



The Crittenden Press

Rockets clinch playoff berth | Sports Page 8

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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2026

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

AN INDEPENDENTLY-OWNED, LOCAL NEWSPAPER SINCE 1879

TWO DOLLARS

Property taxes due by end of the month

City of Marion property owners must pay their 2026 property tax bills by Nov. 1 to avoid interest and penalties that begin to accrue after that date.

Library hosts screening of documentary that was partly filmed here

A documentary partly filmed in Crittenden County several months ago will be screened Saturday, Oct. 10, at Crittenden County Public Library. "Current: A Descendant's Journey for Truth" traces producer Pam Smith's search for the story of her enslaved ancestor. The local filming, which involved area residents, was previously featured in The Crittenden Press. The free program, co-presented by the Crittenden County Historical Society and the library, will run from 10 to 11:30 a.m. It will include about an hour of the documentary followed by a Zoom discussion with Smith. The film follows the life of Matilda (Lewis) Threlkeld, Smith's third-great-grandmother. According to promotional materials, Matilda was fathered by Thomas Jefferson's nephew and forced west to Kentucky in 1807. The documentary also explores African Americans' role in westward migration. The screening will feature a rough cut, an unfinished version of the documentary that runs about 2½ hours and will be shortened before completion. Attendees will receive a passcode to finish watching it through the project's YouTube channel. The local historical society donated \$465 to help complete the documentary.

No Tolu Haunted House

Tolu Community Center has announced that it will not be presenting its Haunted House this month.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- Livingston County Board of Education will meet at 5 p.m. Monday, Oct. 12.
- Marion Code Enforcement Board meets at 5 p.m., Monday, Oct. 12 at city hall.
- Crittenden County Chamber of Commerce will meet at 8:30 a.m. Tuesday, Oct. 13 at Rocket Arena conference room.
- Caldwell County Fiscal Court will meet at 9 a.m. Tuesday, Oct. 13, at the courthouse.
- Crittenden-Livingston Farm Service Agency County Committee will meet at 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, Oct. 14, at the Salem Service Center. Call to verify it will be held.
- Livingston County Conservation District will meet at 8 a.m. Thursday, Oct. 15, at Deer Lakes Golf Course in Salem.
- Crittenden County Fiscal Court will meet at 8:30 a.m. Thursday, Oct. 15, at the county office complex.
- Crittenden County Board of Education will meet at 5:30 p.m., Monday, Oct. 19, 2026, at Rocket Arena.
- Crittenden County Conservation District will meet at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 15, at its office on East Bellville Street.
- Marion-Crittenden County 911 Board will meet at 3:30 p.m. Monday, Oct. 19, at city hall.

Fohs Hall turns 100

Formal ball, rededication are part of big celebration

STAFF REPORT

One hundred years after Marion residents dressed in their Saturday best and gathered for the dedication of a remarkable new civic building, the community will gather again at Fohs Hall.

The setting will be the same. Some of the music will be identical. Even descendants of the man who gave the building to Marion will be there.

Fohs Hall will celebrate its centennial Oct. 23-24 with a weekend designed not only to commemorate the landmark's past, but to help secure its future.

"It was Oct. 23, 1926, when there was a formal dedication ceremony for Fohs Hall," said longtime Fohs Hall Inc. President Alan Stout. "It was quite an event, and we're recreating that event for the centennial 100th anniversary of Fohs Hall."

For Stout, there is also a family connection to that first celebration.

His aunt, the late Ethel Tucker, was believed to

have been the last surviving person who attended the original dedication. Stout remembers Tucker telling him how her mother dressed her three children for the occasion because she considered it "history in the making."

One of those children was Stout's father, Howard, who apparently was less enthusiastic about putting on his good clothes for a Saturday afternoon ceremony.

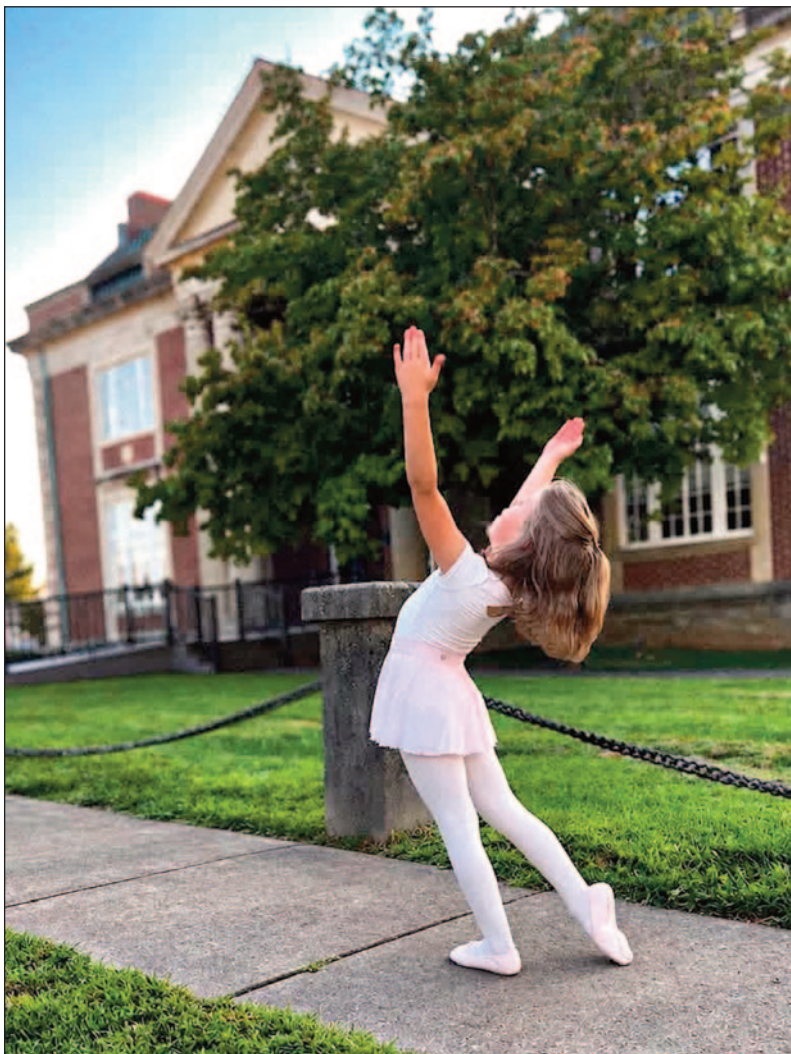
A century later, the occasion again calls for dressing up.

The celebration begins Friday, Oct. 23, with the Centennial Fohs Hall Ball, reviving a tradition once closely associated with the building. The formal event will feature the 25-piece Todd Hill Orchestra of Murray, which has previously performed at Fohs Hall.

With seating limited to just over 100, Stout said the ball is nearly sold out.

The evening will also

See **FOHS**/page 3



This is a promotional photo recently published by Fohs Hall to promote its cultural arts programs.

Passing the Gavel Cruce taking over reins from longtime president

BY DAVID R. DRENNAN
THE CRITTENDEN PRESS

Crittenden County native Brennan Cruce will become president of the Fohs Hall Inc. board in January 2027, succeeding longtime president Alan Stout as the Marion landmark marks its 100th anniversary.

"I am honored that Alan would nominate me to succeed him," Cruce said.

Stout has served on the board since its inception in 1981 and has led the organization for 31 years. He

will remain on the board after stepping down as president.

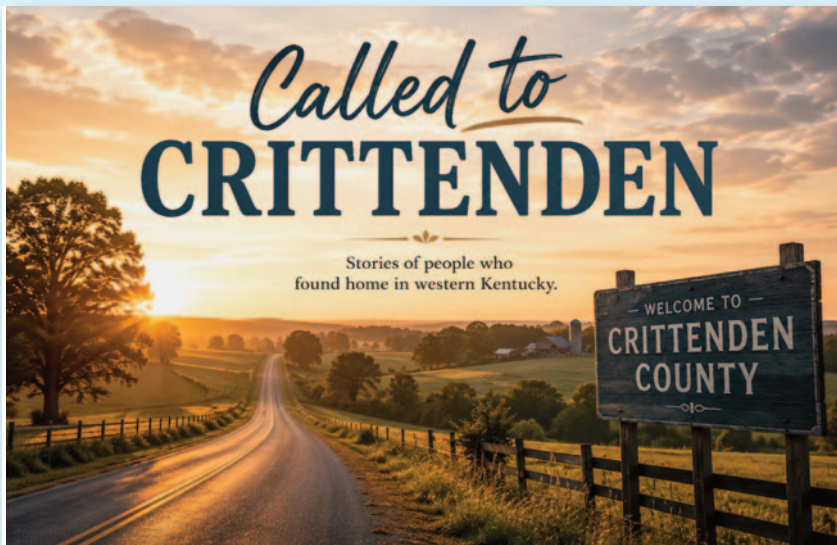
"I'm glad he's staying on. We need his history and insight," Cruce said.

Stout's service to Crittenden County extends beyond Fohs Hall. He was county attorney for 21 years and has supported numerous community endeavors. He was appointed a federal bankruptcy judge in 2011 and became chief judge of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the

See **CRUCE**/page 3



Brennan Cruce and Alan Stout



The Mattinglys

Power job lures Mattinglys to Marion

BY JENNY ZIMMER
THE CRITTENDEN PRESS

There are approximately 78 miles between Owensboro and Marion; it takes about an hour and a half to drive from one to the other. In 1984, Owensboro had a population of approximately 60,000, while Marion had a population of around 3,300, so the difference between these two places was much greater than the mileage between them.

