



The Crittenden Press

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BONE DRY « Burn Ban In Crittenden | Wildfire Season Soon

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2024

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

AN INDEPENDENTLY-OWNED, LOCAL NEWSPAPER SINCE 1879

ONE DOLLAR

Fall wildfire season

Crittenden County remains under a burn ban due to dry conditions, but other counties do not have similar restrictions in place. Starting Oct. 1 is Kentucky's wildfire season when outdoors burning within 150 feet of a grassland or woodland is prohibited statewide during daylight hours from 6 a.m., to 6 p.m. The state has this week issued a Level 1 drought alert and although a tropical storm should bring some needed rainfall, it may not be enough to solve the dry conditions. See page 2 for more on the drought and work being done to shore up Lake George.

Salem Day 2.0

Salem Day, postponed recently due to threat of severe weather, has been rescheduled for Saturday, Oct. 5. The festival will include vendors, games, crafts, entertainment and more family fun.

Dates: Things to Do

- Saturday nights in October, the Tolu Haunted House will be open.
- Oct. 3–6 is the annual US 60 Yard Sale. Place your sale ads in The Press to get thousands of views.
- Friday, Oct. 4 is deadline for Crittenden County High School's annual homecoming parade. Entries can be emailed to derrick.ford@crittenden.kyschools.us. The parade is at 5 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 17.
- Sunday, Oct. 6 is unveiling of historical marker commemorating Marquis de Lafayette's 19th century visit to Smithland.
- Friday, Oct. 25 is deadline for write-in candidates to file for the November election.
- Thursday, Oct. 31 Trick-or-Treat on Main Street in Marion.
- Tuesday, Oct. 29 there will be a formal dedication ceremony for the planned new Crittenden County Judicial Center.



UPCOMING MEETINGS

- Marion Code Enforcement Board meets at 5 p.m., Monday, Oct. 7 at city hall.
- Fredonia City Council meets in special session at 7 p.m., Monday, Oct. 7 for a public hearing on its 2024 property tax rate.
- Livingston County Board of Education meets at 6 p.m., Monday, Oct. 14 at the board of education office.
- Caldwell County Fiscal Court meets at 9 a.m., Tuesday, Oct. 15 at the courthouse.
- Crittenden County Republican Party meets at 5:30 p.m., Tuesday Oct. 15 at the county office complex.
- Crittenden County Fiscal Court meets at 8:30 a.m., Thursday, Oct. 17 at the county office complex.
- Crittenden County Board of Education meets at 5:30 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 17 at Rocket Arena.



The Crittenden Press

USPS 138-260 / Marion, Ky.



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City adopts property maintenance codes

Move is part of broader plan to clean up town

STAFF REPORT

In an ongoing effort to achieve its stated mission of improving public safety and protecting property values, City of Marion last week adopted the International Property Maintenance Code (IPMC) as its overarching standard for existing residential and commercial properties.

The lengthy code can be found online. Council members tweaked the IPMC just a bit, tailoring the document to Marion's specific needs.

IPMC is a 71-page comprehensive set of rules developed as a model code to

regulate minimum maintenance requirements for existing buildings.

Mayor D'Anna Browning said other nearby communities, including Providence, Sturgis and Sebree have implemented the same rules.

In recent months, the city, through code enforcement procedures, have taken formal action against multiple properties, including homes and buildings deemed unsafe or dilapidated. Perhaps the most notable property was the old high school on College Street, which was torn down. However, there have been about nine others identified, and

those owners have been officially noticed to remedy the conditions or further face further action.

Browning said Marion will likely hire a part-time code enforcement officer to help usher its broad revitalization plans through the process of identification, notification and restoration or demolition.

A safety audit of downtown buildings is likely forthcoming, too, Browning said. In light of recent problems faced in Salem where a few Main Street struc-

See **CODES**/page 8



Browning



Crittenden County Board of Education members heard public comments last week after a post on social media raised questions about an alleged same-sex mock wedding at the middle school in early September.

Mock wedding stirs emotions, board hears public comment

STAFF REPORT

Details remain scarce about what might happen, if anything, with regard to a controversial situation at Crittenden County Middle School earlier this month that drew a great deal of criticism during a board of education meeting last Wednesday.

Thirty residents spoke during that meeting last week, mostly criticizing an alleged mock same-sex marriage ceremony held Sept. 6 on Crittenden County Middle School campus during school hours.

Five days after that board of education meeting, school officials say they're still reviewing what happened.

"Superintendent Tonya Driver is continuing to investigate involvement and circumstances surrounding the mock wedding at CCMS earlier this month," school

spokesperson Tiffany Blazina said Monday.

"I know people are anxious to hear something, but we have to take care and look at every aspect and every angle, and it doesn't happen as quickly as people would like, but as the investigation is continuing, we cannot comment on anything surrounding it," Blazina added.

The school board meeting Wednesday, Sept. 18 was attended by about 150 students, parents, teachers and preachers wanting to learn more about the event that was staged on the front lawn of the school.

Smartphone video of the alleged ceremony was taken by multiple students, based on what could be seen in a still frame of the video posted online last week. The screenshot appeared to show students lined up for the fake cere-

mony, many of them holding smartphones in the air either taking photos or recording the event.

The social media post of the screenshot with a short description questioning what had occurred drew almost 300 comments in the first few hours online before it was removed.

The Press has obtained and reviewed a video clip of the alleged mock wedding. It lasts about three minutes. Although other media outlets have reported that a video was posted online, The Press has not been able to verify that anything other than a screenshot was published online.

Last week's special school board meeting had already been scheduled and its agenda set by the time the controversial event was made public on social

See **MOCK**/page 2

Moss Joins Sheriff's Dpt.

STAFF REPORT

Shawntee Moss has always wanted to be involved in law enforcement. At 37, he says the time is right to enter the profession.

A lifetime Crittenden Countian, Moss was hired last week by Crittenden County Sheriff Evan to become the department's third deputy, joining Boyd Bates and Robbie Kirk.



Moss

A stellar athlete in high school, Moss went on to play collegiate football for a time at Campbellsville. He has continued a fitness routine throughout adulthood, so it was a snap for him to pass the mandatory physical test for law enforcement recruits.

"I had always figured that one day I would be going this route, so I have stayed in shape physically and waited until I was mentally prepared for this job," Moss said this week while shadowing the sheriff on patrol and investigations.

Moss studied physical education at Campbellsville and Murray State, where he also took military classes that made available through ROTC program. Coursework from those classes, Moss said, helped reinforce his desire to one day work in law enforcement and what he learned will be beneficial on the job.

Three of his family members are also lawmen, including his brother Demetric Moss, who is a deputy sheriff and school resource officer in Atlanta.

Sheriff Head said Moss will continue working beside others in his department until he completes a 20-week Department of Criminal Justice Training at Eastern Kentucky University. After that, he will be certified to patrol on his own.

Moss had worked several years at Siemens in Marion.

SCHOOL THREAT CASE

Juvenile in custody

STAFF REPORT

A 17-year-old Marshall County boy was scheduled to appear privately before District Judge Ben Leonard in Marion on Wednesday for a custody hearing. The teen is accused of making threats on a social media platform Friday, Sept. 13 that led to a lockdown of Crittenden County schools.

Crittenden County Sheriff Evan Head and School Resource Officer Rick Coyle went to Marshall County High School on Monday where they took the boy into custody. His parents were notified and the teen was transported to a juvenile detention facility in Paducah where he remained until Wednesday's court appearance.

The judge was expected to determine Wednesday whether the

teen will continue to be held or released to his parents. At press time, the suspect's arraignment had not been scheduled. He faces two counts of second-degree terroristic threatening, a Class D felony. Sheriff Head has requested that the teen be charged as an adult. The court will have to make that determination. Until then, the teen's identity will remain private. Juvenile court proceedings are not open to the public.

State police have responded to multiple school threats across the commonwealth in recent weeks, particularly between Sept. 11-13. Since a Sept. 4 school shooting in

See **THREAT**/page 2



Dry weather has allowed progress to move at a nice pace at Lake George where the levee has been cut on the east end by contractors to facilitate a new syphon pipe. The levee was cut about 15 feet deep for installation. Tim Thomas, Marion’s water crisis consultant, said the contractor was able to install the syphon in segments so that the earthen levee was never completely cut in two, keeping the reservoir from losing additional water. The lake is Marion’s source of raw water. The new syphon will improve the transport of lake water to the nearby plant. A break in the original pipe is believed to have caused some erosion of the dam, leading to the town’s water crisis that became apparent in the spring of 2022. Thomas said Glen Alexander, a Kentucky dam inspector, was here recently to survey the work. Thomas said the progress received good reviews and the inspector was somewhat reassured by quality of interior soil of the dam at the work site. The city, under a governor’s Emergency Order, is being reimbursed by Kentucky Emergency Management for the multi-million-dollar mitigation project at Lake George.

THREAT

Continued from page 1

Georgia, threats have skyrocketed across the country, resulting often in young people be charged.

Sheriff Head said the teen’s cell phone was confiscated and he is seeking a warrant to have it electronically searched. The sheriff said the social media platform Snapchat provided data, including IP addresses and GPS coordinates that helped investigators identify the Marshall County suspect. State police, he said, provided manpower and expertise in helping search through hours of data in order to determine where the post had allegedly originated.

When confronted by Crittenden County authorities, Sheriff Head said the suspect denied making the threat.

The Snapchat message was allegedly sent to a Crittenden County High School student. A screenshot of the message was shared with other stu-

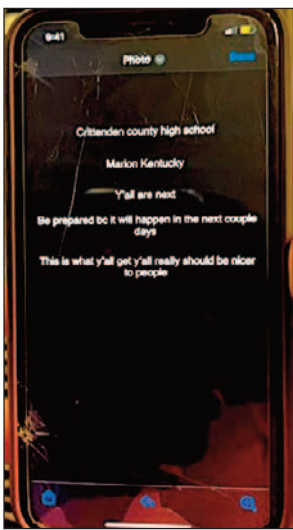
dents, and teachers at CCHS were notified. They alerted law enforcement and the high school and attached middle school were put on “soft lockdown” which means classes continue behind locked doors and within the school student movement is limited. The lockdown began on the morning of Sept. 13 and ended about 12:30 p.m., although a large law enforcement remained on campus for the rest of the school day.

The sheriff said that threats of this nature will not be tolerated and law enforcement presence will use all resources available to prosecute.

“School safety is a top priority. We want to send a clear message,” said Head. “Anyone making such threats will be brought to justice. This is not a game.”

School Superintendent Tonya Driver encourages everyone to remain vigilant when it comes to safety.

“We want students to confidentially report any potential threat,” she



Data from Snapchat helped local authorities locate a supect believed to have sent the above message.

said “Every threat that impacts our school community will be fully investigated and addressed appropriately.”

