

COVID-19 claims husband and wife just days apart

BALE TRAIL SIGN UP

Deadline is approaching to have a fall feature in the Crittenden County Bale Trail. The University of Kentucky Extension Service is coordinating the program again this year and deadline to register your site on the official map is Oct. 8. Trail maps will be available Oct. 16 and voting for the best site will be done on the Extension Service Facebook page. Register by emailing crittenden.ext@uky.edu.

HOMECOMING FRIDAY

Friday night is homecoming at the Crittenden County vs. Bardstown Bethlehem football game. Coronation ceremony will begin at 7 p.m. Kickoff is at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are only available online at TicketLeap. See The Press Online or go to RocketsFootball.com for link.

HWY 60 YARD SALE

The annual 200-mile Highway 60 Yard Sale is Thursday, Friday and Saturday. See sale locations and more information on page 7.



CAR SEAT SHORTAGE

Local authorities say there is a need for child car seats in the community. New or gently used seats can be donated to the Crittenden County Sheriff's Department. Call them at 270-965-3400.

WHO'S BEEN VAXED?

Kentucky Farm Bureau office is 100 percent vaccinated. There are five people who work in the office in Marion and all have received full vaccinations. Two individuals have already gotten their booster shot.

PVA Ronnie Heady says all of his full-time staff working in his courthouse office is vaccinated.

Let us know about your business or organization. We will let the community know who's standing up for the vaccine.

CORN MAZE WILL BE OPEN DURING OCTOBER

A community corn maze for children young and old will be open to the public starting Friday afternoon at the end of Pippi Hardin Boulevard in Industrial Park North. The maze will be open 4 p.m., to dark weekdays and 10 a.m., to dark on Saturdays and 2 p.m., to dark on Sundays through October. Cost is \$3 per person with 5-under free.

SQUAD FUNDRAISER

Crittenden County Rescue Squad has begun its annual donation drive. To support the squad, mail a \$25 check to Crittenden County Rescue Squad, PO Box 346, Marion, KY 42064. The squad mailed 2,400 letters to area residents last year seeking contributions. Six hundred were returned to the squad with a donation.



Jim Johnson

Johnson Regional Airport

With FAA approval, airstrip dedicated to man who helped attract over \$10 million

BY CHRIS EVANS
PRESS EDITOR

Once a mere grass landing strip used by a handful of local bush pilots and remote-control aviators, Marion's airport began to get some real wind under its wings in the early 2000s. This weekend, what's grown into a regional showpiece will be on full display as the airport hosts an open house and will be formally dedicated to recognize the driving force behind its dramatic development.

At 11 a.m., Saturday, the airfield will be newly christened the Marion-Crittenden County James C. Johnson Regional Airport, forever carrying a handle to dutifully recognize "Jim" Johnson, whose tireless efforts have turned the once quaint airstrip into a hub of corporate activity and home to a number of amateur pilots.

A former air traffic controller, Johnson grew up in Marion and after working at large commercial airfields in Oklahoma and Arkansas, he came home to run the family furniture business. Along with wife Amy, they raised four



A jet recently refueling at the airport west of Marion

OPEN HOUSE SATURDAY

On Saturday, there will be an open house and dedication ceremony at the Marion-Crittenden County Airport. The event lasts from 9 a.m., until 2 p.m., with the formal dedication of the airstrip set for 11 a.m. The dedication will be attended by local, state and federal dignitaries, including Sen. James Comer. There will be plane rides, military aircraft, classic airplanes and cars, flight school information and concessions.

daughters here. During that time he's chaired the local airport board through most of three decades. With strong po-

litical support, Johnson and the airport board have managed to attract more than \$10 million in state and federal funds to beef up the facility. Only about two percent of the costs associated with development projects at the facility have come from local government coffers or in-kind services.

Marion leaders and amateur pilots say Johnson's determination to improve the airport has been first rate, and the recognition fully merited.

"It's a well deserved honor and tribute to the amount of work Jim has put into bringing the airport up to its current stature," said Crittenden County Judge-Executive Perry Newcom. "And he's not done. There are other things he's working on, including a parallel taxiway that should be forthcoming within a couple of years."

"The hard part was getting it built," said Johnson, who admits spending countless hours preparing for and applying for grant applications,

See **AIRPORT**/page 12

"I told someone once that if I am remembered for anything at all, I hope it's that I appointed Jim Johnson to the airport board."

— Mickey Alexander, who was Marion's mayor for more than 29 years

DEVELOPMENT TIMELINE

- 1976 Marion-Crittenden County Airport Board developed a 2,300-foot grass airstrip.
- 1993 Marion-Crittenden County Airport Board re-organized and Jim Johnson was chosen as chairman.
- 2002 Master Plan established for development at airport.
- 2003 Acquired additional acreage adjacent to facility.
- 2004 Construction of paved runway begins.
- 2005 Perimeter fence installed around complex.
- 2007 Terminal and hangar built.
- 2007 Card-reading fuel system installed.
- 2009 Jet fuel system installed.
- 2009 Terminal interior finished.
- 2011 Additional land acquisition.
- 2011 Automated Weather Station installed.
- 2014 Ten-unit hangar constructed.
- 2016 Construction of maintenance hangar.
- 2019 Three-unit box hanger built.
- 2019 Construction of runway and taxiway extension for 5,000-foot strip.
- 2021 Plans announced to build a parallel taxiway.

School honors Distinguished Alumni

Wigginton's odyssey goes from Piney to deepest part of Ocean

BY CHRIS EVANS
PRESS EDITOR

Jim Wigginton grew up in the Piney Fork community, raised by Depression-era grandparents who farmed 150 acres without tractors or other modern conveniences. It was there, in the hay fields of Crittenden County, that Wigginton developed a strong work ethic and eventually turned his personal aspirations and values into a king's ransom. His understanding that education means money and success means the ability to change lives – perhaps even save them – is what drove him from Piney to the top of the corporate world and to the deepest channels on Earth.

A 1966 graduate of Crittenden County High School, Wigginton will be recognized Friday as a Distinguished Alumnus by the school that gave him an educational foundation and led him to the pinnacle of the business world. Wigginton, who has not yet retired, has used his wealth to change the survival rate of thyroid cancer patients.

The 72-year-old businessman and adventure philanthropist is perhaps most noted for his world records. He has three entries in the Guinness Book of World Records, most recently for traveling to the



Wigginton



Distinguished Alumni

2011 Ken Winders
2011 A. Michael Crider
2011 Forrest C. Pogue*
2011 F. Julius Fohs*
2011 Ollie M. James*
2012 Scott Campbell
2012 Trish Melburn
2012 Jim Hatfield*
2013 Johnny Rushing
2013 Jeff McKenney
2014 David Newcom
2014 Helen Moore
2014 Clem Nunn*
2015 W.A. Franklin
2015 Stephanie Kelly
2016 Andy Mason
2016 Jerry Brown
2016 Juanita Burks*
2016 Bob Swisher*
2017 Wm. O. Winstead
2017 Alan C. South
2018 Jared Ordway
2018 Corey Crider
2018 Barry W. Enoch
2019 Johnny Newcom
2019 Jonathan Burdon
2021 Beth Davidson
2021 Jim Wigginton

*Posthumous

Davidson's hearty spirit prompts service to others

BY ALLISON EVANS
THE CRITTENDEN PRESS

Fresh out of college with a degree in nursing in 1990, Beth Towery Davidson's aspirations weren't to make a career in the niche of heart failure, transplant and mechanical circulatory support.

But 30 years later, it turns out she had a natural aptitude for cardiology, anatomy and physiology and has, in fact, spent her entire career in the field of heart failure disease management. Because of her success, Davidson has appeared as a guest on the Dr. Oz Show, a daily television program focusing on medical issues and personal health.

She is the director of the Heart Failure Disease Management Program at TriStar Centennial Medical Center in Nashville and is president of the American Association of Heart Failure Nurses.

Davidson is a 1985 graduate of Crittenden County High School. She received a Bachelor's of Science in nursing from Western Kentucky University in 1990 and a Master of Science in nursing from Vanderbilt University in 1991.

On Friday, she will be one of two individuals recognized as a CCHS Distinguished Alumnus during



Davidson

See **WIGGINTON**/page 4

See **DAVIDSON**/page 4



Kim and Stacy Collyer

Couple dies days apart from COVID-19

A Crittenden County couple was laid to rest following a joint funeral service Sunday at a packed Fohs Hall in Marion. Stacy and Kim Collyer died three days apart, both after battling COVID-19.

About three dozen of the Collyers' friends paid tribute to the couple's interest in vintage vehicles by leading the funeral procession from Fohs Hall to Mapleview Cemetery.

"I choose to celebrate the wonderful life of Kim and Stacy Collyer. They were always together and they still are," wrote Janet Hughes in a Facebook tribute. "What a great tribute having all the street rods and other cars in the funeral procession."

Stacy Collyer died three days before his wife after each spent a couple weeks in separate Paducah hospitals.

"Kim and Stacy were great people. They were always upbeat, smiling and Kim always laughing," another friend, Kandy Turner Travis, posted in a Facebook tribute.

Kim Collyer was a former Crittenden Press employee.

K. Collyer

Kim Johnson Collyer, 57, of Marion, died Wednesday, Sept. 22, 2021 at Baptist Health Paducah. She was the owner of Collyer's Tax Service.

Surviving are a daughter, Ashley Collyer and fiancé, Jacob Hunt of Marion; a son, Cruce Collyer and fiancé, Baileah Barnes of Marion; a grandson, Shane Hunt; and her father, Willie Ray Johnson.

She was preceded in death by her husband of 33 years, Stacy Collyer; her mother, Anna Johnson; and two brothers, Mitchell "Mitch" Johnson and Mike Johnson.

Services were Sun-

Deaths Bonds

Marvin Dwayne Bonds, 68, of Smithland, died Saturday, Sept. 25, 2021 at Baptist Health Paducah.

He was born Aug. 9, 1953 to Rudell and Pearl (Hall) Bonds. He was the Livingston County bus garage supervisor for over 38 years and was a member of the Sugar Creek Tractor Pullers.

Surviving are his wife of 38 years, June Bonds of Smithland; a daughter, Kayla (Bobby) Curry of Smithland; a brother, William (Joyce) Bonds of Smithland; and a grandson, Connor Curry.

He was preceded in death by his parents; and a sister, Clara Lee Agent.

Graveside services were Wednesday, Sept. 29 at Smithland Cemetery. There will be no public visitation. Boyd Funeral Directors and Cremation Services was in charge of arrangements.

Day

Jerry Franklin Day, 68, of Salem, died, Tuesday, Sept. 21, 2021 at Livingston Hospital and Healthcare Services.

He was born to the late Leroy and Alice (Noel) Day in Marion, on Dec. 10, 1952. He enjoyed fishing and talking with friends and family. He had a special place in his heart for his granddaughters. He retired after working 40 years in the coal mines and attended Pinckneyville Baptist Church.

Surviving are his wife of 45 years, Terry Day of Salem; a son, Zach Day of Marion; a sister, Gayle Adcock of Newburgh, Ind.; three grandchildren, Allie, Haley and Peyton Day; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by a brother, Barry Day; and his parents.

Graveside services were Saturday, Sept. 25 at Pinckneyville Cemetery with Bro. Jim Greer officiating.

Boyd Funeral Directors and Cremation Services was in charge of arrangements.

Paid obituary



Williams

Betty Sue Williams, 84, died Monday, Sept. 27, 2021 at Owensboro Health Regional Hospital.