In 1984, Larry Mattingly,

a lineman since 1979, was interviewed for a job with Henderson Union. The job was located in Marion. Recalling his first impression of Marion, Larry said that when he saw the sign in town showing about three different towns, each 23 miles from Marion, he thought, "Well, Marion is 23 miles from everywhere." He laughs about that sign even today.

He was hired for the job and, in March of that year,

he moved his wife and three children from Owensboro to Marion. Another child came along after the move, so Larry now had a family of six, including himself. He worked for Henderson Union, which later became Kenergy, for a total of 23 years.

The transition from the city to a small town was more difficult for Fonda, who had been born and raised in

This is the latest in a series by Jenny Zimmer featuring individuals and families who have made Crittenden County their home. A retired human resources executive, Zimmer returned to her hometown of Marion in 2023 after living in Cincinnati for 53 years. She is a contributing writer for The Crittenden Press.

See **CALLED**/page 3

The Crittenden Press

USPS 138-260 / Marion, Ky.



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Deaths

Millikan

Loretta Millikan, 86, died Wednesday, Sept. 30, 2026 at Baptist Health Paducah.

She was a nurse but spent much of her career working as a bookkeeper. She was a member of Victory Assembly of God Worship Center. She enjoyed dancing, gospel singing, attending church, and spending time with her beloved dog and cat. Above all, she cherished her family, especially her grandchildren and great-grandchildren, who brought great joy to her life.

Surviving are her special boyfriend, Randall Edwards; a brother, Ben Harris of Mt. Juliet, Tenn.; two grandchildren, Tyler Hunter of Salem and Tyanna (Cody) Peek of Fredonia; three great-grandchildren, Payzli, Josiah, and Gracelynn; a niece; and a nephew.



She was preceded in death by a daughter, Tammy (Calvin “Tiny”) Hunter; her parents, Glynn “Shorty” and Thelma Shuecraft Harris; and her husband, Robert Millikan.

Funeral services were Sunday, Oct. 4 in the chapel of Boyd Funeral Directors and Cremation Services, with Bro. Gary DeRossett officiating. Burial was in Salem Cemetery.

Small

Shirley S. Small, 90, of Marion, died Friday, Oct. 2, 2026 at the Ray and Kay Eckstein Hospice Center in Paducah. She was a member of Marion Baptist Church and enjoyed working in her yard, watching UK basketball games, golf and NFL games on TV.

Surviving are a daughter, Julie (Scott) Mellecker of Buckeye, Arizona.; a daughter-in-law, Lois Manley of Dunedin, Fla.; three grandchildren,



Jill Mellecker of Seattle, Wash., Matt Mellecker of Colorado Springs, Colo., and Robin Carr of Largo, Fla.; and numerous nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Richard Small of Marion; parents, Robert and Ruth Hughes of Marion; a son, Stuart Manley of Dunedin, Fla.; two brothers, Charles Hughes and Robert Hughes; four sisters, Anna Mair of Evansville, Mary Stalion of Marion, Mickey Hughes of Huntsville, Ala., and Jerry Beavers of Marion.

Services were Tuesday, Oct. 6, 2026 at Gilbert Funeral Home with entombment in Mapleview Cemetery.

Donations may be made to the Crittenden County Historical Society and Museum; the Mary Hall Ruddiman Canine Shelter or the Crittenden County Animal Shelter.

Griffin

William Bennette “Ben” Griffin, 52, of Dycusburg, died Thursday, Oct. 1, 2026 at his home. He was born Oct. 16,

1973 to the late William David and Barbara Ray Griffin. He attended Dycusburg Methodist Church. He had a heart of gold and was known to be generous, especially for children during Christmas time. He never knew a stranger. He loved to chat with everyone and had a way of making everyone feel like they had a friend in him. He also cherished his baby girl, Naudia.

Surviving are two sisters, Sherri (Bill) Peek of Fredonia and Lori (David) Kinnes of Salem; adored nephews, Adam (Nicole) Kinnes of Symsonia and Seth Peek of Fredonia.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his grandparents, Mutt and Mary Lou Griffin.

A memorial graveside service will be held at 2:30 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 10 at Dycusburg Cemetery.

Expressions of sympathy may be made to the Dycusburg Cemetery Fund, c/o Hannah Stinnett, 1050 State Route 902, Fredonia, KY 42411.

Paid obituary

Crittenden County Animal Clinic

SURGICAL PROCEDURES

Crittenden County Animal Clinic performs surgical procedures including spays, neuters, a variety of small animal surgeries castrations, enucleations, lacerations, dentals and extractions.

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

Crittenden County Homemakers

ANNUAL

Twilight Walk

Kickoff to KEHA Week!

October 11-17

KENTUCKY EXTENSION HOMEMAKERS ASSOCIATION WEEK

Join the Crittenden County Homemakers for their annual Twilight Walk on

Monday, October 12,

from 4-6 p.m.

at the City/County Park.

This year's walk will feature a special

fall soup sampling

Inspired by the Homemaker Leader Lesson, "Thrifty and Healthy Holiday Meals."

Enjoy a variety of delicious soups while gathering ideas for affordable, healthy meals to enjoy throughout the fall and holiday season.

Monday, October 12 | **4-6 p.m.** | **City/County Park**

Come enjoy a beautiful fall afternoon, connect with friends and neighbors, and help the Crittenden County Homemakers celebrate KEHA Week!

Good Food • Healthy Choices
Stronger Communities

This Institution is an equal opportunity provider

Everyone is Welcome!

The Twilight Walk is open to all community members—you do not have to be a Homemaker member to participate.

Come for the walk, the soup, the fellowship, or simply to learn more about Crittenden County Homemakers!

- Thursday, Oct. 8**

 - The Virgil Jones VFW in Marion will have a meeting at 6:30 p.m. at the VFW building located at 412 N. College St. Refreshments will be served.
 - Line dancing begins at 9:30 a.m., at the Crittenden County Senior Center.
 - New Era begins at 5:30 p.m. at the Crittenden County Extension Office.
- Monday, Oct. 12**

 - Fall Garden Class begins 4:30 p.m. at the Crittenden County Extension Annex.
 - Life Skills 101 begins at 6 p.m. at the Crittenden County Extension Annex.
- Tuesday, Oct. 13**

 - Hooks and Needles begins at noon at Crittenden County Public Library.
 - After Hours begin at 5 p.m. at the Crittenden County Extension Office.
 - There will be a CEC meeting at 5 p.m at the Crittenden County Lions Club.
- Wednesday, Oct. 14**

Challengers Homemakers Club will meet from noon-1 p.m. at the Crittenden County Extension Annex.
- Thursday, Oct. 15**

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

den County Extension Annex.

- WITS Workout begins at noon at the Crittenden Co. Senior Center.
- There will be a regular City Council Meeting starting at 5 p.m. at Marion City Hall.

Have you ever considered PRE-PLANNING YOUR FUNERAL?

Contact Brad Gilbert,
Your Licensed Pre-Need Agent

Many people are planning for their funeral in advance in a sincere effort to ease the stress loved ones will face at an emotional time. It takes only a little time and can be handled in the privacy of your home or at Gilbert Funeral Home.

Gilbert FUNERAL HOME

117 W. Bellville Street • Marion, KY 42064 • (270) 965-3171

Visit us online at gilbertfunerals.com

for information on obituaries, funeral arrangements, pre-need arrangements and background information about the funeral home.

CURRENT

A Descendant's Journey for Truth

(A SCREENING OF THE DOCUMENTARY ROUGH CUT)

Whether enslaved or free, African Americans were at the center of western migration.

Saturday, Oct. 10, 2026
10-11:30 am

CRITTENDEN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

Featuring local residents!
currentfilm2024@gmail.com

HOSTED BY THE CRITTENDEN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

CURRENTFILM.ORG

Follow the life of an enslaved girl named **Matilda (Lewis) Threlkeld** who was fathered by Thomas Jefferson's nephew and forced west to Kentucky in 1807.

Matilda is the 3rd great grandmother of the film's producer.

"I want them to know that someone came back looking for them, wanting to honor all of their sacrifices"

- Pam Smith

A Gentle Guide Through Life's Hardest Journeys.

Compassionate. Encouraging. Hope-filled.

Find comfort and healing with *A Mountain Called Grief* and its *Companion Workbook*. Practical tools, meaningful reflections, and hope to help you navigate your journey—one step at a time.

\$12.99 each

Can be purchased separately.

Each book stands on its own so they can be used individually if desired.

You are not alone on this journey.
Hope is still possible.

Available on **amazon.com** and other online booksellers.

Available locally at **Louise's FLOWERS in Marion**

NOTICE OF PASSAGE AND SUMMARY OF ORDINANCE

ORDINANCE NUMBER 26-14 AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO THE TAX LEVY FOR THE YEAR OF 2026

Notice is hereby given that the City Council of the City of Marion, Kentucky, at its special called meeting held on September 17, 2026, at 5:00 o'clock p.m., gave second reading and passed and adopted an Ordinance relating to the Marion Code of Ordinances, which Ordinance had been given its first reading at a regular called meeting of the City Council held on August 17, 2026, at 5:00 o'clock p.m. A summary of the Ordinance is as follows:

This Ordinance levies an ad valorem tax on each One Hundred Dollar of Fair Cash value of the below listed property in the City of Marion, Kentucky:

\$.2270 per One Hundred Dollar	Real Property
\$.2900 per One Hundred Dollar	Personal Property
\$.2270 per One Hundred Dollar	Public Utilities
\$.2270 per One Hundred Dollar	Motor Vehicles
\$.2270 per One Hundred Dollar	Motor Boats

These assessments are due by November 1, 2026. If paid after a 25% penalty will be assessed. and shall bear interest at the rate of ten per cent (10%) per annum.

