

## Population estimates since 2020 Census

Annual population estimates for incorporated places in the area from April 1, 2020 to July 1, 2023.

Town	2020	2021	2022	2023
Princeton	6,258	6,271	6,237	6,194
Morganfield	3,253	3,224	3,170	3,143
Marion	2,915	2,894	2,903	2,894
Providence	2,892	2,856	2,822	2,822
Eddyville	2,378	2,087	2,427	2,444
Sturgis	1,737	1,720	1,689	1,674
Dixon	926	916	910	908
Salem	716	722	721	713
Kuttawa	631	648	657	667
Fredonia	373	373	373	373
Grand Rivers	349	354	351	349
Smithland	240	242	241	238

## Marshal shoots man in tent at Golconda

Across the Ohio River in southern Illinois last week, a deputy with the U.S. Marshals shot and killed a wanted man during a campground shootout. According to published reports, Floyd D. Caudill, 40, of Oakland City, Ind., was shot inside a tent last Wednesday at Lake Glendale Campground near Golconda. Deputies with the United States Marshals Service and an officer with the Illinois Department of Natural Resources were attempting to serve an arrest warrant on Caudill, who had been tracked to the campground. Officers reportedly made verbal contact with Caudill who refused to exit his tent. A shot was fired from the tent with a deputy marshal returning fire and Caudill was later found deceased in the tent.

## City moves against blighted properties

Nine property owners have been formally notified by the City of Marion of major code violations. The letters demand progress on curing the blighted homes or else fines and/or further legal action will be taken by local government. Mayor D’Anna Browning said city officials are working on a second round of properties to be addressed in the near future. The mayor and city council have shown an eagerness to improve the city by forcing owners of blighted properties to take appropriate responsibility.

## UPCOMING MEETINGS

- Crittenden County Fiscal Court meets at 8:30 a.m., Thursday, Aug. 15 at the county office complex.
- Crittenden Fiscal Court will have a public hearing and special meeting at 3:30 p.m., Friday at the county office complex to discuss and set the 2024 tax rate.
- Marion City Council meets at 5 p.m., Monday, Aug. 19 at city hall.
- Fredonia City Council meets at 7 p.m., Monday, Aug. 19 at city hall.
- Salem City Council meets at 5 p.m., Tuesday, Aug. 20 at Deer Lakes meeting room.
- Livingston Hospital will host a public hearing at 5 p.m., Aug. 21 at Deer Lakes Golf Course’s meeting room where residents can learn more about the hospital’s proposed \$70 million expansion project.



On an afternoon late last week, several youngsters were enjoying their workout on Amy Kelly’s ranch. Clockwise from top left are Aerie Suggs with Quarter Horse Honeydew; Kelly directing traffic inside the corral with Isabelle Warwick, 5, riding 19-year-old American Paint Horse, Summer; Cade Collins, 7, working with nine-year-old miniature horse, Cowboy; Leah Fasken, 8, riding 20-year-old Quarter Horse, Zipcord; and (directly above) Collins leading his mini-horse in something akin to a race against Brooklyn Suggs, 10, who is bareback on nine-year-old pony, Spirit.

# What’s catching on? A horse of course!

BY CHRIS EVANS  
PRESS EDITOR

Almost every afternoon on a rural Crittenden County farm, a handful of local youngsters are being schooled in horsemanship. Grinning like colts in clover, these young day-clients of Jus Chillin Farm are learning about everything a budding equestrian needs to know. From checking hooves and combing manes to tacking up their mounts for a ride, boys and girls of varying ages are getting a chance to climb into a saddle atop a gentle animal, thus incubating a love for horsing around. It’s a joy many of them may not have ever realized without an opportunity close to home.

Owner and trainer Amy

Kelly is a Marion transplant. She grew up in Florida and is a self-proclaimed first-generation equestrian. She and her husband, Kyle, moved here a few years back, like so many others from the deeper South, because of affordable land prices and the love for outdoor recreation. Kelly, 27, has been riding, training and competing on horses since she was a pre-teen. Her goal with Jus Chillin Farm is to give others something she had as a child. Jus’ an opportunity. Having your own horse can be expensive. Kelly has eight and all of them are broke, gentle and accustomed to being around humans. “I want to make horses affordable to everyday families,”

she said. “They can be safe, fun and very therapeutic.” Along with five horses, she also has two ponies and a miniature horse. Kids adore them. “My girls are here five days a week,” said Willa Suggs. “They love it.” Sixteen-year-old Aerie Suggs and 10-year-old Brooklyn Suggs have taken their interest to the next level. Brooklyn regularly travels with Kelly to nearby barrel racing competition like the events at Fredonia Valley Riding Club. The girls are also involved in events in Murray. “Brooklyn is an aspiring horse trainer so she’s learning a whole lot,” her mother said.

Seven-year-old Cade

Collins has for two years been a regular at the horse ranch about three miles southwest of Marion. For him it’s more than just riding. From prepping ponies to helping train them for others to handle and ride, Collins is enriched by the overall experience. “Cade just loves this. It gets his mind off of everything else, it is great outside fun. I love watching him ride. He has all of the confidence in the world up there,” said his mother Rachel Collins. What is effectively a little dude ranch, Jus Chillin Farm has grown over the past couple of years. Kelly says the experience and training of her horses has improved and the

## Dumpster franchise begins on October 1

STAFF REPORT

Commercial garbage will be at the center of conversation later this month when Crittenden County Fiscal Court and Crittenden County Solid Waste Committee host a public hearing to present details of a new collection franchise for Impact Waste Service. With the only bid for commercial collection in the

See TRASH/page 9

## School tax rates proposed

STAFF REPORT

A hearing related to proposed property tax rates for Crittenden County Schools will be held at 5 p.m., Thursday, Aug. 29. The board of education is proposing a general fund tax of 51.4 cents per \$100 of real property and 51.9 cents on personal property. The proposed 2024 rate is lower than last year’s rates of 51.6 cents for both real and personal property. The 2023 rates generated \$2.39 million in tax revenue.

See TAX/page 4

## Annual report confirms plight of rural hospitals

FROM CP STAFF & HEALTHAH NEWS

Thirteen of Kentucky’s 71 rural inpatient hospitals are at risk of closing, and six of those are at immediate risk of shutting down, according to the latest analysis of Hospital Cost Reports by the Center for Healthcare Quality and Payment Reform, a policy center that says it works toward patient-centered, affordable health care. The report does not name the 13 hospitals in peril, but it does offer a wealth of financial information about most rural hospitals in Kentucky – including Crittenden County’s hospital. It also has information on hospitals in other states, including critical access hospitals and rural emergency hospitals that are not designated as rural.

Crittenden Community Hospital is among the hospitals listed in the report as losing money on patient services and overall operations. CEO Shawn Bright said financial data used in the study came from a period before it changed its status to Rural Emergency Hospital, a move to strengthen the healthcare facility’s bottom line. The Center of Healthcare Quality and Payment Reform says its analysis is based on financial data from the most recent cost reports that hospitals must submit annually to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. The financial report shows rural hospitals’ operating margins, profits and

See HOSPITAL/page 4



# Deaths

## Sills

Steve Winfred Sills, 91, of Salem, died Friday, Aug. 9, 2024 at his home in Salem.

He was a member of Pleasant Grove Baptist Church and a Korean War veteran serving in the United States Army.

Surviving are two daughters, Karen Sills of Salem and Kim (Steve) Bass of Nashville; a sister, Patricia Swinford of Paducah; four grandchildren, Crystal Lockhart of Salem, Hope Sills Eagleson of Salem, Brad (Liz) Bass of Nashville and Charlie (Amy) Bass of Duncan, S.C.; and seven great-grandchildren, Ellie Kate, Riley Lockhart, Dylan Lockhart, Langley Bass, Luke Bass, Ian Eagleson and Sean Eagleson.

He was preceded in death by his wife of 67 years, Mary C. Sills; a sister, Rolene Burgess; twin brothers, Stuart and Stanley Sills; and his parents, Roland and Edmonia (Hardin) Sills.

Funeral services were Monday, Aug. 12 in the chapel of Boyd Funeral Directors and Cremation Services with Bro. Jerrod Quertermous officiating. Burial was in Pleasant Grove Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to: Bass Foundation Charities, P.O. Box 203, Brentwood, TN 37024-0203 or Mercy Hospice, 225 Medical Center Drive, Paducah, KY 42003.

## Eberle

David Marshall Eberle, 35, of Indianola, Iowa, passed away suddenly at his home, on Monday, July 29, 2024.

