THURSDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2024

### Main's Halloween, & trunk treats, too

Trick-or-Treat on Main Street, organized by the Marion Tourism and Recreation Commission, will be held from 3:30 to 5 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 31 for children under 12 years old. Afterward, at the fairgrounds, there will be a Trunk-or-Treat and fellowship event from 6 to 9 p.m., sponsored by Marion and Crittenden County first responders. Fellowship and fun will take place inside the Lions Club Agriculture Building, while outside there will be fire trucks, an ambulance, and police cars on display. Youth can also meet their local first responders. The event doubles as a fellowship gathering for all first

### Ferry will run weekends on abbreviated schedule

responders in the area.

Cave-In-Rock Ferry, which had ceased weekend operations last week due to a pilot shortage, has

announced a temporary schedule to restore seven-day-aweek service. Crittenden



County Judge-Executive Perry Newcom stated that the new schedule is a short-term solution while the ferry's owner works to recruit additional pilots. Starting this weekend, the ferry will operate on Saturdays and Sundays from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. (12-hour schedule), and continue its weekday service from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. (16-hour schedule, Monday through Friday). The ferry carries about 500 vehicles across the Ohio River on an average day, providing an economic link for daily commuters who depend on it to get to and from jobs.

### **2024 ELECTION 411**

• Early voting is Thursday, Friday and Saturday this week at the County Office Complex from 8 a.m., to 4 p.m., in Crittenden County. It will be the same time and dates in Livingston and Caldwell counties with voting at the clerk's office in Smithland and Butler Gym in Princeton.

Crittenden County Clerk's Office will be closed Election Day on Tuesday to all but election-related business. Polls are open around the county from 6 a.m., to 6 p.m.

 Crittenden election results will be posted on the county clerk's Facebook page and on its website. Results will also be posted at the County Office Complex on election night as they come in from voting precincts. Absentee and early voting results will be made available when polls close at 6 p.m. Additional results will be posted as available every halfhour by the clerk. Because it takes additional time to count and verify write-in votes, with three write-in candidates having been qualified for Marion City Council, those results will be among the last released. Statewide election results can be found in real time online at https://vrsws.sos.ky.gov/liveresults/.



# **Justice Center breaks ground**

BY CHRIS EVANS PRESS EDITOR

Crittenden County residents bid farewell to a courthouse that has served the community since 1961 on Tuesday, as a formal groundbreaking ceremony marked the beginning of a new era with the construction of a \$20 million judicial center.

communities have increasingly shifted toward stand-alone justice centers in recent years. Four years ago, Crittenden County leaders considered a plan to combine their offices with the proposed justice center downtown, but balked at their share of the cost. So, the county moved off the courthouse square about a year ago and now operates out of a county office complex on the south side of town.

State officials, including Kentucky Supreme Court Chief Justice Laurance B. VanMeter, attended the ceremonial start of work on the

See JUDICIAL/page 4



In his garage, Lester Merrill built this 4-seater airplane that flies faster than 200 mph.

# Satisfaction drives Merrill's flght plan

PRESS EDITOR

Lester Merrill is no stranger to hands-on projects. Known for working on everything from vehicles to boats and ATVs, Merrill took his passion for building to new heights - literally by constructing a highperformance aircraft in his own Marion garage.

For over three years, Merrill, who works as a maintenance coordinator at Westlake in Calvert City, spent countless hours putting together a Vans RV-10 plane, a process that will trans-

See **PLANE**/page 7



# Marion City Council race grows interesting with inclusion of three write-in candidates

STAFF REPORT

Five candidates representing a range of experience and community involvement are vying for re-election in the Marion City Council race on the ballot Nov. 5. Voters will select from a slate that includes incumbents, whose names will be printed on city ballots, and three newcomers who are registered as write-in candidates.

All six council seats are up for election. As Crittenden County Clerk Daryl Tabor points out, this council race has more write-ins than typically seen in a given election. He says ballots will have boxes for multiple write-in votes. Voters may request from poll workers a list of write-in candidates, which will have the correct spelling for each. A voter can take a photo of the list with their smart phone, or memorize it, but cannot take the list into



the voting booth.

Seeking re-election and on the ballot are Dwight Sherer, Bobby Belt, Taylor Davis, Randy Dunn and Wanda Olson.

Sherer, 71, is a retired Siemens employee who has been a fixture in the community for decades. A longtime youth sports coach and a Crittenden County Athletics Hall of Fame inductee, Sherer has also been involved in fundraising efforts and video tech work for Rocket football. He has been on the city council for more than two decades.

The other four incubments have served one term on the council.

Belt, 55, is a sales manager at Johnson's Furniture and Appliance, where he has worked for 35 years. A resident of Greenwood Heights for 20 years, Belt is a lifelong Marion resident. He's been married for 24 years and serves as a youth leader and trustee at Unity General Bap-

Davis, 32, teaches 8th grade U.S. history at Union County Middle School. A Crittenden County native, Davis holds degrees in history and teacher leadership from Murray State University. In addition to his teaching career, he's a famil-

See CITY/page 7

# Cats or pot what's the difference?

It's fascinating how our perspectives can evolve over time, shifting like the tide. I've always been a dog person – proudly so since I was a wee pup myself. Growing up in west-

ern Tennessee, I was raised by German Shepherds and Norwegian Elkhounds. In my early adulthood, I welcomed German Shorthairs, an English Setter



Chris EVANS About Town

and a Labrador into life's little kennel. Yet, here I am now, sharing my home with a cat – a male cat, who, until last week, was just that. Now, let's just say, in Biblican terms, he's an eunuch.

I never envisioned myself becoming a "Cat-Man2." Allergic to them since childhood, I now find myself navigating around the spaces he claims - the living room, bedroom, kitchen and back porch - while I retreat to the basement to avoid watery eyes. Still, I'm learning to coexist with this feline intruder because my wife and daughter love him.

As Election Day aproaches, my thoughts turn to the topic of voting for medical marijuana in our community. It strikes me as similar to my journey with this cat. We often overlook how we can live alongside something we once found intolerable. The government's stance on drugs has fluctuated over time, paralleling societal attitudes toward what's acceptable or taboo. Trying to understand the logic behind our acceptance and denials is mind boggling.

Take a moment to consider our history. Once perfectly legal and sold over the counter in shops on Main Street or by drummers (traveling salesmen) were laudanum (which is a mixture of alcohol and opium), morphine, unregulated moonshine whiskey, cocaine in Coca-Cola and even products laced with heroin. Wasn't William Tyndale executed for translating the Bible into English?

It's hard to know what's right or wrong unless you have a Facebook account. In that case, you probably know everything because social media is loaded with experts.

Many practices once deemed normal - like rifles in truck windows on school parking lots, smoking in the office or taking a newborn home from the hospital without a car seat - are now unthinkable. Likewise, substances once freely used have become highly regulated, categorized as Schedule II narcotics, with severe penalties for simple possession, including 1-5 years in prison.

As for the medical cannabis question on next week's ballot, it's uncertain how much impact our votes will honestly

See POT/page 7

### **Deaths**

### Rohl

James Ray Rohl, 78, of Sapulpa, Okla., died Saturday, Oct. 19, 2024 at Hillcrest Medical Center

in Tulsa. He was a flight engineer for the United States Air Force for 20 years. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, basketball and rock

hunting. He traveled the **United States** for 11 years in his RV.

Surviving are his wife of 54 years, Gloria Rohl; a son, Jason Anthony Rohl of St. Louis, Mo.; four brothers, Mike (Cheryl) Rohl, William (Raejean) Whittley, Wayne (Joann) Davidson and Jack Whittley.

He was preceded in death by a son, Jeremiah Jerome Rohl; his parents, Claire Lavern and Mary Lou (Wright) Rohl; and a sister, Susan Rohl

Graveside services are 1 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 2 at Union Cemetery in Crittenden County with Mr. Jason Anthony Rohl officiating.

### Dale

Billy Jodean Dale, beloved, son, husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather, 86, of Murray, formerly of Mardied

Wednesday, Oct. 2024. 23, He was a resident of Landmark of Kuttawa

in Kuttawa. Dale was born on Aug. 21. 1938 to Joe and Mary Dale in Rosiclare, Ill.

Surviving are his two children, Kristi (Jeff) Butler and Wesley (Suzan) Dale; two sisters, Bonita Hamilton and Joyce Austin; a brother, Jerry Dale; four grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents; three sisters, Betty Brenda and Debbie; and a brother, Donnie.

He was a proud member of the United States Army. He was stationed in Fort Hood, Texas where he met his wife of 57 years, Mary Beatrice, who preceded him in death on Oct. 14,

He was known for his many years working in the coal mines in Morganfield. He and his wife resided in Marion, for 25 years before retiring and moving to Murray, where they were both members of the Hardin Church of Christ.

Memorial services are scheduled were Monday, Oct. 28 at Gilbert Funeral Home with burial in Mapleview Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the **Wounded Warrior Project** at woundedwarriorproject.org.

### **Bebout**

Jerry Wayne Bebout, 71, of Lola, died Friday, Oct. 25, 2024 at Living-Hospital Healthcare Services.

He was a 1971 gradu-

ate of Livingston Central High School, а graduate of Murray State University with



a master's degree in education. He returned to Livingston Central High School and worked in special education as a school psychologist for over 28 years. After retiring, he ob-

tained his real estate license and worked briefly for Century 21 in Paducah and then took on a more permanent position with IS Custom Building working there for over 15 years and working at Boyd Funeral Directors for many years.

He was a member of Faith Church in Salem from its inception over 40 years agowhere he served as secretary and treasurer of over 36 years.

He loved his family and his church family very He especially much. liked helping people. He will be missed by all who knew him.

Surviving are sisters, Wilma Shuecraft and Nina Shouse, both of Lola; an aunt, Merna Monroe; two nephews, Lloyd and Michael Shuecraft; several great-nieces and nephews; and many extended special family, too numerous to mention.