The full text of the Ordinance is on file in the Office of the City Clerk in the City Building, Marion, Kentucky, where it is available for public inspection.

PREPARED BY:

/s/ Robert B. Frazer
ROBERT B. FRAZER
LEGAL SERVICES OFFICER
FRAZER LAW OFFICE
ATTORNEYS –AT- LAW
P.O. BOX 361
MARION, KY 42064
270/965-2261
September 17, 2026

Study says Crittenden may need more than 400 homes

STAFF REPORT

Crittenden County needed 238 additional homes in 2024, and that shortage could grow to 427 by 2029, according to Kentucky Housing Corp. figures presented at a Chamber of Commerce Lunch and Learn on housing.

The 2024 estimate included 175 homes for sale and 63 rental units. The projected 2029 gap includes 337 homes for sale and 90 rentals. Statewide, the estimated shortage is expected to grow from 206,207 homes in 2024 to 287,120 in 2029.

Speakers from Caldwell and Fulton counties described what their communities are doing to add housing. Crittenden County leaders attending included Judge-Executive Perry Newcom and Marion Mayor D’Anna Browning. Caldwell County Judge-Executive Kota Young said having county-specific figures helped officials move from discussing a general shortage to setting



Pictured are Kota Young and Mark Welch, two of the speakers at the Chamber event, and Chamber President Rebecca Woodall.

goals. Caldwell County needed 471 homes in 2024 and is projected to need 748 by 2029, he said.

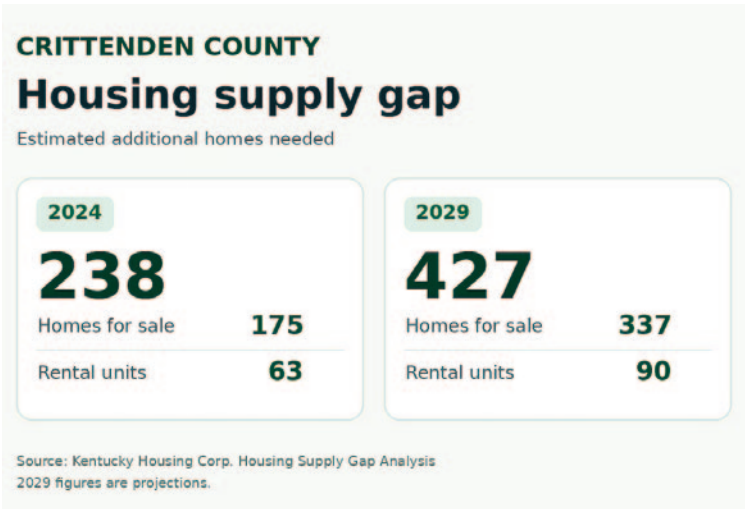
Young described a Princeton program that works with owners to clear deteriorated properties and make the lots available for construction. The city has acquired about 15 to 20 lots through the voluntary

program, and seven new homes have been built on them, he said.

Princeton is also pursuing three developments near downtown. Madison Mills, a 60-unit apartment complex, has been approved, with construction expected to begin in the spring. An application has been submitted for Washington Mills, another apartment project. A third proposal, Lincoln Mills, would add homes for sale. Together, the projects could produce more than 100 units if completed.

Young said investments in drainage and sewer lines can improve existing neighborhoods while helping housing projects qualify for funding.

Mark Welch, president of the Fulton-Hickman Counties Economic Development Partnership, said Fulton County has made housing a priority in its efforts to attract and retain workers. After nearly two decades with little new home construction, local partners



began building workforce housing, he said.

Brenda Weaver of Community Ventures, which is working with Fulton County, said 14 homes there have been built or rehabilitated, with more in progress. Work has also begun on a seven-home development in Cayce.

Weaver said communities need builders, employers, lenders, funding agencies and local governments involved from the start. Available land and utilities are essential, she said, and making new homes affordable often takes several sources of financing.

CRUCE

Continued from page 1
Western District of Kentucky in 2020.

Cruce, a local historian and entertainer, has long been interested in Fohs Hall’s history. Built in 1926 at a cost of \$73,000, the building was a gift to the community from Ferdinand Julius Fohs, a petroleum geologist who grew up in Marion. It later served as Marion High School and is now a venue for performances and community events.

Cruce has performed on its stage many times in his role as bass player with Cutter and Cash and the Kentucky Grass. His first leadership role on the board involved buildings and grounds. He later succeeded Bonita Hatfield as vice chairman, the position he currently holds.

“Fohs Hall is a business and we’ve got to make money, but Julius Fohs’ intent was to bring arts to everyone in Crittenden County. I want to make sure his vision continues,” Cruce said.

Stout said the board’s volunteers remain committed to that purpose. “The Board of directors is composed of all volunteers who donate countless hours and support and remain committed to fulfilling the vision and legacy of Julius Fohs when he donated the building in 1926,” he said.

Maintaining the 100-year-old building will be among Cruce’s priorities. “It costs about \$50,000 annually to keep the lights on and the doors open,” he said. The board sends fundraising letters each year to seek continued support.

“We are conscientious about finances,” Cruce said.

Recent work has included restoring the auditorium’s hardwood floor, replacing the roof and upgrading the heating and cooling, sound and lighting systems.

Stout said raising money to maintain the building can be challenging in a small community. He said visitors

are often surprised to find a facility like Fohs Hall in Marion.

Cruce said he plans to work closely with the board. “We are all in it together. Everyone plays an important role,” he said.

Cruce also praised Leah Keene, who recently became Fohs Hall’s executive director. Keene has updated the organization’s website and introduced card payments for rentals. Her event-planning experience includes work at a Tennessee state park.

“She has brought Fohs Hall into the 21st century,” Cruce said. “Her experience has made for an easy transition.”

“The recent hiring of Leah Keene as Executive Director is very significant, and she is doing excellent work. I feel the future of Fohs Hall is in good hands,” Stout said.

For now, the board is preparing for Fohs Hall’s centennial celebration. A ticketed dinner and ball featuring the Todd Hill Orchestra of Murray is set for Oct. 23. A rededication service open to the public will follow Oct. 24. The events fall exactly 100 years after the building’s original dedication.

“We encourage the community to come out and witness history once again,” Cruce said.

Stout said the celebration will also raise money for Fohs Hall’s endowment. Four pieces of music from the original dedication will be performed under the direction of local musician Corey Crider. Cutter and Cash Singleton and their band also will perform.

Fohs’ grandsons, who remain supporters of the building, are expected to attend the rededication. They will be interviewed by a West Kentucky Film Commission crew documenting the centennial. Stout said the film is expected to air on KET. Organizers are gathering Fohs Hall archives and documents for the project.

FOHS

Continued from page 1
serve as a fundraiser for Fohs Hall. Proceeds will bolster an endowment used to help preserve and maintain a building that, despite its age, remains an active community venue.

“There are a lot of maintenance issues with a 100-year-old building,” Stout said. “But a lot of things don’t last 100 years.”

The celebration shifts to the public Saturday, Oct. 24, with a 2 p.m. rededication ceremony patterned after the one held a century earlier.

Mark Sohn, a grandson of Fohs Hall benefactor Julius Fohs, will deliver the rededication address. He will be joined in Marion by brothers Rick and Ted Sohn, also grandsons of Fohs.

Organizers have the original program from the 1926 dedication and are using it as a guide for the centennial ceremony. Four musical selections performed at the original dedication will be performed again under the direction of Corey Crider.

Cutter & Cash and The Kentucky Grass will also perform two numbers, including a song about the Hudson Mine disaster. That tragedy occurred just two months before Fohs Hall was dedicated in 1926.

Kentucky Supreme Court Justice Shea Nickell is among those scheduled to speak.

Unlike Friday’s ticketed ball, Saturday’s ceremony is free and open to everyone.

“If you’ve ever attended school at Fohs Hall, been to an event at Fohs Hall or attended any kind of function there – if Fohs Hall means anything to you – please come to the rededication ceremony,” Stout said.

A documentary film crew will also be in Marion during the centennial weekend, recording the celebration and exploring



The Todd Hill Orchestra will perform at Fohs Hall.

Fohs Hall’s history and the events that have taken place there through the generations.

Julius Fohs built the hall and donated it to the citizens of Marion in 1926. Stout said the total investment was about \$96,000, an extraordinary sum at the time and equivalent to several million dollars today.

The gift came with an important condition. Fohs wanted Marion to have running water.

The community had suffered devastating fires, and Fohs was concerned about Marion’s ability to protect itself. Stout said development of a municipal water system was a condition of Fohs constructing the building.

“To have the vision to do such a philanthropic act and donate it to the citizens of Marion was remarkable,” Stout said.

Over the decades, Fohs Hall became far more than a monument to that gift. Generations of local residents went to school there, attended performances, dances, meetings and community celebrations inside its walls. Its survival, however, was not guaranteed.

When the school system built a new Crittenden County Elementary School, a group of residents came together in 1981 because they feared the old building could be abandoned.

Stout was among them. The group formed Fohs Hall Inc. in December 1981. Among those involved were George Pat-

mor, Paul Mick, Richard Conrad, Ethel Tucker, Ed Runyan and Nancy Hunt. The Crittenden County Board of Education conveyed the property to Fohs Hall Inc., in 1982.

A major renovation followed in the late 1980s, and the non-profit has continued operating the building as a civic center and community auditorium.

Stout and Hunt are the surviving members of that original group.

Now another transition is approaching.

After serving as president of Fohs Hall Inc. for 31 years, Stout plans to step down. Brennan Cruce has agreed to be nominated to succeed him as president. The organization has also hired Leah Keene as executive director, a move Stout believes brings new energy and expertise to operating Fohs Hall as an event venue.

