVANS, THE PRESS

Tommi Paulson used all-local labor when it came time to construct her dream building for her massage therapy business.

By ALLISON EVANS
STAFF WRITER

Second only to Tommi Paulson's desire to create the work space of her dreams was to do it all with local labor.

Put a check mark in both of those boxes.

One year after she took occupancy at her new place of business on South Main Street in Marion, Paulson is settled into Journey Massage Therapy where she is also celebrating 10 years in business.

Before last fall, Paulson greeted clients inside the back entrance of Health Quest Wellness Center next to the Siemens plant. Today, she and her sidekick shelter dog Pickles meet clients amid natural light pouring through floor-to-ceiling windows.

Her style is somewhat Asian inspired (a little feung shui), timeless not trendy and influenced by nature.

"I love to create and design, that's another passion of mine," said Paulson,

whose massage therapy practice is limited to 30 customers per week.

With Perry Hunt as general contractor, Paulson made sure she utilized all local labor – from excavation and concrete to signage and hand-crafted wood products.

In fact, the expertise of 14 local businesses and individuals in various trades were summoned to carry out Paulson's vision, which remains the newest commercial construction project in Marion.

"I believe in supporting local business, and there is so much talent in this area," said Paulson. "It doesn't matter where you live, it's great when people can crawl inside your head and bring your vision into physical form, and I was able to utilize local people to have that happen."

Paulson wanted her love of nature to be reflected in the interior of the business, so she warmed up the reception area with live potted plants. Bamboo accessories are present in both the lobby and therapy room, where a wall of bam-

boo is subtly lit from a custom-made baseboard.

"I feel like I accomplished the feel I was looking for," she said.

Her vision began 12 years ago while she was in massage therapy school.

"I used to sketch out what I wanted it to look like, and occasionally, I would draw it out; and as time went on, I would tweak it," she said.

She admits she is particular, specifically when it comes to paint color. The light gray on the walls was actually the fourth attempt, as many people will attest that gray can take on various hues affected by natural light filtering into Journey Massage's massive windows.

"I wasn't in a hurry to get in the building; in fact, it was a long time in the making, and I knew exactly how I wanted it," Paulson says. "I'm picky, and I wasn't going to settle."

She's proud of the finished product and thankful for all the artisans and skilled laborers who made her dream a reality.

Rusty Gate offers 'Pumpkin Queen' outlet for peddling favorite gourd, autumn colors

By MIMI BYRNS
STAFF WRITER

Jessica Cummins, a former high-school teacher who her students called her "The Pumpkin Queen," is the owner of the Rusty Gate greenhouse in Marion.

She and her husband Chris purchased Sherer's Nursery earlier this year, customizing it with their own stock and a new name. And starting this month, all lovers of well-decorated porches and gardens will turn to Cummins for beautiful fall scenes, mums, gourds, straw, pansies and other gardening needs.

As her nickname form her former students at Crittenden County High School (CCHS) might suggest, the real specialty of the Cummins family is growing pumpkins. In fact, this is what got them in the retail business in the first place.

"The former owner of the greenhouse, Jimmy Sherer, wanted to get out of the retail end of the business, and my husband and I decided it would be a great opportunity and an awesome place to retail the pumpkins," Cummins said. "We've grown pumpkins for the past four years, and we've always wholesaled them. We saw it as a new opportunity to grow our own business and to establish ourselves."

The gardening center is located at 307 Fords Ferry Road, and it is blooming in the fall season. The beautiful fall scenery is welcoming visitors as Cummins decorates the orders of her customers and helps visitors choose the perfect pumpkin or answers their questions about specific gardening



Jessica Cummins (above left) and her husband Chris have opened the Rusty Gate, a nursery on Fords Ferry Road in Marion purchased from Jimmy Sherer. With mums and pumpkins, autumn is a special time of year for the former high school teacher.



PHOTOS BY MIMI BYRNS, THE PRESS

County offering free junk disposal

STAFF REPORT

The nights are cool and leaves have begun to fall. And that means Crittenden Fiscal Court is giving residents an opportunity for free disposal of the junk collected in the garage over the summer.

The convenience center on U.S. 60 East will be open 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday and 8 a.m. to noon Saturday to accept those things no longer wanted around the house or junk stacked up in the garage and basement. That includes things like furniture and appliances, electronics, oil cans and paint, if it has been dried. Solid Waste Coordinator Sue Padgett said paint can be dried with a substance like kitty litter.

Disposal of household

See **FREE**/Page 2B

See **PUMPKIN**/Page 2B

How to save enough for down payment on home

METRO SERVICES

A home is the most costly thing many people will ever buy. The process of buying a home can be both exciting and nerve-racking. One way to make the process of buying a home go more smoothly is to save enough money to put down a substantial down payment.

Saving for a down payment on a home is similar to saving for other items, only on a far grander scale. Many financial planners and real estate professionals recommend prospective home buyers put down no less than 20 percent of the total cost of the home they're buying. Down payments short of 20 percent will require private mortgage insurance, or PMI. The cost of PMI depends on a host of variables, but is generally between 0.3 and 1.5 percent of the original loan amount. While plenty of homeowners pay PMI, buyers who can afford to put down 20 percent can save themselves a considerable amount of money by doing so.

Down payments on a home tend to be substantial, but the following are a few strategies prospective home buyers can employ to grow their savings with an eye toward making a down payment on their next home.

- **Decide when you want to buy.** The first step to buying a home begins when buyers save their first dollar for a down payment. Deciding when to buy can help buyers develop a saving strategy. If buyers decide they want to buy in five years away, they will have more time to build their savings. If buyers want to buy within a year, they will need to save more each month, and those whose existing savings fall far short of the 20 percent threshold may have to accept paying PMI.
- **Prequalify for a mortgage.** Before buyers even look



METRO SERVICES

One way to make buying a home go more smoothly is to save enough money to have a substantial down payment.

for their new homes, they should first sit down with a mortgage lender to determine how much a mortgage they will qualify for. Prequalifying for a mortgage can make the home buying process a lot easier, and it also can give first-time buyers an idea of how much they can spend. Once lenders prequalify prospective buyers, the buyers can then do the simple math to determine how much they will need to put down. For example, preapproval for a \$300,000 loan means buyers will have to put down \$60,000 to meet the 20 percent down payment threshold. In that example, buyers can put down less than \$60,000, but they will then have to pay PMI. It's important for buyers to understand that a down payment is not the only costs they will have to come up with when buying a home. Closing costs and other fees will also need to be paid by the buyers.

