CRITTENDEN COUNTY'S SPRING PRIMARY ELECTION | BY THE NUMBERS

County Judge-Executive



Precinct	NEWCOM	RATLEY	CAMPBELL	Cast Votes	Under Votes	Over Votes	Mail-In Absentee	Walk-In Absentee	Early Voting	Election Day	Vote Total	Registered Voters	Percent Turnout
A101 MATTOON 8	100	31	50	181	3	0	1	2	42	139	184	374	49.20%
A102 NE MARION 1	22	15	30	67	2	0	0	1	23	45	69	205	33.66%
B101 SHERIDAN 10	168	85	144	397	8	0	0	7	75	323	405	781	51.86%
C101 FRANCES 6	113	66	63	242	3	0	2	2	81	160	245	454	53.96%
C102 SW MARION 3	58	20	33	111	2	0	1	0	32	80	113	295	38.31%
D101 FORDS FERRY 5	28	20	33	81	1	0	0	0	25	57	82	168	48.81%
D102 NW MARION 4	57	30	47	134	3	0	0	2	39	96	137	309	44.34%
E101 MEXICO 9	155	78	93	326	10	0	7	5	74	250	336	684	49.12%
F101 SHADY GROVE 7	101	57	78	236	4	0	1	1	48	190	240	439	54.67%
F102 MARION 2	70	27	45	142	3	0	1	3	38	103	145	344	42.15%
Totals	872	429	616	1917	39	0	13	23	477	1443	1956	4053	48.26%

County Sheriff



Evan Head
County Sheriff
Votes 1,129 | 58%

Precinct	HEAD	AGENT	Cast Vast	Under Votes	Over Votes	Mail-In Absentee	Walk-In Absentee	Early Voting	Election Day	Vote Total	Registered Voters	Percent Turnout
A101 MATTOON 8	104	79	183	1	0	1	2	42	139	184	374	49.20%
A102 NE MARION 1	36	33	69	0	0	0	1	23	45	69	205	33.66%
B101 SHERIDAN 10	273	131	404	1	0	0	7	75	323	405	781	51.86%
C101 FRANCES 6	129	115	244	1	0	2	2	81	160	245	454	53.96%
C102 SW MARION 3	50	63	113	0	0	1	0	32	80	113	295	38.31%
D101 FORDS FERRY 5	54	28	82	0	0	0	0	25	57	82	168	48.81%
D102 NW MARION 4	59	76	135	2	0	0	2	39	96	137	309	44.34%
E101 MEXICO 9	208	127	335	1	0	7	5	74	250	336	684	49.12%
F101 SHADY GROVE 7	141	98	239	1	0	1	1	48	190	240	439	54.67%
F102 MARION 2	75	69	144	1	0	1	3	38	103	145	344	42.15%
Totals	1129	819	1948	8	0	13	23	477	1443	1956	4053	48.26%

County Jailer



Robbie Kirk
County Jailer
Votes 1,111 | 58%

Precinct	KIRK	HAYES	Cast Vast	Under Votes	Over Votes	Mail-In Absentee	Walk-In Absentee	Early Voting	Election Day	Vote Total	Registered Voters	Percent Turnout
A101 MATTOON 8	116	65	181	3	0	1	2	42	139	184	374	49.20%
A102 NE MARION 1	31	38	69	0	0	0	1	23	45	69	205	33.66%
B101 SHERIDAN 10	245	153	398	7	0	0	7	75	323	405	781	51.86%
C101 FRANCES 6	131	114	245	0	0	2	2	81	160	245	454	53.96%
C102 SW MARION 3	70	40	110	3	0	1	0	32	80	113	295	38.31%
D101 FORDS FERRY 5	45	36	81	1	0	0	0	25	57	82	168	48.81%
D102 NW MARION 4	65	69	134	3	0	0	2	39	96	137	309	44.34%
E101 MEXICO 9	166	163	329	7	0	7	5	74	250	336	684	49.12%
F101 SHADY GROVE 7	167	72	239	1	0	1	1	48	190	240	439	54.67%
F102 MARION 2	75	65	140	5	0	1	3	38	103	145	344	42.15%
Totals	1111	815	1926	30	0	13	23	477	1443	1956	4053	48.26%