Community support for the centennial has come from the Marion Tourism Commission, Crittenden County Tomorrow Inc., and several other sponsors and supporters.

For Stout, who helped save Fohs Hall more than four decades ago, the centennial is more than a birthday celebration. It is another point in the building’s long history when one generation hands responsibility for it to the next.

“Many things do not last 100 years,” he said. “This has lasted 100 years, and it’s doing well.”

CALLED

Continued from page 1
Owensboro. She was accustomed to the conveniences of city living. She found the limitations of a small town hard to get used to.

Larry was born and raised in New Hope, Ky., which is close to Bardstown, so he had a better understanding of, and tolerance for, small-town living.

Shortly after they moved to Marion, Fonda went into the store to buy a newspaper and saw only the Early Bird. When she went to the register to pay for it, she was told that it was free. She was surprised that there was no other newspaper available and even more surprised that the one available was free. Based on the lack of newspapers and also on other things she had noticed in her new location, she decided that Marion really must be in the middle of nowhere!

However, she learned how to survive in her new surroundings and soon realized that her life in Marion was neither as busy nor as hectic as it had been in Owensboro. The people she met were nice, and they looked out for each other.

Larry retired in December 2024, but he went back to work in September 2025. He now works for a contractor and is out on jobs several days every week. In November 2017, after Hurricane Maria devastated Puerto

Rico, he was sent there to help restore power and ended up being there until July 2018. He and his crew worked seven days a week for those eight months.

Fonda and Larry are active in St. William Catholic Church. In addition to her church activities with the Woman’s Guild, Fonda also meets with a group of women at the Methodist church in town, where they sew receiving blankets as part of their Blanket Ministry. The receiving blankets are donated to various hospitals.

Of their four children, three live in Marion and the other one lives in Owensboro. There are six grandchildren, five girls and one boy, ranging in age from 20 downward; they all live in Marion.

Fonda’s brother moved to this area from Virginia a few years ago.

Fonda and Larry attend a lot of sports events as the grandchildren participate in a variety of activities. Attending the children’s games and family get-togethers make up most of their recreational activities and social life.

Asked if they would recommend Marion and Crittenden County to others who were looking to relocate, they said they definitely would. The primary reason for their recommendation is the quiet area and the nice people.

Fonda and Larry recently celebrated their 50th anniversary.



Celebrating Retired Teachers

Crittenden County Judge-Executive Perry Newcom signs a proclamation designating Oct. 19–23 as Retired Teachers Week, joined by retired teachers Linda Brown, Lynann Woodall and Darl Henley. The proclamation recognizes retired educators for their years of service, their lasting contributions to local schools and their continued influence as mentors and community leaders. Newcom encourages residents to express appreciation for teachers who helped prepare generations of students and strengthen the community through their dedication to education.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

THE BIG ANNIVERSARY SALE

will be happening

October 16 & 17

MUMS AVAILABLE

\$11.99 Each

or 2 for \$19.99

Hillside

DISCOUNT GROCERY

Hwy. 91 North of Marion, KY

(7.5 Miles from Downtown Marion on the Left)

HOURS: Mon.-Sat. 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Closed SUNDAY

PUMPKINS

Many Different Kinds Pumpkins and Gourds

Indian Corn and Corn Stalks

Ervin J. Yoder

1870 Cotton Patch Rd.

Marion, KY

Closed Sundays

Be careful out there because it is time for deer movement

Kentucky drivers face a 1 in 100 chance of an animal collision, according to State Farm’s latest analysis of claims. The state ranked 16th nationally for risk in 2025–26, up from 20th the previous year.

State Farm estimated nearly 28,000 animal–collision claims in Kentucky and more than 1.6 million nationwide during the study period. West Virginia ranked first for risk.

Deer become more active in the fall. State Farm advises drivers to slow down and stay alert, especially from dusk to dawn. If an animal enters the road, drivers should brake rather than swerve.

Salem tax bills may have been lost in mail

City of Salem property tax bills were mailed Sept. 22. Some residents may not yet have received theirs, according to a social media post by Salem City Hall. If you have not received yours, call city hall at 270-988-2600 for bill information. You may also stop by city hall. A 2% discount is available for bills paid before Nov. 30.

Schools are stepping up big for local foods

Kentucky officials say 171 school districts have adopted a model purchasing policy aimed at putting more Kentucky-grown food on school menus, including Crittenden County.

The policy follows Senate Bill 5, sponsored by Sen. Jason Howell, R-Murray, whose district includes Crittenden County. The law removes certain state purchasing requirements for Kentucky-grown agricultural products bought by schools participating in federal child nutrition programs. Federal requirements remain in place. During an Oct. 1 legislative meeting, Kentucky Department of Agriculture officials outlined efforts to connect schools with farmers, coordinate purchases with seasonal crops and arrange buying commitments before planting.

Officials are also developing a group-purchasing option for Kentucky-grown foods, with bid language expected by mid-November.

Challenges include shortages of cold storage, meat-processing capacity and refrigerated delivery, along with limited equipment and staff time in school kitchens. Howell said advance purchasing commitments



could help farmers secure financing and expand production.

New county attorney slips in marathon run

Newly installed Crittenden County Attorney Chad Nelson ran a personal-best time of 3 hours, 56 minutes in Sunday’s Portland Marathon in Oregon, shaving about 45 minutes off his previous best.

The 26.2-mile race was Nelson’s third marathon. He previously ran the Mississippi Blues Marathon in Jackson, Miss., and a marathon in Columbus, Ohio, last year.

Nelson said he learned to hate running during his military service but now embraces the challenge and takes it seriously. After a quick trip to Oregon, he was back in the office Tuesday morning.

Nelson, was formally installed last week as county attorney to complete an unexpired term of Bart Frazer, who retired effective Sept. 30. Nelson, who won the GOP primary last spring, will begin a full four-year term as county attorney starting in January.

Water line flushing is continuing this week

The city of Marion will continue flushing water lines nightly through Friday, Oct. 9, as part of routine maintenance. Flushing, which began earlier this week, will take place from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. Customers may experience discolored water or low water pressure at times.

Marion receiving help from FEMA for storm damage last spring

Marion will receive \$113,893.44 in Federal Emergency Management Agency disaster funding to reimburse repairs following severe weather in April and May 2025.

Mayor D’Anna Browning said the award is expected to be used to repay the city for expenditures during responses to weather events and perhaps to improve infrastructure going forward.

The grant will cover repair or replacement of culverts and related components, according to Gov. Andy Beshear’s office,

which announced the funding Wednesday, Sept. 30. Marion’s award is part of more than \$21.9 million in FEMA funds secured for disaster-related expenses across Kentucky.

Students are helping name street sweeper

Marion Mayor D’Anna Browning has invited Crittenden County Elementary School students to draw and name the city’s new street sweeper, which arrived last week. The \$265,000 machine will also collect leaves and include a water jetter to clear clogged pipes. Browning asked students to be imaginative and give it a name. The winning name will become the vehicle’s official moniker, and students’ artwork will be displayed at City Hall.

Livingston court is considering road closures near quarry

Livingston County Fiscal Court has begun the process of considering the closure of several county roads near Pine Bluff Sand and Gravel at Pinckneyville as the company plans an expansion of its mining operation.

The roads under consideration include Cook Springs Road, Spencer Road and a portion of Maddox Loop, Judge-Executive Michael Williams said following the court’s Sept. 22 meeting.

Williams emphasized that no final decision has been made. The process will include public notice, hearings and discussions with residents who could be affected by the closures.

In other business from last month’s court meeting, magistrates approved \$483,715 in monthly bills, including payroll and purchases.

The court also approved an agreement with the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet for an 80–20 reimbursement program for culvert work. Livingston County has identified about 40 deteriorated culverts on county roads.

The county expects to spend at least \$100,000 on the projects and could receive up to \$80,000 in state reimbursement. It will have up to three years to complete the work.

The county has also received state approval to establish a free residential brush disposal site at the Livingston County Transfer Station on the Cut Off Road. Residents will be able to drop off brush during regular operating hours once the site is ready. Commercial tree-trimming companies will not be permitted to use the service.

The county plans to periodically burn accumulated brush under an air-quality permit.



Throwback Thursday: Apple pie bragging rights were on the line during Farmers Day in Marion. Glenda Chandler, (left) and Nancy Lanham, (right) were among the top finishers, with Darl Henley of the Homemakers Extension Club presenting the prizes. Lanham took first place and Chandler finished third. Jeannie Marshall, not pictured, was second.

50 YEARS AGO

October 7, 1976

■ Kwik Pik Markets, Inc., of Madisonville announced plans to construct a 2,400-square-foot store in Marion, with preliminary site work beginning this week 50 years ago. The store was located on the corner of South Main and Gum streets.

■ Five lovely young ladies were in the homecoming court on Friday night prior to the CCHS-Reidland football game. Nominees were Linda Hill and Sandra Boone, both seniors; Sabrina Brantley, sophomore; Debbie York, junior; and Anita Collier, freshman.

■ Representing Crittenden County at the annual meeting of the Kentucky Association of Conservation Districts held Sept. 27-28 were Mr. and Mrs. James L. Gregory, Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Herrin and Mr. and Mrs. William M. Todd. Gregory, Herrin and Todd were recognized and given certificates of service as supervisors of the Crittenden County Conservation District. Their length of service was 20 years for Gregory and 15 years each for Herrin and Todd. The convention was held at Lake Barkley State Resort Park near Cadiz.