- **Examine monthly expenses.** Once buyers learn how much mortgage they will qualify

for, they will then see how close they are to buying a home. But prospective buyers of all means can save more each month by examining their monthly expenses and looking for ways to save. Buyers can begin by looking over their recent spending habits and then seeing where they can spend less. Cutting back on luxuries and other unnecessary spending can help buyers get closer to buying their next home.

- **Avoid risky investments.** Some times it's great to take risks when investing, but risk should be avoided when saving for a down payment on a home. Traditional vehicles like certificates of deposit, or CDs, and savings accounts can ensure the money buyers are saving for their homes is protected and not subject to market fluctuations. Saving enough to make a down payment on a home can be accomplished if buyers stay disciplined with regard to saving and make sound financial decisions.

PUMPKIN

Continued from Page 1

needs. Sometimes customers can't resist the beautiful outdoor fall arrangements Cummins makes in order to decorate her business, so they decide to buy them while shopping for something else. These fall scenes are mostly purchased by businesses and get delivered to the desired location.

When you enter the greenhouse, you are welcomed by a variety of mums, pumpkins, ornamental cabbage, other flowers and plants carefully organized and ready to become a part of someone's home. Cummins is already planning the supplies for the spring with a new assortment of plants, ferns and everything people would expect in a greenhouse. She is even thinking about putting in some soil and mulch to add to the variety.

Cummins says pumpkins are not as easy to grow as some people might think.

"We have over 45 varieties of pumpkins and over 20 varieties of gourds. That is something we really focus on, to make sure we have more than just the traditional orange pumpkin," she explained.

"People like colors and shapes. Pumpkins are a very sensitive crop and very hard to grow. They are very tender. We spray every 10 days with different insecticides. Every pumpkin that is brought from the field is bleached to get cleaned

FREE

Continued from Page 1

garbage will still require a fee, and tires will not be accepted as part of the semiannual program.

Call Padget at (270) 965-5251 for further details, if needed.

Meantime, the convenience center accepts recyclables at no charge and the fiscal court also provides a mobile disposal unit that rotates between seven communities in the county.



PHOTO BY MIMI BYRNS, THE PRESS

The Rusty Gate, a nursery on Fords Ferry Road in Marion, specializes in pumpkins and other autumn decor.

from any disease or fungus that may be on the outside. Everyone likes clean pumpkins. Ours have been cleaned, washed and every precaution has been taken to make sure people are getting the best pumpkin possible."

What Cummins really likes about her job is the excitement she sees in people when they shop for what she has grown.

"I love being outside and to grow things that are different. Pumpkins have always been

fun, and I've always enjoyed them.

"The spring brings a whole new season of things that people enjoy as well. And to see people so excited over things you've done is rewarding. This is a good job. Even when I was at the high school, people would be excited about all the stuff at the (CCHS) greenhouse. Every year we keep a notebook of everything we've learned. There is always more to learn."

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Beauty from a beast

Former Marion stylist turns blacksmith shop to salon

By **ALEXA BLACK**
STAFF WRITER

Renovations aren't just for homes. Sometimes a makeover can revive buildings that once housed a thriving business, making them suitable for an entirely different commercial use.

That's the case with Deanna McDonald's beauty shop in Carrsville, which was once the home of a respected blacksmith. Within many Kentucky towns in the early 1900s, one could expect to find an abundance of stables, wagon shops and blacksmiths. While some trades have stood the test of time, blacksmithing has become more of a hobby than necessity in today's society. However, traditional blacksmithing has made quite the comeback in the last 30 years thanks to those who have found interest in their ancestor's work.

Many of the less successful blacksmith shops were abandoned, taking their history with them. But former Marion beautician McDonald completely renovated a Carrsville blacksmithing shop erected in the late 1920s, giving her a home for her business with a softer touch.

McDonald once had her own beauty salon, "The Hair Artist," next to the Crittenden County Public Library. Decades later, she relocated to Livingston County, restoring the old and once uninhabitable blacksmithing shop.

The building was formerly owned by blacksmith Louis "Buck" Sullivan. Not much is known about Sullivan's life other than his career, something he devoted himself to. Even though blacksmithing had lost its momentum by the early 1900s, Sullivan's craft is said to have remained in high demand in the area for decades.

Industrialization played a steady role in the obsolescence of metal-working. As the need for a variety of blacksmithing products lessened in the late 1800s, many blacksmiths branched out and began shoeing



PHOTO BY ALEXA BLACK, THE PRESS

Renovations aren't just for homes. Sometimes a makeover can revive buildings that once housed a thriving business, making them suitable for an entirely different commercial use. That is the case with this former blacksmith shop in Carrsville re-opened as a beauty shop by former Marion beautician Deanna McDonald.

horses. Farriering kept practicing blacksmiths in business for several more decades.

However, another arrived when the automobile industry began gaining momentum in the 1900s. A good number of farriers then transitioned into automobile mechanics. However, farming with horses took quite some time to entirely fade out. Even the U.S. Army maintained some traditional cavalry well into the 1930s. But soon after, almost all agriculture was tended to by machines.

Born in 1891, Sullivan built and established the business in his late twenties. Despite being erected in difficult times amid The Great Depression, it survived and con-

tinued bringing in customers. Years of the Depression and then World War II took its toll on Sullivan.

The blacksmithing art and skill remained a passion of his and kept the business afoot up until his later years. He was well known for being the best blacksmith in the area, according to records from that time period. People traveled from afar to enjoy his custom work.

Former clients of his are happy to see the building fully restored and open for business again. McDonald is proud to have preserved the history of Sullivan's place and urges people to do the same in their communities, hoping future generations will pass it along.



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How to spot water damage in your home

METRO SERVICES

Homes are susceptible to a host of problems. While unforeseen problems can prove costly, homeowners who keep attentive eyes on their homes can often-times discover small problems before they escalate.

