

By the Numbers

School Assessments

Here is a list of the most recent Kentucky Summative Assessment (KSA) results for the Crittenden County School District.

Crittenden Elementary School

Reading
14% Distinguished
31% Proficient

Math
10% Distinguished
37% Proficient

Crittenden Middle School

Reading
20% Distinguished
32% Proficient

Math
12% Distinguished
45% Proficient

Crittenden High School

Reading
16% Distinguished
34% Proficient

Math:
10% Distinguished
21% Proficient

Source: Crittenden County School District 2023–2024 Kentucky Summative Assessment (KSA) results. Additional information can be found at Kentucky School Report Card.

15 now legal age for driver permit

Kentucky teens can now get behind the wheel a little sooner. House Bill 15, which allows 15-year-olds to obtain a driver's permit, is now in effect. Kentucky Transportation Cabinet is upgrading its system to issue credentials enabling eligible 15-year-olds to take the written permit test. Starting April 2, applicants can begin scheduling appointments with the Kentucky State Police. Those who made earlier appointments should reschedule to avoid delays. In preparation, applicants are encouraged to sign up for updates at drive.ky.gov, gather required documents, including a birth certificate, Social Security card and School Compliance Verification Form, and begin studying the Kentucky Driver's Manual. The law extends the time young drivers can hold a permit, but a license still cannot be obtained until age 16.

Free hearing tests

Crittenden Countians will have an opportunity to receive free hearing tests on Tuesday, April 22 at Marion Baptist Church. The KY HEARS event will run from 9 a.m., to 2 p.m., and offer full diagnostic hearing tests, quick five-minute screenings using hearing test machines, and hearing healthcare navigation services. The service is provided at no cost, thanks to coordination by Crittenden County Circuit Court. For more information, call (800) 958-9610.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- Marion Code Enforcement Board meets at 5 p.m., Monday, April 7 at city hall.
- Crittenden County Fiscal Court will meet at 6 p.m., Monday, April 7 at the county office complex to discuss possible creation of a new taxing district.
- Livingston County Board of Education meets at 5 p.m., Monday, April 14.
- Caldwell County Fiscal Court meets at 9 a.m., Tuesday, April 8 at the courthouse.

The Crittenden Press

USPS 138-260 / Marion, Ky.



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Outstanding - Educator - CCMS science teacher earns Challenger honor

STAFF REPORT

Crittenden County Middle School science teacher Neal Bryant has been selected Outstanding Educator this year by the Challenger Learning Center at Paducah, an honor that includes receiving the President's Award – a special recognition set aside for educators and community members who show exceptional support to West Kentucky Community and Technical College (WKCTC).

Bryant was formally honored during the Regional Educators Awards and Scholarship Program at WKCTC last Thursday. The award was presented by WKCTC President Dr. Anton Reece and Challenger Learning Center Director Mellisa Duncan.

"We are thrilled to present this award to Mr. Bryant," said Duncan. "He has always seen the value our program provides to his students, giving them a unique STEM learning experience. He uses our program to enhance his curriculum."

The President's Award

highlights not just classroom excellence, but also a teacher's connection to the Challenger Center's mission. Challenger staff praised Bryant for his enthusiasm and support of their programs, citing the preparation, engagement and mission success exhibited by his students.

Bryant, who teaches seventh-grade science, is no stranger to accolades. Earlier this year, he earned National Board Certification and was credited with guiding his students to one of the top science scores in the state on the Kentucky State Assessment (KSA).

Crittenden County Middle School Principal Nita Johnson, who nominated Bryant, called him one of the most knowledgeable science teachers she has ever worked with or supervised.

"His students ranked third in the state for public middle school KSA scores," Johnson said. "Not only does he know his content well, but he also understands that students want to know they are heard



Local teacher Neal Bryant roles up his sleeves and teaches, and others are taking notice.

and understood."

"Mr. Bryant definitely makes learning fun and memorable," she added.

Bryant, 45, is a 1998 graduate of Crittenden County High School and earned his teaching credentials and bachelor's degree from Mur-

ray State University. He has 15 years of classroom experience and is widely recognized for using innovative, hands-on learning techniques to build strong connections with students. The Chall-

See **TEACH**/page 9



Road to Riverview Closed Until August

Five homeowners and perhaps hundreds of recreation seekers will find their main route between KY 91 and Riverview Park cut off throughout the rest of spring and much of summer. A bridge replacement project on KY 387, also known as Dam 50 Road, began earlier this week. Workers on Tuesday were prepping the area by taking out nearby trees. State highway officials have estimated that the road will be closed at the bridge work site through Aug. 15. Zac Thomas is one of a handful of residents who live on the east side of the bridge and will be cut off from KY 91. He said driving to Marion from his home near Riverview Park will take about 10 to 15 minutes longer, depending on which route he takes. The drive to town is typically about 10 minutes, he explained. Rerouting across Cotton Patch Hill through Mattoon or the Amish country makes the trip about 13 miles to Marion and takes around 20 to 22 minutes. Motorists pulling recreational vehicles such as campers and boats will find the detour's narrow roads very difficult to negotiate. At some places, they're no more than 18 feet wide.

County faces legal action in Withrow records request

STAFF REPORT

Crittenden County businessman Kent Withrow has filed a lawsuit against county government, alleging violations of the Kentucky Open Records Act after he says his request for surveillance video was wrongfully denied or delayed.

Withrow submitted a complaint in Crittenden Circuit Court on March 26, accusing the Crittenden County Fiscal Court of willfully withholding public records and failing to comply with obligations outlined in Kentucky's open records law.

The complaint states that Withrow initially requested, on Dec. 20, 2024, access to all surveillance video and audio recordings from the Marion City Hall building for Dec. 19, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. The request encompassed footage from

29 cameras, totaling an estimated 232 hours of video.

It appears that the site and street address are incorrect in the legal complaint, because the event that prompted Withrow's original request for camera footage occurred at Crittenden County Office Complex, which is at a different address than the one cited in legal documents – 217 South Main St., which is city hall.

Crittenden County Judge-Executive Perry Newcom responded to the original request on Dec. 23, asking Withrow to narrow its scope due to the volume of data and potential privacy concerns. According to the lawsuit, Newcom told Withrow the request would require extensive review time and a large-capacity storage device, which the county said Withrow must pro-

vide.

Withrow insists on receiving all materials originally requested. He claims the county failed to provide a legally compliant response within the required five business days and did not provide a timeline for when the records would be available, as mandated by law.

The lawsuit also highlights discrepancies in how the county handled similar requests. Withrow alleges the county granted a request by Crittenden Press Editor Chris Evans for specific footage on the same day it was made, allowing him to record the video using his phone.

The video was published online by the newspaper. The video footage has also been used as evidence by state police to file criminal charges against Withrow

See **LAWSUIT**/page 3

OPEN HOUSE TUESDAY

Livingston's expansion on verge of launch

STAFF REPORT

Livingston Hospital's \$75 million modernization initiative is gaining momentum, with major developments announced in both construction planning and local healthcare expansion.

Hospital CEO Shane Whittington confirms that Doster Construction Company has been hired as construction manager for the facility's projected \$75 million expansion and remodel.

Doster, a Birmingham, Ala., company, has led healthcare projects in various Kentucky communities over the past several years, including those in Liberty, Louisville, Greensburg and Lexington.

"They've just finished a project in Clark County and bring experience from other modernizations that look



Whittington

See **HOSPITAL**/page 5

Deaths

Fuller

Jerry Lee Fuller, 75, of Marion, died Thursday, March 28, 2025 at Deaconess Gateway Hospital in Evansville. He was a member and elder at Piney Fork Cumberland Presbyterian Church, a veteran of the United States Air Force and member of Marion Masonic Lodge Number 256.



Surviving are his wife, Patricia Fuller of Marion; two daughters, Holly (David) Hardin of Joy and Shelley (Brian) Hunt of Marion; four grandchildren, Bryan (Madison) Qualls, Alyssa (Mike) Hodges, Megan Jones and Mason (Southern) Hunt; two great-grandchildren, Karlee and Harper Qualls; and three brothers, Harry Fuller, Jr., Bill Fuller and Tom Fuller.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Harry Anderson and Lena Katherine Fuller.

Services were Tuesday April 1 at Gilbert Funeral Home with burial in Mapleview Cemetery.

A webcast of the service will be available at <http://www.gilbertfunerals.com>.<https://vimeo.com/event/5027818>.

Love

Curtis Wayne Love, 53, of Salem, went home to be with the Lord Friday, March 28, 2025.



He was born May 25, 1971 in Springfield, Ill., the son of Robert W. Sheets of Salem and the late Joann Sheets.

He married the love of his life, Christina Pitchford Love Sept. 30, 1995 in Virden, Ill. They resided in Salem for many years raising their two dogs, Dixie and Mochi.

Love was employed by DK Masonry of Paducah and enjoyed masonry work throughout his career. He enjoyed the outdoors and spending time with his friends and family.

Surviving is his wife of 29 years, Christina Love; his father, Robert W. Sheets of Salem; three sisters, Theresa (Robert) Stanley of Dixon, and Karen Brown and Tina Sheets, both of Columbia, Mo.; two brothers, Russell Love of Salem and Robbie Sheets of Columbia, Mo.; his mother-in-law, Barbara Pitchford of Springfield, Ill.; and several cousins, nieces, and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Joann Sheets; two brothers, Donnie and Mike McCoy; and his father-in-law, Richard Pitchford.

Services were Sunday, March 30 in the chapel of Boyd Funeral Directors and Cremation Services. Bro. Wesley Lynn,

Bob Stanley, Chris Wethington and Danny Kidd officiated.

“Do not fear, for I am with you. Do not be dismayed for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you. I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.” Isaiah 41:10

“God will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning nor crying nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.” Revelation 21:4

Paid obituary

Frazer

William Roberts “Ole Bill” Frazer, 79, of Marion passed away peacefully on March 31, 2025 in Paducah after a prolonged battle with Lewy Body Dementia.



Born on Dec. 31, 1945 to Robert and Dorothy Tucker Frazer in Marion, Frazer was a graduate of the Kentucky Military Institute in Louisville. A lifelong resident of Crittenden County, he was a member of Marion Methodist Church. He was chairman of the board at Clement Mineral Museum for 28 years and dedicated the majority of his life to the geology of western Kentucky. He also served as a director of Farmers Bank for over 20 years.

Over the years, Frazer spent time coaching little league baseball, working on the Marion Planning and Zoning Committee and remaining civically active until his illness. He loved to travel, hunt and fish, taking several trips to Colorado, Alaska and Canada to enjoy his favorite pastimes with his family. He was a self-made expert in flourspar and greatly enjoyed educating others on the history and science of flourspar in the western Kentucky area. He was an excellent story teller, passing along the history of his family and his home whenever he had the opportunity.