Driver said it is also important to remember that any threat to a school, its staff or its students is subject to legal action for terroristic threatening.

MOCK

Continued from page 1

media. Kentucky Open Meetings laws require public boards and agencies to limit formal discussion and action to items published on a special meeting’s agenda. Straying from the agenda is a violation of state law.

Although this topic was not specifically on last week’s agenda, there was a provision made for public comment and two and a half dozen individuals took that opportunity to voice opinions about the school allowing the alleged mock ceremony on campus. Virtually all public comment made during the school board meeting was in opposition to the alleged mock wedding being allowed.

For about two hours, people expressed their viewpoints and frequently quoted Bible scripture, oftentimes garnering applause. Many who spoke said they have confidence in members of the Crittenden County Board of Education to “do the right thing.”

Matt Grimes, a minister and county magistrate, prayed for the issue midway through the meeting following his time at the podium. Eighth-grader Emery Orr received a standing ovation after she said Christians should not judge others, and offered a prayer to discern right from wrong.

Some did speak in defense of at least one educator who may have been associated with the func-

tion.

Superintendent Driver told the crowd that appropriate action will be taken when an investigation is complete. Further details, she said, could not be discussed.

“We will be as transparent as possible and welcome any and all comments,” Driver said. “We will give each one consideration. We know this is a delicate situation for everyone.”

“(Sexual orientation) is not the primary issue we are dealing with here. We are dealing with an issue of using instructional time to do a mock wedding whether it was boy/boy, girl/girl, that fact doesn’t matter,” Driver said. “We have to look at it through a curriculum lens, of which there is none. Nothing in curriculum provides for having any type of marriage during a school day.”

School Board Chairman Chris Cook outlined the board’s responsibility in uncovering facts of the mock wedding.

“The mission of the investigation is to uncover facts, not assumptions, not gossip, not rumors but true facts and once (the superintendent) is equipped with those facts under guidance of our board attorney, we will do anything under legal authority to handle the situation,” Cook said. “We want you to know she has one singular guiding principal – what is best for our kids.”

It is unclear if any personnel or other action

has been taken in response to the event. Also unclear is whether or not school policy was violated by the alleged event.

Although the teacher or teachers involved in the matter have not been named by the school district, some individuals who spoke during the meeting did reference at least one educator by name.

“Kids were being kids... and that teacher changes lives,” parent Jeremy Walker told the board. “She has changed the lives of my daughters and everyone who knows my daughters know they’re sick to their stomachs because of how Christians in Crittenden County are acting. It has been blown out of proportion.”

Two Crittenden County teachers addressed the board. CCHS math teacher Nick Martinez received applause from the crowd when he said he had considered taking his three children out of the school district.

“It is an ungodly abomination pushing everyone toward secularism,” he said.

Retired teacher Marilyn Iddings said school is a place to teach core subject matter, not to make fun of or act out an “illicit sexual relationship.”

“Everyone wants every child who comes here to learn to read, write... not to be taught what to think, but taught how to think,” she said. “There was bad judgement here, no doubt about it.”

State issues L1 drought declaration


The Office of the State Climatologist and the Kentucky Energy and Environment Cabinet, in coordination with the Kentucky Drought Mitigation Team, issued early this week a Level 1 Drought Declaration for the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

A Level 1 Drought indicates moderate to severe drought conditions have developed, primarily affecting soil moisture and vegetative health. Serious impacts to agricultural water needs, wildfire risk and other water-sensitive sectors can be expected in the designated areas, with the hardest-hit areas being portions of western and central Kentucky, as well as parts of the Bluegrass region.

As of midday Tuesday, Crittenden County’s official weather station near Mattoon had recorded only 1.8 inches of precipitation since Aug. 1.

The commonwealth is experiencing widespread dryness that has intensified over the latter part of the summer. Precipitation that has fallen over the past two months has been spotty and has resulted in drought conditions that primarily affect soil moisture and vegetative health. In some areas the drought has impacted agricultural water needs and increased the risk of wildfires.

Over the past 30 days, data from the UK Ag Weather Center show that the state has only averaged 1.69 inches of rain, which is over 1.5 inches below normal.




AUGUST 2024

Activity Report

Here is Crittenden County Sheriff Evan Head's monthly activity report for his department.

	JULY	2023 Avg Monthly
Collisions Investigated	7	5.25
Complaints	60	54.58
Papers Served	48	28.83
Service Attempts	15	8.17
Total Service Attempts	111	56.17
Transports	3	3.17
Special Detail	60	37.83
Training Hours	0	11.42
Verbal Warning	34	11.25
Criminal Citation	14	5.33
Officer Assist	8	4.75
Building Checks	50	59.92
Total Manhours	724.5	486.46
Bailiff Court Hours	130.7	47.48
Cases Opened	5	9.58
DUIs	5	0.42
Felony Arrests	5	3.67
Misdemeanor Arrests	19	6.92
Motorist Assists	5	6.08
Traffic Citations	34	6.42
General Policing	246	69.83
Followup Investigations	19	9.42
Call for Service	23	23.75
Vehicle Inspections	66	-

SHERIFF



EVAN HEAD



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Deaths

Paris

William Ralph “Rodney” Paris Jr. died Monday, Sept. 9, 2024 at his home outside Fredonia in Caldwell County. He devoted his life to learning and seeking excellence in all of his endeavors.

After graduating Fredonia High School in 1959, he attended Centre College and graduated with a Bachelors of Arts in English in 1963. Shortly after, he joined the U.S. Navy and delighted in taking every training he could. After a few years working on the river, Paris went to Purdue University and got a degree in engineering with a specialty in land surveying.

He loved his homeland of Kentucky, and his profession allowed him to gain an understanding of it unlike anyone else. He was passionate about maintaining the public land system and sought for each of his surveys to be as close to perfect as possible. He was enthusiastic in passing on his expertise and was always ready to help train younger surveyors.

He was very involved in his professional associations, serving as president of the Kentucky Associations of Professional Surveyors, and was an active participant in the Surveyor’s Historical Society. He always encouraged his fellow surveyors to serve as County Surveyors, considering it a civic duty to the community.

Outside of work, Paris loved to be surrounded by others who enjoyed learning. He served in officer positions of many organizations in both Crittenden and Caldwell counties including the Community Arts Foundation, Masonic Lodge, Fredonia Valley Heritage Society, Caldwell County Historical Society,

Trail of Tears Commission, Sons of the American Revolution, American Legion, Shape Note Singing organizations and the Paris Cemetery Association, among others.

Pleasant Hill Regular Baptist Church was his church home and he was a regular attendee for decades. He also was the regular speaker for a few years after their pastor retired.

Besides his fulfilling work and volunteer life, his favorite pastime was to have his family around him.

Surviving are a sister, Dietra Ann Paris; his children, Matthew (Karen) Paris, Martha (Zak) Paris Smith, Nancy Mills Drake and Susan Mills (Fred) Sanders; and 13 grandchildren, Darren, Zachary and Benjamin Paris, Zak, Aidan, Zane, Zade and Pansy Smith, Merry, Sarah and Charity Drake and Freddy and Phoebe Sanders.

He was preceded in death by his wife of 46 years, Nancy King Paris; and his parents, William Ralph Paris Sr. and Pansy Traylor Paris.

Services were Wednesday, Sept. 25 at Morgan’s Funeral Home with Fred Sanders officiating. Burial was in Paris Cemetery in Crittenden County.

Expressions of sympathy may be made to Paris Cemetery Association, c/o Charles Hunt, 501 E. Bellville St., Marion, KY 42064.

Spencer

Vernon Paul Spencer, 80, of Kuttawa, died Sunday, Sept. 15, 2024 at his home. He was born Oct. 17, 1943 in Lemont, Ill.

He was an electrician and retired from ISP Chemicals, in Calvert City as an electrical maintenance supervisor. After retirement, he became the Harbormaster at Kuttawa Harbor Marina in 2012. He enjoyed boating and cars. He enjoyed making and collecting knives and collecting guns. He loved his dog and spending time with friends and family. He was a self-taught IT specialist; he also tinkered al-

ways and could fix anything. He was witty, a master of creating a jingle on the fly, and loved making people laugh. His favorite things in life, besides his wife, were chocolate and ice cream.

Surviving are his wife of 28 years, Cheryl and their puppy, Bella; siblings, Lois (John) Bahnick of Arlington Heights, Ill., Darrell Spencer of Sherman, Texas, Nancy (Ron) Taylor of Carrollton, Texas; children, Lisa Breedlove of Kuttawa, Ian and Amy; grandchildren, Kali Lewis, Garrett Hina, Cody Hina, Logan (Kyle) Shaffer, Jordan (Tevan) Harper, Savannah Jane Walton; great grandchildren, Kloie Hale, Kendra, Kinsley and Kage Wilson, Nevada and Oceann Hina, Camden, Isabelle and Braxton Hina, Forrest and Eloise Shaffer, Weston, Kolynn and Elias Harper; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents Oscar and Mildred Spencer; siblings Alan (Audrey) Spencer, Betty (Bill) Laasch and Barbara Sullivan; a daughter, MaryAnn Hina and their beloved puppies Barkley and Ali.

Funeral services were Sunday, Sept. 22 at Lakeland Funeral Home with Bro. Jeremy Short officiating. Burial was in Kuttawa Cemetery.

Expressions of sympathy may be made in Vernon’s memory to God’s Creations animal shelter, c/o Jennifer Jae Berg, 457 Brown Mines Rd, Marion, KY 42064.

Dameron

Marilyn Dameron, 68, of Marion, died Sunday, Sept. 15, 2024 at Livingston Hospital. She was born Sept. 10, 1956 to Orville and Nina Gass of Marion.

Surviving are a daughter, Vicki Dameron of Florida; two grandchildren, Ashtin Dameron and Tyler Dameron, both of Florida; and two sisters, Patsy (Doug) Walker of Pride and Felecia Myers of Sturgis; and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; and a brother-in-law, Tony Myers.

Her wishes for cremation were honored, and a private family service will be held.

Jennings

Fredonia resident James “Emmett” Jennings, 91, culminated his life in a completely worn-out body Sunday, Sept. 22, 2024.

In his family tradition, he loved to spin his wheels having spent most of his life being a truck driver. His other identity as a retired veteran of the United States Air Force was evident. He served the nation proudly for over 21 years through both the Korean and Vietnam wars. He was a Christian, a Mason, a Shriner, a husband, a father, grandfather, and great-grandfather. He was a western Kentucky native of Crittenden County who resided in Caldwell County. He loved roaming about Marion, Fredonia, Eddyville, Kuttawa and many other places in western Kentucky and southern Illinois. His favorite pastimes included helping those in need, tinkering in his shop, and lawn care.

He was an active member of Crittenden, Caldwell, and Lyon counties. May his good memory and quick smile remain for years to come. He will be missed by his family and many friends.