He was preceded in death by his parents, O. Givens and Evelyn Imogene (Wilson) Bebout.

Services were Wednesday, Oct. 30 at Faith Church, with Rev. Israel Sanders, Rev. Phillips Sanders and Rev. Lloyd Shuecraft officiating. Burial was in Lola Ceme-

Memorial contributions may be made to Faith Christian School, 1849 U.S. 60 East, Salem, KY 42078.

### Nesbitt

Dennis Joe Nesbitt, 81, Jackson, Tenn., formerly of Marion, died Saturday,

Oct. 26, 2024 at Jackson-Madison County General Hospital.

Surviving are four children, Donna

(Tim) Lilly, Kathleen (Jeff) Lindgren and Laura Corbin (Jim) Brice and Rachel Nesbitt; his wife, Catherine Nesbitt; nine grandchildren; five greatgrandchildren; and two brothers, Johnny (Terri) Nesbitt and Eddie (Charlotte) Nesbitt.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Elliot and Cora Mae Nesbitt; a son, Charles Ray Nesbitt; a daughter, Summer Joe Nesbitt; and a brother, William Roe Nesbitt.

Services were Wednesday, Oct. 30 at Gilbert Funeral Home with burial in Freedom Cemetery.

### Crider

Fay Carol Crider age 82 of Marion, died Saturday, Oct. 26, 2024 at Crittenden County Health and Rehabilitat i o

Center. Prior to her retirement, Crider worked as a supervisor for so-



loval member of Marion Baptist Church and a Kentucky Colonel. She enjoyed geneology research, flower gardening and nurturing her pet Surviving are a daugh-

ter, Mary Beth (Robert Jr.) Barlow of Greenbrier, Tenn.; a sister, Ragena Kinney of Greenville; and several nieces, nephews and cousins.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Ray and Eura McKinney Jackson; and husband Wallace Crider, Jr.

Services are at noon Saturday, Nov. 2 at Myers Funeral Home with visitation beginning at 10 a.m. Burial will follow at Crayne Cemetery.

### Saavedra

Nancy Diana Saavedra, 69, of Marion, died Saturday, Oct.

26, 2024 at her home. Prior to

retirement, she was employed as a registered

nurse at Crittenden Hos-



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pital for 25 years. She was a member of Mexico Baptist Church and a devoted volunteer at the Crittenden County Animal Shelter. She was a certified scuba diver and enjoyed traveling and camping and had fostered numerous animals throughout the years. She genuinely had a big heart for those in need.

Surviving are a sister, Laura Holcomb-Hubinger of Charlestown, Ind.; a brother, Michael (Laurie) Holcomb of Marion; nieces and nephews, Jahn, Carter, Emma Holcomb, Shawn Budke, Billy, Laura Lee and Elliott Holcomb.

She was preceded in death by her parents, William "Bill" and Joan Woodall Holcomb; and a brother, Billy Holcomb.

Services will be at noon, Friday, Nov. 1 at Myers Funeral Home with burial in Frances Cemetery. Visitation will begin Friday at 10 a.m., and continue until the service time.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Crittenden County Animal Shelter. Donation envelopes will be available at the funeral home or can be mailed to 1901 U.S. 60, Marion, KY 42064.

### **Community Calendar**

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

### Thursday, Oct. 31

• Line dancing begins at 9:30 a.m., at the Crittenden County Senior Citizens Center.

· Coffee Club for young adults will celebrate Halloween at 3:30 p.m., at the Crittenden County Public Library, with a discussion of "The Clown in the Cornfield," by Adam Cesare. Wear a clown costume and earn a prize.

### Saturday, Nov. 2 · A community prayer service is at 10 a.m., at the cor-

ner of East Bellville and North College streets next to The Crittenden Press. Sunday, Nov. 3 • The Virgil Jones VFW in Marion will host a district

### meeting at 2 p.m., at its building, located at 412 N. Col-

lege Street. Monday, Nov. 4 · Wits Workout, brain games for adults, is at 1 p.m., at

### Crittenden County Public Library.

Tuesday, Nov. 5 • The Crittenden County Extension Office will be closed

for Election Day. Wednesday, Nov. 6

· A Positive Employability class begins at 9 a.m., at the Crittenden County Extension Annex.

· Walk in the Park is at 3 p.m., at Marion City-County

### Thursday, Nov. 7

· A new drug and alcohol prevention group comprised by high school students and led by Extension agent Leslea Barnes meets at 2 pm., at Rocket Arena. Monthly meetings will be used to create and implement educational events related substance use and misuse prevention.

### **Online** Condolences

myersfuneralhomeonline.com boydfuneraldirectors.com gilbertfunerals.com

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



Dr. Elizabeth A. Maddux • Dr. Michelle Hughes 3841 US Hwy. 60 West, Marion, KY 42064 (270) 965-2257

Dear Neighbors,

We are Jennifer and Travis Reckinger, owners of the H&R Block offices in Marion, Morganfield, Providence, and Rosiclare, Ill. Our locations are franchisee-owned small businesses within a larger network. Since age 15, I, Jennifer have been immersed in the tax industry, managing the Herrin, Ill., office before acquiring my own locations. As a third-generation franchisee, I attained Elite 25 status & Top 100! This mean Top 25 Franchises in the USA.

### Stop by during Trick or Treat on Main Oct. 31, and join us for our Grand Re-opening at 10 a.m., Friday, Nov. 1

at 215 N. Main St. in Marion, featuring improved visibility and parking. Celebrate with us with giveaways a bounce house and food truck until 6 p.m.





We value community





Funerals, Cremation, Pre-Planning and Monuments Since 1902

### **Area Schools inviting** vets to Nov. 11 programs

Crittenden County Schools will host their annual Veterans Day celebration at 9 a.m., Monday, Nov. 11 at Crittenden County Elementary School

Student Council members at CCES are speaking. The high school band will play and second and third graders will play bells.

Caldwell County Schools invites local veterans to participate in Veterans Day celebrations on Monday, Nov. 11.

The Veterans Day Program at Caldwell County Elementary School is scheduled to begin at 7:40 a.m., in the high school gymnasium. Following the program, a light breakfast for veterans will be served. Veterans staying for breakfast are asked to contact the school at 270-365-8030 to make a reservation. Reservations must be made by Friday, Nov. 1.

After the conclusion of events at Caldwell County Elementary School, a campus-wide parade will begin. Anyone needing additional information about the parade should contact Lizzie Wynn at 270-365-8000.

Caldwell County High School will also host a Veterans Day lunch, on Nov. 11 for veterans related to Caldwell County High School students.

### Tax bills going in mail

Crittenden County tax bills will be mailed Thursday, Oct. 31. They will be payable at a discount during November and face value will be due in December. There is a penalty if paid after the end of the year.

### Perez named to KDE advisory council

Mandy Perez, a fifth-grade teacher at Crittenden County Elementary School, is among 15 Kentucky public school educators named to the Kentucky De-

partment of Education's (KDE) Teachers **Advisory Council** (TAC) for the 2024-25 school year. Commissioner of Education Robbie Fletcher made



the announcement last month. The council is designed to improve Kentucky's educational landscape by providing the commissioner of education with direct input from classrooms. Bridging the gap between policy and practice, TAC was created to advise the commissioner on educational priorities so students of the Commonwealth are wellprepared for any career they choose.

"As we strive to shape the future of Kentucky's education, the voices of our educators are crucial," Fletcher said. "I'm excited to continue working with this council to build an improved school system that teachers are proud of - one that involves being 'all in' to ensure every student has the skills he or she needs for a successful future."

Perez was Kentucky's Teacher of the Year in 2023. She is one of eight returning teachers to the council.

### **Princeton hosts its** annual trick-or-treat

Princeton will host is annual Down Main Trick-or-Treating from 4-6 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 31. For more information, contact Princeton Tourism at 270-365-9575.

### **6 write-ins on Fredonia** ballot for city council

In Fredonia there will be no candidates on the ballot for city council. Instead, six write-in candidates have emerged.

Five of the write-in candidates - Kent Wilcox, Presley Lamm, Tresa Travis, Marc Bell, and Crystal Moore - are current council members vying to retain their seats. Stephanie Feagan is the only newcomer vying for a seat on the council.

The council consists of six members.



### **Dates: Things to Do**

•Follow the Livingston County Bale Trail and vote for your favorites. Winners will be announced Nov. 2 at the Livingston County Bale Blast at the Extension office parking lot. Go to Livingston County KY Bale Trail on Facebook for details on how to vote and how kids can participate in Bale Blast.

 Marion's Christmas Parade is scheduled for Saturday, Dec. 7. The nighttime parade's theme will be White Nights and Magical Lights.

### **Election-related news**

 Crittenden County Central **Ballot Processing Committee will** meet at 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 31 at the county office complex to process mail-in absentee ballots. Both major political parties are represented on the committee, which is comprised of Mandi Shuecraft, Brenda Guess and Sue Padget.

 Crittenden County Board of Elections will meet at 8 a.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 5 at the county office complex to process mailin absentee ballots. Results will be released at 6 p.m. that day.

### Four candidates seek four seats in Salem

There are four candidates on the ballot seeking four spots on Salem City Council. All of them are incubments.

Filed as candidates are Darryl Chittenden, Craig Dossett, Brandon DeBoe and Tiffany Newcomb.

There are three school board seats up for election in Livingston, but only one candidate is filed for each race. Those are David Kitchens in District 3, Tammy Hubbard Sayle in District 2 and Tony Sanders in District 4.

On the Carrsville City Council race there are four seats available and no candidates on the

### **New LED lights coming** to Fredonia streets

Fredonia City Council last week approved a plan to replace all of its city street lights.

The town of about 375 people has 97 street lights, according to information provided by Kentucky Utilities to council members.

Mayor Jim Seibert said the city's monthly lighting costs will go up for a time, but then will drop significantly because the LED lights are more efficient.