A celebration of life was held Saturday, Aug. 10, 2024 at the Middlewart Lodge in Indianola.

A private family burial will take place at a later date.

Eberle was born Aug. 21, 1988 in Marion to David Rushing and Tina Eberle. He grew up in Providence, Fredonia and Marion. He attended Crittenden County High School. After school, David went to college for criminal forensics. He worked various jobs and traveled the country. While in Florida in 2011 he met the love of his life Jennifer Briggs. For the next couple of years, they enjoyed traveling the country and had many great adventures in nature together. They started a family and moved back to Marion. After seven years, they moved to Grimes, Iowa before settling in Indian-

ola.

He loved spending time with his family and friends, being in nature, hiking and traveling.

He had an incredible thirst for knowledge and challenged others to think outside the box. He was very artistic. He was great at building anything, woodworking and sculpting with clay. He was a handyman and jack of all trades. He was an elite storyteller that had a way of captivating you into the story. David always said, "I know just enough about almost everything." He was a loving father, husband and great friend.

You would be hard pressed to find any man more loyal and devoted to the ones he loved.

Those left to cherish his memories are his loving wife of 12 years Jen Briggs; children Nuada (11), EmAnimus (9) and Phoenix (9); a sister, Julia (Joe) Eberle; four nephews, William, Billy, Bobby and Grimmir; brother from another mother Mike (Chy) Taylor and their children Trae, Eli, Gannon, Dagen; Grandfather Bob (Eva) Eberle; and other family and close friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Tina Eberle and David Rushing; his grandparents, James Marshall (June) Rushing and Dean Eberle; a great-grandmother, Jeannie Latham; two uncles, Robbie Eberle and Elvis Rushing; and his father-in-law, Michael Briggs.

Memorial contributions may be directed to the family to help with the boys.

## Sisco

Matthew Don Sisco, 42, a 2000 graduate and former resident of Crittenden County, died at his home in Portland, Ore., Tuesday Aug. 6, 2024.

Surviving are his wife of 19 years, Chassidy Sisco; his father; Donald "Don" Sisco of Marion; uncles and aunts; Stewart and Brenda (Sisco) Whitt, Mike and Lisa (Sisco) Smiley, and Mary Jo (Clark) Woodall, all of Marion, and Vernon and Linda (Woodall) Gilland of Fredonia, Larry and Melissa Woodall of Eddyville and Clifton Woodall of Kuttawa, as well as several cousins.

Graveside services will be held at a later date.

## King

William Gregory King, 64, of Salem, died Wednesday Aug. 7, 2024 at Jewish Hospital in Louisville.

He enjoyed fishing, playing with his dog Jill and Diet Coke.

Surviving are two sons, Brian (Denise) King and Jamie (Lisa) King, both of Salem; a daughter, Jennifer (Andy) Stout of Dresden, Tenn.; three

brothers, Tony King of Eddyville, Chris (Jana) King of Salem and Robert (Tiffany) King of Marion; six grandchildren, Nick and Savannah King, Jace and Leo Stout, Ryder King and Leigh Lohman.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Darlene Cox King; his parents, William and Ann (Hodge) King; and a grandchild, Izabella Workman.

Services were Sunday, Aug. 11 in the chapel of Boyd Funeral Directors and Cremation Services. Burial was in Salem Cemetery.

## Hinchee

Billy Hinchee, 90, of Marion, went to be with the Lord on Friday, Aug. 9, 2024. Born and raised in the Mattoon community, he shared 69 wonderful years with his wife Loretta and raised five children.

He was a loving husband and father and a true friend to many. He attended Cave Springs General Baptist Church and New Hope Church. He enjoyed reading and sharing his understanding of the Bible, spending time outdoors, taking care of all the animals, and most of all sharing time with his wife, children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. His hobbies included fishing, creating toys for his grandchildren and making and repairing guns. He worked in Gary, Ind., in a steel mill, the Chrysler Auto in Evansville and Potter & Brumfield in Marion for 31 years, retiring as a tool-maker where his co-workers were lifelong friends.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by four children, Danny Hinchee, Howard Hinchee, Jeanne Hinchee and Michelle Speed; four grandchildren; Melissa, Ashley, Tehya and Riley; and 10 great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Charlie and Rosa Hinchee; a son, Jeffrey Hinchee; two brothers; Norman and Charles Hinchee; and two sisters, Lorene Henderson, and Muriel Humphrey.

Services were Tuesday, Aug. 13 at Gilbert Funeral Home with burial in Crowell Cemetery.

## Conditt

Robert Lee "Bobby" Conditt, 68, of Marion, died Saturday, Aug. 10, 2024 at Landmark of Kuttawa Nursing & Rehabilitation Center.

He had worked at Alcan Aluminum for 44 1/2 years. He also enjoyed farming and working on cars.

Surviving are his wife Kristi Conditt of Marion; a son, Zachary Conditt of South Carolina; two daughters, Casey Clelland and Kayla Adams, both of Henderson; four

grandchildren, Kobe Adams, Jace Adams, Trey Clelland and Adaline Conditt; a great-granddaughter, Scarlet Adams; a brother, Tom Conditt of Marion; and a sister, Betty J. Bleichroth, Evansville.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Charles Lee and Ina Marie Splittorff Conditt; and a nephew, Travis Conditt.

Services are at 2 p.m., Thursday, Aug. 15 at Myers Funeral Home with burial in Chapel Hill Cemetery. Friends may visit with the family from 10 a.m., until the time of service.

## Asbridge

John Earl "Sonny" Asbridge, 75, of Marion, died Monday, Aug. 12, 2024 at his home.

He graduated from Crittenden County High School in 1967 and served four years in the United States Air Force. He was a devoted charter member of Emmanuel Baptist Church in Marion and loved the Lord. He was an extremely hard worker, an excellent provider, loving husband, gracious and unconditionally loving Daddy and the best "Pap" on earth.

He worked for Peabody Coal Company from which he retired after dedicating 35 years to the mines and owned Asbridge Sealing for 40 years.

Surviving are his wife of 49 years, Mollie; a daughter, Johna and his grandson, "Little Buddy" Jase; a son, Jared, all of Marion; a niece, Toyia (Bennett) Redd; a nephew, Steve Koon; and a brother-in-law, Mike Johnson of Moline, Ill.

He was preceded in death by his parents, John Ward and Nina Lucille Fireline Asbridge; a sister, Mary Ann Johnson; and a nephew, Jeffrey Koon.

Services were Wednesday, Aug. 14 at Myers Funeral Home with burial in Maplevue Cemetery.

## Lee

George William Lee, 58, of Kuttawa, died Friday, Aug. 9, 2024 at Spring Creek Nursing and Rehab in Murray. He was a former member of Hopewell Baptist Church.

Surviving are a son, Todd (Kensey) Lee of Benton; two daughters, Jessica Beaty and Rebecca Crail of Madisonville; four sisters, Tammy DeMarco of Kuttawa, Cathy (Bobby) Teague of Benton, Connie (Jim) Gilland of Sandusky, Ohio, and Paula Whritenour of Holland, Ohio; six grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Raymond Paul Lee and

Nancy Jean Sedlock Lee; and a niece, Annie Teague.

Services were Sunday, Aug. 11 at Lakeland Funeral Home in Eddyville with Bro. Roger O'Bryan officiating. Burial was in Chestnut Oak Cemetery in Kuttawa.

Memorial contributions may be made to: National Multiple Sclerosis Society at: www.nationalmssociety.org or 212 Murray State, P.O. Box 1398, Murray, KY 42071.

## Online Condolences

myersfuneralhomeonline.com  
boydfuneraldirectors.com  
gilbertfunerals.com

## Community Calendar

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

### Thursday, Aug. 15

- Line dancing begins at 9:30 a.m., at the Crittenden County Senior Citizens Center.
- Crittenden County High School SBDM will meet at 3:30 p.m., in the library.
- Friends of the Crittenden County Public Library will meet at 6 p.m., in the library meeting room.

### Saturday, Aug. 17

- An all-you-can eat breakfast will be held from 7-10 a.m. at Salem Masonic Lodge #81. The lodge is located at 237 W. Main St., Salem. Cost is \$6.

### Monday, Aug. 19

- Crittenden County 4-H Shooting Sports will meet at the Extension Park on KY 91 North for rifle at 5:30 p.m., and trap at 6:30 p.m.
- Adults will enjoy a Wits Workout at 1 p.m., at the Crittenden County Public Library. Guided puzzle challenges and other activities will be played as examples of ways to keep your brain healthy while interacting with others.

