



The Crittenden Press

2 SECTIONS / 20 PAGES / VOLUME 142 / NUMBER 42

Living Large in a Small Space | Page 1B Special Section

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2023

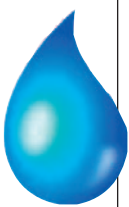
24/7 BREAKING AND LOCAL NEWS / THE-PRESS.COM

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ONE DOLLAR

City wants your help flushing drinking water

In an effort to better its drinking water, city officials are scooting up its schedule for a widespread flushing of the system. Typically a “hard flush” is conducted twice a year. The fall flush isn’t normally conducted until November, say city officials. However, it’s going to start Thursday and run through Monday. City Administrator Diane Ford-Benningfield says complaints about discoloration, smell and quality have prompted this response. Customers of the Marion water system are being asked to conduct a home flushing of their own. The city administrator said that starting this weekend, residents are strongly encouraged to open every faucet and valve to help flush the entire system. That means toilets, sinks, tubs, showers, outside spigots and any other water lines should be opened and allowed to run for 2-3 minutes. The city will be flushing lines overnight from 8 p.m., to 5 a.m., each day through Monday. Customers could experience low pressure during the flushing periods. Water line breaks are also common during massive flushing operations, Ford-Benningfield said. “We are asking for your patience while we conduct this operation,” she said.



Hunters moving in

The first big weekend for deer hunters is just ahead with the two-day muzzleloader season. Hunting is the community’s second largest tourist attraction and the sector is also affecting the price of undeveloped property in Crittenden County. Last weekend was the youth hunt. See photos on page 9A.

Vocational Open House

Caldwell Regional Career Center, often referred to as the Area Vocational School, is hosting an open house from 5-7 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 26. Guests can find out about programs available for students.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- Crittenden County Fiscal Court will meet at 8:30 a.m., Thursday, Oct. 18 at the new Crittenden County Office Complex.
- Crittenden County Board of Elections will meet at 3:30 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 19 at Crittenden County Office Complex. Testing of the election tabulating equipment will take place.
- Crittenden County Conservation District will meet at 6:30 p.m., Thursday Oct. 19 at its office on East Bellville Street.
- Marion Tourism and Recreation Commission will meet Tuesday, Oct. 24 at 8:30 a.m., at the Marion Welcome Center.
- Crittenden-Livingston Water District will meet at 4 p.m., Monday, Oct. 23 at Deer Lakes meeting room.
- Crittenden County Board of Education meets at 5:30 p.m., Tuesday, Oct. 24 at Crittenden County Middle School.

At Montezuma Bridge | Crittenden-Webster Line

Highway closing Monday



STAFF REPORT

There are four major transportation arteries connecting Marion and Crittenden County to the outside world and beginning Monday one of them will be shut off.

When state highway KY 120 closes next week at what’s known as the Montezuma Bridge at the Crittenden and Webster County line, there will be months of inconvenience for commuters. Some observers are concerned about traffic safety and wear on local infrastruc-

ture while the highway is shut down between Marion and Providence.

The state has not issued an official alternative truck route or traffic detour. Instead, its notice reads, “Trucks should seek an approved state route based upon weight classification.”

Commuters who will be cut off by the highway closure have varied plans for driving around. There are two other nearby bridges across the Tradewater River that separates the two counties. One,

known as the Bellville Bridge, is across the river where Providence Road in Crittenden County meets Bellville Road in Webster County. Those are both narrow, winding county roads ill prepared for heavy traffic. The other bridge is on KY 132. It crosses the river near the intersection of Cool Springs Road in what’s known as the Enon Church area of Crittenden County.

Due to the extended closure, Kentucky Transportation Cabinet has

recommended a marked detour along KY 109 North from Providence to U.S. 60 West at Sullivan, then along U.S. 60 East to Marion. The detour will add 8.4 miles or 11 minutes to a trip between Marion and Providence, transportation cabinet spokesman Keith Todd said.

“No Through Trucks” signage will be placed at the KY 139 end of Shady Grove-Providence Road and at the Providence end of Bellville

See **KY120**/page 4A



Family and friends of Ray O’Neal were on hand Monday as he formally resigned as police chief after serving the city for about 17 years as head of the department. Mayor D’Anna Browning presented the chief with a plaque recognizing his service. Former Mayor Mickey Alexander said a few words and council members thanked O’Neal for his dedication and service to Marion. O’Neal will stay on the police force as a security officer at city hall.

O’Neal steps down as chief; will provide city hall security

STAFF REPORT

Most of the memories registered in Ray O’Neal’s 17-year police chief memior are pleasant reminders of what it’s like to do a job you enjoy in a commuiny you love. Yet, there have been some tense – even hazardous – encounters that are sober reminders of the occupation.

On Monday, O’Neal formally submitted his resignation as chief of the Marion Police Department. He steps down as head of the force, but will stay on as a full-time security officer at city hall and ABC coordinator.

A few weeks ago, Marion began fa-

cilitating district, circuit and family court in the council chambers. Until a new justice center is build in the center of town, city hall will continue hosting those regular proceedings that often include criminal, civil and custody matters. Due to the nature of those functions inside the city’s home for other government activities, the mayor and other city leaders have decided that regular security is necessary.

O’Neal, who will turn 62 next week, is ready for the change of pace. He will, however, be available to fill in from time to time as a patrolman,

when needed.

Over the course of his career, O’Neal recalls those times when deadly force was involved in arrests. He remembers a couple of times in particular when shots were fired. Once, a local resident was wounded when he charged with a knife at the chief and another officer. Although those are the things he’d like to forget, they’re ever present.

O’Neal is a 24-year veteran of the local police force. He left the coal mines and hired on with the city a few

See **CHIEF**/page 3A



Luke Drawdy and other CCHS students discuss plans for an emergency department.

HS Med students put to test

STAFF REPORT

Teacher Casey Evans and Crittenden Hospital emergency director Michelle Grise put Evans’ students to the test recently to develop the ideal ER.

The collaboration is mutually beneficial for students taking medical curriculum and the hospital.

“This allows us to collaborate and let students know we are here for them, because they are our future,” said Grise, an emergency room nurse practitioner and retired combat medic.

Students in Evans’ biomedical innovations class were tasked with creating a functioning ER on paper, complete with a simple

blueprint and analysis of necessities for triaging and treating patients of all ages.

“This is building a bridge and a foundation,” Grise said. “Having students understand when they leave high school, they have career opportunities not just in the clinical portion, but

New surgeon joins hospital team this month

STAFF REPORT

Crittenden Community Hospital has announced that it will be adding a general surgeon to the local staff later this month.

Dr. Eric Kivisto, 58, and his wife, Liz, who is a nurse, will provide integrated care in Marion.

Kivisto is a native of Wheaton, Ill. He obtained a Doctorate of Osteopathy Medicine from Chicago College of Osteopathic Medicine. He has more than 30 years experience in general surgery.

Crittenden Community Hospital CEO Shawn Bright said the doctor has an esteemed professional history and excellent record as a surgeon.

Kivisto’s practice includes gen-



Dr. Kivisto

See **TEST**/page 2A

See **DOC**/page 3A



The Crittenden Press

USPS 138-260 / Marion, Ky.



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Deaths

Linzy

Rebecca "Becky" Linzy, 75, of Paducah, died Sunday, Oct. 15, 2023 at Baptist Health Paducah.

She was a RN and nursing supervisor at Baptist Health Paducah for over 40 years. She was an avid UK basketball fan who loved her family.

Surviving are two sisters, Linda (Stanley) Asbridge of Bowling Green and Amanda McMain of Salem; two brothers, Roger Dale Linzy of Bowling Green, Tim (Vickie) Linzy of Buchanan, Tenn.; a sister-in-law, Charlene Linzy of Sullivan; three nieces, Samantha (Damion) Greer of Salem, Kallie Linzy of Corpus Christi, Texas, Madalyn (Eric) Henson of Murray; and six nephews, Matthew (Toree) McMain of Murray, Ben Linzy of Milwaukee, Wisc., Steven Linzy of Sullivan, Caleb (Holly) Asbridge of Bowling Green, Phillip Linzy of Brownsville and Brent (Amanda) Linzy of Leitchfield.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Roger and Nellie (Gilland) Linzy; two sisters-in-law, Sandra Linzy and Edwina Linzy; a brother-in-law, Jesse McMain; and two brothers, Steve Linzy and David Linzy.

Funeral services will be at 11 a.m., Wednesday, Oct. 18 in the chapel of Boyd Funeral Directors and Cremation Services. Burial will follow in the Dycusburg Cemetery, with Bro. Gary Hardesty officiating.

Friends may visit with the family from 5-8 p.m., Tuesday, Oct. 17.

Paid obituary



Watson

Helen Watson, 77, of Marion, died Thursday, Oct. 12, 2023 at Livingston Hospital and Healthcare Services.

She was a homemaker who loved to work in the yard. She was a member of Faith Apostolic Church in Princeton. She loved spending time with her family.

Surviving are a daughter, Carla (Rick) Wiggins of Salem; two sons, Stan (Angie) Watson and Jeff Watson, both of Martin, Tenn.; six sisters, Shirley Esstier of Paducah, Judy Faught of Marion, Kaye Jones of Smithland, Barbara "Cotty" Browning of Marion, Jerri "Tad" Johnson of Tolu and Debbie Summers of Marion; three grandchildren, Josh Wiggins, Victoria Wiggins and Lily Watson; and a great-grandchild, Finley Wiggins.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Raymond Carter Watson; her parents, Truman and Ocie (Durham) Williams; two sisters, Betty Flowers and Louise Turley; and a brother, Ray Williams.

Services will be at 3 p.m., Sunday, Oct. 22, in the chapel of Boyd Funeral Directors and Cremation Services. Bro. Stan Watson and Bro. Rick Wiggins will officiate. Burial will follow in Tyners Chapel Cemetery.

Friends may visit with the family from



noon until the funeral hour, Sunday, Oct. 22, until the funeral hour, in the chapel of Boyd Funeral Directors and Cremation Services.

Crawford

Sharon Crawford, 69, of Salem, died Sunday, Oct. 15, 2023, at Salem Springlake Health and Rehab.

She was a member of Mt. Zion Free Will Baptist Church in Salem.

Surviving are her husband, James Crawford of Salem; a son, James Matthew Crawford of Paducah; a daughter, Felicia A. Crawford of Paducah; a grandchild, Jaedan Graham of Paducah; a great grandchild, Phoenix Dodson of Paducah; a sister, Faylena Crawford of Louisville; two brothers, Aaron "Kim" Qualls and Richard "Kelly" Qualls, both of Indianapolis, Ind.; and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her mother, Yvonne Moss Crawford; and two brothers, Gregory Moss and Anthony Crawford.

Services are at 1 p.m., Saturday Oct. 21 at Gilbert Funeral Home with burial in the Lewis Cemetery. The family will receive visitors from 10:30 a.m., until service time at the funeral home.



An unveiling of the Spirit Pump at Ideal Market in Marion was attended by representatives of Madisonville-based Rocket Oil and the Crittenden County School District. From left are Rocket Oil engagement manager Kim Simons, Crittenden County Superintendent Tonya Driver, athletic director Bryan Qualls, public relations director Tiffany Blazina, Ideal manager Pattie Hackney, Rocket Oil district manager Ray Powell, operations manager Tony Lile and Rocket Oil owner Tom Eveland.

Pump fuels CCHS athletics

STAFF REPORT

A gas pump in Marion is turning Rocket fuel into Rocket funds.

Ideal Market on Sturgis Road will donate one cent of every gallon of gas sold on its Spirit Pump to Crittenden County Schools' athletic department.

Representatives from the school district and Rocket Oil gathered Tuesday, Oct. 17 to unveil the spirit pump, which became operational Oct. 11.

Madisonville-based Rocket Oil, which owns 26 stores in the region, chose Crittenden County as its second location for a Spirit Pump, thanks in part to the encouragement of manager Pattie Hackney of Marion. A pilot project placed the company's first Spirit Pump three years ago in Muhlenberg County, according to Kim Simons, Rocket Oil's engagement manager.

Fall Into Arts Saturday at Fohs Hall

A host of activities will entertain participants of the Community Arts Foundation's (CAF) Fall Into the Arts event Saturday, Oct. 21 at Fohs Hall.

The event combines highlights from the former Christmas in Marion arts and crafts show – like bread and candy sales by Crittenden County Homemakers – and fun for kids like the pedal tractor pull reminiscent of Marion's Heritage Days festival.

Food vendors will be on hand, and a limited number of unique bowls glazed by Crittenden County High School art students will be available through a Soup-ort the Arts fundraiser for CAF.

Participation in most activities is free thanks to sponsorship by a number of by local banks and organizations. There is no admission to the event, but some activities require a fee.

A kid zone will feature inflatables, face painting, pumpkin painting and a coloring contest.

Many activities will be offered all day; however, others will begin at specific times, including:

- Darts for Cash, 10 a.m.
- Cake Walk, 10 a.m.
- Children's costume contest, 11 a.m.
- Soup-ort the Arts, 11 a.m.
- Pedal tractor pull, 11:30 a.m.

Organized more than 30 years ago, the Community Arts Foundation promotes and sponsors special community events and art opportunities to residents of Crittenden County and the surrounding area.

TEST

Continued from page 1

also in dietary, house-keeping, medical records and admissions is important."