Installation costs, which will be covered by regular payments over 60 months, is around \$16,500.

"The cost is an extra \$68 a month for five years, then we will pay less than we're paying now," the mayor said. "We will have newer lights, brighter lights and save money over time."

The city's monthly street light bill is currently around \$1,000 on average. Once the new lights are installed and the up-frontcosts paid off, the bill is estimated by KU to drop to around

It could be a few weeks before hardware arrives for the work to be completed, the mayor said. He hopes they will be installed by the end of the year.

### **Appeals court rules** in favor of fiscal court in roofing dispute

Allied Contracting Group has faced another setback in its ongoing legal dispute with Crittenden County Fiscal Court. After Circuit Judge Daniel Heady denied Allied's request for a temporary injunction in July, the locally owned company filed an appeal with the Kentucky Court of Appeals. However, the appellate court issued an order on Oct. 17 denying Allied's request



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

for interlocutory relief, which would have stopped Crittenden County from moving forward with a roofing contract awarded to Miller Construction.

The original injunction was sought by Allied and its owner Kent Withrow on June 27 to prevent Miller Construction from repairing roofs on a dozen county-owned buildings damaged by severe weather. Allied, one of the unsuccessful bidders for the project, claimed that the county had improperly awarded the contract to Miller. Allied asserted that its bid, although higher, was superior based on procedural compliance and a missed pre-award meeting by Miller Construction. Circuit Judge Heady, however, found insufficient grounds for Allied's injunction request, citing the absence of fraud, collusion, or dishonesty in the county's decision to accept Miller's lower bid of \$578,000 over Allied's \$935,668 offer.

In its appeal, Allied argued that Judge Heady had not applied the correct legal standards and asserted that it would suffer irreparable harm if immediate relief were not granted. Nevertheless, the Court of Appeals upheld Judge Heady's initial ruling, and the case will proceed in Circuit Court.

The county has already authorized Miller Construction to begin the roofing work, and Allied's broader legal challenge remains unresolved. Meanwhile, the county's legal team has indicated that it intends to file a motion in Crittenden Circuit Court seeking dismissal of the

### Caldwell's fruit, veggies

Caldwell County Board of Education is excited to announce that Caldwell County Primary School (CCPS) and Caldwell County Elementary School (CCES) have been selected to participate in the USDA's Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP). This federal grant, administered through the U.S. Department of Agriculture, will bring a wide variety of free fresh fruits and vegetables to students during the school day, creating healthier snack options for all children in

participating schools. The FFVP is more than just a healthy snack initiative; it's a comprehensive program aimed at improving children's dietary habits, the school district said in announcing the award. By introducing diverse fruits and vegetables, the program helps increase students' consumption of these nutritious foods, creating lasting dietary impacts that can benefit students both now and into their futures. The program's goals include creating healthier school environments by providing nutritious food choices, expanding the variety of fruits and vegetables children experience, and encouraging children to make healthier dietary choices long-term.

The selection of CCPS and CCES was based on an application process that prioritized schools with a high percentage of students eligible for free or reduced-price meals. To be considered, schools must operate under the National School Lunch Program and have at least 50% of their student population eligible for meal assistance. This year, Kentucky received over \$3.9 million in FFVP funding for the 2023 Federal Fiscal Year. Each participating school, including CCPS and CCES, will receive approximately \$50 per student, resulting in a total award of \$69,375.

### **KDFWR** commissioner sought for District 1

A nomination meeting for Kentucky's First District representative to the Kentucky Fish and Wildlife Commission, which includes Crittenden and other nearby counties in western Kentucky, will be at Kentucky Dam Village State Resort Park on Thursday, Nov. 21 at 6 p.m.



### **50 YEARS AGO**

October 31, 1974

- Approximately 30 people attended the official dedication of Veterans Memorial Park on the corner of Travis and Weldon streets in Marion. Marion City Council member Mrs. Paul Mick welcomed those attending and introduced other officials. Mayor B.A. Phillips addressed the ceremony and Mrs. Allen Farley acknowledged the presentation of the park to the community. Included in the mini-park were two basketball goals and court, sliding board, three play horses, merry-go-round, climbing bars, swing set, bike rack, benches and water fountain.
- Carroll Hubbard was in Marion for a final campaign swing through the county ahead of the upcoming election. Hubbard was running for U.S. Representative from the First Congressional District.
- Andrew Bowerman, Patricia Crider, Carolyn Cornel, Steve English, Zac Greenwell, Crystal McDaniel, Hayden McDowell, Donnie Phillips, Jason Singleton, Randy Enoch, Jamie Curnel, Julie Truitt, Patrick Bowerman and Chris Johnson donned Halloween costumes for their weekly visit to story hour at the Crittenden County Library.
- Jack Hale of the Department of Transportation met for a discussion with H.F. Simpson and Jim Brown concerning the proposed reconstruction plan for the Montezuma bridge that crosses the Tradewater River between Marion and Providence.

### **25 YEARS AGO**

### **November 4, 1999**

- Brandon Wagoner, David Sexton and Brad Combs enjoyed great food and entertainment at a 4-H banquet after riding horses in the Homecoming Parade. Perry Newcom accepted the Friend of 4-H Award on behalf of the Crittenden County Lions Club for his continued support of 4-H. 4-H Youth Development Agent Gayle Singleton made the presentation.
- Kelcie Miniard, daughter of Tony and Teresa Miniard, was crowed the 1999 winner in her age group at the New Star Discovery Most Beautiful contest at Kentucky Oaks Mall. She received a crown and trophy and was eligible to compete in the state finals.
- Rocket Linebacker Joey Rich made a diving tackle on Todd Central's Floyd Kay as Crittenden's Matt Jent zeroed in on the play. The Rocket defense held the Rebels to just one touchdown, but had to stop a lastminute conversion pass to preserve the 7-6 win.
- The foursome of Dennis Lacy, Marlin Travis, Melissa Tabor and Janet Kemper took top honors at the Paul E. Mick Memorial Golf Tournament at Marion Country Club. The winning team fired a 13-under-par 59 at the third annual event.

### **10 YEARS AGO**

October 30, 2014

- During safety week at Crittenden County Elementary School, students learned about the dangers of fire from forest ranger Chad Brothers and his friend Smokey the Bear. Students also learned about keeping safe around electrical wires and equipment. Mallory Lynn and Tate LaRue learned about electrical safety during a demonstration with Greg Morgan of Big Rivers Electric and Terry Werne of Kenergy.
- Frankie Valles of the Crittenden County Conservation District presented a lesson on pumpkins to Angel McDonald's preschool classroom. Students learned what pumpkin seeds tasted like and whether a pumpkin would sink or float. Kasyn Drury, Abby Kozenborn, Josh James and Jade Hughes were pictured holding a pumpkin.
- Crfttenden County Middle School eighth-grade basketball players were Devon Nesbitt, Mitchell Joyce, Payton Riley, David Maness, Wyatt Gipson, Blake Curnel, Sean O'Leary, Sawyer Towery, Jimmy Crider, Ethan Dossett, Gavin Dickerson, Hunter Boone and Hunter Holeman, coached by David Perryman. Crittenden County Middle School girls' basketball players were Christa Sisco, Shea Martin, Sydney Coomes, Brandy Book, Shelby Summers, Hanna Easley, Kenlee Perryman, Chandler Moss, Kacie Easley, Matthew Long, Lily Perryman, Emmie Smith, Nahla Callaway, Ellie Smith, Lauren Gilchrist, Morgan Barnes and Ashton Binkley. Coaches were Lynese McMackin, Rachelle Perryman and Ali Shewcraft.

# Crittenden Press

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# **November marks National Caregivers Month**

November is National Caregivers Month, a time to and recognize honor the more than 50 million unpaid family caregivers across the United States who provide essential Rebecca support to older adults and people with chronic conditions or disabilities. According to the



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Administration for Community Living, this observance highlights the invaluable contributions of these caregivers.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) notes that unpaid caregivers are often family members or friends who help recipients maintain independence, quality of life, and physical and social well-being. They also help recipients avoid or delay institutional care. Common caregiving tasks include assistance with bathing, dressing, managing medications and chronic diseases, cleaning, paying bills, shopping, and providing transportation. In addition, caregivers offer crucial emotional support and companionship.

In Kentucky, caregivers of individuals with Alzheimer's disease represent a significant portion of the caregiving According population. Alzheimer's Association, 81,000 Kentuckians age 65 and older are living with Alzheimer's. To help meet their care needs, 157,000 family caregivers provide millions of hours of unpaid support.

While caregiving can bring a sense of fulfillment, self-worth, and purpose, it can also be physically, emotionally, and financially taxing. The CDC reports that about one-third of caregivers provide at least 20 hours of care per week. Many family caregivers are not formally trained, and many juggle full-time jobs or feel forced to reduce their work hours, resulting in lost wages. Additionally, many caregivers are older themselves and may have chronic conditions of their own.

The holiday season can be especially challenging for caregivers. Crittenden County native Jenny Zimmer shares her caregiving journey in her book, "The Man in the Mirror and Other Strangers," which details her experience caring for her late husband. Zimmer, along with the local extension office, will host "Surviving the Holidays as a Caregiver" on Saturday, Nov. 9, at 1 p.m. at the Extension Annex. Primary caregivers and those who support them are encouraged to attend.

Supporting the caregivers in your life can be as simple as a kind gesture. Here are some ways to help:

•Say thank you.

·Acknowledge their hard work in a letter or email they can revisit.

·Share why you want to celebrate them.

·Provide emotional and social support by taking them out for coffee, going for a walk, or dropping off dinner.

Be an empathetic listener and show

you understand their challenges. •Encourage them to prioritize their

own physical and mental health. Offer to take on some caregiving duties to give them a break.

•Help with day-to-day tasks, such as arranging for a housekeeper, sending a gift card to a restaurant, raking leaves. shoveling snow, or walking their dog.