She was born in Tolu July 19, 1937 to the late P.G. and Mildred Kirk.

She was a member of Beaver Dam Baptist Church and former member of Marion Baptist Church. She and her husband owned and operated The Barnyard Shop in Mattoon before retirement.

Surviving are a daughter, Martha (Rex) Sanders of Rogersville, Tenn.; three sons Tommy (Sheila) Williams of Beaver Dam, Bobby (Christine) Williams of O'Fallon, Ill., and Gordon (Susanne) Williams of Hartford; a sister, Barbara (Clarance) Crump of Bluff City, Tenn.; 9 grandchildren, 29 great-grandchildren; and 14 great-great-grandchildren.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband of 64 years, James Edward Williams; a brother, Jim Kirk; a sister, Clara Neal Kirk; and a grandson, Tommy Williams.

Graveside services will be held Friday, Oct. 1 with Pastor John Cashion officiating. Burial will be in Mt. Carmel Baptist Church Cemetery in Buford, Ky.

Bevil Bros. Funeral Home in Beaver Dam is in charge of arrangements.

Memorial contributions may be made to Mt. Carmel Baptist Church Cemetery Fund, 607 Buford Rd, Utica, KY 42376.



The Peoples Bank celebrates 75 years with Oct. 1 event

STAFF REPORT

The Peoples Bank in Marion is celebrating its 75th anniversary Friday, Oct. 1 with an open house at its Main Street location.

Bank customers are encouraged to stop in for refreshments and to visit with staff throughout the day Friday, beginning at 10 a.m.

The Peoples Bank was founded by the late Neil Guess, who had previously been employed by the Marion Bank its successor, Farmers Bank.

Guess organized The Peoples Bank, which opened Oct. 1, 1946 with \$15,000 in capital, including the real estate at the corner of Main and Carlisle streets, which previously had been occupied by the board of education.

Guess' son Gordon Guess was president of the bank from 1974-2007. Terry L. Bunnell, current president, chairman and CEO, and eight other investors purchased the bank in 2007.

Gordon Guess, who had banking experience in Louisville and Jacksonville, Fla., joined his father at the bank in 1973. He returned to Marion and worked alongside his father until his death a year later.

"The bank meant everything to me," Guess said in a video produced to celebrate the bank's 75-year history. "I look on my education and my activities but every one of them - bottom line, I was a banker."

Bunnell, who grew up in Cave City and worked in banking in Leitchfield and Glasgow, said the community banking en-



vironment in Marion was attractive.

Changes made to the bank in 2007 included the introduction of new services. A drive-through branch constructed on North Main Street in 2009 allowed the bank to grow.

"We wanted to build on the bank's heritage, make it more viable for the community and give it more options when it comes to financial needs," Bunnell said.

The Peoples Bank opened a loan production office in Glasgow in 2008 and a full-service office in 2009 before completing construction of a 7,200 square foot full-service bank in August 2018 in Glasgow.

Bunnell said The Peoples Bank's customer base grew in Glasgow thanks to the heritage that began with Neil Guess and Gordon Guess, building relationships and knowing and being accessible to its customers.

"That is in our mission and in our heritage, and it means a lot to me that we are continuing on the heritage that Gordon Guess' father began in 1946," Bunnell said.

The Peoples Bank in 2007 had just over \$23 million in total assets and grew to over \$94 million in 2021.



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Crittenden County Health Nurse Renee SIZEMORE

Rene Sizemore is a longtime nurse who is currently a local public health nurse at the Crittenden County Health Department.

Q: How long have you been in the health field?

A: I've been a nurse for 20 years and employed with the health department 15 years.

Q: What's the best part about your job?

A: There is a lot I love about my job. My favorite parts are those moments I can tell I truly helped someone with a problem or provided health educa-



tion and I can see they understand. I love explaining things to new moms and not so new moms and hopefully helping people be more healthy.

Q: What makes the health department important for our community?

A: We provide so many services other than WIC and immunizations such as well child exams, HANDS, smoking cessation, diabetes education, STD and HIV testing with services based on household size and income. All to some folks who may not

otherwise have access to these services.

Q: What's your advice to the community to help stop the spread of COVID-19?

A: We now know a lot about COVID-19. First and foremost it is airborne. We also know the Delta variant is highly contagious. One important reminder is to maintain distance when in public. I know it's uncomfortable but if you're not able to maintain your distance then wear a mask. Wash your hands often. Most importantly, get vaccinated. Millions of people have been vaccinated at this point with no long-term effects; however, with COVID there are many suffering from long term COVID side effects. The health department has all 3 vaccines available Pfizer, Moderna and Johnson & Johnson.

Soil stewardship poster contest open for entries

"Healthy Forests and Healthy Communities" is the 2021 Conservation District's natural resource focus.

"Although we see many trees daily, and the Crittenden County Conservation District gives out over 1,000 trees each year, the community may not often think about the importance of the trees all around us," the district said in a news release.

Healthy forests add to a healthy community, which can be the human community or the forest community. We humans have hundreds of uses for trees, from environ-

mental, and mental, physical and emotional health, to economic uses. The community of the forest can be the wildlife that is sustained by it but also the health and variety of trees themselves, the news release added.

K-12 students are invited to illustrate these or related ideas in a poster. The size may be anything from 8½ x 11 inches to 14 x 22 inches. Any material may be used to show the idea, but the result must be two-dimensional. Additional rules and suggestions can be found from the District office or on-

line at Nacdnet.org/general-resources/stewardship-and-education-materials/contests/.

Deadline to receive posters at the district office at 118 E. Bellville St. is Oct. 29.

This contest also awards monetary prizes at the local, state and up to national levels.

Creating a poster can be a fun and rewarding experience for area youth in many ways. They will also be helping the community understand why "Healthy Forests" lead to a "Healthy Community," the district said.

Letter to Editor

Underdown is real treasure

To the Editor:

For many years, our lives have been enriched by the quiet, endless labors of Mrs. Brenda Underdown, unpaid county historian, researcher, writer and curator of the county museum.

Many may not realize how tirelessly this lady works. She doesn't just sit at home drinking coffee, eating, thinking and writing stories. She is everywhere at once,

around town, out in the county, climbing through the woods, searching through archives, digging out and preserving our county's rich and fascinating history.

She rarely stops moving.

And when she does take a break, she sits down and writes rich and fascinating stories for The Press that we could find nowhere else.

Brenda is a community treasure.

Tom McKenney
Marion, Ky.

The Crittenden Press accepts and encourages letters to the editor on a variety of subjects. Letters should be submitted by 5 p.m., Friday the week before publication. Submissions must include only the author's name (no multiple names or groups), address, including hometown, phone number and signature. Phone numbers will not be published. Letters should be written in good taste and in most cases should not exceed 300 words. Letters will be edited for spelling and grammar and The Crittenden Press reserves the right to reject or edit letters for clarity, brevity and otherwise at our discretion.

WIGGINTON

Continued from page 1
deepest place on Earth.

A former U.S. Marine, Wigginton grew up in Marion, played football at CCHS and was a member of the high school band. He has made a fortune as CEO of a Fortune 500 company and private equity strategist, and has given millions to support thyroid cancer research in honor of his late wife.

Wigginton established the Punya Thyroid Cancer Research Foundation at the University of Michigan after his wife died of thyroid cancer in 2013. He endowed two professorships and the center's work has cut the mortality rate for stage 4 thyroid cancer in half.

The son of a truck driver, Wigginton says becoming successful does not happen overnight. The drive to provide a better life for his family, which included three children, drove him to night school where he earned a bachelor's and master's degree, then attended the prestigious Claremont Graduate School and Stanford University in California where he studied under financial and manage-

ment gurus like Peter F. Rucker and Tom Peters.

"They helped me appreciate how to add value to a business or anything else for that matter. My ability to add value to companies helped me get better jobs which led to more financial success which led to me being able to set up the foundation," said Wigginton, who was CEO of Omnicare for 10 years before branching out on his own into private equity investments, buying and improving multiple companies.

Wigginton owns companies all across the country, but one is close by in Henderson. It's an industrial cleaning company named SET.

While Wigginton has made a fortune in business, he's gained a great deal of fame as an adventurer and world-record holder. Last fall, he became the world's oldest person to reach the Challenger Deep – considered the deepest point on Earth located in the Pacific Ocean's Mariana Trench. The expedition was made alongside another Guinness record-holder Victor Vescovo and NASA astronaut Dr. Kathy Sullivan.

Wigginton completed

the dive in 2020 becoming the 13th person and the first former U.S. Marine to reach the Challenger Deep. In 2019, he became the world record holder for highest tandem parachute jump with teammate Arkadiusz Majewski. He holds another Guinness record for distance running and his volunteer involvement with Red Cross has taken him into many disaster zones, including Ground Zero in New York City immediately after 9/11. Wigginton is also a 9th Dan Grand Master TaeKwonDo who has worked for more than 30 years with the United States Olympic Organization and the U.S. National team.

Wigginton says daredevil records and exotic adventures are his way of raising awareness for thyroid cancer research. Wigginton has already given more than \$6 million to the foundation and is working alongside the university to raise more. He hopes to harness awareness – and contributions – for the foundation by doing things that fascinate and attract worldwide attention, like skydiving into the Himalayas.



Ellie McGowan of Fredonia (pictured front right) was selected to the 2021 Murray State Homecoming Court. McGowan is a 2020 graduate of Crittenden County High School and a former student employee of The Crittenden Press. MSU's homecoming is Oct. 23.

Crittenden Residents Should Use This Site Madisonville driver testing center opens

Madisonville's regional branch for Kentuckians to obtain a state driver permit or driver license has opened. Residents of area counties should take note of the new regional location in order to make an appointment prior to arrival. The Madisonville site is where Crittenden County residents will need to go in order to take driver's license testing and to apply for a license.

The circuit court clerk's office in Marion is no longer handling driver's licenses.

"The new KSP regional driver testing locations are being done in accordance with the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet's (KYTC) licensing model. Regionalizing these locations will offer more efficient and effective services," said Gov. Andy Beshear. "I wish all Kentuckians the best of luck as they start the journey in obtaining a Kentucky driver's license."

On Monday, KSP started offering driver testing at the KYTC Regional Drivers Licensing Office, located at 56 Federal Street, Madisonville, for residents of Caldwell, Crittenden, Hopkins, McLean, Muhlenberg and Webster counties.

Appointments are available Monday through Friday and can be made online by visiting KSP's website. Residents must make an appointment prior to arrival for a permit, driver



or commercial driver license test.

"One of the benefits of regionalization is increased availability of testing services," said KSP's Commander of Driver Testing Captain Marshall Johnson. "New appointments will be posted daily at 8 a.m., Monday through Friday, and this availability is the product of regionalizing our services."

KSP is continuing to work with the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet and Kentucky's circuit court clerks to open the remaining regional offices statewide by June 30, 2022.

Prior to an appointment, new drivers should prepare for the exam by accessing the only approved Kentucky driver's Kentucky driver's manual or by viewing it through the official KSP mobile app, kspolice. All driver testing materials can be viewed and downloaded free of charge.

Successful testing applicants will be served the same day by KYTC

County tax bills coming

Crittenden County property tax bills, which are typically in the mail in early October, will be coming late this week. There has been a slight delay in processing the mailers. More than 6,000 property bills are mailed by the county.

The City of Marion sent out its property tax bills last week.

Early payment of taxes presents a discount to the tax payer.

County fire dues, which are included on the tax bills, are not subject to the discount.

DAVIDSON

Continued from page 1
a luncheon on campus.