Surviving are his wife of 58 years, Sharon Weimer Frazer; two children: Bart (Natasha) Frazer and Sara (Tom) Taylor, both of Marion; three grandchildren: Tucker Frazer of Dallas, Texas, Regan Frazer of Tampa, Fla., and Madeline Mink of Madisonville; and a brother, Bohn (Linda) Frazer of Shawnee, Kan.

A Celebration of Life Service will be held from 4 to 6 p.m., on Saturday, April 5 at the Lakes of Paducah. Memorial contributions can be made to the Clement Mineral Museum in Marion.

Paid obituary

Community Calendar

Call (270) 965-3191 to share your organization's meetings in this free, weekly community calendar.

Thursday, April 3

- New Beginnings Behavioral Health is hosting an event at Crittenden County Public Library Thursday, April 3 in observation of April's Counseling and Stress Awareness Month. Between 10 a.m.-noon, representatives from New Beginnings will offer a free stress questionnaire that participants can share with their personal care providers. No appointment is necessary and refreshments will be provided.
- Line dancing begins at 9:30 a.m., at the Crittenden County Senior Center.

Friday, April 4

- Laugh and Learn starts at 10:30 a.m. at the Crittenden County Public Library.
- Aces & Ten 4 Class will be at noon at the Crittenden County Extension Annex. This is a Community Christmas credit program.

Monday, April 7

- There will be a barn quilt party at 9 a.m. at the Crittenden County Lions Club.

- Marion's VFW will serve breakfast from 7:30-10 a.m. at 412 N. College St. Cost is \$8 or make a donation.

Tuesday, April 8

- EH Leader lesson training starts at 10 a.m. at the Crittenden County Extension Office.
- Hooks and Needles will be at 10 a.m. at the Crittenden County Extension Office.
- After Hours meets at noon at the Crittenden County Public Library.
- Warm Season Forages starts at 6 p.m. at the Crittenden County Extension Annex.

Wednesday, April 9

- Challengers meets at noon at the Crittenden County Extension Annex.
- A Walk in the Park will start at 3 p.m. at the City-County Park.

Thursday, April 10

The Virgil Jones VFW in Marion will meet at 6:30 p.m., Thursday, April 10 in the VFW building at 412 N. College St. Refreshments will be served.



Gilbert Funeral Home WELCOMES Mr. Joseph “Joe” D. Gray to its staff

Joe brings 23 years experience including 22 years at Morgan's and Lakeland funeral homes

We are thankful for his affiliation with Gilbert Funeral Home, where we are committed to serving the families in our community with care, dignity and professionalism.

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Visit us online at gilbertfunerals.com

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

Crittenden County Animal Clinic

Now offering Laser Therapy

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

ENON General Baptist Church

invites you to join us as we WALK THROUGH CALVARY

Visit the scriptures that Jesus experienced each night before Easter.

April 16 - April 19, 7 nightly

April 20

Visit the Blessed site of the Empty Tomb

Easter Services start at 7 a.m.

Everyone welcome!!

1771 SR 132

Bro Michael Stewart, Pastor

SELLERS: RAYMOND BYLER IVAN BYLER

MULTI-FAMILY AUCTION

SELLERS: EPHRAIM BYLER ERVIN BEACHY

SATURDAY, APRIL 12, 2025 @ 9AM

LOCATION: 3010 SR 654 N MARION, KY 42064



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Child Abuse Prevention Month

Local officials last week planted blue pinwheels at Marion Commons in front of City Hall to mark the start of Child Abuse Prevention Month for April. The pinwheels, a national symbol of the campaign, represent hope, health and happiness for children. The display is part of a broader effort to raise awareness and encourage community action against child abuse. Pictured are (from left) Chris Cook, prior director for the local Court Appointed Special Advocacy (CASA) board; Farris Melton, family court staff attorney; Jennifer Nelson, attorney; Chris Stearns, attorney; Jennifer McDaniel, CASA board member; Wendy Herdon, family court case specialist; Heather Sewell, Cabinet for Health and Family Services (CHFS) representative; Family Court Judge Brandi Rogers; Sheriff Evan Head; Cassie Hall, CHFS representative; Mike Williamson, attorney; Kinzie McKinley, CHFS representative; Marion City Administrator Diane Ford-Benningfield and Zoie Larkins, CASA supervisor.

Gray welcomed to team at Gilbert Funeral Home

Gilbert Funeral Home has welcomed Joseph “Joe” D. Gray to its staff. Gray, a Caldwell County High School graduate, holds a bachelor’s degree in accounting and finance from Murray State University. After spending several years in accounting and church business administration, he returned to western Kentucky and entered the funeral service profession in 2002 alongside Rick Morgan. He became a licensed funeral director in 2004 and has served families with Morgan’s and Lakeland Funeral Homes for more than 22 years. Since 2013, Gray managed Lakeland Funeral



Joe Gray Home in Eddyville. Active in the community, Gray has been a member of the Princeton

Kiwanis Club since 2003. He has also served on the Caldwell Medical Center Board of Directors for 21 years, where he is currently board treasurer and chairman of the finance committee. Gray and his wife, Scharme, a registered nurse, live in Marion. They have four children and six grandchildren. In his free time, Gray enjoys attending area high school sporting events and watching University of Kentucky basketball. He brings to Gilbert Funeral Home a long-standing commitment to serving families with care, dignity and professionalism, the funeral home said.



To see the exhibit, there is a fee in addition to normal admission to the park.

Real Bodies on exhibit at TN’s Discovery Park

STAFF REPORT
Discovery Park of America has announced that Leaders Credit Union will be the primary sponsor of Real Bodies: The Exhibition, an immersive and educational display of human anatomy coming to the museum and heritage park May 10 to Sept. 1. Created by Imagine Exhibitions, Real Bodies features real, preserved human bodies and more than 200 anatomical specimens. The exhibit explores the complexity of the human form while weaving in historical, emotional and cultural narratives to present a comprehensive look at life and the human experience. “This exhibition presents an extraordinary opportunity for our visitors to explore the human body in a way that is both educational and deeply moving,” said Jennifer Wildes, senior collections and exhibits director at Discovery

Park. “We believe Real Bodies: The Exhibition will inspire curiosity and foster a greater appreciation for what it means to be alive. We’re very grateful to our friends at Leaders Credit Union for helping us bring this fascinating exhibit to West Tennessee.” Returning to Discovery Park by popular demand, the exhibition is expected to attract a wide audience, including students, families and educators. Todd Swims, president and CEO of Leaders Credit Union, said the sponsorship reflects the credit union’s commitment to education. “This extraordinary exhibition perfectly aligns with our commitment to education by supporting such an innovative and thought-provoking exploration of human anatomy and helping provide a unique learning opportunity that goes beyond traditional educational experiences,” Swims said. “We look forward to

seeing even more students, families and visitors benefit from this remarkable educational experience.” The exhibit will be held in the ATA Traveling Exhibit Hall and is open to visitors of all ages. After admission to Discovery Park, the cost to see the temporary exhibit is \$4.99 for student and adult groups of 10 or more, \$6.99 for members and \$9.99 for nonmembers. Discounted ticket packages are available. Discovery Park members will have a special preview day on Friday, May 9, from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., with free admission to the exhibit. Members of Leaders Credit Union will also receive free admission to Discovery Park and Real Bodies during Member Appreciation Weekend, May 16–18. More information is available at discovery-parkofamerica.com/bodies.

Locals part of Dancing for Gold

STAFF REPORT
Livingston County’s Laken Lasher danced her way to victory March 22 at the fifth annual Dancing for Gold Gala, held at the Paducah Convention Center. Lasher, a nurse practitioner at Baptist Health Paducah, raised more than \$53,000 in support of Book for Hope, surpassing her personal goal of \$50,000. Her efforts earned her the overall champion title and marked the third consecutive year a Livingston Countian has taken home the top prize. Other Livingston winners were Farmers Bank’s Tyler Coleman last year and Sheriff Bobby Davidson in 2023. The three have raised more than \$200,000 for the project. Lasher participated in memory of Hudson Pace, a young child who died in 2023 after a battle with leukemia. She was one of



Crittenden’s Natalie Parish and her dance partner Joe Spiceland.

12 contestants and performed alongside professional dance partner Cash White. In total, this year’s fundraising dancers raised \$291,203 for Book for Hope, a nonprofit that supports families battling childhood cancer in Kentucky, southern Illinois and northern Tennessee. The organization also funds research into childhood cancer treatment and provides financial relief to affected families. Book for Hope is a registered 501(c)(3) that works to raise awareness of pediatric cancer and alleviate the burden faced by families during treatment.



Livingston’s Laken Lasher and her dance partner Cash White on stage

Natalie Parish of Crittenden County was also a contestant. She danced for Wyatt Woodring and in memory of Cullen Brown and Owen Matthews. Woodring’s mother is from Marion. He is six months out of treatment for leukemia. Parish raised \$25,000, describing the event “a lot of fun.” “I practiced for the last few months with my partner, Joe Spiceland, and two coaches Terrie White of Eddyville and Ashley Thurmond of Grand Rivers,” she said.

LAWSUIT

Continued from page 1
for falsely reporting an incident. Withrow’s legal complaint, filed by Frankfort attorney Rex Kilburn, states that the county could have produced non-exempt public records by Jan. 3 and that some of the footage does not contain private or sensitive material. His attorney argues that the county’s delays and refusal to produce all requested content constitute a willful violation of the Open Records Act. Last week, on the same day the suit was filed, the county’s attorney, Stacy Blankinship of Paducah, informed Withrow’s counsel that some of the footage could be ready for pickup within three days, with the remainder available within four weeks. Withrow is seeking a jury trial, production of all non-exempt records, attorney’s fees, court costs and statutory penalties of up to \$25 per day for each record unlawfully withheld. As of the date of the filing, not all requested materials had been provided. The county’s legal team was given 20 days to file a response. Withrow is currently facing multiple

misdemeanor criminal charges, one stemming from the incident outside the fiscal court meeting in December, that prompted this open records request. Withrow had claimed County Attorney Bart Frazer physically assaulted him, but Kentucky State Police say video surveillance contradicts that account. He is now charged with falsely reporting the incident, as well as harassment, harassing communications and criminal coercion linked to alleged behavior and social media activity. Two individuals have filed protective orders against him, with hearings now set for June. These developments follow fallout from a failed lawsuit Withrow previously filed against the county after his business, Allied Contracting Group, lost a public roofing bid. Courts sided with the county, citing no wrongdoing in awarding the contract to a bidder nearly \$360,000 lower than Allied’s proposal. Additionally, a verbal altercation outside a city council meeting in February has led to a separate harassment charge against another man, Craig Gilland, based on a complaint filed by Withrow.

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Marion Baptist Easter Egg Hunt

Hop on over to our annual Easter Egg Hunt! With thousands of eggs to find, and divided age groups, every child in the family will have a blast!

The Egg hunt will begin at 10AM!