Water damage is a potentially costly problem that can afflict any home. Old homes tend to be most susceptible to water damage, and it can manifest itself in various ways. The following are some telltale signs of water damage that should give prospective home buyers pause and compel current homeowners to seek professional assistance as soon as possible.

Stains

Many prospective home buyers have been disappointed by the sight of water stains during an open house or home inspection. Water stains tend to be on ceilings and/or walls. Stains on ceilings tend to be round, while wall stains are straight lines down the wall that may or may not have forced paint to peel. Water stains are not necessarily indicative of a major problem, but homeowners should have the stains examined by a professional while potential buyers should direct their home inspector's attention to the stains.

Deteriorating wood

Wood around windows or doors that is deteriorating may indicate water problems. The wood might be deteriorating because water is infiltrating the

wood during storms. Baseboards and molding that is dilapidated or beginning to deteriorate may also indicate water damage.

Buckled drywall or wood

Drywall or wood that is buckled or beginning to buckle is another potential indicator of water damage. Drywall buckles when it gets wet, and that is often a sign that there is a leak behind the drywall. Severely buckled drywall will feel as if it has ridges. Wood also buckles when it is exposed to excess moisture, and this can usually be felt when walking on the wood barefoot or in socks.

Odors

Sometimes water damage is best detected by the smell test. Homeowners who notice the smell of mold or mildew in rooms that previously never emanated such odors might have homes that are in the early stages of water problems. The water damage might be behind the walls, where mold is beginning to form thanks to water damage. Older homes tend to be musty, but call in a professional if you notice that mustiness if more pungent than usual.

Water damage is a potentially costly problem, especially if it goes unnoticed for months or even years. Homeowners and prospective home buyers should be on the lookout for signs of water damage before problems escalate and require expensive repairs.

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Finding design ideas for remodel

NAHB NEWS RELEASE

You want to change the look and feel of your house, but you also want your remodeling job to look fresh for a number of years and complement the existing features of your home. How do you choose the right project and design for you and your family?

First, take your family's lifestyle into account when selecting an area of your home to remodel. For example, if you get a lot of traffic through the house, consider hardwood floors. Families who frequently entertain in the kitchen may want to expand the room and add an island or some comfortable chairs. If your bathroom is the place where you escape the world, add a whirlpool tub or a deluxe shower.

After you've chosen an area of your home to remodel, the wide array of project options can be both dazzling and intimidating. To get started, consult the resources below, which can give you specific ideas on how to turn your house into the dream home you've always wanted.

TV Shows

There are an increasing number of shows and channels focused on decorating and simple home improvement projects to more complex remodels or home makeovers. For example, HGTV features projects that evolve from start to finish on shows like "Buying and Selling" and "Curb Appeal"; check your local television guide for listings.

Magazines

Magazines that cater to home improvement, lifestyle and remodeling can be an excellent source of ideas. Page through publications such as Dwell, Home, House Beautiful, Better Homes and Gardens, Southern Living, Coastal Living, Food and Wine, Country Living, Ladies' Home Journal and Good House-keeping to identify projects and materials that might work in your home. Additionally, you can request a wide range of free or inexpensive literature by completing the mail-in coupons inserted in such publications.

Websites/Blogs

Surfing the Web is a great way to find fresh ideas and to re-



Take your family's lifestyle into account when selecting an area of your home to remodel, use a number of resources to like magazines and websites to gather ideas.

search projects. Many remodelers, manufacturers and magazines host websites that feature project photos, buying guides and product information. Web directories such as the NAHB Remodelers Directory can help you find professional remodelers in your area. Other sites such as Pinterest and Houzz have extensive photo collections for inspiration. And, an increasing number of DIY and design blogs created by homeowners themselves can also provide inspiration for simple projects you can do around the house.

Sketches, Floor Plans

No two remodeling projects are the same, but you can gain some insight into how another homeowner solved a space problem by carefully studying sketches and floor plans. If, like most people, you are easily confused by plans and drawings, imagine yourself in the middle of the room or space on the plan.

Books

Browse a bookstore with a well-stocked home improvement section, but beware of books telling you to be your own remodeling contractor. Most remodeling projects call for a level of skill

and work hours beyond those stated in these books. The job of a professional remodeler requires experience and competence in a wide range of disciplines, and unless you are highly skilled and licensed in all the trades, you can quickly get in over your head.

Newspapers

Most newspapers publish regular sections devoted to real estate, home design and remodeling. Also, twice a year — usually in the spring and fall — many papers, like The Crittenden Press, print special home improvement supplements. Each of these sections contains timely articles and useful advertisements on remodeling, home improvement, repair and maintenance.

Friends, Family, Neighbors

Do you know someone who has recently remodeled their home in a style you admire? He or she may still have product manuals, magazines and other helpful information you can borrow, as well as practical advice drawn from his or her own experience.

Remodeling Professionals

One of the advantages of choosing a remodeler early is

gaining access to an extensive library of resources prior to starting a project. Once you've chosen a contractor, he or she usually can offer you a wide variety of materials, including product manuals, magazines, brochures and blueprints.

Manufacturers, Suppliers:

The most obvious place to find information about new products and how to use them is on manufacturers' Web sites and in magazine ads. Lumberyards, hardware stores and other suppliers also can be valuable sources of information. Many suppliers now offer home planning centers, where you can browse comfortably among the following:

- Plan books
- Product manuals
- Sourcebooks
- Building tips
- Magazines
- Brochures
- Directories of local remodelers and builders

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Home maintenance quiz

NAHB NEWS RELEASE

Your home may be the biggest investment you will ever make. Taking good care of it with regular maintenance is necessary to maintain its value and ensure it will provide a comfortable, safe shelter for you and your family for a long time.

Here is a home maintenance quiz that will test your maintenance knowledge. While this quiz does not address every home maintenance project, it does provide helpful tips and reminders for chores you may have overlooked.

QHow often do forced-air furnace filters need to be changed?

AAt least every three months during the heating season.

QWhat part of the faucet usually needs to be replaced when you have a water leak?

AThe washer.