Surviving are a son, David Jennings; and siblings Glyndall, Robert and Opal Lee; along with grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces, and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Bernice Jennings; a son, Kevin Jennings; his father, Ray Jennings; mother Opal Jennings; and a brother, Charles Jennings.

Visitation is at Myers Funeral Home from 1-2 p.m., Friday, Sept. 27 with service to follow 2 p.m. After a brief graveside remembrance at Mapleview Cemetery, he will be laid to rest alongside his wife and eldest son. Memorial donations may be made to Mapleview Cemetery Association, P.O. Box 544, Marion, KY 42064 for perpetual care of his and the many other families sacred internment sites.

Powell

Ruth Ann (Bathgate) Roberts Powell, 91, died Saturday, Sept. 21, 2024 at her home in Smithland.

She was born and raised in Branchfield, N.J. Her parents recognized her gift of singing and enrolled her in voice training when she was a young girl.

She later split her time working at Selected Risks Insurance Co. as the in-house attorney secretary and later the Special Investigation Unit and farming with her husband, Robert, and raising their children. She was a 4-H leader, choir director, Sunday School superintendent, youth group leader and could be counted on to organize church suppers. While living in San Diego she worked as secretary for the president of N.C.R. Corporation before moving to Smithland to be near her children and grandchildren. She obtained a job as Water Works clerk before taking the job of city clerk and treasurer for the City of Smithland for 21 years. She organized Civil War reenactments, Smithland historic walking tours for the visiting quilters and negotiated plans for the Delta Queen and Mississippi Queen to dock so the passengers could take

part in tours and entertainment by historic characters from the Kentucky Humanities Council. She also became a Kentucky Colonel on her 75th birthday.

Surviving are a son, David Roberts of Hampton; a daughter, Dianne Roberts (Danny) Fraley of Smithland; a brother, William (Beverly) Bathgate of Branchville, N.J.; four grandchildren, Sean (Lauretta) Roberts of Hampton, Va., Dustin (Angela) Roberts of Jacksboro, Tenn., Aaron Roberts of Louisville, Luke Fraley and fiancé Natalie Welker of Benton; and eight great-grandchildren, Keagan Roberts, Jeslie Roberts, Ashton Roberts, Sloan Roberts, Nairobi Cox, Kaiya Cox, Jace Wilson and Carson Fraley.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Robert Roberts; and her parents, William and Irene (Reynolds) Bathgate.

Services are at 2 p.m., Friday, Sept. 27 in the chapel of Boyd Funeral Directors and Cremation Services with Billy Downs officiating. Burial is in Smithland Cemetery.

Visitation is 11 a.m., until the funeral hour.

Community Calendar

Call (270) 965-3191 to share your organization's

Thursday, Sept. 26

- Line dancing begins at 9:30 a.m., at the Crittenden County Senior Citizens Center.
- Crittenden County Public Library board of directors will meet at 5 p.m.

Monday, Sept. 30

- Boundless Bookworms, a book club for youth in kindergarten through fourth grade, begins at 3:30 p.m.
- Narrative Navigators, a book club for fifth- through ninth grades begins at 4:30 p.m., at the Crittenden County Public Library.
- A Beef Quality Assurance program will begin at 6 p.m., at the Crittenden County Extension Annex.

Wednesday, Oct. 2

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

PUBLIC NOTICE

Attention: Kerosene, Propane, Fuel Oil, Coal and Wood Vendors

Beginning November 5, 2024 through December 20, 2024, Pennyrile Allied Community Services, Inc. (PACS) will be administering the Subsidy Component of the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP). From January 7, 2025 through March 31, 2025, or until all monies have been expended, PACS will be administering the Crisis Component of the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program.

If you or your company is interested in becoming an approved vendor for the LIHEAP Components, you may obtain a Vendor's Application Packet from Pennyrile Allied Community Services, Inc., P.O. Box 549, 1100 South Liberty Street, Hopkinsville, Kentucky 42240. You may call (270) 886-6341 to request a packet to be mailed to you.

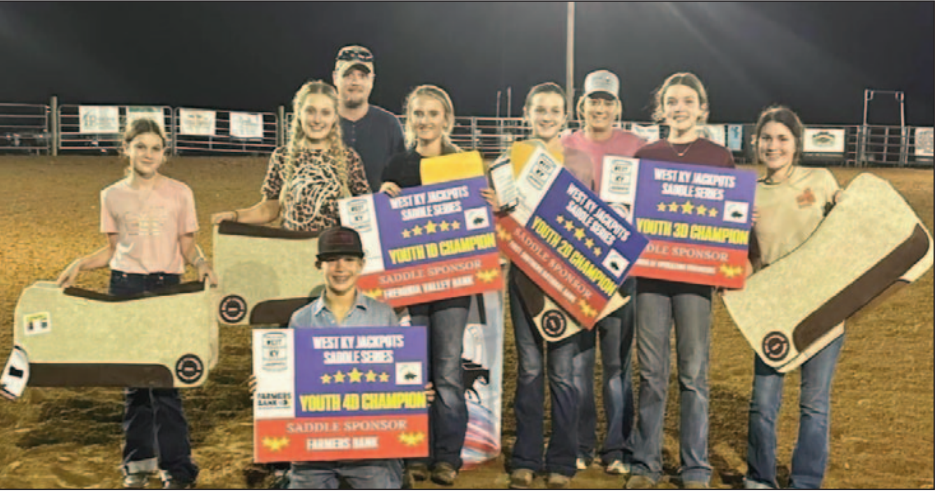
The completed application and signed Vendors Agreement for both Subsidy and Crisis Programs must be returned to PACS Central Office no later than October 10, 2024.

A Vendors Meeting will be held at the following locations on specified dates and time:

Oct. 9, 2024 10 a.m.
Pennyrile Allied
Community Services, Inc.
1100 South Liberty Street
Hopkinsville, KY 42240

Oct. 10, 2024 10 a.m.
Lyon County
Senior Center
631 W. Dale Avenue
Eddyville, KY 42038

LIHEAP is federally funded through the Department for Community Based Services, Cabinet for Families and Children.



Fredonia series finale

Winners of the 2024 West Kentucky Jackpot Saddle series hosted by Fredonia Valley Riding Club were recognized earlier this month. Youth winners are (kneeling front in top photo) are Fletcher Overton, youth 4D champion; (standing from left) Payton Chitwood, 4D reserve youth champion; Addison Wood, 1D youth reserve champion; Haylie Hunt, youth 1D champion; Allie Ramage, 2D youth champion and reserve champion; Hayden Cothran, youth 3D champion; and Alleigh Butler, 3D reserve champion; Riding Club president Michael Wood and event coordinator Blair Knight. Not pictured, Kaydence Herber, peewee reserve champion. Open winners (front from left in lower photo) are Danielle Hart, 2D reserve champion; Macie Hunt, 1D reserve champion; Ty Faughn, 1D champion; Karsyn Potter, 2D champion; Addy Kirby, 3D champion; Alleigh Butler, 3D reserve champ; and Isabella O’Neal, 4D and reserve champ Not pictured, Chloe Richiard, adult 2D champion; and Jeff Overton, adult 3D champion, (back row) Mandy Hunt, Michael Wood and Blair Knight.

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Brown writes manual for KY juvenile laws

Assistant Henderson County Attorney Maci Brown, who has deep Crittenden County roots, was instrumental in writing Kentucky’s first Juvenile Delinquency Manual for Prosecutors in Kentucky. The manual is a comprehensive guide to Kentucky juvenile delinquency law, which will be used as a training and reference tool for prosecutors across the state.

Brown, who prosecutes public offenses on the juvenile docket in Henderson County, was tapped for the project by Henderson County Attorney Steve Gold, who has been involved in creating Kentucky juvenile laws.

The manual includes best practices and new Kentucky Revised Statutes relating to mandatory detention, truancy and length of diversions in juvenile cases.

Other states have manuals for juvenile prosecution, but Kentucky did not. Brown said the benefit is having all law, rules for court procedures and documents pertaining to juveniles into one comprehensive document.

Brown, a 2022 graduate of Indiana University–Bloomington Maurer School of Law, is the daughter of Crittenden County natives Nicky and Danette Brown and granddaughter of Rozella Singleton and Nancy Joyce. She was an intern three years ago in the Commonwealth Attorney’s Office in Marion.

Brown and Gold recently presented Brown’s work during a training session at the Kentucky Prosecutors conference.



Brown

Buc-ees back on in Christian County

A previously canceled plan to develop a Buc-ee’s megaplex gas station and convenience center in Christian County at Exit 89 of Interstate 24 is back on.

Last week, Oak Grove City Council approved an incentive package for the Texas-based chain to open a Buc-ees there, according to various news sources in Hopkinsville. Construction is expected to begin in spring 2025.

Livingston Bale Trail

Livingston County 4–H Bale Trail registration closes Friday, Sept. 27 and all displays must be up by 8 a.m. on Monday, Sept. 30. The registration fee of \$20 supports 4–H programs and county be paid at the Livingston County Extension Office or on their Facebook page.

Displays can be non-traditional (painted bales, etc.) or traditional fall decor (non-painted bales and fall decor). They can consist of square, round, loaf, loose hay or straw. The decoration materials are not limited in any way but should be decorated in a good clean wholesome nature, keeping the values of the Livingston County 4–H program.

Maps for the bale trail will be made available on Oct. 1 and voting will take place Oct.1–31. Winners will be announced on Saturday, Nov. 2 at the 3rd annual bale blast at the Livingston County Extension office located in Smithland.

For more information about the event contact the Livingston County Extension office at (270) 928–2168 or email shares.schoonover@uky.edu.

Morganfield’s annual Corn Fest this week

Sponsored by the Lions Club, Morganfield will host its 50th Corn Festival Thursday through Saturday this week. The festival includes pageants, inflatables, games, food vendors, entertainment and a carnival.

There will also be a pickle ball and sand volleyball tournament, a cross fit competition, talent show, fireworks, a 5K race, baby contest, Cubmobile races, beard contest, 9–ball tournament and parade.



Blazina promoted to GM at Paxton Media

Marion resident Johnny Blazina has been promoted to general manager of Paxton Media Group’s western Kentucky newspapers. He previously had served as sales manager.

As general manager, Blazina will oversee the retail sales department, circulation and production of seven Paxton Media Group newspapers, including The Paducah Sun, The Southern Illinoisan, The Mayfield Messenger, Metropolis Planet, The Marshall County Tribune–Courier, The Princeton Times Leader and The Lyon County Herald Ledger.

Blazina is a 23–year employee of Paxton Media.



Blazina

Extension hosting Successful Saturday

Crittenden County Extension Service is hosting a Successful Saturday event starting at 1 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 28 at its office on US 60 East.