19 April 10AM

Crittenden County Lions Club Fairgrounds

Ramage third in welding

Emersyn Ramage, a senior at Livingston Central High School and a co-operative education student at Crittenden County Animal Clinic in Marion, won third place in a state school welding sculpture contest. She spent the entire school year developing the hat sculpture. The welding teacher is Jason Culver.



49,000 Kentuckians. Newcom urged all citizens to plant a tree in observance of the day, stating that the reward for future generations will be “a more beautiful Kentucky, whose health and well-being are sustained by this great natural resource – our forests.”

City issues tax relief

In response to recent federal action and ongoing recovery from severe weather, the City of Marion has issued an executive order extending the local tax payment deadline and waiving penalties for certain fees and taxes. Executive Order No. 2025-04, signed Wednesday, follows the Internal Revenue Service’s Feb. 24 announcement granting automatic federal tax relief through Nov. 3, 2025, for returns originally due April 15. The federal extension was prompted by a national emergency declared Feb. 16 due to severe storms, straight-line winds, flooding and landslides that began Feb. 14. The city’s executive order mirrors the federal extension by automatically delaying the due date for local gross receipts taxes collected under §110.22 of the Marion Code of Ordinances. It also suspends interest and penalties on taxes paid by the new deadline.

The City of Marion Treasurer recommended the local relief in an effort to minimize financial burdens on area businesses and residents affected by the disaster. Taxes owed under Ordinance No. §110.25 are now due Nov. 3, unless the federal government changes the deadline, in which case the city will adopt the revised date automatically.

No further action is required from businesses to receive the extension or waiver.

Winders wins K-5 forest art contest

Crittenden County Elementary School third grader Chase Winders earned top honors in the 2025 Jim Claypool Art Contest, a project sponsored by the Kentucky Farm Bureau and Kentucky Association of Conservation Districts. Selected from a pool of 425 entries from students in grades K-5, Winders’ poster stood out for its creativity and message of conservation.

The project theme was “Protecting the Forest Together,” and Winders’ work captured the judges’ attention, earning him first place in Crittenden County.

CCES art teacher Suzanne Brown and CCHS agriculture teacher Jessica Abercrombie collaborated to guide students through the project.



CAF announces full 2025 events calendar

The Community Arts Foundation has released its 2025 season schedule, showcasing a full calendar of performances, workshops and educational events at historic Fohs Hall in Marion. The season kicks off May 1-3 with The Music Man Jr. and continues May 10 with An Evening with the Todd Hill Orchestra, followed by Crider Performing Arts Studios’ Spring Recital on May 27. Kids Drama Camp returns June 23-27 with a public performance on the final day, while a hands-on sourdough class is set for August 7. The stage play Steel Magnolias will be presented September 20-21, and a Pumpkin Floral Workshop is planned for September 25. Holiday events round out the year, beginning with A Charlie Brown Christmas literacy event

on December 6, followed by Lessons & Carols on December 13-14. Crider Studios wraps up the season with its Christmas Recital on December 18. All events are held at Fohs Hall and are made possible in part by support from the City of Marion Tourism Commission.

Union County putting together fair schedule

The Union County Fair released its schedule of events last week. The fair will kick off Saturday, June 21 with a 9 a.m. livestock show and run through Saturday, June 28, offering a full week of family fun, entertainment, and traditional fair favorites. Highlights include a lineup of pageants beginning Monday, June 23, with the Little Mr. & Miss and Miss Union County competitions, followed by the Miss Pre-Teen and Miss Teen pageants Tuesday evening. Fireworks will cap off Monday night’s festivities. Other crowd favorites include the talent show and motocross races on Wednesday, June 25; youth rodeo and dirt drags Thursday; and the Lonestar Rodeo with a tractor pull on Friday night. Saturday features the 4-H Country Ham Breakfast at 8 a.m., Sunshine Days carnival, demo derby, and another Lonestar Rodeo to close out the week. Gates open daily at 4:30 p.m., with food court, carnival, and petting zoo attractions available nightly from 5 p.m. onward.

FAA tracking dangerous laser strikes on planes

Pilots reported 12,840 laser strikes to the Federal Aviation Administration in 2024 – a 3% decrease from the previous year, but still a dangerously high number, officials said. Shining a laser at an aircraft is a federal crime that can endanger hundreds of lives by impairing pilots during flight. Since the FAA began tracking laser incidents in 2010, 328 injuries have been reported. California led the nation with 1,489 reported strikes, followed closely by Texas with 1,463. Florida (810), Tennessee (649), Illinois (622), Arizona (550), New York (531), Indiana (512), Georgia (416) and Virginia (415) also reported high numbers. Offenders face FAA civil fines of up to \$11,000 per violation and \$30,800 for multiple offenses. Criminal penalties include up to five years in prison and a \$250,000 fine. The FAA’s public visualization tool tracks strike data from 2010 to present by location, per capita rate, time of day and time of year. Officials urge the public to report laser incidents to the FAA and local law enforcement.

Crittenden sets grad week dates for May

Crittenden County High School graduation is 6 p.m., Friday, May 23. Baccalaureate is 6 p.m., Sunday, May 19 and Class Night is 6 p.m., Thursday, May 22.

Livingston musuem opens this Saturday

Livingston County Historical Courthouse Museum will open for the season Saturday and will be open every first Saturday of the month from April to October from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. The museum is located in downtown historic Smithland in the old courthouse and features displays and exhibits of historical interest, highlights events of the past and includes stories of the people who lived and worked in Livingston county.



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



10 YEARS AGO

April 2, 2015 ■ It was spring break for Crittenden County schools and some students and teachers were asked what they enjoyed most about the time off. Kristen Perryman, a junior, said simply being out of school is what she liked most. Adam Driver, a senior, said he likes spending his break hanging out with friends and playing baseball. Kathleen Johnson, a math teacher, enjoyed having one last break before finishing the school year in May. Will Tolley, a sophomore, said not being in school, but being outside and relaxing is what was best about spring break. Aerial Wright, a senior, believed spending time with her friends and family is what makes a great spring break. ■ Crittenden County High School STLP students attending the state competition in Lexington were Matthew Spannuth, Thomas Jacobs, Nate Stairwat, Clay Stevens, Brennan Jones, Katie Wheeler, Kaylee Graham, Logan Bingham and Corbin Wilson. The students placed in the top five among high schools across the state and represented themselves and their school very well. ■ Three Crittenden County Middle School students were semifinalists at the Kentucky High School Speech League’s Junior State Tournament held at the University of Kentucky. Students receiving superior ratings and ranking in the top third of the state’s competitors in their respective categories were Asheigh Dunkerson, broadcast announcing plus Ellie McGowan and Kyrn Hicks as improvisational duo competitors. Other students competing were James Crider, Kenlee McDaniel, Sammy Greenwell, Anzie Gobin, Jaycie Driver, Harley Wesley, Emma Herrin and Kalysta Jones. ■ Crittenden County’s Ryan James was pictured leading off second base after doubling in the third. He drove in 3 runs during the game against Lyon County.

25 YEARS AGO

April 6, 2000 ■ A team of 12 members representing the United Methodist Committee on Relief were in Marion last week helping rebuild two barns destroyed by a January tornado. Volunteer Tom Crider was pictured helping homeowner Harold Grace and the team also helped raise a barn at the Ezra McDowell residence. ■ Crittenden County High School students Kristen Wheeler, Kayla Shewcraft and Alisha Perry presented their “Vaccination Against Violence” project at a STAR Event in Hopkinsville. They were representing members of the Crittenden County Chapter of Family Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA). The advisor was Dawn Hollamon. The event was a two-day National “Stop the Violence” training workshop at Lake Barkley lodge. ■ The United State Achievement Academy had announced that Amanda J. Waters of Marion had been named United States National Award Winner in English. Waters, who was attending Crittenden County High School, was nominated for the national award by Linda McDowell, a teacher at the school. Her parents were named as Robert and Josephine Waters of Marion and grandparents, Dortha Glenn of Gilbertsville, and the late Buster and Beulah Waters of Burna. ■ The Crittenden County track and field team opened its season with some fine performances at city-county park. Pictured were runner Brent Thurman lunging for the finish line just ahead of teammate Andrew Roberts and Samantha Montgomery soaring toward a sandy landing in the running long jump and Jessica Carder winding up for a shot put throw.

50 YEARS AGO

April 3, 1975 ■ George Whitecotton was presented a silver tray by Mrs. Linda Cook during a surprise retirement dinner for Whitecotton at Crittenden County High School. Principal A.Y. Hodge, Jr. was CCHS and in attendance. Whitecotton began his teaching career in 1951 at Salem and joined the CCHS faculty in 1966. He was set to retire at the end of the school year. ■ Boyce Moodie, III, geological consultant for the Cerro Spar Corporation fluorspar mine in Crittenden County, presented a 17 pound sample of fluorspar to Betty Smith of the Kentucky Historical Events Celebration Commission. The sample of the Kentucky mineral was sent to Deming, New Mexico where it was to be included in a special Bicentennial monument made up of “native stones” from each of the 50 states. ■ Rocket right fielder Rickie Moore took a good cut at a pitch during action in the second inning in Crittenden in a game against West Hopkins. The rockets scored six runs in the first and the second innings in downing the visiting Rebels 15-13. Mike Taylor danced down the third base line as Rocket coach Dale Kirk gave the hitter some encouragement from the coach’s box. Taylor later scored one of the team’s six runs in the second inning.

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

Crittenden Press

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Street names are part of history

Most folks never really think about the names of our streets or nearby locations, they are just an address to help us find where we are going or where a certain place is located. Many of our streets and locations were named after the families that owned the land or prominent businessmen of the time, and a few were named for businesses that were located on them, such as Mill Street. These old names are part of our history and the early pioneers that helped create our town.

Rochester Avenue
William H. Rochester was a Marion pioneer in the important profession of blacksmithing. He came to Marion in 1845, just a few years after Marion became an official town and set-up the newborn town's first machinist shop. When competition began to become heavy in the local blacksmith profession by 1850, Rochester retired to his first love – farming.



Brenda Underdown
County Historian

Forgotten Passages

He purchased a 250-acre farm off the northeast corner of Marion in 1853. He built a two-story log home on the crest of the hill overlooking the Rush Creek. (The site was just north of the old Morganfield Road at its junction with the Marion Riding Club Drive.) The farm was known then as Rochester Grove and the new home was given the name Waveland. The land was where the present day National Guard Armory is located. The old 2-story home was torn down in May 2010. This family is remembered only today by the street named Rochester Avenue.

Kevil Street
Kevil Street was given that name in honor of the Kevil family. Joseph Bell Kevil was one of the founders and original owners of the Marion Roller Mill, which was located in the area that the Marion Feed Mill is today.