10 YEARS AGO

October 4, 2001

■ First cousins Mable Clark and Kate Mitchell celebrated their 100th birthdays. They were born in the Glendale community in Crittenden County and delivered by their grandmother, Lou Clark – the only problem being that no one knew who was born first and is technically the oldest! Both were the oldest members of Marion United Methodist Church, where Clark taught Sunday school and Mitchell sang in the choir.

■ Seven members from the Crittenden County FFA chapter traveled to Murray to attend MSU Racer Round-Up. Members had the opportunity to attend sessions with the theme “Get Plugged In.” The sessions dealt with membership, teamwork, leadership and alumni members. Students also had the chance to play FFA Jeopardy and talk with over 400 other members from across the states of Kentucky, Missouri and Ohio. Local members in attendance were Jenna Haugen, Sallie Wright, James Riley, Nicole Sexton, Robert Holloman, Jeremy Binkley and David Hearell.

■ Master Trooper Darron Holliman of Kentucky State Police Post 2 was named a top member of the agency’s Crisis Intervention Team. The Marion native and Crittenden County resident was recognized with a multi-county regional award for his work helping people experiencing a mental health crisis.

■ Crittenden County Junior Pro football took two games from Trigg County at Rocket Stadium. The third- and fourth-grade team beat Trigg 27-0, and the fifth- and sixth-grade Rockets beat Trigg 34-7. Rocket running back Tyree McLean scored twice, and Kaiden Travis and Caden Howard each scored touchdowns in the first- and fourth-grade game. Quinn Summers had two sacks and eight tackles to lead the defense. Howard also scored three conversion runs for Crittenden, which is now 3-1. Rocket running backs Preston Morgeson and Sam Impastato scored all of Crittenden’s touchdowns in the older group’s game. The fifth- and sixth-graders also won three of four games that season.

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

Crittenden County Public Library

Crittenden County Public Library’s newest selections include Kentucky Gov. Andy Beshear’s Go and Do Likewise: How We Heal a Broken Country, which discusses faith, public service and political division.

Also, available is John Grisham’s The French Illusion, which follows newlyweds Paul and Chelsea Tanner, whose Paris honeymoon turns into a nightmare when they are kidnapped during an excursion into the French countryside. As questions emerge about who targeted the couple and why, investigators discover their abduction may be connected to similar crimes.

Patterson and David Ellis explore a historical mystery in The Munich Affair. The novel begins with the 1931 death of Adolf Hitler’s niece and lover, Geli Raubal, and follows a detective and journalist whose pursuit of the truth places their families in danger. A present-day professor later encounters neo-Nazis determined to protect long-held secrets.

Patterson also teams with Mike Lupica for The Country Road Murders, about a gifted two-sport athlete whose future is derailed by a deadly accident. Meanwhile, Double Tap by Vince Flynn and Don Bentley sends a young Mitch Rapp on his first deep-cover assignment inside a terrorist organization planning to unleash a weapon of mass destruction.

Crime readers also may choose Fury in Death, the latest Eve Dallas thriller by J.D. Robb. The investigation begins after a wealthy biotechnology executive is found beaten to death in his home office.

Among the new fantasy selections is Leigh Bardugo’s Dead Beat, the conclusion to the Ninth House trilogy. Alex Stern returns from hell but leaves a passage open, allowing demons to enter New Haven and the Yale campus. Geneva Lee’s Harbinger offers epic fantasy, political intrigue and romance, while J.R. Ward continues her Black Dagger Brotherhood series with Lover Enthroned.



Historical fiction fans may enjoy Kate Atkinson’s Our Noble Selves, set in post-World War II London. The story follows former war correspondent Harry Flynn as he joins the group preparing the Festival of Britain and discovers some of his co-workers may have hidden agendas.

Downloadable audiobooks include Laura Purcell’s Gothic mystery The Silent Companions, about a pregnant young widow who discovers a disturbing wooden figure inside her late husband’s secluded estate.

Letters POLICY

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. They are for our records only in order to authenticate a letter’s author. 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. Writers should limit their letters to no more than one per month. Original copies of submitted letters will be retained in our files. Letters should be emailed to the The Press at thepress@the-press.com. If email is unavailable, they can be presented at our office or sent to P.O. Box 191, Marion, Ky., 42064.

During election cycles, no endorsement or opposing letters will be published in the final newspaper prior to election day.

The Crittenden Press

USPS 138-260

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The faith of a new generation

I still remember where I was standing the day an older and well-respected preacher walked up to me and said, “You’ll never make much of a preacher if you dress like that.” I was a youth intern for the summer. It was a Tuesday night youth event. I was wearing sandals. Thus continued this boomer’s deconstruction story. We didn’t call it that back then. I don’t think we had a name for it.

It is what every generation does as faith is passed down over the years. What is important to one generation becomes irrelevant (or at least seemingly so) to the next. Each generation is presented with a new set of social issues and pressures that their grandparents’ generation could not imagine. That has been the case now since the beginning of the industrial revolution – probably longer.

I was recently in a meeting with a group of mostly older Christians. In an open forum discussion, one person railed against the immorality and secularization of the younger generations. They were concerned about them leaving their faith and their loose sexual standards (they were young

adults in the 1960s and early 70s and didn’t see the irony). After about five minutes of expressing genuine concern and



Sean NIESTRATH
Faith-based columnist
Faith, History, and Public Life

pain, one of the younger people sitting in front of them would not be denied a comment. This one came with tears concerning a friend who had a roommate who was homosexual. The friend invited the roommate to their house and the roommate declined because they found out the host was a

Christian. The commenter was suggesting that this prejudice toward Christianity has been earned by the response and behavior toward those who Christians believe are sinners. It is not the Christians’ belief that is problematic. It is attitude.

Today’s twenty- and thirty-year-olds are struggling mightily with their faith. They are struggling because faith has been politicized on the left and on the right. It has become the distorted face of the church for many. In other places the faith presented in the Gospels has cut off the demands of following Jesus, forgetting that every teaching section in the Gospel of Matthew ends with a statement about judgment.

Anyone paying attention at all understands that younger generations in the United States are taking their faith far more seriously than given credit. They are trying desperately to deal with the disconnect between what they heard and what they saw from the previous generation.

I saw an image recently of the current administration surrounded by religious leaders who have taken stands in diplomacy, Israel, war, abortion, and immigration. If you want to see what they stand for – look around. When younger generations – who do not remember anything before the year 2000 – see this, they see what is presented as Christianity. They would look at that picture and see this from Matthew 23:1-5,

“Then said Jesus to the crowds and to his disciples, “The scribes and the Pharisees sit on Moses’ seat; so practice and observe whatever they tell you, but not what they do; for they preach, but do not practice. They bind heavy burdens, hard to bear, and lay them on men’s shoulders; but they themselves will not move them with their finger. They do all their deeds to be seen by men; for they make their phylacteries broad and their fringes long, and they love the place of honor at feasts and the best seats in the synagogues, and salutations in the market plac-

es, and being called rabbi by men.” (RSV)

It seems that Jesus was a deconstructionist long before that was ever a word. Most of what he said challenged both the political world and the religious world that he inhabited. Followers of Jesus are not afraid of critique of their faith. They are not afraid of empires.

We need not condemn previous generations, but we need not lionize them either. When our vision gets clouded by our culture it is time to pray that we be healed of our blindness. When we stop listening to the cries of those who are seeking a faith that does not behave the way we expect, it is time to pray that our ears be opened.

Perhaps one of the things that we should fear most is that God answers the prayers of those who claim the face of some parts of Christianity. I, for one, hope that he does not. I have heard some of those prayers and they terrify me.

Be patient with those who are struggling with faith. The key here is “with faith.” I guarantee it will not look the same as their grandparents’, but that does not mean that it is any less faithful.

Sean is always interested in feedback and conversation. He can be reached at sean.niestrath@outlook.com. He publishes a daily devotional via Substack at seanniestrath.substack.com.

Religious Outreach

- Suicidal thoughts? Stop! Email dbrantpc@tds.net and request a video link that hopefully will change your mind.
- Salem Baptist Celebrate Recovery meets Monday’s 5:30 p.m. with a meal at 6 p.m., at 209 Highland Street, opposite side of the building from the Thrift Store.
- Old Salem Baptist Church has a Blessing Box located next to the church at 117 Old Salem Church Rd. Everyone is welcome to take items or place them in the box for others to enjoy.
- A blessing box containing non-perishable food and household goods is located on the Bellville Street entrance of Marion United Methodist Church.
- First Baptist Church of Fredonia food pantry is open from 4-5:30 p.m., third Wednesday of each month in Coleman Hall of the church.
- Cave Springs Baptist Church between Lola and Joy in Livingston County offers food 24 hours a day, 7 days week at its outdoor Blessing Box in front of the church.
- Salem Baptist Church Thrift Store is open 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Tuesday and Saturday at 209 Highland St., Salem.
- The Clothes Closet of the First Baptist Church in Fredonia is open to serve the area with free clothes. The Clothes Closet is operated from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. each Thursday. The Clothes Closet will be closed in case of severe weather.
- Fredonia Unity Baptist Church’s clothes closet is open from 9 a.m. to noon on the second and fourth Saturday of every month.
- The clothes closet at Mexico Baptist Church is open from 9 to 11:30 a.m. each Monday.

God loves you enough to speak to you

Question: Some people say God speaks to them. I don’t know about that. So far, I’ve never experienced Him speaking to me. If He speaks to me, what adjustments do I need to make to hear Him speaking?

Answer: The Bible is filled with examples of God speaking—sometimes in thunder, sometimes in a whisper, or through nature. Since the Holy Spirit indwells in every child of God, He speaks to our mind, heart or conscience. When

ASK the PASTOR

By Bob Hardison



He speaks, it’s not just to inform us; it’s to invite us into His work. Many people miss this because they interpret life only through what they can see or hear.