County Attorney



Chad Nelson
County Attorney
Votes 1,139 | 59%

Precinct	NELSON	FRAZER	Cast Vast	Under Votes	Over Votes	Mail-In Absentee	Walk-In Absentee	Early Voting	Election Day	Vote Total	Registered Voters	Percent Turnout
A101 MATTOON 8	106	75	181	3	0	1	2	42	139	184	374	49.20%
A102 NE MARION 1	36	32	68	1	0	0	1	23	45	69	205	33.66%
B101 SHERIDAN 10	246	155	401	4	0	0	7	75	323	405	781	51.86%
C101 FRANCES 6	149	94	243	2	0	2	2	81	160	245	454	53.96%
C102 SW MARION 3	55	56	111	2	0	1	0	32	80	113	295	38.31%
D101 FORDS FERRY 5	49	33	82	0	0	0	0	25	57	82	168	48.81%
D102 NW MARION 4	82	50	132	5	0	0	2	39	96	137	309	44.34%
E101 MEXICO 9	190	136	326	10	0	7	5	74	250	336	684	49.12%
F101 SHADY GROVE 7	145	92	237	3	0	1	1	48	190	240	439	54.67%
F102 MARION 2	81	58	139	6	0	1	3	38	103	145	344	42.15%
Totals	1139	781	1920	36	0	13	23	477	1443	1956	4053	48.26%

An overvote is when a voter selects more choices than allowed in a race, while an undervote is when a voter selects fewer choices than allowed or leaves the race blank.



The Crittenden Press

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THURSDAY, MAY 21, 2026

24/7 BREAKING AND LOCAL NEWS / THE-PRESS.COM | AN INDEPENDENTLY-OWNED, LOCAL NEWSPAPER SINCE 1879 | TWO DOLLARS



Blackford - Marion Fredonia - Burna Shady Grove

Memorial Day services across holiday weekend

To celebrate Memorial Day weekend and salute America's fallen heroes, there will be multiple memorial services at Marion, Blackford, Burna, Shady Grove and Fredonia.

The weekend kicks off with the annual Blackford Memorial Walk of Honor at 10 a.m., with guest speaker retired U.S. Marine Chad Nelson. On Sunday, there will be an 8 a.m., service and continental breakfast at the Burna American Legion post. On Memorial Day Monday, Marion's Mapleview Cemetery will host its annual service at 10 a.m. Then, at 11 a.m., there will be a service at Shady Grove where District Judge Ben Leonard will speak and Lacie Duncan will sing with a potluck lunch to follow at the fire station. In Fredonia, there will be a service at 1 p.m. The event will celebrate the enduring legacy of the Revolutionary War patriots who helped shape the history of the Fredonia community.

More filings coming in for November election

With the primary election over, political ambitions now turn to the November General Election on November 3. Deadline to file for nonpartisan races is June 2. All six at-large Marion City Council seats, the mayoral job and two board of education posts – districts 2 and 5 – are up for election as well as 3 Crittenden County Conservation District supervisor seats. The latest filings are incumbent Eric Larue for District 2 School Board and incumbent Dwight Sherer for Marion City Council. Mayor D'Anna Browning had filed earlier for re-election.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

•Livingston County Conservation District will meet at 8 a.m., Thursday, May 21, at Deer Lakes Golf Course in Salem.

•Crittenden County Fiscal Court will meet at 8:30 a.m., Thursday, May 21, at the county office complex. Also, there will be a public hearing at 9:30 a.m., for the purpose of obtaining citizen comments on a proposed ordinance related to a lease for the financing of a project.

•Crittenden County Conservation District will meet at 6:30 p.m., Thursday, May 21, at its office on East Bellville Street.

•Crittenden-Livingston Water District will meet at 4 p.m., Monday, May 25, at Deer Lakes meeting room.

•City of Marion will have a public hearing on the proposed use of LGEA and Municipal Aid funds in Fiscal Year 2026-27. The meeting is at 4:45 p.m., Tuesday, May 26 at Marion City Hall.

The Crittenden Press

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Newcom re-elected

County attorney, jailer will change

STAFF REPORT

Crittenden County voters largely opted for continuity in county government during Tuesday's primary election, with only two countywide offices changing hands while incumbents held on in the county judge-executive and sheriff's races.

Because no Democrats filed for countywide office, Tuesday's GOP primary winners are effectively assured election in November unless opposed by write-in candidates.