QShould you run hot or cold water through your garbage disposal?

ACold water.

QHow often should the moving parts of garage doors be oiled?

AEvery three months.

QWhat tools can you use to unclog your drains?

AA plunger and a plumber's snake.

QWhy should frozen pipes be thawed slowly?

AFrozen pipes should be thawed slowly to prevent the formation of steam, which could cause the pipe to burst.

QWhat tool can be used to unclog a toilet?

ACoil spring-steel auger.

QWhat is the best polish for vinyl floors?

AWater emulsion wax.

QWhat faucet part needs to be cleaned every three to four months?

AAerator — the screen inside the end of the faucet.

QWhat can you use for traction on icy sidewalks, steps and driveways?

ACat litter or sand — never use salt because it damages the pavement.

QWhere should the fire in your fireplace be built?

AOn the andirons or grate, never on the fireplace floor.

QWhat will prevent soot and add color to the fire in your fireplace?

AThrow in a handful of salt.

QWhere should your firewood be stored?

AOutside, away from your house and not directly on the ground.

QWhat helps keep unpainted concrete floors easy to keep clean?

AConcrete sealer.

QWhy should noisy water pipes be fixed promptly?

AThe condition that causes noisy pipes may be accompanied by vibration that can cause fittings to loosen and leak.

QWhat should you use to clean unpainted concrete floors?

AA solution of 4 to 6 tablespoons of washing soda in a gallon of hot water. Mix scouring powder to the solution for tough jobs.

QTo ensure your safety, what household equipment uses batteries that must be checked regularly to make sure they are operable?

ASmoke and carbon monoxide detectors.

QWhen can you clean hardwood floors with water?

AWhen the floors have a polyurethane finish.

QDo hardwood floors need to be waxed?

AHardwood floors that do not have a polyurethane finish probably will need to be waxed periodically. Use liquid or paste "spirit" wax.

QWhen is basement condensation at its maximum?

AIn new homes because gallons of water went into the concrete of basement walls.

QHow often should your roof be inspected?

AA qualified roofer should inspect your roof every three years.

QWhat is a simple solution you can use to wash extremely dirty exterior windows?

AA solution of equal parts vinegar and water or 3 tablespoons of denatured alcohol per quart of warm water. Use a piece of crumpled newspaper to wash the glass to avoid lint left behind by paper towels.

QHow often do skylights need to be inspected?

ASkylights should be inspected each time your roof is inspected so leaks don't develop from cracks and interruptions around its seals, caulking and flashings.

QWhat should be regularly checked on your security system?

AThe alarms and circuit breakers should be checked to make sure they are in working order and the sensors should be inspected one by one.

QWhat do you use to fill nail holes and cracks in plaster walls and gypsum wallboard?

ASpackling.

QWhat is the white powdery substance that develops on masonry walls?

AEfflorescence sometimes appears on masonry walls. It is crystallized soluble salts that can be removed by scrubbing with water and a stiff brush.

QAt what temperature should your water heater be set?

A120 degrees Fahrenheit.

QWhat can you use to help a window slide easily?

ARub the channel with a piece of paraffin.

QWhat should you look for when you inspect your siding yearly?

ACheck to see if the caulking around the windows and doors has split and cracked, and replace the caulk; clean the mildew; trim shrubbery away so it does not touch the siding.

Tips on shopping for new appliances

METRO SERVICES

As the weather turns cooler, outdoor improvements become less practical. Homeowners' thoughts may turn to projects they can tackle inside of the home. Now may be the time to consider the purchase of new appliances that can be the finishing touches to renovated spaces.

Fall is prime time to purchase new large appliances. Manufacturers typically unveil their latest models during September and October. At this point, prices on older models will be reduced to make room for new ones. By the end of the year, any older models that have not yet been cleared out will be discounted further. Even though the end-of-the year deals will be better, the selection may be limited the longer you wait.

It is best never to wait until an

appliance is on its last leg for repair or replacement. Then consumers do not have the luxury to price shop nor find items that include the features they desire most. Here are some other buying tips.

Research

Shoppers should begin their research at home before they even enter a store. Make a list of features you want in the appliance, which helps narrow down the playing field and better focus your purchasing decisions.

Once you have a list handy, speak with friends or family members about their experiences with brands and/or retailers. Ask about which features they like the most and how often they have had to call for repairs. If they could do things differently, what would those things be?

Know your space

Perhaps you are familiar with the adage to measure twice and cut once. The same can be said for measuring prior to purchasing an appliance. Be sure you know the exact measurements of the space that will house the new appliance. Take into consideration the clearance needed to open doors, such as with a refrigerator or front-loading washing machine. It can be a waste of time and money to have an appliance delivered only to find it doesn't fit at the time of installation.

Energy savings

Consider appliances that reduce energy usage. Energy Star appliances are produced in adherence to international standards for energy efficiency. The program was started more than 20 years ago by the EPA and

the Department of Energy. Since then, other countries have adopted the program. Appliances that feature the Energy Star logo use 20 to 30 percent less energy than required by typical federal standards. Homeowners who purchase qualifying appliances may be eligible for tax breaks and other incentives.

Consider your lifestyle


It is easy to be overwhelmed and awestruck by the number of appliances available. You may desire the biggest and best there is, but if you are not a superstar in the kitchen, you may not need the commercial stove. A bachelor may not require an oversized washing machine.

Do your research and comparison shop so you won't have any regrets later on.

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Don't forget the lawn this fall

METRO SERVICES

Spring and summer may be the seasons most often associated with landscaping and lawn care, but tending to lawns and gardens is a year-round job. If lawn and garden responsibilities dip considerably in winter, then fall is the last significant chance before the new year that homeowners will have to address the landscaping around their homes.

Fall lawn care differs from spring and summer lawn care, even if the warm temperatures of summer linger into autumn. Homeowners who want their lawns to thrive year-round can take advantage of the welcoming weather of fall to address any existing or potential issues.

- Keep mowing, but adjust how you mow. It's important that homeowners continue to

mow their lawns so long as grass is growing. But as fall transitions into winter, lower the blades so the grass is cut shorter while remaining mindful that no blade of grass should ever be trimmed by more than one-third. Lowering the blades will allow more sunlight to reach the grass in the months ahead.