Mr. Kevil served his county in many positions, as county surveyor for many years, and had as thorough knowledge of Crittenden County boundaries of any man who lived here. He also served as county attorney, mayor of Marion and police judge, and held offices of trust in the Masonic Lodge and his church. The Kevil family home was at the end of Kevil Street on the East Depot side of the street.

Clark and Maxwell Streets



Kevil Street was named after Joseph Bell Kevil, an early businessman and civil minded man.

In early 1894 Marion was rapidly growing and needing new areas to build homes. Businessmen who owned large sections of the area began having some of their land platted so they could sell the lots, as many were wanting to build new homes for their families and also to be located closer to the growing town, and all it had to offer.

Located in the north east section of Marion (located on East Bellville St.) is what was known as the Clark addition. The land was sold by owner Dr. John Riley Clark. His son, William H. Clark, who was an attorney, drew up the plat for the new addition. This addition to Marion was needed for these new residential homes. Later the town council would name one of the streets in this area, Clark Street for Dr. Clark who supplied the land. Dr. Clark was also associated with the Marion Roller Mill, as one of its founders.

P. S. Maxwell also had some of his land platted so it could sold. Maxwell was a prominent and well-known businessman in Marion, and was director of the ice company at one time. Later he and his family moved to the new state of Oklahoma. The town council named one of the streets in this new subdivision in honor of Maxwell.

Wilson Hill
Named for Robert W. Wilson, another enterprising businessman and large land owner saw there would soon be a pressing need for another addition to Marion to provide lots both for new industries and for more residences.

No man has figured more conspicuously in Crittenden County matters than Robert W. Wilson and no man is held in higher esteem by the people of the county. He is a



Wilson Hill, northeast of Marion, was named for Robert W. Wilson. He helped organize the first bank in Marion.

native of the county, born Dec. 20, 1829. He was a son of the late James Wilson who was one of the sturdy pioneers of the county. He was a farmer and businessman, and at one time was a member of the legislature. R. W. Wilson was educated at Cumberland College.

In 1867 he was elected county clerk and in 1870 he represented the county in the legislature. He was the spirit in organizing the Marion Bank and was made its president, which position he held until his health began to fail. Wilson had been very successful in accumulating wealth, and is one of the most generous of men. No public enterprises came up that he did not take the lead, and his money was liberally spent in this direction. He had been thoroughly identified with the county and town as any man who ever lived in either. Full of the milk of human kindness charitable almost to a faith, no needy person was turned away from him empty handed or disheartened.

Many are the people who had been helped by him in a financial way. The people trusted him as an officer and confided in him as a friend, the courts delegated to him special commissions, the church depended on him for succor, and under all circumstances he never failed to meet the demands.

Wilson's property extended from the old Fords Ferry Road, which then was still the main travel route south, to the Princeton Road north of Marion. Wilson extended his addition south of Marion across the hill that would later be named for him, along what is now South Main Street and U.S. 641. Within in this property Wilson reserved a 10-acre knoll tract for his son-in-law, S. M. Jenkins, to build a home.

Shady Lane
Jenkins, with the intention of building a manor house on this knoll, planted a double row of trees as a driveway to his intended new home. The manor house was never

built, but today this once private lane is known as Shady Lane.

Across town in the northwestern section are streets named Pierce, Travis and Jarvis.

Pierce Street was named for Judge James Perry Pierce. Judge Pierce was a prominent businessman in Marion, being part owner of Pierce and Son Hardware and the dry good business of Pierce, Yandell and Gugenheim. In 1880 he was sheriff, and from 1882-1886 he was county judge.

His large 2-story home built in the 1880s was located facing Old Fords Ferry Road, with the north toward Pierce Street.

Travis Street was named for Herod Travis. After the close of the Civil War, the great increase in the business zone in Marion, plus the movement of freed slaves from the farms to the cities to secure employment called for additional mercantile lots and an industry for Marion.

Herod Travis, an ex-slave, got several former brick makers together and founded the kiln that produced most of the brick, if not all, used in Marion's construction before 1917. The alleyway where the kiln was located later widened into a street named Travis Street in his honor.

Jarvis Street. Located in the same vicinity as Travis Street was one of the tobacco stemmeries owned and operated by A. B. Jarvis. Jarvis Street was named in honor of Arthur B. Jarvis, an important businessman with ties at Marion through his tobacco factories. At this time tobacco was the "cash" crop, the quickest soil crop in the farming economy. Jarvis owned two tobacco factories in Marion, the one located on the west side, and the one next to the railroad tracks, which was located at the east end of Gum Street. The factories were used for handling and packing both strip and leaf tobacco, air drying and special artificial drying, conditioning, aging and sweetening process.

These are just a few of the interesting facts of how some of our streets got their names, and how these areas of our town were started and developed by these early businessmen of Marion.

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

HOSPITAL

Continued from page 1
a lot like what we're doing," Whittington said. Doster will manage the project through completion, subcontracting all components and working closely with Adams Management Services Group Corp., the Nashville-based firm which had already been retained as project manager.

The facility will see a 60,000-square-foot expansion and approximately 12,000 square feet of renovations under the current plan. The project anticipates funding in part by a U.S. Department of Agriculture loan, now in the underwriting stage. Whittington said all signs point to a favorable outcome, with a loan commitment expected in the near future.

"If everything continues on pace, we hope to begin dirt work in late summer or early fall," he said.

The contractor selection followed a competitive bidding process that involved four qualified applicants. Three firms

were invited to interview, with two ultimately participating.

Meanwhile, several components of the overall modernization effort are already underway or completed, including a community center, a storage and maintenance building, and a new Physical Therapy and Clinic facility. Together, these projects account for about 12,000 square feet and a \$1.5 million investment.

The hospital's former office and therapy building, known as the Chittenden Building, is scheduled for demolition in the coming days as site work begins to intensify over the next two months.

One of the most visible signs of progress will come April 8, when the community is invited to an open house and ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new Clifton and Thelma Jo Arflack Therapy Center. The come-and-go event is set for 3 to 6 p.m.

The 9,000-square-foot facility – 2.5 times the size of the hospital's previous therapy space – will host occupational and physical therapy services

and is expected to add speech therapy in the future. The new structure, on the east end of the expanded hospital campus, will eventually include visiting specialists and house the relocated Livingston Care Clinic, which is moving from downtown Salem. Those services will be occupying

the building in the coming months, Whittington said.

Community response has been overwhelmingly positive and he believes the construction effort will spur local economic development by involving area contractors and suppliers, the CEO adds.



CRAYNE CEMETERY ASSOCIATION

will have its

Annual Meeting

Saturday, April 5
9 a.m.
at the
Crayne Community Church

You may mail donations to:
139 Oak Hill Dr., Marion, KY 42064

*Thank you in advance,
Brenda Underdown, Treasurer*

Western Kentucky Regional Blood Center

BLOOD DRIVE

MONDAY, APRIL 7

NOON-6 p.m.

LOCATED ON THE BLOODMOBILE AT CRITTENDEN COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL

520 GUM ST. MARION KY.

MEXICO CEMETERY

Mexico Cemetery Association

will have its annual meeting

Saturday, April 12 at 10 a.m.

at Mexico Baptist Church

Donations for helping with the upkeep of the cemetery may be sent to

Mexico Cemetery Association

6001 Mott City Rd.
Marion, KY 42064

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Located less than a mile from the Ohio River, this exceptional hunting property offers a diverse blend of habitat types, making it ideal for deer, turkey, and waterfowl hunting.

New! Crittenden County, KY – 80.92 Acres – \$307,500.00
With plenty of edge and transition cover, areas of dense bedding and security cover, and numerous funnels and pinch points, this property is tailored for successful hunting!

Reduced! Crittenden County, KY – 19.6 Acres – \$82,124.00
This property offers an exceptional blend of features tailored for deer and turkey hunting enthusiasts. The landscape is marked by areas of exposed rock that add a rugged charm and unique character.

Reduced! Crittenden County, KY – 29.5 Acres – \$123,605.00
This diverse hunting property offers an exceptional blend of varied terrain and habitat types, made even more unique by its history as an old quarry.

Crittenden County, KY – 2.06 Acres – \$69,000.00
Three contiguous lots in the beautiful Hillcrest Estates #2 Subdivision offer the ideal build site!

Crittenden County, KY – 193 Acres – \$799,000.00
Whether you're a seasoned hunter or looking for a tranquil retreat, this diverse tract delivers a perfect balance of functionality and natural beauty. Includes 32+/- tillable acres and established food plots!

Crittenden & Union Counties, KY – 4,690 Acres – \$21,500,000.00
With various landscapes, fantastic habitat variations, proven history, and multiple lodges with various improvements, this is your chance at a once in a lifetime opportunity! A part of this listing is under contract – contact agent.

Livingston County, KY – 88 Acres – \$303,600.00
Livingston County, KY – 105 Acres – \$375,375.00
Livingston County, KY – 159 Acres – \$548,550.00
Livingston County, KY – 161 Acres – \$575,575.00
These tracts are part of a trophy-managed hunting community designed for like-minded hunters dedicated to growing and hunting mature deer.

PENDING! Crittenden County, KY – 117 Acres – \$575,000.00
This phenomenal hunting property offers outstanding opportunities for deer, turkey, and waterfowl enthusiasts, making it a must-see for the avid outdoorsman. Includes 44+/- acres of open ground!

PENDING! Crittenden County, KY – 18.96 Acres – \$375,000.00
This beautiful 3-bed, 2-bath home offers an open-concept layout, gourmet kitchen with stainless steel appliances, vaulted ceilings, and an attached garage. The expansive 18.96-acre property includes a large detached foam-insulated building with a lean-to.

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

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

SOLD! Crittenden County, KY – 119 Acres – \$699,000.00
Nestled in a picturesque setting, this diverse hunting property offers not only prime outdoor opportunities but also the comforts of a 4-bedroom, 2-bath lodge. Includes 7+/- tillable acres and established food plots!

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

SOLD! Crittenden County, KY – 38.14 Acres – \$129,900.00
This unique offering combines a timbered hunting tract with a scenic lakefront lot on Maple Lake, providing exceptional recreational and development opportunities.

SOLD! Crittenden County, KY – 37.184 Acres - \$164,900.00
Situated in an area renowned for big bucks, this property offers the perfect habitat for deer and turkey hunting, plus the added convenience of a cozy cabin!

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



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Pay attention to the markers

“It’s not the destination, it’s the journey,” is a saying that reminds us that being present in the everyday moments of life are, at times, more important than where we are headed. From the viewpoint of life on this earth, it is absolutely true, since the destination for all of us, unless the end of this world happens, is the grave. Believers know that there is more than this life, but that does not mean that this life counts for nothing. I would argue it counts for everything.

There are a couple of things about any journey that are important. Where it is and how we know we are on the right path. If I want to go to Chicago, I need to know at least two things. Where Chicago is, and where I am in relation to it. As I go in that direction, I check for markers on the highway that indicate I am headed in the right direction.