She became a nurse practitioner in 1998 and in 2007, Davidson earned a Doctor of Nursing Practice from the University of Tennessee Health Services Center in Memphis. Her credentials include DNP, ACNP, CHFN, CCRN and FHFA.

She is the daughter of Vernon "Lefty" Towery of Marion and the late Clara Jane Towery and is married to Grant Davidson, also a Crittenden alumnus. They have a son, Daniel, 32, and two grandchildren.

In high school, Davidson had dual interests – journalism and science.

"At 18 do most people really know what they want to do? I'm not sure I did, but I took a chance and threw my hat into nursing school," Davidson said.

One degree led to another, one job to another, and now she is among leaders in her field as a specialist in heart failure disease.

"When I think back to what I learned in my undergraduate and master's programs, I remember that when we were doing cardiology, anatomy and physiology. It was what came easiest. I could visualize it and explain it," she said. "Sometimes I think we are drawn to things we think we have a natural aptitude toward, and to me that was cardiology. I can't imagine anything

else."

Since 2013, Davidson has served as director of the Heart Failure Disease Management Program at TriStar Centennial Medical Center in Nashville. She is a member of numerous professional organizations and is co-founder of the Middle Tennessee Heart Failure Journal Club. She presides as president over the American Association of Heart Failure Nurses.

In her position as director of the Heart Failure Management Program at TriStar Centennial, Davidson directs daily operations of all cardiovascular specialty clinics, including heart failure, hypertension and structural heart disease.

Co-founding the Middle Tennessee Heart Failure Journal Club is something she counts as a highlight of her career. Also special to her is the work she's done with the American Association of Heart Failure Nurses. Nearly 20 years ago, she and others in the heart disease field began meeting to collaborate on multiple fronts.

The journal club is another opportunity to network with colleagues who are facing similar challenges and finding innovative measures to help patients.

"We are taking care of the same population, facing some of the same challenges. We get together at least four times a year, talk about the latest heart failure article or new research, guideline or devices and learn and share," she said. "There

is no competition in the heart failure community. We are all working to elevate the care of the population throughout the region, and I'm very proud (of the club.)"

Throughout her career, Davidson has authored numerous professional and educational articles on heart failure and care to help improve outcomes of patients.

As a leader in her field, Davidson was invited twice to appear on Dr. Oz's health-centric TV series. Her latest appearance was broadcast in February 2020. She has also made numerous professional presentations to the American Association of Heart Failure Nurses, the Heart Failure Society of America and American College of Cardiology to name a few.

Davidson said geographic boundaries, high school curriculum or disadvantages of small-town living should not be a hindrance toward post-secondary education.

Her advice to Crittenden County graduates is this:

"You have to be proud of where you come from to know where you are going, have confidence in yourself and take a leap of faith," Davidson said. "For me it was continuously learning, never being satisfied with the status quo, but being best I can be."

She urges students and young professionals to challenge themselves regularly, take calculated risks and to avoid fears of leaving your comfort zone.



Before the train depot and loading yard were built, the flourspar from the local mines would be put in piles near the railroad tracks and the Illinois Central would leave two box cars on a side rail to be loaded. The box cars would be picked up when filled with the wonderful mineral and moved on to its future destination.



Terri Humphrey-Nesbitt shared this photo of the old Mexico Depot. Her family lived in Mexico and her parents, Roy and Geneva Humphrey, also ran a grocery store near this depot station when Mexico was a thriving little community.

Flourspar cause rise, fall of Mexico

As we drive through the little communities scattered all around Crittenden County all we see now are a small group of homes and maybe a sign stating the name of the community and the hometown church or churches. Years ago most of these communities were self-supporting, with their own school, churches, grocery stores, post office, and a few even had railroad tracks and a depot.

Let's take a visit to the once busy town of Mexico and see how it got its name, plus what was happening in July 1904.

How Mexico Got Its Name

This history of how Mexico got its name was researched and shared by the late Edna Shewcraft Macon of Owensboro. Where in the world did Mexico get such a name? For years, this often asked question remained hidden in the alert mind of a retired Crittenden County school teacher, the records of her Civil War ancestor and the records of the U.S. Post Office Department.

A latent interest in the question was renewed upon reading an article in "The History and Families of Crittenden County, Kentucky, 1991." The article was apparently written by Gustava Brasher Cruce, maternal granddaughter of John Alexander Myers (1840-1916). It stated in part: "After the Civil War ended, John A. Myers returned to Crittenden County and was married to Sarah G. Pollard. John became a postmaster and was asked by the government to give the post office a name. He named it "Mexico." She did not say why or when he named it Mexico.

According to U.S. Post Office Department records, John A. Myers first became a postmaster at Harold on Dec. 20, 1887. He remained until April 11, 1893, when Charles L. Ballard became postmaster. The Post Office

Department discontinued the Harold Post Office July 11, 1895 and the mail was forwarded to Kelsey (Fredonia).

On Jan. 13, 1896, the post office at Harold was re-established under the name Mexico. John Myers was the Postmaster. It continued until Sept. 20, 1957, after the flourspar complex completed withdrawal from the area. Mrs. Beulah Highfil was the postmistress when Mexico Post Office closed.

Telephone interviews with Gustava Brasher Cruce in January 1998, brought new light to the naming of Mexico. She related that her grandfather had first recommended the name Annora to the U.S. Post Office Department. Mrs. Cruce remembered being told that the Annora name was refused because there was already a place called Annora. So then he named it Mexico. She stated that some time in his younger life, she didn't know when, her grandfather had been to the Gulf of Mexico. That massive expanse of water must have been an awesome sight to a land-bound young man from Kentucky. He was so impressed that he returned home with a big pinkish conch. Thus, the name Mexico.

The mystery of how John Alexander Myers saw the Gulf of Mexico may be found in his application for a Confederate Civil War Pension dated July 31, 1912. Here he states that he was a soldier in Company I, 8th Infantry Regiment, First Missouri Brigade. This brigade was a part of the Trans-Mississippi Army. Myers surrendered at New Orleans May 26, 1865 and was paroled in Alexandria, La. on June 7, 1865. From Alexandria he was taken to St. Louis and held until June 20, 1865, when he took the oath and was released. Additionally, he stated

that he was born in Allen County, Ky., and lived six years, from 1859-1865, outside the state of Kentucky. It seems likely that either his Civil War Service or the three years prior to his Civil War entry was when he ventured onto the sands of the Gulf of Mexico. Civil War Service being the more likely.

Mexico in 1904. From the files of The Crittenden Press - July 22, 1904

The little village of Mexico is situated on the I.C. Railroad midway between Crayneville and Fredonia, and is surrounded by some of the richest mines in the country.

A vast lot of spar comes here for shipment from the mines known as the Tabb, Tabor, Wheatcroft, Asbridge, Pogue and Yandell.

Since Nov. 22, 1902, the Kentucky Company has shipped from its yard at this place over 8.5 million pounds of spar to say nothing of the other companies who ship their spar from here.

The wagons of William K. Bibb and Edward H. Mott may be seen either on the road or the yard, sometimes in company with several others hauling or loading the products of the Kentucky Company from about 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.

William I. Taber is frequently called from his farm to do the same business for the Marion Mineral

Company and the Wheatcroft Company.

Besides this wonderful buzz and whirl from two to 20 spar wagons may be heard the clinkety clink of our two blacksmiths, Robinson and Parmley, also the hurry scurry of Ben Capps and Will Polk who represent a part of the farming interest of Mexico.

The town has two general stores, well stocked and thriving. John A. Myers and John T. Nelson may be seen showing goods to customers or exchanging general merchandise for cash or produce.

We understand there are two box cars put off here which are to serve for the much needed depot at this place for which we are grateful.

In 1904 it was recorded that thousands of tons of flourspar were in the freight yards ready for shipment by train to plants up North. The report continued that Mexico is the natural shipping point for a large scope of our mining territory, embracing the Hodge, Riley, Pogue, Yandell, Asbridge, Tabb, Wheatcroft and other mines and the town will certainly grow with the prospective expansion of the mining business and has a bright prospect ahead.

We have a very fine public well here with some medical properties.

Our soil is best adapted to the raising of hay, to-

bacco, sweet potatoes and sorghum, and all we lack for a success with these articles is a little feed for our fields and some legal ability to get Esq. Myers and George Moneymaker to muzzle their moles.

The inhabitants of Mexico are of a whitish complexion, varying in size from 100 to 300 pounds. In nature, our inhabitants are a peaceable bunch.

Later history of Mexico

In 1924 the Mexico-Frances mines were the largest producing flourspar mines in the nation. This mining district provided hundreds of jobs for the men in the surrounding towns and communities. The underground mining of flourspar was a dangerous and health threatening job, but it was a risk they took to providing a good living for their families. These flourspar-producing mines also provided income for other businesses in the area.

Flourspar was in demand as a flux for iron and steel, alumina and the enameling industries. It was used to make hydrofluoric acid and played a part in other smaller industries. At the time it was thought it would continue to be one

of Kentucky's best industries. Lafayette Mine at Mexico was the largest employer in Crittenden County, and it was likely employed more people than any other flourspar mine in western Kentucky at the time between 1919 and 1951.

In 1952 the U.S. Steel Corp., discovered it could purchase flourspar at a lower rate in foreign countries. One by one, starting with Lafayette Mine, Crittenden County's flourspar mines closed. The closings devastated people county-wide. This was the end to Mexico's growth as a town, and families from Mexico and many other of our small local communities, had to move to other states to find work to provide a living for their families.

Today Mexico is a small community with several families still living there. Some of these families have roots from these early hard working men and women.

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



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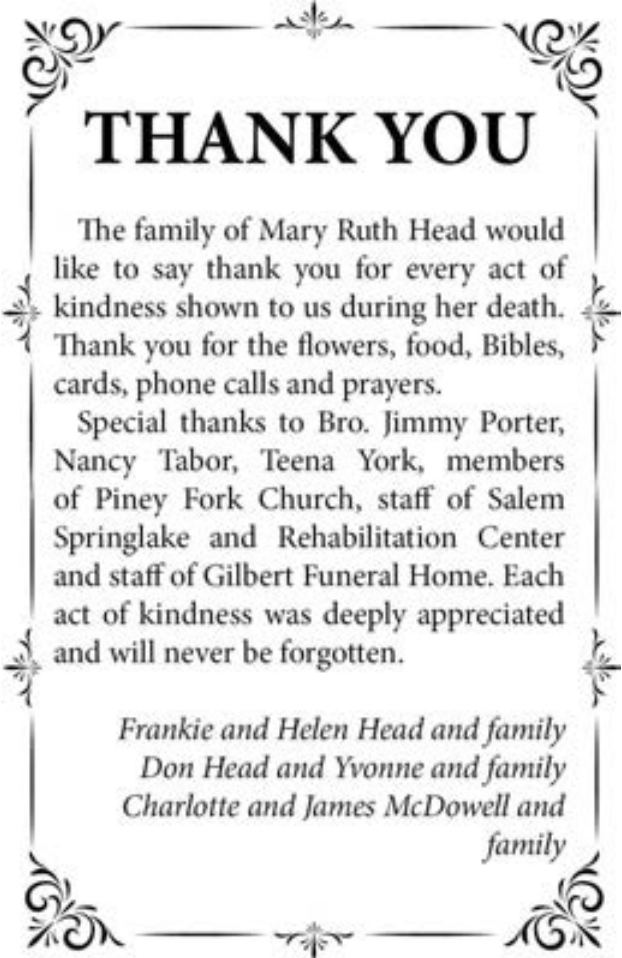
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THANK YOU

The family of Mary Ruth Head would like to say thank you for every act of kindness shown to us during her death. Thank you for the flowers, food, Bibles, cards, phone calls and prayers.

