

Preschool screening to begin on Fridays

Preschool screenings for the upcoming Crittenden County school year will begin April 18 and will be held every Friday through May 16 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Crittenden County Elementary School. An additional screening will be offered Tuesday, April 29 from 4 to 6 p.m. Parents or guardians must call 270-965-2243 to schedule an appointment. Children must be 3 years old by Aug. 1 to be eligible. Required documents include proof of income, proof of residency, birth certificate, immunization records, and a well-child physical exam.

Livingston Hospital firing up for park 5K

The Livingston Hospital Foundation will host a 5K and 1-mile run on Saturday, May 17 at Crittenden County Park in Marion, with proceeds supporting the nonprofit's mission to aid individuals in need of health and wellness assistance. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m., and the race starts at 9 a.m. Entry fees are \$25 for the 5K and \$15 for the 1-mile run. Participants who register by May 1 will receive a T-shirt. The race will incorporate the park's quarter-mile track and walking trail. Medals will be awarded to the top three male and female finishers. Forms can be mailed to Tiffany Roberts at 121 Hospital Drive, Salem, KY 42078. For more information, call or text 270-704-1360.

Junior Pro Cheer is registering in May

Crittenden County Jr. Pro Cheer is gearing up for the 2025 season with registration set for three Saturdays this spring. Sign-ups will be held from 9 to 11 a.m. on May 3, May 17 and May 31 at the Crittenden County Armory (lower level) on Rochester Avenue. Registration will close May 31. Organizers encourage both new and returning participants to attend. The program, designed to build confidence, teamwork and leadership among young athletes, will also include fundraising opportunities to help offset costs for families. For more information, contact Summer Gardner at (270) 704-9999 or Brittney Buell-Schneider at (270) 969-1721.

Horseback adventures for youth age 7-18 here

Camp Olaf Returns for 2025 with Horseback and Outdoor Adventures Jus Chillin Farm in Marion will once again host Camp Olaf Horseback Adventure, a summer day camp offering a mix of equestrian and outdoor activities for youth ages 7 to 18. The 2025 camp will feature horseback riding, water fun, arts and crafts, fishing, boating, and more. Three sessions are available this summer, running June 24-27, July 29-Aug. 1, and Aug. 12-15. Camp runs daily from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., with lunch included in the \$200 registration fee. For more information, contact Amy at (352) 214-7444.

MCC offering hands-on summer training in babysitting and more

Madisonville Community College Workforce Solutions is offering three hands-on summer programs designed to prepare middle and high school students for real-world success. Students 16 and older can enroll in the Emergency Medical Responder (EMR) Certification, which begins June 2. The four-week course meets Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4 to 8 p.m. and costs \$699. It includes instruction, a textbook and one test, with group dis-



counts available. Classes will be held in Health Campus Rooms 201 and 202 and taught by an Advanced EMT instructor. For younger students in grades 7-9, a Babysitting Basics Certification course is set for June 18 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. The \$45 class includes lunch and a certificate, providing a foundation for safe and confident child care. High schoolers in grades 9-12 can join the Life Skills IRL: How to Not Fail at Adulting camp on June 25-26. From 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. each day, students will learn essential skills like car care, laundry, budgeting and time management. The \$99 fee includes lunch, a certificate and a professional headshot for use in college or job applications. For details or to register, call (270) 824-8658 or visit the Madisonville Community College Workforce Solutions website. Additional information is available by contacting Melanie Tapp at (270) 824-8661 or melanie.tapp@kctcs.edu.

Friends selling books at county's public library

The Friends of the Crittenden County Public Library will host a book sale later this week, with a special Preview Night for members from 5 to 7 p.m. Thursday, April 24. Those who are not members may join at the door before shopping. The sale continues Friday, April 25 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday, April 26 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Crittenden County Public Library.

Local students earn selective program honors for summer

Three Crittenden County High School students have earned prestigious academic honors through selective summer programs designed to foster leadership and academic excellence. Elle McDaniel has been accepted into the Governor's School for Entrepreneurs, a competitive program that equips students with the tools to launch business ideas and develop innovative thinking. Madison Walker was selected for both the Governor's Scholars Program and the Commonwealth Honors Academy, recognizing her outstanding academic achievement and leadership potential. The dual honors reflect her dedication and broad academic strengths. Aubrey Grau was also chosen for the Governor's Scholars Program, a highly regarded five-week residential experience for rising high school seniors in Kentucky.