In his autobiographical journey from atheism to Christianity, C. S. Lewis describes his search for his desired destination. He wanted to find joy in life. Not surprising, given that his mother died when he was 10 years old. He was sent to boarding schools in his native North Ireland but eventually ended up in England. During his coming-of-age years, there was the brutal war in Ireland that ended with the partitioning of Northern Ireland in 1920. He was at university in Oxford during the outbreak of World War I and reached the front lines as a commissioned officer in France on his 19th birthday in 1917. He was wounded just over six months later and discharged in December 1918.



Sean NIESTRATH
Faith-based columnist

Guest Columnist

He continued his studies and became a professor of English and Philosophy. He met G.K. Chesterton and was fascinated by his writings. He also became friends with J.R.R. Tolkien. Thus, his search for joy continued. It was, however, sidetracked by his search for truth, which eventually led him to converting (or returning) to Christianity. Writing at the end of Surprised by Joy, he shares that he learned that the destination he longed for was not joy. It was something much greater – faith.

“But what, in conclusion, of Joy? for that, after all, is what the story has mainly been about. To tell you the truth, the subject has lost nearly all interest for me since I became a Christian...It was valuable only as a pointer to something other and outer. While that other (faith) was in doubt, the pointer naturally loomed large in my thoughts. When we are lost in the woods the sight of a signpost is a great matter. . . . But when we have found the road and are passing signposts every few miles, we shall not stop and stare. They will encourage us and we shall be grateful for the authority that set them up. But we shall not stop and stare, or not much; not on this road.”

This has been my experience of many of the best things in this life. Moments (and they are but moments – deep and cherished) of joy, peace, and satisfaction. As soon as they become the goal, I begin to focus on things that are less important in hopes of generating that which I

am seeking. I forget that these are but markers, not the destination. These are markers that I am heading in the right direction. If there are not moments of joy or peace, it may be that I have lost my way.

Austine of Hippo said, “It is one thing to survey our peaceful homeland from a wooded height but fail to find the way there, and make vain attempts to travel through impassable terrain, while fugitive deserters marshaled by the lion and the dragon obstruct and lurk in ambush; and quite another to walk steadily in the way that leads there, along the well-built road opened up by the heavenly emperor, where no deserters from the celestial army dare commit robbery, for they avoid that way like torment. Augustine of Hippo, Confessions Book 7

There are a couple of things about our journey here on earth that are important. Where is the destination and where I am in relation to it. If the destination is worthy, the work and trials and trouble are but part of the journey. Nothing worthwhile is accomplished without resistance and difficulty. The fun I have had in my life has been the result of earning it. The deepest joys have come upon me by surprise, totally unexpected. The greatest peaceful moments are but passing, but their existence in my life sustains the hope that is within me.

Pay attention to the markers.

Dr. Sean Niestrath is a minister in Madisonville, Ky. He holds a doctoral degree in ministry. You may contact him at sean.niestrath@outlook.com.

2nd Grading Period Honor Roll

2ND GRADE
Bloodworth A's
Rhett Mathews
A's & B's
Paige Maynard
Zander McFarland
Zaylie Tinsley
Zayden Todd

Board A's
Beckett Bebout
Rylee Fraliex
Haven Henager
Caleigh Maddux
Nolan Schultz
Charlotte Vince
Jentry Wright
A's & B's
Brayton Brown
Easton Burton
Elora Byers
Breckin Gardner
Krue Gardner
Brighton Guess
Allie Brooke Kirk
Ruth Martinez
Maci Paris
Case Winters

Guess A's
Weston Gilkey
Kendall buell-belt
Bryza Curnel
Darren Curnel
Migel German
Anaiya Maraman
Evelyn James
Brady Hall
A's & B's
Faith Crotty
Lilly Besaw
Cella Russell
Ethan Claybrooke
Lyliah Householder
Cj Mclean
James Thacker
Presley Tyner

Scott A's
Crea Farmer
Bryleigh Godwin
Lynleigh Hubbard
Jagger Renfro
Maci Tinsley
Kooper Wagoner
Nora Waters
A's & B's
Lauren Boone
Serenity Clifford
Heaton Davis
Hayden Henager
Aleciyah Alvarez-Hudson

Shewcraft A's
Dawson Curtis
A's & B's
Cade Collins
Will Gass
Grace Godwin
Gage Mayers
Matthew Millikan
Natalie Travis
Jensen Tinsley

3RD GRADE
Cappello A's
Hayden Atwell
Beckett Hunt
Arrow Jent
Boone Tabor
Addy Tinsley
Chiles Trail
A's & B's

Ryan Cummings
Jack Davis
Cooper Ellington
Sadie Gobin
Quincy Loudon
Mia Rose
Adalynn Stone
Koleson Tinsley
Ella Tramble
Liz Scott
Tinley Smith
Hezekiah Warren

McKinney A's
Asher Belt
Jemma O'Neal
Ayden Oliver
Bryar Whittington
A's & B's
Connor Buchanan
Grayson Congenie
Felicity Galloway
Wayland Kern
Cassius Souvongkham

Stowe A's
Chloe Cates
A's & B's
Anna Beth Blackburn
Phoenix Dominy
Owen Flahardy
Kiyah Rowley
Almonzo Wilkins

Young A's
Drew Bryant
Hadlee Henager
Annalese Maraman
Jake Morse
Hadley Sherer
Madison Winterrowd
A's & B's
Remi Spurlin Belcher
Leighton Bumpus
Toni Cosby
Brylee Curnel
Raelynn Forsythe
Mckenzie Greenwell
Ella Rustin
Wren Smith
Dagan Taylor
Chase Winders

4TH GRADE
Boling A's
Blake Beck
Josh Walker
A's & B's
Braylen Brown
Chelsey Lynch
Lucian McDowell
Londyn Newcom
Bennett Tabor

Harris A's
Aliyah Taylor
Nathan Travis
A's & B's
Mury Amaya
Trace Belt
Asher Blake
Gage Fitzgerald
Gracie Freeman
Jasely Guess
Norrisa Manus
Addison McElroy
Davis Polk
Grayson Pritchett
Harper Riley

Parker A's & B's
Ryker Bryant
Trinity Clifford

Schoensiegel A's
Adelyn Cosby
Alexis Arnold
A's & B's
Audrina Rich
Omar German
Hudson Cummins
Bailey Cummins
Rylan Thomas

5TH GRADE
Fraliex A's
Barret Greenwell
Waylon Wood
A's & B's
Tate Cavanah
Landyn Claybrooke
Bryan Curnel
John Dreihaupt
Caleb Harris
Brady Loudon
Adrial Nelson
Landry Pollard

Jones A's
Xander Jones
A & B's
Zavian Bell
Cadie Buchanan
Dakota Conner
Xander Jones
Jerrod Kirk
Carly Mardis
Fiona Miller
Nilony Russell
Gannon Taylor
Makinnah Tramel

Perez A's
Melina Keller
Catelynn Maddox
Addie McMackin
Sam Morris
Mattie Moss
A & B's
Ben Brantley
Aaliyah Butts
Cam Cornwell
Graiglynn Curtis
Callie Hildebrand
EmmaShae Holland
Ava Morrison
Wil Myers
Brooklyn Riley
Lukas Williams
Jack Wright

Wheeler A's
Conner Partee
Kayleigh Duvall
Parker Brown
A's & B's
Paige Tinsley
Liam Schultz
Wyatt Maddux
Aria Ford
Levi Curnel
Jaxon Courtright
Phillip Barnes

Winders A's
Knox Champion
A's & B's
Tia Belt
Aiden Carroll
Blaklie Green
Elizabeth Greenwell
Parker Lingerfelt
Jared Rogers
Kynslee Shepherd
Russell Vince
Jonah Waters
Koltyn Woodall

There is always hope in Jesus even when we mess up

Question: I messed up—BIG TIME! I've been in an alcohol addiction treatment program for a year. I've attended all the meetings and crossed weekly sobriety milestones. Begrudgingly, I had a relapse and this time a teenage boy is in the hospital because I drove under the influence. I'm desolated and filled with shame. Is there any hope for me now?

A: I recognize your feeling of disappointment in yourself. Rightfully so, but your life is not without hope. God took the initiative to send His Son, Jesus, to die on the cross a sacrificial death

ASK the PASTOR
By Bob Hardison

to pay your sin-debt. “For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life” (Jn. 3:16). God forgives all who come to Him confessing their sin (1 Jn. 1:9).

Obviously, you can't overcome your alcoholism on your own. The good news is you don't have to. If you'll believe in Jesus

as your Lord and Savior, the Holy Spirit of God will indwell you. Through the Spirit's power within, you can resist every temptation including the powerful pull of strong drink in your life. “No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it” (1 Cor. 10:13).

Send your questions to: bob@bobhardison.com

WORSHIP
with us this week

Visit one of our area churches for worship and fellowship

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315 Emmaus Church Rd., Salem, Ky.
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Sunday Mass 11 a.m.
Father Joji Joseph

860 S. Main St.
Marion, Ky.
(270) 965-2477

Mexico Baptist Church

Minister of Music Mike Crabtree
Pastor: Morgan Smith
Sunday Worship Services: 10 a.m., 7 p.m.
Sunday Bible Study: 9 a.m.
Sunday Discipleship Training: 6 p.m.
Wednesday Worship Service: 7 p.m.

175 Mexico Rd.
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DEER CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH
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Bro. Jamie Baker

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

Emmanuel Baptist Church

108 Hillcrest Dr., Marion | (270) 965-4623

Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship: 10:45 a.m., 6 p.m.
Wednesday Adult Bible Study, Children and Youth Activities: 6 p.m.

Tolu Methodist Church

Pastor: David Brown

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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 *Join us for praise & worship*

College & Depot streets, Marion • (270) 965-5232

Pastor: Bro. Aaron Brown • Children's & Youth Pastor: Bro. Shawn Holeman

SUNDAY MORNING SERVICES: 9 a.m. & 11 a.m., ONLINE 11 a.m., SUNDAY SCHOOL: 10:05 a.m.
WEDNESDAY: BIBLE STUDY/PRAYER 6 p.m., AWANA FOR CHILDREN & YOUTH GROUPS 6 p.m.
CHOIR PRACTICE: 6:45 p.m., PRAISE TEAM: 7:30 p.m.

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.

Unity General Baptist Church

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

Marion Church of Christ

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Speaker: Greg Rushing

SUNDAY School 10 a.m.
Worship 11 a.m.
Bible study 6 p.m.

Ky. 506 | Marion, Ky.

Sugar Grove
Cumberland Presbyterian

585 Sugar Grove Church Rd., Marion, Ky.
Reverend Greg Cain 270-245-4013
Sun. School: 10 a.m. | Sun. Worship: 11 a.m. & 6 p.m.
Wed. Bible Study: 7 p.m.