·Encourage them to attend a caregiver support group to connect with others facing similar challenges.

National Caregivers Month serves as a reminder to recognize and support the caregivers who provide so much to those in need.

### JUDICIAL

Continued from page 1 new justice center. Construction will begin with the demolition of the current courthouse.

The new building will feature architectural design inspired by the county's 1871 courthouse, which served the community for 90 years. This will be the fifth courthouse (justice center) in county history.

Funding for the new building was authorized by the Kentucky General Assembly in 2020. The price was \$11 million when plans were originally conceived, but it has almost doubled over four years. Sherman Carter Barnhart Architects of Paducah designed the judicial center. Pinnacle, of Benton, is the general contractor, and Compass Municipal Advisors is the financial agent.

Chief Justice VanMeter noted that the first courthouse in Crittenden County was built in 1842. It burned, and a replacement was constructed in 1860, but a year later, it was burned by Confederates during the Civil War because federal troops were using it for barracks. In 1871, a two-story courthouse was erected, serving the community for 90 years until the current one was built.

Family Court Circuit Judge Brandi Rogers said the new building is being constructed to last for 100 years.

"It will serve this generation,

our children, and our grandchildren," she said during remarks at the ceremony.

Former Circuit Judge Rene Williams, who served for more than 30 years on the bench in Crittenden County, shared that she has letters dating back to 1995 in which she reported problems with the local courthouse to the Administrative Office of the Courts.

"It would flood, it had asbestos, the heat didn't work in the winter, and the air conditioning didn't work in the summer. There was no elevator and no security system. But there was a chair lift," she said, drawing chuckles from those in the crowd who were familiar with the history of the problematic chair lift, which frequently malfunctioned and was meant to take handicapped individuals to the topfloor courtroom.

Crittenden County Judge-Executive Perry Newcom said his research found that the existing courthouse, built 63 years ago, was erected for \$161,000.

"I would say this community got every single penny's worth from this building," he said.

Expected to be ready for occupation in two years, the new judicial center will be a modern facility with 23,040 square

"All new judicial centers support the latest data, computer, video, and networking technol-

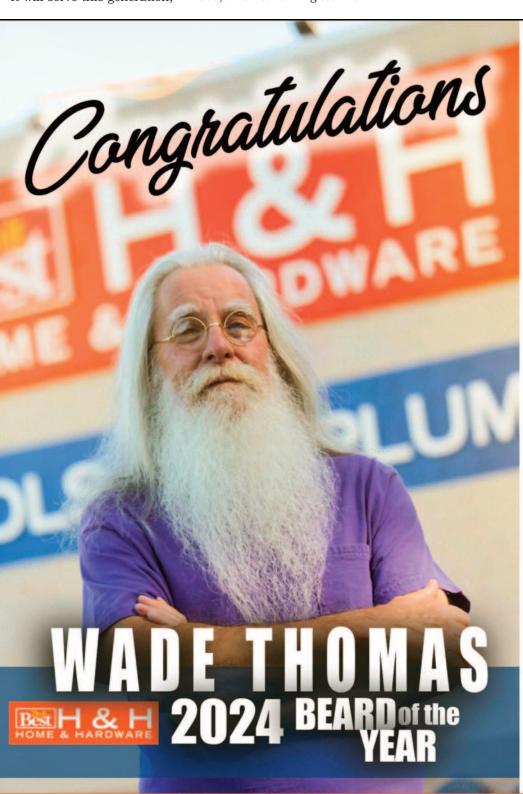


ogy," the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) said in a news release.

The AOC oversees the construction and maintenance of Kentucky court facilities. Once funding is authorized, the AOC Division of Capital Construction works with local communities to assemble a project development board. This board ensures that county and court officials have input on all aspects of the project. The PDB is composed of local representatives, including Judge-Executive Newcom, Circuit Judge Rogers, Circuit Judge Daniel Heady, District Judge Ben Leonard, Crittenden County Circuit Clerk Melissa Guill, attorney Rebecca Johnson and Larry Duvall, who serves as the citizen-at-large.

Pictured above during the ceremonial groundbreaking ceremony are (from left) Marion City Councilman Taylor Davis, City Councilman Randy Dunn, Family Court Judge Brandi Rogers, Mayor D'Anna Browning, County Judge Perry Newcom, Magistrate Matt Grimes, Magistrate Scott Belt, Magistrate Dave Belt, former Judge Rene Williams, Chief Justice Laurance VanMeter, Sen. Jason Howell, Sen. Robbie Mills and Rep. Jim Gooch. Below is an architectural rendering of what the new justice center will look like when it's complete in 2026. The existing courthouse, built in 1961, will be torn down in the coming days to make way for the new struc-









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# Religion The Crittenden Press

CrittendenPress.Blogspot.com



# Patience and the peaceful transfer of power

"On Tuesday last the 17th...the question which has for a long time agitated the public mind. and on the issue of which

rested the Liberty, Constitution. and happiness of American, was terminated as every republican and honest man wished, but the election of Thomas Jefferson, to the Presidency, and Aaron Burr. to the Vice Presidency, of the United States, for four years, commencing the 4th Guest of March next and on that day the sun of aristocracy set, to rise no more."

**NIESTRATH** 

**Columnist** 

Faith-based columnist

"This glorious victory over "hosts of foes arrayed in arms" over British influence and corruption, was not obtained without an arduous struggle - it was the struggle of virtue with vice – and American honor with anglo-American profligacy.'

"After thirty-four ballotings, the federalists perceiving the republicans

held out firm and undaunted. began seriously to consider of conceding - a caucus grand was accordingly held on Sunday Washlast at where ington, some were for an unanimous vote for Jefferson others were for still holding out and we under-

stand the caucus

dispersed very

much divided in councils." (Aurora General Advertiser, Friday, Feb. 20,

1801, p. 2)

The election of 1800 was contested for a while. It was in December of that year that the capital of the United States moved from Philadelphia to Washington, D.C. The transition from Washington to Adams was relatively smooth. The transition from Adams to Jefferson, not so much. This election represented the first transfer of the presidency from one party to another.

Typically, when power shifted in monarchies and empires, there was a clearing out of the opposing parties. There are still many examples of this in our world today. One need only look to Russia or North Korea for clear examples.

Our system certainly has its flaws, but the strength of our system lies in the people that make up our nation. We will always be at odds with each other over one thing or another. This is to be expected when we, as a nation, are formed not by bonds of blood, ethnicity, or religion but by laws and ideals.

It is to be expected when we have citizens who can trace their heritage from before the days of European colonization, from those

who first came to these shores from Europe, and all those from every nation that have come since some of whom came willingly, others not. We bring our languages (however most choose to learn to speak English), our cultures, our music and literature. We bring our expectations and family structures.

We are built to function from the ground up. Our local and state governments are the backbone of our society. The freedom that each community possesses to pass its own laws is an astounding thing in this world. The freedom of each state to manage itself within federal limits is nearly impossible for people in other parts of the world to imagine. It is a powerful tool to have experiments going on at the same time. We learn, through competition and watching each other, which works best for our situations.

We have always been

divided over one thing or another. What has seen us through all of it is our ability, with one brutal and wretched exception, to solve our differences in the marketplace of ideas and ideals. There has always been the threat of the great American Experiment flying apart at the seams, but our nation has weathered them all.

I have little expectation that this upcoming presidential election will be settled before we go to sleep on Nov. 5. I hope I am wrong. It may not be settled for a few days, or weeks. It will do us all well to be patient. Our election officials are valued public servants. The precinct workers are our friends and neighbors. They work hard to see that the election is free and fair.

Our diversity is our strength. The electoral college is perhaps the most brilliant federal system ever conceived. It is built to ensure that the less populated states are not overrun by the more populated

ones. The history of how it came is not ideal, but the result is astounding.

We had a perfect record of peaceful transfer of power (even through the civil war!) until the last election. It is my prayer that we continue that tradition as we continue to struggle together to see that the most good is done for the most people possible.

Remember that we are to love our neighbors as ourselves. Remember that we are to live at peace with everyone so long as it depends upon us. Cast your vote, if you choose to do so. Speak your mind if you need to. Deal in those things about which you have actual experience and knowledge. Pray for our nation and peace in the world

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

# Christians will have glorified bodies

do we become angels in heaven or are we just souls floating around up there?

**Answers:** While angels are glorious spiritual beings, we do not turn into them in heaven. When followers of Jesus Christ die, they are transformed into persons much more glorious than angels.

The moment we, Christians, take our last breath on earth we take our first in heaven. "To be away from the body (is to be) at home with the Lord" (2 Cor. 5:8).



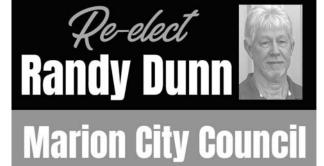
Our spirit and personality are immediately present with the Lord, but we will not be disembodied, ghostly apparitions. Our loved ones will recognize us (Matt. 17:1-4). Then in God's time, we receive our glorified bodies at the Second Coming of

Our worn-out, dilapidated bodies will be renewed and changed, like that of the resurrected body of Jesus Christ (Phil. 3:21). Just like an ugly caterpillar is changed into a beautiful butterfly, we will be changed to be like our wonderful Christ (Phil. 3:21).

Our body will have no physical weakness or limitations of time or space. They will again be full of strength. Even though our bodies will be like Jesus's, the supreme benefit will be to be with our loving Savior and Lord forev-

A vital question is: Are you prepared to meet the Master should He return or if you go to meet Him in death today? The only way to enjoy the benefits of a new glorified body after death is to trust Christ as your Lord and Savior (Jn. 14:6). If you haven't done so, do it right now!