There will be four sessions on money and time management, employability and parenting. These offerings count toward credits for Community Christmas qualification.

The schedule begins with a 1 p.m., class on how to learn and practice essential skills to succeed in life and improve employability. The 2:30 p.m. session is on personal and household budgeting and how to spend and save wisely. At 3:15 p.m., an active parenting class will help you and your family achieve a more satisfying life. And at 5 p.m., will be the Time Well Spent class to help you analyze habits that may slow productivity efforts.

For more information or to register, call 270–965–5236.

Sheriff shoots judge

It still is not clear what prompted a Kentucky sheriff to kill a district judge, shooting him multiple times inside the county courthouse last week.

A preliminary investigation indicates Letcher County Sheriff Shawn “Mickey” Stines shot District Judge Kevin Mullins with his service weapon following an argument inside the courthouse, according to Kentucky State Police.

Mullins, 54, who held the judgeship for 15 years, died at the scene, and Stines, 43, surrendered without incident. He was charged with one count of first-degree murder.

Reports said the men were good friends and often had lunch together.

Although it has not been connected to the shooting, the sheriff had recently been deposited as part of a federal lawsuit involving a deputy who allegedly had a sexual encounter with a woman inside the judge’s courthouse office.



Mullins



Stines

Fed cuts funds rate

United States Federal Reserve last week cut the benchmark federal funds rate by half a percentage point to the 4.75 percent to 5 percent range. It said the move was done in response to progress on inflation.

The rate had been in the 5.25 percent to 5.5 percent range since July 2023.

While the rate sets short-term borrowing costs for banks, it spills over into multiple consumer products such as mortgages, auto loans and credit

cards.

Consumer interest rates remain about 8 percent or higher while a 30–year fixed mortgage is around 7 percent.

DL vision screening

Vision screening will be required in Kentucky next year for anyone renewing a Kentucky driver’s license. This new requirement, enacted during the 2021 General Assembly, aims to promote highway safety by ensuring that all drivers maintain good vision throughout their driving career.

Starting Jan. 1, all Kentuckians must undergo a vision screening to renew their license. Multiple states also have adopted mandatory vision screenings, including Indiana, Ohio and Missouri, to ensure drivers have the visual acuity required to operate a vehicle safely.

"Driving is a privilege many of us enjoy and this best practice is one way we look out for each other on the road to make our highways safer for everyone," said Gov. Andy Beshear.

House Bill 439, signed into law by Gov. Beshear after the state legislature passed it three years ago, now takes effect on Jan. 1, 2025. Key details of the new vision screening process include:

Vision screenings can be completed at no cost at any Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC) Driver Licensing Regional Office at the time of license renewal and, on average, takes less than 1 minute to complete.

Drivers also have the option of conducting a vision exam with their vision specialist (optometrist/ophthalmologist), or a vision screening with a KYTC-credentialed osteopath, physician, or advanced practice registered nurse in advance of their license renewal visit. Starting in 2025, upon request, the medical professional will complete an approved state-issued form that they will give to the patient if they pass. The patient may bring the form to their license renewal visit if the form and exam were completed within 12 months of the license renewal visit. The driver will not need to take a vision screening at a regional office.

If a driver does not pass the vision screening at a regional office, they will be instructed to see a vision specialist for corrective measures before proceeding with license renewal.

Kentuckians are encouraged to bring corrective lenses if conducting a vision screening at a regional office. A restriction will be placed on your license if you pass the vision screening while wearing glasses.

Vision screenings can only be performed once at a regional office during each renewal cycle.

Online and mail-in driver’s license renewal will still be available after Jan. 1, 2025 for Kentuckians who choose to complete a screening with a vision or qualifying medical specialist. The cardholder simply needs to upload the official, signed form provided by their medical professional when renewing on drive.ky.gov.

"We know this will be a change for license holders when it’s time to renew every four or eight years, but it’s a measure driven by safety, and that’s something we can all get behind," said Transportation Cabinet Secretary Jim Gray. "People are the most precious cargo on our roads."

Existing state law allows Kentuckians to renew their driver’s license up to 180 days (roughly 6 months) before their card expiration date. It is strongly advised to renew early should any corrective measures be needed to improve vision while their license is still valid. During every renewal cycle for drivers 21 years of age or older, cardholders have the option of choosing a driver’s license valid for four or eight years.

Appointments for license renewals are strongly encouraged to minimize wait times, although walk-ins will still be accommodated. No separate appointment is needed for the vision screening.

Between Printed Editions
Tune in to The Press Online
for breaking news.



50 YEARS AGO

September 26, 1974

■ Crittenden County High School seniors Cynthia McDowell and Jeff Binkley were named semifinalists of the National Merit Scholarships to be awarded in 1974.

■ Cheerleaders at Mattoon Elementary School were Linda Hina, Fay Templeton, Darlene McConnell, Tanya Heady, Jeanette Hinchee, Karen Gibson and Charlene McConnell. Sponsor was teacher Phyllis Sykes.

■ Best Care Nursing Home honored September birthdays, including William T. Adams, Mrs. Glen Hayden and Noah Light. Kanley Gilland presented entertainment.

■ Carolyn Denise Curnel, 5, and her brother James Kirk Curnel, 3, raised some large carrots measuring 2 1/2 inches around at the top, resembling more of a sweet potato.

■ Richard Grainger was principal and eighth grade teacher of Mattoon Elementary School.

■ Crittenden County Cross Country runners earned second place behind Providence. Runners included Mickey and Larry Tinsley, Keith Cosby, David Perryman, Jimmy Croft, Steve Rogers, Steve Roberts and Dale Decker.

■ Esther Stout and Pauline Kemper won the Marion Country Club ladies league after a 12-week schedule.

25 YEARS AGO

September 23, 1999

■ Shanna Moore of Marion was named Miss Kentucky after the originally-crowned Heather French won Miss America. Moore, the daughter of Ralph and Cindy Moore, had been first runner-up in the Miss Kentucky pageant and ascended to the title of Miss Kentucky when it was vacated by French.

■ A blocked punt led to the Rockets’ 7-0 victory over Ballard County. The only score came when linemen Joey Rich and Matt Jent blocked a punt and Steve Thompson fell on it in the end zone.

■ Crittenden County’s JV soccer team got its first win in the history of the soccer program, defeating Lyon County 1-0.

■ FFA members attending the UK Leadership Conference were Scott Rich, Kristina Wallace, Jena Haugen, Nicole Sexton, Robert Holloman, Lindsay Deer, Elliot McKinney and Stephanie Alexander.

■ Winners of the four-person golf tournament in Marion were David Sullenger, Mike Phelps, Kyle Myers and Ford Branch, Jr.

10 YEARS AGO

September 26, 2014

■ A deal to replace lighting at Marion City-County Park combined funding from Crittenden County Fiscal Court, City of Marion, Crittenden County Board of Education and Marion Tourism Commission, each entity pledging \$7,000 each year for 10 years.

■ Jenny Sosh began her career as director of the Crittenden County Senior Citizens Center.

■ Crittenden County Homemakers prepared a quilt to be given away during the Pumpkin Festival. Homemakers involved in the project were Barbara Myers, Micki Crider, Sarah Ford, Kathy Bechler, Jerrell James, Darl Henley, Brandi Potter, Barbara Gilland, Algie Richards, Pat Carter, Sharon Giltz, Dot Boone, Kay Long and Sue Parent.

*Winners of the Salem barbecue cook-off were Ricky Dunkerson and Terry Croft, grand champion ribs; Tony and Vicki Lasher, Joy Slayden, Becca and Dustin Curry, best chicken; and Kendall Teitloff, Dustin Conner and Melbourne Conner, best pulled pork.

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

Crittenden Press

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Religion

The Crittenden Press

Seeking the desires of the heart

Letting others know what you want is the beginning of getting what you want. This is true in marriage, friendship, business, and even in our relationship with God, in its own way. What is it that drives the things that we want? Every request that we make has a motive behind it.



Sean NIESTRATH
Faith-based columnist

Guest Columnist

All of us have at the very core of our being, a deep desire in our hearts. Where does that originate? For some it is a life-long pursuit of trying to fill a gap that has been unfairly wrenched away from us before we even knew what was happening. These gaps usually begin in childhood because of things that happened out of our control. They need not be intentional or even bad. They just are. Pursuing those gaps will give us the desires of our heart.

There are those who seek power or money or fame. The things that we seek after will give us the desires of our hearts. These are the things that we become passionate about and will not compro-

mise. One might be passionate about diversity, or love, or equality, or justice. Seeking these things will

determine our desires. One might seek acceptance and will bend themselves in pretzels to see that it happens.

The problem here is that for some, desires have replaced what we should be seeking. This causes us to lose sight of other very important aspects of life. The thing that we seek becomes our god. It is possible

for good things to become idols that make it difficult for us to remain civil with each other.

King David knew this. He knew the only good and true source of the desire of our heart. Here are the opening verses of Psalm 37,

“Do not fret because of those who are evil or be envious of those who do wrong; for like the grass they will soon wither, like green plants they will soon die away. Trust in the LORD and do good;

and dwell in the land and enjoy safe pasture.

Take delight in the LORD, and he will give you the desires of your heart.”

There is wisdom here for us today. We can be so distracted by fretting over those who are “evil” that the thing we seek becomes the opposite of whatever “they” are wanting. This will degrade our desires and prevent us from doing the good that we could be doing.

To use the language above, taking delight in the demise of one we consider an opponent will color our desires. It will degrade our souls and cause us to vainly put our faith in people rather than our Creator.

The words of Jesus in the Sermon on the Mount remind us of a truth, “Ask, and it will be given you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For every one who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened.” Matthew 7:7-8 (RSV) Jesus is speaking here of the kingdom of God, but it is a true statement of anything that we seek. We will often find what we seek. But if it is other than the kingdom of God it will be less than we imagined.

G.K. Chesterton lived

in a violent political environment. In the following quote he is talking about the degrading of our desires because we have forgotten to seek what is truly important. Too often we allow the good to make the better impossible. Here is what he says, “Man has always lost his way. He has been a tramp ever since Eden; but he always knew, or thought he knew, what he was looking for. Every man has a house somewhere in the elaborate cosmos; his house waits for him waist deep in slow Norfolk rivers or sunning itself upon Sussex downs. Man has always been looking for that home which is the subject matter of this book. But in the bleak and blinding hail of skepticism to which he has been now so long subjected, he has begun for the first time to be chilled, not merely in his hopes, but in his desires. For the first time in history he begins really to doubt the object of his wanderings on the earth. He has always lost his way; but now he has lost his address.” (G.K. Chesterton, What’s Wrong with the World, Chapter 9)

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.

Rainbows are signs of God protecting us

Question: The tornado that came through Dawson Springs three years ago peeled back part of our roof. Recently, the strong storm that followed the path of the previous tornado blew many limbs off our trees. When the storm siren goes off, I’m terrified. When storms come, does God have any comfort for me?