Marion Methodist Church

We love intensely, believe deeply, and pray zealously

SUN: Sun. School 9:30 a.m.
Worship 10:45 p.m.

South College St.

Frances Community Church

Bro. Butch Gray
Worship service:..... 11 a.m.
Children's Church ages 3 & up ... 11 a.m.
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Hurricane Church

Hurricane Church Rd. off Ky. 135 West
Pastor: Bro. Danny Hinchee
Sun. School, 10 am. • Worship, 11 a.m.
Sun. Evening services, 6 p.m.
Wed. Evening services, 7 p.m.

Classifieds *The Crittenden Press*

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for rent

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services

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notices

Donations for the upkeep of Old Mt. Zion Cemetery may be sent to: Old Mt. Zion Cemetery, % Colleen Harbour, 246 Cotton Patch Rd., Marion, KY 42064. (1t-13-p)

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legal notices

I, Melissa Guill, Clerk of Crittenden County District Court Marion, Ky. do certify that the following has filed notice of Final Settlement: Steve R. Hackney of 511 N. Main St., Marion, Ky. 42064, administrator of Carol Diane Hackney, deceased, whose address was 176 Zion Cemetery Rd., Salem, Ky. 42078. The foregoing settlement is to be heard at the regular session of Crittenden District Court on April 30, 2025. All persons having exceptions to said settlements are to file same at once. Melissa Guill, Clerk Crittenden District Court (1t-13-c)

I, Melissa Guill, Clerk of Crittenden County District Court Marion, Ky. do certify that the following has filed notice of Final Settlement: Kathy L. Girdler of 7381 U.S. 60 West, Marion, Ky. 42064, executrix of Barbara Burlingame, deceased, whose address was 959 S.R. 855 South, Marion, Ky. 42064. The foregoing settlement is to be heard at the regular session of Crittenden District Court on April 23, 2025. All persons having exceptions to said settlements are to file same at once. Melissa Guill, Clerk Crittenden District Court (1t-13-c)

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Crittenden County Local Planning Committee Meeting and Public Forum Meeting

The Crittenden County Schools' Local Planning Committee will conduct a meeting of the Crittenden County Local Planning Committee on April 10 at 5:30 p.m. CT at the Rocket Arena Conference Room, in the arena directly behind the high school at 519 ½ West Gum Street, Marion, Ky. 42064.

The local planning meeting will be immediately followed by a PUBLIC FORUM. These meetings are informal gatherings to encourage local participation through community suggestions relative to future utilization of existing school facilities and construction of new school facilities. These community suggestions or recommendations will be closely monitored by the Local Planning Committee in the development of a proposed District Facility Plan for the Crittenden County Schools.

SportsShorts

SCHEDULE

Upcoming events

THURSDAY
Baseball Livingston at St. Mary
FRIDAY
Softball CCHS in Clarksville, Tenn.
Softball LCHS in Alabama
SATURDAY
Softball CCHS in Clarksville, Tenn.
Track at Calloway Co. Invitational
MONDAY
Baseball LCHS vs Lyon, All A Classic
Softball CCHS at Livingston, All A
TUESDAY
Baseball CCHS at UHA/HCA, All A

SOCCKER

Richey is Ag-Athlete

Caldwell County High School senior Harper Richey was honored March 28 at Rupp Arena as one of six recipients of the 2025 Ag Athlete of the Year award, presented by Agriculture Commissioner Jonathan Shell and the Kentucky High School Athletic Association. Richey, who plays soccer for the Lady Tigers, received a \$1,000 scholarship during the KHSAA Boys' Sweet Sixteen® State Basketball Tournament in recognition of her achievements in both athletics and agriculture. She plans to continue her education at a two- or four-year college or trade school. "These same skills can also translate to a successful academic career," Shell said during the ceremony. "We are pleased to reward scholarships to the Commonwealth's best young athletes and agriculturists." The scholarships are funded through the "Ag Tag" program, which collected more than \$931,000 last year through voluntary donations from Kentucky motorists when renewing farm license plates.



Richey

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SWEET 16 BASKETBALL Sherrill's Aces in finale

Caldwell County High School alumnus D.G. Sherrill guided his Bowling Green High School basketball team into the Sweet 16 championship game last weekend at Rupp Arena, but despite a strong comeback attempt late in the game, his Purple Aces lost 71-61 to Great Crossings in Saturday's title game.

GOLF

Williams ties for first

Livingston County's Ty Williams shot a 41 last weekend at tied for first place in a Junior Under Amour Golf Tournament event at Mayfield.

OUTDOORS

Hunting Seasons

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

Coyote Night (lights)	Dec. 1 - March 31
Goose Conservation	Feb. 16 - March 31
Wild Turkey Youth	April 5-6
Wild Turkey	April 12 - May 4
Bullfrog	May 16 - Oct. 31
Squirrel	May 17 - June 15
Coyote	Year Round
Ground hog	Year Round

FOLLOW THE ROCKETS at THE PRESS ONLINE
www.The-Press.com SportsTab

Crittenden County Track & Field Roundup

At Marshall County

Here are Crittenden County results from Marshall County Invitational of the South held last week.

Girls Results

100 Meters
50. Kaylin Coleman (15.59), 56. Aliza Maraman (16.68), 58. Madison Walker (17.58)
200 Meters
35. Shelbi Belt (32.57), 37. Kaylin Coleman (33.42), 43. Hayley Moore (35.71)
400 Meters
19. Shelbi Belt (1:10.68), 36. Hayley Moore (1:20.52)
800 Meters
10. Ella Geary (2:49.83)
1600 Meters
9. Mary Martinez (5:59.18)
3200 Meters
5. Mary Martinez (12:53.27)
100 Meter Hurdles
22. Susana Suggs (23.17)
300 Meter Hurdles
15. Aliza Maraman (1:08.29), 16. Susana Suggs (1:12.03)
4x100 Meter Relay
13. Lilyann Wong (1:04.60)
4x200 Meter Relay
10. Lilyann Wong (2:04.69)
4x400 Meter Relay

7. Lilyann Wong (5:01.06)
Long Jump
7. Ella Geary (14-7.5), 26. Susana Suggs (11-7.25)
Discus
27. Layken Gilchrist (56-0), 31. Madison Walker (53-0)
Shot Put
15. Layken Gilchrist (27-0.5), 32. Madison Walker (21-6.5), 34. Erika (Bre) McKendree (20-11.5)

Boys Results

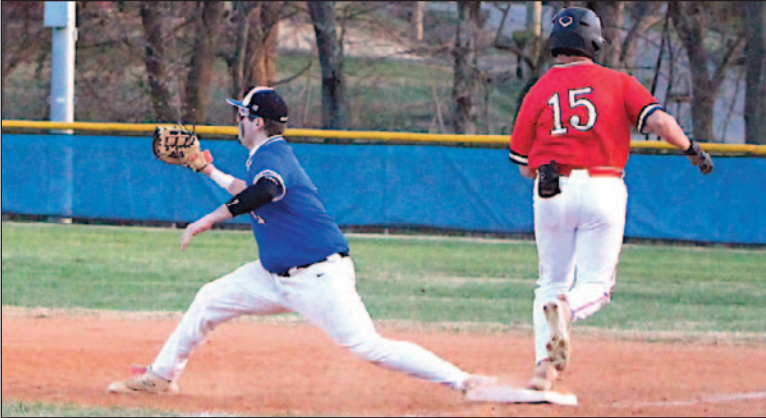
100 Meters
37. Gaige Markham (12.31), 55. Kaden Herrington (13.32), 60. Camden Nash (13.79)
200 Meters
38. Noah Byford (26.86), 41. Kadence Hackney (27.36), 45. Aiden Musser (28.85)
400 Meters
27. Noah Byford (1:00.55)
800 Meters
29. River Rogers (2:29.37), 31. Noah Martinez (2:38.23), 40. Landon Starkey (2:49.95)
1600 Meters
21. River Rogers (5:28.04), 29. Landon Starkey (6:02.11)
Freshmen 1600 Meters
14. CJ Nelson (5:37.35), 15. Noah Martinez

(5:39.56)
3200 Meters
17. River Rogers (12:35.55), 19. Landon Starkey (13:31.04)
300 Meter Hurdles
16. Gaige Markham (52.94), 22. Kadence Hackney (57.08)
Long Jump
30. Kaden Herrington (15-6), 35. Camden Nash (14-2), 41. Gaige Markham (11-3.25)
Triple Jump
15. Noah Byford (36-3), 16. Camden Nash (35-11)
Discus
35. Aiden Musser (75-5), 38. Bryan Chaney (72-2), 43. Johnathan Tramel (69-1)
Shot Put
36. Johnathan Tramel (29-8), 41. Bryan Chaney (28-0), 45. Aiden Musser (25-11)

LIVINGSTON CENTRAL Results

100 Meters
23. Talon Sanchez (11.72)
200 Meters
9. Talon Sanchez (23.75)
110 Meter Hurdles
Talon Sanchez (15.35)
300 Meter Hurdles
Talon Sanchez (42.63)

Crittenden County Baseball | Softball Roundup



PHOTOS BY GRACIE ORR

CCHS first baseman Chase Conyer (above) stretches for a play to put out a baserunner. Below, CCHS catcher Eli Lovell goes safety into second in front of Livingston's Easton Smith. And at left, Lady Rocket pitcher Elliot Evans releases a changeup as shortstop Andrea Federico prepares for a play.

BASEBALL

CCHS falls to Cougars

Hardin County, Ill., jumped out early and never looked back in a 7-2 win over Crittenden County on Tuesday at Marion. The Cougars plated five runs the first three innings and added two more in the fourth to build a commanding 7-0 lead. Crittenden managed single runs in the fifth and sixth but couldn't close the gap.

Hudston Stokes led the Rockets, going 3-for-4 with two runs scored. Eli Lovell added two hits, and Davis Perryman drove in one run.

Webster ace 1-hits CCHS

Crittenden County ran into some tough pitching at Webster County on Saturday, losing 10-0 in 5 innings. CCHS managed just one hit off of Trojan senior hurler Pryce Pearcy.

The lone Rocket hit was was a Jaxton Duncan single. Meanwhile, Webster ripped CCHS pitching for 10 hits and 8 earned runs. Duncan started the game and Jake Rich finished the last 1.1 innings.

Rockets take 2 from Cardinals

Crittenden County edged Livingston Central 3-1 at Smithland last Thursday in a tight district contest. The Rockets scored a pair of runs in the seventh to break a 1-1 tie and secure the win. Chase Conyer led the way with two hits and two RBIs, while Eli Lovell added an RBI single. Hudson Stokes reached base

twice and scored once. Conyer also earned the win on the mound, striking out 12 over seven innings while allowing just one earned run.

Livingston matched Crittenden with seven hits but left runners stranded. Aiden Hale and Avery Zaim each had two hits for the Cardinals, with Hale driving in the team's only run.