- Remove leaves as they fall. Much like apple-picking and foliage, raking leaves is synonymous with fall. Some homeowners may wait to pick up a rake until all of the trees on their properties are bare. However, allowing fallen leaves to sit on the ground for extended periods of time can have an adverse effect on grass. Leaves left to sit on the lawn may ultimately suffocate the grass by forming an impenetrable wall that deprives the lawn of sun-

light and oxygen. The result is dead grass and possibly even fungal disease. Leaves may not need to be raked every day, but homeowners should periodically rake and remove leaves from their grass, even if there are plenty left to fall still hanging on the trees.

- Repair bald spots. Summer exacts a toll on lawns in various ways, and even homeowners with green thumbs may end up with a lawn filled with bald spots come September. Autumn is a great time to repair these bald spots. Some lawn repair mixes contain mulch, seed and fertilizer to repair bald spots, which can begin to recover in as little as seven days. Before applying such products, remove dead grass and loosen the top few inches of soil. Follow any additional manufacturer in-

structions as well.

- Aerate the turf. Aerating reduces soil compacting, facilitating the delivery of fertilizer and water to a lawn's roots. While many homeowners, and particularly those who take pride in tending to their own lawns, can successfully aerate their own turf, it's best to first have soil tested so you know which amendments to add after the ground has been aerated. Gardening centers and home improvement stores sell soil testing kits that measure the pH of soil, but homeowners who want to test for nutrients or heavy metals in their soil may need to send their samples to a lab for further testing.

Fall lawn care provides a great reason to spend some time in the yard before the arrival of winter.



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Your guide to proper tree pruning

METRO SERVICES

Trees may require pruning for a variety reasons. Storms may have damaged branches, necessitating a pruning. In other instances, trees may have outgrown their yards, overpowering the landscape.

Autumn and winter, when trees largely go dormant and fallen leaves make it easier to see the branches beneath, may be prime times to prune. Pruning during the dormant period also minimizes sap loss and stress to the tree, and can help cut down on the growth of fungi. In addition, insects are less likely to be problematic during the colder months of the year.

Trimming and pruning can be handled by do-it-yourselfers if the branches are smaller and more manageable. Practice on thinner branches before moving on to thicker ones, which may require extra help. Branches may be heavy, and it takes a guided hand to ensure the branches fall in a safe manner so they do not cause damage or injury.

Branches also need to be trimmed properly to facilitate good healing. Trees will form a callus bark covering over cuts to keep out disease and decay, much as a scab forms over a



Consider hiring a professional tree service if pruning proves beyond your capabilities. Doing so is safe and often well worth the investment.

person's wound. Damaging the bark on a tree while pruning may interfere with that process, so do-it-yourselfers need to take the time to prune correctly.

According to Danny Lipford, home improvement expert and host of the radio program "Today's Homeowner," larger limbs may require three cuts instead of one. The first cut is a small notch in the bottom of the limb, around two to three feet from the trunk and about one-quarter of the way through. This

helps prevent the bark from splitting. A relief cut is then made a few inches away from the notch cut, and goes all the way through. This removes the weight of the branch so that the final cut can be made without the branch splitting and falling. The final cut is made right where the limb extrudes from the branch collar, or the swollen bump that then forms into the tree limb. Follow the slant of the branch collar when making the cut. Smaller or thinner

branches may not require the same three steps, but every effort should be made to reduce injury to the tree.

When deciding how much to prune, less is usually more. All pruning can put some level of stress on the tree and increase its vulnerability to disease and insect infestation. A good rule of thumb is to never prune more than 25 percent of the crown. According to experts at TreeHelp.com, living branches should comprise at least two-thirds the height of the tree. In some instances, the rules may need to be bent if trees are interfering with utility lines or to meet community laws. However, always prune minimally to avoid damaging the tree.

The right tools also make the job safer and easier. Use a pole pruner and lopper, rope saws, folding pruner, and a bucksaw. A chainsaw can be used in some instances, especially when pruning larger limbs. Always disinfect pruning tools after you're done to prevent the spread of disease to other trees.

Consider hiring a professional tree service if pruning proves beyond your capabilities. Doing so is safe and often well worth the investment of winter.

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3 tips to prepare to sell your home

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According to Realtor.com, spring is the busiest and best season to sell a home. While a good home can find a buyer any time of year, homeowners might find the buyers' pool is strongest in spring and into summer. The reasons for that are many, ranging from parents wanting to move when their children are not in school to buyers wanting to move when the weather is most accommodating.

Because spring is such a popular time to sell a home, homeowners who want to put their homes on the market should use winter as an opportunity to prepare their homes for the prying eyes of prospective buyers. The following tips can help homeowners during the pre-selling preparation process.

- Address the exterior.

Winter can be harsh on a home's exterior, so as winter winds down, homeowners who want to sell their homes should make an effort to address anything that might negatively affect their homes' curb appeal. A study of homes in Greenville, S.C., from researchers at Clemson University found that the value of homes with landscapes that were upgraded from "good" to "excellent" increased by 6 to 7 percent. If it's in the budget, hire professional landscapers to fix any problematic landscaping or address any issues that arose during the winter. Homeowners with green thumbs can tackle such projects on their own, but hiring professionals is akin to staging inside the home.

- Conquer interior clutter.

Clutter has a way of accumulating over the winter, when people tend to spend more time indoors than they do throughout the rest of the year. Homeowners who want to put their homes on the market in spring won't have the luxury of waiting until spring to do their "spring" cleaning, so start clearing any clutter out in winter, even resolving to make an effort to prevent its accumulation throughout winter. Just like buyers are impressed by curb appeal, they are turned off by clutter. The Appraisal Institute suggests homeowners clear clutter out of their homes before appraisers visit, and the same approach can be applied to open houses. Buyers, like appraisers, see cluttered homes as less valuable. In addition, a home full of clutter might give buyers the impression, true or not, that the home was not well maintained.