A: It seems strong storms are becoming a part of life in western Kentucky. They scare most of us. When we are anxious about a storm, we need to take shelter as best as we can. Also, when we’re anxious about our basic needs—food, shelter

ASK the PASTOR

By Bob Hardison



and clothing—we must remember God provides for them (Matt. 6:25-33) We need to depend upon Him for help. In faith, we should remind ourselves “GOD’S GOT THIS!” No situation is too big for Him.

God made rainbows to remind Noah’s descendants of His protection. God said, “I have set my rainbow in the clouds, and it will be the sign of the covenant between

me and the earth. Whenever I bring clouds over the earth and the rainbow appears in the clouds, I will remember my covenant between me and you and all living creatures of every kind. Never again will water become a flood to destroy all life” Gen. 9:13-15).

Rainbows provide visible reminders of God’s promise never to destroy the earth again by a flood. When we see a rainbow, we should remember God’s promise and take courage and comfort.

Send your questions to: bob@bobhardison.com

Religious Outreach

■ 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.

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


WORSHIP

with us this week

Visit one of our area churches for worship and fellowship

EMMAUS BAPTIST CHURCH


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

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.

St. William Catholic Church


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

Marion Baptist Church *Join us for praise & worship*



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



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

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

DEER CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH



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

Crayne Community Church


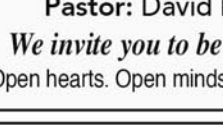
Crayne Cemetery Road, Crayne, Ky.
Bro. James Driver, Interim Pastor
Sunday Worship 9 a.m.

Emmanuel Baptist Church


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

FIRST CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH


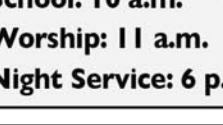
224 W. Bellville St., Marion, Ky.
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Sunday Worship 10:45 a.m.
David LeNeave, Pastor

Tolu Methodist Church



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

growing in grace 2 Peter 3:18


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

Barnett Chapel General Baptist


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

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."

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

Crittenden County's automatic tabulating equipment for use in the General Election will be inspected beginning at 3:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 16 in Crittenden County Clerk's Office in Crittenden County Office Complex at 200 Industrial Dr. in Marion. This is done each year prior to votes being tabulated by the scanning of marked ballots.
This notice is given pursuant to Kentucky statutes

GoVote.ky.gov
To register or update registration for the general election

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Contact Marion & Company
TO RESERVE SPACE
(270) 965-7030

**FOHS HALL**
MARION, KY
fohshall.org

UPCOMING EVENTS

OCT. 19	Old KY Hayride
DEC. 7 & 8, 13, 14 & 15	Living Christmas Tree Performance

The Area's Premiere SPECIAL EVENT VENUE is perfect for:
Wedding Receptions • Banquets • Anniversaries
Birthday Parties • Organizational Meetings

For further information about rental rates or events call Elliot West at Bowtanicals (270) 965-2056

Edward Jones
Mickey Alexander

ARNERICH MASSENA


Farmers Bank & Trust
www.Farmers247.com

Crittenden County Fiscal Court • The Sohn Family • The Fohs Foundation

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”


Speaker: Greg Rushing

PINEY FORK



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

Sugar Grove


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

Marion Methodist Church


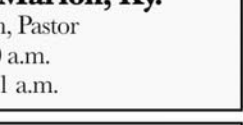
We love intensely, believe deeply, and pray zealously
SUN: Sun. School 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:45 p.m.
South College St.

Frances Community Church


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

**Hurricane Church**

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


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

Rural schools faced hardships

When I think back to my days at the county school of Crayne, I only have good memories, not realizing some of the hardships of the earlier days of our little county schools. That is why it is good to recall history and realize the hardships and strong people that worked to make things better. Edna Fritts Easley shared her memories of Freedom School back in 1987.

Freedom School by Edna Fritts Easley

In the beginning the old Freedom School, then known as Harmony Grove, it was a log structure, one of the first built in Crittenden County. It was located on the old Cave-In-Rock Road. Marion Smart was the last teacher in the old school building. It was known as Harmony Grove School until land for the new one-room school was obtained Aug. 11, 1917. The new school was a large modern building for those days. It had three large areas to hang your coats and store your lunch pails or sacks. It was at this time the name was changed to Freedom School.

When KY 91 was built, it split the school ground and left the schoolhouse within 15 feet of the highway. The nearness of the highway was always a disadvantage to the school.

Vandalism

In the mid 1940s, the school became a target for vandalism. Wartime had brought more automobiles and a new era of youth rebellion. It appeared to be a nightly sport of a group of youngsters from Marion to borrow the family car for a drive through town. Instead they would rush two and one-half miles out the highway to Freedom School and overturn the boys' toilet, which sat within five feet of the highway, knock out a few window panes then head home as innocent as youngsters could be. Thus Freedom school building became a total wreck.

Freedom School in the news

The story is told of a young ambitious man who finished college under the G. I. Bill. A job was created for him in one of the state departments by a group thinking consolidation was the answer to all school problems. This young man was sent to Crittenden County to survey all the schools and report on existing conditions. Freedom School, being easily accessible, was chosen as a model for his complete report.

Mable Ryan was the teacher at that time. The man was shocked when he saw this lovely lady tending her brood of 48 pupils. Also this happened to be a day after the boys' toilet had been overturned and the facility owned by Elmer Millikan was being used. He took a picture of this ugly mess and one of Miss Ryan standing on the broken-down steps. He secured a sample of water from the open well. As student Bruce McEuen drew the water from the well for him, he was also photographed. The



Mabel Ryan, teacher (standing on left) and Ruth Clark, together with some pupils, talk about the building's sad condition.



This picture of the Freedom school and grounds was taken by a young reporter in Nov. 1945.

water was reported unfit for human consumption.

Eyes Are Harmed

The young reporter also interviewed Ruth Clark, acting county school superintendent at the time, and she reported some of the difficulties in the county schools. Children are suffering from vision impairment resulting from bad lighting in the classrooms. Clark, in Crittenden County, estimated that 29 percent of the pupils in that county had impaired vision. Very few rural schools are electrically lighted, and kerosene lamps present a fire hazard, so the only course open on a dark day is to squint and pray for sunshine. Some teachers are so poorly trained that they keep the shades drawn halfway and some of the shutters closed.

I saw one little boy in a dark corner with the tip of his nose almost touching the blackboard. He was trying to see the white chalk figures on the board. Finally, he threw down the chalk in disgust. Nor could I blame him, for I couldn't see the figures either. And nothing is being done for these children. No effort is being expended to supply these children with glasses. No eye tests are given, and when I asked a teacher if a light meter were used in the school, she stood and stared because she had not the remotest conception of what a light meter might be. Apparently, Crittenden, Livingston and other nearby counties have no means at their disposal for supplying glasses to needy children.

Worse than that, however, I found schools with not even one outside toilet, and some with one which must be shared by both boys and girls. Only one county, McCracken, furnished tissues. As one teacher in Livingston County expressed it, "The leaves from the trees are our toilet tissues, and they are almost gone for the winter."

Soap is an unheard-of commodity in most of the schools. At the Freedom School in Crittenden County, Bruce McEuen, a 12 year-old said, "We wash our hands if we can get a glass of water

to pour over them; but we don't have any towels. We don't have any soap or first aid or nothing."

As a result of this visit to Crittenden and surrounding counties, a full page appeared in the Nov. 26, 1945 Sunday Louisville Courier Journal, titled "The Real Truth About Our Schools."

Help For Freedom School

In the spring of 1951 I was teaching the third and fourth grades at Frances School. One night Braxton McDonald, county school superintendent, and Ivo Hughes, trustee of Freedom School, came to my house and ask me to help get Freedom School on its feet. Freedom being the home of my late husband and the school home of many of our family and friends, I considered this request.

In August 1951, I accepted the challenge of teaching all eight grades in one room and a total of 50 pupils. The parents were the most enthusiastic group I have ever known.

In October 1951, with the aid of Mary Bellamy, we organized a parent-teacher association. Eugene Brown, a father of three young children, became the first president. The group met with the school board to discuss the possibility of hiring a second teacher. McDonald and the school board agreed to the need and made a deal with the representatives of the community to hire a teacher for the ensuing year. The community was to furnish the material and labor to put a partition in the one large room. The community rallied and everything was made ready. Mary Todd was hired for the upper grades and I taught the lower ones.

During the 1951-52 school term I struggled through with help from the entire community. Parents felt free to come and go in the school. I would like to pay tribute to Roma Millikan whom we called our "midwife." She cared for all cuts, bruises and wounds, made lemonade for us once a week in summer, popped corn in the winter and baked cornbread once a week to eat with our dried beans, which were cooked on the potbellied stove, which was used the heat of the school.

The last chapter

In 1957, Freedom only

had an enrollment of 15. The following year in 1958 the school was consolidated with Marion. The building was sold and used for a fish market and grocery store.

After that the Crittenden County Gun Club purchased the building, along with 15 acres, from the Millikan farm.

The old school building was demolished, thus the happenings of Freedom School passed into history.

Past teachers and prominent families

Some of the teachers who taught at Freedom were Emma Terry, who taught school many years and was a very strict disciplinarian; Homer Davidson, David Postlethweighte, Gladys Graves, Lady Roe Runyan, Mable Ryan, Mary Todd, Lela McMican and Edna Fritts.

Some of the prominent family names of the Freedom area were McEuen, Nesbitt, Conger, Fritts, Brown, Roberts, Hughes, Gipson, Crider, Millikan and Perryman.

(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](#)).

LARGE Tag Sale

Oct. 3-5 • 8 a.m-3 p.m

Located in Pole Barn Behind House at Heart Shaped Pond (2331 US 60 West, Marion)

Due to health issues, we are downsizing and have been marketing and selling furniture, household, glassware, Christmas décor, misc. tools, heavy duty wrenches, collectibles, primitive tools plus many, many miscellaneous items

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CRITTENDEN COUNTY RESCUE SQUAD ANNUAL FUNDRAISER for 2024

CRITTENDEN COUNTY RESCUE SQUAD's yearly fundraiser for this year is about to begin. You should be getting your letter in the mail starting this week.

Again, this year we are sending out letters asking you for a donation.

YOU WILL NOT BE CALLED FOR A DONATION, nor will anyone be going door to door asking for donations. - we will ONLY be mailing out donation requests to all Crittenden County residents.

You will receive an envelope with a letter and a self addressed envelope (addressed to Crittenden County Rescue Squad, Inc, P.O. Box 346, Marion, KY) in the mail in the next couple of days. Simply put your donation in the envelope and send it back to us.

100% OF YOUR DONATION GOES DIRECTLY TO THE RESCUE SQUAD.