Ethan Garner pitched 6 innings for LCHS, striking out eight and allowing just one earned run. Jackson Duncan worked the seventh, alling 2 earned runs and striking out 2.

Livingston was 3-5 overall and 0-2 after losing back to back games to CCHS. The Rockets improved to 2-0 in league play.

Crittenden County defeated Livingston Central 12-2 last Tuesday at Marion behind a dominant offensive and defensive effort. The Rockets erupted for six runs in the fifth inning and outhit the Cardinals 11-6. Quinn Summers and Eli Lovell each went 3-for-3 and combined to score six of Crittenden's 12 runs. Chase Conyer added two RBIs, and Asa McCord earned the win on the mound, allowing two earned runs with three strikeouts.

Livingston was limited to six hits and committed five errors. Avery Zaim led the Cardinals with a 3-for-3 performance at the plate, while Ethan Garner and Aiden Hale each drove in a run. Garrett Edmonds reached base twice after being hit by pitches



and scored both of Livingston's runs.

SOFTBALL

Lady Rockets sweep Hardin

The Lady Rockets swept a doubleheader Tuesday at home against Hardin County, Ill.

The girls dominated the Cougar women in the opener, posting an 11-1 victory in five innings. Elliot Evans went 3-for-4 at the plate and scored three runs to lead Crittenden County offensively, while also earning the win in the circle. Anna Boone added two hits, two runs and three RBIs.

In the nightcap, CCHS scored early and relied on solid pitching from Brodi Rich to blank Hardin County 3-0. Evans and Morgan Piper each scored runs, while Boone, Macibelle Hardesty and Abigail Champion also contributed hits as Crittenden improved to 5-3 on the season.

Trigg 10-runs Lady Rockets

Trigg County rolled past the

Lady Rockets 11-1 on Friday in a Fifth District matchup at Cadiz. Trigg scored in every inning except the second and outhit Crittenden 9-3. Anna Boone collected two of the Lady Rockets' three hits and scored their only run. Morgan Piper added the team's lone RBI. Crittenden struggled defensively with five errors and couldn't keep pace after Trigg jumped out to an early 3-1 lead in the first inning.

Boone pitched the first 4 innings and Brodi Rich went the last two.

Trigg improved to 1-1 in the district while that was CCHS's first league game. Crittenden was 3-3 overall after the loss and Trigg was 5-4.

CCHS falls to Marshall Co.

Marshall County defeated the Lady Rockets 9-2 on Thursday, using a late surge to pull away. The Lady Rockets tied the game 2-2 in the fourth inning but gave up seven unanswered runs in the final three frames. Morgan Piper and Elle McDaniel led the Lady Rockets with two hits each, while Hannah Jent scored once and had the team's only RBI. Crittenden collected seven hits, but struck out seven times at the plate against Marshall pitcher Alicen Harris, who is committed to play at Morehead.

Evans, Brodi Rich and Anna Boone shared time in the circle. All nine Marshall runs were earned as CCHS committed no fielding errors.

Best of Luck
ROCKETS

LADY ROCKETS

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Rebecca J. Johnson

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CRITTENDEN COUNTY DUGOUT CLUB BASEBALL I SOFTBALL ROSTERS

12-UNDER Baseball
COACH
Adam Dayberry
PLAYERS
Bryce Dayberry
Cooper Rich
Axel Topp
Bode Merrill
Liam Schultz
Kyler Atwell
Brantley Sunderland
Jase Wallace
Kolbie Hocking
Zavian Bell
Trennen Sellers
Baseball
COACH
Wendy Williams
PLAYERS
Mason Williams
Xander Jones
Knox Champion

Barrett Brown
Noah Baker
Koltyn Woodall
Rex Boone
Tripp Martin
Jordy Byford
Tristan Harris
Conner Partee
Briley Hackney
Softball
COACH
Brad Adams
PLAYERS
Mattie Moss
Melina Keller
Sydney Keller
Olivia Mattingly
Aria Kinnis
Danielle Farmer
Blakelee Gardner
Carly Crider
Scarlett Bock
Annslee Hurst
Elizabeth Greenwell

Bradie Hackney
Isabel Geary
Softball
COACH
Chad Nelson
PLAYERS
Adelynn Nelson
Brooklyn Lovell
Ava Tabor
Kora Belle Penn
Mela Kate Penn
London McCord
Whitley Lovan
Fiona Louden
Aubrianna Odom
Kaylynn Little
Emma Shae Holland
Isabella Milby

10-UNDER Baseball
COACH
Matt Cornwell
PLAYERS
Cam Cornwell
Jagger Renfro
Asher Blake
Sam Morries
Cohen Sherer
Bryar Whittington
Cooper Ellington
Sawyer Bock
Beckett Hunt
Kam Matthews
Lane Dismore
Lucian McDowell
Christian Peek
Baseball
COACH
Charlie Day
PLAYERS
Brody Day

Nathan Travis
Hayden Atwell
Kayson Atwell
Jaxson Congenie
Boone Tabor
Liam Frederick
Bryan Curnel
Gunner Smith
Owen Flahardy
Axel Quertermous
Collin Hardesty
Quincy Louden
Softball
COACH
Ashley Hildebrand
PLAYERS
Callie Hildebrand
Chloe Cates
Jordan Champion
Ella Rustin
Leighton Bumpus
Kailea Mason
Cadie Buchanana
Addie McMackin
Jozie Beth Fitch
Allyson Williams
Elizabeth Dunbar
Softball
COACH
Ryan Blackburn
PLAYERS
Anna Beth Blackburn
Hadlee Henager
Avery Epley
Karsin Gardner
Gracie Freeman
Annalese Maraman
Caitlyn McElroy
Addison McElroy
Braylen Brown
Adalyn Tinsley

8-UNDER Baseball
COACH
Charlie Day
PLAYERS
Maddux Day
Trae Burton
Easton Burton
Dayton Easley
Case Winters
Bennett Sunderland
Krue Gardner
Harrison Schultz
Weston Gilkey
Will Gass
Bailey Bebout
Isaiah Myers
Baseball
COACH
Todd Perryman
Clarke Perryman
Heaton Davis
Aiden Vasquez
Trail Perryman
Asher Fowler
Cade Collins
Carson Hill
Wyatt Brown
Ryder Blackburn
Boomer Snyder
Alton Gibson
Blake Elder
Baseball
COACH
Joe Cappello
Lincoln Cappello
Crea Farmer
Grayson Robinson
Gage Mayers
Jon Ross Joyce
Scotty Crotty

Gunnar Whitehair
Beau Byford
Jed Orr
Connor Buchanan
Gunner Watson
Reid Bingham
Softball
COACH
Brittney Buell-Schneider
PLAYERS
Kendall Buell-Belt
Breckyn Henager
haven Henager
Brighton Guess
Faith Crotty
Allie Brooke Kirk
Alexandria Vasquez
Harper Goldman
Caroline Williams
Camreigh Venable
Bella Pierson
Reid Bingham
Softball
COACH
Stephen Smith
PLAYERS
Charley Smith
Beckett Bebout
Hazel Riley
Zaylie Tinsley
Eliza Nelson
Birdie Brown
Stevie Renfro
Bryza Curnel
Lynleigh Hubbard
Quinn Maddux
Natalie Travis
Emberly Mclevain

CCYSA SOCCER ROSTERS
12-UNDER The Tornados
COACHES
Sarah Shepherd
Kayla McDonald
PLAYERS
Aaliyah Butts
Tia Belt
Paige Tinsley
Kynslee Shepherd
Cade Hart
Lily Robinson
RJ Harris
Samuel Morries
Jaxon Courtright
McKenzie Courtright
Emma Knowlton
David Luke Stokes
Ellie Stokes
Ella Knowlton

Charlestyn Driver
Rylan Reed
Presley Snyder
Boomer Snyder
Anaiya Maraman
Rory Felton
Lila Hughes
Isabelle Warwick
6-UNDER Pink Panthers
COACHES
Ali Perryman
Travis Perryman
PLAYERS
Hattie Mae Perryman
Roman Hale
Asher Hale
Lynlee Shewcraft
Journey Jackson
Teighan Phillips
Joziah Williams
Jacob McKinney

10-UNDER Bad Apples
COACHES
Bayley McDonald
Taylor Hardin
PLAYERS
Knox McDonald
Nolan Hardin
Zander McFarland
Brylee Curnel
Omar German
Maddie Young
Blake Beck
Madison Muff
Toni Grace Cosby
Jemma O'Neal
Felicity Galloway
Matthew Millikan
Kingston Myers
Mia Rose

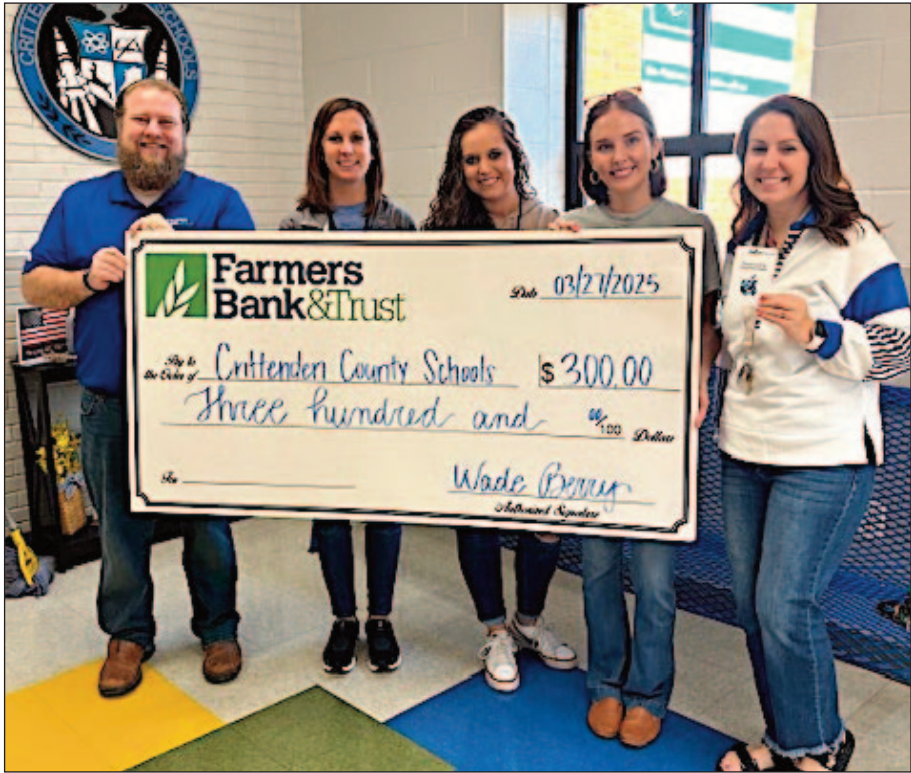
Royal Blue
COACHES
Jacob Courtney
Maggie Wring
PLAYERS
Thad Courtney
Jameson Courtney
Beckham Wring
Brayson Reed
Layton Herrin
Paige Ward
Elena Gasca
Kodie Todd

4-UNDER Baby Sharks
COACHES
Taylor Berry
Magan Cruce
PLAYERS
Sadie Driver
Cade Hunt
Morgan Sanders
Brooks Cruce
Jett Berry
Rylee Russelburg

8-UNDER Pink Ladies
COACHES
Leslie English
Todd Benjamin
PLAYERS
Tatelynn Kitchens
Charley Hardin
Amelia Conger
Gerdie English
Kora Freeman
Stella Cochran
Hazelynn Allen

Blueberry Bombs
COACHES
Kenzie McKinley
PLAYERS
Alaina McKinley
Miguel German
Elise Driver
Nellie Singleton
Brinley Quertermous
Randy Hughes
Colton White

Mighty Mints
COACHES
Crystal Driver
Landon Driver
PLAYERS



A \$300 donation from Farmers Bank & Trust will help Crittenden County Schools purchase communication apps for students with learning and communication difficulties, officials announced this week. Funding will allow the district’s special education department to equip students with modern voice-assisted tools, speech-to-text features and interactive apps designed to improve communication and support learning. “We are thrilled to partner with Farmers Bank to provide these crucial resources,” said Heather Belt, a speech pathologist at the school. “This donation will make a significant impact in helping our students express themselves and participate more actively in their learning.”