Special thanks to Bro. Jimmy Porter, Nancy Tabor, Teena York, members of Piney Fork Church, staff of Salem Springlake and Rehabilitation Center and staff of Gilbert Funeral Home. Each act of kindness was deeply appreciated and will never be forgotten.

Frankie and Helen Head and family
Don Head and Yvonne and family
Charlotte and James McDowell and family



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Highway 506, Marion, Ky.

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Contact Joe for more information (270) 836-3851



How do I look?

What kind of world would it be if we allowed 12-year-old children to drive without training, or operate power tools without practice? What if, because we wanted to keep them occupied, we gave them unsupervised and untrained access to predators, pornography, unscrupulous snake oil salespeople, manipulative and devious people of all ages and nationalities. What if we did this in a world where the desire of nearly half of all children is to be “famous” or “an influencer,” neither of which, on their own, contribute anything productive to society? What if we did this in a world where most journalists get into the profession to seek truth and report it, but rather want to “make a difference.” Would we not expect that world to destroy our children from the inside out? Oh, wait...never mind.



Sean NIESTRATH Faith-based columnist

Guest Columnist

Jean Twenge (author of The Narcissism Epidemic, 2009) said, “If you believe that R.J. Reynolds should have been more truthful about the link between smoking and lung cancer, then you should probably believe that Facebook should be more upfront about links to depression among teen girls.” For the full WSJ article see: Facebook Knows Instagram Is Toxic for Teen Girls, Company Documents Show - WSJ.

It is no accident that nearly all of silicone valley managers and executives ban their children from social media – they know its harm in the hands of young people who have little or no guidance.

Social media has been one of the great blessings of our age. It must, however, be recognized for the powerful and potentially dangerous tool that it is. The time for saying, “I’m old and don’t understand,” or “kids will be kids,” or “when will someone do something,” is well past. Never is a good time to say those things.

Social media will not, government cannot, and teachers are not given enough authority to do much about any of this. It comes down to parents and grandparents training, managing and protecting children from such dangers.

There is so much beauty in this world. To focus on one’s filtered face or photoshopped body is not healthy. And someone needs to tell these young people that pictures with toilets in the background is not a good look anyway. Seeking affirmation from nothing but image is a recipe for pain.

St. Theresa of Avila spoke of beauty beyond the eyes in The Interior Castle, “Nothing can be compared to the great beauty and capabilities of a soul; however keen our intellects may be, they are as unable to

comprehend them as to comprehend God, for, as He has told us, He created us in His own image and likeness.”

Later she says something that all of our children, especially our daughters need to hear. “It is no small misfortune and disgrace that, through our own fault, we neither understand our nature nor our origin. Would it not be gross ignorance, my daughters, if, when a man was questioned about his name, or country, or parents, he could not answer? Stupid as this would be, it is unspeakably more foolish to care to learn nothing of our nature except that we possess bodies, and only to realize vaguely that we have souls, because people say so and it is a doctrine of faith. Rarely do we reflect upon what gifts our souls may possess, who dwells within them, or how extremely precious they are. Therefore we do little to preserve their beauty; all our care is concentrated on our bodies, which are but the coarse setting of the diamond, or the outer walls of the castle.”

Such will guard our children if we have the courage to teach them.

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.

Local Events & News

■ The Paris Reunion 2021 has been cancelled due to the current COVID-19 pandemic and other variants in Crittenden County.

■ Piney Fork Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Hwy. 506, will be having a car show, fish fry and yard sale from 9 a.m.-2 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 2. Entry fee is \$20 with t-shirts and 1, 2 and 3 place trophies. Proceeds go to St. Jude’s Childrens Hospital.

■ The Clothes Closet of the First Baptist Church in Fredonia is open to serve

the area with free clothes. For the time being, the Clothes Closet is operated outdoors from 1-3 p.m. each Thursday. Please observe social distancing. The Clothes Closet will be closed in case of rain.

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

■ First Baptist Church of Fredonia food pantry is open from 1 to 3 p.m. the third Thursday of each month in Coleman Hall of

the church.

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

- Cave Springs Baptist Church between Lola and Joy in Livingston County offers food 24 hours a day, 7 days week at its outdoor Blessing Box in front of the church.

Do you have something planned? Email details to thepress@the-press.com or call (270) 965-3191

In difficulties, endure and stand strong in Christ

Question: Because I am a Christian, people at work slander me. Their degrading language is hard to take. I want to quit, but I need the job. What should I do?

Answer: We live in a fallen, broken world and one can’t expect unbelievers to have a heart for the things of God. As long as we are on earth, we will face trials and persecution.

The easy thing would be to bail out, but another job as good as the one you have may be hard to come by. While we may want a message of deliverance, the message from Christ is to endure. Have you considered maybe God has you in that particular job to be a special witness for Him?

On earth, Jesus received opposition and persecution, and His followers can expect persecution, too. That puts us in good company.

Christ wants us to endure in times of persecution and be strong in Him. Only through a daily relationship

ASK the PASTOR

By Bob Hardison

to Christ can we stand strong and steadfast.

If we endure persecution, the risen Christ promised, “Be faithful, even to the point

of death, and I will give you the crown of life” (Rev. 2:10). Hopefully we will never experience a life-threatening situation because of our faith. But it’s great to know that we can stand strong because Christ lives in us through the indwelling Holy Spirit.

Send your questions to: bob@bobhardison.com

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St. William Catholic Church

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

Mexico Baptist Church

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

DEER CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

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

Emmanuel Baptist Church

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

Tolu United Methodist Church

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

Barnett Chapel General Baptist

Sunday School: 9:45 a.m. Barnett Chapel Rd., Marion, Ky. Sunday Worship: 11 a.m. Wednesday Night Bible Study: 6 p.m. Barnett Chapel...where everyone is welcome.

Freedom General Baptist Church

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

Marion Baptist Church

College & Depot streets, Marion • (270) 965-5232 Pastor: Bro. Aaron Brown • Children’s & Youth Pastor: Bro. Shawn Holman SUNDAY CHURCH TIMES: 8:30 a.m. Coffee Juice Fellowship • 8:45 a.m. Sunday School • 10 a.m. Morning Worship 6 p.m. Youth Bible Study • 6 p.m. Evening Worship WEDNESDAY CHURCH TIMES: 6 p.m. Prayer/Devotional Service • 6:45 p.m. Adult Choir Practice

SEVEN SPRINGS MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

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

Crayne Community Church

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

FIRST CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

growing in grace

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

Marion Church of God

334 Fords Ferry Road, Marion, Ky. Sun. School 10 a.m. • Morning Service 11 a.m. Sun. Evening 6 p.m. • Wed. Evening 6 p.m. “Where salvation makes you a member.” Lucy Tedrick, pastor

PINEY FORK CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Speaker: Greg Rushing 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 Sun. School: 10 a.m. | Sun. Worship: 11 a.m. & 6 p.m. Wed. Bible Study: 7 p.m.

Marion United Methodist Church

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

Frances Community Church

Bro. Butch Gray Wed. night prayer meeting & youth service: 6:30 p.m. Sunday school: 10 a.m. Worship service: 11 a.m.

Hurricane Church

Hurricane Church Rd. off Ky. 135 West Pastor: Bro. Danny Hince 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 U.S. 641 • Crayne, Ky. Barry Hix, pastor • (270) 365-5836 or (270) 625-1248 Sunday School 10 a.m. • Sunday Worship 11 a.m. Sunday Evening 6 p.m. • Wednesday Night Service 6 p.m.

Marion Church of Christ

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

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yard sales

Big yard sale at Rozann's Place in Salem, 8 a.m.-4 p.m., Oct. 7, Oct. 8 and Oct. 9. (2t-40-c)

Three-family yard sale, Sept. 30, Oct. 1 and Oct. 2., 8 a.m.-4 p.m., 139 N. College St., Marion. Lots of items. New items each day. Make offer on items not marked. (1t-39-p)

wanted

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legal notice

A request for a Zoning Map Amendment for the property located at 111 Rochester Avenue, Marion, KY has been filed with the Marion Planning Commission. A request to establish zoning for the property/properties as Residential 3 with MHO overlay will be considered. A public hearing will be held at 5:30 p.m., Oct. 14, 2021 before the Marion Planning Commission at the Council Chambers in City Hall, 217 South Main St., Marion, KY. For further information, contact the City of Marion at (270) 965-2266. (2t-40-c)

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Senator explains GOP’s approach to pandemic response

The Kentucky General Assembly utilized its authority to shape the state’s response to the pandemic during a three-day special session ending just before midnight on Thursday, Sept. 9. Upon the governor’s call for a session, we passed bills in both the House and Senate dealing with many aspects of the COVID-19 pandemic. While no action taken during the pandemic will enjoy universal support, Republican supermajorities took a balanced approach by focusing on public health, individual liberties, and localized control.

Recently, the Kentucky Supreme Court ruled that a lower court incorrectly blocked laws passed during the 2021 Regular Session reining in the executive authority regarding emergency powers. With that, the legislature used this special session to extend some emergency executive actions and eliminate others. New COVID-19 mitigation strategies were also considered to provide relief to institutions strained by the pandemic, including schools, hospitals, businesses, and nursing homes.

Senate Joint Resolution 1 extended specific executive orders, regulations, and other actions. Of particular note is that we did not implement or

permit the governor to issue a statewide mask mandate. For the purposes of federal funding and other regulations that we viewed as essential, we allowed the state of emergency to remain in effect until January 15, 2022.

Senate Bill 1 (SB 1) reaffirmed that there would be no statewide mask mandate in schools but instead leaves that decision to the local school boards. The goal of SB 1 is to prioritize in-person learning by stabilizing school funding, assisting with staff shortages and creating conditions for state and local health departments to support local school districts with COVID-19 mitigation plans.

Under this legislation, the Kentucky Department for Public Health (DPH) would develop a “test-to-stay” model for school districts to minimize quarantining for non-symptomatic students and staff, encouraging students to be in the classroom as much as possible. Additional language in SB 1 provides that the DPH shall assist local school districts in implementing their board-approved



Robby MILLS
KY STATE SENATE
Guest Commentary

COVID-19 plans, whether they concern a test-to-stay method, masking guidelines, contact tracing, or quarantining. The intent is to allow room for a targeted learning experience in the event of virus exposure, as teachers would still be required to teach from their regular classrooms.

In light of critical staffing shortages, SB 1 will make it easier for retired teachers to return to the classroom, in some cases as soon as 30 days after retiring. It also provides temporary revisions for the hiring of substitute teachers, background checks and school schedules.

Senate Bill 2 concerns one of the most heart-breaking parts of the pandemic and establishes safety protocols for loved ones to visit family members in long-term care facilities. This bill defines criteria for a family or friend to be designated as an essential, compassionate caregiver. SB 2 also acknowledges the governor’s statewide mask mandate deficiency but encourages vaccinations, COVID-19 testing and greater access to monoclonal antibody treatments, such as Regeneron.

A provision to SB 2 provides assistance for health care providers, jails, prisons, homeless shelters and local health

departments in acquiring COVID-19 tests. Another will allow paramedics to work in hospitals to relieve a nursing shortage.

Senate Bill 3 will redirect more than \$69 million of State Fiscal Recovery funds to the Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services. The money was left over from the repayment of a federal loan to Kentucky’s Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund that was taken out to cover a surge of pandemic-related unemployment claims.