Animal shelter offers monthly animal report

Crittenden County Animal Shelter experienced a productive March, marked by strong adoption numbers and numerous dogs transferred to rescue organizations. As of March 31, the shelter reported 32 dogs in-house, with 41 more in foster homes. A total of 28 dogs were taken in during the month, while 27 were sent to rescues. Shelter officials also noted that 13 dogs were adopted and six were reclaimed by their owners. No dogs escaped or died from medical issues during the reporting period, although one dog was euthanized. On the financial side, the shelter received \$1,155 in revenue for the month. Pet adop-

tions accounted for \$1,005 of that total, with an additional \$150 received in donations. No dog license fees, reclaim fees or sponsorships were recorded in March. Shelter staff continue to urge the community to consider adoption, fostering, or donations to support their mission of caring for local animals.

Riverview Park expects lower summer activity

Riverview Park experienced an uptick in activity during March 2025 as warmer weather brought more visitors back to the campground, but county leaders expect figures to remain below normal for the rest of summer. Bridge replacement on the main route from Ky. 91 to the campground will keep the highway closed until August, based on state highway department projections. "I expect camp use to decline over the summer due to bridge replacement," Crittenden County Judge-Executive Perry Newcom said. "I hope they can get the work finished before the end of summer."

The park recorded 43 RV nights and 13 tent nights in March, marking the busiest month since October and signaling the start of the spring camping season. The highway closed the first week of April, and motorists pulling recreational vehicles to the area are now required to take a longer route that is more difficult to traverse with a camper or watercraft. Revenue rebounded significantly in March with RV site income totaling \$1,510 and tent site revenue adding \$75. Additional deposits from fees, taxes and a small amount of cancellation revenue brought total receipts for the month to \$1,842.88. After covering expenses of \$1,118.40, the park finished with a net income of \$724.48 — its first monthly profit since November 2024 and its best financial performance in several months.

This improvement follows a challenging winter season that included consecutive losses in January and February. Riverview Park offers affordable camping with tent sites at \$5 per night and RV sites at \$30 per night with full amenities, including power, water and wastewater hookups. Reservations are typically available through CrittendenCountyKy.org, but the website now prompts visitors to call in order to make reservations so they can be informed of travel issues related to the bridge outage.

Local educators are recognized for work

Three Crittenden County educators were recognized last week with the Regional Education Partnership Excellence in Teaching Award, presented by Madisonville Community College. Becky Bryant, a science teacher at Crittenden County Middle School; Howard Suggs, a social studies teacher at Crittenden County High School; and Mandy Hunt, a physical education teacher at Crittenden County Elementary School, were honored during a reception held at the MCC campus. The award celebrates excellence in teaching and highlights educators who embody core values such as student-first focus, relationship building, tradition, safety, and academic excellence. The school district praised the trio as exemplary models within the Rocket family.

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50 YEARS AGO

April 24, 1975

■ Members of Nelson's Pharmacy men's bowling league were crowned champions at Rainbow Lanes. Team members were Randy Davidson, Darrell Walker, Buck Travis and Pippi Hardin. This marked the first time in the league's 15-year history that the team winning the first half also claimed the second-half title. Sureway and Turner's Ice Cream tied for second and were set to play a tiebreaker match. Travis led the league with a 174 average, followed by Hardin at 168, Jim Byrnes at 164 and Bruce Heady at 162. Hardin posted the highest series of the year at 616, with Travis next at 584 for three games. ■ CCHS catcher Bill Adams was pictured taking a throw at home as a Livingston Central baserunner approached during a game. David Hamilton, described as resembling the Yankees' "Catfish" Hunter, delivered a pitch during the action. Livingston scored four runs on six hits to defeat the Rockets 4-1. ■ Livingston Central High School's drama and choral department were finalizing their production of High Button Shoes. The play starred Chris Clarke as a New Jersey con man and Harold Monroe as his sidekick. Kathy Harris was the pianist, and choral director Mrs. Pauline Stringer led the production. Cast members included Guy Hall, Steven Berry, Jennifer Williams, Mark Hall, Marsha Hosick, Joe Blaylock, David Simpkins, Steve Lee, Donnie Armstrong, Steven Wheeler, Jesse Rogers, Joel Culver, Diane Knight, Jayne Vailes, Dean Gerding, Lynn Rushing, Kenny Tolley, Ivus Crouch and Ronnie Mitchell. Townspeople were portrayed by Rhonda Gordon, Janie Stegall, Janie Rogers, Carolyn Watson, Becky Williams, June Black, Lisa Conner, Bonnie Shelton, Debbie Driskill, Jo Ann Threlkeld and Darlene Dailey. Bathing beauties were Pam Barnes, Tandy Clarke, Lisa Dickerson, Debbie McCracken, Felicia Rhea, Mel Conyer, Regina Belt, Shiral Manhart, Jeanne Mitchell, Paula Gilland and Lisa McDonald. ■ The Department of Fish and Wildlife stocked rainbow trout in Claylick Creek in Crittenden County, releasing 1,000 fish from a bridge on Ky. 855 near Emmaus Church. It was the second stocking of the year, with four more planned for the summer. The catch limit was eight trout of any size per day, but anglers needed a trout stamp on their license.