Send your questions to: bob@bobhardison.com



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CUMBERLAND

PRESBYTERIAN

### Religious Outreach

■ A fall bazaar will be held from 9 a.m.-2 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 9 at Fredonia Cumberland Presbyterian Church. Lunch will be served 11 a.m.-1 p.m. with hot dogs, soup, chili. cornbread. baked potatoes, desserts and drinks. There will be a flea market with bread and pecans, jellies and jams, homemade candies, cookies, pies, cakes and holiday deco-

■ 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 ■ Suicidal thoughts? Stop! Email dbrant-

pc@tds.net and request a video link that hopefully will change your mind.

■ First Baptist Church of Fredonia food pantry is open from 4-5:30 p.m., third Wednesday of each month in Coleman Hall of the church.

■ 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.

> Visit one of our area churches for worship

# with us this week

and fellowship Freedom General Baptist Church Pastor. Ross Atwell

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Rodney Phelps, Pastor (270) 704-2400 emmausbaptistsalem@outlook.com Follow us on Facebook



87 Freedom Church Rd., Marion (about 1 mi. from Marion off Ky. 91) CHURCH TIMES:

Sunday Evening 6 p.m. Wed. Bible Study 6 p.m. Sunday School 10 a.m. Sunday Worship 11 a.m.



Sunday Mass 11 a.m. 860 S. Main St. Father Jojy Joseph

Sunday Discipleship Training: 6 p.m. Wednesday Worship Service: 7 p.m.



**Alarion Baptist Church** 

College & Depot streets, Marion • (270) 965-5232 Pastor: Bro. Aaron Brown . Children's & Youth Pastor: Bro. Shawn Holeman 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.

Mexico Baptist Church 1exicoBaptist.or Minister of Music Mike Crabtree Pastor: Morgan Smith Sunday Worship Services: 10 a.m., 7 p.m. Sunday Bible Study: 9 a.m.

DEER CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

175 Mexico Rd (270) 965-4059

SEVEN SPRINGS BAPTIST CHURCH 219 Seven Springs Rd., Marion, Ky. 42064

Sunday evening service 5 p.m. Wednesday night service 6:30 p.m. We are an Independent Baptist Church seeking to know Christ,

and to make Him known to the community around us. Pastor Justin Miller









### Tolu Methodist Church

Pastor: David Brown

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### **Barnett Chapel General Baptist**

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Barnett Chapel Rd., Marion, Ky. Barnett Chapel... where everyone is welcome.



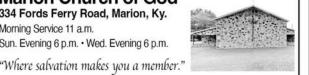
### FIRST CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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



### 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.



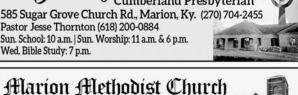
# **Crooked Creek Baptist Church**

261 Crooked Creek Church Rd.. P.O. Box 442, Marion, Ky. • (270) 704-0914

Sunday School: 10 a.m. Sunday Worship: 11 a.m. "Come and Worship with Us"







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Sun. School 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:45 p.m.



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Hurricane Church Rd. off Ky. 135 West Pastor: Bro. Danny Hinchee Sun. School, 10 am. · 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

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546 West Elm Street • (270) 965-9450 Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.



# Legends of the No Bottom Springs and the Lady Around the Rock live on

toms, stories that are never explained, ghosts that walk only on certain days in certain years that's some of Crittenden County's legends.

I have written about the No-Bottom Spring before, but recently I came across the original story written by Hollis C. Franklin. It seems the version I had did not contain all details, and I think you will enjoy reading Mr. Franklin's story, it's definitely the "rest of the story." The locale of the no-bottom spring is about three miles from Marion on KY 91 North.

Also a ghost story told by Mr. Romie Walker that took place back in 1925. I had always heard about the ghost rock on the Bells Mines-Weston Road, but not the history of why it was called that. The story is told is this

### **No-Bottom Spring**

The No-Bottom Spring got its name after this fashion and the day was Friday, July 13, year unknown.

In the long, long ago, a wagon trail ran very near the spring, a wagon trail over which moving wagons going from Tennessee to Illinois and then back from Illinois to Tennessee traveled on infrequent trips through western Kentucky.

It was on a hot and very dry July day. This particular covered wagon had as its mode of

power a yoke of very sturdy oxen, driven by a man. In the wagon which the oxen pulled were the man's wife and three small children and all their worldly goods.

All afternoon long the oxen traveled without a single drop of water. Their sides gaunt, their hip bones were protruding and their nostrils were

extended. The road was on and all its contents rough and rugged. In fact, even in those days, the trail could hardly be called a road.

Underdown

**County Historian** 

Forgotten

Passages

Just at the sun was nearing the horizon, the lead oxen raised his head. The driver of the wagon, the father of the little family, and the owner of the meager store of household goods and provisions in the wagon, sensed the fact that water, in some form, was very near. By the time the thought had passed his mind, the other oxen had sensed the same fact.

Often, the owner of those oxen had boasted as to how they always, without exception, obeyed his his command. No sooner had the two oxen raised their heads than their pace was quickened to the point where their owner and driver soon realized that they were paying no at-

tention to his command. He brought into play blacksnake whip which he carried, applying it roughly to the heads of the two oxen but that availed nothing. The oxen, starved and thirsty as they had never been before, paid no attention either to the lash of the whip across their heads nor to the use of the whip stock across their nostrils to which the owner finally resort-

By this time, the No-Bottom Spring was

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The legendary No-Bottom Spring on KY. 91 North is still as it was many years ago. Now almost hidden from the view of passing traffic, its story is almost forgotten through the years.



Ghost Rock on the Weston-Bells Mines Road is the site of the legend of the headless lady and her little dog. Perhaps she finally located her lost head and they now are

only 100 feet away. The noise of the wagon wheels passing over the rocks all but drowned out the screams of the driver's wife and the cries of the children in the wagon.

Seconds later the thirsty oxen were in the spring, followed of course, by the wagon to which they were hitched and in which were the woman, the three little children and the worldly possessions of the driver

of the two big oxen.

a mo-For ment, it seemed that the two oxen and the wagon and its contents must been buoyed up by hands of some whose home in the was spring which was resentful of the intrusion of his private

For a few seconds, the oxen and the wag-

seemed to float placidly upon the calm and blue waters of the spring.

Then it happened, as if out of the depth of the spring there might have come a mighty wave, the center of the spring seemed to open up and envelope the oxen, the wagon, the household the provisions goods, of the family, the little mother and the three little children.

If unmovable and helpless, the husband of the woman and the father of the children stood motionless on the bank of the spring holding in his hand the blacksnake whip which represented, now, all his worldly goods; in fact, which represented his all, except for the clothes he wore and they weren't much.

The man stood for a minute so stunned by the tragedy that he could not even think, then

slowly and deliberately, he wound the blacksnake whip tightly to the stock of the whip, took time to tie the cracker of the whip tightly to the stock so that the whip itself would be securely attached, then he pitched the whip into the middle of the spring to watch it disappear in the very calm and very quiet waters. Just at that time, in a high Oak, just above the spring, came the plaintive notes of a Whippoorwill which was echoed by a Mockingbird in a tree on a hill just across the holler.

Still the man stood looking into the waters which had claimed his all. Then realizing that there was nothing he could do, he turned and walked slowly up the hill.

When he reached the top of the hill, he turned for a final backward look into the deep waters which had become the grave of his loved ones. Possibly it was the man's imagination, but as he stood and looked down upon the waters, there was reflected the picture as he had last seen it, the two big oxen and the wagon, his wife and three small children.

the authenticity of the story because we have never seen the evidence, but they do say, in that particular section of Crittenden County, that on every Friday, July 13 just as the sun goes down, there may be seen reflected in the waters of the No-Bottom Spring a perfect picture of two big oxen and a covered wag-

### The Lady Around the Rock

The year was 1925 and Weston was still a thriving Ohio river town. It boasted of a church, school and post office. It also had its own seat of government.

It was at the town hall that Romie A. Walker had spent his day and an exhausting one it had been. The sun was already setting when Walker harnessed "Ol' Foxie," his faithful mare, to his buggy and started home.

It was a crisp October evening, with only a few clouds scattered across the sky, but Walker didn't take the time to enjoy the freshness of the air. A full moon shown brightly, and the road home was clear before him, but he was still filled with a feeling of apprehension.

Even though it had been more than 100 years since the famous Ford Gang had terrorized the river towns along the Ohio, it was still considered foolish to be on the road after dark. Perhaps, it had something to do with all of the ghosts said to wander the hills and hollows around Weston.

Of course, Walker didn't believe in "haints" or spirits, but even he had to admit that there was something strange about the huge white boulder known as Ghost

Ghost Rock stands on the left side of the road at the top of a hill on the road from Weston to Bells Mines. In the daylight it looks harmless enough. The path that circles the rock gets only a casual glance. But few people would follow that path at night, and never

On nights when the moon is full, a headless woman, dressed in a long ragged white garment, walks around the rock. She is followed by a small black and white dog. Together they circle 'round and round' the huge rock searching for her lost head.

Walker knew the story of the "Lady Round the Rock" well, but, of course, he didn't believe such tales. To prove to himself that it was all fabrication he let Ol' Foxie have the lead and settled down for a nap or maybe it was only an excuse to close his eyes.

The horse strained and pulled up the hill. As she neared the top she suddenly went wild and reared high into the air. Then Ol' Foxie made a U-turn right in front of the ghostly white boulder, almost turning the buggy over, and dashed madly back down the hill.

Walker, keeping his eyes closed, gripped the sides of the buggy in fear for his life and let Ol' Foxie run herself out. After he managed to turn the horse and buggy around, he spent the rest of the night getting Ol' Foxie back up the hill and past Ghost Rock. Maybe it would've been easier if he had opened his eyes.

For more than 150 years the Lady Round the Rock and her little dog have traveled the same path. Their feet have pounded the earth until it is hard and bare. Even the weeds refuse to grow around Ghost Rock.

Although there have been no recent sightings of the headless woman and her little dog, few people are willing to travel the road from Weston to Bells Mines around midnight on a full moon.