### Tuesday, Aug. 20

- The next Health Literacy meeting begins at 5:30 p.m., at Crittenden Community Hospital. This class counts toward required Community Christmas credit.
- Crittenden County Elementary School SBDM will meet at 4 p.m., in the school library.

### Wednesday, Aug. 21

- The Crittenden County Extension District Board will meet at noon at the Extension Office.
- A Walk in the Park begins at 3 p.m., at Marion City-County Park.

### Thursday, Aug. 22

- The Crittenden County Public Library Board of Directors will meet at 5 p.m., in the library meeting room.

### CRITTENDEN COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL STAFF

These teachers were omitted from or added since The Crittenden Press' Back to School guide was published Aug. 8.

Tanya Milam, Science  
Michelle Orr, Math  
Jose Perez, SDI Assistant

Jody Porter, Science  
Elizabeth Rodriguez, Art  
Howard Suggs, Social Studies  
Misty Tinsley, Business  
Leah Waters, English  
Kenny Crider, Social Studies

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To obtain a bid form, contact Jared Byford in person at our Main Office, by calling 270-965-3106, or by mail at: **Farmers Bank & Trust Company P.O. Box 151 Marion, KY 42064 Attention: Loan Department**



# Circuit Court Proceedings

## Trial date is set in drug case tied to broader investigation

STAFF REPORT

A jury trial has been set for early next year in a drug trafficking case involving defendant Christopher D. Stump. The case is allegedly linked in some part to a broader investigation that led to federal charges against Brian Fitzgerald.

Assistant Commonwealth Attorney Wes Hunt alluded to the connection last week in Crittenden Circuit Court as the commonwealth and Stump's attorney, Preston Wade of Henderson, told the judge they were unable to reach any sort of plea deal.

Circuit Judge Daniel Heady set the case for trial on Jan. 30. A pre-trial hearing will be held in November.

During a pretrial hearing last week, there was discussion about evidence in the case and a confidential informant, whose identity Stump said he knew.

Stump, 34, of Marion was indicted in February with a Class C felony for trafficking in a controlled substance (methamphetamine) more than 2 grams. A sealed indictment had been issued for his arrest in December.

Stump is alleged to have on July 6, 2023 sold 226 grams of meth, equivalent to about a half

of a pound, to a cooperating witness.

The state prosecutor is seeking a 10-year prison sentence.

In light of what appears to have been a breakdown in plea agreement negotiations, Hunt said the commonwealth plans to seek an additional charge of persistent felony offender against Stump, who is already a convicted felon.

There was no further indication during testimony last Thursday in Crittenden Circuit Court of the connection to the Fitzgerald case. Fitzgerald is set to be sentenced next month in U.S. District Court at Paducah.

In other cases before Judge Heady last week:

•Christopher M. Fernandez, 33, of Marion admitted to violating terms of his probation by using methamphetamine. The judge ordered sanctions, including a 30-day sentence, which will be served on weekends.

Defendants who are approved for weekend incarceration need to have a job, among other criteria, and they must pay a booking fee, plus \$32 for each day served.

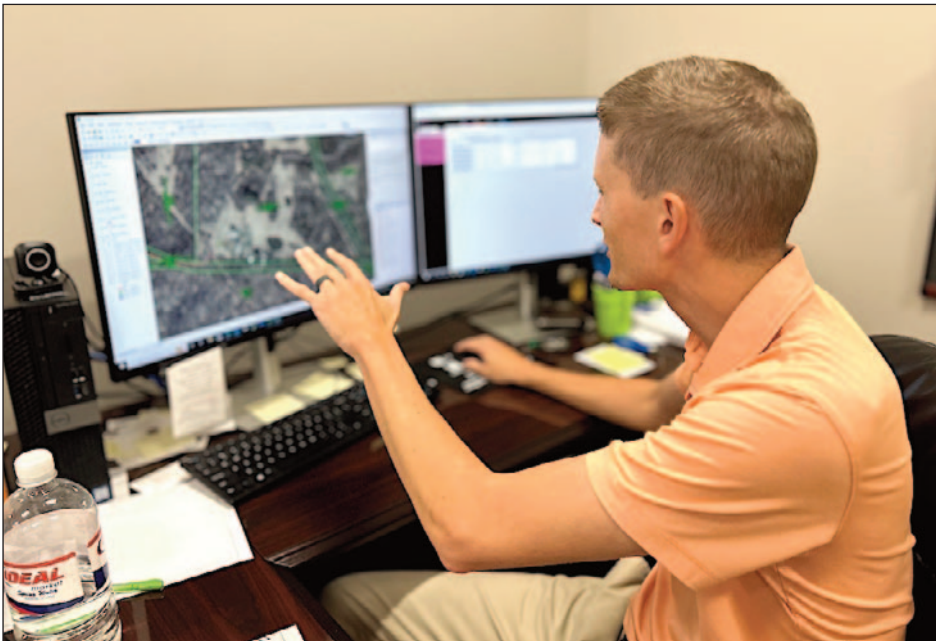
Fernandez pleaded guilty in May to a felony charge of first-degree possession of a controlled substance

(methamphetamine), second offense; and misdemeanor possession of drug paraphernalia. He was sentenced to three years and ordered to complete an in-house rehabilitation program. The relapse occurred following treatment, according to court testimony.

•Makaley J. Davis, 27, of Marion pleaded guilty to felony charges of first-degree possession of a controlled substance (methamphetamine) and first-degree possession of a controlled substance (opiates) and misdemeanor charges of possession of drug paraphernalia and illegal possession of a legend drug.

Court records indicate that Davis was present at the home in rural Crittenden County on May 22 where a meth lab was found by law enforcement officers.

Davis was sentenced to three years on each of the felonies, 365 days on the paraphernalia charge and 90 days for the legend drug. All time will run concurrent for a total of three years, which will be probated for five years so long as she completes an in-house treatment program and follows other probationary orders.



Crittenden County Property Valuation Administrator Todd Perryman has a detailed map of the county displayed on his office computer.

## Aerial images free online

STAFF REPORT

Free high-resolution aerial mapping is now available to the public, a service paid for by your tax dollars.

While the maps are handy for homeowners, farmers and ranchers, it was commissioned largely to help the government ensure it has current, accurate information to ensure property tax assessments are up to date.

Kentucky property valuation administrators are required by law to regularly update tax rolls. The new maps will make that job easier, save county resources and provide an archival record of what existed and when.

If a property owner razes a barn, it could theoretically reduce his tax assessment. Likewise, if a new tool shed is added to a property, the county PVA is required to document it and include its value on tax rolls.

"These maps are a gamechanger," said Crittenden County PVA Todd Perryman.

From the comfort of their office in Marion, Perryman and staff can survey areas of the county for new develop-

ment. A simple automated search can determine if improvements have been added to a property. If those are found, typically a PVA representative will affirm it in person.

The new digital maps are "survey-grade," Perryman explains. Tools inside the computer browser and application allow buildings and acreage to be measured remotely. While this type of technology has existed before, Perryman says the high quality of the new digital images and search engines make it an incredible tool.

You can access the website at KyFromAbove.ky.gov.

Kentucky is the first state in the nation to achieve statewide coverage of oblique imagery. This milestone was achieved during early April when KyFromAbove contractor, NV5, captured the final flight lines. Completion of this project provides every Kentucky community with access to both oblique and ortho imagery in three-inch resolution. Oblique imagery means the image is available at an angle.

## Crittenden, Livingston, others would be included in proposed hoops museum

STAFF REPORT

Crittenden and other area counties would be represented in a proposed West Kentucky Basketball Museum.

A group of basketball enthusiasts including former coaches, players and media have organized over the last few months aimed at celebrating Western Kentucky's hoops history. A couple of weeks ago, representatives of the group approached Benton City Council about developing the plan inside the former Chambers Memorial Gymnasium on the west side of downtown Benton, just off US 641.

Lake City News in Marshall County reports that Benton leaders want more information and also to know that the Mar-

shall County Board of Education is in agreement to give the old gymnasium to the city before formally considering the plan.

Dax Myhand, a former Marshall County basketball player who appeared in the state tournament, is among those on the committee. He says the project would include memorabilia from teams in the First Region and traditional Fifth District teams, including the former small, county schools that existed prior to consolidation. Crittenden, Livingston, Caldwell, Lyon and their now defunct schools would all be part of the museum.