- Eliminate odors. A home's inhabitants grow accustomed to odors that might be circulating throughout the house. Pet odor, for instance, might not be as strong to a home's residents as it is to guests and prospective

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5 home improvements that increase home value

METRO SERVICES

When granite countertops or shiny, stainless steel appliances beckon homeowners from the display areas of home improvement stores, it's tempting to gear remodeling thoughts toward the items that will add flair and decorative appeal to a home. Even though most improvements add some measure of value, deciding which are the best investments can be difficult.

Return on investment, often referred to as "ROI," varies depending on the project. Frequently, the projects that seem like the best investments don't bring the greatest rate of return, while those that seem like smaller projects bring substantial returns. Real estate professionals routinely weigh in with their expert advice, and homeowners can couple that advice with Remodeling magazine's annual "Cost vs. Value Index" to reap the greatest financial impact from their renovations.

The following were some of the projects that garnered the

greatest ROI in 2015.

- **Open the door to improvement.** Region by region across the United States, installation of a new steel door on the front of a home can have a large impact on the resale value of a property. The ROI ranges from 123 percent at the highest, to 86 percent at the lowest — which is still a considerable investment return for such a simple project. Match the door's style with the style of the house for the best value.
- **Turn up the kitchen heat.** An attractive kitchen can encourage buyers to overlook some of a home's less attractive components. In the kitchen, replacement countertops, wall color changes, new cabinetry and flooring offer the biggest ROI.
- **Dreaming of a new bedroom.** Remodeling magazine also points to creating an attic bedroom to increase home value. The ROI of an attic remodel that adheres to code can garner an 83 percent ROI.

- **Home maintenance projects.** There's little good to improving the aesthetic appeal and functionality of a home if there are existing structural or maintenance issues, warn experts. Siding replacement, HVAC system repair or replacement, a new roof, and basement dampness prevention solutions can be smarter investments before other flashy remodels. Many buyers have a strict budget for a house, and those buyers may be more likely to buy a house with little or no maintenance issues. Such buyers will then upgrade the kitchen or baths themselves, according to Harvard's Joint Center for Housing Studies.
- **Worthy window replacement.** Angie's List, a home services review and referral resource, has found that the average ROI of new windows is 77 percent. The cost of installation and energy savings tend to offset at around the 10-year point. If remodeling is on the horizon, homeowners should give strong consideration to ROI before choosing a project.

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Types of firepits for your backyard oasis

METRO SERVICES

Outdoor entertaining areas are popular among homeowners, and firepits are one of the most sought-after additions to such spaces. In fact, a 2016 survey from the American Society of Landscape Architects found that fireplaces and firepits were the most popular outdoor design element in 2016. Various styles are available to homeowners:

- **Wood firepit:** As their name suggests, wood firepits burn wood, which may appeal to homeowners who already have wood-burning fireplaces inside their homes. Because they don't require homeowners to tap into gas lines, wood firepits are generally easy to set up and install, and many homeowners prefer the aesthetic appeal of crackling wood and flames that's synonymous with wood firepits.
- **Gas firepit:** Gas firepits are touted for their convenience, as they don't require homeowners to carry wood or build fires. Upon being connected to a gas source, they provide fire at the click of a switch. They are also appreciated for their safety, as there is

little or no risk that flames from gas firepits will grow too large and become difficult to control.

- **Gas fire tables:** Gas fire tables might be ideal for homeowners whose sense of decor favors modern looks. They come in a variety of shapes and sizes and, like gas firepits, there's no need to struggle with lighting a fire or carrying firewood.
- **Tabletop firepits:** Those with limited outdoor space may want to consider the convenience of tabletop firepits. Restaurants may use tabletop firepits in outdoor seating areas because they provide warmth and ambiance without taking up much space. Fueled by gas, they will not need to be connected to a gas source, which may appeal to consumers who want something that's simple as well as small.
- **Fire urns:** While they might not technically qualify as firepits, fire urns provide a similar effect as firepits. Fire urns are typically gas-powered and may be an ideal choice for homeowners who are looking for a unique, awe-inspiring feature for their outdoor entertaining areas.



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The importance of clean gutters

METRO SERVICES

Every autumn, trees and shrubs take on their brilliant display of reds, oranges, purples, and yellows that mark the end of the growing season. Fall foliage may make for ideal photo backdrops and scenic days in the countryside, but closer to home leaves may be more of a hindrance than an aesthetic pleasure.

The hundreds of leaves that adorn the maples, oaks and other trees near homes will eventually fall as autumn turns into winter. Some will float down to lawns, while others will get lodged in gutters and downspouts, posing problems that can cause substantial and potentially costly problems for homeowners.

Homeowners know that gutter cleaning is an important part of fall home maintenance, but they may not completely understand why. Gutter cleaning can be a messy and time-consuming project, making it a project many homeowners are apt to put off. Waiting to clean gutters can lead to considerable problems, so it's best to tackle the job well in advance of the winter.

Gutters guide rainwater and runoff from the roof so it drains properly away from homes. When gutters are clogged with leaves, a number of problems can occur.

- **Leaks:** Water will take the path of least resistance. When clogged gutters do not allow the water to drain away properly, water will find other ways to the ground. It may work itself right into the walls and ceilings of the home. In addition to damaging walls and ceilings, moisture inside the home can promote mold growth. It also makes interior spaces more appealing to

pests.

- **Excess weight:** Gutters are meant to hold the weight of traveling water and not much more. Gutters filled with leaves and other debris can quickly become heavy. This stresses the entire gutter system and can cause the gutters to fall off of the home entirely.
- **Nesting areas:** Clogged gutters can serve as nesting areas for insects and birds. Mosquitoes and other insects lay eggs in pooling water. Gutters can quickly become breeding spots for harmful pests. Furthermore, birds may nest in gutters, creating unsightly messes and more damage. Seeds that sprout in clogged gutters can grow unchecked.
- **Ice-damming:** Left untreated, pooled water and leaves in gutters can freeze over. Blocked water can back up and push against the roof, lifting shingles and destroying the roof in the process.
- **Foundation trouble:** Clogged gutters also may contribute to flooded basements and cracked foundations. Leaking water will pool around the foundation, expanding when frozen and causing cracks in basement and crawlspace walls. It also can cause driveways and other cement areas around the home to sag and crack.