The biggest change in county government will come in the county attorney's office, where assistant commonwealth attorney Chad Nelson defeated incumbent Bart Frazer. Nelson received 1,139 votes, or 59 percent, compared to Frazer's 781

See **ELECT**/page 3

PRIMARY ELECTION RETURNS
Crittenden County | Countywide

2026 ELECTION



Bart Frazer
County Attorney
Votes 781 | 41%



Chad Nelson
County Attorney
Votes 1,139 | 59%



Perry Newcom
County Judge
Votes 872 | 46%



Nathan Ratley
County Judge
Votes 429 | 22%



Todd Campbell
County Judge
Votes 616 | 32%



Athena Hayes
County Jailer
Votes 815 | 42%



Robbie Kirk
County Jailer
Votes 1,111 | 58%



Evan Head
County Sheriff
Votes 1,129 | 58%



Ray Agent
County Sheriff
Votes 819 | 42%



MAGISTERIAL RACES
Districts 1, 3, 6 - Crittenden County

What will new court look like?

STAFF REPORT

Crittenden County's Fiscal Court will have a significantly different look beginning in January following Tuesday's Republican primary election, with four new magistrates set to join the six-member panel. All seats will be held by Republicans.

With no Democratic opposition or write-in candidates currently filed for the November General Election, those who won Tuesday or were unopposed in the GOP primary are expected to take office in 2027.

The biggest changes came in Districts 1, 3, 5 and 6, where incumbents either chose not to seek re-election or were defeated.

In District 1, former magistrate Danny Fowler defeated Rob Horack by a 175-66 margin, taking 73 percent of the vote. Fowler, 75, is a semi-retired equipment operator and former boilermaker. Horack, 52, is a retired finance analyst with Boeing.

Although Fowler previously served one term that ended in 2019, he will still be one of 4 new members joining the court in January. The seat

See **COURT**/page 3



Rob Horack
District 1
Votes 66 | 27%



Danny Fowler
District 1
Votes 175 | 73%



Robert Kirby
District 3
Votes 162 | 47%



Pam Todd
District 3
Votes 182 | 53%



Bob Rowley
District 6
Votes 160 | 43%



Craig Gilland
District 6
Votes 209 | 57%

The factory's whistle gave us lunchtime

Chris EVANS
Press Editor & Publisher
About Town

There was a story I read years ago, maybe in college, maybe afterward, one of those old frontier accounts that gets lodged somewhere deep in the attic of the mind and stays there collecting dust until something shakes it loose again. It told of an English woman captured by Native Americans during the westward push across this continent more than 200 years ago. I cannot recall whether she escaped or was eventually released, but I remember the observations she made about the prairie tribes and the upper Midwest Indians among whom she lived.

What struck her most was not savagery or warfare or painted faces around a fire. It was how they ate. Sometimes they feasted magnificently. Sometimes they went nearly hungry for days. Their meals were governed not by clocks but by providence, by weather, by migration, by what the earth happened to surrender that week. Buffalo. Fish. Roots. Berries. Corn. Nothing. Then abundance again.

In other words, they ate much like every other creature God placed upon this earth.

A hawk does not stop at 12 noon for a sandwich. A deer does not gather its family promptly at dusk for casserole. The woods and fields have always operated on a rhythm older than mankind's schedules. Feast and famine. Plenty and want. The body storing what it can against leaner days ahead.

Yet somewhere along the line humanity traded the seasons for the whistle.

Now we rise not with hunger but with routine. Breakfast. Lunch. Dinner. Three neat compartments in a civilized day. The alarm clock rings and so does the toaster. Noon arrives and entire cities pause in synchronized chewing. Evening comes and we gather beneath the glow of bulbs and television for supper.

Who decided this? Well, it wasn't Jesus, Socrates or Satan; although the latter may have had a hand in it.

The three-meal day was largely forged in the smoke and machinery of the Industrial Revolution, when farmers and craftsmen became factory laborers and human beings had to eat according to shifts instead of sunlight. Men needed heavy breakfasts before long hours at the mill. Lunch became a hurried interruption near clanging machinery. Thus, the rise of the sandwich. Supper waited until darkness when workers stumbled home exhausted.

And now the descendants of people who once survived by tracking elk across frozen plains stand in grocery aisles debating between barbecue-flavored corn dust and neon-orange cheese crackers manufactured by companies with names like Tyson, Kellogg's, Swanson and Frito-Lay. Some of the candy bars don't even sound earthly any-

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