Others on the committee include former Marshall County coach Ed Jones, WKCTC men's



coach Sam Miller, former school administrator Geral Ellington and former Tilghman and Trigg coach Bill Chumbler.

Intentions are to organize as a non-profit group, seek grant funding and also use the facility to host games, clinics and other basketball-related activities. The museum would include an area for each community to provide items such as jerseys, trophies, ban-

ners, articles, interactive or interpretive devices and other general memorabilia.

It would be designed similar to the facility in Whalen, Ky., where King Kelly Coleman played his storied career.

Crittenden County basketball fans and historians have already begun chiming in about what materials might be donated to the proposed museum. Most agree that the

county's contribution must begin with something honoring Carlisle Towery, who was a two-time All American at Western Kentucky University who played professional basketball. Tolu's boys' basketball Class B state championship in 1931, Shady Grove's girls' basketball appearance in the state tournament in 1931 and Crittenden County's 2011 regional champion girls' team would also no doubt be among the entries.

According to the Lake News, there has been some discussion about asking communities represented by the proposed museum to help fund it.

## Building demolitions on South Main

STAFF REPORT

A couple of buildings on South Main Street were scheduled for demolition this week.

Kent Withrow, who along with his wife, Mindy, have developed Marion and Company at the former Conrad's Grocery Store, says two buildings across the street are coming down.

The former Morrill TV Service was purchased in May by JKMK Properties, a company the Withrows own.

"I will be taking down Alan Lynn's old car lot this week and the TV shop weather permitting," Withrow told The Press on Monday. "We will be using J&J Excavating to haul it to their newly opened landfill in Fredonia."

J&J will be supporting the effort with trucking, but Withrow says he will be tearing down the buildings.

Withrow said he and his wife are doing what they can to help "the ef-

forts of the City of Marion to get rid of all the old dilapidated structures and give room for growth to the city."

It's unclear at this time what plans the Withrows have for the lots, but he did say that intentions are "to carry on the work of the City of Marion's need for room to grow with new housing and developments."

The former car lot property is still owned by a former Marion resident who lives in Richmond.

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### Patient praises physician's services

*Emergency surgical services of Dr. Eric Kivisto recently turned a frightening situation into a prompt diagnosis for a Marion family.*

*Vicki Hatfield knew something was wrong with her adult son Hogan, who is non-verbal, when he could not swallow his daily medicine.*

*Hatfield praises Dr. Kivisto's quick reaction and caring bedside manner in diagnosing Hogan with esophagitis.*

*"We took Hogan to the ER and they asked Dr. Kivisto to come down and take a look at him," she explains. "He told us he would like to scope him right then. They took us to the surgical area, and Dr. Kivisto's team got Hogan ready for the procedure. Everyone on his staff was so nice not only to Hogan but to my mom and me."*

**Vicki and Hogan Hatfield**

*Dr. Kivisto performed the endoscopy, prescribed medication and scheduled follow-up appointments to treat the problem, which could have long-term effects, left untreated.*

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Fee is now \$40 for lapsed car insurance

There is now a \$40 fee to re-instate a vehicle registration if cancelled due to a lapse in insurance coverage. This must be paid before registration can be reinstated, says Crittenden County Clerk Daryl Tabor.

This is mandated statewide by the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet, according to information posted on the clerk’s social media.

“You should receive a notification letter from Frankfort when it is discovered you have no insurance coverage on your vehicle. You then have 30 days to visit your county clerk with current proof of insurance to ensure your registration is not automatically cancelled,” Tabor said.

**Area students earn Farm Bureau aid**

A number of area students were among 575 who received Kentucky Farm Bureau scholarships worth more than \$790,000.

Farm Bureau scholarships are awarded to recipients who display the greatest levels of academic excellence, involvement in extracurricular activities, leadership abilities and financial need. This total marks a new record for annually awarded scholarships.

Among area recipients were Elizabeth Wood, who received the \$4,000 Livingston County Farm Bureau Renewable Scholarship; Kayla Keeling and Kyler

Yazigi, who each received a \$1,000 Livingston County Farm Bureau Scholarship; Grace Ramey, who received the Caldwell County Farm Bureau Scholarship; Robert Burchett, Anna Crawford, Deven Guess and Grant Wiggins, who each received a \$500 Lyon County Farm Bureau Scholarship; and Jaci Curry, Isabelle Duckworth, Ella Gough, Maggie Robinson and Tarius Wilson, who each received a \$1,500 Union County Farm Bureau Scholarship.

Two drownings on Kentucky Lake

A towboat crew member drowned Sunday on Kentucky Lake near Lighthouse Landing in Livingston County.

Livingston authorities say two men jumped off of a moored towboat into the water. One surfaced and the other did not. Rescue personnel responded about 6 p.m., and recovered the man's body a short time later.

Livingston County Coroner Jeff Armstrong is leading the investigation.

There was another drowning Saturday farther south on Kentucky Lake in Trigg County. A individual swimming with a group near Fenton Bay, just south of the Eggners Ferry Bridge, was reported missing and the body was later found by search and rescue personnel from Marshall County.

Rep. Comer here to learn water progress

While introducing U.S. Rep. James Comer to a contingent of local and regional leaders Tuesday, Crittenden County Judge-Executive Perry Newcom pointed out that the republican congressman was the first elected official to provide "substantial financial assistance" in response



Congressman Comer listens to a presentation about progress on the water front.

to Marion's water woes.

Rep. Comer was in Marion Tuesday to hear about progress made in solving Marion's water crisis that began more than two years ago when the town's raw water source, Lake George, developed a leak in its earthen levee.

Comer helped secure a \$1.7 million to help get the ball rolling on Crittenden-Livingston Water District's (CLWD) expansion project. The doubling of the county water district's capacity will help provide water security to Marion and other communities in a three-county area. Eventually, Marion will be able to buy all of its water from CLWD.

"We wanted an update to see where we are," Comer said. "Looks like you have a good plan."

More than \$14 million in state and federal funds have been pledged to date for CLWD and Marion’s water security response. Work at CLWD’s plant on Cumberland River already begun. The first phase includes building a clear well at the plant to increase storage for ready-to-distribute water.

TAX

Continued from page 1

enue. The proposed new rates are expected to produce \$2.63 million in general fund revenue for the school district. The additional revenue is a result of an increase in property values.

At its public hearing, the board of education will hear public comment on the proposed tax levy.

HOSPITAL

Continued from page 1

losses on patient services and revenues and costs on patient services and those that are not directly tied to patient care.

Low reimbursement rates from Medicare and Medicaid are often blamed for why rural hospitals have such ongoing financial troubles, but the center expands that list to all types of insurance, saying in the report, "losses on private insurance patients are the biggest cause of overall losses" in at-risk hospitals.

"The only way to prevent more closures of services and hospitals is for all health insurance plans, including Medicare Advantage plans, commercial insurance plans, and Medicaid programs, to pay rural hospitals enough to cover the higher costs of delivering services in rural areas," the center says in a news release.

The center also states that the federal Rural Emergency Hospital program, which forces rural hospitals to eliminate inpatient services in order to receive large federal grants, "is not a solution to these problems" because it eliminates much-needed services in a community. Kentucky has one such hospital, Crittenden Community Hospital.

Instead, the center calls for change in how rural hospitals are paid and proposes a method of payment that calls for all payers to start providing "standby capacity payments" to rural hospitals to cover the fixed costs of essential services such as emergency care, inpatient care and maternity care.

“Our decision to transition to a Rural Emergency Hospital (REH) was a strategic and positive move that has significantly strengthened our hospital’s financial position,” Bright said this week. “This change not only improved our overall margins but also allowed us to sustain and even expand our core services. We’ve successfully grown

our offerings, brought in new specialists, and continue to prioritize high-quality healthcare for our community.”

The hospital converted to REH status in March. One of the changes is that patients have to be transitioned from the hospital in less than 2 days, either discharged or to another facility.

“This decision was shaped by factors unique to our situation,” Bright continued. “Our proximity to other hospitals made it impossible to convert to a Critical Access Hospital (CAH), we do not qualify for the 340B medication program, which many rural hospitals rely on for financial support.

“Additionally, we faced growing challenges with Medicare Advantage and other commercial insurance plans, which have increasingly denied claims. This trend places a significant financial burden on rural hospitals, including ours.”