The money will help health care providers, schools and others implement provisions of SB 1 and SB 2. These include purchasing COVID-19 tests, establishing regional monoclonal antibody treatment centers and test-to-stay programs in schools.

Senate Bill 5 is an economic development incentive bill requested by the governor and the Kentucky Cabinet for Economic Development to only apply to projects over \$2 billion. It will utilize existing programs. However, these incentives will be paid out over time to ensure any project meets the required job and wage targets. Some incentives will be in the form of forgivable loans.

Kentucky is in the running for at least one

mega project eyeing Hardin County. Language within SB 5 can be compared to state economic development incentives the General Assembly passed in the late 1980s, which brought Toyota’s first American assembly plant to Georgetown. It is now the world’s largest Toyota manufacturing facility where the Lexus ES350, Avalon, Camry and some hybrid counterparts are assembled.

Bills signed into law by the governor included SB 3 and SB 5. Line-item vetoes placed on SB 1 and SB 2 were swiftly overridden. These bills contained an emergency clause, meaning they become law immediately upon signature of either the governor or the Secretary of State.

As a legislative body, it is our job to stabilize the system and this new legislation is an attempt to

do so during these unprecedented times. The General Assembly still faces serious budget and policy decisions in the upcoming 2022 Regular Session. Still, we will remain dedicated to finding the best legislative course of action for citizens across the Commonwealth as we continue to navigate the pandemic.

Thank you for your questions and concerns. I hope you will remain engaged with legislative happenings for the remainder of the interim by visiting www.legislature.ky.gov or www.KET.org/legislature. It is an honor to serve you in Frankfort.

Sen. Robby Mills (R-Henderson) represents Kentucky’s 4th Senate District which includes, Caldwell, Crittenden, Henderson, Livingston, Union and Webster Counties.

THROW
BACK

THURSDAY

OUR MEMORIES GO BACK TO 1879

50 YEARS AGO

September 30, 1971

■ Ten students from the drama class at Crittenden County High School went to Louisville to see “The Glass Menagerie.” Attending the play were Don Brown, Kim Brown, Rene Hughes, Scottie Leet, Joe Porter, Janice Singleton, Cathy Starrick, Sherry Tinsley, Shanan Travis and Gaye Wardlaw.

■ More than 100 members of the Kentucky Home-maker clubs were in Dallas, Texas for the annual meeting of the National Extension Homemakers Council. Attending from Crittenden County were Mrs. Vernon Fritts and Mrs. Wilbur Fritts.

25 YEARS AGO

October 3, 1996

■ Members of the Crittenden County Homecoming Court were Kindra Carnahan, freshman; Terri Travis, sophomore; Jenny Boone, junior; and seniors Jennifer Winn, Julie Tinsley and April Wood.

■ Air Force Airman 1st Class Jennifer L. James graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas.

■ Sophomore Jamie Travis took first place in a cross country meet at Caldwell County with a time of 18:50.

■ Crittenden County native and former Rocket football player, Frank Head, was inducted into the Murray State Athletics Hall of Fame during Racer football homecoming festivities.

■ Kenny Perry was the top black powder shooter in the state 4-H finals.

10 YEARS AGO

September 29, 2011

■ The Crittenden County’s Rocket Regiment competed in the Pride of Graves County marching band invitational. They placed first in the Class A division. They also received trophies for best percussion and best color guard. Members of the Rocket Regiment were Lindsay Sizemore, Peyton Guess, Terra Williams, Ashley Harris, Leah Scott,

Ellen Merrick, Sarah Hodge, Hannah Roberts, Kaci Beard, Amelia Gilley, Jake Tabor, Emily Shewcraft, Monica Hodge, Sara Watson, Mason Haire, Josh Tabor, Chirs Swilley, Cody Pinson, Hayden McConnell, Marcus Hughes, Michael Adams, Cody Hayes, Sean Watson and Dylan Doyle. Band director is Jonathan Nash.

■ Crittenden County High School senior Emily Shewcraft was named a commended student for the 2012 National Merit Scholarship program.

■ The Class of 1956 held its 55th class reunion at the Majestic Steak House in Princeton. Those in attendance were Martha Cook Kirk, JoAn Hurst McDonauld, Nancy Hopkins Rushing, Gus Browning Hunt, Jo Ann Moore Traylor, Naomi Hodge Jennings, Joyce Winters Claghorn, Linda Kirk labor, Brendyth Easley Boone, Anna Lee Hughes Johnson, Roberta Drury Shewmaker, Patsy Crawford Hearrell, C.W. Stevens, Wendell Ordway, Donald Martin, Sarah Alexander Ford, Connie Majors Polston, Junior Williams, G.H. McMican, Norvel Greenlee, Thomas Wring, Sam Hodge, Paul Belt, Bobby Fox, Paull Crowell and E.J. Dewitt.

■ Crittenden County’s Junior golf program held its season-ending tournament at Marion Country Club. Participants were Carsen Easley, Braxton Winders, Benjamin Evans, Elliot Evans, Maggie Blazina, Jack Reddick, Evan Belt, Jonah Reddick, Emma Williams, Trace Derrington, Aaron Locke, Payton Purvis, Dayton Simpkins, Lauren Gilchrist, Logan Belt, Chris Haire, Kerstie Gregory, Meredith Evans, Francesca Pierce, Will Tolley, Brennan Jones, Tyler Withrow, Braden Locke, Reid Baker, Devin Belt, Colby Watson, Cameron McDaniel, Hunter Stone, Ethan Stone, James Crider, Kaiden Hollis and Callie Brown.

■ Winners of the Jake Hodge Memorial Scholarship Fund 4-Person Golf tournament at Salem’s Deer Lakes Golf Course were Jeremy Shoulders, Stefanie Hardin, Jason Guess and Travis Hunter.

■ Madsyn Switzer and Carter Elliot were crowned as Little Miss and Mister Pumpkin festival.

State of Emergency cannot last forever

The Kentucky Constitution allows the Governor – and only the Governor – to call the General Assembly into Extraordinary (Special) Session and the governor did so. The Constitution also requires the General Assembly to only consider what the Governor stipulates in the call.

In the governor’s call we were asked to consider legislation to address several topics. These included extending the (COVID-19) state of emergency until Jan. 15, 2022; setting forth the criteria regarding the Governor’s authority to require facial coverings in indoor settings in certain circumstances; providing additional flexibility for school districts; and making an appropriation from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) to support COVID-19 mitigation and prevention activities such as testing and vaccine distribution.

We were also asked to extend by an additional 30 days a state of emergency declared by the Governor in response to the flash flooding in Nicholas County and the City of Carlisle on Aug. 3. Lastly we were asked to consider additional flexibility for the manner in which incentives can be provided to economic development projects with more than \$2 billion in investment.

A Joint Resolution is generally used for continuing or emergency appropriations, goes through the same legislative process as a bill and has the same effect as a bill when it becomes law. During the Special Session, one joint resolution and four bills were considered. All five pieces of legislation passed and have become law. The five pieces of legislation were House Joint Resolution (HJR) 1 and Senate Bills (SB) 1, 2, 3 and 5.

HJR 1 extended a number of the Governor’s Executive Orders through Jan. 15. Among these were price gouging protections, liability pro-

tection for businesses, extending licensing requirement deadlines and having health insurers waive the costs for COVID-19 screening, testing and immunizations. It also extended for an additional 30 days the state of emergency order for Nicholas County in its recovery from flash flooding.

HJR 1 did not extend mask mandates nor give the governor authority to close businesses, schools or churches nor give the Governor the authority to enact vaccine mandates.

The governor declared a State of Emergency on March 6, 2020 and it has remained in place since then. Eighteen months is far too long.

Coronaviruses are a large family of viruses that have been around for a long time. Many can cause a variety of illnesses from a mild cough to severe respiratory illnesses. COVID-19 is simply one of several coronaviruses that are known to infect humans.

All indications are that COVID-19 and its variants will be with us for a very long time if not forever. It is time to cut the COVID cord. We can’t be in a state of emergency forever. We must learn to live with COVID-19 as we do with the flu and other viruses including other coronaviruses. Some of the items included in HJR 1 are fine and could be considered in separate pieces of legislation. However I do not believe that putting off confronting the governor’s emergency orders another four months is in the best interests of the Commonwealth. Therefore I voted no on HJR 1.

SB 1 removed the mask mandate for children in Kindergarten through Grade 12 as well as children two and older in licensed childcare facilities. SB 1 also prohibited all regulatory agencies from promulgating any administrative regulation that is identical to, or substantially the same as, the mask mandate. The decision of whether or not to require masks for children is now left to local school boards and the owners of licensed childcare facilities.

My preference was that the decision be left to

parents, but the majority did not feel the same. All other language in the bill such as the number of required instructional hours in schools and the calculation of per pupil education funding remain the same as in legislation passed earlier this year during the General Assembly’s regular session. If SB 1 did not pass, the mask mandates for children would remain in place. Therefore I voted yes on SB 1.

The Kentucky Constitution states that “The Governor shall have the power to disapprove any part or parts of appropriation bills embracing distinct items.” The constitution does not authorize this type of veto for any other types of legislation. SB 1 was not an appropriation bill. Nevertheless, the Governor vetoed part of the bill. The governor seems to have violated our constitution since he exercised a line-item veto in a non-appropriation bill. In an abundance of caution, however, the legislature overrode his veto. I voted to override the veto.

SB 2 modified the definition of COVID-19 pandemic to mean the national emergency declaration concerning COVID-19 as declared by the President of the United States and the United States Department of Health and Human Services rather than the Governor’s March 6, 2020 executive order.

SB 2 requires local health departments to recognize religious objections, conscientiously held objections, or medical opinions of an individual’s health care provider against vaccinations in an area of an epidemic. The Cabinet for Health and Family Services already was required to recognize those objections and medical exemptions. Now local health departments must do the same.

SB 2 also prevents future statewide mask mandates. I vote yes on SB 2, but the governor again line-item vetoed part of the bill even though it was not an appropriation bill. As before, in an abundance of caution, the legislature overrode his veto. I voted to override the veto.

SB 3 directed certain



Lynn BECHLER
KY STATE HOUSE
Guest Commentary

Crittenden Press

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Sherlock Bones gives BioMed students real world forensics experience



School resource officer John Shoffner talks to students last week at the mock crime scene.

SPECIAL TO THE PRESS

A wooded area recently became a classroom and Crittenden County School District’s school resource officer John Shoffner joined science teacher Casey Evans to give students a lesson to remember.

It’s an engaging learning experience with Project Lead The Way’s “Sherlock Bones,” part of the curriculum’s Human

Body Systems course.

In the mock-crime-scene activity, students were called to a site where skeletal remains of two individuals were found. They were tasked with recovery of the remains and examination and documentation of the scene. Using knowledge learned in the course and armed with lab equipment, they determined the sex, age,

height and race of the remains and used that information to identify any matches to missing persons from the area.

Evans said the course challenges students with real world problems and allows them to solve mysteries in an engaging and hands-on style while learning about potential career interests.

“I hope to instill critical thinking skills, lab skills,

knowledge, communication, and employability skills to be competitive and successful in our 21st century world,” she said.

Donations of new or gently used scrubs are needed for the BioMed students. If anyone would like to donate, contact the teacher via email casey.evans@crittenden.kyschools.us.

Test2Stay approved for students, staff

STAFF REPORT

Students and staff have a free pass to prevent an automatic 10-day quarantine thanks to a new Test2Stay option approved Tuesday, Sept. 28 by the Crittenden County Board of Education.