Please remember - Crittenden Co. Rescue Squad is not affiliated with any Fire Dept., and we DO NOT receive any money from your Fire Dues. We never charge for any of our services, and are the only group in the county that does auto extrication and water rescue. Our member's are 100% volunteer and never receive any pay for the work they do. Our main source of income is from your donations.

The CRITTENDEN COUNTY RESCUE SQUAD would like to say "Thank You" for your continued support and donations.

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sales

Large tag sale Oct. 3-5, 8 a.m-3 p.m. Located in pole barn behind house at heart shaped pond (2331 US 60 West, Marion) Due to health issues, we are downsizing and have been marketing and selling furniture, household, glassware, Christmas decor, misc. tools, heavy duty wrenches, collectibles, primitive tools plus many, many miscellaneous items. (1t-39-p)

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legal notice

Crittenden County Public Library, established under KRS 173.300, provides library services to citizens in Crittenden County, KY. In accordance with Chapter 65A and 424 of the Kentucky Revised Statutes, the financial records of Crittenden County Public Library District for the period July 1, 2023-June 30 2024 may be inspected at the Crittenden County Public Library, 204 W. Carlisle Street, Marion, KY, during administrative office hours: Monday through Friday 9a.m. to 5 p.m. Inquiries should be made to the library Director, Leah Chumbler (1t-39-c)

No hunting or trespassing on the property known as the Dowdy or Pierson Property at old Fords Ferry, Ky. Clarence "Joe Ledbetter. (2t-39-p)

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.

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CRITTENDEN COUNTY RESIDENTS,

send your sale address to
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to be included in promotional materials
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Call (270) 965-5015
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Deadline is 2 p.m., Friday.

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Moving sale: Sept. 26-28

294 Mt. Zion Church Rd.,
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Furniture, New Tupperware
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PUBLIC NOTICE REGISTERED PERMIT-BY-RULE

Marion C&D Landfill proposes to submit an application for a registered permit-by-rule less-than-one-acre construction/demolition debris facility to the Energy and Environment Cabinet, Division of Waste Management, pursuant to 401 KAR 47:110. The registration shall become effective five (5) days after the Cabinet receives it unless the Cabinet denies registration within that time.

The proposed facility will accept certain materials, for a fee, commonly found in construction and demolition activities.

The proposed facility will be located at the following address:
Marion C&D Landfill
3700 Mott City Rd.
Marion, KY 42064

For questions regarding this proposed facility, contact Nathan Ratley at (270) 965-0231.

Questions concerning the application process for registered permits-by-rule can be directed to the Division of Waste Management, Solid Waste Branch, 300 Sower Boulevard, Second Floor, Frankfort, KY 40601 or (502) 564-6716.

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Crittenden County, KY - 71.46 Acres - \$232,250.00
Situated in an area renowned for its big bucks, this all-timber hunting tract offers an exceptional opportunity for avid hunters seeking their next trophy.

Crittenden County, KY - 115.86 Acres - \$446,000.00
Nestled in an area renowned for its big bucks, this diverse hunting tract offers an idyllic setting for both deer and turkey enthusiasts. Includes 31+/- acres of open ground throughout.

Crittenden County, KY - 598.28 Acres - \$2,700,000.00
This stunning 2BR, 2.5BA, 2,720 S.F. home epitomizes comfortable living on a large acreage hunting tract. Includes a 3,854 S.F., 4-bay shop, complete with a bunkhouse. Located on the Ohio River.

Crittenden & Union Counties, KY – 4,690 Acres - \$23,500,000.00
With various landscapes, fantastic habitat variations, proven history, and multiple lodges with various improvements, this is your chance at a once in a lifetime opportunity!

REDUCED! Crittenden County, KY - 83 Acres - \$259,900.00
Nestled along the picturesque Piney Creek, this diverse hunting tract offers an idyllic setting for outdoor enthusiasts and wildlife aficionados alike.

PENDING! Crittenden County, KY – 17.3541 Acres - \$169,000.00
Nestled within the embrace of tranquil countryside, this charming 3-bedroom, 2-bathroom home offers the perfect retreat from the hustle and bustle of city life. Includes a 32' x 48' metal barn.

PENDING! Crittenden County, KY - 64.3284 Acres - \$241,231.50
Nestled in a tranquil rural area, this scenic hunting tract offers a diverse blend of habitat types and topography, making it a perfect retreat for outdoor enthusiasts. Features an ideal build site!

PENDING! Livingston County, KY – 84 Acres - \$310,000.00
This impressive timbered hunting tract is situated in an area renowned for its quality deer and turkey hunting, making it a prime spot for outdoor enthusiasts. Includes build site potential.

SOLD! Crittenden County, KY – 57.285 Acres - \$250,000.00
This diverse hunting tract offers a classic 50/50 mix of tillable and timber, providing an excellent blend of habitat types and income potential!

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Craving a hunt 9 months pregnant



Ashley Owens and her family typically process and grind their own venison.

Ashely's Chili Recipe:

Call it Jack Randall Chili

- Brown a pound of ground deer (with onion, optional), salt and pepper
- Put in chili pot along with:
- Quart of homegrown tomatoes or 2 large cans of diced tomatoes
- 2 cans of medium or mild chili beans
- 1 small can of tomato sauce.
- Bring to boil and simmer
- Add cooked elbow noodles if desired
- Simmer until time to eat!
- Add a small amount of ground beef to the ground deer if desired.

STAFF REPORT

It is not uncommon at all for pregnant women to have unusual cravings. Generally, however, it is a longing for some type of food, maybe chocolate, pickles or even curry. Doctors figure hormones are responsible as they're wildly active during pregnancy, heightening senses of smell and taste, creating both cravings and aversions.

Genetically, it is evident why nine-month-pregnant Ashley Owens had a hankering for deer last month. It has almost everything to do with the way she was raised, not some overreacting messenger molecules in a body with child.

Yep, she's just an outdoors woman, and soon-to-be mother.

Growing up, literally in the forests of northern Crittenden County, the daughter of a game warden, Owens is now wife of deputy sheriff in training, Seth Owens, who loves the outdoors, too. You might aptly describe her as a true child of nature.

When a cool snap visited the region early in archery deer season, Owens couldn't knock the urge to be afield. So, she worked out a deal to nock an arrow, albeit tailored specifically for a woman on the verge of clear and present labor.

Thanks for a doctor's excuse somewhat like those you get to miss work or leave school, Owens basically had a prescription for use of a crossbow during traditional archery season. You can do that, and having a conserva-

tion officer in the family helps to know those type of legal concessions.

Based on her condition, the obstetrician obviously figured it best for the expecting 24-year-old elementary school teacher to forego climbing a tree stand or pulling back a 43-pound Mathews bow.

So, armed with a special license to hunt, Owens camoed up, grabbed her crossbow and got into a side-by-side with her father, Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife officer Randy Conway, and off they rode into the wilds of their very own Happy Hunting Ground just off the periphery of the Big Rivers Wildlife Management Area.

"The adrenaline and being out in nature," is what Owens says drives her passion to hunt. "I don't have to kill anything to have a good time hunting. I can just relax and not think a thing about the real world."

An accomplished athlete in high school, Owens excelled in volleyball, basketball and softball. She was brought up hunting deer and turkey and when she started dating her now-husband in their late teens, she took up waterfowl and wingshooting.

"I got my first turkey when I was eight years old," she remembers.

Of course that memory of a hunt alongside her father remains as warm as the her first deer a year later with a .30-30 lever-action Winchester.

She's typically pretty selec-



Soon-to-be a full-blown mom, Ashley Owens grew up hunting with her game warden father. Being pregnant didn't stop her from getting a deer early this season.

tive when it comes to deer hunting, a trophy is something 130 inches or larger during archery season and 160-plus with a rifle. She prefers bowhunting to modern gun season because of its obvious challenges and don't look for her to sit over bait. She prefers fairer chase using scouting tactics learned growing up in a family of hunters – her sister is an avid outdoors woman, too – and studying wind and weather patterns that affect and predict wildlife movement.

"Dad would take us hunting when we were little and he always made sure we understood gun safety and to make sure where we were aiming," she said. "He taught me to read sign and tracks of all kinds of animals and to know what kind of wind is good have hunting."

Venison spaghetti and chili are favorites when it comes to table fare at home and you can bet her emerging brood will keep hunting a family tradition. And somewhere in a photo album or memory book will be snapshots from a late-summer deer hunt in 2024.

For sitting in a ground blind that afternoon in early September, as pregnant as she could be with Jack Randall, Owens bagged a small button buck. Photos helped capture the special moment.

Just a yearly deer it was. Not your typical trophy, right?

Wrong.

Trophies are memories, features to hang on a wall that rattle loose reminders of great hunts from bygone days, perhaps with special friends. For Ashley Owens and her unborn son, it's something neither will likely ever forget.



Youth Soccer League

Recreational youth soccer leagues are in full swing at Marion-Crittenden County. During last week's action (from left) Landon Wickham, Georgia Snyder and Jackson Warwick were engaged in a battle for the ball in the 4-under division.

CODES

Continued from page 1

tures began to collapse, causing safety issues and creating property concerns for other nearby owners, Marion's mayor say it's prudent to take a close look at existing conditions here.

Last week's adoption of IPMC is a continuation of the city's mission and dedication to improving the look and safety of town, Browning explains.

"Adopting the IPMC is about 'code reinforcement.' We've updated our ordinances to match neighboring communities and to give them more strength," the mayor said. "Code Enforcement (officers) will be letting property owners know that we are serious about maintaining basic standards that anyone should follow."

Browning said she's already received feedback from the community, "from people who have said that the changes that have been made have given them incentive to work on their own properties."

She hopes the city's movement on this matter will have a ripple effect.

"If you take pride in your property, hopefully, your neighbor will too," Browning said. "The goal is not to create a picture-perfect, manicured-lawn community. At this point, we just need to hold owners accountable for maintaining their properties."

At the September meeting, City Attorney Bart Frazer explained that by adopting the IPMC, the council is providing further guidance, beyond current ordinances, for building codes and maintenance codes.

The IPMC is described as a maintenance document intended to establish minimum maintenance standards for basic equipment, light, ventilation, heating, sanitation and fire safety. Responsibility is fixed among owners, operators and occupants for code compliance. The IPMC provides for the regulation and safe use of existing structures in the interest of the social and economic welfare of the community, according to its authors. It addresses sanitation, sidewalks, driveways, weeds, rodent harborage, accessory structure, parked automobiles and recreational vehicles, swimming pools, spas and hot tubs, structural integrity of properties and equipment that could make them unsafe or unfit for human occupancy.

Language adopted by the city says, "Existing structures and premises that do not comply with the IPMC and other city ordinances shall be altered or repaired to provide reasonable minimum level of health, safety and general welfare."