According to the center's "Data on Rural Hospitals" financial status report, using data from the three most recent years for which Hospital Cost Reports are available, 15 rural hospitals in Kentucky lost money (defined as "negative total margin"); 19 others lost money on patient services, but not overall; and 10 lost money on patient services and overall.

The 15 listed with negative total margins are in Fulton, Pineville, Irvine, Carlisle, Madisonville, Shelbyville, Albany, Manchester, Owenton, Mount Sterling, Marion, Burkesville, South Williamson, Campbellsville and Russellville.

The 10 cited that lost money on patient services and overall are in Pineville, Irvine, South Williamson, Marion, Mount Serling, Shelbyville, Albany, Owenton, Manchester and Fulton.

The 19 listed that lost money on patient services, but not overall are in Martin, Columbia, Prestonsburg, Benton, Hazard, Paintsville, Danville, Greenville, McDowell, Harlan, Salem, Middlesboro, West Liberty, Car-

rolton, Russell Springs, Monticello, Tompkinsville, Hardinsburg and Whitesburg.

The report explains several ways that a hospital could lose money on patient services, but not overall.

"Many hospitals have managed to remain open despite losses on patient services because they receive local tax revenues or state government grants," says the report. "However, there is no guarantee that these funds will continue to be available in the future or that they will be sufficient to cover higher costs."

For example, the report notes that the federal assistance many hospitals received during the pandemic has ended, which has resulted in more than one-third of rural hospitals losing money overall in 2022-23.

It also says that some hospitals have financial reserves to offset the loss of inpatient services, adding that "the hospitals at greatest risk of closing have more debts than assets . . . to offset their losses on patient services for more than a few years."

The previous report said 16 rural Kentucky hospitals were at risk of closing and 10 of those at immediate risk of closure, higher than this year's 13 and six, respectively.

More information is needed to know why the number of at-risk hospitals in Kentucky is lower than they were in last year's report, but what is known is that Kentucky legislators have passed laws to help support them.

For example, in 2020 they created the Kentucky Rural Hospital Loan Program, a revolving loan fund for distressed rural hospitals, and in 2021, funding of \$20 million.

The original bill allows the Cabinet for Economic Development to provide loans to struggling hospitals to maintain or upgrade facilities; maintain or increase staff; or provide health services not currently available. The

low-interest loans can run up to 20 years and are available to hospitals in counties with fewer than 50,000 people.

So far, eight Kentucky hospitals have been approved for projects, with \$7.2 million in funds authorized. Among them was Crittenden Community Hospital.

Laws have also been passed to allow Kentucky hospitals to get more money from Medicaid, basing payment on the "average commercial rate" instead of the current Medicaid rate, which is often below that amount. This legislation was passed under two bills – the first in 2021 that addressed higher rates for inpatient care and the second, passed in 2023, that addressed higher payments for outpatient care, which is the one that is most beneficial to rural hospitals.

More recently, the Kentucky Hospital Association gave a detailed overview of the 340B drug discount program at the July 30 Interim Joint Committee on Health Services and asked for help to secure these payments with contract pharmacies as a way to ensure rural hospitals can keep providing many of the programs they support.

Bright says, however, Crittenden does not qualify for this program because, among other criteria, it is not a government-associated hospital. It's privately owned.

In closing, Bright and others say the General Assembly should broaden the discount medications program to help more rural hospitals. Bright says the move would be highly beneficial to the hospital in Marion. Under 340B, the hospital could purchase medication at a greatly discounted rate and sell it less expensively to patients or use profits to benefit other programs.

The center’s full report is available at Ruralhospitals.chqpr.org/Data1.html.

“Our top priority is providing high-quality healthcare to the community,” Bright said.



10 YEARS AGO August 11, 2014

■ Local Woman’s Club member Nancy Hunt was presiding as the Women’s Club of Kentucky’s first district governor. She spoke at meeting in Marion, modeling her theme after State President Susan Alexander’s theme of “Unlocking Doors of Opportunities.”

■ Members of the Lady Rocket Soccer Team were RaKara McDowell, Marie Riley, Bailey Priest, Elizabeth Corley, Ivy Torres, Jennifer Bracken, Margaret Sitar, Emily Tinsley, Alexis Tabor, Nikki Shuecraft, Ashley Wheeler, Katie Wheeler, Kelsey Lucas, Charity Sitar, Kali Travis, Macye Shoulders, Amanda Lynch, Emily Robertson, Bailey Barnes and Christina McMackin. The team was coached by Neville Palmer.

■ Rocket golfers Colby Watson and Cameron McDaniel led the team with a pair of 81s in a match in Dawson Springs. Reid Baker shot 86 and Cole Foster 87.

25 YEARS AGO August 12, 1999

■ Matt Stone was medalist in a golf match in Hopkinsville. He shot 74, followed by John Tyner and Derrick Dooms with 83 each and Brad Guess, 87.

■ Misty Wallace was champion in the Crittenden County Lions Club Fair pet contest. Grand Champion winner was Jackie Robertson.

■ Rookie League All Star team included Janson James, Jay Hackney, Joey Pluskota, Zac LaRue, Preston Blake, Quaid McDowell, Jonathan Mathieu, Dylan Clark, Cody McDonald, Jesse Midriff, Rodney Robertson and Sammi Jo Quisenberry.

■ Winners of the drive, chip and putt contest at Marion Country Club for ages 4-7 were Hannah Brantley, longest drive and Alec Pierce, closest chip. Logan Stout won the four-hole match for 8-10 year olds; John Brantley won the 11-12 division; Jason Guess the 13-15 group; and John Tyner the 18-hole match for 16-18 year olds.

50 YEARS AGO August 15, 1974

■ Wesley Grady of Marion was commissioned second lieutenant in the U.S. Army during a ceremony at Western Kentucky University.

■ Jimmy Boone, 16, earned grand champion in the halter class in the English division of the Kentucky 4-H Horse Show.

■ Crittenden County females attending drill camp in Richmond were Shannon Thomas, Rose Ann Stalion, Donna Bates, Janet Conrad, Bonita Belt, Pam Trowbridge, Cheryl Croft, Debbie Deaton, Leslie Crider, Juanita Kirk, Cindy Travis, Jennye Nunn, Tina Travis, Cindy Rushing, Kim Scott, Gina Dycus, Donetta Oliver, Robin Hamilton, Cindy Glenn and Dottie Roher. Brenda Highfil was the club sponsor.

■ Platoon sergeant Everett Morris began duties after succeeding Carson Davidson at the Kentucky National Guard unit in Marion. Morris had been a member of the Guard for eight years. His responsibilities included financial, personnel and supply records for the local National Guard unit.

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

Crittenden Press

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Everyone plays a role in educating children

It is that time of year when fall sports practices are in full swing, classrooms are being prepared, and parents are looking forward to the routine and time-discipline that comes with children in school. It is that time of year when some families are moving their children into their dorms at university. Teachers are learning the new rules and expectations for the upcoming year and adding to their skillset. August is a busy time of year.



Sean NIESTRATH  
Faith-based columnist  
Guest Columnist

Education, and “free” public education in particular, has been a part of our nation from its earliest days. There has been a constant debate around how schools are funded, or rather how much schools are funded. From the very earliest days in Kentucky, there has been a plea for more teachers and more equitable funding of schools. While publicly funded schools developed in the late 1830s and KEA began its work in the 1850s, it was not until after the Civil War that publicly funded schools devel-

oped throughout the state. From the beginning there has been a healthy tension between taxpayers, teachers, administrators, legislators, and parents. I say healthy because each has a job to do in a complex system that has stakeholders with different priorities. All will say that the students are priority, but the true priority is finding balance between one’s mandate, educational philosophy, and what we can practically accomplish.

As an example of early struggles here is an excerpt from a special report from state superintendent Zach Smith to Gov. John Stevenson, dated Dec. 2, 1867. “Our Common School System was inaugurated under act of the Legislature nearly 30 years ago. It was established with the object and hope, on the part of its projectors and friends, of becoming able, in a few years, to supply the means and opportunities of elementary education to every child

within the State. But, under the inauspicious legislative policies which have succeeded to the present time, it remains today, incompetent and disabled for this great mission.”

What follows is a discussion of tax policy, local administration, teacher pay and shortages, and comparison to other states and nations. There is a paragraph about keeping up with the latest methods and practices and the cost that would entail. There is a need for new facilities, which the superintendent understands will be met with resistance from taxpayers. There is concern that teachers are not paid well enough and are asked to work too many hours. I do not expect this to change anytime soon.