Test2Stay will be offered to students and staff who are determined to be close contacts of a COVID positive, allowing them to test each day for six days and remain in school, as long as they continue to test negative.

Timeline to begin the testing option will be worked out in the coming days.

Tests will be administered at no cost to students, staff or the school district. Testing will be provided by Pearl Diagnostic Laboratory in Louisville, which will provide contract employees for on-site testing.

Tests likely would be offered each morning prior to class.

Test2Stay programs, which utilize nasal swabs, require parental permission. Pearl Diagnostic Laboratory administers the COVID-19 testing at Christian County and Mayfield Independent school districts among others.

If students or staff test

negative, they may continue to attend in-person school, compared to the previous plan which called for an automatic 10-day quarantine with a close contact. Positive tests are followed up with a polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test. Those samples would be sent overnight to the Louisville laboratory, with results expected within 24-48 hours.

Chip Connor, speaking on behalf of Pearl Diagnostic, told the board of education that the PCR test is not a second nasal swab. Instead, it is administered through a saliva sample or swab of

the back of the tongue. PCR tests do not have to be administered by the Louisville lab. They can be done by a medical provider of choice.

This policy will be in place for students in all grades and should go into effect in October.

Crittenden County Animal Clinic



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Crittenden County Rescue Squad Annual Fundraiser for 2021

CRITTENDEN COUNTY RESCUE SQUAD would like to say “THANK YOU” for your continued support. We are an all volunteer group that relies totally on our community’s donations and support. Without your continued generous and faithful support, we would not be able to provide our services to the people of Crittenden County.

100% of all donations received goes to better outfit our squad with lifesaving equipment and training. We are very proud to serve our community and there’s never any charge for any of our services!

Please note that the yearly “Fire dues” you pay go strictly to the fire departments. The Rescue Squad does not receive any of that money.

Again, this year, due to the COVID outbreaks, we have decided that we are not going to be able to have the picture shoot portion of our Fundraiser. We are asking you for a donation of \$25 (or more if you want). In the past years we have received some very generous donations and greatly appreciate it!

We thank you for your generous and continued support!

Please make your checks payable to: Crittenden County Rescue Squad and mail to P.O. Box 346, Marion, Ky. 42064

School days lengthened; mask policy defined by school board

STAFF REPORT

A school masking policy was adopted by the Crittenden County Board of Education Tuesday, Sept. 28.

If Crittenden County’s incidence rate is in the red on the state’s color-coded COVID map, mandatory masking will be required.

If Crittenden County is in the orange, staff and students will mask while moving inside buildings but masking will be optional if seated at least three feet apart.

Yellow or green on the state map means masks will be optional, but encouraged.

Beginning Oct. 15, school officials will communicate on Friday the masking expectations for the following week.

“I think this is a careful, measured metric most people are familiar with and can understand,” said Superintendent Vince Clark. “This reflects us listening to responses to our survey, honors peoples’ input and our obligation

to protect each other. It’s being a good neighbor.”

Parents Tracye Newcom and Laurie Impastato spoke against continuing a mask mandate. Newcom said the board’s mandate is an overreach of the board’s oath. She said masking should be a parental decision since the FDA considers masks medical devices. Citing Bible verses, Impastato, a surgical nurse, asked the board not to give into the fear of COVID.

The board also approved lengthening school days by 10 minutes effective Oct. 12. Classes will start 5 minutes earlier and dismissing 5 minutes later each day. Doing this will bank four school days that could be used in the event classes are dismissed for inclement weather or sickness.

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CRITTENDEN COUNTY, KY - 100 ACRES - Diverse hunting tract with home and shop! This is a blend of habitat types with a new home, large shop and a proven history of big bucks! **SOLD**

CRITTENDEN COUNTY, KY - 947 ACRES - \$1,450,000 - This unique large acreage hunting farm is ideal for all of Kentucky's favored game species. The tract features a diverse blend of habitat types. **SOLD**

CALDWELL COUNTY, KY - 115 ACRES - \$710,500 - Established hunting tract with tillable acreage, open areas for food plots. Home with scenic views and a large property with finished walkout basement. **SOLD**

LIVINGSTON COUNTY, KY - 71.51 ACRES - \$150,164 - Hunting tract with hunter-friendly topography, food plot locations, a good trail system, a pond, creek and security cover. **SOLD**

CRITTENDEN COUNTY, KY - 300.5 ACRES - \$560,000 - This farm is a solid hunting tract with everything needed to grow, hold and harvest big bucks! This tract includes a 7 +/- acre pond with fishing opportunities. **SOLD**

LIVINGSTON COUNTY, KY - 132.73 ACRES - \$238,914 - Great hunting tract with dynamic hunter friendly topography, mast producing timber, security cover, open areas for food plots and a good trail system. **SOLD**

CALDWELL COUNTY, KY - 128.55 ACRES - This tract has a diverse blend of habitat types and a history of big bucks. The farm features rolling topography, some tillable acres and an established hunting camp. **SOLD**

LIVINGSTON, KY - 99.954 ACRES - Hunting tract with a large creek, open ground for food plots, mast producing hardwoods and numerous tunnels and pinch points! \$199,909. **SOLD**

CRITTENDEN COUNTY, KY - 239.27 ACRES - \$376,900 - This farm has a diverse blend of habitat types that provides excellent deer, turkey and waterfowl hunting opportunities. This area is known for producing big bucks! **SOLD**

CALDWELL COUNTY, KY - 257.32 - \$599,900 - Prime hunting tract with an area known for big bucks. Diverse blend of habitat types and topography. Very large property that is ready to hunt. **SOLD**

LIVINGSTON COUNTY, KY - 118.16 ACRES - Topography is a mix of semi-flat creek bottoms and timbered ridges. An established food plot on the main ridge is a hot spot for big bucks. Excellent hunting! Reduced \$209,751. **SOLD**

CALDWELL COUNTY, KY - 158.83 ACRES - Established hunting tract with a proven history of big bucks. Includes a 2006 Fleetwood mobile home for lodging. Approximately 30 acres of tillable ground! **SOLD**

CRITTENDEN COUNTY, KY - 103 ACRES - Located in big buck territory, this scenic property includes a 3 bedroom home, garages, a barn ideal for equipment storage and a diverse blend of habitat types! **PENDING**

LIVINGSTON COUNTY, KY - 50.26 ACRES - \$123,137 - Mostly timber hunting tract with habitat diversity! This tract has several improvements geared toward big bucks and is ready for the 2021 season! **PENDING**

LIVINGSTON COUNTY, KY - 57.16 ACRES - \$140,042 - Mostly timber hunting tract with habitat diversity! This tract has a blend of habitat types and improvements that are geared toward big bucks! **PENDING**

LIVINGSTON COUNTY, KY - 62.13 ACRES - \$152,218.50 - Mostly timber hunting tract located in an area known for big bucks! This tract has habitat diversity with improvements geared toward big bucks! Includes established food plot. **PENDING**

LIVINGSTON COUNTY, KY - 76.26 - Mostly timber hunting tract located in an area known for big bucks. Includes a groomed landing area ideal for hunting. **PENDING**



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UPCOMING EVENTS

CCHS Schedule

THURSDAY, Sept. 30
Volleyball hosts Webster County
FRIDAY, Oct. 1
Varsity football hosts Bethlehem
SATURDAY, Oct. 2
Jr Pro football hosts Union County
MONDAY, Oct. 4
Soccer district tournament at Lyon
Volleyball at Livingston Central
TUESDAY, Oct. 5
Volleyball hosts Ft. Campbell

FOOTBALL

Friday night tickets

Tickets to Friday's high school football game between Crittenden County and Bethlehem are available on TicketLeap. The game will be broadcast live on NFHS Network if complications with the on-site camera are worked out at the stadium. If the NFHS Network is not operable, The Press broadcast crew will have the game on YouTube.

COLLEGE X-COUNTRY

Keller No. 2 in race

Kentucky Wesleyan Athletics has named Kate Keller of Crittenden County its Female Athlete of the Week. Keller, a freshman at the college, led the Panthers to a team victory in a Division 2 Showcase last week at Nashville. She finished second overall in the cross country 5K race with a time of 20:37.

OUTDOORS

Hunting Seasons

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

Bull Frog	May 21 - Oct. 31
Squirrel	Aug. 21 - Nov. 12
Dove	Sept. 1 - Oct. 26
Deer archery	Sept. 4 - Jan. 17
Turkey archery	Sept. 4 - Jan. 17
Canada goose	Sept. 16 - Sept. 30
Deer crossbow	Sept. 18 - Jan. 17
Turkey crossbow	Oct. 1 - Oct. 17
Raccoon hunt	Oct. 1 - Feb. 28
Deer youth	Oct. 9-10
Deer muzzleloader	Oct. 16-17
Turkey shotgun	Oct. 23 - Oct. 29
Deer gun	Nov. 13 - Nov. 28
Turkey crossbow	Nov. 13 - Dec. 31
Squirrel	Nov. 15 - Feb. 28
Raccoon trap	Nov. 15 - Feb. 28
Quail	Nov. 15 - Feb. 10
Rabbit	Nov. 15 - Feb. 10
Bobcat trap	Nov. 15 - Feb. 28
Fox hunt/trap	Nov. 15 - Feb. 28
Dove	Nov. 25 - Dec. 5
Duck	Nov. 25 - Nov. 28
Canada goose	Nov. 25 - Feb. 15
Bobcat hunt	Nov. 27 - Feb. 28
Turkey shotgun	Dec. 4 - Dec. 10
Duck	Dec. 7 - Jan. 31
Deer muzzleloader	Dec. 11-19
Dove	Dec. 18 - Jan. 9
Deer youth	Jan. 1-2

DEER HUNTING

Archers get 24 more

Archers have been averaging about 25 deer a week since the bow season opened early this month. As of Tuesday, Crittenden County archers have taken 99 whitetails, including 45 bucks. They harvested 24 deer over the past week. Youth rifle hunters will get a chance at whitetails in just over a week. The youth hunt is Oct. 9-10.

Wolves on tap at LBL

Friends of Land Between the Lakes is hosting some wolf action during fall break at Woodlands Nature Station. Starting Saturday and running through Oct. 8 from 10 to 5 daily, the Nature Station will host programs featuring wolves. Admission is \$5 for ages 5-17, \$7 for ages 18-over and free for ages 4 and under. See the LBL website for more details.

DISC GOLF

State tournament time

Madisonville is hosting the Kentucky State Disc Golf Championships Friday through Sunday at its two courses. This is the 13th year Madisonville has hosted the state finals for amateurs and professionals.

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Union County 50, Crittenden County 22

Finish has little luster for skipper

STAFF REPORT

If there was any sort of consolation in losing 50-22 with a running clock that started in the second period, it's that Rocket football coach Gaike Courtney coaxed a better second half out of his boys.

Crittenden put a finish on what was otherwise a lopsided game, rallying for a touchdown just before the break, then two more in the last half.

Coach Courtney wasn't necessarily impressed. What he saw – and counted as the defense legged 38 missed tackles – the skipper could find no silver threat in a matchup that he said was over by the time the Rockets rolled off the couch to get started.

"It's just disappointing," Courtney said Monday on his post-game podcast hosted by The Press. "I have to be honest about it. I believe we are better than we played, or definitely should be.

"It's hard for me to find any kind of moral victory," he continued. "That's not what we're looking for. We're not looking for moral victories in the second half after we have a running clock."