Student projects were judged by two members of the Crittenden Hospital staff on design, staffing proposals and analysis of two hypothetical patients arriving at their fictitious ER.

Ultimately, the winning trio of Ava Henry, Kira Belt and Emily Adams earned top marks by hospital judges.

Grise said the student work was impressive and contained obvious thought and consideration.

Senior Haylee Perrin, who is planning on a career in the medical field, considers herself lucky to have been exposed to the curriculum in Evans' class.

"I want to be an endrochronologist and come back to this area, and

since working in a hospital I realize how much stuff we do here is relevant, like blood typing," Perrin said. "We have such a head start over anyone going to college."

Grise's continued connections to Fort Campbell will allow Evans's students to attend a live simulation of the military base's Tactical Combat Casualty Care Course in either November or January.

Grise was a combat medic for 18 months in Iraq between 2005-2006 and a medic for a year in Afghanistan in 2012-2013. After nearly 21

years in the U.S. Army, she retired in 2014 and pursued a nurse practitioner degree, which she now uses in the emergency department at Crittenden Hospital.

She says connections she made in her career have led her to teach trauma and American Heart Association classes in St. Croix, USVI twice this year. That is another example of the types of opportunities Evans' students have as they plan for careers; however, she hopes some will wind up at the hospital across the highway from their high school.



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Job Fair Oct. 25

The first in what organizers hope will be an ongoing series of career fairs will be held in Marion Wednesday, Oct. 25.

West Kentucky Workforce Board representative Fred Stubblefield has organized the first event to help link Crittenden County business and industries and perspectives employees.

The event will be held from 10 a.m.-1 p.m., at the Crittenden County Public Library.

Representatives from Par 4, Crittenden Community Hospital, Five Star and the 88 Dip will be in attendance.

Stubblefield would like to have a second job fair in Marion before the end of the year.

Cozart earns UK award

Destiny Cozart of Lexington was honored with the Lyman T. Johnson Torch Bearer award from the University of Kentucky's College of Public Health.

The award, presented Saturday, Oct. 14, is given to students with outstanding academic achievement who have the capacity to impact the lives of others and their community.

Cozart will complete her Masters of Public Health with a concentration in Health Management and Policy in May 2024.

She is the daughter of David and Nekesha Cozart.



New Beginnings soon turns 16

Salem residents and representatives of New Beginnings, the Salem behavioral health service, recognized the National Prayer Day for Recovery and Understanding Oct. 3 with a noon gathering led by Bro. Ross Atwell. From left are Paula Berry, Rose Dempsey, Devon Atwell, Ross Atwell, Peggy Fralix, Tyler Coleman and Teresa Robertson.. New Beginnings will celebrate 16 years of services to the Crittenden and Livingston county area on Oct. 31. New Beginnings treats individuals living with mental health conditions, including depression.

Extension events

The following events are being offered by the Crittenden County Extension Service the remainder of October:

- Family and Consumer Sciences agent Rebecca Woodall will host Food the Thought at noon, Monday, Oct. 23 at the Extension Office. Talk about ideas and for Homemaker clubs and ways to increase membership. A light lunch will be provided.
- Rebecca Woodall will present "Budgets & Money Habits" a 5:30 p.m., Tuesday, Oct. 24.

This class, co-sponsored by the Crosswalk Academy at Crittenden County Schools, will help identify money habits and learn how to budget household income. This class counts towards required Community Christmas credits. Call the Extension Office to register at (270) 965-5236.

- Dee Heimgartner will host a Small Ruminant Nutrition Class at 6 p.m., Tuesday, Oct. 24 at the Extension Annex. This class will focus on forage testing, body condition score and ration spreadsheets. Call (270) 965-5236 to register.
- FCS agent Rebecca Woodall will host a self-

care meeting at 2 p.m., Wednesday, Oct. 25. Learn how to extend the same kindness and consideration to yourself as you do to those around you. Call (270) 965-5236 to register.

- Cooking Club will meet at 1:30 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 26 at the Extension Annex.
- FCS agent Rebecca Woodall will host a Time Management class at 5:30 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 26 at the Extension annex. Participants will learn how to prioritize their time to meet all their family's needs. This counts toward required Community Christmas credits. Call (270) 965-5236 to register.

Kenergy hosts lunch, giveaways Oct. 24

Kenergy invites its members to attend its annual Member Appreciation Day from 11 a.m.-2 p.m., Tuesday, Oct. 24 at its Marion office on Mott City Road.

Members will receive a free lunch including a sandwich, chips, cookie, and water along with a free bucket, light bulb, and night light while supplies last.

Kenergy will be giving out one \$250 gift card at each of its five participation locations, including those in Owensboro, Hanson, Hawesville and Henderson, in addition to Marion.

Those who cannot attend can visit www.kenergycorp.com on Member Appreciation Day, Oct. 24 from from 11:00 a.m. until 11:59 p.m. to register for the gift card.

Proof of membership is required at each location. Members can bring a copy of their Kenergy bill or show their active SmartHub mobile app. All Kenergy offices will be closed from 10:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. on Oct. 24.

CHIEF

Continued from page 1

years before the late Kenneth Winn retired as chief. O'Neal's late father, Jim, had also been a policeman.

"The community has treated me very well. Around here, I think what we do is respected," O'Neal said. "I have worked for three different mayors and all have been good to me. I can't complain."

The national average for police chiefs is a five-year career, O'Neal said. He's more than tripled it. "I have worked for good people and had good people working for me. That's one thing I have always taken pride in, having good police officers."

O'Neal said the 2009

Ice Storm also sticks in his mind. That event required several long days of difficult work, mostly providing initial response and care for the community paralyzed by Mother Nature. Officers slept on cots in city hall to be available around the clock.

Times have often been trying, but O'Neal will fondly recall his tenure as Marion's third chief. There have been just three police chiefs here over the last 68 years. O'Neal was preceded by Winn and Ollie Brown.

"Really, it's bittersweet," O'Neal said. "But I will still be around and I can still get out and do some policing."

Mayor D'Anna Brownning plans to name O'Neal's successor as chief in a few days.

DOC

Continued from page 1

eral surgery, laparoscopic and endoscopic procedures, wound care and colon and rectal surgery.

Most recently, Kivisto has worked for Southern Illinois Healthcare where he served as an acute care general surgeon. Previously, he served for 10 years as the general surgeon for multiple facilities in the Northern

Region for OSF Healthcare network, a not-for-profit Catholic health care organization that operates a medical group, hospital system and other health care facilities in Illinois and Michigan. Kivisto was a director and chair of the surgical services committee with OSF.

"As someone who is a native to small-town living, Kivisto makes sure to touch on the premise that the best opportunity to holistically care for a

patient throughout the entirety of their healthcare needs, with a seamless transition to follow through with care, exists best in small towns," the hospital said in a statement.

Liz Kivisto has a bachelor of science degree in nursing and will be working alongside Dr. Kivisto as his nurse in both the operating room and clinic.

"By doing so, this provides the patients with an increased continuity

of care that not one, but two healthcare professionals will follow a patient from start to finish," the hospital's news release said.

Mrs. Kivisto has more than 20 years experience, including specialty healthcare, leadership and management. She has served on the the National Council of State Board of Nursing (NCSBN) for multiple years.

CRITTENDEN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

The 2023-2024 working budget for Crittenden County Schools has been posted and can be found at <https://www.crittenden.kyschools.us/Finance1.aspx>

CRITTENDEN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

The 2022-2023 unaudited AFR, Balance Sheet and vendor list for Crittenden County Schools have been posted and can be found at <https://www.crittenden.kyschools.us/Finance1.aspx>

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Praying for Israel and Palestine

It is difficult to offer balance at times. The recent attack on Israel by Hamas presents us with one of these times. The nature of the attack and the apparent funding by an outside agitator means that there are victims on both sides of the conflict. There are many taking advantage of this to ensure that the hatred continues for another generation, which indicates that peace is not the goal.

For those of us who have the luxury of time to think and enough distance to feel unthreatened, this may be less a time to pick a side and more a time to pray. I am certain that many of us know people whose heritage is Palestinian, Jewish, Christian, Muslim, Iranian, or Lebanese. This is a time of pain. This is a time to offer prayer for all to live up to the best of the words their faith has to offer for peace. With that in mind, here are some words to pray from the Old Testament, New Testament, and from ancient churches of the East (Armenian); words for all of us to pray as we long for peace – everywhere. Remember Azerbaijan and Armenia, Ukraine and Russia, Myanmar, China, and India.



Sean NIESTRATH
Faith-based columnist
Guest Columnist

“It shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the house of the LORD shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; and all the nations shall flow to it, and many peoples shall come, and say: “Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.”

For out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and shall decide for many peoples; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore.” (Isaiah 2:2-4, RSV)

“But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast and be false to the truth. This wisdom is not such as comes down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. For where jealousy

and selfish ambition exist, there will be disorder and every vile practice. But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, without uncertainty or insincerity. And the harvest of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.” (James 3:14-18, RSV)

An Armenian Prayer at night:
“O Lord our God, keep us in peace during the night and at all times. Keep our hearts and thoughts secure in holy reverence for you, so that we may be protected at all times from the snares of the enemy. And let us offer blessing and glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and forever, and unto the ages of ages.”

In Luke 14, Jesus tells a parable of a great feast to which all are invited. Isaiah 25 speaks of such a feast as well. Today, Christians all over the world come around a table to continue sharing in that feast. It is called communion, eucharist, or Lord’s Supper. In many churches, before this is shared, there is a recitation of a prayer – “The Kiss of Peace.” This calls those who are participating into peace with each other and with God and hopes for all people to be united in Peace. It is Christian, but the hope is for all. This is the first part of the Kiss of Peace

from the Coptic Tradition. It expresses hope in times of trouble.

“According to your good will, O God, fill our hearts with your peace. Cleanse us from all blemish, all guile, all hypocrisy, all malice and the remembrance of evil which leads to death. And make us worthy, O our Master, to greet one another with a holy kiss; that without falling into condemnation, we may partake of your immortal and heavenly gift, through Christ Jesus our Lord.”

Finally, here are a few lines from Psalm 34:11-15:

“Come, O sons and daughters, listen to me, I will teach you the fear of the LORD.

Who is there who desires life, And covets many days, that he may enjoy good? Keep your tongue from evil, and your lips from speaking deceit. Depart from evil, and do good; seek peace, and pursue it.

The eyes of the LORD are toward the righteous, and his ears toward their cry.”

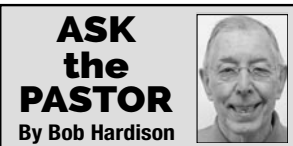
Yes, cleanse us from all remembrance of evil which leads to death and teach us to forgive and heal.

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

God equips us to fight against the devil

Question: I thought when I became a Christian, life would be easy sailing. Why is living for Jesus such a constant struggle?

Answer: Living the Christian life is not a walk in the park, but a life-long battle. We are caught up in a spiritual battle for control of our minds and hearts. As a Christian, you are battling an enemy, the devil, who is vicious and powerful. He is continuously trying to pull us down with his lies and temptations. The Bible warns, “Our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual



forces of evil in the heavenly realms” (Eph. 6:12).

However, in our continuous spiritual battle, God has not sent us into it empty-handed. He provides all the weaponry we need to live victorious lives against the devil’s lies and temptations. That equipment He gives us to use is listed in Ephesians 6:14-18. It is: The belt of truth that protects us against Satan’s lies; the breastplate of righteousness will help us to make right choices; feet

sandaled with readiness for sharing the gospel; the shield of faith will extinguish the fiery assaults of the evil one; the helmet of salvation will give us assurance we are God’s children; and our fighting

sword is the Word of God—the Bible.

So, let’s suit up and battle the devil daily. In Christ, our victory is certain!

Send your questions to: bob@bobhardison.com

We remember, we remember.

Willard Easley

Oct. 19, 1923-May 7, 2020

Community Events & News

- A CAIP informational meeting will be held at 7:30 a.m., Friday, Oct. 20 at the Crittenden County Conservation District office, 118 E. Bellville St., Marion. This free meeting will discuss reimbursable farm projects for producers in Crittenden and Livingston counties.
 - CCHS SBDM will meet at 3:30 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 19 in the high school library.
 - Crittenden County Republican Party will meet at 6 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 19 in the new fiscal court meeting room at Crittenden County Office Complex on Industrial Drive.
 - Old Salem Baptist Church has a Blessing Box located next to the church at 117 Old Salem Church Rd. Everyone is welcome to take items or place them in the box for others to enjoy.
 - Suicidal thoughts? Stop! Email dbrantpc@tds.net and request a video link that hopefully will change your mind.
 - Salem Baptist Church Thrift Store is open 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Tuesday and Saturday at 209 Highland St., Salem.
 - The Clothes Closet of the First Baptist Church in Fredonia is open to serve the area with free clothes. The Clothes Closet is operated from 1-3 p.m. each Thursday. The Clothes Closet will be closed in case of rain.
 - Fredonia Unity Baptist Church’s clothes closet is open from 9 a.m. to noon on the second and fourth Saturday of every month.
 - First Baptist Church of Fredonia food pantry is open from 11 a.m. 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.
 - 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.
 - Salem Baptist Celebrate Recovery meets Monday’s 5:30 p.m. with a meal at 6 p.m., at 209 Highland Street, opposite side of the building from the Thrift Store.
- Does your group have something planned? Let us know. We post notes here at no charge. Email to the-press@the-press.com or call (270) 965-3191.