I suspect that, then as now, either too much is being asked of education or education is taking on more than its mandate. We have been arguing over what schools should teach for as long as we have been about everything else. Should religion be taught? What about financial literacy? Should it be the responsibility of schools to teach self-control and self-discipline? Why are we wasting our time with art and sports when our kids

can’t read? Why should we educate children who are here illegally? None of these are new questions and it is a strength of our system that we can still function without having these fully solved.

What I do know is that the more educated and literate people are the better chance we all have of solving problems in creative and more peaceful ways. I know that children exposed to art and music have worlds opened to them that they never knew existed. I know that extracurricular activities, which extend into university, help many children overcome difficulties and motivate them to learn.

It is a good thing that we are never satisfied with our education system. It would be better if more of us took responsibility for the part that we can play rather than only complaining or blaming. As human beings we are always learning – as individuals and in our systems.

It is in an entirely different context that Hosea said to the leaders of Israel, but the principle is certainly valid.

“My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge;

because you have re-

jected knowledge, I reject you from being a priest to me.

And since you have forgotten the law of your God,

I also will forget your children.” (Hosea 6:6, RSV).

All of us play a role in educating our children. We can constantly be teaching them the importance of kindness, diligence, respect, and effort. It is up to all of us to get them

ready to learn. Education is a protection for us all from each other because by it we learn to think and learn each other’s stories. Honest and open education is challenging but keeps us free. Thank an educator this week.

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.

Unity General Baptist Church will be having our annual HOMECOMING Aug. 25 Singers will be from Bright Life Farms at 11 a.m. with lunch to follow Everyone is welcome to come and be with us. 4691 Mott City Rd., Marion Bro. David Perryman, Pastor

Religious Outreach

- Old Salem Baptist Church will have homecoming, Sunday, Aug. 18. Sunday school at 9 a.m., sermon at 11 a.m. Meal will follow the sermon and singing by the Mooreheads will follow the meal.
- Old Salem Baptist Church will have revival at 7 nightly, Monday, Aug. 19 - Friday, Aug. 23 with the Stone Family. Bro. Gary Hardesty and congregation invite everyone to attend.
- The annual meeting of the Hurricane Camp Board will be held at 7 p.m., Aug. 22 in the dining hall on the Hurricane Campgrounds. All interested people are welcome to attend.
- Old Salem Baptist Church has a Blessing Box located next to the church at 117 Old Salem Church Rd. Everyone is welcome to take items or place them in the box for others to enjoy.
- Suicidal thoughts? Stop! Email dbrantpc@tds.net and request a video link that hopefully will change your mind.
- Salem Baptist Church Thrift Store is

- open 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Tuesday and Saturday at 209 Highland St., Salem.
- The Clothes Closet of the First Baptist Church in Fredonia is open to serve the area with free clothes. The Clothes Closet is operated from 1-3 p.m. each Thursday. The Clothes Closet will be closed in case of rain.
- Fredonia Unity Baptist Church’s clothes closet is open from 9 a.m. to noon on the second and fourth Saturday of every month.
- First Baptist Church of Fredonia food pantry is open from 4-5:30 p.m., third Wednesday of each month in Coleman Hall of the church.
- The clothes closet at Mexico Baptist Church is open from 9 to 11:30 a.m. each Monday.
- Cave Springs Baptist Church between Lola and Joy in Livingston County offers food 24 hours a day, 7 days week at its outdoor Blessing Box in front of the church.

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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.  
Rodney Phelps, Pastor  
(270) 704-2400  
emmausbaptistsalem@outlook.com  
Follow us on Facebook

**St. William Catholic Church**  
Sunday Mass 11 a.m.  
Father Jody 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.  
(270) 965-4059  
MexicoBaptist.org

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

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

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

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

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

**Marion Baptist Church** 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.

**SEVEN SPRINGS BAPTIST CHURCH**  
219 Seven Springs Rd., Marion, Ky. 42064  
Sunday evening service 5 p.m.  
Wednesday night service 6:30 p.m.  
- We are an Independent Baptist Church seeking to know Christ, and to make Him known to the community around us. -  
Pastor Justin Miller

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

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

**Marion Church of God**  
334 Fords Ferry Road, Marion, Ky.  
Morning Service 11 a.m.  
Sun. Evening 6 p.m. • Wed. Evening 6 p.m.  
"Where salvation makes you a member."

**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.  
"Come and Worship with Us"

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CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
SUNDAY School 10 a.m.  
Worship 11 a.m.  
Bible study 6 p.m.  
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**Sugar Grove** Cumberland Presbyterian  
585 Sugar Grove Church Rd., Marion, Ky. (270) 704-2455  
Pastor Jesse Thornton (618) 200-0884  
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.  
"The little church with a big heart"

**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.

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







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## NOTICE OF HEARING

### CRITTENDEN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

The Crittenden County Board of Education will hold a public hearing in the Crittenden County Board of Education Rocket Arena Conference Room on August 29, 2024 at 5 p.m. to hear public comments regarding a proposed general fund tax levy of 51.4 cents on real property and 51.9 cents on personal property.

The General fund tax levied in fiscal year 2024 was 51.6 cents on real property and 51.6 cents on personal property and produced revenue of \$2,395,712.99. The proposed General Fund tax rate of 51.4 cents on real property and 51.9 cents on personal property is **expected\*** to produce \$2,630,052.25. Of this amount, \$424,345.31 is from new and personal property. The compensating tax rate for 2025 is 49.2 cents on real property and 51.3 cents on personal property and is **expected\*** to produce \$2,532,475.18.

The general areas to which revenue of \$234,339.26 above 2024 revenue is to be allocated are as follows: Cost of collections, \$9,373.57; Instruction, \$224,965.69

The General Assembly has required publication of this advertisement and information contained herein.

# Moving Sale

## 281 Airport Rd, Marion

Friday 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

Saturday 10 a.m.-noon

Bedroom suite, couch, chairs, rocker, dining table and chairs, roll top desk, miscellaneous furniture, cookware, kitchenware, home décor, washer and dryer, a lot of miscellaneous items.

### PUBLIC NOTICE

A public hearing will be held by the Crittenden County Fiscal Court at the County Office Complex on Friday, August 23, 2024 at 3:30 p.m. for the purpose of obtain citizens comments regarding the 2024 Property Tax Rate Assessment Report. All interested persons in Crittenden County are invited to the hearing and to submit verbal or written comments. Any person(s) who cannot attend the public hearing, but wish to submit comments, should submit written comments to the Judge Executive Office, ATTN: PUBLIC HEARING COMMENTS, 200 Industrial Drive, Suite A, Marion, KY 42064 or by e-mailing Subject Line: PUBLIC HEARING COMMENTS tokristi.drury@crittendencountyky.org. The Crittenden County Fiscal Court will hold a Special Session of the Fiscal Court immediately following the public hearing for the primary purpose of discussion and setting the 2024 Property Tax Rate.

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### CRITTENDEN-LIVINGSTON COUNTY WATER DISTRICT CUSTOMER NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the Crittenden Livingston County Water District expects to file an application with the Kentucky Public Service Commission on or about August 14, 2024, seeking approval of a proposed adjustment to its water rates. The proposed rates shall not become effective until the Public Service Commission has issued an order approving these rates.