There were some areas that cut too deep, council

members said. Dwight Sherer successfully lobbied the council to strike one part that would have prohibited recreational vehicles to be parked in yards without being on a concrete pad. That, he said, and others concurred, would be a bit too much to ask of local residents.

The IPMC also provides for an appeals process for property owners who are aggrieved by enforcement situations, pointed out Councilman Taylor Davis.

Sherer said common sense needs to be applied to enforcement. For instance, he said, during demolition derby season, it should be reasonable to expect old cars to be sitting on lawns for a time, but perhaps not for months or years.

"Discretion needs to come into play on this," Sherer told the council.

Councilwoman Wanda Olson said she knows of places in town where vehicles and even farm equipment has been sitting, unmoved since she was a child.

The council voted unanimously to adopt the IPMC. Councilman Randy Dunn was absent from the meeting.

"The end goal is to have a community that will attract more businesses and families to move here, but today, it is more about the businesses and families who have chosen to stay here," Mayor Browning said.



Maron's VFW Post 12022 conducted a memorial service Friday, Sept. 20 on POW/MIA Day, recognizing the anguish and misery soldiers and their families endured during their service. From left are Aleshia Allen and her dog Oakley, Gwen Martin, Ron Ledford, Sue Ledford, Adam Perkins and Donnie Orr. The VFW offers monthly programming for veterans past and present at its Marion post.

There are only 2 bad votes

America's democracy is only as good as the people who run it - its voters.

Yes, the "government of the people, by the people, for the people" so nobly referenced in Abraham Lincoln's Gettysburg address starts with people like you and me who exercise our right to vote. There has never been a time in this nation's history when more of its people have been able to participate in democracy.

But the RIGHT to vote is pound-for-pound equal to the RESPONSIBILITY attached to it. Voting carries with it a burden to responsibly wield the power of choice.

Voting in Kentucky has already started with absentee balloting, but Election Day looms less than six weeks away.

There are two votes in this and every election that are bad choices: 1) the vote not made, and 2) the uninformed vote.

While votes not made leave someone else to make choices for you, the uninformed vote is dangerous. It can move elections in a false direction and lead to unexpected consequences.

Uninformed votes may lead a person to make a choice they do not intend because they simply do not understand the question or know the candidates.

We have two lengthy state constitutional amendments on the ballot and questions for legalizing medicinal marijuana locally. If you do not study these questions ahead of time, you may be left wondering in the booth what a Yes or No vote means. At that

point, you are on your own ... and on the clock.

Poll workers cannot interpret these questions or help you answer them, and statutes give you only 4 minutes to mark your ballot, which will be two sided this fall. Election workers will enforce this rule to keep the flow of voters moving, unless you have a disability or other booths are empty.

It is also your responsibility to know if there are write-ins for a particular race. So far, there are several for President, and we expect one or more for the Marion City Council race. You must ask poll workers for a list of write-in candidates, as they will not be posted.

Most importantly, a voter is responsible for knowing if they are registered in their home precinct before the books close on Oct. 7. If you wait until Oct. 8 and you are not registered, you will miss out on the most important election of our time.

Likewise, voters have a responsibility for keeping their registration updated with name and address changes that could slow the process when they turn out to cast their ballot. Please, do not be the cause for holding up the line to vote on what will be one of the busiest elections on record.

And bring your Ken-

tucky driver's license or photo ID. This will ensure you get checked in quickly.

Know where and how you can vote, too.

Anyone in the county is eligible to vote in person during the three days of Early Voting (Oct. 31-Nov. 2) at the County Office Complex and at the Election Day Voting Center (Nov. 5) in the same building. If you cannot make it in person, you have the option of absentee voting.

On Election Day, Marion city voters can vote only at the County Office Complex; same as the 280 voters in Precinct D101 Fords Ferry 5. Rural voters in the far reaches of the county have the option of balloting closer to home, which could help them avoid waits at the busy Voting Center.

If you need assistance to vote due to poor vision, shaky hands or another impediment, you may bring someone to help you.

Do not campaign for a candidate or amendment in the voting place. Put away the cell phone. Be patient and courteous, please. And be proud that you participated in shaping the future of your community, state and nation.

Be a good voter. Just as owning a firearm is dangerous without an accompanying responsibility; reckless, uneducated voting can lead to dire consequences.

If you are uncertain of anything related to this election, please visit GoVote.ky.gov or call our office at 270-965-3403.



Daryl TABOR
CRITTENDEN COUNTY CLERK

SportsShorts

UPCOMING EVENTS Rocket sports schedule

THURSDAY
Volleyball hosts Hopkins Central

FRIDAY
MS Softball at Bowling Green/State
Football at Owensboro Catholic

SATURDAY
MS Softball at Bowling Green/State
Jr Pro Football at Union County
Volleyball at Hopkinsville
Cross Country at Marshall Invitational

MONDAY
Volleyball at Christian County
Soccer hosts McLean County

TUESDAY
Soccer hosts Paducah Tilghman

GOLF Couples event Oct. 5-6

Deer Lakes Golf Course in Salem will host its annual Vikings and Valkyries couples golf tournament on Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 5-6. There will be a 10 a.m., shotgun start each day. Entry is \$212, which includes practice round, meal and cart. Call 270-988-4653 or visit the pro shop to register.

FOOTBALL Junior Pro Results

Here are scores from last weekend's Junior Pro games in the Western Kentucky League:

3rd/4th Hopkins 45, Webster 6
5th/6th Hopkins 13, Webster 8
3rd/4th Trigg 26, Union 0
5th/6th Trigg 26, Union 0
3rd/4th Caldwell 12, Crittenden 6
5th/6th Crittenden 19, Caldwell 13, OT

3RD/4TH STANDINGS	
Caldwell County	3-0
Hopkins County	2-1
Trigg County	2-1
Crittenden County	1-2
Union County	1-2
Webster County	0-3
5TH/6TH STANDINGS	
Hopkins County	3-0
Crittenden County	2-1
Caldwell County	2-1
Trigg County	1-2
Webster County	1-2
Union County	0-3

BASKETBALL Big Blue Madness

University of Kentucky basketball's Big Blue Madness is Oct. 11 at Rupp Arena. Tickets for the annual event will be distributed online beginning at 5 p.m. Friday. Tickets are available online only. Big Blue Madness will be the first for Kentucky men's basketball under coach Mark Pope. Tickets will be available through ticketmaster.com. The event will be sponsored by the Ronald McDonald House of the Bluegrass.



Net Results

Defending the net for the Lady Rocket volleyball team at last weekend's All A Classic State Tournament in Elizabethtown are (from left) Lilah Sherer, Brooke Winstead and Carly Porter. In the back is Mary Stephens. The girls ran into stiff competition and after going 0-3 in pool play, they lost to Paducah Community Christian in the consolation bracket.

PHOTOS BY ELLIOT EVANS

Back to the Grind Girls say state experience fortifies team

STAFF REPORT

Although Crittenden County was winless in four matches at last weekend's All A Classic State Tournament at Elizabethtown, the girls and their coach found fortification in their journey.

Second-year head coach Savannah Tays said despite the disappointing record at the All A, there was a great deal of return.

"I am super excited to have brought this team to this tournament," said the coach. "They worked very hard and had a good learning experience. I hope to be able to use that to carry us for the rest of the season."



Lady Rockets in blue pictured (clockwise from above) are Lilah Sherer, Lacey Boone and Braelyn Merrill at the state tournament.



Her players echoed similar sentiments, pointing out that the challenges they faced on the All A stage tempered the team's will to finish strong this season.

"This was the best competition we have seen all season," said senior Hannah Mott. "I think it will really help us moving forward."

Crittenden County remains one of the best teams in western Kentucky and is among favorites to capture its first ever Second Region title in October's KHSAA playoffs. The girls have lost only once in the region and that was against Henderson County, which CCHS plays Oct. 14 to close out the regular season. The Fifth District Tournament starts Oct. 21 at Trigg County and the regional tournament begins Oct. 28 at Christian County.

"Hopefully we can take this energy and use it in school ball heading into regions," said senior Carly Porter.

CCHS lost all three of its

pool play matches in the 16-team tournament, which was divided into four, four-team pools to begin championship competition. After three pool play games, teams are seeded into one of two brackets – the championship track or a consolation bracket.

With three losses in pool play, CCHS was relegated to the lower bracket where they lost a highly competitive match with Paducah's Community Christian.

In its first match at Elizabethtown's Bluegrass Sportsplex, Crittenden fell 25-12, 25-16 against Sayre, a private school from Lexington.

St. Henry, a private school in Erlanger in Northern Kentucky, won the All A Classic championship, beating Louisville Holy Cross in the title match. Sayre lost to Holy Cross in the semifinal round.

The Lady Rockets were defeated by Shelby Valley, a public school from Pikeville, 25-15, 25-19 in their second



match on Friday, the tournament's opening day of action.

On Saturday morning, CCHS had its best outing of pool play, winning the opening set of a match against Raceland, a public school from northeastern Kentucky. Raceland took the second set by 10 points, but Crittenden closed the gap in the final game, losing by four in a match that finished 25-18, 15-25, 21-25.

Individually, against Sayre in the tournament opener, Mary Stephens had 7 digs, Mott and Brooke Winstead had 2 aces apiece and Porter posted 3 kills.

Against Shelby Valley, Porter had 5 kills and Lilah Sherer recorded 10 assists.

Porter scored 13 kills and a block in the loss to Raceland while Lacey Boone and Braelyn Merrill had 6 kills and 2 blocks each. Sherer posted 28 assists and Stephens had 9 digs.

In bracket play against

CRITTENDEN COUNTY FALL SPORTS ROUNDUP

CRITTENDEN GOLF

Crittenden County's girls finished up fall action in the First Region Tournament Tuesday at Ledbetter's Drake Creek Golf Course. Junior Georgia Holeman shot a 47-54-101 in the 18-hole event and Abby Korzenborn shot 72-66-138.

Livingston Central's Taylor Leahy shot a 52-60-112.

Neither of the Lady Rocket golfers nor Livingston's player qualified for the state tournament.

•Jaxton Duncan shot a career-best 40 at The Heritage Golf Course in Marion last Thursday and was medalist in Crittenden County's final regular-season match. The Rocket golfers turned in their best score of the year, but lost by two strokes to Union County. Cash Singleton and Mitchell Brown had 46s for CCHS followed by Levi Quertermous at 49, Bentley Rushing 51 and Jett Champion 53. Union was led by Camden Girten's 42.

The Rockets were scheduled to play in the First Region Golf Tournament Wednesday at Calvert City Country Club.

•Georgia Holeman shot a personal best 40 in the Lady Rockets' final regular-season golf match last Thursday at Deer Lakes. Teammate Abby Korzenborn shot a 59. Lyon County's Lilly Perry was medalist with a 37 and Jenna Coursey was second with a 39. Holeman finished third.