Western Kentucky Regional Blood Center

BLOOD DRIVE

OCT. 25 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

CRITTENDEN COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL

PARENTS MAY COME BY AND DONATE BUT MUST CHECK IN AT THE OFFICE.

ELECTION NOTICE

OCT. 25 - NOV. 1 VOTING BY EXCUSED IN-PERSON ABSENTEE

Crittenden County Clerk’s Office

Crittenden County Office Complex


200 Industrial Dr., Marion, Ky.

Crittenden County Board of Elections will offer excused in-person absentee voting Oct. 25 to Nov. 1 during regular business hours, weekdays 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., inside Crittenden County Clerk’s Office in the new Crittenden County Office Complex at 200 Industrial Dr. in Marion for General Election voters who will be unable to vote in-person for Early Voting or on Election Day.

Voters must attest to their reason for being unable to vote during Early Voting (Nov. 2-4) or on Election Day (Nov. 7).

This notice is given pursuant to Kentucky statutes

EMMAUS BAPTIST CHURCH




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

St. William Catholic Church




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

Mexico Baptist Church



175 Mexico Rd.
(270) 965-4059
MexicoBaptist.org
Minister of Music Mike Crabtree
Pastor: Tim Burdon
Sunday Worship Services: 10 a.m., 7 p.m.
Sunday Bible Study: 9 a.m.
Sunday Discipleship Training: 6 p.m.
Wednesday Worship Service: 7 p.m.

DEER CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH



“Whatever It Takes”
Bro. Jamie Baker
Sunday Bible Study: 10 a.m.
Sunday Worship: 11 a.m. & 6 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study: 7 p.m.
Approx. 5 miles from the intersection of Hwy. 60 & Hwy. 297
Phone: (270) 965-2220

Emmanuel Baptist Church



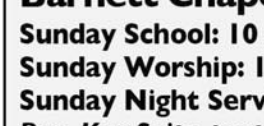
108 Hillcrest Dr., Marion | (270) 965-4623
Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship: 10:45 a.m., 6 p.m.
Wednesday Adult Bible Study, Children and Youth Activities: 6 p.m.

Tolu United Methodist Church




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

Barnett Chapel General Baptist



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

Freedom General Baptist Church



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

Marion Baptist Church



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

SEVEN SPRINGS MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH



219 Seven Springs Rd., Marion, Ky. 42064
Sun. School for all ages: 10 a.m.
Sun. Worship: 11 a.m., 6 p.m. • Wed.: 7 p.m.
- We are an Independent Baptist Church seeking to know Christ and to make Him known to the community around us. -

Crayne Community Church



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

FIRST CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH




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

growing in grace




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

Marion Church of God



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

PINEY FORK




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

Sugar Grove




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

Marion United Methodist Church



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

Frances Community Church




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

Hurricane Church




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

Unity General Baptist Church



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

Marion Church of Christ



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

Here is some interesting history about the early churches and religion in the area.

There were four mainline churches among the first religious groups to come to this part of the new territory. It is from them that we learn their reasons for braving the wilderness and their journey through the Indian-infested forests to this new frontier west of the Allegheny Mountains.

Kentucky today reveals the great influence that these first settlers had on the religious, educational, and political structure of our wonderful state. These first settlers were the Presbyterians, Baptists, Methodists and Christians (Disciples). These four churches gave Kentucky and the whole Appalachian area its first religious identity, the "Bible Belt" of the country. There were many other denominations that came later that have had a tremendous influence on the state's character.



challenge and organized the first Presbyterian church in Kentucky, Cane Run, in 1783. Minutes of the 1785 meeting of ministers record that a probationer named Terah Templin was present. Later ordained, Templin became an important missionary along the western Kentucky frontier.

In order to get an understanding of what Kentucky was like, let's look to history briefly and get a picture of the explorers.

We must remember that Kentucky and Tennessee were claimed by the Indians, and that there was constant warfare with them. All the white settlers were also soldiers, and men carried their guns constantly, even to church.

The women also were taught to shoot. Most of the first generation pioneer preachers had fought in Indian wars. Private

tion and hardships were well known to all. Women spun the thread from buffalo wool to make their clothes. Their shoes were made from the hides. There were no wagon roads, only blazed pathways. Their books: the Bible, hymn books, catechism and almanacs. These books were carried over the mountains and through the wilderness by pack horses.

Schools, as we know them today, were impossible. Homes were schools, and religious services also were held in these homes or under the trees in the summer.

These Scotch-Irish Presbyterians had a profound reverence for the Sabbath. On the Sabbath, no doubt if we

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SERVICES. IT'S NO MISTAKE THAT
MIDWEST HAVE ENTRUSTED THE SALE OF
PROPERTIES HAS AN EXTENSIVE
REACHES THE ENTIRE NATION AND
INVESTORS AND HUNTERS
FOR MORE DETAILS
KENTUCKY LAND

LIVINGSTON COUNTY, KY 11
the right habitat for deer and a
of a rustic one-room hunting cabin
and has plenty of deer sign throughout

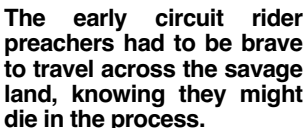
LIVINGSTON COUNTY, KY 8
diverse mix of habitat types, including
points along road frontage, h
and planted pines.

CRITTENDEN COUNTY, KY 5

The Presbyterian Church U. S. A. was established in Kentucky soon after the first settlement of the state. Historical evidence indicates that the Presbyterian church was the first to send missionaries into the territory. Most of them were Scotch-Irish Presbyterians.

The forming of the Presbyterian church in Kentucky was in 1783-85, by Rev. David Rice, who was called the father of the Presbyterian Church in Kentucky. He was born in Hanover County, Va., on Dec. 29, 1773. He was of the same generation of George Washington, 1732, and Daniel Boone, 1734. His father immigrated from England. He was licensed to preach at Hanover College in 1762, and ordained in 1763. He began evangelistic work at once, and became a great, dedicated missionary.

As time passed, explorers came farther West, so Rice made the trek to a new land of Kentucky, taking the horseback circuit despite the fact that he had been told that no circuit rider preacher should go to Kentucky if afraid to die. Rice was one man who met the



could go back and look into these homes, we would find every child either studying the catechism or reciting it. (Catechism was a book giving a brief summary of the basic principles of Christianity.)

The preacher likely had his gun lying on the pulpit as he preached. A note from history is that a preacher who couldn't preach "hell fire and damnation" for two hours was only "skimming the milk." If he could preach two hours before and two hours after dinner, he was considered a true preacher of the word.

A great controversy was taking place in the Presbyterian U.S.A. ministry at the turn of the 19th Century. Such hoards of new settlers were pouring through the wilderness that there were not enough ministers properly educated, to look after very many of the communities who desired to hold services.

So ordination of consecrated men without educational requirements was urged. Other concerns were the revivalists' use of gospel songs instead of the psalms, their shouting was not approved of, and their night services were considered scandalous.

By 1805, the controversy became a disturbing issue. Finally, the Cumberland Presbyterian Church was formed in 1810. The Cumberland Presbyterians did not

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REACHES THE ENTIRE NATION AND INCLUDES FARMERS, SPORTSMEN,
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KENTUCKY LAND SPECIALIST,
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LIVINGSTON COUNTY, KY 118.1 - \$299,000 - This property has the right habitat for deer and turkey hunting, with the added bonus of a rustic one-room hunting cabin located in a qdm neighborhood and has plenty of deer sign throughout!

LIVINGSTON COUNTY, KY 40309 - 36,869 - Property has a diverse mix of habitat types, **SOLD** system, numerous entry points along road frontage, hunter-friendly topography, a creek, and planted pines.

CRITTENDEN COUNTY, KY 55 78 - \$255,000 - This tract has the right blend of habitat for deer, turkeys, and wild birds to grow and hold big bucks with the added bonus of a fully furnished pole barn cabin! Includes a Redneck hunting blind and feeders!

LIVINGSTON COUNTY, KY - 113.44 ACRES - \$269,422 - All
timber hunting tract. This tract is located in an area known for big
bucks and has timber diversity.

LIVINGSTON COUNTY, KY - 119.44 ACRES - \$235,906 - Mostly timber hunting tract geared toward turkeys and whitetails. This tract has a diverse topography with dynamic terrain features and timber diversity.

LIVINGSTON COUNTY, KY - 189.63 ACRES - \$501,265 - All
timber hunting tract. This property is a timbered ridge top with food
plots and a natural saddle.

LIVINGSTON COUNTY, KY - 427 ACRES - \$918,237 - Timbered ridge top hunting tract! This tract has the ideal blend of habitat types for mature whitetails and wild turkeys.

**CRITTENDEN COUNTY, KY - 201.98 ACRES - REDUCED!
\$759,000** - This property has a diverse blend of habitat types and topography with a home, outbuildings and a proven history of big bucks. The home has 2,025 square feet of living space with three bedrooms and two bathrooms.

CRITTENDEN COUNTY, KY - 0.9 ACRES - REDUCED! \$105,000 - This rustic cabin with storage buildings provides the ideal base camp for your hunting adventures! This cabin has 1,192 square feet of living space with three bedrooms and one bathroom, a spacious living area with a fireplace, a full kitchen with plenty of cabinet space, a full bathroom and laundry room.

CRITTENDEN COUNTY, KY - 265.67 ACRES - \$742,500 -
Diverse hunting tract with waterfowl potential! This tract has the ideal habitat types for deer, turkeys and waterfowl hunting! This river bottom farm has approximately 1.5 miles of frontage along the Tradewater River.

LIVINGSTON COUNTY, KY - 139.95 ACRES - \$318,386 - Great hunting tract with dynamic hunter friendly topography, mast producing timber, security cover, open areas for food plots and a good trail system.



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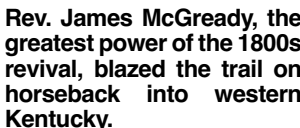
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NTUCKY, MISSOURI, DAN PEREZ, BROK

108 N. MONROE | PITTSFIELD, IL 62363 | 217.285-9000



disapprove of education, but to meet the emergency caused by the rapid extension of settlement was their purpose. The revivals were continued. Camp meetings were the order of the day.

The revival of 1800,
which really began in

LIST W

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OF THE RILEY ESTATE ON FORDS FERRY RD., MARION












































Oct. 28 ★ 8:55 a.m.

Selling John Deere riding mower, motorcycles, Honda 4 wheeler, Ford tractor, implements, pull behind camper, trailer, 2 portable carports, several portable storage buildings, tools, antiques, air compressors, vices, bench grinders, tool boxes, and much, MUCH MORE!




































































































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OCTOBER 21, 2023

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From 9:00am - 1:00pm
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LIVE ARTS DEMONSTRATIONS	INFLATABLES
FOOD VENDORS	FACE PAINTING
MUSIC	FFA PEDAL TRACROR PULL
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WOMAN'S CLUB PIES & CAKES	CAKE WALK
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	DARTS FOR CASH
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Classifieds The Crittenden Press

The Crittenden Press

125 E. Bellville St.,
P.O. Box 191
Marion, KY 42064
(270) 965-3191
information@the-press.com

Open weekdays
9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Advertising deadline
is 5 p.m., Monday

Prepaid ads of 20 words or less are \$6 for one week, with a 10-cent charge for each word over the initial 20. Run the same ad for consecutive issues for only \$4 each week. Now, all regular classified ads are placed on our Web site, www.the-press.com, at no extra charge. You can also reach more than one million readers with one call! Contact the classified department for more information about placing a 25-word classified in 70 newspapers for only \$250. It is the policy of The Crittenden Press Inc., to fully comply with the Fair Housing Act and to never knowingly publish advertisements that discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, disability or family status. If you believe an advertisement published in this newspaper is discriminatory, please contact the publisher immediately at (270) 965-3191. All phone numbers listed for ads on this page are within the 270 area code unless otherwise noted.

for sale

Oxy Acetylene welding outfit with tanks, \$150. (812) 499-4073 Marion, KY. (1t-42-p)

Cold weather ahead? Seasoned firewood. \$60 short-bed pickup load. Salem area, Call Brad, (270) 210-5620. (5t-45-p)

Classified advertising works! Customers tell us they sell their items faster than they expect by listing in The Crittenden Press! Call (270) 965-3191 to post a classified ad.

sales

Oct. 19, 20 and 21, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., at 47 Crayne Cemetery Rd, in Crayne (Omer house). Like new women's plus-size clothing and jeans to 18W; shoes, purses, hair products, craft items, small animal cage, pet taxis, shears, clothing; throws, blankets, small appliances and misc. Christmas items. No early birds. Rain cancels. Not responsible for accidents. (1t-42-p)

employment

The Crittenden County Sheriff's Office is accepting applications for School Resource Officer. We have an immediate start position. This position is open to lateral transfers and eligible Kentucky retirees and open to eligible, out-of-state, certified transfers with (Reciprocity). Starting pay is \$25.00 per hour, plus KY KLEFPF funds, Monday through Friday work schedule during school hours. Job duties will include but not be limited to,

providing security to all School campuses, daily interactions with students, providing help with school traffic in the morning and evening, assisting with some after school functions, conducting daily safety checks throughout the schools and working with the State School Security Marshal Office. Preference will be given to certified candidates with School Resource Officer 1-3 training. Candidates who do not have these certifications are encouraged to apply. Applications may be picked up at the Crittenden County Sheriff's Office, questions can be directed to 270-965-3400. (2t-42-c)