CURRENT AND PROPOSED MONTHLY RATES Crittenden Livingston County Water District						
CURRENT RATE SCHEDULE			PROPOSED RATE SCHEDULE		DIFFERENCE PERCENT	
<b>5/8" X 3/4" Meters</b>						
First	1,000 gallons	\$ 24.76 Minimum Bill	First	1,000 gallons	\$ 28.95 Minimum Bill	\$ 4.19 16.94%
Next	9,000 gallons	14.08 per 1,000 gallons	Next	9,000 gallons	16.46 per 1,000 gallons	2.38 16.94%
Next	10,000 gallons	12.06 per 1,000 gallons	Next	10,000 gallons	14.10 per 1,000 gallons	2.04 16.94%
Over	20,000 gallons	9.52 per 1,000 gallons	Over	20,000 gallons	11.13 per 1,000 gallons	1.61 16.94%
<b>1" Meters</b>						
First	5,000 gallons	\$ 81.08 Minimum Bill	First	5,000 gallons	\$ 94.81 Minimum Bill	\$ 13.73 16.94%
Next	5,000 gallons	14.08 per 1,000 gallons	Next	5,000 gallons	16.46 per 1,000 gallons	2.38 16.94%
Next	10,000 gallons	12.06 per 1,000 gallons	Next	10,000 gallons	14.10 per 1,000 gallons	2.04 16.94%
Over	20,000 gallons	9.52 per 1,000 gallons	Over	20,000 gallons	11.13 per 1,000 gallons	1.61 16.94%
<b>2" Meters</b>						
First	15,000 gallons	\$ 211.78 Minimum Bill	First	15,000 gallons	\$ 247.65 Minimum Bill	\$ 35.87 16.94%
Next	5,000 gallons	12.06 per 1,000 gallons	Next	5,000 gallons	14.10 per 1,000 gallons	2.04 16.94%
Over	20,000 gallons	9.52 per 1,000 gallons	Over	20,000 gallons	11.13 per 1,000 gallons	1.61 16.94%
<b>3" Meters</b>						
First	50,000 gallons	N/A Minimum Bill	First	50,000 gallons	652.05 Minimum Bill	N/A N/A
Over	50,000 gallons	N/A per 1,000 gallons	Over	50,000 gallons	11.13 per 1,000 gallons	N/A N/A
<b>4" Meters</b>						
First	75,000 gallons	N/A Minimum Bill	First	75,000 gallons	930.30 Minimum Bill	N/A N/A
Over	75,000 gallons	N/A per 1,000 gallons	Over	75,000 gallons	11.13 per 1,000 gallons	N/A N/A
<b>Bulk Sales</b>						
		\$ 9.52 per 1,000 gallons		\$ 11.13 per 1,000 gallons	\$ 1.61 16.94%	
<b>Wholesale Rate</b>						
		\$ 3.34 per 1,000 gallons		\$ 3.91 per 1,000 gallons	\$ 0.57 16.94%	
<b>Tap Fee</b>						
5/8" x 3/4"		\$ 750.00	5/8" x 3/4"	\$ 1,114.00	\$ 364.00 48.53%	
1"		850.00	1"	1,462.00	612.00 72.00%	

If the Public Service Commission approves the proposed water rates, then the monthly water bill for a customer using an average of 4,000 gallons per month will increase from \$67.00 to \$78.35. This is an increase of \$11.35 or 16.94%. Further, a table representing the increase for an average customer for each usage class is shown below.

CURRENT AND PROPOSED BILLS Crittenden Livingston County Water District					
Gallons per Month*	Meter Size	Existing Bill	Proposed Bill	Change	Percentage
4,000	5/8 x 3/4"	67.00	78.35	11.35	16.94%
5,000	1"	81.08	94.81	13.73	16.94%
25,000	2"	319.68	373.83	54.15	16.94%
180,000	3"	N/A	2,321.55	N/A	N/A
180,000	4"	N/A	2,098.95	N/A	N/A

The rates contained in this notice are the rates proposed by Crittenden-Livingston County Water District. However, the Public Service Commission may order rates to be charged that differ from these proposed rates. Such action may result in rates for consumers other than the rates shown in this notice.

Crittenden-Livingston County Water District has available for inspection at its office the application which it submitted to the Public Service Commission. A person may examine this application at the Association's office located at 620 E Main St, Salem, KY 42078. You may contact the office at 270-988-2680.

A person may also examine the application at the Public Service Commission's offices located at 211 Sower Boulevard, Frankfort, Kentucky, 40601, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., or through the Public Service Commission's website at <http://psc.ky.gov>. Comments regarding the application may be submitted to the Public Service Commission through its website or by mail to Public Service Commission, PO Box 615, Frankfort, Kentucky, 40602. You may contact the Public Service Commission at 502-564-3940.

A person may submit a timely written request for intervention to the Public Service Commission, PO Box 615, Frankfort, KY, 40602, establishing the grounds for the request including the status and interest of the party. If the Public Service Commission does not receive a written request for intervention within thirty (30) days of the initial publication of this notice, the Public Service Commission may take final action on the application.



# SportsShorts

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Rocket sports schedule

**THURSDAY**  
Golf All A Classic at Drake Creek  
**FRIDAY**  
Rockets host Madisonville, scrimmage  
**SATURDAY**  
MS softball hosts Todd Central & Union Co.  
Soccer at Owensboro Apollo  
**MONDAY**  
Volleyball at Marshall County  
Golf hosts match at Deer Lakes  
MS softball hosts Caldwell County  
Soccer hosts Webster County  
**TUESDAY**  
Golf at Madisonville CC  
Volleyball hosts Christian County  
Soccer All A Classic at Ft. Campbell

## GOLF

### Golfers 3rd at Deer Lakes

Crittenden County golf team shot a 200 Tuesday at Deer Lakes in a three-team match and finished third behind Caldwell County and Webster County. Caldwell's Collin Whittington won the match with a 36. Crittenden scores were: Levi Quertermous 46, Cash Singleton 48, Mitchell Brown 50, Bentley Rushing 56 and Jett Champion 63. Georgia Holeman shoot a 52 for the Rocket girls, finishing second. Abby Korzenborn shot a 63 for CCHS.

### Hardin, Myers Memorial

The annual Crittenden County Quarterback Club Pippi Hardin and Ronnie Myers Memorial Golf Scramble will be held at 10 a.m., Saturday, Aug. 24 at Deer Lakes Golf Course. Cost is \$300 per team with proceeds benefiting the high school football program. Contact Darrick Myers at 270-704-1225 to register. A meal will be provided following 18 holes of play.

### Fire Dept. golf fundraiser

The annual Crittenden County Fire Department Zach Latham Fundraising Golf Tournament will be held Saturday, Sept. 7 at Deer Lakes Golf Course in Salem. This will be a four-person scramble with various prizes. To register call Chris Cooksey at 270-704-1116.

## OUTDOORS

### Hunter Ed Course Aug. 24

Hunter Education Safety Course will be available Saturday, Aug. 24 at Crittenden County Extension Park (former gun club) on Ky. 91 North. Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources requires anyone born after Jan. 1, 1975 and currently age 12 or older to have completed the hunter education course before legally hunting. Enrollment can be done online at [www.fw.ky.gov](http://www.fw.ky.gov). Go to the Education button to register. John Robertson will be the instructor and course is from 9 a.m., to 4 p.m.

### Drawing to waterfowl hunt

Public drawing for season-long, temporary waterfowl hunting blind sites at Lake Barkley will be held Monday, Sept. 16. Multiple sites are available along the shore of the lake in Trigg and Lyon counties. Registration begins at 8 a.m., with the drawing to follow. The drawing will be at the shelter on the east side of the Cumberland River at Lake Barkley Dam, off U.S. 62 near Lake City. Participants should use the powerhouse entrance and then turn right toward the drawing location. Hunters may build temporary blinds on the site, which will need to be removed after waterfowl season.

### Hunting Seasons

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

Bullfrog	May 17 - Oct. 31
Squirrel Fall	Aug. 17 - Nov. 8
Canada Goose	Sept. 1-15
Dove	Sept. 1 - Oct. 26
Deer Archery	Sept. 7 - Jan. 20
Turkey Archery	Sept. 7 - Jan. 20
Canada Goose	Sept. 16-30
Teal	Sept. 21 - Sept. 29
Wood Duck	Sept. 21 - Sept. 25
Deer Crossbow	Sept. 21 - Jan. 20
Raccoon	Oct. 1 - Feb. 28
Turkey Crossbow	Oct. 1-20
Deer Youth	Oct. 12-13
Deer Muzzleloader	Oct. 19-20
Turkey Shotgun	Oct. 26 - Nov. 1
Woodcock	Oct. 26 - Nov. 8
Deer Rifle	Nov. 9 - Nov. 24

# Rocket golfers to defend All A title Thursday

STAFF REPORT

Crittenden County High School's golf team will play Thursday in the 18-hole All A Classic Tournament at Drake Creek.

The Rocket boys' program is in rebuilding mode after two straight Class A regional championships, so defense of its crown could prove challenging this week.

Graduation hit CCHS hard, but new coach Devin Belt says the future is bright.

"We have some sophomores who are going to be really good by the time they're seniors," he said.

For now, Belt says the team is working hard on its short game and waiting for its long game to mature.

"Length will be a challenge," Belt said, "but if they don't try to make superhero shots and just stay in the fairway and play smart we can be okay."

Sophomore Cash Singleton is the team's top golfer right now. He can average in the low 40s.

Singleton is a member of very successful local band Cutter and Cash and The Kentucky Grass.

"I don't expect any nerves out of him," Belt said with a chuckle. "If he can play at the Grand Ole Opry, he shouldn't be nervous about people watching him play golf."