We often miss God speaking to us because we are not focusing on spiritual realities. We need a shift in our perspective—to move

from a purely physical understanding of the world to a spiritual one. When we align our view with God’s truth revealed in His Word, we see His voice is not distant or rare—it’s present, active, and personal.

God spoke to Moses from a burning bush. He exclaimed, “I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob” (Ex. 3:6). God spoke to Moses and He speaks to you and me.

God loves us so much

He sent His one and only Son into the world to pay our sin-debt. The fact that God loves us and initiates a relationship with us is one of most reassuring realities of life. We don’t somehow discover God; in love, He reveals Himself to us. And that experience will be very real and very personal. Knowing God loves us and speaks to us changes everything. We are never alone.!

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.
Father Jojy Joseph (270) 965-2477

Mexico Baptist Church



Steve Harris, Interim Pastor
Mike Crabtree, Minister of Music
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



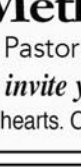
Sunday Bible Study: 10 a.m.
Sunday Worship: 11 a.m. & 6 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study: 7 p.m.
"Whatever It Takes"
Bro. Jamie Baker
Approx. 5 miles from the intersection of Hwy. 60 & Hwy. 297
Phone: (270) 965-2220

Emmanuel Baptist Church



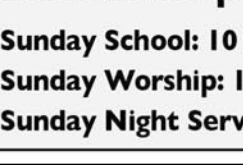
108 Hillcrest Dr., Marion | (270) 965-4623
Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship: 10:45 a.m., 6 p.m.
Wednesday Adult Bible Study, Children and Youth Activities: 6 p.m.
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Tolu Methodist Church



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

Barnett Chapel General Baptist



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

Freedom General Baptist Church



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

Marion Baptist Church



College & Depot streets, Marion • (270) 965-5232
Pastor: Bro. Aaron Brown • Children's & Youth Pastor: Bro. Shawn Holeman
SUNDAY MORNING SERVICES: 9 a.m. & 11 a.m., ONLINE 11 a.m., SUNDAY SCHOOL: 10:05 a.m.
WEDNESDAY: BIBLE STUDY/PRAYER 6 p.m., AWANA FOR CHILDREN & YOUTH GROUPS 6 p.m.
CHOIR PRACTICE: 6:45 p.m., PRAISE TEAM: 7:30 p.m.

Crooked Creek Baptist Church



261 Crooked Creek Church Rd., P.O. Box 442, Marion, Ky. • (270) 704-0914
Sunday School: 10 a.m.
Sunday Worship: 11 a.m.
Pastor, Hank Cayce "Come and Worship with Us"

Crayne Community Church



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

FIRST CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



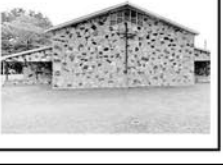
224 W. Bellville St., Marion, Ky.
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Sunday Worship 10:45 a.m.
David LeNeave, Pastor

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.
Morning Service 11 a.m.
Sun. Evening 6 p.m. • Wed. Evening 6 p.m.
"Where salvation makes you a member."

Marion General Baptist Church



341 West Bellville St., Marion, KY
Sunday School 10 a.m.
Worship Service 11 a.m.
Evening Service 6 p.m.
Wednesday Evening 6 p.m.
Pastor: Bro. Wesley Lynn
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PINEY FORK CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Speaker: Greg Rushing
SUNDAY School 10 a.m. Worship 11 a.m. Bible study 6 p.m.
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Ky. 506 | Marion, Ky.

Sugar Grove Cumberland Presbyterian



585 Sugar Grove Church Rd., Marion, Ky.
Sun. School: 10 a.m. | Sun. Worship: 11 a.m. & 6 p.m.
Wed. Bible Study: 7 p.m.

Marion Methodist Church



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

Frances Community Church



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

Hurricane Church



Hurricane Church Rd. off Ky. 135 West
Sun. School, 10 a.m. • Worship, 11 a.m.
Sun. Evening services, 6 p.m.
Wed. Evening services, 7 p.m.

Unity General Baptist Church



4691 Mott City Rd. • Marion, Ky.
Bro. Chris Collins, Pastor
Sunday School 10 a.m.
Sunday Worship 11 a.m.

Marion Church of Christ



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

Crittenden countians who left their mark on history

Some Marion and Crittenden County folks have left their mark in history by being so respected and admired that they have landmarks of significance named for them. Here are a few.

The Pogue Library at Murray State University.

The Pogue Library was completed in 1931. It was named in honor of Dr. Forrest C. Pogue, a 1931 Murray State University alumnus. Dr. Pogue was a nationally-know historian and biographer of General George C. Marshall. Dr. Pogue was a pioneer in oral history techniques, interviewing not only c o m b a t troops but also many world leaders. He also wrote several books on World War II military generals and United State history. In 1998, he donated his books, personal papers and memorabilia to the library.

Although born in Ed-dyville, Ky., the son of Forrest Carlisle Pogue, Sr. and Fanny Carter Pogue, he grew up in the community of Frances. There he went to elementary school and second-ary school, except when he transferred to Dycus-burg for his senior year because his grandfather was principal there.

Dr. Pogue died Oct. 6, 1996 and is buried in the family plot at the Fran-ces Cemetery in Frances, Ky.

The Lowry Center at Murray State University

Clifton Sigbee Lowry, son of David Allen and Martha Clift Lowery, was born in Caldwell County but the family moved to Crittenden C o u n t y when Clif-ton was six years old. He grew up in Critten-den County. Clifton started his education at Bowling Green in its new education depart-ment, earned his bach-elor’s, master’s and doc-torate degrees from the University of Kentucky and a master’s degree from Harvard University.

He began his teaching career at Murray in the Social Sciences Depart-ment on Sept. 10, 1925, when the institution was named Murray Normal School. He was on the faculty during all stages of the school’s history as a normal school, teach-ers’ college, college and university.

The Lowry Library Annex at the university was named in his honor in 1967 and the Dr. C. S. Lowry Distinguished Lecture in the Human-ities was created after his retirement.

Dr. Lowry’s parents are buried at Mapleview

Cemetery. He died in 1992 in Texas but is bur-ied in Pleasant Hill Cem-etery in Caldwell County.



Brenda Underdown
County Historian

Forgotten Passages



Dr. Forrest C. Pogue

Walter E. Blackburn Science Building at Murray State University.

Walter E. Blackburn was a native of Marion and the son of Wal-ter A. and Cora Hurley Black-burn. His fa-ther, Walter A., was a very prominent fig-ure in different government of-fices in Marion.



Walter E. Blackburn

Dr. Black-burn became head of the Department of Physical Sciences at Murray in 1945. He became chair-man of the chem-istry de-partment in 1958, dean of the School of Arts and Sciences in 1968, and dean of the College of Environmental Sciences in the reorganized uni-versity structure. He be-came well known for his work in directing Nation-al Science Foundation Summer Science Insti-tute on the campus and was awarded the coveted Distinguished Professor Award by the Murray State Alumni Association in 1967.

Blackburn died in Sep-tember 1974 in Murray. His parents are buried in the Mapleview Cemetery. Dr. Walter Blackburn died Sept. 20, 1974 in Murray and is buried at Murray Cemetery.

Franklin College – at Murray State University

Hollis C. Franklin, one of West Kentucky’s most beloved cit-izens, was the son of Elijah T. and Mat-tie Love Franklin. He was born and raised in the Hebron commu-nity. Frank-lin attended Western Kentucky Normal School in Bowling Green (now



Hollis C. Franklin

known as Western Ken-tucky University). He taught in school in Crit-tenden County and at Marion High School be-fore accepting his po-sition at a bank in 1918. He was widely known for his work in the Method-ist Church and in the Kentucky Bankers As-sociation. He is a former regent of Murray State College and served on the board from 1947-1956. Franklin Col-lege was constructed in 1964 and was named for him. The residence hall merged with the Spring-er Hall in 1997 and now is known as Spring-er-Franklin College. (In 2016 a new building was opened and was named in honor of its Marion namesake, It is actual-ly the second building to carry his name. The original Franklin Hall opened in 1963 and was also a dorm. The new Franklin College build-ing is considerably larg-er and holds an addition of 50 beds, with a larger lounge, study areas and meeting space.)

Hollis Franklin died Dec. 2, 1958 and is bur-ied in Mapleview Cem-etery.

Joe Clifton Drive, Paducah, Ky

Joseph C. Clifton was born in Marion on Oct. 31, 1906. He was the son of Thom-as Clifton and Pearl Cook Clif-ton. He had one brother, Robert Clif-ton.



Admiral Joe Clifton

Their father died May 20, 1910 while the boys were very young. Their mother moved to Paducah with her little boys to make her home near her parents.

After graduating from Tilghman High School with honors, Joseph re-ceived an appointment to the Naval Academy at Annapolis, Md. He grad-uated there with honors, and during World War II was commander of the U.S. Saratoga. He was a Navy pilot and was known as “Jumping Joe” during the early years of the war. He retired to California as an admiral, USN, died there on Dec. 25, 1967 and is buried in Arlington National Cem-etery.

Joseph’s family roots

were deeply rooted in Crittenden County as he was grandson to James H. Clifton of Dycusburg. The Clifton family resid-ed in Dycusburg in the 1870s, and James H. was a prominent busi-nessman.

Joseph Clifton’s par-ents, Joseph and Pearl are buried in Mapleview Cemetery. Admiral Jo-seph Clifton died Dec. 1967 in LosAngeles, Cal-if., and is buried in Ar-lington National Cem-etery.