\$16.20 MINIMUM WAGE!! SIGN-ON BONUSES FOR MOST POSITIONS!! Earle C. Clements Job Corps Academy is seeking employees. We offer a competitive salary, benefits package, and advancement opportunities. MTC is an equal opportunity employer-Minority/Female/Disabled/Veteran. To view current openings, view qualifications, and apply, please visit our website: www.mtc-jobs.com "Building Tomorrow's Futures Today" (tfc-c)

LABORERS NEEDED IMMEDIATELY! Full-time local positions, 1st & 2nd shift. Good starting wage \$16 or more based on skill & experience. Must pass background & drug screen. Apply at Liberty Tire Recycling, 2071 US 60 West, Marion KY or email resume to hmaloney@libertytire.com. Call for more info 270-965-3613. Equal Opportunity Employer. (tfc-c)

services

Offering in-home pedicures in Marion and surrounding area. Call Beautiful Nails at Home (270) 969-8477. (4t-46-p)

Better Built Home Solutions: Decks, Pressure washing, window washing, Roofing, painting, tree trimming/cutting, general maintenance jobs and much more! If you need a job done, Give me a call 270-704-1888. Free estimates. (2t-42-c)

CONCRETE WORK: Parking lots, garages, steel buildings, walls, sidewalks, driveways, room additions, rock driveways, clean ditches. Call for quote (270) 724-4672, Joe Mattingly Concrete Construction. (20t-44-p)

Valley View Windows, custom built vinyl windows, 3-week lead time. Free estimates. We install for new construction and replacement. Double-pane glass, low E and Argon or clear glass. Closed Thurs., Sat. and Sun. New Location: 2111 Turkey Knob Rd., Marion, Ky. 42064. (52t-26-p)

notice

Advertise your job opening, event, items for sale, auction etc. in this newspaper plus 83 other Kentucky newspapers including The Paducah Sun, Kentucky New Era (Hopkinsville), The Sturgis News, The (Princeton) Times Leader, The (Providence) Journal-Enterprise, The Union County Advocate, The Henderson Gleaner, The Livingston Ledger and The (Madisonville) Messenger and for only \$250. Save time and money by making one call for all! For

more information, contact the classified department at (270) 965-3191 or email us at advertising@the-press.com.

public notice

Notice is hereby given that Viva La Cantina LLC is applying for a liquor license in Marion, Kentucky. This is an opportunity for public comment. For inquiries or objections, contact Gracie Bruce at graciebruce323@gmail.com. Published on Oct. 17, 2023. (4t-45-c)

legal notice

If anyone has an invested interest in this grey 2019 Jeep Cherokee Limited 4x4 with 56,000 miles, VIN#1C4PJMDN7KD169355, contact Austin Story and Tiffany Combs by certified mail at 109 Shady Lane, Marion, KY 42064. (2t-43-p)

statewides

ANIMALS/PETS

Are you a pet owner? Do you want to get up to 100% back on Vet Bills? Physicians Mutual Insurance Company has pet coverage that can help! Call 1-844-770-5259 to get a free quote or visit insurebarkmeow.com/kypa

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Donate your car, truck, boat, RV and more to support our veterans! Schedule a FAST, FREE vehicle pickup and receive a top tax deduction! Call Veteran Car Donations at 1-833-984-2146 today!

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HughesNet Satellite Internet –Call Today for speeds up to 25mbps as low as \$59.99/mo! Finally, no hard data limits! \$75 gift card, terms apply. 1-866-481-29844G

4G LTE Home Internet Now Available! Get GotW3 with lightning fast speeds plus take your service with you when you travel! As low as \$109.99/mo! 1-877-706-4439

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ALL DISTRICT TEAM



Katie Perryman



Carly Porter



Payton Hall



Riley Kirby



Hannah Mott



Riley Smith

VOLLEYBALL
2nd Region rankings

Following are regular season 2nd Region teams based on KHSAA power rankings.

Rank	Team	Overall	Dist.
1.	University Heights	31-2	8-0
2.	Christian County	18-10	6-2
3.	Crittenden County	14-13	4-0
4.	Union County	12-9	2-2
5.	Caldwell County	14-17	4-1

CRITTENDEN COUNTY
Sports Events

FRIDAY
Football hosts Caldwell County

SATURDAY
Jr Pro Football hosts Hopkins County

Cross Country Regional Meet at O'boro

NEXT WEEK
Volleyball regional tournament

FOOTBALL
CCMS falls to Green Co.

Crittenden County Middle School lost 14-0 Friday at home against Green County in the opening round of the state middle school playoffs. On its first series of the game, CCMS was held at the goal line on fourth down. Green County scored the game's first touchdown early in the second half then got an onside kick to set up another TD. The middle school Rockets finish their season with a 5-4 record.

Class 2A High School
FIRST REGION

District One		
Mayfield	2-0	6-1
Crittenden County	1-1	4-4
Murray	1-1	6-2
Caldwell County	0-2	0-8
District Two		
Owensboro Catholic	2-0	8-0
Fort Campbell	2-0	5-3
Todd Central	0-2	3-5
Edmonson County	0-2	1-7

SOFTBALL
Chili supper before football

Lady Rocket Softball will hold a chili supper fundraiser between 5-7 p.m., Friday, Oct. 20 in the multipurpose room, serving chili, sandwiches, drinks and dessert for \$7. Also, special guests will be members of the 1985 team who will be reuniting and attending the Crittenden vs. Caldwell football game.

OUTDOORS
Hunting Seasons

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

Bullfrog	May 19 - Oct 31
Squirrel	Aug 19 - Nov 10
Dove	Sept 1 - Oct 26
Deer archery	Sept 2 - Jan 15
Turkey archery	Sept 2 - Jan 15
Deer crossbow	Sept 16 - Jan 15
Raccoon hunting	Oct 1 - Feb 29
Turkey crossbow	Oct 1-22
Deer youth hunt	Oct 14-15
Deer muzzleloader	Oct 21-22
Turkey shotgun	Oct 28 - Nov 3
Turkey crossbow	Nov 11 - Dec 31
Deer rifle season	Nov 11-26
Squirrel	Nov 13 - Feb 29
Quail	Nov 13 - Feb 29
Rabbit	Nov 13 - Feb 10
Raccoon trapping	Nov 13 - Feb 29
Gray or red fox	Nov 13 - Feb 29

V-Ball girls
make it six
straight titles

STAFF REPORT
Crittenden County won an unprecedented sixth straight Fifth District volleyball championship Tuesday at Smithland, dispatching Livingston Central 25-11, 25-12, 25-19 in the finals. Livingston kept it close in the third set, leading 19-17 before Crittenden rallied for the win by forcing LCHS miscues and reeling off eight straight points. The Lady Rockets have now won 34 consecutive matches against Fifth District opponents dating back to a loss against Trigg County in the tournament title in 2017 when CCHS finished run-rerup. Senior Katie Perryman was named District Player of the Year and Payton Hall, Hannah Mott, Riley Smith, Riley Kirby and Carly Porter were also selected to the all-district team. Its utter domination of the district may be the most definitive winning



Senior Riley Smith (18) returns a shot during Tuesday's title game at Smithland.

streak in Crittenden County sports history. No other athletic team has won so many straight championships. CCHS finished the regular season No. 3 in the Second Region KHSAA power rankings behind University Heights and Christian County, two teams it has had difficulties matching up with this sea-

son. Although the girls are 0-5 against the region's top two clubs, they're in good position for a chance to win the school's first ever regional title next week. The tournament draw is Friday. The regional bracket will be played at Caldwell County.

Mayfield wipes out Rockets 46-6

STAFF REPORT
As long as grasses grow and rivers flow, Mayfield football will almost certainly be an Alpha dog in western Kentucky. As to be expected, every club in the bag was working for the No. 4 Cardinals as they dispatched No. 7 Crittenden County 46-6 in what was actually a pivotal Class 2A First District matchup that fell far short of its marquee potential with a district title on the line. Instead, Crittenden's aspirations for a league championship in its return to Class 2A were promptly dashed as Mayfield scored early and often behind its multifaceted offense. The Rockets can yet salvage a second-place finish in the district and capture home-field advantage for round one of the playoffs by beating winless Caldwell County this week at Marion. Meanwhile, the Cardinals will host Murray Friday where a win for Mayfield would nail down another league title in a long line of championships. However, an upset by Murray could force a three-way tie for first place with Crittenden in the mix if it can get past the nemesis Tigers. Murray beat Caldwell 27-7 last week. Against the Cardinals, Crittenden played just about as clean as it had all season, but the high-caliber opponent was too sturdy. Other than a blocked punt and touchdown pass nullified by a holding penalty, the Rockets didn't waller itself in major faux pas. Also on the bright side, senior Tyler Belt blocked two extra-point attempts by May-



Crittenden County's Caden Howard (6) led the Rockets with four receptions on offense and seven solo tackles on defense during the loss Friday at Mayfield.

field and junior Trace Scott intercepted a pass by the Cardinals' second-team quarterback during the running-clock period of the second half. There were other nice football plays on Crittenden's scorecard, but far too few to make a dent in Mayfield's superiority. "At times, I think we did some really good things," Rocket coach Gaige Courtney said, pointing to fewer penalties than normal and no turnovers, among them. "I saw some really good things, but it just doesn't look like it when you're playing a team that's that good. The small mistakes just turn into huge plays," the coach said. **SCORE BY QUARTERS**
CCHS 0 0 6 0
Mayfield 12 20 7 7
SCORING PLAYS
M-Braden Morris 20 pass from Zane

Cartwright (kick blocked) 8:40, 1st
M-Ian Williams 2 run (run failed) 3:03, 1st
M-Jutoriaus Starks 15 run (kick blocked) 10:16, 2nd
M-Mehki Dumas 10 run (Lincoln Suitor kci) 8:12, 2nd
M-Xavier Biggers 41 pass from Cartwright (Suitor kick) 1:18, 2nd
M-Landon Kemp 22 block punt return (Suitor kick) 9:57, 3rd
C-Micah Newcom 7 run (kick failed) 3:04, 2nd
M-Josiah England 24 run (Suitor kick) 11:40, 4th
TEAM TOTALS
First Downs: CCHS 7, MHS 12
Penalties: CCHS 4-45, MHS 6-30
Rushing: CCHS 22-49, MHS 20-223
Passing: CCHS 13-24-0, 96; MHS 11-14-1, 165
Total Yards: CCHS 145, MHS 388
Fumbles/Lost: 0-0, 0-0
INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS
Rushing
CCHS: Newcom 9-43, Tyler Belt 1-1, Quinn Summers 2-3, Gattin Travis 4-7, Jacob Carder 2-5, Michael Porter 2-(-9), Gaige Markham 2-(-1). MHS: Starks 13-151, England 2-34, Williams

2-2, Dumas 3-19, Cartwright 1-17.
Passing
CCHS: Newcom 11-21-0, 55; Summers 2-3-0, 41. MHS: Cartwright 11-13-0, 165; Gray Robbins 0-1-1.
Receiving
CCHS: Camron Belcher 1-32, Brayden Poindexter 1-9, Caden Howard 4-16, Travis 3-1, Casey Cates 2-1, Gabe Keller 2-37. MHS: Biggers 4-57, Mak Hoover 4-29, Morris 3-79.
Defense
Gabe Keller 5 solos, Levi Piper solo; Bennett McDaniel 3 solos, 2 assists; Lane West 3 solos, assist, TFL; Casey Cates 2 solos; Tyler Belt solo, assist; Grayson James 2 assists; Tyree McLean 6 solos; Kaiden Travis solo, 2 assists; Cameron Belcher solo; Trace Scott solo, interception; Caden Howard 7 solos; Brayden Poindexter fumble recovery; Jacob Carder solo.
Players of the Game: Defense Tyree McLean, Offense Micah Newcom, Lineman Lane West, Special Teams Tyler Belt.
Records: Crittenden 4-4 (1-1), Mayfield 6-1 (2-0).



CRITTENDEN COUNTY FALL SPORTS ROUNDUP

CCHS CROSS COUNTRY

Three Crittenden County cross country runners medaled Saturday at Mayfield in the Eagle Classic. Mary Martinez, Ella Geary and Asa McCord each earned medals as top 20 finishers. The boys' team finished seventh out of a dozen teams in the meet and the

girls were fourth out of five teams. CCHS harriers will be at Owensboro this weekend for the First Region Cross Country Meet.

GIRLS		
15	Mary Martinez	22:26.62
20	Ella Geary	23:33.84
21	Presley Potter	24:01.79
28	Aubrey Grau	24:36.92
29	Ella Whitney	24:56.99

39	Karsyn Potter	27:34.17
BOYS		
18	Asa McCord	18:27.45
44	River Rogers	20:35.39
55	Landon Starkey	21:53.06
58	Jaxton Duncan	22:28.19
64	Zachary Rustin	23:00.66
67	Jayden Gibson	23:13.94
73	Noah Martinez	23:29.85
84	Maddox Watkins	25:44.34

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Highly decorate local amateur competitive archer Tucker Boudro took his first buck with a bow on the afternoon of Oct. 6. It was a nine pointer.