Levi Quertermous and Jaxton Duncan are a couple more 10th graders with promise. They're battling for the No. 2 spot now and freshman Mitchell Brown



Members of the Crittenden County High School golf team are (front from left) Mitchell Brown, Bentley Rushing, Jett Champion, (back) coach Aaron Brown, Abby Korzenborn, Cash Singleton, head coach Devin Belt Levi Quertermous, Georgia Holeman and coach Shawn Holeman.

rounds out the top four slots. Middle schoolers Jett Champion and Bentley Rushing also show promise.

Junior Georgia Holeman and freshman Abby Korzenborn are the only females on the squad. The coach says Holeman should have a breakout sea-

son. She's already shooting in the 90s and Belt says her distance off the tee is very good. With a little more consistency in her focus, Belt says Holeman will be shooting in the 80s or low 90s.

"She can absolutely crush the ball," the coach said.



## Flight Deck

Rocket football coach Gaige Courtney signals in a play during last week's first pre-season scrimmage against Marshall County. The Rockets will host Madisonville for a scrimmage this Friday. Again, admission is free for the pre-season matchup. Kickoff is at 6 p.m.

# Rockets win first scrimmage, another is Friday

STAFF REPORT

Crittenden County's football scrimmage Friday at Rocket Stadium provided fans with a first glimpse of how the new Quinn Summers' offense will look.

Summers, the junior quarterback in his first season in a starting role, was efficient and on target as CCHS unveiled what is expected to be a talented group of receivers. The Rockets outscored Marshall County 20-14 in the

varsity portion of the scrimmage, which was played in down-and-distance format the entire time.

Over three quarters, the Rockets scored three passing touchdowns and ran the football fewer than a handful of times. Its controlled passing game will figure quite prominently into the offense, which has no returning backs.

Junior Jacob Carder, who may indeed get carries out of the backfield this season,

scored twice on receptions. Senior Tyree McLean scored the other receiving touchdown on a short screen he turned into an 80-yard strike.

Defensively, the Rockets held their own, displaying strong tackling skills as the secondary provided quick closing speed against the Marshals.

Another highlight was Crittenden freshman kicker Adri Berry – daughter of offensive coordinator Austin Berry –

who was 2-for-2 on point-after kicks.

The Rockets are back in pre-season mode this Friday with their final scrimmage against Madisonville. Kickoff is at 6 p.m. Admission is free.

CCHS finished 7-5 last season in Class 2A and will be competing in the same division this fall. Marshall County was 3-7 last season in Class 5A. Madisonville was 8-3 in 2023 in the same 5A division.

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# 4-Hers join French in 18th Century re-enactment

For the Early American Heritage 4-H Project Club, the opportunity to step back in history and recreate the Siege of Niagara in 1759 was a tremendous learning experience during the July 4 holiday weekend in New York.

Portraying the French Guyenne at Fort Niagara, several from the local 4-H group found themselves immersed into 18th Century culture while camping in front of the fort's castle.

Participantes "embraced many of the core context areas that 4-H provides to our youth," said local Extension Agent Leslea Barnes. "This club is open to youth in sixth through 12th grade and meets once a month at the Extension Park."

If interested in participating, contact the Crittenden County Extension Office at 270-965-5236.

While other individuals from across the country also joined in the re-enactment, pictured here are local individuals or those with local ties. They are (front from left) Macie Young, Luke Binkley, Phillip Barnes, Leslea Barnes, Adam Barnes, Levi Spillman, Whitley Spillman, Tina Young, Becky Combs, (back) Luke Young, Trevor Eiffler, Seth Lewis, Aiden Spillman, Caleb Combs, Paul Combs, Jacob Hammack and Jason Spillman.



## Suggs chosen for Equine Task Force

Beyond her participation at Jus Chillin farms (article below), Aerie Suggs has been chosen to serve on the 2024-25 state level Equine Task Force. The group meets throughout the year

to help further leadership and communication skills, have opportunities for career exploration, and represent the Kentucky 4-H Horse Program on the county, area and state levels.

## HORSE

Continued from page 1  
stable is really just now reaching a gallop. Since moving to Marion in 2019, she and her husband have added a little to their farm each year. It's now 85 acres, includes a stocked fishing pond with giant catfish and a dock for easy-access swimming. There is also an Airbnb bunkhouse. A couple of weeks ago, the ranch hosted its first days-long horse summer camp, something Kelly says will be done regularly in various seasons of the year.

She works part time as a vet tech at Crittenden County Animal Clinic in Marion and Kyle works for a company that helps put together aluminum cans for soft drinks.

"My dream is to rodeo," Kelly said.

For now through, she's building a loyal following of budding equestrians and expanding those services is always on her mind. She also wants to offer pony rides at area festivals. Much of what her stable offers is either



Leah Fasken, 8, sits in an English saddle on Zipcord, a 20-year-old Quarter Horse retired from years of successful, competitive barrel racing.

new to the area or something that has been missing at a commercial level.

"We just love it here, well, except for the winters," said the Gainesville, Fla., native.

Her clients come mostly from Marion, but there are some who travel from Union and Marshall counties.

"When they first come, the parents always say

they had no idea we were out here," Kelly explains. "I think people are starting to hear more about us."

The animals are not just for children. Kelly adds many of the adults who book their cabin for overnight stays also ask to ride horseback.

"Horses are great for kids and adults, too," she said.

## TRASH

Continued on page 1  
county, Impact was guaranteed 18 months ago that it would eventually be the county's sole provider. On Oct. 1, the exclusive franchise kicks in. Impact representatives have already been contacting customers who use GFL, Waste Path and other providers, beginning conversations about transferring accounts.

Crittenden County Judge-Executive Perry Newcom said some customers may see an increase while others may get service less expensively. A public hearing on the matter is scheduled for 2 p.m., Wednesday, Aug. 28 at the county office complex.

Impact won a competitive bid in the spring of 2023 to provide residential and commercial garbage collection on a five-year contract. Its residential contract began immediately, but the franchise agreement allowed an 18-month window for county businesses to transfer over to Impact.

County Judge-Executive Perry Newcom said businesses that generate a low volume of trash are

able to subscribe to residential collection using a 96-gallon curbside tote. Those with dumpsters are considered commercial accounts. The franchise agreement will provide a contract price per cubic yard, the judge said.

Newcom said the county entered into an exclusive residential and commercial franchise agreement because attracting a provider is becoming more difficult

considering the county's relatively low population and rural setting. In order to entice a garbage collector into Crittenden County at a reasonable rate for residents and business owners, Newcom said county leaders believed it was best to combine both sectors and provide the contractor with an exclusive franchise.

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ABSOLUTE REAL ESTATE AUCTION

Saturday, August 24th, 2024 @ 10:00 AM

1859 Turkey Knob Road, Marion, KY 42064

PUBLIC PREVIEW DATE:  
Monday, August 19th from 5-6 pm

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Two Amish-built homes on Turkey Knob Road, Marion, KY, offer a unique connection through a walk-out basement, seamlessly combining rustic charm with modern convenience. 1859 Turkey Knob Road, Marion, KY: Features six bedrooms, three baths, a welcoming living area, and a spacious eat-in kitchen with oak cabinets and a walk-in pantry. 1861 Turkey Knob Road, Marion, KY: Features two bedrooms, two and a half baths, and similar functional design elements. Both properties are designed to provide comfort and practicality, making them ideal for families and creating a serene, charming living environment. Both homes include well water & a brick hearth set for your wood burning fireplace.

REAL ESTATE TRACTS

Tract 1	1859: Home w/6 Bedrooms, 3 Baths & 1861: Home w/2 Bedrooms, 1 Bath - PLUS - Livestock Barn, Equipment Shed w/Lean Too on 17.13 Acres
Tract 2	30.12 Acres
Tract 3	Equipment Barn & Workshop & Bay Equipment Shed & Pond on 21.09 Acres
Tract 4	33.84 Acres
Tract 5	41.20 Acres

TRACT 1: 1861 Turkey Knob Rd.

TRACT 1: 1859 Turkey Knob Rd.

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40' Easement - For Egress & Ingress

SPECIES	BOARD FEET
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White Oak	49,528
Hickory	52,527
Maple	38,422
Yellow Poplar	31,597
Misc.	49,065

TIMBER CRUISE

Total Sawtimber Avg.  
DBH 16.5 & Est.  
Board Feet 245,986

Estimated Timber Value  
\$172,000

Estimated Owner's Share  
\$86,000

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