A happy ghostly Halloween to everyone from all our wonderful old legends of long ago.

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

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CONGER

### MARION CITY COUNCIL

### ON THE BALLOT







Continued from page 1

iar voice in local sports broad-

Dunn, 70, a retired General

Electric electrician and current

self-employed electrical con-

tractor, has lived in Marion for 65 years. Dunn has served on

the City of Marion Planning

and Zoning Commission and

has volunteered with Habitat

for Humanity and other

Olson, 58, is the owner and



Taylor



**OLSON** 



CITY COUNCIL WRITE INs



Frank **PIERCE** 

Dwight **SHERER** 

casting.

groups.

**Bobby** 

Randy **DAVIS DUNN** operator of a beauty salon in

Marion. A small business

owner for nearly 40 years,

Olson has lived most of her life

in Crittenden County and

graduated from Crittenden

City Council members serve

Three write-in candidates

have entered the race for Mar-

ion City Council, each offering

a distinct background and per-

Nikki Conger, 30, is a certi-

fied pharmacy technician at

spective on the city's future.

County High School in 1984.

two-year terms.

Day Glenn's Apothecary, where she has worked for 15 years. She attended West Kentucky Com-

Early

**VOTING** Oct. 31

and Nov.

1-2.

Polls are open 6 a.m., to 6 p.m., Tuesday **Election** 

ment specialist. Conger says she hopes to bring a new voice to the council and address community

munity and Technical College

and is certified through the

Kentucky Finance & Adminis-

tration Cabinet as a procure-

concerns to help Marion grow. Frank Pierce, 63, is a retired teacher, businessman and police dispatcher. He has previously served on the city council. He holds a bachelor's degree, master's degree, and Rank 1 and 2 certifications.

Pierce has been involved with several local boards, including the Community Arts Foundation, park board and Marion Main Street. His focus is on the city's infrastructure and long-term planning.

Eddie Lee Belt, 48, is a selfemployed finish carpenter and has served on Marion's Code Enforcement Board for more than 10 years. He holds an associate's degree in business administration from Madisonville Community College.

**Eddie** 

**BELT** 

Belt says he will focus on transparency in decision-making and monitoring the impacts of those decisions.

Kelsey Berry, 31, had sought to run but did not meet residency qualifications. According to Kentucky statutes, a candidate must live in the city for at least a year.

Early balloting began Thursday, Oct. 31 at Crittenden County Office Complex.

### **Playground** on hold for

padding A Crittenden County maintenance crew last week spent time preparing the playground at Marion-City County Park for a poured-in-place rubber base. Pictured are Ryan Guess, Joseph Campos and Brad Samuels. The playground is closed to use until the poured padding is completed. The poured rubber will be installed next week.



Continued from page 1 have in Crittenden County and in its

neighboring communities. Even if the idea were to pass in this generally conservative area, a dispensary isn't too likley. With a limited number of licenses available statewide, it's likely that the few assignable permits will go to metropolitan centers like Paducah or Hopkinsville. Yet, change is possible over time, isn't it?

Should we embrace a potential for coexistence in our evolving world whether with a new pet or in the realm of public policy? Our personal conscience will have to be the guide. As for me, cats cause sneezing, and I try to

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



### **ADOPT A PET**

Matthew Purry is looking for some new "Friends' to hang out with. All of his littermates have been adopted, so he is lonely. He is about 6 months old. He is neutered, up to date on shots, loves other cats, dogs and people. He is very playful and energetic, but also loving and sweet. For more information on how to adopt Matthew, contact Mary Hall Ruddiman Shelter at 270-965-2006 or visit the shelter's Facebook page.



### **PLANE**

Continued from page 1 form how he and his family travel.

"Flying makes world a lot smaller," Merrill said, explaining how he first became interested in piloting.

Encouraged by his father-in-law, Jim Johnson, also a pilot, Merrill saw aviation as a way to bypass congested roads and long hours spent on the interstate.

"With two kids, family vacations by car are costly and time-consuming. Having this plane may not be cheaper than airline tickets, but it's a lot more convenient," he

The RV-10 he built is a four-seater, aluminum and fiberglass aircraft powered by an AeroSport Power IO-540 D4A5 engine modified to produce 270 horsepower, reaching speeds over 200 mph and altitudes up to 20,000 feet.

Now 42 years old, Merrill's aviation journey began in earnest in the fall of 2019 when he started training for his pilot's license, which he earned in March 2020. By October of that year, he'd achieved his instrument rating, enabling him to fly under IFR (Instrument Flight Rules) in low-visibility conditions. Shortly after, he offloaded an initial twoseater plane and invested in the RV-10 kit, using the downtime during the COVID-19 pandemic to launch into what would become his most ambi-

tious project yet. The RV-10 kit was partially assembled when he purchased it, with the tail section and some wing components put together. The toughest development was yet to come and tested Merrill's meticulous touch, including the fuselage and finishing touches like the

wiring and avionics. "I'm

a perfectionist," he said with a smile. "Some people might call it a fault, but in aviation, you need to be at the top of your game.

Among his goals is to enter the plane in the renowned Oshkosh Air-Venture in Wisconsin, where awards for innovation, safety and craftsmanship are highly sought after.

"I'd love to bring home a Lindy," he said, referring to the prestigious award named after Charles Lindbergh.

Merrill's workspace for this endeavor was his home garage, where he spent weekends working from dawn until dusk, often enlisting help at times from his wife Patti and their children, Braelyn and Bode.

"They helped with turning bolts and reaching tight spots - my wife even helped with some of the rivets," he said, grateful for their support in what became a family

He documented every step of the build on Facebook, partly as a requirement to record each detail of construction for regulatory purposes and partly as a backup in case he lost his phone photos.

"When you build an experimental aircraft, there's a lot of paperwork, so I wanted to make sure every part of tne process recorded." was

One of the primary motivations for building the plane was the financial and practical flexibility of experimental aircraft ownership.

"Maintenance on certified planes is incredibly expensive," Merrill explained. "On the experimental side of aviation, I can repair and maintain

the aircraft on my own." This flexibility allows him to keep a close eye on every detail, which he said provides peace of

mind, especially when his family's safety is in-

"There's a real satisfaction in knowing I turned all the screws myself before I put my family in it," he said.

The final product, housed in a hangar at the local airport, boasts a range of up to six hours, enabling the family to reach destinations like Florida's Gulf Coast in a fraction of the time it would take to drive. The plane includes advanced avionics, custom modifications and redundancies in critical systems such as dual fuel pumps, engine control units and batteries, ensuring a high level of safety and

reliability. Although it has not been painted yet, Merrill has a multi-colored, unique design planned. He will have a contractor handle that phase of the

As required for all experimental aircraft, Merrill must complete a 40-hour solo test phase before bringing any passengers on board. During this period, he is finetuning the engine baffles to manage cooling and recalibrated some of the avionics to eliminate false readings.

"It flies true," he said confidently. "The first time I flew it and got 5,500 feet going about 200 mph, it dawned on me that this was built in my garage. I don't know how you could find any more satisfaction than

Looking back, Merrill says he sacrificed a lot to complete the plane, from duck hunting to weekend outings, but he wouldn't change a thing.

"In the end, it's all been worth it," he said, excited for the family adventures that lie ahead and the convenience of getting where they need to go on their own schedule.



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### **Legal Notice**

Notice is hereby given that on October 25, 2024 Sherri L. Riley of 110 Autumn Lane, Marion, KY 42064 was appointed executrix of Hazel M. Carroll, deceased, whose address was 110 Autumn Lane, Marion, KY 42064. Hon. Bobby D. Murray, 100 N. Broadway, Providence, KY 42450, attorney. All persons having claims against said estate are hereby notified to present the same properly proven as required by law to the executrix before the 25th day of April, 2025 and all claims not so proven and presented by that date shall be forever barred.

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

Crittenden District Court Melissa Guill, Clerk (1t-44-c)

### bid notice

Crittenden County Board of Education is accepting sealed bids for the following lots:

Lot 1: Small kids (K-2) wooden table (3'x5') with 6 chairs

Lot 2: Small kids (K-2) wooden table (3'x5') with 6 chairs

Lot 3: Small kids (K-2) wooden table (3'x5') with 6 chairs

Lot 4: Small kids (K-2) wooden table (3'x5') with 4 chairs

Lot 5: Small kids (K-2) wooden round table (4") with 4 chairs

Lot 6: Small kids (K-2) wooden round table (4") with 2 extra legs and 4

chairs Lot 7: Average wooden table (3'x5') with 6 chairs.

Lot 8: Average wooden

table (3'x5') table with 6 Lot 9: Average wooden chairs. Lot 10: Average wooden table (3'x5') table with 6 chairs. Lot 11: Average wooden

table (3'x6') table with 6 chairs. Lot 12: 3 chairs: 1 - stan-

table (3'x5') table with 6

dard office chair (blue in color); 2 - rolling chairs (blue in color).

Lot 13: Wooden podium. Sealed bids must be submitted to CCBOE at 601 W. Elm St., Marion, KY 42064, by Friday, Nov. 8, 2024 at 1 p.m., at which time they will be opened. Sealed bids must include the lot number(s) for which you are bidding. For more information, contact Brian Kirby at (270) 704-1166. Crittenden County Board of Education reserves the right to reject any or all bids. (1t-44-c)

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### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

On October 18, 2024, Louisville Gas and Electric Company and Kentucky Utilities Company filed their 2024 Joint Integrated Resource Plan with the Public Service Commission of Kentucky. This filing includes a load forecast and resource plans of Louisville Gas and Electric Company and Kentucky Utilities Company to meet future demand with an adequate and reliable supply of electricity at the lowest possible cost for all customers within their service

Comments regarding the Integrated Resource Plan may be submitted to the Public Service Commission by mail to Public Service Commission, Post Office Box 615, Frankfort, Kentucky 40602, or by email to at psc.info@ky.gov. All comments should reference Case No. 2024-00326. Any person interested in participating in the review of this Integrated Resource Plan should submit a motion to intervene in Case No. 2024-00326.