Charles Evans Elementary School - Ardmore, Okla.

Charles Evans, born in the small village of Sa-lem, on Aug. 16, 1870, was the son of an im-poverished blacksmith and devo-ted mother who be-came one of the great names in educa-tional states-manship.



Charles Evans

He began teaching at Salem, Ky. in 1887. He was selected principal of Marion Schools in 1893. In 1897, Dr. Evans intro-duced in the high school the subject of geology. It was the first time geology had been placed into the high school of the United States. He was super-intendent of the Marion City School from 1895 to 1905.

It was another Critten-den Countian who was responsible for luring Dr. Evans from Marion to Ardmore, Okla. – Mr. William E. Cruce. Mr. Cruce was president of the Board o Education in the City School of Ardmore when Oklaho-ma was still a territory. Cruce came to Marion for a visit and learned much of young Mr. Evans and his leadership as super-intendent of Marion City School and urged him to go to Ardmore.

So it was that Charles Evans began an educa-tion career in Oklaho-ma Territory, soon after to become a new state. That career lasted al-most 50 years. In Octo-ber 1952, Dr. Evans re-ceived a letter from the superintendent of the Ardmore City School and told him that the Board of Education of Ardmore, out of gratitude and re-spect for his many years

of service to the Educa-tion of Ardmore, had de-cided to name a modern \$250,000 school building to be completed. It was to be named the Charles Evans School. Charles Evans died May1, 1964 at Ardmore, Okla., and is buried there.

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

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Crittenden County, KY – 135.85 Acres - \$750,000.00
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PENDING! Crittenden County, KY – 15.44 Acres
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SportsShorts

SOCCER District tournament is Monday

On Monday, Sept. 28, the Lady Rockets lost 9-1 at home to Mayfield. Adri Berry was the lone Lady Rocket to find the back of the net off Aliza Maraman's assist. Macibelle Hardesty had 16 saves in the contest and Isabella Walston had four.

On Tuesday, Sept. 29, the Lady Rockets took on the winless Bravettes in Morganfield, beating Union County 8-2. Kylie Bloodworth had three goals and one assist and Berry had four goals and one assist. Isabel Geary also had a left-footed goal and an assist. Addie Morries put up one assist in the contest.

The Lady Rockets closed out the regular season Tuesday against Todd County Central. The results of that game were not available by press time. The Lady Rockets are 5-8-2 and will play in the Fifth District Tournament Monday at Lyon County.

MIDDLE SCHOOL FOOTBALL Rockets play Campbellsville

Crittenden County's state playoff football game has been set for 5:30 p.m., on Saturday, Oct. 17 on the road against Campbellsville.

CROSS COUNTRY Nelson leads girls in Mad Dash

Crittenden County finished 13th among 16 teams Saturday in a cross country 5K race at Owensboro. River Rogers led the Rockets, placing 38th in 18:34.70. Other Crittenden finishers were Noah Martinez, 42nd, 18:51.70; Aiden Musser, 71st, 20:18.10; Miles Yates, 102nd, 22:03.10; and Barrett Brown, 122nd, 26:54.60. In girls' competition at Owensboro, Presley Potter led Crittenden County, placing 80th in 27:53.90. London McCord finished 82nd in 28:15.50, and Isabella Walston was 86th in 30:37.20.

Last Thursday at the Marshall County Mad Dash, Crittenden County's boys finished third among five teams in a 3,200-meter race. Noah Martinez led the Rockets, placing fourth in 12:06.16, followed by River Rogers, fifth in 12:15.73. Other Crittenden finishers were Aiden Musser, 12th, 12:50.90; Miles Yates, 28th, 13:43.09; and Barrett Brown, 53rd, 16:43.55. For the girls, Addie Nelson led Crittenden County, placing eighth in 15:27.62. Other Crittenden finishers were Presley Potter, 47th, 18:25.76; London McCord, 57th, 19:26.12; and Isabella Walston, 64th, 20:31.98.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL Wildcats drop out of AP's Top 25

Kentucky slipped out of the Associated Press Top 25 on Sunday despite a 35-34 overtime victory over South Carolina on Saturday. The Wildcats, ranked No. 24 last week, received 160 points, two fewer than unbeaten Pittsburgh, which entered at No. 25. Kentucky is No. 25 in the Coaches Poll. Missouri climbed to No. 14 after routing Florida. The Gators fell eight spots to No. 16, while LSU moved into the top 10. Texas remained No. 1 for the fourth consecutive week heading into Saturday's Red River Rivalry against Oklahoma. Georgia, Notre Dame, Miami and Ohio State rounded out the top five.

UPCOMING GAMES / MATCHES Crittenden Sports Schedule

- Oct. 10 Cross country at Eagle Classic at Mayfield
- Oct. 12 Soccer District Tournament at Lyon County
- Oct. 12 Volleyball at Todd Central
- Oct. 13 Cross country at FCA All-Comers Meet at Paducah
- Oct. 13 Volleyball vs Webster County

OUTDOORS Hunting Seasons

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

Squirrel	Aug 15 - Nov 13
Dove	Sept 1 - Oct 26
Deer Archery	Sept 5 - Jan 18
Turkey Archery	Sept 5 - Jan 18
Deer Crossbow	Sept 19 - Jan 18
Turkey Crossbow	Oct 1-18
Deer Youth	Oct 10-18
Deer Muzzleloader	Oct 17-18
Turkey Gun	Oct 24-30
Deer Gun	Nov 14-29
Turkey Crossbow	Nov 14 - Dec 31
Squirrel	Nov 16 - Feb 28
Dove	Nov 26 - Dec 6
Duck	Nov 26-29
Turkey Gun	Dec 5-11
Duck	Dec 7 - Jan 31
Deer Muzzleloader	Dec 12-20
Goose	Nov 26 - Feb 15
Dove	Dec 19 - Jan 10
Deer Youth Free	Dec 26-27
Bullfrog	May 16 - Oct. 31
Coyote daytime	Year Round
Ground hog	Year Round

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Lady Rocket Emerye Pollard attacks on the frontline against Lyon County in the final regular-season district matchup. Photo by Greg Perryman.

Dynastic run sets Crittenden volleyball apart

STAFF REPORT

Milestones seldom come easily, and the Lady Rockets had to earn their latest last week, outlasting Lyon County in five sets to finish another regular season unbeaten against district opponents.

Crittenden County has accomplished that feat every season since 2020, a run that ranks among the most dominant stretches in county sports history.

Lyon County made the Lady Rockets work for this one. In their first season of volleyball under former CCHS coach Cara Hunt, the Lady Lyons have already established themselves as a formidable opponent, but Crittenden was able to win their final Fifth District showdown 3-2 last Thursday at Eddyville. The girls also last week beat Livingston Central 3-1 in district play last week. Those wins wrapped up league play with CCHS once again undefeated and collecting the No. 1 seed going into the post-season tournament. The girls have won four straight matches and are 13-12 overall.

The girls close out the regular season this week against Todd, Webster and Christian. Then, the district tournament will be played Oct. 19-20 at Livingston Central with Crittenden being the favorite.

Rockets rout Rebels ahead of bye

STAFF REPORT

After a sometimes difficult first half that included a couple of lopsided losses and one hard-fought district win, it was about time for the Rockets to get a walk in the park.

Crittenden County (2-4 overall) improved to 2-1 in Class 2A First District action and heads into a bye this week after dispatching winless Todd County Central 36-0 Friday in something akin to an abbreviated game.

The Rockets white-washed the Rebels in the first half, imposing the mercy-rule running clock with just under six minutes to go before halftime. Todd's hapless offense struggled to simply get a snap off in the shotgun formation, fumbled often and failed to cover two CCHS kickoffs. The Rebels had minus-21 yards of offense in the first half and finished with no rushing yards. Of their 73 passing yards, 43 came on one play late in the second half against the Crittenden reserves.

For the second half, the game was shortened from 12- to eight-minute quarters.

Junior starting quarterback Conner Poindexter, who missed last week's game because of a knee injury, came back and completed all four of his attempts and threw one touchdown.

Hayden Hughes, who had played superbly last week as backup QB, played every other offensive series in the first half, completing both of his passes, including a touchdown to Davis Perryman. Hughes also covered a kickoff in the first half, and Draven Farmer and Joel Bumpus each recovered Todd Central fumbles.

Noah Byford, who caught the game's first scoring pass from Poindexter, also had two fumble recoveries, including one that gave the Rockets a short field on its second possession. From there CCHS scored its first of three rushing touchdowns. Eli Lovell rushed for two scores and Logan Nolan another. CCHS scored on all five first-half possessions and kicker Mitchell Brown remained perfect on the season, making all four of his PATs.

Crittenden has secured a spot in the postseason with two district wins and can improve its playoff seeding with a victory next week at Rocket Stadium for homecoming against Fort Campbell.



Rocket back Kaden Herrington rushes ahead for a gain against Todd Central last week in Elkton.

Poindexter (Eli Lovell run) 6:04, 1st C-Lovell, 3 run (Mitchell Brown kick), 4:01, 1st C-Lovell 11 pass from Poindexter (Brown kick), 2:29, 1st C-Davis Perryman 11 pass from Hayden Hughes (Brown kick), 9:47, 2nd C-Logan Nolan, 3 run (Brown kick), 5:09, 2nd

Hughes 2-2-0, 17; Daniel 1-1-0, (-6).

Receiving
CCHS: Hayden Hughes 2-36, Byford 1-8, Lovell 1-(-5), Perryman 1-11, Kaden Herrington 1-7, Dalton Murray 1-(-6).