Ignoring child abuse is wrong answer

Adults often get uncomfortable when the topic of child abuse arises. It isn’t easy to think about what some children must endure before adulthood. However, ignoring it doesn’t make it go away – and adults staying comfortable do not keep children safe. Topics surrounding child abuse can evoke strong emotions, lead to feelings of discomfort or even spark denial, as many people prefer to believe such tragedies do not occur in their communities. However, avoiding these crucial conversations can have dire consequences. Engaging in discussions about child abuse prevention is essential to raising awareness. Denial and silence can per-



petuate cycles of abuse, as they prevent individuals from recognizing the signs and understanding the realities of the issue. Learning about the various forms of abuse and the statistics — such as the fact that an average of five children die every day in the United States due to abuse — can motivate individuals to take action and advocate for change. Awareness and education are two vital pieces to preventing child abuse and keeping the children in our community safe. The Extension office has many activities planned to help increase awareness and education during April. Learn about Adverse Childhood Experiences, their long-term effects, and steps you can take to

lessen the impact on Friday, April 4, from noon to 1 p.m. Join us for a Pinwheel for Prevention Walk on Saturday, April 12, at 9 a.m. at City-County Park, then walk over to the Lions Club for a small reception to help us complete our Healthy Childhood Mural. At 10 a.m. on April 16, join us in recognizing the signs of abuse. On Saturday, April 26, we offer a Positive Co-Parenting Class at 3 p.m. and a Kinship Care Support Group at 5:30 p.m. to support those helping keep children safe by raising a child who is not biologically their own. On April 29 at 6 p.m., we are hosting a self-care class — because the best tool for caring for others is caring for yourself.

If you want to help raise awareness, you can wear blue on Friday, April 4. You can also help by displaying pinwheels — the symbol for child abuse prevention — in your yard. You can pick up a free pinwheel at the Crittenden County Extension office or stop by one of our volunteer pick-up locations, including the Crittenden County Public Library, Troy’s Collision Center, Crittenden Community Hospital and In Touch Massage Therapy. These locations will also have additional resources available. To learn more, sign up for any of these classes, or request information for a group or event you are hosting, call 270-965-5236 or email rebecca.woodall@kysu.edu.



Additional local nominees for WKCTC awards are (from left) Shayann Board, a nominee in the elementary division; Tammy Travis, a nominee in the support staff division; Crystal Wesmoland, a top three finalist in the administrative staff division; and Neal Bryant, who received the outstanding educator award.

TEACH
Continued from page 1
enger Learning Center at Paducah is part of an international network of more than 30 centers established in memory of the astronauts lost in the 1986 Challenger shuttle tragedy. The Paducah center, located on the campus of WKCTC, was created in partnership with Paducah Junior College, Inc. and offers immersive STEM learning through space-themed simulations and educational missions.

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Crittenden County Students of the Month for March are (from left) middle school student E.J. Taylor, elementary student Addy Claybrooke, CCHS student Hailey Rose and upper elementary recipient Liam Schultz.

New digital coach will develop teacher, technology strategies

STAFF REPORT

Assistance using artificial intelligence (AI) and a multitude of online platforms will be provided to all teachers in Crittenden County Schools next year by a digital learning coach. The newly established position will work with teachers at all three schools to maximize the effective use of classroom technology for learning.

All Crittenden County middle and high school students have Chromebooks assigned to them in order to access educational websites. The digital learning coach will assist teachers by providing suggestions for instruction, an emerging element being AI available on a number of educational websites.

Kentucky has more than 600 digital learning coaches throughout the state who help educators implement rigorous, relevant and engaging digital learning experiences for students. A description on the Kentucky Department of Education website says digital learning coaches stay up to date on emerging technological trends, address student privacy concerns, and master new technol-

CRITTENDEN COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD

ogy programs while also serving as a liaison between educators, curriculum departments and technology departments.

The local position was approved by the Crittenden County Board of Education March 25 and posted on the Crittenden County Schools website.

Other action by the board last week includes the following:

- Approved the pre-school calendar for the 2025-26 school year with a start date of Sept. 2.
- Approved payment to MP Lawson Construction for the Crittenden County Middle School addition at a cost just over \$59,000 and approved vendor payments totaling \$170,791 to subcontractors. By Crittenden County Schools making payments to subcontractors during the construction process, the district has been exempt from the 6% sales tax for materials – equating to tens of thousands of dollars in savings.
- Discussed use of the grant balance of \$22,253 for the Vince Clark Rocket Foundation En-

dowment. The foundation is used to assist students with dual credit course fees and trade certification expenses for high school students taking college courses. This year, the board used \$13,000 from the foundation to assist students with the cost of college classes. More than 100 courses have been taken this year by CCHS students.

- Established dates for graduation Friday, May 23; baccalaureate Sunday, May 18; and class night Thursday, May 22.
- Approved a \$461,892 payment to Ascendant Facility Partners for the district's general energy savings contract. Superintendent Tonya Driver expressed her satisfaction with the interest rate of 3.93% for the bond sale. The project is allowing the district to complete a number of energy-saving projects and district upgrades, including installation of solar panels on each of the district's buildings and replacement of HVAC and original restrooms at CCES.

Livingston moving 6th graders, plans move of MS to Smithland

STAFF REPORT

Livingston County Schools announced late last week a major transition that is set to begin in the 2025-2026 school year, aimed at better aligning student needs with educational opportunities across the district.

Superintendent David Meinschein outlined the initial change, which involves moving sixth grade students from Livingston County Middle School in Burna back to their respective elementary schools. They had been originally moved to the middle school a few years ago.

Beginning in August 2025, sixth graders will remain at their designated elementary schools to complete their school year. This adjustment is intended to enhance enrichment and remediation opportunities while still allowing students access to athletics, career and technical learning, and other activities traditionally offered at the middle school level, the district said in its announcement.

Seventh and eighth grade students will continue attending Livingston County Middle School during the 2025-2026 school year.

Looking further ahead, the district is considering expansion at the Smithland campus with a more comprehensive restructuring that would transition both seventh and eighth grade students to Livingston Central High School. This move, which is still in the planning stages, would allow for expanded course offerings but would also require renovations to the high school to accommodate the additional students.

In the news release, Livingston County Schools emphasized its commitment to providing a world-class education, noting that the upcoming changes are part of a long-term strategy to meet the evolving needs of students, the community, and the workforce.

"The future is bright in Livingston County," Meinschein stated in the announcement.

Meinschein a week earlier had announced he would be leaving Livingston County to become superintendent of Murray Independent School District.



Exploring Marion's Par 4

Leadership West Kentucky participants toured Marion last week, spending a half day exploring the community and one of its largest manufacturing plants, Par 4 Plastics. Leaders from across the region visited local amenities and businesses. Pictured above (from left) are Britne Parker, Katy McGlothlin, Tiffany Blazina, Jessi Watson, and Chasta Champion, who were fascinated by the tiny plastic beads shown to them by Par 4 Maintenance Director Jeremy Shoulders. The beads are used in making baskets, pails, gun stocks, and automobile parts. In the bottom photo, Par 4 Safety Specialist Alec Pierce leads a group from Hopkinsville through the plant's manufacturing area.



FFA hosting event for first responders

Utilizing a \$2,000 Raising Hope grant, Crittenden County High School FFA will present a Grain Bin Safety event Thursday, April 10.

The event includes training designed for area first responders, Crittenden County Rescue Squad personnel and firemen in the event of a grain bin entrapment accident.

CCHS' FFA will also present a donation to the Crittenden County Rescue Squad courtesy of the grant.

This event is open to the public, all farmers, and first responses from 5-8 p.m., behind the CCHS ag shop.



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ELECTED COUNTY JUDGE-EXECUTIVE | MAGISTRATES

Crittenden County Fiscal Court

<p><i>Judge-executive</i></p> <p>Perry Newcom (R) 107 S. Main St. Marion, KY 42064 270.965.5251 (o) 270.704.0457 (c)</p> <p>Perry.newcom@crittendencountyky.org</p>	<p><i>District 1 Magistrate</i></p> <p>Dave Belt (R) 308 Chandler Farm Rd. Sturgis, KY 42459 270.704.0199 (c)</p> <p>Dave.Belt@crittendencountyky.org</p>	<p><i>District 2 Magistrate</i></p> <p>Matt Grimes (R) 301 State Route 297 Marion, Ky. 42064 270.704.9832 (c)</p> <p>matt.grimes@crittendencountyky.org</p>	<p><i>District 3 Magistrate</i></p> <p>Robert Kirby (R) 1698 Chapel Hill Road Marion, KY 42064 270.889.1504 (c)</p> <p>Robert.kirby@crittendencountyky.org</p>	<p><i>District 4 Magistrate</i></p> <p>Chad Thomas (D) 701 Hebron Church Rd. Marion, KY 42064 270.965.9727 (h) 270.339.4949 (c)</p> <p>Chad.Thomas@crittendencountyky.org</p>	<p><i>District 5 Magistrate</i></p> <p>Travis Perryman (R) 1700 Jackson School Road Fredonia KY 42411 270.969.1168 (c)</p> <p>Travis.perryman@crittendencountyky.org</p>	<p><i>District 6 Magistrate</i></p> <p>Scott Belt (R) 397 Fishtrap Road Marion KY 42064 270.704.0366 (c)</p> <p>Scott.belt@crittendencountyky.org</p>
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Fiscal Court meets in regular session at the courthouse at 8:30 a.m., on the third Thursday of each month