Asher Belt bagged this whitetail doe during last weekend's youth hunt.



Collin Barnes harvested this eight-point buck Saturday morning.



Brayton Brown scored a doe during the weekend youth hunt.



Boone Tabor was one of the successful youth hunters last weekend.



Emmitt Ellington recently harvested this whitetail buck with a bow.

Youth hunters score 50 deer

STAFF REPORT
Crittenden County youngsters age 15 and under took 50 whitetails during last weekend's two-day youth deer hunt. That's about average based on harvests during the two-day hunt the past few seasons. Coming up this weekend is the two-day statewide blackpowder season. Muzzleloaders get a crack at deer prior to the modern rifle season, which runs for 16 days starting Nov. 11, and includes the Thanksgiving holiday. Hunters are finding whitetails, particularly



bucks, tough to corner right now due to a large amount of acorns and other nuts in the forests. In times of poor mast production, deer can be found congregating around other centralized food sources such as grain fields. That makes

them easier prey for hunters. Field reports from outdoorsmen indicate deer being scattered with little movement of mature males so far. However, rubbing and scraping are prevalent in the fall woods at this time.



50 YEARS AGO

October 18, 1973
■ Junior class officers at Crittenden County High for the 1973 school year included Cindy Travis, treasurer; Gayl Perryman, reporter; Donnie Beavers, president; Michell Croft, secretary; and Jim Young, vice president.
■ Doug Webb, a senior at Crittenden County High School, was featured in the 7th annual edition of Who's Who Among American High School Students, the largest student award publication in the nation. He was recognized for his leadership in academics, athletics, activities and community service. He was among fewer than 2 percent of juniors and seniors nationwide awarded this recognition.
■ Secretary of Agriculture Earl L. Butz called for cooperation of several federal agencies and the fertilizer industry in an effort to reduce or eliminate growing shortages of fertilizer in the United States. He noted an increased worldwide demand for fertilizer and indicated a potential shortage of about 1.7 million tons in the United States unless foreign and domestic demand was satisfied.

25 YEARS AGO

October 15, 1998
■ Videographers filming a segment for The History Channel in Crittenden County looked for the stomping grounds of the notorious James Ford gang and the Harp Brothers. The History Channel segment on the two gangs' activities in western Kentucky and southern Illinois was featured in "The River Pirates," which was included in the television channel's "In Search of History" series.
■ Crittenden County's football team was victorious over Russellville. Crittenden (6-1 overall and 1-0 in the district) was favored to win its last three games and capture a second league championship in three years. The celebration was big after the game as Chris Templeton and Adam Young raced off the field. Freshman David Hunt made his first start and recorded tackles with help from Matt Jent, Lucas Mick and Austin Turley.
■ Eighth-grade cross country runner Tabi

Morris added to her collection of accomplishments when she won first place in the Trigg County Cross Country Invitational. The victory was her first.
■ At 14-under par, the four-person team of Phillis Hardin, Pippi Hardin, Jeremy Shoulters and Rudy Adams were unbeatable in the 18-hole Paul Mick Memorial Golf Tournament at the Marion Country Club.

10 YEARS AGO

October 17, 2013
■ Crittenden County fifth-graders had an opportunity to step back into the past and learn about the history of Marion and the early businesses which helped shape the city and Crittenden County. Students took walking tours of downtown Marion, visiting historic landmarks. Sarah Ford led tours for students, who were required to write an essay based on what they learned.
■ Sawyer Towery, a member of Crittenden County Middle School's Student Technology and Leadership Program (STLP), visited the Crittenden County Historical Museum and collected photos of his late-grandfather Carlisle Towery's Indianapolis Hornets basketball jersey. He was creating a multimedia project detailing his grandfather's basketball legacy. Carlisle Towery was an All-American college basketball player at Western Kentucky University and retired from professional basketball in 1950.
■ James Marcus Hughes, a senior at Crittenden County High School, was selected as the Mid-Continent University (MCU) Teen of the Week. Hughes had a thirst for learning and attended the prestigious Gatton Academy and Western Kentucky University, an early college entrance program.
■ Kindergarten students at Crittenden County Elementary School had perfect fall weather for their field trip to Gardner Farms. The 5-and 6-year-olds enjoyed a hay ride, a walk through a stand of corn, a picnic lunch and countless activities. Grant Gardner and Cindy Williams took a host of kindergarten boys for a ride on the cow train, while other students spread out in the sunshine with their sack lunches.

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

MARION POLICE activity report

Data below provided by Marion Police Department compare police activity for the month of September 2023 to the same month in 2022. The chart also includes the previous month's totals, year-to-date police activity totals and last year's monthly average.

CATEGORY	SEPTEMBER 2023	SEPTEMBER 2022	AUGUST 2023	2023 YR TO DATE	2022 MONTHLY AVERAGE
Miles driven/patrolled	1606	2,949	1,874	17,565	3,320.3
Criminal investigations	8	20	13	93	12.2
Domestics	13	7	8	47	6.2
Felony Arrests	3	4	10	42	5.2
Misdemeanor arrests	4	9	7	69	8.3
Non-criminal arrests	7	7	9	68	10.1
DUI arrests	1	1	1	6	0.5
Criminal summons served	3	4	12	36	2.6
Traffic citations	20	31	10	138	16.8
Other citations	27	38	38	222	27.7
Traffic warnings	1	0	3	39	2.6
Parking tickets	0	0	0	1	0.1
Traffic accidents	8	5	8	43	5.6
Security checks/alarms	63	41	61	488	39.8
Calls for service	211	174	227	1,646	176.6

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Fall is great time for bass fishing on western Kentucky's big lakes

BY LEE MCCLELLAN
KY AFIELD OUTDOORS
Anglers looking for good lakes for fall bass fishing should head west – to Kentucky and Barkley lakes.

Bass fishing here is on an upswing, especially for smallmouth bass. The Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources rates smallmouth bass fishing in these lakes as the best in 20 years. The famed largemouth bass fishery in Kentucky Lake has powered the reservoir's reputation as a destination for decades. But more anglers are discovering the growing opportunities for bronzebacks as well.

"Smallmouth bass numbers have really increased over the past two to three years on both Kentucky and Barkley lakes," said Adam Martin, Western Fisheries District biologist for Kentucky Fish and Wildlife. Smallmouth bass now make up about 30 percent of the black bass in both these lakes. Smallmouths are showing up more often in bass tournament weigh-ins as well.

Environmental conditions play a major role in this transition. Smallmouth bass started appearing in greater numbers in the lower sections of Kentucky Lake in the late 1980s. The drought years of that decade, along with improved land use practices in the Tennessee River drainage, such as no-till agriculture, helped reduce sediment and clear the water. Numbers of smallmouth bass and black crappie – both of which favor clearer water than largemouth bass or white crappie – began increasing as a result, Martin said.

The eastern side of Kentucky Lake, along the Land Between the Lakes side, holds more smallmouth bass than the western side. Wave action through the years exposed much pea gravel-sized chert on the eastern side of the lake,

along with some stumps and chunk rock to mix in with the pea gravel.

The Tennessee River also runs closer to the bank on this side of the lake from the canal that links Kentucky Lake and Lake Barkley in the north down to Eggner Ferry Bridge. This gives smallmouth bass the deepwater sanctuary they need.

The pea gravel banks and bars in the mouth Pigsah Bay, Duncan Bay and Sugar Bay are riven with channels and drops and hold smallmouth bass in fall. The sloping gravel banks on the northern side of Higgins Bay and Vickers Bay also harbors smallmouth bass.

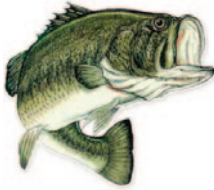
A skirted double-tailed grub, commonly called a Hula grub or a spider grub, is a nearly forgotten lure for smallmouth bass in the fall. Rig a 4-inch green pumpkin Hula grub on a ¼- to 3/8-ounce stand-up head with a weed guard. Toss the lure toward the bank then crawl it down the slope of the pea gravel banks. Sometimes, swimming the grub just above the bottom triggers smallmouth bass into biting.

Watermelon with red flake and motor oil also make productive Hula grub colors.

A 4- to 5-inch soft plastic tube bait is another lure from a bygone era that destroys smallmouth bass on Kentucky Lake. Fish the tube on a ¼-ounce leadhead with a pull and drop technique: gently pull the tube off the bottom then let it settle back down to the bottom.

The strike is usually light with this retrieve. Anglers should respond with a vigorous hook set to any jump in the fishing line, a spongy feeling or if the line suddenly goes slack.

Roadkill camo is a popular local color for tubes, but watermelon candy and black with red flakes also produce strikes.



The fabled largemouth bass fishery is improving in Kentucky Lake, after some disruption from the arrival of invasive carp. Numbers of bighead and silver carp, both natives of Asia, began swelling in Kentucky and Barkley lakes about a decade ago. The lakes began losing their luster in some bass fishing circles as a result.

"We've had the best largemouth bass spawn on record and the worst largemouth bass spawn during the 10 years that invasive carp have been in the lake," Martin said. "This is not surprising since historically, we've had inconsistent bass spawns on Kentucky Lake. The success of the spawn is largely independent of carp - it is mainly driven by springtime weather patterns."

The success of the largemouth bass spawn in 2016 led to great numbers of 15- to 17-inch spawning size fish in Kentucky Lake a few years later. These fish had good reproduction in 2020 and 2021; this bodes well for future fishing for largemouths. The lack of springtime floods created good conditions for successful spawns.

"The largemouth bass population has good numbers, just not as good as they were at their peak in 2014," Martin said. "We've had good shad reproduction and the largemouth bass currently are in good body condition."

Bays on the Land Between the Lakes side of the lake near the Tennessee state line – including Blockhouse Bay, Rushing Bay, Ginger Bay and Clay Bay – are good places to prospect for largemouth bass in fall.

These bays have shallow pockets and gravel bars adjacent to drop-offs. A Carolina rig is not often thought of as a fall presentation, but a 5-inch Senko-style soft plastic jerkbait on the business end of draws strikes.

Old Smithland Bridge coming down

Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC), Jim Smith Contracting and a demolition sub-contractor have moved the explosive demolition of the Old U.S. 60 Cumberland River Bridge at Smithland to Thursday, Nov. 2. The schedule could vary based on weather when explosives are placed on the bridge structure in the last few days of blast preparations.

Prep work that includes saw cutting and removal of the concrete decking on the 92-year-old structure will continue. The concrete deck has been removed from the main truss using heavy equipment. As the demolition date approaches, a sub-contractor will cut key locations on the main truss before

placing explosives to bring down the truss and approach spans. The explosives crew plans to take down the truss and approach spans at the same time.

The explosive demolition of the old bridge will require the new bridge to be closed from approximately 9 a.m., to 11:30 a.m., on the day of the blast, and require commercial tow boat and pleasure boat traffic to be halted for about 24 hours on the Cumberland River. There will be a 1,500-foot clear zone around the blast site that will be strictly enforced.

Once the main truss is dropped into the river, a crane mounted on barges will remove remnants of the steel truss from the river to allow the steel to be recycled.

Tentative plans include a viewing area for the public at the Livingston County Fairgrounds on the day of the blast.

Once this initial blast has taken down the main truss and approach spans, two additional blasts will be scheduled at about two-week intervals to take down the concrete piers and demolish concrete abutments.

The New U.S. 60 Cumberland River bridge at Smithland, also known as the Jim R. Smith Memorial Bridge and the Smithland Bridge, opened to traffic on May 15. The 1,912-foot bridge was constructed by Jim Smith Contracting of Grand Rivers.

About 5,100 vehicles cross the Smithland Bridge in an average day.

Akridge celebrates 90 years in business

STAFF REPORT

Akridge Farm Supply is having a big 90th anniversary celebration all this week and it will climax Friday and Saturday with special deals and fun for the whole family.

The store was founded in 1933 when Thomas Ruble “TR” and his wife Rosalie Akridge opened on Main Street in Fredonia. In 1959, their only son, Dean, joined the business and it moved to what was known as the old cheese factory, which is the same place it is today.

In 1982, Akridge’s expanded to Eddyville. Dean passed away just over a year ago, but his family continues to operate the two stores, which have grown over the decades.

In 1989, the third generation, Paul Akridge, joined the family business and tripled the size of the Eddyville location.

The two Akridge’s locations are the area’s Ace Hardware dealer.

Last week, the Fredonia store got a new layer of asphalt on the parking lot to brush up for the big celebration this coming weekend.

There are giveaways all week at the store in Fredonia, including door prizes and discounts on merchandise.

On Friday and Saturday there will be pumpkin painting, a bounce house and food plus other fun activities.

The farm store has a full line of hardware, mowers, chain saws and other outdoors tools, home supplies, livestock aids and it provides service on equipment.