Gutter cleaning should be scheduled in the spring and fall of each year. Homeowners can hire gutter-cleaning services to handle the job or do the job themselves. Rinse the gutters with water from the hose afterward to ensure good run-off. Take the time to seal any leaks as well. This routine maintenance can save homeowners many headaches and prevent some very expensive repairs.

Selecting professional critical step in remodel

METRO SERVICES

If you are considering a home remodeling project, the most important decision you can make is selecting a professional home remodeler to do the job. Your home is too important to entrust to anyone but a professional home remodeler who can:

- Save you money by doing your job right the first time.
- Ensure that your dreams are accurately translated into reality by offering design services in-house or through an arrangement with a professional architect or designer.
- Understand that your comfort during the project and its successful completion depend

on effective communication and follow-through.

- Maintain a safe and neat job site to prevent damage to your home or injury to household members and pets.
- Provide the best possible materials within your budget and assist you in making selections through the vendors they work with.
- Ensure that your job meets or exceeds applicable building codes and regulations such as the EPA Lead Paint rule for work on homes built before 1978.
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Growing trends in today’s homes

METRO SERVICES

Although the heydays of the real estate boom of the early 2000s have not quite returned, things look positive. In the United States, 1,226,000 new homes were built in 2016, according to data from Consumer Reports. That was the most since 2007.

Resales also have been more promising. The National Association of Realtors says the median number of days a home was on the market in April 2017 reached a new low of 29 days. However, low supply levels did stanch existing home sales somewhat. By mid-2017, the market was a seller’s market, with more people in the market for homes than properties available. But sales during that time were still outpacing sales figures from a year prior.

Low interest rates on mortgages and more confidence in the economy has driven many people to make improvements to their existing homes. As is typical, the things homeowners are looking for in 2017 have evolved from years past. The following



METRO SERVICES

Houses are shrinking, selling faster and getting smarter upgrades according to industry statistics.

are some trends that are helping to steer the real estate market further.

- **Smaller homes:** Home sizes in the United States steadily increased for decades, eventually leading to an average of 2,453 square feet in 2014, according to U.S. Census figures. However, Realtor.com reported in 2015 that new construction homes have already begun to

shrink by 40 square feet. There seems to be a slight trend toward more modest homes as people consider affordability and maintenance on larger properties. The National Association of Home Builders states buyers are now looking for smaller, more livable homes with flexible floor plans, energy-efficient appliances and plenty of storage space.

- **Matte finishes:** Stainless steel and luster have been popular for years. However, the next big thing is matte finishes on faucets, appliances and even in countertops. These less flashy finishes are prized for their warmth and elegance. While some high-end models with matte finishes have been available for several years, even less expensive models are available.

- **Smarter technology:** Many homeowners are embracing smart technology throughout their homes, but it’s not just lights that turn on with voice command or more efficient thermostats. Innovative technology includes toilets that can autonomously stay clean and sanitized, refrigerators equipped with cameras so homeowners can see the contents inside and in-door food recyclers that can turn food waste into fertilizer.

Staying abreast of the ever-changing trends in home improvement and real estate can help consumers make the best choices with regard to buying and building their homes.

Popular decorating color not even a color

METRO SERVICES

White is a versatile color in home decorating and renovation. White helps any space look effortlessly chic, blends well with just about any color and can be incorporated into various design styles — from modern to traditional.

While the color white is always trendy, the paint manufacturers Benjamin Moore chose white as their “it” color for 2016. White can be used nearly anywhere inside and outside the home. Improving interior and exterior spaces with white elements is easier than you might think, and it instantly can make anything look as good as new.

Outdoors

Use white paint on trims, shutters, mailboxes, and more to provide that pop of contrast against the rest of the home. White complements just about every color, making it a versatile

choice on a home’s accents regardless of the main exterior color of that home.

White and other light shades will reflect the sun as well, contributing to cooler temperatures on walkways, decks and other structures, which can be advantageous to homeowners who live in warm climates.

Is it any wonder that white continues to be a classic and popular color to use around the home? Whether you do so with monochromatic rooms or accent pieces, you can incorporate white into design plans throughout your home.

Kitchen

While rich cherrywood cabinets and deeply hued granite countertops have long been popular in kitchens, creamy white cabinets paired with blonde wood countertops can work together to make kitchens seem open and airy. If all white

is not your thing, brighten up kitchen spaces with white canisters, cookie jars and a fresh bouquet of white flowers to add instant appeal.

Living Room

Use white as a base color for living room spaces so you can build on it with other hues on pillows and draperies, mixing and matching however you see fit.

Homeowners who have children and/or pets should look for furniture with removable slipcovers. This way they’re easily removed and laundered.

Bathroom

White bathrooms look fresh and are easy to clean and maintain. White tiles provide a classic look. Include colored bath mats,

towels and shower curtains to break up the white as you see fit. A neutral white base makes it easy to switch out color schemes whenever you feel like it.

Bedroom

Feminine and fresh, white bedrooms may not be the first choice for novice designers. If the prospect of white on white seems too sterile, offset deeper hues on bed linens and walls with white furniture. This provides some pop against the darker contrast.

Keep in mind that doing a bed up in all white means it will always be easy to find matching sheets and pillowcases, making it possible to ensure everything looks cohesive and crisp.

Find creative uses to put fall’s leaves to work as home decor

METRO SERVICES

Millions of leaves fall from tree boughs each fall. Homeowners and landscaping professionals will spend countless hours removing leaves from lawns and driveways so they can be collected and ultimately added to compost piles or removed by local governments.

But leaves do not necessarily have to meet with the same fate each year. There are many creative ways to use leaves gathered from lawns and gardens.

- **Scarecrow:** Gather a decent pile of leaves and the makings of a scarecrow, which include hay, old clothing, string, and canvas. Use the leaves to help stuff the body of the scare-

crow and make him a bit more plump.

- **Vases:** Fill an empty flower vase with different leaves that you have gathered. This makes for an engaging centerpiece when entertaining.

- **Pressings:** Press leaves between two pieces of paper to make a leaf silhouette. Some of the pigment will transfer to the paper, and these natural pieces of artwork can be displayed or shared.