Defense: Byford 3 solos, 2 TFL, 2 fumble recoveries; Murray 3 solos, assist, caused fumble, TFL; Perryman assist, roach; J.Rich roach; Hewitt assist; Lovell 2 solos; Nash solo, assist, TFL; A.Rich 3 solos, assist, TFL; Bumpus solo; Counts solo, assist; Croft 3 solos, 2 TFL; Herrington 2 solos, assist, TFL, sack; Hughes solo, assist, fumble recovery; Daniel fumble recovery; Walters solo, assist, 2 roaches; Farmer roach.

Players of the Game: Offense Logan Nolan, Defense Noah Byford, Lineman Parker Phillips, Special teams Mitchell Brown.

Records: CCHS 3-4 (2-1), TCC 0-7, 0-3.

TEAM TOTALS
First Downs: CCHS 11, TCC 3
Penalties: CCHS 10-80, TCC 8-90
Rushing: 27-155, TCC 15-0
Passing: CCHS 7-7-0, 51; TCC 7-12-0, 73
Total Yards: CCHS 206, TCC 73
Fumbles/Lost: CCHS 5-2, TCC 7-4

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS
Rushing
CCHS: Nolan 9-54, Joel Bumpus 5-39, Troy Daniel 5-22, Lovell 1-3, Hayden Hughes 1-22, Caden Blazina 3-16, Poindexter 3-(-1).

Passing
CCHS: Poindexter 4-4-0, 40;



Five Crittenden County Middle School football players were selected to the All West Kentucky Athletic Conference team, which was announced last week. The team finished third in the league. Those chosen were (from left) Bode Merrill, Brady Polk, Eli Moss, Kevin Little and Parker Day.



At the sideline Friday night at Todd Central, Rocket quarterback Conner Poindexter gets a play from offensive coordinator Austin Berry.



CCHS freshman cross country runner Miles Yates



CCHS senior cross country runner Presley Potter trailed by Isabella Walston

Nix reflects on experience during Breast Cancer Awareness Month

STAFF REPORT

Dana Nix has spent years helping women through mam-mograms at Livingston Hospi-tal Deaconess Kentucky. She understands the importance of regular screening and knows exactly what to expect from the procedure.

Still, like many women bal-ancing work and family, the Marion resident had allowed her own annual mammogram to slip a little past schedule.

Then, an unexpected open-ing in the hospital’s radiology schedule gave her an opportu-nity to catch up.

“We had a couple of people who didn’t show up, and it was a little past time for me to have my mammogram,” Nix re-called. “I called and got an order, and I had it done to fill one of those openings.”

That decision may have saved her life.

Nix is an X-ray, mammogra-phy and CT technologist at Liv-ingston Hospital. She and her husband, Ronnie Nix, live in Marion. Their children are Tally Joyce, a teacher, and Tanner Nix. She is the daugh-ter of David Wigginton, who



Deanna Nix administers a mam-mogram as part of her everyday routine at Livingston Hospital.

was in the insurance business in Marion for many years, and Charlotte Wigginton of Fredo-nia.

Nix was 48 when her mam-mogram revealed an area that required additional images. After those images were re-

viewed, a biopsy was recom-mended.

Even with her medical train-ing and experience, Nix found it difficult to believe she might have breast cancer.

“I thought a biopsy was a waste of time,” she said. “I thought it was crazy. I never thought of myself as someone who would have breast cancer. It didn’t run in my family.”

She underwent the biopsy anyway. The results confirmed that she had breast cancer.

Her experience taught her a lesson she now shares with women who may be tempted to delay a mammogram: Breast cancer can happen to anyone, even someone without a known family history.

“If it happened to me, it can happen to anybody,” Nix said. “Just do it. It’s quick, and it could save your life.”

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month, which em-phasizes awareness, screening and early detection. For Nix, however, encouraging women to be screened is a year-round mission.

She frequently meets pa-tients who have postponed

mammograms because they are worried the procedure will be painful. Some arrive fright-ened after hearing others de-scribe unpleasant experiences.

Nix understands their anx-iety, but she does not want fear of a few moments of discomfort to keep someone from receiving a potentially lifesaving exami-nation.

“You don’t want someone to avoid having a mammogram because she is afraid it is going to hurt,” she said. “It could save her life.”

Livingston Hospital’s newer mammography equipment is designed to make the proce-dure more comfortable. Its comfort paddle adjusts the pressure applied to different areas of breast tissue instead of continuing to increase pres-sure uniformly against the chest wall.

Nix said patients who have had mammograms using older equipment often notice a differ-ence.

“It’s still not something any-one would call fun, but it is much better than it used to be,” she said. “Most women have told us how much more

comfortable it is.”

The screening itself takes only a few minutes.

“You are in and out very quickly,” Nix said. “For some-thing that could save your life, it is worth taking that time.”

Patients need an order from a healthcare provider to receive a mammogram at Livingston Hospital. Results are sent to the referring provider, and the patient also receives a letter explaining the findings. If addi-tional images or follow-up care are needed, the patient’s provider helps coordinate the next step.

Nix’s cancer was discovered because she recognized that she was due for a mammogram and took advantage of an op-portunity to have it done. Her experience is a reminder that even healthcare professionals can become busy, postpone appointments or believe cancer is something that happens to someone else.

“Don’t let it go too long,” Nix said. “Have your mammogram every year. It can happen to anybody.”

Kentucky car titles transferring to digital

SPECIAL TO THE PRESS

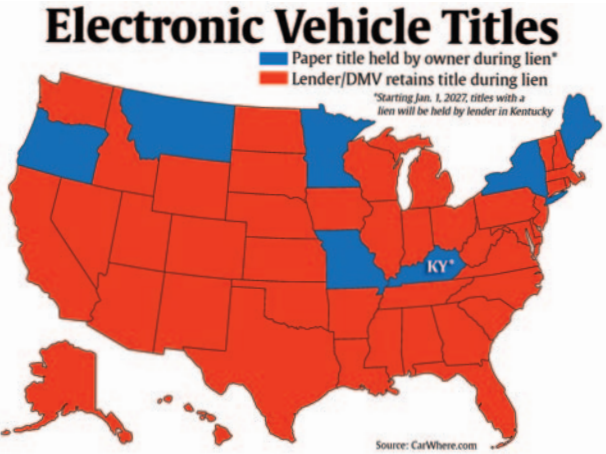
Kentucky car titles transitioning to digital

Starting next year, tit-ling a new vehicle in Kentucky takes a leap into the 21st century.

Beginning Jan. 1, no paper title will be issued to new owners who fi-nance their purchase through a lender. In-stead, an electronic ver-sion of the car title will be held by the respective lienholder. Once the lien is satisfied, the owner may request the tradi-tional paper title that generations of drivers have retained in safes, lock boxes or the glove box of their vehicle.

It will not affect people who already maintain a paper title to their ve-hicle.

This is part of a broader modernization for vehicle title and regis-tration processing for Kentucky, matching a nationwide trend. Ac-cording to CarWhere.com, an inde-pendent automotive re-search platform, Kentucky is one of only seven states to still issue a paper title when a loan exists on the car.



Two years ago, the Bluegrass State moved to electronic lien and title (ELT) processing, which allowed dealerships to submit payment and documentation electroni-cally to county clerk of-fices for speedier and more secure and accu-rate processing of title work. Lauded as one of the most modern ELT systems in the country, a paper title is still gener-ated for the vehicle owner.

But in 2027, virtually all auto dealers will be re-quired to submit their title work electronically. Only small dealers who

sell fewer than 25 vehi-cles in a year will be ex-empt from digital submission.

Should the vehicle be purchased with a loan, only the party financ-ing the buy will have access to the electronic title. The person in whose name the vehicle is titled may request a paper title at a cost of \$6.00 when the lien is digitally released upon payoff. This also speeds the process of re-leasing a lien, which is currently slowed by mail or courier service.

“There are still ques-tions to be answered for county clerks and drivers

as far as paperwork and processes for the move to electronic titles,” said Crittenden County Clerk Daryl Tabor, “but we are excited for yet another step toward efficiency and security. As the new year draws closer, we ex-pect to have answers and share those with our con-stituents.”

People who already possess a hard copy of the title to their vehicle will be unaffected, whether there is a lien or the title is clear. If a ve-hicle is purchased outright with payment in full at

the time of transfer, the buyer will still be able to get a paper title as is cur-rently the case. Most per-son-to-person deals will be unaffected by the changes.

The modernization was part of Senate Bill 110, sponsored in the Ken-tucky General Assembly earlier this year by Sen. Jason Howell, who rep-resents Crittenden County in Frankfort’s upper chamber.

“Senate Bill 110 is about making govern-ment work better for Kentuckians,” Howell

said in a Kentucky Sen-ate news release in Feb-ruary. “This legislation ... ensures our electronic tit-ling and lien systems are ready, reliable and effi-cient before we fully tran-sition.”

The legislation that be-came law over the sum-mer also will eventually allow vehicle registra-tion renewal and tax notices to be sent to owners by email or text instead of unreliable postcards, should the person choose. This will go into effect in 2028.



Students recognized by the Crittenden County Board of Education Sept. 28 as effective communicators are (from left) CCHS student Basilio “Leo” Sekap, CCMS student Gannon Taylor and CCES student Anna Beth Blackburn. Being a courteous and effective communicator is one of the seven elements of the district’s Portrait of a Rocket, which outlines characteristics the district strives to develop in every Crittenden County graduate.



Business owner Catherine Purdiman, center with scissors, cuts the ribbon Friday at LRAH Cares, a new assisted-living home at 60 Nichols Ave., in Marion. Joining her for the celebration are Crittenden County Chamber of Commerce representatives, community members and staff.

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