Union County, Class 3A's fifth-ranked team, established its dominance early with a powerful running game, then carved up the Rockets with precision passing. Fifth-year senior running back Corinthian Seals-Portee rushed for 127 yards to lead the Braves' ground game that piled up 275 yards. Junior quarterback Cannon Sheffer was perfect, completing all of seven of his passes for another 145 yards.

CCHS junior linebacker Briley Berry said Seals-Portee ran low and hard.

"We had trouble tackling him," Berry said. "It just came down to who was more physical."

The Braves doubled the Rockets first downs, moving the chains 20 times to sustain an offense that appeared invincible against Crittenden's multitude of missed tackles.

Union scored on every possession of the first half except its first when Berry stripped the ball out of Seals-Portee's



The CCHS defense gets a stop here, but those moments were few and far between in the first half. Union had 20 first downs, CCHS finished with 10.

hands and turned it around 20 yards. Crittenden misfired in the red zone and Union responded with four unanswered touchdowns thanks largely to four intercepted passes.

"That's a good football team. We didn't meet their physicality from the jump," said Courtney. "There's nothing I can honestly say. We just have to get better. We were not good enough in any aspect of the game tonight."

"The question is: 'What now?' Is this who we are or are we going to get better?" the coach said he asked his team following the game.

Crittenden did get better in the last half – at least offensively. However, the defense was still unable to slow the Braves.

Rocket senior QB Luke Crider completed just 6 of 16 passes in the first half, but rebounded late to lead CCHS downfield for three scoring strikes in the final 25 minutes.

The Rockets (2-3) will host a Top 10 Class A team this week when Bethlehem comes to Marion for a homecoming game. The 4-1 Eagles are ranked No. 6 in Class A. They were idle last week.

SCORE BY QUARTERS

Crittenden County	0	8	6	8
Union County	7	29	7	7

SCORING PLAYS

UC-Kris Hughes 18 pass from Cannon Sheffer (Collin Valley kick) 1:24, 1st
UC-Corinthian Seals-Portee 3 run (kick failed) 10:22, 2nd
UC-Rylan George 17 pass from Sheffer (Seals-Portee run) 7:57, 2nd
UC-Seals-Portee 24 run (Nalley kick) 7:07, 2nd
UC Jarren Johnson 13 run (Iverson King pass from Sheffer) 2:18, 2nd
CC-Trace Derrington 18 pass from Luke Crider (Derrington pass from Crider) :42, 2nd
CC-Preston Morgeson 6 pass from Crider (pass failed) 9:28, 3rd
UC-Kanye Pollard 5 run (Nalley kick) 4:09, 3rd
CC-Morgeson 5 pass from Crider (Gattin Travis run) 10:00, 4th
UC-Seals-Portee 4 run (Nalley kick) 5:13, 4th

TEAM TOTALS

First Downs: CCHS 10, UCHS 20
Penalties: CCHS 8-62.5, UCHS 9-95
Rushing: CCHS 19-48, UCHS 35-275
Passing: CCHS 14-30-4, 138, UCHS 7-7-0, 145
Total Yards: CCHS 186, UCHS 420
Fumbles/Lost: CCHS 0-0, UCHS 1-1

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing

CCHS: Morgeson 11-15, Travis 1-2, Crider 7-31. UCHS: Seals-Portee 19-127, Hughes 4-50, Johnson 9-62, Pollard 2-18, Sheffer 1-18.

Passing

CCHS: Crider 14-30-4, 138 yds. UCHS: Sheffer 7-7-0, 145 yds.

Receiving

CCHS: Derrington 2-46, Logan Bailey 1-15, Brysen Baker 2-10, Morgeson 5-37, Kaleb Nesbitt 2-11, Case Gobin 1-16, Travis 1-6.

Defense

Coleman Stone solo, assist, caused fumble; Tucker Sharp assist; Holden Cooksey 4 solos, assist; Ben Evans assist; Trace Derrington 2 solos, 2 assists; Dylan Yates 3 solos, 3 assists; Logan Bailey 10 solos, 4 assists; Zech McGahan 5 solos, 4 assists, TFL; Hayden Adamson assist; Sam Impastato assist; Case Gobin 2 solos, 6 assists; Kaleb Nesbitt 4 solos, assist; Briley Berry 2 solos, 3 assist, fumble recovery; Luke Mundy 4 solos, 1 assist.



Crittenden County Middle School defensive back Jacob Carder intercepted a Browning Springs pass and returned it deep into CCHS territory during the first half of last week's game at Rocket Stadium.



Jeremiah Foster

Foster one stroke short at regional match

STAFF REPORT

Crittenden County had a nice performance in the First Region Boys' Golf Tournament on Monday at Paducah Country Club, finishing fifth overall out of 16 teams represented from western Kentucky.

Rocket sophomore Jeremiah Foster was at the head of the pack, shooting an 11-over-par 83 and tied for eighth place, just one

stroke from a playoff to earn an at-large berth in the state match.

Teammates Parker Kayse and Avery Belt were close behind with an 84 and 85, respectively.

Rounding out CCHS's regional scores were Grayson Davidson at 95 and Jaxon Hatfield at 96.

No one from CCHS qualified for the state tournament.

MS FOOTBALL

Rockets fall by eight in highly-contested game against Browning Springs

Crittenden County Middle School lost a hard-fought 34-26 decision to Browning Springs last Thursday at Rocket Stadium. The CCMS offense moved the ball the entire game, but the defense was unable to stop the Bears.

Crittenden had the ball in the final minutes with a chance to score, but came up short.

CCMS is now 2-5 on the season, but has been playing well after getting everyone back onto the field after some COVID issues.

Jacob Carder scored two touchdowns and intercepted a pass to set up a TD. He also rushed for 115 yards.

Caden Howard rushed for a touchdown and so did Isaac James.

Brayden Poindexter led the way defensively with 10 tackles. Garner Stallins had nine and James recorded eight.

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing: James 4-36, Carder 13-115, Howard 1-27, Summers 3-10. **Passing:** Summers 4-11-0, 33. **Receiving:** James 1-8, Howard 1-9, Sosh 1-4, Taylor 1-12. **Defense:** James 6 solos, 2 assists, TFL; Poindexter 5 solos, 5 assists; Stallins 3 solos, 6 assists; Howard 3 solos, 4 assists; Carder 4 solos, assist, interception; Summers 2 solos, 2 assists; Brand-sassee 2 solos, assist, 2 TFL; Counts 2 solos, 2 assists; Sosh 2 solos, assist, TFL; Taylor solo.

V-BALL

Lady Rockets can finish district sweep

Crittenden County’s volleyball girls beat Livingston Central 25-20, 25-11, 25-11 at Rocket Arena last Thursday, giving CCHS a 2-0 record in league play.

The girls can wrap up an undefeated run through the district this season with a win Monday at Livingston in a game rescheduled from an earlier pandemic postponement.

The Lady Rockets are 9-4 overall and ranked No. 5 in the Second Region, according to the KHSAA power rankings.

Crittenden had a little trouble with Livingston in the first set last week, but won the last two quite handily.

Katie Perryman and Addy Kirby had five kills apiece and Sofie Watson had four.

Perryman had the team’s only two blocks. Riley Smith led the way with 11 of her team’s 13 assists. Hannah Mott had five aces and Kirby and Watson scored four apiece.

Livingston’s Piper Michonski had 24 assists and Angel Michonski had 24 digs for the Lady Cardinals.

The Lady Rockets also beat St. Mary in four sets 25-15, 25-22, 24-26, 25-20 on the road Monday. Crittenden has two more weeks left in the season.

X-COUNTRY

CCHS runners post nine personal bests at Marshall’s meet

Freshman distance runner Mary Martinez continues to pace Crittenden County’s fall cross country runners. On Saturday at Marshall County, she placed 25th overall with a time of 24:20.92. Eighth-grader Ella Geary was 39th at 26:04.47, Elizabeth Campbell 49th at 27:05.53, Karsyn Potter 61st at 29:19; Presley Potter 64th at 29:43 and Leah Long 74th at 31:41. All of their times were personal records.

Livingston Central’s Sidney Hubbard finished 77th out of 84 runners.

Freshman Asa McCord was 79th at 21:33.73 to lead Rocket runners. Also finishing the race were seniors Coby West and Dennon Wilson in 117th and 119th place, respectively. All three of those boys had personal best times. Junior Nate Faith finished 131st.

Livingston Central sophomore Machi Davidson was 34th overall at just over 19 minutes. Also finishing for Livingston were Alex Parks, Jonathan Stewart, Carter Belcher, Mason Hargrove and Demetrius Tarasiewicz.

SOCCER

District is Monday

The Lady Rockets’ soccer team will host Trigg County at 6 p.m., Monday at Lyon County. The winner of that match will advance to Tuesday’s 6 p.m., championship game against top-seed and host Lyon County.

The girls lost 6-1 at Caldwell County Monday night and closed out their season with a 7-3 loss to Lyon County at Marion on Tuesday. The girls finished the regular season with a 6-9 record, their most wins since 2015.

Taylor Guess scored the team’s only goal against Caldwell on an assist by Emilee Russellburg. Hannah Long had 3 saves and Joslyn Silcox 2.

Guess scored twice against Lyon and had an assist. Addyson Faughn scored the other goal on an assist by Lyli Wesmoland. Long had 5 saves and Silcox 3.

GOLF

Girls’ tough day at course

Crittenden County’s Lady Rocket golfers had a tough time at the Second Region Tournament Tuesday at Murray Country Club. Junior Addie Hatfield shot a 107 and junior Brylee Conyer had a 126.



Crittenden County’s Brooke Winstead returns a shot during the Lady Rockets’ victory last week over Livingston Central.

Knox Central sophomore in no hurry to accept UK’s offer

During a Kentucky football camp in early June, Kentucky coaches treated Knox Central sophomore Gavin Chadwell “very well” and made a big impression on him.

“Coach (Vince) Marrow walked me through a lot of footwork drills and stuff,” said Chadwell. “In one-on-one drills, I held my own very well against some really good players.”

Kentucky was already impressed with the 6-5, 235-pound Chadwell because he was offered a scholarship in May based on his 2020 season when he had 38 tackles, four quarterback sacks and five tackles for loss. He also started at

tight end where he caught three passes for 53 yards

Chadwell is also a talented basketball player who averaged about 9 points per game as a freshman when he was named MVP at the 13th Region Tournament won by Knox Central. He had 17 points and six rebounds in the regional title game win over North Laurel.

Chadwell grew up a Kentucky fan in southeastern Kentucky and says he has been “surrounded by Kentucky fans and stuff” his whole life.

“Dad is a big UK fan. He won’t have much of a preference about where I go, but don’t doubt about him being a big UK fan,” Chadwell said.

He says his scholarship offer showed that it was just not big school

players who could get SEC scholarship offers.

“It is kind of wild to think about getting an offer as a freshman,” he said. “I think they just saw my capability and kind of jumped on it.”

Chadwell spent time this summer working on his hip flexibility that would help him both at tight end and on the basketball court. He went to several football camps but did not play any AAU basketball.

The Knox Central sophomore says fans still mention the UK offer to him constantly.

“It’s a very big UK area. People tell me all the time it would be better for me to go to UK,” Chadwell, age 16, said. “My brother even got season tickets to UK this year.”

Going into Friday’s game against Bourbon County, Chadwell has six

catches for 144 yards and three scores in five games. He also has 32 tackles, including 28 solo stops, in those five games.

Knox will face a district showdown Oct. 8 against Corbin which is led by UK commit Treyveon Longmire (11 catches for 150 yards and two scores, seven tackles in five games) and UK target Dakota Patterson (18 catches for 254 yards and two scores, five

tackles in five games).