- **Laminate:** Laminate leaves so they can be used as place cards when hosting guests for holiday feasts.

Put these ideas to the test to make fallen leaves part of your unique home decor.

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When severe weather dissipates, people are left to deal with the often devastating consequences. Property damage is one such consequence, but some tips can help ease the pain.

Know what to do after suffering storm damage

METRO SERVICES

Severe weather like tornadoes and floods do not discriminate, and when such storms finally dissipate, people from all walks of life are left to deal with the often devastating consequences. Property damage is one such consequence, and the following are some things people can do in the aftermath of storms that caused damage to their property.

- **Contact your insurance provider.** Not all damage resulting from storms will necessarily be covered by insurance policies, but it's still imperative that people contact their insurance companies as soon as possible after their homes or vehicles have been damaged. Agents can help policy holders learn if their policies cover the damage done to their property and to what extent their coverage will help them recover. Many people will likely be making similar calls, so policy holders should try to be as patient as possible.

- **Document the damage.** People whose property has been damaged should use their smartphones and cameras to document the damage as extensively as possible. Take photos from various angles before you begin cleaning up. Providers may require visual evidence of the damage before they begin processing your claim, so ask about those requirements when contacting your insurance agent.

- **Avoid downed power lines.** In addition to protecting the investments you have made in your property and your possessions, it's important to remember to protect yourself. Avoid downed power lines, reporting any to your local power company as soon as you see them.

- **Let the professionals do the work.** It can be tempting for homeowners to try to do some electrical work around their homes after their homes have been damaged by storms. Electricians are likely busy and might not be able to assess or repair damage for days, if not weeks. But it's still best to wait and allow professionals to do the work. Experienced professionals recognize potentially harmful, if not deadly, issues that may be lurking beneath the damage, so it's always best to leave the work to private electricians or local power company work crews.

- **Revisit insurance policies.** After suffering damage to their homes or vehicles, men and women may benefit by revisiting their coverage and increasing that coverage in anticipation of future disasters. Storm damage can turn individuals' lives upside down. But remaining calm and working in harmony with insurance agencies and power companies can help storm victims recover quickly.

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Moss, light potential indicators of roof trouble

METRO SERVICES
With regard to home repairs, homeowners may be able to delay some projects until the weather permits or they find room in their budgets. But other areas, including the roof, may demand immediate action.
Few homeowners give the roofs of their homes much thought until a problem arises. But learning to recognize potential indicators of roof trouble can

help homeowners prevent potentially drastic situations down the road.
- **Light:** Homeowners with attics in their homes can inspect the ceilings inside the attic for signs of holes or leaks. Light peering through the top of the house indicates a hole or leak, as does stains or streaks on the ceiling.
- Worn shingles: Shingles should lie flat against the roof,

so any that appear to be buckling or turning up are damaged and in need of repair. A single damaged shingle does not require a full roof replacement, but inspect all the shingles nonetheless. Another indicator of shingle problems can be found when cleaning downspouts or gutters. If the gutters and downspouts contain lots of shingle granules, the roof may soon need to be replaced.

- **Moss:** Moss on a rooftop may give a home character, but that added character is costly. Shady areas of a roof can be susceptible to the growth of moss and fungi because moisture can be trapped in such areas. If possible, remove moss or fungi from a roof with a stiff brush or hire a professional to do the job instead. Moss may come back even after brushing it off, so homeowners should

keep an eye on areas of their roofs that get little sunlight. In addition, trapped moisture can be very harmful to a roof, so it may be wise to exercise caution and have roofs with mold or fungi growths inspected.
- **Age:** Another indicator of roof trouble may be the age of the roof. Even if there are no visible signs of damage, homeowners whose roofs have some years under their belt may want

to consider replacing them. Asphalt shingle roofs typically have life expectancies of 20 to 25 years, while roofs installed over existing layers of shingles may need to be replaced after 20 years.
Recognizing minor roof damage before it escalates into a larger problem can save homeowners substantial amounts of money.

Reduce fire risk in cold weather

METRO SERVICES
Plenty of things heat up when the temperature drops, including the risk for fire hazards. Fireplaces, stoves, heating systems, candles, and even electric lights are used more often during the winter than any other time of year, so it makes sense that the risk of home fires increases when the mercury drops.
The U.S. Fire Administration says 905 people die in winter home fires each year. Cooking is the leading cause of all home fires and contributes to around \$2 billion in property loss each year. Understanding potential risks and exercising caution can help homeowners protect themselves, their families and their homes from fire.

Cooking
Home heating fires peak between the hours of 6 p.m. and 8 p.m., when many people are home preparing dinner. The following steps, courtesy of the American Red Cross, can improve safety in the kitchen and reduce the likelihood of a home fire.
- Never leave cooking food unattended, as it can take just seconds for fires to ignite.
- Keep anything that can catch fire away from the stove or other appliances that generate heat.
- Clean regularly to prevent grease buildup.
- Make sure appliances are turned off before leaving the room or going to bed.

Heating
The National Fire Protection Association warns that heating is the second leading cause of home fires, deaths and injuries in the United States. The NFPA offers these safety guidelines.
- Install heating appliances according to manufacturers' instructions or have a professional do the installation.
- Fuel-burning equipment needs to vent to the outside.
- Never use an oven to heat a home.
- Keep anything that can burn away from heating equipment, including portable space heaters.
- Clean and inspect heating appliances regularly.
- Turn off portable heaters when leaving the room or going to bed.

Electric
The National Safety Council estimates that between 600 and 1,000 people die each year from electrocution. Electricity also can contribute to home fires. The Energy Education Council offers these safety suggestions.
- Never force plugs into outlets.
- Check that cords are not frayed or cracked. Do not run cords under carpets or place them in high-traffic areas.
- Use extension cords only on a temporary basis.
- Make sure light bulbs are the proper wattage for fixtures.
- Install ground fault circuit interrupters in kitchens, baths, laundry rooms, and elsewhere, making sure to test them regularly.
- Check periodically for loose wall receptacles and loose wires. Listen for popping or sizzling sounds behind walls.
Home fires are no joke and can be prevented with simple safety checks.



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