SEPTEMBER 2023

Weather Yearbook

Coldest Temp
48.9

Warmest Temp
88.9

Wettest Day
0.99

Tues., Sept. 19

Mon., Sept. 4

Tues., Sept. 5

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018
Average Temp	70.02	71.3	70.4	69.1	65.5	73.7
Coldest Temp	48.9	44.4	46.3	47.9	53.7	46.8
Hottest Temp	88.9	95.8	88.6	88	95.5	94.7
Precipitation	2.6	2.0	2.2	2.71	0.19	6.57
Wettest Day	0.99	0.86	0.84	1.15	0.15	2.21

■ While July and August were a bit milder than recent years for Crittenden County, September was warmer on average, much like it was in 2022. Rainfall was about normal for the month after August was wetter. August through October is typically the driest three months in Crittenden County, based on weather patterns observed over the last few years.



Doug Campbell, owner of GTG Asphalt Sealing and Repair, re-striped the outdoor basketball court last week at Marion-Crittenden County Park. Campbell donated his time and materials to repair the surface. Rims on the basketball goals are also going to be replaced soon.



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Marion

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COLLECTION

Area 1

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Area 3

Area 4

Area 1

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W. of North Main-
Fords Ferry Rd.
Oct. 30-31, Nov. 8-9

Area 2

N. of E. Bellville
E. of N. Main-Fords
Ferry Rd.
Nov. 1-2, 10 & 13

Area 3

S. of E. Bellville
E. of S. Main
Nov. 3, 14, 20

Area 4

S. of E. Bellville
W. of S. Main
Nov. 6-7, 21-22

Nov. 15-17 No Pick Up Meter Reading
Nov. 23-24 Holiday
Dec. 1 Random, End of Leaf Pickup

OCTOBER 30-DECEMBER 1	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
	30 ★ Area 1 ★	31	1 ★ Area 2 ★	2 ★ Area 2 ★	3 Area 3
	6 ★ Area 4 ★	7	8 ★ Area 1 ★	9 ★ Area 1 ★	10 Area 2
	13 Area 2	14 Area 3	15 NO PICKUP - METER READING	16 NO PICKUP - METER READING	17 NO PICKUP - METER READING
	20 Area 3	21 ★ Area 4 ★	22 ★ Area 4 ★	23 HOLIDAY	24 HOLIDAY
	27 Random	28 Random	29 Random	30 Random	1 End Leaf Pickup



COMFORTS OF HOME!

FALL HOME IMPROVEMENT 2023 - Pg. 1B
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A special supplement to The Crittenden Press

Tiny house living becomes right choice

BIG BENEFITS SMALL SPACE

By ALLISON EVANS
PRESS REPORTER

A vision and an empty shell can turn nothing into something. That's what Angie Beverly did to build a comfortable, practical and economical place to raise her grandson, Asher. Tiny house living might not be for everyone, but it's perfect for Beverly and her third-grader.

With a career and an active eight-year-old, it can seem they're only home to sleep and shower. In that case, 384 square feet is plenty of space.

Beverly had her tiny house custom built, choosing an Eagle building with double pane windows, a porch, open interior and attic spaces on each end designed as bedrooms.

She could have saved room with a camper-size shower, but preferred a full-size tub and shower unit in an area that doubles as a laundry room with a full-size stackable washer and dryer and walk-in closet.

"We will be here three years Dec. 5," she said, while Asher ran in and out with a Nerf football in hand, enjoying the freedom of a nice yard in the



country. The space manages to have a full-size refrigerator, stove, sink and minimal cabinetry. Above the sink are shelves for kitchen necessities.

"It was an empty shell. We ran the electrical, hung insulation and dry-wall. My dad and uncles did the plumbing... and I textured and painted all the walls and helped lay the floor."

Her interest in small spaces was spurred by

HGTV shows that feature tiny house living.

"I've always been fascinated with it, even at my last house. I wanted to have nothing and turn it into something," she said.

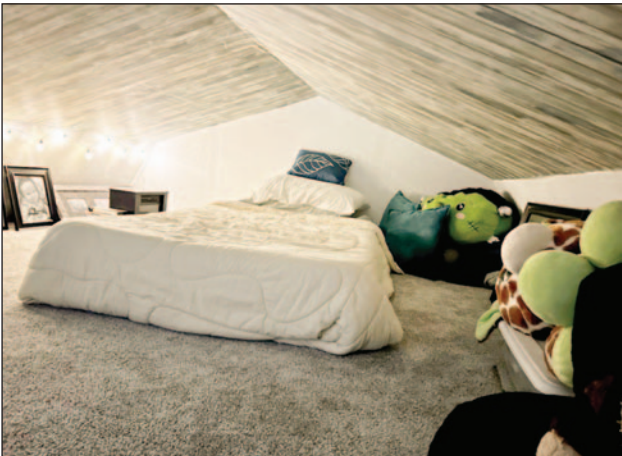
Inflated housing costs was another factor in turning to a smaller place.

"I wanted to do it anyway, but it turned out to be the right choice because I couldn't have afforded to buy a house. The houses I could afford would have to be gutted

and re-done."

She decided to downsize and say, "No thank you," to a huge mortgage. She would do it again.

"We run in the summer between ball, (working at the) ball park, and going to Venture River. We're never here, so we really just need a place to shower and sleep," said Beverly, whose summer-time, part-time job is operating the concession stand at Marion City-County Park. She works full time



Angie Beverly and her grandson Asher are fine with tiny living. In fact, it's practical, more economical and provides just enough space for their busy lifestyles. In fact, their 384-square foot house in the country might not be their last.

at the school as a special education assistant.

Admittedly, winter is harder, when the two are stuck indoors. That's when the tiny house feels a little cramped and cabin fever can creep in.

Still, there is satisfaction in having no mortgage and very modest utility bills.

Her electric bill was never over \$100 this summer and her water bill is about \$30 a month. She cools the quarters with a window unit air conditioner.

In design, Beverly lost a little interior space because she chose a 12x6-foot inset front porch. It was worth it to be able to

sit outside in a covered space, she says.

If she ever moves toward Version 2.0 of tiny house living, Beverly has learned a few things. One would be adding permanent stairs to access the loft as opposed to a custom-built ladder. Access to the lofts is easier for someone Asher's size, she said, but the space itself has plenty of room for a full-size bed with space on either side. She'd also try to incorporate a back door.

"I'm glad I did this, but I know a few more things to do next time," she said. "It was a learning experience, but I absolutely would do it again."

Kitchen cabinets: reface or replace?

Metro Creative Services

The kitchen is a busy room in many homes. That popularity likely has something to do with why so many homeowners spend sizable sums renovating their kitchens. According to highlights from the 2022 U.S. Houzz Kitchen Trends Study, the median spend on major kitchen remodels grew by 14 percent from the previous year, and minor remodels increased by 25 percent. Spurred on by increased time spent at home during the pandemic, the main impetus for kitchen remodels according to the study was that homeowners wanted to make these improvements all along and finally had the time and means to do so.

There are many aspects of a kitchen that homeowners can change. Houzz found 94 percent of renovators either fully or partially replaced cabinets in their improvement plans. Cabinets are a major component of kitchen layouts. Cabinets help to establish the aesthetic of a kitchen and serve a useful function, providing necessary storage space to ensure the room does not appear cluttered.

Homeowners have different options when it



comes to cabinet renovations, and they may need to decide if they need to replace or reface their cabinets.

Replacement

Cabinet replacement involves removing all of the existing cabinets before new cabinets are leveled and installed. According to the home improvement resource The Spruce, homeowners can expect to pay between \$13,000 and \$30,000 for contractor grade cabinets. Cabinet replacement is a good idea when homeowners want to add more cab-

inet space or create a new layout in the room.

Refacing

Cabinet refacing is less messy and less disruptive than replacement. All cabinets remain the same size and in the same location. The cabinet boxes must be in good shape to facilitate a refacing. The process involves installation of new drawer fronts and cabinet doors, as well as veneering of the cabinet boxes. New hardware typically is installed as well. The insides of the cabinets typically remain the same. The

Spruce says cabinet refacing can be 30 to 50 percent cheaper than a replacement.

Most people call in professionals to change their cabinets. Cabinet replacement can be a do-it-yourself job, but it involves measuring and ensuring everything fits and is leveled appropriately. Homeowners who choose to reface their cabinets themselves may opt to paint or restain. Wood veneer or a new door and drawer panel installation can be complicated and is best left to qualified contractors.



DID YOU know?

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A room addition can be a worthy project that makes a home more livable. A host of factors will affect the cost of a room addition, but the experts at HomeAdvisor estimate that such a project can cost as much as \$150,000. The size of the new room, the location of the home, the materials used to build the room, and a number of variables unique to the existing home will affect the final cost of an addition. An online calculator can provide some basic estimates about the final cost of a room addition, but homeowners are best served by contacting various contractors and receiving multiple estimates to get the most accurate idea of what the cost layout will be to add a room to their homes. Though the sticker price of a room addition may shock some homeowners, it's worth noting that such projects provide a good return at resale. In fact, the "Cost vs. Value Report 2021" from Remodeling magazine found that a midrange primary suite addition with an initial cost of \$156,741 had a resale value of nearly \$86,000.



When to test your home water supply

Metro Creative Services

Water quality is not something people think about all that much, especially in developed nations. Though it can be easy to take water quality for granted in countries with ample regulation and sophisticated filtering systems, there are times when anyone, regardless of where they live, should take stock of the water in their homes.

Frequency of testing

One of the variables for individuals to consider is how long it's been since they last tested the water quality in their homes. For those who have never done so, those who have done it but can't recall precisely when or those who know it's been more than a year since the last test, then it's a good time to test the water. In fact, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency recommends annual testing for coliform bacteria, nitrates, total dissolved solids, and pH levels. The EPA notes this testing is especially important for anyone who is using a new well or has replaced or repaired pipes, pumps or the well casing.

What about public water supply systems?

Testing may not be necessary for individuals who get their water from public water supplies. The EPA notes that anyone who pays a water bill gets their water from a public supply system, which is responsible for monitoring and testing water and reporting the results of those tests to the appropriate agencies as well as the individuals who use the water. Homeowners and tenants who pay a water bill should receive an annual water quality report from their water supply utility, while renters can request a copy of that report from their landlords if they do not pay the bill them-



selves.

What about private water supply systems?

Individuals who receive their water from a private system, such as a household well, are responsible for conducting their own water supply testing. These tests should be conducted annually and in the aftermath of a spill or other incident that could taint the water supply.

Are there any special circumstances to test the water?

The EPA notes that certain situations may call for testing the water supply, even if it's provided by a public supply system. For example, the EPA recommends that expecting parents test their water supply for nitrates in the early months of a pregnancy. Testing should then be conducted again prior to bringing an infant home and once more during the first six months of the baby's life. The EPA

notes nitrate tests are best conducted in spring or summer after periods of rain.

An eye, taste and/or smell test also can indicate if the water supply should be tested. Water that stains, has an unusual taste and/or a conspicuous odor should be tested. In these instances, test for sulfate, chloride, iron, manganese, hardness, and corrosion.

A local chemical or fuel spill also should trigger a test of the water supply. The EPA notes that these tests can be expensive and recommends individuals contact a local expert to determine which contaminants to test for.

Water quality is easily taken for granted. However, various scenarios may necessitate testing the water supply. A local health department office can be a useful resource for individuals who want to confirm that their water supply is safe.

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How to get your fireplace prepared for the winter

Metro Creative Services

As hours of daylight shorten and fall gives way to winter, thoughts shift from fall foliage to spending time cuddling under warm blankets and being cozy indoors. A fireplace can improve the ambience of any room and help to create a warm and welcoming gathering spot.

Home fireplaces typically are wood-burning or gas. Though maintenance for these fireplaces differs, certain preparatory steps must be taken to prepare a fireplace for winter.

Clear the clutter

Items can accumulate in areas that are not in use, and a fireplace is no exception. Take a few hours to remove any belongings from in front of the fireplace and clean the mantle thoroughly.

Have the chimney cleaned

Hire a professional chimney cleaning company to inspect the chimney and clean it thoroughly before winter. According to BobVila.com, a chimney should be cleaned once a year, or after about every 80 fires. The National Fire Protection Association says failure to properly clean chimneys is one of the leading contributors to home fires. That's due to creosote, a highly flammable residue that builds up in the flue that lines the chimney.

Inspect the interior

The interior of a wood-burning fireplace



is likely lined with fire bricks. Check for cracks and loose joints. Hire a professional mason to make any repairs, as special materials are needed to withstand the heat of fires.

Install a chimney cap and screen

According to Family Handyman, a chimney cap is a protective covering that goes over the top of the chimney. It is made of steel or copper mesh with a cap on top. This protects the chimney from rain and downdrafts and keeps animals and debris from getting into the chimney.

Prune overhanging branches

If there are trees close to the home and the chimney, cut them back, as they can be a fire hazard. Branches and leaves also can restrict the proper draft of the chimney.

Assess the outdoor vent

Gas fireplaces typically emit exhaust through a vent in the home. Remove any blockages from the

vent, including leaves, cobwebs and debris.

Check glass or other coverings

The glass or face of the fireplace helps regulate carbon monoxide exposure and protects people from the flames. Be sure the glass covering is intact.

Clean ceramic logs

Gas fireplaces use ceramic logs, rocks or beads that can become dusty. Clean them prior to use. Dirty ceramic logs can be a fire hazard and produce an unpleasant burning smell.

Check the blower and pilot

If the fireplace has an electric blower, clean and dust it so it doesn't become clogged. Inspect the pilot light for any wear and tear that includes wiring or structural issues.

It takes several steps to prepare fireplaces for cold weather seasons when they're most likely to be used with frequency.