“It’s not fun by no means being in the same district with Corbin but anything is possible,” Chadwell aid. “If we come and play like we can play, we have a very good chance.”

Not many were expecting Knox Central to win the 13th Region basketball title, either. The favorite was North Laurel and Reed Sheppard, a major UK basketball target in the 2023 recruiting

class, even though Knox Central had won the two previous regional crowd.

Chadwell said he never imagined he would be tournament MVP.

“I don’t know the last time a center or power forward won it, much less a freshman,” he said. “I stepped up in places we needed on defense and rebounding. I put up solid numbers.

“I feel like people forget about us a lot,” he said.



Larry Vaught
UK Sports Columnist
Vaught's Views

Join us for a year-long

PREVENT TYPE 2 DIABETES PROGRAM

Meetings are held weekly for 6 months and then monthly

The DPP (Diabetic Prevention Program) will begin at

2 p.m., October 12 at Salem Baptist Church, Salem, Ky.

Take the assessment, if the score is 5 or higher you need to attend the meetings, which are FREE at this time.

Prediabetes Risk Test

1. How old are you?

Younger than 40 years (0 points)
40-49 years (1 point)
50-59 years (2 points)
60 years or older (3 points)

2. Are you a man or a woman?

Men (1 point) Woman (0 points)

3. If you are a woman, have you ever been diagnosed with gestational diabetes?

Yes (1 point) No (0 points)

4. Do you have a mother, father, sister, or brother with diabetes?

Yes (1 point) No (0 points)

5. Have you ever been diagnosed with high blood pressure?

Yes (1 point) No (0 points)

6. Are you physically active?

Yes (0 points) No (1 point)

7. What is your weight category?

(See chart at right)

Total score:

NATIONAL DIABETES PREVENTION PROGRAM

Height	Weight (lbs.)		
4'10"	119-142	143-190	191+
4'11"	124-147	148-197	198+
5'0"	128-152	153-203	204+
5'1"	132-157	158-210	211+
5'2"	136-163	164-217	218+
5'3"	141-168	169-224	225+
5'4"	145-173	174-231	232+
5'5"	150-179	180-239	240+
5'6"	155-185	186-246	247+
5'7"	159-190	191-254	255+
5'8"	164-196	197-261	262+
5'9"	169-202	203-269	270+
5'10"	174-208	209-277	278+
5'11"	179-214	215-285	286+
6'0"	184-220	221-293	294+
6'1"	189-226	227-301	302+
6'2"	194-232	233-310	311+
6'3"	200-239	240-318	319+
6'4"	205-245	246-327	328+
	1 Point	2 Points	3 Points

You weigh less than the 1 Point column (0 points)

Approved from: Bang et al., Ann Intern Med 133:1131-1135, 2000 (Original algorithm not validated without gestational diabetes as part of the tool).

Not for use by the American Diabetes Association and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

American Diabetes Association CDC

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American Diabetes Association CDC

Water issues beginning to boil

STAFF REPORT

Alarm bells are starting to ring ever so gently on the city’s potable water system.

Now that construction of a new sewer treatment facility is well underway at the tune of several millions dollars – much of it squarely on the shoulders of city customers without a great deal of trickle down help from state or federal sources – it’s no wonder that a sense of trepidation rolls over city hall when discussions turn to current and future issues for the town’s drinking water.

Last week, Councilman Darrin Tabor raised the matter during the regular monthly city council meeting.

“This is a critical situation,” Tabor said, pointing to a labor force that’s struggling at times to keep the town’s 600,000-gallon tank full of purified water.

Recruiting and retaining qualified utilities workers who are formally certified to work at the treatment plant has been difficult over the past 10 or 15 years, and it’s getting tougher. The city recently transferred a maintenance employee to the water plant to help cover the workload. With three full-time operators the plant has to run seven-days a week. Right now the plant operates about 13 hours a day, but there are times when round-the-clock operation might be necessary.

Tabor said drought conditions or other events that put a high-demand on processed water would tax the city beyond its capabilities.

Another looming problem was exposed in July when a water main broke near the water

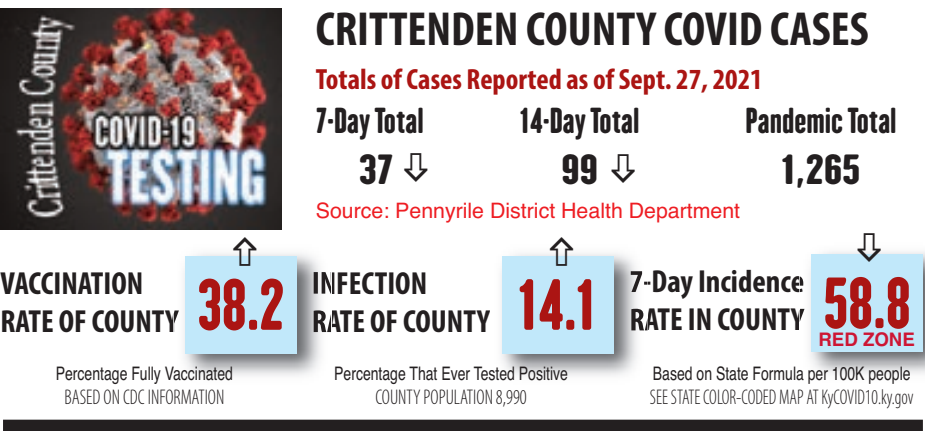
tank, spilling virtually all of the town’s drinking water onto the hillside below the tank.

Tabor said the lack of redundancy in the system puts the city at risk of being unable to adequately serve its customers in times of crisis.

The city has an extra tank on Wilson Hill next to the active one. The second tank has a leak and was deactivated years ago. There was discussion about having it repaired.

City Administrator Adam Ledford said repair costs are estimated at \$200,000. Building a new one might make more sense.

The water department has money cached away for capital improvements. Ledford plans to look at how much the city could liquidate in order to begin addressing the tank issue.



Deaths up, vax rate up, infection rate down in county

STAFF REPORT

Pandemic deaths continue to mount in Crittenden County while they’re moderating nationwide. The unofficial number of COVID-related deaths is now more than 30 in the community.

Based on the number of cases confirmed here since the spring of 2020, that puts the county’s mortality rate at 2.4 percent among those who

were ever infected with COVID-19.

Vaccination rates continue to rise here. Nationwide 77 percent of adults have now received at least one shot.

Local individuals who qualify for a third or booster shot may now schedule those vaccines at area healthcare centers.

While cases remain elevated in Crittenden County, they have mod-

AIRPORT

Continued from page 1

meeting with state and federal officials and overseeing almost 20 years worth of continued development at the airstrip. The key, Johnson said, to keeping federal and state funding coming into the projects was showing continuous growth in use at the facility. As hangars were built and fuel islands installed, more aircraft came. It was a built it and they will come type situation that Johnson describes.

“I’m humbled. I never anticipated this or expected it,” Johnson said. “The airport is a really nice benefit to the community, and I am proud that it will be here long after I am gone.”

The airport is general aviation facility. Ticketed passenger flights are not part of its operation. Johnson explains



This photo was taken more than 20 years ago when the runway was under construction.

that usage includes flights in and out of Marion for corporate executives, air ambulance, military, law enforcement, agriculture, mining, recreation and

Coincidental History

Marion had another airport back in the 1940s, coincidentally also named Johnson Airport after the man who developed it, Sid Johnson. It was located west of U.S. 641 where Steve Jones’ pawn shop is now located.

much more. Its 5,000-foot runway makes it particularly appealing to pilots, being that long it can handle corporate-type jets. There are 61 airports in Kentucky. All but five are primarily general aviation facilities. Johnson said Marion’s ranks among the best small-town airports in Kentucky. “We have several corporate flights in here a day,” he said.

The hangars are nearly full with 33 aircraft ranging in value from \$10,000 to more than \$200,000. The facility op-

erates on an annual budget of about \$50,000. Operating revenue is derived from hangar rent and fuel sales.

“The expansion of the runway in Marion is a game changer from an economic development standpoint,” said Amanda Davenport, executive director of the Lake Barkley Partnership, an economic development group to which Crittenden County belongs.

“The local airport is a huge driver for our community and thanks to the vision and leadership at the airport, it will continue to be a great asset in the region for years to come,” she added.

Zac Greenwell, a private pilot and Marion attorney, said Johnson and others have put effectively put Marion on the official aviation map.

“Development of the airport as something more than a grass strip started with a

group of community leaders, including Jim Johnson, Gordon Guess and others obtaining grant funding to build the terminal building and resurfacing the runway,” Greenwell said. “We have multiple residents now who have been exposed to our community first by flying a private plane into our airport and developing a relationship with Jim. The airport board as a whole has had a terrific vision of obtaining grants and using the money wisely and that business plan has created something for our community to be proud.

“Jim is the leadership for this development. He is 100 percent vested in the well-being of the airport and has been on call to pilots using the airport 24/7 as long as I can remember. For these reasons, it is very appropriate that the airport is now tied with his name,” Greenwell added.



CHILDHOOD OBESITY AWARENESS MONTH

September is National Childhood Obesity Awareness Month. According to the CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) about 1 in 5 children in the United States are obese. Childhood obesity is influenced by many factors, such as eating and physical activity behaviors, genetics, metabolism, family and home environment, communities, and social factors. Compared to children with healthy weight, children who are overweight or obese are at higher risk for asthma, sleep apnea, bone and joint problems, type 2 diabetes, and heart disease. Children who are obese are also more likely to experience bullying, social isolation, depression, and lower self-esteem.

While there is no simple solution, there are many ways parents and caregivers can help children reach a healthy weight:

Eat the Rainbow – An eating plan that includes a variety of colors such as dark leafy greens, oranges, tomatoes, and peppers along with whole grains, lean proteins, and low-fat or fat-free dairy. Help your kids eat the rainbow: make half their plate fruits and vegetables.

Move More – Physically active youth typically have stronger muscles, better cardiovascular fitness, lower body fat, and stronger bones. Children need at least 60 minutes of physical activity every day.

Slow Down on Sugar – Most of us eat and drink too many added sugars which can lead to health problems such as weight gain and obesity, type 2 diabetes, and heart disease. Help your kids rethink their drink by offering water, plain low-fat milk, or 100% juice instead.

Reduce Screen Time – Adults and children spend over 7 hours a day being sedentary – and that doesn’t include time spent sleeping! Too much screen time has health consequences: it’s associated with poor sleep, weight gain, lower grades in school, and poor mental health in youth. When you reduce screen time, you free up time for family activities.

Sleep Well – Encourage healthy sleep habits by getting your child to bed at the same time each day and by removing electronic devices at bedtime. Children need at least 8 hours of sleep, maybe more, depending on their age.

For additional tips on how to increase physical activity and to build a healthy diet with your child, visit <https://www.choosemyplate.gov/>.

By working together, we can help children make healthier choices in foods, beverages, and physical activity.

For more information contact Ali Perryman, Registered Dietitian, and Kelly Dawes RN, Certified Diabetes Care & Education Specialist, with the Pennyriple District Health Department at the following clinics:

Caldwell County Health Center (270) 365-6571 (Closed every Monday)
Crittenden County Health Center (270) 965-5215 (Closed every Wednesday)
Livingston County Health Center (270) 928-2193 (Closed every Tuesday)
Lyon County Health Center (270) 388-9763
Trigg County Health Center (270) 522-8121 Ext. 212 (Closed every Thursday)

**Message from the CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention)*



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