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NEW! Livingston County, KY – 191 Acres - \$800,000

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PENDING! Crittenden County, KY - 64.3284 Acres -

\$241,231.50
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### Kentucky Fish and Wildlife **Commission Member Nomination Meeting**

representative on the Kentucky Fish and Wildlife Commission will be held Nov. 21 at Kentucky Dam Village State Resort Park, 166 Upper Village Dr., Gilbertsville, Ky. The meeting will start at 7:30 p.m. (Central time). Doors open at 6 p.m.

The commission provides oversight of the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources and guides development of the state's regulations on hunting, fishing, boating and related matters.

consecutive years, have held a Kentucky hunting or fishing license or hunted or fished in Kentucky while license-exempt under KRS 150.170, may participate in the nomination meeting. The 1st District includes Ballard, Caldwell, Calloway, Carlisle, Christian, Crittenden, Fulton, Graves, Hickman, Livingston, Lyon, McCracken, Marshall and Trigg counties.

convicted felon; have held hunting and fishing licenses for at least the previous 5 consecutive years or hunted and fished in Kentucky while license-exempt under KRS 150.170; and be well informed about wildlife conservation and restoration. The names of nominees chosen at the meeting will be submitted to the governor, who will appoint one of the nominees, subject to Kentucky Senate confirmation.

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A meeting to nominate candidates for the 1st District

Resident hunters or anglers of the 1st District who, for the past 2

Nominees must: be a current resident of the district; not be a

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

### **Rocket sports schedule**

Football hosts Calloway County **SATURDAY** 

Junior Pro Football Jamboree at Trigg Cross Country regional at Marshall Co. **SUNDAY** 

Junior Pro Football Jamboree at Trigg

### FOOTBALL

### Junior Pro Ranking

JR PRO POST-SEASON SEEDS Fifth and Sixth Grade

- 1. Caldwell County
- 2. Hopkins County
- 3. Crittenden County
- 4. Webster County
- 5. Trigg County
- Union County
- **Third and Fourth Grade**
- 1. Trigg County 2. Hopkins County
- 3. Caldwell County
- 4. Crittenden County 5. Union County
- 6. Webster County

### **VOLLEYBALL**

### **2nd Region Tournament**

At Hopkinsville High School **MONDAY'S RESULTS** Union County 3, Madisonville 0 Christian Co. 3, Crittenden Co. 0 **TUESDAY'S RESULTS** Caldwell Co. 3, Henderson Co. 2 Heritage Christian 3, Livingston 0 WEDNESDAY'S SEMIFINALS Union Co. vs Christian Co., 5:30pm To

Caldwell vs Heritage Christian, 7pm **THURSDAY** 

Championship 6pm

### **V-BALL 2ND REGION RANKINGS**

Rankings based on KHSAA RPI. Team records as of start of regional tournament.

Team	Wins/Losses
Crittenden County	19 - 4
Heritage Christian	21 - 5
Caldwell County	18 - 9
Henderson County	15 - 16
Union County	14 - 7
Christian County	12 - 18
Hopkins County Central	12 - 13
Webster County	8 - 11
University Heights	8 - 22
Fort Campbell	8 - 11
Madisonville-North Hopkin	s 9-23
Livingston Central	5 - 17
Hopkinsville	2 - 26
Trigg County	1 - 16

### RUNNING

### **5K Race at MCC Park**

Registration is now open for an upcoming 5K Fun Run and Walk at Marion-Crittenden County Park to benefit veterans. On Saturday, Nov. 9, check in will be at 8 a.m., with the run starting at 9 a.m. Cost is \$30. All proceeds benefit Mission 22, a veterans organization. For more information, call Andrea Lovett at Crittenden Community Hospital at 270-965-1137. An entry form is available online at the hospital's Facebook page.

### **OUTDOORS**

### **Lyon County DU event**

Lyon County Ducks Unlimited will host its fundraising dinner and auction Saturday night at Lee Jones Park in Eddyville. The event begins at 6 p.m. Tickets range from \$20 to \$1,500.

### **Hunting Seasons**

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

Bullfrog	May 17 - Oct. 31
Squirrel Fall	Aug. 17 - Nov. 8
Deer Archery	Sept. 7 - Jan. 20
Turkey Archery	Sept. 7 - Jan. 20
Deer Crossbow	Sept. 21 - Jan. 20
Raccoon	Oct. 1 - Feb. 28
Turkey Shotgun	Oct. 26 - Nov. 1
Woodcock	Oct. 26 - Nov. 8
Deer Rifle	Nov. 9 - Nov. 24
Turkey Crossbow	Nov. 9 - Dec. 31
Rabbit	Nov. 11 - Feb. 10
Quail	Nov. 11 - Feb. 10
Raccoon Trapping	Nov. 11 - Feb. 28
Woodcock	Nov. 11 - Dec. 11
Bobcat	Nov. 16 - Feb. 28
Squirrel Fall	Nov. 28 - Feb. 15
Dove	Nov. 28 - Dec. 8
Duck	Nov. 28 - Dec. 1
Canada Goose	Nov. 28 - Feb. 15
Coyote Night (lights)	Dec. 1 - March 31
Duck	Dec. 7 - Jan. 31
Turkey Shotgun	Dec. 7-13
Deer Muzzleloader	Dec. 14-22
Dove	Dec. 21 - Jan. 12



Senior Carly Porter (left) is CCHS's first ever volleyball regional player of the year. Coach Savanna Tays Harper was region coach of the vear as selected by Kentucky Volleyball Coaches Association.





Senior Riley Kirby dives to save a volley during Monday's disappointing loss to Christian County in the regional opener.

# **SHATTERED**

### Hopes of crown wiped out early

Christian County eliminated the Lady Rockets' chance to extend their record-breaking volleyball season Monday in the Second Region tournament at Hopkinsville.

Crittenden County lost in straight sets (25-23, 26-24, 25-20) to the Lady Colonels (13-18), despite having beaten Christian County twice during the regular sea-

The Lady Rockets (19-5) completed one of their best seasons in school history, winning a seventh consecutive Fifth District Tournament and their first-ever All A Classic Second Region title. They entered the KHSAA Second Region tournament as favorites, having defeated most regional teams twice, except for Henderson, who they beat in the final game of the season after an earlier loss.

Monday night's match closely contested,

with the first two sets tied or separated by fewer than four points much of the way.

Christian County capitalized on gaps in Crittenden's defense, forcing uncharacteristic errors. In the third set, Crittenden regained composure and was close to extending the match, leading 20-19, but the Lady Colonels pulled ahead and secured the win and the match.

Second Region Player of the Year Carly Porter recorded 10 kills and a block for Crittenden. Junior Lilah Sherer had 24 assists, junior Lacey Boone added 6 kills, and senior Mary Rachel Stephens contributed three aces.

Porter's player of the year honor was presented by the Kentucky Volleyball Coaches Association. Also, CCHS coach Savannah Tays Harper was named Second Region Coach of the

# SEVEN QUALIFY FOR X-COUNTRY STATE

## Lady Rockets earn team berth; Rogers, McCord have bids, too

STAFF REPORT

Crittenden County High School's girls' cross country team had an outstanding performance on Saturday at the KHSAA Class A First Region meet held at Marshall County, earning them a place at the upcoming state competition this weekend in Lexington.

Senior Mary Martinez and sophomore Ella Whitney led the charge for the Lady Rockets, finishing in the top 15 and securing medals with their impressive individual performances. Martinez took 5th place overall, clocking in at 23:05, while Whitney followed in 12th at 25:26. Their contributions, along with strong runs from teammates Presley Potter (16th, 26:30), Taylor Haire (23rd, 29:42), and Hannah Whitney (26th, 42:18), helped Crittenden County clinch third place as a team, finishing behind Dawson Springs and Murray. Jade Green of Murray won the girls' race with a time of 20:43.

In addition to the team qualifiers, individual male runners Asa McCord and River Rogers also punched their tickets to the state meet. Rogers finished 17th with a time of 19:21, while Mc-Cord followed closely behind in 21st place at 19:38.

Crittenden's other runners in the male division were Landon Starkey at 32nd with a time of 20:48, followed by Zach Rustin in 48th at 22:47 and Noah Martinez in 49th at 23:03. Rounding out the team, Cameron Nesbitt finished in 60th with a time of 29:52.

For Livingston Central, Phillip Wilson led his squad with a time of 21:08, earning 34th place, while Carson Taliaferro and Carter Belcher followed closely behind in 35th (21:14) and 53rd (23:34), respectively.

With 62 runners competing in the boys' division, Crittenden County finished 6th out of nine teams, and Livingston Central placed 9th. The boys' individual title went to Dawson Springs' Eason Bourland, who posted an impressive winning time of



Pictured at left are (from left) Hannah Whitney, Ella Whitney, Presley Potter, Mary Martinez and Taylor Haire. Below are Asa McCord (left) and River Rogers. All qualified for





# Mistakes derail Rockets at Caldwell

In a pivotal district game Friday, when Crittenden County needed to be at its best, a series of mistakes derailed the Rockets' hopes for a win at Caldwell County and crushed their chances for a more favorable postseason seed.

In a game where Crittenden led three times, Caldwell County had the momentum late to secure a 36-27 Class 2A

First District victory. Three interceptions, a fumble, and critical penalties spelled doom for the Rockets as the Tigers (3-6) scored 20 fourth-quarter points en route to their only district win of the season. The Rockets (3-6) are winless in league play and will make their second trip of the fall to Owensboro Catholic on Nov. 8 for the opening round of the playoffs. The Aces, ranked as Class 2A's No. 1 team, beat CCHS 51-0 earlier in the year. Caldwell will open the postseason at Fort Camp-

For the second week in a row, junior Rocket receiver Caden Howard had an impressive, record-setting performance. His 13 catches for 143 yards tied a single-game school record for receptions. A week earlier, in a loss to district foe Mayfield, he set a new team record for career receptions.