25 YEARS AGO

April 20, 2000

■ Marion native Ginger Orr, Miss Jeffersontown, was actively campaigning against child abuse during April, Child Abuse Prevention Month. Orr, a second-year law student at the University of Louisville, had been advocating for child abuse survivors for more than four years. She volunteered with the Center for Women and Families, the Youth Development Corporation of America, The Nest in Lexington and Prevent Child Abuse Kentucky. She also visited schools to educate students and collected teddy bears to donate to agencies that assist abused children. ■ Rocket basketball cheerleaders honored at the boys' basketball banquet were Katie Stout, Teena Rozwalka, Chrystal Campbell, Stephanie Tinsley, Kari Powell, Leigh Browning, Stacy Wagoner, Tiffany Wilson, Jeanne Johnson, Dani Harrison, Amy West, Amy Graham, Brandi Travis, Jodi Martin and Rhiannon Jenkins. Lady Rocket cheerleaders receiving awards during the girls' banquet at Crittenden County High School included Lyndsey Taylor, Angela Crowell, Keri Kemper, Ashley Myers and Dusty Witherspoon. ■ Salem's sidewalks received a much-needed facelift, thanks to efforts by Mayor Brian McDaniel and the Salem City Council. The repairs, funded by a \$10,000 state municipal aid contract approved in mid-1999, were completed along U.S. 60 in the business district.

10 YEARS AGO

April 23, 2015

■ Crittenden County Animal Shelter volunteers spent one Saturday each month holding pet adoption drives at PetSmart in Paducah. Volunteer Destiny Todd, daughter of Animal Control Officer Timmy Todd, was pictured holding a 3-year-old English shepherd during an event. ■ Crittenden County High School's Rocket basketball team held its annual awards banquet at the home of Coach Denis Hodge. Honorees included Landon Young, Varsity Player of the Year, Team Captain, Most 3-Pointers, Best Free Throw Percentage, Most Points, Most Assists and Most Steals; Colby Watson, Best Teammate, Most Rebounds, Most Blocked Shots; Noah Dickerson, Most Hustle, Most Offensive Rebounds; Dylan Hollis, Challenge Award and JV Player of the Year; Noah Hadfield, Sixth Man Award and Overall Most Improved; Jake Greenwell, Best Scout Team Player; Tyson Steele, High T Award; Dylan Hicks, Best 3-Point Percentage; Dakota Watson, Best Field Goal Percentage; Logan Belt, Rookie of the Year; Jared Lundy, JV Most Improved; and Bobby Glen Stephens, Best Teammate JV. Lettermen were Young, Hicks, Hollis, Dakota Watson, Colby Watson, Hadfield, Dickerson and Adam Driver. ■ Crittenden County Elementary School announced its Rocket Role Models for March. Honorees included Caleb Riley, Jake Rich, Anna Boone, Levi Quertermous, Bella Williams, Logan Shaffer, Colton Wilson, Braelyn Merrill, Morgan Piper, Dalton Murray, Gracie Orr, Hayden Hildabrand, Braylynn Ennis, Taylor Haire, Jenna Maxfield, Aria Kirk, Sierra Patrick, Shayla Jones, Riley Smith, Lizzie Campbell, Kaylob Newcom, Skyler Sullivan, Isaac Sarles, Grace Robert, Hanna Collins, Maggie Blazina, Hannah Herrington, Brilee Conyer, Caden Riely and Luke Crider.

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