The rise in all-electric homes

Metro Creative Services

When asked to think of modern homes, many people might think of minimalism, neutral colors, open concept floor plans, and large windows without treatments. While each of those features are components of modern homes, just what qualifies as "modern" is ever-changing and often a reflection of what buyers are looking for. And lately, many buyers are looking for all-electric homes.

A 2015 study by the U.S. Energy Information Administration found that the number of all-electric homes had increased over the previous decade. In fact, the EIA study found that 25 percent of homes in the United States used only electricity. All-electric homes are generally considered more environmentally friendly because they lessen homeowners' carbon footprint by reducing their need for fossil fuels like natural gas. Electric heat pumps, induction stoves and electric



fireplaces are just some of the technologies that can be found in all-electric homes.

Though the design style of all-electric homes needn't be modern, there's no denying that the growing popularity of such homes makes them an option for homeowners with modern sensibilities.

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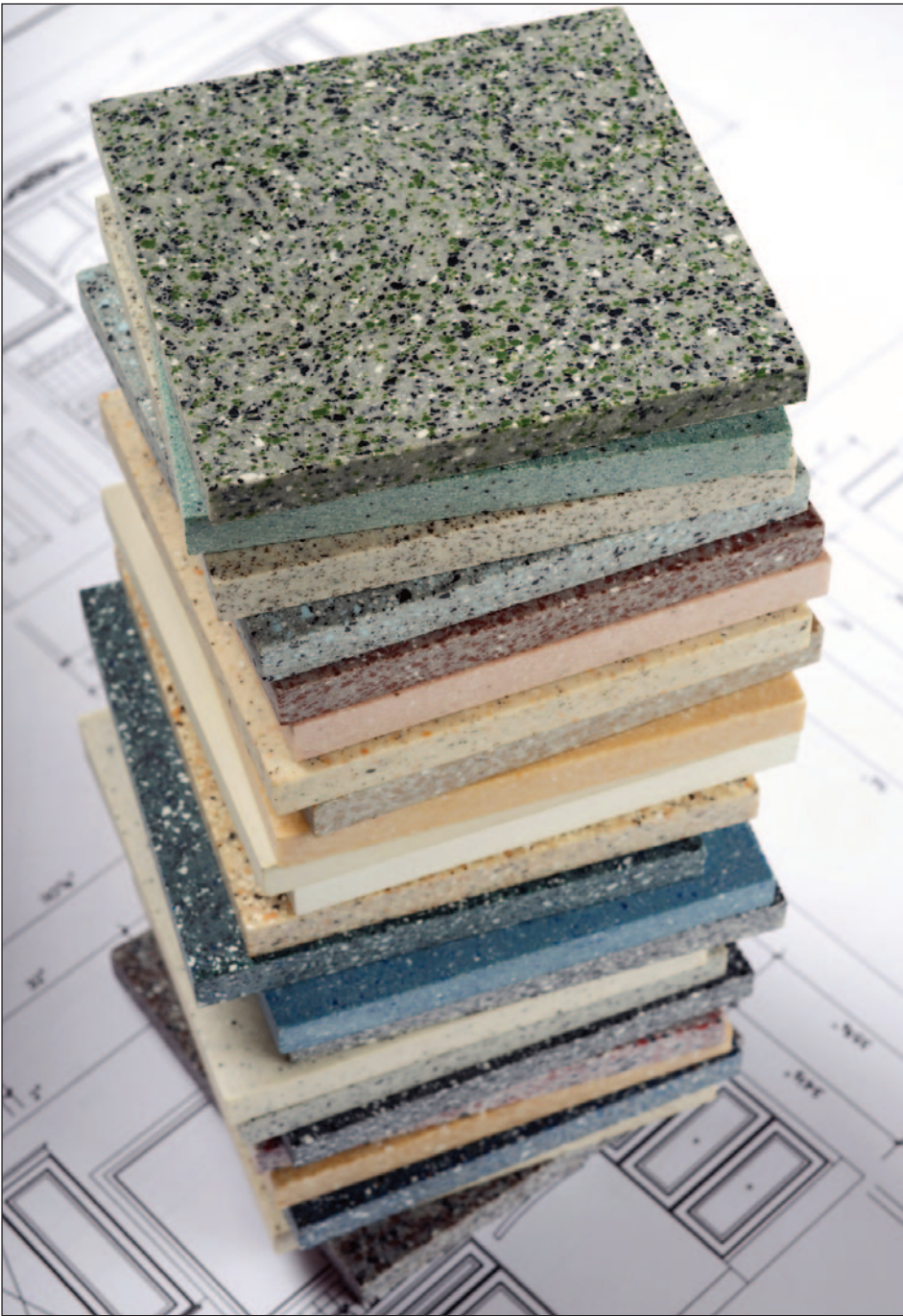
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What to know about kitchen countertop materials

Metro Creative Services

Kitchens are the busiest rooms in most homes. Kitchens have become more than just places to prepare meals, with many functioning as gathering spaces and even go-to dining spots in homes that do not feature formal dining rooms.

So much time spent in the kitchen makes it worthwhile to invest in these popular spaces. Kitchen renovations are high on many homeowners' to-do lists, and there's many decisions to make once they commit to redoing the room. When renovating a kitchen, homeowners will have to choose which countertop material they want to install, and the following rundown of popular options can help simplify that decision.

Quartz

Quartz is considered a low-maintenance and durable countertop material. The home improvement experts at This Old House note that quartz countertops are typically 94 percent ground quartz and now come with an honed, sandblasted or embossed treatment, which makes them appealing to homeowners with varying ideas on the ideal look of a kitchen countertop. Quartz can

crack if it's not handled properly, and edges and corners can chip over time. Rounded edges can minimize the risk of chipping. Costs vary by location and product availability, but quartz typically costs about the same as natural stone.

Granite

Consumer Reports notes that no two slabs of granite are the same, and that uniqueness has long appealed to homeowners. Tests run by Consumer Reports found that heat, cuts and scratches did not harm granite, though this material, like quartz, can crack around edges and corners. Granite is a durable material that, if properly maintained, can last several decades. Granite also is nonporous, which makes it resistant to bacteria.

Laminate

Laminate countertops appeal to budget-friendly homeowners and Consumer Reports notes that they're easy to install. Home Depot also notes that laminate countertops come in a wide range of colors, textures and designs. Laminate countertops also are durable, which helps budget-conscious homeowners stretch their dollars even further. Laminate countertops are easily

maintained, though it's also easy to permanently damage them with knives, so Consumer Reports recommends always using a cutting board when preparing meals on laminate.

Butcher Block

Butcher block countertops are among the more unique options homeowners may consider. Sometimes referred to as "wood countertops," butcher block countertops are made from wooden strips that are fused together. The home improvement experts at BobVila.com note that butcher block is among the more affordable materials, but the final cost will be dictated by location and availability. BobVila.com notes that butcher block countertops are highly sensitive to liquid, so exposure to moisture should be limited. Sealing butcher block countertops immediately after installation can help protect against bacteria and warping. Though butcher blocks can be high maintenance, many homeowners find the unique look is well worth the extra elbow grease.

Kitchen countertops can define how the room looks, and homeowners have many options to choose from when designing a new kitchen.

DID YOU
know?

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Vinyl siding is not something that many homeowners may consider painting, but it can be done. However, some contractors may not recommend it as the best option to overhaul a home. Painting siding means it will only be as durable as the paint used. It's also essential to determine if painting vinyl will void any warranties. Wood or engineered wood or fiber cement siding tend to be better options than vinyl should you want to switch colors down the line. But vinyl siding can be painted if it is done right, and it can be an affordable way to change the look of a home without investing in new siding. According to Benjamin Moore Paints, vinyl siding that will be painted will need to be cleaned thoroughly, including the removal of any mildew, chalk or dirt, to enhance paint adhesion. Pitted or porous vinyl siding always must be primed, but others may not require priming. Choose an exterior paint designed for painting on vinyl. Benjamin Moore has a palette called Colors for Vinyl that can be used in select exterior paint lines. Two coats of paint are recommended. According to BobVila.com, paint for vinyl has acrylic and urethane resins that accommodate the expansion and contraction of vinyl and help the paint stick. Also, for the best results, the home improvement experts on the site advise painting when temperatures are mild and there is low relative humidity and an overcast sky.

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Safety when pressure washing

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Water is essential to cleaning, but it can be an even more powerful asset when there is great force behind it. This is the concept behind pressure washers, which are tools that spray water at high pressure in order to clean an assortment of surfaces.

Pressure washers are typically used to clean siding, farm equipment, industrial machinery, concrete patios, and much more. The power behind pressure washers can cause injury. In fact, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says pressure washers can cause of a host of injuries, including:

■ The strong spray can cause serious wounds. High-pressured water can cut through flesh.

■ The fast, strong spray can strike objects and toss them powerfully into others who are close by.

■ Electric shock may occur if the pressure washer is not used properly.

■ The force from the washer can knock a person off balance, whether operating the tool on the ground or while on a ladder.

In most cases, injuries due to pressure washer usage are entirely preventable. Those who plan to use pressure washers should always do so with safety in mind. Here are some precautions to take.

■ Identify potential hazards. Identify potential hazards with each different surface before beginning the job. Weather, personal fatigue, slippery surfaces and nearby electrical hazards can increase injury risk.

■ Read the manual so you fully understand how to operate the washer. Read the instruction manual and practice using the tool before you



put it to use on the task at hand. Learn how to operate the machine and all accessories. Figure out how to shut it off in a hurry. Determine if it is safe to use an extension cord on an electric model.

■ Wear protective gear. Closed-toe shoes are a must because the water spray can cause lacerations. Be sure the shoes are non-slip or work boots. Full-length pants and a long-sleeved shirt can protect users from flying debris. Wear

eye protection whenever operating the washer. OSHA guidelines recommend a full face shield for water pressure higher than 2,000 psi to avoid eye or head injury. Waterproof gloves also are wise to provide better grip. Ear protection for a gas-powered pressure washer can protect against hearing loss.

■ Start off with the widest spray. Pressure washers often include various nozzles or nozzle settings that may range from a 65-degree mist to

a zero-degree pinpoint jet. Most people never need to use the most intense jet sprays. Begin washing with the widest angle spray tip, from around two feet away, to test cleaning capabilities, and adjust nozzle and distance as necessary, according to PressureWasher.com

Pressure washers help clean any number of surfaces. Safety must always be the top priority when using these potentially dangerous machines.

DID YOU KNOW?

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Prior to financing home improvement projects, homeowners typically consider a host of variables, including how significant a return they're likely to get on their investment. Though potential ROI is not the determining factor for most homeowners, the cost of home renovation projects is so significant that ROI certainly merits consideration. According to Remodeling magazine's "2022 Cost vs. Value Report," a garage door replacement recouped the highest percentage of homeowners' initial investment in 2022. The average cost of such a project was \$4,041 in 2022, and homeowners recouped roughly 93 percent of that investment at resale.

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How homeowners can turn attics into livable spaces

Metro Creative Services

Houses typically feature various areas that are traditionally designed for storage, such as garages, basements and attics. However, with some renovation, these spaces can be transformed into livable areas.

Homeowners who would like to convert attics into livable spaces need to take certain things into consideration before starting an improvement project. While the attic may seem like it has plenty of room and is structurally sound enough to walk in, that's not necessarily so. To be converted into usable living space, an attic must be brought up to the standards of modern building codes, according to the design experts at Board & Vellum. Retrofitting beams and insulation can eat up available space in an attic. Thus, it is best to consult an expert to see if an attic can be converted.

Furthermore, an attic that was not initially designed as a room when the house was built can add extra "load" upstairs if it is converted. That could present certain structural problems. That means a structural engineer also must be consulted to see if adding beams, flooring and drywall will necessitate other changes elsewhere in the home to accommodate the extra load.

In order to have a functional attic room, building codes will dictate that it needs to be accessible by a full-size staircase. Also, it will need to have another exit in case of an emergency so that will likely be an accessible window,



according to the home information site The Fill. Homeowners' budgets and renovation plans will need to factor into these considerations. Homeowners also are advised to check local permits to determine what else may be required to go forward. It is best to follow the rules. Lack of a permit for work can affect the ability to sell a home down the line.

Individuals also should plan for heating and cooling upgrades as the home will need to have ductwork installed in the attic, or at the least, a stand-alone heating and cooling unit. As heat rises, it can get quite warm in an attic, so ventila-

tion and comfort should be considered. The attic will need to be wired for electricity for lighting and other needs. Air sealing and additional insulation can the attic space more comfortable as well. Consult with a qualified electrician and an HVAC technician and have an energy audit done to discuss needs.

Attic renovations can give homeowners more space in their homes, which can be used as offices, bedrooms or cozy corners. This is no small undertaking and all of the right steps need to be followed to ensure a legal, safe and successful renovation.

Indications floors should be replaced soon

Metro Creative Services

Nice flooring draws immediate attention when entering a home. Natural wood floors tend to instantly impress, while the right kitchen flooring materials can create the welcoming feeling many homeowners strive to establish in the most popular room in the home.

Aging floors may fall somewhere between fading and failing to live up to homeowners' standards. Fading floors may not need to be replaced immediately, but the following are some signs that indicate existing floors are nearing their expiration date.