"They ran the ball on us; we had a lot of trouble stopping them," Rocket coach Gaige Courtney said. "They made plays when they had to, and we didn't. We just made a ton of errors - turnovers and penalties."

The Rockets fell behind for good early in the fourth quarter, 22-21, on a touchdown set up by Caldwell's second of three interceptions. But Crittenden clawed its way back into contention with a touchdown pass from QB Quinn Summers to CamRon Belcher with 6:28 to play. Down by two, Crittenden needed a conversion to tie the game, but a 15yard unsportsmanlike penalty on the touchdown put the Rockets in a tough spot from the Tigers' 18-yard line. The infraction occurred when a Crittenden player from the sideline came onto the field to celebrate in the end zone. Crittenden's ensuing conversion pass fell 5 yards short, and Caldwell went on to score later in the game for the final mar-

The Tigers, led by senior Kam Spikes with 112 rushing yards, found success on the ground in the second half. Cald-6:28. 4th



PHOTO BY ALLISON EVANS Junior Caden Howard (6) tied a school record for receptions in a single game.

well rushed for 219 yards, with 185 of those coming in the last two quarters. Meanwhile, Crittenden's running game was severely hampered when running back Brayden Mahnke left the field injured in the third quarter. The Rockets rushed for just 52 yards.

Caldwell's sophomore lefty quarterback completed 13 of his 16 passes, while Summers was 25-for-37 for CCHS, which outgained Caldwell through the air 255 to 205.

The Rockets will close out the regular season next Friday at home against Calloway County. The playoffs begin the following week.

**SCORE BY QUARTERS** 

Crittenden Co. 7 0 Caldwell Co. **SCORING PLAYS** 

Cald-Sutton Ritchey 22 field goal, 7:18, 1st Critt-Quinn Summers 7 run (Adri Berry kick) 3:21, 1st Cald-Luke Maddox 12 pass from Daelyn Landers (Ritchey kick) 6:11, 2nd

Critt-Brayden Mahnke 18 run (Berry kick) 11:27, 3rd Cald-Kam Spikes 1 run (kick blocked) 7:41, 3rd Critt-CamRon Belcher 3 pass from Summers (Berry kick) 4:54. 3rd

Cald-Cam Wilson 2 pass from Lander (pass failed) 10:40, 4th Cald-Luke Parker 57 pass from Lander (Ritchey kick)

9:26, 4th Critt-Belcher 22 pass from Summers (pass failed) Cald-Spikes 5 run (Ritchey kick) 4:52, 4th

Passing: Critt 25-38-3, 255; Cald 13-16-1, 205

**TEAM TOTALS** First Downs: Critt 15, Cald 20 Penalties: Critt 6-31, Cald 7-65

Total Yards: Critt 307, Cald 424 INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing: Critt 17-52, Cald 42-219

Rushing Critt: Mahnke 9-32, Tyree McLean 2-11, Belcher 1-1, Summers 5-8. Cald: Spikes 20-112, Maddox 4-19,

Wilson 10-86, Lander 8-2. Critt: Summers 25-37-3, 255; Howard 0-1-0. Cald:

Lander 13-16-1, 205.

Receiving Critt: Howard 13-143, Belcher 5-52, McLean 4-35, Dakota Sosh 2-17, Mahnke 1-8. Cald: Parker 4-96,

Maddox 3-27, Wilson 3-14, Spikes 1-15, Gus Fox 2-

### Defense

CamRon Belcher 8 solos, 4 assists, TFL; Landon

Curry 4 solos, 5 assists, TFL; Blake French 2 solos, 3 assists; Brayden Mahnke 6 solos, assist; Tyree McLean 7 solos, 2 assists, TFL; Kaiden Travis 2 solos, TFL; Carson Yates 3 solos; Braydin Brandsasse 2 solos, assist; Caden Howard 2 solos, assist, fumble recovery; Keegan Pierson solo, 2 assists, fumble recovery; Brayden Poindexter 7 solos, 7 assists, TFL, fumble recovery; Trae Taylor 4 solos; Noah Byford 5 solos, assist; Gaige Markham 5 solos; Trent Todd assist.

Players of the Game: Offense Caden Howard, Defensive Brayden Poindexter, Lineman Carson Yates, Special Teams Quinn Summers.

Records: Crittenden 3-6 (0-3), Caldwell 3-6 (1-2)

### FFA FIELD TRIP TO WEST KENTUCKY DAIRY

Crittenden County High School's FFA students went on a field trip last week to JD Country Milk, a dairy in Logan County, and they also toured the Jefferson Davis Memorial obelisk in Elkton, Ky. Attended by agriculture teachers Jessica Abercrombie and Marlee Lanham were students Kamryn McGoldrick, Autumn Lynch, Cheyenne Dorris, Cloie Reinschler, Caden Penn, Nathan McKinney, Dominic Walters, Josh James, Cabot Sutton, Dawson Johnson, Cooper Robertson, Ethan Sosh, Shane Fricke, Abby Korzenborn, Addies Morries, Ashton Brown, Eva Walker, Anna Colon, Ayden Riley, Logan Nolan, Hunter Jackson, Cameron Nesbitt, Gabe Shewmaker, Tanner McBride, Arie Suggs, Bre McKindree, Azaria Rich, Braden Patton, Trapper Haire, Parker Wood, Sam Porter, Alex Hewitt, Miles Asbridge, Eli Herrin, Hunter Curnel, Lila Curnel, Maddie Watson and Autumn White.



# Mayor joins MSU staff as adjunct professor

In a collaboration that highlights the intersection of academia and local leadership, Mayor D'Anna Browning has accepted an invitation from Dr. Victor Raj to co-teach an online course titled CIS 648: Enterprise Resource Planning in SAP at Murray State University (MSU). This master's level course began in October, and delves into the intricacies of SAP, a vital platform widely used in manufacturing settings, including at Siemens.

Last spring, Dr. Raj reached out to alumni from the MSU College of Business, seeking individuals with expertise to teach the course. Mayor Browning, who has an educational background that includes a master's in organizational com-

lor's in public relations from MSU, recognized the unique opportunity to contribute to her alma

"I've always thought about being an adjunct professor at Murray State and Dr. Raj's request was oddly specific to what I do," she said.

Her decision to accept the invitation reflects what the mayor says is a commitment to education and community engagement.

"Murray State will always have my heart, and I'm glad to be able to give back a little," she added.

The course's online format is designed to accommodate busy professionals, allowing students to participate while balancing their careers and other commitments. By focusing on



Mayor D'Anna Browning and Dr. Victor Raj

dresses a critical component of modern enterprise resource planning, equipping students with the skills necessary for success in the evolving manufacturing sector.

Mayor Browning's involvement in Dr. Raj's initiative brings a unique perspective, bridging the gap between theory and practical application in local business environments.

collaboration The stands as a testament to the value of education and the role of community leaders in fostering a skilled workforce for the future, Dr. Raj said.

## Crittenden schools seek savings through more efficient LED lighting

BY ALLISON EVANS THE CRITTENDEN PRESS

Upgrades to lighting in Rocket Arena will be funded through a Guaranteed Energy Savings Project (GESP) during the first week in November.

Crittenden County Board of Education Oct. 22 approved a contract with Ascendant Facility Partners for the work not to exceed \$92,033.

Materials, including new fixtures and LED bulbs, will cost an additional \$21,600. The work is expected to produce \$6,871 annually in energy and operational savings.

Rocket Arena will be closed for approximately one week while the project is completed.

Representatives from Ascendant Facility Partners plan to meet with school officials next month to discuss additional energy savings projects to be completed

next spring and summer. These projects are financed through energy bonds and funded by utility savings.

Paducah-based Ascendant identified \$70,485 in potential annual savings over a 20-year period for various projects in Crittenden County.

Other business conducted by the board in-

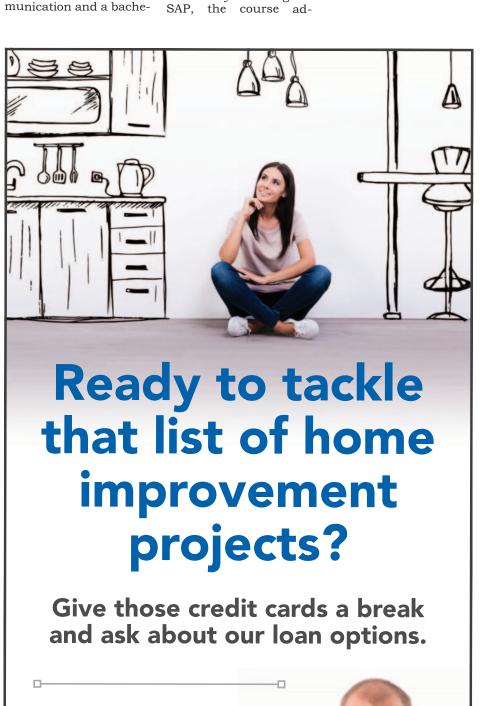
•Accepted \$2.6 million from CM Regent Insurance for damage to roofs at Crittenden County middle and high schools, central office and the FRYSC building caused by a 2023 hail storm. The original offer of \$1 million for repairs was rejected and renegotiated during the past year. The board approved a quote from Preferred Construction Services to repair damage at central office and FRYSC, with an additional contract to be executed for repairs at the two schools.

•Accepted the Kentucky Education Technology System (KETS) offer of \$14,074 for technology purchases. The board of education will match that amount.

payment Approved #10 for \$538,557 to MP Lawson for the Crittenden County Middle School addition.

•Approved \$134,104 for Career and Technical Education funds to be used through June 30, 2025.

Approved \$1,000 stipends for event coordinators for high school girls and boys basketball games. This position traditionally was held by assistant principals.







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