PHOTO BY ALLISON EVANS

Crittenden County golfer Levi Quertermous stays down on an iron shot during a match last week.

LADY ROCKET SOCCER

Crittenden County (3-10) lost on the road 8-4 at Hopkinsville (10-6) Monday despite a good offensive showing. Ella Geary scored twice and Kylie Bloodworth and Adri Berry added a goal apiece. Berry had 2 assists and Haley More had one. In the goal, keeper Macibelle Hardesty had 8 saves and backup Madison Walker had 1.

•Crittenden County snapped a 4-game losing streak by shutting out Union County 10-0 last Thursday in a high school soccer match at Marion.

Kylie Bloodworth led the CCHS scoring with 4 goals while Adri Berry and Ella Geary added three apiece. Mollie Blazina had 3 assists for the Lady Rockets. Bloodworth had 2 and Berry and Geary each added an assist.

Crittenden's defense was stellar, preventing Union from getting a single shot on goal. CCHS has won 3

matches this season, 2 have come against Union (1-11).

•CCHS got one goal from Ella Geary last week in a 9-1 home loss to Hopkins Central (9-4). Goal keeper Macibelle Hardesty had 16 saves for the Lady Rockets.

MIDDLE SCHOOL SOFTBALL

Crittenden County opens play Friday night in the Kentucky Open State Middle School Softball Tournament against South Warren. If the Lady Rockets win that game, they will likely face Owensboro Catholic in the 16-team tournament at Bowling Green.

This was the second season for CCMS to have a fall middle school season and the girls finished 10-5 after starting off 1-3 out of the chute.

CCHS CROSS COUNTRY

Senior Mary Martinez finished 4th out of 63 runners with a time of 22 minutes at the St. Mary Invitational Cross Country meet Saturday at Paducah.

Crittenden County's Presley Potter was 22nd at 25:21, Ella Whitney 23rd at 25:39, Taylor Haire 50th at 32:00 and Hannah Whitney 63rd at 44:14.

Crittenden's girls team finished 5th out of 7 teams.

River Rogers led CCHS in 45th place with a time of 20:31.49 in the 5K race. Behind him were Rocket runners Landon Starkey in 71st place in 21:43, Asa McCord 72nd at 21:45, Jayden Gibson 75th at 21:50, Noah Martinez in 110th place at 24:23 and Zach Rustin 113th at 24:37. The boys' team finished 12th out of 16 teams.



Martinez

County roads being resurfaced, Evans new asst. county attorney

STAFF REPORT

Magistrates last week approved a number of routine items during their monthly fiscal court meeting and also moved to use county and state funding for a number of fall road improvement projects.

Flex Funds from the state will be used to pave 11.4 miles of Long Branch Road, 0.6 miles of New Salem Road, 1 mile of Wilson Farm Road and 0.45 miles of Valley View Road. Work is scheduled for this fall.

Additionally, the county will spend some of its own money to repave 0.25 miles of Summers Mine Road, 0.3 miles on Providence Road and 0.2 miles of Copperas Springs Road.

Judge-Executive Perry Newcom said Providence Road late last year took a beating when the bridge on KY 120 was closed for several weeks. A base failure is being repaired there and on Copperas Springs.

Newcom said cost to pave a mile of road is more than \$90,000.

In addition to paving projects this fall, a handful of county roads are scheduled for chip-and-seal. For the first time in more than two years the county has been able to secure a contractor to chip-and-seal.

CRITTENDEN COUNTY FISCAL COURT

Roads on the list are 0.55 miles of Collins Road off KY 365, 2.5 miles of overlay on top of Chapel Hill Road starting at Earl Patmor Road and heading away from Marion, 0.4 miles of Monroe Butler Road off Fords Ferry, 0.2 miles of Turkey Knob Road starting at the intersection with Mt. Zion Road, 0.18 miles of Lester Road off Main Lake Road, 0.25 miles of Lakeview Drive off Chapel Hill and Guggenheim Road off KY 1668.

Newcom said a mile of chip-and-seal costs around \$40,000.

In other county business last Thursday:

•Local attorney Coby Evans was formally approved as assistant county attorney, replacing Wes Hunt in that position. Hunt recently became full-time assistant commonwealth attorney and cannot hold both posts, according to Crittenden County Attorney Bart Frazer.

•Jailer Athena Hayes told county leaders that the detention center will be undertaking a fall project she's dubbed Crittenden County Cares. Inmate work crews will be available to help spruce up the com-

munity. She was at the city council meeting last week to offer the same assistance around town.

Non-profit organizations may contact the jail with project proposals, Hayes said. She hopes to create a list and develop a fall schedule. This can include outdoor or indoor jobs, even painting.

"We hope to enrich the community with this project," Hayes told county magistrates.

•In compliance with a circuit court order, magistrates approved paying \$250 apiece for a total of \$500 for indigent attorney fees for two county residents. The residents accruing the fees with Lindsay Durbin Law of Dixon were John Allen Kinnis and Charles H. Legrand.

•Crittenden County Animal Shelter was holding 43 dogs to start last month with 41 in foster care. Three died due to medical reasons and none were euthanized. Six were reclaimed by their owners and 19 were adopted. To start this month there were 36 dogs in foster care and 41 housed at the shelter. About \$1,000 was received in sponsorships and donations.



Pictured from left are Rana Richardson and John Thomas of Animal Housing Solutions, Livingston County animal control officer Janet Holeman, Livingston County Judge-Executive Teris Swanson, interim Crittenden County animal control officer Kory Griffith, Livingston County Sheriff Bobby Davidson, Crittenden County Judge-Executive Perry Newcom, assistant Livingston County animal control officer Kim Stratton, animals shelter employee Seth Tracy and Crittenden County Magistrate Scott Belt.

Livingston buys kennels for shelter

STAFF REPORT

A purchase by Livingston County Fiscal Court of a dozen new kennels has extended the capacity for canines at the Crittenden County Animal Shelter.

Livingston County Sheriff Bobby Davidson made the request to the fiscal court to purchase the new kennels from Animal Housing Solu-

tions in Florida. Each kennel holds four dogs.

The kennels were delivered Friday, Sept. 20 to Crittenden County Animal Shelter.

Interim animal control officer Kory Griffith said dogs are routinely turned away due to overcrowding.

The new kennels, purchased at a cost of \$11,040, are elevated

and will increase the number of kennels available for stray dogs in Marion to 40.

Crittenden County houses animals from Livingston and Lyon counties.

Griffith, who has been training as animal control officer for just shy of a month, said 15 dogs had been turned away in the last two weeks.

COURSE

Continued from page 1
hired a real estate broker and posted the course, pool, restaurant and its nearly 70 acres for sale online with a \$750,000 price tag. A couple of times over the past year, King had been close to striking a deal, but those fell through for various reasons. Despite being courted by investors wanting the property for other enterprises, King had remained firm in a commitment to sell the club only to a buyer that agreed to keep its course and other amenities accessible to the community for their original purposes, including dining, recreation and entertainment.

King said that he and James had been negotiating for months and believes the future of the course is in good hands.

"He feels I can carry out the mission he started," said James, who owns a retail online sporting goods business

and is part owner in a mortgage company with his father, Tony, and brother, Paxton. "I believe



James

Crittenden County owes Mr. King a debt of gratitude for the time and money he spent to keep the course open. People in Marion need a place they can play golf, go to a pool and eat without having to leave town to enjoy those things."

James is a 2009 graduate of Crittenden County High School. He and his family moved to Murray years ago, but have retained close ties to friends and family here.

"We are still in Marion a lot, almost every week as it is now, so this will not be a huge adjustment," James said.

His motive to buy the club is simple, James ex-

plained. He wants to keep a connection to the town he calls home, where he was raised and went to school; and, he says, the community needs the golf course and pool.

"I remember growing up playing golf out there and have good memories of that. I am motivated by the fact that kids there now need a place to play golf and enjoy the same things I did."

King said new ownership plans a handful of capital improvements once the transaction is complete. He said selling the club is bittersweet.

"I need to look at my birth certificate and fully understand how old I am," King said. "I feel very good about this deal and very pleased with the job Devin Belt has been doing at the course. I feel good about what is going on there."

James said Belt, who was hired to operate the course a few weeks ago, will remain as superintendent.



Marion Fire Department provided a little investigative hand last week when Crittenden County Detention Center realized someone had tried to smuggle contraband into the facility. The ladder truck helped get investigators onto the roof where they searched for the contraband.

Detention Center foils attempted painkiller plot

STAFF REPORT

A Hopkinsville woman was caught in broad daylight trying to throw contraband over a wall into an open area of Crittenden County Detention Center last week. She is now facing what could be a long prison term if convicted.

Jailer Athena Hayes said the investigation is continuing on the inside.

The incident happened last Tuesday, Sept. 17. Hayes said the suspect was witnessed throwing an item or items over a jail wall intended for inmates in the recreation yard.

When authorities arrived, they found the suspect on the perimeter of the jail. She was allegedly trying to toss a flashlight filled with 14 painkillers into the detention center.

Charged was Rebecca Rednour, 36, of Hopkinsville with first-degree possession of a controlled substance (hydrocodone), possession of drug paraphernalia,



Rednour

first-degree promoting contraband and tampering with physical evidence. The contraband charge is a Class C felony punishable by 5-10 years in prison. Rednour remains lodged in Crittenden County Detention Center on a \$25,000 cash bond.

The jailer said Rednour was free on bond from another drug charge in Christian County.

Marion Fire Department with its ladder truck was dispatched to the scene to help scan the jail's rooftop for any other contraband. None was found.

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Please carefully fill out the information below and indicate the correct branch that you want shown on the banner. You must provide a digital photo that will be used on your Veteran's banner.

The cost of one 18" x 36" Vinyl banner is \$65.
18"x45" Vinyl banner is \$72.
Limited sizes and pole space available.

The final deadline for orders is April 1, 2025.

Questions emailed to:
mayorbrowning@marionky.gov

Name: _____

Phone #: _____

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Address: _____

Please use this form along with a color copy of photograph and payment, then mail or deliver to:

Marion City Hall
ATTN: Hometown Heroes Project
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Marion, KY 42064

Payment made out to: Marion City Hall
Cash, Check or Money Orders only

Please complete the following. Circle if your hero was KIA, is a Veteran or is Active Military

Line One - Rank: _____

Line Two - Name: _____

Line Three - Branch of Service: _____

Due to limited pole spaces available:
Marion and Crittenden County Residents only please.

***Memorial Day:** 49 spaces available with 5 reserved for POW/MIA
We have 86 Fallen Heroes from Crittenden County, working on a special project to commemorate all of them.

***4th of July:** 54 spaces available for Active Military and Veterans
***Veteran's Day:** 54 spaces available for Veterans