■ **Soft spots:** A floor should not give when stepped on. Soft spots could be indicative of water damage caused

by any number of factors. Some water damage is caused by mopping the floor with a soaking wet mop, while burst pipes also contribute to water damage that can cause soft spots. A single soft spot on the floor may necessitate a relatively simple repair, but various soft spots indicate extensive damage that might be affecting the floor, subflooring or both. In the latter instance, homeowners should consider a full floor replacement.

■ **Creaking floors:** Creaking floors are an annoying issue that can arise. Uneven subflooring could be the culprit behind creaking floors. Though that does not necessarily require a floor replacement, it can be hard to lift existing floors and then refit them after the subflooring has been

addressed. That's especially so if low-quality laminate flooring was installed. So while creaking floors may not require a full floor replacement, it's an outcome homeowners who can no longer live with the noise can prepare themselves for.

■ **Dated look:** Of course, some floors simply look like the product of a bygone era. Various factors, including location, affect the resale value of a home, but Realtor.com reports that hardwood floors are preferred by both home buyers and renters. In addition, Realtor.com estimates that wood floors could provide a return as high as 80 percent of the initial investment when homeowners sell their homes. If existing flooring looks dated, it might be time to bring it up to speed with something more modern.

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Controlling moisture alleviates likelihood of mold

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Mold is a type of fungi that is found both indoors and outdoors. When mold grows inside, the health of people who spend time in the home or business where it grows can be in jeopardy.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, moldy environments may cause stuffy nose, wheezing, red or itchy eyes, and even skin conditions. The Institute of Medicine reports there is sufficient evidence to link indoor exposure to mold with asthma symptoms, as well as hypersensitivity pneumonitis in certain individuals. Certain molds are toxigenic, meaning they can produce toxins, says the CDC. Though there are very few reports of toxigenic molds found inside homes, when present, they can cause rare health conditions.

No one wants mold in their homes, as it's not only unhealthy, but also unsightly. The Environmental Protection Agency

says there is no practical way to eliminate all mold and mold spores in an indoor environment. Certain rooms and spaces warrant careful inspection since they are more vulnerable to mold growth. Mold spores take root in areas where there is ample moisture. Controlling moisture indoors is key to controlling mold. Here are some mold-vulnerable spots that merit some extra attention on the part of homeowners.

Bathrooms

Bathrooms generate a lot of moisture through showering and bathing. Bathrooms need to be vented to the outdoors with an exhaust fan. If there is no fan, one should be installed. If that's not possible, open a bathroom window to air out the room after bathing. Wipe down surfaces in the bathroom to dry them and keep mold at a minimum.

Laundry area

Clothes dryers are



moisture-generating appliances that should be properly exhausted to the outdoors. Homeowners also should make sure that washing machines and utility sinks are working properly and there are no leaks that can cause mold growth behind or underneath the structures.

Kitchen

Mold also may grow in kitchens. Look under the sink and by the dishwasher for any leaks and areas susceptible to mold. Ventilating cooking areas can help reduce moisture

in the area as well, says the CDC.

Basement

Homeowners who have basements or crawl spaces could be breeding mold

Attic

Although an attic may not be a spot homeowners frequent regularly, it's a

good idea to get up there and look for potential mold problems. According to the North Carolina Department of Health, in the winter when buildings are heated, mold often grows in cold, uninsulated exterior walls where building surfaces are relatively cold compared to the indoors. Attics without proper insulation could be vulnerable to mold growth. Roofs also may be compromised by weather, causing leaks into the attic.

Mold can be found anywhere in a home, but is more likely to grow in certain spaces.

DID YOU know?

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Despite its reputation as the most formidable type of mold individuals can find in their homes, black mold is similar to other indoor molds in regard to its effects on human health. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, black mold, or stachybotrys chartarum, isn't any more harmful than other types of mold, including cladosporium, penicillium, aspergillus, and alternaria. The reputation of black mold, which can look black or greenish-black, likely has something to do with its appearance. But homeowners still have reason to be fearful of mold in their homes, regardless of what color the mold may be. That's because mold can lead to a host of unwelcome health problems, including stuffy nose, sore throat, coughing or wheezing, burning eyes, or skin rash. Symptoms may be even worse for people with asthma and mold allergies.

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DID YOU know?

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Certain areas of a home are more likely to draw the interest of prospective buyers when a house goes on the market. When that day comes, many realtors and homeowners rely on staging to make a home as attractive as possible during an open house or appointment viewing. According to a 2019 report from the National Association of Realtors, staging the living room is most important for buyers, with 47 percent of buyers indicating a well-staged living room had an effect on their view of the home. The owner's suite (42 percent) and the kitchen (35 percent) were found to be the next most important rooms to stage. Though the report is generally concerned with selling a home, the conclusions in the report are something renovation-minded homeowners can keep in mind. If prospective buyers are most impressed by well-staged living rooms, owner's suites and kitchens, it stands to reason that those same rooms, when well-designed and recently renovated, will elicit a similarly positive reaction if homeowners ultimately decide to sell their homes in the future.

Fireplace trends help create attractive, comfortable rooms

Metro Creative Services

Fireplaces are useful features in a home. Fireplaces are sources of ambient heat and also add style to indoor spaces.

Fireplaces can complement just about any interior style. Fireplaces can be traditional and burn wood or connect to a home's natural gas supply for on-demand ambiance. What's more, fireplaces may come in vented or ventless varieties, depending on homeowners' preferences and what is allowed by community building codes. That means a chimney or flue may not be needed — expanding the list of rooms where a fireplace can be installed.

Certain trends have emerged among fireplace fans in recent years. Here's a look at what's getting consumers fired up about these home decor elements.

■ **Minimalist style:** Many fireplaces are designed in neutral colors with minimal trim that directs focus on the fire and not the appliance. When the fireplace is not in use, it blends in with surroundings and will not compete for attention with other design elements.

■ **Convertible fireplaces:** Homeowners can choose between open or sealed fireplaces. A convertible fireplace enables homeowners to have the best features of these options. A convertible fireplace can be converted to wood from gas, or the opposite, in as little as 30 minutes.

■ **Nature-inspired materials:** Natural stone continues to be a material of choice in fireplace surrounds. Light colors work well for a fireplace, and also fit with today's lighter color interior design preferences. Natural stone also works perfectly with both contemporary and rustic decor.

■ **Vintage fireplaces:** Vintage continues to be a buzzword in 2022, and the choice to go vintage also applies to fireplace styles. A room decorated in vintage elements can be complemented with a vintage fireplace or one designed to look vintage.

■ **Integrate into wall decor:** Fireplaces that are built right into a wall save space. One can have a television and a fireplace on the same wall. These types of fireplaces work well in modern home designs. Other fireplaces may be built into bookshelves or other wall features.



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Fact: Insulation leads to efficiency

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Insulation can go a long way toward making a home more comfortable. Insulation reduces the transfer of heat from indoors and outdoors so homes stay more comfortable in both the winter and summer. Insulation also can block exterior noise. A properly insulated home is a must, particularly in the wake of rising energy costs. Insulation will help a home be more energy efficient.

Insulation is easily taken for granted. The following are some facts about insulation and home efficiency that illustrate how much

homeowners can benefit from upgrading their insulation.

■ Insulation is made from a variety of materials, including fiberglass, wool, cellulose, and spray foam.

■ Unless damaged, insulation lasts for the life of the building. Some settling of insulation may occur, particularly with loose-fill type insulation, and gaps can be filled in.

■ During the Middle Ages, walls of homes were stuffed with straw and mud to help keep out the cold. It is one of the first documented types of insulation.

■ According to the U.S. Environmental Protection

Agency, insulation saves more than 600 times more energy each year than compact fluorescent lights, Energy Star Appliances, and Energy Star windows combined.

■ For every BTU consumed in the production of insulation each year, 12 BTUs are saved by the use of insulation, says A+ Insulation of Kansas City.

■ An insulating material's resistance to heat flow is measured in terms of its thermal resistance, or R-value. The higher the R-value, the greater the insulating effectiveness. An insulation contractor can let a homeowner know how much insulation and what R-value is

recommended for his or her climate.

■ Manufacturers continue to experiment with insulation materials. Environmentally friendly options include recycled cotton denim, paper or plant cellulose, and sheep's wool.

■ Large pieces of insulation are called batts. Traditionally they are made from pink fiberglass, which is extremely fine woven glass. It's important to realize fiberglass insulation can release small particles or fibers in the air when disturbed, so respiratory protection and gloves should be used when handling to reduce risk of irritation.

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3 great reasons to replace aging windows

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Windows in a home are easy to take for granted. Unless windows are showing signs of wear and tear or so dirty that it's hard to see through them, it's easy for them to go unnoticed. However, replacement windows can add value to a home and even save homeowners a substantial amount of money. Much of the savings that can be attributed to new windows is related to energy efficiency. The Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy estimates that as much

as 30 percent of heating and cooling energy can be lost through heat gain or heat loss, and aging, inefficient windows contribute to such losses. Replacing those windows can save homeowners substantial amounts of money, with one expert at Angi estimating that installation of energy efficient windows can help trim energy bills by as much as 12 percent. Cost savings are often noted when firms promote replacement windows, but homeowners should know that replacement windows also provide nu-

merous additional benefits. In fact, the following are three great reasons for homeowners to consider upgrading their windows today. ■ New windows help reduce carbon footprint. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency reports that replacing single-pane windows with ENERGY STAR® certified windows can help to reduce CO2 emissions by a significant margin. The EPA reports that such windows can save the equivalent of as much as 6,200 pounds of CO2 emissions thanks to

reduced energy consumption associated with the new windows. ■ New windows can brighten a home. Natural light brightens a room and can make it appear larger. Homeowners who have grown accustomed to old windows may not realize how little light such windows let into their homes. Aging windows can become foggy over time and prevent natural light from getting into a home. That can create a gloomy feel and force homeowners to turn up the thermostat

on cold days. New windows brighten the home and the natural light that pours in on a cold day can help heat the home at the same time. ■ New windows cut down on noise. Window manufacturers are always on the lookout for ways to produce windows that make homes more comfortable. Noise reduction is one way to accomplish that goal, and Consumer Reports notes that triple-glazed windows can help to dramatically reduce outside noise. Homeowners who cur-

rently have single-pane windows may be astonished by the difference in outside noise levels when upgrading to triple-glazed windows, which contain a third layer of glass. That third layer of glass significantly reduces noise levels, making triple-glaze windows ideal for homes on busy streets or those in urban areas with lots of foot traffic. Replacement windows pay numerous dividends. Homeowners can reap these rewards and others by replacing aging windows.

Organizational tips for bathrooms and laundry spaces

Metro Creative Services

No two homes are exactly alike. While homes typically feature certain common amenities, even in planned communities homeowners do their best to set their homes apart from others in the development. Certain areas of a home may initially garner less attention than others. This often is the case with small washrooms, sometimes called powder rooms or guest bathrooms, as well as laundry areas. Despite their utilitarian nature, bathrooms and laundry rooms can often benefit from some better organization. The following are some ways to maximize storage and function in these spaces.

Bathroom

Apart from a vanity and possibly a medicine cabinet, many bathroom layouts tend to be pretty sparse in terms of stor-

age. So it is up to homeowners to introduce more storage and organizational function. ■ Over-toilet shelving: Freestanding units are available from many different retailers, but they may lack aesthetic appeal. Homeowners can install open shelves above the toilet that coordinate with the style of the home. Use them to store extra towels or display decorative items. ■ Streamlined containers: Invest in coordinating storage containers (clear are preferable) so that all items can be uniformly put away. First sort through all items to determine which size containers are necessary and how many are required. ■ Conceal toilet paper: Homeowners want to have bath tissue on hand, but simply placing it near the toilet can look cluttered or unsightly.

Use decorative baskets to house one or two extra rolls and place on shelving or on the toilet tank itself. ■ Freestanding cabinet: Those lucky enough to have linen closets in their bathrooms can keep everything behind closed doors. In small bathrooms this may not be possible. However, a freestanding cabinet, similar to a kitchen pantry cabinet, can be used if there is space for it. Store all of the linens and other items inside. — **Laundry** Laundry rooms can be very organized or a catch-all space for objects that simply do not fit in other rooms in the home. Perfecting laundry room organization can take some effort. ■ Folding station: A laundry room is more useful with a folding station. It can be a separate counter over cabinetry,



or innovative homeowners build a counter over front-loading washing machines and dryers. ■ Utilize wall space: Use hooks and shelving to get items off the floor or counters. Use them to hold brooms, mops, ironing boards, detergent, and

much more. ■ Invest in a pedestal storage drawer: Laundry pedestal storage drawers can be used to keep dryer sheets, laundry pods and additional supplies out of view. ■ Use space-saving cabinetry: Pull out draw-

ers and cabinets can be used to hold hampers, ironing boards, and other frequently used items without cluttering up the room. Organizing bathrooms and wash rooms can give these spaces a cleaner, more impressive look.

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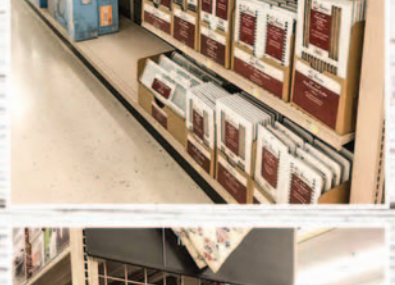
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